

# Institute of Scottish Historical Research

## *Newsletter*

Editor: Dr Sarah Leith

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### From the (ex) Director

Michael Brown, Professor of Scottish History

It is my pleasure to welcome you one final time to the Institute of Scottish Historical Research newsletter. I recently stepped down as director of the institute having taken over from Malcolm Petrie in the office in 2019. It has been an enjoyable role, and it has been very rewarding to have had the chance to organise a series of events which brought together historians of Scotland from across St Andrews and beyond, especially after the opportunities for doing this were so heavily curtailed by the pandemic. In particular, the receptions to mark T.C. Smout's ninetieth birthday and to launch Roger Mason's festschrift and the series of Smout lectures given by the late Bob Morris (2021), Diarmaid MacCulloch (2022), Dauvit Broun (2023), and Ewen Cameron (2024) were all memorable and lively occasions.



Scottish history summer school. Photo courtesy of Derek Patrick

I would like to thank all my colleagues for their help and support during these years. Special thanks go to Sarah Leith, not just for putting together another splendid newsletter, but for all her imaginative and inspired work in publicising the activities of the institute. I would also like to send thanks and the best of luck to Valerie Wallace who has taken over as director and I am sure will do an excellent job.

My final thanks and best wishes are dispatched to our colleague Christine McGladdery who retired at the end of August. Christine and I go back quite a long way. I first met her when she was a postgraduate and I was a final-year undergraduate taking Norman Macdougall's special subject on James IV.

*(Continued on the next page)*



University of St Andrews  
Institute of Scottish Historical Research

(Michael Brown, continued from p.1)

Christine joined other future luminaries, including Fiona Watson and Ken Emond, on the infamous field trips to such delights as Roslin Chapel, Lauder Bridge, Norham Castle, and Flodden Field itself. Christine was already working on her doctoral thesis on ‘Crown-magnate relations 1437-60’ which she completed in 1988 (after a viva with Jenny Wormald I believe). Two years later research derived from the thesis was published as *James II*, the first full study of this pivotal and underrated Scottish monarch of the fifteenth century. Christine produced a fully rewritten study of the same king which was published in 2015. She also got to see ‘her James’ brought to life in Rona Munro’s James plays in 2014 and wrote the programme notes for its Edinburgh and London performances.

As well as her expertise on James II and fifteenth-century Scotland, Christine has been a dedicated and popular teacher. She has taught at all types of student. She ran history’s contribution to the university’s evening degree for many years, offering courses which were tailored to the broad interests of this cohort. Christine also taught at all levels of undergraduate and at masters level. Unlike some of us, she was aware of the need to tailor the expectations of the teacher to different levels of learning and displayed a no-nonsense understanding of the realities of what could be expected. Christine has also shown a commitment to taking the class beyond the classroom, a commitment she displayed in the teaching of her highly popular module on Medieval St Andrews with its regular visits to the hidden tomb of Bishop Kennedy. Christine also did two spells as Director of Teaching in the school of history, enough to make anyone crave retirement, and brought her patience and good sense to this role as well.

The institute sent Christine off with a lunch held in the Jigger Inn (an old haunt of hers) and we all wish her well. Like MI5 you never really retire from ISHR and Christine has signed up for the Medieval St Andrews map project (see below) and we look forward to continuing to see her at institute functions and around the town.

## From the Director

Dr Valerie Wallace



Falkland Palace

It’s a real honour and privilege to be taking over from Michael Brown as ISHR director. I first encountered ISHR as a visiting fellow in 2016 when I had such a brilliant time in such a collegial place that I was eager to come back permanently. As ever ISHR has lots to report from the academic year 2024-2025 – the Scottish History Summer School organised by Derek Patrick, our annual Smout lecture by Ewen Cameron, the PG retreat at The Burn, conferences, publications, and graduate success. We have exciting initiatives planned for the forthcoming year: keep your eyes on our social media channels and on our refreshed website. And thank you for your continued support and contributions to our ISHR community.



