

FORTH & BORDERS GROUP

43rd Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 43rd Annual General Meeting of the Forth & Borders Group of the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland will be held at the Library of Mistakes, 33A Melville Street Lane, Edinburgh EH3 7QB (approach from Drumsheugh Gardens, by the new Resident hotel, formerly HMRC's Meldrum House) on Thursday 29th May 2025 at 6.30pm.



The Library of Mistakes is a fascinating space serving as a free-to-use library dedicated to the study of financial history, with an outreach and education programme that includes courses, events and podcasts. Amid today's geopolitical and economic ructions, its drive is to extend understanding of this topic so that both professionals and the investing public can avoid the mistakes of the past.

AGENDA

1. Introduction and Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Adoption of the minutes of the 42nd Annual General Meeting held on 28th May 2024
4. Acting Convener's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of the Committee:

We are delighted that Annette Carruthers and Harriet Devlin are standing for election. Richard Austin, Adam Gillingham, Tom Parnell, James Seabridge-Cooper and Anne Tracy were last elected in 2022, retire by rotation this year and have agreed to stand for re-election. The continuing members are Jocelyn Cunliffe, Emily Ducas, Yvonne Hillyard and Caroline McFarlane. Short biographies of the Committee can be found on the back of this sheet. Any member interested in being more involved in the work of the Group may wish to be considered for the Committee. If you would like to be proposed, or know of anyone who would, please inform the Convener or Treasurer and provide a proposer, the agreement of the person being proposed, and a short biography by 20th May 2025. We are sorry to be losing from the Committee our former Convener, Jilly MacLeod, and Elizabeth Graham. Both have been on the Committee and Cases Panel for some time and we thank them for their contributions.

7. Any other competent business

The AGM will be followed by a short talk by Emily Ducas on 'Building Mistakes: Structural failures and their causes'. Emily will be asking the question 'Why do buildings fall down?' Is it poor construction, natural disaster or under-design that's to blame?

AHSS National Office | 15 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2BE
0131 557 0019 | nationaloffice@ahss.org.uk | www.ahss.org.uk

FORTH & BORDERS GROUP

43rd Annual General Meeting

PROPOSED COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2025–26

STANDING FOR ELECTION

Annette Carruthers was a museum curator for fourteen years before joining the School of Art History at the University of St Andrews in 1991, initially to study the history of the Scottish home and later to teach Art History and Museum Studies. She retired in 2014 but continues to research and publish on the Arts & Crafts Movement.

Harriet Devlin's career started in museums but progressed to researching buildings at risk, and traditional skills for Ulster Architectural Heritage. She ran a variety of building preservation trusts for the reuse of places of worship, vernacular buildings and industrial structures. Working at Ironbridge she created an MA in Historic Environment Conservation for the University of Birmingham and was awarded the MBE for Services to Heritage. Harriet retired in 2018 but was an examiner for IHBC until 2024.

STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION

Richard Austin has been a member of the Society for many years. He previously served on the National Council of the Society and is a long-serving member of the F&B Committee. Since 2015 he has been a member of the board of the Royal High School Preservation Trust.

Adam Gillingham is a retired property lawyer. During his legal career, he worked with an eclectic mix of Scottish landowners, through which he developed an interest in the extraordinarily diverse architecture of Scotland and a desire to help preserve our built heritage for current and future generations.

Tom Parnell graduated from the University of Edinburgh with a degree in Architectural Studies. He was a Heritage Consultant with Simpson & Brown for several years before joining Historic Environment Scotland in 2016. Tom served on the F&B Cases Panel from 2004-2016, spending the last four years as Convener.

James Seabridge-Cooper worked as an interior designer in the hospitality sector for 10 years before completing an Architectural Conservation MSc at the University of Edinburgh. He joined the F&B Cases Panel in 2020, serving as Convener from 2022-23. He currently works for Historic Environment Scotland.

Secretary: **Anne Tracy** originally trained as a librarian and is now a semi-retired antique-carpet restorer. She has volunteered at the Society for several years and is a member of the National Council.

CONTINUING MEMBERS

Jocelyn Cunliffe, an architect in private practice, is a member of the F&B Cases Panel and longstanding member of the Group Committee, of which she was Convener 1999-2011. An elected member of the National Council 2011-2017 and 2018–2024 and currently Acting Chair, she is also Convener of the AHSS National Conservation Committee.

Emily Ducas is a Chartered Structural Engineer and has a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Bristol. Since joining Edinburgh-based engineers Elliott and Company, she has worked primarily on heritage projects and bespoke architecture-led modern structures. She joined the AHSS F&B Cases Panel in 2021.

Yvonne Hillyard: After degrees in art history and architectural history, Yvonne worked as researcher on the 'Buildings of Scotland' series. She was appointed a Research Fellow at the University of St Andrews to develop the Dictionary of Scottish Architects project in 2002 and moved to Historic Environment Scotland in 2007 where she undertook listing work while continuing to maintain the Dictionary. She retired in March 2017. She has been associated with the Society since the mid-1970s.

Treasurer: **Caroline McFarlane** is a retired solicitor. She has been involved with the Society for many years and is an elected member of the National Council.

AHSS National Office | 15 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2BE
0131 557 0019 | nationaloffice@ahss.org.uk | www.ahss.org.uk