

# A TOUCH OF GAS


The Newsletter of the Glasgow Archaeological Society


Issue 74 – Autumn 2014



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 Adrian Maldonado - <http://www.flickr.com/groups/gasmembers/>

Keep up to date with Society Activities on our website – [www.glasarchsoc.org.uk](http://www.glasarchsoc.org.uk)

## Lecture Programme 2014-15 2014

- 16<sup>th</sup> October **The Quest for Bannockburn: Recent Archaeological Research into Scotland's most famous battle**  
Dr. Tony Pollard, Centre for Battlefield Archaeology, University of Glasgow
- 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> November **The Dalrymple Lectures** (see details below)
- 18<sup>th</sup> December **MEMBERS' NIGHT**  
**Glasgow and the Jacobites, 1715 and beyond**, Dr. Anthony Lewis, Glasgow Museums  
**Mavis Valley: a deserted mining village in Bishopbriggs**, Carol Primrose, Past President of GAS and recently chair of ACFA



## 2015



- 15<sup>th</sup> January **Kirkmahoe, St Mungo's Wells and the Church of St Kentigern: "excavating" the namescape of Glasgow's patron saint**  
Professor Thomas Clancy, University of Glasgow
- 19<sup>th</sup> February **The Broch and the Empire: Re-assessing The Work at Leckie, Stirlingshire, in the 1970's**  
Dr. Euan MacKie, Past President
- 19<sup>th</sup> March **The making of the Terracotta Army: questions and answers from archaeological science**  
Professor Marcos Martín-Torres, UCL, London
- 16<sup>th</sup> April **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 7.15 pm start**, followed by  
Susan Hothersall, Retiring Presidential Lecture

**All lectures (except the Dalrymple Series) are held in the Boyd Orr Lecture Theatre, University Avenue, University of Glasgow, at 7.30pm – Admission to all lectures is free of charge**

Glasgow Archaeological Society is supporting **DigIt!2015 Discover Scotland's Stories**  
A year-long Programme of events celebrating Scottish Archaeology

### 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, Professor Ian Hodder, Professor David Breeze, Professor Andrew-Wallace Hadrill and Professor Mike Parker Pearson.

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

### Dalrymple Lectures 2014/15

**Professor William Hanson, University of Glasgow**  
***Flying into the past: the magic of aerial archaeology***

- 17 November 6.30 - **Pioneers and Principles**  
18 November 6.30 - **Not Just a Pretty Picture**  
19 November 6.30 - **The Spy in the Sky**  
20 November 7.30 - **Flying into the Future**

**The venue for the Dalrymple Series will be the Sir Charles Wilson Lecture Theatre, University of Glasgow (Corner of Gibson Street and University Avenue)**

***Membership Renewals – Subscriptions are now due and early renewal helps the Society. Please return your Renewal Form to the Membership Secretary. Gift Aid Forms are also available.***

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2014**

**Govan Old Parish Church**

Our first excursion of the session will be to Govan Old Parish Church, designed by R. Rowand Anderson and completed in 1888. The present church stands on the site of an early medieval church and graveyard and houses a remarkable collection of sculpture dating from the ninth and tenth centuries.

Members will meet in the porch of the church at One O'clock.

**Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

**Fairfield Heritage Centre, Govan**

The Grade A listed Fairfield Shipping Offices on Govan Road have been restored in a £5.5 million project that provides a heritage centre and excellent office accommodation.

The Heritage Centre tells the story of shipbuilding on the Clyde and celebrates the history and legacy of the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company in Govan.

Members will meet at the Heritage Centre at noon.

We require to confirm numbers so please telephone Margaret King to reserve a place - 0141 334 5174.

**Glasgow University is playing host to two Major International Conferences in 2015**



15MH CÒMHDHAIL  
EADAR-NÀISEANTA  
**NA CEILTIS**  
15TH INTERNATIONAL  
**CONGRESS OF  
CELTIC STUDIES**  
Glaschu 2015 Glasgow

**13-17 July 2015**

[www.celticstudiescongress.org](http://www.celticstudiescongress.org)



European Association  
of Archaeologists

**21<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting 2-5 September 2015**

[www.EAAGlasgow2015.com](http://www.EAAGlasgow2015.com)

**PRESIDENTIAL AWARD 2013-2015**

This year will again be one in which the Society presents a Presidential Award. This award was the inspiration of our Past President, Dr. Alex Morrison to recognise and celebrate some of the outstanding personalities and individuals who have contributed to the life and work of the Society, and/or to the regional and national world of Scottish archaeology. It remains a fitting tribute to Alex and his commitment to Archaeology and this Society.

