



---

## DUNNICHEN DAY AT PICTAVIA Saturday 17th May

After the decision was taken last year to move the annual conference to September, we decided this year to combine our AGM with a celebration of Dunnichen Day at Pictavia. Tea or coffee will be on offer from 9.15am. There will be a chance to catch up with old friend before the "formal" session starts at 9.45, with short talks on *Dunnichen, Turin, Restenneth, Aberlemno and thereabouts : some thoughts.* from David Henry, David McKenzie and Norman Atkinson.

The AGM will be held at 11.15 (see the notice and agenda overleaf), finishing at 12 noon. Remember that entry to Pictavia is free to PAS members and that only members are allowed to attend the AGM. If you do not have a green membership card (mainly new members), a member of committee will be on hand to help out.

After the more formal morning session, we have a choice of afternoon entertainment. Angus has an abundance of Pictish stones and sites, and there will be a tour of some of these in the afternoon. In order to keep as flexible as possible, we suggest that members help by car-sharing and will offer a chance for arrangements to be made on Saturday morning. The tour will leave from Pictavia at 2pm, and will aim to return around 6.

At Pictavia, there will be a series of events starting from 1pm. The Battle of Dunnichen will be refought in miniature, with opposing teams of tacticians manipulating model armies on a miniature version of the landscape around Dunnichen, testing out how well the site suggested by James E Fraser in his recent book "The Battle of Dunnichen 685" would suit the Pictish army. Several craftswomen will be on hand to show how Pictish themes can be incorporated in practical everyday art, and for children of all ages, a chance to try out temporary Pictish tattoos with face painting.

### Other Programme News

The annual conference will be held at the Carnegie Hall, Tarbat on the 6th of September, with field trips on Sunday the 7th. Full details of the programme will be available in the next newsletter, together with a booking form. We will also publish details of how to get there, and of special deals available for local accommodation.

We are also putting the finishing touches to the winter programme at Pictavia, and that too will be published in the next issue.

The situation for Edinburgh is a little more complicated. We have agreed to move venue once again. It has also been suggested that we change the evening from Thursday. Late night shopping in Edinburgh only exacerbates the problems of traffic and parking, which have proved unpleasant for members and speakers alike. If you have any strong views on this, please let us know. Either drop a note to the secretary, or include a comment with your membership renewal form. We hope to announce the results of this straw poll at Pictavia on the 17th May, but will aim to arrange the programme in time for inclusion with that for Pictavia.

Finally, we have been invited to hold some joint talks this session with the Friend of Govan Old, and will also post details of these soon.

# **Pictish Arts Society**

## **Notice of Annual General Meeting**

### **on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2003**

The Annual General Meeting of the Pictish Arts Society will be held at Pictavia, on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2003 at 12.00 noon to consider the following business:-

- 1 Apologies for absence.
2. Approval of the 2002 AGM minute.
3. Annual Report – President.
4. Honorary Secretary 's Report.
5. Treasurer's Report: Presentation and Approval of Annual Accounts.
6. Appointment of an Independent Examiner.
7. Determination of Subscription Rates.
8. Other Honorary Officers' Reports:
  - (a) Membership Secretary.
  - (b) Editor
  - (c) Events Organiser
  - (d) Archivist
9. Alteration to clause 5.5 of the constitution (see below)
10. Election of Honorary Officers.
  - (a) President
  - (b) Two Vice Presidents
  - (c) Secretary
  - (d) Treasurer
  - (e) Membership Secretary
  - (f) Editor
  - (g) Events Organiser
  - (h) Archivist
11. Election of Committee  
(Minimum six, maximum twelve)
12. Any other competent business.

Clause 5.5 reads "Honorary members may be appointed by the committee at its discretion but these honorary members shall not be entitled to vote at general meetings."

The motion is that this be replaced by " Up to ten honorary life members may be appointed by the committee with the agreement of the AGM. They will enjoy the full benefits of ordinary membership without cost. The appointment of such honorary life members is in recognition of their services to the Society and to Pictish Studies"

For further information and nominations please contact Sheila Hainey (PAS Hon. Secretary) Torr of Kedlock Farmhouse, Kedlock Feus, cupar, KY15 4PY.

Copies of the 2002 AGM minute, Annual Accounts and copies of our Constitution will be available on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May. If you would like copies before then, please send a large (A4) stamped, addressed envelope to the Honorary Secretary at the above address.

## **That time of year again**

Once again, it is that time of year when your treasurer has to ask for your subscriptions. If you have joined/ renewed your membership since January of this year, this does not apply to you. Members who have paid their subscriptions by the time that the next issue is mailed out will receive their new membership card with that mailing.

