



SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 1 ::

GEDDES TODAY

“Geddes Then”



Patrick Geddes

description. If I say that the subtitle of another biography describes PG as “biologist, town planner, re-educator, peace-warrior”, you may begin to see the sort of character we have.

Some biographies still maintain that he was born in Perth, not Ballater! It is generally conceded nowadays that he was born in the Deeside town on 2nd October 1854. It is not known in which house and, with his father a serving soldier; it may even have been in the barracks. A few years after Patrick was born the Geddes’s moved to Perth, where their house, Mount Tabor is still in existence and whence, eventually he went to the Academy. In addition to formal schooling, it is known that Geddes, from an early age was fascinated by plants and animals – he spent hours and hours botanising on Kinnoull Hill. As he grew up he initially wanted to be an artist but father put that idea out of his head (at least temporarily).



Above: From the “London Illustrated News” 1850 - Ballater Temporary Barracks. Patrick Geddes’ Father, Captain Alexander Geddes, was posted here. Patrick Geddes may have been born here. The soldiers are standing in what is now the Church Green.

Then he went to Edinburgh University to study Botany, but he did not like the formal teaching of a subject he had already become familiar with on his own and he gave up after one week. With the firm idea that he wanted “to study life”, Geddes went to London where he studied under T.H. Huxley. Later, while working at University College, he met Darwin and Wallace. He had also studied zoology in France where he had seen the aftermath of war and perhaps begun to think about social conditions. He was asked to set up a marine laboratory at Stonehaven for Aberdeen University. Now in his twenties and with a promising career in biological science before him, Patrick had a sudden illness, which left him blind. No longer able to use a microscope, he began to develop abstract thinking techniques and from this point his interests developed into what were eventually to become the social sciences – the study of life from a different angle. His sight slowly returned – by now back in Edinburgh, he could at first work for only two hours each day at the University Botany Department. In 1886 he married Anna Morton and they went to live in the Royal Mile of Edinburgh – a very different prospect from today – a slum area of the city. Here it was that he began his “neighbourhood and community” concept. He set up the first student hall of residence and in 1892 he established his Outlook Tower which

has been termed the “worlds first sociological laboratory”. It was based in some respects on the medieval way of life in Edinburgh but extending to the country beyond the city and the wider world.

He failed to gain the Chair of Botany at Edinburgh (a Regius Chair) and occupied the chair at Dundee University from 1889. This only required attendance for one term each year so Geddes was free for the rest of the year to develop his thinking in “civics” how towns and cities functioned – or how they ought to function – like other organisms he realised they needed to have healthy environments in which to thrive. He set out to spread this doctrine, about integrated communities, towns with countryside, cities and Conurbations (his word) in various parts of Britain and abroad, notably in India.

By now he was thoroughly into what became town (and country) planning. 1911 saw his great Cities Exhibition in Britain, the Continent and India. His doctrine of “diagnosis before treatment” clearly stems from his earlier days as a pure scientist as does appeal for “conservative (small c) surgery”: analysis then synthesis, but “survey before alteration” springs more from architecture than biology. A story from PG’s time in India illustrates his practical approach - in helping the people of one city to improve their surroundings, he insisted in being created “Maharajah for a day” so that he would have the power to order things to be done, things like cleaning the streets, clearing up black spots and so on.

His wife Anna had done much to encourage his latent interest in the arts and music, and these elements were now firmly in place alongside more scientific ones. His care in developing communities was now as much for their spiritual as physical health. At a time when scientists were becoming more deeply specialist, Geddes became more generalised. His ideas for wholeness were foreign to the scientists with whom he had previously been associated – it may be this that results in no trace of his name in many scientific biographies today – not being treated as a scientist. While scientists were gaining confidence through a basis of knowing more about less and less,

Geddes was developing his ideas of whole communities working together, he was conferring with artists, musicians, and poets, mystics even – as well as other scientists. Practically attempting to design better towns, cities for people of all sorts, types and classes to live together in harmony. He stated, “our greatest need is to grasp life as a whole”. The synthetic approach.

In 1924 he settled in Montpellier, an ancient university town in the south of France where he established an unofficial student residence which he hoped would become a Scots College (the Collège des Ecossais) for wandering students. In this he was harking back to medieval ideas, looking for unity among scholars who saw a wholeness in their studies and in where they lived with others from other lands. There were to be American and Indian Colleges too.

His work in planning was recognised in India, where he had replanned fifty cities and in Palestine. “Where is Patrick Geddes?” someone asked, when being told “he is planning the New Jerusalem”, the initial enquirer remarked on how sorry he was to hear that Geddes had died!

He died in 1932, having received a knighthood (for services to education) in recognition of his work. A

remarkable man, paradoxical and unorthodox, a professor with no interest in degrees, a scientist and artist who had experienced a period of blindness, whose Outlook Tower, to embrace a view of the world became a camera obscura show viewing the passers-by on Princes Street, who had met Darwin, Ghandi and Rabindranath Tagore.

Ian Kinniburgh

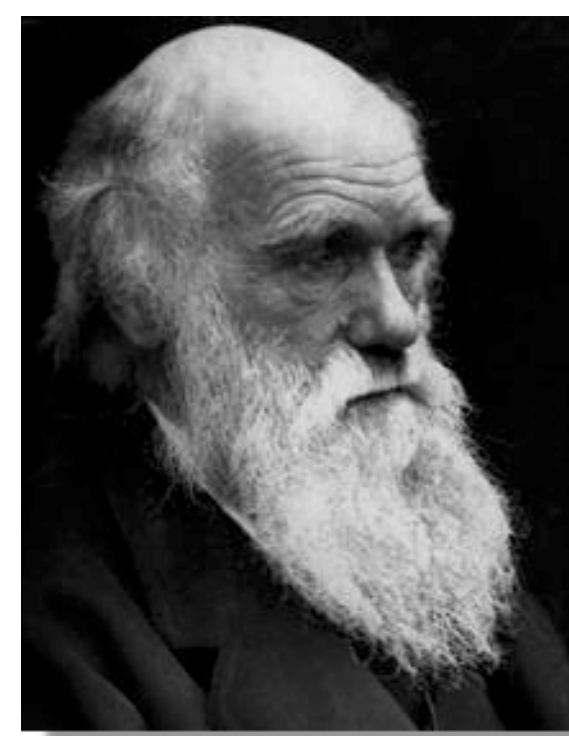
Ian Kinniburgh studied under Arthur Geddes - one of Patrick Geddes’s son’s - at Edinburgh University and visited the College Des Ecossais at Montpellier.



Above: From the “London Illustrated News” (c. 1850’s). Queen Victoria and the Royal Party arrive at the Monaltrie Hotel, Ballater en route to Balmoral Castle.

View from the Old Bridge.

Note that the Old Bridge (replaced), Church (replaced), arch and houses in the distance no longer exist and the Hotel has been extended.



Charles Darwin
Author of “On The Origin of Species by Natural Selection”



Rabindranath Tagore, Poet and Philosopher (Left)
and
Mahatma Gandhi, Indian Freedom and Human Rights campaigner

Below: Ballater from Craig Coillich 2003



The three doves symbol appearing at the top of these pages was Geddes’s personal symbol.

“Geddes called them the three S’s and they stand for Sympathy, Synthesis and Synergy. Sympathy for the people and environment affected by any social remedy; synthesis of all the factors relevant to the case; and synergy - the combined co-operative action of everyone involved - in order to achieve the best result. The doves also represent peace. One of the most evocative sentences Geddes ever wrote is:

“People volunteer for war; and it is a strange and a dark superstition that they will not volunteer for peace”

Paddy Kitchen, “A Most Unsettling Person”

www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes

Ballater Geddes Project 2004 wishes to thank these organisations who have generously funded or supported this Exhibition or Project





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:: 2 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Ballater Geddes Project 2004



Initial Geddes Exhibition

A Geddes Exhibition for Ballater of five panels explaining the Project was exhibited in 2000 along with a supporting brochure. Arts workshops and country walks were held to complement the exhibition (pictures below) and the Exhibition has been displayed in Ballater and on a tour of libraries in the North East of Scotland. Some of our panels and materials were recently loaned to a Scottish Executive Event in Edinburgh to reward good planning where the Old Royal Station, Ballater was praised. The panels are permanently based in Ballater School to serve as teaching materials for our schoolchildren.



Arts Workshop:
Sculptor Gavin Smith encourages wood carving



Country Walk:
Andrew Manwell explains local geography



Arts Workshop:
Sculptor Kenny Munro demonstrates stone carving



Sir Patrick Geddes Way

At the initiative of BGP2004 the name Sir Patrick Geddes Way (possibly the longest street name ever?!) was given to a street of new affordable housing in the east of Ballater, very much in keeping with Geddes' ideals - he felt that all should live in decent accommodation regardless of wealth.

Tullich Road Bus Stop and Shelter

A bus stop has been erected at Tullich Road at new housing to provide shelter to passengers and encourage an alternative to the car. This would have appealed to Geddes, an environmentalist 100 years ahead of his time.



Geddes Web Site

A web site has been established at: www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes to explain Patrick Geddes's importance and the Project's activities which features: Geddes information, reading lists, links to universities and other sites, a very useful international directory, photographs, press releases and various supporting documents



about aspects of the project. These pages are high on the list of viewers of this web site.

If you have an interest in Patrick Geddes you may like to be listed in our Directory. If so, please visit it to see who is already there and what details you might like to give and then e-mail us.

Geddes Walkway

A Walkway has been initiated between the Old Royal Station and Ballater School. The route is mostly marked by lovely work done by Ballater School children inscribed on plaques. Many thanks to the children for their work - it is very impressive and is a pleasure for parents and children to see. Geddes was an advocate for the arts and education. (See Panels 3 & 9).



Ballater, Scotland - Kolkata, India School Links

Again with Ballater School, the Project is pioneering International links. Patrick Geddes worked with the famous Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore and helped plan an international university in India which still exists today (See Panel 7). Through a Project member Kenny Munro contact has been made with the School of Art and Craft in Kolkata (formerly Calcutta) - Geddes worked there - to which links have been established.

Tandra Chanda, a partner in the school, came to Ballater School and BGP2004 resolved to create links using the Internet to transmit pictures, video and voice. BGP2004 proposed the acquisition of cameras to make this possible and Ballater Victoria Week has kindly gifted four of them. Our thanks go to Ballater Victoria Week for helping to enhance the school children's studies of other cultures in their classwork and letting our children and Indian children see how others live.



Web Cam / Camera Obscura

The Project has proposed to replicate the Outlook Tower in Edinburgh using modern technology by placing cameras on Craig Coillich hill, Ballater. The Outlook Tower on the Royal Mile in Edinburgh shows the city and surrounding area using a periscope to project an image in a darkened room. We have proposed to do the same here into the Old Royal Station Building and onto the World Wide Web for educational purposes and to allow visitors and those unable to get into the hills to see them. The images would be available on the Internet, and, in the Old Royal Station by means of a steerable camera projecting its images onto a table there. We recommend a visit to the Outlook Tower in Edinburgh to see the 150 year old technology in action or you can view photographs taken from it by a Geddes project member at www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes remembering to substitute beautiful Edinburgh for

beautiful Ballater and the Cairngorms, Lochnagar, Morven etc. and the Cairngorms National Park.

Views from Geddes's Outlook Tower over Edinburgh



A Ballater Geddes Project 2004 public consultation

Communications

Members of the Project have given numerous talks, lectures, held consultations and kept the media informed of our progress.



For 2004:

Completion of started Project strands.

Return trip by BGP 2004 member and artist Kenny Munro to India (see panels 5-6 for reports and lovely pictures).



This "Geddes Today" Exhibition.

Further artistic collaboration in September 2004 between Schools in Ballater, Finzean and India on the theme of "Rivers and Leaves".

Collaboration with various groups around Scotland and the world to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Geddes's Birth.

The Ballater Geddes Project 2004 has run from 1999 to 2004.

This exhibition is the culmination of our five year journey learning about Geddes, his life, his ideas and his practical actions and effects.

Although the Project itself formally ends this year some aspects will carry on, and we are sure that the impact of our Project on ourselves and others will resonate down the years because, as Lewis Mumford wrote:

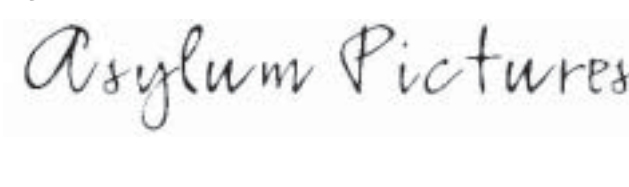
"the work of Patrick Geddes and the tasks he set for himself as a solitary thinker and Planner have now become the collective task of our generation....his work goes on."



Right and above:
Wood Sculptor Gavin Smith carves the posts for the Geddes Walkway in Ballater. BGP2004 Convener Sheila Potter admires the work

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:: 3 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Education



Hugh MacDairmid by
Sheila MacLean

“Prophets are proverbially without honour in their own country, but even so the neglect or ignorance of Sir Patrick Geddes in Scotland goes to an uncommon degree and throws a very disconcerting light on our whole national condition, since he was one of the outstanding thinkers of his generation, not merely in the world, and not only one of the greatest Scotsmen of the past century but in our entire history.”

That was the verdict of the poet Hugh MacDairmid, who pointed to Geddes's refusal to specialise as one of the causes of his neglect. Geddes was knighted for services to education; one of his biographers describes him as *“biologist, town planner, re-educator and peace warrior”*; and he was also a sociologist, drama producer, university planner and landscape architect. That list is misleading, for Geddes's life was not without focus. He chose life itself as his subject and refused to subdivide it.

“Everything I have done”, he once said at Le College des Ecossais, “has been biocentric; for and in terms of life, both individual and collective; whereas all the machinery of the state, public instruction, finance and industry ignore life, when indeed it does not destroy it. The only thing that amazes me, therefore, as I look back over my experiences is that I was not caught and hung many years ago.”

Rob Cowan quoting the Scottish Poet, Hugh MacDairmid (1892-1978), and Geddes, in *“Town and Country Planning”* September 1979.

Patrick Geddes had a very broad view of the interpretation of the term ‘education’ and was highly critical of the boring straightjacket of the Victorian ideas which held sway in the schools, colleges and universities of his time. He said, “It is high time to abolish compulsory public instruction based on the three R's. Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic have too long been stuffed into young minds as routine work in the scholastic mills”. *“But the ... age dawning in the twentieth century must have something better; it will have something better: a life-centred, folk-centred culture. It will have an instruction based not on the three R's, but on the three H's: the vital education of Heart, Hand and Head.”* (See Panel 10). This meant that a child should be content and happy, that the distraction of physical needs, e.g. hunger, should be attended to, and then they would be receptive to intellectual training. *“The child's desire of seeing and hearing, touching and handling, of smelling and tasting are all true and healthy hungers”* declared P.G., *“and it can hardly be too strongly insisted that good teaching begins neither with knowledge or discipline, but through delight.”*



Education by the Three H's

His motto, “Vivendo Discimus” – “By Living We Learn”, followed the thinking of all the great teachers from Socrates on, that learning is a life-long process. He urged people to be active, i.e. if you want to understand a neighbourhood, go out and explore it. If you want to know about the way of life of a farmer or fisher, try it out for yourself for a spell – experience is the best teacher.

Geddes encouraged parents to widen the educational horizons of their children e.g. *“On the shoulders of parents, possibly helped by the exceptional teacher, rests the burden of leading children out into freedom, of giving them the franchise of the world of culture which the routine education of the three R's, despite all machinery of standards, addition of special subjects and what not, hopes and promises to give but necessarily fails.”*

Quotes From “Patrick Geddes: Maker of the Future” by Philip Boardman



Ramsay Gardens,
Edinburgh

He was a teacher by example in whatever aspect of life he happened to be engaged. He took over a slum, cleaned and painted it, went to live in it, and then encouraged his neighbours to do the same. He established the first self-governing student hostel in Ramsay Gardens, Edinburgh then went on to encourage universities around the country to do the same. He encouraged the

curiosity of his children about nature in the garden by being himself “head gardener”.

Geddes adopted what for the Victorian age were unconventional but highly effective methods of



The Outlook Tower, Edinburgh

teaching. His children were taught at home, and he leased the Camera Obscura at the top of the High Street in Edinburgh and renamed it “The Outlook Tower”.

(Described by Charles Zeublin as “the world's first sociological laboratory.”) Here he conducted groups, with a constant running commentary ranging over the history, geology, sociology, art, and geography of Edinburgh as

seen from the roof gallery and the camera obscura at the top, then ranging on the lower floors through a series of ever-widening exhibits about Scotland, the British Empire, Europe and the World. He pioneered the idea of Summer Schools (now adopted by many Universities), deliberately bringing together leading minds from different academic specialities.

Later as he became more involved in town planning, he made great use of major exhibitions, being there in person as much as possible to talk the viewers through the exhibition (and much else if they gave him the chance). He found books too restrictive. Above all he believed in active participation and endless discussion, with ideas flowing, and sparking yet more ideas, as the ideal of learning.

Universities

It would be fair to say that Geddes had a love/hate relationship with the Universities of his day. While believing, with an almost religious zeal, in a high level of education for all, he was disappointed with the way Universities were run, how they taught and what he saw as the limited range of their activities. And he wasn't shy of saying so which, of course, didn't endear him to the educational establishment! Apparently paradoxically, Geddes sought University posts while simultaneously remaining highly critical.

Geddes wanted to popularise and bring good education in all areas of knowledge to as many people as possible always with a view to bringing them together - Synthesis. For this he was good naturedly called the “Professor of Things in General”, less pleasantly, he was bitterly criticized as an “intellectual whore” for his perceived promiscuity in all fields of knowledge by the increasing ranks of University specialists of his time.

In bringing education to all Geddes started and was tireless in promoting the *University Extension Movement* in Scotland which took University teaching out to ordinary working people. This can be seen as a forerunner of the Workers Educational Association and the Open University.

“1903 Albert and Frances Mansbridge established an Association to Promote the Higher Education of Working Men, bringing together supporters of working-class education from the churches, the Co-operative Movement, trade unions and the University Extension Movement. The association was renamed the Workers' Educational Association in 1905 to better represent the inclusive equality of the movement.”

From the Workers Educational Association web site: <http://www.wea.org.uk/Centenary/timeline/1900.htm>

“Adult Education”

“In his earlier days he (Geddes) was seriously considered a theorising genius in biology and even regarded as a potential successor to Darwin and Huxley. In collaboration with J. Arthur Thomson.... he wrote the book *Evolution of Sex* regarded then as an original and brilliant contribution to the science of Biology. Amelia Defries in her book *The Interpreter Geddes* mentions a dinner in 1923 in Le Play House, London which was held in honour of Geddes “... Sir John Cockburn who presided, said that it might surprise Professor Geddes to hear that he was one of the causes of the Womens Suffrage Movement! For, he explained, it was after reading *The Evolution of Sex* and being armed by it in his youth, that he went to Australia and there fought till women had votes. So the fight which was afterwards taken up in London, and

won there, too, a good while later, owed much to the Australians and, before them therefore, to *The Evolution of Sex.*”

“Grieve on Geddes”

“University Militant”

Universities should be free to indulge in the battle of ideas and do useful, practical things thought Geddes. PG liked the concept of *“The University Militant”* - the title of a book by American writer Charles Ferguson published in 1912 for what he thought that Universities should be doing - a more active role than just teaching what had gone before. Geddes deplored any attempt to dictate education and said: *“Education, like religion, can only be truly vital in the measure of its freedom from external authority; since truth, like goodness, cannot be imposed from without, but can only grow with mind and soul within.”*

University Planning

After success in planning Santinitekan, with Rabindranath Tagore in India, Geddes was to face defeat of his ambitions in Jerusalem planning the University there:

“Charles Ashbee....wrote in 1923 that: “Geddes's chief work out here has been the plans, en ebauche, for the Zionist University, a magnificent scheme and a wonderful report. But it has cleft Jewry in twain. The orthodox and the ritualists have no use for a Universitas in the real sense of the word, such as he desires, nor have the political propagandists for the scholar and the man of science. Will it be a university or only a Zionist university? Geddes has thrown down the glove to Jewry. It is another challenge to the theocratic state and the old devil of sectarianism who stands between us and our search for truth. Will the challenge be taken up? ...But when all's said and done, Pat is right. His prophecy is likely to sound the farthest. You can have no sectarian university”....

Dr. Weizmann (1874-1952), the great Zionist Leader (*first President of Israel*) whose vision transcended all sectarianism, later wrote...

