



# The Guildry Gazette

The Newsletter of The Guildry of Dundee - *An Ancient and Honorable Incorporation*

DECEMBER 2025

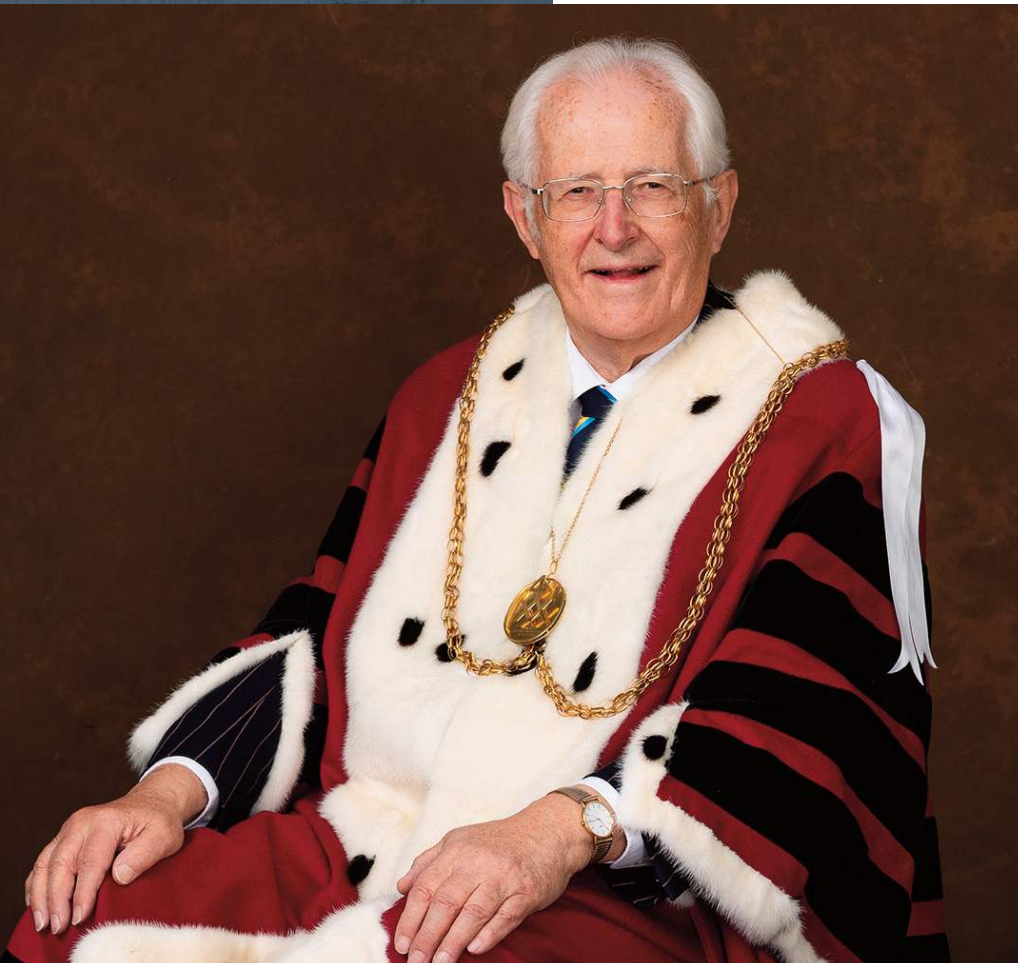
## From the Lord Dean

It is a great honour and privilege to be writing to you for the first time as Lord Dean of Guild. I greatly look forward to engaging with you over the time ahead in working together on a plan of social and project events to strengthen our bonds of friendship and further promote the Guildry in the City of Dundee. We represent an impressive array of talent,

experience and good will which will provide a strong foundation for the ongoing success and longevity of our distinguished organisation.

We all offer sincere thanks to Past Lord Dean Joe, whose commitment, resourcefulness, dynamic leadership, wisdom, counsel and vision have been invaluable to the Guildry over the past three years. We will continue to build on the outstanding work accomplished by Joe and former Lord Deans in preserving and advancing Guildry traditions and maintaining the Guildry's integral role in Dundee's civic life.

