

A TOUCH OF GAS


The Newsletter of Glasgow Archaeological Society



Issue 83 – Spring 2019

Glasgow Archaeological Society, c/o Tho. & J.W. Barty, Solicitors, 61 High Street, Dunblane, FK15 0EH

 <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Glasgow-Archaeological-Society/106126069499502> click "like" to receive Society updates

 @GlasgowArchSoc

 There is now a Flickr account for members to download their photographs of Society events, moderated by Natasha Ferguson - <http://www.flickr.com/groups/gasmembers/>

Keep up to date with Society Activities on our website – www.glasarchsoc.org.uk

Annual General Meeting 2019

Members are reminded that the AGM will take place on

**Thursday 18th April 2019
At 7:15pm (Note earlier time)**

This is your Society and your AGM gives you the opportunity to raise points that concern you or which you think will be of interest to the Society.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the Meeting of the AGM on Thursday 19th April 2018
3. Annual Report from the President, Dorothy Gormlie
4. Annual Report from the Treasurer, Stephen Stockdale
5. Election of Office Bearers and Council Members
6. A.O.C.B.

Important Note – Due to refurbishment works in the Boyd Orr, this Meeting will take place in the Lecture Theatre of **the Sir Alexander Stone Building (Faculty of Law)**, which is situated behind the Boyd Orr and to the right of the QM Union. There is no level access.

The Dalrymple Lecture Fund

Jointly with Glasgow University the Society administers The Dalrymple Lecture Fund, a generous bequest by James Dalrymple to finance a series of free public Lectures on European topics of historic and archaeological interest.

The first Lecture Series was delivered in 1907, and recent speakers have included, Dr Chris Stringer, Professor Sir Barry Cunliffe, Ian Hodder, Professor Mike Parker Pearson, Professor William Hanson and Professor Roger Stalley.

The Fund also generously supports the publication of the Scottish Archaeological Journal.

The Dalrymple/Donaldson Fund

In addition to the Dalrymple Lecture Fund, James Dalrymple left money in trust, later greatly augmented by Professor Gordon Donaldson, formerly Historiographer Royal, to provide funds to assist with the renovation and repair of buildings of historic or architectural importance.

Further details may be obtained from the Fund Secretary – Professor Richard Fawcett, 61 Loughborough Road, Kirkcaldy, Fife, KY1 3BZ

richard.fawcett@hotmail.co.uk 01592653911

Applications require to be submitted prior to commencement of works by 31 October in any year in which the awards are made.

New - Member's Benefit

The Council is always looking for ideas and suggestions about how we can “add value” to the membership of the Society.

One suggestion, made by the Publicity Committee, was to make the whole experience of coming to the lecture evenings a more relaxing and sociable affair. Individuals could meet friends/ other members before or after the lecture to have a drink or a meal. To this end they visited a number of the eating places in Ashton Lane seeking information about discounts. We wanted a restaurant near to the Boyd Orr building and they were successful in gaining a 20% discount for GAS members in the [Innes and Gunn Beer Kitchen](#).



Do not be put off by the reference to a “Beer Kitchen”. It is a smart, friendly and welcoming restaurant with a most impressive beer, wine and spirits list and has dining areas on three floors.

We thought that we would just “try it out” before bringing it to the attention of members... and it was first-rate. The food was excellent and inexpensive; the service was fast, and the staff friendly. We were very impressed and there was no quibble about our discount.

The discount can be claimed by members at any time and not just before or after lectures and it is taken off the menu price but not off the VAT.

Just tell them that you are a GAS member and if you have a badge show it. If not, you can take a copy of your Touch of GAS and this article.

Next session we will be issuing membership cards.

Innis & Gunn Beer Kitchen
44-46 Ashton Lane
Glasgow
G12 8SJ Tel: 0141 334 6688 <https://www.innisandgunn.com/bars/glasgow>

Dorothy Gormlie (also pictured with fellow G.A.S. members).

If you have a suggestion of how we can “add further value” to G.A.S, membership please let a member of council know.

***** Diary Date *****

The second Summer excursion will be on Saturday 31st August to Hexham in Northumberland.

Further details to follow.

SCOTTISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL JOURNAL

The latest edition of the Scottish Archaeological Journal is about to be published and if any member has not received it by the end of April they should contact the President.

Members are entitled to access back issues online from the Edinburgh University Press website. This requires an exclusive **Access Token** which has changed and the previous one is no longer valid. This facility is only available to members of Glasgow Archaeological Society, and can be obtained from the Membership Secretary.

GAS members are also entitled to discounts on EUP Publications – 20% on Books and 10% on Journal Subscriptions. Again a different **Access Token** is required is available from the Membership Secretary.

Margaret Gardiner, "Rigghead", Foulpapple Road, Newmilns, Ayrshire, KA16 9LB (01560-320022)
jimpy60@yahoo.com



Vikings in Scotland: 20 Years On

This major conference held over three days in December 2018 was hugely successful and fully booked with 150 delegates. There were more than 30 individual contributors with 19 presentations on day one and a further 16 on day two.

The conference attracted extensive sponsorship including a grant from Glasgow Archaeological Society. In recognition of this contribution G.A.S. was offered the opportunity, which we accepted, to have a stand at the inaugural keynote lecture, 'Language, Texts and Diaspora in Scandinavian Scotland' given by Professor Judith Jesch. This event took place in Govan Old Parish Church on the evening of 5th December. With an audience of 181 people and a reception hosted by the Glenmorangie Whisky distillery it was a great success.

Our table, complete with banner, was situated in a prominent place close to the iconic Govan Hogback stones and opposite the Govan Sarcophagus. In attendance were three Council members and co-author of the booklet 'Pontius Pilate: the Scottish Connection'.

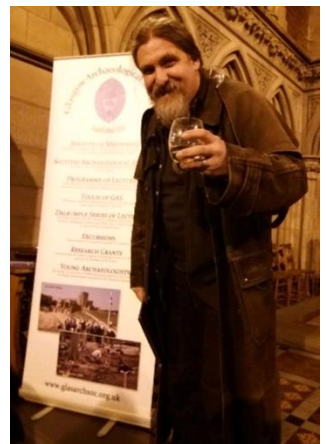
Our presentation and information were well received and we were kept very busy both in selling the booklet and attracting new members.



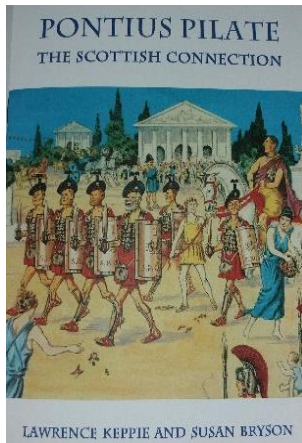
We also met a 'Viking' from Dumfries who very much looked the part. He was also a silversmith and wore much evidence of his craft and although he wrote down his name for us, unfortunately, none of us could read Runic. Volunteers please to translate it!

We did, however, during our discussion with him discover that he had taken part in the excavation of the burial pits in Durham. These mass graves contained the remains of Scottish soldiers who had been captured after the Battle of Dunbar and who had died whilst being held as prisoners in Durham Cathedral. As a result of this discussion the Director of the excavations, Richard Innis will be one of our guest lecturers in our next session.

Dorothy Gormlie



Glasgow Archaeological Society's most recent publication, "Pontius Pilate: The Scottish Connection" is proving to be a great success.



The humorous picture on the front cover attracts attention and the booklet, co-authored by Professor Lawrence Keppie and Susan Bryson is well researched, referenced and easy to read.

If you are interested in the legend(s) surrounding Pontius Pilate's birthplace then this is the booklet for you.

The cost to members is £2.50 and to non-members £3 plus postage.

It is available to purchase at our lectures and from our Publications Officer via our website www.glasarchsoc.org.uk.

News from Dumfries Aviation Museum



GAS Members who visited the DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY AVIATION MUSEUM, a few years ago, would be amazed to see the changes in the popular aviation attraction since then.

The former Heathall Airfield has been almost totally reconstructed, with new buildings housing Workshops, the unique Airborne Forces Collection, the brand new First World War collection, and the much-visited Loch Doon Spitfire, amongst other new additions.

