

#### ANNIVERSARY MEETING

*Minutes of the Anniversary Meeting* of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland held on 30 November 2001 in the Lecture Theatre, Royal Museum of Scotland. Dr J N Graham Ritchie, President, in the Chair. The President welcomed Fellows to the meeting. The Minutes of the meeting of 12 November 2001 were read and approved. Dr Brendan O'Connor and Ms Andrea Smith having been appointed as scrutineers, the Ballots were closed.

The Director, Mrs Fionna Ashmore read the following

#### DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2000–1

##### MEMBERSHIP

The Fellowship of the Society now stands at 3466. In the past year 180 Fellows have taken up election, or been reinstated; 129 names have been removed from the Roll due to death and through lapse of subscription or resignation. There are at present 25 Honorary Fellows.

##### MEETINGS

The public presentation of scholarly work is, as Fellows will be aware, now an established part of the Society's work — to Fellows through our usual Lecture meetings, increasingly to expert practitioners through specialist seminars, and to the wider community through our varied open events.

The Society has held a full programme of activities through the year. Nine lecture meetings were held between December 2000 and November 2001. As well these 'ordinary' lecture meetings for Fellows only, the session included in February a joint lecture with the Friends of the National Museums of Scotland, entitled *Treasure Trove in Scotland*, was delivered by Alan Saville. In April 2001, marking the Science Festival, under the overarching theme of *Photography in 19th-Century Scotland*, Drs Alison Morrison-Low and Sara Stevenson spoke on *The genesis of photography in Scotland* and *From a standing start: the photographs of*

*David Octavius Hill and Robert Adamson* respectively. In June, the annual public lecture was *A Diet of Limpets? New work by the Scotland's First Settlers Project on the early settlement of the Inner Sound, West Scotland*, which was delivered by Caroline Wickham-Jones.

#### LINDSAY FISCHER LECTURES

Lindsay Fischer Lectures were delivered in Edinburgh and Aberdeen by Alf Tore Hommendal of the Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research who spoke on *Religious Houses in Medieval Norway: Influences from the West*.

#### BUCHAN LECTURES

The following Buchan Lectures were delivered

In September 2001 in Orkney, as part of the Conference *Sea Change: Orkney and Northern Europe in the Later Iron Age and after: Paganism among the Picts and the Conversion of Orkney* by Dr Anna Ritchie; and *From Pictish Christian to Christian Norse* by Dr Raymond Lamb.

In October 2001 in Unst, Shetland the following Buchan was delivered: *Norse Christianity in Shetland and the North Atlantic Region* by Professor Christopher Morris.

#### SEMINARS

The Society organized a very well attended open seminar in the session, under the aegis of the Heritage Committee, on *Building on the Past: The archaeology of towns and cities*. We thank Miss Lisbeth Thoms, Vice-President, for her leading role in this.

#### CONFERENCES

A Conference, paying tribute to the late Clive Wainwright, *Sir Walter Scott and Abbotsford: the Image and the Influence*, and an associated visit to Abbotsford (as detailed in last year's Annual Report) fell during this session. The proceedings of this will be published in 2002 under the editorship of Dr Iain Gordon Brown.

Other conferences were *Archaeological Research in Progress, 2001* the annual joint event with CSA, which was organized this year by us, in Edinburgh in May. Projects grant-aided by the Society were highlighted and a large and appreciative audience received accounts of current research and other work in progress throughout Scotland, with research into the Iron Age being the main theme.

#### RHIND LECTURES

The Rhind Lectures for 2001 were delivered by Professor Colin Renfrew under the title of *ART AS ARCHAEOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY AS ART: Transformations through Material Culture*. These ground-breaking Rhinds were attended by nearly 1000 people over the weekend 11–13 May; Dr David Clarke's *Summing-up* was printed in the September Newsletter. These Lectures are being published by Thames and Hudson and of course there will be a very special rate for Fellows. We were also justifiably proud of the cutting-edge design of the publicity material for these Rhinds.

#### EXCURSION

Regrettably, but understandably, as a result of the foot-and-mouth disease restrictions the Excursion to the Antonine Wall scheduled for the first weekend in June was cancelled. We are grateful to the two disappointed leaders Professors Breeze and Keppie.