“The ideal of the Hebrew University was for many of us the noblest expression of our Zionist humanism. On it were concentrated the dreams of our youth and the endeavours of our manhood. A Hebrew University in Palestine would mean release from the pariah status which was the lot of Jewish youth in so

many of the Universities of Eastern and even Central Europe. It would provide a focus for the free development of the Jewish spirit. It would give scientific guidance and moral inspiration to the builders of the new Zion. It would pave the way for a synthesis between the spiritual heritage of our people and the intellectual movements and aspirations of our age... I still hope before I die to see the **great assembly hall which Geddes designed** rising on the slopes of (*Mount*) Scopus”.

(A contrast between Geddes/Weizmann versus those paying for/ lobbying for particular features in the University. The assembly hall was the primary and largest building in Geddes's plan where all could meet and interact. It was a domed building which the sectarians described as being like a Mosque. Those same people preferred to have the largest building be the centre for Hebrew studies).

From “A Vision of Zion” by Graham Rass.

Explanatory text in italics added for this Exhibition.

The Scots College, Montpellier

After India, in later life, Geddes bought a property and founded the College des Ecossais for travelling Scots students near the University of Montpellier in the south of France. There was to be a College des Indien (Indian) headed by Rabindranath Tagore (see Panels 7, 8 & 14), and College des Americain (American). The concept of itinerant students went back to earlier times when students throughout Europe would travel to other countries and institutions to complete their education in real situations rather than be restricted to dry home and university study.



The College des Ecossais in Montpellier

SP & TP

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Aberdeenshire
Council



Ballater
Victoria
Week



The
Saltire
Society



SCOTTISH
NATURAL
HERITAGE

Ballater & Crathie
Community
Council



Asylum Pictures



Marr Area
Partnership



CAIRNGORMS
NATIONAL PARK



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:: 4 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Environment



Geddes the Environmentalist - “By Leaves We Live” is the motto of Ballater Geddes Project 2004. It is taken from Geddes’ own longer statement:



“By Leaves We Live”

“This is a green world, with animals comparatively few and small, and all dependent on the leaves. By leaves we live. Some people have strange ideas that they live by money. They think energy is generated by the circulation of coins. Whereas the world is mainly a vast leaf colony, growing on and forming a leafy soil, not a mere mineral mass: and we live not by the jingling of our coins, but by the fullness of our harvests.”

It sums up very neatly Geddes’ understanding of the various elements of nature: people, crops, animals, mountains, trees, and above all fresh air.



Given an unconventional education by his father, in which the outdoors and various aspects of nature were given more emphasis than book learning, it is

not surprising that his choice of career was in biology. He showed great promise in his early work in marine biology. He softened the harsh “survival of the fittest” theory of Darwin by describing the cooperation necessary in symbiosis, which had evolved, for example, in jellyfish.

This promising future was cut short by temporary blindness and poorer eyesight which made it impossible to use a microscope for long periods, so he turned the focus of his biological understanding onto the environment in which people lived. Leading by example, he moved his home into a slum tenement in the High Street in Edinburgh, and set about brightening and modernising it, then cajoling his neighbours to do the same.



He advised on the renovation of old buildings, designed garden suburbs, wrote “Cities in Evolution”, a design for Pittencrieff Park in Dunfermline. Although considered too ambitious at the time, it has since been well studied and many of its ideas adopted.

He widened his interest to the world at large, with exhibitions in Paris and Dublin, and lecturing in the USA. For ten years he spent most of his time in India, becoming a professor at the University of Bombay. He applied what he called



“conservative surgery” to the renovation of the slum quarters of Indian cities. He preserved all that was still good, clearing the clutter of rickety extensions to increase the flow of air, and preserving trees, in the shade of which much of the life of the people was conducted. He preserved too open water wherever possible, for its cooling effect on the air around it. He considered above all the effect of change on the people who were to live in the cities and towns he renovated, avoiding wholesale clearances just for the sake of some grand design, which would have left countless people homeless.

He spent the last phase of his life teaching mainly at the Scots College in Montpellier in the south of France, lecturing and holding summer schools which covered not only his application of environmental



considerations to town planning but his many other interests. To the end of his life he insisted on teaching outdoors whenever possible, taking his students on long walks into the neighbouring countryside.

He was an environmentalist long before the word “environment” became fashionable, and his teachings are increasingly studied and applied today.



“After early and extensive biological studies he diverged into a comprehensive philosophy aiming at the coordination of man with his environment which he described as ‘the new humanism’. With this aim in view, he became an amateur, in the best sense of the word, of all the arts and sciences, and endeavoured to employ his knowledge in raising the standard of living for all with whom his activities brought him in contact.”



“Environment and organism, place and people, are inseparable....”

“As biologists know, and as the finer civilisations have at various times magnificently

shown us, Health results from ‘the good life’, that is a life of normal and full reaction within an adequate environment. Such an adaptation, which has become normal to flower and tree, insect, bird and beast, has grown increasingly harder for man to attain since his social grouping has become larger and more complex (from rural village to crowded industrial city).”

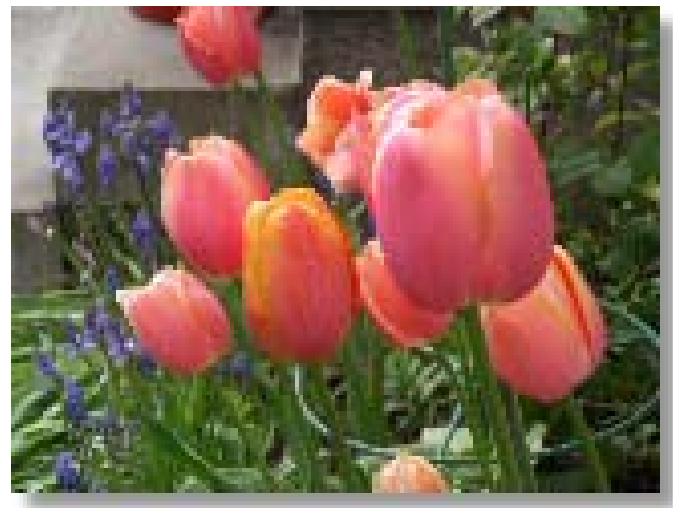
“A garden is the very best of Savings Banks for, in return for deposits of time and strength, otherwise largely wasted, the worker reaps health for himself and his children in air, vegetables and in fruit.”



“The judicious planting of trees may also increase breezes instead of impeding them. Currents of air flow, as in the stream, faster and stronger round the side of obstacles. By planting a dense mass of foliage we can increase the breeze on either side of it and even a little way beyond it, for the air flows in rolling waves over the obstacles as well as in swift currents around each side.”

“The Evolution of Sex”

Three of the book’s four divisions were taken up with descriptions of processes of reproduction in representative forms of life, with summaries of experiments performed and of theories propounded up to the year 1889. But the fi-



nal section - and the one of greatest interest today - put forth Geddes’s remarkable theory which, curiously enough, received experimental confirmation some forty years later in the laboratories of American scientists.” (Boardman)

“‘There was in this garden,’ said an English visitor, ‘a veritable artist’s laboratory, even apart from its seasonal bursts of flowers.... A Monet or a Claus might have painted on indefinitely, studying here the varieties of colour possible when all seems green.’ (University College Dundee).” (Boardman)

“How did Geddes himself see and feel nature? How did this Scottish Darwin record his impressions in the only textbook he ever wrote? Here is a fragment from his account of the pageant of the seasons.

“Life is indeed universally rhythmic, in animal as in plant; but the plant is more



passive and plastic to its conditions, more under the sway of environmental change, and hence this seasonal change of plant life becomes the more impressive spectacle of living nature.



See the tide of life set in with a flood in spring, filling every corner of the earth with sprouting seeds and shooting stems, and crowding spreading rippling leaves; how as the russet underwood warms to the fuller sun through branches still bare it glows with bright golden patches of lesser celandine. See how its dead leaves silently sink under a restless foam-tipped sea of green anemone; how every mossy bank is set with primroses in crowded constellation; and how the deep summer sky shows first in sheets of hyacinth. Soon comes high tide of leaves in June: the full-robed year is crowned and garlanded with exuberant blossom to which July brings the strongest chords of colour.

“Yet already the tide has turned, the flowers are withering or fading, but a new profusion of fruits, more strangely varied even than the flowers, is rising in their place. These, too, ripen and pass and the seeds, each a young life, find - oftentimes through strange adventure - their resting place



and sleep. The shivering leaves surrender their life to the branches which have borne them and fall away, often beautifully transfigured in dying; only their tiny nurslings the buds remain, warmly wrapped away within their protecting sheaths. Life has ebbed out of sight; Prosperina is in Hades and sky and mother earth must mourn till her release.”

“Il Faut Cultiver Son Jardin”

(Voltaire “Candide”)

“An active, constructive peace is the only one that can compete with war and its glory: action. Therefore, said Geddes, peace means an unending fight against disease and slums, ignorance and economic injustice, against deforestation and waste of natural resources; peace means, both concretely and figuratively, that everyone must cultivate his garden.”



“Geddes reiterates his own sweeping ecological warning that wherever and whenever a function or an environment is found to have a bad influence on the organism, ‘its modification must be attempted, and, failing that, its abandonment faced’. Further he



prophecies that if man is

“...to remain healthy and become civilised...(he) must take special heed of his environment; not only at his peril keeping the natural factors of air, water and light at

their purest, but caring only for ‘production of wealth’ at all, in so far as it shapes artificial factors, the material surroundings of domestic and civic life, into forms more completely serviceable for the Ascent of Man.”

Sheila Potter

“Care of Mother Earth is the prime task of man”

Patrick Geddes



Quotes: Boardman, Tyrwhitt

www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes

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Aberdeenshire Council



Ballater Victoria Week



The Saltire Society



Scottish Natural Heritage

Ballater & Crathie Community Council



Asylum Pictures



Marr Area Partnership



Cairngorms National Park



SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 5 ::

GEDDES TODAY

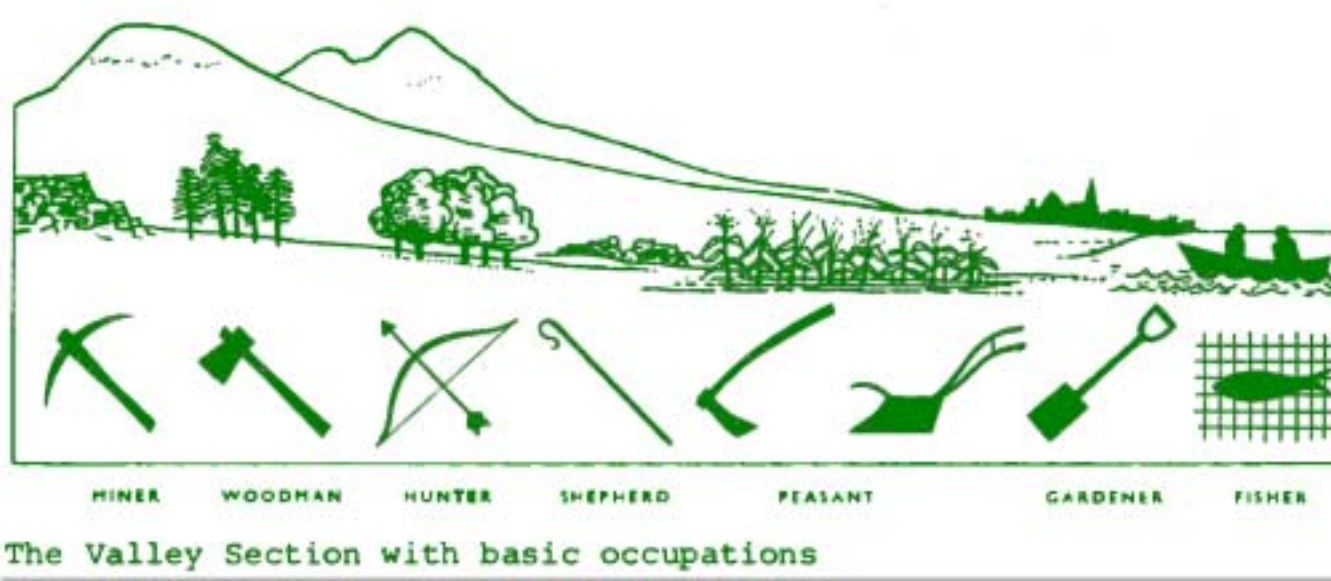
Environmental Education 1/2



Patrick Geddes's understanding of environmental education grew from his own experience as a child. He was the youngest by several years of four siblings. By the time he was three years old his

father, after serving for thirty years in the Royal Highland Regiment, had semi-retired as Captain in a volunteer regiment, the Perthshire Rifles. The family settled in Mount Tabor Cottage high up on the side of Kinnoull Hill, overlooking Perth and a wide area of the surrounding Tay River valley and hills beyond. Patrick was not considered strong enough to attend school until he was nearly eight, and in the meantime his father had plenty of time to attend to his early education. This turned out, for a child of the Victorian era to be very unconventional, as is shown in this example, which taught gardening, measuring and counting all at the same time: (About planting Potatoes)

“And of course at first I put them in too irregularly; but soon saw the sense of not having them too close at one point, and too far away at another. So he showed me how people learned to measure, setting one foot after another; and thus we found the length of the row in feet. Then, cutting a stick a little longer than his foot, he gave me this for a measuring-rod, and now I relaid my potatoes with accuracy as to length.... Then I counted them (I think there were 31 or 32 in the row) and he suggested cutting notches on the stick to remember this number by. But this was to be a long operation, so he showed me how to simplify it: with three deep notches for the tens, and little scratches beside the last one for the rest.”



He loved to roam over Kinnoull Hill, collecting ferns for his garden, and quartz crystals from a small quarry. He spent long hours observing the river valley below, which led to his later theories of the 'Valley Section' and the interconnectedness of everything.

As an adolescent, his father widened his horizons still further by taking him on a long walking tour to visit relatives and friends in Ballater and Grantown-on-Spey, crossing the mountains between the valleys of the Dee, Don and Spey.

With such an early education it is not surprising that he settled on biology as his chosen career. He studied under Huxley, knew Darwin, by then an old man, and by his early twenties was a marine biologist with a growing reputation for original research. Unfortunately, at this juncture his eyes were damaged during a visit to Mexico and he had to give up long periods of microscope work.



Geddes Walkway from the Old Royal Station via Monaltrie Park to Ballater School



Primary 7 draw Animals and Plants



Geddes The Teacher



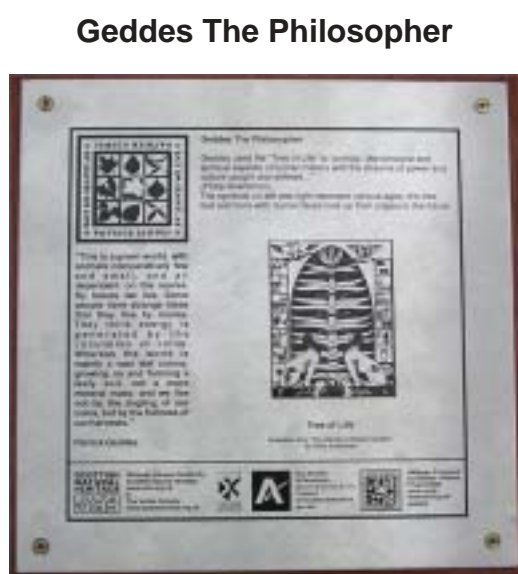
Primary 6 draw Animals and Plants



Geddes The Ecologist and Patron of the Arts



Primary 5 draw Animals and Fish



Geddes The Philosopher

He turned his attention to the environment in which humanity lived and now developed his life-long method of teaching: by example and personal involvement. He moved with his wife Anna, who gave her full support, into a slum tenement in the High Street in Edinburgh and showed by example how to renovate and make habitable a sound but neglected building. He then encouraged the other inhabitants to do likewise. From this modest beginning over the years he improved the environment of several buildings in the Royal Mile, using them as hostels to improve the lot of students at Edinburgh University, and taking on and extending Ramsay Gardens, beside Edinburgh Castle. Holding various teaching posts, including the part-time Chair of Botany at Dundee, he also ran a series of Summer Schools at Ramsay Gardens, with a wide range of subjects: environment, sociology, arts, music, in fact anything PG felt was important, including his first love gardening. He aimed to create gardens below the castle above the Grass Market in Edinburgh. He was also known to lead parties of students, who would otherwise have been sound asleep, to the top of Arthur's Seat to enjoy the atmosphere on a fine moonlit night!

In later life he spent ten years in India, advising on the renovation of the poor slum parts of several cities by what he called "Conservative Surgery", that is opening the streets up to air and light by demolishing the worst houses, while saving and renovating where at all possible.



A Bee gets busy

One of the most effective and imaginative examples of his education about the environment of the entire population of a whole city took place in Indore, India and it is worth describing in full:

Maharajah for a Day

“He had been shocked to find it (Indore) one of the most plague-and malaria-ridden cities in India, with a life-expectancy of only 18.6 years, and tried to find some effective means of improving these conditions. But as he tramped through crowded lanes and along the dirty river-fronts, marking on a map the most serious menaces to public health, the Indorians displayed signs of open hostility. The sight of Europeans prowling about with maps always made the Indians fearful of what demolition might soon strike their homes or neighbourhood, but the presence of the bearded Scotsman with his face marked by recent sorrows and overwork spread near-terror among the townspeople. Finally, P.G. asked his Indian assistant why everyone pointed at him. And it was reluctantly explained that they thought he was ‘the old Sahib that brings the plague!’.

Geddes went that very afternoon to the Home-minister of the ruling Prince of Indore and, after explaining the problem, boldly requested to be made Maharajah for a day! Consent was speedily given, and thus armed with princely authority



Tadpoles in the River Dee



Ballater School "The School in the Trees" (hint - green roof)

and with the enthusiastic help of Indore's mayor ('an able Brahmin doctor'), the Scottish Maharajah launched a campaign that revealed him an able general of reconstruction. They spread news throughout the city that a new kind of pageant and festival would be given on next Diwali day, this being an important holiday representing several great occasions: a day of harvest; the New Year's day of one sacred calendar; a day commemorating the slaying of a fearsome giant by Rama and 'most appropriate of all, for my purpose, Diwali is the signal for that strange and terrible domestic cataclysm, that annual insurrection of the women from which all men can but flee, and which is as well known in West as East – here as 'spring-housecleaning'.

After widely announcing that the new festive procession would not follow either the traditional Hindu or Moslem route through the city, but take instead the one along which most houses had been cleaned and repaired, P.G. and the mayor enlisted the aid of each priest and mullah by having the roads and pavements outside all temples and mosques cleaned and mended, and trees planted around them. Free removal of rubbish was advertised far and wide and in the six weeks of preparation for this special Diwali, over 6,000 loads were carted away from homes and courtyards, 'with much inconvenience to the rats formerly housed therein'. These plague-spreading pests were trapped by the thousands in the city and along the river banks. Meanwhile a wave of housecleaning, painting, and repairing swept through every quarter of Indore, for each one wanted to win the honour of having the procession pass along its streets.

“Then on the great day came forth our pageant, with streets athrong with villagers from far and near. First the procession...
Contd. Panel 6



Primary 1 draw Leaves and Butterflies



Geddes The Thinker



Primary 2 draw Animals and Fish



Primary 2/3 draw Birds and Sheep



Geddes The Planner



Primary 4 draw Deer and Badger

www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes

Ballater Geddes Project 2004 wishes to thank these organisations who have generously funded or supported this Exhibition or Project





SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 6 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Environmental Education 2/2



Diwali in the Madras Presidency in 1945

Agriculture and the harvest were portrayed by chariots carrying the Sun-god, the Rain, and so on. Elephants laden with cotton-bags and carrying merchants in silver howdas on their backs signified the importance of cotton to Indore. The climax of this section of the parade was Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity, on the dazzling white elephant of her legend. Here P.G. had encountered some difficulty, for the nearest white elephants belonged to the King of Siam, and even his were only light pink. But an idea inevitably struck Geddes;

‘With a little persuasion we were able to give this mount two coats of whitewash, from trunk to tail.

What snowy brilliance in the sunshine – a paragon of a white elephant, such as neither king nor goddess had ever ridden before!’



Part of the Procession through Indore

After the gaiety of harvest, came a dismal change of scene and tone.

