

PROCEEDINGS
of the
Society of Antiquaries
of Scotland



Volume 144
(2014)

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
National Museums Scotland
Chambers Street, Edinburgh

This volume has been printed on acid-free paper.

Requests for permission to reproduce material from the *Proceedings* should be sent to the Managing Editor (publications@socantcot.org), as well as to the author, illustrator, photographer or other copyright holder.

Copyright in the *Proceedings* rests with the Society and the individual authors. It is permitted, without the need for specific authorization or payment of a fee, to photocopy:

- i. single copies of individual papers or sections of the *Proceedings* for the private use of an individual;
- ii. single copies of individual papers or sections of the *Proceedings* for library reserve or short-term loan use;
- iii. multiple copies of individual papers or sections of the *Proceedings* for teaching use, provided that such copies are taken for a non-profit-making institution for educational use within that institution only.

The consent does not extend to copying for general distribution, advertising or promotional purposes, the creation of new collective works or resale.

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland is a registered Scottish charity No. SC010440

ISSN 0081-1564

Typeset by Waverley Typesetters, Warham, Norfolk
Manufactured in Slovenia

Published December 2015

Contents

- v LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS
- vii EDITORIAL BOARD
- ix COUNCIL
- xi PATRON AND HONORARY FELLOWS
- xiii LAWS OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND
- ARTICLES AND REPORTS
- 1 Mesolithic and Early Neolithic activity along the Dee: excavations at Garthdee Road, Aberdeen
Hilary K Murray and J Charles Murray
- 65 Wrappings of power: a woman's burial in cattle hide at Langwell Farm, Strath Oykel
Olivia Lelong
- 133 The Synton and Kippilaw denarius hoards: further numismatic evidence for late Antonine and Severan Scotland
N M McQ Holmes
- 169 Pictish symbol stones and early cross-slabs from Orkney
Ian G Scott and Anna Ritchie
- 205 Crannogs, castles and lordly residences: new research and dating of crannogs in north-east Scotland
Michael Stratigos and Gordon Noble
- 223 'The worst disaster suffered by the people of Scotland in recorded history': climate change, dearth and pathogens in the long 14th century
Richard Oram
- 245 From cathedral of the Isles to obscurity – the archaeology and history of Skeabost Island, Snizort
Sarah Thomas

- 265 Mingary in Ardnamurchan: a review of who could have built the castle
James Scott Petre
- 277 The Artistic Patronage of John Stuart, Duke of Albany 1518–19: The ‘Discovery’ of the Artist and Author, Bremond Domat
Bryony Coombs
- 311 Archaeological investigations at Kinbane Castle, County Antrim and its Scottish connections
Colin Breen and John Raven
- 323 The Morton Manuscript: ‘ancient inscriptions on stones found in Scotland’
Lawrence Keppie
- 349 ANNUAL REPORT
- 377 INDEX

List of abbreviations commonly used in the *Proceedings*

ADS	Archaeology Data Service
AIA	Association for Industrial Archaeology
ALGAO	Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers
BAR	British Archaeology Reports
CBA	Council for British Archaeology
CSA	Council for Scottish Archaeology (now Archaeology Scotland)
DES	Discovery and Excavation in Scotland
DSR	Data Structure Report
HER	Historic Environment Record
HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationery Office
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
NMR	National Monuments Record
NMRS	National Monuments Record Scotland
NMS	National Museums Scotland
OS	Ordnance Survey
OSA	Old Statistical Account 1791–99
RCAHMS	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
SAIR	Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record

Editorial Board for the *Proceedings* vol 144

Editor

ERIN OSBORNE-MARTIN, MPhil

Editorial Board

PROFESSOR RICHARD BRADLEY, MA Fl Dr hc FSA HonFSA Scot FBA MifA
PROFESSOR DAVID BREEZE, OBE BA PhD Hon DLitt FSA FRSE HonFSA Scot HonIfA
PROFESSOR MARTIN CARVER, BSc DipArchae FSA FSA Scot MifA
PROFESSOR JOHN COLLIS, MA PhD FSA MifA
PROFESSOR GORDON COOK, BA PhD FSA Scot
PROFESSOR STEVE DRISCOLL, BA MSc PhD FSA FSA Scot
PROFESSOR KEVIN EDWARDS, MA PhD FRGS CGeog FSA FRSE FSA Scot
PROFESSOR WILLIAM GILLIES, BA MA FSA Scot
PROFESSOR DENNIS HARDING, MA DPhil FRSE FSA Scot
ISABEL HENDERSON, OBE MA PhD HonFSA Scot
JOHN HUME, BSc ARCST PhD FSA Scot
PROFESSOR TIM INGOLD, PhD FBA FRSE FSA Scot
PROFESSOR MICHAEL LYNCH, MA PhD FRHistS FRSE FSA Scot
PROFESSOR RICHARD ORAM, MA PhD FSA FSA Scot
PROFESSOR IAN RALSTON, OBE MA PhD FSA FRSE FSA Scot MifA
ANNA RITCHIE, OBE BA PhD FSA HonFSA Scot
ALAN SAVILLE, BA(Hons) FSA FSA Scot MifA
ALISON SHERIDAN, BA MA PhD FSA FSA Scot AIfA
JIM TATE, BSc PhD MinstP FSA Scot

