

## ANNIVERSARY MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING held in the library on *Wednesday 30 November 1988*, at 4.00 pm, DR DAVID J BREEZE, MA, PhD, FSA, President, in the Chair.

Mr Patrick J Ashmore and Dr Dorothy Lunt were appointed scrutineers for the ballot for office-bearers.

## ANNUAL REPORT

The Secretary read the following *Annual Report*:

### Membership

During the past session 149 new Fellows and one Honorary Fellow, Miss Campbell of Kilberry, were elected, and 78 names have been removed from the Roll through death, resignation or lapse of subscription. This net increase of Fellows brings the Society's Roll to 2572, including 21 Honorary Fellows.

### Meetings

General meetings were held every month from October to April, and lecture topics ranged from a Neolithic settlement in Orkney to the great medieval burgh kirks, attracting audiences up to 110 in number. The Society was honoured to welcome the Director General of Historic Monuments in Norway, Dr Stephan Tschudi-Madsen, as the Lindsay-Fischer Lecturer for 1988, speaking on 'Survival and revival of Norwegian medieval art' both in Edinburgh and in Aberdeen. The Rhind Lectures for this session were delivered in the Royal Museum of Scotland in Chambers Street by Dr A Rosalie David of the Manchester Museum on the theme 'The archaeology of death in ancient Egypt'; the Lectures were well attended by an audience averaging 90 Fellows and guests, and a reception was held in the Egyptian Gallery by kind courtesy of the Museum. The Chambers Street Lecture Theatre was also the venue for the annual conference on 7 May. This was kindly organized by Mrs Diana Murray under the title 'Experiment and archaeology: ancient fields, farms and crops', and the two sessions were chaired by Professor Dennis Harding and Mr Roger Mercer respectively. The lecturers were Dr Martin Parry on 'The analysis of climates and climatic change', Mr David Jordan on 'The analysis of soils and formation processes – the pedological evidence', Mr Stratford Halliday on 'Ancient fields and farming – the archaeological evidence', Dr Martin Jones on 'The analysis of plant remains – the botanical evidence', Professor Dennis Harding on 'Experimental work at Callanish, Lewis – the experimental evidence', and Dr Peter Reynolds on 'The use of experimental work to explore ancient fields, farms and crops – the experimental evidence'. Although the attendance was disappointing, this proved a most interesting and worthwhile conference.

Through the kindness of Mr William Boag of the Scottish United Services Museum and our Fellow, Dr Richard Fawcett, the Society was able to organize two excursions again this session. Mr Boag, generously assisted by Mr Charles Burnett, led a party round Ruthven Barracks at Kingussie and the site of the Battle of Culloden near Inverness on 28 May, in an evocative commemoration of the death of Bonnie Prince Charlie. Another very successful excursion was led by Dr Fawcett on 29 October to explore the abbey church of Holyrood and the Canongate Kirk in Edinburgh, both of which have significant anniversaries this year, the abbey church having been destroyed and the Canongate Kirk founded in 1688.

From October, the venue for monthly meetings was changed from the Library in the Findlay Building in Queen Street to the Lecture Theatre in the Royal Museum of Scotland in Chambers Street. This decision was made by Council after lengthy consideration of the various factors involved; major benefits to the Society will be the improvement in lecture facilities at Chambers Street and the proposed expansion and re-organization of the library at Queen Street. In order to increase public awareness of Scotland's archaeology and history and of the Society's work, one lecture each session will be designed to appeal to a wider audience than the Fellowship alone: the first of these Public Lectures was given by Mr C

Tabraham on 14 November, entitled 'Fort William to Fort George – the Hanoverian response to Jacobite disaffection', and it attracted an audience of 133.

#### North-East Section

The Section enjoyed the same programme of lectures as were given in Edinburgh, with one exception: on 29 March Mr G Leiper spoke on Pompeii. The combined Annual General Meeting and Fellows' Evening was held on 3 May in Provost Skene's House, and the President, Dr David J Breeze, spoke on 'Mary Queen of Scots slept here'. The Committee elected for 1988–89 comprises Miss Judith Stones, Chairman; Mr George Leiper, Vice-Chairman; Mr John Cruse, Treasurer; Mr Alex Hidalgo, Secretary; Mrs Kathleen Stewart, Mr John Souter, Mr Graham Steele, Mr Robert Watt, Mr Iain Beavan and Mr Charles Hunt.