# War, Destruction and Reform: The Early Years of Mary, Queen of Scots

7 March – 20 September 2026, Wardlaw Museum, St Andrews

Dr Amy Blakeway

The exhibition will explore the devastating impact of the 1540s wars, arguing that warfare, and its secondary costs of plague and economic disaster, was the defining feature of life in 1540s and 1550s Scotland. Foregrounding the experiences of women and featuring records from throughout the country, the exhibition suggests that it was the socio-economic consequences of warfare - high taxation, economic disruption and social tensions - which ultimately caused the Reformation Rebellion. Exploring the impact of social distancing to prevent plague, a cost of living crisis, and competing propaganda narratives on the lives of Scotland's people, the sixteenth-century has never felt more familiar.



Outside the Wardlaw Museum



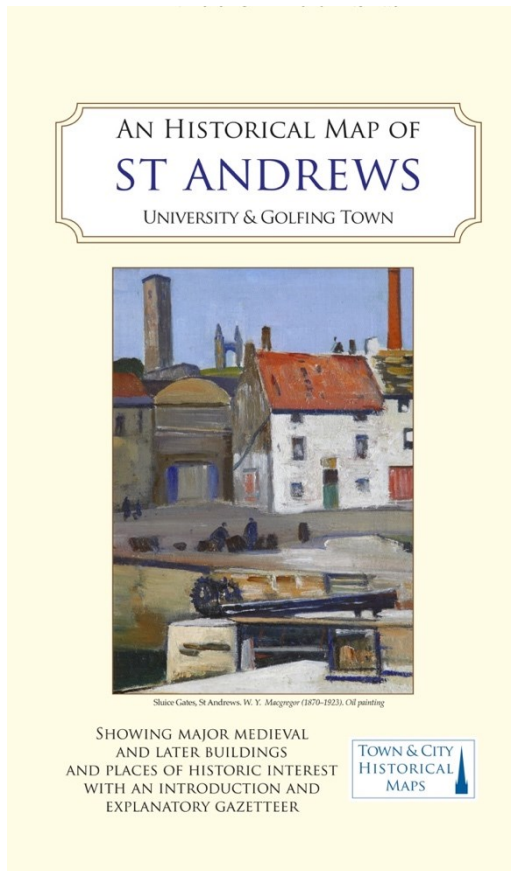
Aberdeen

The exhibition also reveals the origins of the traditional name for these wars 'Rough Wooings', asking whether a name coined during eighteenth-century debates on Anglo-Scottish union, which focuses our attention on a romanticised dynastic marriage, is an appropriate name for a war in which violence - including against women - was widespread.

Exhibition highlights include a Beggars' Badge used to mark out the poor during times of plague in Dundee which has never previously been exhibited, rare burgh records from Cupar, Aberdeen, Haddington and Edinburgh, gold and low-value coinage, the first printed Acts of the Scottish Parliament, and documents from the University archives showing sixteenth-century academics complaining about the staff:student ratio and demanding a tax break.

# Making an Historical Map of St Andrews

Professor Margaret Connolly



Map cover. Image courtesy of Margaret Connolly

Some members of ISHR will know of the Historical Map of Perth that was published in 2024. Produced by the charity the [Historic Towns Trust](#), like all their maps it shows layers of urban history and development from the Middle Ages to the start of the twentieth century. The Trust has now published 20 such maps but the one for Perth is so far their only venture north of the border.

Time to change that! Perth may have pipped us to the post, but plans are now well underway to create a Historical Map of St Andrews. This will use the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of St Andrews from 1914 as its base, onto which will be layered medieval and later buildings and other sites of interest such as the railway. Colour-coding permits users to see different periods of development at a glance and reveals features now lost as well as those that remain visible. The map will have a physical fold-out format and a short narrative history of St Andrews on its inside cover. The reverse of the map offers space for a detailed gazetteer which will explain how St Andrews developed from a tiny fishing community to a centre of educational learning and place of international pilgrimage (including now for golf).

