

## **HERITAGE HUB FACT SHEET TIMELINE**

**A listing of events and social developments (local, national and international)  
to set your own research in a wider context.**

1134-50	Border Abbeys founded.
1286	Death of Alexander III and his daughter Margaret, Maid of Norway, leading to a disputed Scottish success and the Anglo-Scottish wars.
1314	Battle of Bannockburn and Scottish success under Robert the Bruce.
1477	William Caxton published the first printed book.
1513	Battle of Flodden and the defeat of Scotland, and the death of James IV.
1543-49	“Rough Wooing” with the invasion of the Borders in the attempt of Henry VIII to enforce the marriage of his son Edward VI to the young Mary Queen of Scots.
1556	Mary Queen Scots’ stay in Jedburgh and her ride to Hermitage Castle to visit the wounded Bothwell.
1560	Scotland declared a Protestant country.
1603	Union of the Crowns on the death of Queen Elizabeth I, with the succession of King James VI of Scotland as King James I of England.
1642-49	English Civil War, with repercussions in Scotland. Montrose’s Royalist army defeated at Philiphaugh, near Selkirk in 1645 by the covenanting army led by General Leslie.
1707	Treaty of Union between the Scottish and English Parliaments.
1715	First Jacobite Uprising in support of the Stuart monarchy led by James Francis Edward Stuart, the Old Pretender.
1745	Second Jacobite Uprising when “Young Pretender” Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) landed in Scotland to claim the British throne.
1746	Jacobites defeated at Culloden, near Inverness – the last battle on British soil.
1759	Robert Burns born.
1768	Captain James Cook sailed to the Pacific and charted the east coast of Australia.
1771	Baillie John Hardie introduced the first stocking frames into Hawick – an event which marked the beginning of the local textile industry.
1771	Novelist and poet Sir Walter Scott born,
1775-83	American War of Independence.
1787	First fleet of convicts sailed to Australia.
1789	The storming of the Bastille and the start of the French Revolution.
c.1795	First regular coach run in the Borders from Kelso to Edinburgh – a 10 hour journey.
1796	Mungo Park, explorer from Foulshiels, near Selkirk, reached the source of the River Niger in Africa.
1800	First coach from Edinburgh to Carlisle through the central Borders
1800-15	Napoleonic Wars, with French prisoners of war billeted in the Borders.

1801	England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales formally joined under the Act of Union to create the United Kingdom.
1805	Battle of Trafalgar.
1815	Battle of Waterloo and the defeat of Napoleon.
1825	First public steam railway ran between Stockton and Darlington, heralding in the Age of the Railways.
1831	Major outbreak of cholera in Scotland.
1832	Sir Walter Scott died.
1837	Victoria became Queen.
1843	The Disruption within the Church of Scotland and formation of the Free Church.
1845	Poor Law (Scotland) Act established parochial boards, required to appoint an inspector of poor to administer poor relief.
1845-49	Irish Potato Famine.
1849	Last mail coach ran between Edinburgh – Hawick - Carlisle – a 9 hour 40 min. journey.
1853-56	Crimean War.
1857	Outbreak of Indian Mutiny against British rule.
1861-65	American Civil War.
1862	The Waverley Railway Line was completed linking Edinburgh and Carlisle through the Borders. (To Galashiels and Hawick in 1849)
1872	Voting by secret ballot introduced for the first time.
1872	Education (Scotland) Act introduced the setting up of School Boards and elementary education for all children.
1876	Alexander Graham Bell transmitted the first telephone message.
1881	Eyemouth Fishing Disaster - nearly 20 boats and 129 men (1 in 3 of the town's male population) lost their lives in a storm.
1893	The Independent Labour Party founded by Keir Hardie.
1899-1902	Boer War between the British and descendants of the Dutch settlers in South Africa.
1896	Speed limit for horseless carriages was raised from 4mph (2mph in towns) to 14mph.
1901	Queen Victoria died.
1914-18	First World War.
1917-21	Russian Revolution.
1922	BBC radio started broadcasting.
1928	Women over 21 granted equal voting rights with men. (Given to women over 30 ten years earlier).
1939-1945	Second World War.
1948	Introduction of the National Health Service.

