

# WORKING ON THE SCOTTISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH FRAMEWORK (SCARF) PT 2

July 29, 2011 Jeff Sanders Archaeological Prospection, Day of Archaeology, Day of Archaeology 2011, Early Medieval, Iron Age, Maritime Archaeology, Medieval, Museum Archaeology, Periods, Post Medieval, Prehistory, Roman, Viking director, Glasgow, Internet Reports, line manager, online encyclopaedia, Richard Bradley, Roman law, Scotland, Simon Gilmour, Society of Antiquaries, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Stuart Campbell, Treasure trove, Treasure Trove Unit

Morning's work done and after a quick lunch I now have a meeting with Stuart Campbell of the Treasure Trove Unit (TTU). The TTU is responsible for the identification and preservation of recently discovered and significant objects. They also co-ordinate the allocation of objects to public museums and set suitable market-value finder's rewards where appropriate. The [Treasure Trove website](#) is the best place for more details and the legal background.

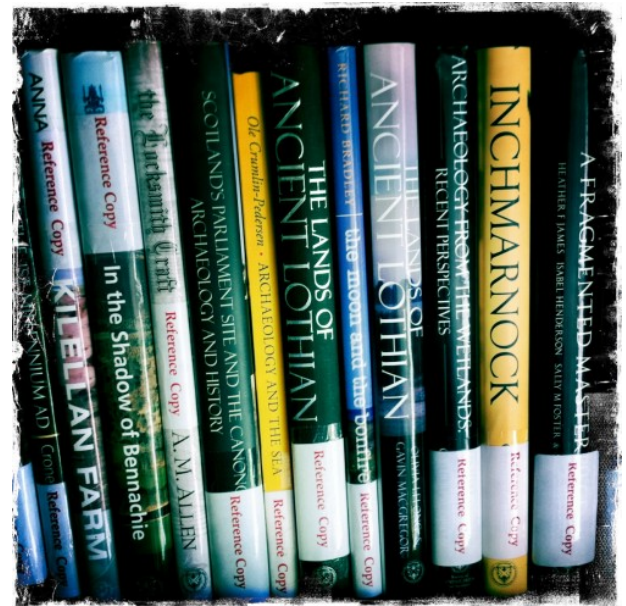


*Discussing the document: Stuart about to volunteer his expertise*

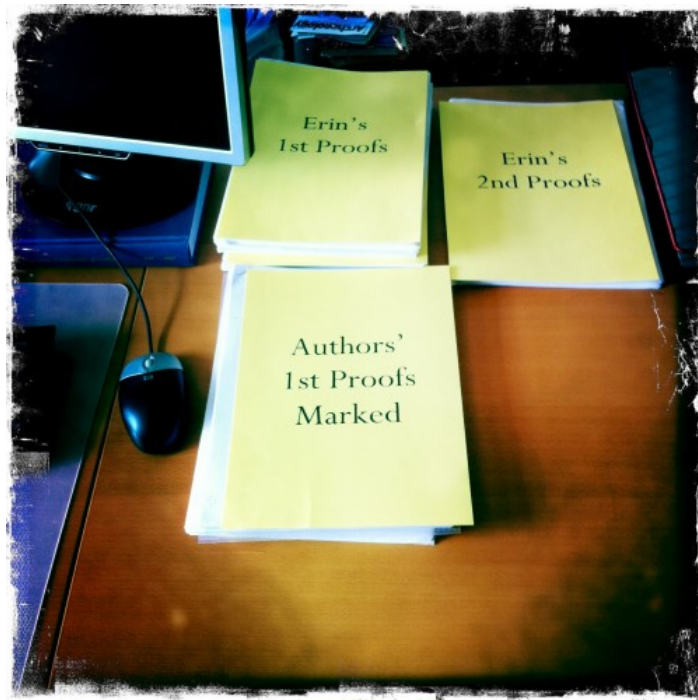
Finds reported through Treasure Trove comprise a considerable research resource and the potential it has to help us answer our questions regarding the past is something we have previously discussed. Today however, I'm talking to Stuart about his research interests, particularly in relation to the work of our [Modern panel](#). We recently held a workshop through in Glasgow to discuss our draft report and got a lot of feedback on what we should include, and what we might edit down. All of our panels hold a workshop of around 25-40 people and it is a really useful way to get feedback. We've also found people are very willing to help address gaps that we might have, and today I'm discussing a couple of topics that Stuart might be able to help us cover.

After a good discussion and with Stuart volunteering to cover a few of the outstanding gaps in the report I head back to the Society offices. Everyone who contributes to ScARF gives their time and their work for free, and I'm constantly amazed at how much effort people put in. We had initially envisaged our series of reports as each being around 25,000 words long – this was then revised upwards to around 35,000. We keep on getting in really good work however, and in a variety of formats (databases, maps, date-lists, spreadsheets etc). As a result, we are developing a 'wiki' or online encyclopaedia in order to house the information from the reports, as well as all of the extra information that we had to edit down. Hopefully, we can keep this updated and streamlined so that it becomes a useful and used resource (not much worse than a dead wiki!).

Early afternoon I was scheduled to meet with my line manager, Simon Gilmour, the Director of the Society of Antiquaries. He was called away to a funeral today however so I have a bit of time to focus on a couple more of the reports, and hopefully have the chance to have a quick look around the newly opened museum. Before I do, I thought I would highlight the work of the Society as a publisher. As well as publishing the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, and the *Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports* (SAIR) we also produce a number of books. Our *Proceedings* and SAIR are both available online entirely for free – a real source of pride for the Society. I don't have the number of times these resources are downloaded to hand, though over the course of a year SAIR is well into 6 figures, and the *Proceedings* into 7 figures. If my boss reads this, he may be able to update accordingly! Our publications cover a whole range of topics, with recent books on St Kilda, and on excavations of henge monuments by Richard Bradley.



Some of the Society's publications



*My colleague Erin's desk – publication is a busy business! (and the desk is always this tidy)*

Writing about henge monuments reminds me that my next task is connected to our Bronze Age panel...