## EDUCATION

The Society remains fully committed to recognizing the importance of the role of education and to that end we continue to grant-aid, now at an increased level, the work of the CSA's Young Archaeologists' clubs. Our Heritage Assistant has set up, with our full support, a new branch at Heriot in the Scottish Borders which is highly active and has a healthy waiting list.

## THE NORTH-EAST SECTION ANNUAL REPORT (OCTOBER 2000–SEPTEMBER 2001)

Lectures continued to be held in Marischal Museum, University of Aberdeen following the same programme as in Edinburgh, including the Lindsay-Fischer lecture by Alf Tore Hommendal. Unfortunately, the April meeting had to be cancelled due to illness.

Following the pattern of recent years, there were two excursions during the summer. In August 2001 there was a coach trip to the *Pictavia* centre near Brechin, followed by a tour of Pictish stones in Angus led by Norman Atkinson. In September there was a behind-the-scenes visit to Marischal Museum taking in the main store and the conservation laboratory.

Membership of the Section stands at 311. The committee elected in May 2001 was: Aidan Mulkerrin (Chairman), Peter Murray (Vice-Chairman), Neil Curtis (Secretary), Paul Pillath (Treasurer), Frank Donnelly, Kevin Edwards, Robert Gray, Bill Nicolaisen, Ian Shepherd, Graham Steele and Judith Stones.

## SOCIETY RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED FOR 2001

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 the CSA's annual *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. 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 2001 were approved from the General Research Fund which includes investment income from the Dorothy Marshall Bequest:

Dr I Armit for *The Traprain Law Summit Project*; Mr N Basden for *A Study of the Phrenological Society*; Mr N W Hall, for *North Berwick Castle: Preliminary Archaeological Survey*; Mr J G Harrison, for *Heavy Metal Mines in the Ochils: History, Sites and Context*; Professor C C Haselgrove, for *The Traprain Law Environs Project*; Mr A R Heald, for *The Caithness Broch Survey*; Mr F Hunter, for *The Birnie Project Phase I*; Mr R D Knox, for *The Eddleston Parish Survey*; Dr C E Lowe, for *A Survey of Whithorn Pend*; Dr C E Lowe, for *Excavation at St Nicholas' Chapel, Papa Stronsay, Orkney*; Dr J A Sheridan, *Dating Cremated Human Bone from Prehistoric Scotland*; Dr B T Teissier, for *Orientalism in 18th Century Edinburgh* (she also received the 2001 Gunning Jubilee gift); Mr J L Tindal, for the *Carved Stone Balls: the Known Facts*; Dr J Turnbull, *The Scottish Glass Industry 1750–1850*; Mr C R Wallace, *Late Roman Pottery in Scottish Contexts*; Dr J R Watts, *The life and Times of Bishop Hugh MacDonald (1699–1773)*; Miss C R Wickham-Jones, *Scotland's First Settlers Project*.

## YOUNG FELLOW'S BURSARY

This was awarded to Dr Mary MacLeod to allow her to attend and deliver a paper at the 14th Viking Congress, Torshavn, Faroe Islands, 19–30 July 2001.

The Society is keen to increase its grant-aid to research projects; an updated 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

This has been a very significant year for our publications; three monographs having been published in the summer (including the first of the new joint series with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland), a first for the Society with the publication on the net of the first of the new Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports (SAIR), and the completion of the General Index for volumes 106–126 of the *Proceedings*

### *Proceedings*

For the sixth year in succession the Society will be publishing, again with significant grant-aid from Historic Scotland, the last of the current double volumes of the *Proceedings*, Volume 130. This will be the fifth volume to be produced under the Editorship of Mr Jerry O’Sullivan who retires formally tonight. We very much regret the delay in this publication which will not now appear until the New Year and we thank Dr Anna Ritchie for assisting us with the production of this volume. As Fellows will know from the September Newsletter the Society, under its new *Proceedings* Editor, Dr Gordon Barclay, has made radical changes with the intention of shortening the production cycle of the publication; Volume 131 will be appearing only a matter of months after 130, and volumes after that in the late spring or early summer each year.

### *General Index*

The compilation of the General Index covering Volumes 106–126 of the *Proceedings* and including a separate index of Fellows’ entries during that period is now complete and is currently being printed. An order form will be included with the next mailing.

