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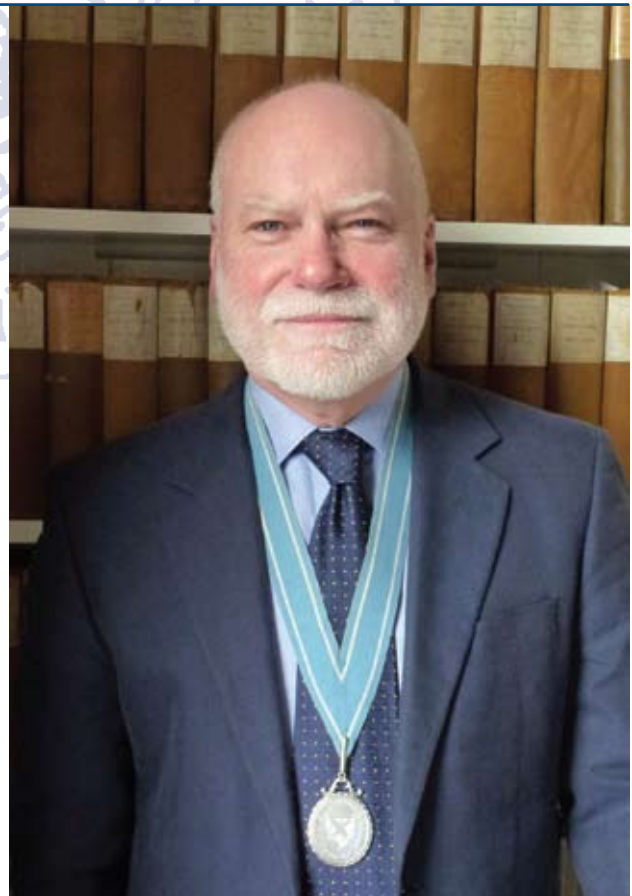
The President's Letter

Dear Fellows,

Being elected as President of this long-established Society is a privilege and honour of which I am very conscious, and I look forward very much to the next three years in this role. Coming back to involvement in the Society's governance after a gap of several years since I was a Vice-President, I have a sense of *déjà vu* but also recognize that there have been changes. The Director, Simon Gilmour, and the Treasurer, Brendan O'Connor, have been steering me through all the new developments and I am impressed by the firm footing they have established and by the way all the staff are so positively committed to the well-being of the Society and assisting with its activities. The current situation is of course also a legacy of my predecessor as President, Barbara Crawford, for whose advice and encouragement I am personally most grateful.

It seems to have become a tradition for the incoming President to write something autobiographical for his or her first President's letter. So perhaps I should start with a confession that, apparently unlike many of my peers, I had no childhood desire to be an archaeologist, and with an explanation of how I became one by accident. At school I cannot recall having any interest in archaeology, but at age sixteen I was smitten by a passion for ancient history, inspired by Stan Wolfson, a splendid Classics master. It was ancient (classical) history I chose to pursue and I applied to various universities without success. Planning to return to school after the summer holidays to take another 'A' level before reapplying the following year, I went off on an ill-fated camping trip to France with a schoolmate who had an ancient motorcycle-and-sidecar combination. The bike started playing up before we even got to Dover, but miraculously we made it as far as Clermont Ferrand before it gave up the ghost altogether. After negotiating a minefield of international regulations, the bike was sold to a local scrap-merchant for about five francs! Determined to reach our goal of the Riviera we hitch-hiked and succeeded (eventually).

Arriving belatedly back home at the start of school term, I found a letter waiting from Birmingham University, offering me a late vacancy. Two weeks later I was in Birmingham embarking on a single honours BA degree in Ancient History and Archaeology. For various reasons ancient history soon began to lose its attraction, to be replaced in my affection by prehistoric archaeology, guided by another inspirational teacher, the late Lawrence Barfield. After graduation I embarked on a PhD and, committed now to archaeology, I started volunteering on digs to gain the practical field experience which had not been part of undergraduate tuition. My PhD was never completed – it was the end of the 1960s and rescue archaeology was taking off. It seemed far more important at the time to be involved in rescuing the rapidly disappearing archaeological



Alan Saville, President

heritage than studying for a PhD. The M5 motorway was under construction and I joined a small team of lunatics under Peter Fowler who really were grabbing finds from in front of bulldozers. Fortunately we all survived and most of that small team went on to make careers in archaeology.

Various spells of temporary archaeological work followed for me until, at age 28, I got my first 'proper job', as a museum-based field archaeologist and curator in Cheltenham, on the edge of the Gloucestershire Cotswolds. By this stage I was a fairly experienced excavator and anxious to get to grips with what was then the outstanding archaeological problem for sites and monuments on the Cotswolds – plough damage. My preference was for pre-history, and luck played a part in the fact that most of my fieldwork involved prehistoric sites, including a major project to excavate the Hazleton North Neolithic long cairn. By the end of the fieldwork for that project I was on the staff of the Bristol-based Western Archaeological Trust, one of the so-called regional rescue archaeology units which had emerged in England, largely with the support of government funding for archaeology. Times were changing, however, with the beginning of the transition to developer-funded rather than State-funded rescue archaeology, and those regions which didn't have the archaeological spin-off from major road schemes or extensive aggregate extraction to underpin their

running costs found it difficult to maintain archaeological units. Western Archaeological Trust folded just as I was embarking on the post-excavation for my long-cairn project. I still had a base at Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum, where I had continued to double-up as the archaeological curator, and a funding package agreed by the Department of the Environment and Cheltenham Borough Council allowed me to continue my post-excavation project to its conclusion.

At this stage it was time to look for other career opportunities. Over the course of the previous years I had pursued an interest, which started when I was a postgraduate at Birmingham, in the lithic artefacts of earlier prehistory. This became my particular research specialization, within a field which has expanded considerably since the end of the 1970s when a small band of enthusiasts, of which I was one, founded the still-thriving Lithic Studies Society. I sought a position in which expertise in this area would be more central, and in 1989 I was fortunate to secure such a post at the National Museum in Edinburgh, where I have worked (and been a Fellow of the Society) ever since.

