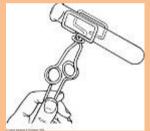
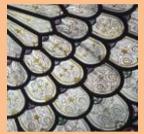
WSCRAN news











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Spring 2014

Jura Lives- New Oral Histories

Scran has recently compiled a wonderful collection of oral histories from the Isle of Jura. These were recorded as part of the Jura Lives project, which interviewed people about their living memories of the island of Jura in Argyll and Bute and resulted in over 180 hours of audio recordings.

The material is a great resource for finding out about how life has changed on the island since World War One for residents and visitors alike. The full archive of oral histories was launched in October 2013 after two years' work, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Argyll and the Islands LEADER programme 2007-13 and the Jura Development Trust. Find our more, listen and download the sound files at: http://www.scran.ac.uk/s/jura+lives



Images: Miss Julia MacKay ©Jura Development Trust/ Jura Stores ©Neil Sinclair / Distillery ©RCAHMS / Jura Hotel ©Neil Sinclair



New posters! We have 8 different designs of our new Scran posters. To get the full set, for free, call us on 0131 662 1456.







Images: © Ruth Atkinson

The Isabella Forsyth Christie Quilt

Scran has recently licensed images of the Isabella Forsyth Christie Quilt, a patchwork bedspread made up of nearly 100 squares. Each square has been embroidered by a different girl and shows her name or initials. It is believed that the quilt was put together by school teacher Isabella Forsyth Christie (1865-1933), whose initials also appear on a square. Isabella Christie came from Elgin in Moray and taught at the three schools named on the quilt: Heisker School (where she taught from 1882 to 1887); **Lochmaddy School, also on North Uist** (1887 to 1894); and Kinloch Rannoch School in present-day Perth and Kinross (1895 to 1897).

The quilt was found in Aberfeldy in Perth and Kinross and taken to Kinloch Rannoch Primary School in 2005. It has been used by storytellers Ruth Atkinson and Claire Hewitt working on a storytelling project in the region, and has also been exhibited in North Uist (2012). The quilt is now deposited with National Museums Scotland. A fascinating artefact from a bygone era, the quilt will be of interest to historians, textile tutors and art and design students. You can see more at

http://www.scran.ac.uk/s/christie+quilt

@Scranlife

You can now follow our tweets via Twitter



More contributions

Arras, France

Site of a particularly brutal First World War battle, the town of Arras in Northern France is today home to numerous memorials and monuments commemorating the fallen of both sides. As well as hosting numerous archive contemporaneous images from the battle site (courtesy of the National Library of Scotland), Scran is now proud to host a selection of modern colour images of Arras, courtesy of Prof. Cairns Aitken. See them at

http://www.scran.ac.uk/s/1079+in+project

Expeditions of Ian Barr

Ian Barr was a life-long educator and traveller, and a Fellow of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. He led and took part in over 40 expeditions around the globe between the 1960s and 2000s. A vast archive of photographs, films and talks results from his travels and there is an annual Ian Barr Memorial Lecture in his honour at the Greenock Philosphical Society. This Scran project showcases photographs from the Deserts and Canyons Expedition he undertook in North America in 2000.

http://www.scran.ac.uk/s/1077+in+project

Bavaria

Once again, we are indebted to Cairns Aitken for sharing his vast collection of images with us. This project showcases his photographs of Bavaria, Germany, with highlights including Albert Speer's Nazi-era Zeppelin Field, various baroque churches and the home of the Passion Plays, Oberammergau. http://www.scran.ac.uk/s/1082+in+project







Images: Arras, Bavaria © Cairns Aitken / Utah © Barbara and Gordon Barr

Scran's Facelift

We hope that you've noticed our recent site refresh (right), our first for quite a few years. The feedback so far has been very positive, with users commenting that the new simplified interface looks clean and modern. We've moved the menus and log-in areas to the top of the page, too, where you'd expect to find them. This is just the start of our changes, and over the coming terms we plan to introduce a few new features, add lots more content and generally make Scran even better and even more useful to our subscribers.

Video for iPads

Also, as more and more schools and colleges are using iPads in the classroom, we've recently overhauled all of our video content so that it should play perfectly on any tablet.

While we've done extensive testing, we're sure there will be small bugs in the new site, so please don't hesitate to tell us if something looks strange or isn't working as it should.



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Out and About

Our Education Officers continue to travel all around the UK training users in how to get the best out of Scran. We've recently presented at the National Mining Museum Scotland, exhibited at the Association of Scottish Literary Studies (Glasgow) and CILIP (Edinburgh), attended the Community Heritage Conference, and trained users at the Universities of Stirling, Aberdeen and Glasgow, and in East Renfrewshire, Orkney, North Lanarkshire, North Ayrshire and Dundee. If you'd like us to come to your event or train you and your colleagues, please get in touch with andrew.james@rcahms.gov.uk or jackie.sangster@rcahms.gov.uk



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