There appeared:

‘melancholy, wailing, and discordant instruments; weird figures, as tigers, as demons, as disease – the latter breaking jointed, bacilli-like twigs and casting them at the crowd. Types too of poverty and misery as well as wretched disease-sufferers; and among and after these came sinister swordsmen, barbarous raiders, threatening with dagger or with lance: in short the ugly aspects of war. Next followed models of slum-dwellings, well caricatured with their crumbling walls and staggering roofs, broken windows and general air of misery and dirt. Then the Giant of Rama’s legend, but here presented as the giant of dirt – a formidable figure some twelve feet high. . . Then following him, the Rat of Plague, also made by clever and skilful craftsmen: a good six feet long, this rodent, and quivering all over with the rat-fleas which carry plague, fleas here similarly magnified by use of locusts dipped in ink and mounted on quivering wires. Nor did we forget huge model mosquitoes for malaria. Again a brief break after all these instructive horrors. Then cheerful music, heading the long line of four hundred sweepers of the town, two abreast all in

spotless white raiment, with new brooms flower-garlanded. Their carts were all fresh-painted, red and blue, and their big beautiful white oxen were not only well-groomed and bright-harnessed for the occasion but had black-polished hoofs, blue bead necklaces and golden flower garlands, with their great horns gilded and vermillioned by turns. Every sweeper too was wearing a new turban, and of the town’s colours – as were all the employees and higher officers of Indore, as well as the mayor and myself; this had been arranged with his warm approval as a symbol of the democracy of civic service.

As the sweepers began their march, Geddes warmly greeted the leader, a stately patriarch with a magnificent white beard, and took a marigold for his button-hole from the old man’s broom-garland.

Thereupon a burst of cheers went down the line. Well done; a good idea! Cried the mayor to me. Why? What? Said I.

Said he, Custom would not let me do that, as a Brahmin, to an Untouchable; but as a European you were free to. You could not have done better: you have treated them as men, as equals, and thus encouraged them more than I can tell you! (And so indeed it afterwards proved).



Geddes Walkway Posts in preparation

Behind the sweepers marched a civic procession worthy of the free cities of Europe at their apogee: caste labourers, firemen, and police; officials, mayor, and Maharajah Geddes; and after them, enthroned on a stately car, a new goddess evoked for the occasion: Indore City. Her banner bore on one side the city’s name in illuminated letters and on the other side the city-plan in large outline, with heavy red lines showing the proposed changes to be made. Following this Goddess were big models of the public library, museum, theatre, and other buildings P.G. had projected; and a whole group of floats contained models of the private homes that were to replace slum dwellings. Next came floats representing all the crafts, on which masons, potters and others busily acted out their parts.

Then ‘the future gardens: great drays laden with fruit-laden banana plants, papayas and more: and with flowers as well, and sacks of fruit, to toss to children. We even sacrificed the Maharaja’s biggest and best orange-tree, which went swaying through the streets, and dropping its golden burden. And to wind up all, a dray giving away innumerable tiny pots with seedlings of the Tulsi plant, (*Ocimum sanctum* of Linnaeus) the ‘sacred basil’ of European poets, which is the central symbol of the well-kept Hindu home. Thus we perambulated pretty well the whole city for the long afternoon; and then wound up at dark at the public park, where the Giant of Dirt and the Rat of Plague were burned in a great bonfire; and their disappearance announced by fireworks’.

The results of this dramatised lesson in civics were quickly apparent. A new spirit of house-pride and self-confidence spread among the Indians whom generations of disease had defeated and discouraged; even the sweepers performed their humble tasks with renewed zeal. Practically all of the thousand plots laid out in garden suburbs were taken up in a short time. But most important of all, the plague came to an end, partly



Learning about height, sounds and surveys at Ballater Environmental Education Centre



through cleaning up the city and partly because its season was over. Geddes was the leading figure in Indore, and people followed him in the streets, pointed at him, talked excitedly. Now they called him ‘the old Sahib that’s charmed away the plague!’

As the first half of Patrick Geddes’s career in India comes to a close with his return to Scotland in 1919, what better commentary on the vicissitudes of these years than his own definition of magic and romance:

‘While a man can win power over nature, there is magic; while he can stoutly confront life and death, there is romance.’
(Boardman)

To the end of his life, back in Edinburgh and then in Montpellier in the south of France, he continued to teach, leading his students out into the open air at every opportunity, and taking examples from nature.

Today many of Geddes’s original ideas have been incorporated into modern environmental educational thinking without many either knowing or acknowledging their source. Two projects which have been inspired by Geddes are: the designing of the plaques by the Ballater children which combined nature and art, and the work of the Kolkata children again combining craft, art, poetry and tradition. The video link will give both schools international insight into one another’s culture.

The example set by Geddes’s Summer Schools is now widely copied by Universities and Colleges around the world, and with the aid of modern technology, the Open University brings wide and varied subjects within reach of everyone.

The latest developments are the John Muir Trust Awards, made to those who’s projects protect wild places, and their new links to the Cairngorms National Park through the appointment of Dr. Robbie Nicol as John Muir Trust Award Manager. He came from another modern educational establishment: the outdoor education section of Edinburgh University.

Sheila Potter

Did you know...

...that if you visit Edinburgh Zoo (or the Scottish Zoological Park to give it its proper name) that it was designed by a local Ballater lad by the name of Patrick Geddes? Geddes and his son-in-law, the architect, Frank Mears (later Sir Frank), provided the design for the Corstorphine Hill site. The highly popular Zoo has now provided education and enjoyment for generations of people from all over Scotland and further afield.



Part of Geddes and Mears Plan for Edinburgh Zoo (1925)



www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes

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SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 7 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Language of Rivers & Leaves 1/2

Language of Rivers and Leaves - From Bengal to Ballater by Boat!

This traditional 5.5m boat was cycled over 70 kms through the night by rickshaw to reach its destination in the centre of Kolkata at the School of Art and Craft.

"Our aspirations come in the guise of children"
- Rabindranath Tagore (1861 - 1941).

A uniquely painted Bengali river boat is to travel to Aberdeenshire this year (2004) to celebrate the historic work undertaken in India by Sir Patrick Geddes & his family in the early part of the 20th Century. This also celebrates Patrick Geddes's birth in Ballater in 1854 and contributes to a nationwide programme of events. Driven by the expressive arts, an exciting project has been devised for schools, but with broad appeal, which embraces environmental themes/cultural diversity; revealing strong international links and creating new bonds between communities in Scotland and India.

Geddes, like John Muir, and those environmentalists who followed; such as Arthur Geddes (PG's son), Frank Fraser Darling, Morton Boyd and Tom Weir all promoted a passion for experiencing the great outdoors and learning from nature. Interaction with the natural world inspired mottoes and phrases such as: By Leaves We Live / By Creating We Think and, life simply explored with a code relating to community as the relationship of Folke - Work - Place.



college at Santiniketan (later Visva-Bharati University - see right) impressed Geddes with his humanitarian interest in education.

Many now believe that Scotland's Parliament must interpret the core values promoted by Geddes as part of an environmental and educational philosophy which has vision and encourages community empowerment. The arts have a major role for the interpretation of these values.

River communities 5000 miles apart share not only an appreciation of Geddes but trading links which reach back over 100 years. The boat is used as a universal icon which both enables communication, discovery and cultural/economic trade and exchange.

For example: The jute trade with India was important and the rail network to Ballater would have brought many manufactured goods; such as carpets, linoleum and thousands of jute sacks for potatoes and grain etc. But significantly it is also interesting to realise that from the 1820's most of Scotland's fishing fleet was preserving its nets, sails and ropes with tannin from "cutch" (resin from the Acacia Tree) which was imported from India.

We are recognising history but importantly we are also celebrating community life now. This innovative global project raises awareness and opportunities for school children in both countries and enables them to communicate with one another. English language is a strong element within the Indian education system, which was influenced by Scots



Girls dance to celebrate the "Sonar Tari"

educators and missionaries. The BGP2004 ambition to develop e-mail and webcam exchanges is in progress. Initially we navigated by boat using the sun and stars and now Internet via satellite supports the values of this creative initiative. I'm sure Geddes would have approved!

The Bengal boat named "Sonar Tari – Golden Boat" – was specially commissioned and named after Rabindranath Tagore's famous poem "Sonar Tari" (See Panel 8):

Artist / educator Kenny Munro has been working with "Ballater Geddes Project 2004" since 1999. He has been employed, with others, by Aberdeenshire Council to activate international links, enabling schools in both countries to exchange cultural and environmental messages via the expressive arts.

Kenny Munro conducts workshops in Kolkata, Bengal, India, 4 - 14 March 2004 with pupils and teachers of the School of Arts and Crafts, Kolkata.



plus folders of cultural data from Ballater and Finzean schools. (Biggest challenge was 30-40 C and humidity)".

Retracing and celebrating the work of Patrick Geddes in Bengal

The programme for events had been well planned with 700 printed green invitation sheets going out in advance to publicise in Bengal, invite public and interested parties and to generate maximum media interest. (Formal credit to Aberdeenshire Council, Ballater Geddes Project 2004 and list of supporters).

- A formal inaugural event on the 5th April enabled "hand over of cameras etc".
- Daily Workshops with pupils morning and evening.
- Symposium with dance music on the 11th.
- On 14th (First Day of Bengali New Year); a large scale procession, featuring painted boat, students/parents etc. with police escort and driven on by Indian bagpipers, TV coverage translated as 4/5 news slots at 5pm and 10pm on two occasions.
- Documentation – We have good still and video coverage of events. And suitable material for future exhibitions.
- Most significantly I wish to try to enable Tandra Chanda and Pulak Ghosh (Teachers in Kolkata) to take part in Aberdeenshire Events (Sept.-Oct. 2004).

We also decided to have printed certificates of achievement for the pupils who worked on "Sonar Tari" and significantly the boat will be shipped to Scotland for Autumn 2004 activities in Aberdeenshire. Proposed to launch on Loch Kinord, outside Ballater, for a "short" but significant baptismal ceremony on the 2nd or 3rd October. This will also trigger the potential for making of a the replica of the Kinord Canoe in due course.



Kenny Munro and Tandra Chanda at the School of Art & Craft, Kolkata, India

Autumn Event: Bengali festival in Aberdeenshire 27 September – 3rd October 2004: Following on as a reciprocal event from the Kolkata activities (April). Celebrating river communities with environmental themes.

A week of work shops at Ballater and Finzean primary schools:

Bashabi Fraser (writer/poet) / Kenny Munro sculptor / Musician, - performer of Indian Music/Dance have been contracted to work with school and community to deliver a multi arts event to culminate with a procession on the 2nd October / symbolic launch of boat "Sonar Tari".



Students decorate the "Sonar Tari"



Abdul Karim with Queen Victoria reproduced in a Ballater Old Royal Station Exhibit

secretary) and his family lived on the Balmoral Estate. (Karim Cottage). Several Indians, employed by Victoria are said to be buried in the local burial ground at Ballochbuie.

Ref. "A Queens Country" by Robert Smith. ISBN 0-85976-533-4

About Visva-Bharati University, India
What the two colleges (Santiniketan and Sriniketan) are for:

It is clear from Tagore's "mission statement" why Geddes and Tagore got on so well - it chimes with Geddes's belief in a high level of education for all and the "Three H's" on panel 3.

Santiniketan

To study the mind of man in its realisation of different aspects of truth from diverse points of view.

To bring into more intimate relation with one another, through patient study and research, the different cultures of the East on the basis of their underlying unity.

To approach the West from the standpoint of such a unity of the life and thought of Asia.

To seek to realize in a common fellowship of study the meeting of the East and the West, and thus ultimately to strengthen the fundamental conditions of world peace through the establishment of free communication of ideas between the two hemispheres.

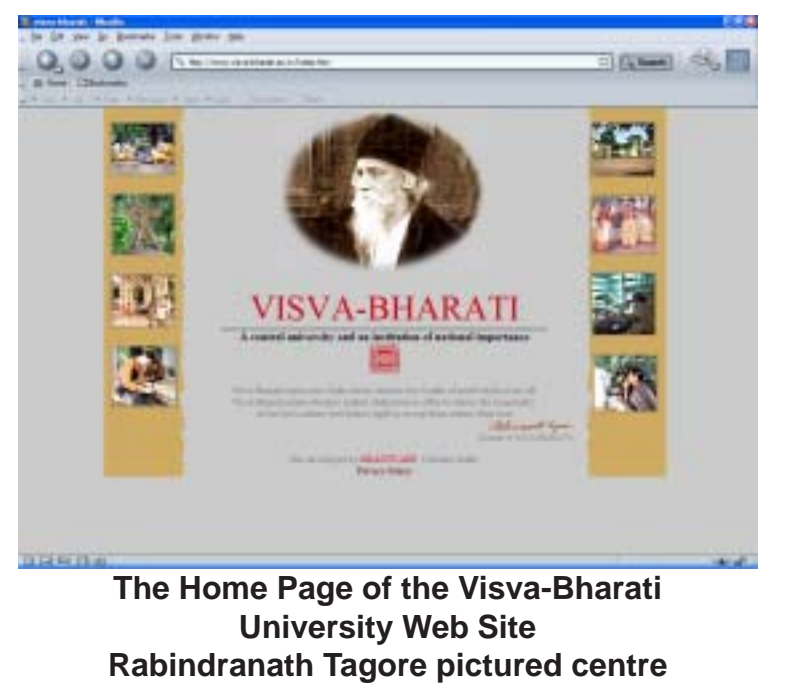
And, with such ideals in view, to provide at Santiniketan, a centre of culture where research into and study of the religion, literature, history, science and art of Hindu, Buddhist, Jain, Islamic, Sikh, Christian and other civilisations may be pursued along with the culture of the West, with that simplicity in externals which is necessary for true spiritual realisation, in amity, good fellowship and co-operation between the thinkers and scholars of both Eastern and Western countries.

Sriniketan

To win the friendship and affection of villagers and cultivators by taking a real interest in all that concerns their life and welfare, and by making an effort to assist them in solving their most pressing problems.

To initiate a dialogue between academic study and research of rural economy / culture and on-field experience.

from: www.visva-bharati.ac.in



Aberdeenshire Council



Ballater Victoria Week



The Saltire Society



SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE

Ballater & Crathie Community Council



Marr Area Partnership



CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK



SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 8 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Language of Rivers & Leaves 2/2

Geddes's meditation on the Ganges:

"The Sacred River"

"The day before this letter (quoted before), Geddes started a long one to his friend Fleure in which he speaks of the development his Valley Section is undergoing in India, namely 'to that of the Sacred River'.

For the Ganges (its sister streams in some measure also) has been educating me, sometimes consciously, & also gradually & sub-consciously, to realise this, & something of what it has meant for civilisation - what it continues to mean - what it may also mean for the future.'

The Ganges reminds him of his own childhood river, the Tay, 'which will always be for me my main impulse of the life-stream and of the cosmos'.

This leads in turn to his early experience of sunsets reflected in the river and his 'first - and still brightest - vision of - what I took to be - God'. Reminiscing about the fine views from the Kinnoull Hill cliffs, he sees that 'it must have been in the climbings and ramblings over this fine valley landscape... that I got the feeling of the valley section which has been a main vision of geography in later years'. These views of town and countryside also aroused his interest.

'in the plans and detailed aspects of cities, & also in their generalised aspects & their ideal significance - & these as in direct continuity one with another, and not belonging, like the religion and politics around me, to different worlds, both always uninteresting, & even repellent, since as I later came to see - unreal'.

P.G. comes back to the Ganges and its 'mighty convergents' which sweep down from 'Himalayas to delta and ocean... & which make the journey from Calcutta to Dacca so impressive', and finds this too vast in comparison with European distances and valley sections.

'Yet the extraordinary magnitude with its extensiveness is more of a world-vision, & so completes our otherwise too micro-cosmal & local ones'.

You see too the importance of this greatness of scale in the special metropolitance of Benares - which it is well worth coming to India to feel, as you can't do until you have spent long mornings & afternoons & evenings upon the river with its marvellous architectural medley, & its strange intensity & variety of religious and ritual life'.

From "The Worlds of Patrick Geddes" by Philip Boardman.



The 2004 "Sonar Tari" with decoration by the Indian students - handprints, BGP2004 logo and Ballater and Finzean Schools names



Tandra Chanda (left) and Pulak Ghosh display Geddes material brought from Scotland by Kenny Munro



Tagore's meditation on river life:

The Golden Boat from Sonar Tari, 1894

Clouds rumbling in the sky; teeming rain.
I sit on the river-bank, sad and alone.
The sheaves lie gathered, harvest has ended,
The river is swollen and fierce in its flow.
As we cut the paddy it started to rain.

One small paddy-field, no one but me -
Flood-waters twisting and swirling everywhere.
Trees on the far bank smear shadows like ink
On a village painted on deep morning grey.
On this side a paddy-field, no one but me.

Who is this, steering close to the shore,
Singing? I feel that she is someone I know.
The sails are filled wide, she grazes ahead,
Waves break helplessly against the boat each side.
I watch and feel I have seen her face before.

Oh to what foreign land do you sail?
Come to the bank and moor your boat for a while.
Go where you want to, give where you care to,
But come to the bank a moment, show your smile -
Take away my golden paddy when you sail.

Take it, take as much as you can load.
Is there more? No, none, I have put it aboard.
My intense labour here by the river -
I have parted with it all, layer by layer:
Now take me as well, be kind, take me aboard.

No room, no room, the boat is too small.
Loaded with my gold paddy, the boat is full.
Across the rain-sky clouds heave to and fro,
On the bare river-bank, I remain alone -
What I had has gone: the golden boat took it all.

Rabindranath Tagore, friend of and collaborator with Patrick Geddes.



Students dance to celebrate the "Sonar Tari"



Students decorate the "Sonar Tari". The boy's hat proclaims "By Leaves We Live"!

The Great Biocentric – Sir Patrick Geddes – By Leaves We Live

The significance of his Ideas, Work and Legacy for us today. Celebrating the Past in order to influence the Future.



Students of the School of Art & Craft celebrate Tagore and Geddes

Much has changed in the world since his birth in Ballater 150 years ago. However his promotion of positive values attached to Humanity, Education for Life and striving for International Peace are universal issues, which will always need WORK by FOLK in every PLACE on the planet!

Studying Life: Celebrating the Living Community

In simple terms I think PG is always reminding us to; look at nature, try to understand its functions and our place within the "whole scheme of things".

Celebrating the creativity and energy within every person, creature, and plant.



Patrick Geddes inspired installation by artists Kenny Munro and Lesley-May Miller

Recognising the endless flow of diversity, beauty and fundamental relationship between all things.

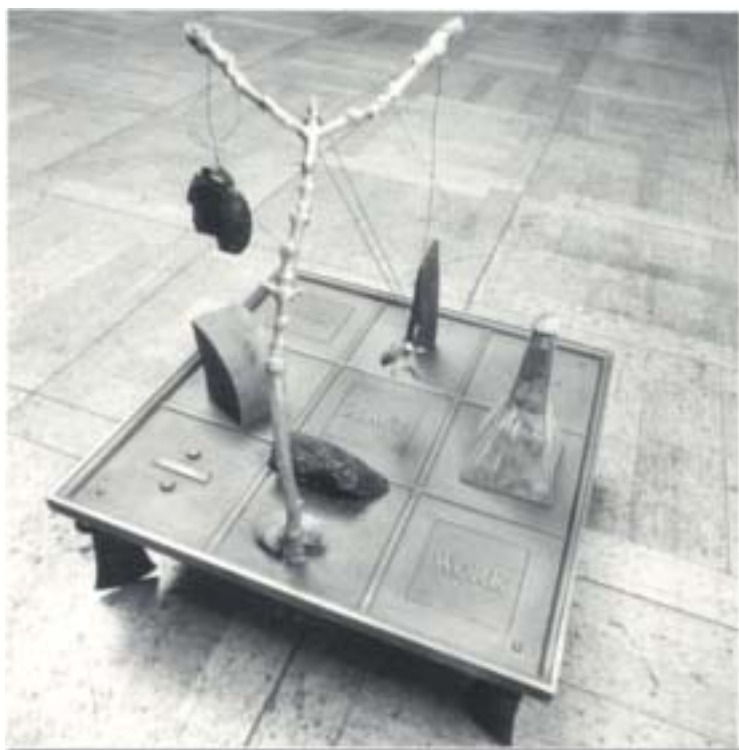
Encouraging collaborative action

On every level of community life he advocates trying to

turn difficulties into opportunities; energising people to celebrate civic values and promote an "unfettered" approach to education. However, with this sense of cultural wealth, explore old and new avenues of opportunity, in any field, and find a way to share and communicate the experience.

Creative action is the answer

Whether planting a tree, organising a gala day or hill walking with friends. It all reflects on a sense of "empowerment" to achieve things. Exploring and reinterpreting the environments which we all inhabit provides endless scope for educational comparisons and exchange of knowledge.



"A Place for Geddes" by Kenny Munro

On a pragmatic note

I admit much of the above has a resonance of an idealistic philosophy and based on a willingness to "pull in the same direction". Life can be complicated with many choices and challenges. Geddes, throughout his career was faced with more than his fair share of "battles" and personal grief. Clearly he was despondent at times but he kept persevering and presents, in my view, a great icon for determination and self belief.



