

## Viewpoint

# The Scottish History Society: 130 Years of Promoting the Best in Scottish History Scholarship

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Established in 1886, 2016 marks the 130th anniversary of the Scottish History Society.<sup>2</sup> This represents a major landmark for the Society, which remains the leading publisher of original sources relating to the history of Scotland.<sup>3</sup> Alongside an illustrious publications history, the Society has also been evolving into a wider forum for academic transcription, editing and scholarship in the discipline. Indeed, in many ways, the work of the Society – from the coverage of its publications, to its new Twitter account – reflects the shifting trends within Scottish history as a discipline across most of the period of its establishment and growth.

The 1880s saw a strong revival of interest in all things related to Scottish history: the identity of the nation, its past and its future, at least in part stimulated by widespread concern that Scotland's history had become increasingly neglected.<sup>4</sup> One of the most influential figures in its revival was Archibald Primrose, the 5th Earl of Rosebery; the Society was founded as the result of a suggestion he made in a letter published in *The Scotsman*.<sup>5</sup> Rosebery

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<sup>2</sup> The author would like to thank the following for their input and advice in the writing of this article: Professor Graeme Morton, Professor Dauvit Broun and Dr Siobhan Talbott.

<sup>3</sup> G. Donaldson, 'The Scottish History Society, 1886–1986', in (ed.) J. Munro and R. W. Munro, *Acts of the Lords of the Isles, 1336–1493* (Edinburgh, 1986), 357–77.

<sup>4</sup> C. M. M. Macdonald, 'Andrew Lang and Scottish Historiography: Taking on Tradition', *Scottish Historical Review*, 94, no. 2 (2015), 208–10; R. Anderson, *Education and the Scottish People, 1750–1918* (Oxford, 1995), 217. By 1903, questions were being asked in Parliament about the neglect of Scottish history: see A. Black, Speech in the House of Commons, 18 June 1903, *Parliamentary Debates, Commons*, 4th series, 123 (1903), cols. 1369–70.

<sup>5</sup> *The Scotsman*, 3 February 1886; see also 1 May 1886; J. Davis, 'Primrose, Archibald Philip, fifth earl of Rosebery and first earl of Midlothian (1847–1929)', *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford, 2004; online edn, Sept 2015), <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/35612>.

had a deep interest in Scottish history, and as the first (and longest-serving), president of the Society, he defined its work as:

the humble and unobtrusive task of letting everyman know, in so far as in us lies, and so far as documentary evidence exists, how our forebears lived and worked and carried on the business of their country in their separate spheres.<sup>6</sup>

The current incarnation of the Society hopes that this is indeed what our publications record has achieved.

Many readers will be familiar with the six series of Scottish History Society volumes, but they may be less familiar with its constitution, workings and evolving priorities, and this article will illuminate these areas, alongside a discussion of the vital synthesis between the work of the Society and that of archivists. The essential purpose of the Society, as enshrined in its constitution, is designed to gladden the hearts of archivists everywhere: ‘to promote interest in, and further knowledge of, the history of Scotland’. Further, our object is to, ‘discover, edit, print, and issue to members unpublished documents illustrative of that history’. Our motto sums this up succinctly: *Colligite fragmenta ne pereant* (collect what remains lest it perish).<sup>7</sup> The Society publishes edited transcriptions of original sources, with a full scholarly apparatus, mostly of book length, but also miscellany collections of shorter edited transcriptions.<sup>8</sup> Most of these consist of unpublished manuscript sources, but the Society also publishes rare or difficult-to-access printed materials. The Society is governed by its Council, members of which are elected for four-year terms, and which includes a mix of historians and archivists. The Council adjudicates on publication proposals and the Society’s other activities, and is supported by its convenor and four office-bearers. The role of President, as defined initially by Lord Rosebery, is to act as an advocate for the Society and the discipline more broadly, and to deliver a series of annual lectures, widely regarded as discipline defining.<sup>9</sup> After Rosebery’s long term as president, the Society standardised the presidential term to four years.

This article will introduce readers to the work of the Scottish History Society, its establishment and purpose, and how that has evolved alongside the discipline. With nearly 200 volumes to the Society’s name, this article will also examine the scholarly coverage of the work of generations of editors and transcribers, and the enduring importance in modern academia of this type of work, as evidenced by the Society’s flourishing success into the 21st century. The work and history of the Society can also tell us more about wider Scottish

<sup>6</sup> C. Sandford Terry, *A Catalogue of the Publications of Scottish Historical and Kindred Clubs and Societies* (Aberdeen, 1909); see also National Records of Scotland (hereafter NRS), GD401, Papers of the Scottish History Society, GD401/2/1, typed report, ‘The Scottish History Society’, May 1962.

