



IHBC SCOTLAND BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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IHBC SCOTLAND EVENTS

Face to face and site meetings are on hold due to governmental guidance during the co-Vid crisis. While we hope that these will resume one day, we must plan for this situation to be the new normal for some considerable time to come. Therefore a planned MATE session for prospective progression to full membership is on hold. Digital "Virtual" alternatives were tried last week, and may be repeated with a Scotland focus in future. See <https://ihbconline.co.uk/newsarchive/?p=26239>

Work on the **IHBC Annual School** in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, to be hosted by Scotland Branch and its local steering group (volunteers, is well underway. This will now take place in June 2022 in order to allow the Brighton School to switch to 2021. This year sees a virtual [day school](#) which will be well worth joining on 19 June, wherever you are: [Old Towns New Futures](#). A keynote from American architect Carl Elefante will remind us, as if we need reminding, that the [Greenest Building is the One Already Built](#).

IHBC SCOTLAND NEWS

The CoVid-19 crisis is seriously impacting many of the things that we in building conservation had sought to enhance, like the vitality of high streets. Now that so many have gone on line for purchases, will shoppers ever come back again? Will historic pubs and theatres bounce back as before? Will public parks be recognised as essential lungs for densely settled cities, or places harbouring dangers? The recovery effort will require the professional skills of IHBC members to help steer adaptations needed as a result of the economic changes writ large in boarded up and empty properties. If you have been redeployed, furloughed or put at risk of redundancy (thinking particularly of whoever is left at [NTS](#)), your experience will be all the more valuable in the changed world to which we will return.

Mark Watson, Convenor, Scotland Branch IHBC

IHBC Scotland branch needs you! Specifically there are opportunities to contribute to the work of the branch in the roles of Trustee, (which can combine with Convenor) and Secretary. We thank Barbara Stuart who had ably filled the secretary role but chose to retire at the end of 2019 at the same time as she retired from City of

Edinburgh Council. We also Thank Dave Sutton for his work for IHBC, notably the SHED group on mapped data, and also the Planning Framework. Currently all meetings are on line, and we will continue to facilitate participation no matter where is your location. Contact Scotland@IHBC.org.uk to explore what is entailed and what you can contribute.

CONSULTATIONS focussed again on the SG Planning Framework 4 (PF4) to which IHBC has contributed its ideas, (see right side of branch officers tab on IHBC Scotland [branch web page](#)). IHBC also responded to a consultation by Energy Efficiency Scotland on "Improving energy efficiency in owner occupied homes" -the ramping up of EPC to privately-owned homes as well as rented properties.

The IHBC Toolbox is a growing reference resource linked to the IHBC's latest technical publications online. [Further details....](#)



IHBC Scotland branch provided a display at the OPIT (Our Place in Time) working group on Climate Change Impacts in Glasgow City Chambers (left, with Sarah Kettles and Charles Strang) and, with Professional Services Officer Michael Netter, right, a stand at the Listed Property Owners Club in Edinburgh (assisted by Craig Frew, Mark Watson and Niall Murphy).

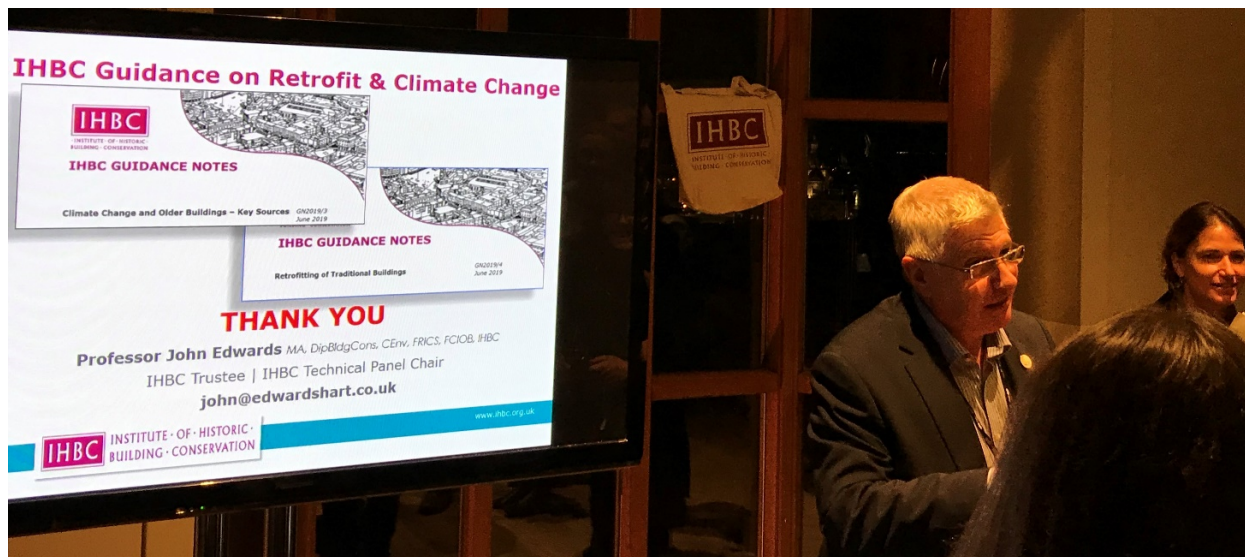
The Scottish Listed Property Show returned for a second outing in Edinburgh last October. IHBC hosted a stand here and offered material on its work and membership as well as public resources such as our Historic Environment Service Providers Recognition (HESPR) scheme. <https://www.lpoc.co.uk/>