The St Andrews project team of five (Michael Brown, Margaret Connolly, Christine McGladdery, Bess Rhodes, and Rachel Hart) has benefitted during the past year from the help of two undergraduate interns, Rosie Leslie and Alice Martin, funded by the StARIS scheme. Whilst Rosie and Alice have been reading up on aspects of the town's development during the Victorian period and researching the birth of leisure tourism, the rest of the team have concentrated on fundraising. Our target figure is £20,000, which will allow us to produce the map and to begin promoting it in schools and with local groups. Thanks to generous grants from local trusts (the St Andrews Heritage Trust, the St Andrews Pilgrim Foundation, and the Strathmartine Trust), the School of History, and the University Impact Fund, we are now two-thirds of the way to meeting that target. We're hopeful that some further grant applications will take us over the line (individual donations can also be made via the [Historic Towns Trust online shop](#) if you feel so inclined!). We're keen to have the map published ahead of the next Open Golf here in 2027, so that we can promote the town's amazing history to a new influx of pilgrims. And we're also just impatient to get onto the more interesting phase of selecting illustrations and writing content for the gazetteer. A lovely image, from *Sluice Gates* by William York MacGregor, part of our University Collections, has already been chosen for the map cover.

We've already been raising awareness of this project amongst local groups and have spoken to the History Society, the St Andrews Rotary Club, and the Kilrymont Rotary Club. If you know of a group would welcome a talk, please let us know, and/or pass on a contact.



## The Burn Report, 2025

Gwenffrewi Morgan, third-year PhD student

As the days lengthened into April, and the trees started to give forth tender spring foliage, the medievalists and Scottish historians of St Andrews gathered in that most pleasant of locales: ‘The Burn’. As each party arrived, gratefully ferried through Angus by those with cars, they alighted beside the North Esk. Tucked below the rising highland escarpment it sits above the fertile open plain of Strathmore. A dense wood – the frequent abode of running beasts and darting birds– hugged the slopes leading down to the North Esk, a pleasant river rich in fish. Once the travellers had rested, and looked out upon this view from their bright bedroom windows, this beautiful place pleased them, just as the angels (our conveners Michael Fraser and Lucy Turton) had indicated in emails beforehand. Here, the fine wood, the sunny-spot for those tarrying, here besides is rich fertility around the clearing, and through the middle runs a river of rushing water: this I know may be said, it is the most beautiful of places.<sup>1</sup>

Whilst a hagiographic motif may prove misapplied if the takings of the bar were consulted too closely, we gathered with saintly intentions. For some of us it was an opportunity to hear about research far from our usual remit, for others it was an opportunity to bring a successful semester of teaching and research to a close, whilst for a few it was an opportunity to reconnect with colleagues after being away undertaking archival work.

With bags unpacked and the ice firmly broken by a few round-the-room activities, we had the first of two brief talks by those attending for the first time, on books that inspired them in their careers. In this session (and its sister session on the Saturday morning), we heard about the textual translations, historiographical memoirs, and fictions that had inspired some of us towards our fields of study and in our practice as historians.

(Continued on the next page.)



The Burn. Photo courtesy of Michael Fraser

1. Crudely riffed off *Vita Sancti Illtuti* ed. and trans. Arthur Wade-Evans in *Vitae Sanctorum Britanniae et Genealogiae*, (Cardiff, 2013), §6, pp. 202-203.

(Gwenffrewi Morgan, continued from p.4.)

These sparked expansive discussions that continued out of the seminar room, into the bar, and then into the dining hall, where the tables heaved under the weight of fine food, wine, and scholarly conversation. Kathryn Rudy (SAIMS, School of Art History), then regaled us in our digestion with a fascinating paper on late medieval manuscripts, giving us much to chew over as the night wore on.

Recharged by restful sleep in quiet surroundings, and a hearty cooked breakfast to fuel us through the day, we reconvened to hear the second set of inspiring books talks, which gave us plenty to discuss over mid-morning coffee. We then had our first full panel of shorter papers. First, we hear from Alison Beach (SAIMS, School of History) and Julia Rohn (SAIMS, Special Collections), who recounted their adventures in small Italian archives, and some of the initial findings that arose from their and the rest of TeamNun's researches. Jonathan Gibson (ISHR, School of History) then brought us into the Scottish Enlightenment, reflecting on James Balfour's antiquarianism on Scottish surnames.

Having chewed over the morning's discussion aided by a pleasant lunch, we were let loose for the afternoon. Some sought mountain solitudes in the Glens above the house, whilst others found their inner Merlins soaking up the green of spring closer to base. Some even dusted off the mallets and had a few rounds of croquet in the gentle sunshine. Conversations that started in the seminar room continued out along the braes just beyond the house.

