

Annual Report for the year 1 June 2010–31 May 2011

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland is a learned Society founded in 1780 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1783. It is a registered Scottish Charity No SC010440. The Society offices are at the National Museums Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF.

Elected Council (Society Trustees)

(DATE OF ELECTION AND RETIREMENT IN BRACKETS)

President

BARBARA CRAWFORD, MA PhD FSA FRSE (elected 30 November 2008)

Vice-Presidents

IAN RALSTON, OBE MA PhD FRSE FSA MifA (retired 30 November 2010)

GEORGE DALGLEISH, MA

LESLEY FERGUSON, MA

NEIL CURTIS, MA MLitt AMA (elected 30 November 2010)

Treasurer

BRENDAN O'CONNOR, BA DPhil FSA (re-elected 30 November 2010)

Councillors

IAN BANKS, MA(Hons) PhD MifA (retired 30 November 2010)

ALAN BRABY (retired 30 November 2010)

SHANNON M FRASER, MA DipPost-Ex PhD MifA (retired 30 November 2010)

RONAN TOOLIS, MA(Hons) MifA (retired 30 November 2010)

STEPHEN CARTER, BSc PhD MifA

MALCOLM COOPER, BA MPhil DMS FSA FRSA MifA

DEREK HALL, CertPractArch MifA

STRATFORD HALLIDAY, BSc

GORDON NOBLE, MA MA PhD

JULIE GIBSON, BA AifA

STEPHEN HOLMES, MA BD PGCE

NYREE FINLAY, MA PhD MIAI

IAN SIMPSON, BSc PhD (elected 30 November 2010)

MARY MACLEOD RIVETT, MA MA PhD MifA (elected 30 November 2010)

ALICE BLACKWELL, BA MPhil (elected 30 November 2010)

JUDITH McCLURE, CBE MA DPhil FRSA (elected 30 November 2010)

Ex Officio Members of Council

Chair of the Aberdeen and North-East Section

CHRIS CROLY (elected 11 May 2009)

Convener of the Publications Committee

DAVID P BOWLER, BA MPhil MifA (appointed 2004)

Convener of the Research Committee

SHANNON FRASER (appointed May 2009)

Convener of the Fellowship Committee

GEORGE DALGLEISH, MA (appointed January 2009)

Representative of the National Museums Scotland

FRASER HUNTER, BSc PhD FSA (appointed 2005)

PRINCIPAL ADVISERS

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
38 St Andrew Square
Edinburgh EH2 2YR

Royal Bank of Scotland
36 St Andrew Square
Edinburgh EH2 2YB

Investment Managers

Rensburg Sheppards (to 31 May 2011)
Investec Wealth & Investment (from 31 May 2011)
Forsyth House
93 George Street
Edinburgh EH2 3ES

Auditors

Henderson Loggie
Chartered Accountants
34 Melville Street
Edinburgh EH3 7HA

Solicitors

Tods Murray WS
66 Queen Street
Edinburgh EH2 4NE

STAFF

Director

SIMON M D GILMOUR, MA(Hons) PhD FSA MifA

Assistant Treasurer

JAN PATERSON

Office Manager

JACQUI CLABBY, BA

Publications Production Manager

ALISON RAE

Managing Editor and Sales Manager

ERIN OSBORNE-MARTIN, BA

ScARF Project Manager

JEFF SANDERS, MA(Hons) PhD

Office Administrator

VASILIKI KOUTRAFOURI, MA(Hons) PhD

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland was founded in 1780, and granted a Royal Charter in 1783. It has 18 governing Laws, which are published in the annual journal, *The Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*. The Society has five elected office-bearers: the President, three Vice-Presidents and the Treasurer. The governing body of the Society is Council, whose members act as Trustees, and which consists of the five office-bearers, 12 Fellows elected by the Society and five *ex officio* members, currently consisting of the Chair of the Aberdeen & North-East Section, the Conveners of the Fellowship, Publication, Programme, Heritage and Research Committees (if not already elected members) and the representative of the National Museums Scotland (NMS), who must be a Fellow of the Society, nominated by the Trustees of the NMS.

Elected Vice-Presidents and Councillors (apart from the Treasurer) hold office for three years, and are not eligible for re-election until at least one year has elapsed. The Treasurer is elected for one year, and may stand for re-election annually. The elections are by ballot at the Annual General Meeting (Anniversary Meeting), from a list issued by Council for that purpose to Fellows at least 14 days before the meeting. New office-bearers and Council members are provided with a document outlining their role and responsibilities, and are invited to an induction meeting with the President and Society staff before their first Council meeting.

Council, chaired by the President, normally meets five times a year, and there are five sub-committees for Publications, Programme, Heritage, Research and Fellowship. The Publications Committee meets three times a year to discuss all aspects of the Society's publications, while the Research Committee

meets only once a year to make recommendations to Council on allocation of research funds. The Fellowship Committee and Heritage Committee meet occasionally but communicate mainly via email. The former to assess the applications for Fellowship and ensure they meet the standards required for admission to the Society; the names are presented to the Fellowship for election at the Anniversary Meeting. The Heritage Committee met once in 2010–11 to discuss its priorities for advocacy. The Fellowship Committee held two Fellows' Evenings to encourage greater participation of Fellows in the development of a strategy for the Society's future. A smaller Management Group (consisting of President, Treasurer, one Vice-President, Director and Assistant Treasurer) oversees day-to-day financial and management matters. It meets more frequently than Council and as required, bringing recommendations and information to Council as appropriate. The Management Group exercises delegated responsibility for risk management within the Society. Personnel matters are discussed by Management Group and lead by the Vice-President with responsibility for Staff Matters, consulting other Council members and/or staff as and when necessary.

The Director manages the staff and day-to-day activities of the Society and is delegated by Council to promote the objectives and organise the strategic development of the Society. The Director has some autonomy in the area of historic environment advocacy, because responses to consultations and reviews often have to be written to short deadlines which cannot wait for the next meeting of Council. However, the new Heritage Committee will now also advise the Director as required in the area of advocacy. Whenever time permits, comments on draft responses to consultations are also sought from Council members by email.

The offices of the Society are housed within the NMS as per the arrangements agreed in the Conveyance of 1851 which provided the Society and its collection with fit and proper accommodation, in the National Gallery on The Mound, as a condition of signing over its collection to the nation for the benefit of the public. This collection formed the core of the national archaeological collections now housed in the NMS, and other parts are now in the National Archives of Scotland, the National Library of Scotland or the National Galleries of Scotland, as well as the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS). The Library of the NMS receives 163 periodicals as exchanges from other societies and libraries in return for copies of the *Proceedings*, as well as publications donated by Fellows through the Society. Fellows are statutorily entitled to free access to the library of the National Museums Scotland through the National Heritage (Scotland) Act 1985 (Section 3(5)). The library was partially closed during this reporting year due to the redevelopment of the Royal Museum.

We were concerned to note that the increase in Fellows noted last year (to 3,096 Fellows) was not followed this year, where Fellowship numbers as of 31 May 2011 stood at 2,777 paying Fellows, this is a reduction of more than 10 per cent.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal objective of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland is set out in Law 1: '... the study of the antiquities and history of Scotland, more especially by means of archaeological research'.

