

A TOUCH OF GAS




The Newsletter of the Glasgow Archaeological Society

Issue 78 – Autumn 2016

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 NEW website – www.glasarchsoc.org.uk

Lecture Programme 2016-17

2016

20th October Dr. Tony Pollard, Centre for Battlefield Archaeology, University of Glasgow. **Waterloo Uncovered 2015: Investigating the Battle of Waterloo**

14th – 17th November **The Dalrymple Lectures (see details below)**

15th December **MEMBERS' NIGHT** – Dr. Tony Lewis, Glasgow Museums. **Saving Provand's Lordship**
Martin Conlon, **In search of the Clyde's last giants: memory, culture, and post-industrial landscapes**

2017

19st January Professor Trevor Watkins, University of Edinburgh. **Re-thinking the Neolithic: the clash between old ideas and new ideas and new data**

16th February Dr Val Turner, Regional Archaeologist, Shetland **The crucible of Iron Age Shetland: Mousa, Old Scatness and Jarlshof**

16th March Dr. Jennifer Novotny, University of Glasgow. **They don't want your charity – they demand their chance: rehabilitating WW1 wounded at Erskine Hospital**

20th April **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 7.15 pm start**, followed by
Professor James H. Dickson **Life and death of Oetzi, the Tyrolean Iceman, 25 years after the discovery**

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

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 David Breeze, Professor Andrew-Wallace Hadrill, Professor Mike Parker Pearson and Professor John Barrett

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

Dalrymple Lectures 2016/17

Professor Roger Stalley, Fellow Emeritus of Trinity College Dublin.

Ireland and the art of stone carving in early medieval Europe.

14 November 6.30 - The Sculptor and his craft

15 November 6.30 - Artistic Identity

16 November 6.30 - The search for meaning

17 November **7.30** - Stone carving in the early medieval world

The venue for the Dalrymple Series is 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 Margaret Gardiner from whom Gift Aid Forms are also available. If you pay by Standing Order please ensure that it is set for the correct amount.

First Winter Excursion – Saturday, 19th November, 2016

Visit to Britannia Panopticon Theatre, Glasgow

Members will gather at 10:50 a.m. inside the Panopticon Theatre, 117 Trongate, Glasgow for a tour of this former Music Hall. The Theatre is situated near T. J. Hughes Department Store and access is via New Wynd Lane, which lies between McDonalds Bakers and Mitchell's Amusements on Argyle Street.

The Britannia Panopticon is the world's oldest surviving Music Hall. It was opened in the 1850's and entertained generations of Glaswegians until it ceased to operate as a theatre in 1938. Through the years many famous acts have performed at the Panopticon including Stan Laurel, Harry Champion, Marie Lloyd and Harry Lauder.

Today the Panopticon Music Hall Trust is campaigning to raise public awareness with the intention of restoring this unique and historic building to its former glory.

Members should not there is **No Lift**, and access involves climbing two flights of stairs.

Although there is no charge for the tour, the Panopticon Trust is a private Charity dependent on its own fundraising and members will be invited to make a suitable donation.

<http://www.britanniapanopticon.org/>

The Excursions Team are busy putting together a Spring Walk through Cawder to Mavis Valley, as a follow-up to the fascinating talk recently given by past President, Carol Primrose who will be conducting the walk. Full details to follow.

The First Summer Excursion to Ireland in June 2017, details of which were circulated earlier, is fully subscribed but anyone wishing to join the reserve list should contact Margaret King through the website.

The Second Summer Excursion will be the Antonine Wall revisited, highlighting recent work on the Wall following its World Heritage Status. Full details in the Spring Issue of A Touch of GAS.

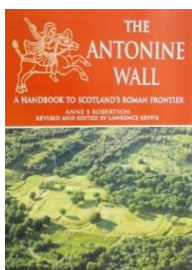
!!! NEW WEBSITE NOW ACTIVE - www.glasarchsoc.org.uk !!!

The new website was launched at the Annual General Meeting in April and contains all the information you need and would expect on our events, Meetings, Excursions, etc. plus other matters of interest. There are histories of the Society, the Dalrymple Fund and the Dalrymple Donaldson Fund. It will also shortly be possible to purchase *The Antonine Wall Handbook*, and *Archaeology Around Glasgow*, and to join/renew subscriptions online using PayPal.

There are also facilities for members to add their photographs, reports of sites, monuments, exhibitions, etc. To contribute please contact Ann Gormlie via the *Contact Page* of the website.