Barefoot painting of the "Sonar Tari" in Bengal Not often seen in Ballater!

Kenny Munro



www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes

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Aberdeenshire Council



Ballater Victoria Week



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SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE

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BALLATER Royal Decade



Marr Area Partnership



CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK



SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 9 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Arts Advocate



Patrick Geddes was neither musician, painter nor sculptor though he worked in non-fiction writing and poetry. His first wife Anna, a gifted musician, introduced him to the pleasures of music which

he had missed out on as a child (apart from hymns presumably) due to a strict Free Church upbringing by his parents. This did not stop him grasping the importance of the Arts. As a young student he had gone missing from Thomas Huxley's lectures for a month to tour London's many Art Galleries and Museums!

Throughout his professional life he appreciated the importance of Art "feeding the soul" and became involved in various ways to promote it either personally, through publishing, education, or commissions. Later, as a Planner, Geddes always tried to build artistic and cultural venues into his plans. Sadly planners and builders in later days failed to heed that lesson and can still get away with providing housing and nothing else - simplifying the job and maximising profits - but also creating many modern slum housing estates.

Summer Schools 1887-1899

As part of "seeing life whole" as Geddes put it, he ran a series of summer schools that attempted the unification of art, literature and science, each informing the others. They went "...from two small courses...offered to a handful of students in 1887, to a full-fledged summer school of art, letters, and science which by 1893 numbered 120 students from a half-dozen countries and a score of lecturers."

"The motto of the Summer Meetings was *Vivendo Discimus* - By Living We Learn - and therefore, reasoned PG, what better way is there of learning something new than by taking part in actual life as people live it? Secondly, he held constantly before both teachers and students one goal: to reunite the separate studies of art, of literature, and of science into a related cultural whole which should serve as an example to the universities still mainly engaged in breaking knowledge up into particles unconnected with each other or with life."

Philip Boardman "The Worlds of Patrick Geddes"

From the Geddes's twin eyries of the Outlook Tower and Ramsay Gardens, above Edinburgh on the Castle Rock, Geddes and Anna looked over the region and out to the world. At Ramsay Gardens Geddes founded the Old Edinburgh School of Art recruiting, among other artists, John Duncan, Charles MacKie, James Cadenhead, Robert Burns and William Gordon Burn-Murdoch (See Panel 14). The naming was deliberate in that Geddes wished to re-establish the Old Town as a cultural centre in addition to his efforts to revive it as a place to live. Geddes and his followers felt that the earlier Celtic traditions in art and poetry in Scotland were being ignored by the

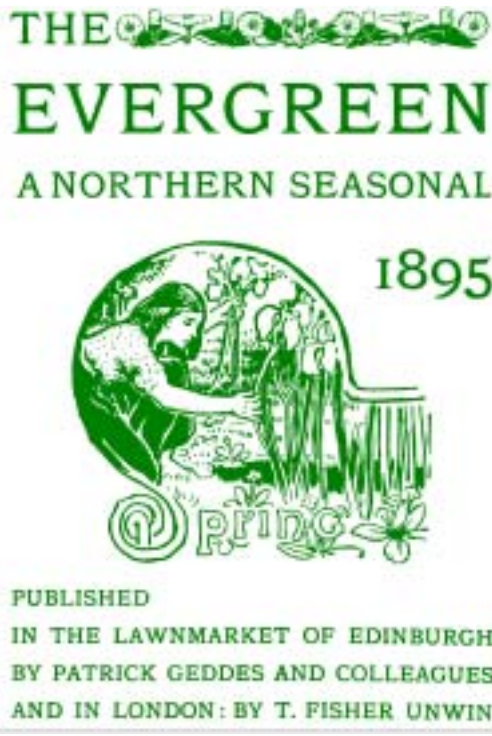


A Masque of Love 1921 by John Duncan

"establishment" of his time and set out to give them a place by promoting a "Celtic Renaissance". "...the Professor fulfilled all the requirements of a patron, playing the role of a modest Medici in the Athens of the North" "He directed the decorative activities of the Edinburgh Social Union..." (Boardman) in addition he had various artists paint murals and panels around Edinburgh including Ramsay Gardens and the Outlook Tower.

"The Evergreen"

"In 1724 Allan Ramsay had published 'A collection of Scots Poems Wrote by the Ingenious before 1600', called 'The Ever Green', in which he pleaded for a 'return to nature' and the old native poetic tradition. The residents of the new Ramsay Lodge and Ramsay Gardens, 170 years later, printed a Christmas book entitled 'The New Evergreen' in memory of Ramsay whose house and whose tradition they inherited. This little book then suggested to PG & Colleagues (Geddes's and William Sharp's publishing house) the possibility of establishing a semi-



annual review also called 'The Evergreen' as a medium of expression for University Hall, the Outlook Tower and Scotland in general." Four editions were published in 1895-96. "He aimed at thawing out the 'frozen ice-pack of culture' in Edinburgh and at bringing some feeling for art to 'that inferno of industry, Glasgow'. Another part of his purpose consisted in renewing local feeling and local colour in Scotland, not in terms of a narrow 'patriotism' but to the end that she might again, become like Norway, one of the 'European Powers of Culture' and share in 'that wider culture-movement which knows neither nationality or race.'" (Boardman)

An aside - Another view of Art!

"Yet even on the basic level he emphasises that a great part of so-called necessities of life are not really needed, unlike fuel or shelter. These he (Geddes) calls the *super-necessaries*... "And when we add up the aesthetic subfunctions of all 'necessary' (i.e. not vital) ultimate products, and add to this the vast quantity of purely aesthetic products, we see how small the fundamental element of production has become in relation to the superior, and reach the paradoxical generalisation that production - though fundamentally for maintenance - is mainly for art."

(Boardman)

Welcome to the consumer society!

Paul Robeson

In 1930 Geddes wrote to a friend about Paul Robeson, the famous American singer, in London:

"What a man! What a singer! What an actor! What an artist! Simple feeling to deep emotion, simple joy of life to pathos, to humour, homeliness to spirituality! Never have I seen or heard anyone so able to give the culminating expression of his people."

Geddes goes on to espouse the "liberating" effect of music on both black and white races and recommends the songs of Rabindranath Tagore to Robeson. PG even felt moved to verse by Robeson's performance:

"Well done, your falling Emperor's part; Othello, matched to Shakespeare's art: Next show your people's vivid heart: Play Toussaint L'Ouverture, 'Tween pale and dark, too long apart."

Not bad for a man who felt his "Scottish Oppressions" from time to time. And not a racist bone in his body - perhaps surprising in a time of Empire. Still, a man who wishes to "see life whole" would have no right creating differences between races or sexes!

The Scottish Scientist and The Indian Poet

One of the most fruitful of the scientist Geddes's relationships, artistically and in planning and education, was getting to know the revered Bengali Poet Rabindranath Tagore. He had been invited by PG to lecture at a summer meeting in India. Tagore was also an educator, and Geddes willingly offered to help him plan a University based on his schools at Santiniketan and Sriniketan (See Panel 7).

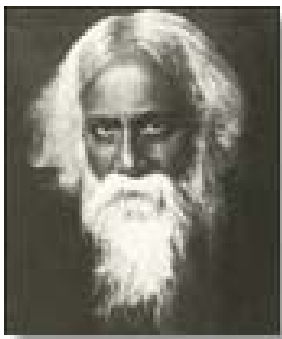
Tagore to Geddes, on plans for an International University in India: "I merely started with this one simple idea that education should never be dissociated from life...."

Entirely in line with PG's philosophy.

Tom Potter



BGP2004 member Ian Mitchell teaching art at Ballater School. The leaves in the background are most appropriate - "By Leaves We Live" - Patrick Geddes



A Schoolgirl's Memories of Tagore

The circumstances of Tagore's visit to a little market town in the north of England are long-since forgotten. I think a member of the congregation of which

my father was Session Clerk had worked in India and knew the man - poet, religious preacher, social reformer, musician. At any rate Tagore, who must have been over 70 years of age



was one evening invited to speak to the congregation. At the time I was learning to play badminton and that seemed infinitely more attractive than going to a dry talk. I do remember my father saying "Please yourself, but when you are older you will be glad you went". So I went.

Tagore had been born just after the Indian Mutiny. Most Indians stayed at home for fear of losing caste by crossing the sea, so they knew little of other lands.



He told us of his life as the son of a Bengali land owner who had revived a Bengali religious society. They believed in One Supreme Being. Tagore and his brothers grew up in an atmosphere of culture and religion. He managed his father's estate

and produced a regular magazine that guided his people to nationalism. Deeply religious, he spoke of visions when he was



appealed to for love of his fellows. Tagore wrote in Bengali and I suppose only if one understands the language can one appreciate the beauty of his poems, plays and novels. A number were quoted that night,

but they are long since forgotten. Years later I read some of his lyrical poetry and a novel, 'Gora', dealing with the struggle between old and new in Calcutta society. Through his writings



there is a sense of the beauty of nature, a love of children and a consciousness of the love of a Supreme Being. He put Indian thoughts and points of view to the west.

On earlier visits he had travelled to build up his health after a breakdown and to raise money. I think when I met him he was just on a social visit.

I think I enjoyed the talk but memory fails after so many years - and it was a long time ago! I



do remember refreshments being served and the farmer's wife who was the mother of one of the boys in my class making sure that I got rather more than my share of fresh cream meringues. I suppose as the

only child there I stood out like a sore thumb.

At any rate I thought I was someone special when the speaker came to talk to me. He asked me what I wanted to be, why I wanted to go to University and, as a result of what must have been probing questions, why I was



interested in History and in the Bible. He spoke eloquently about love and compassion and a few people gathered round. I do remember that when we left he shook hands with me. I suppose I felt I had done the right thing in sacrificing the badminton!

Dr. Sheila Sedgwick (Local Historian) 2004

The artwork placed throughout Dr. Sedgwick's recollection is kindly supplied by Ballater Primary School, Scotland and The School of Art and Craft, Kolkata, India which takes young to older students. The Scottish Scientist and the Indian Poet both placed high value on art, for all, and as part of a broad education.

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Aberdeenshire Council



Ballater Victoria Week



The Saltire Society



Scottish Natural Heritage

Ballater & Crathie Community Council



Asylum Pictures



Marr Area Partnership



Cairngorms National Park



SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 10 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Politics & Economics



“By Leaves We Live”

“This is a green world, with animals comparatively few and small, and all dependent on the leaves. By leaves we live. Some people have strange ideas that they live by money. They think energy is generated by the circulation of coins. Whereas the world is mainly a vast leaf colony, growing on and forming a leafy soil, not a mere mineral mass; and we live not by the jingling of our coins, but by the fullness of our harvests.”

Patrick Geddes (1888)

In 1912 Geddes and others, believing the First World War was inevitable (he'd seen it coming from about 1900), wrote a ten point credo called “What To Do” for post war reconstruction and renewal, here is one of them:

*“Raise the life-standard of the people and the thought-standard of schools and universities; so may the workman and his family receive due mead of **real** wages; the leisure of all become dignified; and for our money-economy be substituted a life-economy.”*

Patrick Geddes was scathing of the economic system of his time (and by extension ours - as little has changed). Although Geddes refused to carry any political label preferring to “get his sleeves rolled up”, and give practical help where he could, his economic thoughts are perhaps closest to the Russian Anarchist, Prince Peter Kropotkin. He stressed “Mutual Aid” as a factor in evolution and as an example for a better economic system.

This proposed: not monarchy, competition, enforced collectivism or dictatorship, empire or constant war, but voluntary, community co-operation on a personal, local, regional and global basis. As a believer in co-operation to get things done on a human scale Geddes had no time for the confrontational politics of his time (or again ours) whether parliamentary, economic, Marxist or Capitalist. Both Evolutionists, Geddes and Kropotkin studied nature and human society and found numerous examples of co-operation in contrast to the limited “nature red in tooth and claw” proposal of Darwin. Both abhorred the economic and military Darwinism of the time (empire, competition, struggle and war) which still holds sway today. “Globalisation” is not new - See the history of The British and other Empires.

Although sadly, in his lifetime Geddes didn't get down to writing a definitive work on his economic ideas the thrust of his thinking can be pieced together from various statements. As a biologist Geddes took his starting point not from any political or economic dogma but from - what were the best conditions for the organism (i.e. humans) to thrive and enhance their quality of life? This is why Geddes is as relevant today as when he lived.

So, what would a Geddesian *life-economy* look like? What are *real* wages?

We live in a society where money is more important than people, animals or plants. Is the history of the human race to be written in the ledgers of commerce, in pay cheques? or rather, will it be recorded that humans lived a full life based on the realities of existence on this planet? In his famous “By Leaves We Live” statement Patrick Geddes laid down a fundamental challenge to our species. That is whether to base our lives on a realistic understanding of our situation and build upon it or follow an illusion based on the elevation of money and its pursuit above all other factors. To live limited, part lives, as Geddes would have seen it. The “By Leaves We Live” statement could be simply put as – you can't eat money. Money, of itself, provides no sustenance, shelter or education nor security particularly when it fails to have value as in the Wall Street Crash of 1929 and subsequent Depression or any other economic event since. When hungry, would people rather have food or gold?

Is it a form of slavery to money to decide that things can only be done if there is enough money around (whatever its value – what if its value is zero?) or that things are worth doing in themselves? Somehow, things did get done before the advent of money. What makes life worth living? Is it family, children, friends, learning, humour, achievement, experiences, adventure, art, thought, etc... or cold metal coins?

The clear implication of Geddes' statements is that money is a distraction from the reality of our existence. Money, from being a convenient means of exchange, has become



the end in itself. This is recognised by those who would use it as a means of coercion, social control and as an incentive (Government and (mostly) Big Business). It could also be regarded as an irresponsible means to proceed. When the value of money is dictated by a few people in positions of power - first Financial Markets and then Governments where actions are generally reactive rather than positive - how can ordinary people have confidence to plan or construct in such a system rather than just hope for the best? Our species has never really consulted on whether we think money and our economic system are a good idea, or, if there are any better alternatives. Universities continue to teach Capitalism and Marxism as, apparently, the only alternatives to choose between with scant attention paid to anything else although many people have ideas however good or bad, traditional or new, practical or impractical.



“This is a green world...”

In 1917 Geddes wrote:

“The earlier ... period was that based on coal and steam and typified by waste of resources, smoke and soot covered cities, blighted landscapes, and stunted human lives. A time of making money anyhow and having wars anyhow, with only utilitarian economists and liberal lawyers, or else imperial bureaucrats and bards, as our rival priesthoods: the whole system being crowned at its summit by the ruling financier.”

(Boardman)

What has changed?

From ‘Ideas at War’ (1917)

“The Mechanical Age came into being as machines supplemented or displaced manpower and multiplied the social injustices already existing. It did not invent slums and the sweatshop, it merely standardised these evils and increased them a thousand fold. The economic gospel of the age was that ‘the highest duty of man is to buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market’. Aided by ‘Liberalism’ in thought and politics, the Mechanical Age achieved a system of free public instruction in the three R's - falsely referred to as an ‘elementary education’ - so that the quality and quantity of clerks and bureaucrats might be improved. Incidentally, the emphasis on arithmetic as a key to success diverted the attention of workers from real wages to money wages; hence their demands for ‘more money’, not for better housing or cleaner air to breathe.”*

(Boardman)

* Geddes preferred the three H's - “Heart, Hand and Head”, arguably a more comprehensive view of education for human existence. Even today Governments and Business still stress the three R's and an arbitrary percentage attending University as essential to “compete (economically) with other nations” and as “factory fodder” at home. The three R's Geddes saw as but tools in a total, broad education.

“The Imperial Age continued the Mechanical by extending the latter's methods and goals to all corners of the earth. Hand-in-hand with this imperialism, the Financial Age developed, for wherever pounds, francs or dollars went, the flag soon followed, and vice-versa. The mainsprings of the Financial Age were the legislation of limited liability companies in England, the creation of monopolistic trusts in the USA, and the perfection of profiteering techniques in both countries.”

(Boardman)

From ‘The Coming Polity’ (1917)

“We have to re-open the coalmines, renew the machinery, and multiply the products like our predecessors of the industrial and liberal age; but not merely for sale and personal profit, but for clothing the naked. More important still, we have again to till and plant the ground; but not merely or mainly for market, but to feed the hungry. Again we have to build houses, but now no longer merely as properties, as comfort-villas or luxury-palaces - still less as



speculations in rise of land values or on profits of jerry-building; but to house the homeless. We have to rebuild the schools; but not to pass examinations in, or provide returns for metropolitan clerks to pigeon-hole; but to teach the children.”

(Boardman)

In 1930 Geddes wrote:

“How are we to get from Wandom to Peacedom? From the exciting Nationalisms and Imperialisms of the first to peaceful Regional and Civic developments in the second?... With business ever expanding...what can be thought of, or devised, much less applied, to abate the ever-increasing world-domination of Finance, with its accepted faith in Money, as supreme and quintessential Power, to and by which the essential prayers (i.e. of aspiration) of civilised men seem ever more convincingly directed?”

(Boardman)

What has changed?

There is still a job of work to do here for our time. In 1930 Geddes was still puzzling how to get from the *money-economy* to the *life-economy* he had espoused in 1912. He was clearly as disappointed as were many of his generation with the “business as usual” approach of world powers and Empires after World War One, with an eye to the rematch that was World War Two.

2004 - The 150th Anniversary of Geddes's Birth

An intensely compassionate, humanitarian and practical man Geddes argued human need is more important than commerce or money. In our time the current AIDS epidemic in Africa cannot be treated properly because the drug companies want more than can be afforded by African countries. People die because money is more important than they are. This is not the *life-economy* that Geddes desired, it is the *money-economy* he deplored. If our *money-economy* can supply polluting vehicles, lethal weapons, life shortening tobacco and heroin and not life saving drugs can it not rightly be described as, in some respects, a *death-economy*? (See also Lewis Mumford on Geddes on panel 14 “A Geddes Miscellany”).

Geddes strove to “see life whole” - how all aspects of it are interconnected. In his time he saw the cities as living a parasitical existence on the rural areas particularly in imperial capitals which sucked in resources to fight wars and build empires. One of the largest factors affecting economics in our time and Geddes's is and was the “flight from the land” into the cities. In 2004 more than half the worlds' population is now urban and this trend continues apace. Geddes (and Kropotkin) looked for inspiration to the previous city-states, before the rise of nation states, where parity of esteem was given to rural and urban values and occupations and were shared by both. They saw the need for renewed, cleaned up and “greened” cities. (See Panel 1).

In 2004 the population of the world is over 6 billion with consequent pressure on resources and many areas of the world are still rapidly industrialising creating environmental pressures. The use of money allows irresponsible deforestation and plundering of resources at arms length around the world without heed for the local consequences. The absurdity of trading “pollution credits” or attempts to give a monetary value to a tree or blade of grass would undoubtedly have horrified Geddes although he would see it as an inevitable extension of our current economic system. As a biologist and evolutionist Geddes thought it was the quality of (i.e. the variety of its abilities), and quality-of-life of the organism in ecological terms, not the quantity, that gave it the best chance of evolutionary success and survival. A *life-economy* and *real wages* would be directed to these ends, a *death-economy* wouldn't.

Tom Potter

On a personal note. Some years ago I came to the conclusions that: we should abandon the use of money, markets and nations as harmful to human existence, that the current economic system is incompatible with widely expressed environmental concerns and that we are one people on one planet. It has been a pleasure to discover support for this in the thoughts of my cousin Patrick Geddes. It would be fitting that the proposal of alternatives to current and older systems should be the work of this generation saddled as it is with apparently no choice of economic systems. Geddes knew where he wanted to go - out of the straightjackets of finance and commerce - and into a system where things are done because they are worth doing and enhance life. It has also been pleasing to discover lots of other cousins of Geddes descent and make friends with Project members here and abroad who appreciate what Geddes achieved in work and in thought. It has been an education!



TP

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CAIRNGORMS
NATIONAL PARK



SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 11 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Geddes' World 1/2

Geddes
1854 Born in Ballater, Scotland, October 2.



1855

1856

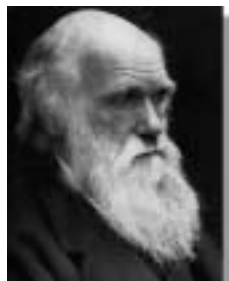
Patrick Geddes

1857 When Patrick is three the Family moves to Perth, Scotland.

1858

Max Planck

1859



Charles Darwin

1860

Thomas Huxley

1861



Einstein and Tagore

1862

Lincoln emancipates the slaves

1863

Manet *Déjeuner sur l'herbe*

1864

James Clerk Maxwell and his wife

1865

The British Parliament passes the British Locomotives on Highways Act, or 'Red Flag Act'. It reduces the speed limit for steam-powered carriages to two miles per hour in cities and four in the country, and requires men on foot carrying red flags to precede them. It stifles further development of steam carriages and cars in Britain.