In previous years this has taken the form of a mosaic plaque by the outstanding Scottish mosaicist, Dugie MacInnes.

The terms of the award are –

1. The Award will be to an individual who has forwarded the study of and rendered conspicuous services to archaeology in Scotland.
2. The individual must be a member of the Society.
3. The award will be presented in the final year of the President's term of Office, and the ceremony will normally precede the final lecture of their term of Office.
4. Nominations for the Award may be submitted by a Society member on prepared Nomination Forms and notice of the Award will be advertised during the President's final term of office.
5. The final decision will be made by a simple majority of Council Members; the President casting the deciding vote of there is no majority.

The Form below should be e-mailed (or handed at a Lecture) to the President or posted to the Glasgow Archaeological Society, c/o Tho. & J.W. Barty, Solicitors, 61 High Street, Dunblane, FK15 0EH by **31<sup>st</sup> December 2014**.

Although not essential nominees are welcome to include a brief endorsement of their candidate.

**Nomination Form for the Presidential Award 2013-2015**

✂.....

I/We would like to nominate ..... for the 2013-2015 Presidential Award of the Glasgow Archaeological Society.

Name .....

## William Graham Jardine – 13 March 1927 – 15 May 2014



Members will be saddened to learn of the death of William Graham Jardine known to all (except perhaps the medical profession!) as Graham, and he will be fondly remembered as a Past-President of the Society and for the contribution of his Geological discipline to Archaeology.

Educated at Glasgow University and McGill University, Montreal he completed his PhD at Cambridge University in 1957. He accepted a post in the Geology Department at Glasgow University where he took an active role in the Department moving from Lecturer through to Reader. He played a key teaching role specialising in Quaternary Geology, where the focus of his research was the understanding of sea-level change, particularly in South-western Scotland which connecting him academically to archaeology and his membership of Glasgow Archaeological Society, serving as our President from 1981-84.

He is survived by a daughter and three sons and five grand-children.

### **Dr. Nyree Finlay, Glasgow University writes -**

In his academic life, Graham Jardine made a significant contribution to understandings of Holocene shoreline developments in Scotland working at a number of localities mainly along the Solway Firth and at other sites in the south and west. Through a combination of meticulous map work, taking levels and detailed observation of stratigraphic sedimentary analysis from the excavation of hundreds of test pits and auger holes and selective dating to establish local sequences he also advanced theoretical models for quantifying the dynamic character of sea-level change. A long friendship with a former student Alex Morrison brought fruitful long-term collaborations for both of them resulting in various joint publications on prehistoric coastal environments and Mesolithic occupation including international conference contributions and field guides. The true interdisciplinary character of Graham's work meant that archaeology was always a key dimension to his research and he personally made a number of important new discoveries of both sites and artefacts among them a later prehistoric dugout canoe at Locharbriggs, Dumfries which he jointly published with Lionel Masters.

Archaeologically he is perhaps best known for his work on Oronsay and reconstructions of the coastal geomorphology that provided an invaluable context for excavations undertaken at various 5<sup>th</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> millennia BC shell midden sites by Paul Mellars in late 1970s. During his research he identified further shell midden deposits and found a superb barbed point that he published with David Jardine his son. Conversations after a GAS lecture in 2003 led to a new collaboration with Nyree Finlay that brought together for publication his sea-level research and the lithic artefacts he had found over a 25 year period of work on Colonsay. Between 1978 and 1984 Graham had picked up the occasional flint flake from an eroded low mound on the west of the island and strongly suspected it might be a previously unreported shell midden. Subsequent research excavations by Nyree Finlay confirm that Port Lobh is indeed the first shell midden on Colonsay of comparable date to those on Oronsay. The outcomes from this work are a fitting legacy and testament to a man who has brought so much new knowledge to the investigation of coastal changes and such rich insights to our understanding of prehistoric activity.

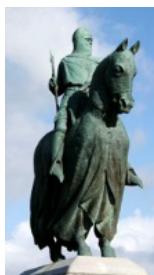
### ***The Slamannan Spitfire – A Postscript***



Readers will recall Stephen Stockdale's moving account in the last Issue of *A Touch of GAS* of the recovery of parts of Spitfire L1059 from 58 Operational Training Unit at Grangemouth, that crashed on 14 February 1941, killing the pilot, Sgt John Tristram Silvester.

Following the publicity, Sgt Silvester's family got in touch and travelled to Slamannan to attend the Unveiling and Dedication of the Propeller in Slamannan Memorial Garden on 16 August 2014.