Looking back over the previous paragraphs, I realize how lucky I have been to become, and remain, an archaeologist doing work I love. Will this be a viable expectation for today's archaeology graduates, trying to swim in an increasingly crowded pond from which the water is being drained by the changing social, economic, and political circumstances? And of course this is not just the case for archaeology, it applies in most areas of the humanities. I see the Society having a role here as advocate and defender of the value of all the historical and cultural disciplines which attach to its remit as declared in its mission statement. The Society

is especially well placed to recognize the contribution of the avocational sector, which after all founded the Society and has always comprised the majority of the Fellowship, but this contribution does not obviate the need for specialist professionals securely embedded in all those institutions concerned with the historic environment. In the current climate there is even uncertainty over the very survival of those institutions, and elsewhere in this newsletter the Director considers the various consultations and reviews taking place, and the Society's position with regard to them.

As I write this President's letter, talk of the referendum on independence for Scotland, and on independence itself, is very much in the air. Indeed, to judge from some of the press coverage and media near hysteria on the topic, some of our Fellows in the diaspora could be forgiven for thinking both were imminent. The reality is that we are over two years away even from a referendum and, to paraphrase what Neil Oliver and Tom Devine have been reported as saying sagaciously in the press, now is the time, not for knee-jerk reaction, but for mature reflection and opinion shaping with an informed and nuanced historical perspective. We live in the present and look to the future, but an awareness of the past must remain with us and our Society will continue to champion this. For what it is worth, I offer as a closing thought that the latest research on the very earliest (and transitory) recorded human occupation of (what is now) Scotland, some 14,000 years ago, shows its cultural affiliation to be closer to (what are now) southern Denmark, north-west Germany and the Netherlands, than it does to (what is now) England – but then this was at a time when much of the North Sea was dry land!

Alan Saville FSA FSA Scot MIfA
President

Murray Prize for History

The Society was delighted to launch the biennial Murray Prize for History at the most recent Anniversary Meeting, funded through a generous donation from our Fellow Dr Peter Murray. This will provide a £200 cash prize and a medal for a high quality piece of original research published by the Society, into the history of Scotland in the medieval and/or early modern periods (c AD 500 to AD 1700), set within a British and/or European context. History shall be defined as encompassing all branches, including art history, but shall exclude archaeology for which there is already Society provision. Submissions for the prize, initially to be considered for publication in volume 142 of the *Proceedings*, will require to be with the Managing Editor by 1 November 2012.

Society events now online

The Society has begun recording lectures and other events and placing them online. The recent Anniversary Meeting 2011 is also now available, including the lecture on Military Diaspora by Dr Wendy Ugolini from the Centre for Diaspora Studies, University of Edinburgh. You can access these from our website by using the drop-down menu from the Programme (button no 4) or from the 'view free online' link in the Programme page itself. We hope that this service will aid the many Fellows and non-Fellows who cannot make our meetings, and follows the many requests for such a service from Fellows both independently and through the recent online questionnaire.

New Fellows Subscription and entry fee

At the most recent Anniversary Meeting the Fellowship agreed to change the subscription for the first year after election and abolish the entry fee. Therefore, from 1 July 2012 there will no longer be an entry fee, a saving of £40, and the first year's subscription will be £30 (half-price).

Council hope that this will help encourage new Fellows to join the Society and better reflects the fact that the first year of Fellowship often only runs from January to the end of June with the provision of only a single *Newsletter* and no *Proceedings*. We would therefore ask all Fellows to encourage colleagues and friends with an interest in Scotland's past to join the Society Fellowship. Application forms can now be downloaded from the website.

Fellowship Cards

Please be aware that, to save costs, the Society no longer issues Fellowship Cards.

The main use for these has been to gain access to the NMS Library but this is no longer required, and indeed if the library has any query about the legitimacy of a Fellow they are able to contact us direct. Until a financially viable alternative is sourced we will not be issuing Fellowship Cards in the near future.

May you live in interesting times!



At a recent meeting of the Council of the Society your Trustees discussed the current series of reviews and consultations on various areas of heritage services and heritage management in Scotland.

These include the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) Options Appraisal, the review of the archaeology function in Historic Scotland, a strategy for Scottish Historic Environment Records, the development of a Scottish Museums and Galleries Strategy and the forthcoming review of Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP). Council agreed that all were wide-ranging in their potential long-term impact on the heritage sector, and especially on the structure of the sector, and while it was noted that some correspondence was occurring between the various reviews and strategising there was no formal opportunity for an overarching consideration of all the developments.

The Society recognises that in many cases while the *status quo* is a formal option within these various pieces of work, it might not be a realistic one, and that the increasing financial pressure on the public purse will in itself drive change, but it is very keen to ensure that we explore openly and transparently the risks and opportunities presented by the current situation, and indeed any further work that might be required in the future. The Society therefore seeks to engage in discussions on how to ensure that Scottish heritage is best served by all the present reviews and strategies.

To summarise from a Society point of view what it understands is happening at the time of writing: There is a review of the RCAHMS which is looking to an options appraisal process at the request of the Cabinet Secretary to determine the best way to secure a sustainable long-term future for RCAHMS' functions within a restricted public finance context. This is a very transparent process that will first attempt to establish what is valued with regard to RCAHMS services and then present a series of delivery options, each with their own risks and opportunities. The final proposal will be consulted upon. See www.rcahms.gov.uk/news/rcahms-review.

A review of the archaeology function within Historic Scotland is similarly looking to set out a long-term vision and strategy. The review remit includes analysing the current legislative framework and its relationship to what Historic Scotland delivers, the identification of how Historic Scotland can lead or enable the sector more effectively in pursuit of common strategic and collaborative aims, and how to increase the promotion of archaeology. It will examine the scope of shared services, particularly with local authorities, and make recommendations on how to progress a consensual strategy of legislative review, sector structure and policy and practice. The review itself will also propose how best to consult on its proposals.

The development of a National Strategy for Scotland's Museums and Galleries has just completed its initial public consultation. The strategy has an underlying theme of partnership with the aim of providing a common focus and a framework for action across the museums sector. Responses to the initial consultation that the Society is aware of have generally reiterated the importance of clarity with regard to non-national and local museums, whether university, local authority, or independent. The strategy itself will be presented early in 2012. See www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk/developing-a-national-strategy-2/.

