

Braco West (Cambushinnie) 400kV substation

Beaulay-Denny 400kV Upgrade Project

Pre-Application Consultation Event

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More information overleaf.

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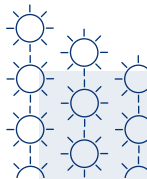
Wednesday 20 March, 3–7pm
Braco Village Hall, Feddal Road,
Braco, FK15 9QD

We encourage all members of the local community and all interested parties to attend the event.



Find out more and register for project updates, visit the project website by scanning the QR code, or use the following URL:

www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/BDUP



This map shows the Beaulay–Denny overhead line with the required upgrades along the line, including new 400kV substations at Braco West, Fasnakyle and an upgrade to the existing substation at Fort Augustus.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Community Liaison Manager:

Rosie Hodgart

1 Waterloo Street, Glasgow, G2 6AY

Tel: +44 7879 793 652

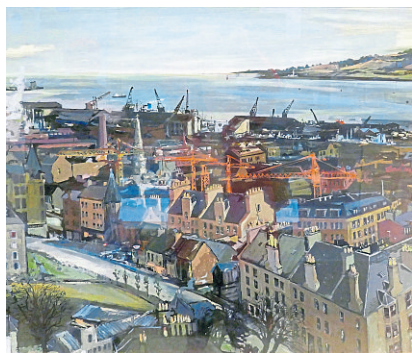
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CRAFTSMAN: Artist and former assistant principal of Dundee College Gordon S Laird and two of his paintings, *Dei Donum*, top left, and *A Grey Day In Broughty Ferry*.



Lecturer and artist loved outdoors life

BY CHRIS FERGUSON

Well-known for his art, his public speaking and his teaching, Gordon S Laird, former assistant principal of Dundee College, has died at the age of 94.

Gordon was born in Dundee in 1929. Raised by his grandparents in Lochee, he attended Ancrum Road Primary School and then Harris Academy before moving on to Dundee Art College in Bell Street.

At school he played rugby, beginning a lifelong love of the game that endured after his playing days were over.

After graduating, he joined Valentine's, spent some time as a freelance illustrator, then trained as a teacher.

Gordon taught at various Dundee schools before joining the then commercial college as the sole art teacher.

When the new building on Constitution Road opened, the art department again occupied the top floor. It was from here that

Gordon painted the townscape *Dei Donum* which now hangs in the McManus Gallery.

When he was not teaching, Gordon loved hillwalking, spending many days in the Cairngorms. In all the years he roamed those hills he only seriously hurt himself once, breaking an ankle.

Over the years, Gordon was an in-demand public speaker, and a dab hand at Burns suppers. Using an old reel-to-reel tape machine to help, he memorised Tam O' Shanter, coincidentally teaching other members of the family at the same time.

As a member of the Nine Trades he was for some time the Keeper of the Lockit Book and often spoke at their grand dinners.

His speaking engagements continued after his retirement in 1993, as did his art. Loading his gear into his much-loved Land Rover, he would spend a day at a roadside or in a village square with his easel and watercolours.

Being a Land Rover station wagon it allowed him to continue painting even when the Scottish weather tried to halt proceedings.

After his retirement, Gordon moved to Kellas, having been evacuated to Kingsmuir during the Second World War. He enjoyed working in his garden, hosting family gatherings, and welcoming friends old and new.

Gordon was a Dundee man, specifically Lochee, who loved his home town, and could be relied on to work for it.

From paintings of DRI, Harris Academy and Maggie's Centre to be sold to raise funds, to speaking at many gatherings, to helping the city's students, he was an ambassador and supporter of the city.

Gordon is survived by his wife of almost 70 years, Sheena, his son Calum, daughter Shona, daughter-in-law Liddy, son-in-law Jock, and four grandchildren, Duncan, Catriona, Mairi, and Ruairidh.

