

ANGUS COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL & LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE - 16 OCTOBER 2003

**UNLOCK THE BOXES: RESOURCES FOR LEARNING IN
SCOTLAND PARTNERSHIP WITH RESTENNETH LIBRARY
REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES**

ABSTRACT

This paper reports on a very successful project in partnership with Restenneth Library. With thanks to New Opportunity funding through the Resources for Learning in Scotland initiative, the deeds in Restenneth were transcribed and Educational Resource Packs produced.

1. RECOMMENDATION

The committee is asked to note the contents of the report.

2. BACKGROUND

On 16 August 2001 the Recreation and Cultural Services Committee agreed to progress a number of New Opportunity Funding (NOF) resources for learning projects (890/01). While most of these were progressed by Cultural Services, a few were in partnership with other organisations, including 'Unlock the Boxes' with Restenneth Library.

This was a two year project which involved our Local Studies Centre transcribing and translating over 1200 documents, many of which were in Latin, spanning four centuries of material from a charter by James IV in 1499 to titles of 1856.

Three Educational Resource Packs, in the form of CD ROMS have been produced, and are now available for sale. They cover: -1) An Angus Family History and Genealogy, explored through an unknown Scottish archive; 2) Angus Lairds and Lands, 17th – 18th Century Jacobites, Militia, Riggs and Turnpikes; and 3) Hunter Quests for Fame and Fortune, 18th Century Angus; Life, Loves, Feuds, Military Campaigns, seeking fame and fortune for the Hunters of Burnside and Dod.

All the archives have now been returned to Restenneth Library, and copies of all the transcripts are lodged in the Local Studies Centre at Montrose Library.

An open day is to be held in Restenneth Library on Saturday, 25th October to promote the project to the public.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As part of the partnership agreement, the Local Studies Centre staff undertook the work on a 50% cash recovery basis. These costs were already allowed for in the department's 2003/4 revenue budget provision and consequently this has produced £2,841 of income from the NOF.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights Implications associated with this report

5. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration, Director of Finance and Director of Education have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

JOHN R ZIMNY
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.