Four excursions were organized to visit Aberdeen harbour, Spynie Palace, Tonley House and Old Tonley and Castle of Wardhouse.

#### Public Archaeology

Council's policy of greater involvement in the public issues facing Scottish archaeology continued this year both as a result of Council's own debates and in response to the work of the Heritage Working Group. A document outlining our policy on forestry and archaeology was circulated to Fellows in February, and our assessment and recommendations were sent to the Secretary of State for Scotland. In particular, we urged the Secretary of State to consider implementing a system of licensing for new forestry applications that would provide greater control over the conditions under which grants are awarded and greater protection for ancient monuments. The reply from the Forestry Commission on behalf of the Secretary of State was not initially satisfactory and the matter was pursued in subsequent letters. A number of Fellows responded to our appeal for individual letters of protest to the Secretary of State, and we are very grateful for their help. It seems unlikely that a system of licensing will be adopted, but we note with approval that the Forestry Commission has at last appointed an internal archaeological advisor and that the Forestry Commission's revised procedures for consultation over forestry planting applications offer better hope for archaeological interests.

The Heritage Working Group has responded to specific conservation issues as well as formulated policies on matters ranging from education and the funding of rescue archaeology to landscape changes, regional archaeological needs and the preservation of carved stone monuments.

The Society is currently discussing with the Council for Scottish Archaeology ways in which the two bodies might in future combine their efforts to increase public and government awareness of the need to conserve and record the archaeological elements of the Scottish landscape along with other threatened aspects such as wildlife.

#### Research

During the past year, the Society has supported a number of projects by awarding grants from the Research Fund: Ulva Cave, Mull (J C Bonsall); Ellary Cave, Argyll (C Smith); Whithorn, Wigtown (P Hill); Wardhouse, Grampian (P A Yeoman); medieval rural settlement in north-east Scotland (P A Yeoman); Scottish graveyards (Mrs B Willsher).

Under the Society's scheme of bursaries to allow young Fellows to present the results of their research at conferences of international standing, Dr E M Furgol of Washington DC was awarded a bursary to enable him to give a paper on 'The military efforts of the Covenanters, 1639–1651' at the National Covenant Conference in Edinburgh in 1988.

There were no entries for the Society's biennial Chalmers-Jervise Prize, but the Gunning Jubilee Prize was awarded to the President, Dr David J Breeze, to enable him to visit sites and museums in Turkey.

#### Publication

Volume 116 of the *Proceedings* was published in December 1987, and it is hoped that Volume 117, for 1987, will be published before the end of this year. As usual, the Editor (Mr Ian A G Shepherd) and the Assistant Editors (Mrs Fionna Ashmore and Mr George Dalglish) have achieved not only a high standard of publication but a balance of individual topics to satisfy the wide-ranging interests of our Fellows.

Another volume in the Society's *Monograph Series* was published this year, the first of two concerned with recent excavations in Perth. Edited by Mr Philip Holdsworth, *Monograph* number 5, *Excavations in the medieval burgh of Perth 1979–81*, contains contributions by a number of scholars on the structures, artefacts and environmental evidence uncovered in Perth.

The task of preparing the volume for publication was undertaken by Monograph Editors Dr Hilary Murray and Mrs Alexandra Shepherd, and the result of their labours is a worthy addition to the series.

#### Administration

The process of transferring the Fellowship's records to the computer has occupied the whole of the last year, but the results are most satisfactory and the benefits should be felt increasingly from now on. The Society is very grateful to Mr Stuart Campbell for his essential help and guidance during computerization.

