Welcome to our Spring newsletter
There have been lots of exciting developments at Scran that we’d like to share with you. In this issue, look out for information about our new uploading tool, Contribute, as well as news about new content and features.

Contribute is now live

One of the questions we often get asked when we’re giving training sessions is “Can we share our own pictures via Scran?”

Well now you can, thanks to our new uploading tool, Contribute. Contribute was developed and beta-tested over a number of years, and since September 2010, it’s been live on the Scran site.

Easy to use

Signing up to Contribute couldn’t be easier. Everything is done online and we will email you a licence and guide. Start out here for some examples or to sign up: [http://www.scran.ac.uk/learning/contribute/](http://www.scran.ac.uk/learning/contribute/) Part of your free Stuff account on Scran, the Contribute tab is one of the many tools that appear in your Stuff account’s dashboard. See page 8 for more information on Stuff accounts.

Simple controls allow you to upload your chosen photos, rotate and flip them if necessary, and provide caption information and other data that we can attach to the photo and make it easier for other users to find on Scran.

If you have multiple photos on the same subject, you can upload them all at the same time as a “project”. You can also contribute projects as a group, and assign roles within the project; this means that “helpers” can upload materials to your project (and provide captions and other data), and then you as the administrator can check them over before uploading the entire project to Scran: great for school or college classes, history groups or camera clubs.

There are more examples of materials uploaded by Scran users in this issue. If you want to dive straight in, though, you can go to [www.scran.ac.uk/help/contribute.php](http://www.scran.ac.uk/help/contribute.php) and find out more.
Contribute FAQs

Am I giving my pictures away?
Not at all. You’re simply licensing them to Scran for certain purposes, and we then license them in turn to Scran subscribers. Just like other Scran materials, users can download and reuse your pictures for personal and educational purposes. Users are NOT permitted to sell your pictures or to place them on unsecured internet sites. You retain the copyright in your materials. You can also upload them to other image hosting sites should you wish.

Can I contribute pictures I’ve found on the internet?
To upload pictures you must either own the copyright (i.e. have taken them yourself), or have the permission of the copyright holder. Most pictures on the internet are in the copyright of someone else, and therefore you can’t make a copy and upload it to Scran (or anywhere else, for that matter). We expect most of our contributions will be scanned from collections, scanned personal photos and pictures taken with digital cameras. What picture formats can I upload?

You can upload most formats but the best is TIFF. Many digital cameras provide images as JPEGs. These are acceptable, but do not compress the images on your computer by sliding the resolution setting or file size lower than 100%. To make smaller image file sizes, your computer discards some information.

Is there a minimum resolution you’ll accept?
Yes, pictures should be a minimum of 3,702 by 2,048. That’s at least 6 megapixels in a modern digital camera. Do not use digital zoom if you are taking images- only use the optical zoom.

Why should I upload my pictures?
There are two great reasons for sharing your pictures on Scran. First, you’ll be contributing to Europe’s leading educational image resource and allowing other Scran users to view and reuse your materials (and they, in turn, can upload materials for you to view and reuse). Second, by uploading your pictures you’ll be able to use them with all of Scran’s tools, such as Create, so that you can turn that special picture into a calendar, a greetings card, a slideshow, a booklet and more.

What about other media types?
Our technical staff are working on the Contribute interface, and soon you’ll be able to upload other formats too. We’ll provide further updates on the Scran site and in future newsletters.

What gaps are you looking to fill?
If you are doing any school work to support the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence or National Curriculum, please consider photographing this and sharing it with other teachers. In particular, in design and technology, we have lots of requests for images of basic woodworking techniques (joints, fixings etc.) and metalworking techniques.

We’d love more photos covering landmarks, important places, buildings, famous people, customs or scenery. However, we’d be interested in any images that fall broadly within the categories of history and material culture. Your project should have some sort of theme: pictures of lochs, castles, different building designs in my area, the old Roman road, follies etc. Please note that we are not looking for images such as group photos of friends, colleagues, your educational establishment or holiday snaps.
Some new contributions

All the image collections below have been contributed over the past few months using Scran’s new Contribute tool. Like all Scran records, they’re rights-cleared, meaning you can reuse and copy them for educational and personal use.

GW Watts’ Memorial to Heroic Self-Sacrifice

The image on the left was taken at London’s Postman’s Park, where a series of ceramic-tiled memorials relate tales of heroic self-sacrifice from the late 1800s to 2007. It’s one of 22 related records. More at www.scran.ac.uk/s/self+sacrifice

Borders Billheads

The Scottish Borders Council Archive Service kindly contributed 13 images of billheads (right) from various 19th and 20th century businesses, which document changes in typography and commerce over many decades. Search www.scran.ac.uk/s/billheads to see more.
Stobs Camp, Hawick

Scran user RK Smith kindly scanned and shared his historic photos of the 8th Royal Scots training near Hawick in the Scottish Borders. Fascinating photos for any military historians, you can see more at www.scran.ac.uk/s/stobs+camp

Barcelona, Gaudi’s La Pedrera

Scran user Alan Muirden’s recent trip to Barcelona resulted in these excellent photos of Spanish architect Antoni Gaudi’s masterpiece, La Pedrera.

