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SCHA have had an exciting few months spreading the word about the alliance at conferences and events, advising members who have reached out and working our way through funding applications. We have welcomed a new board member who speaks Gaelic and this has put Gaelic at the front of our minds. How can we encourage and support Gaelic speakers and communities to be active members of the alliance? How can we support other members as they learn more about Gaelic language and culture? If you have thoughts on this, we would love to hear from you.

We have been informed that featuring on our 'Member's Spotlight' has given a boost to member's website and social analytics so if you would like to be featured in our next newsletter, let us know. We are also happy to promote your events on our socials which reach thousands in the Heritage sector.

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## MEET THE TEAM



Susan Kruse has been with SCHA since the beginning and recently retired as the Learning and Engagement Manager at Archaeology for Communities in the Highlands (ARCH). Susan co-founded ARCH in 2009 after a number of years as tutor with the Workers' Educational Association (WEA) facilitating student-centred heritage courses. She has led many projects investigating Highland archaeology and heritage, from earliest times to 20th century remains, and has relished the opportunity to span different periods, with indoor and outdoor projects. In addition, she has been involved in identifying and organising networking events for the heritage community in the Highlands – there are almost a hundred heritage organisations and over 50 museums and archives. One of Susan's last projects with ARCH involved training people to facilitate community heritage courses, as there is no training for people who want to focus on community heritage. In 2018 Susan was awarded an MBE for services to community archaeology in the Highlands.

Susan says 'I am a passionate supporter of community involvement, and feel very strongly that the grassroots heritage movement is undervalued and under-resourced. I was attracted to SCHA from the beginning because it seemed to me the only organisation which was focussed primarily on the grassroots, was trying to be inclusive without financial and geographical barriers, and was working to network and support the many heritage groups, researchers and projects, some of which might not consider themselves mainstream heritage. Now that I'm retired I'm still very much involved in local heritage, and am also working on a book on the campaign for women's suffrage in the Highlands. I am also of course trying to grow SCHA, and extend its regional focus.'

## NETWORKING



Our membership secretary, Nicola has been spreading the word about the Alliance at various events across Scotland. The Gathering (organised by SCVO) is the largest free voluntary sector event in the UK and is a place for all the amazing people working in the sector to network, showcase what they do and learn from each other.

This year's Gathering took place at the EICC on 7 and 8 November 2023 and it was fabulous to welcome see over 3,000 colleagues and friends from the voluntary sector and beyond enjoying a packed programme of workshops, seminars, activities and networking opportunities. If you have not attended before, we highly recommend keeping an eye on [SCVO's website](https://www.scvo.scot/gathering) for next year's event.

## MEMBER'S SPOTLIGHT



Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust

The Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust was formed at the end of 2002 and is based in the former Bridgeton Bus Garage at Fordneuk Street in Glasgow. The garage is now a heritage centre for buses and commercial vehicles with over 100 buses, coaches, commercial vehicles and fire appliances in the collection.

Since 2005, the Trust has operated a project called 'Back on the Road' which aims to assist those with drug or alcohol addiction problems by providing work experience which will prepare them for a return to employment and society in general. The project operates in conjunction with the local addiction agencies and has been very successful.

Bridgeton Bus Garage opens to the public one Sunday per month from April to September and host an Annual Open Weekend in October. 2023 saw their biggest event yet with over 3000 visitors over the two days. Vehicles from the collection participate in events within the city and beyond, often allowing the public the opportunity to travel on the them. They are also the caretakers of a huge social history collection. The collection which is currently being catalogued consists over over 5000 objects and 160,000 photographs and other transport ephemera.

If you are interested in volunteering, or arranging a group tour, they would love to hear from you on [info@gvvt.org](mailto:info@gvvt.org)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### [\*Inclusive Heritage Training\*](#)

**November 29, 13:00 - 14:15**

The benefits of engaging more diverse audiences and how it benefits your organisation and wider society.

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### [\*Knowledge Exchanges: Queering Historic Houses\*](#)

**December 4, 10:30 - 12:30**

Where and how do we find queer narratives in historic sites, especially when they often appear to be frozen in time with strong identities. What needs to be included to make it relevant and engaging for audiences today?

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### [\*Collecting Sustainable Technology\*](#)

**December 5, 13:00 - 14:15**

This hybrid symposium will bring together people involved in collecting, interpreting and preserving sustainable technologies in museums.

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### [\*Building the Future: Hosting a Modern Apprenticeship\*](#)

**December 5, 13:00 - 14:15**

This hybrid symposium will bring together people involved in collecting, interpreting and preserving sustainable technologies in museums.

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### [\*Reflecting on Co-Production and Looking Ahead to Organisational Change\*](#)

**December 7, 10:00 - 13:00**

Whether you have a direct involvement with the legacies of slavery or are simply beginning to think about how your work can make conscious connections to the past, this online event is an opportunity to connect with colleagues across the sector who are engaging in different areas of work and learn together to develop our practice.

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### [\*Planning an Accessible Marketing Campaign\*](#)

**December 7, 10:00 - 13:00**

Access is often built into marketing campaigns either at the end, as a small segment of the campaign, or as a separate campaign. This doesn't need to be the case, as whilst accessible marketing helps disabled audiences, everyone can benefit from inclusive design and accessible materials.

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### [\*Tracking and reducing emissions of exhibitions\*](#)

**February 6, 10:00 - 11:30**

The NMS Exhibitions and Design department will talk about how they are

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and will give advice on how to approach this work in your own museum.

## USEFUL RESOURCES

[Scottish Local History Directory](#) - provides details of Scottish local history Resources and the Organisations which hold them.

[Heritage Resources Portal](#) - A gathering of the best learning resources to help you explore Scotland's past.

[Collections Trust](#) - Standards and advice which are used around the world to make museum collections accessible.

[Homosaurus](#) - an international linked data vocabulary of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) terms.

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## MEMBERSHIP

**If you know anyone who would be interested in joining the alliance, please feel free to pass this email on. If you would prefer a paper membership form, these can be posted out.**

### Benefits

- Free Membership
- Networking opportunities
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Expand your online reach
- Support and advice

Join [here](#) and become part of the new community heritage support movement in Scotland.

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## HAVE YOUR SAY

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want to hear from you. Get in touch [here](#).

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