

CALL FOR PAPERS

Places of Royal Power and Ritual in Early Medieval Scotland and Europe

Conference to be held in Perth 18 June 2021

This conference is the culmination of a series of workshops on early medieval Kingship its attendant rituals funded by a grant from the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

- 1) The aim of this conference is to explore the diverse range of evidence for early medieval of kingship and ritual in Scotland within a wider European setting, focusing on the Pictish period (AD 300-900), and thus bring new light to an under researched area. We welcome contributions from a range of disciplines, including archaeology, art history, history, onomastics and folklore. Despite the excellent research to date, particularly across Europe, the physical dynamics of how kingship operated in Scotland and how it related to the rest of Europe remains under-explored. In order to help encourage further work in this area, this conference proposes the following questions as the scaffold for the presentations: What types of royal sites existed in the early medieval period? Can regional differences be identified?
- 2) Do early medieval royal sites have particular types of archaeological remains and topographic settings?
- 3) Can particular toponyms be found in connection to early medieval royal sites?
- 4) What rituals and other activities can be connected to the early medieval royal sites and what were the purposes of these?
- 5) What is the connection between royal and ecclesiastical sites in the Early Middle Ages?
- 6) What is the legacy of royal sites? Did these sites continue to be used in some fashion in the period after their use? Are there later oral traditions connected to these sites?

Presentations will be 20 minutes long, followed by 10 minutes of questions.

Researchers at all career stages are welcome. Abstracts of maximum 300 words should be sent to Alex Sanmark and Mark Hall at alexandra.sanmark@uhi.ac.uk by **15 February 2021**.