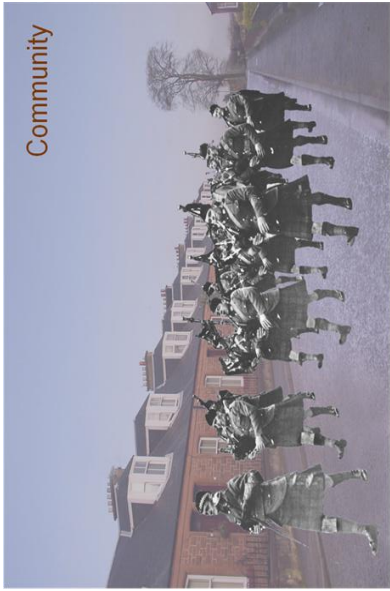


EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS: We have created four themed postcards to accompany the exhibition:

COMMUNITY



Pipe bands in Scottish communities were community-driven and financed. The Allandale community came together to help pay for the Allandale Pipe Band. At present day prices it would cost around £2000 to outfit one bandsman with their uniform and instrument, yet Allandale, with only a few hundred people earning modest wages, equipped a band of around thirty pipers and drummers. They also received assistance from co-workers at Stein's brickworks and clay-mine who paid a small voluntary weekly contribution towards the band from their wages. But, most of the funds came from significant efforts by villagers through a series of recurring events woven into the social involving the finest crockery and delicious home baking, Malcolm's wife Meg's toffee-apples, and jumble sales. **Would you get that now?**

baking, Malcolm's wife Meg's toffee-apples, and jumble sales. **Would you get that now?**



A March Back in Time with the Pipers of Allandale: The story of one remarkable family's wartime sacrifice

Greenhill Historical Society

A March Back in Time with the Pipers of Allandale: The Story of One Remarkable Family's Wartime Sacrifice

A talk, a play, a walk, a tea and an exhibition (9 Apr – 7 May)

SUMMARY OF THE STORY ...

IT IS a long, long way from a small red sandstone cottage in Allandale to the deserts of North Africa and a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp. Discovering how far, and just how dear the cost, has given members of Greenhill Historical Society one of their most fascinating experiences of "time travel" to date as they retrace the heroic journey taken by four brothers from one family during the Second World War.

"This story is especially dear to my heart," said historian John Reid, whose talk on the Pipers of Allandale is launching the history group's weekend of events. Inspiration for the project is the moving story of the MacLachlans, a family of 14 who lived in Allandale because some of the menfolk worked at Stein's brickworks and clay mine.

Malcolm, nicknamed "Pipey", the second-eldest of nine sons, taught some of his brothers to play the pipes. He and his father, also Malcolm, were the driving force behind setting up a pipe band that was to become the pride of Allandale. Stein's workers helped to kit out the bandsmen by paying a small levy from their wages, while the women of the village held daffodil teas, jumble sales and sold toffee apples to raise more funds. The MacLachlans' cottage shook to the sound of pipe-and-drum practice as mother Mary let the band rehearse in her kitchen. The band swept the board at the Cowal Games in 1938 and became world champions.

As the clouds of war gathered in 1939, the whole band marched to Bonnybridge to enlist in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (bar those who were too young). Malcolm and brothers Ian and Kenneth were posted to North Africa: brother



LEGACY

EXHIBITION PANELS: themed panels that explore the story

INDUSTRY

1899-1902
 CLAY SALAD FROM THE KILNS AT GLENKILN CO. DUMFRIES. THE CLAY SALAD FROM THE KILNS AT GLENKILN CO. DUMFRIES. THE CLAY SALAD FROM THE KILNS AT GLENKILN CO. DUMFRIES.

1904
 THE FIRST TRAIN FROM ALLANDALE TO PIPE MAJOR. THE FIRST TRAIN FROM ALLANDALE TO PIPE MAJOR. THE FIRST TRAIN FROM ALLANDALE TO PIPE MAJOR.

