

The John Rae Society



1st February 2019

Dear James,

Thank you so very much for your kind and supportive offer of a donation of £1,000 from The Highland Society. We are very grateful.

I am delighted to say that our plans are advancing rapidly. We are putting in a second application to Awards For All to obtain a Temporary/Moveable Visitor building. This will make us independent of the Farm of Clestrain and their kind hospitality. We already have planning consent for this structure. With the fundraising from the Coop and considerable written public support, our re-application to this funding body looks so much more promising.

This facility will enable us to show groups and individuals round the Hall of Clestrain before and during restoration. We plan to have education and cultural facilities contained within and around the building. Placed on the footprint of the demolished Pavilion, it will be an extremely useful venue as an Information Centre and provide shelter on the frequent stormy days we endure.

If The Highland Society would be willing for us to use your donation before developing the Centre in Clestrain's basement, we can begin the education and cultural activities so much the sooner. This will actually make our tasks easier for the future and accelerate our important remit to the public.

In case your Members are interested, please find below a link to a fundraising expedition setting off next month which I'm sure will raise the profile of the John Rae Society further:

https://www.scottishfield.co.uk/outdoors/arctic-expedition-to-remember-a-scots-explorer/?fbclid=IwAR1jQvVdUhPHPYULz6VScAgn_FCnWSAmWCvR8fgmWv1tfDTZsle7bXtqxKI

With all good wishes,

Andrew Appleby

President of The John Rae Society