



October 2016 Newsletter

Dear All,

A quick update on the Cupar CARS/THI scheme progress:

Painting of the **County Buildings** along St Catherine Street is now complete. Tenants have already moved into the new-build housing units at the back of the building, and will soon be moving into the new housing units within the converted West Wing.

The freshly painted County Buildings:



The planning and listed building consent applications for the repair and conversion of the **Burgh Chambers** to a holiday let apartment have now been submitted and the project has gone out to tender.

There were a couple of opportunities for people to see inside the Burgh Chambers over the summer: Cupar Arts chose the space as one of the venues for their successful arts festival in June, and their volunteers worked hard to transform the building into a safe space for visitors.

Fife Historic Buildings Trust were delighted to open the building for **Doors Open** day on 4th September and welcomed over 120 visitors! A big thank you to Cupar Heritage for volunteering on the day and for preparing the wonderful display of historic photos and artefacts.

Visitors at Burgh Chambers Doors Open Day:



Two more **traditional skills apprenticeships** have now been created, both with local Cupar companies: Bspoke Joinery has employed a joinery apprentice and Robert Mason Contracts has employed a plastering apprentice.

Fife Council's traditional skills apprentices were given the chance to learn about the stone industry in Scotland during a fascinating tour of the historic Hutton Stone quarry in the Scottish Borders.

Craft apprentices at Hutton Stone quarry:



The first **Building Repair Grant Scheme** project has been successfully completed, a second project is nearing completion, and three more projects have been awarded grants. Application deadlines have now been introduced in order to encourage projects to come forward more quickly, and 17 projects have been invited to submit their applications by 31 October 2016. Depending on the funding available, a second application round may open next year, and I will be in touch with more information on this in due course.

Completed Building Repair Grant Scheme project at 59 Bonnygate (stone repairs, new cast iron rainwater goods, new lime render to the gable):



There is lots of useful **online information** covering the repair and maintenance of traditional buildings for property owners, professional advisors and contractors. The presentation slides from the traditional skills seminar delivered by Historic Environment Scotland and Fife Council in June can be found on our website: www.fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk/cupar-cars

In addition, RIAS (the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland) has recently launched a very comprehensive website providing information and advice for owners of all types of common property (traditional and modern), as part of the Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design 2016: www.underoneroof.scot

The Scottish Lime Centre Trust has been carrying out a **stone and slate building survey** of the historic centre of Cupar over the past few months. This will give a better understanding of the condition and conservation needs of Cupar's significant architectural heritage and will identify suitable matching stone and slate for use in repairs. The results of the survey will be presented in a report which will be made freely available, and a seminar will also be held from 9.30am to 12.30pm on 3rd November 2016 at the County Buildings to explain the findings of the survey and the importance of stone and mortar matching in repairs.

A **programme of training** for 2016/17 has now been prepared, covering a range of topics such as Conservation and Repair of Traditional Shopfronts, Repair and Upgrading of Traditional Windows and Doors, and Maintenance and Repair of Traditional Roofing. Please see the separate programme for more course details.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more please email me at fiona@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk or call 01592 890060.