

Christine Macrae

'New France 1534 – 1763: the French and the Americas'



Born in Motherwell and educated at Hamilton Academy and the University of Glasgow, Christine worked in tourism management in Scotland before moving to France with her family in 1990. A two year stay extended to twenty eight years.

Sarah Axford

'The Nabis: a French Post-Impressionist Group'



Sarah had a career in Educational Psychology in Scotland. She is now pursuing her longstanding interest in art, especially oil painting, taking courses at Leith and Paintbox Schools of Art. She will be talking about the Nabis, French post-impressionist painters who included Paul Serusier and Pierre Bonnard.

Margaret Rae

'Eglise de Notre-Dame, Royan'



Margaret was a French teacher in Scotland.

Built in 1955 the church of our Lady in Royan, a reinforced concrete monument, symbolises the renewal of sacred art after the destruction of the second world war.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

French Conversation Group

(elementary to native)

Every Tuesday 10am to 11am

Venue - Salutation Hotel bar

contact Joëlle (fabrejoelle2@gmail.com)

or just come along

All other events and talks are on Wednesdays at 7pm at The Salutation Hotel unless otherwise stated.

2026

23rd September: Pot d'Accueil:

An occasion to welcome everyone, present our forthcoming season and catch up with friends whilst also enjoying a wine and cheese tasting (and soft drinks)

14th October: Talk: 'New France 1534 – 1763: the French and the Americas'

(Christine Macrae FSS Perth)

11th November: Talk: 'The Nabis: a French Post-Impressionist Group'

(Sarah Axford FSS Perth)

9th December: Event: Christmas Afternoon Tea:

2pm Salutation Hotel (more details TBA)

2027

6th January: Event: Epiphany:

3pm Kinnoull Bowling Club

Celebrate a French tradition with a Galette des Rois

20th January: Talk: 'Eglise de Notre-Dame Royan'

(Margaret Rae Perth FSS)

17th February: Talk: 'Johnny Halliday'

(Paul and Lorna Becher FSS Perth)

10th March: Talk: 'La France en 2027: Quels Défis? Quels Enjeux?'

(Professor Helen Drake Loughborough University)

tba April 2pm: Talk: 'Mary Stuart – Reine d'Écosse et de France '

(Odile Hughson FSS Edinburgh)

15th May: National AGM (French Institute, Edinburgh)

26th May: AGM (FSS Perth Branch members only)

tba 80th Anniversary of Perth Branch
(open to all)

Paul and Lorna Becher

'Johnny Halliday'



Paul and Lorna are retired French and Spanish secondary school teachers. Johnny Halliday was a French singer credited with introducing rock-and-roll to France. His career spanned 57 years, 79 albums and over 1000 recorded songs. He was dubbed the "French Elvis Presley". The talk will feature musical clips and potential audience participation!

Odile Hughson

'Mary Stuart – Reine d'Écosse et de France '



We welcome Odile's return. Raised in Marseille. She is a historian and a guide at the Museum of Scotland. Odile will examine Mary Queen of Scots tragic destiny.

Professor Helen Drake

'La France en 2027: Quels Défis? Quels Enjeux?'



As professor at the Loughborough University Institute for Diplomacy and International Affairs Helen has participated in numerous radio, TV, and public presentations. Her talk focuses on the French way of life and key topics for understanding France; Marine le Pen, France's colonial past, tricky relations with EU neighbours, the UK.

Franco-Scottish Society

You are welcome to attend talks and events at FSS branches in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Stirling, St Andrews and Aberdeen. The national website has programme details and bulletins including those of the Association Franco-Écossaise in Paris.
www.franco-scottish.org.uk

Institut Français d'Ecosse

Presents the best of French culture in Scotland via French courses (online or at the Institut), film screenings, library collections, childrens' activities, festivals, talks and concerts.
<https://www.ifecosse.org.uk>
*West Parliament Square Edinburgh EH1 1RN
(for membership see Marie-Christine or Joëlle)*

Alliance Française

Offers regular courses for adults and children of all levels and ages, private tuition to suit your needs, tailor-made courses to schools, companies and businesses, and online courses. However, you don't have to speak French to participate in Alliance Française activities, all are welcome.
3 Park Circus, Glasgow G3 6AX
<https://www.afglasgow.org.uk>

Friends of Cognac

Perth is twinned with Cognac. The Friends organise social events throughout the year and alternating annual exchange visits with Cognac's Amis de Perth.
graham.knight@blueyonder.com

U3A Perth

Over 500 members are organised into interest groups including French Conversation, French reading, French plays.
<https://perth.u3asite.uk/welcome>

Perth Film Club

French films are regularly screened.
<https://www.perthshireboxoffice.com/partner/perth-film-society>

Who we are and what we do

Initially known as the Perthshire Fighting French, the Perth Branch was formed during WWII to support the exiled Free French. It evolved into a cultural organisation focused on fostering Franco-Scottish relations. It later joined the older Franco-Scottish Society which was founded in Edinburgh in 1895. The Society is an unincorporated association with charitable status (Scottish Charity No SC 002507) and maintains close links with the Association Franco-Écossaise which began life in Paris in 1896.

At the opening of the Free French House at 28 Regent Terrace in Edinburgh in 1942 General de Gaulle declared the Auld Alliance of 1295 to be the "oldest alliance in the world". It continued as the official residence of the Consul General of France in Scotland until they moved a few years ago to West Parliament Square.

The Society is spread across Scotland with branches in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth, St Andrews and Stirling. It aims to foster contacts between the French and the Scots and to develop their traditional friendship through educational, cultural and social activities and has a particularly strong record with regards to Education.

The Society collaborates with the Institut Français d'Ecosse and the Alliance Française. The Alexander Gray Fund provides annual grants to help students pursue their studies in an environment where they will have to speak French. It also promotes the publication of articles written in French.



THE FRANCO-SCOTTISH SOCIETY

PROMOTING FRENCH & SCOTTISH CULTURE



Honorary Presidents:

H.E. The French Ambassador
Sir David Edward

President

Professor Lorna Milne

Perth Branch Programme

2026-27

Meetings held monthly at 7pm
Salutation Hotel, South Street, Perth.

Non-members are very welcome
to attend our talks.

All our talks are in French

Perth Branch Office Bearers

Margaret Rae, Chair
Marie-Christine Graham, Vice-
President,
Joëlle Fabre, Treasurer/Secretary,

email mmrae3@hotmail.com
www.franco-scottish.org.uk