Former Bullseye co-host and darts commentator Green dies aged 85

Bullseye game show co-host Tony Green has died at the age of 85, according to a statement posted to the TV show's social media accounts.

Green was a former amateur darts player who was also a darts commentator at the BBC and was most well-known for being the co-host of ITV's dart-based show Bullseye from 1982.

A statement announcing his death, said: "It's with a very heavy heart that we announce the passing of our dear friend and much-loved colleague Mr Tony Green.

"Tony passed away peacefully today after a long battle with Alzheimer's.

"Our love, thoughts and prayers go out to all of Tony's family, who we hold such affection for, to all of Tony's friends and those who were lucky enough to work with him.

"Thank you Tony for all the memories, all the



Tony Green, right, with Bullseye host Jim Bowen.

laughs (and trust us there were many!) and all the special times filming Bullseye together. What wonderful years those were and we are honoured to have shared them with you.

"You will be missed, our dear friend."

English professional darts player Steve Beaton, who was nicknamed the Bronzed Adonis on the

oche, paid tribute to the star on his X account and posted a picture of the two together.

He said: "So sad to hear the news that Tony Green has passed away. My thoughts are with Jacky and all the family.

"Such a nice guy, did plenty of exhibitions together and golf days, and he gave me my nickname. RIP my friend."

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PICTURE CARL REINE - WPA PICTURE GETTY

Bill returning to the Commons and an appearance before the backbench 1922 Committee.

He said he hopes to see "more progress" on inflation when the Office for National Statistics releases the latest data tomorrow.

He said: "This year, 2024, will be the year Britain bounces back."

MPs are later expected to overturn changes made in the Lords to the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill.

That will set up a showdown with the upper chamber as the Government races to get the legislation through in order to meet Mr Sunak's goal of getting flights to Rwanda in the air this spring.

The Times reported that the first flights are unlikely to take off before mid-May, and that Kigali wants to test the policy with a pause of two months after it accepts the first tranche of migrants.

Shadow home secretary Yvette Cooper tweeted: "Unbelievable. Govt finally admitting here that Tories' flagship £500m Rwanda scheme will only cover around 150 people. Probable cost of this failing gimmick to British taxpayer is near £2m per person."

The febrile mood within the Conservative party came after a bruising few days for the Prime Minister, with the defection of Lee Anderson – whom Mr Sunak had promoted to Tory deputy chairman – to the right-wing populist Reform UK party, and Chancellor Jeremy Hunt's Budget failing to boost the Tories' dire polling figures.

Mr Sunak also came under fire over his handling of racist comments allegedly made by major party donor Frank Hester.

Mr Hester is alleged to have said opposition MP Diane Abbott made him "want to hate all black women" and that she "should be shot".

Asked on LBC whether Mr Hester's donations, including £10 million given last year, should be handed back, Ms Badenoch said: "No, I don't think so at all and I am actually quite surprised that people suggest this."

The Prime Minister will seek to calm nerves when he addresses the 1922 Committee of backbench MPs tomorrow.

One senior ally told the Times Mr Sunak would sooner call a general election than be forced into a leadership contest. He is under pressure from Labour and the Liberal Democrats to name the date for the election after he ruled out holding it on May 2.

Ofcom finds Tory MPs broke impartiality rules

Charlotte McLaughlin

Three Tory MPs who "acted as newsreaders" across five different episodes while being the lead presenter of their GB News programmes have been found to have broken broadcasting rules on due impartiality.

Ofcom's probe involved various shows that were presented separately by former House of Commons leader Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg, and minister without portfolio Esther McVey and backbencher Philip Davies.

The channel was also warned about potential sanctions if there are further breaches.

GB News said that it was "deeply concerned" by Ofcom's ruling and will meet with the media watchdog to raise concerns about the "chilling development".

A further episode of Sir Jacob's State Of The Nation

was not investigated because it did not raise issues under the rules, according to Ofcom.