26 May The surrender of the last Confederate army at Shreveport, near New Orleans, Louisiana, ends the American Civil War.

1866

Cartoon of Bismarck, Kaiser Wilhelm I & Napoleon III

1867

Marie and Pierre Curie

1868

Gladstone

1869

Gandhi, Charlie Chaplin and others

1870

Lenin

1871 - 74 Private study and reading in humanities and science.

Charles Babbage

1872

Grigory Rasputin

1873

David Livingstone

1874 Attends Edinburgh University for one week. At Royal School of Mines, London studies under Thomas Huxley.

Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt

1875

Hans Christian Andersen

1876

World

9 December The English poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson, publishes his poem 'The Charge of the Light Brigade', a poetic description of the disastrous attack on October 25 1854 by the Light Brigade at the Battle of Balaklava, during the Crimean War.

The English social scientist Herbert Spencer publishes *Principles of Psychology*, in which, several years before Charles Darwin's *The Origin of Species*, he sets out a theory of evolution.

6 May Sigmund Freud, Austrian neurologist, founder of psychoanalysis, born in Freiberg, Moravia (now Příbor, Czech Republic) (–1939).

26 July George Bernard Shaw, Irish dramatist, literary critic, and socialist propagandist, born in Dublin, Ireland (–1950).

16 October Oscar O'Flaherty Wills Wilde, Irish poet and dramatist, born in Dublin, Ireland (–1900).

16 November British troops, under the Scottish general Sir Colin Campbell, commander of the forces in India, future field marshal and Baron Clyde, relieve the north Indian city of Lucknow, besieged by Indian rebels.

12 August The first message by transatlantic telegraph cable is sent from Newfoundland, Canada, to Valentia, Ireland.

23 April Max Planck, German theoretical physicist who is the originator of quantum theory, born in Kiel, in the duchy of Schleswig (–1947).

14 July Emmeline Pankhurst, militant English suffragette, born in Manchester, England (–1928).

24 November Charles Darwin publishes *On the Origin of Species by Natural Selection*, which expounds his theory of evolution by natural selection, and by implication denies the truth of biblical creation and God's hand in Nature. It sells out immediately and revolutionizes biology.

Belgian inventor Etienne Lenoir builds the first internal combustion engine in Paris. France. Operating on coal gas it has only a 4% efficiency.

The English writer Charles Dickens publishes his novel *A Tale of Two Cities*.

The English philosopher John Stuart Mill publishes *On Liberty*. His most important work, it is an attempt to safeguard the rights of individuals in a democratic society.

22 May Arthur Conan Doyle, Scottish novelist who creates the detective Sherlock Holmes, born in Edinburgh, Scotland (–1930).

30 June At the Oxford meeting of the British Association, Bishop Samuel Wilberforce and biologist Thomas Henry Huxley debate creationism versus evolutionism.

17 March The Second Maori War breaks out in New Zealand, arising out of grievances against British settlers encroaching on aboriginal territory.

5 May The Italian soldier and patriot Giuseppe Garibaldi and his Redshirts ('The Thousand') sail from Genoa, northwest Italy, to attempt to complete the unification of Italy.

3 March An edict emancipating serfs on private Russian estates is proclaimed, ending the medieval practice which ties them to their landlords.

17 March The kingdom of Italy is formally proclaimed by the first Italian parliament. King Victor Emmanuel is proclaimed king.

12 April–13 April Confederate forces take the federal garrison of Fort Sumter, Charleston, South Carolina, after a 40-hour bombardment, marking the outbreak of the American Civil War.

Rabindranath Tagore Indian Poet and Philosopher born.

22 September The US president, Abraham Lincoln, declares that all slaves will be free from 1 January 1863.

The first casino opens in Monte Carlo, Monaco.

English chemist John Newlands devises the first periodic table.

The French artist Edouard Manet paints *Déjeuner sur l'herbe/Luncheon on the Grass*. It causes an outcry when it is exhibited in the Salon in 1865, where it is condemned as badly painted and obscene because of its composition of nude female figures and male figures in everyday dress.

Scottish physicist James Clerk Maxwell introduces mathematical equations that describe the electromagnetic field, and predict the existence of radio waves.

The Russian writer Leo Tolstoy publishes the first part of his epic novel *War and Peace*. The second part appears in 1869.

The British Parliament passes the British Locomotives on Highways Act, or 'Red Flag Act'. It reduces the speed limit for steam-powered carriages to two miles per hour in cities and four in the country, and requires men on foot carrying red flags to precede them. It stifles further development of steam carriages and cars in Britain.

26 May The surrender of the last Confederate army at Shreveport, near New Orleans, Louisiana, ends the American Civil War.

12 June A secret treaty is agreed between Austria and France, by which the French emperor, Napoleon III, promises French neutrality in Austria's coming war with Prussia provided that Austria cedes Venice, which France will in turn hand over to Italy.

The German embryologist Ernst Haeckel proposes a third category of living beings intermediate between plants and animals. Called Protista, it consists mostly of microscopic organisms such as protozoans, algae, and fungi.

13 August The Second Reform Act extends the franchise in Britain and redistributes parliamentary seats to reflect increasing urbanization. The electorate is roughly doubled from 1 to 2 million.

Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel patents dynamite. It consists of 75% nitroglycerin and 25% of an absorbent material known as ghr which makes the explosive safe and easy to handle.

The German political philosopher Karl Marx publishes the first volume of *Das Kapital/Capital*, his major work and the central text of communism.

7 November Marie Curie (born Sklodowska), Polish-born French physicist who, with her husband Pierre Curie, discovers polonium and radium, and who wins the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903 and for Chemistry in 1911, born in Warsaw, Poland (–1934).

3 December The English statesman William Ewart Gladstone forms a Liberal ministry in Britain after victory over the Conservatives in the general election.

French geologist Louis Lartet is the first to discover the skeletal remains of anatomically modern humans, in a cave near Cro-Magnon, France. They are 35,000 years old.

The German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche publishes *Gegenüberung/Twilight of the Idols*.

The English philosopher John Stuart Mill publishes 'The Subjection of Women', an essay arguing for gender equality.

2 October Mahatma Gandhi (honoric name of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi), leader of the nationalist movement to free India from British rule, born in Porbandar, India (–1948).

1869–70 At the First Vatican council, a council of the Roman Catholic Church convened by Pope Pius IX, liberalism is condemned and the infallibility of the pope is asserted.

The English scientist William Henry Fox Talbot reduces photographic exposure time to one-hundredth of a second, making moving pictures feasible.

12 April Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, founder of the Russian Communist Party, leader of the Russian Revolution, and head of the Soviet Union 1917–24, born in Simbirsk, Russia (–1924).

18 October Charles Babbage, English inventor who designed the first digital computer, dies in London, England (78). Populations of selected countries (in millions): Germany, 41; USA, 39; France, 36.1; Japan, 33; Great Britain, 26; Ireland, 5.4; Italy, 26.8.

19 January Following the defeat of Emperor Napoleon III of France in the Franco-Prussian War, King Wilhelm I of Prussia is proclaimed German emperor at Versailles in France, the North German Confederation having been enlarged to include all the German states except Austria-Hungary.

7 September A meeting of the three emperors Wilhelm, Alexander, and Franz Josef in Berlin, Germany, leads to a tacit entente between Germany, Russia, and Austria-Hungary to uphold authoritarian rule in Europe.

The US astronomer Henry Draper develops astronomical spectral photography and takes the first photograph of the spectrum of a star—that of Vega.

c. 1872 Grigory Yefimovich Rasputin, Siberian peasant and mystic who influences the Russian tsar Nicholas II and tsarina Alexandra, born in Pokrovskoye, Siberia, Russia (–1916).

The electrician Willoughby Smith confirms that the electrical conductivity of selenium increases with the amount of illumination; it proves to be an important discovery in the development of television.

1 May David Livingstone, Scottish missionary and explorer who explored much of East Africa in search of the source of the River Nile, dies in Chitambo, Barotseland (Zambia) (59).

30 November Winston Churchill, British prime minister 1940–45 and 1951–55, who leads Britain through World War II, born at Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire, England (–1965).

4 February The British general Garnet Wolseley burns the Ashanti capital of Kumasi in west Africa (modern Ghana), ending the war between the Ashanti and Britain over ending the slave trade.

Definitive legislation is passed outlawing the use of children as chimney sweeps in Britain.

The British confectionery company Fry's introduces chocolate Easter eggs.

4 August Hans Christian Andersen, Danish storyteller, dies in Copenhagen, Denmark (70).

30 June Serbia, under the nationalist leader Jovan Ristic, declares war on the Ottoman Empire.

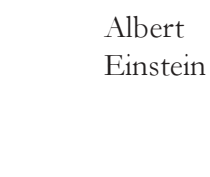
1877



Queen Victoria

1878 Roscoff, France PG attends marine biological station and Sorbonne University, Paris under Lacaze-Duthier (1878–9).

1879 PG to Mexico for research. Goes blind, invents "Thinking Machines" while blind (1879–80). Sight recovers on return home.



Albert Einstein

1880 PG demonstrator of Botany at University of Edinburgh (1880–9). "Writes, lectures, on Cell Theory, Classification of Statistics, Principles of Economics, Capitalist and Labourer, John Ruskin etc."



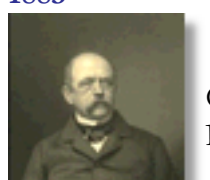
Alexander Fleming

1882



Virginia Woolf

1883



Otto von Bismarck

1884



Gregor Mendel

1885



King Leopold II of Belgium



King Leopold II of Belgium



King Leopold II of Belgium

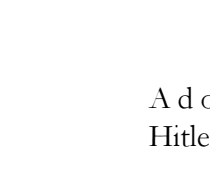
1886 PG marries Anna Morton (1886), moves with her into slums of Old Edinburgh, there beginning 'conservative-surgery' rehabilitation.

1887 Birth of PG's daughter Norah. Starts University Hall as student hostel, also Summer Meetings in Edinburgh.

1889 PG Professor of Botany in University College, Dundee (1889–1919). Publishes "The Evolution of Sex" in collaboration with J. Arthur Thomson.

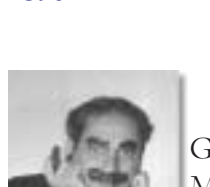
1888 PG issues Pamphlet, "Co-operation versus Socialism". Applies for Chair of Botany University of Edinburgh - does not get it. Delivers lecture on "The Rise and Aims of Botany" at University College, Dundee

1889 PG Professor of Botany in University College, Dundee (1889–1919). Publishes "The Evolution of Sex" in collaboration with J. Arthur Thomson.



Adolf Hitler

1890



Groucho Marx

1891 Birth of PG's son Alastair



Oscar Wilde

1892 PG starts "Outlook Tower" in Edinburgh

10 March Scottish-born US inventor Alexander Graham Bell transmits the first complete sentence by voice over wire using his newly invented telephone in the USA: 'Mr Watson, come here. I want you'. German engineer Nikolaus Otto patents the four-stroke internal combustion engine, the prototype of modern engines. Its development marks the beginning of the end of the age of steam. More than 30,000 are built in the following decade.

1 January Queen Victoria of Britain is proclaimed empress of India. The French bacteriologist Louis Pasteur discovers that certain bacteria die when cultured with another type of bacteria, suggesting that the latter gives off a toxic substance – an antibiotic.

6 December US inventor Thomas Alva Edison patents the phonograph. Recording involves the transmission of sound vibrations through a large horn and a diaphragm to a stylus, which inscribes a groove on a rotating wax cylinder. Reproduction of the sound is achieved by reversing the process. The first reproduction of a human voice occurs on the 29 November when Edison utters the words 'Mary had a little lamb'.

30 November English chemist and physicist William Crookes describes an early form of the cathode-ray tube, now known as Crooke's tube, to the Royal Society. It is a forerunner of the television tube.

Dutch doctor Aletta Jacobs opens the first contraceptive clinic in the world, in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

5 June Francisco 'Pancho' Villa, Mexican revolutionary who fights against the regimes of Porfirio Díaz and Victoriano Huerto, born in Hacienda de Rio Grande, Mexico (–1923).

3 September Afghan troops massacre the British legation at Kabul, reigniting the Anglo-Afghan war ended by the Treaty of Gandamak on 26 May.

5 March William Henry Beveridge, British economist who was the chief architect of Britain's welfare policies, born in Rangpur, India (–1963).

14 March Albert Einstein, German-born US physicist who develops the theory of relativity, born in Ulm, Württemberg, Germany (–1955).

19 May Nancy Witcher Langhorne, Lady Astor, British politician and the first woman to sit in the House of Commons, born in Danville, Virginia (–1964).

7 November Leon Trotsky (adopted name of Lev Davidovich Bronstein), communist theorist and activist, a leader in Russia's October Revolution of 1917, born in Iankovka, Ukraine, Russian Empire (–1940).

21 December Joseph Stalin (adopted name, Russian for steel, of Josef Vissarionovich Dzhughashvili), secretary general of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union 1922–53, and premier 1941–53, born in Gori, Georgia, Russian Empire (–1953).

The Suez Canal linking the Mediterranean and the Red Sea is used by 4,344,000 tons of shipping, 70 % of which is British.

c. 1880 Ibn Saud, Arabian tribal and Muslim leader who founds the modern state of Saudi Arabia in 1932 and begins to exploit its oil resources, born in Riyadh, Arabia (–1953).

Fifty thousand private telephones are in use in the USA.

Greenwich Mean Time is established as the legal time in the British Isles.

Violent pogroms against Jews begin in Russia and eastern Europe, forcing many Jews to emigrate westwards in succeeding years.

(Mustafa) Kemal Atatürk, Turkish soldier, statesman, and reformer, founder and first president of the Republic of Turkey 1923–38, born in Greece (–1938).

6 August Alexander Fleming, Scottish bacteriologist who discovers penicillin, born in Lochfield, Ayr, Scotland (–1955).

18 January (Alan) (Alexander) Milne, English author who creates Winnie-the-Pooh, born in London, England (–1956).

25 January Virginia Woolf, English author and critic, born in London, England (–1941).

30 January Franklin Delano Roosevelt, US statesman, thirty-second president of the USA 1933–45 (re-elected three times), a Democrat, born in Hyde Park, New York (–1945).

1 May Chancellor Otto von Bismarck introduces a state sickness insurance scheme in Germany to lessen the appeal of socialism to the working classes.

27 August Krakatoa volcano, Indonesia, explodes in one of the most catastrophic volcanic eruptions in history. The explosion is heard nearly 3,000 miles away. Over 36,000 people in Sumatra and Java are drowned by an ensuing tsunami 35 m/115 ft high, and dust, which is thrown 80 km/50 miles into the air, drifts around the world, causing spectacular sunsets for over a year.

13 February (Wilhelm) Richard Wagner, German dramatic composer and conductor, who wrote the operatic sequence *Der Ring des Nibelungen/The Ring of the Nibelung* dies in Venice, Italy (69).

April–August Germany occupies South West Africa, Togoland, and Cameroon.

6 July Gregor Mendel, Austrian monk and botanist who laid the mathematical foundations of genetics, dies in Brünn, Austro-Hungarian Empire (61).

The Spanish architect Antonio Gaudí begins work on the Sagrada Família Church in Barcelona, Spain, an extravagant and idiosyncratic building that is still unfinished at his death in 1926.

Britain proclaims a protectorate in Southern New Guinea, following German annexation of the north part of the island.

5 February The Congo State is established as a personal possession of King Leopold II of Belgium.

25 February Germany annexes Tanganyika and Zanzibar, forming German East Africa and continuing its expansion into East Africa.

17 May Germany annexes Northern New Guinea and the Bismarck Archipelago.

5 June The British proclaim a protectorate in the Niger River region of West Africa.

26 January The Sudanese followers of the dervish Mahdi (prophet) Mohammed Ahmed of Dongola capture the city of Khartoum, capital of Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, massacring the inhabitants and the occupying Anglo-Egyptian forces, including the Anglo-Egyptian commander, British general Charles Gordon.

1 January Britain annexes Upper Burma, though guerrilla warfare continues.

8 June British prime minister William Ewart Gladstone's Liberal government is defeated on the second reading of the Irish Home Rule Bill, with 93 Liberals, including John Bright, Joseph Chamberlain, and the Marquess of Hartington voting with the opposition.

8 May John S Pemberton invents the soft drink Coca-Cola in the USA: it goes on sale in Atlanta, Georgia, as 'the intellectual beverage and temperance drink', and is claimed to be a cure for headaches and dyspepsia.

France organizes Cochinchina, Cambodia, Annam, and Tonkin as the *Union Indochinoise* (French Indochina).

Polish phonologist Łukw Lejzer Zamenhof devises Esperanto: based on phonetic spelling and a very simple grammar, it becomes the most widely accepted of the artificial languages. He invents it as a way of combating nationalism.

German immigrant Emile Berliner patents his gramophone, a machine which plays discs, in the USA. Commercial production begins in Germany in 1889 and in the USA in 1894.

15 June Wilhelm II becomes emperor of Germany on the death of his father, Frederick III.

The Dutch artist Vincent van Gogh paints *Sunflowers* and *The Night Café*.

13 August John Logie Baird, Scottish engineer who is the first to televise moving pictures, born in Helensburgh, Dumbarton, Scotland (–1946).

15 August (Thomas) (Edward) Lawrence ('Lawrence of Arabia'), British scholar, military strategist, and author, born in Tremadoc, Carmarvonshire, Wales (–1935).

31 May The Naval Defence Act in Britain inaugurates an extensive naval building programme, the prime minister Lord Salisbury undertaking that Britain will maintain a navy equal to the combined strengths of the next two largest fleets according to his 'two-power standard'.

6 May The Eiffel Tower opens in Paris, France. Started in 1887, it is the tallest building in the world at 300 m/984 ft high, and is made of 12,000 prefabricated wrought iron parts. It heralds a revolution in civil engineering.

16 April Charlie Chaplin, British-born US actor and director of the silent film era, who gains fame playing a pathetic but humorous character, born in London, England (–1977).

20 April Adolf Hitler, German fascist leader of the National Socialist (Nazi) Party, dictator of Germany 1933–45, born in Braunau, Austria (–1945).

The French corset-maker Hermine Cadolle creates the first bra, which frees women from the restrictions of corsets.

18 December Sir Frederick Lugard occupies Uganda for the British East Africa Company.

The French artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec paints *Dance at the Moulin Rouge*.

c. 1890 Bloomers, invented in the USA in around 1850 by women's rights advocate Amelia Bloomer, become fashionable in Britain as more women take up cycling.

2 October Groucho (real name Julius) Marx, US comedian of stage, film, radio, and television along with two of his brothers, Harpo and Chico, born in New York, New York (–1977).

4 April The Pan-German League is founded, a popular association dedicated to agitating for German expansionism.

The 'blink' comparator is invented. It permits the discovery of objects in the solar system by comparison of two photographs, taken a few hours apart, of the same region of the sky. Stars remain fixed, while planets and asteroids move or 'blink'.

The Irish writer Oscar Wilde publishes his novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime and Other Stories*.

The Scottish writer Arthur Conan Doyle publishes the first of his Sherlock Holmes stories in *Strand Magazine*.

11 August Following electoral defeat in the British general election, the Conservative prime minister Lord Salisbury resigns and William Ewart Gladstone forms a Liberal ministry, with Lord Rosebery foreign secretary, William Harcourt chancellor of the Exchequer, and Herbert Asquith



Cassatt
The Bath

1893 PG publishes "Chapters in Modern Botany". Completes annex e to University Hall, Ramsay Gardens and Ramsay Lodge. Expands Summer Meetings in Edinburgh.



SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

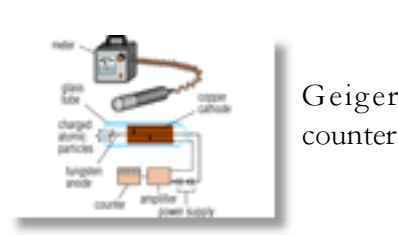
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GEDDES TODAY

Geddes' World 2/2



1908 PG engages in project to save Crosby Hall.



Geiger counter

1909

David Lloyd George introduces Pensions



Charles Rennie Mackintosh

1910 PG influences Town-Planning Conference Exhibition in London and prepares his epoch-making exhibit of Edinburgh and its region at the Royal Academy.

