

DISCOVER MORAY'S GREAT PLACES

Appendix 3 Community Activities



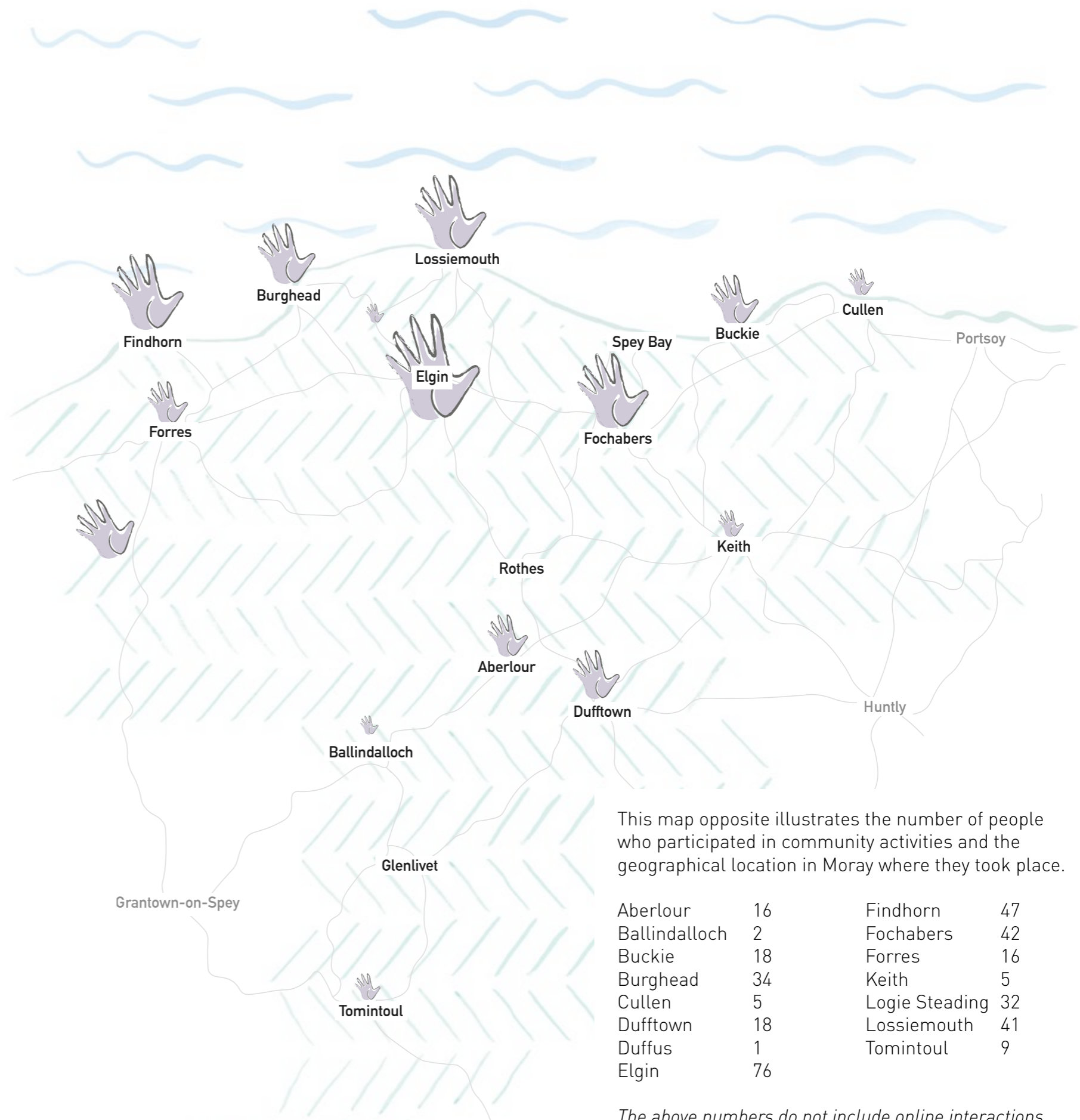
DISCOVER MORAY'S GREAT PLACES

Community Activities

Over the course of the project a variety of different creative community activities were undertaken—mainly led by icecream architecture (ICA) with support from other members of the consultancy team as required. Some processes were repeated in different locations or settings, and some were bespoke. This appendix documents the different activities undertaken and examples of the outputs.

Schedule of Public Activities

- 02.12.19 'Buke of Moray' at Gordon Castle Walled Garden
- 08.12.19 'Buke of Moray' at Logie Steading
- 09.12.19 'Buke of Moray' at Findhorn village
- 11.01.19 'Buke of Moray' at Burghead Library and Burning of the Clavie
- 04.02.19 Blether wi' the Bairns, Lossiemouth High School
- 04.02.19 Pop Up in Dufftown
- 05.02.19 Recording session with Buckie Blethers
- 06.02.19 Workshop with P4/5 at Burghead Primary School
- 07.02.19 Pop Up in Cullen
- 08.02.19 'Buke of Moray' at 'Coffee Pot' Coffee Morning
- 08.02.19 Zine Workshop at Moray Art Centre, Findhorn
- 09.02.19 Pop Up in Forres
- 09.02.19 Zine Workshop at Tolbooth, Forres
- 23.02.19 Day 1 of Character Photo-Shoot, Elgin
- 24.02.19 Day 2 of Character Photo-Shoot, Elgin
- 08.03.19 Audience Testing in Aberlour, Tomintoul and Keith
- 09.03.19 Audience Testing in Lossiemouth and Elgin
- 26.03.19 Audience Testing in Findhorn and Burghead
- 27.03.19 Audience Testing in Elgin and Buckie



This map opposite illustrates the number of people who participated in community activities and the geographical location in Moray where they took place.

Aberlour	16	Findhorn	47
Ballindalloch	2	Fochabers	42
Buckie	18	Forres	16
Burghead	34	Keith	5
Cullen	5	Logie Steading	32
Dufftown	18	Lossiemouth	41
Duffus	1	Tomintoul	9
Elgin	76		

The above numbers do not include online interactions.

BUKE OF MORAY

A giant book (styled as 'buke' in line with an old Scots spelling) was used to capture the stories from the shadows, landscapes and places members of the public considered to be part of 'Moray's Great Places'. Making use of drawing ink and feathered pens the 'buke' together with its large size captured the attention of a variety of people and built up a diverse narrative of storytelling. The buke was taken on a tour of pre-existing events and arranged sessions at:

- Gordon Castle Walled Gardens
- Logie Steading
- Findhorn village
- Burghead Library
- Burghead Primary School
- The Coffee Pot (coffee morning for families based at RAF Lossiemouth and Kinloss Barracks)
- Pop-Up sessions

The stories captured through 142 individual entries recorded in the 'buke' are an exemplar to the variety that Moray's coast and country has to offer. Through conversations initiated through the book it was also clear that there was a strong appreciation of Moray's culture, history and landscapes as well as a desire to learn more.



love the changing bay -
a few years back it completely
iced over but constantly moved
with the tide in + out and the
river ^{Findhorn} flowing in - the resulting noise
was a loud cracking + grinding -
day + night.
Also - the light across the bay
is ever changing - grey, blue,
flame red, startling yellow/gold

We have discovered our
love of a quiet & calm life
This is the perfect place
to enjoy this life.
lots of lovely people and
outdoors to enjoy.
We Love Moray!

Boring Mill Cottage
Lochan Eilein Road
Insh - boring trees
into drainpipes for
the city of London
- half of London used them

D. Day Landings

Farms on edge of
Culbin evacuated
to allow for line
pre rehearsals for
the above.

Near the lighthouse by Gordonstoun there is a cave.
It's hard to get to - scramble down the cliff, walk
along the beach. Inside the cave is a curse,
written in the 17th. There is graffiti there from ages
ago - there are even Pictish marks. They say
the skulls of children were found there - a site
of sacrifice. Worth going to see ...

Climb the giant's
chair just
outside Duffton
and discover the fairies

follow the 'divie', there's
big rock pools full of big
salmon, whirlpool... it's where
I took my wife on our 1st date!

Walking the seven
bridges on the Divie at
Dunphail.

The light, the BIG skies
THE PEOPLE, the feel of
the place...
So understated ~

RAFT RACE @ LOSSIE
our son broke his
paddle while on the raft
so his team threw him
off and told him to
be the outboard motor



We were walking at
Randolphs Leap one day.
We climbed down to view the
bubbling waters far below.

We noticed that on a large rock
overlooking the leap!, there was a
large toad about to leap...
We were very worried and it felt
like we should give him a kiss...

THE INTAKE & THE
SHEEP'S WALK ♡

Watching the Clavie in Burghead on
a cold sharp January night —
warmed up by a dram in the Bothy.

HOLMAN - FRIENDLY SEASIDE VILLAGE
LOVELY HARBOUR & BEACH, GOOD CYCLE TRACK
TO BURGHEAD - WHERE IT STOPS!

Beautiful coastal walks eg.
Burghead - Roseisle etc.
Finhorn village

FINECHTY
A HAVEN OF LIGHT
SEA, SAND & ROCKS
PATHS & CLIFFS. Dolphins & SEALS
COME SEE IT. MINKI & HBW.

Our favourite spot in Roseisle for
beach walks. We live in Elgin & our
son was born here.. couldn't imagine being
anywhere else



Come and see the "Beautiful"
people in the forest up a
tree - campfires + music
all year round!!!

Cullen beach with my sisters
and Bracken the speaker
- happy memory!

I walk out to Hossiemouth
Lighthouse nearly every day.
Everyday the beach is
different according to how the
tide has behaved. Walk up to
the lighthouse and look down at
the beach for a beautiful view
then cut through the gorse for a
cuppa at the cafe (Aroma) or
have a lovely cake before you walk
at the Ponderosa where there is a
lovely welcome always!

First date with my lovely
partner Lizzy, coffee at
Gordon Castle restaurant and
a walk round the gardens.
Love blossomed in this garden.

Findhorn Beach
feels like you are miles
away, but you are just
down the road

The Seals in Portgordon, a joy to watch coming soon a cafe!

Visit to The Dolphin Centre at Spey Bay - lots to do & say.

Wonderful Golf Courses galore.

Moray folk - down on outside - warm & friendly underneath like a lovely chocolate - memorable

Findhorn Foundation - different way of living. good beach too.

Walking around Millburies forest on a cold winter day, the loch is so still and peaceful it's like a mirror.

Walks + picnics at Spey Bay - beachcombing and barbecues - and a tyre to tie our naughty dog to! 😊

Fochabers village used to 1770 be closer to the castle, but they built the new town and paid the people they wanted to move and thrust the rest out!

AFTER 2 YEARS LIVING IN FORRES
FROM LONDON I FEEL LIKE
I AM STILL ON HOLIDAY. WHAT A
BEAUTIFUL AREA.

Thomson's Coal Oil

made in Elgin, used by
Florence Nightingale and loved
by the Queen Mother.

Fairy village

Duff town



Elgin Park Run.

Fabulous People, fab area ♡

There's no them and us between the armed forces
and the rest of the community, we are part
of Moray and they are part of us.

Most Beautiful scenery for running
B walking, country roads B coastal routes,
even old railway lines ♡

FOCHABERS

Lady Nancy used to stop her car
in the middle of Fochabers High Street
to go shopping.

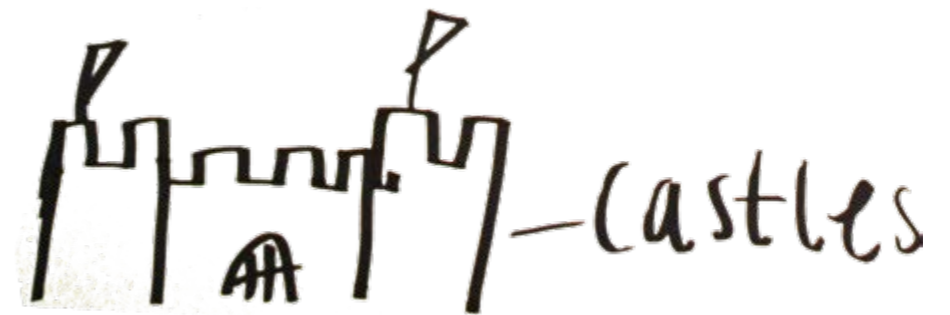
At berry time on the estate
Poor Willie always got the wrath of her
tongue if he was there or not.

Did you know Lady Nancy planted every
Rhododendron Bush on the estate.

BIBLICAL GARDENS. ←
ELGIN.
PEACEFUL FEELINGS.
"IT'S THE AIR ABOUT THERE"

Crabbing at Port Gordon

beach, you might catch a
glimpse of a dolphin at sea
basking in the sun



We love walking the Speyside Way and along the Coastal routes along beaches.

Millburies in the Autumn is glorious, the lochs reflect the colour of the trees - stunning. Very nice at anytime of year.

Another favourite is Grant Park, Forres.

We love the sandy beaches at Lossie, Findhorn, Cullen etc and the kids love the rock pools too.

VISIT THE KEITH & DUFFTOWN RAILWAY
The most northerly heritage railway in the UK
Runs at weekends from Easter to the end of September. Plus special events throughout the year

Crabbing at Findhorn Bay -
Running up to Nelsons Tower.
I like going to Findhorn beach.
Lucas 8
Amelia 9
Noah 6

Duffus Castle.

Auchindour
Castle
for picnic lunch!

Gorge Walking up the Findhorn river, and Paddle boarding in Findhorn bay.
Duffus Castle, at night - looking for U.F.O's, Stargazing.
Going to Moray Wastebusters at the tip - second hand heaven!
Old Mill Inn at Brodie - music on a Sunday night - local traditional musicians meet up 9pm
Culbin Forest and beach - especially the war memorial recently all the families came.

WE LOVE ALL THE BEACHES
IN MORAY.

LOSSEMOUTH ESPECIALLY
HAS THE BEST ICE - CREAM
(MR WHIPPY).

FINDHORN IS A LOVELY
PLACE, STUNNING WALKS.

I WOULD HIGHLY
RECOMEND
THE GLENFIDDICH WHISKY
DISTILLERY.

MY HUSBAND ENJOYS THE
FREE DRAM YOU GET AT
THE END! X

CALIFER HILL - You can
see right across the MORAY
FIRTH, There's memorial
trees & air crash memorial
stone

Nelson Tower - the view
& history - the 1st monument to
Lord Nelson

Floral Displays in Grant Park,
Forres.
& On High Street - All done by
Volunteers.

Visual storytelling, traditional music,
Early Scottish music, eg. Coronach / James Ross
in Pibroch at Abbey, Elgin Cathedral, Brodie Castle,
Pictish Stones.

UHI Moray School of Art. → links with Studios + careers.
Wildlife watching, mythology, folklore.

Craftspeople - Slow Tourism - opportunities to
stop/pause and experience something different.

follow the 'dive' divi', there's
big rock pools full of big
salmon, whirlpool... it's where
I took my wife on our 1st date!

GLENFURNESS AROCLACHTOLL
BELLTOWER - THE POACHERS
UNHITTED THE BELL SO
THEY COULD CONTINUE POACHING
WITHOUT ALERTING.
THE BELL ROLLED DOWN + INTO THE
RIVER... NEVER TO BE FOUND.

Kinnaird who
did deal with the
Devil playing cards
he lost and lost
his Lands.

DYKE CHURCH

Lord Lyon of Scotland
is buried in the church.
Crypt. He was honoured
for helping Charles II
when he returned to
take the Throne of
England Scotland
and Wales.

We came to visit friends
and decided it was
nice so now we've
been living here 20 years

IF YOU WANT TO FIND
A GHOST IN FORRES

GO TO CLUNY HILL
right to the centre of the cloven hills.
This place is called Hells Hole or Helgan's
Hole.

Celebrities to grace Forres
Town Hall;

- Tom Thumb 1857

- Beatles, backup for
JOHNNY GENTLES

Kingston on Spey
to Lossiemouth

- Mountain - Marne.

Dolphins, Sea Birds

Fantastic walks - biking etc.

- views north & south.

The Community

The Beaches


Take out food is next level :)

loads of walks in Falklands
that you can get lost in
for hours on end!!

We are so lucky
to have Moray
It's so good but
we've got to keep
the best bits

SECRET

**SWIMMING IN FINDHORN RIVER
WITH GRANDCHILDREN, FIRES ON
THE BEACH, OSPREY WATCHING**

At New Year in Findhorn, they 
light a Great Fire down at the piers
Fireworks are let off from both piers
Everything's off the cuff. a paper might
show up. Coastal rowers have a band.
everyone is quite well oiled!
There's a starter cannon at midnight.

Wrap up warm - there's always a breeze
Jumping off the pier on Boxing Day
"They've got the heart of Bruce"

"The skies at night - even the butterflies
are different here"

FRIENDLINESS

OUR VISITORS HAVE REMARKED ON THE
FRIENDLINESS OF THE PEOPLE THEY MEET
AND THE HELPFULNESS AND KINDNESS
OF BUSINESS PEOPLE WHO ARE INTERESTED
IN WHO THEY ARE AND WHERE THEY COME
FROM.

Cumington Beach, very quiet,
lots of rock pools and caves to
explore, can walk to Burghead
or Hopeman from there.
Can camp inside one of the caves.
Long ago it was well hidden, not
many people knew about it.

Dolphin Centre Speybay
Can explore on the rocky beach
You can see lots of dolphins
and there is a cafe and you can learn about
Dolphins and the fish that live there. There are
really nice walks you can see lots of different
fish and birds.