In May 2008 Council approved a five-year strategy document that sets out the above objective and amplifies it with the following Mission Statement:

'The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland will promote the research, understanding and conservation of the archaeological and historic environment of Scotland for the benefit of all. It will actively support research in the field and advocate good practice. It will promote the results of its research and that of others to the widest possible audience.'

To achieve these aspirations the Society:

- encourages first-class research through grants to individuals, institutions and partnerships;
- disseminates the results of research and endeavour in the field of archaeology and history in Scotland through lectures, conferences and publications;
- furthers the cause of archaeology and history in Scotland by providing independent expert advice in discussions and consultations relating to the historic environment;
- recognises and encourages excellence throughout the whole community of interest in archaeology and history, by awarding bursaries, medals and prizes to students, non-professionals and professionals alike.

The Society website is regularly updated, and enables Fellows and non-Fellows to purchase Society books and other products and allows Fellows to pay their subscriptions securely on-line.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Research Grants Awarded

The Society received 17 individual applications totalling £27,986.83. However, to keep expenditure in line with income the Society had £12,163.60 to disburse in grants this year, which was approximately £3,000 more than 2009–10. This total was exhaustively whittled down to nine successful projects through the Research Committee meeting in February 2011.

The Society is justly proud of its grant awards scheme, which, although presenting only relatively small sums, helps to initiate new projects and aims to contribute where the relatively small sums would make the greatest impact. Grants from the Society, rigorously scrutinized through the Research Committee, can also help projects get further funding from other sponsors.

This year the Society awarded grants to a typically diverse group of projects, ranging from the analysis of the chert artefacts from a Mesolithic quarry to research into a possible Viking Thing site in Dingwall. In providing these funds, the Society aims to encourage best practice in the research of Scotland's past.

In March 2011 the Council ratified the following awards:

<i>Applicant name</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Amount granted</i>
Dr Torben Bjarke Ballin	Burnetland Hill Mesolithic Chert Quarry	£1,500
Dr Graeme Cavers	Cults Loch Landscape Project	£700
Mr Martin Cook	Edinburgh Road, West Prestonpans Enclosure	£580
Ms Catherine Dagg	Applecross Broch Community Archaeology Project	£1,000
Dr Fraser Hunter	Finds in Context: investigating the long Iron Age at Clarkly Hill, Moray	£1,000
Mr David MacDonald	Dingwall Viking Thing Project	£550
Miss Mhairi Maxwell	Useful and Social Pots: the analysis of residues of SE Scottish Iron Age pottery	£1,400
Dr Gordon Noble	Rhynie Environs Archaeology Project (REAP) Phase 2	£1,775
Dr Oliver O'Grady	Geophysical prospection of Culdee Monasteries in Perth and Kinross (Phase 2)	£1,700
Ms Karen Wicks	EEMSEI: Environment and Economy of Mesolithic Settlement in Eastern Islay	£1,900
<i>Total</i>		£12,105

The Society invested entry fees paid by new Fellows for the restricted purpose of providing income for these grants and other awards. The Society also welcomes donations, of whatever size, which can be restricted for use in providing funds for the grants scheme, thereby helping us to increase the amounts we can disburse and hopefully begin to match the numbers of deserving applicants.

The Society also supports Archaeology Scotland's Young Archaeologists' Clubs (YAC) by awarding an annual grant of £2,500. The YAC network plays a vital role in reaching out and bringing young people into archaeology.

Donations and Bequests

The Society received no bequests in the year under consideration, but did receive £382 in donations, for which we are very grateful. We encourage all Fellows to consider the Society an appropriate charity for your donations. We would encourage all eligible Fellows who have not already done so to sign up to Gift Aid, which provides the Society with a substantial annual income from HM Government.

In addition to Gift Aid there is also a Payroll Giving scheme that enables donations to be given to any UK charity straight from gross salary (before tax is deducted); donors receive immediate tax relief of up to £4 for every £10 donated. We currently have one Fellow who contributed to the Society through Payroll Giving in this financial year. If you wish more information on how to give to the Society, check the website under Donations and please do not hesitate to contact the office.

The Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF) Project

The ScARF project was initiated in 2008 with funding from Historic Scotland. It aims to provide a framework for the development of research in Scottish archaeology by critically reviewing the current state of archaeological knowledge and considering the potential and practicability of future areas of research. In order to achieve this, panels of experts have been assembled to look at period and thematic issues. ScARF now has a number of active panels, many of which will report in the next financial year. The framework is being developed in partnership with all those involved in the archaeology of Scotland, from the academic, professional, commercial and voluntary sectors.

By the end of the project we will have in place an updatable framework, which will provide the context for archaeological decision-making, whether project design, curatorial, or funding based. This will enable anyone wishing to undertake research in Scotland to plan their work effectively in relation to the framework, thereby ensuring that future research is relevant, represents best value, and effectively contributes to our understanding of the past. ScARF is also designed to raise research aspirations in Scotland by encouraging and enabling people to become research-active.

ScARF's findings will be published in a range of media, and fully available on-line. The framework will be kept updated as fresh research is undertaken so that it provides an enduring and relevant legacy for those involved in archaeological research. The framework will thus comprise both a structure to build upon and a set of research goals to aspire to.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

The Society provided the following events, including lectures at its regular Ordinary Meetings, conferences and special events.

Saturday 26 June 2010

Summer Excursion to the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland

In collaboration with the National Museums Scotland Research Library

Monday, 11 October 2010 – Edinburgh

Tuesday, 12 October 2010 – Aberdeen

Lecture Meeting

Neil Wilkin, University of Birmingham

The Beakers and Bodies Project: New perspectives on death and burial in the Early Bronze Age of North-East Scotland

International Conference

Friday 22 and Saturday, 23 October 2010

The Lake Dwellings of Europe

Celebrating the Centenary of the Munro Trust, University of Edinburgh

Monday, 22 November 2010 – Edinburgh

Tuesday, 23 November 2010 – Aberdeen

Lecture Meeting

Dr Gareth Williams, British Museum

Wealth and warfare in early Mercia: Interpreting the Staffordshire Hoard

Tuesday, 30 November 2010 (4.30pm)

Anniversary Meeting (Annual General Meeting)

Monday, 13 December 2010 – Edinburgh

Tuesday, 14 December 2010 – Aberdeen

Lecture Meeting

Fiona Tucker, University of Bradford

Woven into the stuff of other men's lives: the treatment of the dead in Iron Age Atlantic Scotland

Monday, 10 January 2011 – Edinburgh

Tuesday, 11 January 2011 – Aberdeen

Lecture Meeting

Gilbert Márkus, Department of Celtic and Gaelic, University of Glasgow

Saints and their Territories in Early Medieval Fife

Joint with the Scottish Historical Society

Monday, 31 January 2011 – Edinburgh

Dr David Clarke, Keeper of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland

'A jewel of gold ... placed in a silver dish': the Glenmorangie project on Early Historic Scotland, AD 300–900

Joint with the NMS Members

Tuesday, 15 February 2011 – Aberdeen

Thursday, 17 February 2011 – Glasgow

Lecture Meeting

Professor Harold Mytum, Centre for Manx Studies

Rebuilding the Iron Age: Excavation and Experiment at Castell Henllys

Monday, 7 March 2011 – Edinburgh

Tuesday, 8 March 2011 – Aberdeen

Lecture Meeting

Alison Cameron, Cameron Archaeology

Excavations at St Nicholas East Kirk, Aberdeen

Monday, 4 April 2011 – Edinburgh

Tuesday, 5 April 2011 – Aberdeen

Lecture Meeting

Dr Euan MacKie, Hunterian Museum

How do we know what our prehistoric buildings were really like?

