

## **NEWSLETTER 38**



www.acfabaseline.info

May 2013

Just back from Rona where we've completed the survey of Braig township at the north end of the island and ticked off some odds and ends at An Teampuill, the medieval chapel to the south, so we did a fair bit of walking over the week. It goes without saying that we also did a lot of eating, drinking, laughing and even some 'discussion'. We had a good time. Next year's survey director role is vacant so anyone interested please let me know.

Next ACFA event is the weekend course at Pollock on Saturday/Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> May, and then the field trip to East Lothian on Sat/Sun 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> October. Still time to book – see the notice in this newsletter.

Have a good summer, everyone.

WR

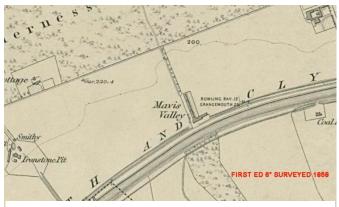
## Mavis Valley: an ACFA field survey

In 1913 there was a fire in the coal mine known as Cadder 15 which cost the lives of 22 men. The mine was one of several in the parish of Cadder near modern Bishopbriggs. The men who worked in these mines, many of them Irish immigrants, lived in a number of villages in the surrounding area, some already established, some built specifically to house miners. Of these settlements most have been incorporated in modern development and changed out of all recognition. One, Mavis Valley, survived almost

unchanged until the middle of the 20th century when it was abandoned and subsequently razed for building materials.

The local authority, East Dunbartonshire, has decided to commemorate the centenary of this disaster, partly in response to a Scottish government requirement to emphasise heritage issues, but also because the enquiries into the causes of the fire led to vital improvements in mine safety throughout Scotland, something which is not as widely known as it should be.

Of the men who died, four lived in Mavis Valley. I felt it would be an appropriate addition to the history of this unhappy incident for ACFA to survey the remnants of this village. After some difficulty tracking down the owner and the tenant of the land, the weekend of 16-17 March was chosen for the survey. After weeks of lovely, dry, sunny weather, albeit very cold, Saturday dawned wet. However, the wind held off till Monday so the rain was vertical rather than horizontal which made things easier. This was fortunate since the site was diabolical. I had sold it on the grounds that access was so easy; park in the local sports centre then a short walk along the canal towpath - no hills, no fences, no livestock - a dawdle. Unfortunately at some time after the demolition of the houses, someone had decided to develop a tree nursery and then abandoned it. This meant juvenile forest trees of varying ages interspersed with self-seeded saplings some of which had succumbed to gales and fallen on to the path and on to the features we wanted to draw. Then of course nature came in on the act with bracken, bramble bushes and some really vicious blackthorn with thorns centimetre long and а just conveniently positioned at eye heiaht. Having brought secateurs loppers, I spent the day on some seriously heavy gardening. One final task before surveying got under way was to clear some features of moss - up to 20 cm thick; only then could you begin to recognise them as man-made. Through the kind auspices of the local newspaper we had invited anyone interested to come and join us but, perhaps because of the weather, we only had 2 adults and 2 children. However they were interested and helpful. One of the children found a tiny piece of pink china with gilding - a reminder of the women who lived here. One gentleman came both days and showed great enthusiasm, not to mention courage, in plunging into the worst of the undergrowth to find



First edition OS map - 1858

We knew from old photographs and from the First Edition OS map that the village had consisted of a few houses parallel to the Forth and Clyde Canal and, at right angles, a single street with houses on each side, mostly single storey but with

later 2-storey buildings at the top

traces of buildings.

(north) end of the site. But whoever did the demolition made a first rate nothing there was virtually and left The village does not appear in the census for 1851; the earliest houses, nearest the canal, are said to date from about 1855 and were built of cobbles in the traditional manner; the houses had been knocked down but the cobbles were clearly visible especially in the path. According to a report by the Medical Officer of Health, Dr John T. Wilson in 1910\* they consisted of four 1-apartment houses and twenty 2-apartments. They were erected about 1855 and had no damp-proof course but wooden floors and lath and plaster walls, no gardens, wash houses or coal cellars. Water came from two standpipes to outside sinks. Six privy middens were "scavenged regularly at owners' expense". The tenants paid rent of between £4.11/and £5.4/- for these houses. The section parallel to the canal we could not find initially, but more of that anon.