Historic Scotland is also taking forward the first phase of an independently developed strategy for a Historic Environment Record for Scotland, including further discussion with stakeholders and the preparation of a more detailed 'road map' of future directions, actions and needs. While supporting the logic of the conclusions and recommendations in the strategy, the Society is keen that this development does not undermine the provision of local heritage expertise to develop and enhance the record as well as to provide heritage advice to a range of

clients. See www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/policy/hers.htm

From even this brief summary the Society would suggest that several cross-cutting issues are raised, including the relationship between national and local responsibilities, the structure and funding of heritage service provision across Scotland and action in relation to statutory and non-statutory heritage. The forthcoming review of SHEP will need to take all these issues into consideration, and the Society understands this will be a much wider-ranging exercise than simply rewriting the current policy document (available online from Historic Scotland's website). In terms of strategic discussion the Society is keen to engage all stakeholders in understanding better how all these individual pieces of work interact, and what the risks and opportunities are.

To this end the Society has invited stakeholders to a brief seminar under Chatham House rules in early March. This is aimed at providing at least one formal forum at which to discuss issues across the various individual pieces of work being undertaken. The Society will use this initial discussion to help frame any future meetings if they are thought useful or necessary; to develop its engagement on these matters with the Fellowship; and indeed, if there is any consensus, to consider a practical strategy for ensuring that the outcomes of each piece of work interrelate and are in the best possible interest of heritage in Scotland.

Your Director will report on these rapidly evolving developments (none of the pieces of work have formally reported at the time of writing) both in this *Newsletter* and online through our Fellows pages on our website, ensuring that Fellows are kept up to date with what is happening, and encouraging you to engage with those processes that arise from the current consultations.

Dr Simon Gilmour Director

The Rhind Lectures

On the windy edge of nothing

Vikings in the North Atlantic world – ecological and social journeys

The westward movement of Scandinavian settlers (the Norse, or Vikings of popular culture) across the expanse of the North Atlantic Ocean was nothing short of phenomenal. In less than two centuries, from c AD 800, a diaspora of largely Norse peoples, their animals, crops, architecture, and uninvited guests such as insects and weeds, had spread 2500 miles from Norway and the British Isles to North America (voyages mirroring the journeys of other Scandinavians eastwards to Byzantium and beyond by way of Russia).

They carried with them a common language and ways of doing things – social organization, laws, and from c AD 1000, Christianity; events that are recorded in sagas and other writings. What remains of this culture today are the relicts of settlement – farms, houses, churches and wider landscape settings – plus a rich ‘fossil’ component that can be accessed through the study of pollen, seeds, insects, bones, soils, isotopes and DNA.

The North Atlantic islands settled by the Norse were largely unoccupied and the importation of European agricultural practices had an immediate and profound impact upon what were at that time essentially ‘pristine’ landscapes. Almost uniquely, this provides an environmental baseline against which to assess human impacts upon landscape and the speed of degradation in environmentally sensitive areas. There is additional complexity because the journeying took place against a backdrop of climate change from the ‘Medieval Warm Period’ into the ‘Little Ice Age’.

Intriguing events, adventures and personal stories abound here, including those surrounding the reality or otherwise of pre-Scandinavian ecclesiastics in the Faroe Islands and Iceland; nationalism, Nazis and Iceland’s Pompeii; the attempts to discover Vinland; and the last reliable written sources for Greenland, which refer to an iconic marriage in AD 1408 at Hvalsey church and the departure of a boat in 1410.



Hvalsey church

© Kevin Edwards

The Lectures

With a focus upon the Faroe Islands, Iceland and Greenland, Kevin Edwards will present a select narrative of past and recent writings, archaeological enquiry and scientific research concerning the Norse settlement of the North Atlantic. For historical times especially, he will also feature the individuals behind the investigations.

The Rhind Lecturer

Kevin Edwards is Professor in Physical Geography and Adjunct Chair in Archaeology at the University of Aberdeen and Adjunct Chair in Anthropology in the City University of New York. He has held senior positions in Archaeology and Geography departments in UK universities and visiting positions in Copenhagen, Minnesota and most recently Cambridge. He has published extensively in the fields of Archaeology, Geography, Palaeoecology and Quaternary Science. For the past decade, he has been Principal Investigator on two major interdisciplinary and multi-national Research Programme Awards funded by The Leverhulme Trust for studies of human-environment interactions in the North Atlantic area.

Hofstadr Hall

© Kevin Edwards



Toftanes

© Kevin Edwards



Scotland in medieval Europe conference

Edinburgh, 22–24 February 2013

Call for papers and posters

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland invites you to submit papers and posters for *Scotland in Early Medieval Europe*, the fourth in its series of themed international conferences, to be held in February 2013 in conjunction with the Dark Age Studies Committee. The conference will examine Scotland and its connections and identity in Early Medieval Europe (AD 200 and AD 1000). We welcome contributions from all disciplines, utilising all sources of evidence, and we are particularly interested to mix overarching themes with specific case studies.

Themes for the conference will include

- Power and identity
- Groups and communities
- Ideologies and economies
- Contacts and communications

All contributions should in some way offer examinations relating to at least one of the following:

- Scales of analysis, e.g. individual – family – community
- Regionality
- Continuity and change
- Scotland in the wider context of Britain and/or Europe
- Multi-disciplinary approaches

Please submit a paper or poster title and short summary (no longer than 400 words), plus contact details of all contributors and a correspondence address and e-mail, by **29 June 2012**. Please submit to SIEM@socantscot.org.



Hilton of Cadboll cross-slab

© Trustees of the National Museums Scotland



Whitecleugh silver chain

© Trustees of the National Museums Scotland

New Society books

Roman Camps in Scotland Rebecca H Jones FSA Scot
ISBN 978 0 903903 50 9
367 pages, hardback
RRP £30.00, Fellows' price: £25.00

The Roman army in Britain left an archaeological legacy that is the envy of the rest of the Roman world. The forts fortresses and frontier defences are rightly celebrated but less well known are the temporary camps. These were constructed to house the army for short periods of time while on campaigns patrols and manoeuvres.