### *Monograph Series*

Monograph 18, by Dr Jill Turnbull, *The Scottish Glassmaking Industry 1610–1750* provides a detailed examination of one of Scotland’s earliest industries, which surprisingly has little written about it. Monograph 20 *The Caves of Mid Argyll* by Dr Christopher Tolan-Smith was also published in the summer.

The Series Editor, Mrs Alexandra Shepherd, and the Volume Editor, Dr Anna Ritchie must be thanked for their dedicated work.

I take the usual opportunity to 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 also like to take this opportunity to draw attention again to the considerable grant-aid the Society receives towards publications from Historic Scotland.

We were delighted also in the late summer to have published the first of our joint Monographs with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, the scholarly volume *Early Medieval Sculpture in the Western Highlands and Islands* by Ian Fisher.

As Fellows are aware the Society will be undertaking publication, in due course, of a new Monograph series jointly with the National Museums of Scotland; Council were appreciative, not only of the recognition of the close links between the two organisations, but also of the desirability and benefits of the Society being associated with a scholarly publication series such as this.

### *Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports (SAIR)*

The Society provided the Managing Editor for the pilot publication in this new series, which has been funded and initiated by Historic Scotland, <http://www.sair.org.uk> In the first instance SAIR will be a vehicle

for publishing final reports on archaeological excavation and fieldwork funded by Historic Scotland, with the objective of making the results available more widely, more rapidly, and less expensively than has often been the case with conventional printing.

The first report in the series is *Dundrennan Abbey: Archaeological Investigation within the South Range of a Cistercian House in Kirkcudbrightshire* by our Fellow Gordon Ewart. Several more reports are anticipated before the beginning of 2002 and will continue throughout the year, followed by a major review of the venture. Historic Scotland will underwrite all relevant costs for the start-up period (1 April 2001–31 March 2004).

As indicated in the Newsletter, Fellows are encouraged to view the *Dundrennan Abbey* report on screen as well as the outline, 'About the SAIR Pilot'. Responses on any aspect will be warmly welcomed. As indicated in SAIR 1 these can be submitted direct by email to [feedback@sair.org.uk](mailto:feedback@sair.org.uk)

### *Newsletter*

Two issues were produced and circulated in February and September 2001, both 12 pages in length. We always welcome input from Fellows to this and, as ever are delighted to print notices of events and publications that might be of interest to Fellows.

### OTHER WORK OF THE SOCIETY

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 organisations; we continue to be formally represented on a large number of bodies: The Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland (although this has now fallen victim to the Scottish Executive's 'Bonfire of the Quangos' [QUAasi Non-Governmental Organizations, also known as NDPBs — Non-Departmental Public Bodies]); and the User Panel of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland; the Traprain Law Management Group; the British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography; the Scottish Field School; Scottish Environment 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 Portable Antiquities Working Group.

Thanks must be recorded to our representatives on these various bodies; especially our representative on the National Trust for Scotland, Dr Jane Murray; our representative on the Ancient Monuments Board, Jill Harden; and to Robin Turner, our representative on the Scottish Environment Link, who have a particularly heavy load.

### COMMITTEES

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 continues to do considerable work through its Committees. The *Research Committee* continues, under its Convener Ian Shepherd, to consider applications for Research grants as well as having responsibility for the Society's part in the *Archaeological Research in Progress Conference*. This Committee also has responsibility from time to time for organising a three-day international Conference and we are currently involved in the successor to the Mesolithic conference — *Neolithic and Early Bronze-Age Scotland in its European context*. The *Publications Committee* and Editorial Board, under the Convenership of Alan Saville, consider matters relating to publications (other than the Newsletter) and with both Editors consider all submissions for publication with the Society in the *Proceedings* and monograph series. The *Heritage Committee* convened by the Director advises the Society on, or represents the Society at, a large number of events as well as being involved with the activities of other bodies or link groups, as listed above. Through this Committee the Society responds to relevant Government and other initiatives. The Committee is also active in organizing the specialist seminar series — Fellows will have been aware of the successful seminar held in May, *Building*

