



*Distance slab, Summerston Farm, near Balmuildy Roman Fort, AD 142-180 © The Hunterian, University of Glasgow*

## The President writes...

Another successful season of lectures has drawn to a close. They included talks on Scotland's textile heritage by Dr Anita Quye and Dr Jon Henderson's account of his work on the sunken Bronze Age town of Pavlopetri in Greece.

Remember that you can access lectures you missed or would like to hear again via the Society's website ([www.socantscot.org/resources](http://www.socantscot.org/resources)).

This year's Archaeological Research in Progress conference, held in collaboration with Archaeology Scotland and with the support of Historic Environment Scotland (HES), took place in the award-winning The Engine Shed in Stirling. As Scotland's dedicated building conservation centre it was a highly appropriate venue and is readily accessible by public transport. As ever, the conference gave an impressive demonstration of the wide range of work being undertaken in Scotland across many periods and by academic, commercial and amateur practitioners. There was also an opportunity to view displays by local groups and view conservation techniques used by HES staff.

I write this following the 139th series of Rhind lectures, delivered this year by Dr John Barber. John is a well-known figure in the world of Scottish archaeology and is the founder and Chairman of successful archaeological company, AOC Archaeology Group. Since their inception in 1876, the Rhind lectures have enabled speakers to present a course of six or more lectures on a branch of archaeology, ethnology, ethnography or an allied topic, in order to assist in the general advancement of knowledge. John's subject was 'Drystone technologies: Neolithic tensions and Iron Age compressions'. He brought to bear a deep interest and insights into early engineering

and design gained over a long period of time, including the excavation of Scottish chambered cairns and brochs, and recent research for a PhD in architecture in the University of Edinburgh. The lectures were skilfully delivered, erudite and thought provoking, even amusing, for instance in using elephants as a unit of measurement in determining the amount of compression that rock could withstand.

All were well attended, as was the splendid reception on the first evening supported by our 2018 sponsors for the Rhind Lectures, Tomatin Distillery Co. Ltd, who provided some of their highly appropriate Antiquary whisky. Our Fellow Mr Andrew Farrar won a bottle of 21 year old Antiquary during the Friday evening reception. Library staff of the National Museum of Scotland laid on an exhibition of manuscript material on the excavation of chambered cairns and brochs and there was a lively question and answer session at the end of the lectures. If Rhind had still been alive he would certainly have greatly appreciated this series of lectures, featuring monuments near his own home at Sibster, near Wick. He would also surely have approved of our intention to help repeat this series of lectures in Wick later this year.

Wherever you live and work I hope you have a good summer. The Society will do its best to bring you more opportunities to discover and engage with the best work being done in archaeology, history, ethnology and related disciplines in the year ahead, especially in relation to Scotland. I am looking forward to meeting many more of you at events here in Edinburgh and elsewhere.

- **David Caldwell** FSA Scot | President

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## Director's Report

As we continue to deliver on the *Strategic Plan 2016-21* there are two developments in particular that I would like to draw Fellows' attention to. Firstly, over the past few months we have been working with Edinburgh University Library with a view to migrating our journals and books content to their journal hosting service, provided by Open Journals System (Public Knowledge Project). We plan to migrate the back issues of *PSAS* and *SAIR* to the new system. This will offer improved searchability and flexibility to allow readers to explore the wealth of material more easily, taking into account the views of Fellows expressed in the survey undertaken in Spring 2017 and as part of the *Strategic Plan* consultation. Our hope is to be able to demonstrate this new interface at the Anniversary Meeting in November, and we look forward to showing you then what we have been working on!

The second is progress on the issue of Society staff accommodation. A review of our governance as part of this process has highlighted some not unexpected delinquencies in our 1783 Royal Charter due to its age. The Council Trustees are therefore petitioning the Privy Council to amend the current Royal Charter, which will require the creation of a Supplementary Charter. The amendments include two suggested by the Privy Council to ensure that the Charter continues to be fit-for-purpose and introduces the ability to modify the Charter "in [Privy] Council". It also sets out what the procedure will be should the Society ever be wrapped up. The former means that any future changes will not require a Supplementary Charter or incur the associated expense, but must still be processed through the Privy Council. The latter brings the Charter into line with modern charity policy and practice and inserts a provision that should Council and Fellows agree to wind up the Society, its assets, debts and liabilities are not distributed among the members but, subject to any special trusts etc., are preferably transferred to a similar charitable body. A further amendment will remove the financial restriction on the Society's ability, "to receive, acquire, hold and enjoy forever, for themselves and their successors, relics of antiquity, specimens of natural or artificial curiosities, books, manuscripts, goods, objects, and any other effects whatsoever, such as they own or may hereafter acquire, and to acquire by purchase and enjoy lands, tenements and other heritage not exceeding a value of one thousand pounds sterling". The amendment will simply remove "not exceeding a value of one thousand pounds sterling" which was of course a lot of money in 1783, but our

legal advice is that it still represents only £1,000 in today's currency. Such a restriction is considered detrimental to exploring all options for the future of the Society and its accommodation, and Trustees agreed unanimously to its removal. The Supplementary Charter amendments will not change the purpose of the Society in our Charter, "to investigate both antiquities and natural and civil history in general, with the intention that the talents of mankind should be cultivated and that the study of natural and useful sciences should be promoted".

