

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



Volume 8 November 2000

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

Volume no. 8, November 2000

Patron: Professor Michael Lynch, Sir William Fraser Professor of Scottish History
and Palaeography, University of Edinburgh.

COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY ELECTED FOR 2000

President:	Malcolm D. Broun OAM, QC, BA (Hons), LLB (University of Sydney), on whom the Celtic Council of Australia has conferred the honour of 'Cyfaill y Celtiaid' (Friend of the Celts)
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Hon. Treasurer:	Iain MacLulich, Major (retired). a Scottish Armiger
Editor:	Gwynne F.T.Jones, MA (New Zealand), D.Phil. (Oxford)
Committee Members	Ethel McKirdy-Walker, BA (UNSW), MA (University of Sydney) Matthew Glozier, BA (Hons), M.Phil. (University of Sydney)

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Printed by University of Sydney Printing Services
University of Sydney, N.S.W. 2006, AUSTRALIA.
ISSN: 1320-4246

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INTRODUCTION

For a learned journal to survive for eight substantial issues is regrettably becoming less and less common. We have survived because of the continuing success of our monthly meetings and occasional extra meetings. In our earlier years there were mostly eleven meetings a year. Now we seem to be normally at least thirteen meetings each year. We survive also because of the considerable effort put into the preparation of each issue by our editor, Dr Gwynne F T Jones, and the production supervisor for each issue, for this issue our long-time esteemed member, former Associate Professor at Sydney University, Sybil M Jack with help from Dr Bernadette Masters. We do not have any large regular library subscriptions the way that long-time well-established historical journals have, but our sales to our regular members and the sales of issues that contain items of particular interest to a wide range of international scholars, have continued to keep us afloat. We do have still available all of our back numbers and we are happy to provide any inquirers with a complete schedule of the articles contained. The sale of back numbers keeps us in funds for the publication of future numbers.

The arms which continue to decorate the cover of this issue, are the arms of our long-term treasurer, Ian MacLulich, which were described in full in the introduction to Issue no. 5. That will exhaust our supply of covers featuring his arms and our next issue, no. 9 will feature the arms of another member of the society.

The papers contained in this issue are all papers that have been delivered to the society over the last few years. The paper of Dr Janet Hadley Williams on James V and Books led us to seek to include copies of our journal in the present royal library. Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, graciously agreed to accept a bound set of our journals up to that date, Volumes 1 to 7, which now repose in the Royal Library at Windsor. Dr Janet Hadley Williams has also recently published her most scholarly edition of the poems of Sir David Lindsay. As someone who has found Sir David Lindsay somewhat heavy going, it is excellent to have an edition which includes on each page a full glossary of the more uncommon words and also is accompanied by detailed historical, critical and analytical notes.

Sybil Jack has provided a paper for the society nearly every year. The paper included in this volume has attracted considerable interest and she has been asked for copies by a number of schools. The publication in this journal is both an honour to our society and simplifies the provision of further copies.

We are always happy to encourage our ordinary members to scholarship, and genealogy is an important part of historical scholarship in every nation. Dr Con Scott Reid's work on one aspect of his family genealogy provides an example of what many of us would like to do and provides a good example of how it might be done.

A few years ago, Professor Ross Harper CBE, then president of the International Bar Association, was the guest for Sydney Scottish Week. During his visit he delivered a paper to the Sydney Society for Scottish History, which we are now glad to be able to publish.

In recent years, Matthew Glozier has found many aspects of historical studies that take us in a new direction or provide us with new thoughts. His paper on the Scottish traveller was a revelation to many members of the society. I am also most thankful to him for his editorial assistance in preparing my own slight piece on MacBeth for publication. When I first delivered

that paper to a Celtic conference at Newcastle (NSW), one member of the audience, a retired professor from another discipline, inquired of me with some degree of apparent scepticism 'when has all this been discovered?' The historical nonsense of Shakespeare's lay has become so much an ingrained part of our cultural beliefs that it causes shock and surprise to discover that MacBeth was actually a good guy.

Malcolm D. Broun
President