Refreshed by fresh air and exercise, we re-grouped to hear the final panel of the day. Frances Bickerstaff (ISHR and SAIMS, School of History) discussed the possessions of Paisley Abbey in Ulster, whilst Michael Fraser (ISHR, School of History) gave a paper on Scottish Protestant solidarity during the Nine Years War, before Ruadhán Scrivener-Anderson (ISHR, School of History) concluded the panel with a paper on constructing Scottish identity in the Black Watch during the Great War. All three papers gave us much to talk about over dinner, before perhaps the main event of the weekend: the Quiz! The questions produced much umming and ahing, with Scottish historians and medievalists taking turns to proffer answers with more or less confidence. On one or two occasions, esteemed colleagues corrected minor slips by the question-setters. Finally, Roger's team won by a healthy margin, perhaps aided uncommonly by a certain *Mastermind* champion. Celebration and conversation continued long into the night, some retiring a while to gaze up at the stary firmament from the dew-kissed lawn.

The next morning, we reconvened (some bright eyed and bushy tailed, others less so...) to hear the final two sessions of papers. Martha Baldon (SAIMS, School of English) reflected on interiority expressed in Medieval Grail narratives, whilst Russell Ó Ríagáin (SAIMS, School of History) turned our attention to high medieval politics. Refreshed then by tea, Struan Watson (ISHR, University Museums) drew our attention to the semiotics of Scottish Landscape painting, whilst William Mulloy (SAIMS and ISHR, School of History) presented some hypotheses on filling in the gaps left by missing charters in Annandale. Invigorated by the following discussions, and a hearty final lunch, we gathered to memorialise the gathering in a photograph, before heading south to resume our labours. Nonetheless our hearts were lightened by the company of the previous two days, and with the hope that we would gather again in April 2026.



The Burn

# ISHR Seminars 2025-26

## Semester One

25 September	Dr Alan MacDonald (University of Dundee) ‘Commendation, appropriation and venality: the accounts of the Abbey of Holyrood 1543-1544’
9 October	Professor Paul Corthorn (Queen’s University Belfast) ‘T. E. Utley and the Union’
30 October	Dr Brigid Ehrmantraut (University of St Andrews) ‘Battle Spirits and Evil Omens: Writing about Civil War with Lucan in Fourteenth-century Ireland’
13 November	Dr Nicola Martin (University of the Highlands and Islands) ‘Principle, Politics, Patronage? Highland Whig Loyalism during the Jacobite era’
27 November	<b>Annual Smout Lecture</b> Professor David Ditchburn (Trinity College Dublin) ‘Waves of Deceit in the Early Sixteenth-century: The Bartons, Their Plunder and Why They Got Away with It’

## Semester Two

29 January	Professor Wendy Ugolini (University of Edinburgh) ‘English Welsh dualities in the Second World War’
12 February	Ebba Strutzenbladh (University of Aberdeen) ‘Ward and marriage, ward <i>or</i> marriage: motherhood and custody in late medieval Aberdeen’
26 February	Dr Sarah Jane Gibbon (University of the Highlands and Islands) ‘Christianity in Late Norse Orkney: parishes, pilgrimage and patronage’
19 March	Dr Jack Abernethy (Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh) ‘An Antagonistic Alliance: James VI, Colonel William Stewart, and the Scots-Dutch ‘Cold War,’ c.1585-1594’
2 April	Dr Clare Loughlin (University of Aberdeen) ‘Church, State, and anti-popery in early eighteenth-century Scotland’
23 April	Postgraduate work-in-progress seminar

All seminars will take place in the Old Class Library, St John’s House, and will begin at 5.30pm. There will be refreshments from 5.15pm. Please note that the Annual Smout Lecture will take place in the Younger Hall’s Stewart Room.



# Imperial Connections in a ‘Provincial’ Town: Nineteenth-century St Andrews and British India

Sudarshana Banerjee, second-year PhD student

What was St Andrews like, in the nineteenth century, during the heyday of the British Empire? Did knowledge, ideas and people from far corners of the Empire reach (and shape) this tiny Scottish town? Much of the historiography on Scottish imperialism will have us believe that the town of St Andrews existed within an insular bubble throughout the nineteenth century. Especially with St Andrews failing to achieve the same level of industrial significance as its fellow Scottish towns such as Edinburgh or Glasgow, most historians have chosen to regard the ‘provinciality’ of St Andrews as an absolute indicator of the town’s aloofness from contemporary global events and politics. Building on the recently published *Legacies of Empire* report, my PhD research seeks to trace the participation of St Andrews residents and University alumni within the networks of British imperialism, particularly in connection to nineteenth century colonial India.

