



Coat's Museum, Paisley

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



# CONVENTION ON THE CLYDE

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014

## The Nineteenth MWCC Convention

### Venue: The Erskine Bridge Hotel, Erskine

Situated in 18 acres of parkland on the banks of the Clyde, with superb views over to the Kilpatrick Hills, the 177 room hotel is convenient for Glasgow Airport (from which there is free transfer) and for trains (Bishopton Station, connecting from Glasgow Central is nearby). It has lifts, complimentary wi-fi throughout, a leisure club with swimming pool and spa, ample parking and, from the grounds, it is possible to enjoy pleasant walks along the river bank. We have been allocated our own function suite for evening meals, talks and displays. The room rate is £50 per person per night dinner, bed and breakfast in twin or double rooms, and £70 for single rooms. *(No hotel approached was willing to offer single rooms at the same rates as the double/twin).* These room rates will apply if members wish to extend their stay. Non resident meals £20 per meal; £25 for Gala dinner.



Image © Stephen Sweeney



Paisley skyline showing mills

**Focus – Mauchline Ware and the Connections with the Paisley Thread Industry:**

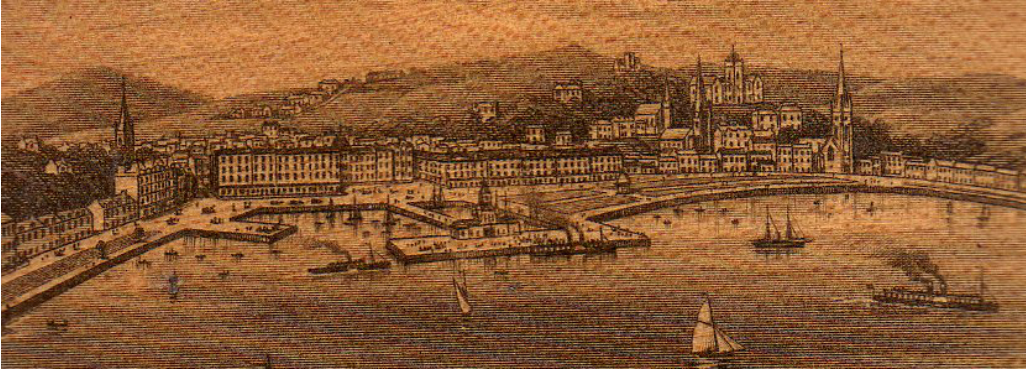
The Hotel is some 5 miles from Paisley town centre, and has been chosen to allow us to:

- visit one of the last surviving mill buildings and the Thread Museum located there;
- learn more of the work carried on there and the connections with the box-makers;
- look at the work and living conditions of the cottage weavers; and
- investigate how the Clark Brothers and the Coats enriched their town with public buildings.

There will be opportunities to see the Clark-built Town Hall, and to visit the Coats Museum with its wonderful display of Paisley Shawls, the Observatory and the Thomas Coats Memorial Church, (sometimes known as the Baptist Cathedral), all splendid examples of Victorian munificence at its best.

**The Programme:**

During our stay on the Clyde, we propose to look at the way in which the Clyde and the tourist industry promoted by the Clyde steamers, gave rise to a wide range of different transfer scenes; also to look at the rich variety of Mauchline thread containers produced for the Paisley companies. The Friday will be spent in Paisley. Then on the Saturday morning there will be a half-day visit to the famous Burrell Collection on the outskirts of Glasgow. For any preferring to enjoy the fresh air, Pollock Park, where the Burrell is situated, has been famous for its spring flowers and rhododendrons for many years. As always, members’ displays and talks will be key features of the weekend. Our Gala dinner will take place on the Saturday evening, and on Sunday morning we will again enjoy the excitement of our Convention Fair.



Tourist Steamers on the Clyde, leaving Rothesay

**Bookings:**

As always, this event is a major undertaking for the Club, which has already paid out a considerable sum to reserve our accommodation. At this time we would ask you to reserve places and to pay an initial non-returnable deposit of £25 per person, to be set against the final conference fee covering outings etc. As on previous occasions, while the Club will make reservations for members *en bloc*, members require to settle their own accounts on departure. Members booking should note that **any cancellations made within the two week period prior to the Convention will be charged at full rate**. Such payments are the responsibility of the individual members, and you are advised to consider insurance cover for such a necessity.



**Convention on the Clyde Booking Form**

Please reserve        twin / double / single room(s) at the Erskine Bridge Hotel for the nights of 3 / 4 / 5 April **delete as appropriate**. Add additional nights with dates: .....

I enclose a non-returnable deposit of £        (£25 per person)

Any special dietary or room requirements?

Name:

Address:

Contact phone:

E-mail: