

on the basis of what they have found, the restoration of that room can now be planned. In our volunteer team we've enjoyed a fine and essential support system that welcomes, guides, caters and gardens, to say nothing of playing the odd theatrical role. Though new recruits have joined the team, others will be very welcome. If interested, please contact Iain McGillivray on 0141 638 0838. The house reopens on Sunday 1st April.

**Annual General Meeting** Notice is hereby given that the 27th Annual General Meeting of the Centre will be held at 7.30 p.m. on 12th April 2012 in Clarkston Hall.

**Agenda**

1. Minutes of 26th AGM.
2. Annual Report (included in this newsletter).
3. Presentation of accounts for 2011.
4. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members: nominations should reach the Secretary by 12th April 2012.
5. Appointment of Financial Examiner.



**NTS Eastwood & District  
Members' Centre**

a place for everyone

**Newsletter No 53  
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**Chairman's Comments** Since the last Newsletter in August we have had only two meetings: after hearing about Scotland's Gardens from Lady Juliet Edmondstone and having our talk by Dr Maureen Park on the Scottish Colourists (postponed from last December when the weather closed in on us), we once again found ourselves in the situation of having to cancel the December meeting. The forecast of the most ferocious storm for many years, with all schools closed and transport severely limited, brought us to the conclusion that it would be wise to cancel, and then we were contacted by East Renfrewshire to say that the Clarkston Hall would not be open! Our thanks go to all the Committee who divided up the membership and spent considerable time phoning everyone to make sure all knew the meeting was not going to happen.

One member of our Committee has hit the headlines in the last few months. Iain McGillivray was nominated by the Committee for the Trust's *Volunteer of the Year* award, and was given a Special Commendation Certificate for his work as Coordinator at Holmwood. This was then overshadowed by the fact that he was selected to receive the George Waterson Award: this is given by the Trust each year to a member, volunteer or staff member who has done outstanding work for the Trust in the course of the year. We would all want to congratulate Iain on this prestigious award, which is thoroughly merited as all those who have worked with him at Holmwood or on the Committee will bear out.

**George  
Robertson**

## **Annual Report 2011**

The year began with Joy Blair inviting us to *Walk these Parks with Me*, the talk which had to be postponed in 2010 because of the weather; we had a fascinating tour of many of Scotland's parks which she had visited in connection with her Discovery Award. In February Iain Stewart gave us *The Rise and Fall of the Glasgow Tram*, which brought back memories of transport in the city. We came up to date in March by looking at the large windfarm on our doorstep at Whitelees, with many outstanding facts and figures on this huge project which not only provides us with power but is a recreational space for the area. April's talk was on *The Lost Palace at Hamilton*, but unfortunately the speaker, Godfrey Evans, refused to wear the lapel microphone and many towards the back of the Hall did not hear it. (*This situation will not happen again - Chairman.*)

After the summer we had Lady Juliet Edmondstone talking about *Scotland's Gardens - East versus West* with some excellent illustrations of what the Gardens across the country can offer the visitor, and then in November Dr Maureen Park showed us the wonders of *The Scottish Colourists*. We were to have had Rosemary Watt describing the new Riverside Museum, but the worst weather for many years closed in that day with hurricane force winds and lashing rain, and the meeting had to be cancelled.

Outings and social events continued through the year. In March we had lunch at the Brig o' Doon Hotel before visiting the new Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, and this outing was so popular it had to run twice! May saw us visiting Manderston House at Duns, and in June we went to Dalmeny House at South Queensferry. Glamis Castle was our destination in September, and October took us to the new Riverside Museum (which many accessed nostalgically by the Govan Ferry!). In November we went to the Erskine Annual

Christmas Cracker, and later to the Orpheus Club's rather unusual production of *The Pirates of Penzance* which was much enjoyed.

In the course of this year we have made donations of £450 to Holmwood and £90 to the Riverside Museum. We are waiting to see what further contribution we can make to the improvements which are scheduled for Holmwood, and we now have the wish list from the Trust's properties which we shall consider in the next few months.

<b>Further Meetings</b>	12 January	Alistair White & colleagues: <i>St Kilda</i> .
	9 February	Morna Mathers: <i>The First Emperor of China</i> .
	8 March	John Rattenbury: <i>Islamic Art</i> .
	12 April	Mike and Sue Thornley: <i>History &amp; Restoration of Glenarn Gardens</i>

<b>Visits and Outings</b>	3 January	Viennese Gala, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.
	25 January	Burns Supper.
	7 March	Lunch at Scholars Restaurant and visit to Garnethill Synagogue.
	18 April	National Museum of Scotland.
	2 May	Glenarn and Geilston Gardens.
31 May	Kellie Castle and Gardens, Fife.	

(see enclosed sheets for details).

**Holmwood Events** After a suitably spooky Hallowe'en, Holmwood closed for the season apart from very successfully hosting Santa as well as a craft fair over the first two weekends of December. Meanwhile the conservation team has completed the section exposing the full stencil pattern in the dining room;