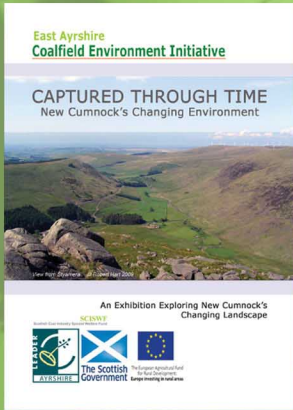


East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative

'Captured Through Time' Exhibition Project New Cumnock's Changing Environment



The East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative held an exhibition to explore New Cumnock's changing environment in the autumn of 2009. As a town with a rich mining history New Cumnock has experienced rapid landscape changes.

The project was based on the belief that there is a wealth of knowledge held within the history of a place. Sharing memories helps to build and strengthen community relationships, inclusive of many demographic groups.

The aims of the Captured Through Time Project were:

- to enhance community cohesion, engagement and networking opportunities
- to identify changes in the natural environment and discover how these changes have affected people locally
- to encourage peoples sense of place and connection with the natural environment
- to learn from historical records in order to look to the future, linking with other projects in the area
- and to assist with setting objectives and goals for other local projects



New Cumnock Cycling Club

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East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative

'Captured Through Time' Exhibition Project *New Cumnock's Changing Environment*

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**East Ayrshire
Coalfield Environment Initiative**

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With many thanks to those who contributed to this project, especially Robert Hart, Donald McIver, Robert Guthrie, Alex Jess, Julie Winter, Dr J A Begg and to everyone else whose efforts made the exhibition possible.

As well as local artefacts, photos and artwork the exhibition included historical maps, school records, examples of local minerals and an exploration of the landscape described through poetry and song (including Flow Gently Sweet Afton by Robert Burns).



We discussed industry, family life, climate change and looked at some of the changes in local species populations, notably the decrease in Lapwing ('Peesie') numbers.

230 people visited the two week long exhibition including groups from the local school. Each visitor was given a free booklet to take home further encouraging discussion about the local environment.



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