Around the turn of the century ninety-two new houses were built, thirty-two 2-apartments in 1- storey blocks and fifty-six 2-apartments plus four 3-apartments in 2-storey blocks. These were brick built with a damp-proof course, wooden floors and lath and plaster walls, no gardens, but washhouses and cellars. Gravitation water went to indoor sinks and was drained underground. Sanitation still consisted of pail closets emptied along with ashpits once a fortnight for 2-storey houses, once a month for the others. This mixture was spread on farm lands at Jellyhill, nearby. The number of households noted in the census went up from 28 in 1891 to 72 in 1901,



**Mavis Valley in 1910** 

although it seems that some of the residents in the old houses moved into the new ones.

On the ground there is not much left. There are plenty of bricks scattered about, from several different brickworks, supporting

the statement in Dr

report that they were "erected under Building Bye laws at different dates". In the 1901 census there are seventy two; another twenty have been built by 1910. On the east side of the path there was one section of wall about one metre high but we could not identify its function. Further north the west side three or four ranges of bricks showed damp-proofing and a more decorative facing brick of yellow fabric with a projecting bevel. The plan of the new terrace shows something which this might be. There were also several lengths of decorative edging stones lying on their side which had been painted white. It looks as though someone was going to have a garden even if unofficially. A curved length of concrete might have been one of the curved window lintels shown in the plan, or it could have been a fireplace. The back of this building could be seen in a corner of brick walls two bricks deep and about 3-4 bricks

high. Near the back of this building were several large slabs of brick with harling on one side and a concrete skim on the other. They do not fit the description of the house interiors but could have been the walls of a washhouse. Two upstanding walls of approximately one metre at right angles indicated a possible open-ended enclosure attached to the back. They may never have been any higher because several half-round coping stones lay nearby. This could have been the ashpit or privy.

Behind this house the ground had been levelled before meeting a steep rise of about 2 metres to a higher flat area. At several points along this rise were breaks in the surface; in one of them concrete steps were still in situ suggesting that they were needed to give easy access to the higher ground. It would have been a good drying green. Further up the settlement there were few obvious standing remains, but some slabs of what looked like rough concrete screed for a foundation could be seen on the west side. However our stalwart helper tackled the jungle on the east side and found evidence for structures we knew should have been there. Down the centre of the site is a ditch over 1m deep and the same wide. The few old photographs of the village do not show this ditch but it may have been a drain in a culvert put in with the new houses which had underground drainage though we found no piping debris. However it may have been dug later when the tree nursery was established.

On the Sunday we had another visitor, 91-year old Angus Marshall, who had lived in Mavis Valley and worked as a miner all his life in several pits in the neighbourhood, apart from two years in a gold mine in South Africa. He was the last of a long line: there are Marshalls listed as living in Mavis Valley in every census from 1861 to 1911. Angus told us he had started life in one of the old houses but they moved into a new one later. He knew the name of the 'scavenger' who cleared the privies, a kenspeckle local worthy by the name of Brash; and he was able to point us to the earliest houses parallel to the canal. The houses were no more than a mound but there was a walled area at the end which was the ashpit/privy.

ACFA has worked on many deserted settlements but never one where there were survivors with long memories who can throw light on mysterious features and bring the past to life as Angus did. He is not the only survivor and the local authority has plans to bring them together and record their memories so we may end up knowing much more about Mavis Valley.

Carol Primrose

<sup>\*</sup> **Wilson John T.** (1910) The housing condition of miners: a report by the Medical Officer of Health.

## **The Origins of Kilwinning**



Chapterhouse, Kilwinning Abbey

**Version A**. (traditional pseudo-historical waffle - skip to version B if desired)

In the middle of the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD there was a Christian foundation in Kilwinning on the site now occupied by the abbey. Where did this come from? The name Winning has been suggested to be equivalent to Finnian of Irish origin and is supposed to relate either to Finnian of Molville, the tutor of Columba, or Finnian of Clonard, another founder of Irish monasteries. However the traditional dates of these, 495 to 589 for the former and 470 to 529 for the latter are too late to sit well with the supposed foundation at Kilwinning. So we have to look elsewhere. There was a Christian foundation at Whithorn in Galloway of similar or earlier date associated with Saint Ninian, but his traditional dates are too early, 397 to 432. It is quite possible that Ninian had a follower called Winnin or similar who travelled north from Whithorn to Kilwinning and there set up a church or monastery by about 450. It is worth thinking for a moment about the origins of the Whithorn church.