The process of Petitioning for a Supplementary Charter is determined by Privy Council and will include the publication of the changes in the Edinburgh Gazette for eight weeks to allow for the public to make any objections. The supplementary charter, if successful, will be sealed in Scotland.

Finally, we are keen to increase the numbers of Fellows in the Society, to ensure we have a strong voice in advocacy for Scotland's heritage and a sustainable future. Please look to nominate at least one colleague, friend or family member with an interest in Scotland's past for Fellowship this year!

- Dr Simon Gilmour FSA Scot | Director



### Data Protection

The Society has registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) as a Data Controller under the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), which came into force on 25 May 2018. These regulations add to the protection already given under the Data Protection Act 1998.

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland is committed to protecting your personal information and privacy. You can find out more about how the Society stores and uses such data in the Society's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notice. As mentioned in previous Newsletters and the 2017 Anniversary Meeting mailing, the Society's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notice have been updated and are available on the Society's website:

[www.socantscot.org/data-protection-policy](http://www.socantscot.org/data-protection-policy)



Dig It! TV filming on Colonsay © Ana Soldatenko



## Dig It! 2017 to Dig It!

"Dig It! 2017" has developed from a year-long celebration into "Dig It!" – a hive of Scottish archaeology events, resources and initiatives. Dig It! will continue to gather all of the best activities – free (or low cost) and open to everyone – from across the country into one place. The website will also play host to videos and games that will allow audiences to discover new sites and stories.

### Dig It! TV Updates

Dig It!'s YouTube channel features over 50 tours and interviews which cover everything from eclectic volunteer-run museums to iconic World Heritage Sites. If you're short on time, Dig It! TV also publishes mini-videos on social media, which can teach you how to spot hemlock (used in medieval medicine) and show you a 4,500-year-old artefact which isn't even on public display yet.

Dig It! TV's next series is all about castles. We'll be bringing viewers to ruined towers, formidable forts and "the finest keep in Scotland" thanks to funding from the Castle Studies Trust. In addition to bringing eight of these sites to YouTube's audience of over a billion users, we'll be contributing to the fifth most popular website in the world: Wikipedia. We will be running several 'edit-a-thon' events where Wikimedia UK volunteers will show participants how to contribute to this free resource before working with them to update the castles' articles. The first videos are going live in August ahead of *Scottish Archaeology Month*, and the 'edit-a-thon' events are being held in September.

Once the castles have been conquered, Dig It! TV's sights will be set on East Lothian. Thanks to funding from East

Lothian Council, we'll be working with a young student to share some of the most fascinating stories from the region, ranging from prehistory to World War I.

### Autumn Archaeology

If you're feeling inspired, this is a great season for Scottish archaeology. In addition to *Scottish Archaeology Month*, Scotland's largest Roman festival, the *Big Roman Week*, will return in September. Events such as walks and films will run throughout the Falkirk Council area from 15 to 23 September. The festivities will kick off with the famous *Big Roman Day* at Kinneil House on 15 September, and continue with a week of walks, talks, films and family events.

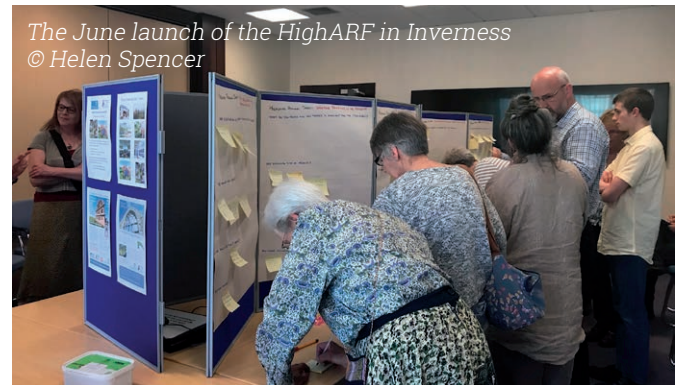
*East Lothian Archaeology & Local History Fortnight* is back again this year and you can expect a range of exciting events from 1 to 16 September, including walks, talks and digs. From 29 September to 19 October, the *Highland Archaeology Festival* will celebrate the heritage of the Highlands from earliest settlers to modern times. They're also running their successful photography competition again this year with a theme of 'Highland Archaeology: Re-using our past' and we can't wait to see the winning entries.

### Find out more

If you'd like to know more about Dig It! you can follow along on social media (@DigItScotland), subscribe to Dig It! TV ([www.YouTube.com/DigItTV](http://www.YouTube.com/DigItTV)) or visit [www.DigItScotland.com](http://www.DigItScotland.com)



A range of artefacts used at our zooarchaeology workshop  
© Anna MacQuarrie



The June launch of the HighARF in Inverness  
© Helen Spencer

## Scottish Archaeological Research Framework



We were sad to say goodbye to Emma O’Riordan in April who left the Society for pastures new, after being our ScARF Project Manager since 2015. Helen Spencer joined the team at the end of May and can be contacted at [helen@socantscot.org](mailto:helen@socantscot.org).