Can restoration avoid being misleading?

The Rhind Lectures

Friday, 29 April 6pm to Sunday, 1 May 2011 – Edinburgh

Dr Stuart Needham

Material and spiritual engagements; Britain and Ireland in the first age of metal

Monday, 9 May 2011 – Edinburgh

Tuesday, 10 May 2011 – Aberdeen

Lecture Meeting and Aberdeen and North-East Section AGM

Dr Nick Hodgson, TWM Archaeology

'Wishing to subjugate the whole of Britain, he invaded Caledonia': the British expedition of Septimius Severus, AD 208–11

National Conference

Saturday, 28 May 2011

Archaeological Research in Progress

In collaboration with Archaeology Scotland

Monday, 13 June 2011 – Edinburgh

Tuesday, 14 June 2011 – Aberdeen

Lecture Meeting

Dr Neill Martin, Celtic and Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh

A Game of Two Halves: Symbol and Meaning in Seasonal Contests

Evening lectures at Ordinary Meetings are free to all and open to the public, and held in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and in the MacRobert Building, University of Aberdeen (unless otherwise stated). The year 2010–11 saw a full programme, with nine ordinary lecture meetings, the annual joint lecture with the NMS Members, the Anniversary Meeting, the summer excursion, an international conference and the national *Archaeological Research in Progress* conference. For the first time we were able to record almost all the lectures and place them free to view on-line from our website, this will build into a fantastic free on-line resource for all those wishing insight into Scotland's past. As part of the widening of lecture locations outwith Edinburgh, Professor Mytum's lecture was held in Glasgow jointly with the Glasgow Archaeological Society. The Rhind

Lectures by Dr Stuart Needham were also recorded. They covered the momentous developments in society in Britain and Ireland as metal was introduced for the first time and attracted Bronze Age specialists from throughout Britain and Ireland. We expect to publish these lectures in due course. The six Rhind Lectures are an opportunity for a speaker to investigate a particular topic in more depth than would normally be possible.

The Society has a thriving Aberdeen and North-East Section. It is the tradition that each speaker from the Ordinary Meetings in Edinburgh travels to Aberdeen to give the same lecture there, and it is to the credit of the speakers that they were willing to give so freely of their time to visit both. The Section also organises its own additional programme of lectures and field trips.

The annual *Archaeological Research in Progress* Day Conference was organised this year by the Society, and again it was possible to record almost all the presentations and place them free to view on-line. As usual the Society version of the conference was based in Edinburgh and drew on recent research from across Scotland. The Summer Excursion visited the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) in partnership with the National Museums Scotland Research Library, and Fellows learned a great deal about the Society's collections including a selection of treasures which are in the care of the Commission and in the NMS Library. Through the very kind offices of our Vice-President, Lesley Ferguson and her colleague in RCAHMS, Iain Fraser FSAScot, and of Mark Glancy from the NMS Library and Dr Anna Ritchie, our Honorary Fellow, Fellows were told about the varied and significant material which has been bequeathed to the Society over the last 230 years and which is deposited with these national bodies and cared for on our behalf.

The international conference on *The Lake Dwellings of Europe* was held in collaboration with the Munro Trust of the University of Edinburgh, to help celebrate that organisation's centenary. Presentations were given by lecturers from across Europe with a keynote address on Dr Robert Munro entitled 'A Man Changed by Darwin' by Dr David Clarke, Keeper of Archaeology at the National Museums Scotland. Dr Clarke also presented the joint lecture with the NMS Members which reported on the research conducted by the Glenmorangie-sponsored project into Early Historic Scotland in the National Museums Scotland; this too was recorded and placed free to view on-line.

The Society's President Dr Barbara Crawford also participated in the Royal Society of Edinburgh's Medieval Week with our Honorary Fellow Professor Rosemary Cramp, presenting *Monuments in Motion*, to which Fellows were invited. Fellows of the Society were also invited to attend and actively contribute to two Fellows' evenings to help re-engage the Society with the Fellowship, one in Edinburgh and one in Aberdeen. Further such meetings are planned for the future.

PUBLICATIONS

The Society published its first volume of *Transactions* in 1792, and has been publishing a regular journal since then. The *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, published annually, is now the national journal of record for Scottish archaeology. Volume 139 was published and distributed to Fellows and libraries in November 2010, and contains the customary mix of archaeology, history, architectural history and other areas of material culture.

Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports (SAIR ISSN 1473-3803) has seen the publication of seven reports in the year ending 31 May 2011:

- SAIR 42 *Through the Cowgate: life in 15th-century Edinburgh as revealed by excavations at St Patrick's Church*
by Elizabeth Jones

- SAIR 43 *The Excavation of Bronze Age Roundhouses at Oldmeldrum, Aberdeenshire*
by Ross White and Phil Richardson
- SAIR 44 *Excavations on the Route of the Dalkeith Northern Bypass, 1994–5 and 2006*
by Kirsty Cameron, Michael Cressey, Andrew Dunwell, Stuart Mitchell, Alastair Rees,
Richard Strachan and Ian Suddaby
- SAIR 45 *Late Neolithic and Late Bronze Age lithic assemblages associated with a cairn and other
prehistoric features at Stoneyhill Farm, Longhaven, Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, 2002–3*
by Ian Suddaby and Torben Ballin
- SAIR 46 *Lockerbie Academy: Neolithic and Early Historic timber halls, a Bronze Age cemetery, an
undated enclosure and a post-medieval corn-drying kiln in south-west Scotland*
by Magnus Kirby
- SAIR 47 *A Later Prehistoric Settlement and Metalworking Site at Seafeld West, near Inverness,
Highland*
by Michael Cressey and Sue Anderson
- SAIR 48 *Aeolian Archaeology: the Archaeology of Sand Landscapes in Scotland*
*Selected case-studies, originally given as spoken papers at a Society of Antiquaries of
Scotland Specialist Seminar, hosted by Historic Scotland, Edinburgh, May 2004*
edited by David Griffiths and Patrick Ashmore

All *Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports* are freely available on-line at www.sair.org and the series is being permanently archived by the National Libraries of Scotland (NLS), because it is, in their words, 'an important part of our documentary heritage'. This will ensure the accessibility of SAIR in the future as part of the permanent collections of the NLS.

The Society has published three books in the year ending 31 May 2011 and work continues on several further volumes.