Culbin Woods
Great place for walks
+ bike rides. Good
for dogs. ☺

WITCHES STONE IN FORRES;
LAST 'WITCH' ROLLED DOWN THE
HILL IN A BARREL - POSSIBLY
RELATED TO FUNGI IN THE GRAIN
BEING HALLUCINOGENIC

Nice trips along the coastline
visiting the fishing villages +
sampling the local food.

Elgin library is great and has
loads of events for kids too.

Fireworks in Cooper Park
(free!)



Watching salmon leap
at Spey Bay.

Go to Burghead to watch
the dolphins all around you.

They used to catch salmon in
nets in Findhorn Bay.

I LOVE.... SAILING WITH DOLPHINS & WALES.
SAILING, AND FISHING IN THE MORAY FIRTH.
LYING ON MY BACK ON THE STONES AT FINDHORN
BEACH COUNTING THE SHOOTING STARS.... AND
GAZING AT THE NORTHERN LIGHTS.
DRAWING AND PAINTING THE MORAY COAST.

- All our visitors fall in love with
Wastebusters! Fav destination most of
the time 😊

Mielie's have over 50 different
homemade flavours in lollis, get
a cone and head to the beach.
My favourite is ~~chocolate~~ flavour with sprinkles.
Femero Rocher too!

March Croft cottage, rescue centre
for animals, run by Theresa you are
welcome to visit and feed the goats and
chickens for a donation

FINDHORN ICE-HOUSE IS
GREAT

We enjoy visiting Rossiemouth
with the family & Dogs. We go
for lunch at Harbour Lights then
have a walk round the village
then we all have ice cream
including the dogs.

It's all here...

On your lunch hour you can walk your dogs
on a golden beach watching the seals
playing in the sea, you couldn't get a
better lunch hour!

At weekends you are a stone's throw
from exploring the mountains.

I am 6 years old and
there are lots of fun parks
to play at and have picnic
from games



Kids can be kids!
You can play out, explore

Watching the baby red! Squirrels
play high up in the trees of
Culbin forest.

Dutts (good for sledging)

In the height of summer it never
get properly dark! And in winter with
clear skies you can see the Northern lights.

Lots of community spirit, guising, carolling,
Santa on a sled.

Stunning scenery!
Amazing quiet
beaches!

More than just Whisky

Moray is the home of craft GIN

- ELGIN

- Gordon Castle

- Arva

- Duncan's Gin (made @ Logie Stodding).

⊕ Beer

Windswept

Speyside Craft Beers

Spey Valley Brewery, Keith Brewery

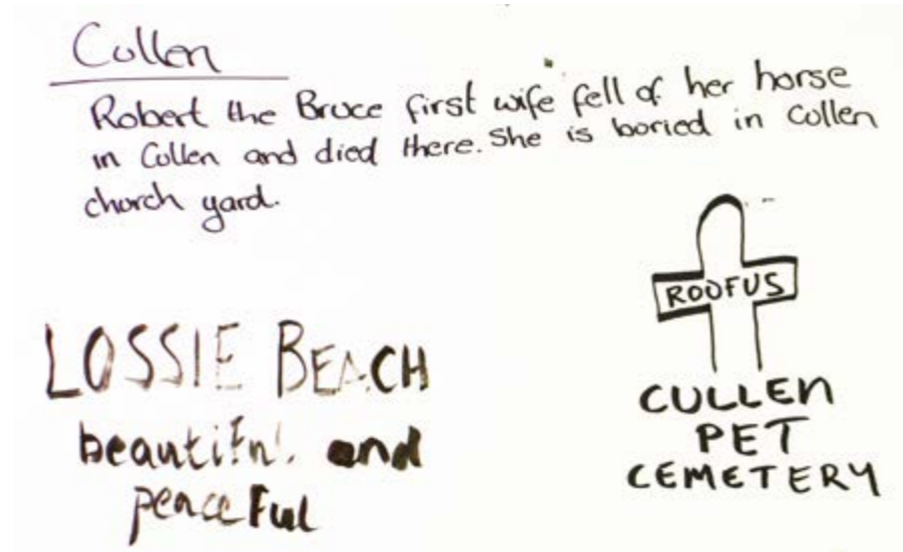
our lhasa apso went wondering
one day. I got a phonecall from
Princess Alexandra at Gordon
Castle... my dog was in her bed.

I used to bring the kids
to Randolphs Leap
One day, my son
almost fell in. I don't
bring the grandkids!

Sunsets in our large skyscape Autumn colours esp in the Oak wood near Elgin and Cluny Hill

Climb the Corvea lighthouse
on one side fabulous nature,
wildlife (and sea), the other
Scotland's only fast jet airbase.

Standing under the landing lights
on Lossie beach as the Typhoons
come in over the sea into land,
you feel the jets, reverberating,
and it feels like you can touch them.



People make eye contact and say hello! passing
in the street.

Baxters at Fochabers
tells all the story of how they
started out making soup and
how they grow. Shops foodhall too.

I AM A ROVER FROM
BURGHARD A CREW OF
5 OVER THE SEA TO HOPMAN
BAEK. OUR SKIFF IS ONLY
THREE YEARS OLD AND IS
THUR FOR YOUNG AND OLD
TOO HAVE A GO - B.C.R.C
😊 ISOBEL TAYLOR
(BURGHARD)
BOXING DAY SWIM 2019 WE HAD 105
JUMPERS AND ON THE DAY RAISED OVER
* £13. 😊😊😊😊

So many playparts!

Buckie-by-the-Sea

Fan ye come tae oor

bonny coastal toon o'

Buckie yer greeted wi

oor freenly welcome o' ~

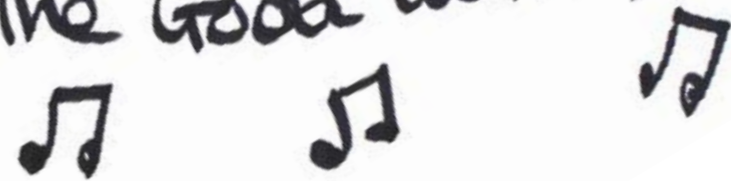
"Aye, aye ~ Fit Like?"

The usual response is ~

"Nae bad ~ Fit Like Yersel?"

Caroline Fowler

Pupils of
Burghead Primary
School devised their own
'Burghead' version of the 12 days
of Christmas highlighting all the
things which make Burghead unique
culminating in ^{no} The Good Luck of The Clavie! =



Moray

Breath our fresh air and enjoy
our wide open spaces.

BURGHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

A special workshop was held with the P4/5 class at Burghead Primary School based around the 'Buke of Moray' on Wednesday the 6th of February 2019. The whole school was participating in local history topics at the time of the workshop, P4/5's focus was on wartime stories. During the workshop the following activities were undertaken:

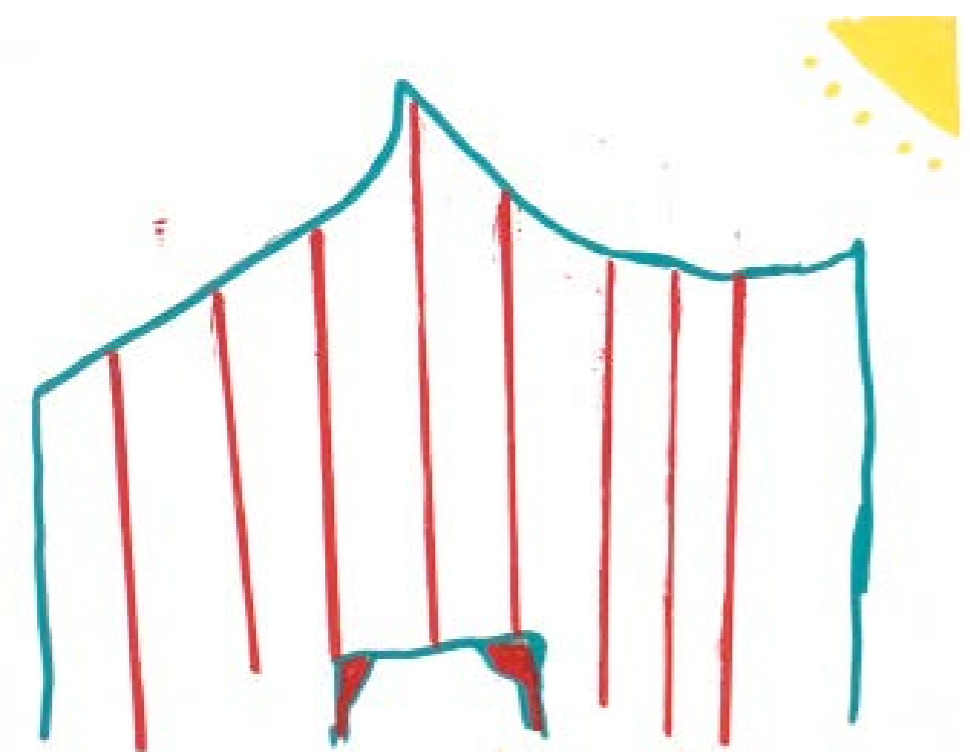
- Introduction to the project
- Sharing stories already in the 'buke' with the class
- Group exercise to share stories about Moray and Burghead that they knew, and would be of interest in the 'buke'
- Working in pairs, pupils then gave their story a headline, wrote a short summary, and made accompanying drawings to add their story to the 'buke'
- The pairs then presented their story to the rest of the class who offered cordial feedback on how it could be improved
- Pupils were then asked to 'Map out a Moray Adventure' This individual task involved pupils imagining they had a friend coming to visit who has never been to Moray before and to map where would you take them on an adventure for a day. The purpose of this exercise was to gleam an understanding of to what degree heritage sites spring to mind as an interesting or fun 'thing to do'. Pupils could use a simplified map of Moray, lined worksheet or both to map out their imaginary adventure.

The results of the workshop are shown on the following pages.





The legend said that a bear ran away from the cirass and was chained up to a well and choked and was sick all over the place. The well is at the top of burghhead and some times as you are walking up you hear roaring.



The Cirass was at the malking.



War run
away from
boms



Evacuees from London

and glasgow, came
to stay in Burghhead
they stayed with
a mum and dad
and they went
to school.



The Haunted Stone



The Sea Monster



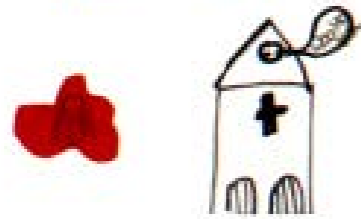
Sea monster at the back shore
in burghhead
If you go to the back shore
in the water there's a sea monster
That is very big and slimy and
gross and big beady eyes. If
you are brave enough to say hi
but is your not run away!
The monster lives at big rock
It is not friendly and it
eats your brain. Never
go to the back shore.
Don't go by your self.



The 

HAUNTED

LOFT!



In Burghead there's a big church

With a creepy Ghost in the loft.

And it looked like a girl it was all black

All you can here from down stairs is bumps/

Foot Steps on the roof if you go up

there it will be gone....



Mystery Screams
in the woods



When me and my friend was in the park. We heard kids screaming and branches snapping

Then we saw a little figure take a kid with his hand waving and then he disappeared into thin air. Then we saw it again on the tree with a

~~gallow~~ gallow on her neck. Then more screaming for her to not jump but then she did it. She jump and lay on the gallow dead.

then we heard a baby cry as well and kids crying like the block a bone. me and alee my friend ran and then there never has one of us heard it again!!!.

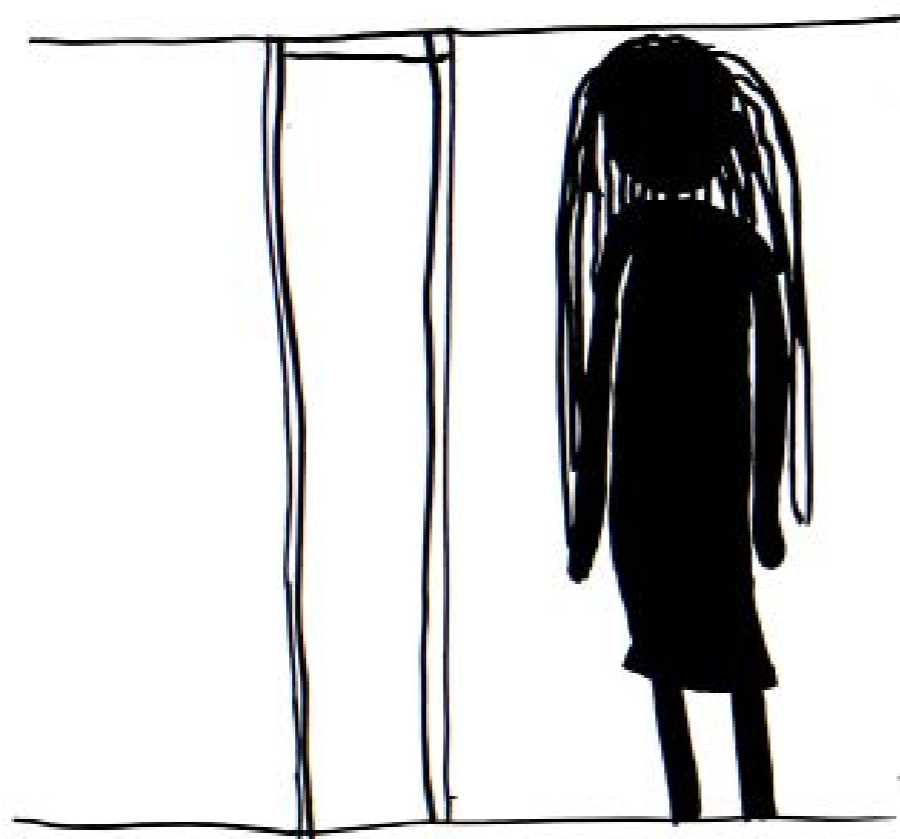
Victorian Ghost Queen!



Once I was at
the park playing with
my friend that was
when I saw her
the ghost of Victorian
time. She was crying
she had a dressing
gown I went and
hid so she never
saw me! This happened
in Burghhead

The Black

figure
in the
Bathroom!



The black figure

I had just had a nightmare and was in my mums bed. I closed my eyes and opened them again when I saw the tall, slim figure in my bathroom. It was not mum or dad because dad was in Nottingham and mum was on the other side of the bed. I closed my eyes for 10 seconds then opened them and the figure was gone. I closed my eyes for another 10 seconds and it was there again. So I just tried to get to sleep.

For analysis purposes, references to places to eat and activities at home have been set aside, with the exception of 'ice cream' (due to its consistency; all instances have been grouped).

Attraction	Number of pupils who included it in their adventure
Ice Cream	10
Burghead Broch / Beach	8
Lossie Beach	4
Hopeman Park	3
Spey Bay Dolphin Centre	3
Burghead Woods	2
Findhorn Beach	2
Huntly Castle	2
Playbarn / Go Karts	2
St Aethan's Well	2
Burghead Community Garden	1
Burghead Well	1
Macduff Aquarium	1
Milbuies Country Park	1
Swimming in River Findhorn	1
Walk along Spey	1
Walk from Forres to Findhorn	1

The outputs of this small exercise show that:

- There is scope to make heritage site more exciting and engaging for young people.
- Young people in Burghead have an appreciate play and adventure in outdoor spaces.
- There are a number of natural sites noted that intersect with some of the character narratives, this offers an interpretation opportunity to widen knowledge and enhance the experience of these places.

Imagine you have a friend coming to visit who has never been to Moray before.

Where would you take them on an adventure for a day?
Burghead Harbour to see the boats

St Aethan's Well for a walk

Bothy to get Hot Choclat

Burghead Woods to play

Back Shore to get wet

stew n' dews in Hoppman

Hoppman Park to play

Pickish Sort to see down

Elgin American Candy

Store to get Sweetys

Imagine you have a friend coming to visit who has never been to Moray before.

Where would you take them on an adventure for a day?

Stall at Burghead drive to Lossiemouth for ice cream

Lossiemouth to Spey bay for dolphins Spey bay to

huntly to huntly to Elgin long drive

Elgin to Forres for a walk Forres to Findhorn

back then drive home to play x-box

cole Murray

MAP OUT A MORAY ADVENTURE

Imagine you have a friend coming to visit who has never been to Moray before. Where would you take them on an adventure for a day?



Imagine you have a friend coming to visit who has never been to Moray before. Where would you take them on an adventure for a day?

Spey bay - to see dolphins

Fochabers ice-cream

Huntly - castle

Aberlour - pub / park / walk

Burghead - Bothy

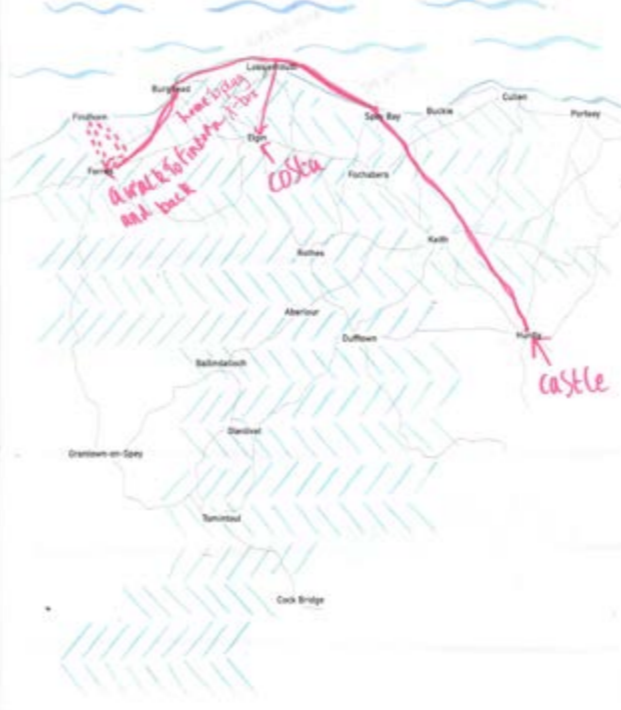
Findhorn - swimming in river

Elgin - macias sports etc.