Living up at Kingennie, I am married to wife, Margot, a Dundonian, and have two sons, Stuart and Adam, living in Bristol and London respectively, with four grandchildren, Boe, Kayden, Minnie and Lennie. As a lifelong retailer, I have been an enthusiastic merchant and trader all my working life, starting my career as a pharmacist in the UK and eventually retiring 47 years later as the Senior Executive Vice President of a large trading conglomerate in Thailand, specialising in Business Turnaround and Growth.



Community service has always been central to my life, having taken leading roles in Rotary, Round Table, the Samaritans, Probus, 4I Club and also as a member of the Nine Trades of Dundee. For being a season ticket holder at Dundee United, I am receiving counselling.


We in the Guildry have a great future ahead of us, providing that we are active, focused and involve all members of our organisation to ensure that our life in the Guildry is light, really enjoyable and manageable. We will continue to promote both our tremendous heritage and also our traditions of promoting education in the City. Recruitment will also be a priority to widen our reach and achieve longevity in our organisation. Our motivation and sense of belonging will be the cornerstone of our success, achieved through good two way communication and membership involvement in everything we do.

In early November, I attended the Laying of the Crosses and subsequently the Remembrance Day Parade and Service at the Garden of Remembrance and the Law War Memorial where Guildry wreaths were laid, bearing the inscription "We Pause, We Thank, We Remember." An occasion with a poignant reminder of how lucky we are. I also attended the Kirkin of the Trades at Kingsgait Kirk which was well represented by Guildry members.

At 5.00pm on Sunday, 14th December, we will have the opportunity to celebrate Christmas together with the Carols by Candlelight Service at St Pauls Cathedral followed by a bite to eat at nearby Don Michele Restaurant. We will join with the University of Dundee in this festival of lessons and carols, strengthening our links with education in the City. Please join in and contact our Clerk, Stuart King, if you have not already done so.

All very best wishes to you and your family for a tremendous Christmas and a superb New Year. May 2026 bring you everything you wish for yourself and more.

With very best wishes,





*The Guildry of Dundee*

*An Ancient and Honorable Incorporation*

# *Carols by Candlelight*

5.00pm Sunday 14th December | St Pauls Cathedral

Christmas is a magical and uplifting time of the year, giving us the opportunity in the Guildry to celebrate together before we head off to spend time with family and friends over the Festive Season.