Indexer

ANNE MCCARTHY

Publications Production Managers

LAWRIE LAW
ALISON RAE

Office Manager

JACQUI CLABBY, BA

Publications and Sales Administrator

VASILIKI KOUTRAFOURI, MA(Hons) PhD

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland Council from 30 November 2013

President

ALAN SAVILLE, BA(Hons) FSA MifA (elected 30 November 2011)

Vice-Presidents

NEIL CURTIS, MA MLitt AMA (retired 30 November 2013)

ANTOINETTE 'TWIN' WATKINS, BA(Hons) (elected 30 November 2011)

ANN MACSWEEN, MA(Hons) MA MSc PhD FSA MifA MRTPI (elected 30 November 2012)

BEVERLEY BALLIN SMITH, BEd MA FSA MifA (elected 30 November 2013)

Treasurer

STEPHEN CARTER, BSc PhD MifA (re-elected 30 November 2013)

Councillors

ALICE BLACKWELL, BA MPhil (retired 30 November 2013)

MARY MACLEOD RIVETT, MA MA PhD MifA (retired 30 November 2013)

IAN SIMPSON, BSc PhD (retired 30 November 2013)

Position Vacant

BEVERLEY BALLIN SMITH, BEd MA FSA MifA (elected 30 November 2011 to 30 November 2013
then position became vacant)

VANESSA HABIB, BA MPhil (elected 30 November 2011)

JAMES MEARNS, BSc(Hons) MSc (elected 30 November 2011)

JONATHAN WORDSWORTH, MA MifA (elected 30 November 2011)

CHRIS DALGLISH, MA(Hons) PhD (elected 30 November 2012)

TOM DAWSON, BA(Hons) (elected 30 November 2012)

IAIN FRASER, MA(Hons) PhD (elected 30 November 2012)

ANNA GROUNDWATER, PhD FRHistS (elected 30 November 2012)

BRUCE MANN, MA MifA (elected 30 November 2013)

JANE RYDER, OBE MA (elected 30 November 2013)

EWEN D SMITH, MA MLitt (elected 30 November 2013)

LUKE WORMALD, BA(Hons) MSc (elected 30 November 2013)

Ex Officio Members of Council

Chairman of the Aberdeen and
North-East Section

FINLAY MCKICHAN MA MLitt FSA Scot (elected 9 May
2012)

Convener of the Publications
Committee

DAVID H CALDWELL, MA PhD FSA FSA Scot (appointed
21 May 2012)

Convener of the Research Committee

SHANNON FRASER, MA Dip.Post-Ex. PhD MifA FSA Scot
(appointed May 2009 and retired 31 May 2014)

Convener of the Programme
Committee

BRENDAN O'CONNOR, BA DPhil FSA FSA Scot
(appointed December 2012)

Representative of the National
Museums Scotland

FRASER HUNTER, BSc PhD FSA FSA Scot (appointed
2005)

Director

SIMON GILMOUR, MA(Hons) PhD FSA FSA Scot MifA (appointed April 2007)

Patron and Honorary Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Patron

HM THE QUEEN

Honorary Fellows

HRH THE DUKE OF ROTHESAY

DR ROBERT GEOFFREY WILLIAM ANDERSON, BSc MA DPhil FSA FRSE FRSCHEM

MR C NEAL ASCHERSON

PROFESSOR EMERITUS GEOFFREY W S BARROW, MA BLitt DLitt FSA FBA FRSE

PROFESSOR RICHARD BRADLEY, MA FSA FI Dr hc FBA MifA

PROFESSOR DAVID BREEZE, OBE BA PhD Hon DLitt FSA FRSE HonIfA

AUBREY BURL, MA DLitt PhD FSA

ARKITEKT HAKON CHRISTIE

PROFESSOR EMERITUS MARTIN CARVER, BSc Dip.Archaeol FSA

PROFESSOR EMERITUS JOHN COLES, MA PhD ScD FSA FBA FIDhc FRSA HonMifA HonMRIA

PROFESSOR EMERITUS ROSEMARY CRAMP, CBE MA BLitt FSA FBA

JOHN GREENWELL DUNBAR, OBE MA FSA HonFRIAS

PROFESSOR EMERITUS GEORGE EOGAN, BA PhD DLitt LittD FSA MRJA

ISABEL HENDERSON, OBE MA PhD

MISS AUDREY SHORE HENSHALL, OBE MA FSA

PROFESSOR EMERITUS DR LEENDERT P LOUWE KOOLJMANS

PROFESSOR KRISTIAN KRISTIANSEN

PROFESSOR EMERITUS J V S MEGAW, AM MA DLitt FAHA FSA MifA

PROFESSOR ROGER J MERCER, OBE MA FSA FRSE HonMifA

PROFESSOR KLAVS RANDSBORG

PROFESSOR EMERITUS COLIN RENFREW (Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn), BA MA PhD ScD HonDLitt
FSA FBA

