

Newsletter

December 2018

Welcome from the New Convenor

I was honoured to be made the new Convenor of the Scottish Catholic Historical Association earlier this year. I do not claim to be a straightforward 'Historian' but I am a literary scholar with strong historical interests, including in the culture of Catholicism in Scotland from the eighteenth-century onwards. In the 21st century SCHA Council is made up, perhaps more than it has ever been, of a variety of scholarly disciplines and interests. The collective mission, however, remains the same as at the foundation of the Association: the research and promotion of the Catholic History of Scotland, defined as broadly as possible, including internationally, and in all periods.

This year, on 27th October, we restored our annual conference. The theme was the history of Catholic schools in Scotland related to and following that watershed moment, the 1918 Education Act. Sir Tom Devine chaired an excellent panel of Bob Davis, Stephen McKinney, Lindsay Paterson and Diane Watters, and a large audience enjoyed proceedings at the University of Glasgow. Our conference was also the result of a partnership with the Newman Association (Glasgow Circle) and the St Andrew's Foundation for Catholic Teacher Education. Our journal the *Innes Review* will in future hopefully publish some or all of the papers delivered. It was heartening to have episcopal representation in the person of Bishop John Keenan of Paisley and members of the religious life attended as well as the laity. Traditionally the SCHA has functioned by relying on both of these constituencies, lay and religious.

At our conference we presented the Bernard Aspinwall Memorial Prize 1918. The two winning essays were part of an excellent set of submissions this year, and Council is very heartened here by the work of younger historians on Scottish Catholic History.

Looking to the near future, plans are now underway for a conference in Aberdeen 2019 centred around the holdings of the Scottish Catholic Archives housed in the university there.

With Council, I also wish to pay heartfelt tribute to our outgoing Treasurer, Andrew Nicoll who is stepping down in this role after more than a decade of dedicated service to the Association. Both our accounts and our culture generally are in healthy state due in no small measure to Andrew's efforts. I am delighted to report that my predecessor as Convenor, Ian Campbell, remains a member of Council. Please follow us on twitter and facebook for all of our collective efforts as a Council and as an Association going forward.

Gerry Carruthers, Convenor, Scottish Catholic Historical Association
(Francis Hutcheson Professor of Scottish Literature, University of Glasgow)

New Constitution

The Scottish Catholic Historical Association, currently an Incorporated Association, is in the process of becoming a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation). An application has been made with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. From our members' perspective this changes very little; however it allows the Trustees to update the constitution to adhere to modern charity regulation.

Bernard Aspinwall Memorial Essay Prize 2018

The Bernard Aspinwall Memorial Essay Competition for early career researchers and postgraduate students was advertised early in 2018 and the Association decided to name two winners this year due to the high quality of the submissions. Kieran Taylor ("A Crusade of Christianity": The Archdiocese of Glasgow and the relief of Belgian Refugees during the First World War) and Ryan Burns ('Enforcing Uniformity: Kirk Sessions and Catholics in Early Modern Scotland, 1560-1650') received the prize of £250 each this year. Both of the winners' essays have been published in the November 2018 edition of the *Innes Review*.

Bernard Aspinwall Memorial Essay Competition 2019

Entries from postgraduate students and early career researchers are invited for an essay competition in honour of Bernard Aspinwall (1938-2013). Submissions of around 6,000 words are welcomed on any aspect of Scottish Catholic history dealing with any period. Biographical, ecclesiastical, Church, architectural, social, theological, literary, gender and other historical themes and approaches are equally encouraged. The winning entry will be awarded a prize of £250. The winning essay will, subject to normal peer-review and editing process, be eligible for publication in the *Innes Review*. Deadline for submissions is at 5pm GMT on Friday 21 June 2019. Please send the entry submissions (with 'SCHA Essay Competition' in the subject field) via email to scha1950@gmail.com, accompanied by a brief

covering letter detailing your full name and eligibility (degree, university and year of studies, or the year of obtaining your degree).

The official call for submissions is at the end of this newsletter should our members wish to circulate this.

2018 Conference

The Association revived its annual conference on the 27th of October this year. The theme was the history of Catholic schools in Scotland related to and following that watershed moment, the 1918 Education Act.

Sir Tom Devine chaired an excellent panel of our four speakers, and a large audience enjoyed proceedings at the University of Glasgow. Bob Davis spoke of “The 1918 Education (Scotland) Act and the European Crisis: Church, State & Society”, followed by Historic Environment Scotland’s Diane Watters: “Tradition and Modernity: Catholic School Architecture After 1918”. Stephen McKinney discussed “The Church of Scotland response to the Education (Scotland) Act, 1918” and the panel was concluded after a coffee break by Lindsay Paterson’s “Integration or assimilation: the liberal effects of a Liberal Act”. The conference was wrapped up with an energetic Q&A session and panel discussion led by Sir Tom Devine.

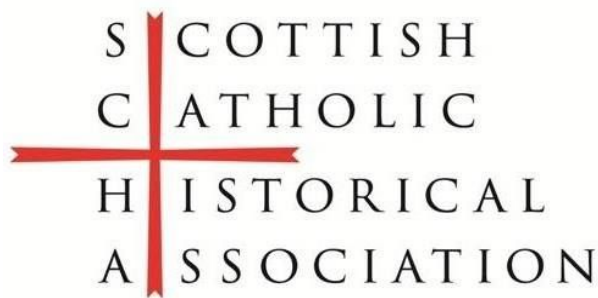
Our conference was the result of a partnership with the Newman Association (Glasgow Circle) and the St Andrew’s Foundation for Catholic Teacher Education.

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/scha1950

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/scottishcatholichistory/

Our new website will be live soon at www.scha.scot

Our journal, *The Innes Review*: www.euppublishing.com/loi/inr



Call for Submissions:

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We intend to publicise the winner's name and essay on our social media, newsletter and website.

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/scha1950

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Our new website will be live soon at www.scha.scot

Our journal, *The Innes Review*: www.eupublishing.com/loi/inr