Since the Emperor Constantine made Christianity an official religion of Rome in 326 there would have been Christian groups among the garrison of Hadrian's Wall by the late 4<sup>th</sup> century and

presumably these would have needed a priest to say mass and administer the sacraments. The wall was active until at least the early years of the 5<sup>th</sup> century and had outpost forts such as Birrens and the fortlet at Gatehouse of Fleet which housed units of cavalry to patrol the country north of the wall. It is easy to imagine that Christians among these could have converted some of the local populace. At the same time, word may have got back to mainland Europe and account for the presence of missionaries (Mavorius) commemorated in stones found in the Rhinns of Galloway at Kirkmadrine. NInian's settlement Whithorn may be a coalescence of these activities. The evangelical nature of the early church would make an expansion northwards a very natural development. If it was by sea then Kilwinning is a likely stopping off point.

When looking at the St Winning cross there are close ties to Whithorn in the style of interlace. It is of Romilly and Andersons type 579, rings connected by strands and the strands are double beaded. This and the related type 577 are found in Galloway at Whithorn, St Ninians, Monreith and Kirkmaiden but also on Clydeside at Govan, Inchinnan, Jordanhill and Kilpatrick. Only a few isolated examples of these designs are found anywhere else. All of these have beaded interlace. double The difference is that the Galloway monuments have no figurative work, whereas the others commonly depict horsemen and other natural scenes.

In short the Kilwinning cross is a hybrid showing elements of influence from both Galloway and Clydeside. In fact the figurative part would not be out of place on a Pictish cross slab and such influence or even the craftsman who carved it could easily have come from north of the Forth in Pictland.

#### **Version B**. (a more interesting tale)

Once upon a time, long ago in the Rhinns of Galloway a little boy was born. His mother Rhianna (1) was a devout Christian, having been converted from her pagan ways by a Gaulish missionary priest called Mavorius who had founded a mission at a place which we now know as Kirkmadrine. The boy's father Lucius (2) had met his mother while on patrol with a troop of cavalry stationed at an outpost of Hadrian's wall and he was already Christian like many of his fellows, because the emperor Constantine had decreed in 326 that this was an official religion of the Empire. When the garrison was withdrawn to defend the Empire in foreign parts, the boy's father had retired from the army as a Roman citizen, having served for 25 years, and they set up home together.

Before too long they heard that a famous bishop was coming to build a church and monastery at Whithorn not far from their home. Naturally they had to go and see and they stayed as servants of the priests and monks. When the boy was ten he became very devout and asked his parents if he could become a monk just like the good men he so admired. They were delighted and approached Bishop Ninian, for it was he, to see whether the boy could be accepted. To their great joy he was welcomed as a novice and given the name Winnin or Uinnin in the Cumbric tongue.

Over the next ten years Uinnin prayed and studied until he too was ready to be

ordained priest. After that he sought guidance from God as to what should be his future path in life. The answer was to go forth and convert the heathen tribes to the north into the true faith.

This he did provisioning a small curragh and with a few companions, the blessing of the aged Ninian, who gave him an elf shot for protection (3) and a fair wind, he set sail round the Mull of Galloway and headed north up the coast. He came to a bay with a river mouth and beached his boat to enquire of the local people what manner of folk they were and if he could have a piece of land to build a church. The chief (4) told him that this was the river Ayr, that they were all honest men here and in no need of his salvation. They were also worried about their bonnie wives and daughters and suspicious of the motives of these strangers towards them. So permission was refused but they advised sailing a little further north to the mouth of another river called the Garnock where they said that the inhabitants were in dire need of salvation, being of a fierce and warlike disposition and speaking in a strange and barbaric fashion. The Ayr men as they called themselves, offered the services of a captured slave from among these people to act as translator and please not to let him return here as he is a very bad influence on the young.

So it was that they sailed up the river Garnock until they came to a shallow ford where they tied up the boat and the slave was sent in search of his friends and relatives. The chief (5) of the tribe was delighted to have his kinsman home and rewarded Uinnin with a plot of land on a ridge above the ford so that they might make a home and perhaps tell the people of this new religion, which

they had heard a little of from travellers through their land.

Gradually and with much wearisome toil some converts were made and Uinnin's little settlement grew until it was large enough to be able to build a little wooden church. After the death of Uinnin his followers kept up the good work and they civilised most of the people of the settlement, though some were beyond redemption, which now became known as Kilwinning that is Uinnins church. By now the current chief (6) and his family wished to erect a permanent memorial to their benefactor and the clerics suggested a cross would be very apt. Not knowing how to create such a thing they sent word back to the mother house at Whithorn for advice and ideas as to what form it might take. They suggested that a suitable design might include the latest fashion of interlace in Galloway which was a series of circles representing eternal souls linked together by strands symbolising the unifying power of God. As an act of gratitude to the chief it was agreed that the cross could include a scene of noble huntsmen provided that some biblical element was included.

