Sir Walter Scott the antiquary:
Celebrating the bicentenary of the publication of
The Antiquary

October 7th (Edinburgh) and 8th (Abbotsford) 2016
Booking required

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

For further information and to book your place please visit the Society’s website: www.socantscot.org/events or call 0131 247 4133.

Attendees can stay at Abbotsford, where a limited number of luxury rooms may be available in Abbotsford’s Hope Scott Wing on a B&B basis at £150 per room per night, including a continental breakfast. Please email enquiries@scottsabbotsford.co.uk or telephone 01896 752 043 to enquire about availability and quote “Antiquary Conference”. This is a unique opportunity to experience for yourself the splendour of the surroundings that proved such an inspiration to Scott throughout his long and illustrious career.

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Sir Walter Scott the antiquary:
Celebrating the bicentenary of the publication of *The Antiquary*

Join the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and the Abbotsford Trust for this unique event to uncover a different side to Sir Walter Scott, the novelist, antiquary and collector. To celebrate 200 years since his novel, *The Antiquary*, was published, expert talks, discussion and tours will explore the archaeology, history and material culture that inspired him.

Published in an edition of 6,000 copies on May 4th 1816, *The Antiquary* sold out within three weeks and went through a further nine editions in Scott's lifetime. Scott claimed to have based the book's antiquarian hero, Jonathan Oldbuck, on a childhood friend. It is also thought to be largely a self-portrait influenced by Scott's experience and conversations when he was a prominent Fellow and Vice President of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Perhaps because it involved the recollection of scenes of his early life, *The Antiquary* remained Scott's personal favourite among his novels.

Scott was a renowned antiquarian and over his lifetime acquired a wonderful collection for his home at Abbotsford. His reputation as an author dominates, but his extraordinary importance as a collector and antiquarian and how this influenced his writing are ripe for re-examination.

This event will be split over two days: the first day (Friday October 7th) will be held in the main auditorium of the National Museums Scotland, and the second day (Saturday October 8th) will be at Abbotsford in the Scottish Borders for guided tours and to see Scott's collections first-hand.

**Friday 7th October 2016 - National Museums Scotland**

0900  **Arrival and registration** at the auditorium National Museums Scotland
0925  **Welcome**
       Dr David Caldwell, President of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
0930  **Walter Scott and the Scottish Antiquarian Tradition: Mr Oldbuck in Context**
       Dr Iain Gordon Brown, Hon. Fellow, National Library of Scotland and Curator of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and Morning Chair
1000  **Waverley lines: Scott the archaeologist, Scott the antiquary and his network of contacts**
       Trevor Cowie and Colin Wallace
1100  **Tea/Coffee**

**Saturday 8th October 2016 - Abbotsford, Scottish Borders**

1100  **Arrival** at Abbotsford visitor centre - coffee and introduction in the marquee
1130  **Discussion**
1200  **Lunch**
1230  **Introduction by the Afternoon Chair**
       George Dalgleish, The Abbotsford Trust
1300  **Sir Walter Scott and Heraldry at Abbotsford**
       Charles J Burnett Esq. Former Ross Herald of Arms, retired
1400  **The Abbotsford Museum: Exhibiting Things in the Waverley Novels**
       Lucy Linforth, University of Edinburgh
1430  **Tea/Coffee**
1500  **Scott's Magnum Opus: working with Abbotsford's collections, indoors and out**
       Kirsty Archer-Thompson and Pippa Coles, The Abbotsford Trust
1530  **Discussion**
1600  **Summing-up** - Professor Alison Lumsden, University of Aberdeen
1630  **Close** - James Holloway, Chair of The Abbotsford Trust
1645  **Reception**
       Complimentary ‘Antiquary’ whisky provided by Tomatin Distillery Co. Ltd

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