Following the successful launch of the Regional Archaeological Research Framework for Argyll (RARFA) at the end of 2017, and the ongoing work to create a South East Scotland research framework (SESARF), we are excited to report that a further three regional research framework projects are now underway. Historic Environment Scotland (HES) have approved funding for the Society to enable the development of three further regional research frameworks: one for the Highland Region, one for the Islands (Western Isles, Shetland and Orkney) and one for the Perth and Kinross Region. These frameworks will tie into the national ScARF but will identify regional differences and play a key part in Scotland’s Archaeology Strategy.

An opening symposium for the Highland Archaeology Research Framework (HighARF) was held in Inverness at the beginning of June. Invited speakers gave an overview of what is currently known about each of the ScARF chronological periods and their thoughts on future research priorities, with additional presentations about potential cross-cutting themes of conflict archaeology and environmental archaeology. A final afternoon of lively discussion followed with plenty of ideas for how the HighARF could be developed over the next three years. As part of the project there will also be valuable work to update regional data to the Historic Environment Record (HER) and Canmore databases. The HighARF project is being led by Dr Susan Kruse MBE of Archaeology for Communities in the Highlands (ARCH) and further information can be found on their website [www.archhighland.org.uk/highland-scarf.asp](http://www.archhighland.org.uk/highland-scarf.asp). If you have any research to contribute or ideas of areas to explore, do get in touch with ARCH at: [info@archhighland.org.uk](mailto:info@archhighland.org.uk).

The Three Islands Research Framework began in July 2018 and the work is undertaken by the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) who have employed Dr Rebecca Rennell to manage the project. The first year will

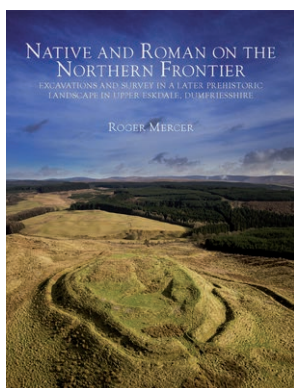
concentrate on developing a framework for the Western Isles, the second year will be devoted to Shetland and the final year will culminate in developing a framework for Orkney. Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust (PKHT) will manage the development of the Perth and Kinross Regional Framework with the project due to commence in August. David Strachan will oversee the project with Dr Gavin Lindsay acting as project officer.

Further information on all the regional frameworks can be found at [scottishheritagehub.com/regionalresearch](http://scottishheritagehub.com/regionalresearch). Please get in touch with Helen ([helen@socantscot.org](mailto:helen@socantscot.org)) if you would like to contribute in any way to the frameworks.

The latest ScARF Skills workshop was held in April, where a dozen participants came together to learn all about zooarchaeology. The day focussed on providing an introduction into what zooarchaeology means with discussion around challenges and issues in the sector with plenty of hands-on sessions mixed in. We organised this workshop in association with the University of Edinburgh’s School of History, Classics and Archaeology, and benefitted from being able to use their laboratory space as well as having Dr Robin Bendrey as one of our guest speakers. Catherine Smith of Alder Archaeology provided a commercial archaeologist’s perspective on working with zooarchaeological remains, while Cat Irving, Human Remains Conservator at Surgeons’ Hall Museums, talked about the science behind bone conservation and the different ethical considerations when working with animal or human specimens. The attendees were a mixture of archaeologists, post-excavation specialists, conservators and museum collections staff. This combination enabled valuable connections to be made and increased appreciation for the work of each specialism. Thank you to all our speakers for their time and input into what was an engaging and valuable day.

### Find out more

Our next skills workshop will be held in Aberdeenshire – keep an eye on the ScARF website for updates and sign up to our monthly newsletter at [eeprul.com/bCFibT](http://eeprul.com/bCFibT) to hear about future events and opportunities to get involved.



**Native and Roman on the Northern Frontier**  
Excavations and Survey in a Later Prehistoric Landscape  
in Upper Eskdale, Dumfriesshire  
by Roger Mercer HonFSA Scot

ISBN 9781908332134  
RRP £30.00 | Fellows' price £24.00  
March 2018



Buy your copy now at the special Fellows' price of £24 from [www.socantscot.org/shop](http://www.socantscot.org/shop)

Have you purchased your copy of our latest book, *Native and Roman on the Northern Frontier*? Brought together for the first time, the results of excavations at Castle O'er Hillfort and Over Rig enclosure in Eskdalemuir, Dumfriesshire, have revealed tantalising clues to the political situation on the frontier of the Roman Empire.

Speaking about the unique enclosure at Over Rig, Roger Mercer, the book's author and Director of Excavations explained: "it may have served what we would call 'social purposes', or it could have been the focus for ceremonial activity." This new site-type makes an exciting contribution to our understanding of Roman and Iron Age Scotland, and life on the Roman frontier in south-west Scotland.

### Coming soon...

Keep an eye on our website for details of our next publication, *The Fortification of the Firth of Forth, 1880-1977: 'The most powerful naval fortress in the British Empire'*, by Gordon Barclay and Ron Morris. This volume provides a thorough history of the Forth defences, including a detailed examination of the physical remains, from the late 19th century until the final traditional defensive capabilities were abandoned.



