

ANNIVERSARY MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING held in the Library on *Monday, 30 November 1987* at 4.00 pm, Professor L Alcock, MA, FSA, FRSE, FRHistS, President, in the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The chief scrutineer for the ballot for office-bearers, Mr J N Cartwright, having counted postal votes in advance, was joined by Mrs Fionna Ashmore and Mr J B Ellis to count ballot papers presented at the meeting.

ANNUAL REPORT

The Secretary read the following *Annual Report*:

Membership

The number of Fellows has more than doubled over the last 20 years, at a steady annual increase, and the past year has been no exception. The three ballots resulted in the election of 163 new Fellows; this total, together with 4 re-instatements, may be set against the loss of 85 Fellows through death, resignation or lapse of subscription to yield a net increase of 80 Fellows. The Society's Roll now stands at 2500 including 20 Honorary Fellows.

Meetings

General meetings were held every month, with the exception of the summer break between April and October. For the first time, the Rhind Lectures were held over a single weekend in March rather than spread over a week. Dr Alan Gailey from the Ulster Folk Museum was the Rhind Lecturer for 1986–87, and he spoke on 'Culture, Tradition and the Artifact'. The Royal Museum of Scotland kindly allowed the Society to use the Lecture Theatre in Chambers Street both for the Rhind Lectures and for the annual conference. Held on 9 May, the conference was organized by Mr J C Murray on the theme 'Buried Burghs: a decade of urban archaeology in Scotland'. The speakers were: Professor A A M Duncan on 'The lagging historian', Mr D Hall on 'Pre-burghal St Andrews', Mr J C Murray on 'Aberdeen ten years on – time for evaluation?', Mr P Holdsworth on 'Medieval Perth – form and function', Mr D McVey and Mr H McBrien on 'The Kirk of St John on the Air (Ayr)', Dr P J Dixon on 'Sampling strategy in the Border burghs', Miss J Cross on 'Evidence from the bones – excavations of Carmelite friaries at Aberdeen, Linlithgow and Perth'. Dr G G Simpson summed up the proceedings and the chairman was Mr C J Tabraham. A total of 96 Fellows and non-Fellows attended the conference.

The Fischer-Lindsay Lecture for 1987 was given in Norway by Dr Barbara E Crawford on 'The conversion of the Vikings in Scotland'.

Two excursions were organized this year. On 30 May, Dr R Fawcett and Ms Sonia Hackett led a party of 50 Fellows and guests on a stimulating tour round Stirling Castle, while on 10 October a group of similar numbers was guided through Lothian in the footsteps of Mary Queen of Scots and the Earl of Bothwell. Led by Dr David J Breeze, the party visited the Palace of Holyrood House, Crichton Castle, Tantallon Castle and Craigmillar Castle, as well as viewing the sites of the battles of Pinkie and Carberry, and it proved a fascinating historical exploration.

North-East Section

The section held nine meetings to hear the same lecture programme as given in Edinburgh, with the exception that the February speaker was Mr Ian D B Bryce, FSA Scot, on 'Loch-an-Eilein Castle: its architecture, history and myth'. The Annual General Meeting was combined with a Fellows Evening in May. Membership of the section stands at 213, and the committee for 1987-88 comprises Mr I A G Shepherd, Chairman; Mr G Leiper, Vice-Chairman; Mr A Hidalgo, Secretary; Mr J Cruse, Treasurer; Mrs H B Dransart; Mr J Inglis; Mr J Souter; Mr G Steele; Mrs K W Stewart; Miss J Stones; Mr R A Watt.

Four excursions were organized to visit the deserted medieval burgh of Rattray, Leslie Castle, MacDonald Meal Mill at Montgarrie and Garlogie Beam Engine and a selection of prehistoric monuments in the Rickarton area.

Public Archaeology

Council receives regular reports from the Society's representatives on the Ancient Monuments Board, the Board of Trustees of the National Museums of Scotland and other bodies concerned with the preservation of Scotland's past.