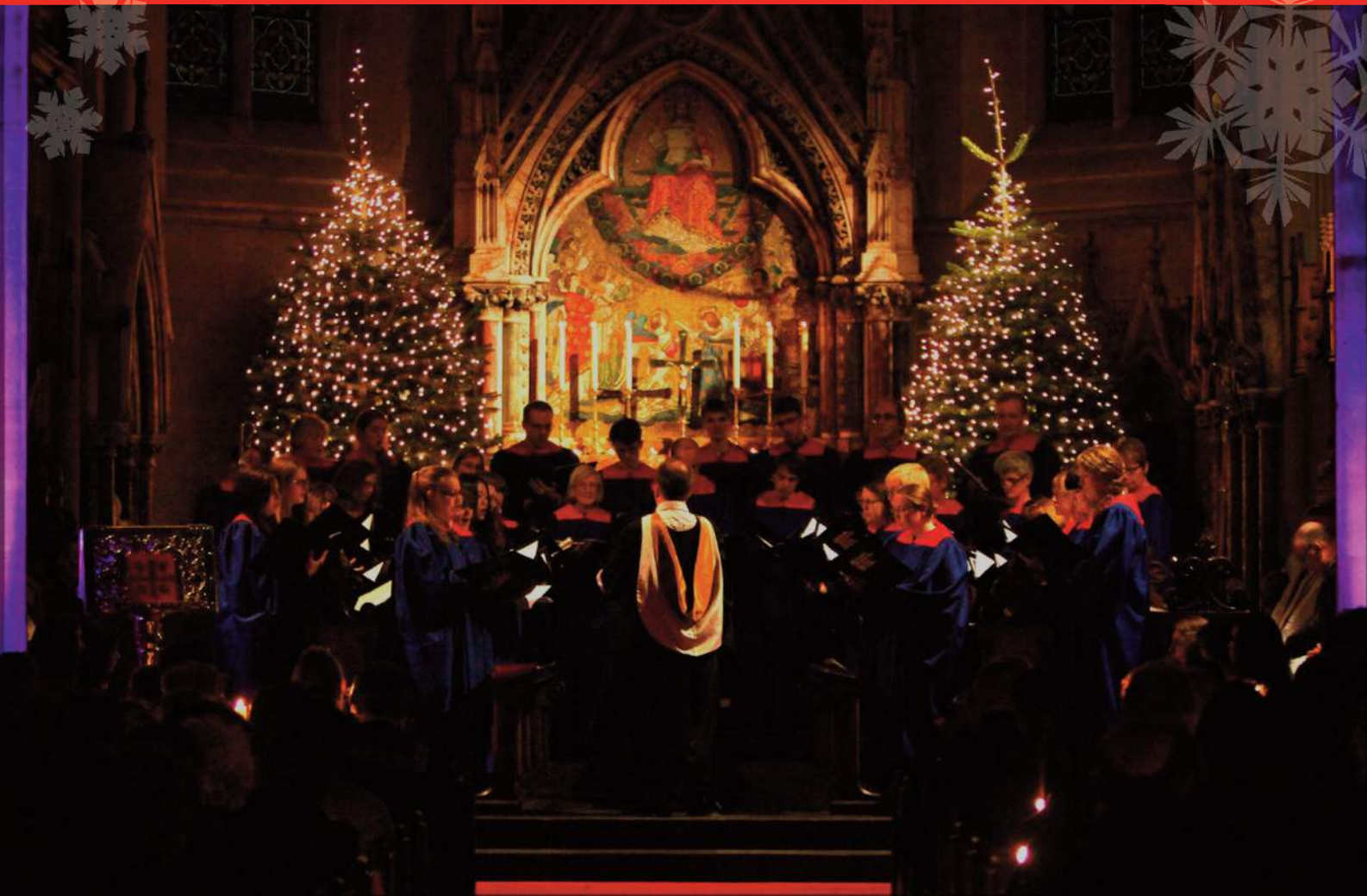
You and your partner are warmly invited to join a Guildry Christmas Celebration at 5.00pm on Sunday, 14th December when we will engage in a unique Candlelight Christmas Carol Service to be held in St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee, followed by a meal at nearby *Don Michele Restaurant* in Exchange Street (approx £30pp) before heading home.

Further strengthening our links with education in the City, we will join the University of Dundee in this Christmas service of lessons and carols, led by Reverend Dr Fiona Douglas, Chaplain of the University of Dundee and supported by the Dundee University Choir.

Your presence would help the evening to be truly special.

Please let us know if you plan to attend the service, meal or both, confirming numbers to Stuart King, Clerk to the Guildry:

email: [stuart.king@blackadders.co.uk](mailto:stuart.king@blackadders.co.uk).



# 2025 Guildry of Dundee Annual General Meeting and Lecture

On October 15, 2025, the Guildry of Dundee held its triennial Annual General Meeting at the City Chambers. During this distinguished occasion, the ceremonial robes and chain of office were formally transferred from the outgoing Lord Dean, Joe Morrow, to the newly appointed Lord Dean, Ivor Morton.

with many local organisations and societies to promote our great City and Guildry aims. The support to me has been outstanding and freely given, which has made my job so rewarding and truly enjoyable."

Ivor commented "I am truly looking forward to my new role, founded on the tremendous legacy which Joe and previous Lord Deans have put in place to preserve and

promote the Guildry traditions of centuries past. In the Guildry, we are a highly talented and experienced team of members with a great potential to deliver an inclusive and creative programme of events to engage our members and promote the name and legacy of the Guildry in the wider community. The future is exciting."

All Assessors, due to retire by rotation, volunteered to continue their role for a further period and were duly re-elected.