**A FLOWERART EXTRAVAGANZA--TAKE A CLOOT**, any old cloot, and then take a handful of daffodils ...and make your own Pictish banner! At Pictavia a workshop for children of all ages will give a creative hour to make something the Picts might have carried in battle or to party! ... come along with inspiration and willpower! Stone artist Marianna Lines shows you how at Pictavia on the 17th May.

## **SEND YOUR FRIENDS PICTISH GREETINGS**

Kath Todd joins us at Pictavia on the 17th of May to demonstrate a range of card-making techniques incorporating Pictish motifs. Try out your own ideas to create your own Pictish greetings.....

## **BRAID THE PICTISH WAY**

Ruth Black, who describes her work later in this newsletter, will be on hand at Pictavia on the 17th of May to show you how to achieve textile braids like those that appear translated into stone



*Fighting warriors from the Glamis Manse stone*

## ROLLING STONES

**FIFE** The first edition seems to have been popular, with several members passing on comments, especially regarding the Falkland stones. I was contacted by Marion Wood of Fife Council Museums, who confirmed that in 1997 Mike King, the then curator in North-East Fife concluded a long loan arrangement with the National Trust for Scotland. This brought the two symbol stones from the basement at Falkland Palace to the Laing Museum in Newburgh.

Although the Laing Museum is only open from April to September, appointments outside this period can be made to view the stones by contacting Fife Council Museums at County Buildings, St. Catherine Street, Cupar, KY15 4TA, Tel: 01334- 412933.

Marion also confirmed that the "new" Kilduncan cross slab is in St. Andrews Museum. While it is not on display at present, it too can be seen by appointment as above or by telephoning St. Andrews, 01334-412690.

**DES** The newly published 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland', New Series, Vol 3, 2002 has just hit my desk. It is edited by Robin Turner, and is published by the Council for Scottish Archaeology, c/o the National Museums of Scotland. The following entries will be of interest:-

Aberdeenshire: Riddoch Court, Rothiemay  
NJ 549 486 A bird-headed figure incised on a granite slab found built into a garden wall, reported by Marion Youngblood.

Argyll and Bute: Inchmarnock NS 024 596  
The 'Hostage Stone' carved on slate is illustrated, two fragments found during two seasons' excavations by Headland Archaeology.

Highland: Dalnavie cNH 6473 7414  
This is a symbol stone bearing, from top to bottom, an inverted 'L', a crescent and 'V' rod and a mirror and comb, found during ploughing. The find is illustrated by Ian Scott, and is in Inverness Museum, accession no. INVMG 2002.013. (reported by P. Weeks, Mr. Brown.)

Perth and Kinross: Abernethy NO 1892 1650  
This is a fragment reported last newsletter found in a garden in School Wynd. It has a single panel of

fretwork similar to the Govan and Inchcolm cross-shafts and possibly dated to the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
Mark Hall

Shetland: Old Skatness HU 389 106

The symbol stone with the bear, reported in the last newsletter, is illustrated.

S.J. Dockrill, V.E. Turner, J.M. Bond

### LOST

I am frequently asked, especially by newcomers to the study of carved stones, just what "lost" means. Some stones are lost for a while but they do turn up again, and frustratingly, someone might even know them about. Hopefully, this column will help find some stones by publishing the "lost" or at least the "whereabouts unknown" stones.

In my native Angus there are a number of lost stones, and I thought I would set the stone rolling by having a brief look at these!

1 Baggerton NO c 469 537 Fragment of a symbol stone with a 'sceptre and serpent' found shortly before 1867 and not seen since.

4 Farnell NO 6275 5542 Two disc-headed crosses, found in 1870 and described in 1910, but not seen since.

5 Inchbrayock NO 7093 5675 Fragment with a fine hunting scene, found in the old kirkyard and "kept at the Manse at Craig". Although recorded by Hubert Coutts as being there in 1970, this stone has not been seen since the death of Rev. Scott in 1908. One rumour was that it was built into the manse wall. The old manse is presently for sale. Any takers?

8 St. Vigeans NO 638 429 No 26, a triangular fragment with interlace and key pattern. Although moved into the museum in 1961, it seems to have disappeared! Two other fragments, photographed by A. Milne in 1885, alongside the others have never been reported.

One has a 'keyhole' opening and the other is a ring-headed cross.

9 Strathmartine NO 378 352 Twelve stones were originally found at this ancient church site. The recumbent with its serpent, no.2, displayed in Dundee Museum, and no. 4, a fragment with spiral and interlace is in the National Museum of Scotland. Most of the others were moved to Baldovan House, but searches have failed to recover any.