A particularly interesting case of active involvement of St Andreans in Indian (and imperial) affairs can be noticed in the activities of the St Andrews Students’ Missionary Society. Founded in 1824 by six theology students - Alexander Duff, John Adams, John Urquhart, Robert Nisbet, David Ewart, and William Sinclair Mackay - the Students’ Missionary Society was one of the earliest student-run missionary initiatives in Scotland. All the founders eventually travelled to India to serve under the Church of Scotland’s missionary programme. Their frequent letters from the field were read at monthly meetings in St Andrews, providing regular, first-hand accounts of missionary work and life in India. These letters did not merely inform but also inspired action. The Society routinely raised funds through student subscriptions to support educational and evangelical efforts in India, especially the General Assembly’s Institutions.

By the late 19th century, the Society expanded its scope beyond the University, organising missionary outreach within the wider Fife region. This included public



St Andrews

demonstrations aimed at children and families, one notable example being a session led by a missionary from India - “Miss Grey of Jeypur and Rajpootana.” Her presentation featuring anecdotes, artefacts, letters, and “curios” from her work among Indian children and women was met with enthusiasm. The session prompted suggestions for including similar visual and narrative elements in future events, along with ideas such as Christmas card exchanges between Scottish and Indian children. Through letter reading, fundraising, educational campaigns, and public outreach, the St Andrews Students’ Missionary Society played an important role in embedding knowledge about India and the Empire within the fabric of everyday life in St Andrews and Fife.

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*(Sudarshana Banerjee, continued from p.7.)*

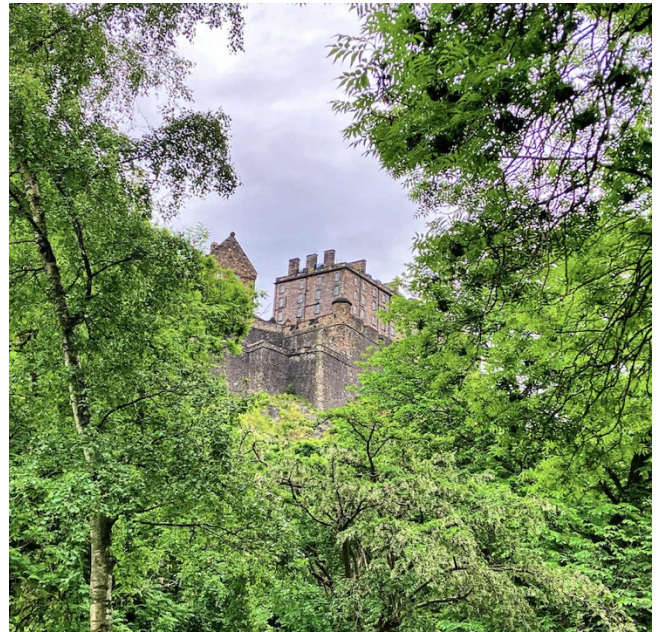
What emerges ultimately from a close reading of such sources is a picture of a so-called ‘provincial’ town that was anything but detached from Empire. Nineteenth century St Andrews therefore can and should be imagined as active participators and actors within the British imperialist networks. Far from being peripheral, nineteenth century St Andrews then emerges as a potentially rich site for exploring the varying nature, extent and impact of imperial connections between Scotland and colonial India.

## Serendipitous Archival Threads: Unearthing Eighteenth-century Jacobite Connections in the Archives of the Merchant Maiden Hospital

Andrew Simpson, third-year PhD student

In 1694, the Merchant Maiden Hospital opened its doors to serve the needs of destitute daughters of the merchants of the city of Edinburgh. The hospital was founded through the initial generous donation of Mary Erskine, a merchant in the city, as well as a number of private donations from other merchants and prominent members of the city. The hospital was unique in a number of ways. It was specifically designed to serve the needs of girls of the city, a demographic that had been overlooked in prior charity hospital efforts. The foundress of the hospital, Mary Erskine, was one of the few of her gender to drive the founding of a charity hospital in the eighteenth century. Finally, the hospital, based on the timing of its founding, helped to start a wave of charity hospital donations and foundings that would last through the eighteenth century.