*Bowmont: An Environmental History of the Bowmont Valley and the Northern Cheviot Hills,
10000 BC–AD 2000*

Richard Tipping

ISBN 978 0 903903 49 3

Carpow in Context: a Late Bronze Age logboat from the Tay

David Strachan

ISBN 978 0903903 25 7

Stages and Screens: an investigation of four henge monuments in northern and north-eastern Scotland

Richard Bradley

ISBN 978 0903903 38 7

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT ADVOCACY

As the senior antiquarian body in Scotland, the Society is consulted by a wide range of organisations from central government to academic funding bodies such as the Arts and Humanities Research Council, where it is considered a Subject Association. Our independence from government, university

or agency allows us an impartial voice drawing on the wide range of experience from the Fellowship. The Director is a board member of the Built Environment Forum Scotland (BEFS), an umbrella body which brings together non-governmental organisations working in the historic and built environment sector, and is convenor of the Historic Environment Working Group of that Forum. Most recently he has also convened the Historic Environment Bill taskforce of BEFS, which worked on bringing together the sector's consideration of the Historic Environment (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill which received Royal Assent on 23 February 2011 to become an Act.

The Society is a member of The Archaeology Forum, a UK-wide grouping of non-governmental organisations, and through this the Director is made aware of, and regularly contributes to, consultations and initiatives from outside Scotland, which may have an impact on the Scottish historic environment. During this financial year the Council of the National Trust for Scotland, on which the Society was represented, was dissolved and a new Board of Trustees elected and met for the first time in March 2011. While the Society no longer therefore has a direct link to the governance of the National Trust for Scotland, we are pleased to see that at least two of the new Board are Fellows. The Society also shares membership of Scottish Environment Link with Archaeology Scotland.

This year the Society presented written evidence to the parliamentary committee scrutinising the Historic Environment (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, and the Director presented oral evidence to the same as the Convenor of the BEFS Historic Environment Working Group. We also commented on a 'Discussion Paper on Prescription and Title to Moveable Property' produced by the Scottish Law Commission and the President attended a workshop event on the same. We contributed to government discussions on the revision of Planning Advice Note 42, and responded to the Heritage Lottery Fund Strategy Consultation. The Society also responded to an invitation by Glasgow University to comment on their proposals for their Archaeology Department, and also commented on proposals to the Glasgow University Department for Continuing Education. The Society wrote to the Minister for Culture asking for clarification regarding the Scottish Minister's response to a planning application for a distillery development at Falkirk that could affect the setting of the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site. Society advocacy papers and letters are available on the Society website.

The Society is also represented on the Archaeology Data Services Management Committee, the British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography On-line Advisory Committee, the Antonine Wall Management Plan Working Group, the National Committee on Carved Stones in Scotland and the Heritage Audit advisory group, while Fellows represent the Society on the National Museums Scotland Board of Trustees, Sir Henry Wade's Pilmuir Trust, the Mouswald Trust, the Donald Dalrymple Fund, the British Archaeological Awards and The Laws Advisory Group. Through all these organisations we are able to keep abreast of current news in the heritage sector and discuss and support the archaeology and history of Scotland.

RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE

The RBK Stevenson Award

R B K Stevenson was for many years the Keeper of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland and was President of the Society between 1975 and 1978. This award is made annually in recognition of the paper in the *Proceedings* that best reflects Robert Stevenson's own scholarship and high standards. The 2010 award of £50 went to the article in volume 139 on *Into the West: excavation of an Early Christian cemetery at Montfode, Ardrossan, North Ayrshire* by Candy Hatherley, then of Headland Archaeology. Ms Hatherley accepted the award in person at the Anniversary Meeting on 30 November 2010.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Society's summary Income and Expenditure Account together with explanatory notes are presented to the Fellows at the Anniversary Meeting and in the *Proceedings*. The presentation style follows the required accounting standards for charities.

During the 2010–11 financial year the Society's investment objective was to have a balanced portfolio subject to a medium degree of risk. Council continued the current strategy to increase income while maintaining capital growth and a proportion of investments in Government bonds compared with shares. Council considers it has sufficient procedures in place to oversee this process and manage the inherent risk in a portfolio of investments.

Those investments considered restricted in purpose, notably to the funding of research, have now been split from the unrestricted funds. This allows for the development of different strategies for each in future, and a more transparent indication of the funds available. The Society invested the entry fees paid by new Fellows elected in 2010 to provide income for these grants and other awards. We would also encourage Fellows and others to help us increase these restricted funds further by donations of any size: please do not hesitate to contact the Society.

From the 1 June 2010 the new pay-scales and procedures were implemented, and will be a solid foundation for salary progression that recognises the value of our excellent staff in the operation of the Society. Council will review the operation of the new salary structure in 2013.

Risk management

The Society has drawn up a risk register to consider the major risks to which the Society is exposed. This is reviewed at Management Group meetings, and Council meetings where necessary, to ensure that the systems and procedures in place are appropriate to mitigate exposure to those risks.

Reserves policy

The unrestricted reserves of the Society at 31 May 2011 sit at approximately 18 months running costs and Council believes this is sufficient to meet the current activities of the Society.

ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS FOR FELLOWS
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR TO 31 MAY 2011

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Endowment Funds</i>	<i>Total 2011</i>	<i>Total 2010</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Income					
Subscriptions	171,180	2,972		174,152	173,337
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid Scheme	17,000			17,000	18,741
Donations	382			382	2,189
Legacy				–	–
New Fellow Entrance Fees		–		–	1,798
Income from Listed Investments	19,357	11,856		31,213	32,930
Bank Interest Received	–	76		76	53
Income from Proceedings	–			–	12,250
Income from Monographs	50,678			50,678	40,234
Income from SAIR	18,592			18,592	16,049
Income from ScARF	47,798			47,798	44,859
Income from Lectures and Conferences	12,031			12,031	10,238
Total Income	337,018	14,904	–	351,922	352,678
Expenditure					
Grants, awards and donations	1,883	11,846		13,729	10,572
Lecture Programme	28,996	2,523		31,519	35,842
Proceedings	30,496			30,496	33,926
Monograph	39,060			39,060	48,230
SAIR	1,268			1,268	11,092
ScARF	16,944			16,944	13,970
Salaries and Fees	132,701			132,701	128,557
Pensions Payments	11,098			11,098	11,289
Printing, Stationery, Post and Telephone	8,081			8,081	6,753
Office Equipment, Maintenance and Insurance	7,633			7,633	8,661
Miscellaneous	4,178			4,178	2,259
Investment Management Costs	261			261	1,914
Bank Charges	1,705			1,705	1,792
Depreciation	3,803			3,803	3,797
Bad Debt	17,449			17,449	2,562
Provision for doubtful Debt	–			–	–
Accountancy and Audit Fee	6,482			6,482	9,770
Council and Committee Expenses	3,022			3,022	1,697
Legal and other professional fees	–			–	–
Total Expenditure	315,060	14,369	–	329,429	332,683
Surplus for year	21,958	535	–	22,493	19,995
Transfer from unrestricted to restricted	(2,140)	2,140	–	–	–
Realised gains on investments	6,606	–	–	6,606	13,464
Unrealised gains on investments	2,939	–	56,143	59,082	37,907
Balances brought forward	491,305	34,998	256,216	782,519	711,153
	520,668	37,673	312,359	870,700	782,519

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MAY 2011

	<i>2011</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2010</i>
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets		7,665	10,556
Investments		804,903	739,519
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		812,568	750,075
Debtors	86,531		109,361
Cash at Bank	56,834		17,596
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	143,365		126,957
<i>Less</i>			
Current Liabilities due within one year	(85,233)		(94,513)
	<hr/>		<hr/>
		58,132	32,444
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		870,700	782,519
Endowment Fund		312,359	256,216
Restricted Funds		37,673	34,998
Unrestricted Funds		520,668	491,305
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		870,700	782,519
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The figures above have been extracted from the audited accounts for the year to 31 May 2011, which carried an unqualified audit report, and which were approved by Council on 10 October 2011. The full Trustees' Report and Financial Statements may be obtained from the Assistant Treasurer at the Society's Office at the National Museums of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JF, upon receipt of £5 UK and £10 elsewhere.

