

The Scottish Pottery Society

Glasgow Branch Newsletter

Charity No. SC003935

No. 245 November, 2014

1. Last meeting, 13 October, 2014, The Turra Coo

A faithful few turned up to hear Graeme Cruickshank expound in great depth on the story of the Turra Coo.

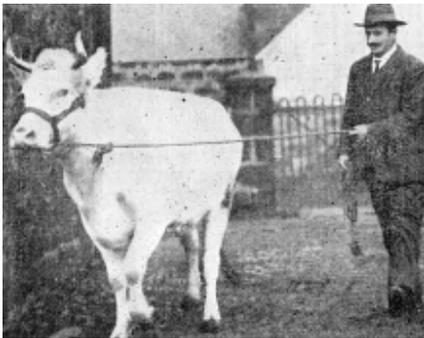
As part of the Liberal welfare reforms of the 1910s, the Chancellor of the Exchequer David Lloyd George introduced a scheme whereby National Insurance contributions became compulsory for all workers between the ages of 16 and 70.

In Turriff popular protests were held on the grounds that this was unfair to agricultural workers, and Lendrum farmer Robert Paterson refused to stamp the insurance cards of his employees. Paterson was charged under the National Insurance Act and sentenced to pay a fine of £15 plus the arrears of national insurance contributions. Paterson paid the fine, but refused to make up the arrears, resulting in orders on 13 November 1913 for Turriff's sheriff officer George Keith to seize property to the value of £7 from Paterson's farm. However, this was more difficult than it seemed as officers could not move property without assistance, and the locals refused to help.

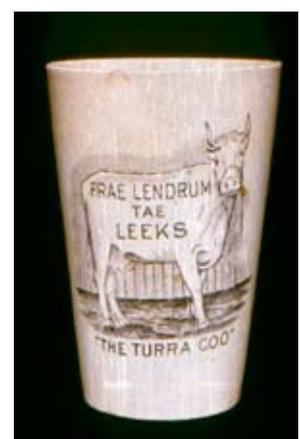
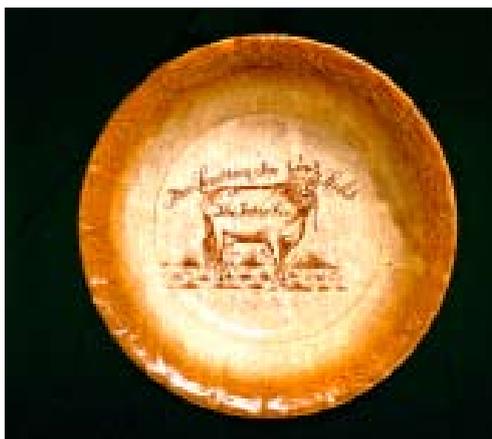
Keith pounded the only piece of property that was easily mobile – Paterson's white milk cow, which was set to be sold in Turriff on 9 December 1913. After extensive shenanigans the cow escaped, or was set free, and ran off. It was eventually auctioned in Aberdeen but local farmers bought it back and presented it to the original owner, who allowed the cow to live out its life at Lendrum where it died some years later and was buried in one of the fields.

Graeme's talk was prolifically illustrated on PowerPoint. The section of most interest to the society was about the souvenirs produced to mark the events, which included pottery as well as clothes and engraved glass. None of the pottery was marked by the manufacturers. Some of the pottery pieces are shown below and Graeme will be very grateful if anyone can identify any of the potteries involved.

The motto on all the souvenirs is 'Frae Lendrum tae Leeks', Lendrum being the name of the farm and Leeks referring to Lloyd George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer



Robert Paterson and cow





2. Next meeting Monday 10 November. David Paton speaking about Nautilus porcelain

David Paton is a prolific Nautilus collector. Whether he is brave enough to bring along his most precious pieces we can only wait and see. However we will have the story of the making of the Possil Pottery's porcelain, its links with the Belleek pottery in Ireland and the all too early closure of the pottery.

This is a chance for you to show off some of your own Nautilus pieces.

3. Exhibition – Glasgow Potteries and the British Empire

This exhibition mounted by Graeme Cruickshank has an extended viewing till 2 November 2014. Graeme is giving a talk about this exhibition on Monday 27 October in the Mitchell library, 5th floor in the Blythwood Room at 6 pm prompt.

4. Some Forthcoming Fairs (November /December 2014)

- Sunday 8 Nov/6Dec Albert Halls, Dumbarton Road, Stirling
- Sunday 16 Nov/16 Nov Bellahouston Leisure Centre
- Saturday 1 Nov /6 Dec The Citadel Leisure Centre, Ayr Baths, South Beach Road, Ayr
- Saturday 8 Nov/13 Dec Loch Leven Community Campus, the Muirs, Kinross KY13 8FQ
- Sunday 2 Nov//7 Dec Meadowbank Stadium, Edinburgh
- Sunday 30 November. The Carnegie Conference Centre, Halbeath Road, behind Holiday Inn, Dunfermline
- Fri/Sat/Sun 7/8/9 November, Scone Palace, Perthshire
- Sat/Sun 22/23 November, Ingliston, Edinburgh

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