

**Journal of the Sydney Society  
for Scottish History**



**Volume 2**

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# **JOURNAL OF THE SYDNEY SOCIETY FOR SCOTTISH HISTORY**

Volume No. 2, June 1994.

## **COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY ELECTED FOR 1994**

- President:** Malcolm D. Broun QC, BA, LLB, University of Sydney  
on whom the Celtic Council of Australia has conferred  
the honour of "Cyfaill y Celtiaid" (Friend of the Celts)
- Vice-Presidents:** Elizabeth Ann Bonner, Ph.D. Sydney, Paper Convenor  
and Co-editor  
Peter Fitzhardinge-Seton, a Scottish Armiger
- Hon. Secretary:** Alison Comrie, B.A. Undergraduate, Sydney
- Hon. Treasurer:** Iain MacLulich, Major retired, a Scottish Armiger
- Editor:** Gwynne F. T. Jones, D.Phil. Oxford MA New Zealand.
- Committee Member:** Cecile Ramsay-Sharp

The Sydney Society for Scottish History  
Edmund Barton Chambers  
Level 44 M.L.C. Centre  
Sydney N.S.W. 2000  
Australia  
Tel. (02) 220 6100 Fax. (02) 232 3949

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## INTRODUCTION

One of the privileges of a learned society is to hold a prestigious annual lecture inviting a distinguished scholar to deliver it. Our Society's major annual event is the Geoffrey Ferrow Memorial Lecture. We are glad to include a piece in this issue giving a brief account of the person after whom the lecture is named. It is hoped that all of these Geoffrey Ferrow Memorial Lectures will be included in due course in this journal. We had hoped to catch up by publishing a special issue with all that have so far been given, but the committee has decided to publish one or two in each issue. The most recent, by Leonie Hayne of the department of Classics, Archaeology and Ancient History at Sydney University, is included in this issue.

One of the functions of our Society is to encourage research and the work of postgraduate students. We are delighted to publish the paper on the early Scottish poet, Gavin Douglas, by our member Laurel Humphreys who made the poet the subject of her M.Phil. thesis in the Department of English at Sydney University. This paper formed part of her thesis, and other aspects are to be published soon in other learned journals.

A long-time friend and supporter of the Society, Associate-Professor Sybil Jack of Sydney University, has made Early Modern European History her special field of interest. She has delivered a paper to the Society in most years. We are honoured that she has given us the privilege of publishing the major piece of original research included in this issue. One of Sybil Jack's former students is also a contributor to this issue. Ethel-McKirdy-Walker completed an M.A. by thesis on the Foreign Policy of King James V (1513-1542) under Sybil's supervision. Her paper is an extension from one part of her research for that thesis.

I am personally gratified that the editorial committee has chosen to include one of my own pieces. I was initially led to an interest in the major events and people of the Scottish Reformation by personal confrontation with the issues. My father had been brought up in the Old Religion. My mother had been brought up in a strictly Presbyterian background. By comprise I was brought up in the Episcopalian/Anglican tradition. I was led to the Bethunes in particular by an interest in heraldry which pointed up the extraordinarily large number of marital connections the Bethunes had with so many great Scottish Houses.

Our Society has been particularly gratified by the recognition of two other members this year. Jonathon Wooding has been a regular paper giver to our Society, as the two papers in our last issue attest. His Ph.D. was conferred at Sydney University earlier this year.

Our Vice-President and Co-Editor, Dr. Elizabeth Bonner, has been awarded a Visiting Fellowship at the Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh for six months from October 1994. The Fellowship will enable Elizabeth to prepare some of her research over the past decade for publication, particularly that research pertaining to her Ph.D. thesis. Specifically: a monograph, *Tudor and Valois Politique and Intrigue in Scotland: The Betrothal of Mary Queen of Scots*, and an edition for the 5th Series of the Scottish History Society entitled, *French Military and Financial Documents Concerning Scotland during the Reign of Henri II, 1547-1559*. She will also be preparing for publication papers she presented at Cambridge, St. Andrews and Edinburgh Universities at the end of 1993 on the "Rough Wooing", the "Taking of St. Andrews Castle, 1547", and "George Buchanan"; as well as other articles: "The Earl of Huntly's Bond of Manrent, 1548", "French Naturalization of the Scots in the 16th Century", and in some views most absorbingly interesting of all, "When was the Scottish New Year? Conundrums in Dating some 16th-Century Documents Concerning Scotland", will also be submitted for publication. Our Society has had the privilege of hearing delivered earlier versions of all of these papers.

The use of my arms as the cover for this second issue is more a reflection of Scottish economy than self-promotion, but it continues to be a matter of some personal pride

Malcolm D. Broun  
President