



THE COUNTDOWN IS ON!



Pictured here: Heather Stuart, CEO, Fife Cultural Trust along with board members Brian Lawrie, and Jenni Steele, Cllr Helen Law, Chair of the City of Dunfermline Area Committee, Architect Richard Murphy, Ian Wilson, Vice Chair, Carnegie Dunfermline Trust.

Thursday 18th May is the day that the new Dunfermline Carnegie Library and Galleries will open its doors to the public. With the countdown officially on, and with only 11 weeks to go... or 79 more sleeps... it's a case of all hands on deck.

Key project funders and partners gathered together at the brand new facility for the public opening announcement and to apply one or two of the finishing touches.

Construction work on the new Dunfermline Carnegie Library & Galleries finished late last year and Fife Cultural Trust staff are now in the process of populating the building with thousands of books, museum objects, precious archives and artwork in time for the 18th May opening.

The new complex will open its doors to the public on Thursday 18th May 2017 which coincides with the national 'Festival of Museums'. The official opening of the building is planned for later in the year.

Proud Provost Gives Dunfermline's New Cultural Landmark the Thumbs Up

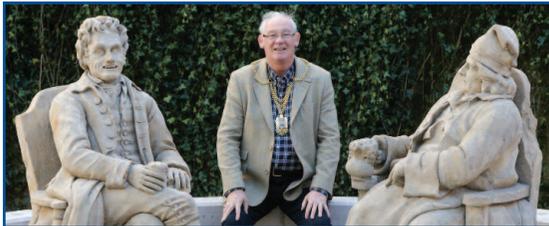
Provost **Jim Leishman MBE**, was treated to an early preview of the newly completed Dunfermline Carnegie Library & Galleries ahead of its opening on 18th May.

Touring the state of the art complex, the Provost, said he felt "honoured and proud" to be the Provost at this exciting time in Dunfermline's history. He said: "Dunfermline is steeped in the history of Scotland's prominent kings and queens and I am delighted to see how the whole building offers connections to the town's historic surroundings. A fantastic building like this is sure to be a magnet for visitors and that can only be good for the town."

"When the doors finally open, I think the local community will be delighted with what they see and I think they will love how the much treasured original library has been incorporated into the new facility. When I was a youngster, libraries were places where you were always being told to "shoosh", but this new centre really makes you feel welcome and makes you want to get involved... terrific!"



Hosting the Provost's tour, Lesley McNaughton, project team member



Garden Residence for Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnnie

During his preview tour the Provost took a seat in the garden beside the statues of famous Robert Burns characters, Tam O'Shanter and his friend Souter Johnnie which have been erected in the DCL&G gardens by stone conservation expert Graciela Ainsworth and her team.

Carved in the 18th century by Robert Forrest, these famous, larger-than-life statues, known as 'The Stone Men of Saline' previously sat in a private garden until they were bought for Fife's museum collection. We are sure you will agree that it seems appropriate that these two much loved

literary characters will now sit facing Dunfermline's new library which will house the Murison Collection of Robert Burns books and objects.

The Finnis Scott Foundation provided a grant of £5000 towards the renovation and installation of the statues. We would like to thank the trustees for this generous support and hope that placing these fabulous pieces of art in this setting would have pleased Sir David Montagu Douglas Scott, K.C.M.G., O.B.E. and his wife, Valerie Finnis V.M.H. whose love of art and gardening led to the creation of the foundation.

Local Heroes Guitars Fittingly Represented in New Dunfermline Museum

Guitars from not one but two of Dunfermline's best known bands, will undoubtedly be a big hit with locals and visitors from around the world when the doors open to the public for the first time on Thursday 18th May.

The family of the late Stuart Adamson, Big Country's lead singer, songwriter and guitarist, has loaned Stuart's Stratocaster guitar and Pete Agnew, founding member of hard rock band Nazareth has kindly donated his custom build bass guitar. It was the first bass guitar he owned and was used to record on many of Nazareth's 23 studio albums. The guitar is a hybrid combining a Fender Mustang body with a Fender Precision neck.

The two guitars will be feature pieces in the new building. Visitors will also be able to enjoy a specially commissioned film which contains archive images and footage set to music from local artists including both of these bands.

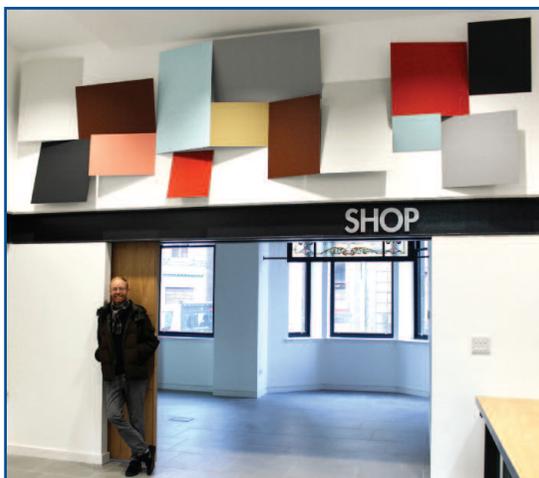


Stuart Adamson's daughter Kirsten Adamson proudly shows off her Dad's Guitar.



Nazareth's Pete Agnew pictured with his first bass guitar

Internationally Acclaimed Artist Creates Wow Factor



The handover of the building to Fife Cultural Trust coincided with the installation of a vibrant new artwork by Glasgow artist Toby Paterson. The work Cluster Relief (Dunfermline Remnant) was created especially for its site, in the entrance area. It is a series of aluminium panels which pick up the colour palette of material in DCL&G and the Heritage Quarter and is a wonderful complement to the building. Architecture is the starting point for much of Toby's work so it's fantastic to have a piece of his work set in this brand new addition to Dunfermline's architectural landscape.

The piece is the culmination of his series of public art works created around Dunfermline from 2012-2015, funded through a Section 75 contribution to public art by Tesco Ltd for Fife Council.

Carnegie Legacy Lives On

Excitement is mounting amongst the Library staff as the new shelving is fixed into place in both the adult lending library and the new junior library. The wooden end panels on the new shelving complements the original wooden shelving, with pictorial inserts showing some of the features of the building. Care has also been taken to ensure the beautiful carved cherubs in the wood panelling are still clearly on show. The new soft furnishings will ensure anyone visiting the library is able to relax and enjoy the unique surroundings in the original Carnegie Library.



Meet the DCLG School Ambassadors

P6 pupils from 23 local primary schools, ranging from Pittencreeff to further afield Tulliallan and Donibristle have been dutifully acting as ambassadors for the new building. The Ambassadors have visited DCLG throughout the academic year to see progress. They have found out all about the building and museum displays, user tested the multi-media games and learnt how to blog and contributed blogs to the DCLG Blog site. If you have a look at dclgsite.wordpress.com, you can 'meet' the ambassadors.

"A Beautiful Space" for Research & Study

The new Reading Room combines the reference and local studies departments into one beautifully designed space. 12 public access pcs will supplement the extensive range of books about the local area as well as family history sources, newspapers, maps and photographs. There is plenty of space to study once you have finished contemplating the inspiring historic view. Local Archives as well as the unique special and rare books collections will be available for research by appointment in our new search room. If there was a competition for the most beautiful library space in Scotland we think the Reading Room would certainly be a winner.



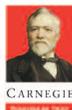
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SUPPORTED BY



Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Fife Council with The Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, Dunfermline Carnegie Library & Galleries will be a spectacular new museum and art galleries in the heart of Dunfermline's Heritage Quarter, integrated with the world's first Carnegie sponsored library.