The school is still in existence and is one of the educational institutions under the management of The Merchant Company of Edinburgh. It was renamed in 1870 to the Edinburgh Educational Institution For Girls; the Edinburgh Ladies’ College in 1889; and finally, The Mary Erskine School in 1944. The school has continued in its original educational mission and has since merged with Stewart’s Melville College.



Edinburgh

The history of this institution and its ensuing existence relates broadly to my doctoral research on the education and upbringing of Jacobite children in that both are relevant to the broad conversation of eighteenth-century Scottish education.

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*(Andrew Simpson, continued from p.8.)*

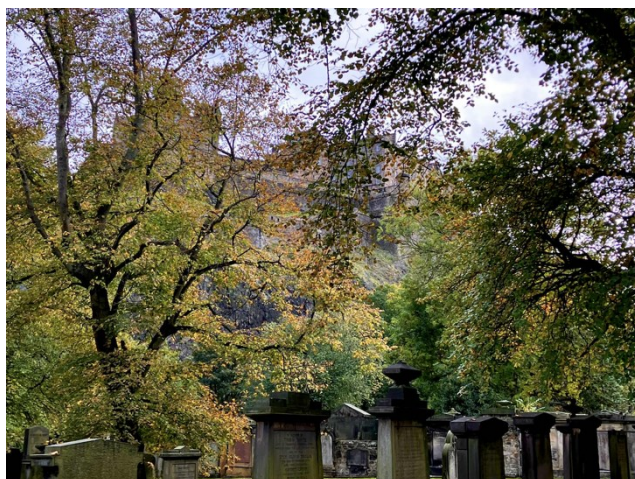
However, the connection of the two is seemingly tenuous at best. Yet, once one dives beneath the surface a fascinating world of eighteenth-century kinship and the school's connections to leading Jacobites such as the Earl of Mar, Lord Grange, and John Erskine of Alva comes to light. Mary Erskine, as the leading founder of the school, was able to elect two governors to the board of governors that managed the institution. The right was passed to the Earl of Mar and eventually Lord Grange and Alva came to hold the positions. Mar, Grange, and Alva's influence on the school lasted after the Rising of 1715 and one can find reference to residents of Edinburgh writing to the Earl in exile requesting he assist in the nomination of girls to the hospital.

Stumbling across the information was a rewarding experience and one that reminded me of the reputation for Scottish history ISHR holds. Discovering the information was a matter of happenstance; I had contacted every school in Scotland that had been in existence prior to the Jacobite Rising of 1745 hoping to find any records of the organizations that might still be in existence. Many retained no materials from the period, and a few had only stray comments and records. I had had little hope for the Merchant Maiden Hospital since it served destitute daughters of Edinburgh merchants who would not be able to assist in future risings, in the capital city of Edinburgh which did not have a strong Jacobite presence, and I had seen nothing that linked the school with the Jacobite movement.

Yet, incredible finds came from the least expected locations. The school archivist, Dr. Jon Cooper, contacted me saying the school minutes were still intact and I was welcome to access the small archive the school kept on the premises. The trip proved incredibly valuable and provided information that has since resulted in material that has been developed into a journal article and will form part of my final dissertation on Jacobite education and upbringing.

The experience was a valuable reminder of good archival research practices for a couple of reasons. First, historians should be sure to check materials that might not seem the most related to our topic if time permits since it is not always clear from the archive catalogue what is on location. I had a spare day one Thursday between other archive visits and I was able to take Jon up on his offer to visit the school's archive. The visit ultimately proved very useful. Second, while Scottish history can feel like a very well picked over field, there is still a great deal of material that lies readily accessible to the historian who will put in the effort to look. The records of the Hospital have received only cursory examinations and yet the school's history has much to offer in our understanding of charity hospitals and the relationship of educational institutions to Scottish government and society.

