

## ANNIVERSARY MEETING

*Minutes of the Anniversary Meeting* of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland held on 30 November 1999 in the Lecture Theatre of the Royal Museum. Professor Michael Lynch, MA, PhD, FRHistS, FRSE, President, in the Chair.

The President welcomed Fellows to the Anniversary Meeting. The Minutes of the Meeting of 8 November were read and approved. Mr P J Ashmore and Dr B J Murray were appointed as Scrutineers; the ballots were then closed.

The Director, Mrs F M Ashmore, then read the following report.

## DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 1998–9

*Membership*

The Fellowship of the Society now stands at 3341. In the past year 220 Fellows have taken up election, or been reinstated; 107 names have been removed from the Roll due to death, and through lapse of subscription or resignation. There are, at present, 20 Honorary Fellows.

*Meetings*

The Society has held an interesting and varied programme of activities through the year. Nine lecture meetings were held between December 1998 and November 1999. The session included a joint lecture with the Friends of the National Museums of Scotland entitled *Buildings Within Buildings: the creation of three major building displays within the new Museum of Scotland* by George Dalgleish; three 'open' lectures, marking the Edinburgh International Science Festival, when Dr Ruth Richardson spoke on *Churchyards, Corpses, Crypts and Commerce*, and in June the annual Public Lecture, *The Defences of Scapa Flow: Protecting the Royal Navy's Fleet Anchorage, 1914–45*, was delivered by Geoffrey Stell. For the first time the Society held a Lecture jointly with the Historical Association and, in May, Professor Keith Robbins, Vice Chancellor of the University of Wales, spoke on *Britishness — Decline and Fall?*

In January — as an addition to the formal Programme — the Society, jointly with CSA, organized a Day meeting for the archaeological community to discuss an agenda for the archaeological resource and the

built heritage under a Scottish Parliament. Under the chairmanship of Professors Lynch and Ralston, six presentations were made, followed by discussion periods, and formal resolutions were then voted on. A summary of this was circulated to Fellows in February where they were also asked to raise with prospective MSPs the issue of the importance of Scotland's heritage. The Society is grateful to all those who made presentations.

April and May were periods of non-stop activity on the Programme front:

30 April to 2 May saw the Joint Weekend Conference with the Society of Antiquaries of London on *The Queen's Park and Holyrood* with events taking place in the Royal Commission, the John MacIntyre Centre of the University of Edinburgh, the Queen's Park, The Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh Castle, and the Palace of Holyroodhouse. The Society is very grateful to the Royal Commission, Historic Scotland, the National Museums of Scotland, and the Royal Palaces for their co-operation, assistance and generosity. This event was much appreciated by all who attended and the excellent array of speakers, the select venues (together with the wonderful weather and the talented piping by the Vice-President) made a deep impression on the London Antiquaries. We look forward to the next joint event to be organized in 2002 by them and to be centred on Kelmscott Manor.

On Saturday 15 May the Day Conference — *Archaeological Research in Progress, 1999* — the annual joint event with CSA was organized by the Society in Edinburgh; again a large and appreciative audience received accounts of current research and other work in progress. We are grateful to the array of speakers, some of whom travelled considerable distances for the event, for addressing us.

Over the weekend 21-23 May six Rhind Lectures on the subject of *The Origins of Insular Monasticism* were delivered by Professor Charles Thomas and attracted the highest ever recorded audiences over the three days. These lectures will be published by the Society in 2000 and will be made available to Fellows at a discount.

Professor Thomas, as was described in the recent *Newsletter*, generously made some interesting gifts to the Society and the Museum.

Over the last weekend in May, in a break with tradition, the Excursion involved a night away: this two-day excursion explored the varied archaeology of the North-East of Scotland, ranging from stone circles to carved stones and flint mines. This was an opportunity to visit sites outside Scotland's central belt and meet up with the North-East Section of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. The excursion was led by former Vice-President of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Ian Shepherd, Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist. Alan Saville, Treasurer and Research Convener of the Society, gave a talk on the Boddam flint mines; Dr Hilary Murray, archaeologist at Archaeolink, conducted a tour of the centre, and Neil Curtis, Secretary of the North-East Section, hosted a reception and visit to Marischal Museum, University of Aberdeen.

In November, from Friday 5 to Sunday 7, the Society held, jointly with the Prehistoric Society and the National Museums of Scotland, a major three-day international Conference entitled *Mesolithic Scotland: the early Holocene Prehistory of Scotland and its European Context*, with grant-aid from the British Academy and sponsorship from Dow's and Graham's Port, the Bank of Scotland and Paterson Arran Ltd. A number of eminent experts from the UK and abroad delivered lectures and chaired sessions; the event was well attended by an international audience and included two receptions, a tour of the Museum of Scotland and a Conference Dinner. The proceedings will be published in 2000 as a Society Monograph to be edited by the Convener of the Conference, Alan Saville, the retiring Research Committee Convener.

### *The North-East Section Annual Report 1998-9*

Lecture meetings continued to be held in Marischal Museum, University of Aberdeen, following the same programme as in Edinburgh with the exception of December 1998 when Ranald MacInnes spoke on *MacGibbon and Ross versus Billings*; May 1999 when Professor Michael Lynch gave his presidential address to the Section AGM on *The Re-creation of Scotland?: James VI and his realm*; and November 1999 when Jane Ohlmeyer spoke on *The Wars of, for and in the Three Kingdoms: 1638-52*.

Following the success of last year's excursion to Inchtuthil, a coach trip was led by Richard Fawcett to the Great Hall of Stirling Castle and Argyll's Lodging. Ian Shepherd led the other, also well-attended, excursion to some little-known stone circles of the Mearns. The Section had the welcome pleasure of welcoming Fellows on the Society's excursion to the North-East at a reception in Marischal Museum, University of Aberdeen.

Membership of the Section stands at 319. The committee elected in May 1999 was: Paul Pillath (Chairman), Aidan Mulherrin (Vice-Chairman), Neil Curtis (Secretary), John Cruse (Treasurer), Susan Bryson, Frank Donnelly, Margaret Jubb, Peter Murray, Bill Nicolaisen, Ian Shepherd and Graham Steele.