The Antonine Wall: A Handbook to Scotland's Roman Frontier

New Edition Now Available



Our signature publication written by Professor Anne S. Robertson was first published in 1960. Professor Lawrence Keppie took over the editorship with the Fourth Edition in 1990 and he has now produced this new and completely updated Sixth Edition, lavishly illustrated in colour reflecting the wealth of new excavation and survey work. The Antonine Wall was recognised by UNESCO in 2008 as part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site.

144 pages; 75 Illustrations - £9.95 (£8.95 to members) [£11.50 (£10.50 to members) including postage in the UK]

Available at Society Meetings or via the new website

Langside Community Heritage

Indefatigable members Lynda Frazer and Ross Wallace has launched this group to engage the local group with the area's rich heritage. Further information from – info@langsidecommunityheritage.org

Scottish Archaeological Journal and EUP News

The Supplement to Volume 38 devoted to the long-awaited Cathcart Castle by Brian Kerr has been published and should be with all members shortly. If anyone has not received it by say Mid-November, please contact Margaret Gardiner, Membership Secretary via the Contacts facility on the new website.

All issues of Scottish Archaeological Journal are available online via the Edinburgh University Press website. This facility is available free to fully paid-up GAS members and requires a dedicated Access Token.

GAS members are also entitled to discounts on EUP Publications – 20% on Books and 10% on Journal Subscriptions. Again a different dedicated Access Token is required which is available from Margaret Gardiner, via the website.

Council News

The New Website has a Contacts Facility. Just select the appropriate Officer, type the message, click send, and it will automatically be sent to the correct place.

Council has co-opted Gavin Wilson. Gavin planned the East Lothian trip last year and contributed to the forthcoming one to Ireland; he has lots of ideas and will be a great addition to Council and to the Excursions Team.

At The Hunterian until 8 January to complement our March Lecture – Dr. Jennifer Novotny, University of Glasgow.
They don't want your charity – they demand their chance: rehabilitating WW1 wounded at Erskine Hospital

In War and Peace: The Erskine Story examines the involvement of pioneering surgeon Sir William Macewen, in the foundation of the hospital and his contribution to the development of prosthetics, most famously the 'Erskine Limb'.

The exhibition also emphasises the vocational rehabilitation that early patients received alongside their physical rehabilitation, considering their reintegration into society as well as their medical treatment.

Admission Free

And ... as a taster for our April Lecture – Professor James H. Dickson ***Life and death of Oetzi, the Tyrolean Iceman, 25 years after the discovery – At the NMS until 15 January 2017***

Stone Age Jade from the Alps

The rare and exquisite jadeitite axeheads found around the Scottish countryside have long puzzled archaeologists. How did these beautiful Neolithic axeheads end up in Scotland, so far from their origins in the North Italian Alps around 6,000 years ago?

Now, thanks to a French-led project involving National Museums Scotland – *Projet Jade* – their fascinating story can be told. *Stone Age Jade from the Alps* tells the story of these precious ceremonial objects.

Linking the ancient world with the modern, the exhibition will also feature a sculpture inspired by one of these axeheads, created by contemporary sculptor, Tim Pomeroy.

Jadeitite axehead held up so that the sun shines through its thin edges. Photo ©: Projet Jade



MUST HAVE FASHION ACCESSORIES

The Society has a supply of quality enamelled badges bearing the Society's Crest, without which no attire is complete! These are available at the ridiculously cheap price of £3 and on sale at Lectures.

We also have car stickers available free from the Publications Stand at meetings or by post from Dorothy Gormlie, Vice President. Don't embarrass your car by sending it out unsuitably adorned!

Archaeology in Majorca

Allan Gifford

Puig de sa Morisca

On a recent holiday in Santa Ponça, Majorca I decided to take a break from the strenuous activity of “lying by the pool” and “falling asleep” to have a look at a couple of nearby archaeological sites.

The first was the Puig (or hill) de sa Morisca archaeological site which is located in an archaeological park of the same name, situated on a hill to the south of Cala de Santa Ponça. The park is publically owned and covers approximately 45 hectares, 35 of them municipally owned. There are seven archaeological sites within the park and the Puig is the most outstanding. Ten minutes' walk away are a further nine sites.

