



# The Falkland Society

Scottish Registered Charity SC01720

[www.falklandsociety.org.uk](http://www.falklandsociety.org.uk)

## Bryan Dickson will be speaking on 'The Hill House – conservation challenges of a modern masterpiece'

7 p.m. Wednesday 20 November 2019

at the Chapel Royal, Falkland Palace KY15 7BY

(by kind permission of The National Trust for Scotland)

*All welcome, retiring collection.*

*Note there is a flight of stairs up to the Chapel Royal: moreover you are advised to bring a torch as you will be exiting the property via the turret door on the lawn.*

**Bryan Dickson** is a Conservation Accredited Chartered Building Surveyor, and the Head of Buildings Conservation (Policy) at the National Trust for Scotland. He was responsible for the team who deliver maintenance, repair and conservation needs to the Trust's estate of some 1600 built structures across Scotland, including a wide range of heritage, from castles to crofts, industrial heritage to contemporary architecture across estates and landscapes.

In a newly created role, he is responsible for the setting of buildings conservation policy direction and technical operational standards, management of a Scottish Government (through Historic Environment Scotland) grant programme and supporting major projects. Bryan has a Masters Degree in Building Conservation and has had some 25 years of practical, technical, professional and managerial experience within the heritage sector.



**The Hill House, Helensburgh**, is commonly regarded as Charles Rennie Mackintosh's domestic masterpiece, built in 1903 for Walter Blackie, the Glasgow publisher (more detail at [www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/the-hill-house](http://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/the-hill-house)). His unique architectural style dispensed with well-established and traditional architectural detailing to make way for an early modernist building; his reliance on new building materials, particularly Portland cement roughcast, enabled his architectural vision.

However the building has suffered from damp ingress for generations. In 2014 The National Trust for Scotland commissioned Andrew Wright, Conservation Architect, to produce a Conservation Plan in order to develop a repair strategy.

This talk will explore the findings of that Conservation Plan and look at how the National Trust for Scotland is tackling the problem, culminating in this year's erection of a large temporary structure to provide shelter to allow the building to dry out.