DR BARBARA CRAWFORD OBE, *President*

Independent auditors' statement

We have examined the summarised financial information which is prepared for the Society's Fellows.

The Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial information. We have agreed to report on its consistency with the annual accounts on which we reported on 10 October 2011.

Basis of Opinion

We have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to ascertain whether the abbreviated accounts are consistent with the annual accounts from which it has been prepared.

Opinion

In our opinion the abbreviated accounts are consistent with the annual accounts for the year ended 31 May 2011.

HENDERSON LOGGIE
Edinburgh
10 October 2011

FUTURE PLANS AND COMMITMENTS

RESEARCH

Research grants are important to the Society, and we will continue to consider grant applications. The deadline for applications remains the Anniversary Meeting (30 November). We would encourage Fellows and non-Fellows alike to consider donating to the restricted fund to help increase the level of grants that the Society can offer.

The Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF) will continue to develop over its agreed period of funding to 2012. ScARF has its own web presence to keep everyone up-to-date with what is happening, and to provide information on how to get involved.

PROGRAMME

The lecture programme for 2011–12 has been decided by the end of August 2011. The Rhind Lectures are such a major undertaking that the speakers require at least three year's notice, and an invitation has been issued to the 2014 Rhind lecturer. The 2012 Rhind Lectures will be presented by Professor Kevin Edwards entitled *On the windy edge of nothing: Vikings in the North Atlantic world – ecological and social journeys*. Archaeology Scotland will organise and host the *Archaeological Research in Progress* conference on Saturday, 26 May 2012.

PUBLICATIONS

The annual publication of the *Proceedings* is central to the Society, and work is already nearing completion on volume 140 to be published in November 2011. Intending contributors please note that there is a deadline of 1 November for papers to be submitted for the following *Proceedings*. We have many SAIR projects in various stages of completion and a number of books in various stages of production.

The Society has completed a busy and exciting year, with many new developments including the recording and placing of lectures and events free to view on-line. A stimulating programme of activities is already in place for next year. We are mindful however of the continued difficult circumstances that all charitable organisations are working in, and the reduction in numbers of Fellows is a real concern since this is our main source of income. For this reason the Society continues to be very grateful for the continued support of its Fellows, and would urge you to encourage others to stand for election. We also commend the Council members, the trustees of our Society, who put a lot of voluntary time and effort into the organisation and running of the Society.

BARBARA CRAWFORD, OBE MA PhD FSA FRSE

President

9 September 2011

ANNIVERSARY MEETING REPORT

The Anniversary Meeting is held, as per Law 16, on St Andrew's Day, except where this falls on a Sunday. The meeting is also the Annual General Meeting of the Society. It was held on Tuesday, 30 November 2010 in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre, Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22–26 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PQ starting at 4.30pm, Dr Barbara Crawford, President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last lecture meeting were read and approved. Reports were received from the Director and Treasurer and were approved. The ballots were closed and counted by the scrutineers. The RBK Stevenson Award was presented to Candy Hatherley and the Dorothy Marshall Medal was awarded to Mr Walter Elliot.

The medal commemorates Miss Dorothy Marshall who in her own long lifetime contributed so much to Scottish archaeology and especially in the area of her beloved Island of Bute and marks the Society's gratitude for the bequest to the Society following her death in 1992. It is given to an individual who, in a voluntary capacity, has made an outstanding contribution to Scottish archaeological or related work. The Dorothy Marshall medal for 2010 went to Mr Walter Elliot of Selkirkshire. Unfortunately Mr Elliot was unable to attend the Anniversary Meeting due to the inclement winter weather, and he was presented with his medal at the subsequent joint NMS Members lecture meeting on 31 January 2011.

We are delighted this year to award the prestigious Dorothy Marshall medal for an outstanding voluntary contribution to Scottish archaeology to Walter Elliot of Selkirk. Walter has been involved in the archaeology and history of his native Borders for over 50 years, in active fieldwork, in popularising and in preserving the area's past.

Born in Selkirk and brought up in the Etrick valley, after National Service he ran a sawmill and worked as a fencing contractor. He describes himself as a 'poor but honest woodcutter', and this took him across the Border landscape, developing a deep first-hand familiarity with the traces of the past and a curiosity about the antiquities he picked up on the way. This led him to contact the Mason brothers, great fieldwalkers of the Borders, and sparked a passion for fieldwalking, particularly at the Roman fort of Newstead but also over many flint scatters. His practical field involvement included digging with Dorothy Marshall when she excavated at Hanging Shaw in Selkirkshire.

Roman Newstead has been a happy hunting ground for many years, and important finds led to a string of papers in our *Proceedings*, both alone and in collaboration with specialists; the finds were donated to the National collections. Walter played a major role in the establishment of the Roman museum in Melrose for the Trimontium Trust, and served as the Trust's chairman for 13 years. His enthusiasm for the Roman past led him to see the value of metal-detecting at a time when many professionals were sceptical, and he has acted as a valuable channel for information and finds over the years.

His interests go beyond the archaeological; he played a key role in ensuring that the Walter Mason Papers, a substantial collection of late medieval Selkirk Burgh Records, were preserved, and has been involved in their translation and publication. He writes poetry, most evocatively in Border Scots, and recently published a collation of Border poets, *The New Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*, picking up where Sir Walter Scott left off. His desire to spread the word about Borders archaeology and history has seen him writing a regular column for the *Southern Reporter* and broadcasting for BBC Radio Tweed and Border TV, as well as advising various TV and radio programmes and authoring a number of books and pamphlets, most recently the first volume of his substantial *Selkirkshire and the Borders*, with his perspective on the area's archaeology and early history.

Walter's work over the decades has greatly improved our knowledge of the past of the Borders, and helped bring it to life for many people. We are delighted to honour this 'poor but honest woodcutter' with the Dorothy Marshall medal tonight.

2010 – Mr Walter Elliot: for his contributions over many years to the archaeology of Selkirkshire

2007 – Mr Ian Keillar: for his contributions over many years to the archaeology of Moray

2004 – Major Patrick Cave Browne: for study of ancient technology and educational work

2001 – Miss Elizabeth B Rennie: for Cowal fieldwork

1998 – Mr William F Cormack: for contributions in Dumfries and Galloway

1995 – Mr Tam S M Ward: for fieldwork around Biggar

1992 – legacy deposited, no award given

The results of the ballots were as follows:

BALLOT FOR FELLOWS OF THE SOCIETY

The Ballot for Fellows of the Society lists all those put forward and elected at the meeting itself (in accordance with Laws 3 and 4), but strictly those are not automatically Fellows until they have paid their subscription and entry fee (Law 7). The list printed here details those elected at the Anniversary Meeting, with those who have still to pay their subscription and entry fee by the end of the financial year being reported on (here 31 May 2011) highlighted with an asterix.

