



# TREASURED PLACES

100  
years



Royal  
Commission on the  
Ancient and  
Historical  
Monuments of  
Scotland

Scotland's favourite  
archive images

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Fife Community Connections to Scotland's Heritage Showcased in National Touring Exhibition**

Young people, residents and visitors across Fife will be able to discover more about Scotland's rich built heritage, thanks to a dynamic touring exhibition showcasing community artworks inspired by one of Scotland's National Collections.

*Treasured Places: Creative Connections* features a visual feast of animation, expressive art, poetry and photography specially created by community groups across the country during workshops organised by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS).

The exhibition will run from August 2008 to May 2009 and visit eleven venues across Scotland, close to the communities that participated in the original workshops. The creative outcomes from the workshops will be showcased alongside reproductions of the archive material that inspired them.

Led by local artists and RCAHMS specialists, the creative workshops were based around a significant local place or relevant topic, such as the Forth Bridges in Fife and renewable energies in the Highlands. Participants were encouraged to interpret the fascinating public archive of drawings and photographs held by RCAHMS in a new and creative way, drawing on their own responses and experiences, to produce a variety of different art works. A range of different audiences have taken part in the workshops, from primary school children learning about the architecture of religious buildings through model making, to war veterans who explored the role of war memorials through poetry.

This exciting show forms part of the 'Treasured Places' project, launched by RCAHMS to celebrate 100 years of creating Scotland's collection of architecture, archaeology and industry. The project seeks to encourage more people to become interested and involved in their local heritage and to discover and celebrate the places they treasure.

*Treasured Places: Creative Connections* will be on display at the Adam Smith Theatre, Bennoch Road, Kirkcaldy from 7 August- 3 September 2008. The

exhibition will be open to the public from 10am - 7.30pm Monday to Saturday and Sunday 6.30 - 9.00pm. Admission is free.

In a 2-day workshop in September 2007, Scouts from Fife worked alongside RCAHMS staff and civil engineers to explore the design, construction and history of some of their area's most iconic bridges. The Scouts learned about different types of bridges and their design through exploring historical drawings and photographs brought along from the collections of RCAHMS, and by taking part in quizzes, games, a field visit and a finally a bridge building challenge where their construction skills and new-found knowledge were put to the test.

Siobhan McConnachie, Treasured Places Project Manager, said: "It was wonderful to see our collections being used in such an exciting way. The workshops were a lot of fun for everyone and, as can be seen through our *Creative Connections* exhibition, the work that was produced is of such a high standard and really inspiring."

The *Treasured Places: Creative Connections* Tour Diary is attached. For further information visit [www.treasuredplaces.org.uk](http://www.treasuredplaces.org.uk)

## ENDS

For further information please contact:

Sarah MacDonald or Ruth Christie at Colman Getty Consultancy:

T: 0131 558 8851 / 07866 449 570

E: [SarahMacDonald@colmangetty.co.uk](mailto:SarahMacDonald@colmangetty.co.uk) / [RuthChristie@colmangetty.co.uk](mailto:RuthChristie@colmangetty.co.uk)

## NOTES TO EDITORS

1. 'Treasured Places' was set up by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) to help celebrate its centenary in 2008. The project asked the public to vote for their favourite image of a treasured place from a long-list of one hundred, all drawn from RCAHMS' national collection. The images represent places and spaces that are 'treasured' for many reasons, both on a personal and national level. They are also interesting images in their own right as they show different perspectives and views of well-known places and of Scottish life throughout history. Voting was conducted on a specially created website, [www.treasuredplaces.org.uk](http://www.treasuredplaces.org.uk), and by post to RCAHMS. All Top Ten images will be included in a major Treasured Places exhibition at the City Art Centre, Edinburgh 25 October 2008 – 17 January 2009, to complement the *Treasured Places: Creative Connections* touring exhibition.
2. 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.

***Treasured Places: Creative Connections Tour Diary***

- **Adam Smith Theatre, Kirkcaldy**  
7 August- 3 September 2008
- **Black Isle, venue TBC**  
6- 27 September 2008
- **Benbecula Airport, Balivanich, Isle of Benbecula**  
3- 29 October 2008
- **Lanark Library, Lanark**  
4 November- 29 November 2008
- **The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, 16 Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh**  
2 - 12 December 2008
- **Omni Centre, Edinburgh**  
22 December 2008- 14 January 2009
- **Dundee Central Library, Dundee**  
Dates TBC
- **Tweeddale Museum and Gallery, Peebles**  
Dates TBC
- **The Mall Shopping Centre, Falkirk**  
Dates TBC
- **The Pier Arts Centre, Stromness**  
Dates TBC