*on the Past: Sustaining the Heritage of our Towns and Cities* convened by Lis Thoms, and the Seminar in November *Conservation of Historic Graveyards* held jointly with Historic Scotland. The Committee and in particular Robin Turner and Lorna Main with the assistance of Ruth Lancaster have become increasingly involved in promoting the built and historical heritage at Scottish Executive level through Scottish Environment Link and the Cross Party Group on Architecture and the Built Environment; again through SELink Dr Alison Sheridan has been involved in promoting the interests of archaeology in respect of wetland and coastal issues. We welcome the high level dialogues with Ministers and others and hope to bring Fellows news of these initiatives in the next Newsletter. We are also involved in detailed comments on, and defence of, some of the bodies being scrutinized as part of the examination of quangos by the Scottish Executive, mentioned above. The *Programme Committee*, under the Convenership of the President, is responsible for the annual Programme including proposals for the Rhind Lectures, seminars, conferences and the excursion — suggestions and proposals from Fellows are always welcome as those who have made proposals will be aware. Many major initiatives are some years in the preparation and we have mentioned the Neolithic Conference to be held in 2003; also later that year we will commemorate the centenary of the publication of the *Early Christian Monuments of Scotland* with a major Conference to run in tandem with events being organized by Historic Scotland. Finally, the *Finance and Administration Committee*, under the Convenership of Mr Humphrey Holmes, considers and oversees the financial and budgetary aspects of the Society's work. The Treasurer, Naomi Tarrant, will in her report be drawing your attention to some important matters discussed by this Committee.

I would like to take this opportunity, on the eve of my penultimate session as Director to state formally that the Society owes an enormous debt of gratitude to all those who take on the burden of sitting on Council and the Committees. The dedicated voluntary contribution over the years by so many, one would have thought overburdened, individuals is extremely impressive and is perhaps one of the most outstanding features of this Society. As ever, the Director is particularly grateful to the President, the Treasurer, the Vice-Presidents and Conveners of the Committees as well as of course to the dedicated Society staff: Maureen McLeod; Morvern Hardie; Ruth Lancaster and the Society's Editors: Jerry O'Sullivan; Gordon Barclay; and Alexandra Shepherd; as well as Dr Anna Ritchie, Monographs volume Editor; and Colin Wallace, the SAIR Managing Editor.

#### ADMINISTRATION

Fellows will, I very much hope have noticed that we have now upgraded the standard of presentation of our publicity material; although there is some cost involved, as a responsible charity we monitor this carefully and consider that it is important to present a professional and up-to-date image without laying ourselves open to accusations of style over substance.

There have, as you will be aware, been some changes within the Office: Mrs Fionna Ashmore continues as Director; Mrs Maureen McLeod as Assistant Treasurer; Mrs Morvern Hardie as the Administrative Assistant; Mrs Ruth Lancaster, the Heritage and Publications Assistant; and Dr Rob Sands our computer adviser. A new member of staff is Dr Gordon Barclay who became the *Proceedings* Editor in June. Dr Colin Wallace the new Managing Editor for SAIR also carries out his task from the office. As always we would remind Fellows that as all Staff work part-time, Fellows, who are always welcome to visit us, are urged to ring ahead before visiting.

Mailings, an increasingly large task, are eased by the voluntary help provided by our dedicated group of envelope fillers (excuse my use in this report of their first names): Alec and Dinah Adamson; Maurice Carmichael; Patrick and Mary Cave-Browne; Joan Fleming; Audrey Henshall; Margaret Hilton; Davy Jones; Gordon Maxwell; Rosemary Meldrum; Jean Munro; Jane Murray; Anna Ritchie; Gordon Shiach; Mary Smallwood; and Twin Watkins, in addition to those who come in for particular mailings.

Thanks are due, as ever, to the National Museums of Scotland for their help. As well as the Curatorial and Directorate staff we are grateful to those members of the Museum staff who help with arrangements behind the scenes, especially Carolyn Wildy, Kathleen Coultherd, Wilma Henderson and Ella Blyth and her assistants. The Information Desk staff, the Housemen and Messengers who are unstinting in their help with

the many deliveries to and from the Society and to the Visitor Service and Security staff who are involved in all our meetings. Special thanks are due to all members of the NMS Library staff for their patience and help both to the Society staff and to Fellows. 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.

I would also like to thank the members of staff of the Archaeology Department of the National Museums who, as ever, have all supported and assisted the Society this year.

#### FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR THE SOCIETY

The Society is currently embarking on a detailed examination of its direction and future; Council have been considering many aspects of the Society's work and its place in Scottish archaeology and history in the 21st century. We must not become complacent about our growing Fellowship and publications. Our role as 'the senior antiquarian body in Scotland' (the second senior in Britain) concerned, as we state proudly in our publicity material, 'with every aspect of the human past in Scotland' must not be diminished.

