



Autumn Newsletter 2016

Secretary's Report

In most respects, this has been another good year, with an extremely interesting series of lectures. We started with Ewan Hyslop from the (newly renamed) 'Historic Environment Scotland' who gave us a fascinating talk on 'Stone in Scotland'. In November, we had our AGM, with Charlie and Bob's usual eclectic mixture of slides of old Oban, followed a couple of weeks later by Derek Alexander of the National Trust for Scotland who spoke on 'How the west was once? – recent archaeological work on National Trust for Scotland islands.' In December, Niall Campbell was going to speak on 'Fraoch Eilean – a castle in Loch Awe', but had a bad fall the day before the talk, so John Macfarlane kindly stepped into the breach and gave the talk using Niall's notes and photographs. John spoke again in January when he talked on 'The Galley Castles of the Sound of Mull : a Gaelic Folklore Perspective', gallantly replacing Allan MacInnes who had dropped out at the last minute. In February, Willie Coupar gave a poignant talk on "Loos 1915 - the Unwanted Battle", followed in February by Sue McKillop who gave a fascinating insight into the Kilmun Mausoleum and archive. The final meeting was in April when Emsley Nimmo gave us insight into 'Walking in the Steps of St Moluag'.

It is great that we can attract such excellent speakers to the Lorn Archaeological and Historical Society. We always offer speakers a meal and overnight accommodation, which travellers from afar often find useful. If any Society members would be interested in offering hospitality to visiting speakers, please let me know. It is usually a very pleasant task!



Scottish stone - Dunollie Castle has recently undergone conservation funded by gifts from visitors and grants from Historic Environment Scotland, the Heritage Lottery Fund & The Clan MacDougall Society of North America.



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Unfortunately, although there were plans, due to various circumstances, there have been no summer outings this year, although we had the usual stand at the Argyllshire Gathering. We would like to rectify this next year, but please read on....

We have another excellent range of topics this year, starting on 21st October when Catherine Gilles will speak on "Life after catastrophic loss: John of Lorn and the court of Edward II". Our AGM will be on November 18th, followed by the traditional slides of old Oban from Bob McCulloch & Charlie Drummond. In December, we have another local speaker when Linda Fryer will speak on Mary and Iain Ciar: MacDougall of Dunollie's Jacobite couple'. In January, archaeologist, Jennie Robertson will be speaking on "Clearance Villages in Morvern: Recent Archaeological Surveys", and in February, Alison Sheridan of the 'National Museums of Scotland is coming to Oban to speak on 'Early farmers in the west of Scotland, 4000-1500 BC'. March sees Richard Blair speaking on his adoptive father, George Orwell and their life on Jura, and finally, in April, Lorn Campbell will give us insight into 'The Campbell of Dunstaffnage'.

At the end of this newsletter, there is a membership form for the new season – please fill this in and bring it to the first meeting in October or post it to myself, Joan Kemp (details on the form).

Membership represents superb value at £10 per year, £15 for couples – just over a £1 per meeting (instead of £3 at the door) PLUS a fascinating journal (the 2016 edition will be published this autumn).

Despite the generally good year we have had, there is a serious problem looming over the Society. This year, Adrian Tully, who did such an excellent job editing our magazine, had to resign suddenly due to family reasons. In addition, Alan Watt, our wonderfully efficient membership secretary, has moved south to be nearer his family taking with him Judy, who organised refreshments at meetings. Ann Tully also helped with these.

This leaves a very small group of people to run the society and organise meetings and outings. I am sorry to say that unless more people come forward to help – either as committee members, or just as importantly, simply to help with organising meetings, then the society will cease to run after the end of the Winter lecture series next April. We have an excellent treasurer in Trevor, and I am prepared to carry on as secretary, but we need a membership secretary who can attend most meetings and collect cash at the door - and Gill needs help with refreshments at meetings. Diarmid is going to produce the next journal this autumn and would also value some assistance.

So please, if you value the LAHS, consider if you could assist with some practical help.



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LAHS Winter Program 2016 – 2017

Talks take place in the Roman Catholic Church hall, just behind the cathedral, and start at 7:30pm.

Friday 21st October Catherine Gilles - *Life after catastrophic loss: John of Lorn and the court of Edward II*"

Friday 18th November AGM + *slides of Old Oban* from Bob McCulloch & Charlie Drummond

Friday 9th December Linda Fryer - *Mary and Iain Ciar: MacDougall of Dunollie's Jacobite couple*'

2017

Friday 20th January Jennie Robertson (Ardtornish) – *topic "Clearance Villages in Morvern: Recent Archaeological Surveys"*.

Friday 17th February Alison Sheridan – *'Early farmers in the west of Scotland, 4000-1500 BC'*

Friday 17th March Richard Blair - *George Orwell*

Friday 21st April Lorn MacIntyre - *The Campbell of Dunstaffnage*



The LAHS stand at the Argyllshire Gathering



Treasurer's Report

LAHS Treasurer's Report. September 2016

As at 4th Sept 2016 for the 2015/16 year;

Income.

Subscriptions	£495
Donations & Non-member fees	£162.45
Magazine sales	£ 86
TOTAL INCOME =	£743.45

Expenses.

Speaker expenses	£205.71
Room hire	£130
Magazine	£0.0
Insurance	£144.30
Coffee & misc.	£29.90
TOTAL Expenses =	£509.91

Surplus = £ 233.54

Total in Bank = £2,876.42

Financially the Society is currently in a stable position with a small surplus this year.
This is primarily due to not having magazine printing costs this year.

Trevor Polley.
LAHS Treasurer.



LORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY 6th NOVEMBER, 2015 AT ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH HALL, OBAN AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Chairman for the meeting: Joan Kemp

Membership Secretary: Alan Watt

Committee Member: Diarmid Campbell

Committee Member: Gill Moore

There were 21 members of the Society, 2 honorary members and 6 visitors present at the AGM

1. Apologies were received from:

Trevor Polley, Adrian Tully, Derek & Joyce Coope, Charles Hunter

2. Welcome by the Stand-in Chairman

Joan Kemp, acting chairman, welcomed members to the AGM

3. Minutes of the AGM 2014

The acting Chairman noted that these had been circulated.

4. Matters Arising

There were none, and the Minutes were accepted unanimously.

5. Reports.

Chairman's Report

In the absence of a chairman, there was no Chairman's report

Secretary's Report

This has been another busy year, with an extremely interesting series of lectures. Martin Carruthers from UHI, Orkney, started the series with a fascinating talk on brochs: "Underworlds and Upper-worlds of the Scottish Iron Age", followed by more archaeology when Clive Bonsall of Edinburgh University spoke on "The 'Obanian problem' revisited: coastal adaptation in the Mesolithic of western Scotland". Elaine McChesney spoke on Union Poor Houses

And Ken McTaggart on the MacPhedrons of Benderloch & Loch Awe. Annie Tindley, of Dundee University gave us a fascinating insight into the world of tacksmen and estate management in the nineteenth century, and finally, John Macfarlane triggered many local memories with his talk on soldiers from the Taynuilt war memorial.



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We have also had summer activities – a fascinating visit to Ardmaddy Castle, hosted by Charles and Minette Struthers, an opportunity to take part in a dig at Barnashaig, a visit to sea-bound Castle Stalker, and the usual LAHS table at the Argyllshire Gathering.

We have another excellent range of topics this year, starting in October with Ewan Hyslop of Historic Scotland, who will speak on 'Stone in Scotland'. In November, Derek Alexander of the NTS will speak on recent archaeological work on the Scottish islands, and in December, Niall Campbell will speak on 'Fraoch Eilean' - a castle in Loch Awe. Allan Maclean, former Provost of St John's Cathedral, Oban, will be speaking in January on the shipwreck of 'The Lizard' in Loch Fyne, and in February, Willie Coupar will speak about the 1915 battle of Loos. Ishbel MacKinnon, archivist at Inveraray castle, will speak on the estate papers in March, and in April, Emslie Nimmo will give his postponed talk on St Moluag.

At the end of this newsletter, there is a membership form for the new season – please fill this in and bring it to the first meeting in October or post it to the membership secretary, Alan Watt, (details on the form).

Membership represents superb value at £10 per year, £15 for couples – just over a £1 per meeting (instead of £3 at the door) PLUS a fascinating journal.

Treasurer's Report

LAHS Interim Treasurer's Report. 2014-2015 As at August 2015 for the 2014/5 year;

Income over the year:

Subs	£457	
Visitors	£153	
Magazine	£99.50	
Donations & coffee morning	£243.46	
<u>Total=</u>	<u>£952.96</u>	Gain = £ 96.96

Bank balance at 02/06/2015 = £2,565.08

Expenses:

Room & meetings	£271.14
Speaker & other	£105.40
Insurance, website, etc.	£193.20
Magazine	£286.26
<u>Total =</u>	<u>£856.00</u>

The Society managed to cover costs this year with a modest surplus due to the fundraising coffee morning. Members' magazines are part of the subscription. The sales of surplus magazines help towards printing cost.



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Speakers receive a gift as an appreciation from the Society. Most speakers do not claim travel expenses.
Trevor Polley. LAHS Treasurer.

The Treasure's report was proposed by Diarmid Campbell & seconded by Donald Shell

5. Magazine Editor's report

Unfortunately, Adrian Tully has had to stand down as magazine editor for family reasons, so there was no Magazine Editor's Report

6. Election of Officebearers and Committee

The following members of the committee had agreed to stand for a further year:

Chairman –

Secretary: Joan Kemp.

Treasurer: Trevor Polley.

Committee Member: Diarmid Campbell

Committee Member: Alan Watt

Committee Member: Gill Moore

7. AOCB

The acting chairman proposed that next year's AGM would be held on the third Friday in November (November 18th) and be the main meeting for the month. This suggestion was put to the vote & carried unanimously

A suggestion that LAHS meetings be moved to St John's Cathedral Hall was rejected unanimously.

8. Date of next year's AGM

Friday, 18th November, 2016.

The meeting concluded at 7:45pm.



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Membership form 2016-2017

I wish to become a member of / renew my subscription to the Society for the year 2015-2016 and am enclosing a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to LAHS. (£10 individual; £15 couple)

Name(s).....

Address.....

.....

Post code.....

Tel no.....

E-mail address.....

Amount £..... date.....

Please send to the membership secretary:

Joan Kemp
 Tel: 01631 566963, Email: joan.kemp@cantab.net

For society use as a receipt-----

Received from:

Name.....

Amount..... Date.....

Signed.....



Calling Notice - AGM 2016

**LAHS AGM, 18th November, 2016
AGENDA**

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of last year's AGM
4. Matter's arising
5. Reports: Secretary's report
 Treasurer's report
6. Discussion on the future of the Society
7. Elections of Officebearers and Committee
8. AOCB
9. Date of next year's AGM

Committee Nominations

Joan Kemp, Trevor Polley, Diarmid Campbell & Gill Moore have agreed to stand again for the coming year. New nominations would be warmly welcomed.

LAHS Committee Nomination Form

Name:.....

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

Signed:.....



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