

CONFERENCE BOOKING FORM

Please reserve.....places at the conference on preserving Scotland's rich heritage of roadside milestones. Name and address of individual or Society.

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E-mail.....
Tel. No.....

I enclose a cheque for(£5 non-members, £3 members) made out to The Milestone Society.

There are a limited number of tables available for displays of milestone material. If you would like to reserve one please tick here.....

Return this form to:-
Nigel Bishop,
Information and Heritage Centre,
52 Main St.,
Doune,
Stirlingshire
FK16 6BW
(Tel.01786 841 250)

THE MILESTONE SOCIETY

Charity No.1105688

AIM

To identify, record, research, conserve and interpret for public benefit the milestones and other waymarkers of the British Isles.

OBJECTIVES

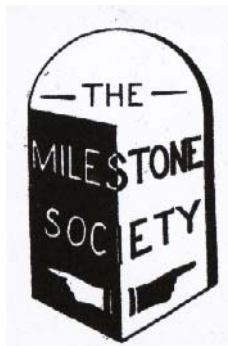
To publicise and promote public awareness of milestones and other waymarkers and the need for identification, recording, research and conservation, for the general benefit and education of the community at large.

To enhance public awareness and enjoyment of milestones and other waymarkers and to inform and inspire the community at large of their distinctive contribution to both the local scene and the historic landscape in general.

To represent the historical significance and national importance of milestones and waymarkers in appropriate forums and through relevant national organisations.

To organise and co-ordinate relevant practical projects at both national and regional/local levels, thereby enhancing public access.

To protect, preserve and restore milestones and other waymarkers through the planning process, representing their significance to appropriate authorities locally and nationally.



Founded 2001

The Milestone Society in Scotland

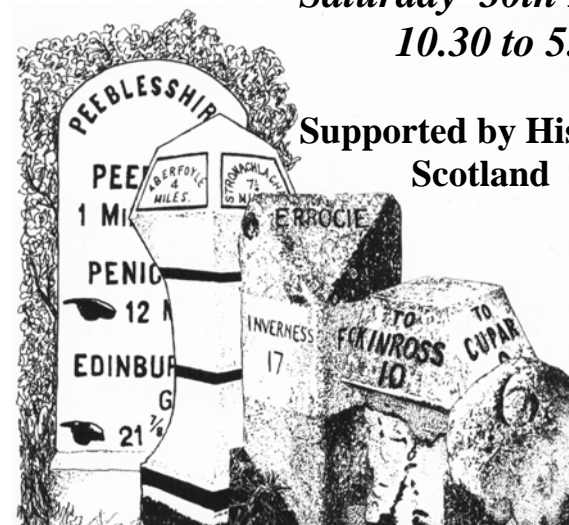


A ONE DAY CONFERENCE AT THE DAVID MARSHALL LODGE, ABERFOYLE

PRESERVING SCOTLAND'S RICH HERITAGE OF ROADSIDE MILESTONES

Saturday 30th May
10.30 to 5.

Supported by Historic Scotland



PROGRAMME

10. 30. Registration and coffee

11.Introduction. Terry Keegan (Vice Chairman, Milestone Society)

11. 15. The Milestone Society and its Achievements to date. Jan Scrine (Founder member, Treasurer)

11. 30. Debate- “Are milestones a part of Scotland’s Historic Environment and should they be recognised as such?”

12.30. Milestone conservation successes. a) Fife leads the way. Dr. Paula Martin(Archaeologist and author of ‘The Milestones of Fife’)

1-2 Lunch break Time to study the table-top displays.

2. Milestone conservation successes

b) The Loch Lomond Trossachs milestone refurbishment project. Tim Messer, National Park Ranger.

2.30. Conservation best practices– Cast Iron. Ali Davey, Historic Scotland.

3. Conservation best practices– Stone Alan Rosevear.(Milestone Society)

3.30. Distance Markers in the Lothians and beyond. Dr Adrian Sumner

4. The way ahead. Do we form a Scottish Milestone Preservation Group? Terry Keegan

4.30. Closing remarks and finis.

THE DEBATE– POINTS TO PONDER.

How can the wholesale destruction of the milestones be halted?

What protection can be given to surviving milestones?

The ‘Listing’ process can be a slow and cumbersome, but gives the stones a high level of legal protection.. A simpler answer would be to make sure that the milestones are recorded on the Historic Environment Records which every Council should keep. These records have to be consulted before any development work on the roads can commence and the planning authority can insist on the milestones being preserved. Unfortunately very few of the HER units have details of where the stones are and they lack the resources to carry out a comprehensive survey. This is where the Milestone Society and other volunteer bodies can be of major assistance. The first priority must be to collect this data in a form usable by the HER units. The milestone Society has already collected over 900 records of Scottish Milestones on its database. There must be that many and more still to be recorded.

The Society is concerned by the number of stones being damaged by verge cutting flail mowers. What measures can be taken to see that this doesn’t happen?

What level of protection do the stones have in the Road Traffic Acts from metal thieves and ‘collectors’ of roadside memorabilia?

We need to know who the legal owners of the stones are and do they have a duty of care to protect them?

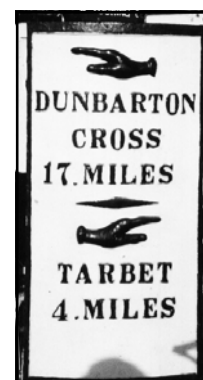
With due regard to Health and Safety and with the permission of the highway authority, can local conservation groups be encouraged to adopt and restore their local milestones?

Already a number of individuals are caring for the milestones adjacent to their property. Should others be encouraged to do the same?

The biggest problem where the damage by verge cutting machinery is concerned is that too often the stones are hidden by the undergrowth, How can this be overcome? Many of the stones have sunk into the ground and lost up to half their original height above ground level. Should these be raised to their original height?

Traditionally the stones were painted white and the legend picked out in black. A coat of white paint would certainly make them stand out to the operators of the verge cutting machinery.

Could volunteers be encouraged to cut down the offending undergrowth?



Two rare Mileposts ‘given away’ by local councils. Left. This one was in the way of road improvements and 25 years ago was presented to a collector. It now resides 300 miles from its original site.



The right hand one, one of only three known examples, was presented to a local estate south of Aviemore six years ago. If they had both been on the County HER would they still be in the public domain? We must never let it happen again.