At about the same time, another priest, called Kentigern by some and Mungo by others, was doing similar things on the banks of the Clyde near what is now Govan. He also had started off in the south not far from Whithorn and not surprisingly, when monuments were

erected, they bore the same interlace patterns as had been favoured at Whithorn and Kilwinning. These were sponsored by Rhydderch the over-king of Strathclyde and his successors. Govan is within easy travel of the land of the Picts on the north side of the river Forth. Now the Picts were famous sculptors of hunting scenes on their cross slabs and so it came about that Talorgan the Pict (7), an itinerant craftsman who carved some of the Clydeside monuments, came Kilwinning and carved the cross in memory of its founder, the blessed Uinnin.

So it came to pass that the Saint Winning's cross as we know it today came to be made.



These facts were revealed to the author in a vision by his spirit guide Uisge Beatha in the Castle Hotel Portmahomack in the year 2007.

Ralph Shuttleworth

#### **Notes**

- 1 Rhianna daughter of Barrovadus II
- 2 Lucius decurion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort of Tungrians, stationed at the fort of Blatobulgium
- 3 See St Patrick's prayer "from the spells of women, smiths and druids protect me"
- 4 Cynon of Aeron mentioned in Y Gododdin by Aneurin
- 5 Buccfastus Lord of the Garnock (claimed)
- 6 lonbrueus the sober
- 7 Son of Trustan, graduate of the carving school at Meigle





# Scotland's Coastal Heritage at Risk SCHARP

The SCAPE Trust is actively recruiting citizen archaeologists around the Firth of Clyde and Inner Hebrides for their new project, Scotland's Coastal Heritage at Risk (SCHARP). The project aims to train and support local volunteers to improve information about the condition of archaeological and historical sites on Scotland's coasts. Previous coastal surveys around Scotland have shown that there are around 1,000 important sites which are extremely vulnerable to loss through erosion. Change can happen so quickly in dynamic coastal environments, that it is difficult to keep pace with sites being revealed or destroyed by coastal processes. Local people know the coast best, and we're looking for volunteers to carry out simple condition surveys of threatened sites and submit their information to us. SCHARP needs volunteers to be our eyes and ears on the coast; people who can report on new discoveries after storms or when very low tides make archaeological features briefly accessible; who will visit, record and monitor the precious time capsules on our coasts before it is too late.

SCHARP has harnessed modern technology to make contributing to the mammoth task of recording the condition of Scotland's coastal heritage as straightforward as possible, and no special equipment or experience is necessary to participate.

An interactive website (<a href="http://scharp.co.uk/">http://scharp.co.uk/</a>) gives access through the Sites at Risk Map to all the records from previous Coastal Zone Assessment Surveys (CZASs), with all the sites displayed as colour-coded dots; red and orange for high priority sites, yellow for other sites and green for new sites added by volunteers. The clickable dots give access to the full record for the site, and from these detail pages, simple condition survey forms can be downloaded to be taken out and completed on site. Information from completed surveys is typed into an identical on-line form where there is a facility to upload photographs. Once submitted, the completed record is checked by SCHARP officers and uploaded to the Sites at Risk Map so that everyone can see the results of the survey.

For volunteers who use smartphones, paper forms can be dispensed with and exactly the same process carried out using the project's specially developed apps for Android or iPhone. Smart phones contain all the tools required for a rapid archaeological survey: the app provides access to the interactive Sites at Risk portal and recording forms; the phone's in-built GPS can record the location of a site and help navigate to it; and the phone's camera can take photos, linking them to the site record.

The Firth of Clyde, the east coast of the mull of Kintyre, the south of Arran, Great Cumbrae, and the Isles of Bute, Islay, Colonsay, Coll and Tiree, are all target areas for the project. The inner firth area, around Glasgow, is dominated by sites which characterise intertidal areas, with crannogs, fishtraps and the remains of ships, either abandoned or wrecked. Coastal infrastructure, such as boat noosts and jetties, also typifies the sites found in this area. The archaeological remains on the isles, however

are characterised by the remains of occupation and settlements, including duns, castles and monastic sites. The dunes of the isles are particularly vulnerable to erosion, where wind has scoured away sand from underlying archaeological features, revealing buried land surfaces, middens and scatters of artefacts, from prehistoric worked flint to modern pottery, demonstrating the length of human occupation in these landscapes.