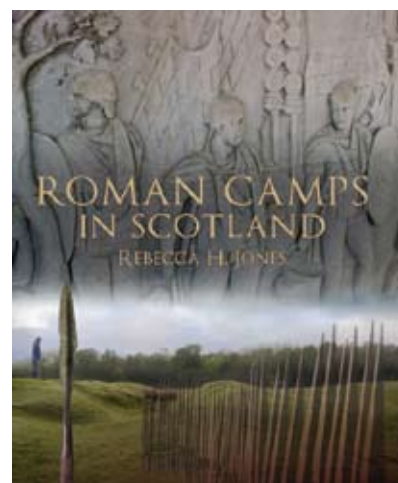
Scotland contains a wealth of Roman camps and this book is a companion volume to earlier publications of camps in England and Wales. As the northern frontier zone of Britain subject to repeated campaigns by the Roman army the area possesses a wide and fascinating range of camp sites recorded both as earthwork remains and through cropmarkings from the air. The field evidence is discussed against the background of Roman army campaigns with each of the camps described and illustrated in a detailed gazetteer.

The book is illustrated throughout with plans maps and photographs and will be of interest to all those who wish to know more about the archaeology of the Roman army its campaigns in northern Britain and the ancient military mind.

‘The publisher is warmly congratulated on the quality and price of this book – it is simply sumptuous and well designed – plans are adjacent to the relevant text.’

Professor David J Breeze HonFSA Scot
Review for the Cumberland and Westmorland
Antiquarian and Archaeological Society

Available online from the Society website – click on ‘Shop’.



Free book for Fellows

Dun Mor Vault: an Iron Age broch on Tiree

Euan MacKie FSA Scot
ISBN 0852611129
235 pages, softback
University of Glasgow Press



Dr Euan MacKie has a number of surplus copies of his *Dun Mor Vault: an Iron Age broch on Tiree*, 1974 (soft cover, A4) which he is happy to let interested Fellows have free of charge. If post and packaging is required this will cost £3.50.

Dr MacKie reminds us that, "although the excavation was carried out a long time ago it is worth remembering that the stratified sequence excavated at Dun Mor Vault between 1962 and 1964 is still one of the longest and most complete in Atlantic Scotland and therefore provides an essential key to the chronology of the whole Iron Age period.

Dun Mor Vault was also the first Iron Age site in Atlantic Scotland, perhaps in all of Scotland, to be systematically dated by radiocarbon. These dates are of course crude by modern standards and I hope to have new much more accurate ones done fairly soon. The new chronology which will emerge will, I hope, solve a number of basic problems about brochs and the Atlantic Iron Age material culture."

Please contact Dr Euan MacKie direct at euankmackie@btinternet.com

Free Royal Archaeological Institute offprints

Copies of the **RAI Summer Meeting Reports for Aberdeen in 1971** and **Glasgow, the Antonine Wall and Argyll in 2007** are still available. The Aberdeen Report, 55 pp long, contains short essays on the Romans, Pictish sculpture and painted ceilings of North East Scotland, with notes (and plans) on individual sites (Pictish stones, castles, houses, churches and cathedrals) by the leading authorities of the day. The Glasgow Report is 60 pp long. Also available is Graham Ritchie's report on his excavations at the stone circle and cairn at Balbirnie, Fife in 1974 (32 pp).

They are offered free with only p&p to pay: £2.37 in UK, £3.20 in western Europe and £2.80 in the USA. Please send your order and payment to: Oblong Creative Ltd, 416B Thorp Arch Estate, Wetherby LS23 7FG. Cheques should be made payable to 'Oblong Creative Ltd'. Information on other RAI publications is available on the Institute's website (www.royalarchinst.org).

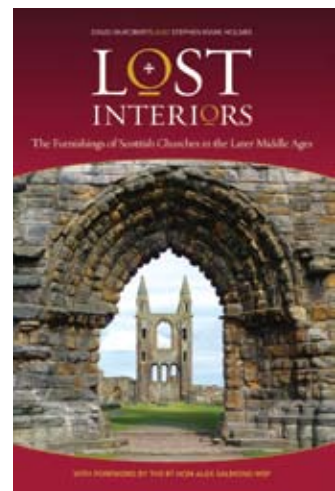
Lost interiors: the furnishings of Scottish churches in the later middle ages

David McRoberts and Stephen Mark Holmes FSA Scot
ISBN 978 0 9557591 5 4
250pp, 197 full colour illustrations
The Aquhorties Press, 2012.
Price £17.50 until 31 March 2012, thereafter £20.00
Postage £3.00 UK, £5.00 Europe, Worldwide £9.00

Lost Interiors is the best guide to the rich and colourful interiors and furnishings of pre-Reformation Scottish churches. Based on the 1970 Rhind Lectures of David McRoberts FSA Scot and edited and brought up to date by Stephen Mark Holmes, it uses the few surviving pieces of evidence to guide us through the different parts of a Scottish medieval church and recreate the lost glories of the late medieval and early renaissance Kingdom of the Scots. The various works of religious art examined show a Scotland which was, at least in its towns and monasteries, in the

forefront of European culture. Reading this book will bring to life buildings we know today only as ruins or bare shells.

The publication of David McRoberts' Rhind Lectures has been long-desired by scholars and *Lost Interiors* combines his accessible style and unrivalled knowledge of the surviving evidence with a full academic apparatus and many colour illustrations. It should thus be of interest both to the general reader and to specialists. Published with the assistance of the major Scottish heritage bodies and with a commendation from the First Minister of Scotland, it will appeal to historians, art-historians and all who enjoy Scottish history, culture and religion.



"I welcome the publication of *Lost Interiors* ... I am sure that this volume will be appreciated by everyone with an interest in Scotland's fascinating and complex past."

The Right Hon Alex Salmond First Minister of Scotland

David McRoberts (1912–1978) was a Roman Catholic Priest and Keeper of the Scottish Catholic Archives. Educated at the Pontifical Scots College, Rome, and the recipient of an honorary doctorate from Glasgow University, he was one of the founders of the Scottish Catholic Historical Association, the editor of the *Innes Review* and the author of many works on Scottish Church History.