The **Membership** Secretary writes: IHBC Scotland Branch now has 205 members, of which 90 are full members, one is an associate and 114 are affiliates. We are delighted that the following affiliates have recently been awarded full membership: Rhona Fleming; Brigit Luffingham; and Shona Simpson. Congratulations to each of them! We would, of course, be happy to hear from any affiliates interested in working towards their full membership, so that we can provide appropriate support.

IHBC Marsh Awards. Scotland branch has achieved some success in the past and

has again taken the chance to make a nomination in the 'retired IHBC member' or 'successful learners' category. The Awards, developed in partnership with the Marsh Christian Trust, celebrate the civic contributions of retired IHBC members, and successful learning in heritage skills – with prizes that include £500 and a free place at the IHBC's Brighton 2021 Annual School. [Further details....](#)

Twitter: IHBC Scotland branch now has 2026 followers. Follow [@Ihbcscotland](#) for the latest news within the sector.



IHBC gave its support to the new [Climate Heritage Network](#) #ClimateHeritage launched in Edinburgh on 24-25 October, at which John Edwards, above, presented new IHBC guidance on retrofit.

The Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme 2019-24 is described here <https://ihbconline.co.uk/newsarchive/?p=24141>

OTHER NEWS, CPD & EVENTS BY OTHERS

IHBC has issued a [CPD newsletter](#) with links to CPD activities that are on line, mainly, in May-July.

The **SPAB** on line learning platform includes a few Scottish contributions, such as Friday 22 May, 18.00 the Stirling Traditional Buildings Healthcheck, and on 29 May, 14.00 Nic Boyes on Rosslyn Chapel. Check out <https://www.spab.org.uk/whats-on/online-learning>

Adapt Northern Heritage: a concluding symposium took place on line on 5/7 May. Outputs from the collaborative work around climate change impacts upon heritage in northern climes are here: [further details](#)

Guidance on ecclesiastical exemption is on the Historic Environment Scotland website here: [Further details.](#)

Egyptian Halls in Glasgow got into the Europa Nostra shortlist of 14 most endangered sites across Europe. <https://www.eurapanostra.org/14-sites-shortlisted-7-most-endangered-2020/>. The Greek Thomson masterpiece in Union Street fell

short of the March 2020 elimination round to select seven most endangered European heritage sites. One of these, the National Theatre in Albania was promptly demolished in May, illustrating the impotence of such an accolade. And then there were six...

The Alexander Thomson Society recently invited designers from around the world to develop ideas for the adaptive re-use of Alexander 'Greek' Thomson's Egyptian Halls, and organised a symposium on their future on 21 February

IHBC is sorry to hear of the death of Mark Baines of The Alexander Thomson Society. We also must record the death in a nursing home in April of Charles Prosser, secretary for 25 years of the Royal Fine Art Commission, predecessor to A+DS.

ANNUAL SURF AWARDS: the Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum award winners were announced on 5th December 2019 in five thematic categories. 15 different shortlisted initiatives from Dumfries and Galloway to Inverness and Drumnadrochit, are described here (not particularly heritage or conservation-related this year, unusually). [Further details....](#)

Search for Scotland's Most Beautiful High Street 2019: Kirkwall in Orkney has been named Scotland's Most Beautiful High Street having topped a poll of the general public. Having received 21% of nearly 5,000 votes, Kirkwall faced off stiff competition from Island town neighbour, Lerwick, which secured 18% of the vote and East Dunbartonshire town Milngavie came in a close third on 15% of votes cast. [Further details....](#) Other shortlisted entrants were Ayr, Innerleithen, Linlithgow, Lanark, and Rothesay. Will 2019 be seen as the last hey day of the High Street?

New Publications from the Engine Shed (Historic Environment Scotland):

Tenements: An [INFORM guide](#) came out in March 2020. It outlines maintenance works in tenements. It includes guidance on owners' rights and responsibilities, approaching co-owners, making decisions and planning common repairs.

The impact of internal insulation on the performance of tenement masonry forms [case study 35](#).

Initial results are in from a survey of the [impact of CoVid19](#) on the historic environment sector in Scotland conducted in April by Historic Environment Scotland and BEFS, published this week -all self-selected and self-reported of course, matched into SIMD datazones and according to the relative isolation of settlements from each other. A fuller report is to be published in June, by which time actual impacts may be self-evident. Stay Safe everyone!

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