

# Ye Olde Victorian Times of Bonnie Bo'ness

Delivering news to the subjects of Her Royal Majesty Queen Victoria in the Town of Bo'ness

Special Edition for  
Ye Olde Street Fair  
24 May 2009

Produced by  
Bo'ness Community  
Council. Bo'ness Means  
Business, Bonnie Bo'ness &  
Town Centre Management

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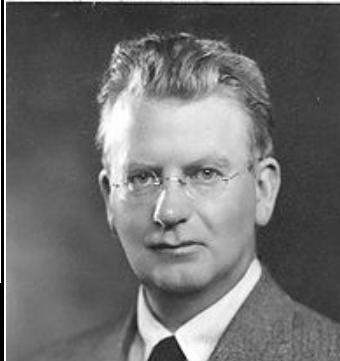
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# CAR MAKING BECOMING GLOBAL

## Picture Tube

Scottish inventor, John Logie Baird was born in 1888 in Helensburgh and will go onto invent a picture tube to be known later as television.



Working from his laboratory in Soho, London, Mr Baird was able to transmit a very basic grey scale moving image that would begin the process to transform the world of communications, entertainment and technology.

However, one bystander commented after seeing the first moving picture that he had seen this episode before but Baird went on to repeat his demonstration of the picture tube, despite this. The BBC continues this practice today!

## BANK SCANDAL

The Royal British Bank has been hit by scandal as the 8 Directors of the bank face trial for conspiracy to defraud the bank's customers.

1856 will stand as a watershed in British banking, with only the founder of the bank, John MacGregor, the Member of Parliament for Glasgow, escaping prosecution as he had already left the Board before the fraud took place.

All 8 were convicted and served prison sentences ranging from 3 months to 1 year.

Sir Frad Goodlost of no particular place commented that "never again should bankers be responsible for other peoples money." He went on to suggest that politicians would be better placed to act with the greatest of responsibility and integrity when it came to using other peoples money.

It is understood that Sir Frad already has a second home and therefore has no plan to go into politics, himself.

The Royal British Bank collapsed as a result of the scandal.

In addition to the formation of the Daimler Motor Company by the turn of the century (1900), the new Olds Motor Vehicle Company in America, Peugeot and Renault in France, Tatra in Austria, Spyker in Holland, Fiat in Italy, Panhard-Levassor in Japan and the Lanchester Motor Company in Britain were formed and manufacturing cars.

But by the end of the 19th century Benz & Cie was the largest manufacturer of cars in the world, soon to be overtaken by the renamed Oldsmobile Motor Company in America.

On the horizon was a man named Henry Ford who had a few ideas.

Benz & Cie was formed in 1872 and by 1892 they had sold 1,132 vehicles.

The first electric cars were produced in 1894 by Henry G Morris and Pedro Salom, who created the "Electrobat" car in America, with other electric cars being built in Spain (1898), Canada (1900) and France (1901). Despite this, petrol and diesel vehicles were to dominate vehicle production for over 100 years.

Commenting on the proliferation of what become environmentally damaging technology, 19th century transport guru, Jeremia of Clarkson said "More speed, more speed!! Fuel efficiency? What's that?"

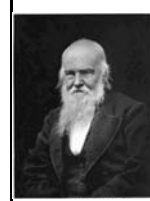
## WORLD CABLE

Robert Stirling Newall's inventive mind created the first successful submarine telegraph cables to link countries across water.

The first of these linked Dover to Calais in France in 1851 and around half of the transatlantic cable to America was laid in 1853, manufactured by his own company.

Mr Rick Branson commented that cable would become a very good media for a band of broad!!

## Paraffin from Coal



James Young, born in Glasgow in 1811, has managed to find a method to distil paraffin from coal, creating an effective new form of heating oil.

Friend of the explorer, David Livingstone, he sought to improve the Voltaic Battery invented by Michael Faraday. He produced a scientific paper in January 1837 and subsequently worked with Faraday on his ideas.

Ever ready with a comment, 19th century mining expert, Art Scare-Gill, said that this paraffin thing would only be any good if someone invented some heaters."

# Street Fair returns in 2009 - more local and vocal

Bo'ness town centre becomes a big party zone today as the Victorian Street Fair takes over, bringing children's rides and games, loads of entertainment, over 50 commercial and charity stalls, many local shops open and street performers.

Mary Jane Armstrong of Ye Olde Town Centre Management, co-organisers of the event, commented that "last year was amazing, with over 5,000 visitors enjoying a wide range of stalls and entertainment. This year is set to build on this and firmly establish this event as part of the annual Bo'ness programme."