### *Research Grants Awarded for 1999*

The grant-aiding of research remains one of the most important areas of the Society's activities in accordance with Law 1: '*The purpose of the Society shall be the Study of the ANTIQUITIES AND HISTORY OF SCOTLAND, more particularly by means of archaeological research*'. Reports on the work carried out are supplied by recipients at the end of the year and are held in the Society's office, or placed in the NMS Library, as appropriate. It is a condition of grant that there is full compliance with current Scottish Treasure Trove legislation and that reports on fieldwork and related projects are presented for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland (DES)* published annually by the CSA. The Society also invites recipients of grants, when appropriate, to publicize the results of their work at the Archaeological Research in Progress Conference.

The following grants, for 1999, were approved from the General Research Fund (including investment income from the Dorothy Marshall Bequest): Dr Ian Armit for the Traprain Law Summit Project; The Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society for preparing for publication the List of Burgesses & Guild Brethren of Ayr, 1647–1846; J Clive Bonsall for C14 dates of cereal grains from Ulva Cave; Dr David H Caldwell for C14 dates for the Finlaggan Archaeological Research Project; Dr Michael Cressey for the Upper Solway Firth Environmental Project; Janet Hooper for the Stronamuck Deserted Settlement Assessment; Olivia Lelong for the Easter Raitts, Badenoch, survey; Dr Chris E Lowe for excavations at St Nicholas Chapel, Papa Stronsay, Orkney; Dr Hilary K Murray for excavations at Berryhill, Oyne; Dr Eric Page for the Stirling Ancient Bridge Project; Lorna Sharpe for the Carmichael Mill Project; Dr Beatrice Tessier for research into Orientalism in 18thC Edinburgh; Tam S McM Ward for C14 dates for the Prehistory North of Biggar project; Caroline Wickham-Jones for the Scotland's First Settlers Project; Dr David J Wooliscroft for excavations at the Glenbank, Gask Ridge Roman Fortlet; and Peter Yeoman & Michael King for research and illustrations relating to Pilgrimage Artefacts from Scotland.

The Society is keen to increase its grant-aid to research projects; an information leaflet on our *Research and other Grants* is available from the Society Office. Detailed conditions appear on the Application forms. All valid applications are considered fully by the Research Committee.

### *Publications*

**Proceedings** For the fourth year in succession the Society has published, again with significant grant-aid from Historic Scotland, a double Volume of the *Proceedings*, Volume 128, which is the third volume to be produced under the Editorship of Mr Jerry O'Sullivan.

**General Index** The compilation of the General Index covering Volumes 106–25 of the *Proceedings* is well under way and Fellows will be advised of the publication date, probably in the spring, in due course.

**Monograph series** Monographs 14 & 15 — *Kebister* by O Owen & C Lowe and *The Biggings, Papa Stour* by B E Crawford & B Ballin Smith — were launched in July and publication of an impressive array of

further Monographs is expected shortly. The Series Editor, Mrs Alexandra Shepherd, must be thanked for her devotion to her task; due to the increasing number of Monographs in production; she is now assisted by Dr Anna Ritchie. We again urge Fellows to support the series by taking advantage of their opportunity to purchase these at the special rate — the benefit will be theirs.

We would like to take this opportunity, again, to draw attention to the considerable grant-aid the Society receives towards publications from Historic Scotland.

**Newsletter** Two issues of this were produced and circulated in February and September 1999, both 12 pages in length.

### *Other Work of the Society*

Fellows have been advised of our new direct dial phone numbers with voice-mail facilities, our fax line and e-mail addresses.

The Society remains active in the heritage field and we are, as Fellows will be aware, consulted on archaeological issues by a wide variety of organizations; we continue to be represented on a large number of bodies: The Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland; the National Trust for Scotland; the Council for British Archaeology; the Council for Scottish Archaeology; the Traprain Law Management Group; The British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography; the Scottish Field School; the Scottish Wildlife and Countryside Link; Scottish Archaeological Link; the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland; the National Committee on Carved Stones; the Mouswald Trust; the Dalrymple Trust and the User Panel of The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland; and the Portable Antiquities Working Group.

As outlined in the last *Newsletter*, as well as the obvious public activities of the Society — publication of the *Proceedings*, the Monographs, the Lecture Programme and the various Day Conferences and other events — the Society does considerable work through its Committees. The Heritage Committee is one of the largest of these and consists of the Office Bearers, current Council members, and other Fellows selected by Council for their particular expertise from environmental issues to architectural history. The Committee has a broad remit, as its title would suggest, and members of the Committee advise the Society on, or represent the Society at, a large number of seminars as well as on the activities of other bodies or link groups, as listed above. Through this Committee the Society responds to relevant Government and other initiatives; over the last year we have been consulted on and responded to a wide range of issues.

The Heritage Committee has this session, in addition to its usual activities, expressed concern over the proposals to radically alter — thus destroying — important interior features in Queensberry House, which forms part of the new Parliament complex. The implications of this are disturbing: Queensberry House lies within the Edinburgh World Heritage site and the works proposed by the Scottish Office are in direct contravention of the Venice and Burra Charters.

As always, the Society remains grateful to the members of Council, the Committees, and the other representatives who are unstinting in their assistance to the Director in these matters; she is particularly grateful to the President and the Treasurer, the Vice-Presidents and Conveners of the Committees, Dr Ann MacSween who retires as Publications Convener, Mr Humphrey Holmes of the Finance and Administration Committee, and Mr Alan Saville who retires as Convener of the Research Committee as well as holding the office of Treasurer — his burden has been particularly onerous this year. Thanks are due as well, of course, to the representatives of the Society on various bodies; of these, particular thanks are due to our representative on the National Trust for Scotland, Dr Jane Murray; our representative on the Ancient Monuments Board, Jill Harden, and to Mr Robin Turner, our representative on the Scottish Wildlife and Countryside Link.

### *Chalmers Jervise Essay Prize*

The prize for 1999 was won by Dr Ian Armit for his Essay *The Abandonment of Souterrains: evolution, catastrophe or dislocation?* Dr Armit, Inspector of Ancient Monuments at Historic Scotland, will shortly be taking up a post as Senior Lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Belfast. The prize is next awarded in 2001.

