

# Society talks of good year

By Staff Reporter

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DORNOCH Heritage organisation's recent well-attended AGM at the Royal Dornoch Golf Club heard how the Historylinks Museum continues to go from strength to strength.

Chairman Jerry Bishop told of how and why the trustees had decided over the winter of 2017/18 to embark on what was called Transformation 1.

This was an ambitious £25,000 project to upgrade the museum, partly to tackle some shortcomings identified during the Visit Scotland annual inspection, and partly to improve life for the volunteers, members and the ever-increasing number of visitors.

Outside, the garden was tidied up and a labyrinth was installed as part of the Fish Tales Project, which had been undertaken to capture and record stories from the days when the fishing industry was so significant to Embo and the surrounding area.

Thanks to a grant from the Common Good Fund, replacement panels were purchased for the Dornoch Town Trail and a donation from the fund-raising sub-committee known as the Heritage Society paid for the bases of the panels to be refurbished.

Alison Davies, chairman of the museum sub-committee which manages Historylinks, told of current initiatives aimed at involving young people.

Short-term projects include

the possibility of a major archaeological dig at the site of a long-house in the Loch Buidhe area.

Peter Wild, chairman of the Heritage Society, reported that yet another successful year had passed with a series of interesting monthly talks and a number of local fund-raising events which had all been very successful.

Bearing in mind that Highland Council is constantly looking at ways of creating budget savings, the Trustees continue to plan for a financially sustainable future, free from revenue grants.

In recognition of many years of service to the organisation, honorary membership was awarded to John Barnes and Tony Rundle.



Dornoch Heritage organisation chairman Jerry Bishop (left) pictured with VisitScotland chairman John Thurso on becoming part of the tourist organisation's VIP scheme.