

Golden Memories

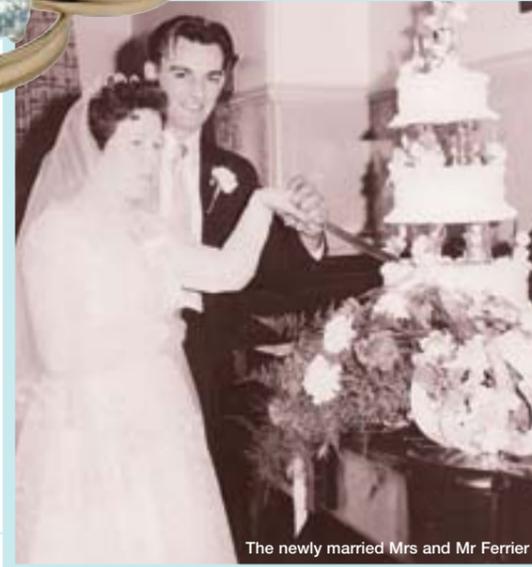


Bett Hogg, alias Mrs Ferrier, popped into the Gothenburg recently and brought some fascinating memorabilia for us to share.

They included advertisements for Fowler's Ales from 1951, one of her 1955 pay-packet slips showing take-home pay of £3/18/3d, and photographs of friends and family taken during the 50's.

Also included was a photo of her wedding day in 1960 where she can be seen cutting the cake with her new husband in the Gothenburg. This snap earns her a £50 prize in the competition from the last issue of Brushstrokes.

The other picture of a Goth celebration to win a £50 prize shows the wedding of Isobel and Johnny Whitelaw. They now live in Australia, but the photo was sent in by Isobel's sister, June Morgan, who lives locally.



The newly married Mrs and Mr Ferrier

Competition Roundup



Prestoungrange Arts Festival Society

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It's our heritage, let's celebrate together

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
www.prestoungrange.org

Name that barman

Another visitor brought in a photograph of her father who was a barman at The Gothenburg after working at the Prestoungrange mine for several years. A complimentary meal for two at The Gothenburg is on offer to the first person to identify him.



Mystery barman

Entries to the barman competition to Anne Taylor, The Gothenburg, 227/229 High Street, Prestonpans EH32 9BE – by 1 May, 2004. Don't forget to include your name and address.

Caption Competition

By the way, did you all identify Provost Pat O'Brian as the proud bridegroom shown in the last Brushstrokes? One person who did was Mrs Linda Rolland who is also the winner of the caption competition. Her winning entry earns her a complimentary dinner for four at The Goth after it re-opens.

The runner up is Robert Sheridan who wins a complimentary dinner for two.



The winning caption:

It's time the Baron laid off the Fowlers wee heavy if this is the effect it has on him.

www.prestoungrange.org

brushstrokes



Welcome

Over the last months we've all been busy preparing for the re-opening of The Goth which we dearly hope will be in May. Planning consent has now finally arrived after 20 months in process. My key role is marketing and selling our services as a most desirable destination for tourists. But that's not going to be at the expense of making sure that The Goth is exactly what we all want here in Prestonpans as well. It will soon be the place where new memories will be made as well as old ones re-visited.



One of the joys I already have working at The Goth has been sharing so many memories and stories about it all, and about Fowler's Ales. When I listen to

them and look at the old photographs I can't help feeling that life then seemed much simpler! But what I do find truly remarkable is the community spirit that bonds us all together here in Prestonpans - family ancestry, traditions and the greatest sense of belonging.

I was born here in the Pans and moved back four years ago, having lived in South Africa in between. I'm the latest recruit with the Arts Festival, and like the rest of them I have a great title as Montjoy meaning I am in charge of making sure we all know what's going on. And I promise that when I find out I'll make sure everyone else knows too! There is going to be no shortage of events and gatherings for us all as once again we become Friends at and of The Goth.

Take Care

Adele

Adele, Mountjoy Marketing Manager

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Art Classes Blossoming

The Prestoungrange Art Classes have been a runaway success over the last year and the work produced will be on show at a spring exhibition at the re-opened Gothenburg – details are announced this week.

Established with the help of a £1,800 Millennium grant, the art classes are held every Thursday in the Lindsay Suite of the Cockenzie Centre under the able leadership of Andrew Crummy.

A batik class has just started with well-known Cockenzie artist Fiona Crombie who also hopes to run stained glass workshops in the future. Bag-piping and writing classes are also in the planning stages.

The Prestoungrange Arts Festival is to underwrite classes at the centre at least until the end of 2004. This offers a great opportunity for other local arts groups to use the centre for minimal cost.

To celebrate the success of the art class, we are introducing a regular Prestoungrange Artist Award which will always be announced in Brushstrokes.

The first Award's nominee is June Morgan of Prestonpans. She has discovered her true talent and is creating some amazing



« June Morgan receives her well deserved award from Andrew Crummy

paintings. June comes from an extremely talented family - her brother is the famous Prestonpans artist, the late Willie Coull. Well done June – what a family tradition.

So if you fancy an artistic fling, why not come along. To find out more about existing classes, or if you are interested in starting your own new group, contact Andrew Crummy or Adele Conn on 01875 819922.



The Gothenburg's Grand Re-opening will be in May! Look out for details.

Annual Bursary for Local Artists



Preston Tower



Preston Cross »

Tales of a fascinating book on Prestonpans history are to fund a new annual Burriss Bursary for the benefit of local artists starting this summer.

An Historical Survey of Prestonpans is the book and it is a faithful re-creation of the 1930's paintings and writing of Jeanette Margeurite Burriss. Jeanette grew up in the town and qualified as a teacher before continuing on to art college. No grants were available at that time and she had to go to London to apply for a bursary to allow her to continue her studies in Edinburgh.