SVEIN SCHRØDER AMUNDSEN, PhD, Bergen, Norway
 DEBORAH ANDERSON, Bacc, Isle of Lewis, UK
 IRENE SUSAN BARNARD, PhD MSc MCSP, Birsay, Orkney, UK
 ANDREW MAHON BEACHUM, Vancouver, Washington, USA
 ASHLEY BEAMER, MSc, Edinburgh, UK*
 DAVID BELL, DD BA(Thl) LLD, Swadlincote, UK
 JONATHAN BENJAMIN, PhD RPA, Edinburgh, UK
 RUTH EMILY BORDOLI, MA(Hons) MifA, Edinburgh, UK
 ALAN CAIG, F INST L EX, Stockton-on-Tees, UK
 DOUGLAS MARTIN CAMPBELL, BSc MS, Inverurie, UK
 MARY RAYE CASPER, Marcellus, New York, USA
 JOHN RALPH COLLIS, MA PhD FSA MifA, Sheffield, UK
 GRAHAM GEORGE DICKENS, St Andrews, UK
 LESLIE GAVIN DONAGHY, BD Dip Min PGCE, Dumbarton, UK*
 MICHELLE FARRELL, BSc PhD, Hull, UK
 LINDA GILMOUR FRYER, MLitt, Tarbert, Argyll, UK
 ERIN CATHERINE MACKENZIE GRANT, BA(Hons) MA, Beeton, Ontario, Canada
 RONALD THOMSON HAGGARTY, Edinburgh, UK
 ROSEMARY ANN HAGGARTY, MRPSGB, Edinburgh, UK
 EMMA HALFORD-FORBES, MA(Hons) MGS Dip, Auchtermuchty, Fife, UK
 KATHERINE HAMILTON, BA(Hons) MLitt, Glasgow, UK
 MATTHEW HAMMOND, PhD RHS SHS, Edinburgh, UK
 DAVID MICHAEL HARRIS, MA(Hons), Edinburgh, UK
 JANE HARRISON, BA MSc MifA, Oxford, UK
 ROBERT K M HAY, BSc MSc PhD FIBiol, Isle of Lismore, Argyll, UK
 MAURICE HOWARD, PhD FSA, Brighton, UK
 LAURENCE ARTHUR JOYCE, London, UK
 MELIA M KNECHT, BA, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, UK
 RICHARD KNECHT, PhD, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, UK
 ALISON KYLE, BA MA, Glasgow, UK
 CHEONG MING LAM, Wickford, Essex, UK
 STEPHEN JOHN LANCASTER, PhD AIfA, Doune, UK
 WILLIAM SPEARS LATIMORE JR, Ringgold, Georgia, USA
 RONALD GERALD LINDSAY, San Jose, California, USA
 JULIAN MARCUS LUXFORD, BA PhD FSA FRHS, Ceres, Fife, UK
 BRUCE MANSON, MA(Hons) MSc, Markinch, Fife, UK

KAREN ELISABETH MCAULAY, BA MA PhD LTCL DipLib FCLIP, Glasgow, UK
 SEAN McCLAFFERTY, ACMI, Letterkenny, Ireland
 ROBERT ANDREW McCUBBIN, PlfA, Castle Douglas, UK
 CAIT McCULLAGH, MStudArch, Lamlair, Ross-shire, UK
 CLARK BOARDMAN McCURDY, Portsmouth, NH, USA*
 LYNDsay McGILL, MA(Hons) PGDip, Edinburgh, UK
 JENNIFER HELEN JANET MCKAY, Perth, UK
 MARK ANDREW McLAREN, Danville, California, USA
 DEBBIE LYN McLEAN, Newmills, Fife, UK
 ROBERT JAMES McNEILL, MBA, Webster, New York, USA
 STUART McVITTIE, MStJ, Dumfries, UK
 JOSEPH JOHN MORROW, OSTJ DL, Tealing, by Dundee, UK
 CYNTHIA JANE NEVILLE, PhD FRHistS, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
 EMMA-JANE O'RIORDAN, Edinburgh, UK
 DAVID G ORR, Kirriemuir, Angus, UK
 LEONARD JOHN PELLMAN, BS MBA PhD, Marion, IN, USA
 ANDREW PERCHARD, PhD, Glasgow, UK
 NORMAN RAMSEY, BSc PhD MRSC Cchem FAS, Doune, Perthshire, UK
 JONATHAN S RICKARD, Deep River, CT, USA
 CALUM GAVIN ROBERTSON, Edinburgh, UK
 PAUL ANDREW RORIE, BD TD FInstLM, Ellon, Aberdeenshire, UK
 PAUL ERIC ROSS, BA, Tucson, Arizona, USA
 JEFF SANDERS, MA(Hons) PhD, Edinburgh, UK
 ALEXANDRA SANMARK, PhD, Kirkwall, Orkney, UK
 FLOYD ERIC SAUNDERS, JD, Arnold, California, USA
 ANGELA SHORT, MA(Hons) MLitt, Larbert, UK
 MARK ANTHONY SIMPSON, ARICS FRGS, Scone, UK
 LESLEY SMITH, Tutbury, Staffordshire, UK
 KIRSTY VICTORIA SORENSEN, MA(Hons), London, UK
 ROY SCOTT SPURLOCK, FRHS, Belfast, Northern Ireland
 CHRISTOPHER LACHLAN STEWART-MOFFITT, Rothesay, Isle of Bute, UK
 JUSTIN STRUGNELL-COMBE, Manukau, New Zealand
 JOHN GORDON SUTHERLAND, BA(Hons) MCLIP, Elgin, Morayshire, UK
 JUNE ARLENE THOMPSON, Deer Harbor, WA, USA
 ARCHIBALD IAIN TORRANCE, BSc FCMI, Beckenham, Kent, UK
 JOSEPH TRAYNOR, MCMi MAHI AMA, Dumbarton, UK
 MICHAEL SHELBY WALKER, Oliver Springs, Tennessee, USA
 JANET ELIZABETH HADLEY WILLIAMS, BA(Hons) PhD, Cook, ACT, Australia
 ELISABETH WILMS, Bremerhaven, Germany*
 UDO WILMS, Bremerhaven, Germany*
 ANDREW THOMAS YOUNG, BA(Hons) MA, Exeter, Devon, UK

THE ROLL

The deaths of Fellows listed below were intimated to the Society during 2010–11. The dates in the right-hand column represent the year of election as a Fellow.