Following the AGM's formal proceedings, attendees were treated to a compelling lecture by Jackie Sutherland, titled "Doctor Behind the Wire." Drawing from the diaries of her late father, Captain Jack Ennis, who was captured by the Japanese during World War II, Jackie offered a vivid account of the hardships,

deprivation, and tragedies endured by prisoners of war in a Japanese concentration camp. She described the formidable challenges her father faced as the Camp Medical Officer, striving to care for the needs of fellow prisoners under dire circumstances.

Lord Dean Ivor expressed heartfelt thanks to Jackie for her passionate and professional presentation, a sentiment echoed by everyone present.

The meeting concluded with gratitude extended to Clerk Stuart King for his exceptional organization of the event, as well as to the City Chamber staff for providing a delicious finger buffet and drinks, enjoyed by all.

The event, which is held once every three years, was graced by the presence of the Lord Provost and several honored guests. This gathering provided an opportunity for Guildry members to express their gratitude to Joe Morrow for his significant accomplishments during his tenure and to extend a warm welcome to Ivor Morton as he assumed his new responsibilities.

Joe said "It has been a great honour to have held the position of Lord Dean in upholding the traditions and place of the Guildry in the life of our City. The organisation continues to benefit from the energy, commitment and experience of a large team of Assessors and members who make things happen. We have engaged







*Installation ceremony*



*Retiring Lord Dean Joe congratulates new Lord Dean Ivor*



*VIP guests attending the Guildry AGM*



*Speaker Jackie Sutherland in action*



*Official presentation of the Guildry Gavel to Dave Young (Keeper of the Gavel) by the Lord Dean*



*Presentation of new member certificate to Professor Musheer Hussain by the retiring Lord Dean*

# An introduction the Guildry's newest members

Adam Cuthbert and Dr. Iain Henderson are two of our newest members in the Dundee Guildry and bring with them a wealth of experience, knowledge and vitality. They have penned a few personal details about themselves so that we get to know them better.

## Adam Cuthbert

I was born in Dundee and spent my early childhood Longforan. My formative years were shaped by the vibrant community of Dundee, where I attended Dundee High School. Despite leaving decades ago, Dundee has a special place in my heart, from fond memories of walking after school down the Reform Street to my parents' business on Commercial Street, to

watching the Dark Blues at Dens Park. Every time I return I am impressed with changes and progress in the city.



After Dundee, I moved to Edinburgh to continue my studies at Fettes College, where I made lasting friendships which have carried me all over the world. I

studied at the University of Exeter, where I completed my undergraduate degree. While at Exeter, I took advantage of several exchange opportunities that broadened my outlook: one semester in Hong Kong and another in Virginia, USA.

After graduating, I began my professional journey in London, joining Bloomberg as an analyst. The connections I made during my exchanges, especially the friends I met in Hong Kong, eventually drew me across continents. In 2015, I relocated to HongKong, a city that felt both familiar and exciting thanks to those old friends and professional networks. Over the past decade, I've built a rewarding life here, marrying and raising two wonderful children. I am now working for Virtu Financial, a global financial services firm specialising in high frequency trading and market making, which has taken me across Asia Pacific to see clients in Singapore, Japan and Australia. For now, I am settled with both Virtu and Hong Kong, although I am always on the look out for life's next great big adventure!

## Dr Iain S. Henderson

A Fifer by birth (Kirkcaldy) and an Angus man by adoption (Forfar), I was educated at Forfar Academy and Heriot-Watt and Dundee Universities.

I started my career in Local Government in management services and Human Resources roles, changing career in the early 1990s to become a university lecturer. I retired from Edinburgh Business School (part of Heriot-Watt University) in 2018 where I was mainly concerned with teaching postgraduate business and management courses and supervising Masters and Doctoral theses. For some years I also held an Honorary Lectureship at St. Andrews University.



In my retirement I have pursued my hobbies of reading and music even taking up the piano in which I have been making slow but perceptible progress under an excellent, and very patient, teacher. I am a member of the Scottish Arts Club in Edinburgh. When not occupying myself with these pastimes I play mediocre but enthusiastic golf with fellow oldsters at The New Golf Club, St. Andrews.