During her final year, she decided to use Prestonpans as the focus for her dissertation and produced a splendid set of paintings of the town's landmarks, each accompanied by a brief history.

Jeanette went on to become an art teacher and died in 1993. The material in the book was kindly donated by her sister, Madge Henderson, a Prestonpans resident.

In her time, Jeanette was unable to get funding locally for her studies, but seventy years on the annual £2,000 bursary is being set up in her honour and funded through the sale of the book.

My Swedish Adventure by Tom Ewing

Last July the Lord Mayor of Gothenburg in Sweden visited Prestonpans to unveil a new mural and to name the Lord Mayor's Bar upstairs at our Gothenburg.

I was commissioned to capture the essence of that day in two broadly similar paintings, one for the Lord Mayor and one to hang for ever in the bar! It was decided that since I'd painted it I had better be the one to travel to Goteborg, as it is spelt in Sweden, to give it to the Lord Mayor... just in case there was feedback!

I arrived at Goteborg's City Hall at 3.40pm on the 19th December to meet the Lord Mayor, Jorgen Linder and his wife Lisbeth, and it was straight onto the wine. What great hosts!

After showing me around the truly impressive City Hall -and another glass of wine - we set off for the centre of town. We took a tram to the City's historic Liesberg theme park where every tree was covered in thousands of white lights. It was absolutely stunning.

Afterwards we went for a meal in an Italian restaurant. The food was excellent and more wine flowed. The Lord Mayor explained the relationship between his town and the Gothenburg pubs in Scotland. He also expressed his pleasure at having visited Prestonpans in July, saying he was made to feel very welcome indeed.

During a slight lull in the conversation I leaned over and said in an overly loud voice: "Henrik Larsson"? The response was certainly positive. "Ah Henke, ya" (in Sweden Larsson is evidently known as Henke) and the Lord Mayor is a very big football fan! We had a good long chat about Sweden's chances in Portugal; and from there the conversation flowed from football to art and back to football.

They really were excellent hosts, and it was an honour to have painted for them and to have spent the afternoon and dusk with them both. It was one of the strangest days of my life, and I have to say I enjoyed every minute of it. Goteborg isn't cheap, but it is very beautiful and the people are very friendly. I'm saving up to go back.



Tom centre with the Lord Mayor and his wife

Painted Ceilings - Old and New!

The famous Prestoungange Ceiling is the subject of two of the Arts Festival's latest projects – a book and a mural.

The ancient ceiling came to light 40 years ago during alteration work to Prestoungange House by its current occupants, the Royal Musselburgh Golf Club. It dates back to 1581 and is the earliest dated example of a Renaissance painted ceiling in Scotland. During its restoration it was moved to the Council



Image from the original ceiling

Chamber at the top of Napier University's Merchiston Tower.

The Painted Ceiling of Prestoungange is the 17th in the series of historical publications produced by the Prestoungange Arts Festival Society – available at £6 per copy as are all the earlier volumes. It has been written by Prestonpans author Annemarie Allan: "It's been fascinating to research the background to this ceiling," she said. "Although it was common for ceilings to be decorated in the 16th century there are many unique aspects to this work, and I'm delighted to have been able to document it in such detail. Even though the original ceiling can't be seen locally now, it's still a very important artistic link to our area."

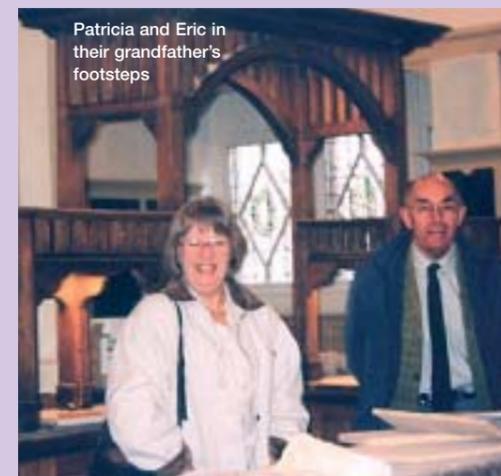
To celebrate the connection today, a new Prestoungange Ceiling is being created in the James Fewell Bar of the renovated Gothenburg. The painter is the well-known local muralist Andrew Crummy who has already been responsible for several of the other Prestoungange murals. It has all the key elements from the original ceiling plus a number of new images from Prestoungange today. These include portraits of David Spence who founded the Heritage Museum; Provost Pat O'Brien; a craftsmen working on The Gothenburg's restoration and both the 1st and 14th Barons of Prestoungange.

The Gothenburg's own Prestoungange Ceiling is sure to be a real talking point for visitors.



Local muralist Andrew Crummy at work

New Generation of Fewells at the Goth



Patricia and Eric in their grandfather's footsteps

As the first manager of The Gothenburg – or Trust Tavern as it was known then – James Fewell holds a very special place in the pub's long history. And now his descendants are to play a role in its re-opening.

As Foundation Manager from 1908 until 1927, he was in charge during the only other time in its history when it was run under the charitable Gothenburg principles. So important was his influence that for the future the main bar in The Gothenburg has been named after him.

James' relatives now live far and wide in Scotland and beyond, but they contacted the Arts Festival after surfing onto the Prestoungange website @ www.prestoungange.org

The outcome was a visit to The Goth by two of James' grandchildren, Patricia and Eric, on December 17th and they have promised to return to take part in re-launch festivities in May.

Patricia now also plans to organise a Fewell Day and gather as many of her clan as possible once The Goth is up and running.