Married couple Ms McVey and Mr Davies are no longer part of the GB News line-up, and last hosted programmes on the channel last year.

Their breaches involved Sir Jacob talking on May 9 about a verdict involving former US president Donald Trump's civil trial and Ms McVey and Mr Davies speaking on May 12 about train strikes, the UK economy, a court case involving the Duke of Sussex and a teenager who was being sentenced for terrorism offences.

On May 12, Saturday Morning With Esther And Philip interviewed Reform UK candidate Howard Cox about a "developing news story", namely the anti-Ulez protest rally on and a Friday edition on June 23 – which covered the doctors' strike – were also found to have breached the rules.

Ofcom cited Sir Jacob on June 13 talking about a stab-

bing incident in Nottingham as another example. The watchdog said: "We found that two episodes of Jacob Rees-Mogg's State Of The Nation, two episodes of Friday Morning With Esther And Phil, and one episode of Saturday Morning With Esther And Phil, broadcast during May and June 2023, failed to comply with Rules 5.1 and 5.3 of the Broadcasting Code."

Ofcom said that because the politicians "acted as newsreaders, news interviewers or news reporters in sequences which clearly constituted news without exceptional justification, news was, therefore, not presented with due impartiality".

It went on: "Politicians have an inherently partial role in society and news content presented by them is likely to be viewed by audiences in light of that perceived bias. The use of politicians to present the news risks undermining the integrity and credibility of regulated broadcast news."

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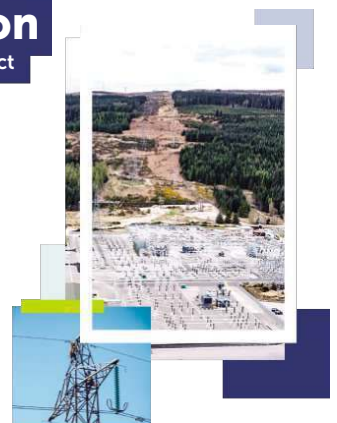
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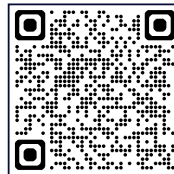
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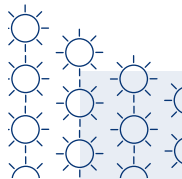
The event will be held on:

Wednesday 12 June, 3.30–7.30pm
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Feddal Road, Braco, FK15 9QD



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This map shows the Beaulay-Denny overhead line with the required upgrades along the line, including new 400kV substations; Cambushinnie, near Braco, and Bingally, in the Fasnakyle area.



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Man raped woman who 'trusted him'

BY JENNI GEE

A man has been found guilty of raping a woman who agreed to share his bed because she "trusted him".

Neil Kennedy's victim said she was given alcohol and crack cocaine before he forced himself on her at his then-home in Keith.

Kennedy, 41, had denied a charge that he raped the woman twice in one day but was found guilty by a jury following a trial at the High Court in Inverness.

In evidence led by advocate depute James Irvine, Kennedy's victim, who was in her early 20s, told the court she had gone to visit her attacker who had given her crack cocaine and whisky miniatures before the attack.

During the visit, Kennedy took the woman's clothes and put them in the washing machine, providing her with lounge trousers and a T-shirt to wear instead after she decided to stay the night.

She told jurors: "I didn't mind sleeping in his bed because I trusted him."

But once the pair had retired to bed in the early hours of June 11 2022, Kennedy began to make advances that were rebuffed.

"He was insinuating about him and I having sex," the woman said.

"I said no to him."

"He kept going on saying something like 'I know you want to, we both know you want this to happen' and things like that."

"I had said several times 'no', and I didn't want to."

She said the next thing she remembers was Kennedy pulling down her trousers and raping her.

"I kept saying no, that is all I kept saying - just stop, I don't want this," she told the jury.

The woman said that she kicked at Kennedy and tried to push him away but his strength was too great.