1982
 THE CLAY SALAD FROM THE KILNS AT GLENKILN CO. DUMFRIES. THE CLAY SALAD FROM THE KILNS AT GLENKILN CO. DUMFRIES. THE CLAY SALAD FROM THE KILNS AT GLENKILN CO. DUMFRIES.

ABOUT US

Greenhill Historical Society is a group of individuals who meet in Bonnybridge Library every Friday 2-4pm. We undertake a variety of projects throughout the year including walks, talks, and discussion sessions. From time to time we also contribute to local and international conferences on the subject of heritage and local history. Our main remit is to explore the effects of the past on the present day geography, society, community and post-industrial areas of Bonnybridge and its environs. Our particular interest is in how heritage is experienced and understood between those who have lived in the area a long time through engagement with residents who have moved here recently. We therefore develop projects that encourage both new and old residents to come together to make a new place. For us, then, history has many versions, many stories, multiple perspectives and piecing it together from people's memories, from objects, from fragments lying around in derelict, hidden and old areas is the biggest challenge we face.

If you are interested in joining us please email us at greenhillhistoricalsociety@btopenmail.com or contact Janice Macfarlane on 01324 825396. We are also always looking to interview local residents about their experiences and stories about the area, as well as gathering interesting materials and objects for future exhibitions and work.

Greenhill Historical Society members are: George Dalgette, Linda McTaggart, James Nolan, Allan Ogilvie, William Parker, Phil Swierczek, Frank Walton
 With Gillian Cowell and Janice Macfarlane

Greenhill Historical Society, Bonnybridge
 Exploring the present and future of our community through the effects of the past



The day after the talk there is a visit through the village of Allandale, with the beautiful bagpipe music of Pipe Major Mark Sutherland of Denny and Dumpace Pipe Band for the purpose of encouraging residents to simultaneously explore the area now and feel and experience the place from the perspective of the past. Then the series of events will end with a Daffodil Tea, popular in wartime, which will bring residents together over a cup of tea to discuss what they have listened to, seen, experienced, understood and interpreted over the whole series. The prime point of the work is to create an educational experience with many different layers that will engage in a variety of ways, and within this it is important that we work on the role of local history and how it can encourage residents to see their place over different points in time and contemporarily to evidence a rich and meaningful place in which to live for new residents and those who have lived here a long time.

WAR - 1

WAR

This project details the moving story of the MacLachlans, a family of 14 who lived in Allandale because some of the menfolk worked at Stein's brickworks and clay mine. Malcolm, the second-eldest of nine sons, taught some of his brothers to play the pipes. He and his father were the driving force behind setting up a pipe band that became the pride of Allandale. The MacLachlans' cottage shook to the sound of pipe-and-drum practice as mother Mary let the band rehearse in her kitchen. The band swept the board at the Cowal Games in 1938 and became world champions. As the clouds of war gathered in 1939, those of age in the band marched to Bonnybridge to enlist in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Malcolm and brothers Ian and Kenneth were posted to North Africa: brother Finlay, to the Far East. Like his ancestors, Malcolm piped soldiers into battle at the start of the Second Battle of El Alamein in October, 1942 but was killed by a sniper after volunteering to take a message behind enemy lines. Kenneth and Ian met by chance on the battlefield, where both were badly wounded. Ian later died of his wounds. Kenneth survived, but lived with severe pain for 50 years. Finlay had been posted to the Far East, and taken prisoner by the Japanese after the fall of Singapore. He endured three years in a Prisoner of



War camp, Finlay survived his ordeal, and now lives in Australia. **There were prisoners of war camps around Bonnybridge.**

COMMUNITY & GEOGRAPHY

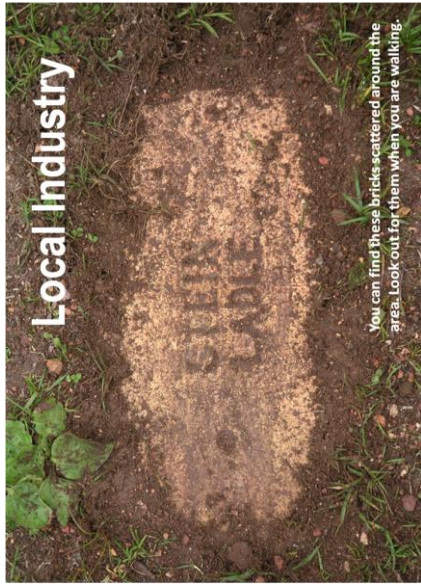
Falkirk Council Community Services; Provost Pat Reid; John Reid; The MacLachlan family – Nan Glen, Lachlan Marshall, Finlay MacLachlan; Naomi Kenny and Bonnybridge Library Staff; Norman Brown for the logo; James Jamieson and the people of Allandale; Hannah Bateman; James Young of Denny and Dunipace Heritage Society; Niamh Conlon of Falkirk Council Museums; Pipe Major Mark Sutherland of Denny and Dunipace Pipe Band.

Greenhill Historical Society would like to thank the following people, without whose help we could not have created this series of events:

THANK YOU

INDUSTRY

Geographically, Bonnybridge was well located to play an important role in the industry of Scotland. It lay close to major population centres in the central belt through which ran the Forth & Clyde Canal and then the construction of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway and the Scottish Central Railway, constructed mid-19th century. The area was also rich in minerals such as coal and iron-ore, thus the iron-founding industry formed here, with the firm of Smith and Wellstood becoming prominent. As well as iron foundries, chemical manufacturing, whisky distilling, paper making and saw-mill practices were all practised in the area.



Towards the end of the nineteenth century the manufacture of refractory bricks also became significant due to the local availability of large quantities of fireclay. **Stein's of Castlecary** began in 1899. The work site lay on a triangle of ground bounded by the LNER railway and Midland & Scottish Railway. The pit shaft was opened in April, 1903, and clay was reached on 4th November, 1903. Mass production of fire bricks became the norm after 1945 and lasted until the demand for bricks dropped. Stein's of Castlecary brickworks and clay mines were closed in February 1980. Nowadays much of the industry in the area has disappeared.

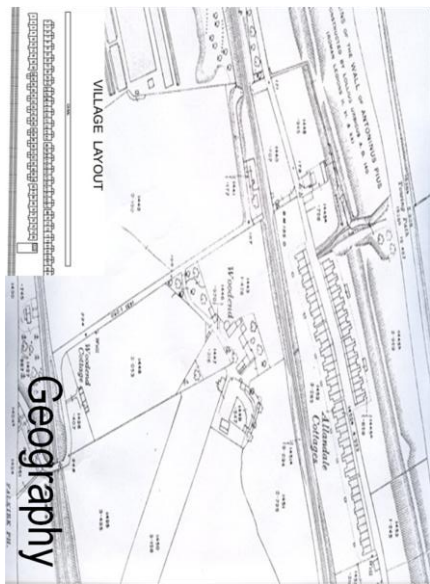
You can find these bricks scattered around the area. Look out for them when you are walking.

Bonnybridge will never be as great as it once was. Do you agree or disagree?

WAR - 2

INDUSTRY

What do you know or feel about the whole area, including Bonnybridge? Any good walking routes, derelict sites, etc. that you find interesting?



Allandale is a village between Castlecary and Bonnybridge. It contains two rows of unique red Dumfriesshire sandstone houses. The village and the accompanying brickworks were built and owned by John G. Stein & Co. to house its workers. Built directly on top of the Antonine Wall, Allandale runs alongside the Forth and Clyde Canal on the north and the former London, Midland, Scottish Railway on the south. Residents say it hasn't changed in the last 60 years. In the late fifties, the council built twelve more houses in Allandale, with another twelve cottages at Dundas to the west of Allandale where the office staff and management of Stein's were housed. Allandale is fascinating, with so much history hidden or absent for you to find!

Bonnybridge will never be as great as it once was. Do you agree or disagree?

GEOGRAPHY

WAR - 3