I am a member of Invergowrie Parish Church (now part of the Gowrie Kirk).

I am delighted to support the Guildry and its charitable activities in particular.



# Lindores

by Iain Flett

**In around 1191 King William (The Lion) granted a burgh, now Dundee, to his brother Earl David of Huntingdon, in turn Earl David founded a new church there in honour of The Blessed Virgin Mary and in turn gifted that, together with burgh rentals, to his new monastery at Lindores.**

Two hundred and fifty years later Dundee was a flourishing trading hub, the second wealthiest burgh in Scotland, and was, like other European centres, looking for a church that would reflect its influence and power. David's Kirk of 1191 would have been built in the Norman style of its contemporary at Leuchars, probably by the same Durham-trained masons, and the remarkably well-preserved kirk at Dalmeny I gives us an accurate idea of what it might have looked like.



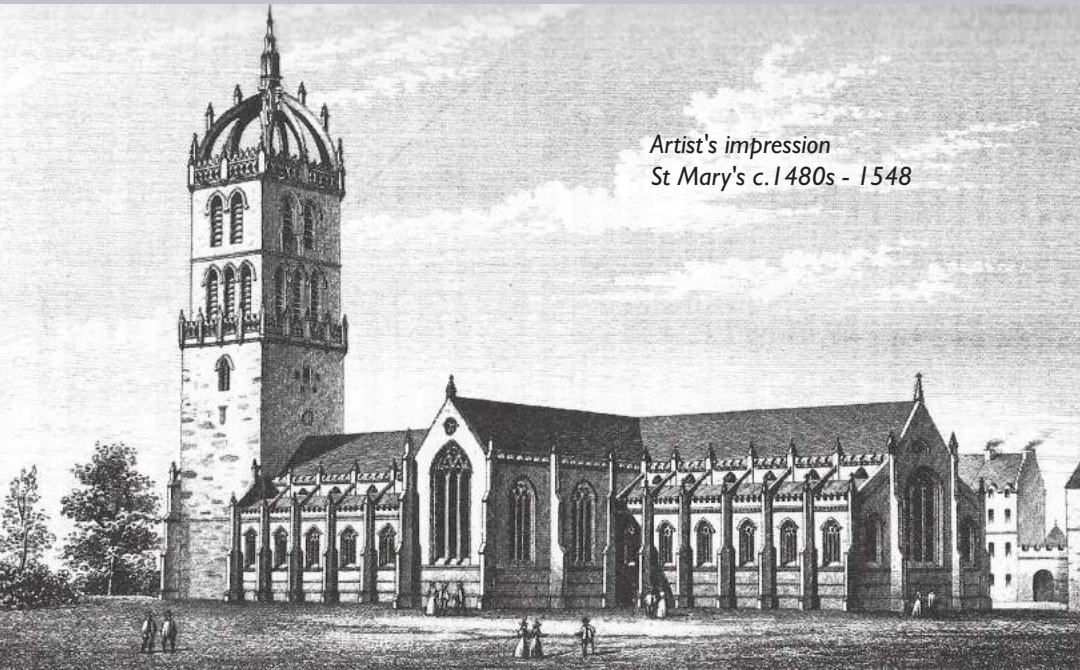
*Norman style Dalmeny church*

The wealthy merchants of Dundee wanted control of their Kirk and wanted to upgrade it. The City Archives have an extensive agreement in Latin on parchment from 1443 which recounted and settled the differences between Burgh and Abbey.

It is in the form of an Indenture, the agreement written out twice on a single parchment, then separated by an irregular cut. If held together in any subsequent legal action their fit would confirm their authenticity.

It recounted the litigation over the 'fruits' (rentals) as well as the 'very great discord, contention, and altercations... diverse conferences and communications... endured for many years without any agreement'. Finally, agreement had been reached and annual rentals of five merks would be transferred to the burgh. A merk, the standard of Scots currency, was two thirds of a Scots pound (£0 13s 4d or £0.66), so five merks totalled £3 6s 8d or £3.33.