### *Special Award: Step into Medieval Aberdeen*

On Wednesday 7 July 1999, Professor Lynch, President, presented Aberdeen City Council with a special award, in recognition of the achievements and educational importance of the *Step into Medieval Aberdeen* project. The project, which since 1992 has introduced primary school pupils to local history through drama and 'hands-on' archaeology, had to close in late 1998 when the City's Archaeological Unit was re-located as a result of budgetary cuts. It is about to be rebuilt at Skene Square Primary School, where the Society's award will assist in the re-creation of the 14th-century backland house which is central to the drama. The entire project is based upon archaeological discoveries made before construction of one of the city's major shopping malls, the Bon Accord Centre.

### *Museum of Scotland*

The Society has continued to receive full recognition of its donations to the Museum of Scotland; it has featured largely in publicity about the Museum and in recognition of the donation the Society's name is inscribed on one of the Caithness stone slabs at the entrance to the Museum, in addition to being credited on the plaque in the Bute Room (formerly the Founder's Room) and on another plaque beside the Paolozzi figures at the entrance to the Early People Gallery.

### *The Appeal*

The stained glass window commissioned from Mr Crear McCartney for the Bute Room in the Museum of Scotland has now been installed and there will be various opportunities to view this, including the Reception following the Anniversary Meeting. Those Fellows who have visited the displays in the new Museum of Scotland will have seen the Paolozzi figures to which Fellows of the Society so generously contributed.

### *Admission Charges*

Fellows, of course, enjoy free entry to the National Museums of Scotland; Fellows will be aware that the Government has promised increased funding for the National Museums to improve access and restore service levels; this should enable the NMS to remove admission charges at the Royal Museum and the Museum of Scotland by 2001/2002.

### *Administration*

There have, after a long period of continuity, been major changes within the Office: Mrs Fiona Ashmore continues as Director, Mrs Maureen McLeod as Assistant Treasurer; Mrs June Rowan retired as Administrative Assistant in September. As mentioned in the September *Newsletter*, and the letter which accompanied it, June left us on 3 September; the President has paid formal tribute to her; she will be very much missed by all who had contact with her. We are delighted to welcome her successor, Mrs Morvern Hardie, who took over at the end of September and hope that many Fellows will have the chance to meet her, formally and informally. We hope very soon to have in post an additional member of staff responsible for assisting with Heritage matters and publications administration; we have now undertaken to promote,

market and distribute our Monographs and other publications. Dr Rob Sands remains our computer adviser. Mr Jerry O'Sullivan, the *Proceedings* Editor, carries out his task from the office. As always we would remind Fellows that all Staff work part-time. Fellows are always welcome to visit the office, but we would ask them to ring ahead.

Aspects of the Office work are eased by the voluntary help provided by Fellows, we would particularly thank Mr Maurice Carmichael, who continues to help the Assistant Treasurer in dealing with Fellowship subscriptions when required.

Thanks are also due to the dedicated group of envelope fillers: Mr and Mrs Adamson; Major & Mrs Cave-Browne; Miss M E Doull; Mrs J Fleming; Miss A S Henshall; Miss M R Hilton; Mr D Jones; Mr Gordon Maxwell; Mrs R Meldrum, Mr R W & Dr J Munro; Dr B J Murray; Dr A Ritchie; Professor M Smallwood; and Mrs T Watkins, in addition to those who come in for particular mailings. We bade farewell to Mrs Grossmith and Mr Ford, long-term helpers, who filled their final envelopes in February of this year.

Thanks are due, as ever, to the National Museums of Scotland for their willing help; for Programme events those members of the Museum staff who help with bookings and other arrangements behind the scenes, especially Wilma Henderson, Ella Blyth, Thelma Hunter and Elaine Bell. Thanks are due to all members of the NMS Library staff for their patience and help. As ever, very particular thanks are due to Grant MacRae and Chris Stewart whose services as projectionists at our meetings, seminars and conferences, contribute so enormously to the smooth running of events. Finally I would like to thank the members of staff of the Archaeology Department of the National Museums who have all assisted the Society in very many ways this year, as both ordinary Fellows and Council members will be aware from the *Newsletter*, Programme and other Society productions.

The Treasurer, Mr Alan Saville, then read the following report.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1998-9 (YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 1999)

The financial position of the Society continues to be sound, enabling the proper fulfilment of its charitable purposes and avoiding any immediate necessity for a rise in subscriptions.

Income has increased over the previous year in line with the rise in Fellowship and some most welcome donations and a legacy. In addition the interest from the Society's investments has, despite predictions, achieved an increased level. The taxation recovered on Deeds of Covenant reflects a modification of Inland Revenue requirements, which permitted a one-off recovery of additional tax in respect of preceding years.

Expenditure has increased more than income, however, with the result that the Society's surplus on the year has decreased to £11,032. This decrease is actually less than budgeted because some anticipated expenditure has again been deferred to the following year.

Greater expenditure on salaries and fees reflects higher levels of activity by the Society, with appropriate recompense for the expertise and commitment of staff and associates. Most of the rises in general administration costs are those inevitably incurred in the provision of office services. Unusually and unexpectedly, legal fees were required in response to threatened litigation over an item in the Society's *Newsletter*.

Increased expenditure on lectures and conferences results from the ambitious and highly successful programme arranged for Fellows and the wider interested public. This year the prestigious Rhind Lectures were more costly to stage and required greater subvention from the General Funds, while the joint conference with the Society of Antiquaries of London and the weekend excursion to Aberdeenshire incurred increased outlays.

Total expenditure from the Special Funds for research was £15,342, slightly up on the previous year, though still well within the Society's capacity to sponsor research of suitable calibre. To encourage applications from the research community, the level of potential maximum grant awarded per proposal was raised during the year.