2 Balglassie cNO 538 577 Found about 1846 covering a cist, this stone had representations of a battle axe and

3 Elliot NO 621 398 Found built into a wall on the Peasiehill Farm Road in 1929. This was a small incised cross within a circle. Not seen in 1966 or since.

7 Nevay NO 312 441 A second disc-headed cross was found in 1985 by Niall Robertson, at the same time as the one now in the Meffan. It was set aside for collection, but had disappeared within the day!

10 Tannadice NO 4752 9807 A fragment with the figure of a man holding an animal in one hand and a dagger in the other, also with an inscription, was found in the foundations of a house adjacent to the kirkyard in 1797. Not found in 1885 or since.

6 Linlathen NO 466 338 A broken symbol stone with the Pictish beast was found in a cist at Carn Greg. Was moved to the nearby Linlathen House, where it was photographed. Sadly, this fine carving has not been seen within living memory.

These twenty-two lost stones represent a significant proportion of the early-medieval sculpture so far found in Angus. Needless to say, I'd be delighted to hear from anyone who can assist in tracing any of them!

Do write in if you have any stones which you are struggling to find, and I'll see if we can help! Next newsletter I'll feature another province and its lost stones. Any suggestions?

Norman Atkinson

## From Easter Ross

A couple of pieces from Dougie Scott, who asked that we include his email so that anyone interested can contact him directly. His e book is also available now..

### The New Ardross Pictish Symbol Stone.

In 1999 a 'new' class 1 symbol stone, was found at Stittingham Farm near Ardross, in Easter-Ross. It is thought to have come from the top end of the field 100m or so to the west of the Stittingham cairn. The stone is about 1.5m long by 0.5m wide by 18cm thick slab and has rough ridges running along its length giving it the appearance of a piece of fossilised wood. The three symbols consist of to the top of the stone an inverted L, which is surrounded by the remains of a circle, while below this a crescent and V rod and a mirror. The finding of this stone is interesting as it was found in the same vicinity as the Ardross wolf and deer head which suggests the area may produce more Pictish burials. The inverted

L symbol also helps to confirm that some of the symbols on 'Sheila's' stone, from Meikle Ferry, now outside Tain Museum, are Pictish. This stone is one of those enigma's as it also a rayed disc similar to Knockando, which surrounded by bronze age cupmarks. The new Ardross stone is now on display in Inverness Museum. The people of Easter Ross will forever be grateful to the Pictish Arts Society, for sending us your most diligent researcher, Sheila Fraser, who not only found Meikle Ferry stone, but also confirmed the symbols were Pictish

## Crichie.

I first went to the bronze age or neolithic circle henge at Crichie on the southern outskirts of Inverurie many years ago to see if the line of stones leading from the south were perhaps aligned on the southern moon, only to find they didn't. The other reason for visiting this site was to have a look at one of the stones, which was relocated in the henge after some of the original stones of the circ. had been destroyed during the 19<sup>th</sup> century and is carved with a Pictish beast above a crescent and V rod. Aubrey Burl had said the Pictish stone had originally stood only a short distance away to the northeast, but because the stone was moved I never made any real effort to find out its original position and I often wondered if it might have pointed to where the moon could have risen at one of the lunar standstills.

One day while talking to Strat Halliday at the Royal Commission about the former location of this stone, he said that Ritchie showed this on his map in the 1918-19 PSAS description of the site. By taking the angles between the first of the stones to the south of the henge and the position of the Pictish stone shown on the map it looks as if the stone was pointing to where the sun would have risen in early May and August. These are the times of the later Celtic festivals of Beltane and Lughnasa. Although there are no obvious lunar connection between the symbols and orientation to this time of year, it is similar to that of the alignment of the two stones at Ardlair, one of which is carved with a Pictish beast above a mirror next to the slit sword symbol. On the 4 May 1992 I was fortunate on visiting Ardlair for the first time in seeing the sun set directly in line with the two stones and the recumbent stones circle. As I couldn't make any connections between the orientations of these 'bronze age' stones and the Pictish symbolism, due to my sky bias, I computer backtracked the sky to the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD and found the only thing that roughly fitted the shape of the Pictish beast was what we call the constellation of Leo the lion.