Akira Kurosawa



1911 PG opens his "Cities and Town Planning Exhibition" at Crosby Hall, Chelsea and takes it to other cities



Frances Hodgson Burnett

1912 PG refuses knighthood (for "democratic reasons"). Gives "Masque of Learning" in Edinburgh.

Werner von Braun born

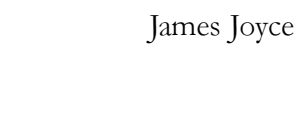


1913 At International Exposition in Ghent at first World Congress of Cities, PG's exhibit wins Grand Prix in competition with German exhibit. Directs "Masque of Learning" in London.



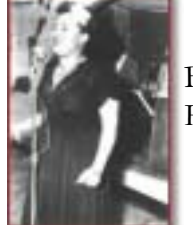
Henry Ford

1914 PG makes civic survey of Dublin. On way to India, Cities Exhibition wrecked by German submarine.



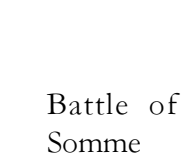
James Joyce

1915 PG presents Cities Exhibition (replaced by friends) in India. Conducts Summer Meeting in London on "The War: Its Social Tasks and Problems". Returns to India.



Billie Holiday

1916 PG In Paris and India (1916-17)



Battle of the Somme

1917 Death of PG's son Alasdair. Death of wife Anna.



Edwin Armstrong

Memorial to Indira Gandhi



17 December William Thomson (Lord Kelvin), Scottish physicist who developed the absolute temperature scale, dies in Netherhall near Largs, Ayrshire, Scotland (84).

16 September The foreign ministers of Austria and Russia, Count Alois Aehrenthal and Alexander Izvolsky, hold the Buchlau conference. Austria undertakes not to oppose the opening of the Dardanelles to Russian warships and Russia agrees to Austria's proposed annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

30 June An aerial explosion equivalent to 10–15 megatons of TNT flattens approximately 2,000 sq km/1,243 mi of forest near the Tunguska River, Siberia, Russian Empire. No meteorite fragments are discovered but it is thought to have been a fragment of a comet disintegrating in the atmosphere.

German physicist Hans Geiger and New Zealand-born British physicist Ernest Rutherford develop the Geiger counter, which counts individual alpha particles emitted by radioactive substances.

9 January Simone de Beauvoir, French existentialist writer, philosopher, and feminist, born in Paris, France (–1986).

15 October John Kenneth Galbraith, Canadian-born US economist known for his liberal ideas, born in Iona Station, Ontario, Canada.

1 January The first old-age pensions are paid out by the government in Britain. These are noncontributory: the payment is small and made on a restricted basis at the age of 70.

The suffragette Marion Wallace Dunlop becomes the first hunger striker in Britain: she is released after 91 hours.

13 April An army counter-revolution begins in Constantinople (modern Istanbul), Ottoman Empire, against the rule of the Young Turks, following agitation by the Islamic Mohammedan Union.

Danish biochemist Søren Sørensen devises the pH scale for measuring acidity and alkalinity.

German physicist Albert Einstein introduces his idea that light exhibits both wave and particle characteristics.

The AEG Turbine Factory in Berlin, Germany, designed by the German architect Peter Behrens, is completed. It is one of the first steel and glass buildings.

The School of Art, designed by the Scottish architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh, is completed in Glasgow, Scotland. It is one of the most original art nouveau buildings in Britain.

Russian and Polish Jews set up the first kibbutz, Degania, at Lake Kinneret, Tiberias, in Palestine.

The increasing cost of living in the USA is resulting in people having smaller families.

22 August Japan formally annexes Korea, having already secured political and military control of the Chinese fiefdom.

28 February The last Chinese labourers leave the Rand diamond mines in South Africa, the slave-like conditions of their employment having created a furor throughout the British Empire.

19 May Halley's comet – which comes near the Earth roughly every 75 years – returns, with the Earth passing through the comet's tail. In the USA, it is regarded by some as announcing the end of the world. 'Comet Pils', allegedly an antidote to the poisonous gases thought to be in the comet's tail, also sell well.

The Indian writer Rabindranath Tagore publishes his Bengali poetry collection *Gitanjali/Song Offering*.

23 March Akira Kurosawa, Japanese film director, born in Tokyo, Japan.

27 August Mother Teresa (born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu), Albanian-born Indian ascetic who founded the Order of the Missionaries of Charity, devoted to helping the poor, (–1997).

17 August–19 August British railway workers, led by James Thomas and demanding greater union recognition, paralyse the country by holding the first national railway strike.

30 April Portuguese women get the vote.

New Zealand-born British physicist Ernest Rutherford proposes the concept of the nuclear atom, in which the mass of the atom is concentrated in a nucleus occupying $\frac{1}{100,000}$ of the diameter of the atom and which has a positive charge balanced by surrounding electrons.

The English-born US writer Frances Hodgson Burnett publishes her children's novel *The Secret Garden*.

10 March Clocks are put back by 9 minutes and 21 seconds at midnight in France and Algeria, making Greenwich time the standard.

12 February Pu-i, the last Manchu emperor of China, abdicates, and China becomes a republic under provisional president Sun Zhong Shan (Sun Yat-sen).

A German meteorologist Alfred Wegener suggests the idea of continental drift and proposes the existence of a supercontinent (Pangaea) in the distant past.

14 April–15 April The British luxury liner *Titanic*, carrying 2,224 people on its maiden transatlantic voyage, hits an iceberg 640 km/400 miles off the coast of Newfoundland and sinks causing the deaths of 1,513.

23 March Werner von Braun, German rocket engineer who was also involved in the exploration of space in Germany and the USA, born in Wirsitz, Germany (–1977).

23 June Alan Mathison Turing, English mathematician who pioneered computer theory and computer processes, born in London, England (–1954).

October Henry Ford introduces the assembly line process, reducing the time required to produce a Model T car from 12.5 to 1.5 hours.

3 March On the eve of the inauguration of the US president, 5,000 women parade in Washington, DC, demanding female suffrage.

English mathematician and philosopher Bertrand Russell publishes the final volume of *Principia Mathematica/Principles of Mathematics* in collaboration with another English mathematician and philosopher, Alfred North Whitehead. They attempt to derive the whole of mathematics from a logical foundation.

5 February Fights between Caucasian and black American boxers in New York, New York, are banned by the New York State Athletic Commission in the USA.

12 September Jesse Owens, black US track and field athlete who won four gold medals at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, born in Danville, Alabama (–1980).

28 June Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary (50) and his wife are assassinated at Sarajevo, Bosnia, by Gavrilo Princip, an 18-year-old Bosnian Serb student linked with the Serbian nationalist society 'the Black Hand'. The death of Archduke Ferdinand is to spark off World War I.

The Irish writer James Joyce publishes his collection of short stories *Dubliners*. The stories were written between 1904 and 1907.

c. 1914 Soldiers fighting in World War I find wristwatches a practical option, even though they had previously been considered effeminate.

Women in wartime Britain are increasingly taking on men's responsibilities in the workplace, and are proving more productive in many fields.

November The Ku Klux Klan, a racist society that originated in the 1860s, is revived by William Simmons near Atlanta, Georgia, dedicated to 'white supremacy' and 'Americanism'. Within six years it attracts a membership of nearly 100,000.

7 May A German submarine sinks the British liner *Lusitania* off the south coast of Ireland, killing 1,198 passengers and crew, including 114 US citizens.

7 April Billie Holiday (real name Eleanor Fagan), US jazz singer, born in Baltimore, Maryland (–1959).

6 May Orson Welles, US film actor, director, producer, and writer, best known for *Citizen Kane*, born in Kenosha, Wisconsin (–1985). The film *The Tramp*, directed by Charlie Chaplin, is released in the USA. He also stars in it, with Edna Purviance.

1 July–18 November French and British troops mount the Battle of the Somme in France, a massive offensive which gains 8 km/5 mi of territory. The British Army suffers 60,000 casualties (including 20,000 dead) on the first day, while the whole campaign results in over 620,000 British and French casualties and about 450,000 German casualties.

30 December Gregory Yefimovich Rasputin, Siberian peasant and mystic, the 'debauched holy man' who influenced the Russian tsar Nicholas II and tsarina Alexandra, is murdered in Petrograd, Russia by a group of nobles (c. 54).

German physicist Albert Einstein publishes *The Foundation of the General Theory of Relativity*, in which he postulates that space is curved locally by the presence of mass and that this can be demonstrated by observing the deflection of starlight around the Sun during a total eclipse. This replaces previous Newtonian ideas which invoke a force of gravity.

9 July Edward Heath, prime minister of Britain 1970–74, a Conservative, born in Broadstairs, Kent, England.

The Dada movement (producing iconoclastic 'anti-art' works) emerges in Zürich in Switzerland, its leading figures including the Romanian writer Tristan Tzara and the French artist Hans Arp. It lasts until the early 1920s, when it is absorbed by surrealism.

German submarine blockades of shipping lead to food shortages in Britain.

6 November The 'October Revolution' takes place in Russia, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin and the Bolsheviks seizing the Winter Palace in Petrograd, Russia, on 7 and 8 November and overthrowing the provisional government. The revolution is named after the date on which it commences under the old Julian calendar (24 October).

The US inventor Edwin Armstrong invents the superheterodyne radio circuit. It allows easy tuning of weak radio waves, which it also amplifies. Its design becomes the basis of radar, television, and all amplitude modulation (AM) radios.

The films *Easy Street*, *The Cure*, and *The Immigrant*, all directed by Charlie Chaplin, are released in the USA. Chaplin also stars in them alongside Edna Purviance.

The US inventor Clarence Birdseye develops a rapid freezing method of preserving food that also preserves its flavour.

29 May John F. Kennedy, 35th president of the USA 1961–63, a Democrat, born in Brookline, Massachusetts (–1963).

19 November Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India 1966–77 and 1980–84, born in Allahabad, India (–1984).

16 December Arthur C. Clarke, English writer of science fiction, born in Minehead, Somerset, England.

1918 PG publishes Indore Report on Town Planning and "pro-dia". Puts on pageant in Indore for civic improvement. Launches "The Making of the Future" series with Branford and Slater.



Nelson Mandela

1919 PG gives farewell lecture at UCD on "The Rise and Aims of Botany". Plans Tel Aviv and the University of Jerusalem. Organises School of Civics and Sociology in University of Bombay.

Rosa Luxemburg



Andrew Carnegie

1920 PG publishes "An Indian Pioneer: The Life and Work of Sir Jagadis Chandra Bose"



Stalin, Lenin, Trotsky



Margaret Gorman

1921

Gene Roddenberry



1922

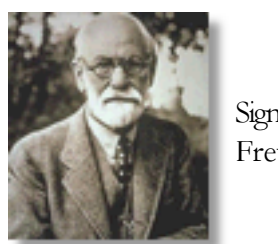


Mussolini and Hitler

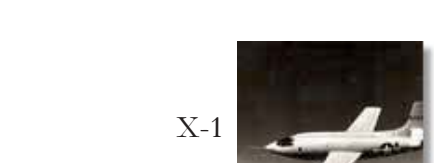


Guglielmo Marconi

1923 Geddes in the USA

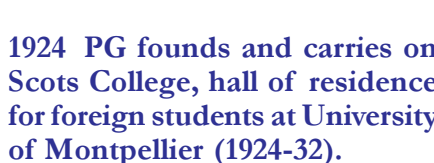


Sigmund Freud



X-1

Charles (Chuck) E. Yeager born



See Edwin Hubble



John Logie Baird and Television



George Gershwin

1925

21 April Universal suffrage is granted in Denmark.

16 July Nicholas II, tsar of Russia 1895–1917, is executed by the Bolsheviks in Yekaterinburg, Russia (50).

8 November A German armistice commission meets the Allied delegation, headed by the French marshal Ferdinand Foch, in a railway carriage in Compiègne, France. An armistice is agreed, to be effective from 11 November.

–1919 A worldwide pandemic of Spanish influenza (so called because of its particular virulence in Spain) kills over 20 million people, more than were killed during the conflicts of World War I. The movement of the armed forces at the end of the war promotes its spread.

Russian revolutionary leader Vladimir Ilyich Lenin publishes *Gosudarstvo i revoliutsiya/The State and Revolution*.

18 July Nelson Mandela, South African nationalist, political prisoner, and president from 1994, born in Umtata, Cape of Good Hope, South Africa.

28 November In Britain, Lady Nancy Astor is elected in a by-election and becomes the first woman member of Parliament to take her seat.

4 January The Red Army takes Riga, Latvia, as the Russian communists begin to reconquer the Baltic states.

15 January Volunteer soldiers suppress the Spartacist rising in Berlin, Germany, in which the Spartacist leaders Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg are arrested and shot.

2 March The Communist Third International (Comintern) is founded to encourage world revolution. The debate over affiliation to this body will mark the split between socialist and communist movements and parties.

23 March Benito Mussolini founds the Fasci d'Italiani di Combattimento, an Italian fascist movement.

23 June German representatives sign the peace treaty ending the 1914–18 war in the Hall of Mirrors of the Palace of Versailles near Paris, France.

New Zealand-born British physicist Ernest Rutherford splits the atom by bombarding a nitrogen nucleus with alpha particles, discovering that it ejects hydrogen nuclei (protons). It is the first artificial disintegration of an element and inaugurates the development of nuclear energy.

The Bauhaus school of design, architecture, and crafts is founded in Weimar, Germany, by the German architect Walter Gropius. It is transferred to Dessau in 1926.

The first radio station in Britain is established at Chelmsford, Essex. Using a 6 kW transmitter, two half-hour speech and music programmes are broadcast daily. They are banned the following year for fear of commercialization.

11 August Andrew Carnegie, US steel magnate and philanthropist, dies in Lenox, Massachusetts (83).

5 May Britain is awarded a mandate over Iraq by the Supreme Council of the Paris Peace Conference deciding terms for the end of WW I.

14 November The Russian Red Army takes Sevastopol in the Crimea. With the evacuation of General Peter Wrangel's White forces to Constantinople, Anatolia (modern Turkey), the civil war in Russia is effectively over, with the communists victorious.

US physicist Albert Michelson, using a stellar interferometer, measures the diameter of the star Betelgeuse to be 386,160,000 km/241,350,000 mi, which is about 300 times the diameter of the Sun. It is the first time an accurate measurement of the size of a star other than the Sun has been made. (By the end of the 20th century, the diameter of Betelgeuse is thought to be 1,100 million km/ 700 million mi; that is, 800 times the diameter of the Sun.)

German sociologist Max Weber publishes his influential *Die Protestantische Ethik und der Geist des Kapitalismus/The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*.

16 January Prohibition (the ban on manufacturing, selling, or transporting alcohol) begins in the USA, leading to an increase in the sales of soft drinks and coffee and a thriving bootleg and homebrew industry.

7 September The first 'Miss America' beauty competition is held in Atlantic City, New Jersey; the winner is Miss Margaret Gorman.

18 May John Paul II, pope from 1978, the first non-Italian pope in 456 years, born in Wadowice, Poland.

Five million people die in a famine in the Volga region of Russia, a consequence of Bolshevik food requisitioning policies and drought.

21 February The nationalist army officer Reza Khan stages a coup in Persia (modern Iran).

9 July The Irish nationalist leader Eamon de Valera, on behalf of the self-declared Irish Republic, agrees a truce with the British authorities (fighting ends two days later).

The Einstein Tower in Potsdam, Germany, designed by the German architect Erich Mendelsohn, is completed, one of the finest examples of expressionist architecture.

Swiss psychologist Carl Jung publishes *Psychologische Typen/Psychological Types*, in which he differentiates two personality types: extroverted and introverted.

5 May Chanel No. 5 perfume, created by perfumer Ernest Beaux, is launched.

19 August Gene Roddenberry, US writer and film and television producer who created *Star Trek*, born in El Paso, Texas (–1991).

27 November Alexander Dubček, Czechoslovak communist leader 1968–69 whose liberal policies led to the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia (now the Czech and Slovak Republics), born in Uhrovec, Slovakia (–1992).

20 July–24 July The Council of the League of Nations approves mandates for the former German colonies of Togoland (now Togo) and the Cameroons to France and Britain, and Tanganyika (now Tanzania) and Palestine to Britain.

24 June The Jewish German foreign minister Walther Rathenau is murdered by anti-Semitic nationalists.

31 October The Italian fascist leader Benito Mussolini forms a government of liberals, nationalists, and fascists at King Victor Emmanuel III's request.

30 December The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) is established through the confederation of Russia, Belarus, the Ukraine, and the Transcaucasian Federation.

Italian physicist Guglielmo Marconi suggests that radio waves may be used to detect moving objects. The US Naval Research Laboratory tests the idea and detects a ship moving between the receiver and transmitter. It is the first example of a sophisticated radar system.

18 October The privately owned British Broadcasting Company (BBC) is established. It is nationalized as the British Broadcasting Corporation in 1925.

2 August Alexander Graham Bell, Scottish-born US scientist who invented the telephone, dies in Nova Scotia, Canada.

8 November Christian Barnard, South African surgeon, who performed the first successful heart transplant, born in Beaufort West, South Africa.

15 November The value of the German mark drops to rate of 4,200,000 million to the US dollar; the government introduces a new currency, the Rentenmark, to replace the mark.

26 May Emir Abdulkadim Hussein (second son of King Hussein of the Hejaz) is proclaimed ruler of Transjordan (modern Jordan), which becomes an autonomous state under a British mandate.

26 October–8 November The Imperial Conference in London, England, recognizes the right of the Dominions (Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and South Africa) to make treaties with foreign powers.

8 November–9 November In the 'Munich Putsch', the German Nazi leader Adolf Hitler and his National Socialist German Workers' (Nazi) Party attempt a coup to overthrow the Bavarian government in Munich, Germany.

1 September Tokyo and Yokohama, Japan, are destroyed by an earthquake estimated to measure 8.3 on the Richter scale; 140,000 die. German mathematician Hermann Oberth publishes *Die Rakete zur den Planetenräumen/The Rocket into Interplanetary Space*, a treatise on space-flight in which he is the first to provide the mathematics of how to achieve escape velocity.

The Russian-born US engineer Vladimir Zworykin develops the iconoscope in the USA, an image-scanner that can produce electronic signals for reconstitution on the screen of a cathode-ray tube – the basis of television.

Austrian psychiatrist Sigmund Freud publishes *The Ego and the Id*, in which he elaborates his division of the mind into the id, ego, and superego.

The *Radio Times*, a listeners' guide to radio programmes, is launched in Britain.

13 February Charles (Chuck) E. Yeager, US test pilot, the first person to break the sound barrier, born in Myra, West Virginia.

The German firm Leitz introduces the Leica camera, the first commercially produced camera that takes 35-mm film.

4 November Ramsey MacDonald resigns as British prime minister following Labour's electoral defeat; a week later Stanley Baldwin forms a Conservative government with Austen Chamberlain as foreign secretary and Winston Churchill as chancellor of the Exchequer.

Australian-born South African anthropologist Raymond Dart discovers the skull of an early hominid at Taung, Botswana, which he calls *Australopithecus africanus*. It is now believed to be one of the oldest human ancestors.

US astronomer Edwin Hubble demonstrates that certain Cepheid variable stars are several hundred thousand light years away and thus outside the Milky Way galaxy. The nebulae they are found in are the first galaxies to be discovered that are proved to be independent of the Milky Way.

The Russian-born US engineer Vladimir Zworykin patents the kinescope television receiver. It develops into the modern television picture tube.

The Scottish engineer John Logie Baird produces televised images in outline.

French writer André Breton publishes his *Manifeste du surréalisme/Surrealist Manifesto*.

The Chilean writer Pablo Neruda publishes *Viente poemas de amor y una canción desesperada/Twenty Love Poems and a Song of Despair*.

The US composer George Gershwin completes his orchestral work *Rhapsody in Blue*.

12 June George Herbert Walker Bush, 41st president of the USA 1989–93, a Republican, born in Greenwich, Connecticut.

28 April Britain returns sterling to the gold standard (linking the value of the pound to the Bank of England's gold reserves) at the prewar level of US \$4.86, an act deemed necessary by politicians to maintain London, England, as an international centre of finance, but which leads to increasing difficulties for British industry.

1 May Cyprus is declared a British crown colony (having been occupied



Sergei Eisenstein

1926

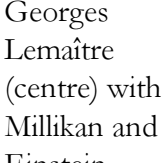


Albert Michelson



Chuck Berry

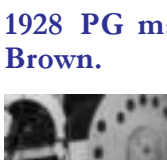
1927



Georges Lemaître (centre) with Millikan and Einstein



Al Jolson



John Logie Baird



John Logie Baird



SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 13 ::

GEDDES TODAY



“Father of Town Planning”

PLACE	place-WORK	place-FOLK
work-PLACE	WORK	work-FOLK
folk-PLACE	folk-WORK	FOLK

A simple Geddesian “Thinking Machine” showing the relationships between people, where they lived and what they did. Geddes thought it essential to understand all these aspects through comprehensive survey before plan and action. This has become the basis of good planning.