The hamlet of Ye Olde Bo'ness boasts many unique features, including Scotland's first purpose built cinema, which was restored earlier this year, at one time Bo'ness was Scotland's second largest harbour, making it a crucial trading centre.

Bruce Henderson of Bo'ness Means Business and convener of the organising group, said "A lot of excellent local people have worked hard to bring the event to life and they should be thanked.

We are all working together to make Bo'ness an amazing place to be. This is just one event of many during the year - another good reason to spend more time in this historic town"

Bo'ness means Business is a local economic development charity that brings local business together to help develop local economic opportunities and sustainability.

Madelene Hunt of Ye Olde Bo'ness Community Council, added "More local performers and contributors will be taking part this year, making this very much an opportunity to showcase the amazing people here."

A significant amount of time has been committed by the key partners to bring this event into being. Local business people from Bo'ness Means Business have given up hours of precious time to help make it a success.

Madelene Hunt of the Bo'ness Community Council, Gail Fairholm of Bonnie Bo'ness and Alex King of Friends of Kinneil and SRPS have been crucial in securing key resources and bringing experience and knowledge to the team.

Mary Jane Armstrong and Alistair Mitchell have contributed a great deal of time and resource to gather loads of activities and manage the whole process.

Bruce Henderson of Bo'ness Means Business added, "This relatively small team have been crucial in delivering this year's Victorian Street Fair."



Adrian Mahoney, Convener of the Leisure, Tourism & Community Committee of Falkirk Council, said "The Victorian period was a time of great change for

Bo'ness. Many of the historic buildings in the town centre date back to that period - and we owe a lot to the community figures who build up the town at that time."

"The Victorian Street Fair is a great innovation that takes us all back to this bygone age. Hopefully everyone will have a great time and support the local shops, businesses and charity stalls taking part in this fantastic community event."

Councillor Mahoney will be opening the event with the Fair Queen.

## Sponsors do the Business

Support from Falkirk Council, Town Centre Management and a two local businesses helped to make the Victorian Street Fair a reality with crucial funding.

Avondale Environment Ltd is one of the two businesses that have donated funds to the Victorian Street Fair. The company plays a key role in processing waste to help ensure that we all enjoy a more pleasant world.

Custom House Developments Ltd, part of the locally based BMR Group, added valuable funds to this years event.

Custom House Developments have been responsible for transforming the old Custom House into 8 stunning waterfront townhouses.

By our Business Correspondent

William Anderson, Senior Retail Partner with Custom House Developments, said "It is appropriate that we help with an event that links so well with our Waterfront Development. This is a fabulous Victorian building that has an amazing history in an amazingly historic town.

Despite the recession, there are only 3 townhouses left," he added.

The Victorian Street Fair organisers are grateful to the sponsors who have made a contribution to the event this year. The current economic climate has made such sponsorship more challenging but is positive to find funding can still be found.

## Upcoming Events in Bo'ness

There is a lot going on in Bo'ness and we welcome visitors and local people alike to join with us to celebrate our historic and amazing town. Here are a few things to add to your diary.

**25 June 2009 - Fair E'en**  
Visit the many amazing and innovative arches that proliferate gardens and streets around Bo'ness. These can be as high as 3 storeys and as wide as 3 or 4 houses. **This event is free.**

**26 June 2009**  
**Bo'ness Children's Fair**  
The event begins around 10.00 am at the Town Hall, followed by a parade through the town and an afternoon of entertainment in Douglas Park. The event is on a substantial scale and **free.**

**27 June 2009**  
**Kinneil House Open Day**  
From 12.00 noon to 4.00 pm Visit this historic home. **This event is free.**

**1 July 2009 - SRPS Season start**  
The nationally recognised steam railway starts the summer season, complete with a major exhibition of rolling stock.

**12/13 Sept 2009**  
**SRPS Thomas the Tank weekend**  
A celebration of one of the best loved children's TV and book characters.  
**Bo'ness Hill Climb**  
See these amazing vintage and older cars race against the clock at Kinneil.

**20 Sept 2009**  
**Kinneil House Heritage Day**  
From 12.00 noon to 4.00 pm Visit this historic home and enjoy various children's activities around the Kinneil Estate. **This event is free.**

## 101st Bo'ness Fair Queen for Children's Festival

This amazing event, that signifies the start of summer, celebrates the children of Bo'ness and inspires the whole town, is free and a brilliant day out.