The Treasurer, Miss Naomi Tarrant then read the following Treasurer's Report:

#### TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2000-1

During the last year the Society has taken on more work and has a very full publishing programme. These were described in more detail in the Director's report for 2000-1. This activity has had an impact on our finances, and the main points are detailed below. In addition the current review of the Society's direction and future may well have an impact on our finances in the years ahead.

As a charity we do not wish to be seen to make too large a surplus on our operations. We have been very fortunate in receiving some splendid bequests in the last few years and we are financially in good heart.

Between the financial years ended June 1993 and June 2000 the Society has made a surplus each year, although in the year ended 30 June 2000 the receipt of a legacy of £30,000 masked an otherwise operating deficit of £8,350. It is not the policy of the Society to build up reserves indefinitely, the deficit in the current year was expected, and a deficit in the year ended 30 June 2002 has been predicted. It should be noted that included in the Funds at 30 June 2001 of £849,167, £209,192 represents Endowment Funds, which may be used only for specific purposes; £279,440 represents the unrealized gains on Investments currently held in the portfolio; and free undesignated funds amount to £360,535. The Society considers that these free funds should be maintained at a level to meet approximately one and a half times the total expenditure in a year.

#### INVESTMENTS

The policy as agreed between the Society and its Investment Advisers is to aim for capital growth whilst at the same time providing a reasonable level of income. In the terms of the agreement dated May 1998, the Bank of Scotland has full discretion as to the management of the portfolio. The Society's Investment Advisers provide a half yearly Review together with quarterly Valuations. In addition, the Investment Adviser attends half yearly meetings of the Finance and Administration Committee, to provide a verbal report and valuation on the portfolio, and also to answer questions raised by the Committee members.

The market value of the portfolio shows a decrease at 30 June 2001 of somewhat less than current market indices.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

In the light of declining interest rates on our investments, which appear to be set to continue for some time, it would not be prudent to continue to suffer further substantial deficits. In view of this the Society considers

that subscriptions should be raised from 1 July 2002. The last increase in subscriptions was effective from 1 July 1992, so there has been no rise for 10 years, even though costs have gone up substantially. Continuing previous policy, the Society aims to set new subscription rates that do not need to be put up for several years.

#### PUBLICATIONS

Following a reduction in the net cost of publications last year, a significant increase has been experienced in the year under review. The cost of *Proceedings* Volume 130, the last of the double volume series, is expected to increase due to a reduction in the grants available. Estimates have been made in these accounts for the costs of publication and the grants receivable, but the final figures are not known until at least a month after the publication date, expected early in 2002. Whilst monograph sales have been maintained, the grants available towards publication costs have reduced considerably. The Society wishes to record its thanks to Historic Scotland and others for their generosity in the provision of grants.

#### HERITAGE

As referred to in last year's report, an additional staff member was appointed to assist with the increased burden of heritage matters. Due to the Society's public standing its views and representations have been sought on an increased number of matters. The charge in the accounts includes employment costs incurred.

#### COMPUTERS

The Society is currently upgrading the database and computer systems, whilst also providing a website.

#### GRANTS

Grants for Research are made in the first instance from the income of the Endowment Funds on the recommendation of the Research Committee and with the approval of Council. Any shortfall is met from general funds.

#### RISKS

The major risks to which the Society is exposed have been identified and reviewed by Council, systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

I should like to express my thanks to the Convener of the Finance and Administration Committee, Mr Humphrey Holmes; to the Treasurer of the North-East Section Mr Paul Pillath; to Mr Graham Miller of the Bank of Scotland Investment Services; and to Mrs Maureen McLeod, the Assistant Treasurer.

Copies of the full audited accounts of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland 2000–1 are available to any Fellow or other interested party on application to the Society's office, at a cost of £2 each (in the UK and Europe); £4 elsewhere to cover production and postage.

The Director's and the Treasurer's reports were formally approved by the Fellows.

