



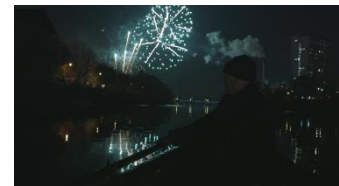
# Glasgow Humane Society



## Culture 2014 and Festival 2014

As we move into 2015 it is time to look back on the year just passed.

Glasgow Humane Society gave safety cover along the River Clyde and its banking upstream of the Tidal Weir during 73 events. We also gave safety advice fulfilling our role as Advisers on Safety to Glasgow City Council, for events taking place at other areas of the River and other venues on or beside waterways.



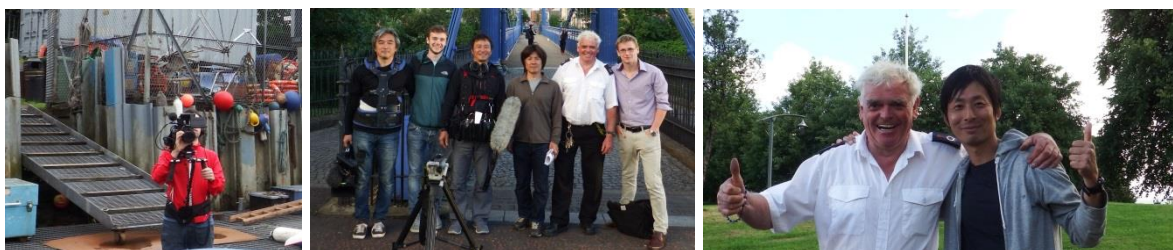
The main event during the year was the 2014 Commonwealth Games, the largest sporting and cultural event ever to be held in Scotland. The GHS worked closely with Glasgow 2014, Commonwealth Games Scotland, Police Scotland and Glasgow City Council to provide a safe and enjoyable event. GHS now looks forward to assisting in the fulfillment of the Games Legacy



The varied work of our Officer George Parsonage and team of Volunteers was highlighted in several films made for the Commonwealth Games with a generic film being shown at all venues. George was also on film chosen to introduce the swimming events at Tollcross International Pool, the diving in Edinburgh, and the cycling events at the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome.

It would be remiss not to mention that the GHS work featuring George was highlighted in a film about Glasgow, on two subjects, firstly, Rennie Macintosh and secondly, the River Clyde. George was interviewed about both subjects and the film was shown earlier this year in the Czech Republic.

Recently George and Ben and the work of the GHS appeared in a travel film for Japanese Television.



Around 700 river safety patrols were carried out by Officers and Volunteers. They also carried out more than 1600 bank safety patrols.



Around 500 lifebelts were brought from the river, cleaned, Samaritan stickers attached and replaced on stances. New GPS signs were attached to stances as required, others cleaned or repaired.

The Officer/s attended 174 meetings where waterway and banking safety advice was required.

Other stats for 2014 are as follows;

Assistance/advice sought/given around 800 times;

Stolen goods dealt with 8 times;

Accidents prevented by proactive action 18, acute rescues 13;

Talks/presentations given 13 times;

Hazards removed thus preventing accidents 261;

Animals dealt with on 102 occasions;

Searches were carried out on 11 occasions with all persons being found safe and one body was recovered;

The Officers carried out 18 training courses



Glasgow Humane Society continues to work in close partnership with all departments of the Glasgow City Council, with Clydeport, Police Scotland (Glasgow), and many other groups.

Through the auspices of the Water Safety Group, founded by Glasgow Humane Society organised by Glasgow City Council, much excellent safety work has been carried out and Glasgow is committed to ensuring best practice in this respect.

Through the Water Safety Group, Glasgow Humane Society has advised Loch Watch Loch Awe, Ayrshire Council, Safe Tay, Scottish Fire and Rescue, Police Scotland, the River Clyde Users Group, Strathclyde University Department of Architecture, Event Engineering NSW Australia (re “No Man’s landing” event for 2015) and others.

Regular production of an on line magazine “Tales of the Riverman” is being circulated. Anyone who wishes to be added to the distribution list should intimate so by e mailing [glasgowlifeboat@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:glasgowlifeboat@yahoo.co.uk)

The work of the Glasgow Humane Society is manifest and varied. A full diary of daily work can be made available on request.

The Games were a great success and while everyone involved must receive the highest praise for a task well done, however much of the regular work around the river took a back seat and we are now playing “catch up”.

One of the main tasks of the Glasgow Humane Society is the looking after the river users especially upstream of the Tidal weir and Pipe Bridge at Glasgow Green.

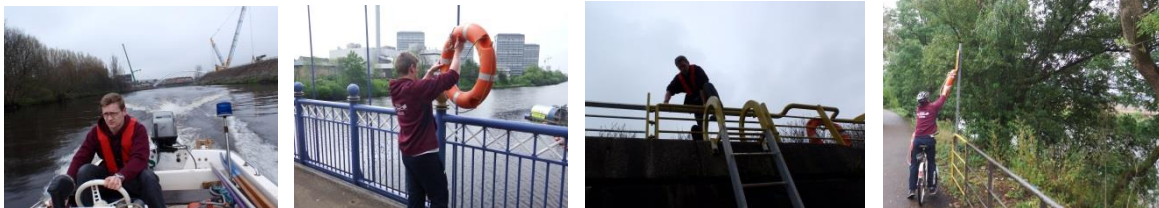


We are proud to say that since Ben Parsonage (Snr) arrived on the River in 1918 there have been no serious accidents. This has been carried on to date mostly by the vigilance of the Parsonage family.

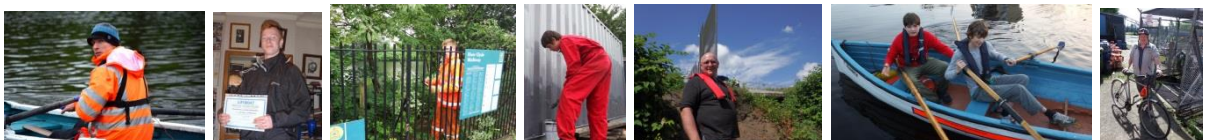
The production of Rules and Guidelines for various types River users and Booklets on advice for safe waterway edge design drawn up by George Parsonage have added greatly to the feel safe attitude that prevails on the river, though it can be hard work persuading persons to impose self-discipline. When you look at the number of incidents and accidents occurring on other waterways throughout the United Kingdom and abroad we are indeed lucky in Glasgow. It is interesting to note that on a narrow river with over 500 boats racing about at peak times, we are almost self-regulating, while on other rivers emergency services have the highest call out rates in the UK.

Thanks must go to those who assisted during 2014

Part time assistant Officer Benjamin Parsonage Jnr



Volunteer Lifeguards:-Colin Munn, Graeme McGrath, Jamie Park, Cameron Grant, Christopher Parsonage, Stephanie Parsonage, Adam Rzepinski, Alan Tweedie, Jonathan Currie, Callum Sutherland, Marc Haniford, Gavin Lamb, Andrew Orr, Thomas and Janell Kelly, Graham, Ian Webster, Seamus Keating, Alex and Lynne MacDonald, Paul Mansell, Tom A'Hara, and members of Strathclyde University Boat Club





Volunteer Riverwatchers: - Rae Percy, Jack Doran, Ricky Walsh,  
Other Volunteers:-Duncan McNeill,

**There is much to be done during 2015 and many new safety ideas are planned.**

**Glasgow Humane Society as ever is ready and willing to rise to this challenge.**