

ANSWERS

Q1: William Murdoch - a) Gas

In the 1790s Murdoch discovered a way to use natural gas to light houses and work places. Today we use electricity or solar power for this. Before gas people used candles or oil lamps but these only worked for very small areas and were no good for street lighting.



THINK:
How might better lighting have changed people's lives?

Q2: George Baird - c) 1831

George Baird was the son of a farmer and only 15 when he died of gas poisoning. He wanted to see inside a coalpit not realising the danger. Three men went to save him but it was too late. The first down the pit was James Murdoch, a miner aged 25. James also died and is buried in this churchyard but his family didn't have enough money for a gravestone.

Q3: Matthew Tait - a) Charles II

Matthew Tait died in 1792, aged 123 years. He lived through the reigns of 7 different kings and queens. He was a soldier. Local legend says he also told people's fortunes and carved spoons out of horn. His death was reported in newspapers all across Britain, appearing next to the death of the British Prime Minister.

What do you think gravestones can tell us about life in the past? Is there anything they can't tell us?



Q4: Symbols - Miller: 6 | Blacksmith: 4 | Gardener: 5

Q5: Quill - TRUE

Auchinleck Old Church, 5 Church Hill,
Auchinleck, KA18 2AB

In 1504 King James IV gave Auchinleck to the Boswell Family as a gift. At this time Auchinleck village was just a few cottages around the church surrounded by farmland. In the mid-1700s James Boswell's father added more buildings and new roads so that the village became larger and more regularly laid out. In the 1800s Auchinleck grew further as coal and iron mining developed and small villages were created on its outskirts for miners and their families.



7



Did you spot True and Faith on the Boswell family's mausoleum?

A mausoleum is a building where members of the same family are buried.

The Boswell Trust was formed in 2010 to raise the profile of James Boswell with the ultimate aim of restoring the Boswell Mausoleum and opening a visitor attraction in the adjoining Old Church. The Boswell Project and Boswell Book Festival are the first steps in fulfilling this aim.

For further information, please visit
www.jamesboswell.scot



"The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas"
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AUCHINLECK HISTORY HUNT

Time travel with the Graveyard Guardians



THE BOSWELL TRUST

www.jamesboswell.scot

AUCHINLECK CHURCHYARD



Welcome! We are True and Faith the graveyard guardians. We watch over the old gravestones to guard their stories from becoming forgotten.

HISTORY HUNT



Gravestones give brief biographies of people who lived in Auchinleck in the past. Hunt for the six gravestones on this map. Answer the question to prove you have found the right stone.



1 What did the inventor William Murdoch make his discoveries in?

- a) Gas b) Water



2 Can you work out the year when George Baird died if M= 1000, D= 500, C= 100, X = 10 and I = 1

- a) 1750
b) 1950
c) 1831



LOOK:

Most gravestones have writing upon them. Sometimes letters look like *handwriting* and sometimes like **PRINTING** in books or newspapers.



3 Matthew Tait died in 1792, aged 123 years.

Which king was on the throne when Matthew Tait was born in 1669?

- a) Charles II b) James II c) Charles I



James Boswell (1740 - 1795) was a famous author and lawyer. After his father's death he was the 9th Laird of Auchinleck. The Boswell family had owned the Auchinleck Estate since 1504.

James is most famous however as a writer. His books are about the life of another person (called a biography), his own life (he kept a diary for 33 years) or the different places he visited.

James wrote his books using a quill. A quill is the stem of a feather cut to a point then dipped in ink.

TRUE OR FALSE

If you are right-handed you use a quill from a bird's right wing and if left-handed a quill from a left wing.

4 Symbols on gravestones can show the types of jobs people did.

Can you match the three jobs below to the right gravestone?

- a) Miller who ground corn using round millstones and could build and repair his mill?
b) Blacksmith, maker of horseshoes and a member of the 'Hammermen' who thought they were the kings of all trades
c) Gardener who planted flowers in pots?

