



2008 Newsletter

July 2008

Lasting impressions: the National Trust for Scotland's exhibition opens

The National Trust for Scotland owns Robert Smail's Printing Works, in the Borders town of Innerleithen, which is a fully operational letterpress printers, restored to full operation just as it was a century ago. A selection of items from Robert Smail's Printing Works will be brought to the Trust's headquarters at 28 Charlotte Square. They will tell the story of the Smail family, who owned and ran the printing works for generations, and explain the process of traditional letterpress printing still used there. To complement the display of these items, a selection of literary treasures and printed material from the Trust's extensive collections will also be on display. During the first two months of the exhibition there will be drop-in sessions of printing and bookbinding demonstrations. Staff and volunteers from Robert Smail's will demonstrate and talk about the process of letterpress printing. All visitors will be encouraged to try their hand at typesetting and a small Adana printing press will be used to print names onto commemorative bookplates. In addition, there will be demonstrations of traditional book-binding techniques on Thursday afternoons from 21 August until 25 September, and a lunchtime talk series, beginning on Wednesday, 20 August at 12.30pm, with Making a Good Impression by Gen Harrison,



Replica press to be unveiled

On 2 August, a newly-built working replica of the wooden printing press used by publisher John Wilson to print Robert Burns' First Edition (or Kilmarnock Edition) in 1786 will be unveiled at the Dick Institute in Kilmarnock. The replica press can be operated under supervision and will form part of a series of Robert Burns and printing related displays. South Museum, The Dick Institute, 1 Elmbank Avenue, Kilmarnock, KA1 3BU. Tel: 01563 554343. www.visiteastayrshire.com

Conference on books from Scotland
In recognition of the importance of the quincentenary of printing in Scotland, Imprinting within our realme, the annual study conference of Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals Rare Books and Special Collections Group, will be held at the Royal College of Surgeons of

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

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Property Manager/Composer at Robert Smail's Printing Works.

The talks are free of charge and are on a first come, first served basis. To reserve a place phone 0844 493 2100. The free exhibition opens on 1 August and continues until the end of October. Open Monday to Saturday.

Robert Smail's Printing Works has been in the Trust's care since 1986, when the property was purchased from Cowan Smail. Today, visitors to the site can see the presses turning, visit the paper store and tour the composing room, even trying typesetting by hand. There are Living History Tours on the last Saturday of the month until the end of October. Robert Smail's Printing Works, 7-9 High Street, Innerleithen, EH44 6HA. Tel: 0844 493 2259. www.nts.org.uk/Property/52/

Edinburgh on 10 – 12 September. The full conference programme and booking details are available from www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/rarebooks/events

Exhibition at the Surgeon's Hall Museum

Written on the body opens at the beginning of August and runs until the end of December. Admission: £5/£3 (conc). Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9DW. Tel: 0131527 1649
www.edinburgh.surgeonshall.museum

Printing workshops at the Edinburgh Book Festival

The Edinburgh International Book Festival is marking the quincentenary of printing in Scotland with workshops for both adults and children. For full details see the Book Festival brochure or website at www.edbookfest.co.uk

Continuing exhibitions

Wayzgoose: excursions, sports and socials in the printing industry. The Library, Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, EH21 6UU. Tel: 0131 474 0000. 4 – 15 August.

Printing in Shetland. Shetland Museum and Archives, Hay's Dock, Hay's Dock, Lerwick, Shetland, ZE1 0WP. To 23 October.
www.shetland-museum.org.uk/

Exhibition of new prints by Chad McCail commissioned by Edinburgh Printmakers. Edinburgh Printmakers Workshop and Gallery. 23 Union Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3LR. Tel: 0131 557 2479. To 6 September.
www.edinburgh-printmakers.co.uk

Electric shock of delight: Walter Scott and the Waverley Press. Free exhibition. Writers Museum. Lady Stair's Close, Edinburgh, EH1 2PA. To 3 January 2009. www.cac.org.uk

The Power of the Press Harestanes Visitor Centre, Ancrum, Jedburgh, TD8 6UQ. To 25 August. www.scotborders.gov.uk/about/museums

In print: the Mitchell celebrates 500 years of printing in Scotland. Mitchell Library, North Street, Glasgow, G3 7DN. To 31 August. www.csghlasgow.org

Imprentit: 500 years of the Scottish printed word. National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1EW. 0131 623

3700 Free exhibition. Open: Monday to Friday 10am to 8pm, Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 2pm to 5pm. To 12 October. www.nls.uk

Clò Trom - Clò-bhualadh sa Ghàidhlig air a' Ghàidhealtachd, 1778-1901 (Gaelic Printing in the Highlands). Inverness Library, Farraline Park, Inverness, IV1 1NH.

www.ambaile.org.uk

In Aedibus Academicis: the Glasgow University Press. Special Collections, Level 12, Glasgow University Library, Hillhead Street, Glasgow, G12 8QE. Until end August. special.lib.gla.ac.uk

Printing and medicine: the impact of print on five centuries of western medicine. Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, 9 Queen Street Edinburgh, EH2 1JQ. Free exhibition open Mondays to Fridays 10am-4.30pm. To 31 October 2008.

www.rcpe.ac.uk/library/exhibitions/print-medicine/index.php

Medical Impressions: the history of printing in medical education in Scotland. Tayside Medical History Museum, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee. To 4 October.

Victorian living history tours. Robert Smail's Printing Works, 7/9 High Street, Innerleithen, Borders, EH44 6HA. To 31 October.

www.nts.org.uk/Property/52/

Scottish imprints from Sir Walter Scott's library. Abbotsford House, Melrose, TD6 9BQ. To 31 October.

www.scottsabbotsford.co.uk

Changing displays of Scottish imprints at Scotland's first public lending library. Innerpefferay Library, Crieff, Perthshire, PH7 3RF www.innerpefferaylibrary.co.uk

Book of the month from the Dunimarle Library. Duff House, near Banff, AB45 3SX. All year. www.duffhouse.com

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

www.aberdeencity.gov.uk

2008 – 500 years of printing in Scotland

www.500yearsofprinting.org



The Scottish Printing Archival Trust

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

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