



Call for Public to Take Part in Renewable Energy Arts Workshop

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) is calling on local residents to get creative with their environment through an arts workshop taking place in Cromarty next month.

Forming part of RCAHMS keystone centenary project 'Treasured Places', the workshop will use the archive collections of RCAHMS to look at the history and development of power and energy, with particular reference to 'Renewable Energy' in the Highlands. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the impact that such schemes have had on the local communities in the past, examine the current situation and look towards the future.

Working with Jane McNally, a professional filmmaker and animator, and a group of subject specialists from the Commission, participants will then be able to try their hand at basic animation and editing techniques, turning their investigations into short film sequences. These will then be further edited to form a video DVD. This free three day workshop will run from Tuesday to Thursday the 12th, 13th & 14th of February from 10-4pm, venue yet to be confirmed.

Jane Gilchrist, Treasured Places education officer said: 'By taking part in this fun and interactive workshop, participants will have a wonderful opportunity to work with a dynamic and exciting team of specialists. It will also give them the chance to work with other people from the local community and express their views to a wider audience. The workshop will allow participants to work with original archive material, learn more about an interesting and topical subject whilst developing skills in film animation and editing, further exploring their individual creativity'

The resulting piece of unique film footage will be incorporated into the 'Treasured Places' touring exhibition, which will visit ten venues throughout Scotland between August 2008 and May 2009.

The invitation to participate in this free workshop is open to members of the public of all ages and absolutely no experience or knowledge is required. For more information on taking part and to book your place, please contact Leanne McCormick, Treasured Places Communications Officer, on 0131 662 1456 or leanne.mccormick@rcahms.gov.uk.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Workshop itinerary as follows:

12 th February	am	Introductions to project and staff. Exploration of RCAHMS archive materials Discussion about topic with RCAHMS expert
	pm	Introduction to use of video cameras & stills cameras Gathering footage, photography outdoors locally (weather dependant)
13 th February	am	Brief introduction to stop-frame animation technique Preparing artwork for animation (using print-outs of RCAHM archive images & any still images taken previous day)
	pm	Animating
14 th February	am	Animating / editing
	pm	Editing

2. The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) is currently developing a number of projects to celebrate its centenary this year. The main celebration for the general public is *Treasured Places* a Scotland-wide initiative to engage the public with the heart of the Commission's work and explore the archive collection through a number of exciting initiatives taking place over the next 18 months. The aim of the project is to raise awareness of the man-made environment and to help people recognise the value of their own local heritage.
3. Treasured Places is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Scottish Government and run by RCAHMS.
4. Further information about the project can be found at www.treasuredplaces.org.uk. Further information about RCAHMS can be found at www.rcahms.gov.uk.
5. RCAHMS is the national record of Scotland's built environment, whose mission is to identify, survey and interpret the archaeological, architectural and historical environment of Scotland, to preserve and add to the collection, and to promote public understanding and enjoyment of items in the collection.