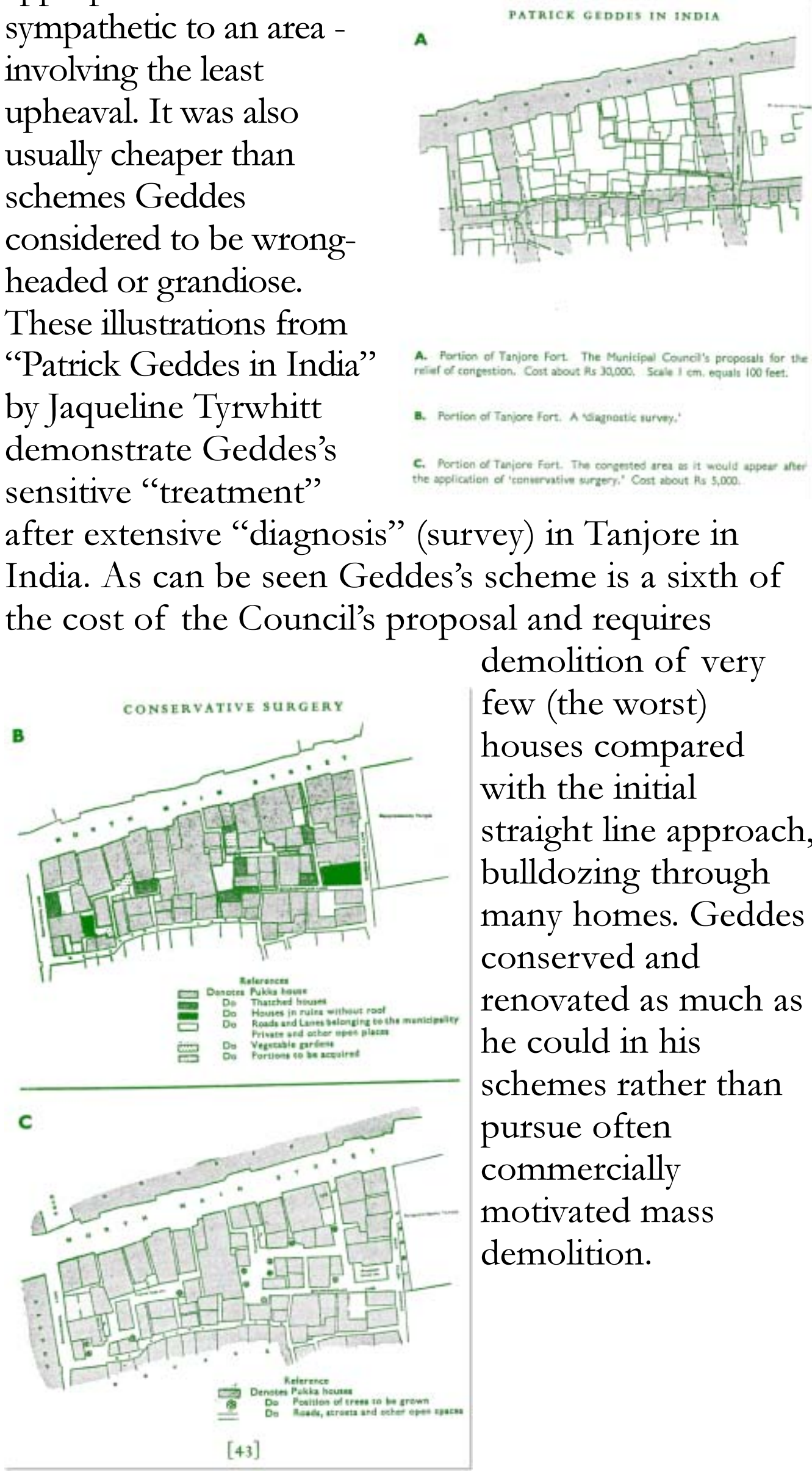
As a stymied biologist and compassionate man Geddes used his scientific training and evolutionary beliefs to try to better the lot of his fellow urban and rural dwellers, first in Edinburgh and then in many locations around the world. Geddes’s time had seen the creation of slum conditions as a result of rapid urbanisation and the Industrial Revolution in the West, decay in the Far and Near East.

Geddes saw a disconnection between countryside and city. Coming as he did from a rural village (Ballater) and rural town (Perth), he had the experience, denied to life-long town dwellers of growing up in these areas, seeing (particularly in Perth) the relations between “Place, Work and Folk”. Geddes was not in any sense some sort of rustic traditionalist but a realist. He was a realist in that he saw the necessary relations between town and country and their interdependence, despite metropolitan mores. He saw that we are all dependent on the land for food - in Geddes’s case he saw both rural and urban areas as places to produce food. This was particularly to counter the poor city diet of his day – still a major concern in our time. Fruit trees should be planted at every opportunity, gardens should be cultivated and each house or block should have space for a garden to help produce the healthy life. He also saw that urban dwellers needed some of the benefits of rural life as well as the services and culture offered by the city. To this end he always tried to incorporate parks, communal green areas and ways to let in sunshine and fresh air into his plans to relieve the squalor of slums and run down areas and in healthy new developments for example those in the extension of Tel Aviv (right).

In evolutionary terms and as a “dissident Darwinian” (See Panel 10) Geddes saw cities as constantly evolving organisms, in constant need of renewal to maintain them as decent places to live, indeed he saw this as a good alternative to war. He stressed the necessary survey, consultation, participation, co-operation, planning and action that would allow them to evolve on a human scale and in a humane manner. Major reports and publications include “City Development” and “Cities in Evolution”.

“Conservative Surgery” - India

When planning in an existing area Geddes held to the view that “Diagnosis before Treatment” was required and that “Conservative Surgery” was usually more appropriate and sympathetic to an area - involving the least upheaval. It was also usually cheaper than schemes Geddes considered to be wrong-headed or grandiose. These illustrations from “Patrick Geddes in India” by Jaqueline Tyrwhitt demonstrate Geddes’s sensitive “treatment” after extensive “diagnosis” (survey) in Tanjore in India. As can be seen Geddes’s scheme is a sixth of the cost of the Council’s proposal and requires demolition of very few (the worst) houses compared with the initial straight line approach, bulldozing through many homes. Geddes conserved and renovated as much as he could in his schemes rather than pursue often commercially motivated mass demolition.



Creating community. Modern day Tel Aviv, Israel from the air. Here Geddes used his signature ideas applied in earlier “conservative surgery” on existing cities, particularly Edinburgh & India, in a new city extension. He planned what he called “Home Blocks” protected from traffic and commerce with green, communal spaces within them. In India, as here, Geddes had anticipated the modern by creating spaces for people and for traffic.



The urban ideal of a “place-work-folk” balance was realized in Tel Aviv and – thanks to the foresight, flexibility and broad-based knowledge evinced by Geddes back in the mid-1920s – has withstood the test of time. His plan was intended for a population of 100,000, but already by the end of the British Mandatory rule the city comprised some 8,000 buildings and a population of 150,000. The drift to Tel Aviv, and its rapid development and expansion into a leading urban centre, vastly exceeded the expectations of the local authorities and of Geddes himself. Yet even today, notwithstanding the exponential growth of business activities and traffic (during the week some 100,000 commuters arrive in town, joining an equal number of residents of the city’s historic core alone), Tel Aviv remains a green city, with a clear distinction between residential and commercial areas, a fair quality of life, easy access to centres of activity and a well-developed social and cultural life. The architectural concept set out by the Geddes Plan and realized in the “White City” is reflected in Tel Aviv’s characteristically free and easy atmosphere – a phenomenon that finds vivid expression in local literature and poetry.” Nitza Szmuk, from her book "Dwelling on the Dunes - Tel Aviv, Modern Movement and Bauhaus Ideals”

Rural Planning - Cyprus

In 1897 the massacre of 6,000 Armenians on Turkish territory and the subsequent flood of Armenians to Cyprus made, as befits their radicalism, Patrick and Anna Geddes determined to do something to help the lot of the refugees. They sailed for Cyprus and surveyed the Island for three months looking for solutions to coping with and resettling the refugees. “Solve the agricultural question and you solve the Near-East Question!” P.G. not only said and wrote this in 1897; he and Anna proved it in farm after farm, village after village in Cyprus. ‘There is no permanent reason for men to kill each other.... Give them hope of better land, of enough food for their families, and you remove a main cause of bloodshed.’ This sounds familiar today - particularly over land and water questions. ‘Geddes made plain in actual deed as well as words what should and could be accomplished. Near the port of Larnaca he established several Armenian families on small farms rented for a number of years, providing them with the necessary seed and implements and a small cash loan without interest.’ He went on to establish more and larger farms, an agricultural school, houses, repaired irrigation and planned for crops that would give steady employment to many workers. ‘During their three month sojourn in Cyprus, Geddes and Anna invested some £2,000 in ‘productive relief’. “Instead of dissipating the funds in outright and short-



Patrick Geddes in Indore, India 1919

lived charity, they placed them in projects that enabled refugees to earn their own living and to repay the sums advanced to them.” This late 19th Century approach sounds very like that taken by late 20th Century overseas aid and charitable organisations.

Quotes from - Philip Boardman “The Worlds of Patrick Geddes”

Legacy - back home in Scotland

“Lord Holfords words at the Centenary of Geddes’s birth in 1954 at the Outlook Tower (in Edinburgh) - at which I was present - are appropriate enough to this essay: ‘I am here as President for the time being of the Town Planning Institute and for the simple reason that the Institute without Geddes would hardly have existed. As a trade union it might perhaps have come into existence; but as a voluntary association, a learned society, it would have had an insecure foundation without the work that Geddes did. Then I am here as teacher, to acknowledge him as the great educator and interpreter of the function of environmental planning in ordinary life... in the third place I am here just because I did *not* know Patrick Geddes in person, because I was never directly stimulated or exasperated by his prescriptions for regional survey, his proposals for conservative surgery, his plans for regional development. On the other hand I cannot escape his influence. The Greek epigram on Plato is applicable to him: *Wherever I go in my mind I meet Geddes coming back!*’

From “Grieve on Geddes” by Prof. Sir Robert Grieve.



Ramsay Gardens, Edinburgh

From the UNESCO Report on declaring Tel Aviv a World Heritage Site in 2004

“Outstanding universal value”

“The White City of Tel Aviv can be seen as an outstanding example in a large scale of the innovative town-planning ideas of the first part of the 20th century. The architecture is a synthetic representation of some of the most significant trends of modern movement in architecture, as it developed in Europe. The White City is also an outstanding example of the implementation of these trends taking into account local cultural traditions and climatic conditions. Tel Aviv was founded in 1909 and built under the British Mandate in Palestine. The area of the White City forms its central part, and is based on the urban master plan by Sir Patrick Geddes (1925-27), one of the foremost theorists in the early modern period. Tel Aviv is his only large-scale urban realization, not a ‘garden city’, but an urban entity of physical, economic, social and human needs based on environmental approach. He developed such innovative notions as ‘conurbation’ and ‘environment’, and was pioneer in his insight into the nature of city as an organism constantly changing in time and space, as a homogeneous urban and rural evolving landscape. His scientific principles in town planning, based on a new vision of a ‘site’ and ‘region’, influenced urban planning in the 20th century internationally. These are issues that are reflected in his master plan of Tel Aviv.

The buildings were designed by a large number of architects, who had been trained and had practised in various European countries. In their work in Tel Aviv, they represented the plurality of the creative trends of modernism, but they also took into account the local, cultural quality of the site. None of the European or North-Africa realizations exhibit such a synthesis of the modernistic picture nor are they at the same scale. The buildings of Tel Aviv are further enriched by local traditions; the design was adapted to the specific climatic conditions of the site, giving a particular character to the buildings and to the ensemble as a whole.”



TP

www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes

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SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

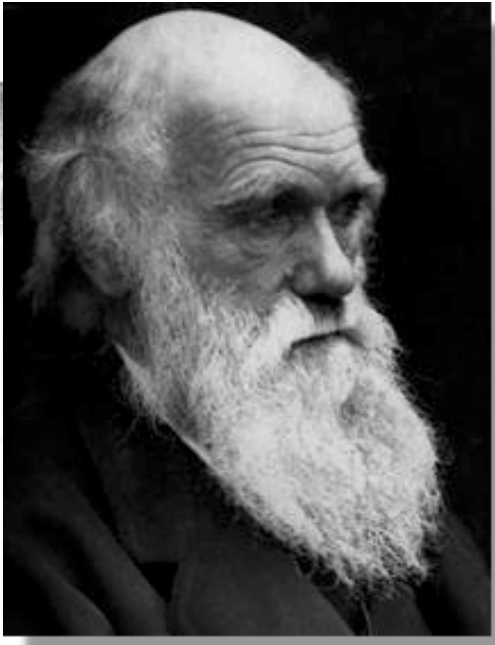
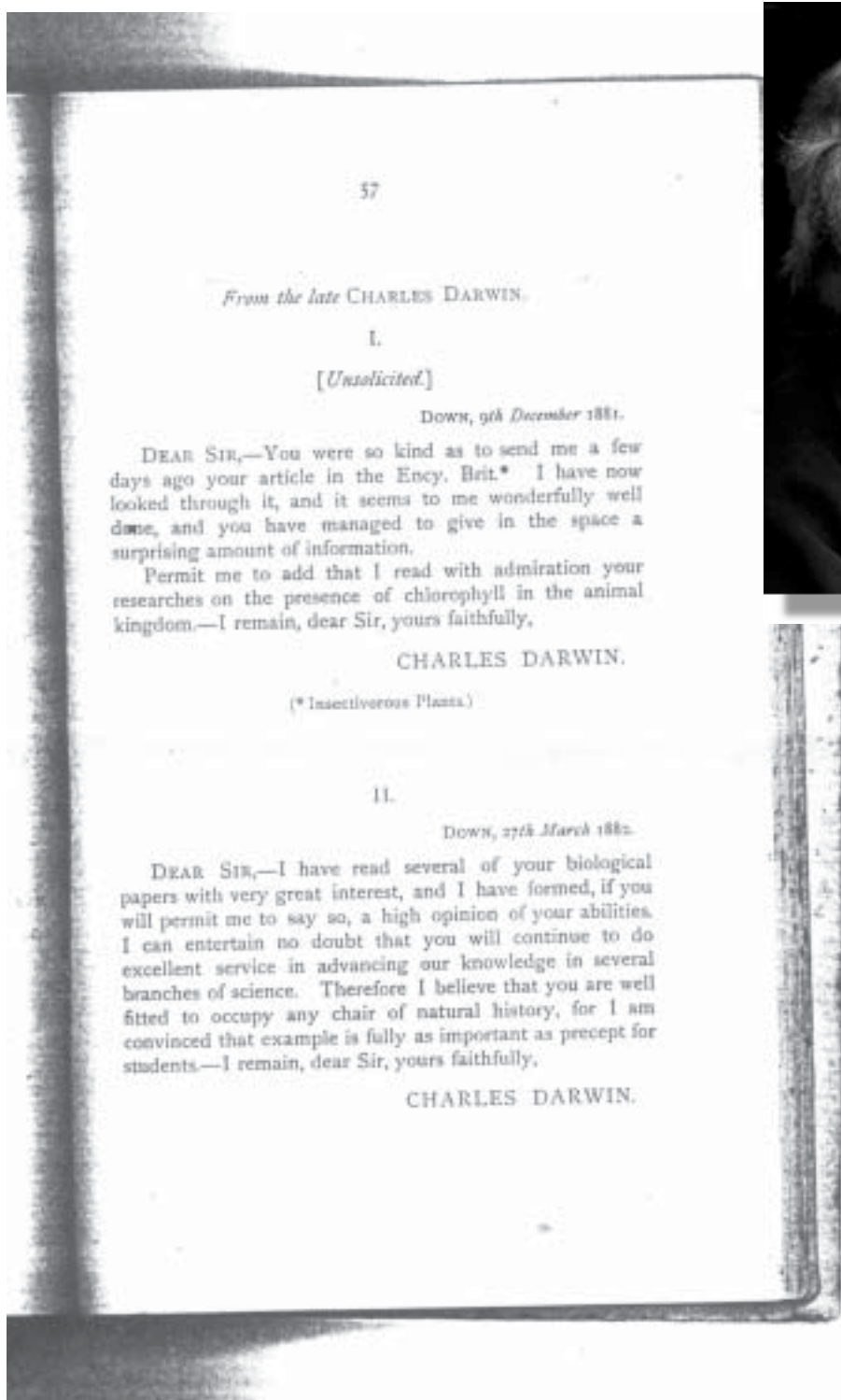
:: 14 ::

GEDDES TODAY

A Geddes Miscellany



Darwin on Geddes



Charles Darwin in Geddes's time

<<< This document is most likely from Geddes's application for the Chair of Botany at Edinburgh University.



Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi, 1940 (left). (Below) Gandhi with Charlie Chaplin



Words of the Mahatma

"Woman is the companion of man, gifted with equal mental capacities. She has the right to participate in the minutest details in the activities of man, and she has an equal right of freedom and liberty with him."

"Hatred ever kills, love never dies such is the vast difference between the two. What is obtained by love is retained for all time. What is obtained by hatred proves a burden in reality for it increases hatred."

Words of Geddes

"We do not clearly think, much less clearly idealise, until we visualise: that is until we dramatise. The War-world has long best known this, as its training in 'Kriegspiel' (war games) before the war (World War One) has shown. So why not also be thinking out our aims and purposes as clearly, and learning also, as here for trial, to play the games of Peace? And even as something towards War's 'moral substitute'?"

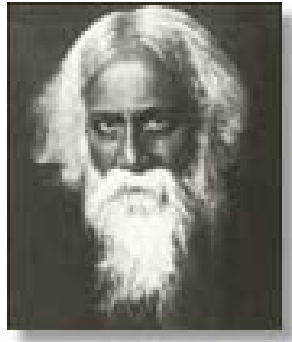
P.G. from his publication 'Dramatisations of History'

"Though he seemingly lived and worked in many different worlds his purpose was to show that they are all one. This one world of nature and man, of labour and art, of science and religion is guided by 'Love as Creation's final law', affirmed Patrick Geddes. But it is up to today's men, women, and children to make and keep it 'Good, True and Beautiful'."

Philip Boardman quoting Geddes in the introduction to his biography "The Worlds of Patrick Geddes".

Words of Tagore

"He who wants to do good knocks at the gate; he who loves finds the door open." ["Stray Birds"]



"The butterfly counts not months but moments, and has time enough." ["Fireflies"]

Penguin Hutchinson Reference Suite.

Rabindranath Tagore (1861–1941)

Bengali Indian poet and philosopher: the leading literary figure of modern India writing in Bengali; encouraged the reconciliation of western and eastern ideologies and made several worldwide lecture tours on Indian philosophy and religion. He translated into English his own verse *Gitanjali*/Song Offerings (1912) and his verse play *Chitra* (1896) he was awarded the 1913 Nobel prize for literature for his collected poems *Gitanjali*. An ardent nationalist and advocate of social reform, he resigned his knighthood as a gesture of protest against British repression in India.

Mumford on Geddes



"There are a few people, whose judgments have the right to be respected, who regard Patrick Geddes as one of the truly seminal minds the last century produced: a philosopher whose knowledge and wisdom put him on the level of an Aristotle or a Leibnitz."....

...."Patrick Geddes is a man to reckon with. If our generation manages to live down its automatisms and mechanisms and sadisms, its debilitating financial parasitism and its fatal moral complacency, if it actually escapes the Necropolis it has prepared for itself, in short if the forces of life once more become dominant, the figure of Geddes will stand forth as perhaps the central prophet of the new age. There could be no better symbol of Life Insurgent and Humanity Resurgent than Patrick Geddes himself.

Amenia New York, November 1943

Lewis Mumford - from his introduction to the book "Patrick Geddes: Maker of the Future" by Philip Boardman.

Touched by Tragedy

"In the Field 29/6/17

Dear Professor Geddes,

Thank you for your letter. I have written to you some time back and hope you may have received it before now.

Your son from the first took everything seriously and it was easy for me to see that he was sure to make a name for himself as an observer. There is no doubt that his training with you before the war enabled him to become so proficient in so short a time. Map reading and accurately placing on the map what is seen from the air is our chief work and you will understand that came readily to him with his knowledge of maps. His devotion to duty and care of his officers and men made me put his name forward for promotion at an early date. He was invaluable to me and I miss him every day, as we did so many things together. I was simply devoted to him and I hope and think he liked me both as a friend and his commanding officer. Although he quickly rose to being made a Major, I am certain there was no one who but said he richly deserved it, he was loved by all his men and officers, but at the same time, there was no lack of discipline among them. I fear I may not write about the work he did, (because of censorship) but sincerely hope I may one day be able to tell you in full of all his doings, how he was rewarded with the M.C. etc. I was proud to see he has also been awarded a French decoration which he would have been so pleased and honoured to have got. (The Cross of the Legion of Honour for his liaison work with the French).