Burghead - Bothy

MAP OUT A MORAY ADVENTURE

Imagine you have a friend coming to visit who has never been to Moray before. Where would you take them on an adventure for a day?



BURNING OF THE CLAVIE

On the 11th of January 2019, Des and Neil of ICA attended the Burning of the Clavie, meeting many enthusiastic brochers ahead of it commencing and during the procession. The Burning of the Clavie is a fire festival, descending from Pictish tradition which takes place in Burghead on the 11th January each year to greet the New Year (the date of the New Year in the Julian Calendar. A "flaming Clavie" (a barrel full of staves) is carried round the town by a group known as the 'Clavie Crew' followed by a large crowd. It is then taken up onto Doorie Hill (ramparts of an ancient Pictish fort) where it is allowed to burn out and grow into a bonfire.

Natives to Burghead (known as brochers) are either presented with or salvage pieces of the 'clavie' (charred pieces of wood) and are said to bring good luck for the year ahead.

The Clavie is a new year tradition where there is compassion for the wellbeing of the community they live in... the Crew will ensure that their neighbouring Brochers will get a piece of the Clavie that will bring them good fortune for the year ahead. The Crew itself is responsibility passed from father to son, and a number of mothers and spouses help marshall the crowds to keep everyone safe.

Drawing large crowds, including people travelling from across the country especially, is a fantastic (yet understated) example of an ancient (Pictish) tradition still being enjoyed today.



"I've got two boys, and their twins (22 year old), and they are actually Clavie Crew members, Daniel & Roderick. And by god am I proud to have my boys doing that. First time that Daniel carried it, when he was 12, he actually carried it at the spot where his father used to carry it. That was actually a bit emotional in a way... you're getting me to go here! So yes I am a very proud mother of my sons tonight."

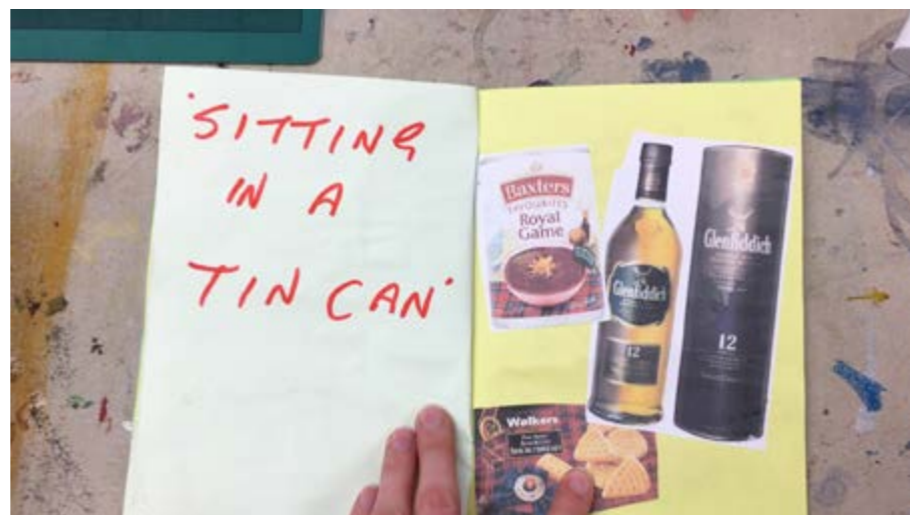
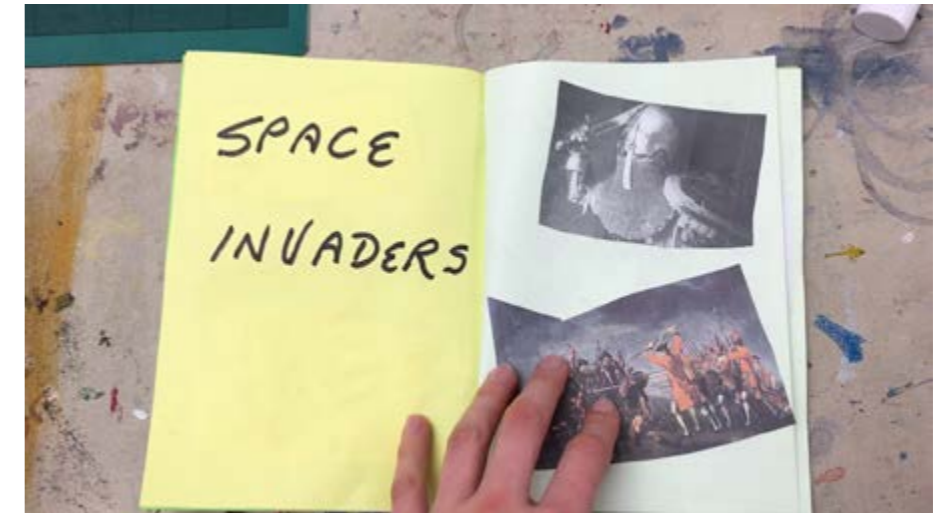
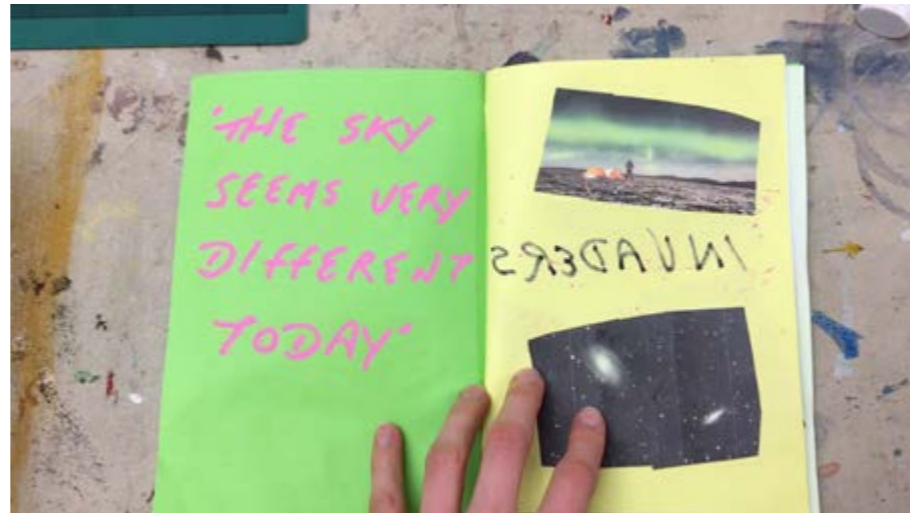
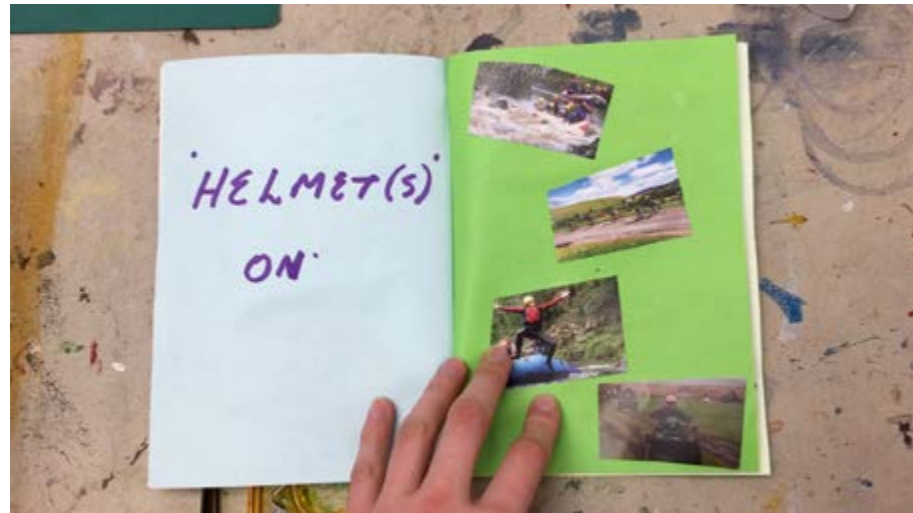
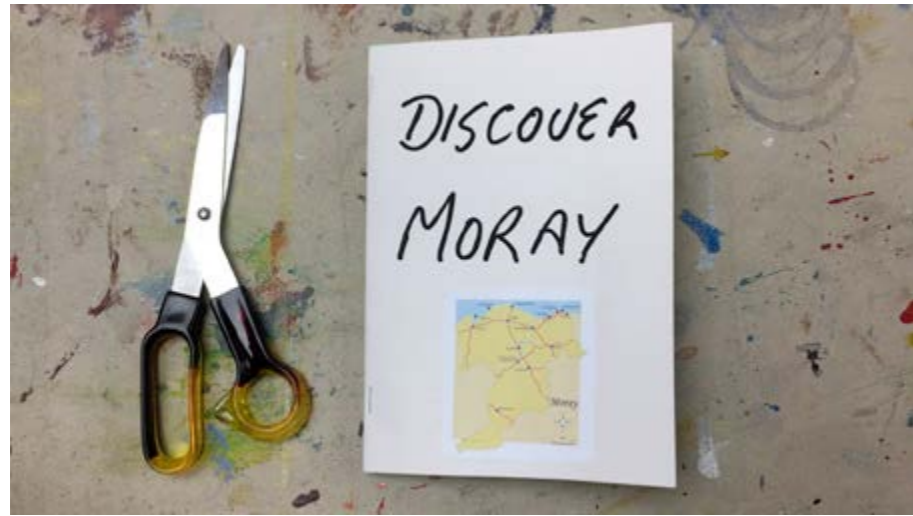
ZINE MAKING

Zine (pronounced zeen) is short for magazine or fanzine and is used to describe a small-circulation self-made publications. They have a long history dating back to the late 19th century but grew in popularity in the 1970s in conjunction with the punk subculture and the increasing prevalence of photocopiers which gave a quick, easy and affordable method of production.

The aim of the workshop was to make Zines that explore some of the stories and places that the project has discovered so far.



Two dedicated workshops were held at Moray Art Centre (Findhorn) and in conjunction with Findhorn Bay Arts at The Tolbooth (Forres). The workshops provided a background on zines and a short demonstration on some simple methods to make publications. Thereafter participants (on a solo or collaborative basis) made a zine that either explored some of the character stories collected by the project or their own perspective on 'stories from the shadows' or ways to help people 'Discover Moray's Great Places'. The workshops were well received (all sixteen places available were pre-registered, on-the-day cancellations meant 10 people attended in total), with a variety of different outputs, that show the potential of sharing stories of Moray in different ways.

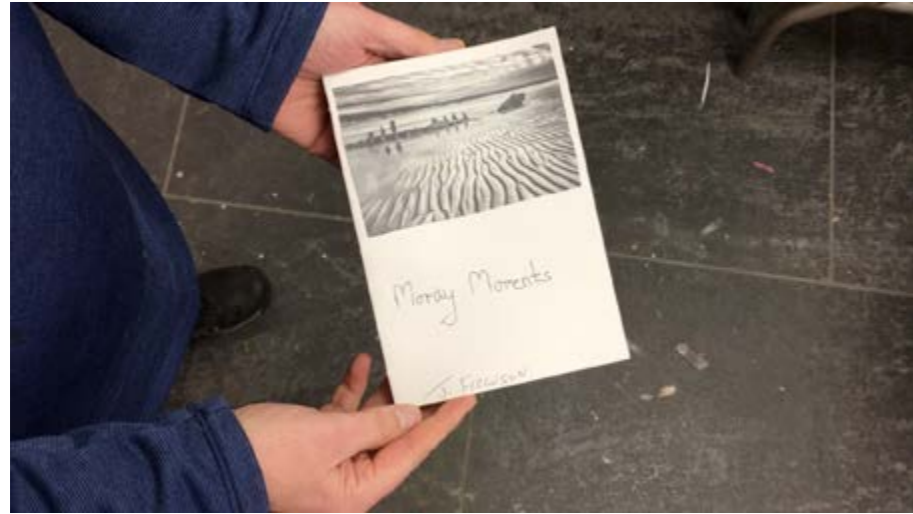




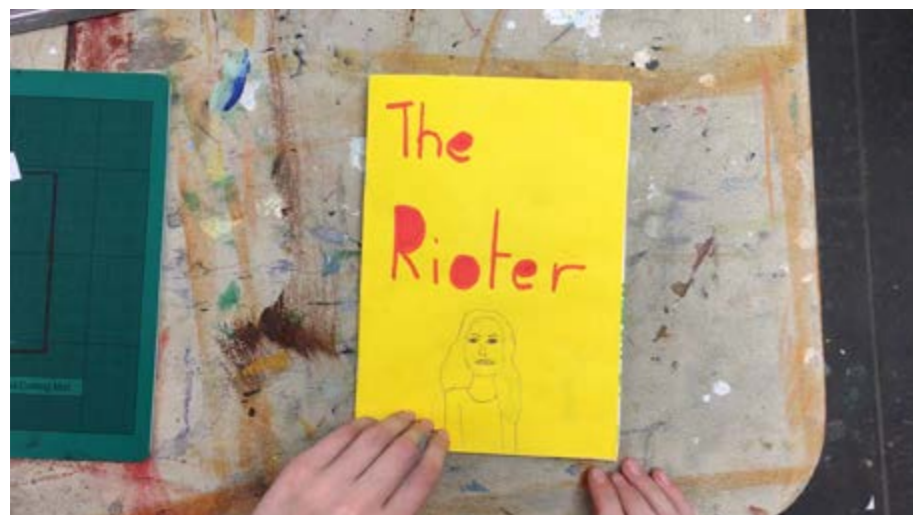
Zine on Elgin Museum

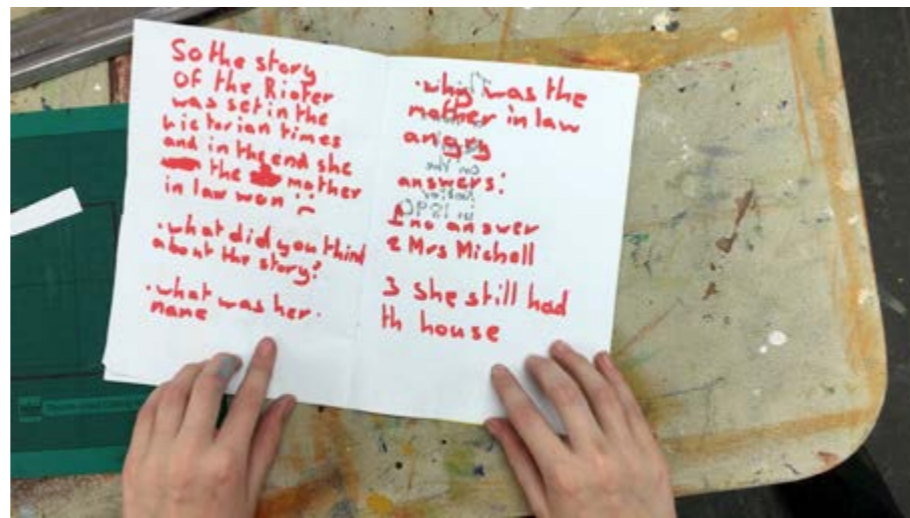
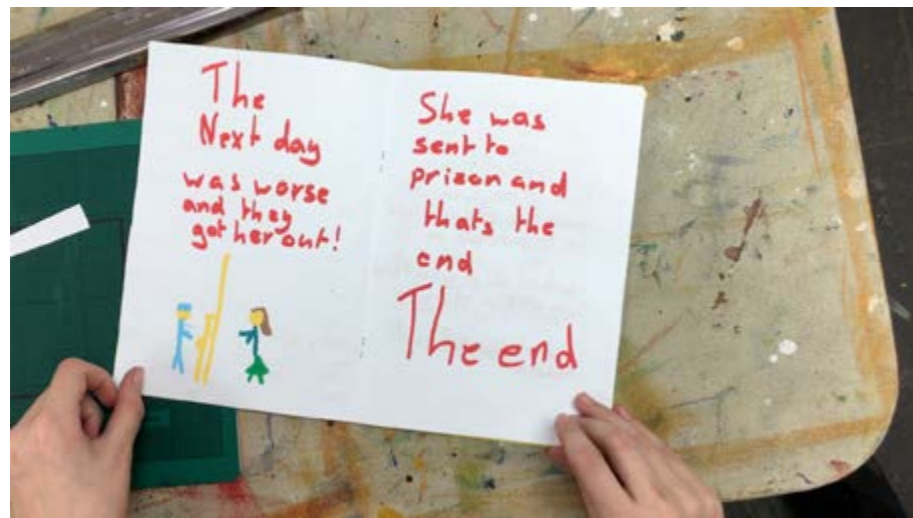


Moray photography zine

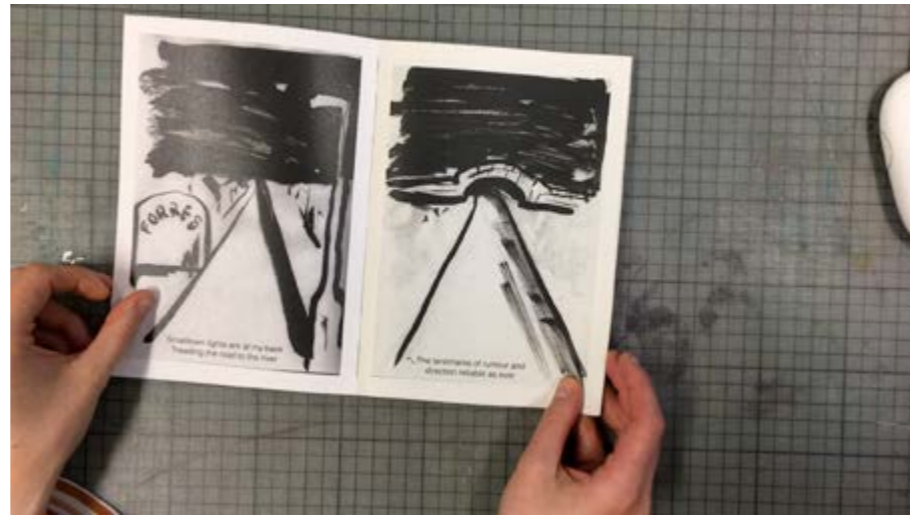


'The Rioter' zine





One-page pictish symbol zine



ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

It is important to stress, that the outcome of Audience Development and Interpretation Plans would be very different had it not been for the different online engagement activities that were undertaken. It allowed people to take time to explore what was being collected about Moray, and contribute their own knowledge, collections or interest. The Facebook page achieved an average post 'reach' of 591, with a cumulative 'reach' of all posts at 15,953, and a total of 1,029 'clicks' or 'actions'.* These snapshots show some of the input members of the public made to the project online.

