

## E-cosse Monthly Update

Welcome to E-cosse, the NFRC Scotland Monthly update e-newsletter.

  
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### Chairman's Note

The Federation continues to be at the forefront of organising skills events to encourage school children to consider construction as a career of choice. Following March's events in Kirkcaldy, Culross, Glasgow followed by Edinburgh and Falkirk.

Other skills events are planned in September to promote the construction industry as a career of choice for Scotland's school children.

The Federation joined forces with Architecture & Design Scotland and Skills Development Scotland (Scottish Government) to deliver a series of CPDs in Kilmarnock and we are looking to develop these and present them across Scotland. The Federation would welcome members to offer to give these presentations on behalf of the NFRC and anyone interested in doing so is asked to contact the Regional Manager.

We also welcomed James Talman (NFRC CEO) to the last NFRC Scotland Committee meeting where he outlined the short and long-term aims for the Federation across Britain and the region is looking forward to participating in these positive developments.

### Traditional Building Skills Demonstrations in Edinburgh and Falkirk

NFRC was represented at a traditional building skills demonstrations at St Andrews Square Gardens, Edinburgh and in Falkirk Town Centre.

We promoted roof slating to the school children across Edinburgh and Falkirk with thanks to Edinburgh College, Ronald G Graham Roofing & Building, Compass Roofing and Rooftec (Scotland) Ltd for delivering the roof slating demonstrations at the events.

It gave local school children the opportunity try their hand at the trades being demonstrated and the events were also visited by Gordon Lindhurst MSP, Jeremy Balfour MSP, Liam Kerr MSP, Andy Wightman MSP, Alison Johnstone MSP, Michael Matheson MSP, Elaine Smith MSP and John McNally MP who also joined in and had a go at the skills.



School Children on Roof Slating in Falkirk



Michael Matheson MSP



Elaine Smith MSP



Andy Wightman MSP



Gordon Lindhurst MSP



School Children on Roof Slating in Edinburgh

## **The Engine Shed**

Historic Environment Scotland has opened The Engine Shed in Stirling.

At the Engine Shed, you can explore the stories of the structures all around you from our free to visit centre in central Stirling.

The interactive exhibits, 3D theatre, augmented reality experiences and hands-on activities bring Scotland's built heritage to life.

The NFRC continues its close working relationship with Historic Environment Scotland and is looking forward to using The Engine Shed for events.

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## **Continuous Professional Development**

NFRC has been working with key stakeholders across the Scottish construction industry to raise the profile of best roofing practice and to promote the benefits of engaging an NFRC member for roof works.



NFRC worked with Architecture & Design Scotland and Skills Development Scotland to organise a series of CPDs in Kilmarnock.

These were well attended with George Brolly, Graeme Millar and Alistair White presenting on behalf of the Federation on Flat Roofing, Roof Slating and Roof Leadwork respectively.

The Federation has delivered a range of CPDs to Architecture & Design Scotland, Royal Incorporation of Chartered Surveyors, local authorities, city heritage trusts and Historic Environment Scotland. We are looking to build on this and anyone interested in presenting on behalf of the NFRC is asked to contact the Regional Manager.

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## **Safe2Torch**

What are the main points?:

Those who create risks have a responsibility to manage those risks – placing the ownership of potential fire risks in the right place is the main message of Safe2Torch. Therefore, it is essential to make sure all fire risks are identified at the survey stage and factored in to the specification before it is written. This means that where any fire risk has been identified, or, just as importantly, where it cannot be ruled out, then the relevant parts of that specification must default to torch-free solutions. If, subsequently, it can be demonstrated that an area is safe (e.g. when uncovering an area on a refurbishment project) then the specification can, if agreed between all parties, revert to torch application.

The Safe2Torch campaign is designed to support specification writers to comply with the Construction Design and Management Regulations 2015, and ties in with the HSE's led 'Helping Great Britain Work Well' strategy which promotes a safer and healthier working environment.

Put simply, **Safe2Torch is a positive message which puts safety first at the design stage.**

The Safe2Torch campaign will directly affect at least 50% of all the flat roofs installed in the UK.

Roof fires caused by gas torches, no matter how minor, pose a serious threat to life, property, the image of the industry and possibly even the long-term future of torch-on as an accepted method of covering a roof. NFRC believe that by working together, fires of this nature can be prevented and it is for this reason, that we have now launched our Safe2Torch campaign.

The Safe2Torch campaign will promote the positive side of the industry, where safe specifications and safe working practices are second nature. It will give clients assurance that if they engage with a Safe2Torch Contractor and/or Manufacturer, their roof works will have been planned and installed within the requirements of the Safe2Torch guidance.