The woman told the jury



COURT: Neil Kennedy was told to expect prison.

that the rape left her "frozen" and said: "I couldn't really do anything."

The woman said she entered a "depression stage" following the rape, sleeping on and off in Kennedy's bed, before moving to the living-room sofa at one point to "have a bit of space".

She said Kennedy then asked what she was doing before putting her over his shoulder and carrying her back to his bed and raping her a second time.

Asked why she did not leave the flat when she had the chance, she said: "I genuinely don't know why I didn't leave, I think I was just too scared."

The woman said the attacks left her "sore" and "scared" and it was not until two days later when Kennedy was sleeping that she retrieved her still-wet clothes from his washing machine and left the flat.

Once outside she contacted her mother telling her what had happened and saying she "had been abused all weekend".

"Mum, I scared and I'm in agony," she wrote.

She reported the rapes to police that day.

Kennedy was arrested and at interview claimed to have spent the weekend elsewhere, although it was conceded at trial he was in fact at home.

He denied sexual contact with his victim, telling police "She is a liar, eh?" and "It's not happened."

The trial heard that testing found the woman's DNA on his penis.

Kennedy gave no evidence in his own defence and the jury took less than two hours to find him guilty of rape.

Judge Summers deferred sentence for reports and told Kennedy: "It is quite clear given the gravity of the offence that, in due course, a meaningful custodial sentence will have to be imposed."

He remanded Kennedy in custody until the sentencing hearing, which will be held at the High Court in Aberdeen in July.

Police investigate after hate-filled posters found outside city school

Highly offensive racist and anti-Semitic posters have been found outside an Aberdeen school.

Police are investigating the flyers, which were placed in and around Mile End Primary School in Midstocket yesterday.

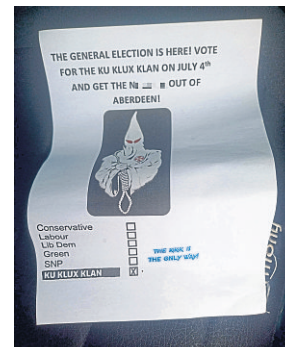
One poster urges people to vote for American white supremacist hate group the Ku Klux Klan, writing "get the n***** out of Aberdeen."

It also features a graphic showing a Ku Klux Klan member, wearing the organisation's recognisable hood and robes and holding a noose.

Another poster appears to make negative statements about both feminism and Judaism and includes satanic symbols.

It lists a series of high-profile women and their photos, with a Star of David placed on their heads.

The bizarre flyer also uses the Sigil of Baphomet,



The Ku Klux Klan flyer.



The other displayed.

which represents the Church of Satan, and the logo of US sexual health charity Planned Parenthood.

The latter poster is credited to hate group the Goyim Defense League.

According to anti-hate organisation the Anti Defamation League, the Goyim Defence League "espouses vitriolic anti-Semitism and white supremacist themes via the internet, through propaganda distributions and in street actions."

A Police Scotland spokesperson said: "We were made aware of offensive leaflets being found on a path in Westburn Road, Aberdeen, on Thursday May 30."

"Inquiries are ongoing."

"Anyone with any information is asked to contact 101 quoting reference 0882 of May 30."

Aberdeen City Council has been approached for comment on behalf of Mile End Primary.

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Research casts doubt on tragic death of Scotland's 'forgotten bard'

Brian Ferguson

Arts & Culture Correspondent

New research is set to cast doubt on the apparent suicide of Scotland's "forgotten bard" – as part of efforts to recognise his life and legacy, more than 200 years after his body was found in a burn.

Experts at Paisley Museum who have re-examined the death of the town's "weaver poet" Robert Tannahill believe he may have suffered an accidental death rather than taken his own life.

New displays focusing on the poet and songwriter as part of a long-awaited revamp and extension of the museum, which is due to be unveiled next year, will explore how his poor physical health, including tuberculosis, are expected to have been a key factor in his death.

