

50 HAUNTED

In celebration of our 50th issue, **Kathleen Cronie** of Dumfries-based

1 *The Old County Hotel, Dumfries:*

Famously haunted by the spirit of Bonnie Prince Charlie, the last known sighting took place in 1936

2 *Carnsalloch House, Kirkton:*

Dating back to 1759, this derelict Palladian mansion house is rumoured to be haunted by a Pink Lady

3 *A75, Kinmount Straight:*

A plethora of unexplained spirits have been reported here including hens, big cats, a screaming woman and a bear-like creature

4 *Rockhall, Collin:*

former home of Robert Greirson of Lagg, infamous persecutor of the Covenanters. The spirit of his vicious pet monkey is said to reside here

5 *Cairn Farm House, Auldgirith:*

Doors open mysteriously, ticking sounds are heard for no reason and a woman in Victorian dress has been witnessed

6 *Caerlaverock Merse:*

A party of men set out for a day's shooting on the Merse and got lost in the fog. They were guided to safety by a strange hooded figure

7 *Spedlins Tower, Templand:*

Dunty Porteous, a local miller, was accidentally starved to death in the tower's dungeons. Screams and groans were heard after his horrendous passing...

8 *Comlongon Castle, Clarencefield:*

In 1570, Lady Marion Carruthers tragically took her own life. Her weeping spirit is purported to walk in and around the castle

10 *Kings Arms Hotel, Lockerbie:*

The strong smell of flowers; pots and pans flying off shelves, and opening drawers have all been witnessed here

11 *Old Stables Inn, Beattock:*

A young girl's spirit has been linked with moving crockery and cutlery, strange footsteps, a beer keg moving and the smell of burnt toast

12 *Craigdarroch Inn, Moniaive:*

Reports include shadows in the restaurant area, voices and the sound of furniture moving across a wooden floor

13 *Gelston House:*

The 'crisis apparition' of a Mr Laurie Johnstone was seen on the day he died – July 1st, 1916 – and is said to return each year

14 *Garlieston Straight Road:*

A phantom hitchhiker in the form of a young girl has alarmed motorists with her appearance by the roadside

15 *Kirkconnel House, New Abbey:*

A lady in distress was comforted by the spirit of Nanny Carmichael. Knocking and heavy breathing has been heard in the house

16 *Baldoon Castle, Wigtownshire:*

The tragic ghost of Janet Dalrymple is alleged to haunt the castle every September 12th in her blood-stained wedding gown

17 *The Rerrick Poltergeist,*

Dundrennan: In 1695, there were prolific reports of violent and frequent poltergeist activity which centred on Andrew Mackie's house

18 *Monreith House, Monreith:*

A nanny who committed suicide is among a number of ghostly presences here

19 *Three Crossroads, Arbigland:*

Heartbreak and forbidden love resulted in a young woman's untimely end. Her spirit is said to return to this spot

20 *The Convent, Dumfries:*

On one occasion, a pretty young nun was seen standing in a doorway

21 *Corsock Moor:*

A headless piper is still said to play his pipes, although we're not quite sure how...

22 *Old Smugglers Inn, Auchencairn:*

Electrical anomalies, phantom footsteps and a dark shadowy figure have all been reported here.

23 *Lincluden Abbey, Dumfries:*

Stories of a Green Lady have terrified school children over the years

24 *Dundrennan Abbey:*

Visitors at the abbey have heard footsteps in the cloisters area and one lady witnessed a man in king's clothing

25 *Troqueer Arms Pub,*

Dumfries: The old mill owner's house can lay claim to phantom bar staff, reports of scraping furniture and a chair that just wouldn't sit still

26 *Tynron Doon:*

After a heated argument, a young man rode over the hill and broke his neck... the legend of his headless spirit lives on



9 *The Globe Inn, Dumfries:* Anna Park, one of Robert Burns' paramours, is said to make her presence felt in and around this ancient howff in the heart of Dumfries



27 *Drumlanrig Castle:* This stunning castle is allegedly haunted by the spirit of Lady Anne Douglas and an ape-like creature has been seen in the Yellow Monkey Room

LOCATIONS



paranormal investigation group Mostly Ghostly shares 50 of the region's most haunted locations