#### APPROVAL OF RISE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM 2002

The Treasurer informed Fellows that the Society was financially sound but in order to fulfil its remit under its charitable status it needs to be careful that it does not pile up moneys that can be seen as profits from its subscriptions or events. Since 1992 when there was last a rise in subscriptions the first few years saw an underspend in the Society's subscription money. In the last two full years there has been a deficit in the



annual accounts and there is estimated to be a further one in the year ending July 2002. The deficit in 1999–2000 was masked by a bequest of £30,000.

As the Director's report made clear we have had a busy year. There have been several publications in the monograph series and more are scheduled in the next few months. All Society events are costed to be self-supporting so that we have the maximum amount to devote to the purposes of the Society. The work of the Society has grown with the increase in membership and with increased demand for the Society's views on various topics as outlined in the Director's report. This has led to an increase in the workload of the Society's staff, who all work part-time, and our volunteers.

The Society cannot continue to make large deficits. Our income from investments has fallen in the last year and looks set to continue to fall in the foreseeable future, so we shall need to increase the subscription from next July. There has not been an increase since 1992. Comparable societies now have subscriptions in the region that Council is proposing: Ordinary Fellow £40; Retired Fellow £30; Family Fellow £20. We hope, but cannot of course guarantee, that we shall not have to ask for an increase in the near future.

The Treasurer was strongly supported from the floor by Mr Alan Saville and Mr Roger Mercer, both former Treasurers. The Fellows approved the proposed rise in subscriptions.

## FAREWELL TO FORMER EDITOR, INTRODUCTION OF NEW EDITOR AND EDITOR'S REPORT

The President thanked the former Editor, Jerry O'Sullivan, who was unable to be present. His personal contribution to the publication of the Society's *Proceedings* had been prodigious. The proposal from Historic Scotland that the Society might be involved in helping to publish material generated by the Backlog Project, outlined in our *Proceedings* volume 125 for 1995, generated the first double volume in 1995 with Humphrey Welfare as editor. Jerry O'Sullivan took up the editorial mantle for Volume 126 and has held this until Volume 130, currently in the final stages of publication. A great range of material has been sensitively prepared for publication. The Society is much indebted to his skill and dedication in preparing the volumes for the press. With Jerry's relocation to Galway we regret that delays have occurred with Volume 130, as outlined in the letter to all Fellows by the Publications Convenor, Alan Saville. With the help of our former Editor, and indeed President, Dr Anna Ritchie, the editorial momentum has been maintained. The President asked that the Society's gratitude to Jerry O'Sullivan be recorded in the published account of this meeting.

The President welcomed the new Editor, Dr Gordon Barclay, a Principal Inspector with Historic Scotland. He said that Dr Barclay had a long pedigree of contributions to the *Proceedings* himself, as well being joint author of the Society's Monograph on the Cleaven Dyke, and he was aware of his high standards in preparation and editing. He was delighted that Dr Barclay has been able to take on this task.

Dr Barclay then expressed his delight in being appointed to the task and said that, although as the first employed Editor of the Society and his was no longer an honorary position, he was honoured to be appointed. He hoped for publication of Volume 131 in the summer of 2002. He also said, that as Fellows had been informed in the Newsletter, the annual deadline of 30 November for acceptance of submissions had been done away with.

## THE R B K STEVENSON AWARD

The President reminded Fellows that the R B K Stevenson award is made in recognition of the paper in each year's *Proceedings* that best reflects R B K Stevenson's own scholarship and high standards. Robert Stevenson was for many years in charge of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland and was President of this Society between 1975 and 1978. His varied interests are well represented in Volume 130, but a paper that stood out was that by Fraser Hunter on 'The Excavation of an Early Bronze Age cemetery and other sites at West Water Reservoir, West Linton, Scottish Borders'. Here excavation of a series of burials and associated artefacts, and the careful laboratory examination of a necklace of cannel coat and lead beads, forms the basis for a wide-ranging discussion on funerary ritual and social interpretation as well as making

suggestions as to future excavation techniques. Fraser Hunter has brought together reports from many colleagues into a most informative paper. The President was delighted, in Mrs Elizabeth Stevenson's presence, to present this year's R B K Stevenson award to Fraser Hunter.

#### THE DOROTHY MARSHALL MEDAL

The Dorothy Marshall medal is awarded by the Society every three years to an individual in recognition of an outstanding contribution in a voluntary capacity to Scottish archaeological or related studies. The medal commemorates not only the high esteem with which Miss Dorothy Marshall was held for her own lifetime's achievement in archaeology, but also the Society's gratitude for her generous benefaction.