Tannahill, who was born 250 years ago this month, is long believed to have taken his own life after failing to find a publisher for a second volume of his work.

He left school at 12 to become an apprentice to his father, who

was a well-respected weaver in Paisley, and moved to Bolton, in Lancashire, for a couple of years to work, but returned to support his family in 1801.

Tannahill wrote his poems as he worked at the loom, "weaving threads and verses alternately", and formed a song-writing partnership with the local composer Robert Archibald Smith. Their ballad The Braes of Balquhider was adapted into the folk song Wild Mountain Thyme.

Tannahill was heavily influenced by Robert Burns and founded Paisley's "Burns Club" in 1805 at the Sun Tavern on the High Street. He published a collection of poems and songs in 1807, but is said to have burned many of his writings three years later when his efforts to find a publisher failed.

Social history researcher Archie Henderson, who is working on the £45 million museum revamp, said: "At the height of his popularity, Tannahill was considered second only to Robert Burns as Scotland's most revered national bard."

"Tannahill was not only chief amongst the innumerable pan-



IMAGE: PAISLEY MUSEUM/RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

theon of Paisley poets of the 18th and 19th centuries, his work also had a global reach.

"While Tannahill's work is grounded in a love of nature and often simple, pastoral themes, modern retrospectives of his work reveal a much more complex individual, who produced a unique body of anti-sectarian, abolitionist, and anti-war poems and songs, during a life cut short by an untimely, and potentially misunderstood, death."

Tannahill went missing from the family home in the early hours of May 16, 1810 and his body was found in the nearby Candren Burn.

Mr Henderson said the new research had explored alternatives to the traditional narrative that Tannahill's death had been triggered by feelings of rejection.

He said: "With the lack of effective treatments at the time,

tuberculosis could linger in the body for a number of years, evident as occasional bouts of symptoms such as cough and fever.

"His body was found in relatively shallow waters. His coat

and his watch were found on the bank. Perhaps in his confused and delirious state, he sought to cool his fever in the night-time waters. It was an accidental death, rather than a deliberate act."

A painting by James Elder Christie of Robert Tannahill, the Paisley-born weaver and poet

£45m
Paisley Museum
revamp

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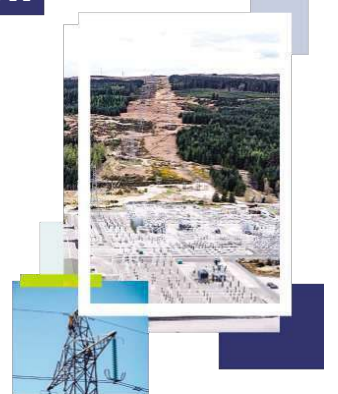
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SPA has improved 'but still work to be done'

Paul Cargill

More work needs to be done to help Police Scotland develop a longer-term vision and sustainable model for policing, a watchdog has suggested.

A strategic review by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) has also praised the progress made by the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) in providing oversight and scrutiny of policing.

The report found improved leadership and direction at the SPA has greatly enhanced the work of the body, which holds

Police Scotland to account. HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland, Craig Naylor, said: "To deliver the future ambitions for policing, the SPA needs to ensure there is a clearly defined operating model, a medium-term financial plan and an effective work-force plan to support a financially sustainable and high-performing police service."

The SPA was set up in 2013 when Scotland's eight police forces were combined into a single force, with aims that included promoting and supporting the improvement of policing and holding the chief constable to account.

HMICS has conducted four inspections of the SPA, with the most recent review having the specific objective of assessing the SPA's journey of improvement since the last inspection in 2019.

Mr Naylor said: "There have been real improvements in leadership, governance and accountability – the core statutory role of the SPA.

Inspectors expressed concern, however, that no effective plans are in place to secure financial sustainability where funding gaps are identified in the medium to longer term and listed 17 other areas for development.