The site was in use from the Late Bronze Age, 1200 Before the Common Era (bce) until the arrival of the troops of the Roman Republic, commanded by the consul Quintus Caecilius Metellus in 123 bce. At this point the site was abandoned before a final period of occupation lasting from the Almohad phase, Islamic period (1201-1229) until it was finally abandoned in 1229, with the conquest of Mallorca by the Catalan-Aragonese Crown when, in September 1229, the troops of King James I landed in Santa Ponça Bay and devastated the peak. This appears in the levels of destruction found in the excavations

I only had time to visit the Puig which relates to the second phase of the site started in the Talayotic Era, in the Iron Age, 900/800 bce, when a tower (Tower III) was built at the top of the peak (pictured).



The first phase is from the Late Bronze Age, 1200 bce and was related to the network of coastal settlements that facilitated navigation in that era.

The second phase started in the Talayotic Era, in the Iron Age, 900/800 bce, when a tower (Tower III) was built at the top of the peak. The settlement has two well defined zones: the inhabited area that is located on the hill, on the slopes of the Puig, and that is delimited by two sections of walls and the high part of the Puig de sa Morisca. This is a very well protected area, with five towers and various lengths of wall built, controlling all access to the hilltop.

The third phase developed from the 6th century bce when the settlement acquired importance owing to the relationships it established with Ebusus (Ibiza). This allowed it to maintain contacts with outsiders, something reflected in the high presence of Phoenician and Punic materials that would come to Puig de sa Morisca throughout the 6th century. These goods would be distributed to other secondary settlements that relied on it to a greater or lesser extent, thus establishing a network of settlements that would occupy an extensive territorial area.

This commercial activity that began at the end of the Talayotic Period was to continue and become established throughout the Balearic Period. It would adapt to the changing economic dynamics of the Mediterranean, where Roman goods gained importance as the Republic expanded and annexed territories.

The last step of the Puig belongs to the Almohad phase, Islamic period (1201-1229). Various rooms attached to the central tower of Puig de sa Morisca (Tower III) date from this time.

Aside from the archaeological interest the views from the top are terrific in every direction and there is also much interesting plant life, but, be aware, it's pretty rough underfoot and on a (very) hot day it is a bit of a climb!

Sa Mesquida

The second site I visited was the remains of a roman villa, more prosaically, situated next to the car park of a supermarket towards the back of the town (pictured).



Described as a rural settlement founded in the 1st century Before the Common Era (bce) “*The villa of Sa Mesquida is located some 500 metres from the sea, in the middle of an old fertile plain, suitable for farming and for developing a rural settlement with intensive farming activity*”.

There is a group of 6 rooms arranged around an uncovered central patio with a well. In this sector of the complex it is worth noting a series of structures. The first is associated with the production of salted foods or making wine. The second is the remains of a kiln for firing earthenware made using a potter’s wheel. This is the first recorded kiln of this type on the island.

This first area, founded in the 1st century bce, was destroyed at the end of the 2nd century. The reasons for its destruction are unknown.

In the second zone the remains of a cistern that had been used as a rubbish tip throughout the 5th and 6th centuries were found. A wide variety of items have been found in here: remains of amphorae, crockery, earthenware and kitchenware, and a large amount of animal remains, glass, metals and architectural elements. The pottery, from various provinces, is proof of the intensive contact between this small rural settlement and the rest of the island of Mallorca with other areas in the Mediterranean such as the Iberian Peninsula, the north of Africa or the south of Gaul (modern day France).

Amongst this merchandise wine from Roman Italy or Hispania Tarraconensis and oil from Hispania Baetica, for example, stand out, products that were highly valued in several areas of the Mediterranean.

Refreshed by a drink from the adjacent supermarket I returned to the world of Irish bars, fast food restaurants and “Full English Breakfasts”.

<http://arqueomallorca.com/en/archaeological-sites/>



And finally two images from our recent Northumberland Trip The dramatic Cragside House, left (courtesy of Mike Simpson) and Roger Miket explaining the archaeological layout of the extensive Yeavinger area, right.



GENERAL COUNCIL 2016-2017

President	Dale Bilisland, 22 West Chapelton Drive, Bearsden, Glasgow, G61 2DA (0141-942-0935) dale.bilisland2012@btinternet.com
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<i>Correspondence</i>	Direct Correspondence to the Appropriate Official via the Contact facility on the website or to the President

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 the Scottish Archaeological Journal and our twice-yearly Newsletters.

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 to future issues should be sent to the Newsletter Editor –

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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 or for use of photographs, plans, etc.

Material can be supplied by "hard copy" but electronic is preferred (Word) to save retyping! Photographs and drawings are welcome

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