

Summary of minutes of the Board Meeting of the John Rae Society
Sunday 17th June 2018 at Fursbreck, Harray
Starting at 7.30pm

Present:

Andrew Appleby – President
Norman Shearer – in the Chair

Jim Chalmers
Fiona Lettice
Neil Kermod
Mark Newton
Anna Gudge – Minute Secretary

There are fifteen new members since the last meeting in April (eight from Orkney, three from Scotland, three from elsewhere in the UK, and one from overseas - USA). The high number of members joining in this period is thanks to the John Rae Festival at the start of May. There are 294 members overall.

As part of the introduction of GDPR from 25 May, Membership Secretary, Rachel Boak, wrote to all members in late April, by e-mail or post, asking them to confirm that they still wish to hear from the JRS. This was very successful in its rate of return and positive in response, in that nearly everyone contacted wishes to remain a member. In addition, it has been a valuable way of re-establishing contact with members who have not been heard from since they joined, or whose contact details needed updating.

The 2018 John Rae Festival from 4th to 6th May went very well and a review is available on the website: www.johnraesociety.com/activity/2018-john-rae-festival Articles and a review also appeared in *The Orcadian* and *The Orkney News*.

A talk, *Sir John Richardson and Dr John Rae: Scottish Doctors and Explorers in Search of Franklin*, will be given by Adam Doskey, Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the University of Illinois, at the Royal Hotel, Stromness, on Wednesday 11th July at 7.30pm.

The John Rae Society will also be present at the Dounby Show on 9th August.

This year's John Rae Birthday Weekend will run from 28th to 30th September with an open day at the Hall of Clestrain on Saturday 29th and traditional graveside commemorations in St Magnus Cathedral kirkyard on Sunday 30th.

The next Board meeting will take place in August.