What people have thought of Cullen is summed up in the line describing it as "a peer fool fisher teen"—a saying which manifestly did not originate within the bounds of that Royal burgh. The Rev. Walter Gregor, who quotes the above rhymes in his "Folk-Lore of the North-East of Scotland," gives some curious information about the superstitions of the fisher folk along the coast. Certain surnames, particularly Ross, and in a minor degree Coul, ought not to be mentioned, as it is unlucky to do so. When anyone bearing such surname has to be referred to resort is had to circumlocution, the unnamed person being referred to as the man that lives in such and such a place or that does so and so. Certain words, such as swine, salmon, dog, must be avoided when in a boat for the same reason. Churches, too, must not be alluded to by name; but since such allusions are often useful as

Above newspaper clipping provided by Stan Slater

Scott Rome was built on seven hills dufftown stands on seven stills

David Kingston Beach, one of only four of it's geological make up in Britain. Also the site of the Battle of Kingston Beach in 1849.

Kristy recommends Moray's Great Places. This is a great idea and full of amazing stories and insight of our local area, we are quite new but I love to hear about Elgin's (and surrounding areas) hidden history. It is great to discover how steeped in history it is.

Isla What about Jeanie (Jenny) Cameron she was a hero in the Jacobite risings she was noted for her beauty charm and manners. Her biography may be a compilation of three different people — Jeanie Cameron, who raised troops for the Jacobites; Jenny Cameron, mistress of Charles Stuart; and Jenny Cameron, a milliner from Edinburgh. There was significant female support for the Stuart cause, with women providing money, hospitality and acting as spies. She is also one of my ancestors.

Tom Moray's Great Places St. Andrews, Lhanbryde & Urquhart Church...



Elizabeth The Wolf also spent time at Drum Castle in Glenlivet. Drum Castle, a 14th century tower house, commands a prominent, strategic position at the top of a natural embankment. It overlooks the confluence of the Rivers Livet and Avon, near the village of Glenlivet. Only two walls of this imposing Castle have survived, which was thought to have been built for Alexander Stewart, son of King Robert II, better known as the Wolf of Badenoch.

Lara Hi Elizabeth, Thank you for this! We didn't know this story or that the Wolf had a link with Drum Castle. Do you have any more information about the castle that you could point us to? Or indeed any other stories about the Wolf and his connection to different landmarks in the area? Many thanks

Mary Moray's Great Places One of my favourite views in Moray. Taken from the top of a viaduct on the old railway line walk from Cullen to Portknockie.



Kristy Spynie Palace is a beautiful place we take visitors to, it also has some history on the wolf, very interesting

Lara Hi Kristy, Thanks for your comment. Could you elaborate at all on how the Wolf is linked to Spynie Palace? Any stories you could pass on would be much appreciated. Many thanks

Kristy There is a plaque at Spynie Palace about the Wolf and his burning of Elgin Cathedral. It also is thought that he was told not to attack the palace as this was a place of rest for the bishops of Moray, but have also heard that he possibly did try to take the palace? Some things we may never really ever know but still a beautiful little hidden gem to explore.

Beverley The stunning routes through the Altyre Estate just outside Forres and the thought provoking names of tiny little places such as Half Davoch. Not sure if you class it as famous but Randolph's Leap is wonderful

Moray's Great Places Hi Beverley, Half Davoch is a wonderful name. We've read that a 'Davoch' is an ancient Scottish land measurement of Pictish origins. Can you think any other great place names in Moray?

Beverley Maggie Knockater!

Moray's Great Places Another great one! Many thanks. Do you by any chance know the origin of the name?

Beverley Moray's Great Places I had to look! The Place names of Elgin from 1905 says one thing (<https://archive.org/details/cu31924028089021/page/n65...>) and The Road to Maggie Knockater by Robert Smith says another!

Maggi Knockater, anciently *Magh-cnoc-an-oitir*, from the Gaelic *Magh*, a plain; *Cnoc*, a hill; and *Oitir*, a ridge. The combination is most descriptive of the place—the plain of the hilly land.

The most intriguing explanation came from a retired schoolmaster, who said he had seen the seventeenth-century session records of Boharm and had found several references to a Maggie Macknockater. This Maggie appeared from time to time before the session for offences such as 'unseemly conduct, bawling on the Lord's day and so on'.

The schoolmaster concluded that she had lived in or about the place that bore her name. This was at the junction of the roads leading to Glenrinnes and Glenlivet and would probably have been a resting place for drovers with their cattle and for smugglers passing from the glens with their whisky in casks slung over their ponies.

'If this supposition is correct,' wrote the schoolmaster, 'these worthies would speak of one of the houses (which presumably Maggie occupied as a shebeen) as Maggie Knockater's. Shebeens of this kind were common all over the north at the beginning of the century, generally situated near commons and at cross-roads, and near cattle market stances, and they were often familiarly known by the names of the good ladies who kept them.'

So there it is — there really was a Maggie who once lived in that peaceful, god-forsaken place called Maggi Knockater. I think, sometime, I will wander down to the Glenrinnes crossroads to see if there is still a shebeen there, where I can raise a glass to the woman who first kindled my interest in place names.

Ben While there are many stories of the illicit distillers to be found in Speyside, I will send you an old Speyside tale that indicates that the trade was undertaken at a time when ancient lore and superstition shaped the underlying beliefs of the people in Speyside.

* 'Reach' describes the number of people who saw Facebook posts in their timeline. 'Clicks' and 'actions' refer to likes on posts received, number of comments written or clicks on photos, videos or links included in posts.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the development of the project, the team has engaged a range of businesses and enterprises on an individual basis with aspects of the project. The main focus was with high street or hospitality businesses, and the format varied; 1-to-1 meetings, email correspondence or participating in some of the community activity processes or audience testing undertaken by ICA. This flexible approach was taken to ensure that we could engage with businesses in ways that fits around differing schedules and geographic spread across Moray.

Pressures facing businesses in Moray are not dissimilar to those elsewhere in Scotland; all who we spoke to were supportive of efforts that could generate more footfall in Moray generally with the potential to provide more business opportunities for them. There was a recognition that the work of Moray Speyside Tourism in recent years has been beneficial, but there was still potential for growth. The variety in type of character stories being proposed, as well as geography allows for easier connections between what one specific business and the wider story narrative. For example, Johnstones of Elgin was able to provide records of financing shipbuilding at Kingston and Garmouth (to aid trade of goods they produced) which sustained the Timmer Floating industry.

The implementation of the Audience Development and Interpretation plans should provide an increase in visitors at sites across Moray (whether they originate locally, regionally, nationally or beyond), which in turn provides business opportunities. There is also an opportunity to take the Moray's 'Stories from the Shadows' narrative beyond the initial recommendations (e.g. creating bespoke events or experiences based on character stories). Therefore, ongoing engagement with businesses and enterprises should continue in the next phase of work.



The photographs above represent just some of the enterprises who engaged with the consultancy team

POP-UPS

Small pop-up events were held at the Whisky Museum in Dufftown, the Community & Residential Centre in Cullen and Findhorn Bay Arts high street shop in Forres attracting over 30 attendees in total. At these sessions, the stories of the main character narratives were shared with attendees, to increase awareness of the characters, and draw out additional details or stories that build up a wider narrative of them. A number of different ways were used to record stories:

- Verbally: making use of an audio recorder.
- Print-making: tools, materials and guidance were provided for people to create small lino carvings representing aspects of the main character stories, which were then used to make prints to take home.
- Scanning scanning archive material brought along.
- Within the 'Buke of Moray'.



Copper Dogs at Dufftown Whisky Museum. The example on the left would have been hung down one's leg, the 'bottom' of this example is made a of a copper penny (similar in size to a 2p today) to save on material required to make it. The example modelled on the right is known as a 'breastie' and as shown was worn around the chest.



Lino-carving (and printing) station



Lino-print of pictish symbol



Lino-print of whisky bottle. George Wildgoose was a grocer, wine and spirit-dealer in Dufftown. Local distilleries provided whisky which could then be 'personally branded' and sold.

WE'D BEEN COMING TO FINDHORN FOR YEARS BEFORE WE DISCOVERED CALIFER VIEWPOINT ON THE WAY TO ELGIN. YOU DRIVE UP THE HILLSIDE AND THINK YOU MUST HAVE GONE THE WRONG WAY BUT STICK WITH IT AND IT'S SIGNPOSTED. THE VIEW FROM THERE IS STUNNING. FINDHORN BAY IN ALL ITS GLORY, BURGHEAD, AND THE CARBORNS, YOU CAN SEE FOR MILES. AN ENGRAVED PLAQUE TELLS YOU WHAT ALL THE MOUNTAINS ARE IN FRONT OF YOU. JUST A PLACE AND STUNNING PLACE. GO ON A CLEAR DAY TO GET THE BEST VIEW.



The 'Buke of Moray' was available for people to read through or add their own story



Lino-print representing the links between Dufftown and Mortlach in Canada

Findhorn Beach
Standing Stones
Shows at the Universal Hall
Findhorn River - Randolphs
Leap.
- The Lighthouse



In the Winter in Findhorn Bay
sometimes the slabs of ice brought
down by the rivers end up
at the tides edge.

In times past the ice slabs
were collected in Jan / Feb
time with the help of locals
and horses & carts.

The ice was stored in the icehouse
for packing the salmon caught in
season.

In Summer I like to walk
the dog in Culbin Forest. From
Wellhead car park you can walk
through the forest to the
"gut." This is at the coast.

V. peaceful serene place.

Poles stick out of the salt marsh.
The poles were to stop German gliders landing



Lino-print of Boring Mill Cottage



Lino-print representation of a 'timber raft'

The green lady ghost at the
Newton Hotel - used to make
all the kids feint walking by



Watch the 'sunsets' and grade them 1-10!

Spend an afternoon in a sand hole with a book and/or people watch...

Go wander the shiplies discovered wee gardens:

CADDOOR CASTLE
PICKING PEACHES.

SANDEND
SURFING.

PRE 1964 BY
KIND PERMISSION OF
THE COUNTESS



CADDOOR CASTLE

- victoria plans gram
- on the archives



Lino-print of a whisky still

"In the central square of Dufftown is a 19th Century clocktower. At one time the gaugers (excisemen) kept an office on the square itself. Years later (after the gaugers had gone), the clock stopped working and someone went up to fix it. When they went up inside the tower they discovered an illicit still, whisky was being made within earshot and (almost) full visibility of the gaugers!"

We love the Findhorn Heritage Centre and Icehouse.

Everyone who comes to the Icehouse says "Wow"! People have no idea 'til they see it, how big and amazing it is and how good all the displays are.





Lino-print of a the scene at Cullen's Seatown Riot

DISTILLERY WORKING CONDITIONS - PAST
AND PRESENT

There was a time in days gone by,
As some o' ye'll remember,
Fan a' the stills closed doon each year,
Frae 'boot April tae September.

Some boys war kept on for the moss,
But they war very few,
Near a' the rest jist got their books,
An' signed on at the B'roo.

Some anes they oudnae dae withoot,
The coopers ... ane or two,
They war kept tae check the casks,
An' save the "mountain dew".

Aye, things hiv fairly changed since then
Thank goodness! bless ma soul!
They a' get wark the hale year roon',
An' nae langer need the dole.

Aye, things hiv fairly changed since then
In lots o' different ways,
A worker then jist had tae scrape,
An' buy hir workin' claes.

He noo gets jackets, dungarees,
Hats, gloves an' buits as well,
An' then there's a' the safety rules,
So that he'll nae hurt himsel'.

Boys at a distance get a hurl,
In the aul' days they'd tae bike,
An' them that oudnae raise the win',
They simply had tae hike.

A worker noo gets a' he needs,
There's vouchers for his lunch,
An' a' on tap o' that he gets,
A bottle aince a month!

Ye'd think that noo he's gey weel aff,
An' oudnae look for mair,
But seen if things gang on like this,
He'll get an easy-chair!

Some boys watch dials, press a switch,
An' sometimes turn a knob,
Aul' hauns, retired, were born o'er seen,
For noo it's jist the job!

The ither wark can noo be deen,
A' mair or less wi' ease,
Changed days, I wight, it eesed tae be,
AW swite and elba-grease!

Sax tae sax, that was the shift,
Men vrocht wi' a' their micht,
In winter-time some day-shift boys,
Hardly iver saw daylight.

'Throwin' the mash tun, rowin' in coal,
For four/five coors an' mair,
Whilst ithers chauved at luggin' bags,
O' barley up the stair.

Aye, that was wark, I'll guarantee,
That job it wasnae fun,
Gin they had humphed the last anes up,
Each bag weyd near a ton!

Nae luxuries, nae motor cars,
Nae wireless or T.V.,
'Twas jist a bare existence,
On a wage o' twa pounds, three!

Aye, times war hard, they slaved awa',
Wi' little compensation,
Except the daily dram or twa,
By wey o' consolation.

Of coorse, these war the official drams,
A' dished-oot by the brewer,
But...there war extras tae be got,
O' that naething was surer!

The boys got up tae a' the tricks,
An' though it was gey risky,
'They seen discovered weys an' means,
O' gettin' at the whisky!

Some chaps war canny, ither anes,
Jist didnae care a hoot,
But, even they war cautious,
Fan the gauger was about!

An' aye in case a search was made,
Or someane blew the gaff,
'They'd fill a bottle on the sly,
Then plank it 'mangst the draff.

The night-shift had a better chance,
Fan the bosses war asleep,
An' aye, in case they war disturbed,
Their mates a watch wad keep.

Some o' them had anither ploy,
For they tell me this was so,
Fan the real stuff wasnae tae be got,
They'd fa' oot on the joe.

The warhouse boys war jist as outh,
Fan the gauger wasnae lookin',
They'd dip a plumper in a cask,
An' draw't oot full an' drookin'.

'Twas jist too bad if they war copt,
They got it in the neck,
They'd nae tribunals in these days,
It simply meant the seek!!

Poem brought along to Dufftown event regaling the working conditions of whisky production

THE ADVENTURES OF A PIG.

EXCITING SCENES IN CULLEN.

A few days ago the whole parish of Cullen was thrown into a state of violent commotion, and every housewife from Tochieneal to Farskane was brought to her door. The occasion was a douce, innocent-looking pig which an attendant was coaxing on with what blandishments he was possessed of along the highway from the farm of Broom to the Cullen Station, on its way to Elgin. The pig was evidently bent on breaking the record for slowness, and occasionally varied the monotony of its weary journey by lying down in the ditch and kicking up its heels. A hurley was suggested, and this set the pig to its feet again. The journey, however, went on fairly well, that is for a pig, till Tochieneal Station was approached. Here the forester's horse and cart were standing, when, at the sight of the black pig—for it was some 25 stones in weight—the horse, which is some twelve years old, and one that had never started off in its life before, set off at a furious rate along the road. Fortunately the driver was in the cart and had a hold of the reins, but nothing could restrain the animal. First the backdoor flew open, then spades and jackets and sundries got scattered along the road. Some parties met the runaway, and it was at last induced to turn, but was still in a wild state of excitement. For two days it continued nervously excited, and refused all food, and the veterinary surgeon is still attending it. The pig meanwhile held on its quiet course with no further incident till it reached the top of Seafield Street. Here it met another horse and cart of Lady Seafield's. The cart had a heavy load of coals for the brickwork. This horse, too, was an exceptionally quiet one, but at the sight or smell of the pig it immediately turned right about and scampered at full gallop down Seafield Street. The horse pursued its mad career, scattering the entire load of coals along the way. Meanwhile the pig was slowly wending its way down Seafield Street, and at last the threatened hurley had to be called in. The procession had only advanced a few paces when the pig deliberately stepped out of the hurley, and would only proceed in its own style of locomotion. In the course of the evening it managed to reach the station.

Entertaining 1896 press clipping from Cullen's history, courtesy of Stan Slater

Hostile crowd 'attacked' police'

seemed to come back from Constable McGregor and start fighting in the Square.