douglas.scott@virgin.net

## Stuart McHardy and the Nine Maidens

Back in the dim and distant days when the PAS was still a demented glint in the eyes of two or three (very) strange people there was project already hoary in antiquity. It was in the 1970s, a time of funny hairstyles, funnier clothes and awful music – that I had embarked on an investigation of the story attached to Martin's Stone just north of Dundee. This involved nine maidens, a well, a dragon and a local hero all wrapped up in a local poem. It turned out that this story was the tip of an iceberg and that the Nine Maidens were known in many areas of Pictland, linked with wells, placenames, altars, crannogs and saints, some of whom were clearly originally goddess figures. However my studies soon showed them to be more than Pictish – a compliment indeed! They occur in Brittany, England, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Romania, Scandinavia and Wales with very similar groups in Africa, Oceania and South America. A Magdalenian cave painting in Catalonia shows nine dancing women and a single male, a motif that recurs time and again. The upshot of all this is that I have been hawking extensively on the subject at a variety of conferences, meetings and lecture courses to such an extent I have even been approached by strangers in the street asking about the Nine Maidens. The questions have tended to be of the type – when is this bloody book going to actually appear! Well it has and I will be talking about the book – and perhaps the Nine Quines themselves - at Ottakers in Edinburgh's George St on Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm (phone for free tickets) and in Ottakers, Dundee City Square on Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. All members are more than welcome to come and wonder at the final appearance of this somewhat long-drawn out book project.

This is what Stuart's publishers, Luath Press, have to say about the book:

'The Oldest Institution on Earth'

In a book to be published on 9 April, respected folklorist Stuart McHardy argues that the Nine Maidens - a mysterious female group found in myth and folklore - may be humanity's most ancient institution.

Beginning his journey in his native Scotland, where the Nine Maidens were remembered as Pictish saints, Stuart McHardy traces the phenomenon across the globe, finding the Maidens in classical Greece, medieval Iceland, Ireland, France, Norway, and - far beyond Europe - in Siberia, Africa, Oceania and South America. The oldest record of a Nine Maidens group is around 15,000 years old.

From the Stone Age to the present day, the Nine Maidens occur again and again in myth, folklore and legend - as Muses, Maenads, Valkyries, seeresses, druidesses and saints. In this book, Stuart McHardy distils thirty years of research and uncovers what may be one of the most ancient and widespread of human

'For centuries, history has been written by men, for men, and about men. I hope that in *The Quest for the Nine Maidens* I have redressed the balance a little by examining these ancient and apparently universal sisterhoods. We may never know the full significance of these groups of Nine Maidens found all over the world. *The Quest* goes on'

Stuart's lifelong interest in history, folklore and mythology and his passion about his native land led him to become one of the founder members of the Pictish Arts Society, and he is one of our past Presidents. We owe a great deal to Stuart's drive and enthusiasm.



### Old St Fergus Kirk at Dyce, Aberdeen

The ruin of St Fergus Kirk near Dyce village NW of Aberdeen city and has long been associated with a number of early Christian monuments, namely 4 small Crosses of varying design and 2 symbol stones, Class I and II, which have now returned from examination in Edinburgh. Their new location is at the West end of the ruined church sheltered by a substantial timber and slate canopy which is built within the walls of the ruin. Paving and landscaping nears completion. The Class II stone, which formerly stood cemented fast and flush in the wall constructed at the East door alongside the Class I Stone now stands well away from the wall in its new locus and the rediscovered linear Ogham script can clearly be seen.

Class I stone: Pictish 'beast', double disc and Z-rod

Class II stone: Cross, Ogham, crescent & V-rod, double disc & Z-rod, disc on pedestal, triple disc.

The massive silver Parkhill Pictish chain was found across the River Don 3-4 km from this area.

Access: St Fergus' is situated at OS Landranger Sheet 38 reference 875153 and is 1 km from the airport perimeter road with ample parking. The potholed (single track) tarmac access road to the kirkyard has recently been the subject of an urgent repair campaign by the Aberdeen Evening Express and the father of Piper Alpha victim Robert Selbie who is buried there. Access by rail, bus or car are best from Dyce village (3 km); turn north-west along the Pitmedden Road which forms part of the airport perimeter road. The blue 'Dyce Symbol Stones' sign has been replaced.

J D Moir FSA Scot

## Ruth Black's Evergreen Crafts

I have been embroidering things from a very early age - I think since before I went to school. Several years ago my clergyman husband asked me to make him a new set of vestments. "Something with a Celtic theme would be nice" he said. So began my exploration of things Celtic and Pictish and my experiments with designing knotwork. Some of you may have seen me wearing one of these experiments at PAS Conferences and field trips.

In recent years I have developed a range of products using an appliqué technique with Harris Tweed - wallhangings, cushions bags and purses. Everything is individually made and hand finished. The vast range of fabric patterns and colours combined with different threads and designs means that every piece is unique.