Visit the website

www.thefairday.com

Join Bo'ness on the day at the Town Hall and Douglas Park

Friday 26 June 2009

the  
**Bo'ness Fair Day**

bo'ness  
real ale  
appreciation  
society

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 bo'ness means business group  
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 charity number SC038361

**Local Business helping to Regenerate our Town**  
 Promoting Partnership  
 Local Business Networking  
 Developing Projects  
 Developing Events  
 Linking with Public Agencies  
 Welcome Pack  
 Victorian Street Fair  
 Heritage Park

**Town Centre Management**  
**Working with local Partners to promote Bo'ness**

**BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
[www.bonesscc.org.uk](http://www.bonesscc.org.uk) email: [info@bonesscc.org.uk](mailto:info@bonesscc.org.uk)  
 Each community council is regularly asked to comment on a range of issues such as:  
 the local environment; local planning applications;  
 drinks (liquor) licensing; local plans  
 decentralisation of public services and community planning.  
 So if you have a strong view or want to be heard let us know. Just email: [info@bonesscc.org.uk](mailto:info@bonesscc.org.uk) - or come to a meeting.  
**2nd Wednesday each month, Bo'ness Library at 7.00 pm**

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**50 Free Family Train Tickets**  
 The Scottish Railway Preservation Society, operators of the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway, are offering 50 free family tickets to be handed out to children who make the effort to come to the fair in fancy dress. The tickets can be used at any time until the end of July.

**50 FREE TICKETS COMPETITIONS**

**Treasure Hunt**  
 Find the Victorian treasure hidden round the Bo'ness town centre and win book or toy shop vouchers. Go into local shops and discover what Bo'ness has to offer, but keep an eye open for the treasure. Children, pick up your treasure list from the Friends of Kinneil and Bo'ness Community safety stalls.

**BE LUCKY**

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**LAST 3 REMAINING in historic Bo'ness**

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**Queen Victoria's world tour of the Bonnie hamlet of Bo'ness**

Queen Victoria, the longest serving British Monarch, undertook her world tour of the historic hamlet of Bo'ness, experiencing the many wonders and people who she met on her travels. Whilst many subjects sought to amuse their Queen, it was clear that she was not amused and it believed that after the 470th attempt at humour by Mr B Henderson, he was removed to the tower....

Queen Victoria began her tour at the historic **Kinneil Estate**, once owned by the Hamilton Family. This was Scotland's second royal family and they had a significant role in the stewardship and history of Scotland.

**Duchess Anne**, recently celebrated at the Homecoming event in Kinneil last month, played a significant part in developing Kinneil House and contributing to the development of Bo'ness, being responsible for Bo'ness becoming recognised as a Burgh in its own right.

She was told of the **ghost of Lady Lilbourne** and how she roams the house as the Lady in White. The volunteers of Friends of Kinneil explained how she fell from the house, having been brought to Kinneil by General Lilbourne, one of Cromwell's men.

She was also told of the amazing and unique wall paintings that still are the best example in Scotland and that can be viewed next on Saturday 27 June 2009.

**John Roebuck**, an inventor and entrepreneur, rented Kinneil House and brought **James Watt** to work in Bo'ness. Watt developed his steam condenser in Kinneil, competing his work in Birmingham and transforming the world by making steam a far more effective power source.

Steam powered trains, ships and industrial engines went onto radically change the shape of the world, thanks to the work of James Watt here in Bo'ness.

Then she visited the **World Heritage site of the Antonine Wall** and the small fortlet that sits in the stunning grounds of the Kinneil Estate.

All around her she could see ponds, forestry, open spaces and many local people who enjoy this stunning parkland.

She finished her visit at the **Kinneil Museum**, enjoying the interactive

Roman exhibits, audio-visual show and gift shop, learning about the famous **Bo'ness pottery**, Kinneil Estate and the substantial mining, maritime and engineering heritage of the area.

She was told of the revival of the **Bo'ness Hill Climb**, where automobiles would race up the hill within the estate between the 1930's and the 1960's.

She moved onto the newly restored **Hippodrome Cinema**, Scotland's first purpose built cinema in Hope Street. Now showing a range of contemporary films, it stands as another unique feature of one of Scotland's most historic towns.

Passing the **Mining Memorial** near to the Seaview Car park, she noted that Bo'ness boasts the earliest recorded mining of coal - another major contribution to the Industrial Revolution and our country's history.

She headed next to the remarkable nationally recognised **Scottish Railway Preservation Society**, home of steam and Diesel engines gathered from around the world.

She enjoyed a journey to the **Birkhill Clay Mine** before visiting on of Britain's biggest railway exhibitions at the SRPS, with nearly 50 locomotives, carriages and wagons from the history of railways.