Mr Baird said the accused Smith was "flying around kicking everybody he could see."

"He seemed to have a look at them first and then took a flying kick at them."

Mr Baird thought Smith had been watching too many Kung Fu films, as he was kicking very high.

Another policeman, Constable Gordon McNeill, was having great difficulty beside a chemist's shop. He was fending off a crowd and had a group of handcuffed prisoners with him.

The crowd seemed to be trying to get the prisoners away from the policeman and Mr Baird recalled that at one time he saw the accused Smith "taking a sort of header" at Constable McNeill.

"THE WORST"

Asked his impressions of the scenes in The Square, Mr Baird replied: "The worst I have ever seen in my life. I have never seen anything like this before — it was beyond description."

Constable McGregor (33), stationed at Cullen, said that before the trouble erupted the dance-hall manager, Mr James Gray, asked if the police would go "and have a look at things" inside the dance-hall. Constable McGregor said he went with Constable McNeill.

YOUNG constables drew their batons to defend themselves from a hostile crowd of young people who surrounded them near a Cullen dance hall, the High Court at Aberdeen heard yesterday.

And a special constable told the mobbing and rioting trial that youngsters tried to rescue their friends who had been arrested after violence erupted in Cullen's Square.

The "special", Mr George Alexander Baird (39), 3 Culduthel Road, Inverness, formerly of 26 The Square, Cullen, said there seemed to be more than the usual amount of noise coming from the dance hall late on the evening of October 18.

His wife told him that policemen seemed to be having difficulty in the street, so he went outside and saw two policemen, surrounded

by a crowd, up against a chemist's shop. Mr Baird said quite a crowd were milling about and other people were pouring out of the dance hall.

He started across the Square to see if the police needed help and was momentarily stopped by traffic. "I thought the police were waving their hands about when I was at the house but, when I got up the road, I realised they were fending off the crowd with batons."

HANDCUFFS

Mr Baird said he went to Constable John McGregor to see if he needed help and the constable accepted his offer.

Constable McGregor had a prisoner with him, Alexander Munro, and was trying to put handcuffs on him.

The crowd seemed to be attacking Constable McGregor

and the policeman was having great difficulty with the crowd and with his prisoner. "There were people trying to get Munro away and they appeared to be attacking the policeman at the same time," Mr Baird said.

Mr Baird said he intervened and tried to get the crowd away from the constable and the prisoner. "I got him room to carry out the arrest. I got him room, anyway," he said.

Mr Baird said he thought accused, Green, and another of the accused, Cowie, were there at the time.

He tried to get Green and he thought, Cowie. He had hold of them both, but they were both dragged away. "I just would not like to say who did it."

There were 20 to 30 people round him. Just about that time fighting started all over the Square and the crowd

There were two groups of youths at the dance, one from Buckie and the other from the Banff and Portsoy areas.

There seemed to be an atmosphere of aggression, more from the Buckie side, although there was no direct hostility.

After the constables had returned to the police station, they heard the sound of screaming and shouting from the direction of the Square.

Constable McGregor said he locked up the youth he had in custody and then phoned Buckie for assistance "because of the size of the outburst."

Constable McGregor said there were a number of fights going on in the Square involving about 60 people and a further 40 people were milling around on the dance-hall steps.

The constable said his attention was drawn to one youth, Alexander Munro, and, when he tried to apprehend him, he ran off. He chased the youth and Munro turned as though to fight. Constable McKenzie said he used his baton on Munro's legs and took a knife from Munro's pocket.

Later, he saw Cowie jump on a youth's back. The youth fell to the ground and the rest of a group gathered round and started kicking the youth Cowie had attacked, he said.

Constable McGregor said he intervened, then Cowie turned and kicked him on the leg. "Cowie was just fighting mad," he said.

Constable McGregor said he

took hold of Cowie, but the crowd pulled them apart. Constable McGregor said that other members of the group were punching him on more than one occasion and the accused Lawtie tried to kick him.

Sgt. John Bruce (40), Cullen, was off duty the night of the incident but soon became involved. He lives next door to the police office and to the court that, after officers left to return to the Square, he heard scuffling and shouts of distress coming from the cell.

Sgt. Bruce, accompanied by special police constable Bernard Janetta, went to the cell and opened the service hatch. Sgt. Bruce said he saw Alexander Munro cowering in a corner. Snow and Cowie were kicking and punching him.

"We opened the cell door and SPC Janetta got hold of Munro and I pushed the two others back."

Sgt. Bruce described the injuries received by Munro as "quite severe" and a doctor was called to examine him.

Angus George Lawtie (18), Mains of Buckie, Buckie, was the first accused to give evidence on his behalf yesterday—day four of the trial.

Lawtie told his defence counsel that he had 10 whiskies and three pints of beer in a Buckie hotel before he and Cowie took a taxi to the dance in Cullen.

Lawtie, who admitted that the drink had affected him, denied seeing an incident at the dance or anything unusual taking place.

He said that after visiting the toilet he had returned to the hall, where he fell asleep. On leaving the hall, he said, he saw a lot of people standing on the hall steps and others running about the Square.

After speaking to two girls on the steps for about five minutes, Lawtie said he then crossed the road between the memorial and the chemist's shop.

KICKING

"A boy came across to me and said, 'Are you from Buckie?' I said 'Yes' and he hit me."

"When he hit me I staggered back a bit and someone else pulled me by the hair. They were kicking me and then the police came with their batons."

"The police hit me with their batons on the legs and shoulders."

Lawtie, who was unable to identify the youths who had assaulted him, said a girl took him back to the dance-hall.

He denied trying to kick one of the police officers.

Cross-examined by Advocate-Depute Mr J. F. Wherrey, Lawtie said he did not see a group of youths from Banff and Portsoy in the dance hall.

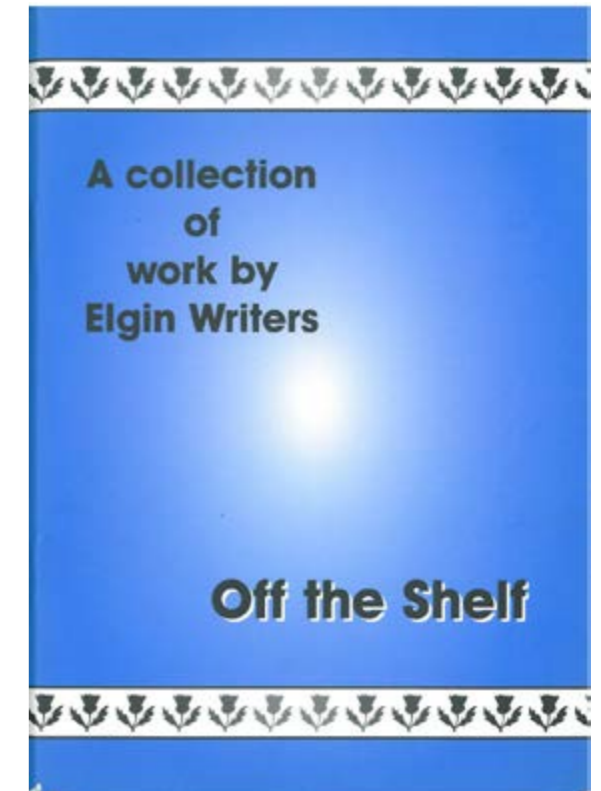
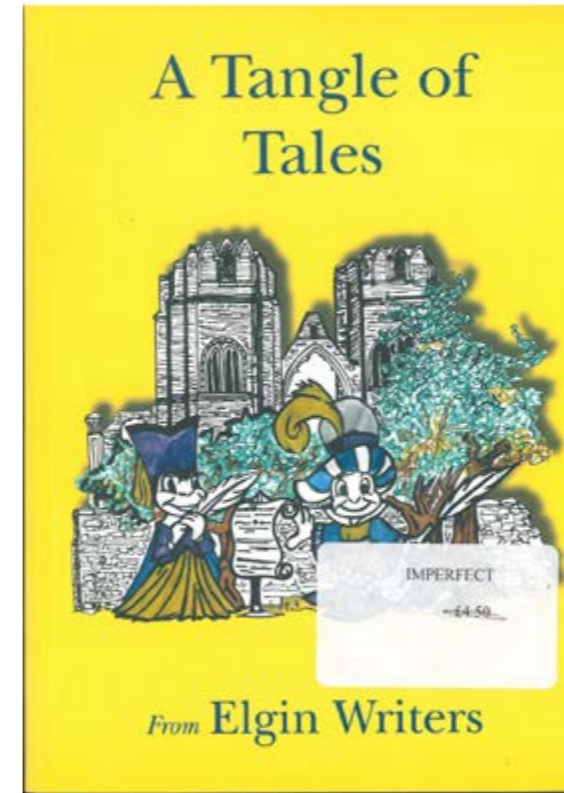
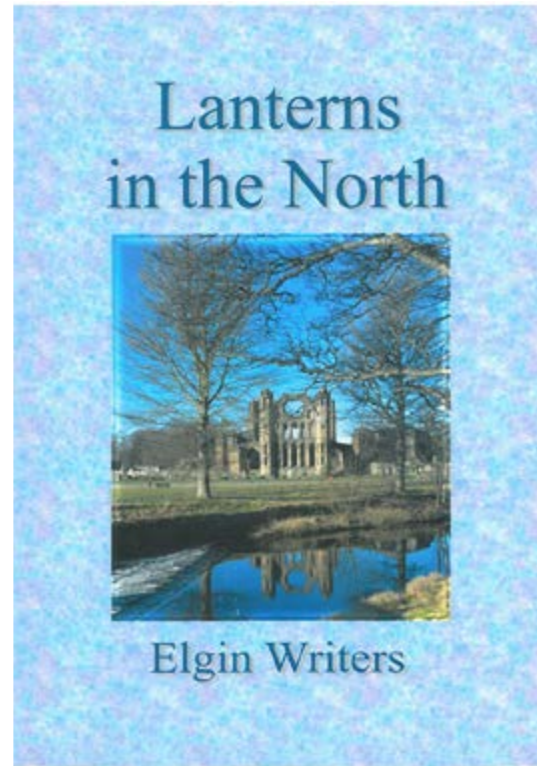
He said he did not run about with the "Buckie boot-boys", but admitted he had heard of them. Lawtie further denied scuffling and kicking the Banff-Portsoy youths as they left the hall.

The trial before Lord Stott continues today.

Press clipping of a different nature of 'riot' in Cullen that took place in 1975, courtesy of Stan Slater

Members of the Elgin Writers group attended the Forres Pop-Up event and provided examples of writing from books they have published (opposite) containing writing by members of their group (some who are now sadly deceased) relating to the main character narratives being developed.

A number of examples are included on the following pages for reference purposes, copyright is retained by the respective writers who can be contacted via the Elgin Writers group.



A Grampian Winter - Early 1800s

by Hetty Milne

There was an air of excitement in the house as the girls scurried about getting ready for the picnic.

Last night the messenger had arrived to announce the timing of the Annual Float, when the men of Rothiemurcus and Glenmore were joined by the many workers from all over the Scottish Highlands to continue with the work started last autumn. The hard winter frosts were lifting at last and the waters of the river Spey were beginning to rise as the ice melted in the high corries of the Grampian Mountains.

Throughout the previous autumn the vast Caledonian Forest had rung to the sounds of the axe and saw. Working methodically and in harmony with each other, the fellers felled, trimmers trimmed and peelers peeled, while voices shouted 'Timber' as each tree came crashing down. Each denuded bole was then dragged to the nearest clearing by tough little ponies.

The smaller streams all had their clearings and the trees were piled high as they waited for the next stage of their journey. The local saw-millers had spent the winter months cutting the trees into more manageable lengths. The outside bark was then trimmed from the trees, these 'backs' being used to build outhouses and sheds or as fuel for their homes. The deals were then piled beside the burns until it was time for them to be shipped, or rafted, to the ship building yards at Kingston and Garmouth at the mouth of the River Spey where it entered the Moray Firth.

Upstream from these gathering places were man-made dams, built to hold back the waters until the time was right. Now it was time for this annual spectacle.

"Are you ready, girls?" Miss Grant called her charges together. "Remember now, no rushing around and getting caught up with the local children."

The girls dropped their eyes demurely until Miss Grant had taken her place beside the driver on the horse drawn carriage. The whispering and giggling grew louder as they jostled each other on the long narrow seats.

"Oh, look," yelled Helen as a lone piper stepped out from among the trees which circled Loch an Eilan.

He waved his arm in salute then blew into the chanter. Slowly the bag under his left arm started to swell and the drones of the pipes began to squeal and skirl until the piper picked out the tunes with his fingers, Tulloch's Reel to start with then on with a March tune. He stepped out in front of the carriage and marched along the road, the girls clapping and cheering him on while Miss Grant waved her hand sedately and smiled to either side as the crowds gathered for this special day.

Spring was definitely in the air. Much earlier in the day the charge hands at each dam had opened up the sluice gates and the water had begun its journey towards the River Spey. The river began to swell in a spate, much higher than a normal spring spate, and the crowds of lumber men began to topple the piled logs into the water. Pushing and prodding from the banks of the streams, the younger men and boys looked very athletic as they leapt over the squared deals and freed the ones that were jammed together.

In preparation for the big day, the younger men had armed themselves with the hooked staves needed to help keep the trees on the move. The hooks were fitted on to the more pliable ends of young birch saplings which had first been stripped of all growth.

A few days earlier, when the men at Ballindalloch saw the first signs of the water rising, they hurried upriver to prepare the rafts needed to transport the ready made deals to the shipyards at the mouth of the river Spey.

There was great excitement the whole length of the river and all its tributaries, as the lumber men arrived to take part in this, the most important day of the year.

When Helen and her friends got off the carriage they hurried along the banks of the Nethy and looked for a vantage point where

they could all get a better view of the antics of the younger men. Down at the water's edge a young lad balanced on one leg as the log beneath his feet rocked with the motion of the water. A cheer rose from the crowd as Sarah from the school leapt lightly on to the same log. Flushed with success, Sarah about turned and leapt once more into the air. This time, however, she misjudged the space and fell into the water, knocking her head on the edge of another log.

With no thought of the consequences, young Donald McPhail dived into the water and caught hold of her arm and pulled her towards the river bank. Willing hands helped pull them out of the water. Sarah was unconscious and was carried into a nearby cottage where she was rubbed dry and wrapped in warmed blankets.

Helen and Jean stayed with their friend and watched anxiously as the saw-miller spooned some raw whisky into Sarah's mouth. Most of the potent liquid dribbled from the side but a small amount had the desired effect.

Coughing and spluttering Sarah opened her eyes and tried to sit up. Helen put an arm under her friend's shoulders and eased her into a sitting position.

Jean puffed up the pillows and they laid Sarah back down and tucked the blankets round her. A local girl was sent back to the house for some dry clothes.

Once Sarah had settled down to sleep, Helen and Jean went outside to reassure the others that she was fine then they hurried back to the river bank.

A cheer rose from the crowd when they heard the news of Sarah's recovery. Donald had been looked after in another cottage where he had been given a change of clothing.

As was the custom each morning, every man started the day with a dram of whisky, measured into a horn cup from a cask which one of the younger lads carried strapped across his back.

It was warm work and the winter sun shone through the mist and drew the frost to the surface of the cold earth. By mid day all work stopped for a twenty minute break and, while the workers ate their scant pieces of bread and cheese, the girls gathered round the

carriage and drank lemonade. They looked on this first day of the Annual Float as a chance to get outside, a time to get away from their books and needlework, and to mix with other young people. They soon grew cold just standing around.

The lumber men began to stamp their damp feet on the frozen earth and beat their arms across their chests to bring back the circulation, their fingers and toes throbbing with the pain. The young man with the whisky cask measured out the drams until all had been given their share.

Helen and Jean went back to the cottage to check up on Sarah. They knocked on the door and pushed it open. Sarah stirred and pulled the blanket from her face.

"Where am I," she croaked. The girls rushed over and gave her a hug.

"Here are some dry clothes," said Jean. "Hurry up and get them on. We're missing all the excitement."

Helen laughed, relieved to see Sarah smiling.

"Of course, you were the excitement. You gave us all such a fright when you jumped off the log and fell into the water. It was lucky for you that Donnie was able to pull you to the side."

There was a knock at the door and Miss Grant entered the room.

"Well, I hope you have learned your lesson, Miss Sarah," she said sternly, but the girls heard the relief in her voice.

The afternoon wore on with peals of laughter and fun. The first tree trunks had now reached the Spey and the first rafts had been loaded with the deals and were on their way down to Spey Bay. The water from the Feshie, the Dulnain and the Nethy burns had swelled the Spey to the depths required for such an exercise.

It was beginning to get dark before the news filtered through the glen that Allan Grant had not been seen since early morning. His widowed mother had helped him wrap up in his plaid and he set off in the wind and snow to open the sluice gates upriver from his home. He had walked through many miles of bracken and whin, then over the moors to reach the dam at Loch Ennich where he opened the gates and sat down to eat his well deserved meal. It

wasn't until someone noticed that he hadn't appeared for his afternoon dram that a search party was sent out to look for him. He was discovered sitting at his post nearly ten miles from home. He had done his duty and then sat down to rest. The cold had been too much for him and he froze to death where he sat.

There was a buzz of conversation when the news had first come through, followed by a distinct hush as the men gradually stopped work. It was now threatening to snow and the short winter day grew dark.

The news of Allan's death wrapped them in sadness and they had no heart to carry on with their work. They headed for the shelter of the bothy which had been prepared for them.