### Small Wall-hangings

These are readily affordable pieces of textile art. The wide range of colours, sizes and styles ensure that there is something to suit every home, whether it is a 'compact & bijou' flat, a grand country mansion or something in between. They are fully lined and have a concealed supporting strip along the top edge.

### Cushions

The range of cushions includes Pictish symbols and interlace designs. Some have fringed edges in which a velcro fastening is concealed, others are zipped up the centre back. Tartan is used on some of them to give a tartan knotwork design on one face with plain tartan on the reverse. A bold thistle design devised from Celtic knotwork completes the range. They can be supplied with or without cushion pads.

### Bags and Purses

The large shoulder bags have a wide strap and are big enough to hold a magazine plus the various bits and pieces that we all like to carry around with us. They have a secure velcro closure on an inside pocket. The purses close by means of a velcro strip which means they don't accidentally get left open. They have a long, hand twisted cord so that they can be looped over the shoulder or across the chest. The small bags also have a hand twisted cord and close by means of a flap secured by a decorative button. They also have a velcro closure innerpocket. All bags and purses have a Harris Tweed label sewn onto the back, surrounded by an embroidered Celtic knotwork border and are fully lined.

### Exhibition and Commissions

From mid May there will be an exhibition of some of my large wall hangings on display at Pictavia. For those who can't make it to Pictavia to see the real thing, photographs will be on display on my website and all items in the exhibition can be purchased by contacting me directly

Commissions are welcome. Items can be purchased through my website, but are also available at a small selection of crafts shops and visitor centres including Canongate Jerseys (Edinburgh), Iona Scottish Crafts, Made in Scotland (Beaulieu), Urquhart Castle (Loch Ness), Fort George (near Inverness) and Archaeolink (Aberdeenshire).

Contact details: Ruth Black, St Michael's Rectory,  
Abban Street, Inverness,  
IV38HH  
Tel/Fax: 01463 233797  
email: [ruth.black@angelforce.co.uk](mailto:ruth.black@angelforce.co.uk)  
[www.angelforce.co.uk/evergreen](http://www.angelforce.co.uk/evergreen)

## Out and about in Fife.

FALKLAND ... The Falkland pair of Pictish stones are alive and well languishing the dim light of the unopened Laing Museum in Newburgh. They were taken there from Falkland Palace dungeons several years ago by Mike King curator of Fife Museums (northeast) for a Pictish exhibition .. and have been appreciated by many. Now Douglas Speirs of Fife Council Archaeology wants to help see them displayed publicly in their proper home again .. what will happen? watch this space. The Falkland Society has been informed of this development, and it will be interesting to see if they put any pressure on to re-patriate the stones to Falkland.

EAST WEMYSS CAVES .. This is a dead potato in the government books. Both Rod McCullough of Historic Scotland and Douglas Speirs have said that there is no future in trying to 'save' or interpret the carvings of the Wemyss caves. Besides the fact that the land is owned by the Earl of Wemyss, they can basically do nothing about it. Why doesn't someone go to the Earl himself: Pictish Arts here we come! We need some discussion please.

OTHER SAD STONES ... In Old Abdie churchyard near Lindores in Fife there is a little 'morte house' which houses the lovely class I (sorry Isabel!) Pictish stone with the sundial over the V- crescent and cauldron symbols .... along with a Calvary Cross of circa 13th century, said to be from Lindores Abbey. This stone is in a dreadful state of repair and is flaking away badly. Someone has charcoaled the designs of the cross and fleur de lis which hasn't helped. It needs a safe home. Help! Douglas has been informed.

Marianna Lines

## Bourtie and Dyce

The Editor

Pictish Arts Society Newsletter

Re your piece 'Pictish Problems at Bourtie and Dyce' in the Winter 2002 edition of the newsletter, Historic Scotland would like to clarify some points.

Rather than stones 'languishing unseen', the Dyce stones were removed for essential conservation work. To call Historic Scotland's Conservation Centre a 'dusty archive' disregards the knowledge and care taken to ensure that the Dyce stones remain a valuable local attraction. 'Wrested' is a rather emotive word for what was a very necessary act of conservation. It also completely overlooks the exciting discovery of an Ogam inscription on the side of the cross slab, obscured since it was built into the wall of the church more than 100 years ago.

As your Editor's note points out the two largest stones are back at St Fergus's Church, Dyce following construction of an appropriate structure to house them. The four small stones will be back by summer this year once the inner wall of the gable is repointed. A new interpretation panel will also be put in place.