Inevitably, sites will be identified where urgent work will be required, so SCHARP will also be supporting further work on at least twelve threatened sites around the Scottish coast. These sites will be chosen by you.

The SCHARP team is organising a training event with ACFA and the Glasgow Archaeology Society in the near future (watch this space). In the meantime, the project video tutorials and further guidance will provide you with all the essentials you need to start contributing immediately. You'll find these under the Guidance section of the website.

For much more information about the project, visit <a href="http://scharp.co.uk/">http://scharp.co.uk/</a>. You can keep up with project activities around Scotland on our project Facebook page and Blog.

The 3 year SCHARP project which runs until 2015 has been made possible by funding and support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, the Crown Estate and the University of St Andrews.

Elinor Graham Research Assistant The SCAPE Trust

## **ACFA 2013 Field Trip**

## **East Lothian**

## Make your booking by end of May directly with hotel.

Dates: Friday evening till Sunday afternoon 18th till 20th October 2013.

Venue: Open Arms Hotel, Dirleton. www.openarmshotel.com

Cost: £75 per person per night dinner, bed and breakfast. All rooms cost the same. Please book directly with the hotel, mentioning Vicki and ACFA. First come, first served. There are a variety of rooms available (10 twins and 2 singles) and all are held for ACFA till end of May.

Programme: This will appear soon.

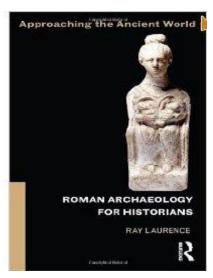
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Wendy Raine

### **Book Review: Roman Archaeology for Historians**

For those interested in the ancient world and the Romans in particular, a search for the precise origins of the city of Rome can be frustrating. This is largely because the historical records relating to the foundation of Rome were destroyed as a result of the troubles of the time. When the Romans later came to attempt a record of their history, their historians were at pains to incorporate into the narrative of their origins a variety of legendary events involving flights from the battle of Troy, the impregnation of a vestal virgin by the gods, and of course the kind ministrations of a shewolf to Romulus and Remus.



All of that is the stuff of legend. For a more academic investigation into the origins of Rome it is necessary to weave together other archaeological, historical and literary sources. Unfortunately these are in short supply and therefore, for historians, this book on Roman Archaeology is to be welcomed. It introduces a much needed guide to the archaeology of the Roman world.

The writer Ray Laurence has previously published on the Roman Empire and is currently Professor of Roman History and Archaeology at the University of Kent.

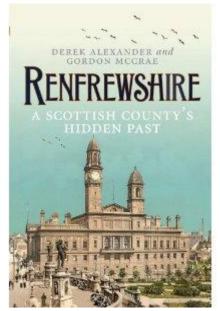
Written in the style of the Classical Studies series, the book extends (with illustrations) up to 163 pages with a bibliography and index. It begins with the analysis of the academic discipline involved and then considers the Roman Forum: from City to Country; the province; Roman Towns; and Roman Forts. It then considers peopling the past, plants, animals and diet. There is undoubtedly a great deal of Roman Archaeology still to be discovered in the UK and the book has an end piece considering a post-processual age.

It is perhaps unfortunate that the book does not cover the iron age archaeology which marks the earliest foundation of the City of Rome. However it is not necessary to be an archaeologist to read this book. It is intended to give students of history a greater exposure to the archaeology involved and in that it succeeds. Perhaps the greatest benefit of the book is that it sets out to explain how the archaeological evidence can be interpreted into what is known of the ancient history of Rome and in that respect the book will be of value to those with an interest in the Roman Period.

Richard Anderson.

Roman Archaeology for Historians: Approaching the Ancient World Ray Laurence 2012 Routledge

#### **Book Review: Renfrewshire: A Scottish County's Hidden Past**



This publication will already be on the shelves of the many ACFA members with Renfrewshire roots, but this can not prevent us from unreservedly recommending it to those members who remain immune or are in ignorance of the hidden archaeological and historical delights of our native heath.

Within these 'patronymic miles of grass and weddings' the two authors, who were and are almost honorary ACFA members, reference many surveys and

excavations in which we participated over the last 25 years, from Barrhouse, Moyne Moor and Braehead to Stanely Castle, Middleton Moor and the heroic Eaglesham Farms.surveys of Susan and Robin Hunter.