The Society has an important advisory role in Scottish archaeology and history, and its office-bearers have been active in a number of ways over the past year, from answering specific queries from Fellows and from the general public to representing the Society at meetings such as the conference held in Inverness in April to consider the effects of increased forestry planting on the man-made landscape. A number of Fellows had expressed their alarm and concern over changes in land-use, particularly forestry, and Council set up a new Heritage Working Group, with Mr I A G Shepherd (Grampian Regional Archaeologist) as Convener, to monitor such issues and to act as a pressure group when necessary. At the time of the last Anniversary Meeting, the important archaeological site of Traprain Law was about to be sold. Fortunately, the Law was purchased by East Lothian District Council, and the Society was represented at a meeting called by the District Council to discuss the future preservation and presentation of the site. A Policy document generated by the Heritage Working Group will be sent to all Fellows shortly. During the four meetings held this session, the Group has been particularly concerned with issues involving afforestation, the funding of rescue excavations and the preservation of carved stones.

Research

The Society is also able to sponsor research by direct, if limited, funding. During the past year, the following projects have been awarded grants: Newstead Roman Fort (R F J Jones); Ellary Cave and St Columba's Cave, Argyll (C Smith); Loch Olabhat Neolithic site, North Uist (I Armit); Caithness chambered cairns (J L Davidson); Glenochter field survey, Clydesdale (T Ward); Scottish graveyards (B Willsher); Garioch survey of medieval settlement, Aberdeenshire (P A Yeoman); Fair Isle survey (J R Hunter); catalogue of Scottish prehistoric skeletal material (K McSweeney); Ulva Cave, Mull (C Bonsall); Dalgety Bay cists, Fife (E V W Proudfoot); analysis of lithic material, Lanarkshire (S McCartan).

Bursaries to allow young Fellows to present the results of their research at conferences of international standing were awarded to Miss C R Wickham-Jones (paper on 'The use of bloodstone on the island of Rhum, Scotland, and beyond', 5th International Flint Symposium, Bordeaux) and S T Driscoll (paper on 'The emergence of a Pictish kingdom: material culture and power', 52nd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Toronto).

Publication

Volume 115 of the *Proceedings* was published in May 1987. Council regrets the delay over its publication, caused by the combination of a number of unforeseen factors during both the editorial and production processes. The Editor is to be congratulated over his achievement in publishing Volume 116 within the year: advance copies of this volume are on the table.

The Society is grateful to the following institutions for grants towards the cost of publishing papers in

these two volumes: *Historic Buildings and Monuments* (SDD); Royal Museum of Scotland; Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland; Edinburgh District Council.

Mr J A Crawford has looked after the sale of *Monographs* for the past two years, and Council records its warm thanks to him for his work. Mr W Meldrum has kindly taken on this task.

It is with great regret that Council records the death in April 1987 of Mrs Cecil Curle, Fellow and author of the first volume in the *Monograph Series*.

Administration

The Society has been extremely fortunate over the past 16 years to have had the unstinting and percipient services of Miss Audrey S Henshall as Assistant Secretary. Miss Henshall retired on 31 December 1986, and a formal presentation was made to her on 13 April 1987 to mark the warm appreciation felt by Council and Fellows for all her hard work both in the Society's offices and at meetings, conferences and receptions over the years.

On 12 October 1987, Miss Henshall was elected an Honorary Fellow, in recognition not only of her years as Assistant Secretary but also of her out-standing academic contribution to Scottish archaeology, most notably her survey of Neolithic chambered tombs and her studies of early textiles.

Over the summer, a computer/word processor with printer was installed in the Society's offices, and the task has begun of transferring Fellows' membership and subscription details from the old card indexes to the computer data-base, programs for which have been devised by our Fellow, Mr Stuart Campbell. Following the retirement of both Secretary and Assistant Secretary in 1986, the tasks formerly shared by them with the assistance of a typist have been re-allocated between the Secretary, the Administrative Assistant (Mrs June Rowan) and the computer (Amstrad PC 1512). The organization of the Treasurer's department remains the same, with the addition of the computer.