*Inchtorgie in the Firth of Forth © Gordon Barclay*

### Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports

Four new SAIR reports have recently published. The latest update includes two reports on excavations from the Isle of Lewis, one from Clackmannanshire and one from central Edinburgh.

All SAIR reports can be viewed at [bit.ly/SAIRvolumes](http://bit.ly/SAIRvolumes).

#### SAIR 75

Lelong, O. 2018 *'Fluid identities, shifting sands: Early Bronze Age burials at Cnip Headland, Isle of Lewis'*.

<https://doi.org/10.9750/issn.2056-7421.2018.75>

This paper reports on excavations carried out in 2009 and 2010 on Cnip Headland, Isle of Lewis which revealed three different burials in shallow pits and on a kerbed mound, containing the inhumed remains of at least nine individuals.

#### SAIR 76

MacLeod Rivett, M. A. 2018 *'Barabhas Machair: Surveys of an Eroding Sandscape'*.

<https://doi.org/10.9750/issn.2056-7421.2018.76>

This paper is the first of a series presenting the results of fieldwork, survey and excavation of the Barabhas Machair on the Isle of Lewis.

#### SAIR 77

Jones, E., Sheridan, J. A. & Franklin, J. 2018 *'Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation at Meadowend Farm, Clackmannanshire: Pots, pits and roundhouses'*.

<https://doi.org/10.9750/issn.2056-7421.2018.77>

This paper reports on excavations at Meadowend Farm, Clackmannanshire, particularly focusing on the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods and the site's significance for our understanding of these periods in Scotland.

#### SAIR 78

Lowther, J. 2018 *'The Excavation of a Medieval Burgh Ditch at East Market Street, Edinburgh: Around the Town'*.

<https://doi.org/10.9750/issn.2056-7421.2018.78>

This paper contains findings from 2015 excavation work at East Market Street, Edinburgh which uncovered the remains of a substantial ditch feature, revealed to have two phases of use: from the ditch's construction in the late 12th-13th century to the latter half of the 15th century.

### Call for submissions

We are now welcoming submissions for volume 148 of the *Proceedings*. The deadline is 30 November 2018, but we recommend submitting as early as possible. Please visit [bit.ly/PSASsubmit](http://bit.ly/PSASsubmit) for further information and author guidelines. This year we also invite submissions for the Murray Medal for History and the Chalmers Jervise Award. Full details can be found on the Grants and Awards page of our website ([www.socantscot.org/grants-awards](http://www.socantscot.org/grants-awards)) or by contacting [editor@socantscot.org](mailto:editor@socantscot.org). We look forward to receiving your submissions!

## North African pottery at Bar Hill explained

Written by Professor David Breeze



In 1999, Vivien Swan published a paper in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (PSAS)* in which she discussed the appearance of pottery vessels of a particular shape which pointed to cooking in an African manner: food was cooked on small braziers, in pots with saggy bottoms (so they wouldn't slip off the brazier).

At that time, we could only guess how this style of cuisine made its appearance on the Antonine Wall; it seemed possible that soldiers from Britain had taken part in the Mauretanian War of Antoninus Pius, returning with new ideas, but there was no evidence. One fort was particularly relevant to the problem, Bar Hill, where Lawrence Keppie had excavated a kiln where pottery in a North African style had been made.

There the issue rested, until December 2016. In a paper in the *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* a diploma recording the discharge of soldiers from two units of the army of Britain in 152/3AD was published. One of these units was the First Cohort of Baetasians, recorded on the Antonine Wall at Bar Hill! It almost seems too good to be true, but the assumption must be that this regiment was sent to North Africa to participate in the war and discharged soldiers there at the end of their 25-year term of service. Then, either they, or their serving colleagues, returned to Britain bringing with them new-fangled ideas about cooking.

### References

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- Keppie, L. J. F. 1985 'Excavations at the Roman fort of Bar Hill, 1978-82', *Glasgow Archaeological Journal* 12: 49-81.
- Swan, V. G. 1999 'The Twentieth Legion and the history of the Antonine Wall reconsidered', *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* 129: 399-480.

Above: The surviving fragment of the diploma records the name "BAE" at the end of the middle line and "TASIOR" at the beginning of the next line. Reproduced by kind permission of Andreas Pangerl.

Below: a dish recovered from the excavation of the kiln at Bar Hill. It has a sagging bottom indicative of its use on a brazier. Reproduced from illustration 10 (of which this image is a part) by Graham Hodgson (Arbeia Roman Fort, South Shields) on p449 PSAS 129 (1999) of article written by Vivian Swan.



Above: A replica portable brazier for cooking in the North African style, shown after cooking and containing charcoal. © Tyne and Wear Museums and Archives.