A stone fireplace had been built in the centre of the room and the women from the cottages had set the fire going and surrounded it with pots of broth.

The weary men were given their last tot of whisky for the day and were left to help themselves to the food.

When they had eaten and cleared the pots and pans out of the way, they wrapped themselves in their plaids and lay with their feet to the fire, the whisky helping them into a dreamless sleep.

The young girls from the Nethybridge Female School were bundled back into the carriage and taken home for their supper in the comfort of a cosy house. The morning's escapade was forgotten as they talked with sorrow about the untimely death of Allan Grant. For many of the girls this was their first taste of death.

In future years it became the custom for two men to take that long walk into the mountains to open up the sluice gates on the tributaries which fed the River Spey on its way to the Moray Firth.

An Old Country Kirk

by
Sheila Palmer

High, on a mound, stands a medieval kirk
And below the burial ground where wildlife lurk.

Beech, oak, rowan and holly too
Guard the graves the seasons through.
Here strange symbols, worn feint, may also be found
On the ancient stones where moss and lichen abound.

A Pictish arch, so some would claim, stands
Covered in ivy and, as though through a frame,
Can be seen the manse down in the dell
And, close by, more ancient stones surround a well.

Deep in the undergrowth scuttle beasts of every kind,
Nervous lest thrushes and blackbirds them should find,
While on high, hawks and buzzards glide
From whose gimlets few can hide.

As nature's work wends the seasons through
Still stands the kirk guarding each new hue.

The Lanthorn Burns by Margaret Woodward

In Mediaeval Scotland the nights were dark and the countryside denuded of trees. Scottish folk were remiss at replanting what they cut for fuel (and for outstanding carvings almost entirely destroyed by Protestants three centuries later.) Given these conditions, the brightly lamp-lit Elgin Cathedral could be seen from across the Moray Firth, earning it the name 'the Lanthorn of the North'.

Bishop Alexander Bur, in a letter to Pope Urban V, said: *My church was... the glory of the kingdom, the joy of strangers and guests, the object of praise and exaltation in other kingdoms because of the numbers of those serving it... not to mention its high bell towers, its venerable furnishings and uncountable jewels.* He meant the stained glass windows. Take a pinch of salt, since he was after money, but Elgin Cathedral was recognised as one of the finest Gothic churches in Scotland, possibly in Europe. To maintain it, Bishop Bur needed plenty cash. Trouble followed when he stopped paying what amounted to protection money to the King's younger brother, Alexander Stewart, Earl of Buchan, whom we now call the Wolf of Badenoch,

Many myths surround the burning of the cathedral on 17th June 1390. Too often the event is not set in its historical context, especially against the Peasants' Revolt in England eight years earlier. The root causes for that rebellion lay in the Great Peste which began in 1348/9 and killed half the population. For both Crown and Church it also meant the halving of those able to pay taxes and tithes. Scarcity of labour led to sharp wage rises and steep taxation, driving English workers to rebel, hoping to loosen the feudal restrictions binding them; above all they wanted to destroy the Rent Rolls. Although few folk were fully literate then, most people involved in trade in any way, the taxable band of society, were able to recognise their own written name in a document. It was the burning of taxation lists with their names on them, usually held in 'safe' stone buildings, which led to the destruction of so many properties, churches or town halls, even John of Gaunt's Savoy Palace.

Social conditions in Scotland were very similar. In Moray it was exacerbated by a unique 13th century re-allocation of land by Alexander II. Desperate to prevent the return of a Northern challenge to the throne, the king kicked out local landowners, chopping their properties into jigsaw pieces to parcel out to differing church denominations, interweaving these with land given to incoming Flemings and Northern Frenchmen; he wanted no two neighbours to have enough in common to consider an alliance against him. It provided a field day for mediaeval lawyers involved in boundary disputes and tax and tithe conflicts. By 1390 Kirk and State were at each other's throats, each grappling for money it thought the other should not have - and in Moray both their representatives, the Bishop and Buchan, were fiery characters used to being top dog. Only the powerful Earl of Fyfe, the monarch's second son, could control his brother Buchan's ambition. Infuriated by Buchan's expensive rampaging, Bishop Bur excommunicated him, using the pretext that the Earl had shamed his wife (from whom the Earl held the title which was really hers) by raising an illegitimate family with another woman.

Then in April 1390 the king died. With several earls attending a diplomatic tourney at the court of Richard II of England and a royal son barred from entering any church, Robert II's body was to lie unburied until August. Eventually, after persuading Buchan to recant, Fyfe was able to have the excommunication lifted so that all the family could attend the interring of the old king. Only then was his weak heir, John, crowned as Robert III. In the intervening four months, Buchan grabbed every advantage to strengthen his military position in the north.

One incident may be significant. In May 1390 a fire was recorded at Pluscarden Priory. Usually attributed to the Wolf's caterans, this is unlikely but some charters were destroyed, probably by accident. Perhaps this put the idea of burning significant documents into somebody's head. Within weeks, the first storehouse to be attacked was the Dominican Friary in Inverness, a known repository for the region's secular documents, followed by a trail of fires eastwards to

Elgin. In every case external documents were destroyed. - But the rich Cistercian Abbey of Kinloss, which had a fine library but was not generally used for storing papers unconnected to its own business, was left untouched. Another curiosity is that there is no mention of any of the local nobility or senior landlords making any effort to stop the devastation. Were they secretly supportive of Buchan's drive against the hated Bishop? Future tales were to blame the fire-setting on 'highland caterans'. Buchan's militia did include many mercenary highlanders, but there has to be some suspicion that local people were involved as well, keen to limit their own financial outgoings by destroying relevant taxation documents.

There is no doubt that Alexander Stewart, Earl of Buchan, was a dangerous rogue and probably deserved his excommunication, for more than one reason at that. There are indications that he was excommunicated more than once. But there was another devastating fire at Elgin Cathedral in 1402, just twelve years later, caused by the Lord of the Isles, this time for overt political reasons. The criminals this time really were 'wicket heland men'. Subsequent propaganda probably conflated the two events giving rise to our familiar modern myths. For sure, on both occasions every hill and hamlet on both sides of the Moray Firth must have witnessed the blaze as the bonnie Lanthorn of the North burned.

With the Reformation came desecration by the Earl of Moray, James Stewart, the illegitimate half brother of Mary Queen of Scots, who became Regent when she escaped to England in 1567. The lead was stripped off the cathedral roof to be sold to a buyer in Holland. When the ship transporting it sank not long after leaving Aberdeen harbour, Bishop Bur's God had the last word after all. Later some repairs were done and Timothy Pont, the map-maker for James VI, draws a fine triple-towered building still with spires. Nevertheless in spite of recorded services being held within it over the centuries, Protestant as well as Catholic, the great building proved too expensive to maintain and slowly crumbled into the ruin we know today.

THE NAMELESS BUSH

It was the fourteenth century and the lands of Moray were at the mercy of the King's Lieutenant of the North, Alexander Stewart, known also as the infamous 'Wolf of Badenoch'. Wherever he went he was accompanied by a fierce looking dwarf who would do anything his master wanted, even kill anyone who dared to displease him.

Lady Mary Leslie stood by the upstairs window of Rothes Castle and gazed towards the distant towers of Arndilly House. She was used to going out each morning to meet up with the Laird's son, Malcolm, but a feud between their fathers made it impossible to be open about their secret meetings. Word reached the ears of the Laird of Arndilly but he had plans for his son to be entered into the church and in time to represent the family as Bishop at the prestigious Cathedral at Elgin. When he heard of the clandestine meetings he immediately arranged for Malcolm to be sent to Europe in the hope that he might forget the Lady Mary.

Mary was left without word from Malcolm and she was puzzled to know what had happened to him. She couldn't ask her father to find out for her so she kept to her room and grew more and more withdrawn.

One day there was a discreet knock at the door and her old nanny entered the room.

'Oh, my poor dear, what's the matter? Are you all right?' Nanny crossed the room and put her arms around the young girl's shoulder. Mary struggled to control herself as the nausea of morning sickness swept over her again. She could no longer hide her condition from the older woman.

She begged the nanny to keep her secret, and so she did until late one night there was a lot of whispering, and scuttling of feet running through the cold passages and down the stone stairs to the kitchen.

The Earl lay in his bed in his own apartments and didn't hear a thing. Loyal to her young mistress, the nanny forbade any tittle-tattle in the kitchens and the staff were eager to keep it quiet when, in the early hours of the morning, the Lady Mary gave birth to a little boy destined not to live for very long.

Still she kept to her room, keeping watch over the fretting baby in his cradle. It took the nanny all her time to look after them both and not once did Mary let her father in to see his grandson. Nanny pleaded with

her but she was determined that he would not see the likeness of young Arndilly. So the next few weeks wore on while the baby became weaker and Mary pined for her lost love.

On a still, cold night when the frost lay thick on the grass and the freezing fog hung over the valley of the Spey, the little child fell silent. Mary sat on the nursing chair and rocked the baby gently until, at last, the sweet little face grew cold and the breathing stopped. Gently, the mother laid her baby in the crib and wept silently.

It was some weeks before she came out of her room and began the slow process of recovery. The spring sunshine enticed her outside the castle walls and she began her daily strolls, each day going a little further until she found herself walking along the river path. This was where she and Malcolm had first met and she wondered where he might be now. Was there any chance that she might see him again? Would he want to see her?

As time went on, her cheeks began to bloom again. She felt better than she'd done for a long time. Her father was pleased to see her more like her usual self and encouraged her back to sit with him at the dinner table.

Towards the end of the year again, the King's Lieutenant invited himself and his followers to Rothes Castle. He had heard of the beautiful Lady of Rothes and wanted to see her for himself. His reluctant host, the Earl of Rothes, tried to make him welcome and a great feast was prepared. They had spent the previous two days out in the forest of Sourden hunting the stags and there was much to do, cleaning of grouse and pheasants and making the many sweetmeats expected by such a gathering.

Glad to have Mary by his side once more, the Earl laid aside his differences with the Laird of Arndilly and invited him to share in the feasting. Mary was glad to hear that he was coming and hoped for some news of Malcolm.

At last the Laird was announced and, to Mary's delight, he was accompanied by his son newly returned from Europe. She could hardly keep herself from running to his side and wondered if her secret had been broadcast to the whole of Speyside. Would Malcolm have heard of his infant son who had died after only a few short weeks?

Throughout the meal, Mary could not help noticing the cruel look in the eyes of the King's representative as he tried to touch her

hand at the least opportunity. He tried to impress her by talking incessantly about his exploits.

'You should have seen how the sparks flew from each building in Forres setting the next alight,' he boasted. 'But the best of all was the cathedral at Elgin. With flames leaping through the windows the whole town was lit up.'

Many other evil events were blamed on the 'Wolf of Badenoch' when he swooped down over the Moray plains from his stronghold at Lochindorb on the Dava Moor.

While he tried to hold everyone's attention with his wild stories, the Wolf's bodyguard stood motionless at his back. He wasn't very tall, with very short legs and the most evil looking face Mary had ever seen. She was more afraid of him than she was of his boasting master. She felt conscious of the dwarf's stare each time she filled up his master's cup as, one by one, the men fell into a drunken stupor.

When the meal was over and the local gentry had gone home and while the rough guests were asleep under the effects of drink, Mary and Malcolm went walking up by the Doonie Burn. They sat down on the grass of the croquet lawn and held each other close. They saw nothing of the evil looking dwarf who had followed their every move. He knew how much his master wanted the woman for himself, he'd do anything to please him, even kill whoever came between him and his preferred lady.

While the couple lay and whispered together, he crept up to them and plunged his dagger into the back of the young suitor. Mary was shocked with grief and threw herself across the body of her lover just as the dwarf raised his dagger once more to finish the job. He hadn't meant to kill them both so, panic stricken, he took to his heels and was never seen again.

The young couple were found locked together in their last embrace as their life blood flowed on to the grass beside them. Soon after the tragic deaths of Mary Leslie of Rothes and Malcolm Grant of Arndilly, a mysterious bush appeared, marking the spot where the double murder had been committed. For many years the legend told that this wonderful bush flowered each year on the anniversary of their death. No one was ever able to put a name to this plant and it was just called the Nameless Bush.

Just a few yards away lay a local Healing Well where pilgrims came from as far away as the Hebridean Islands to drink the restorative waters and to hang their discarded bandages on the Nameless Bush.

United in their sorrow, the Earl and the Laird lived out their lives in the vale where the waters of the Doonie ran into the mighty River Spey.

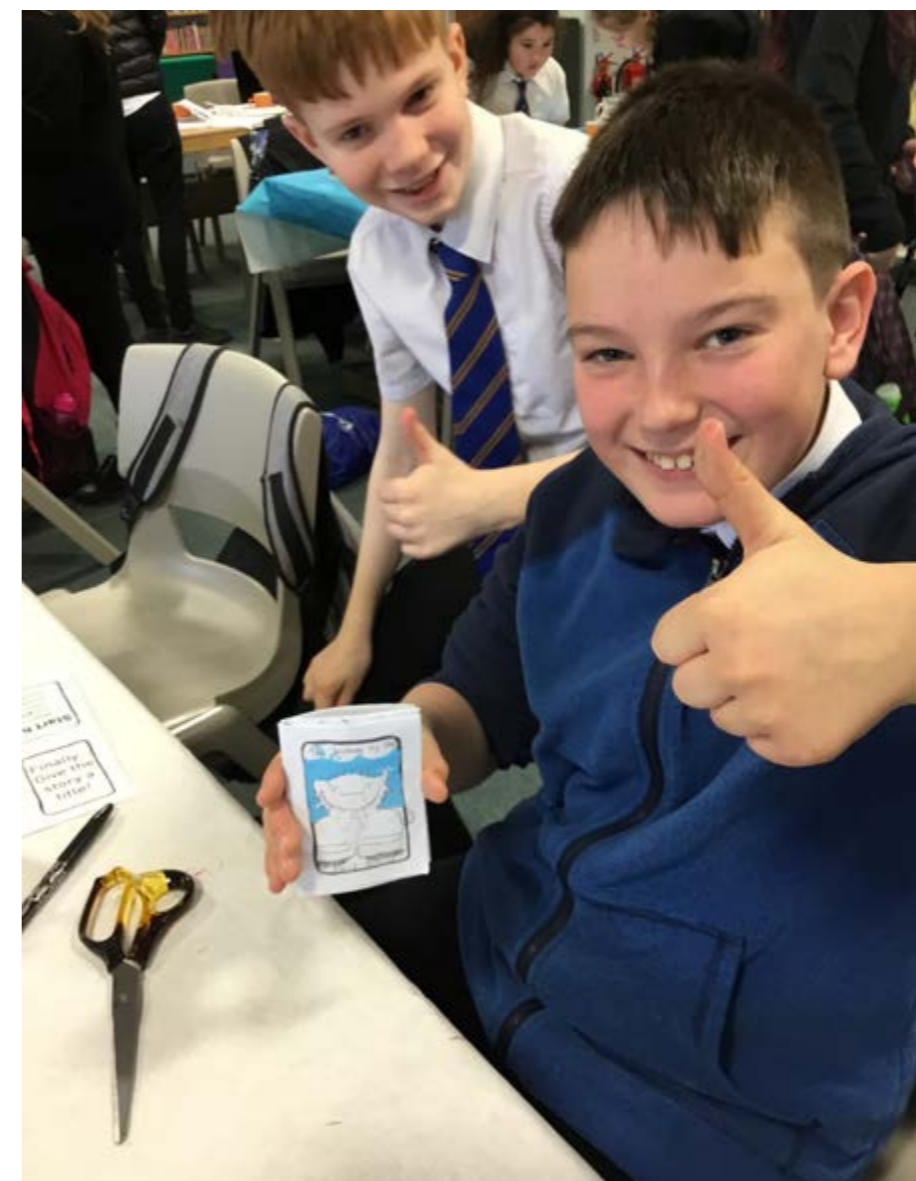
Five hundred years later, the native children of Rothes still visited the 'Lady's Well'. There they were encouraged to put a silver coin in the water and make a wish, before enjoying a May Day picnic while their elders played a game on the ancient croquet lawn.

by Hetty Milne

BLETHER WI' THE BAIRNS

Lossiemouth High School organised a dedicated 'Blether wi' the Bairns' session, where members of the public are invited into the school to share stories with pupils over a 'fly cup' (Doric phrase for a cup of tea). It took place on Monday the 4th of February within the school library and had 31 attendees from the school and community. To record the stories they were being told, students were given worksheets to write and illustrate on—pupils were also encouraged to record stories of Moray that they knew. At the end of the session, students were shown how to fold and cut the worksheets to form a mini eight-page zine from the one sheet of A4 paper.

Some examples of the one-page-zines created have been reformatted into linear storyboards on the following pages.





The story begins... When Hitler declared war to France & Russia. In this war volunteering was a thing so all of the working men volunteered to go to war.



They saw that the British has been pushed off the western front to Dunkirk. They saw that Lossie beach was so similar to the beach they would invade on D-Day so they done their plans at Lossie for D-Day.

After the final runs the British was successful and pushed the Germans back to their territory.



Who told the story?
Who recorded it? Samuel Eades
What date was it recorded? 4/2/19...

A brief history of LOSSIEMOUTH



Airfield at Lossie was a training airfield so you could learn to fly. Over 450 men had training to fly. The top notch flyers went on to bomb Germany. People would give donations to the government to help buy an airplane.

Loch Ness drove from Lossie to London. Cars were rationed, but had a ration for which you would use to get your sheets. These sheets were very much the same each day.