A model of succinct descriptions and careful judgements on the value and scope of the County's varied sites and monuments, it is set in the traditional chronological format which celebrates the virtues of structured understanding and pattern, rather than the modish anecdotal and thematic schemes which often blight the field.

It is the culmination of 16 years of scholarship and research by two sons of Renfrewshire with the acknowledged assistance and unparalleled knowledge of Dr Stuart Nisbet for the post-Medieval period. A clear hand in design and the masterly re-drawing of many plans and illustrations have been provided by Ingrid Shearer.

Even for a native there is renewed stimulation to visit sites unvisited – Cuff Hill Chambered Cairn, the Covenanter Stones, Laggan Hill (the best Late Medieval Deserted Settlement in the County) and the possible illicit still on the Coplie Burn, high on Duchal Moor. New evidence and reviews of known sites also invite a return to sites not seen for many years – Barochan Roman Fort, the Marshall Moor and East Barnaigh forts/enclosures and Castle Semple Peel Tower.

The sheer range and inclusiveness of assembled information ensures that this will remain the definitive body of knowledge about the area's past for generations to come, and it is enhanced by the deft analysis of those historical and environmental contexts of change and continuity implicit in all landscape studies.

It also reaches out beyond the County's boundaries to indicate type sites within the region which have not survived in Renfrewshire, to throw light on those now lost, and does not shrink from inviting Paisley buddies to 'confront unpalatable truths' about the facts of geography and the power of its rapacious neighbour, the City of Glasgow.

In his elegy, 'The Harp of Renfrewshire: contemplating a map', written over thirty years ago, the poet Douglas Dunn memorialized the once rolling wilderness of the Renfrewshire uplands:

'From Eaglesham west to the rocky shore
Her cry is stretched across bog-asphodel
The patronymic miles of grass and weddings,
Their festivals of genders, covenants,
Poor pre-industrially scattered steadings,
Ploughed up davochs- old names, inhabitants'.

A landscape, which appeared unchanging to me as a boy unaware of the certitude of historical change, was even then on the brink of vast industrial forestry (justified by the national demand for pit props for an industry which would itself vanish within a generation). The vistas of bog asphodel, moss, snipe and skylark, 'A granary of whispers rinsed in dew', now recapitalised, augmented and configured into the industrial horizons of the Whitelee 'Forest' Wind 'Farm'.

This book offers an eloquent but necessarily objective and consolationless context for such historical processes – its ambition reaching out further than the usual County histories. It is to be recommended to all with an interest in the archaeology and history of lowland Scotland

Ian Marshall

Renfrewshire: A Scottish County's Hidden Past, Derek Alexander and Gordon McCrae 2012 Birlinn



Caption suggestion:

'Oh dear, Lionel's sent her to the naughty step.'

Thanks to Margaret Alexander

## Dates for the diary

17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2013 Arch. Scotland Summer School, Nairn

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013 Archaeological Research in Progress Conference, Edinburgh

Sat - Sun 25 26th May 2013 ACFA Introductory Field Course, Pollock

**15<sup>th</sup> June – 5<sup>th</sup> July 2013** Strathearn and Environs Royal Forteviot 7<sup>th</sup> Season, Dunning Perthshire. Open Day Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Fri - Sun 18th - 20th October 2013 ACFA East Lothian Field Trip

Saturday 26th October 2013 ACFA AGM

#### **CALLING ACFA MEMBERS!**

#### **Surveys**

ACFA members are encouraged to undertake field survey, not just at a landscape level but also on a smaller scale for perhaps just one building or feature. These can be sent to RCAMHS and kept as a collection of ACFA Site Reports in addition to the Occasional Papers.

Contact the Committee if you are thinking of proceeding. There are many people who will be happy to advise if required. So, if you have come across an old farmstead or a kiln or a WW2 air raid shelter or any unusual feature in your walks, consider rallying a few of the members, drawing it up and writing a short report.

ACFA does of course promote the larger scale survey where a team of volunteers labour over many weeks / months / years. The costs of printing can be considerable depending on the size of the final report but the Committee will assist survey directors in applying for grants and also advise on a combination of in-house printing and electronic publishing.



Rona Survey April/May 2013

**Title page photo:** Cruck house, Auchendrain. Photo by Janet Macdonald

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**Submissions** - It would be appreciated if submissions were sent in Word format with photos sent separately as JPEGs. Please note that the Editor reserves the right to shorten and generally edit articles, as required.

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