The medal for 2001 was presented to Miss E B Rennie for her outstanding service to archaeology for nearly half a century.

In his presentation speech the President said that that there was a considerable degree of fittingness about this award for the Island of Bute, which was Dorothy Marshall's home, slots neatly into Cowal, the south-eastern portion of Argyll, where Miss Rennie was for many years a teacher at Sandbank School. When the Cowal Archaeology Society was formed in 1961 Miss Marshall became Honorary President and inspired that Society with her own dedication. For many years Miss Rennie's enthusiasm played a vital part in maintaining the active Society, both in organising excavation and fieldwork in Cowal, such as that at Ardnadam, and helping to create one of the fullest local sites and monuments portfolios. She had also championed the platform sites on the hillsides of the west, and through tireless survey and planning challenged received views. Survey within the often wooded slopes such as Glen Nant required great dedication and patience, and she has kept her team of helpers going through fair weather and foul. She had published the results, both in detail in a British Archaeological Report and in a most accessible short volume. Her contribution to Scottish archaeology had indeed been outstanding, and he had great pleasure in presenting the Dorothy Marshall Medal to Elizabeth Rennie.

#### THE BALLOT FOR OFFICE BEARERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

The President thanked the outgoing Vice President, Miss Lisbeth Thoms, and the four outgoing Council members: Ian Campbell; Bill Finlayson; Katherine Forsyth; and Lorna Main, for their input and dedication to the Society during their time on Council. Miss Thoms had been a great support and of particular help, as Fellows would have been aware, in chairing meetings in his absence.

#### ELECTED TO COUNCIL

The President was delighted to welcome Mrs Doreen Grove as the new Vice-President and Dr David Bowler, Dr Ewan Campbell, Dr Jill Turnbull, and Mr Robin Turner as Council members.

Council for 2001–2002 is as follows:

*President*

J N Graham Ritchie, MA, PhD, MBA, FSA

*Vice Presidents*

W David H Sellar, BA, LLB, FRHistS, Bute  
Pursuivant

Colleen Batey, BA, PhD, MIFA

Doreen Grove, BA, FSA

Naomi Tarrant, BA, AMA, FSA

*Treasurer*

Christopher Lowe, BA, MA, PhD, MIFA

*Councillors*

Mary A Macleod, BA, MA, PhD, MIFA

Magdalena S Midgley, MA, PhD

Andrea N Smith, BA, MIFA

Jane Geddes, BA, MA, PhD

Charlotte M Lythe, MA

Richard Oram, MA, PhD  
 Susan E Seright, DipMGS, AMA  
 David P Bowler, BA, Mphil  
 Ewan Campbell, BSc, PhD, MIFA  
 Jill Turnbull, CQSW, BA, PhD  
 Robin Turner, BA, MIFA

*Ex-Officio Members Of Council*

Chairman of the North East Section	Aidan Mulkerrin, BA, Mlitt
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 and the following were elected as ordinary Fellows:

LT COL BYRON ADAMS, BSBA, JD, 105 Willoughby Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23185, USA  
 JOHN MICHAEL ADAMS, BA, 8 North Gardner Street, Glasgow  
 JULIE AITKEN, 35 Schan Road, Prestonpans, East Lothian  
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 REV JAMES EDWARD ANDREWS, MA, BD, DipCG, 116 Bonnyrigg Road, Dalkeith,  
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## THE ROLL

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I B D Bryce, Coull Cottage, 1½ Devanha Terrace, Aberdeen AB11 7TW	1973
D E Coghill, Airliosta, Drumchardine, Kirkhill, Inverness IV5 7PX	1994
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I A F David, Schiehallion, Golf Road, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire AB34 5HP	1971
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## THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Dr J N Graham Ritchie then delivered the following Presidential Address:

At the Anniversary Meeting of 1999, my predecessor, Professor Michael Lynch, drew attention to the increasing role of partnerships in which the Society was involved. This has been a theme that I have personally been very aware of over the last two years attending Society functions and committee meetings. One of the most important has been partnership in publication, for the dissemination of information through publication, lectures and meetings remains central to the Society's *raison d'être*. Because of the success of Historic Scotland's Backlog Project a great many pieces of work undertaken in previous years have been brought into the public domain in the series of double volumes, for which Historic Scotland has funded the extra cost. Some Fellows have despaired about the length of shelf space involved and the scientific archaeological content, but the achievement in bringing, cajoling, nudging the papers to completion on the one hand and publication on the other means that remarkably few important pieces of work remain unpublished. This is a collaborative venture of which the Society and Historic Scotland can be proud. Historic Scotland's role in supporting the monographs that deal with work in their ambit is also vital. The monographs describing Richard Bradley's work at Clava, *The Good Stones*, Christopher Tolan-Smith on the *Caves of Mid-Argyll*, and Alison Cameron and Judith Stones on urban work in Aberdeen, have all had Historic Scotland grant-aid. Few of us will buy all the monographs, and thus the importance of this joint enterprise may not always be apparent, but for libraries and for future research the results of publicly-funded work are available to all.

A similar rationale lies behind the Society's partnership with Historic Scotland and the Council for British Archaeology over the production of *Scottish Archaeology Internet Reports*, with Historic Scotland paying the full costs of the pilots. *Dundrennan Abbey* was published on the Internet in March. A summary



account is in the *Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society*. Such experiments may point the way to the publication patterns of the future, with the detailed account available via the Internet, and a brief but informative account in the *Proceedings* structured in such a way that will encourage you to seek further. Of course Fellows of my generation say may be horrified by this suggestion, but there is an international dimension to the provision of information, and when our own web pages are fully operational Fellows in Perth, Western Australia, will have access to the Newsletter as quickly as Fellows in Perth, Scotland. Thus this partnership has an important dimension for the future.

The Society was approached by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland to publish monographs relating to the Commission's work. This joint venture resulted in the publication earlier this year of *Early Medieval Sculpture in the West Highlands* by Ian Fisher. The volume is a worthy successor to that published by the Society a century ago, but what is important for Fellows today is not such a historical approach, but the fact that publication in this way allows a concessionary purchase price for Fellows. The Society has recently been approached by the National Trust for Scotland with a view to joint publication of the archaeological work of NTS. Again a most exciting joint venture.

But I would not wish you to think that I am just trying to shift stock. Collaborative ventures in the organization of seminars has been an important part of recent months. The Conference on the Declaration of Arbroath in Arbroath in October 2001 involved both Historic Scotland and Angus Council. This took the interests of the Society to a new audience in Angus as well as to the Fellows who braved the low cloud to attend from further afield. In November 2001 the Society joined the Training, Conservation Research and Education Directorate of Historic Scotland in arranging a day seminar on the Conservation of Historic Graveyards. The popularity of the topic ensured a sell-out audience in this theatre, but also raised awareness of the Society's interest in this important issue. The seminar was valuable too in flagging the Society's involvement with The Carved Stones Committee in Scotland, as well as offering a platform to local and family historians to underline the many interest groups involved in recording.

With the Council for Scottish Archaeology we organize an annual conference on Archaeological Research in Progress, often outside Edinburgh, with responsibility for the organization alternating between the bodies. I can keep up with most committees, but the most challenging is the Heritage Committee, where you realize from the alarming exchange of acronyms how involved the Society is in keeping an ear to the ground on a variety of heritage matters. As a matter of principle we do not lobby on specific issues, but committee-members report on a wide range of topics and Council has an awareness of a greater range of initiatives than ever before.

You may think that I have forgotten the National Museums of Scotland or taken familiarity with all that the Museums do for the Society too far. The Museums' partnership is both a historical one and a practical one. The Society's rooms are vital to the smooth functioning of the administration. The lecture theatre the centre of the winter meetings. Regularly lecturers compliment the Society on the professionalism of those in charge of projection facilities, but they are setting the standards of the Museums. The Director is in regular contact with Museum departments over catering or the provision of committee rooms as well as more strategic matters. The partnership is a vital one and this is nowhere more important than in the Library. The Library remains at the core of research into archaeological and allied subjects and we are grateful to all the staff for their unfailing assistance and tolerance. Those Fellows who have attended the Library's open afternoon will be more than aware of their dedication.

## ANNIVERSARY MEETING LECTURE

The following Lecture was then delivered

'The Newbridge Iron-Age Cart Burial'  
by Dr Stephen Carter and Fraser Hunter

Following the close of formal proceedings, a Wine Reception for Fellows took place in the European Art Gallery, Royal Museum of Scotland.