Stephen Mark Holmes is a doctoral candidate in the Edinburgh University School of Divinity and assistant priest at Old St Paul's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh. Educated at the University of St Andrews, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and the Maryvale Institute (Pontifical University of Maynooth), he is the author of a number of works on the history of Christianity.

The Aquhorties Press is the publishing house of the Scottish Catholic Archives. Re-founded in 2007, the first Aquhorties Press existed at the College of Aquhorties from at least 1815 until 1828.

To order, please send cheques payable to the Scottish Catholic Archives to: Scottish Catholic Archives, Columba House, 16 Drummond Place, Edinburgh EH3 6PL, Scotland.

New Research Library

Fellows are reminded that the National Museums Scotland Research Library is now fully open, with Fellowship privileges.

Details are to be found on our website and in the previous *Newsletter*.



Jhone Angus, monk of Dunfermline and Scottish Reformation music

Jamie Reid-Baxter, Michael Lynch FSA Scot
and E Patricia Dennison FSA Scot
ISBN 978 0 9557244 2 8

71 pages, many full colour illustrations
and CD of Angus' music

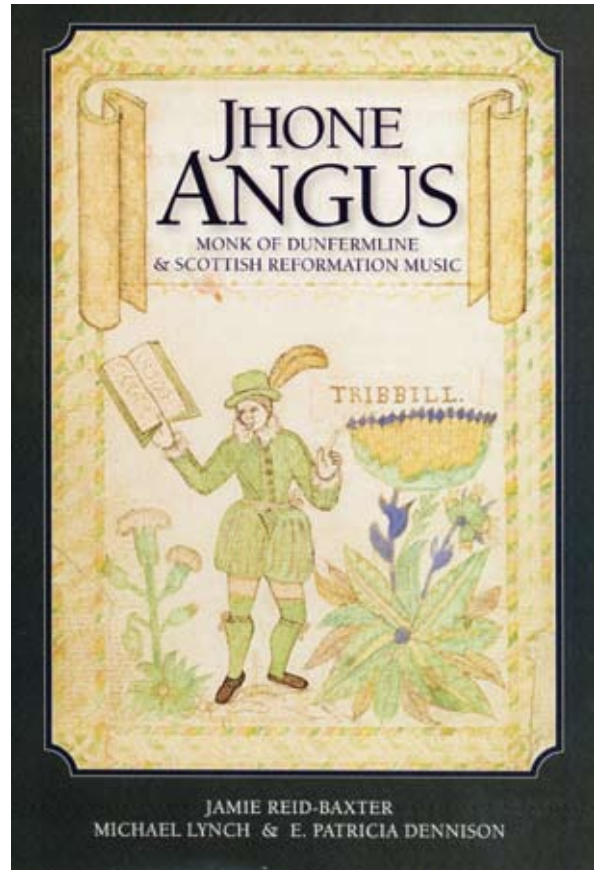
Published by Dunfermline Heritage Community Projects, 2011
RRP £25 plus p&p, Fellows Price £20 including p&p! Orders
should be accompanied by a cheque made out to 'DHCP'

Dunfermline Heritage Community Projects has recently published an illustrated book alongside the University of Edinburgh Exhibition 'Singing the Reformation', featuring the music of the Dunfermline monk and composer Jhone Angus. The 16th century was a time of turbulent religious and political movements which changed lives throughout Europe, and especially in Scotland. The replacement of Roman Catholicism by Protestantism brought fundamental changes to ecclesiastical music. Angus' experience as composer and choirmaster for the Abbey was adapted to produce simple but beautiful music for the new religion of the Reformed Kirk. This has been preserved in the 16th-century illustrated Part Books of the 'Wode Psalter', which are featured in this publication.

The story of Reformation music is told by Dr Jamie Reid Baxter, Fellow of the University of Glasgow, musician, poet, historian and linguist, who specialises in the culture, politics and religion of 16th century Scotland. He traces the transformation from the elaborate, polyphonic music of the Roman Catholic Church, to the simpler form required, and which, for the first time, would be sung by the congregation.

To set the scene, Professor Michael Lynch FSA Scot, formerly Sir William Fraser Professor of History at the University of Edinburgh, outlines the origins and spread of Protestantism and its effects throughout Europe and in Scotland. Dr Patricia Dennison FSA Scot, historian, editor of many titles in Historic Scotland's Burgh Survey series, focuses on the effects of the Reformation in Dunfermline in the time of Jhone Angus.

Dunfermline Heritage Community Projects (DHCP) aims to promote pride throughout the country in Dunfermline's history, heritage and archaeology through a variety of projects, and by working with other heritage groups and local authorities. A group of 60 volunteers researched



for two years to produce Historic Dunfermline one of Historic Scotland's series of Burgh Surveys. The DHCP organisation grew out of this project in 2007 and now has groups concerned with Publications, Conferences, Website, Dunfermline City Archive, West Fife Family History, the Abbey Graveyard, and Dunfermline's Archaeology.

Orders with a cheque please to:

Clive Willcocks . Publications Group Leader
18 Cromar Drive
Dunfermline
Fife KY11 8GE
telephone (01383) 622 120
e-mail clivewillcocks@btopenword.com

Society of Antiquaries
Scotland



Reductions on Society of Antiquaries of Scotland Publications

We have recently reduced prices on most of our current publications – many are now less than half price!

Please see our Publications Catalogue (enclosed along with an order form) or the Society website for the full details on all the great deals we're offering.

Our books cover a wide variety of topics in Scottish culture, history and archaeology so there's something for everyone to enjoy!