Historic Scotland's intention was always to return the stones, but only when their continued preservation was assured. Initially it was believed that conservation work on St Fergus's Church, owned by Aberdeen City Council, would be completed to coincide with the return of the stones but, as time slipped by, we chose to progress the construction of the shelter and to return the stones to Dyce. Historic Scotland understands that Aberdeen City Council intends to consolidate St Fergus's this year, with grant assistance from Historic Scotland.

Regarding Bourtie, the case remains that the planning authority and its archaeological advisor are the right people to assess the future of the stone built into a steading wall. Since the building was in use, it was not a suitable candidate for scheduling, however Historic Scotland feels confident that the planning process is the appropriate vehicle to ensure preservation.

Allan Rutherford  
Inspector, Ancient Monuments  
Historic Scotland

## Talks, Exhibitions and Fairs

### Talks:

#### Groam House Museum

Annual Academic Lecture\*: Friday 9th May Fraser Hunter, Archaeologist, National Museums of Scotland:  
*Beyond the edge of the empire: Caledonians, Picts and Romans.*

\* Please phone museum 01381 620961 to confirm lecture venue (from 1 May 10am-5pm, Sundays 2-4.30pm)

#### Whithorn Lecture 2003

Lecture by Professor Geoffrey Barrow D Litt FBA  
FRSE:

*St Ninian and Pictomania*

To be held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2003 at St Ninian's Priory Church, Whithorn.

Further Information from The Hon. Sec. Friends of the Whithorn Trust, Mansefield,  
Whithorn, Wigtownshire DG8 8PE.

### Exhibitions :

Groam House:

Until 27th April: *Hugh Miller (1802-1856) Local Hero*  
from mid May: *The Celtic Art of George Bain*

Pictavia:

from mid May: Ruth Black of Evergreen Crafts (see previous page)

Scottish Poetry Library, 5, Chrichton Close,  
Canongate, Edinburgh

until 18th April

Marianna Lines: *Stone Poems*

## Museum notes

**Elgin Museum** is undergoing interior refurbishment and should reopen from the 8th August. Members who were at last year's conference will have fond memories of viewing the collection of stones displayed to us by curator Susan Bennet at the end of the Saturday afternoon session. This splendid museum is well worth a visit.

**Burghead Headland Trust** hope to have completed the conversion of the old signal station on the Pictish ramparts early in the summer. This will create a new interpretation centre and a new home for Burghead's stones.

**Archaeolink.** There are current funding concerns threatening the continued existence of Archaeolink, the prehistory park at Oyne, near Inch.

**St Vigean's.** Take care when collecting the key for St Vigean's.... Beware of the dog! Alistair was bitten on his last visit there.

Iain Fraser pointed out a report that the **Formaston** stone has been moved to the Victory Hall, Aboyne, under the auspices of the Deeside Antiquarian Society with the assistance of the Marquis of Huntly and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

## Make your views known

If you have any comment to make on any of the above, or wish to air your views on things Pictish, either write to the Newsletter Editor, PAS, c/o Pictavia, Haughmuir, by Brechin, DD9 6RL or to Alistair Carty, PO Box 3738, Glasgow, G41 4YD, marking the envelope "PAS".

The views of our correspondents do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Society. We do, however, hope to reflect the diversity of our membership in these columns.

## Museum Opening Times

There were some complaints that last issues' list only covered a small sample of museums with Pictish Stones in their collection. If there are any missing from this list, please drop a note to the editor at Pictavia with details.

Abbreviations:

a=adult, ch=child, con=concessions, sc=senior citizens, nc=no charge. HS=Historic Scotland property—charge is for non-members.

Where opening is seasonal, unless otherwise shown, this is from the start of the first month to the end of the second month given (May-Sept=1st May-30th September).

Abernethy  
Morningside Stables,  
School Wynd,  
Abernethy, PH2 9JJ  
01738 850 889  
17th May-Sept Thur, Fri Sat, Sun  
13.00-17.00nc

Arbroath Abbey  
1/4/03-30/9/03 Mon-Sun 9.30-18.00  
1/10/03-31/3/03 Mon-Sun 9.30-16.00  
a. £3, ch. £1, con. £2.30 HS

Arbroath Museum,  
Signal Tower,  
Lady Loan,  
Arbroath  
Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00nc

Burghead Museum  
Burghead Library  
Grant Street  
Burghead, IV30 2UE  
01309 673 701 (Falconer, Forres)  
Tues & Thurs 14.00-17.00, Thurs 17.00-20.00, Sat 10.00-12.00

Dunbeath Heritage Centre  
The Old School  
Dunbeath  
01593 731 233  
Easter-Oct Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00  
or by arrangement  
a £2 con £1 ch free