A contemporary of Scotland’s own Charles Rennie Mackintosh, Gaudi was renowned for his flowing, organic forms. You can see more of his work on Scran. To see Alan’s photos of La Pedrera, go to www.scran.ac.uk/s/pedrera
More new contributions

Remember that Scran subscribers are free to reuse any Scran materials for educational or personal purposes. So if you want to incorporate any of the below into a worksheet, classroom poster or presentation, go ahead!

**Zaha Hadid’s Phaeno**

Germany’s Phaeno is a hands-on science centre that looks like a futuristic space ship. It was designed by the British/Iraqi architect Zaha Hadid, a recent recipient of the Pritzker Prize, architecture’s top award. You can see some pictures of its incredible exterior on Scran thanks to some recently contributed images. Find them at [www.scran.ac.uk/s/phaeno](http://www.scran.ac.uk/s/phaeno)

**Palestinian Graffiti**

Scran is amassing a great collection of graffiti art. In the last newsletter, we highlighted our new Banksy records. This issue, we’re highlighting Mark Gillick’s recent contributions. Mark has kindly shared over 200 photos of graffiti from his travels, including examples from Barcelona, Melbourne, Tel Aviv, Prague and Vienna. In addition, Mark has uploaded terrific photos of graffiti from both sides of the wall separating Israel from Palestine, which will add context to any classroom work about conflict in the Middle East. [www.scran.ac.uk/s/graffiti](http://www.scran.ac.uk/s/graffiti)

**Australia**

Various Scran users have uploaded records from Australia, which has helped to plug a big gap in our image collection. Jacque Knox has shared images of Sydney and Adelaide, while Emily & Laurence Ketteringham have shared some exquisite photos of landscapes and wildlife from down under. You’ll find their records at [www.scran.ac.uk/s/australia](http://www.scran.ac.uk/s/australia)
Bell Baxter High School, Fife
Louise Robertson contacted us to contribute a number of photos of her father’s old school, Bell Baxter High School in Fife. The photos date from the early 1900s, and are out of copyright. They’re an absorbing look at school life from 100 years ago. www.scran.ac.uk/s/bell+baxter

Newington Cemetery
Edinburgh’s Newington Cemetery has a fascinating past, and houses many graves from the Great War and the Second World War. It was also used as a Jewish burial ground after Sciennes Jewish cemetery closed. Find out more and see dozens of fascinating photos at www.scran.ac.uk/s/newington+cemetery

India
Scran staff member Helen Foster has kindly shared her photos of her recent trip to India, and you can see terrific shots of the Taj Mahal, the Golden Temple at Amritsar and Gandhi’s shrine, as well as amazing pictures of the Himalayas for all you geography students. www.scran.ac.uk/s/taj+mahal

Moray Schools
A number of Moray Schools participated in our Contribute pilot project, including Cabrach Primary, Speyside High, Rothes Primary and Aberlour primary. They provided us with hundreds of fantastic new records (including this one of Joseph Walker’s shortbread factory), and wrote informative captions and data for each too. See this pic and more at www.scran.ac.uk/s/joseph+walker
RPhotography
A fascinating look at the past... and the present

RK Smith recently shared his rephotography project with us via Contribute. Rephotography is a late 20th century phenomenon (conceived in 1977 by one Mark Klett, apparently) in which existing photo sites are rephotographed after a number of years have elapsed, thus producing a “then and now” effect. Above you can see, from top to bottom, the Dean Tavern in Newtongrange, Newbyres Hall in Gorebridge and Lady Victoria Colliery, the most recent photos being the ones on the right. See more at www.scran.ac.uk/s/rephotography
More news

Stuff accounts are free

You probably know that you can save all Scran materials offline to your hard drive, a memory stick or disc, whether you want to save pictures, video clips or sounds. Did you know, though, that you can also save all Scran pictures, videos and sound clips online in your own private password-protected area of the site? We call it Stuff.

Stuff accounts are free, and they’re available to all users of the site. To get your free Stuff account simply click the Stuff link on the left hand menu of the Scran home page, and then select My Stuff. Follow the instructions to register. More details are at www.scran.ac.uk/help/stuff/personal.php

You may be asking yourself “Why should I bother downloading Scran materials to a Stuff account? Why not just save them to, say, a memory stick?” We believe there are two good reasons. First, security. Losing or misplacing memory sticks can be a pain, and if you save materials to a school network or local hard drive and then change job, you could end up losing all your saved materials. Second, Scran provides Stuff users with a range of tools to creatively reuse saved materials, from annotating them with your own comments to creating slideshows and booklets. Copying folders of materials to other Stuff users is easy, too.

Finally, having a Stuff account will allow you to access our new Contribute feature, so you can upload and share materials with other Scran users!