## Discovery of a collection of documents in the Magdalen Chapel, Cowgate, Edinburgh

Written by Mairi Campbell in collaboration with Dr Lizzie Swarbrick



Both images © Lizzie Swarbrick

I won't pretend that I was supposed to be messing around in that cupboard. I was meant to be looking for records relating to the Scottish Reformation Society (SRS), and I found plenty of those. I wasn't looking for anything in particular, I was just curious. What I did not expect to find (in August 2017) was a large, very scratched metal box, containing detailed records dating back to the 15th century; everything from title deeds to insurance against Zeppelin raids. Many of these documents belonged to the Edinburgh Hammermen, the previous owners of the Magdalen Chapel, who were meticulous record-keepers. Some of their papers have previously been published (in Smith's 1906 edited volume) and others are in the Edinburgh City Archives, but this box contains a previously lost part of the collection.

When I found the box, it was on its side and wedged behind the rim of the cupboard. What turned out to be inside was far more exciting than the hoard of cassette tapes or branded pens that I had been expecting. I was met with small bundles of what looked like grubby paper, except this was soft parchment with faded, cursive script in a variety of different styles, some tenuously linked to little nuggets of wax. At first, I was sceptical about their authenticity, and I remained incredulous even as I peered between the folds and saw writing that I couldn't read, in a language I didn't recognise.

However, there was something I could identify. Near the top of the box was a document with a faint "1490" scrawled on it, and with most of a very large seal attached. On one side, there was a figure on horseback, and on the other, a seated figure. Having recently studied medieval Scotland during my sixth year of school these images rang more than a few bells: it was two thirds of a Great Seal.

Assuming that the box and its contents were known to the SRS I did not send any excited emails straight away. After examining the contents of the box more thoroughly, Dr Douglas Somerset and I were able to determine their place within the Hammermen's records. With the assistance of Dr Lizzie Swarbrick and Dr Tom Turpie, I have also begun to look more specifically at the nature of

the pre-Reformation documents. For example, we found that the document with the Great Seal which had so excited me is in fact James IV's confirmation of the 1477 foundation of a chaplainry at the altar of St Eloi, patron saint of the Hammermen, at St Giles. Other documents include details of properties in the Cowgate, providing a window onto this portion of Edinburgh, from the late 15th century onwards.

The Magdalen Chapel is connected with many eras of religious and political history. Among other things, it was used to collect the bodies of 17th-century Covenanters after execution at the Grassmarket, before they were buried in Greyfriars kirkyard. Given the chapel's age, and its connections to these other historical sites in Edinburgh, it can contribute a lot to visitors' or even locals' understanding of Edinburgh's history.

The Hammermen have left the chapel with one or two particularly impressive examples of their craftsmanship, notably a brass chandelier of 1813 and a Deacon's chair made in 1708. Although these items had caught my attention, I would never have enquired further into that part of the chapel's history, had I not found a piece of it. Finding the box has changed the way I think about the chapel, and I now feel even more personally involved in its development. The documents further indicate that the Magdalen Chapel is, to quote Thomas Ross, "pre-eminently worthy of study".

I very much hope that my discovery will encourage more visitors to, and further scholarship on, this chapel. Still generally little-known, it has such exciting potential.

### References

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- Smith, J. ed. *The Hammermen of Edinburgh and their altar in St Giles Church; being extracts from the records of the Incorporation of the Hammermen, 1494 to 1558*, (Edinburgh, 1906).



© Chris Mackinnon

### Welcome

Welcome all newly elected Fellows who have recently joined the Society. We hope you enjoy being part of the Society and make the most out of the opportunities this provides, including: conversing with others with similar Scottish heritage and research interests, the annual *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (PSAS)*, biannual newsletters, lectures and conferences professionally recorded and available to watch online, discounts on publications and events, borrowing privileges at the National Museums Scotland (NMS) research library, access to the Fellows Only area of the Society's website and placing post-nominal letters (FSA Scot) after your name.

### Honorary Fellows

Thank you to all those who responded to the call included in the previous *Newsletter* asking for ideas of people to consider for the three unfilled Honorary Fellow places. Several names were suggested and Council Trustees chose four to put forward for Fellows to vote on at the Anniversary Meeting on 30 November. The names of the nominees will be included in the Anniversary Meeting papers sent to Fellows in advance of the Anniversary Meeting. An up-to-date list of the Society's Honorary Fellows can be found in the About Us section of the website: [www.socantscot.org/about-us/honorary-fellows](http://www.socantscot.org/about-us/honorary-fellows).

### Long-standing Fellows

It was fantastic to see that so many Fellows were able to attend and take part in the Society's 2017 Anniversary Meeting in central Edinburgh, including 15 of the 58 long-standing Fellows of the Society who have been Fellows for 50 years or more.

This year a further 11 Fellows will reach 50 years continuous Fellowship, after their election to the Society in 1968. In October they will each receive a special silver gilt Society pin badge and certificate to celebrate this achievement and their fantastic support. We hope many if not all of the 11 Fellows will be able to attend this year's Anniversary Meeting in Edinburgh to be thanked in person and have their group photograph taken.

### Silver Pin Badges

This leads nicely on to the promotion of the Society's silver pin badges. Are you looking for a novel gift idea or wanting to treat yourself? If so, then the Society's silver pin badges would be an inspired choice.

These exquisite items are solid sterling silver, handmade in Scotland, hallmarked in Edinburgh and created using techniques hardly changed in centuries. By purchasing a lapel pin, you will own an object steeped in heritage, while demonstrating your support for the Society and our aims.