(Picture taken by Alan Murray (141579) taken from the Falkirk Herald website)



#### **Hunterian Museum**

#### ***The Lost Tomb of Robert the Bruce***

24 June 2014 – 4 January 2015

Admission Free



#### **British Museum** **50 Years that Changed China**

18 September 2014 – 5 January 2015

<http://www.britishmuseum.org>

**SCOTTISH CHURCH HERITAGE RESEARCH LTD**  
**PLACES OF WORSHIP IN SCOTLAND PROJECT**



A small core group of members is active in recording church buildings within the Scottish Church Heritage Research framework. Following training visits to the Wellington Church on University Avenue and Kelvinside Hillhead Church, members have been deciding which churches they would like to record, and some completed reports have been submitted to the SCHR organiser, Edwina Proudfoot.

Carol Primrose, a former president of GAS, is organising a separate group, based in Bishopbriggs, and aiming to cover churches in that area and perhaps in Bearsden and Milngavie in the future.

Volunteers met on 6<sup>th</sup> September to discuss progress and to visit and record a fine early 20<sup>th</sup>-century church on Broomhill Drive, Balshagray Victoria Park Church.

We would welcome more volunteers to help in this ambitious project of recording the hundreds of places of worship in and around Glasgow. To see more about how it works, visit the 'parent' website [www.scottishchurches.org.uk](http://www.scottishchurches.org.uk).

If you would like to discuss joining the Glasgow group, contact Sue Hothersall at

[susan.hothersall@btinternet.com](mailto:susan.hothersall@btinternet.com).



**VOLUNTEERS WANTED** – we are always looking for volunteers to help run the Society, particularly to serve on Council. **JUNIOR VICE-PRESIDENT** to progress to Senior Vice-President and ultimately President.

In addition –

**DALRYMPLE/DONALDSON FUND** – This is administered by six Trustees, three from Glasgow Archaeological Society and three from the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Two of our representatives have expressed an interest in standing down, including the Secretary. The positions are not onerous involving one meeting per year to distribute the funds. If you are interesting in participating in this fascinating work please see the website for more details.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR** – While I am happy to continue, there is a certain “shelf life” and perhaps the time is right for a fresh approach. If anyone is interested in taking over, please contact me – Dale Bilsland

A New Code of Conduct for Treasure Trove in Scotland came into effect on 11 July 2014 and can be read here <http://www.qltr.gov.uk/content/code-practice-treasure-trove-scotland-0>

### ***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.

## MUST HAVE FASHION ACCESSORY!

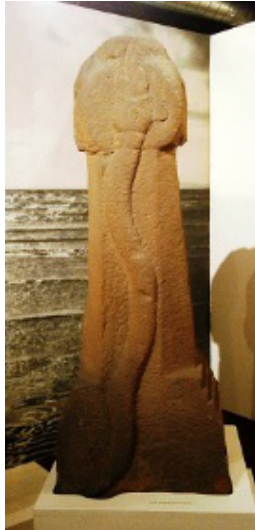
The Society has a supply of quality enamelled badges bearing the Society's Crest. These are available at the ridiculously cheap price of £3 and on sale at Lectures.

## Oswald Street Bookshop

Situated at 27 Oswald Street, Glasgow, G1 4PE their Stock includes Archaeology, Antiquarian, Maps, etc. and is well worth a visit.

<http://www.oswaldstreetbookshop.co.uk>

### *Some Pictures from the recent Trip to Maryport*



## CONFERENCE NEWS

### **NOVEMBER IS CERTAINLY “CONFERENCE MONTH”!**

- |                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | TAFAC, University of Abertay, Dundee  | <a href="http://www.tafac.org.uk/">http://www.tafac.org.uk/</a>  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | The Stuart Kings, Innerpefferay Library   | <a href="http://www.innerpefferaylibrary.co.uk">www.innerpefferaylibrary.co.uk</a>   |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Scotland’s Community Heritage Conference, 2014<br>Crieff Hydro Hotel  | <a href="http://www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk">www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk</a>   |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders Archaeology Conference,<br>Queen Margaret University, Musselburgh   | <a href="http://www.qmu.ac.uk">www.qmu.ac.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/archaeology">www.eastlothian.gov.uk/archaeology</a> |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Scottish Society for Northern Studies<br>Defending and Shaping the Land: Brochs and Estates in the<br>North of Scotland, Augustine United Church, Edinburgh | <a href="http://ssns.org.uk/">http://ssns.org.uk/</a>  |

### ***And if that is not enough –***

- |  |                                 |  |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> December | Ethnology Crossroads, Edinburgh | <a href="http://www.socanscot.org">www.socanscot.org</a> |
|--|---------------------------------|--|

### **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 purposes 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

### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

Contributions are published in good faith. Views expressed by individual contributors are not necessarily those of The 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 electronic is preferred (Word) to save retyping! Photographs and drawings are welcome

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