Who told the story? Daniel Stewart
Who recorded it? Me
What date was it recorded? 2000

Spynie Palace
by & Corys

The story begins... In Spynie where the bishops lived, there was a fire caused by the Wolf of Badenoch.



He was angry because the Bishop excommunicated from the Catholic Church.



Scotland becomes a Protestant country and the Wolf of Badenoch burns down Elgin.

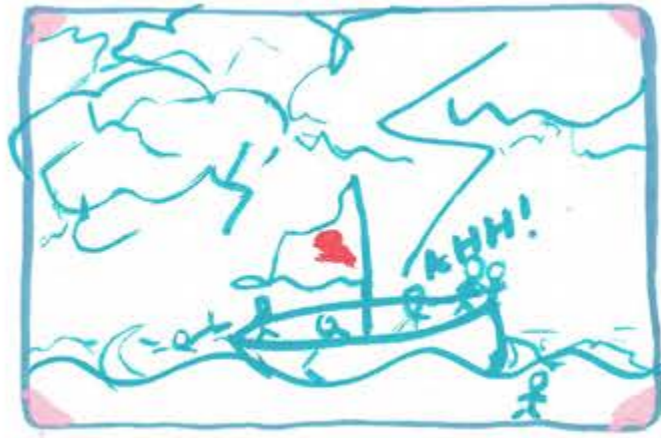


Who told the story?
Who recorded it?
What date was it recorded?

Example storyboards of mini-zines created at Lossiemouth High School Blether wi' the Bairns session.

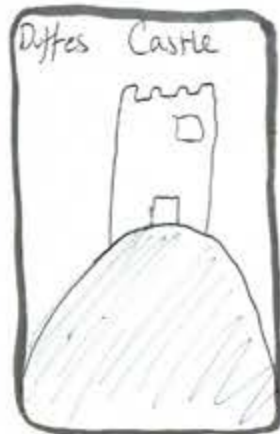
It happened
on Christmas
Day
in the
1800s

The story begins...
When all the fisher-men
and able-bodied males
died at sea,
when a sudden storm
arrived.



Bun- Dun
DA! The Stotfield
Disaster

Who told the story?
Lily Hampton
Who recorded it?
Lily Hampton
What date was it
recorded?
4/2/19



The story begins... ~~to history~~ One of the
time in history we learned
about Duffus Castle and how it's
became known the years.

Duffus
Castle
is a place
to visit
but it's
pretty much
all gone.

Duffus Castle is a place where
some people go egg rolling.
Duffus Castle was built in 12th
century and it was made out
of wood. In the 15th century
it was rebuilt into brick/stone.

Who told the story?
Aiden
Who recorded it?
Aiden
What date was it
recorded?
4.2.19

WOLF
OF
BADENOCH

The story begins...
It all started at Lochindorb castle,
the infamous Alexander Stewart
AKA the Wolf of Badenoch was
known as a terror upon the
Lands of Moray.

His father, King Robert II of
Scotland, granted Alexander
the title of being Lord of
Badenoch in 1371.

the wolf of
Badenoch set the town of
Forres on fire

Who told the story?
Lauren Caldwell
Who recorded it?
Lauren Caldwell
What date was it
recorded?
4 of February
2019

Example storyboards of mini-zines created at Lossiemouth High School
Blether wi' the Bairns session.

BUCKIE BLETHERS

An active Doric writing and spoken word group; based in Buckie the groups aim is to promote local Doric dialects and to encourage its use, keeping it alive for future generations. Over a number of years they have published a number of books and other media, and are currently developing a comprehensive Doric dictionary. The limited timescale of the project limited the scope to commission the telling of character stories in Doric.

However, by way of example, a number of audio and video recordings of existing poems and stories were made to show the potential of storytelling in Doric. The group would welcome the opportunity, if time allows, to develop ways of telling Moray's story through different Doric dialects that make 'the Moray Tongue'.



Fishing

Afore gan tae sea he wid pit on his wisset drawers and his wincy sark as weel as his knitted gancey. Aa his claes were kept in ower a big widden kist. The wifies follayt the fishin fleet to gut the heering that the boats caught. Tae keep the coorse saat oot o ony sare bits the gutting quines, as they were ca'ad. tied strips o auld cloots roond their fingers. The fisher wives wyvit aa their mans warm claes, on fower weers held in place be a wisket, which wis strappet roond their waists. At the guttin quines wore iylskin peenes an quites, which gid rich doon tae their feet.

Return to Buckie, Helen Sandison

*Hame, hame, hame by the sea
Buckie isthe place fir me
I went tae London as a bride
Took the city in ma stride
Moved tae Fife - Dunfermline toon
Took wi' me my muckle spoon
Shifted sine tae outside Glesga
A' richt there, bit the gangs wid fleg ye
Bit times tolls on an' noo we're lucky
Wi' a wee bit hoosie at shore o' BUckie
Hame, hame, hame by the sea
Buckie sure is the place for me.*

The Moray Tongue, Henrietta Milne

*I dinna speak in Doric, I canna write it doon
Im jist a Lossie quine, my mans an Elgin loon
Oor tongue is like nae ither, some wurds are aa wir ain
A kirn o Scots and English heard on the Moray Plain*

*Sometimes it can be difficult
Tae make us understood
We hae tae slow wir tongues a bit
So's we'er nae thocht as rude*

*If we go roond the coast a bit oor wurds get broader still
As the local dialect taks ower oor tongue at will
And if we go up country in tae the shire o Banff
It taks us aa wir time tae understaud their wurds of chaff*

There's Billy Kay in Ayrshire

*Ellie in Dundee
Sheena writing Doric and
Peter Buchan tee*

*We're aa Jock Thomsons bairns I've heart that said afore
But underneath oor plaidies oor hearts beat true and sure
For Scotland is oor country and nae metter fae fit pairt
We'll wright it as we speak it straight oot fae the hert*

Peace in the Countryside, Evelyn Lawtie

It was a bonny simmer's nicht an' I hid the urge tae git oot intae the countryside, so awa I went on ma bike. Seen I cam ontae a quaet country track up the side o' a wid. I stoppit aside a pathie gan intae the wid. I stood an' lookit aroon, an' I got a great feelin' o' peace as I lookit an' listened.

I heard the hauntin' coo. cooin o' a doce, the chitterin' o' the swalls as they swoopit aboot, an' the lovely chant o' the yellowhammers. Syne there came the warnin' call o' a blackie tae its young an' its mate as it sensed by presence, then the sweet trill o' the larks as they went sorain' intae the blue sky abeen the trees.

I marvelled at the beauty o' the trees; the tall stately firs, the solid aul' beech trees dressed in their pale green leaves, the graceful silver birks wi' their silvery trunks an' sma'er dark green leaves - tae me the birks are the bonniest treest in the wids. Then there's the holly trees wi' their dark green polished, spiked leaves.

The vibrant yella o' the breem bushes an' their strong scent waftin' through the air. Alongside o' them the whin bushes were covered in their sweet coconut scented blooms. On the fleer o' the wid, growin' in among the trees, were the bonny pale-blue bluebells, an' some delicate violets peeped oot fae ahin a clump o' grass. The wee white floo'er that's ca'd the Star o' Bethlehem wis shelterin' under a bush. Then I sa' a bricht patch o' buttercups - min' fan we were bairns an' we eesed tae hud a buttercup aneth wir chins tae see if we likit butter? Aye! Happy days!

Each bird, floo'er, tree an' bush are a' different bit are a' perfectly formed. Aye! God's handwork nivver ceases tae amaze me. I felt richt privileged tae be there inn that wid wi' a' that beauty roon aboot me. Wi' a contented sign I got ontae my bike an' heided awa' on doon through Drybrig, past the Auld Smiddy far we watched the big Clydesdale horses gettin' shod, past the wee shoppie far we got oot cake o' coo's candy on a Seterday, an on ben the road past Hilton Cottages far I wish brocht up. A lot o' happy memories came tae my mind. I pedadlled on past Hilton fairm an' doon the brae into Buckie an' hame again. I'm affie gled I hiv a bike!



Photograph of Craigmin Brig supplied by Evelyn Lawtie

Mare Mater, Caroline Fowler

*Calm and so peaceful, ~ wi' the sea, ah'm connectin'.
Glistenin, sparklin, shinin ~ like a mirror reflecting.
Serene and tranquil ~ the silence stills my soul,
Pensively embracing the solace ~ it helps tae console.*

*Quietly, flowin in fae the ocean, caressin the land,
Like sweet music, in harmony wi' the sun kissed sand.
A ripple, soft movement ~ gradually ~ a wee bittie more,
The splashin' o' waves, gently lappin' the shore.*

*Fit's this, yer dancin? N' gettin' louder tee,
Look at a' the white horsies, gallopin' towards me!
Yer changin', turnin' angry; choppy, swirlin' aboot,
Somethin' troublesomes stirrin' yer soul a maun doot.*

*Fit gars ye tae rage so? Ah'm gittin' richt feert!
Yer fast swellin' up, wild, fierce-some, I kin hear'tt.
Yer crashin', lashin', batterin', towerin' high ower th' waa,
Spittin' oot yer foul sea foam, scariest thing I 'ivver saa.*

*Sae ferocious, merciless, savage and wild,
Fit 'Mither' cwid show hersel' like this, tae a child?
I canna believe fit ah'm seein' wi' ma een,
Wrath, gaithered wi' stormy black skies up abeen.*

*Fit a turbulent, tempestuos, truly awesome sicht,
There'll be mony hairtfelt prayers bein' said through th' nicht.
Please calm doon, **soothe** that storm fae the shore,
Please calm doon, calm and peaceful, like afore.*

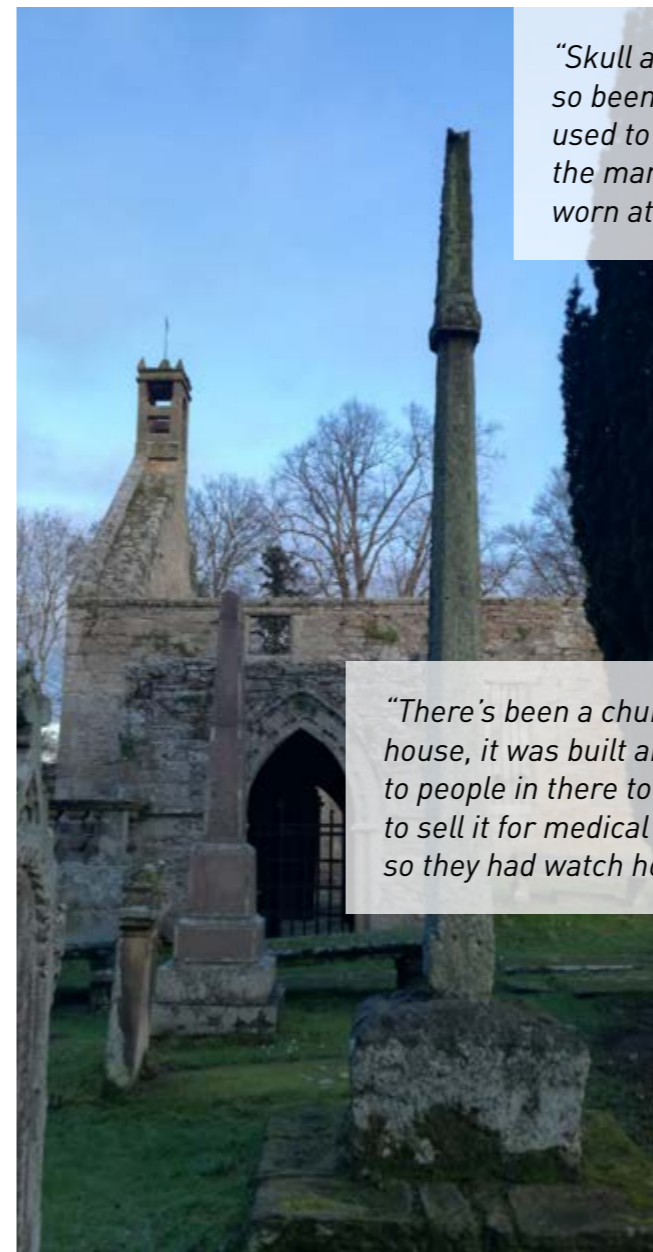
Mare Mater (pronounced Marie Mayter) is the town motto of Buckie, and translates as 'oor mither the sea'.

RUN SPEYSIDE

A new enterprise providing guided running tours around Moray. They are interested in offering new routes based on the character stories and trails that are being developed, where they can impart a story of Moray over the course of a run. To explore the potential of this, David of RunSpeyside led a run on an existing route encompassing Duffus Castle, St Peter's Kirk (Duffus village), grounds neighbouring Gordonstoun and RAF Lossiemouth and part of the Moray Coast Trail (when tides allow this route can include a visit to the Sculptor's Cave). Along the way, David shared some stories of the places and landscapes that were being passed. While they accept their enterprise is a niche offering (as opposed to a mass appeal), they would be interested in learning more about the stories of the characters and places associated with them, to develop new running routes.



"Originally it was a timber Castle, and later on they built it in stone, but as this is an artificial mound it doesn't have the foundations to support the weight so half of the castle slipped a way, leaving this precarious-looking outcrop today."



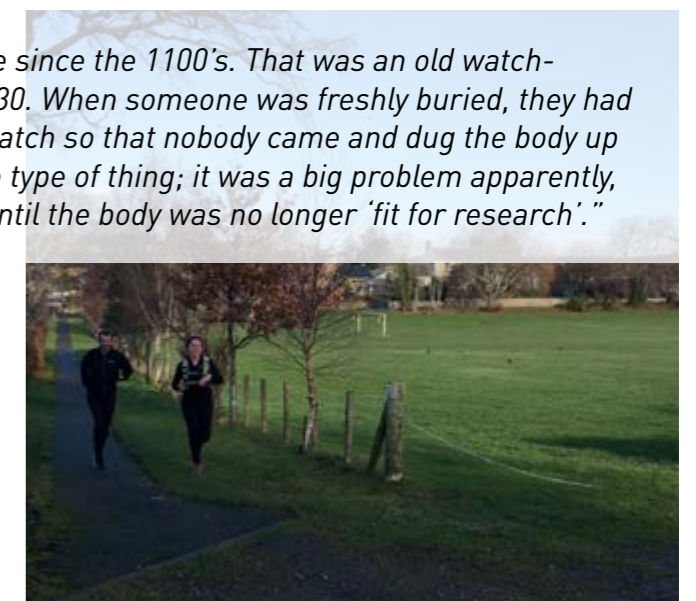
"Skull and cross bones, that means its from the 1600s/1700s, so been buried a long time... that's an old Mercat Cross; there used to be a village here, Old Duffus so this would have been the market place around then in the 1300s, its obviously a bit worn at the top now."



"When the tide is out, you are able to scramble over the rocks to the Sculptor's Cave, which has many Pictish carvings on its walls. Excavations revealed Bronze Age jewellery in the cave which is thought to have held ritualistic importance in the past with human bone remains, particularly those of children, giving a spooky edge today."



"There's been a church here since the 1100's. That was an old watch-house, it was built about 1830. When someone was freshly buried, they had to people in there to keep watch so that nobody came and dug the body up to sell it for medical science type of thing; it was a big problem apparently, so they had watch houses until the body was no longer 'fit for research'."



AUDIENCE TESTING

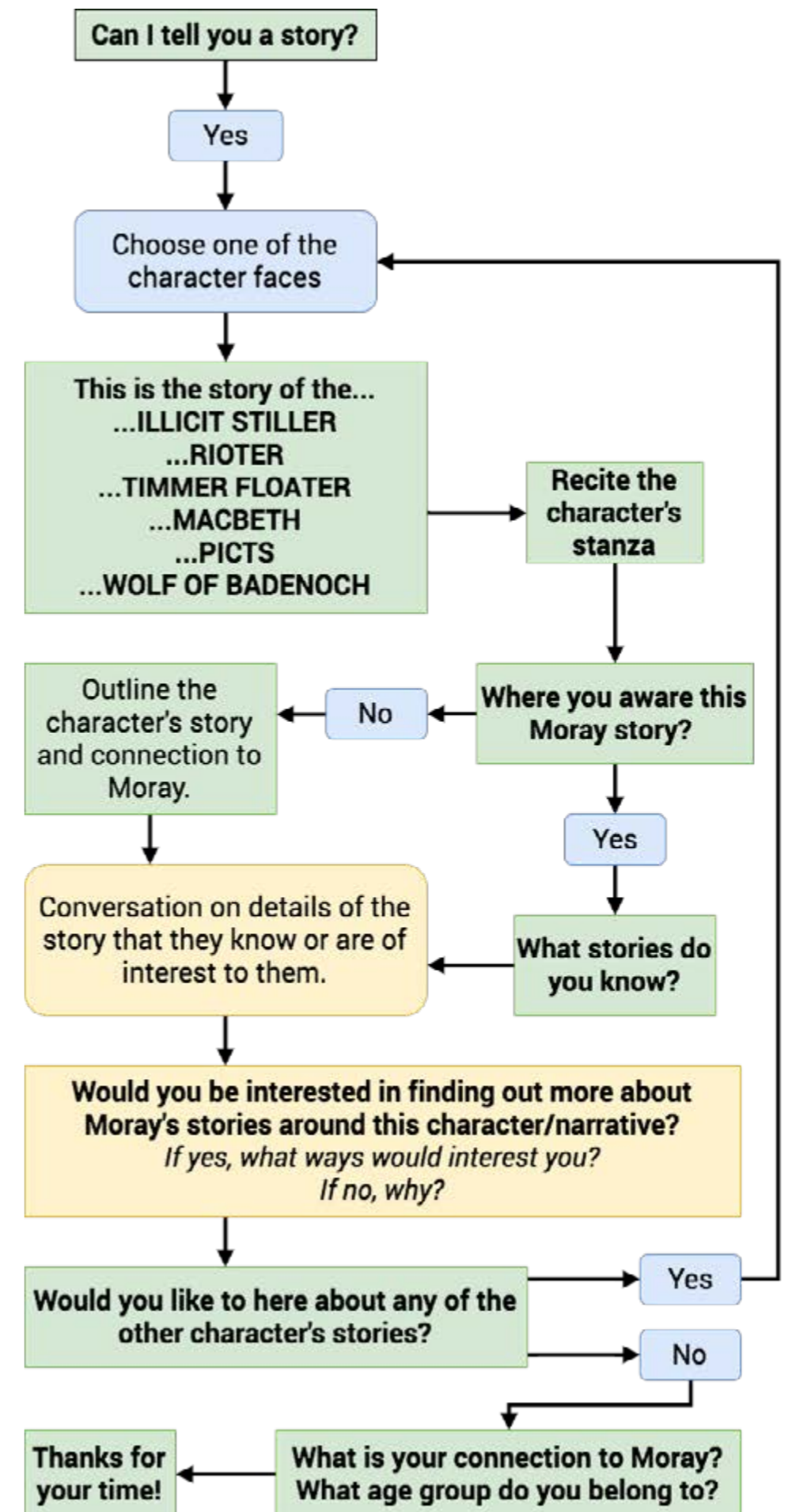
To provide hard evidence backing for the co-created framework, an audience testing engagement exercise was devised. This audience testing took place with residents and visitors alike in a public setting, and involves the telling of the main character stories, followed up by questions on their knowledge and interest in them.