Pin badges can be purchased online through the Society's shop ([www.socantscot.org/shop](http://www.socantscot.org/shop)) or over the telephone by calling the office on 0131 247 4133.

A short video of their making was made last year, showing the talented Scottish Jeweller and Hand Engraver, Karen Wallace at work. To watch visit [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ew5-f5Q4E28](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ew5-f5Q4E28)



### 2020 vision

Fellows are the foundation of the Society and today there are 2,700 Fellows in the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. We are looking to increase the number of Fellows by 1,000 by 2020, the year when we will be celebrating the Society's 240th anniversary!

We think this is achievable and would like to ask Fellows to help in the next few months by each encouraging and supporting one new person to apply to join. Can you? If so, thank you and visit the Society's website to download the new 'Join Us' leaflet and application form.

[www.socantscot.org/join-us](http://www.socantscot.org/join-us)



## Cheers! Slàinte!

We are delighted that for the past year the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and Tomatin Distillery Co. Ltd have worked in partnership to promote antiquaries, antiquarian study and of course the Antiquary whisky. We hope you enjoyed sampling this whisky at the Society's 2017 Anniversary Meeting last November and at the Rhind Lecture conference opening evening in June.

In addition, in the lead up to the prestigious Rhind Lectures this year - sponsored by the Antiquary whisky, a Tomatin Distillery whisky - Tomatin Distillery offered Fellows a special discount on bottles of the 12 year old Antiquary whisky bought via their online shop. During the same period, thanks to Tomatin Distillery, Fellows who bought a bottle of the 12 year old Antiquary whisky online were entered into a free prize draw competition to win a bottle of the 21 year old Antiquary whisky. The prize draw took place during the Rhind Lecture conference opening evening on Friday 22 June in Edinburgh, and was won by Fellow Andrew Farrar.

Why not visit Tomatin Distillery (near Inverness) if you are in the area and maybe go on one of the distillery tours?

We would like to thank Tomatin Distillery Co. Ltd and staff for their fantastic support over the past year, helping the Society offer more reception events for many Fellows (Antiquaries) to meet.



## Runestone Update

Thanks to the great teamwork and support of all project partners, an ancient Swedish runestone in Edinburgh with an interesting story to tell has been assessed, cleaned and better conserved. It will be moved to its new, safer location in Edinburgh: outside 50 George Square, along with an interpretation panel and new web page ([www.socantscot.org/research-project/runestone-project-2017-18](http://www.socantscot.org/research-project/runestone-project-2017-18)). A public unveiling event and several free guided walking tours are also planned once the runestone is placed in its new location.

More information on these events and how to book a place will be available on the Events page of the Society website in due course.

Project partners include: The City of Edinburgh Council (CEC), Edinburgh World Heritage (EWH), Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), Historic Environment Scotland (HES), National Museums Scotland (NMS), Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (SoAoS), the University of Edinburgh, and the Scottish Storytelling Centre/Traditional Arts+Culture.

## Thank you!

And, last but not least, a big THANK YOU to Fellows who have been able to volunteer their time, expertise and ideas, supporting the Society in various ways over the past year. We really appreciate this. Please contact the Society ([andrea@socantscot.org](mailto:andrea@socantscot.org)) if you would like to volunteer at the Society on a given project in the future.





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Hopefully you will have received the e-newsletter we sent to all overseas Fellows in June. If we have a current email address for you then you should receive this communication twice a year, once in January and once in June/July, as a way to reach out to Fellows who don't live in or near Scotland.

As you may already know, for a few years now two Fellows, Dr James Donaldson and Hope Vere Anderson, as Honorary Secretaries for Society Affairs in Australia and North America respectively, have helped the Society by organising and hosting annual dinners for Fellows, as well as liaising and connecting Fellows in Australia and North America.

Please contact Hope Vere Anderson ([hopeanderson@btinternet.com](mailto:hopeanderson@btinternet.com)) or Dr James Donaldson ([illa123@bigpond.com](mailto:illa123@bigpond.com)) by email for more information on the annual dinners and to discuss how you might help build the Fellows' networks in Australia and the USA. Similarly, Fellows

living in other countries who would like to be in touch with other Fellows near where they live, please contact Andrea at the Society to discuss ([andrea@socantscot.org](mailto:andrea@socantscot.org)).

- **The fifth annual Fellows' Dinner of the Society in Australia** took place in Melbourne at the Royal Automobile Club Victoria on Tuesday, 10 April. It was hosted by Dr James Donaldson FSA Scot who gave a short presentation prior to the Dinner.

- **The third annual Fellows' Dinner of the Society in the USA** will take place in Atlanta, Georgia (at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast Hotel during the Stone Mountain Games weekend) on Saturday evening 20 October 2018 (6.30pm arrival, for 7pm start). It will be hosted by Hope Vere Anderson FSA Scot, along with a guest speaker. Please contact Martha Hartzog FSA Scot by email ([m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu)) for more information and to reserve a place.

## Legacy Giving

By choosing to leave a gift in your Will to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland you can help provide support for new research in archaeology and history, high-quality publications and events, encouraging the study and enjoyment of Scotland's past for future generations.