Council records its thanks to Mr G H G Tilling for his hard work and expertise over Fellows' addresses; as well as regularly checking new Fellows' postcodes for some years, Mr Tilling undertook the enormous task of checking the postcodes of the entire UK Fellowship prior to their transfer to the computer. Despite new technology, the Society remains dependent upon the goodwill and voluntary assistance of Fellows, particularly over general mailings: we are gratefully indebted to Miss M E Doull, Mr H G Ford, Miss M F Froude, Mrs S Grossmith, Miss M R Hilton, Mrs A MacAulay, Mr and Mrs I McDonald, Dr E Mitchell, Mrs J B Murray, Mr J P Shepherd and Miss J Sym for their help in filling envelopes.

The Annual Report was adopted on the motion of Mrs A N Shepherd, seconded by Mr J B Stevenson.

The Treasurer read the following *Treasurer's Report*:

How necessary was the rise of our subscription at the commencement of this financial year is immediately apparent from the bottom line of the Accounts set before you this evening. Our surplus has risen from some £400 in 1986 to £3457 in 1987 – in other words from the brink of deficit to a healthy surplus – healthy, but no more. Our position would indeed be somewhat healthier were it not for a sadly recalcitrant 160 Fellows who have yet to let us have their new increased subscription. I can only remind them of the enormously good value that our meetings-programme, excursion, conferences, let alone our annual volume, represent. Expenditure of £2326 on the computerization of our office is a large sum which has also to some extent artificially depressed our surplus of income over expenditure. Of those Fellows who have paid their subscription about 1100 now covenant this sum against tax, yielding last year nearly £3500 to the Society directly and only from HM Treasury. This proportion of Fellows, nearly half our number, is really quite unprecedented in this connection and it is with hesitation that I appeal for even more of you to covenant. The energies of our Assistant Treasurer, Mrs Meldrum, are, however, equal to any challenge and I therefore challenge *you* to increase our covenanting membership even further.

The fact that a year such as that which your Secretary has described has been achieved with a decrease in salary expenditure is a matter of remark in itself but the enhancement of our staff's efficiency is to be seen equally in other ways, for example the decreased costs of printing, stationery and postage reflecting consolidated circulation resulting in real and valuable economies to the Society. Other costs, however, have risen as is to be expected. The costs of our ambitious meetings programme and of the increasing calls upon committees and Council to manage the Society's complex affairs has seen increases under these headings. A relatively small increase has been voted once again to our Research and Excavation Fund

which was able to expend over £5000 in this Financial Year and carry forward more than £1000 into next year. The increase helps to keep this fund slightly ahead of inflation.

The major increase, of course, resides in the cost of our *Proceedings*. The situation here is a complex one and cannot be gleaned from the figures before you for reasons that will become apparent. You will know that volumes are numbered by year so that Volume 114 was the volume for 1984 which would normally have appeared in April 1985 and therefore accounted for in the accounts for July 1984–June 1985 which were presented to the Society at the Anniversary Meeting in 1985. The accounts I now put before you relate to the Financial Year 1986–87 and should show the final position in relation to Volume 116 now at the printers and due to appear shortly. As library subscriptions, Fellows' subscriptions and indeed grants received all relate to particular volumes the transmission of a view of our financial state becomes complex where the 'volume year' and the 'financial year' have got out of kilter.

In the accounts before you, you will observe that £20000 has been transferred from the General Fund to the Publications Fund in Financial Year 1986–87 ie towards the cost of Volume 116. In actual fact, Volume 115 (the volume for 1985), appeared at the end of May 1987 (ie at the very end of the Financial Year under consideration), and invoices relating to it were paid in Financial Year 1987–88 – expenditure which will be reported to you next November. In the 1985–86 accounts, put before you last year, the sum of £33632 was set aside for the production of Volume 115 of which sum the Editor, to his credit, managed to underspend £2561. The final cost of Volume 115 (at 498 pages) was therefore £31071 all in. Against this figure we have to set an estimated figure for grants received by the Society relating to this volume of approximately £8535 yielding a net cost to the Society for Volume 115 now in your hands of £22536 approximately.

This figure we may compare with the net cost of Volume 114 (626 pages) at £19324, Volume 115 thus showing an increase in net cost to the Society of £3212 over Volume 114 for 20% fewer pages. This increase in net cost is largely accounted for by directly posting all copies of the volume, and the abandonment, due to increasing difficulties, of the hand distribution procedure that had been kept going with increasing demands on staff time until the appearance of this volume. The volume 20% smaller has appeared roughly at the same price representing an increase in *printing* costs of roughly 15% Volume 114–Volume 115.