Publication is the Society's most costly single undertaking, but the *Proceedings*, which have an unrivalled position in Scottish cultural publication, continue to provide outstanding value, thanks to generous grant-aid from other bodies, especially Historic Scotland. Fellows will notice that Monographs

appear in the general expenditure lists for the first time, following the previous year's decision to wind-up the separate fund. The small, accumulated surplus in that fund was fully expended during the production of Monographs 14 and 15. Production costs of all future Monograph volumes will be met entirely from the General Funds. The anticipated return from sales of the latest volumes will not be manifest until the forthcoming financial year, but will now be easier to assess as a result of administrative decisions taken during the year, which return control of all Monograph sales directly to the Society.

The balance sheet shows an increase of net assets from £848,285 to £896,006. This increase is lower than previous years, but nevertheless is satisfactory given the market trends over the past 12 months. The specialist guidance of the Bank of Scotland Investment Services, in particular the assistance of their adviser Mr Graham Miller, who has attended the Finance & Administration Committee meetings during the year, is acknowledged.

Looking to the forthcoming year, the issues previewed in the Director's Report in the areas of publication, staffing, conferences, and heritage activities, will all impact on the Society's finances. With continuing working from the Fellows and from the numerous other individuals and bodies which support the Society's work, I am confident the Society's resources will prove sufficiently robust.

Once again I express my particular thanks to the Convener of the Finance & Administration Committee, Mr Humphrey Holmes, for his continuing help and good judgement during the year, to the Treasurer of the North-East Section, Mr John Cruse, for skilfully managing the Aberdeen finances, and I wish to acknowledge the contribution of our Assistant Treasurer, Mrs Maureen McLeod, who continues to administer the Society's financial affairs so effectively.

Copies of the full audited accounts of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland 1998-9 are available to any Fellow or other interested party on application to the Society's office, at a cost of £2 (in the UK and Europe; £4 elsewhere) to cover production and postage.

Both the Director's and Treasurer's Reports were formally approved by the Fellowship.

The *Proceedings* Editor, Mr Jerry O'Sullivan, then gave the following report.

#### PROCEEDINGS EDITOR'S REPORT

Volume 128 of the *Proceedings* had recently been published. This Volume is the fourth in a series of six double volumes which represent the Society's collaboration with Historic Scotland in a major programme of backlog publications. It is a matter of mutual satisfaction that Historic Scotland discharges itself of a backlog of unpublished fieldwork projects and, reciprocally, that the Society's *Proceedings* harvests a large crop of new reports.

Although this is not the largest in the double-volume series, it does feature contributions by the largest number of authors to date, with 41 papers and excavation reports. There is a corresponding diversity of subject. Scholarship in almost every period of Scotland's prehistory and early history is represented here, as well as sites in almost every part of the country. Amongst the authors too there is a healthy diversity. As well as some of the more established members of the archaeological community, these pages include contributions by numerous young scholars making their first appearance in the *Proceedings*. Overall, as well as backlog contributions there is also much new work.

Thanks are due to Historic Scotland's inspectorate, especially Gordon Barclay, who recently passed responsibility for publications to Patrick Ashmore, and also Olwyn Owen; all three have taken a practical and constructive approach throughout to this large and sometimes difficult project. Our printers were very ably assisted in their task by the painstaking work of two Fellows of the Society: Mrs Elizabeth Fowler who compiled the Index and Mr Duncan McAra who copy-edited and proof-read the volume.

A word of purely personal thanks is due to two outgoing officers of the Society: Dr Anne MacSween, who retires as Convener of Publications and, of course, Professor Michael Lynch who retires tonight from his Presidency. Their support has been of special benefit to the Editor on more than one occasion.

## PRESENTATION TO MRS JUNE ROWAN

The President then paid tribute to and made a presentation in the form of a photograph of the design of the Society's Stained Glass window together with a cheque, on behalf of the Fellows, to Mrs June Rowan, who had retired after over 14 years as the Society's Administrative Assistant. Council members and staff had paid tribute to her at an informal gathering in September; this was an opportunity for Fellows to bid her farewell.

## R B K STEVENSON AWARD

The award for the best article in Volume 128 of the *Proceedings* was awarded to Dr Ross Trench-Jellicoe for his article '*The Skeith Stone, Upper Kilrenny, Fife, in its context*'.

## RESULT OF THE BALLOTS

Professor Lynch, outgoing President, thanked the retiring Vice-President, J B Stevenson, and the retiring members of Council, Dr Anne Crone; Dr Raymond G Lamb; Dr Peter J Murray and Ms Olwyn Owen, for their work.

He then paid tribute to the two retiring Conveners. Dr Ann MacSween had been acting Editor for Volume 121 of the *Proceedings*, and had served as a Publications Committee member before taking on the role of Publications Convener in 1997. Mr Alan Saville retired today as Research Convener having carried out this role since 1992, in addition to his work as the Society's Treasurer. Under his Convenership the Society had organized three Archaeological Research in Progress Conferences and the major three-day Conference *Mesolithic Scotland: the Early Holocene Prehistory of Scotland and its European Context*. The Society was grateful to them both for their work.

He then welcomed the new Vice-President, Mr W D H Sellar, and the four new members of Council, Dr Christopher Lowe; Dr Mary A MacLeod; Dr Magdalena S Midgley; and Ms Andrea N Smith. He was delighted to welcome Mr Saville back as the Society's new Publications Convener and Mr Ian Shepherd, who had served the Society as *Proceedings* Editor, as a council member, and as Vice President as the new Research Convener.

Professor Lynch then welcomed the new President, Dr J N G Ritchie, and the new members of Council. Dr Ritchie had had a long and distinguished association with the Society having served as a Council member, Committee member and as Publications Convener. He was a renowned scholar, fieldworker, and author; he had had a long and distinguished career with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland from which he had retired recently as Head of Archaeology. His election as President of the Society was thoroughly fitting.

