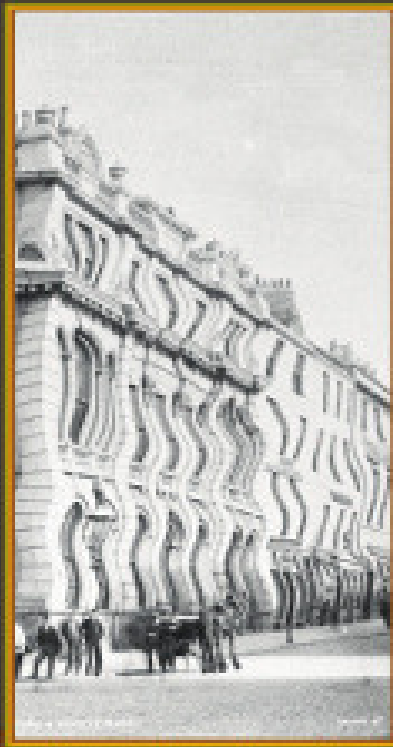


HALL OF MIRRORS

LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

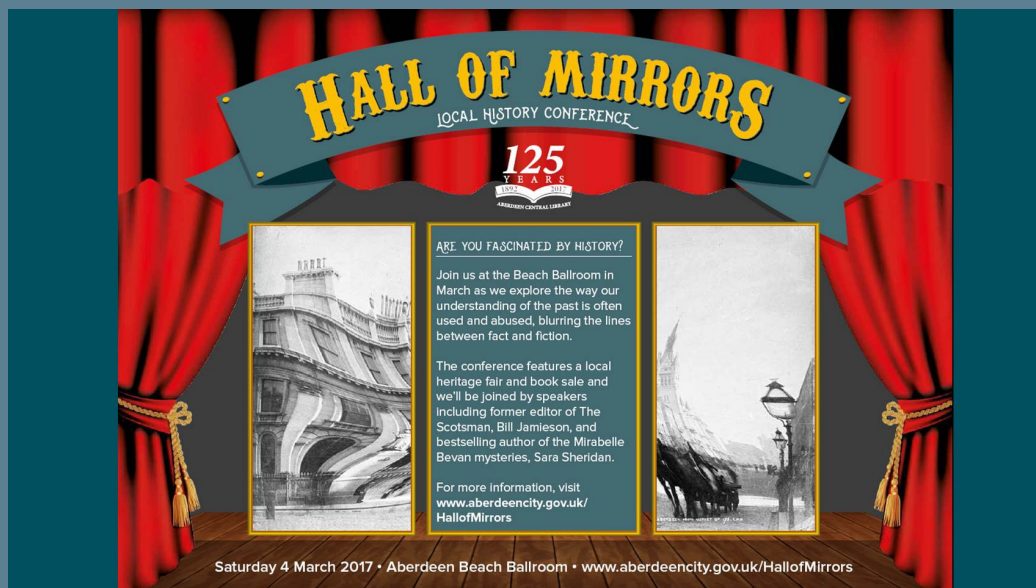


Evaluation Report

Saturday 4 March 2017
Aberdeen Beach Ballroom

Background

To celebrate both the 125th anniversary of the Central Library building and the Scottish Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology in 2017, Aberdeen City Libraries hosted the first Local History Conference in the City.



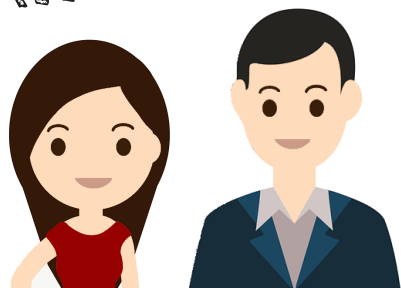
Held on Saturday 4 March 2017 in the Beach Ballroom, the main aim of the conference was to inform delegates of the inherent bias to be found in all forms of historical research and delivery – hence the title “Hall of Mirrors”.

The programme reinforced this message and sought to deliver a broad range of speakers on topics which may not have been familiar to those who had attended similar events in the City previously.

As part of the conference, we also held a Local Heritage Fair on the day. The fair was open to the general public as well as conference delegates and sought to showcase the wide range of organisations involved in local history in Aberdeen.

Statistics

Attendance



174 delegates

including 52% of non-regular library users

from 11 organisations



47 exhibitors, artists and speakers

from various sectors including editorial, industrial, academic and public

Expectations

- Discover something new (86%)
- Learn more about a specific topic (63%)
- Meet like-minded people (38%)
- Listen to a particular speaker (27%)
- Network with professionals (26%)
- Promote a professional organisation (21%)

90%

of the respondents said that the event met their expectations

What our delegates liked the most...

80%

of respondents have rated the conference 9 out of 10 stars or higher



Comments



“ The fair alone was an incredible networking opportunity. You could hear lots of people sharing knowledge and resources. There was a real buzz around the place.



“ The conference organizers are to be congratulated on a memorable and inspiring event.



The Beach Ballroom is a lovely old building to hold a conference about local history.

Photo Collin Smith

“ An excellent venue for this type of event

“ Excellent catering



“ Hospitality was lavish

“ Thank-you for bringing together the variety of presenters to this generous local event. All combined to make it a lovely, informative, thought-provoking day.



Comments

What a revelation! I did so enjoy the programme. (...) My final topic was the maps from the NLS. Now here I was aware of their new site and have used it frequently, but the political slants, the personal leaning due to the expectations of the funder of the operation, the political and security aspects and generally the influences on the cartographer to produce what the funder was looking for was never a consideration when I previously looked at the maps. In all I was so impressed with the whole day.



What a brilliant, informative and evocative display! Super memories. ”



“ Loved every bit of it and have been telling people all about what I learnt and heard at the conference.

“ Had a wonderful day of learning and reminiscing.

I was able to meet people of all ages in a relaxed and friendly setting. The atmosphere was perfect and I'm glad I didn't come with friends because it meant I met new people and potentially new friends. Always a bonus. ”



“ Event was excellent, beyond all expectations and the value was immense.