Looking forward now to the imminent appearance of Volume 116 (603 pages) – the estimated gross cost for this volume Fellows will see from the accounts to be £38600 while the estimated grant income will amount to approximately £9600 thus yielding a *net* cost to the Society of approximately £29000 to be compared with £22500 for Volume 115, an increase of 23% in cost for a volume 20% larger. Fellows will observe that the Publication Fund at present shows a £4648 deficit, Volume 115 having been paid for. Therefore during Financial Year 1987–88 the Publication Fund will disburse £29000 for Volume 116 from the standing grant of £25000 leaving the £4648 deficit noted in your accounts.

Volume 117 (the volume for 1987, ie the oncoming Financial Year) has been estimated by our Editor to be 33% smaller than Volume 116 and your Treasurer has therefore estimated a figure of £32000 to cover its gross cost. Against this figure can be set incoming grants of hopefully approximately a third of this figure (c £11000) yielding a net cost to the Society for this volume at c £20000. This figure together with the £4648 deficit shown in your accounts has led your Treasurer to allot £24000 to the Publication Fund in his estimates for 1987–88.

In summary then Volume 114's (626 pages) net cost to the Society was £19324. Volume 115 (498 pages) was £22536 net and Volume 116 (603 pages) will cost approximately £29000 net. Volume 117 (c 400 pages – the volume for the oncoming Financial Year) will see a reversal of a trend that the Society certainly could not sustain to a net cost of £20000 as the volume size decreases with 'bulge' of publication (perhaps) being past.

The Treasurer's Report was adopted on the motion of Mr G Barclay, seconded by Mr A D Cameron.

The Ballot

The ballot for four new Councillors resulted in the election of the following Fellows: Mr G Barclay, Miss Jill Harden, Mr I Keillar and Dr Rosalind K Marshall.

Council for 1987–88 comprises:

<i>President</i>	D J Breeze, BA, PhD, FSA
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	A Fenton, CBE, BA, MA, DLitt, FRSE, FSA
	T F Watkins, BA, PhD, FSA
	D V Clarke, BA, PhD, FSA

Councillors

Miss J M Bennett, BL
 W S Hanson, BA, PhD, FSA
 Miss Judith A Stones, MA
 C J Burnett, CStJ, DA, AMA
 P Dixon, BA, PhD, MIFA
 Professor E C Fernie, BA, FSA
 A D Foxon, MA
 R B Gourlay, MA, MIFA
 Gordon J Barclay, MA, FSA, MIFA
 Miss Jill Harden, BSc, MIFA
 Ian Keillar, AH-WC, CEng, MIEE
 Miss Rosalind K Marshall, MA, DipEd, PhD, FRSL

*Secretary**Treasurer**Ex-Officio*

Mrs Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA
 J B Stevenson, BA, FSA, MIFA
 Ian A G Shepherd, MA, FSA, MIFA (Editor)
 L J Masters, BA, FSA (Convener of the Research Committee)
 M T Williams, BE (Convener of the Finance and Administration Committee)

Assessors

R G W Anderson, BSc, MA, DPhil, FRSC (Director of the National Museums of Scotland)
 Miss D Idiens, BA (Keeper of History and Applied Art, National Museums of Scotland)
 R D Cramond, MA, MBIM (Representative of the Trustees of the National Museums of Scotland)
 J Hogarth, MA (Representative of the Friends of the National Museums of Scotland)
 Professor G Jobey, DSO, MA, FSA (Representative on the Ancient Monuments Board)

The Roll

The record of the deaths of the following Fellows, intimated during the year 1986–87, was not read at the meetings:

	<i>Elected</i>
Thomas J Affleck, Old Bank House, Chapel Street, Moniaive, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire	1981
Kenneth William Allen, 6 Moor Hall Park, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands	1976
Allan Cunningham, Larchcroft, Ecclefechan, by Lockerbie	1950
Mrs C L Curle, FSA, Friars Neuk, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire	1934
Rev James Currie, MA, BD, JP, 73 Main Street, Dunlop, Ayrshire	1973
Rev Archibald Duncan Eunson, MA, 38 Drylaw Crescent, Blackhall, Edinburgh	1964
Rev Henry R M Fraser, Kirklands, 84 Bridge Street, Dollar, Clackmannanshire	1949
Alexander Ernest Glen, BSc, CEng, MInstCE, MIMechE, 3 Belmont Crescent, Glasgow	1966
Cuthbert Graham, LLD, 7 Morningside Avenue, Aberdeen	1976
George Hay, RIBA, FSA, DLitt, 29 Moray Place, Edinburgh	1953
G W I Hodgson, MSc, MEd, 4 Liff Park, Liff, Dundee	1980
Miss Doreen M Hunter, 74 Trinity Road, Edinburgh	1948
Captain T Allan Jardine, TA Retd, Cardy House, Lower Largo, Fife	1978
Alastair McGregor Kaye, ERD, MA, JP, FRGS, 5 Wester Coates Terrace, Edinburgh	1977
T E Kempshall, 36 Glendower Avenue, Coventry	1959
Mrs Mary Laing, MA, Loak, Bankfoot, Perth	1984
Mrs Dorothy Lye, The Old Manse, Bridge of Earn, Perth	1976
Professor Dr Sverre Marstrander, Honorary Fellow, Universitetet i Oslo, Oldsaksamlingen	1977
Vikingskipmuseet, Frederike Gate 2, Oslo, Norway	
Charles S Mason, 42 Tynecastle Crescent, Glasgow	1975
Mrs Cecile Macdonald of Castleton, 1 Calligary, Ardvasar, Sleat, Isle of Skye	1957

Hector Robert Ferguson Macdonald, OBE, OStJ, MD, FRCP, MRCP, 104 Castlehill Road, 1984 Ayr	
Miss Morag Maclagan, Newhall, Penicuik, Midlothian	1923
Hugh Macpherson, 2/1 Succoth Court, Ravelston, Edinburgh	1952
George A Grant Peterkin, MBE, MB, FRCPEd, 26 Learmonth Terrace, Edinburgh	1961
William Duncan Robertson, MA, 19 Loaning Crescent, Peebles	1982
Robert Archibald Shannon, 5 Parkhead Loaning, Dumfries	1965
James Rodger Hunter Smith, DA, FIBD, Blairroad Schoolhouse, Comrie, Crieff, Perthshire	1974
Robert Scott Walker, MA, FLA, 20 Chestnut Crescent, Hamilton	1985
Rev John McCallum Young, MA, BD, Mount Pleasant Manse, Finnart Street, Greenock	1948
Lady Rachel J P Younger, Wolfeton Manor, Charminster, Dorchester, Dorset	1929

The retirement of the Treasurer

After thanking all the office-bearers for their work during the past year, the President paid special tribute to the retiring Treasurer, Mr R J Mercer, for his wise handling of the Society's financial affairs over the last years. Mr Mercer was presented with a gift as a token of Council's gratitude for his work on behalf of the Society. Mr Mercer expressed his thanks and introduced the new Treasurer, Mr J B Stevenson, who has already served the Society as a Councillor. The necessary financial arrangements attendant upon the election of new office-bearers have been organized by Council.

The inauguration of the new President

Professor Leslie Alcock, as retiring President, introduced the newly elected President, Dr David J Breeze. Dr Breeze is not only an active scholar, particularly in the field of Roman studies, but has also been an outstandingly active Fellow of the Society, having served in various ways since 1971 as a Councillor, as a Convener of the Publication Committee and, most recently, as a Vice-President. In reply, Dr Breeze thanked the Society for the honour of being elected President and, on behalf of the Society, expressed appreciation of Professor Alcock's work over the last three years. He drew attention to the care and devotion with which Professor Alcock had carried out his duties, referring in particular to his wise guidance over the transformation of the old National Museum of Antiquities into part of the National Museums of Scotland, over setting up the Heritage Working Group and over creating bursaries to help young Fellows present their work at international conferences.

Communication

Mr Peter Hill, BA, MIFA, addressed the meeting on 'The Norse at Whithorn, Scotland's first town'.

A reception was held after the meeting, and the President thanked the Keeper of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery for allowing the Society the use of a room for the reception.