28 Wanlockhead: In 1877, Jenny Miller set out in a blizzard to attend her sister's wedding and sadly never arrived. One hundred years later, a distressed young woman in old fashioned clothes was seen by a walker

29 Rammerscales House, Lochmaben: Believed to be haunted by Dr James Mounsey, physician to Czar Peter of Russia. The library is one of the most active areas for paranormal activity

30 Closeburn Castle: The castle lays claim to an avian harbinger of death: a swan whose breast is red and bleeding

31 The Crichton, Dumfries: Various buildings are supposed to be haunted. Years ago, staff members were so frightened they had to enlist the local police to patrol the area

32 Sandyhills, New Abbey Road: One eye-witness account describes a soldier wearing a breast plate, with criss-cross leather strapping on his arms and legs

33 Maxwellton Chapel: A ghostly cavalier and a spooky old lady wearing a long tweed-like coat have startled passers by

34 Kirkdale Bridge: This gruesome story concerns a young lady murdered by a gypsy. The poor girl's spirit used to be seen around midnight with half her head missing

35 Annandale Observer offices: The newspaper's founder was rumoured to haunt this building; strange occurrences include cold breezes and power cuts

36 Old Galloway Gazette building, Newton Stewart: Believed to be haunted by the ghost of Harry Flynn. Mysterious footsteps, sneezing and a door which opened of its own accord, have all been reported

37 Residence in Glenluce: Around 1654 a beggar cursed Gilbert Campbell for his lack of charity and before long, the house was in fierce and terrifying turmoil

38 Drummoral, Isle of Whithorn: When William Coltrane – notoriously involved with the Wigtown Martyrs – died, his home appeared in flames as if he were being sent to Hell. His ghost is said to haunt the area

39 Greenlaw Mansion, Castle Douglas: A lady in grey is the most famous of Greenlaw's spirits. She may be the ghost of an

old governess or nursemaid

40 Glenlee, St. Johns Town of Dalry: Another Grey Lady who was spotted four times in the 19th century, may be the spirit of Lady Ashburton who poisoned her husband before being poisoned by the butler

41 Tibbie Shiels Inn, St. Mary's Loch: Isabella Shiel's drinking house was frequented by many notable writers and poets. Following her death, at 96, she was described as manifesting with a cold hand on the shoulder

42 Tarras Water, Langholm: Haunted by a White Lady who was allegedly murdered and robbed by a local farmer. Many have observed her ghostly figure

43 Amisfield Tower and House: Numerous spooky occurrences have been reported including mumbled voices, footsteps, the ghost of a young servant girl, moving shadows and a very real-looking old lady lying in bed

44 The Kings Arms Hotel, Dumfries: This former hotel is home to the spirit of Jane Stewart who died of a broken heart. Cold spots, strange presences and poltergeist activity have been experienced by various staff members

45 Sanquhar Castle: The castle has three known ghosts: Marion of Dalpeddar, John Wilson, who was unjustly hanged, and Abraham Crichton

46 Sorbie Tower: The tower's Grey Lady is said to appear tall and elegant but as you move closer, becomes grim and grey...

47 The Theatre Royal, Dumfries: This historic theatre, the oldest working one in Scotland, is home to the mysterious Green Lady and is also known for moving objects, dark shadowy presences and eerie footsteps

48 Cardoness Castle, Gatehouse of Fleet: Visitors to the castle have reported seeing a 'foreign lady' and an 18-year-old boy with a noose around his neck...

49 Dunskey Castle, Portpatrick: Eerie pipe music has been heard and a troubled nursemaid who dropped a child from the window supposedly haunts the castle

50 Threave Castle, Castle Douglas: Unexplained voices and strange breathing sounds pervade this forbidding fortress...

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■ For more information about these stories, if you have experienced anything spooky in any of the locations, or if you have a case you'd like Mostly Ghostly to investigate, contact the team on 07791 047835 or 07912 145865; www.mostlyghostly.org

■ Mostly Ghostly Investigations' next Dumfries Haunted Theatre Tour is on Saturday, January 21, at The Theatre Royal in Shakespeare Street, Dumfries, starting at 7pm. Tickets are £8/£6, available from the Midsteeple Ticket Office.

