

Craigendoran Steamers Book Launch

Relaunch of local authors book Craigendoran Steamers.

P.S. Waverley, the last seagoing paddle steamer in the world and also the last of the Craigendoran steamers, celebrated her 60th anniversary this year. To mark the occasion the Directors decided to

re-issue an updated version of the book Craigendoran Steamers, written by Alan Brown of the Tarns in 1975.

Sadly Alan died in 2005 and therefore his widow Connie was invited to go to Glasgow to help launch the book on board the Waverley. This was performed during a sail from Glasgow on Friday 17th August, to Dunoon and Rothesay and was covered by the local press.

The book initially highlights the fortunes of the North British Railway Company, it had gained control of the cross river ferries of the Forth and Tay with the absorption of the Edinburgh, Perth and Dundee Railway and from Silloth, on



Connie Brown with Alan's book

the Solway Firth, it was developing steam packet services locally and to Liverpool, Belfast, Douglas and Dublin.

The Silloth link lay in the fact that the second ship built for the North British Railway Company in 1864 was named Waverley and intended for the Dublin service. Unfortunately she proved unreliable and was sold on. Waverley (2) was built in 1865 at Inglis on the Clyde to replace her. The expected increase in traffic on the Irish route failed to appear and the North British suffered a major financial crisis and she was sold in 1868.

In 1882 the Craigendoran on the north bank of the Clyde became the headquarters of the North British

Railways Clyde fleet.

Waverley (3) emerged from Inglis Pointhouse in 1899, a larger faster ship specifically designed for cruising. During the 1939-45 war she joined the 12th Minesweeping Flotilla based at Harwich and was detailed to assist in the Dunkirk evacuation. She was returning to England with 600 troops on board when she was attacked by German Aircraft and sank. The present Waverley

was built to replace her in 1947 and after being withdrawn from service in 1973 the Paddle Preservation Society formed Waverley Steam Navigation Company and Waverley (4) was given a new lease of life.

After her £7 million restoration over the winters of 1999-2000 and 2002-2003 Waverley was regarded as a ship of pre-eminent national importance along with the former Royal Yacht Britannia.

If anyone would like details of excursions or a copy of Craigendoran Steamers, please contact Waverley Excursions Ltd. Waverley Terminal, 36 Lancefield Quay, Glasgow, G3 8HA.

Tel: 0141 221 8152.

Volunteer of the Year Award

Lawrence Marshall was a well deserved Runner-Up in the Volunteer of the Year Award..

Lawrence is well known in the district and was nominated as an entry in the Cumbria Community Awards organised and Sponsored by Cumbria County Council with Sponsors CN Group, North West Regional Development Group, University of Cumbria, Resource Cumbria, Studsvik, Cumbria Constabulary, Oceeac, hfolidays, The Edinburgh Woollen Mill, and Digital UK.

Lawrence now in his 70's was nominated for his help and work locally which includes being a member of Silloth Council from 1991 to 2002 and Mayor in 1995 and 96. He was instrumental with planting daffodils, and The Millennium Cairn on the Green.

He first took part in The Carnival in 1946 as a Crown-bearer, in 1972 joined the committee and became chairman for 10 years. He was involved with the attendance of the Red Arrows in the 2006 Carnival.

A regular attendee at Christ Church, was Warden one year (now a deputy Warden), and a member of the Men's Choir.



Photo courtesy of Cumberland Newspaper

John Askew, Regional Manager of the Border region, Digital UK with Laurence Marshall of Silloth, runner up in the Cumbria Community Awards 2007 Volunteer of the Year Award and his wife Mary

He is a Trustee of Silloth Nursing Home and Sea Dyke Charity.

Community Voluntary Bus driver 1993- 2005 and on committee, and has been Treasurer for the last five years.

Organiser for the Monday Luncheon Club.

Original committee member of Vintage Rally, and also involved as judge at Ploughing and Vintage Rallies.

Regular competitor in Dialect competition.

Past member of the Round Table and served as Chairman in 1975, he is now a member of the 41 Club.

Amongst the many things he is seen helping in the town is installing the lights and bunting for various events. He is also most noted for his

efforts in announcing and co-ordinating by microphone at various events.

A panel of eight judges had to assess many entries in 13 sections, Lawrence was entered into the Volunteer of the Year award. This was narrowed down until he was one of the two finalists in his section. This took him to a Red Carpet evening at the Rheged Centre where all the finalists were entertained to dinner.

But alas, Lawrence was beaten by extra strong opposition in the form of two ladies from West Cumbria, who in his own words deserved to win for the work they do.

This was typical of Lawrence for giving praise where it is due.

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