A random thread when pulled can reveal information that will contribute significantly to the final dissertation. As our new PhD students begin to pursue their studies in Scottish history, I encourage you to pull on some of those threads if time permits. The results can be quite fascinating, and you will often meet archivists, organisations, and families that are eager for their history to be recounted and brought into the larger narrative of Scottish history.



Edinburgh



## ISHR News

- Professor Colin Kidd contributed to a colloquium at the Edinburgh Law School on Maks del Mar's stunning new biography of Neil MacCormick. The papers will be published in the next issue of the *Edinburgh Law Review*. He also spoke in September, at a round table in Glasgow on eighteenth-century Scottish heresy trials, examining the controversy over the Rev. William McGill's *Practical Essay on the Death of Jesus Christ* (1786).
- The Scottish history Summer School, organised by Dr Derek Patrick, was a great success. As well as seminars, both students and staff enjoyed trips to places of historical interest, including Falkland Palace and the Black Watch Museum.
- The [St Andrews and the Legacies of Empire Report](#), led by Professor Aileen Fyfe, was published this year.
- Dr Jonathan Gibson, ISHR graduate and youngest BBC *Mastermind* champion, is competing on the BBC's *Only Connect*.
- [Professor Michael Brown](#) and [Professor Alex Woolf](#) were both guests on episodes of the BBC's *In Our Time*.
- In October, Dr Sarah Leith is giving a talk entitled "'Antique" Smith and *Burns Chronicle* Reports of Manuscript Forgery' at the Scottish Legal History Group's conference, which is being held in the Advocates Library within the Faculty of Advocates in Edinburgh.

## Mobilising Land and Culture: The Highlands and Britain, 1725-2025

Dr Ruadhán Scrivener-Anderson

On 15<sup>th</sup> June 2025 the School of History hosted 'Mobilising Land and Culture: The Highlands and Britain, 1725-2025', a tricentenary conference charting the social, political and military history of the Highlands and the British state. Organised by Michael Fraser and Ruadhán Scrivener-Anderson, the conference brought together researchers covering a broad range of concepts and issues, from martial tradition to systems of education, to recent controversies in the region. Despite the constant downpour, the conference was well attended, and Parliament Hall saw attendees from as far afield as China!

The conference was flanked by two excellent plenary lectures from distinguished scholars in the field. Professor Andrew Mackillop (University of Glasgow) discussed the formation of the Highland regiments in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, setting the scene for in-depth discussion of Scotland's military identity throughout the day.

(Continued on the next page.)



The Black Watch Museum, Perth



*(Ruadhán Scrivener-Anderson, continued from p.11.)*

Professor Sir Hew Strachan (University of St Andrews) rounded off the day, bringing the conversation to present-day issues of defence and identity and addressing the elephant in the room at a military history conference: why aren't we talking about the Navy?

20-minute papers were delivered over three panels and led to some insightful questions (and debates!) 'Contesting the Highlands in the Eighteenth Century' saw both social and military history, as Andrew Simpson discussed Catholic education in the Highlands and Nicole Musson analysed the Highland soldier's experience in America. Following this, delegates partook of an excellent lunch, kindly provided by the School of History, and the fittingly Scottish weather encouraged all to stay indoors and network.

Panel Two – 'The View from the (Highland) Centre: Power and Agency in the Highlands and Islands since the Eighteenth Century' was designed and delivered by the University of the Highlands and Islands. Nicola Martin, Jim MacPherson and Mhairi Ferrier touched on practically every theme of the conference: the militarisation of the Highlands, the concept of the 'centre' and 'periphery', and the relationship between the region and the Government as late as 1970. Questions led to a lively debate on the relevance of the centre-periphery view, which unfortunately had to be cut short and continued over coffee!

The final panel of the day – 'North Britain' – saw Derek Patrick and Luke Ambrose discuss military and civilian aspects of Highland identity in the late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> Centuries, illustrating the changing nature of land and culture as the Highlands as Highlanders entered the modern era.

The conference officially closed at 6pm, but many delegates removed to the Saint, where spirited discussion of the state of Scottish history continued at length. Overall, it was an interesting, enjoyable and thought-provoking day.



The Highlands

Unless otherwise stated, the photographs here are courtesy of Sarah Leith. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the editions of the ISHR newsletter whilst I've been editor!