Council for 1999-2000 is as follows:

*President*

*Vice Presidents*

*Treasurer*

*Councillors*

DR J N GRAHAM RITCHIE, MA, PhD, MBA, FSA

HUGH CHEAPE, MA

LISBETH M THOMS, BSc, DipArch

W DAVID H SELLAR, BA, LLB, FRHistS

ALAN SAVILLE, BA, FSA, MIFA

JANE BRANN, BA, MIFA

ALAN LESLIE, MA, PhD

TAM WARD

IAN CAMPBELL, BA, MA, DPhil

BILL FINLAYSON, MA, PhD, MIFA

KATHERINE S FORSYTH, MA, PhD

LORNA MAIN, MA

CHRISTOPHER LOWE, BA, MA, PhD, MIFA



MARY A MACLEOD, BA, MA, PhD  
 MAGDALENA S MIDGLEY, MA, PhD  
 ANDREA N SMITH, BA, MIFA

*Ex-officio members of Council*

Chairman of the North East Section	PAUL PILLATH, MA
Convener of the Finance & Administration Committee	HUMPHREY HOLMES, CA
Convener of the Heritage Committee	FIONNA M ASHMORE, BA, FSA
Convener of the Publications Committee	ALAN SAVILLE, BA, FSA, MIFA
Convener of the Research Committee	IAN A G SHEPHERD, MA, FSA, MIFA
Representative to the Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland	JILL HARDEN, BSc, AMA, MIFA
Representative of the National Museums of Scotland	DAVID V CLARKE, BA, PhD, FSA

ELECTION OF NEW FELLOWS

The result of the ballot was announced. The President was delighted to welcome 198 new Fellows to the Society. The following were elected Fellows:

DR RODNEY H ALLEN, MD 416 Graylyn Place, Fayetteville, NC 28314–2630, USA  
 DAVID G ANDERSON, BA 24 Seafield Street, Portknockie, Banffshire  
 GORDON ANDERSON, MA 10 Greenbank Grove, Edinburgh  
 LENNARD MORGAN ANDERSON, MA MSc Ladybank House, 23 Monkstown, Ladybank, Cupar, Fife  
 RODERICK I D ANDERSON, LLB, 11 Tavistock Drive, Newlands, Glasgow  
 MICHEIL JOSEPH ARMSTRONG, FCI CA, Mangerton House, No. 3 Herschel Walk, Kenilworth, Cape Town, S. Africa  
 LYNETTE R W A ASHEIM BA Hist, 213 Oakengate Turn, Virginia Beach, VA 23462–3610, USA  
 ALAN LIND BAIN, MA LLB, 15 West 72nd Street, 17E, New York, NY 10023, USA  
 LOUISE M BAKER, BSc, 7 Marlborough Street, Edinburgh  
 TORBEN B BALLIN, Banknock Cottage, Denny, Stirlingshire  
 CHARLES S BARCLAY, 15315 Blacksmith Terrace, Woodbridge, VA 22191–3827, USA  
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 DR MICHAEL EDWIN BATH, BA MA PhD, 6 Roman Road, Balforn, Stirlingshire  
 ANDREW GRANT BEATON, MA, 9 Cullernie Road, Balloch, Inverness  
 JOHN HAROLD BELL, 1962 Wedgewood Drive, Sanford, NC 27330, USA  
 STEVEN A BIRCH, Narrows Cottage, Scalpay Estate, Broadford, Skye  
 CHARLES W BOGLE JR, 340 Glencourtney Drive, NE Atlanta, GA 30328, USA  
 CLIVE J BOND, BA MA, Flat 89 West Downs, Student Village, Romsey Road, Winchester  
 EMMA BOYD, BA, Springfield, 14 Bute Terrace, Millport  
 JOHN BOYD, BTh, Springfield, 14 Bute Terrace, Millport  
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 FRANK D BRANDON, 1400 Parkway Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118–4468, USA  
 DR PATRICK W BROOKS, BSc MB ChB DPM FRCPsych, 11 Thirlestane Road, Edinburgh  
 ALEXANDER BROWN, MBE AFC, 364 Albert Drive, Pollokshields, Glasgow  
 DR ANDREW DONALD BROWN, BSc MSc PhD, 12 West Mains Street, Aberlady, East Lothian  
 DIANA BROWN, MA, 39 Main Street, Newton Village, West Lothian  
 BRENDAN J BURNS, Gables, Charleston Road, Aboyne  
 DR JOHN W CAIRNS LLB PhD, 16 St Vincent Street, Edinburgh  
 SALLY CAMERON, MA, 9 Howden Hall Park, Edinburgh

PETER A CAMPBELL, 1060 Sugar Road, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, USA  
 MARION CADZOW CANTLEY, BSc DipEd DipSoc DipComEd, 59 Fountainhall Road, Edinburgh,  
 NICK CARD, MA, The Cottage, Snelsetter, Longhope, Orkney  
 EDWARD CATTELL, JR, BS JD, 1104 Kresson Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003–2727, U S A  
 PROFESSOR CHARLES V CLARK, BMedSc MBChB DSc MD ChM CBiol FIBiol FAIBiol FRCS  
 FRCOphth FRACO FRACS FRMS FAAO, St Andrew's Place, 33 North Street, Spring Hill, Brisbane,  
 QLD 4000, Australia  
 MAUREEN CLARK, St Andrew's Place, 33 North Street, Spring Hill, Brisbane, QLD 4000, Australia  
 HUGH D COCHRAN, BA LLB, Balfour, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire  
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 ROSS HUGH COWAN, MA, 15 Glen Livet Road, Neilston, Glasgow  
 MARY CRAIG, 39 Woodlands Gardens, Bothwell, Glasgow  
 JENNIFER A CRAINE, BA, Ynyswen House, Pontynyswen, Nantgaredig, Carmarthen, W Wales  
 PHILIP JOHN CRUMMY, MA, 2 Hall Road, Copford, Colchester  
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 JOHN LAWRENCE DALGLEISH, 8 Hamilton Avenue, St Andrews, Fife  
 MAIRI H DAVIES, MA, 31 Easter Warriston, Edinburgh  
 THE REVD BRIAN FREDERICK DINELEY, 4 Dickburn Crescent, Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire  
 ELLIOT M DONLEY, 2607 Ivy Place, Toledo, OH 43613 USA  
 JAMES R DOUGLAS, BS MS, 420 Hill Ave, Piedmont, AL 36272, USA  
 PROFESSOR DAVID NORMAN DUMVILLE, MA PhD HON MA FRHist FRSAI, Girton College,  
 Cambridge  
 RUTH DUNDAS, BA, Caddam, Kinnordy, Kirriemuir, Angus  
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#### THE ROLL

The record of the deaths of the following Fellows intimated during the year 1998–9 was not read at the meeting. Dates indicate year of election.