The new Workshops, for example, allow Museum Renovators to carry out repairs and essential maintenance to the Aircraft exhibits, without hindrance from the vagaries of the Scottish weather, and the new Archive building enables the safe cataloguing and storage of our ever-expanding collection. As for the Loch Doon Spitfire, the final touches are being put to the reconstruction of the cockpit instruments, and it is hoped that soon, visitors will be able to sit in the Pilots seat and experience what it must have been like to fly such an iconic aircraft.

Amongst very recent acquisitions is a complete WW2 American Hadrian Glider, and this important and rare aircraft will soon take pride of place in the Airborne Forces Display.

Included in our programme of events for 2019, are a Cockpits North and Model Aircraft Show on the 27/28th, April, and a Military Vehicle show on the 27th July.

We would be delighted to see our Friends from GAS again, and, as we are only an hour and half's drive from Glasgow, why don't you pop down and see us again soon. Why not check us out on Trip Advisor, or on our website at www.dumfriesaviationmuseum.com or phone 01387251623

Stephen Stockdale

Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum



If you haven't been to Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum for a while now is a great time to renew your acquaintance.

Not only do they have their usual wonderful collection of everything from art to animals, Ancient Egypt to Charles Rennie Mackintosh and much, much more: until 6th May they have "Leonardo: A Life in Drawing". Kelvingrove is one of only two Scottish host venues forming part of a national exhibition of 144 of the artist's finest drawings from the Royal Collection which will go on display in 12 venues across the UK.

This exhibition commemorates the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci with a display of twelve of the artist's extraordinary drawings reflecting the full range of Leonardo's interests and greatest achievements in painting, sculpture, architecture, music, anatomy, engineering, cartography, geology and botany.

The drawings in the Royal Collection have been together as a group since the artist's death, and provide an unparalleled insight into Leonardo's investigations and the workings of his mind. The works on display will include examples of all the different drawing materials used by the artist and highlights of the exhibition include "A star-of-Bethlehem and other plants" C1506-12 and "The anatomy of a bear's foot", c.1488-90.

As an added attraction, perhaps for the younger members of the family, "Dippy" the Diplodocus is also on display until 6th May. Freshly arrived from the London and on its first venture out of the capital since 1905 it is quite a sight and might just inspire visitors to return to Kelvingrove in the future.

Further details from <https://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/museums/leonardo-da-vinci-a-life-in-drawing-at-kelvingrove>

Alan Gifford

Facebook



Never tried Social Media? Never looked at Facebook? Haven't logged on for a while? Then why not have a look at GAS's Facebook page.

It's a great platform for the society and an excellent way to let people know what we are doing and can hopefully help attract people to attend our lectures and ultimately become members.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Glasgow-Archaeological-Society/106126069499502>

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to future issues should be sent to the Newsletter Editor – Alan Gifford, 33 Crawford Avenue, Lenzie, G66 5HW (0141 578 1285) alangifford@ntlworld.com

Contributions are published in good faith. Views expressed by individual contributors are not necessarily those of Glasgow Archaeological Society or its Council. It is assumed that Contributors have obtained all necessary consent from other parties or Organisations to whom reference is made.

Material can be supplied by "hard copy" but email attachment is preferred (Word) to save retyping! Photographs and drawings are welcome (png or jpg format).

GENERAL COUNCIL 2018-2019

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Correspondence	Direct Correspondence to the Appropriate Official via the Website or to the President

Data Protection Act

Members are reminded of the Society's Policy under this Act.

Members' details are held electronically in computer and are used solely for administrative purposes of the Society. Details are not provided to any outside body other than Edinburgh University Press for the purpose of distribution of the Scottish Archaeological Journal.

Any member who wishes to exercise the right to have his or her name excluded from the database should contact Margaret Gardiner, the Membership Secretary

Electronic Communication

It is our Policy to use E-mail communication where possible reminding members of the forthcoming lecture, other events of interest and to distribute *A Touch of GAS* and inform members of events that arise between issues.

We would urge members if possible to subscribe which can be done through the website. Council accepts that members may be either unable or unwilling to receive *E-Bulletins* (it is astonishing how quickly one's "Inbox" fills up!) and that is their right. We can assure members that they will not be disadvantaged by not subscribing inasmuch as they will continue to receive twice-yearly Newsletters.

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