Dunrobin Castle Museum  
Nr Golspie, KW10 6SF  
01408 633 177  
May: Mon-Sat 10.30-16.30, Sun 13.00-16.30  
June-Sep: Mon-Sat 10.30-17.30, Sun 12.00-17.30

Elgin Cathedral  
Elgin  
01343 547 171  
Summer Mon-Sat 9.30-18.30  
a.£3, ch£1 con. £2.30 HS

Elgin Museum  
1, High Street,  
Elgin, IV30 1EQ  
01343 543 675  
from Aug 8th Mon-Fri 10.00-17.00, Sat 11.00-16.00, Sun 14.00-17.00  
a £2 ch 50p con £1

Falconer Museum  
Tolbooth Street  
Forres, IV36 0PH  
01309 673 701  
April-October Mon.-Sat 9.00-17.00, nc

Gateway to the Glens/ Kirriemuir  
The Town House  
32, High Street  
Kirriemuir  
Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00, closed Thursdays

Gairloch Heritage Museum  
Achtercairn,  
Gairloch, IV21 2BJ  
01445 712 287  
10<sup>th</sup> April-30<sup>th</sup> September, Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00  
a £2.50 sc£2, 5-16 yrs 50p



Groam House Museum,  
High Street  
Rosemarkie  
IV10 8UF  
01381 620 961  
Spring: Sat & Sun 14.00-16.00, Easter  
18-27 Apr 14.00-16.30  
May-Sept, Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00, Sun  
14.00-16.30 nc

Gurness Broch Museum  
Summer only  
01856 751414 HS  
a£3, c£1 con£2.50

Inverness Museum & Art Gallery  
Castle Wynd,  
Inverness, IV2 3ED  
1463 237 114  
mon-sat  
a ch con

Inverurie/Carnegie Museum,  
Inverurie  
Market Place,  
Inverurie AB51 3SN  
01467 621619  
Mon. Wed. Fri 14-16.30, Sat 10.00-  
13.00, 14.00-16.00 nc

Marischal College,  
University of Aberdeen  
Aberdeen AB9 1AS  
1224 273 131  
Mon-Fri 10.00-17.00, Sat 14.00-17.00 nc

Mc Manus Galleries  
Albert Square  
Dundee DD1 1DA  
01382 432020  
Mon-Sat 10.30-17.00 (Thurs-19.00),  
Sun 12.30-16.00 nc.

Meffen Institute/ Forfar Museum  
20, West High Street  
Forfar  
Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00 nc



Meikle  
Dundee Road,  
Meikle  
01888 640612  
April-Sept, Mon-Sun 9.30-18.00  
a. £2, ch 75p, con. £1.50. HS

Montrose Museum  
Panmure Place  
Montrose  
Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00 nc

Museum of Scotland  
Chambers Street  
Edinburgh EH1 1JF  
0131 2257534  
Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00, Tues-18.00,  
Sun 12.00-17.00 nc

Newburgh/Laing Museum  
High Street,  
Newburgh KY14 6DX  
01337 883017  
April-Sept Mon-Sun 12.00-17.00 nc

Northlands Viking Centre,  
Old School,  
Auchtergill  
by Wick  
KW1 4XF  
01955 603761  
June-Sept 10.00-16.00

Pictavia Visitor Centre  
Haughmuir  
by Brechin  
April-Sept Mon-Sat 9.30-17.30,  
Sun 10.30-17.30. Entrance free to  
members of the Pictish Arts Society.

Perth Museum and Art Gallery  
78, George Street  
Perth PH1 5LB  
01738 632488  
Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00 nc.

St Andrews Museum  
Kinburn House, Kinburn Park  
Doubledykes Road  
St Andrews KY16 9DP  
01334 412690  
April-Sept, Mon-Sun 10.00-17.00 nc

St Vigean  
Kirkstyle  
St Vigean  
daily 9.30-16.00, keys form Mrs  
Ramsay, Kirkstyle House  
or Arbroath Abbey. Proof of identity  
may be required

Shetland Museum  
Lower Hillhead  
Lerwick ZE1 6EI  
01595 675 057  
Mon Wed Fri 10.00-19.00  
Tue Thur Sat 10.00-17.00 nc

Tarbat Discovery Centre,  
Tarbatness Road,  
Portmahomack  
Tain IV20 1YA  
01862 871351  
March 1<sup>st</sup> Sat May 14.00-17.00  
1<sup>st</sup> Sun May-last Sat Sept 10.00-17.00  
a £3.50 con £2.00 12-18£1, under 12  
free.

Tankerness House Museum  
Broad Street  
Kirkwall  
KW15 1DH  
01856 873191  
April-Sept Mon-Sat 10.30-17.00, May-  
Sept also Sun 14.00-17.00  
there is an admission charge from April-  
Sep.