DR ANNA RITCHIE, OBE BA PhD FSA

PROFESSOR EMERITUS CHARLES THOMAS, CBE DL DLitt HonDLitt FSA FBA HonMRIA

PROFESSOR EMERITUS J D VAN DER WAALS

PROFESSOR EMERITUS DR WILLY GROENMAN-VAN WAATERINGE

Laws of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, instituted 18 December 1780 and incorporated by Royal Charter, 6 May 1783

1. The purpose of the Society shall be the study of the ANTIQUITIES AND HISTORY OF SCOTLAND, more especially by means of Archaeological Research.
2. The Society shall consist of Fellows and Honorary Fellows.
3. Candidates for admission as Fellows must sign the Form of Application prescribed by the Council, and must be sponsored by two Fellows. Admission shall be by ballot. In the case of candidates not able to obtain two sponsor Fellows, it shall be open to the Council after consideration of the circumstances and credentials of the candidate concerned, to waive the necessity for two sponsors from among the Fellowship.
4. Council shall cause the names of the Candidates and their Sponsors to be circulated to all Fellows at least 10 days before the date of the meeting at which a ballot is to be held. Fellows may vote against any candidate by striking out the name from the list and returning the list to the Society before the meeting or placing the list in the Ballot Box before the meeting commences. Candidates receiving 10 or more adverse votes will be balloted for individually at the meeting, and any candidate then receiving less than two-thirds of the votes shall not be admitted.
5. Honorary Fellows shall consist of persons eminent in any branch of antiquarian study, who must be recommended by the Council and elected in the same way as Fellows; they shall not be liable for any fee for admission or annual subscription. The number of Honorary Fellows shall not exceed 25.
6. Corresponding Members must be recommended by the Council and elected in the same way as Fellows. They shall not be liable for a fee for admission or annual subscription. This Law is now repealed.
7. Before the name of a newly elected candidate is added to the list of Fellows, he or she shall pay to the funds of the Society an entrance fee and the current year's subscription as provided for by Law 8.
8. Rates of entrance fee and annual subscription shall be determined by the Council as required from time to time subject to the approval of the Society given at a General Meeting. The annual subscription shall become due on 1 July in each year for that year then beginning; and if any Fellow who has not compounded shall fail to pay the subscription for one year, due application having been made for payment, the Treasurer shall report the same to Council, by whose authority the name of the defaulter may be erased from the List of Fellows. Fellows whose membership has lapsed, and who wish to rejoin the Society, may do so either (1) by payment of all arrears of subscription – in which case they shall receive the relative volumes of the Proceedings, if still available – or (2) on payment of the subscription for the current year and of the entrance fee.
9. Every Fellow not being in arrears of the annual subscription shall be entitled to receive the printed Proceedings of the Society from the date of election.

10. None but Fellows shall vote or hold any office in the Society.
11. Subject to the Laws and to the control of the Society in General Meetings, the affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council elected and appointed as hereinafter set forth. Five members of the Council shall constitute a quorum, provided that number includes one Office-bearer and one elected member of Council.
12. The Office-bearers shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Treasurer. The President and the Vice-Presidents shall be elected for a period of three years. One of the Vice-Presidents shall retire annually by rotation, and shall not be eligible for re-election to the same office until one year has elapsed. The Treasurer shall be elected for one year and shall be eligible for re-election. The elections shall be by ballot at the Annual General Meetings upon a list issued by the Council for that purpose to the Fellows at least 14 days before the meeting.
13. The Council shall consist of the Office-bearers, 12 Fellows elected by the Society, the Chairman of the North East Section, the Conveners of the various Committees appointed by Council as provided for in Law 15, if not already elected members, and the Society representative of the National Museums Scotland (NMS) who is already a Fellow of the Society (nominated by the NMS Board of Trustees).
14. Four of the 12 elected members of Council shall retire annually by rotation, and shall not be eligible for re-election as ordinary members of Council until one year has elapsed. Vacancies among the elected members of Council and Office-bearers occurring by completion of term of office, by retirement on rotation, by resignation, death or otherwise, shall be filled by election at the Annual General Meeting, or, in the case of the Treasurer, at any earlier meeting of the Society as decided by the Council. The election shall be by ballot, as provided for by Law 12.
15. The Council may appoint committees or individuals to advise on or to take charge of particular departments of the Society's business. Individuals who are not Fellows and Fellows who are not members of the Council shall be eligible for these duties.
16. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall take place on St Andrew's Day, 30 November, or on the following day if the 30th be a Sunday. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be notified to Fellows at least 14 days before the day of the meeting.
17. The Council shall have the power to call Extraordinary General Meetings when they see cause. At least 14 days' notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be given to Fellows.
18. Meetings of the Society, termed Ordinary Meetings, shall be held on such dates and at such places as may be determined by the Council. A minimum of six meetings, in addition to the Annual General Meeting provided for in Law 16, shall be held in each year.
19. Every proposal for altering the Laws must be made through the Council, which shall cause intimation thereof to be made to all the Fellows at least 30 days before the General Meeting at which it is to be determined on.