Charles Peter Aitken, BSc, MSc, 47 Craigforth Drive, Bannockburn, by Stirling	1981
Miss Josephine Marguerite Bennett, HBL, 91 Victoria Road, Dunoon, Argyll	1966
Robert James Black, RPA, 1400 Renaissance Drive, Suite 205, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068, USA	1989
Robert Hill Cairns, MA, 3 South College House, Cathedral Road, Elgin, Moray	1965
Basil Clarke, MA, B Litt, DIP Psych, 55 Silverdale Road, Yealand Redmane, Carnforth, Lancs	1962
Mrs Monica Clough, MA, FRHistS, Milton, Drumnadrochit, Inverness	1997
Gerald Hubert Coulson of Kelly, BA, Kelly Castle, Arbroath, Angus	1995
Mrs Janet Cowe, 10 Ravensdowne, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland	1991
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Alexander Kennedy, Craigmullan, Dundrennan, Kirkcudbrightshire	1951
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Revd. D A R McGregor, MA, 14 Calside Avenue, Paisley, Renfrewshire	1958
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Jack Gillespie Scott, MA, Woodrow Bank, Cree Bridge, Minnigaff, Newton Stewart, Wigtonshire	1949
William Shand, Deloraine, Crook of Devon, Kinross	1949
Walter Gordon Silvie, BS, MBA, 13 Fieldstone Drive, Whippany, New Jersey 07981, USA	1983
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Alexander McIntosh Thomson, 41 Beech Brae, Elgin, Moray	1978
Robert Urie, VRD, CA, Baldernock Glebe, Milngavie, Glasgow	1969
Clive Wainwright, 8 Cumberland Gardens, London	1981
Donald McNab Whyte, Ainola, Cairn Road, Northmuire, Kirriemuir, Angus	1978
John Campbell Howard Wright, FHS, 5 Kooning Street, North Balwyn, 3104 Victoria, Australia	1990
Revd. Hugh MacKay, MA, The Manse, Duns, Berwickshire	1959

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Professor Michael Lynch then delivered the following Presidential Address:

Swan-songs are always difficult to compose, and I shall try to keep mine brief. Yet in one important sense, this address has not been difficult to write at all. Over the past year, the Society has, it seems to me, been firing on all cylinders. The regular lecture series has seen audiences that averaged some 120. The Rhind Lecture series, by Professor Charles Thomas, averaged over 150. There have been a series of strikingly successful conferences, including the Holyrood Park conference, on a gorgeous weekend in May, where our guests were the London Society of Antiquaries. They went home, one might be forgiven for saying, 'tae think again', about how they might possibly match the quality and range of this conference. Recently, we have had a triumphantly successful Mesolithic conference. Publications will follow each of these events. Professor Thomas's Rhind Lectures will appear shortly; so will the proceedings of the Stone of Destiny conference (one of the most memorable of the events of the previous year), with papers added. Each of these, it is not an exaggeration to say, will be a landmark in their subject. The Editor has already described the *Proceedings* and the Director has drawn attention to the continuing output of the Monograph series — with *The Biggings*, *Papa Stour* and *Kebister* being the latest to appear.

But there is also a great deal of work going on behind the scenes, as I indicated last year, and it has, if anything been increasing. The Heritage Committee, under the convenership of the Director, has been intensifying and expanding its activities. This year, for example, it formed part of a consortium with other interested parties, including the Scottish Museums Council, Historic

Scotland, and the National Trust for Scotland, to prepare the way for arguing a unified case on the broad cultural front, something that it is particularly important to do, knowing the well-organized prowess of the natural environment lobby. The Society responded to the Cultural Strategy document put out by the new Deputy Minister for Culture and Sport. It has made its views known — and continues to do so — on various aspects of the refurbishment of Queensberry House, at the heart of the development of the new Parliament buildings. And there have been a further two seminars held, on the subject of tower houses. The Council attaches so much importance to this side of the Society's activities that, I am pleased to say, it has decided to advertise for a new half post to help the Society in heritage matters.

The Society, in the circumstances of a new Scotland, has a central role to play. In the areas of archaeology and cultural heritage, it can do this better than anyone else. It can act and has acted over the course of this past year as an honest broker. It can also provide a forum in which consensus can be arrived at in areas of mutual interest but where there is a potential for disagreement among the various interests that make up the archaeological, heritage and historical worlds. That was the role played in the joint day conference which it arranged in December last, in concert with CSA. The Society, too, can act as a dynamic for discussion and for change. Its activities have never been more wide-ranging or pro-active and its status, I would put it to you, has never been higher. The reason for that has a great deal to do with the huge efforts put in by the Director and by the Council. I said last year, but I hope you will forgive me for repeating it, I have had experience of many learned societies — I have not encountered another where so much is done by so many to further its aims.

I would like to turn, as briefly as I can, to a rather odd episode which complicated this past year for the Society and its Office Bearers. For those of you who have elected to receive the full accounts of the Society, there is a four-figure sum buried within them (a low four-figure sum, I should say). This was the lawyers' fee incurred to defend the Society in a defamation suit. It came as a consequence of the Presidential *Newsletter* of February 1999 which criticized *Scotland on Sunday* for its so-called 'discovery' of the letter of William Wallace to Lübeck, and its attacks on the Museum of Scotland and the historical profession as a whole in a series of sensationalist, tabloid-style articles and editorials.

On 17 March, a letter was sent from solicitors acting for one of the reporter concerned, Amelia Hill, to the Society, its President and its printers, alleging defamation. They said that Ms Hill had the financial backing of her employers in this action. In short, a reporter backed by a national newspaper was threatening to sue the Society. The tone of this letter was brusque, not to say aggressive. Two further letters followed, increasingly belligerent in tone.