DENIS T W ALIAGA-KELLY, Edinburgh, UK	1970
ANNE BRUNDLE, Twatt, Orkney, UK	1985
PATRICK MOUBRAY CADELL, Edinburgh, UK	1985
HAKON CHRISTIE, Oslo, Norway (Hon Fellow)	1986
ALBERT DUNCAN DEWAR, Edinburgh, UK	1992
MARSHAL DROCHOCKI, Glasgow, UK	1979
DAVID A B EVANS, Cleveland, UK	1973
JOHN REX FARROW, Edinburgh, UK	1992
ROY FRANCIS FLATT, Lochgilphead, UK	1974
LAURENCE GARDNER, Tiverton, Devon, UK	1998
JAMES BRUCE HENRY, Glasgow, UK	1991
ROBERT BLAIR IRVINE, North Berwick, UK	1989
ELIZABETH JEAN JONES, Edinburgh, UK	1992
ANNE MERRILEES KAHANE, Dunkeld, Perthshire, UK	1974
JAMES BRIAN KENWORTHY, Huntly, Aberdeenshire, UK	1968
WILLIAM LONIE, Melrose, UK	1991
NEIL DUNCAN MACKICHAN, Alnwick, Northumberland, UK	1983
PHILIP MARSDEN, Hawick, Roxburghshire, UK	1992
JOHN M MASON, Troon, UK	1997
ARCHIBALD MAYNARD, Greenock, UK	1969
IAN MATHIESON, Lauder, Berwickshire, UK	1959
JAMES ALEXANDER MONTGOMERY, Glasgow, UK	1998
A J W NAIRN, BARON OF BALLENCRIEFF, Edinburgh, UK	1955
JEAN MARGARET RANDALL, Dornoch, Sutherland, UK	1984
RONALD IAIN SINCLAIR, Stirling, UK	1981
LESLIE SPOOR, Edinburgh, UK	1970
DONALD M WEBSTER, Auckland, New Zealand	2001
MARTIN T WILLIAMS, Aberdeen, UK	1971

BALLOT FOR MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Vice-President

Neil Curtis MA MLitt AMA is Head of Museums and Honorary Senior Lecturer in Anthropology in the University of Aberdeen, having previously been Senior Curator of the university's Marischal Museum. He studied Archaeology (Glasgow), Museum Studies (Leicester) and Education (Aberdeen) and has particular research interests in museum practices and the history of Scottish museums and archaeology. He was a Council Member of the Society between 2003 and 2006, and has been Secretary of the Aberdeen and North-East Section since 1990. He is also Convener of University Museums in Scotland and is a member of the Scottish Archaeological Finds Advisory Panel.

Treasurer

Brendan O'Connor BA DPhil FSA has been active in archaeology for over 40 years. After studying at Nottingham and Oxford he moved to Edinburgh to work in the Scottish Office from which he retired in 2001. His thesis was published in 1980 and he has published extensively on Bronze Age metalwork in Scotland (often in collaboration with Trevor Cowie), elsewhere in Britain and abroad. From 1995 to 1998 Dr O'Connor was a member of the Society's Council and also served on its Finance and Administration Committee. He has been Treasurer since November 2006.

Council Members

Ian Simpson BSc PhD is Professor of Environmental Science at the University of Stirling, and currently Deputy Principal (Research and Knowledge Exchange). His expertise is in the history of soils and sediments, contributing new understandings of land resource utilisation by early societies and related landscape changes. He has researched extensively in the North Atlantic region including Orkney, Shetland and the Western Isles, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and Faroe, as well as in south and west Asia (Sri Lanka and Iran). He has also been involved in rescue archaeology and ‘preservation by record’ where archaeological sites and landscapes are threatened by development and has contributed to the research agendas of World Heritage Sites. At a strategic and governance level he is involved in the AHRC-EPSRC Science and Heritage programme, research pooling initiatives across the Scottish Universities and the North Atlantic Biocultural Organisation.

Mary MacLeod Rivett MA MA PhD MIFA was born in 1964 and, following a childhood in England and Canada, read Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Cambridge. From 1986 to 1990, she worked in field archaeology in Britain, and acquired an MA in Mediaeval Studies at the University of York. From 1991 to 1996, she was resident in Stockholm, working on excavations at the Viking town of Birka, and on a part-time PhD at the University of Glasgow, awarded in 1999, on the subject of Viking period urbanism. In 1998, she was appointed as Regional Archaeologist in the Western Isles, for Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, a post which she left in 2009. Since that time, she has worked as a part-time lecturer in archaeology for Lews Castle College, part of the UHI Millennium Institute, and part-time crofter. She has served previously as a Council Member. Recent publications include reports on the STAC project, and excavations on Barabhas Machair in Lewis.

Alice Blackwell BA MPhil works for the National Museums Scotland as the Glenmorangie Research Officer, a post created through the ongoing research partnership with Glenmorangie. Her research interests cover all types of material culture from the early historic British Isles, but primarily focus on sculpture and small finds. Other interests include the role of the senses, experience and ritual, and working with contemporary artists and craftspeople to better understand archaeological remains. Alice was appointed to this post in July 2008 and currently sits on the ScARF Medieval Panel. Prior to this she studied for her PhD (currently in preparation) on the Anglo-Saxon small finds from Scotland, and was awarded an MPhil with Distinction in Archaeological Studies, both at the University of Glasgow. Before this she read History at the University of Leeds.

Dr Judith McClure CBE Following a career as lecturer in Medieval Latin in the University of Liverpool and in Medieval History at the University of Oxford, teacher and Head of History at the School of S. Helen and S. Katherine, Abingdon, Assistant Head of Kingswood School, Bath and Head of both The Royal School, Bath, and St George’s School for Girls, Edinburgh, Judith is very interested in exploring further the Society’s engagement with the education sector. She has extensive experience of corporate governance, including as Trustee of Hopetoun House Preservation Trust, Chair of the Management Committee of Scottish Council of Independent Schools and member of the Heriot-Watt University Court, as well as being a member of the RSE Education Committee.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

The Presidential address was delivered by Barbara Crawford as follows:

Fellows and Guests, may I wish you all a Happy St Andrews Day; a day which in future may be deemed worthy of being a national holiday.

The past year has been one in which we have continued our usual programme of lectures, Conference and events, which we believe fulfils our stated charitable aims in an estimable way. Most of our meetings have continued to be held here in the RSE buildings, which we hope and believe to be eminently suitable. Certainly there have been no complaints from Fellows about the venue. Some time in the coming year we will be able to experience the newly refurbished National Museum building in Chambers Street, and to find out what its lecture facilities will be like and whether we will return there in the future. Meanwhile I would like to thank the RSE for continuing to allow us to use their facilities, which does of course cost the Society some money but at a very competitive discount, and we consider it to be good value for our money in the present circumstances.

I don't want to bore you with a long catalogue of what our activities have consisted of in the past year, but it is useful to take stock, and to sum up the value of what we have offered to our Fellows, so I will briefly enumerate the lecture programme over the past 12 months.

Since the last AGM we have had a most varied menu, encompassing a range of archaeological and historical subjects from early medieval sculpture delivered by Professors O'Carragian and Stalley (Cork and Dublin), Scotland's earliest prehistory from Alan Saville (Edinburgh), high status in the European Iron Age with Professor Rudiger Krause (Frankfurt), urban angst in Roman Britain from Lindsay Allison Jones (Newcastle), and the history of the bagpipe by Professor Hugh Cheape (University of the Highlands and Islands). Then this autumn we have had Neil Wilkin (Birmingham) on Beakers and Bodies, while just last week Gareth Williams (BM) told us about the Staffordshire Hoard. Our Rhind Lecture series was delivered by Professor Martin Carver on 'Reflections on Field Archaeology: Design vs Dogma', which was something very different from any previous Rhind Lecture series and quite inimitable in other respects.