A rare Victorian Scotch carpet

This is one of a very small group of objects to be given the name of the nation which made it, indicating its huge popularity abroad. Scotch carpets were a flat pile-less woven carpet made in strips of varying widths. Cheaper than Brussels or Wilton carpet but able to be made from the wool of local sheep they formed some of the most colourful and enduring furnishings of the Scottish home. Even during the turbulent years of the 1740's they were part of the upholsterers stock of London tradesmen and many a terraced house there would have had a Scotch carpet in the Parlour or in the principal bedroom later in the century. This example from Crawick Mill near Sanquhar is a Jacquard woven piece from the 19th century. The company exported much of their stock particularly to Valparaiso in Chile which was an important international port before the opening of the Panama Canal. Crawick Mill specialised in making 3ply carpets in which three layers of cloth interweave with each other, and were thus thicker and softer than the usual 2ply kind. The wool textiles of the west of Scotland have largely been forgotten because of the later onslaught of the cotton industry. However, a recently discovered letter from a Daniel Bloom to Richard



Oswald of Auchincruive discusses the introduction of Turkey or Persia carpet manufacture to Ayr in 1766. Daniel Bloom had been involved with the 'fine Carpett' made for the Princess of Wales at Pittenweem in Fife which he was busily finishing in time for her birthday. He noted: *'you have got Worsted and Dyers there already, which may Do very well for making our Courser sort of Persia Carpetts, and the Town of Air I believe is a large Sea Port so that you might gett Finer worsted shades by sea from London ...'* Edinburgh University Library, Oswald papers



The 3ply Crawick carpet

above left **close up**

left **carpet face**

above **carpet detail**

© Sanquhar Tolbooth Museum

Bloom was prepared to stay on in Scotland if sufficient encouragement from the nobility and gentry of the area could be generated. Ayr, Kilmarnock and Glasgow became centres of the carpet trade in the later 18th century. Information about the Victorian carpet from Crawick Mill can be found at Dumfries Museum or on the future museum website, www.futuremuseum.co.uk.

Vanessa Habib FSA Scot

Society summer excursion Saturday 9 June 2012

Fellows are warmly invited to attend a day in Glasgow where we will visit the new offices of **GUARD Archaeology Ltd**, and get a behind the scenes tour of the **Glasgow Museums Resource Centre**. The GMRC is the store for the museums' collections when they are not on display. If time allows there will also be a visit to **Govan Church**, location of the famous hogback stones, led by our Honorary Fellow Dr Anna Ritchie OBE.

Itinerary currently as follows:

9.30 am coach leaves Edinburgh

11.00 am arrive at offices of GUARD Archaeology Ltd in Govan

12 noon sandwich lunch generously provided by GUARD Archaeology Ltd

12.30 pm (about) possible trip to Govan Church (15 minute walk, less by bus)

2.00 pm leave GUARD Archaeology Ltd/Govan Church

2.30 pm arrive Glasgow Museums Resource Centre in Nitshill

3.45 pm leave Glasgow Museums Resource Centre

5.00 pm arrive back in Edinburgh

GUARD
ARCHAEOLOGY



Costs

£20 for Fellows

£15 for non-Fellows

Please see enclosed leaflet for booking information.

ScARF update

From the end of April 2012 all of the work from the first phase of the Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF) will be made freely available online.

This represents an enormous amount of work, totalling over 700,000 words, devoted to current understandings of the past and consideration of exciting future areas of research. Undertaken by researchers from across Scotland and beyond (several hundred people have been involved) this is all the more impressive given that their hard work and enthusiasm has been given for free.

So what will it all look like?

There will be nine reports focusing on different aspects of Scotland's past, from the very first settlers to the material culture of recent times, as well as explorations of maritime Scotland and the application of Science in Scottish archaeology. The reports will all be freely available to browse online or download. This represents the tip of the iceberg however, and all of the work that was done

around the formulation of the reports will be made available in a dedicated website – a form of 'wiki' or online encyclopaedia. This will contain a number of extra resources in one place, where those interested in the past can search and browse topics, and more importantly, contribute and update topics as knowledge develops.

This web resource will be the first of its kind for a research framework in the UK – although other reports are often available to download, the ScARF reports will be the first that can be added to and altered by the wider archaeological community. Each of the nine reports will be available as a single download or will be able to be viewed, section by section, online. Links are made throughout to existing online resources in Scottish archaeology and heritage, for example when project websites are mentioned or when a referenced report is available to download elsewhere. The web resource will also contain 'added extras' that it was not possible to include in the printed reports, such as spreadsheets, databases and extra

images. These often helped to shape the work of the panels and making them accessible online will mean that future research can compare or reinterpret the data.

Looking to the future, it is envisaged that ScARF will play a key role in decision making and research planning in Scotland. Registered users of the web resource will be able to upload their own data for others to discuss and use. Fellows of the Society (along with others) have a major part to play in the future of the resource, by using their expertise and knowledge to help ensure that the research framework is kept up to date with the latest ideas and current research in Scottish archaeology and history.

Those interested in contributing to the online reports of ScARF will be able to register once the website goes live in April. In the meantime, check the ScARF pages on the Society website and follow our twitter feed @socantscot for updates, and when ScARF 'goes live' help us develop it even further!

Corpus of Scottish Medieval Parish Churches Project

The Arts and Humanities Research Council has awarded a grant of £490,656 for the second phase of the Corpus of Scottish Medieval Parish Churches project.

The pilot phase of this project, which covered the 105 parish churches in the dioceses of Dunkeld and Dunblane, was funded by the AHRC in 2008–09. The second phase will now cover the 258 parishes in the dioceses of St Andrews and Brechin over a period of three years, with work starting in early 2012.

The aim of the project is to analyse the architectural and documentary evidence for all buildings and sites known to have been associated with medieval parish churches, and to present that evidence in the form of a freely accessible website (<http://arts.st-andrews.ac.uk/corpusofscottishchurches>), supported by a range of publications and presentations. In doing so, the understanding of an important but hitherto neglected aspect of the medieval Church will be greatly enhanced.

The Principal Investigator of the project is Professor Richard Fawcett of the School of Art History of the University of St Andrews. The Co-investigators are Professor Richard Oram of the School of History and Politics of the University of Stirling and Dr Julian Luxford of the School of Art History of the University of St Andrews. Also attached to the project is a PhD studentship based at St Andrews, who will carry out research into the architecture of the Scottish collegiate churches, and a post-doctoral researcher, based at Stirling.

The results of the project are expected to produce broad benefits. The first phase of the Corpus has already proved its usefulness to both academic and non-academic bodies.



Linlithgow St Michael nave from the south
© Richard Fawcett



Seton Church apse from the southeast
© Richard Fawcett

It is anticipated that the findings of the project's second phase will be valuable to community, church and heritage groups, as well as to local authorities and other stakeholders with a role in the use and preservation of these buildings and sites.

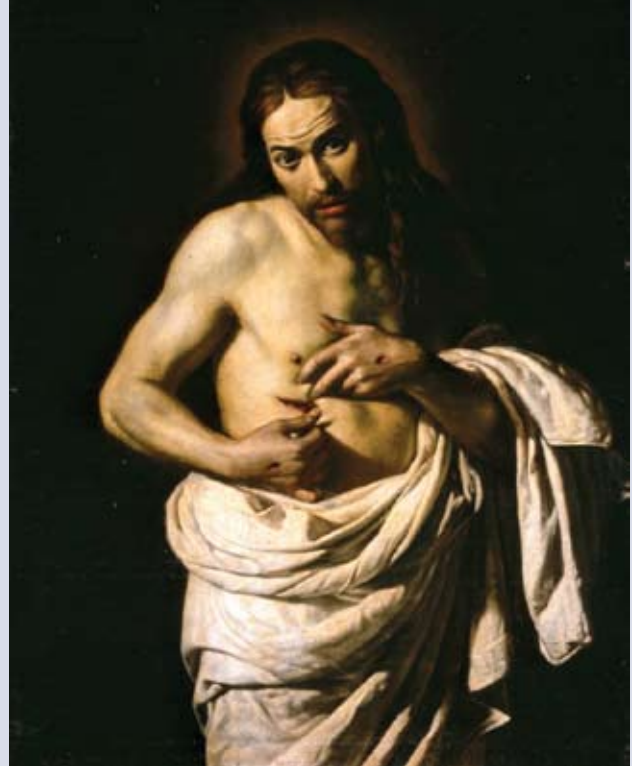
Professor Richard Fawcett FSA Scot
University of St Andrews

Fellows' pages

In addition to the series of Fellows' evenings being instigated by the Fellowship Committee to facilitate greater communication with our Fellows, we would also like to dedicate space in the Newsletter for articles by our Fellows, providing a platform for Fellows to explain how they interact with the heritage of Scotland and how their Fellowship of the Society is important to them.

Contributions should be short but could generate further discussion on the Fellows Forum online.

First, our Fellow John Gash suggests how art historians can contribute to the Society.



Christ displaying his Wounds, c 1618–24, by either **Alessandro Turchi, known as Orbetto, or Giovanni Antonio Galli, known as Spadarino**

© Perth Museum and Art Gallery, Scotland.

Antiquaries and art historians

At a Fellows' Evening last year in Aberdeen Art Gallery, an interesting discussion arose about whether the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* could usefully service those whose interests were more historical or art-historical than archaeological. The thinking was as follows: a widening of the subject range of articles beyond the predominantly archaeological may well prove appealing to both Fellows and non-Fellows, and could be an incentive to applications for Fellowships, at a time when the roll of Fellows was declining. It might attract more academic Fellows who are not either archaeologists or medieval architectural historians. In arguing that, it was at the same time realized that even were the range to be broadened, some early modern historians and art historians might still be reluctant to submit work if they feared that the place of publication might not be considered sufficiently prestigious by the assessment panels of the Research Excellence Framework (REF), to which most research in universities is now ineluctably bound.

This last fear seems unfounded, however, since if the REF follows the enunciated principles of its predecessor, the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), at least as far as History of Art was concerned, location of articles was not an issue: they would be judged on their individual merits. Furthermore, if the *Proceedings* do move in this new direction, it is likely soon enough to be viewed as a high-calibre additional location for such articles at a time when the number of journals in the UK in which art historians and historians can place their research is still quite limited.

Here I would like to suggest the kind of art-historical research that might find a home in the *Proceedings*. But before that, it may be valuable to consider whether it is appropriate to deem such material 'Antiquarian'. The popular connotation of an Antiquary or Antiquarian is one who studies ancient, in the sense of long past, works of art or ancient times, often through the retrieval of buried fragments ("In the deep discovery of the subterranean world" as Sir Thomas Browne put it). But this has always been regarded as an overly rigid classification, even if the thrill of reviving

lost worlds through archaeological excavation was, and is, an exhilarating clarion call. Philosophically, the domain of the Antiquary, Antiquity, is anything from the enduring past that has so far remained undiscovered. Thus, Browne again, in his *Hydriotaphia: Urne Burial or, A Brief Discourse of the Sepulchral Urnes Lately Found in Norfolk*: 'Time hath endlesse rarities, and shows of all varieties: which reveals old things in heaven, makes new discoveries in earth, and even earth it self a discovery. That great Antiquity *America* lay buried for thousands of years; and a large part of the earth is still in the Urne unto us.' And if we move forward nearly two centuries to the paradigmatic evocation of the Antiquary, Sir Walter Scott's 1816 novel of that name, it is clear that that particular pioneer of antiquarianism was happy to locate many of the interests of his antiquary, Mr Oldbuck, firmly in the early modern period. Among the collected items that he, in 1794, shows off in his retreat to young Mr Lovel are 'thumb-screws which had given the Covenanters of former days the cramp in their joints' and, as he declares, "See this bundle of ballads, not one of them later than 1700, and some of them an hundred years older. I wheedled an old woman out of these, who loved them better than her psalm-book." Obviously, Scott's antiquary was a collector, interested in the way in which objects and texts could bring the past to life, were, in fact, still a vital pulse in the present, and it was a past in which two hundred years ranked as an aeon.

It is not that the *Proceedings* completely neglect such early modern material, as we can see, for example, from Catriona Murray's interesting piece, *Sir Robert Cotton, James VI and I and an English cenotaph for two Scottish princes* (*Proc Soc Antiq Scot* 139 (2009), 305–313). But, as an historian primarily of early modern Continental painting, I can see scope for the development of articles that present not only some of the little-known gems of, often foreign, painting in Scottish galleries and private collections, but also investigations into their collectors. These latter form a bright strand in Scottish cultural history, and it is arguable that their activities are well suited to exploration in a journal



Prometheus, c 1655–60, here attributed to Luca Giordano
© Perth Museum and Art Gallery, Scotland.

such as the *Proceedings*, where the several interfaces between art, collecting and history can be addressed in a way that might not be so valid, or popular, in certain mainline art history journals. For instance, I published in *The Burlington Magazine* (No. 1279, vol. CLI, October 2009, pp. 682–90), a powerful painting by a follower of Caravaggio (probably either Alessandro Turchi, known as Orbetto, or Giovanni Antonio Galli, called Spadarino) of *Christ displaying his Wounds* (opposite page), which was in the reserve collection of the Perth Museum and Art Gallery. But although the article, and the picture, have attracted much scholarly interest, the editors of the *Burlington* were, perhaps rightly,

not keen on me retaining in it a good deal of information I had acquired on the first known owner of this early seventeenth-century Italian masterpiece who presented it to Perth City Council in 1861: William Macdonald Macdonald (sic) of St. Martin's, Perthshire, a friend, incidentally, of John Ruskin. I think that he deserves a fuller profile, which could now be provided in a different journal more affiliated to Scottish culture, such as the *Proceedings*.