To cut a long, and what can be a rather tedious story short, the substance of the case put by Ms Hill's solicitors was as follows. Their client was an 'award-winning journalist whose journalistic practices have been wrongly criticised'. They maintained that she had discovered the letter by herself and that she had not been apprised of its survival and whereabouts by anyone other than the Lübeck archives when she, single-handedly, telephoned them. They maintained that 'our client's only contact with the SRO was a brief telephone interview with them to check that they were unfamiliar with the letter, which they confirmed was the case'. They demanded an apology and a retraction in the next edition of the *Newsletter*. Otherwise, court proceedings would ensue.

On 6 May, the Society's solicitors responded in a detailed letter which ran to some 1800 words. The solicitors had advised the Society that they did not feel there was a case to answer. The *Newsletter* was defamatory if untrue, but the general defence was *veritas*. It was easy enough to prove one central point: that the Wallace letter had been known about, and this was pointed

out in a number of ways. One was a front-page article, spread across four columns, in *The Scotsman* on 21 June 1996, which had reported the exhibition in SRO which first brought to the attention of the Scottish public the fact that the Wallace letter had been returned to Lübeck.

The other central point was how *Scotland on Sunday* had come, as it claimed, to have 'discovered' the letter. You will remember that Ms Hill's solicitors claimed that she had made only one call to SRO, which had not known of the whereabouts of the letter. Here is a memorandum drawn up by a senior member of staff at SRO at the request of the Keeper, Patrick Cadell. I have deleted the names of the individual members of staff and substituted A, B, C. Otherwise, the memorandum is exactly the same as the original. It runs to one and a half pages. Here is the first page.

It shows that the reporter first phoned the SRO during the lunch period on 3 December. The call was taken by a junior member of staff, who said that she did not know personally but would make inquiries. Over the course of the afternoon, Ms Hill phoned again three times and was phoned back by a senior member of staff once — a total of five calls, not one. Over the course of these calls, Ms Hill was told of the following: the whereabouts of the letter, that it went back to Lübeck in 1990 and she was told of the story of its travels up till then; she was told that there was an SRO booklet referring to the 1996 exhibition; she was told that there was a facsimile and translation of it in *The Book of the Wallace*, published by the Grampian Club in 1889. SRO staff provided Ms Hill with a fax of both the facsimile and the translation. And also, they dug out the negative of a photograph of the letter from West Register House and had it delivered to the newspaper's offices. And here is a copy of the Invoice drawn up by SRO for that negative which was delivered to the newspaper's offices and published by it on the following Sunday.

Fellows, I leave it to you to draw your own conclusions about the discrepancies between this detailed evidence, involving three members of staff of SRO (two of them senior members of staff), and the account given by Ms Hill's solicitors. Neither the Society's office bearers nor I wish to do other than to set the record straight. There was no 'discovery' on the part of *Scotland on Sunday*. There was, you may well conclude, no story. You may also conclude that the basis of the attack on the Museum was flimsy, to say the least.

These are the facts, as we know them. I am happy to leave it to you and to others make a judgement, based on these facts. Suffice it to say, the Society has not heard from Ms Hill's solicitors again.

Here, I would very much like to thank the office bearers, and in particular the Director and Treasurer, for their support throughout this episode. Equally, I wish to thank Patrick Cadell for his help in uncovering the facts and making them available to the Society. I would also like to thank those Fellows who expressed their support of the original *Newsletter*, both by letter and in person. I felt that Fellows deserved to learn of the postscript.

To return to the substance of my address, what does the future hold for the Society — apart, that is, I hope, a dearth of defamation actions? The answer, in short, is a great deal. I consider it to have been a great privilege to have been its President. It has also been immensely rewarding, not to say great fun. That was what by predecessor, Gordon Maxwell, said to me in private before I took the job on. I would now like to repeat that thought, in public, for my successor, Graham Ritchie. Retiring Presidents should become back-benchers, not back-seat drivers. So I shall, if I may, confine myself to giving my successor only one piece of advice — which I am sure he already knows.

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland has a great deal to offer to other organizations across the whole spectrum of interests and specialisms in which it has developed such expertise over the years. (Other, seemingly more august organizations have tried and are trying to



encroach — and here I cannot but help thinking of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.) One way forward is to extend partnerships with these friends and to forge new partnerships with potential allies. In a limited way, I have tried to suggest ways of doing this, but from my less than central position in the complex of disciplines which the Society represents. And this was what lay behind arranging the facilities of the University for the research seminars series and arranging with the Historical Association a new joint lecture. I hope that these modest initiatives will go on. But, more than that, I look forward to seeing others in the future.

Fellows, the Society is in great shape — and that applies to its finances, its publications, its activities and its outreach. We should, I suggest to you, all be proud of being members of it. And I am doubly proud to have the privilege of serving as your President for the past three years.

The President then passed over the Presidential medal to Dr Ritchie.

A series of short presentations concentrating on the Society's Stained Glass Window now installed in the Bute Room, Museum of Scotland were given. These were: *The Window: the Materials and the Making*, by Crear McCartney, Artist; *The Society Windows, Old & New*, by Dr D V Clarke, former Vice President; *Elements in the Window: the Bridgeness Distance Slab*, by Professor G S Maxwell, former President; and *The Burghead Bull*, by Dr Anna Ritchie, former President.

A Wine Reception then took place in the Bute Room, Museum of Scotland.

# Notes for Contributors

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*Submissions* should be addressed to The Editor, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Royal Museum of Scotland, and should arrive no later than 30 November of each year.

*Typescripts* should be accompanied by a 3.5" disc version, clearly marked with the title, filename, date, contributor's name and type of software. Text should be typed on one side of A4 paper in 12 pt font or larger, double-spaced, with wide margins and full pagination. Two copies are required of all typescripts & illustrations.

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*Authors' names* are given in full in the title credits for principal authors, but names of contributing authors can be given as initials & surname.

eg by Herbert Mitchell  
with a contribution by M Mulvihill

*Academic titles* need not be given (ie H Mitchell, not Dr H Mitchell).

*The address* of the principal author/authors is given as a footnote to the title page of each paper.

*An abstract* should appear above the main text and should be no more than 200 words.

*Headings* will be ordered at typesetting stage and may simply be given in roman type — preceded and followed by a line space — in contributors' own typescripts.

*Dimensions* should be given in metric units, in kilometres, metres or millimetres (0.2 m or 200 mm; please note spacing) but not centimetres. 'Small finds' should always be described in millimetres. Imperial units may be quoted from earlier sources, but the metric equivalent should also be given, in brackets.

*Numbers* can be given in full text where less than 10 (ie one to nine), but as numerals for any greater numbers, as 'five samples from each pit', but '22 sherds', '19th-century pottery'.

*Dates* should be condensed where possible as '1936–8' (not 1936–1938); however, 'from 1936 to 1938' is also acceptable. Note that the -teen years are an exception, as 1914–18 (not 1914–8). The first to ninth centuries may be given in text. All others should be given in numerals, as 'pottery from the 19th century', but note '19th-century pottery'.

The convention AD 413 x 427 describes dates between which an historical event is thought to have occurred; the convention AD 413–27 describes the duration of an event.

20 September 1996 (not, for instance, September 20th 1996)

1660s, not 1660's.

AD 413, but 427 BC (note small caps).

*National Grid references* should be given for all archaeological sites or historic buildings which are central to the paper. References can be given as NGR: NO 7189 2052 (not NO71892051).

*Compass orientations* are written in full for simple orientations ('to the north', 'from the south-east'; but longer compounds should be abbreviated ('towards NNE', 'in a WSW direction'). A forward slash indicates alignment or axial orientation, as 'the building lay on an east/west alignment'.

*Languages* (ie quotations) other than English should normally be accompanied by a translation.

*Dead languages* (eg Latin quotations) should appear in italics.

*Archaeological periods* follow the most widely established usage: Mesolithic, early Neolithic but Early Bronze Age, Iron Age, Early Christian, early/late/post-medieval, Middle Ages, Early Modern, modern.

*Personal titles* should always be given with a starting capital, as the Duke of Sutherland, the Secretary of State (not the duke of Sutherland or the Secretary of state).

*Place-names* should follow current editions of the Ordnance Survey. Significant changes or variants should be identified and discussed, as appropriate.

*Points* can be omitted (for economy of space) where possible: Dr, eg, ed, edn, eds, F5002, ie, Mr, Ms, No 6, Nos 12 & 14, *et al*, pers comm, vol 129, illus 12.

*Numbered features*, samples, artefacts and so forth should be clearly identified in the text. Thus, 'The sherds from vessel 52 were recovered from sample 5002, representing the basal fill, context 124, of cist 7' (not 'sherds from 52 were recovered from 5002, representing the basal fill, 124, of 7').

*Single 'quotation marks'* are used for text and titles and double "quotation marks" only for quotes-within-quotes. Indented passages need not appear in quotation marks.

*Archaic letter forms*, in quotations from documentary sources, should be represented by the phonetic or orthographic modern equivalents, as appropriate. Common examples include the following:

archaic 'long' form of S; thus 'house', not 'houfe'  
 formerly interchangeable I and J; thus 'item', not 'jtem'  
 formerly interchangeable forms U and V; thus 'house' not 'hovse'  
 obsolete letter yogh; thus 'yards' not 'zards'  
 Anglo-Saxon letter thorn, thus 'the' not 'ye'  
 'ff' at the beginning of a word (ie as a form of capital F), thus 'Fife' not 'ffife'

## REFERENCES

*The Harvard system* — with (author, date & pages) set within the text — should always be used when the majority of references are to published books or articles.

*End-notes* may, however, be used for articles on historical topics, in which the references are predominantly to documentary material (see, for example, vol 123 (1993), 413–18).

*Footnotes* should never be used.

*References* in the text should accompany the author's name directly. Thus, 'in Mitchell's (1996, 35) opinion' and not 'in Mitchell's opinion (1996, 35)'.

Please note the spacing and word order of the corresponding bibliographic entry.

Mitchell, H 1996 'Estate lands in Clogheen', *Proc Clogheen Hist Archaeol Soc*, 1 (1997), 1–37.

*Titles of foreign journals* should be given in full, but titles of the main British and Irish journals can be abbreviated (eg *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*), following the recommended by the *British & Irish Archaeological Bibliography*.

*Standard reference works* may be cited in the text using an abbreviated title rather than the editors' names: thus, 'DOST' for the *Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue* and not 'Craigie & Aitken 1963'. For this and other examples, abbreviations should follow the forms recommended by the supplement to the *Scottish Historical Review*, 42 (1963). All such abbreviations should be given in their full or expanded form in the list of references at the end of each article, whichever system is used.

*Documentary sources* should be identified by a full archive number and relevant repository.

eg NAS D45/27/45 National Archives of Scotland, Dalhousie Muniments.  
 Confirmation of a grant to Jonet Maule of the lands of Grenefurde, 1394.

Maps should also be identified by a full title in references:

eg OS 1878 Ordnance Survey. 'Argyllshire', Sheet CIV.12 (1876–7), 1:2500.

## RADIOCARBON DATES

Full details of radiocarbon dates should be given in the form of a table, identifying, ideally, the lab code, the sample material, a  $\delta C_{13}$  value, the date in radiocarbon years (ie yrs BP), and calibrated date ranges to the first and second levels of probability, as in the following example.

TABLE 1

## Radiocarbon dates

Lab code	Sample material	Yrs BP	$\delta^{13}C$	Calibrated dates	
				1 sigma	2 sigma
AA-26244	Cremated human bone from the cist	1655 $\pm$ 50	-24.3‰	AD 340-428	AD 250-530

The  $\delta^{13}C$  value may be help in identifying 'odd' samples and can be useful in analysing problems in the interpretation of dates. Where dates are given in calibrated form, the particular calibration programme should be identified with reference to a published source.

Radiocarbon dates may be quoted in discussion as BP, cal BC or cal AD (eg 'before 4321  $\pm$  60 BP (GU-9123)' or 'before 2923 to 3329 cal BC (GU-9123)'); BP is commonly used by natural scientists, especially in reference to dates which fall before the range of existing calibration curves; cal BC and cal AD are more commonly used in archaeological papers. The use of BC or AD, alone, is appropriate to historical and astronomical dates only, and should not be applied to radiocarbon dates. The use of BC uncal is discouraged.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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