The property was all a stone's throw from the Kirk. Twenty shillings (£1) came from two tenements south of Market Street, £1 from another south of Flukergait (Nethergait), £1 from another south of Ergailisgait (Overgait) and the remaining £0 6s 8d from the burgh field.



Artist's impression  
St Mary's c.1480s - 1548

At this time a pound Scots was worth half a pound Sterling, so the rentals were worth £1 13s 4d stg. [www.measuringwealth.com](http://www.measuringwealth.com) translates that on modern equivalents that would be between £14,040 in labour cost and £1,134,000 as an economic project. If feuduty payments still existed then the former would still be a healthy return and the latter, such as expenditure on construction, would be sufficient over time to cover the quality rebuild of St Mary's forty years later in the 1480's by skilled stonemasons from The Low Countries<sup>2</sup>. We are left with the splendid Auld Steeple or St Mary's Tower, still the tallest surviving medieval church tower in Scotland, to remind us of the glory of the entire Kirk with its vast interior.

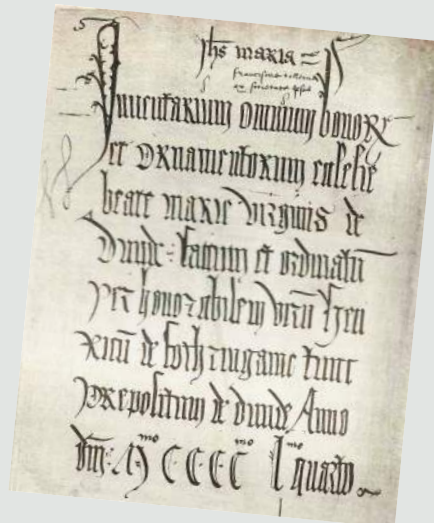
The Indenture covered that eventuality in the "construction... reformation and reparation of... the stone walls, windows, pillars, window glass, woodwork, roof... as also in the vestments, books, chalices, palls of the Great Altar..."

like 'a chalyse of silver... with a cristale stane in the myddis (middle) and has therto a spune of silver, with a pokate of lynnung clath..."

A hundred years later the nave would be used for target practice by the English Royal Navy in The Rough Wooing of 1547, leaving a vacant bombsite until the Steeple Kirk filled it in 1789.

St Mary's was patched together after 1547 but succumbed ignominiously to a boiler fire in 1841

and was recreated in its current Victorian Gothic. The financial and membership implosion that has hit the Church of Scotland has led the current Presbytery to state that in 2027, 836 years after the foundation of Earl David's Mither Kirk, the congregation will be dissolved, and the building sold. 'Ane end o' a lang sang'...



Inventory of  
Alter Goods



# The Gazette Quiz

Win a bottle of Lindores Abbey Single Malt whisky



The Gazette Quiz is open to all Guildry members. Email your answers (No.s One to Ten) with your name and address to Guildry Clerk - Stuart King: [stuart.king@blackadders.co.uk](mailto:stuart.king@blackadders.co.uk) ...by 31st December 2025.



**1** Built 1865-1866, the ornamental brickwork on this Dundee landmark can be seen from miles around. Can you name the structure?



**2** Although born in Aberdeen this lady, when aged 11, moved to Dundee with her parents in 1859. Can you name her?



**3** Can you name the occupier of this well known Dundee business from its entrance?



**4** This statue is sited within Central Park, New York. Who is it and where can its identical twin be found in Dundee?



**5** This 1991 video game character was developed in Dundee. What were these characters collectively called?



**6** Dating to 1863 these spectacular gates are the entrance to what in Dundee?



**7** A series of these Art Nouveau windows have adorned this well known Dundee hostelry for decades. Name the venue by its "proper" name.



**8** Name this famous Dundonian and the palatial Greek Revival house he built, at the time on the outskirts of Dundee, and which stills stands today.



**9** Pictured here, nearing its completion in 1890, this once iconic Dundee landmark was demolished in 1965. What was it? - it's purpose / the building's name.



**10** This man, born in 1782, operated as a bookseller, printer and newspaper publisher in Dundee but what was his name and for what was he famed for?