

Perthshire Society of Natural Science
Archaeological and Historical Section
(Registered Charity Number SC012718)

Secretary's Report 2021-22

March 16th 2022

The Committee

The committee has met formally 7 times since the last AGM.

President: Margaret Borland-Stroyan

Vice-President: David Bowler

Secretary: Percy Shelley

Treasurer: Irene Green

Ordinary Members of Committee: John Andrews, Eva Bennett, John Jessop, Colin McLeod, David Perry, Theresa Hughes.

Archaeological Advisor: Mark Hall, Culture Perth and Kinross.

We have 2 honorary members and 57 members, an increase of 3 since last year.

Summer Outings 2021

Due to COVID restrictions, only two outings took place this summer and numbers were limited.

Wednesday 23rd June: Abernethy Museum (6 attended).

Friday 9th July: Murthly Castle (12 attended).

Doors Open Day (18th & 19th September)

A small exhibition in the PSNS Library attracted considerable interest. Suggestions have been made for future improvements.

Winter Programme 2021-22

13th October	Fiona Watson	Turning fact into fiction: murder and romance in the siege of Berwick, 1317-18.
10th November	John Harrison	The Drifty Days: 'a climate crisis of 1674'.

1st December	Orsolya Czere	Life histories from medieval Perth: reconstructing diet and mobility using isotopes.
19th January	Peter McNiven	Place names in historic Perthshire.
16th February	Richard Oram	Scotland and the plague, 1350-1650.
16th March	Fraser Hunter	The Traprain treasure – new research on a Roman silver hoard.

Due to COVID restrictions and technical difficulties, all meetings were held on Zoom only. "Attendance" at these talks ranged between 25 and 43.

Social event

On 17th November we held a tea party in the Sandeman Room of the AK Bell Library. Only nine members attended, due to COVID-19, but they enjoyed the occasion and it was felt that similar events should be held in future.

Numerous Wordpress newsletters were sent to members by e-mail. The three members without e-mail were kept informed by post and telephone.

Communications with the Council of the Society

We had four representatives on the Council, President David Bowler, Secretary John Jessop, Treasurer David Perry and Margaret Borland-Stoyan. The Council met 5 times over the year.

Other communication

- On 20/10/2021 MBS wrote to Perth Heritage Trust about the obliteration of the murals in Fountain Close and the need to keep a record of the work. This has led to the involvement of Sandy Bremner, Dr Mike Bell and Ishbel MacKinnon (Perth & Kinross Archivist).
- In October MBS wrote to Marion Stavert's daughter to thank her for the donation of her mother's books.
- In December 2021 MBS began the process of sending information and photos concerning the Waulkmill Ferry to Canmore.

- The Committee is currently considering involvement in a project proposed by the Historic Towns Trust to produce a historical map, possibly followed by a historical atlas, of the City of Perth.

Summer outings 2022

Outings are planned to:

- Pitmiddle village on 27th March;
- Kinclaven Castle, Cleaven Dyke and nearby Roman signal station on 24th June (tbc) Culross;
- Cultybraggan;
- (Possibly) the studio of sculptor David McGovern (Monikie Rock Art), plus nearby souterrains and Affleck Castle.

Further details will be sent out in due course.

I would like to thank fellow Committee members for all their help and support.

Percy Shelley

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