The gift will cost nothing in your lifetime but will make a lasting contribution to the future study and understanding of Scotland's past. Monies can go to support the charitable activity of the Society through its Designated Fund and/or towards the core costs of running the Society.

Leaving a legacy gift is an important decision and personal matter, but it doesn't have to be complicated. Should you choose to remember the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in your Will we recommend you contact a solicitor to ensure it is legally valid and reflects your intentions.

There are three different types of legacy:

- **Residual legacy:** This is a gift of the remainder (or portion of remainder) of your estate, after all payments, taxes and other bequests have been made.
- **Pecuniary legacy:** This is a fixed sum of money decided by you at the time of making your Will.
- **Specific legacy:** You can also bequeath specific possessions such as property, shares or objects.

Or you can gift a mixture of all three.

If you have already written the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland into your Will we are extremely grateful and would like to thank you personally and appropriately, so please let us know.

If you already have a Will and wish to add a gift to the Society this can be done using a codicil. A codicil need not change the terms of your current Will, it can simply add a new instruction.

Gifts made to charity, both during your lifetime or in a Will, are exempt from Inheritance Tax. Your solicitor or tax advisor will be able to help you with this.

If you would like to find out more about leaving the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland a legacy, please contact Dr Simon Gilmour (Director) or Andrea Kaszewski (Fellowship & Development Manager) for a confidential conversation.

**Thank you.**

The Society's 2017-18 Events Programme finished in August with the summer excursion to the Scottish Crannog Centre. We are pleased to report that our events over the past year were popular and enjoyed in a range of locations throughout Scotland. Our evaluation of the 2017-18 Events Programme shows over 1,500 people attended our lectures and conferences in Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Inverness, Glasgow and Dumfries.

We are also delighted to report that more than 23,000

online views of the Society's lectures on YouTube occurred over the past year, up from 12,000 online views last year and 300 online views the year before!

Looking ahead, our 2018–19 Events Programme promises an exciting range of topics and expert speakers. We look forward to meeting you at the various events and please help spread the word about upcoming Society events to friends and colleagues.

Thank you!

## Upcoming Lectures

### Special Event: September - Rhinds Lectures 2018 (Wick)

Dr John Barber MA, BA, FSA, FSA Scot, MCifA will repeat the lecture series he presented earlier this year in Edinburgh on the subject of *'Drystone technologies: Neolithic tensions and Iron Age compressions'*.

21-22 September (Pulteney Centre, Huddart Street, Wick, Caithness, KW1 5BA) [www.pppwick.org.uk](http://www.pppwick.org.uk)

There will also be opportunity to visit some of the prehistoric sites nearby which were excavated and studied by both Alexander Rhind and Dr John Barber. For further information on the programme, please contact Yarrows Heritage Trust Committee Member Ian Giles: [iangiles01@btinternet.com](mailto:iangiles01@btinternet.com). To book a place please contact the Pulteney Centre.

### October Lecture - Celts and Romans on the Northern Frontier: a Later Prehistoric Landscape in Upper Eskdale, Dumfriesshire

Professor Roger Mercer OBE HonFSA Scot

15 October (Edinburgh, 6pm) and 16 October (Dumfries Museum, 6.30pm)

### November Lecture - "A labourer in the vineyard of Scottish antiquities": the remarkable collection of Sir Walter Scott

Kirsty Archer-Thompson FSA Scot, Collections and Interpretation Manager at Abbotsford House.

12 November (Edinburgh, 6pm) and 26 November (Aberdeen, 7.30pm)

### Anniversary Meeting (AGM)

30 November (Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, 4.30pm)

Including a short lecture on 'Paints and Pigments in the Past: Redecorating the Antonine Wall Distance Stones', presented by Dr Louisa Campbell, Honorary Research Associate (Archaeology), University of Glasgow.

### December Lecture - Archibald Young: 230 years of surgical instruments

Ruth Pollitt, Museum and Collections Assistant, University of Edinburgh Anatomical Museum.

10 December (Edinburgh, 6pm) and 11 December (Aberdeen, 7.30pm)

## Booking options

Society lectures are free and bookable on a first-come first-served basis. To ensure a seat at our increasingly popular events please reserve a place by booking online via our website ([www.socantscot.org/events](http://www.socantscot.org/events)) or by calling Jacqui on 0131 247 4133. Tickets for some of the Society's other events have a fee (with Fellows' discount available), such as the Archaeological Research in Progress conference and the summer excursion.

## Submit your ideas

If you have any suggestions for new topics and speakers for future Society lectures do get in touch. The annual Events Programme has to be planned 6-12 months in advance to give us enough time to approach speakers and book venues, so the sooner you send your ideas the better.

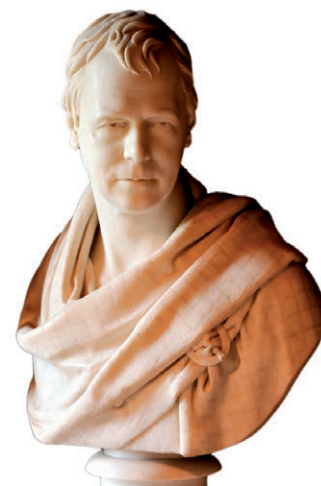
## Online recording

We are pleased to be able to work with Mallard Productions to professionally record lectures. This enhances the online viewing experience for those Fellows unable to attend in person, or indeed to watch a given lecture again after attending. This has been made possible through generous support of Fellow Sir Angus Grossart QC CBE DL LLD DLitt FRSE FSA Scot.