She was most intrigued by her visit to the **Motor Museum** in Bredgeness Road, examining many of the James Bond cars, the Harry Potter Ford Anglia and the Trotter's famous yellow Reliant Robin.

The **Little Monster's** play zone added further to her visit, as did the many hundred items of interest within the Motor Museum.

Finally, she returned to the town centre via the historic **Ballantine Creative Ironworks**, which has put the name of Bo'ness into towns and cities across the world, marvelling at the views across the River Forth and the **foreshore footpaths** enjoyed by so many in our town.



By our Royal Correspondent

**Eating in Bo'ness**

First stop was the **Ivy Tea Room** at the West end of South Street (A) where she met owners Mary and Ron. She enjoyed a marvellous cup of tea and a lorne sausage roll.

She headed along to **Moviedrome** (G) to find an amazing selection of ice creams, served by the legendary Stan, although she was unsure as to what a DVD might be!

She then found a traditional baker in the form of **Mathieson's** (C) where she experienced a Scotch Pie. She may not have been amused but she did finish it.

Then into **Brian's Café** (B) in Hope Street, where Brian, himself, prepared a cappuccino and burger, followed by some cake. Brian has had a café in Bo'ness for many years and remains a feature in this hamlet.

She then headed for **Corvies** (D), where the local Children's Fair Committee had taken over with a wide selection of sandwiches for people to enjoy.

She was in need of refreshment so headed to the **Bo'ness Real Ale Appreciation Society Beer tent** (F) to sample locally made beer and discovered a pig being roasted by local company **King Boar** (E) in the traditional way.

**2ND TITLE FOR DUMBARTON**

Dumbarton retain the Scottish Football League title to become the 1892 Champions.

Nearest rivals Celtic and Heart of Midlothian were unable to match them over the season, with Leith Athletic, Rangers, Third Lanark and Clyde all fairly close together.

The Vale of Leven ended up bottom without a single win and an incredible 99 goals conceded in the 22 matches.

Football commentator, Alain De Hanson of Sauchie said "I really think they need a trip to Ye Olde Morrison for a tonic or two, not that I have anything to gain you understand, pal."

**OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP**

Following the death of world renowned golfer, Allan Robertson of St Andrews, a new golfing tournament is to be established to be known as the Open Golf Championship to find who is now the best golfer.

The first one was played at Prestwick on the 17 October 1860 and contested by a field of 8 Scottish professionals who played 3 rounds of 12 holes in a single day. Willie Park Senior won the day with a score of 174.

Samuel Tore-once described the event as a fair way forward for the sport and he believed that when the idea was first pitched it would make others green with envy!

**WANTED**

Have you seen ye olde citizen?



**Wanted for irritating and annoying officialdom and attempted humour.**

The picture is from the first days shooting in Edinburgh of a new BBC period series, Garrow's Law, based on the life of Sir William Garrow, which stars Andrew Buchan, Alun Armstrong and Rupert Graves.

**PROGRAMME**  
 (Stage area in Market Squares)

12.00	Opening Ceremony with Queen Eilidh Thomson (present fair queen) Councillor Adrian Mahoney
12.05	Bo'ness Pipe Band
12.25	Bo'ness Opera (Old time music)
12.45	Carriden Brass Band
13.15	Justine Riccomini
13.45	Urban Tonkerers
14.15	Punch & Judy (Dymocks Building)
14.40	Bo'ness Old Time Music
15.00	Kinneil Brass Band
15.15	Cosy Blanket (local bands)
16.00	Event closes for 2009

**EVENT AREAS**

- Market Square - stage area
- Giant Games/Balloon Modeller
- Birds of Prey
- Bouncy Castle
- Bucking Bronco
- Racing car/Prize car
- Fun Fair Zone
- Punch & Judy
- Giant Slide
- Victorian Wind Organ
- Hippodrome Cinema

**Public Toilets** are located at the North end of the Register Street Car Park. Leave the pedestrian zone by the North Access (L) -Giant slide - turn right into the short alley before the Post Office, go across the car park to the public toilets.

**Bo'ness is a bonnie wee town**  
 and we would ask that you help us keep it a bonnie town.  
 Please put litter in the bins provided or take home & recycle.  
**Keep Bo'ness Bonnie ;o)**

**Places to Eat/drink**

A	Ivy Tea Room
B	Brian's Café
C	Mathieson's the Baker
D	Corvies
E	King Boar porker roast
F	Real Ale Beer Tent
G	Movie Dome (Ice cream)

**Key Locations**

H	First Aid & lost children
I	Police Control Centre
J	East Access
K	North Access
L	West Access

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