As ever, the Society is indebted to those Fellows who give their time so generously to help in the smooth running of our affairs. Over the past year, Mr G H G Tilling has continued his task of checking the postcodes of new Fellows, and the following Fellows have kindly spent whole mornings filling envelopes for general mailings: Miss M E Doull, Mr R Callander, Lady Elliot, Mr H G Ford, Miss M F Froude, Mrs S Grossmith, Mr K Hay, Miss M R Hilton, Mr and Mrs I MacDonald, Mr and Mrs R W Munro, Mr J P Shepherd and Miss J Sym. Miss R Cerron-Carasco was kind enough to word-process a list of the Society's offprints holding, in order that our remaining stock may be sold. We are very grateful to all these helpers.

The enhanced duties of the Secretary have over the past two years proved considerably more time-consuming than was anticipated, particularly as a result of the Society's involvement in the wider spheres of public archaeology. The Secretary has found herself spending more than twice as much time on the Society's affairs than was estimated, to the detriment of her other commitments, and she has therefore decided, reluctantly, to resign in favour of someone able to meet the work-load in terms of time that the professional post of Secretary now demands.

#### Treasurer's Report

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

The last financial year has been one of mixed fortunes for our Society, as can be seen from the Annual Accounts, and, as a new boy, I am all too conscious that the substantial surplus of £3457, bequeathed by my illustrious predecessor Roger Mercer, has been reduced to £535. But before proceeding to look a little more closely at the figures, I would like to record my thanks for all the hard work and skill of Rosemary Meldrum, our Assistant Treasurer, whose job has been made all the more difficult this year as she has had to cope with the arrival of a new Treasurer who has needed to be initiated into the increasingly complex role of the Tresorial Department.

The decrease in the Society's surplus is, of course, a cause for concern, and in previous years and other circumstances this might have led to a call for an increase in the annual subscription. Closer inspection of the accounts and an analysis of the trends, however, reveal that the situation may not be as serious as might first appear. Unlike other societies, our Fellowship is still increasing, and this provides us with a valuable bulwark against rising costs. On the other hand the ever-expanding roll of Fellows is accompanied by increased administration costs. These are in part reflected in the size of the salary bill, and they may be added to once the proposed staff pension plans are implemented. On a more positive note, two sizeable non-recurring items of expenditure (computerization and the new projector), coupled with decrease in the number of pages in the *Proceedings* should help to keep spending down in the next financial year.

I have already indicated that the Society's affairs have grown more complex in recent years, partly as a result of the steady rise in the Fellowship roll and partly because of the widening role of the Society. In order to keep firm control on expenditure and to ensure that we are able to run with a comparatively small surplus, a number of changes have been introduced in our financial procedures. In the accounts, for example, the principal items have been grouped into major headings, which should aid financial monitoring. Elsewhere, new budgeting systems will allow the Finance and Administration Committee greater control over expenditure.

Publication, which remains one of the Society's major functions, continues to pose financial problems. Last year my predecessor was at pains to draw attention to the difficulties of accounting for the *Proceedings* if they are not published in the appropriate year, and those difficulties have yet to be resolved. Sales of the *Monograph Series*, which is produced with SDD, are disappointing, and financing the series in future may pose a problem.

In conclusion, it is clear that the Society is experiencing a period of changing conditions which continue to affect our financial affairs, and it is difficult to forecast when this period will come to a close. In the interim, the reduction in the surplus should be contained by close budgetary control, thus allowing us to live within our income for at least a further year.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's *Annual Reports* were adopted on the motion of Dr David V Clarke, seconded by Mrs Edwina V W Proudfoot.

## THE BALLOT

Council for 1988–89 comprises:

<i>President</i>	D J Breeze, BA, PhD, FSA
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	Trevor F Watkins, BA, PhD, FSA David V Clarke, BA, PhD, FSA Roger J Mercer, MA, FSA, MIFA
<i>Councillors</i>	Piers Dixon, BA, PhD, MIFA Professor Eric C Fernie, BA, FSA Andrew D Foxon, MA Robert 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 Mrs Barbara E Crawford, MA, PhD David F Devereux, MA, MIFA Philip E Holdsworth, FSA, MIFA Robin Noble, MA
<i>Secretary</i>	Miss Caroline R Wickham-Jones, MA, MIFA
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jack B Stevenson, BA, FSA, MIFA
<i>Ex-Officio</i>	Ian A G Shepherd, MA, FSA, MIFA (Editor) Lionel J Masters, BA, FSA (Convener of the Research Committee) Martin T Williams, BE (Convener of the Finance and Administration Committee) William S Hanson, BA, PhD, FSA (Convener of the Publications Committee) Ronald D Cramond, MA, MBIM (Representative of the Trustees of the National Museums of Scotland)
<i>Accessories</i>	Robert G W Anderson, BSc, MA, DPhil, FRSC (Director of the National Museums of Scotland) Miss Dale Idiens, BA (Keeper of History and Applied Arts, National Museums of Scotland) James Hogarth, MA (Representative of the Friends of the National Museums of Scotland) Professor G Jobey, DSO, MA, FSA (Representative on the Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland).

## THE ROLL

The record of the deaths of the following Fellows, intimated during the year 1987–88, was not read at the meeting:

	<i>Elected</i>
Knut Apold, R1st00, 16 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh	1974
Roger Barclay, MD, MFCM, DPH, DTM&H, Odd Nod Cottage, Coombes Keynes, Wareham, Dorset	1973
C E Blunt, OBE, FSA, Ramsbury Hill, Ramsbury, Marlborough, Wilts	1957
Matthew Brown, MA, BA, FEIS, Kilcandra, 13 Cardowan Drive, Stepps, Glasgow	1961
James Chisholm, MA, 13 Lewis Terrace, Edinburgh	1946
David Dyer, FRSA, FIAM, 4 Seafield Court, Aberdeen	1977
Patrick Thomas Grant, BSc, PhD, FIBiol, FRSE, 4 Louisville Avenue, Aberdeen	1976
Professor William Kirk, BA, Department of Geography, Queens University, Belfast	1957
Werner Kissling, MA, PhD, Burgh Museum, Dumfries	1953
John Roy Linklater, MA, EdB, ABPsS, 44 Garscube Terrace, Edinburgh	1950
John Cook Loudon, 11 Hunter Avenue, Loanhead, Midlothian	1985

Walter D Mason, 6 Croft Terrace, Selkirk	1976
Reverend William James Mitchell, APhS, 43 Durness Avenue, Bearsden, Glasgow	1977
Mrs Louise Elizabeth Morris, Hacienda Tejas, 2515 Sweet Brier Drive, Dallas, Texas 75228, USA	1973
James McEwen, DA, 16 Lambert Drive, Dumfermline, Fife	1973
Archibald J Maclean, 75 Falcon Court, Edinburgh	1948
Eric W H Nairn, SSC, St Annes's, 23 Eildon Street, Edinburgh	1946
Leslie Gilbert Pine, BA, Hall Lodge Cottage, Brettenham, Ipswich, Suffolk	1939
A A Raymond, MCIOB, 10 Ochiltree, Dunblane, Perthshire	1985
Arthur Ross Richardson, WS, 7 Tantallon Terrace, North Berwick, East Lothian	1964
Major J L B Samson, Down House, Redlynch, Salisbury, Wilts	1980
Dr James MacKay Shewan, BSc, PhD, DSc. FRIC, FRSE, 79 Duthie Terrace, Aberdeen	1980
John Graham Taylor, MA, c/o Hannah, 32 Kings Park Avenue, Glasgow	1981
George Frederick Todd, OBE, 40 Higher Drive, Banstead, Surrey	1985
Mearns Bruce Watson, BSc, PhD, FRIC, 8 Saasaig, Teangue, Isle of Skye	1972
William Kelly Waugh, 70 Rannoch Drive, Bearsden, Glasgow	1982

#### THE RETIRAL OF THE SECRETARY

After thanking all the office-bearers for their work during the past year, the President expressed the Society's thanks to the retiring Secretary, Dr Anna Ritchie. He introduced the new Secretary, Miss Caroline Wickham-Jones, 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.

#### PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Dr David J Breeze addressed the meeting on 'Scotland's first flag – the flag of Legion II Augusta on the Bridgeness distance slab'.

A reception with music was held after the meeting, and the President thanked the Keeper of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery for allowing the Society to use the Red Room for this occasion.