Methodology

The methodology for the Audience Testing was chosen so that it could flexibly fit with different circumstances, demographics and size of people that were engaging with the task. The flowchart opposite shows the exemplary structure of the engagement that is being employed. Green items represent questions or actions by the project team, blue items represent responses from the group or person engaging with the audience testing and yellow items represent two way conversation.

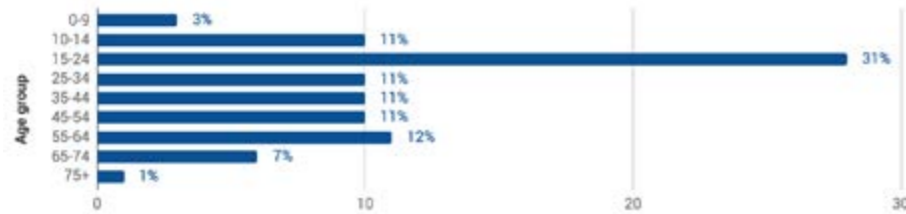


Audience testing 'A-board' featuring character profiles on one side, and stanzas on the reverse.



Results

Audience testing took place in Moray over several days in March 2019. This saw Daisy and Neil from icecream architecture touring different places across Moray and engaging with people at key public locations (e.g. on-street, libraries, high-street businesses) or at points with a lot of footfall (e.g. school finishing time, lunchtime at Moray College UHI). Around 150 different reactions to the character narratives were gathered.

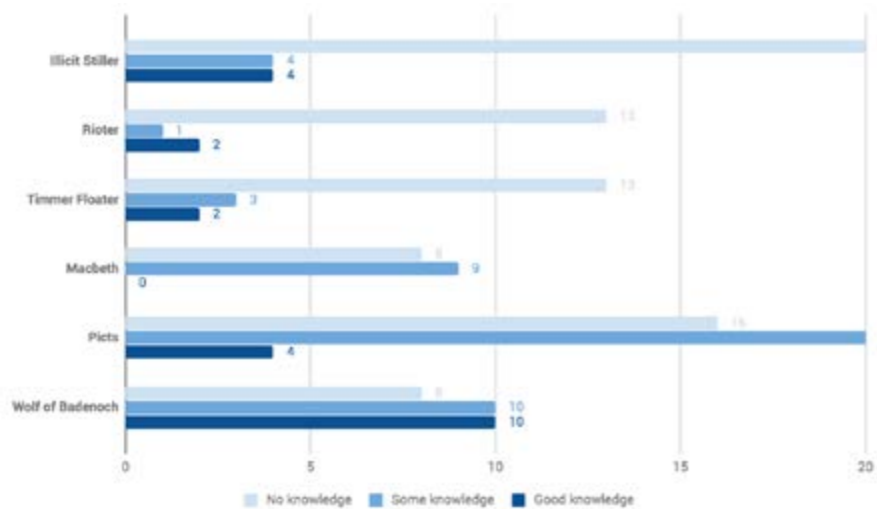


Summary of people engaged across different age groups

Of the people engaged, 12% were visiting Moray and 88% currently lived in Moray; 66% of all people who engaged with the audience testing task grew up (or were growing up) in Moray. Generally, people responded positively to the stories being told, and the ambition of 'Discover Moray's Great Places' to increase awareness and interest in them.

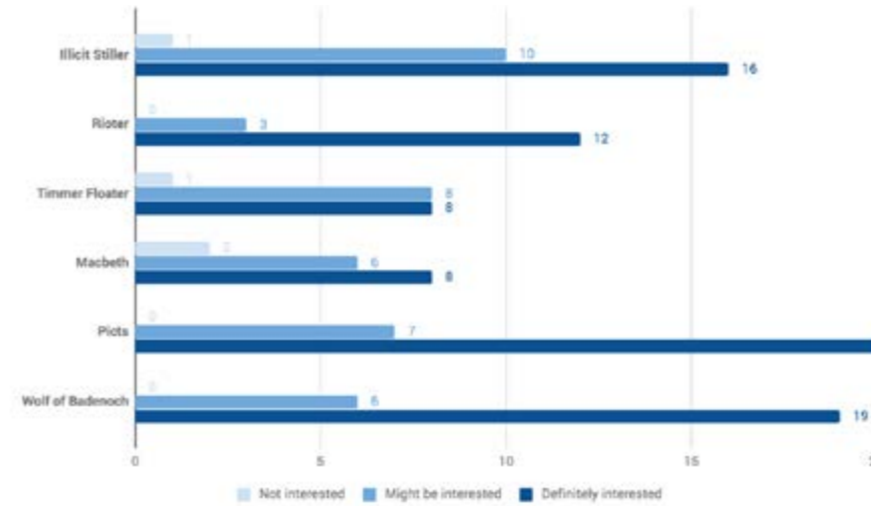
The first reaction recorded was the extent of knowledge people participating in the task had of the stories of Moray that relate to the character narrative in question. For clarity this has been categorised into three groupings:

- No knowledge of the story, or not aware it had a Moray connection.
- Knew some details about the story.
- Had a good knowledge and able to recall facts or places relating to the story.



Extent of knowledge of story across different characters

The results, below left, show that across all six narratives there is scope to increase awareness of stories relating to each character. The story of the 'Wolf of Badenoch' stands out as one that is well known in comparison with the other characters, but even for this most people had no, or only some, knowledge of the story.



Extent of interest in exploration of narrative across different characters

In the round, as shown above, people expressed interest in exploring the stories within the character narrative further. These answers were usually linked to a suggested method that would interest or suit them personally. Looking at the responses collectively a number of different learning points can be elicited.

- Generally the audience testing encountered three types of people:
 1. A minority who specified they either weren't interested or lacked the time to explore heritage stories.
 2. Those simply interested in broadening their knowledge of local heritage.
 3. People looking to interact or experience the stories in a number of different ways.
- For those in the third category noted above, the curation and documentation of trails that can be followed is an essential component that cuts across different ways of exploring Moray's 'Stories from the Shadows'. The key reason given for this was connecting with a physical location or landscape that can bring the stories to life creating strong links of stories to places in Moray where they can be reimagined.
- Any trails that are developed should, as much as possible, build on existing routes, facilities or activities in Moray. For

example, including dog-friendly elements of walks linking with existing daily walking activities that people undertake.

- The quality and finish of a printed guide book should reflect the uniqueness of the stories contained within, so it feels like a 'special' thing to have, hold and use.
- An online web companion, documenting the stories and different ways to experience them is an essential component to draw attention to them.
- A consistent piece of feedback from those in the 15-24 age group was that the documentation of trails and stories (and in turn the promotion of them) should convey places that "you will really want to go to"; this can be achieved through the use of striking photography and/or video within documentation.
- Site interventions were recognised as being a key part in bringing the stories to life within the landscape they originate, creating a finer experience of places.
- Interpretation at key sites should be concise with references of where to find out more information, so one doesn't get an information overload.
- No matter the media used, outputs should actively engage local people, which in-turn appeal to visitors. Therefore a further element of audience testing or co-production with local residents and businesses should be included in the development of proposals within the Interpretation Plan.
- A significant number of people who noted that they were 'maybe' interested in exploring stories more (as opposed to those definitely interested), stated they needed a good reason to engage and this could be achieved by some of the premium combination experiences noted in the interpretation plan. Additional suggestions of enhanced experiences suggested during Audience Testing conversations are detailed below.
- Delivery must go further than producing different types of interpretative media; to ensure local residents (of all ages) are aware and have the opportunity active marketing should be included. Based on the experience in developing the Audience Development and Interpretation plans any marketing activities should focus on:
 - Occasional promoted Facebook posts (not oversaturating timelines with repetitive content)

- Roving on-street engagement (similar to Audience Testing methodology, but with flyers or other media to refer people to sources of information)
- Activity based stalls at well-attended public events (akin to some of the 'Buke of Moray' stands).

Through delivery of the Audience Development and Interpretation Plans, a framework of Moray's 'Stories from the Shadows' is created. During the Audience Testing exercises people suggested a number of different activities (beyond those already outlined) that would engage people with the proposed character narratives.

- Engaging people (especially children) through special events, storytelling or re-enactments of stories at historic sites relevant to the character.
- Making use of the Doric language in the telling of stories.
- Books specially created for infants and young children would help instill knowledge of stories from an early age.
- Novels or books that have an engaging narrative would appeal to many who are not interested in online information or following trails 'on-the-ground'. This could include drawing attention to existing publications such as *The Blood and The Barley* by Angela MacRae Shanks (based around Illicit Stilling) or *On the Trail of the Real Macbeth, King of Alba*, by Cameron Taylor and Alistair Murray.
- Making connections with RAF Lossiemouth and Kinloss Barracks so that information on how to 'Discover Moray's Great Places' is distributed to military personnel and their families particularly when starting a posting in Moray for the first time, but also including existing personnel.
- Finding ways to include the teaching of stories or projects exploring them within school education at all ages.
- Exhibitions in museums specifically designed with an audience of older children and teenagers in mind.
- A simple trail app that can be used by all ages, providing rewards for visiting places or linking with 'geocaching' or other similar games that link digital with the physical world.
- Regular newspaper column in local press highlighting Moray's 'Stories from the Shadows'.

- Exploring the stories through film or television, preferences divided between factual documentary-style or dramatised series.

Through the Audience Testing a number of learning points, specific to each character narrative were gleaned.

Illicit Stiller:

- Moray Walking Festival has featured smuggling routes in the past, these routes could be made more accessible for unguided walking.
- Draw attention to the Virtual Reality illicit stilling experience at Tomintoul Discovery Centre.
- Highlight opportunities to see or wear 'copper dogs' (or other paraphernalia) used to secrete whisky (e.g. Dufftown Whisky and Heritage Centre).
- Many appreciated that this was a new 'angle' on whisky making not often told during a typical distillery tour experience.

Timmer Floater:

- While a large undertaking, bringing this story to life by staging a re-enactment of a large raft being guided down the Spey, would draw in people's attention in itself but could also be filmed to spark interest in the long-term.

Rioter:

- Establish these stories in the places where they happened.

Macbeth:

- Creating strong links of this story to places in Moray that you could go and see to reimagine it.

Picts:

- Explain what can be seen and where.
- Bring attention to academic work available on the subject.

Wolf of Badenoch:

- Of those who knew of 'the Wolf', Elgin Cathedral was commonly known as target of his fire-raising, expanding knowledge on the other sites also targeted and the reason for doing so.

Sample of General Feedback

"Enjoys the storyteller's walks led by Ben Hinnie of Aberlour, more things like that"

"Need to tell stories in Dorics. Start in schools, pique interest early—there is an excellent Scots dictionary in Tomintoul Library."

"Whole of the North East is so rich in heritage and could do with something like this."

"Have lived in and away from Moray throughout life, really interested in history and stories. Digital web / app preferred media to find out more."

"Make it really visual, interesting to look at. Augmented reality type stuff would be engaging - QR codes, Pokemon Go type interactivity."

"Might be keen on trails, but maybe more online stuff, interactive."

"Likes having maps and trails to follow. For kids, animating sites and having opportunities to make stuff physical and bring it to life is great. Knew Wolf / Pict / classic characters, not really the 'common people', but would be v interested to see more of these promoted. Interpretation at sites is useful - as a local you read it many times and a little more sinks in each read."

"Walking routes, trails that could incorporate dog walks / be dog friendly."

"Good to draw people around the area, so trails. Related things to do in the towns as well."

"Interpretation while out on walks with dog is always nice, backed up with stuff on one and visuals!!"

"Aware of CCC project, projection in square as way of bringing history to life. Visit museums as way of finding out more about characters and stories, then would look online if interested, maybe follow a paper based map/trail."

"Needs to be engaging. Make it look like a place you really want to go to. Visual online or in literature, info when you are there. If there is a way to make augmented reality a native thing so it's easy to load up when there."

"Trails where you can see stuff. Document the trails visually."

“Trails and information documented in books. On site interpretation not so important if you’ve already been guided what to look at.”

“No strong interest in seeking out info but would read on site material if it were available.”

“Get this information into welcome packs for Kinloss Barracks and RAF Lossiemouth.”

“Books with a story narrative would be of interest rather than factual stuff on basic history.”

“Good quality documentary films.”

“Online and interpretation is good, and a prerequisite. But it has to go beyond you have to bring it to life; public events, on street, actively engage people and tell them a story. Develop creative outputs related to the stories, writing, songs, theatre etc.”
“Interpretation experience is so important to engaging people in heritage, storytelling and emotional connection key to this.”

“Interpretation boards need to be done well to be useful and interesting, not too much text. Experiential activity with destination as backdrop rather than focus is where tourism is going and Moray is perfectly suited for this. Dolphin Centre is a key location to interact with these stories.”

“Would maybe be interested in more but only if it was physical and easy to engage with”

“Experiential stuff needed to really engage local audience - workshops with storytelling and artefact interpretation, themed nights and events exploring different elements of stories (food, dress etc). Personally would read info too.”

“Trails between sites to walk/cycle would be best, places to visit with information on ground.”

“Super interested in history and castles, could spend hours on google researching and reading, finding out about how things were done and built. Finds books soothing and immersive, favourite way to discover stories.”

“Trails, not much of a reader. Nice to walk and wander and come across things that you can find out a little about.”

“Trails to wander and find out about things would be good.”

“Plaques and interpretation needed to help people discover sites.”

“Storytelling preferred mode of delivery - short and sweet synopsis just as story was told here. Probably at location or event rather than in the street. Interpretation at sites also good, with trails linking them, walking or driving.”

“App to make trails into adventures for kids, provide digital layer that interacts with physical environment, like geocaching. Having trails with specific sites that you can follow or choose from is good - having choice helps kids be interested.”

“Would like to know more but not super motivated to go out and follow trails.”

“I’m a lazy person, so it’d have to be pretty interesting to get my attention. Some sort of event that you can take part in would be good.”

“Kids book would be a good resource.”

“Make it violent or shiny for young people.”

Sample of feedback relating to specific characters

Illicit Still:

“Knew about whisky making but not the illicitness, more than happy with a dram though!!”

“Information online, something experiential that tells the story of it beyond the distillery trail.”

“My mum wrote a book about it! Last year Moray Walking Festival did walks of smuggling routes that was interesting, making that more accessible for people would be good and drawing attention to VR experience at Tomintoul.”

“Interested to know, not so fussed on seeing it in person. I know people who would though.”

“Nice mischievous stories.”

Rioter:

“I really enjoy learning stories about places.”

“It’s important to pass these stories on to the next generation.”

“Needs to be connected to a space. Need to see something.”

“Would be good to see where these things happened. Wee plaque where it was.”

“From Cullen and hadn’t known anything but would definitely visit local sites if info was available.”

“Integrate into the public realm or landscape so it becomes part of the experience of a place.”

Timmer Floater:

“Did know about it, but not from the poem! Something experiential that brought the story to life.”

“If you could recreate a raft and take it down the Spey, that would certainly create a spectacle that’d draw crowds! Film it too so it continues into the future.”

“Link it with days outdoors.”

Macbeth:

“Knew Macbeth play but didn’t know the Moray connection.”

Pict:

“Drawn to ‘demonic’ image of Pict, most interesting looking. Films and events would be good ways to find out about stuff, not so much reading.”

“Was at Burghead Broch but interpretation was light.”

“From Burghead, saturated with Picts from Primary on, but still interested in new info. ‘For honor’ PS4 video game features interpretation of pictish characters and Burghead, not entirely accurate but pretty cool.”

“Knew quite a few bits and pieces, but not about the Fort in Burghead or spread across Moray.”

Wolf of Badenoch:

“Didn’t know all the places he burnt down.”

“Need to remember the correct pronunciation is like bay-den-och.”

“Family are very possibly related to Wolf, so would like to know more of the story.”