I have left one lecture to the last because this was the first one to be delivered away from our usual venue as the start of our attempt to make lecture meetings more accessible for Fellows who live outwith Edinburgh. So on a very cold January evening Dr Julie Bond from Bradford University presented her survey of Norse houses which she has excavated in Shetland to a joint meeting of the Society and the Perth and Kinross Natural History Society in the Perth Museum and Art Gallery – and it was a full house despite the icy conditions outside. We are moving on to Glasgow this season and a lecture by Professor Harald Mytum on 'Rebuilding the Iron Age' will be given to a joint meeting of our Society and Glasgow Archaeological Society on Thursday, 15 February, and I should add that this will take place in Glasgow University's Department of Archaeology. I hope you approve of this outreach move, which may deprive Edinburgh Fellows of one of their lectures, but does actually help to show that we are concerned about those Fellows who cannot easily access the Edinburgh Lectures. It also gives us an opportunity to link up with fellow Societies, and demonstrate that we are concerned to appear to be part of the same antiquarian fraternity as they are and not in a lofty ivory tower in the capital city from which we never emerge! In my final year as president I hope that we might take the antiquarian torch to St Andrews and link up with the Archaeological Society there.

Apart from this sparkling lecture programme there have been important developments in the Society's affairs, and the management of its affairs, in the past 12 months, which I have been closely concerned with.

First is the restructuring of staff salaries, which took up a great deal of time and I am very grateful to our retiring Vice-President, Alison Sheridan, and her replacement as Vice-President for Staff matters, Lesley Ferguson, as well as our treasurer, Brendan O'Connor, for helping to guide Council through this complex process and making sure that we have a fair and equitable structure, which we believe is now in place.

Second is the focus on Fellowship matters which has been occupying the thoughts and minds of your Fellowship Committee under the chairmanship of George Dalgleish. You are, I am sure, aware of the Society's need to maintain numbers of applications for Fellowship, and you have had the statistics of numbers in the Director's report. We are now just getting numbers back to where they were a few years ago.

You will have been aware from points which I have made in my Presidential Foreword in the *Newsletter* that we wish to encourage you as Fellows to encourage applicants, and particularly younger applicants, to think about putting their names forward for Fellowship. This is not a case of opening the floodgates and lowering the criteria required for accepting applications. In this respect I think one may justifiably ask: what are the criteria?

As a learned society, we welcome all applications from people with an interest in Scottish history and archaeology and all antiquarian matters pertaining to Scotland, and indeed all Scottish cultural traditions. But we do not demand a level of academic attainment in any of these concerns or indeed in any field of endeavour. In this respect we have a different attitude to quality assessment from the London Society of Antiquaries where

it is still mandatory for 10 or more proposers to support a candidate's name, and the initiative is not taken by the candidate but by the proposers. We in the Scottish Society of Antiquaries have never had this rigorous procedure and we certainly cannot afford to implement any such procedure now.

In fact your Council has just recently decided to make our procedure slightly less rigorous by not requesting that the two sponsors which an applicant has to have write supporting letters on the applicant's behalf. It would appear that this extra requirement, which was implemented by the Council in 2007–8, and isn't defined in the Laws in any case, has partly been the cause for the downturn in the numbers of applicants. As was evident from the graph which we have just seen the numbers of applicants for Fellowship dropped sharply in the year following the introduction of this requirement, and this decline in applications has been compounded by the increase in the number of Fellows resigning their Fellowship due to financial pressure, partly due to the increase in the subscription rate.

This decision to remove the requirement for letters of support does not affect Law 3 of the Society's Constitution which only requires two sponsors from existing Fellows, and does not mention written letters of support. There will however have to be changes to the Application Form, and to the web-site, and as part of this adjustment we have decided to provide the electronic facility so that forms will be downloadable direct from the website. Please rest assured that all applications will still be scrutinized by the members of the Fellowship Committee who can decide whether any application be refused, and held back from being taken further forward to the Election process.

With regard to the matter of our Fellowship components I would like to mention an issue which has been raised with us by a Fellow, and that is the number of foreign applicants for Fellowship. Applications from North America currently number about 15 Fellows a year. Should this be regarded as a problem? It is suggested by this Fellow that the majority of those residing abroad 'are only interested in becoming Fellows in order to be able to use FSAScot after their names in order to promote themselves or their business'. Of course we cannot know why any individuals, whether Scottish or foreign are primarily seeking to become Fellows, although we ask them to say on their application form what interests they have in doing so.

What attracts most of the North American applicants is the matter of Scottish genealogy and clan history. Several of this year's applicants are eminent members of their clan societies in North America and they see membership of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland as being a means of strengthening their Scottish historical roots and enhancing their knowledge of Scottish history – above all family history. And what is wrong with that? It seems to me to be a perfectly respectable aspiration and a very good reason for welcoming our north American cousins to share in our activities and benefit from association with our honourable record of researching and publishing many aspects of Scotland's past and national achievements. Our main worry is that they are unable to benefit as much as might be hoped or expected, and therefore we should consider providing more opportunities for them to participate and be more engaged with Scottish history or other aspects of Scotland's culture which interests them. The most obvious way we could do this is to put all our lectures on-line, as the Rhind Lectures are now available. But perhaps we should also consider providing more International Conferences, like the very successful Philadelphia/ Delaware one, and possibly even appointing a North American representative who could help to co-ordinate Society events across the Atlantic.

A further thought on the matter of applications consequential to this issue raised by a Fellow is that it might be helpful for the Fellowship to have some indicator of the interests of applicants – of all applicants not just north American ones! Would it be helpful and useful if we included in the list of applicants which you receive before the annual meeting some brief information on each applicant's stated reasons, or indeed qualifications for wishing to become Fellow? I am raising this as a possible enhancement in the election process and a means to attempt to allay any fears that any individuals are merely wanting to boost their status by having the prestigious FSAScot after their name! We would welcome your thoughts on this and it is something which could be an item for discussion at a future Fellowship meeting. Any approval for such could be taken to Council for further discussion as to the possible implications in terms of staff time.

And that leads into the first of my thanks, and that is to thank the staff for all they do to keep the Society running, and to make our events as successful as they are. Next I must say thank you to those members of Council who are demitting office after having served in different capacities: Ian Ralston, Vice-President with a particular remit for external affairs, Iain Banks, Alan Braby, Shannon Fraser and Ronan Toolis. Shannon will remain as Research Committee convener.

Welcome to new Council members: Neil Curtis as Vice-President, Ian Simpson, Mary Macleod, Alice Blackwell and Judith McClure, and again to Brendan for his successful re-election. I look forward to seeing them at the first Council meeting in January.

And finally, I would like to thank you Fellows for supporting your Society and attending meetings and events. Our Fellowship bonds are strengthened by things like the Fellows' evenings, which we have just started to organise. I look forward to seeing you at more of these and entering into a dialogue with you about the Society's role in upholding and furthering Scotland's antiquarian heritage.

Thank you very much

ANNIVERSARY MEETING LECTURE

Barbara Crawford then introduced Dr Fraser Hunter FSA FSAScot, National Museums Scotland, to present a lecture on 'Iron Age gold from Stirling: initial perspectives'. A wine reception was then held for Fellows and guests.

