
Introduction

It gives me great delight to welcome alike established and new readers to this the sixth volume of the Tayside and Fife Archaeological Journal, the annual journal published by the Tayside and Fife Archaeological Committee.

The editorial committee has once more sought to bring you a diverse and fascinating cross-section of the multi-disciplinary investigations being carried out in the local authority areas of Angus, Dundee, Fife and Perth & Kinross. There is a notable increase this year in urban excavation reports, reflecting the continuing pace of change in our historic burghs of Dundee, Montrose, Perth and St Andrews. These are balanced by new prehistoric and medieval studies including a reappraisal of a much loved stone circle, Croft Moraig, and an exciting inter-disciplinary study based around the early medieval Crieff Burgh Cross. Finally there are two important papers dealing with more recent phenomena. John Sullivan's study of Russian lead seals is the first of its kind and promises to be a very useful guide. Alex Darwood's slot at last year's conference was extremely well received and it is a pleasure to see this volume rounded off with the published version of

the paper Alex gave on milestones in the East Neuk of Fife.

I am also delighted to be able to thank on your behalf all those who have contributed to the timeous production of this volume. The editorial team of Liz Thoms and Derek Hall has juggled numerous balls without any drops, notably the transition to a new printer. Ross Samson's Cruithne Press has given the Journal excellent service over the first five issues but technological demands have necessitated a move to Burns, Harris and Findlay (Dundee) working in conjunction with typesetter Christina Unwin. We look forward to a fruitful relationship with them both. The editorial committee and the numerous referees deserve thanks for contributing their valuable time and wisdom. Finally thanks must go to those various organizations that have aided the production of this volume with their generous grants: Historic Scotland, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust, the Russell Trust, Headon Developments, Scottish Mutual Portfolio Managers, Dundee City Council, Scottish Enterprise Tayside, Lendlease Developments Dundee Ltd, Abbey National plc, and STAR.

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