Simply visit the resources section of the Society website ([www.socantscot.org/resources](http://www.socantscot.org/resources)), tick the 'videos' option in the list in the search facility on the right-hand side of the page, press 'search', choose from the list of videos offered and press play to watch a previous Society lecture of your choosing online. You can also search for specific words in the title or introduction text of each video using this search feature (for example, tick 'video' and type "broch" in the 'Keyword(s)' search box, then click 'search').

## Updates and changes

From time to time throughout the year opportunities arise for private views and events which, owing to print deadlines, we cannot feature in the *Events Programme* leaflet or the biannual *Newsletter*. You can keep up to date by checking the Society's website news and events web pages and reading our monthly e-bulletin. (N.B. To receive the e-news bulletin we need your current email address. At present we have email addresses for 78% of Society Fellowship.)



Walter Scott  
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# Important Information

## Who we are and what we do

Founded in 1780 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1783 the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland is an independent, not-for-profit organisation actively supporting the study and enjoyment of Scotland's past. The Society promotes the study and enjoyment of Scotland's historical and archaeological heritage. We have over 2,700 Fellows, and always welcome new ones. Fellowship is for anyone who is interested in Scotland's past - its people, material culture and landscapes.

## Help your Society thrive

Thanks to the generous support of Fellow Sir Angus Grossart QC CBE DL LLD DLitt FRSE FSA Scot you can view a wide range of engaging speakers on fascinating topics online anytime, anywhere with internet connection, simply by visiting [www.socantscot.org/resources](http://www.socantscot.org/resources) and searching for 'videos' from the Resources menu.

You can support the Society by:

- **Donating online** - using our secure online giving portal [www.socantscot.org/product/donation](http://www.socantscot.org/product/donation)
- **Donating by post** - please send a cheque payable to "Society of Antiquaries of Scotland"
- **By remembering the Society in your Will** - the gift will cost nothing in your lifetime but will make a lasting contribution to the future study and interpretation of Scotland's past.

Please contact Dr Simon Gilmour or Andrea Kaszewski if you would like more information on supporting the Society. Many thanks.

## Fellowship Categories & Subscriptions

Please encourage colleagues and friends to join the Society to enjoy the benefits of Fellowship and support our work. Application forms can be downloaded from our website or filled in online:

[www.socantscot.org/join-us/how-to-apply](http://www.socantscot.org/join-us/how-to-apply)

The deadline for applications to be at the Society office is **1st September** each year.

- **Ordinary Fellow** - £72 per annum
- **Family Fellow** - £36 per annum. (For Fellows who normally reside at the same address as an Ordinary Fellow. Includes digital-only versions of the *Proceedings* and *Newsletters*.)
- **Over 65 Fellow** - £54 per annum
- **Under 26 or Student Fellow** - £20 per annum. (Students must be full time and provide proof of matriculation. Includes digital-only versions of the *Proceedings* and *Newsletters*.)

## Contact us

Address: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, National Museums Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF

**Director** Dr Simon Gilmour  
(0131) 247 4115 [director@socantscot.org](mailto:director@socantscot.org)

**General Enquiries** Jacqueline Clabby (Mon-Wed)  
(0131) 247 4133 [info@socantscot.org](mailto:info@socantscot.org)

**Subscriptions and Finance** Jan Paterson (Mon-Wed)  
(0131) 247 4135 [finance@socantscot.org](mailto:finance@socantscot.org)

**Publications and Sales** Catherine Aitken  
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**Project Manager, Dig It!** Dr Jeff Sanders  
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Facebook [/SocietyofAntiquariesofScotland](https://www.facebook.com/SocietyofAntiquariesofScotland)

## How to pay

If you have any questions regarding Fellowship types or payment please contact Jan Paterson by email [finance@socantscot.org](mailto:finance@socantscot.org) or call (0131) 247 4135 (Monday to Wednesday) who will be happy to help.

- **Direct Debit** - Direct Debit Instruction (DDI) forms are available on our website.
- **Online** - Using your credit card or by PayPal. Log in to the Fellows area [www.socantscot.org/fellows](http://www.socantscot.org/fellows) and click the 'Pay Subscription' button.
- **Standing Order** - Please contact your bank to amend your payment. (N.B. The Society cannot amend your Standing Order on your behalf.)
- **Cheques** - Make payable to the "Society of Antiquaries of Scotland": it is **essential** that you write our name in full. *This is particularly important for Fellows in the USA due to new banking regulations.*
- **US Dollar payments** - Rates will be calculated to allow for exchange rates, bank and service charges. You will be advised of the correct amount in your renewal letter.
- **Gift Aid** - The Society can recover an extra 25p per £1 on subscriptions and donations from UK tax payers. Gift Aid forms are available to download at [www.socantscot.org/fellows](http://www.socantscot.org/fellows)

## With thanks to our partner organisations:

