



## 2008 Newsletter

January 2008

### Printing in Kilmarnock

A free exhibition entitled Printing will open at the North Museum Gallery of the Dick Institute in Kilmarnock on 26 February. It will consist of items held in East Ayrshire Council Arts and Museum collections which relate to the history of printing, and will include some of the earliest printed books, through local newspapers and even calico printing. The exhibition will run until 26 May. Later in the year, the Dick Institute will be hosting two other exhibitions relating to printing.

On 5 April, in the Main Gallery of the Dick Institute, an exhibition entitled Ink will open in the Main Gallery of the Dick Institute, running until 24 May. Ink makes reference to the way in which we make marks, and the use of repetition and reproduction of those marks by hand or by machine.

'In~The~Fields' new interactive work makes reference to 1508, and the loss of the hand-written in favour of machine-made marks. Using solar power to generate energy which is activated by movement, visitors to the gallery will create their own ink marks within glass spheres as if by magic.

Taryn Takahashi's work is based around the idea of repetition in print making, and the loss and fragmentation of marks through this process. Takahashi's fake

chandeliers refer to cheap machine made reproductions of what was once a fine art object, similar to that of the hand written to print and finally to photocopying.

In July, a newly-built, working replica of the printing press used by publisher John Wilson to print Robert Burns' First Edition (or Kilmarnock Edition) in 1786 will be unveiled in the South Museum. The press can be operated under supervision and will form part of a series of Robert Burns and printing related displays.

All of these exhibitions are free. The Dick Institute, 1 Elmbank Avenue, Kilmarnock, KA1 3BU. Phone: 01563 554343.

[www.visiteastayrshire.com](http://www.visiteastayrshire.com)

[www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk)



Illustration:  
Calico block, from  
the collections of  
the East Ayrshire  
Council.

Images of some of the artefacts to be displayed in these exhibitions will also be shown on the Future Museum website.

[www.futuremuseum.co.uk](http://www.futuremuseum.co.uk)

Future Museum provides access to the museum collections of Ayrshire and Dumfries & Galloway via the internet. It is built around the people, industries and arts of the south-west of Scotland. The heritage of the area is divided into subjects and themes, and includes photographs and pages of text relating to printing among other industries. The museum is a partnership between East Ayrshire Council, Dumfries and Galloway Council, North Ayrshire Council, South Ayrshire Council and the independent museums of the south-west of Scotland.

For further information, or if you have any suggestions, please contact:

Helen Williams, Programme Manager  
48 Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, EH12 5DE

[hwilliams@500yearsofprinting.org](mailto:hwilliams@500yearsofprinting.org)  
Tel: 0131 220 4353 Fax: 0131 220 4344

### Support from Heidelberg

We are delighted to report that Heidelberg Graphic Equipment Ltd has agreed to become a sponsor for the celebrations surrounding the quincentenary of the introduction of the printing press to Scotland. We look forward to working with them.

[www.uk.heidelberg.com](http://www.uk.heidelberg.com)

### Postcard making workshop

Help to celebrate 500 years of printing in Scotland by making your own beautifully printed postcard to send to a loved one or friend. The National Museum of Scotland is running free postcard making workshops, Printed wishes, on 12 – 14 February. Use the stamps supplied to design your own message then post it at the museum. Drop in, 10.30 – 12.30 and 13.30 – 16.00. Hawthornden Court, National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JF. [www.nms.ac.uk](http://www.nms.ac.uk)

### Workshop on graphic novels

Following last year's 'One book – one Edinburgh' campaign to get the city reading Robert Louis Stevenson's Kidnapped, the World City of Literature is running a reading campaign during February, focussed on the same author's Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. On Saturday 23 February, there is a discussion and workshop which will explore the process of transforming this novel into graphic form. Meet Cam Kennedy (artist) and Alan Grant (writer), legends of the comic book world. Hear how they transformed Jekyll and Hyde into strip version, then try your hand at this creative form and get feedback from the masters of the craft. Free but ticketed (suitable for young adults over 11). Venue: National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1EW. Bring paper and pens. Phone 0131 623 3845 or email [events@nls.uk](mailto:events@nls.uk) to book.

### Events at Stirling Smith Art Gallery

A booklet related to this exhibition, The story of Eneas Mackay, is available from the Stirling Smith Gallery shop, price £2.50. There is also a series of events which form part of the Gallery's 500 Years of Printing season. The Dickens Book Group meets at 11am each Wednesday, until 27 February. There will also be a series of events at 12 noon on Thursdays in the Lecture Theatre.

31 Jan: Meet the Editor. Alan Rennie, Stirling Observer and John Miller.

7 Feb: Scottish PEN Event: how poetry can change the world. Tessa Ransford.

14 Feb: Eneas Mackay, Publishing Scotland. Elspeth King.

21 Feb: Street Literature. Adam McNaughtan.

28 Feb: The Reverend Robert Kirk and the Aberfoyle Fairies. Louis Stott.

6 Mar: Printing in Stirling today. Christopher Steward.

See below for contact details for tickets.

### Continuing exhibitions

The Local Word and Image: 500 Years of Printing in Scotland. Provost Skene's House, Guestrow, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ. To 16 November 2008. Tel: 01224 641086

[www.aberdeencity.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk)

Publishing Scotland: Eneas Mackay, Stirling. Stirling Smith Art Gallery & Museum, Dumbarton Road, Stirling, FK8 2RQ. To 16 April 2008. Tel: 01786 471917

[www.smithartgallery.demon.co.uk/](http://www.smithartgallery.demon.co.uk/)

Book of the month from the Dunimarle Library. Duff House, near Banff, AB45 3SX.

All year. Tel: 01261 818181

[www.duffhouse.org.uk](http://www.duffhouse.org.uk)

2008 – 500 years of printing in Scotland

[www.500yearsofprinting.org](http://www.500yearsofprinting.org)



**The Scottish Printing Archival Trust**

For further information, or if you have any suggestions, please contact:

Helen Williams, Programme Manager  
48 Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, EH12 5DE

[hwilliams@500yearsofprinting.org](mailto:hwilliams@500yearsofprinting.org)  
Tel: 0131 220 4353 Fax: 0131 220 4344