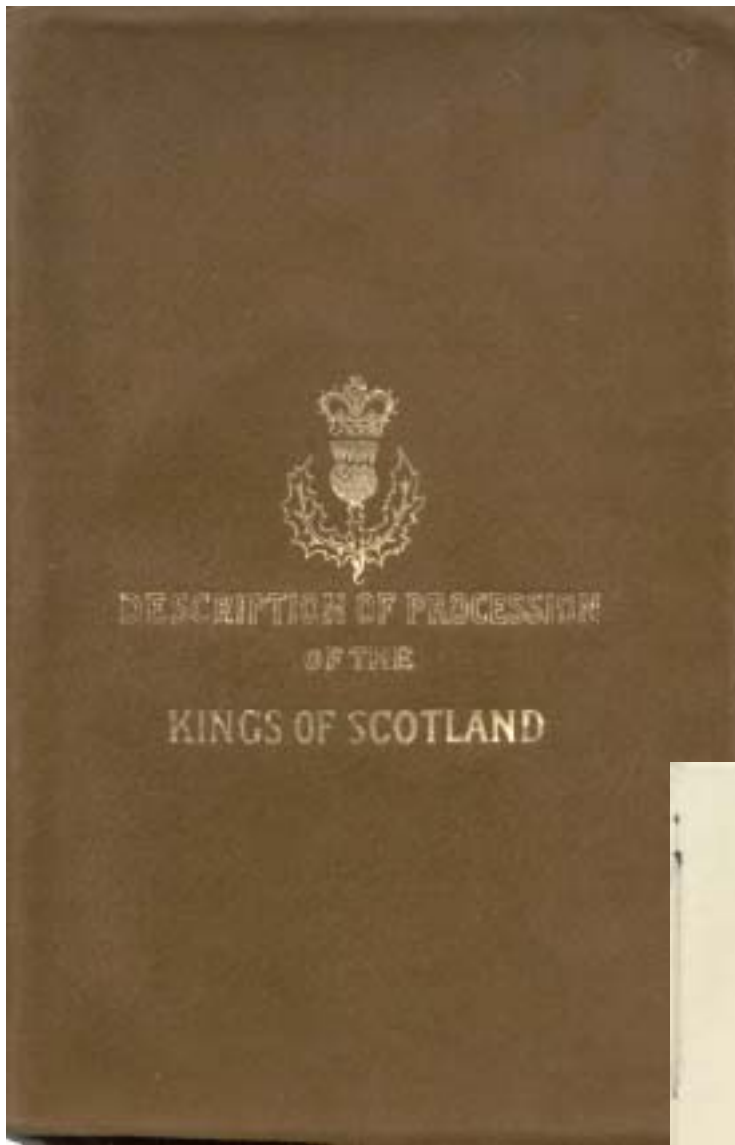
Did I tell you that we buried him very simply as I knew he would have liked. Mears, (Alasdair's brother in law) another officer and myself, were present a Scotch Clergyman read a very nice service and then as if they knew, the guns, that had been ranged so well, boomed out on all sides, as if to pay him a last tribute. The dear boy lies there now, and the guns are all about him until, we move forward again.

Forgive me not writing more, and I only hope that some day I may have the honour of meeting the parents of my great friend.

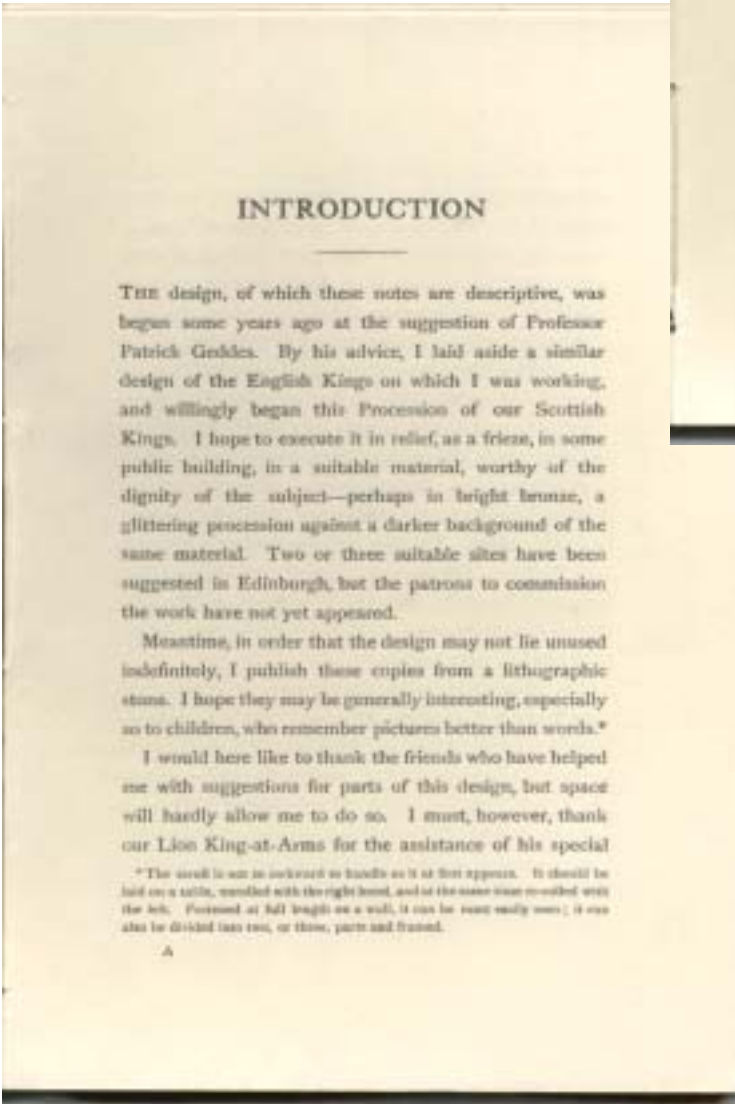
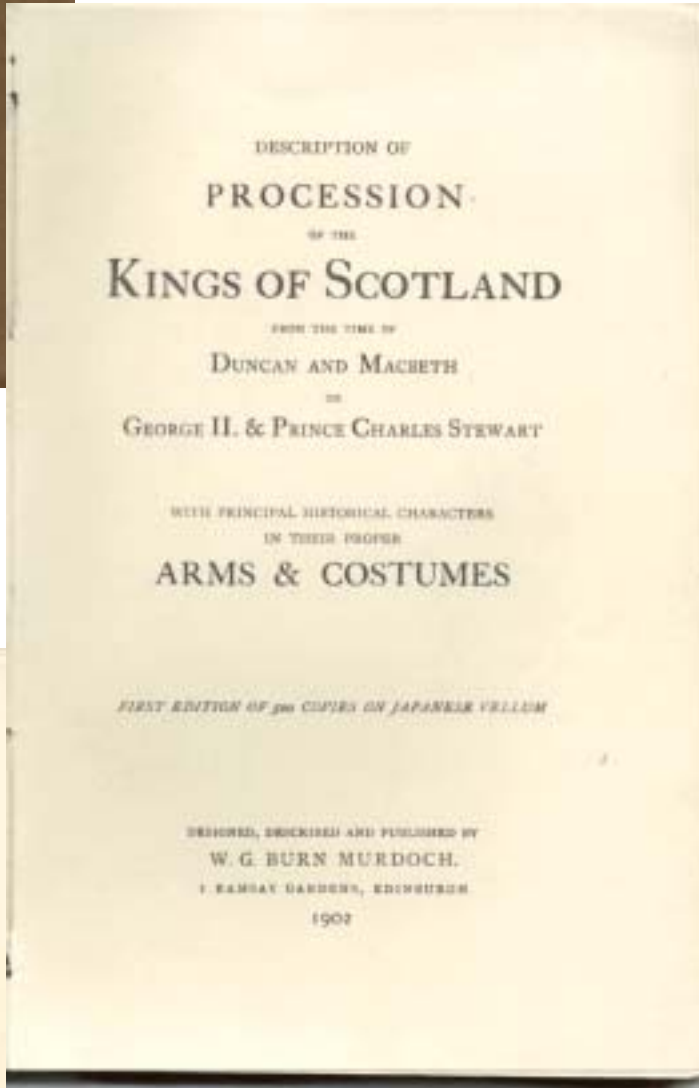
Yours very sincerely
A. Schomberg Byng.

(Patrick's wife Anna was gravely ill and Patrick could not bring himself to tell her of Alasdair's death and continued to read her the last letters that Alasdair had sent from the front. A little over two months later Anna died as well.)"

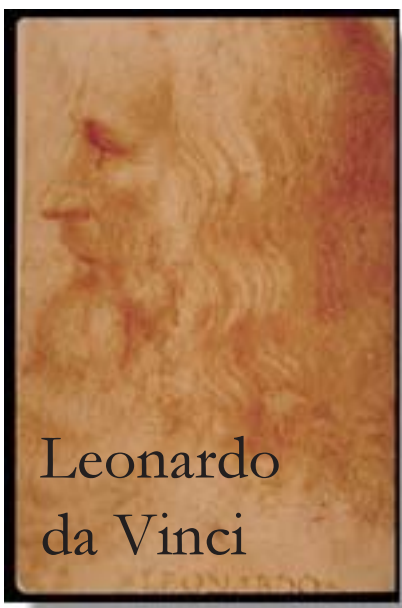
(Boardman)



This book was found in the archives of the local estate to Ballater - Invercauld. (see Panel 9).



Boardman on Geddes

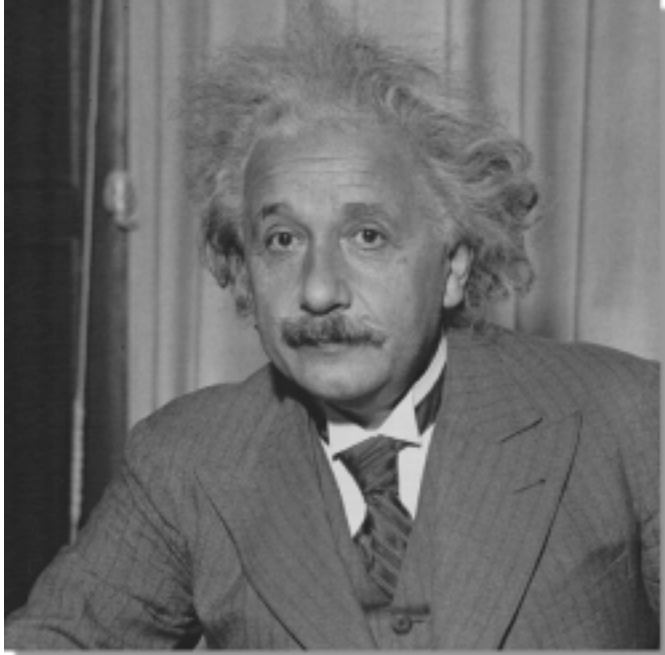


"...Geddes was in modern times-although in different fields-what Leonardo (Da Vinci) had been four hundred years before: a prodigy in physical endurance, range of interests, and imaginative powers."

...what few persons in any field now know is that Patrick Geddes achieved one of his earliest ambitions: he became, in a sense, a second Darwin. Not by reason of an epoch-making pronouncement as spectacular as "The Origin of Species"; that is self evident. It was in his feeling for nature, in his understanding and interpretation of the evolutionary drama of life that Geddes equalled, even surpassed, Charles Darwin. And Darwin was a naturalist with few peers."

From "Patrick Geddes: Maker of the Future" by Philip Boardman.

Einstein on Geddes



"“In January of 1926 Geddes, to use his own words, “at last screwed up courage to ask the great and terrible Einstein” to visit him at the Mediterranean Scots College and talk over questions of university education. At the time P.G. wrote his friend Sir Thomas Barclay in Versailles urging him to help persuade the scientist to accept the invitation. According to Sir Thomas, Einstein had to decline because of pressure of work but did write these words about the Scot: “I have heard much praise from my Jewish friends concerning Mr. Geddes’s work and personality. All who know him admire and honor him highly””"

From Philip Boardman's biography "Patrick Geddes: Maker of the Future"

www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes

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Aberdeenshire Council



Ballater Victoria Week



The Saltire Society



SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE

Ballater & Crathie Community Council



Asylum Pictures



Marr Area Partnership



CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK



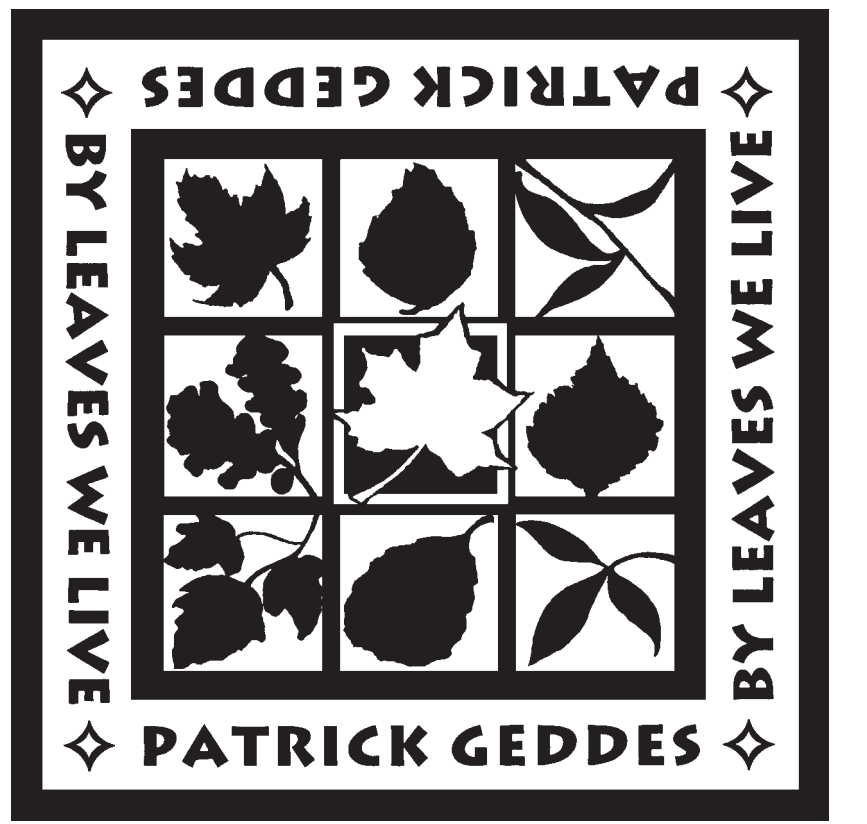
SIR PATRICK GEDDES

1854 - 1932

:: 15 ::

GEDDES TODAY

Thanks Due, People, References



Thanks Due

Ballater Geddes Project 2004 would like to thank the following organisations, companies and individuals who have kindly assisted the core group over the lifetime of this Project. To see what they have to offer please visit their web sites (where listed).

Aberdeenshire Council
www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Scottish Natural Heritage
www.snh.org.uk

Cairngorms National Park
www.cairngorms.co.uk

Ballater and Crathie Community Council
www.ballaterscotland.com/councils

Ballater (RD) Ltd.
www.ballaterscotland.com/brd

The Patrick Geddes Trust
www.patrickgeddetrust.co.uk

Marr Area Partnership
www.aberdeenshirebusiness.net/html/details.asp?ID=915

Quantum CCTV North East
www.cctv4all.co.uk

The Forestry Commission
www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland

Grampian Police
www.grampian.police.uk

The Saltire Society
www.saltiresociety.org.uk

Aberdeen & Grampian Tourist Board
www.agtb.org

Ballater Victoria Week
www.ballaterscotland.com/victoriaweek

Ballater Library
www.ballaterscotland.com/education

City of Edinburgh Council
www.edinburgh.gov.uk

Mike Small
www.patrickgeddes.co.uk

The Scottish Parliament
www.scottish.parliament.uk

Upper Deeside Access Trust
www.deeside.info

Royal Town Planning Institute in Scotland
www.scotland.rtpi.org.uk

Robin MacPherson, Asylum Pictures
www.asylumpictures.co.uk

Ballater School
www.ballaterscotland.com/education



People

As memory serves Ballater Geddes Project 2004 has consisted of the following people (apologies to anyone missed out):

Core Group

Mindy Grewar, Arts Development, Aberdeenshire Council.

Cllr. Marcus Humphrey, Aberdeenshire Council.

Ian Kinniburgh, Saltire Society.

Bell Macaulay, Ballater Environmental Education Centre and Ballater (RD) Ltd.

Graham MacDonald, Ballater Environmental Education Centre.

Ian Mitchell, Artist & Teacher, Aberdeenshire Council.

Kenny Munro, Artist & Educator.

Sheila Potter, Convener, Ballater Geddes Project 2004. (B&CCC, Ballater (RD) Ltd.)

Tom Potter, Communications, Design, Web. (royal-deeside.org.uk & ballaterscotland.com).

Sheila Sedgwick, Secretary & Treasurer BGP2004, (Ballater & Crathie Community Council, Ballater (RD) Ltd.)

Gavin Smith, Artist and Teacher, Aberdeen College.

Scottish Natural Heritage: Martin Faulkner, Miranda Whitcombe, Catriona Reid, Marysia Stamm, Isla Martin.

Ballater School: Phil Benzie, June MacKay, Bob Montgomery, Louise Duckworth.

“Visiting Members”

Leslie Allan, Marr Area Manager, Aberdeenshire Council.

Stuart Robertson, Planning Gain Officer, Aberdeenshire Council.

John Shinnie, Roads Dept., Aberdeenshire Council.

Annie Scott, Artist, Aberdeenshire Council.

Tandra Chanda, Artist, School of Art and Craft, Kolkata, India.

Bill Houston, Chair, Ballater (RD) Ltd.

Judith Aylett, Marr Area Partnership.



Back Row (L-R): Sheila Potter, Mindy Grewar, Marysia Stamm, Kenny Munro, Ian Mitchell, Sheila Sedgwick. Front Row (L-R): Sasha, Tandra Chanda, Elizabeth, Tom Potter.

References

The main sources used in the compilation of this Exhibition were:

“The Worlds of Patrick Geddes” by Philip Boardman.
Pub. Routledge & Keegan Paul, 1978. ISBN 0 7100 8548 6.

“Patrick Geddes: Maker of the Future” by Philip Boardman
Pub. Chapel Hill, The University of North Carolina Press. 1944

“Patrick Geddes in India” Ed. Jaqueline Tyrwhitt.
Pub. Lund Humphries, London. 1947

“A Most Unsettling Person” by Paddy Kitchen.
Pub. Victor Gollancz Ltd, London, 1975 ISBN 0 575 01957 3

Family papers of Alex Geddes, New Zealand ©.

Personal contributions by BGP2004 Project members ©.

Internet sources: where required credited and copyright belongs to their respective owners ©.

School of Art and Craft, Kolkata, India.
Tandra Chanda and Pulak Ghosh ©.

Penguin Hutchinson Reference Suite ©.

“Grieve on Geddes” by Professor Sir Robert Grieve.
Pub. The Sir Patrick Geddes Memorial Trust ISBN 0 9518273 0 8

Further Reading and links to useful websites about Patrick Geddes:

www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes



...And finally...The Alternative Geddes

Sir Patrick Geddes was a famous parrot who was very good at sums.

Not only a polymath, but a great ecologist, Sir Patrick is credited with the e-coli virus which has been responsible for some of the worst evacuations in the history of man.

As a noted Town Planner, he was often to be found in an urban environment – planning. Menus were said to take up a great deal of his time.

One of his favourite projects, the Camera Obscura was so successful in its obscurity it has yet to be found.

Many school children daily scour Princes Street Gardens looking for the Box Brownie the great man was said to have misplaced whilst on his ramblings in 1923.

He founded the Scottish School in Montpellier but this was not the success initially hoped for. Parents found the round trip from Ballater to France a little problematic.

He was responsible for designing Ramsay Gardens in Edinburgh. This did not meet with the approval of Mr Ramsay who had wanted to create an allotment on the site.

In death as in life! Plans to build a Geddes Garden in Ballater met with similar hostility from the residents, Sir Patrick's famous mantra being revised to proclaim “Leave where we live!”

To conclude. Patrick Geddes was a great “Renaissance” man, I always preferred the “Rolling Stones” myself. . . .

Ian Mitchell, designer of the BGP2004 logo >>>



www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes

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