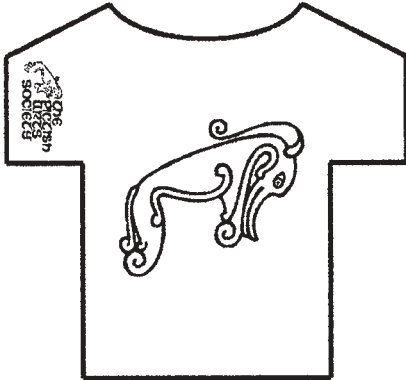
Thurso Heritage Museum  
High Street  
Thurso KW14 8AAE  
01847 892371 (Tourist Office)  
June-Sept Mon-Sat 10.00-  
13.00: & 14.00-17.00



**NEWT-SHIRTS**

(Short Sleeve)

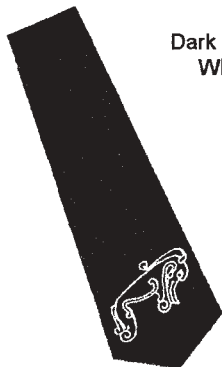
Natural colour cotton  
with a Green Pictish Beast on the  
front, the PAS ogham on the back, and  
the 'Pictish Arts Society' on one  
sleeve



Available in sizes  
M, L, XL  
Price £10

**PAS Ties**

Dark Green background  
White Pictish Beast  
£7.50  
(PAS Members)  
otherwise  
£8



**PICT Car Stickers**

BACK by POPULAR DEMAND  
£1.20

**ALL PRICES INCLUDE p&p  
(UK ONLY)**

Available at PAS Meetings or by Mail  
Order from the PAS Secretary

**PAS Committee 2002-2003**

**Office Bearers**

**President**  
**Norman Atkinson**  
5 Tolmont Crescent,  
Montrose,  
Angus DD10 9DQ  
Tel: 01674 675 956

**Vice President**  
**Niall M Robertson**  
22 Letham Road,  
Perth PH1 2AP

**Hon. Secretary**  
**Sheila Hainey**  
Torr of Kedlock Farmhouse,  
Kedlock Feus,  
Cupar KY15 4PY  
Tel: 01382 330276

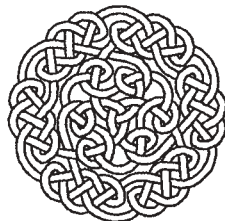
**Hon Treasurer**  
**Murray Blair**  
29 Glenpark Avenue,  
Glasgow G46 7JE  
Tel: 0141 638 0155

**Editor**  
**Lloyd Laing**  
Dept. of Archaeology,  
Nottingham University,  
Nottingham, NG7 2RD

**Membership Sec.**  
**Molly Rorke**  
5 Harviestoun Road,  
Dollar FK14 7HF  
Tel: 01259 742568

**Events Organiser**  
**Eileen Brownlie**  
12 Dean Park Mews,  
Edinburgh EH14 1ED  
Tel: 0131 332 0277

**Archivist**  
**Craig Laffety**  
c/o Pictavia  
Haughmuir  
by Brechin  
DD96RL



**Committee Members**

**Ian Fisher**  
c/o RCAHMS 16 Bernard Terrace,  
Edinburgh EH8 9YN

**David Moir**  
32 Mortimer Drive,  
Aberdeen AB15 3LJ  
Tel: 01224 31 9838

**Iain MacMillan**  
8 Douglas Road,  
Scone PH2 6NF  
Tel: 01738 552180

**Eric Nicoll**  
35 Wardie Road,  
Edinburgh EH5 3LJ  
Tel: 0131 552 4574

**Alistair Carty**  
PO Box 3738,  
Glasgow, G41 4YD  
Tel: 0141 423 3449

**Iain Fraser**  
c/o RCAHMS, 16 Bernard Terrace,  
Edinburgh, EH8 9YN

**Sheila Fraser**  
Braemore, Marjoribanks Street,  
Bathgate EH48 1QH



*As well as providing Pictish Arts Society news and gossip the newsletter serves as a forum to stimulate the debate on the future and care of our Pictish heritage. The views of individual contributors are not to be taken as PAS policy unless clearly stated. If you have something you feel needs saying or want to see what others think please send your letters to the PAS Secretary.*

**PAS Newsletter Edited by**  
Alistair Carty

**Typesetting & Design by**  
Nick Simpson / Alistair Carty

Published by the Pictish Arts Society  
Edinburgh Scotland, December 2002  
Scottish Charity Number SCO26529