Scran Glow group

Scran is a big part of Glow, the Scottish schools intranet. For instance, you can log-in to Scran with a Glow user name and password, and materials can be shared easily and legally through Glow.

We now have a Scran Glow group, where we’ll be highlighting resources, offering hints and tips and pointing up our training schedule. Check it out at https://portal.glowscotland.org.uk/establishments/nationalsite/Scran/default.aspx or simply log in to Glow and search for “Scran”.

Easy access from schools

95% of schools now have IP authenticated access. This means that when you or your pupils visit Scran from school premises, our site should detect where you’re logging in from and grant you automatic access with no need to remember a user name or password. If, when you log on to Scran from your school, you don’t see a drop-down menu of schools in your local authority, PLEASE LET US KNOW by either phoning (0131 662 1456) or emailing (andrew.james@rcahms.gov.uk). You can help us even more by sending us your school’s IP address when you email. To find this out, simply go to www.scran.ac.uk/ipcheck.php where you’ll see a phrase of letters and numbers. Copy and paste this in an email to us and we should be able to sort out your automatic access quickly and easily.
Free demonstrations, workshops and training

Scran offers training opportunities for teachers, librarians, trainers, managers and students. Most of these are face-to-face and last for about 90 minutes.

We are included in the General Teaching Council of Scotland's National Register of approved CPD providers. These sessions are free of charge and can be arranged to suit your needs.

For bookings and information, contact our Schools Education Officers, Andrew James or Jackie Sangster on 0131 651 6816/6817 andrew.james@rcahms.gov.uk/jackie.sangster@rcahms.gov.uk, or our Lifelong Learning Officer Helen Foster on 0131 651 6815 helen.foster@rcahms.gov.uk. You can also find out more information about the types of training we offer on the Scran website at www.scran.ac.uk/help/training.php

Pick of the pictures

Scran has hundreds of thousands of images in its database (as well as videos, sound clips and text), and occasionally we come across some that are intriguing, unusual or simply downright bizarre. Neil Gregory, a member of RCAHMS staff, has chosen this newsletter’s “Pick of the Pictures”.

It’s a fascinating glimpse at a bygone era from the Newsquest (Herald & Times) archives, and it features some hipsters from 1967 wigging out at a Christian rock concert in Princes Street Gardens. Scran has pics of musical stars to suit all tastes, from Sheena Easton to Bono. Find this pic at www.scran.ac.uk/s/christian+rock

Lucienne Day

Much of Scran’s material has been licensed to us by museums and galleries, so it goes without saying that we are very useful to art & design teachers and students. From Monet to Dali to Warhol, and from Charles Rennie Mackintosh to Jasper Morrison, Scran is a treasure trove of paintings, photographs, sculptures and objects.

Husband and wife design duo Robin and Lucienne Day both died in 2010, and we have a number of examples of their work (courtesy of the V&A Museum) on Scran. Above, you can see a sample of Lucienne’s celebrated Calyx fabric pattern that was sold in Heals in the 1950s.

Add your voice

We’ve made a small change to the commands underneath our records. As well as the popular “Create”, “Share” and “Save” options, we’ve recently added the ability to tag and add information to a record.

Tagging will allow Scran users to find records more easily and provide more categorisation. You may have seen something similar on sites such as Flickr.

Adding information, whether to support or contradict the caption that’s been appended to a record, can be a valuable additional help and will add to the wide range of knowledge already on Scran. Why not start tagging and adding info to your favourite Scran records?
Scran on the road

We’ve attended a number of conferences and exhibitions recently. These include the recent Modern Studies conference at the Scottish Parliament, the Scottish Association of Geography Teachers Conference, a JISC event in Sheffield, and a learning day at Crathes Castle in Aberdeenshire. We’d be happy to come to your CPD day, teacher info session or exhibition, too, at no charge. Get in touch for more details.

Bell Rock 200

Scran produced new materials especially for the 200th anniversary of Robert Stevenson’s Bell Rock lighthouse, the oldest standing rock lighthouse in the world. Believe it or not, the lighthouse is still in use today, and it stands just east of Arbroath, helping mariners navigate a treacherous reef.

Included in the materials we created for the bicentenary are two interactive whiteboard files, for Smart boards and Promethean boards. Download these for use with your classroom interactive whiteboard. Go to www.scran.ac.uk/s/bell+rock

Promethean and Smart boards

Now that many classrooms have interactive whiteboards, we’ve added a couple of downloadable resources for you to use (see above). We’re sure, though, that some creative teachers have even better whiteboard resources that they’ve created using Scran records. If you’d like to share your Promethean or Smartboard resources with other educators through the Scran website, please get in touch.

Galloway Kirks and Kirkyards

As well as new content being submitted through Contribute, we’re still receiving new records from institutions and individuals. These include new records relating to Galloway Kirks and Kirkyards, kindly sent to us by a local historian, Richard M Smith. Find more at www.scran.ac.uk/s/galloway+kirkyards

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