I am currently turning my mind to another collector about whom even more can be ascertained, the Earl of Ormelie, later Second Marquess of Breadalbane, who in 1833 presented a group of six pictures that he had acquired on the Grand Tour in Naples to the Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth. These little known paintings are today also in the Perth Museum and Art Gallery. Like the differently acquired *Christ displaying his Wounds*, several of them raise issues of attribution, and it may also be that a couple of them are workshop replicas. But others, like the highly dramatic *Prometheus* (left), donated by Ormelie as a Caravaggio, are clearly autograph. With its echoes both of Caravaggio and of the great Spanish-born Neapolitan resident, Jusepe de Ribera, combined with a High Baroque bravura in the handling, I am more inclined to see it as an early work from the 1650s by the young Luca Giordano, although it also has affinities with the style of the Genoese Giovanni Battista Langetti. But the six pictures additionally stimulate thought about the collecting and political activities of the Earl of Ormelie who, like Macdonald, had political aspirations, and may have donated his paintings to the Literary and Antiquarian Society with a view to currying favour with the electorate, since he had been elected Whig M.P. for Perthshire to the Reform Parliament in 1832. The fact that his paintings acquired in Italy on the customary aristocratic Grand Tour were presented to an Antiquarian Society within a context of Scottish and British politics arguably makes the topic ripe fodder for a journal such as the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*.

John Gash FSA Scot University of Aberdeen

Important information for Fellows

Subscriptions due on 1 July 2012

Subscriptions for 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 will be due on 1 July 2012.

Rates remain	Ordinary Fellow	£60
	Retired Fellow	£45
	Family Fellow	£30

Please pay promptly to ensure you continue to receive your copies of the *Newsletter* and the *Proceedings*.

How to pay

Direct Debit is the preferred method of payment for subscriptions. Direct Debit Instruction (DDI) forms are available from our website, or by application to the office, and we encourage every Fellow with a UK-based bank or building society account to complete these and *send them back to the Society*. If you choose to change to DD from Standing Order, please ensure that you cancel the SO in writing to your bank and receive confirmation from them.

We *cannot* cancel Standing Orders for you. In the case of Ordinary and Family Fellows, please ensure that a separate DDI form is completed for each individual Fellowship.

Fellows unable to use Direct Debit:

Credit Card Payments Where possible, pay *online* through the Society's website. Register as a Fellow on the website first. When you log in you will be able to 'Your Account' where a link will take you to 'Your Subscription'. If you have problems registering, please do not hesitate to contact the Society.

Alternatively, we can still take information by e-mail or mail, but will require the following: name and normal billing address for the card, address registered with the Society where this is different, the credit card number, start date and expiry date, issue number where necessary, and the three digit CSV code on the back of the card.

Credit card numbers are *not* kept on record and authorisation for their use is required for every individual payment.

continued overleaf

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If Fellows require a receipt, a stamped addressed envelope *must* be provided. Otherwise, check your own bank or credit card statement for proof of payment. Please note that there can be some delay in the processing of subscription payments.

Gift Aid

We would ask all Fellows who have not returned a Gift Aid form to do this as soon as possible. A signed Gift Aid form allows the Society to recover an extra 20p per £1 from the Inland Revenue on every subscription or other donation paid. A copy of the form is available online on our website under Donations, or on application from the office. Please contact the office if you are unsure if you are eligible, since many are without realising it.

Fellows for whom we currently claim Gift Aid are reminded that they should contact the Assistant Treasurer should their circumstances change and they no longer pay Income Tax, so that we can stop claiming Gift Aid. Fellows are reminded that any dividend income will be taxed at source and is therefore eligible for Gift Aid.

Payroll giving

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Legacies

Legacies have proven to be a very important resource for the Society. Substantial legacies can result in named grants or, as in the case of the Dorothy Marshall bequest, a named award. We would encourage anyone considering a legacy to contact the Director and/or the Assistant Treasurer if you would like to discuss any potential gift to the Society.

Fellowship

FSA Scot is the correct way to designate yourself – any other variations, such as 'FSA (Scot)' are incorrect. Fellows should not use their 'FSA Scot' designation inappropriately, for instance, if airing matters of personal opinion in the press.

Where two Ordinary Fellows reside at the same location one may become a **Family Fellow** and does not receive the *Proceedings*, for this the Family Fellow enjoys a reduced subscription, though each remains individual Fellows.

Retired Fellows must have been an Ordinary Fellow for ten years **and** be retired from work to qualify, and enjoy a reduced subscription.

Honorary Fellows are recommended by Council to the Fellowship for election, and consist of persons eminent in any branch of antiquarian study; they are not liable for any fee for admission or annual subscription.

Proposal of applicants for Fellowship

We remind Fellows that completed application forms and both sponsors' signatures should be received in the Office **by 1 September** each year. Elections are held at the Anniversary Meeting on **30 November** this year.

There is no longer a joining fee for new Fellows, and the first annual subscription is now **£30** for Ordinary Fellows, reduced to £15 for those under 25 at the time of election, and £15 for Family Fellows. Thereafter annual subscription reverts to £60 and £30 respectively.

Application forms may be downloaded from our website, or obtained by phone (0131) 247 4133, fax 0131 247 4163 or e-mail info@socantscot.org.

Contacting us

Please note that both the Assistant Treasurer and Office Manager work part-time, so you may not get an instant response!

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