<sup>7</sup> See NRS, GD401/1/1, Minutes of the Scottish History Society, vol. 1, 1886.

<sup>8</sup> To view a full list of our publications, please see <http://scottishhistorysociety.com/publications/>.

<sup>9</sup> To read our constitution in full, please see <http://scottishhistorysociety.com/constitution/>.

society, education and civic life, and this article will also outline the place that the Society, and that of other publications and bibliographic societies, holds in the development of modern Scottish society and identities.<sup>10</sup> Lastly, we will look at the present and future activities of the Society, how these have expanded into important areas of advocacy for and promotion of the discipline of Scottish history, and of course, the central place of Scottish archives (both within and outwith Scotland) in that work.

The Society was founded during a tumultuous decade in British and Irish politics; a time when national identities and their constitutional positioning were coming under pressure and in a period of reform. The Irish nationalist movement was the leading force in this regard, demanding home rule, or devolution, from Westminster and refocusing political and popular attention on the nature and purpose of both the Anglo-Irish and the Anglo-Scottish unions.<sup>11</sup> The first president of the Society, Rosebery, was at the heart of the maelstrom, supporting the conversion of the Liberal prime minister, Gladstone, to Irish home rule and later, while prime minister himself in 1894–95, promoting the same cause.<sup>12</sup> He was also exercised about the Scottish case, disgruntled that Irish nationalist violence was seen to be rewarded by political concessions, where Scottish loyalty was not, and he supported the principle of some form of administrative devolution for Scotland.<sup>13</sup> Aside from all the political *Sturm und Drang*, however, he was a passionate advocate for the individuality of Scottish history and identity.<sup>14</sup>

He was not alone in this, and indeed can be seen as just one figure in a wider movement from the 1850s promoting – or ‘vindicating’ in the contemporary terminology – the rights of Scotland.<sup>15</sup> In this context, rights referred to recognition of Scotland’s independent history, both before and after the 1707 Union. In this sense, the Scottish History Society was born a political animal, as far as history was and is political. By promoting the collection and publication of archival sources relating to the history of Scotland, from earliest times to

<sup>10</sup> Macdonald, ‘Andrew Lang and Scottish Historiography’, 209–10.

<sup>11</sup> C. Matthew, *The Nineteenth Century* (Oxford, 2000), ‘The Union and the Nations’, 104–6.

<sup>12</sup> See for example his pamphlet, *The Union Between England and Scotland, Address to Edinburgh Philosophical Institution* (1871); and a later riposte, W. Mitchell, *Lord Rosebery and Home Rule for Scotland: A Challenge* (Edinburgh, n.d. [c.1894]).

<sup>13</sup> I. Levitt, ‘Scottish Sentiment, Administrative Devolution and Westminster, 1885–1964’, in (ed.) M. Lynch, *Scotland, 1850–1979: Society, Politics and the Union* (London, 1993); Davis, ‘Primrose, Archibald Philip’; C. Whatley, *The Scots and the Union: Then and Now* (Edinburgh, 2014), 418.

<sup>14</sup> Davis, ‘Primrose, Archibald Philip’.

<sup>15</sup> See, for instance, the work of the National Association for the Vindication of Scottish Rights, active in the 1850s: G. Morton, *Unionist Nationalism: Governing Urban Scotland, 1830–60* (Edinburgh, 1999), 140, 144–6; Whatley, *The Scots and the Union*, 21–2; *Justice to Scotland: Report of the Great Public Meeting of the National Association for the Vindication of Scottish Rights, Held in the City Hall* (Glasgow, 1853).

the present, we might characterise the Society as being part of the ‘unionist nationalism’ of the mid to late nineteenth century.<sup>16</sup> This was the growth of a cultural and historical – but not political – nationalism in Scotland, powered by the growing middle and professional classes and the broadening out of access to education and literary pursuits. The global success of the novels of Sir Walter Scott and the international fashion for all things Scottish – from tartans, to the image of the Scottish soldier, to the landscapes of the Highlands – were part of this unionist nationalism.<sup>17</sup> Indeed, Rosebery, in his open letter of 1886, suggested that by building a published collection of sources, ‘the wistful shade of Sir Walter Scott himself’ would be appeased.<sup>18</sup> It is in this period, for instance, that the National Wallace Monument was planned and constructed, paid for by the subscriptions of thousands of ordinary Scots.<sup>19</sup> It is also the beginning of the period when the first academic chairs in Scottish history and Celtic studies were being established in the Scottish universities, building the discipline into the university curricula more securely.<sup>20</sup> The University of Edinburgh, for instance, established its chair of Celtic Language, Literature, History and Antiquities in 1882, followed by the Sir William Fraser Chair of Scottish History and Palaeography in 1901. The University of Glasgow was not far behind when in 1913 it founded a chair in Scottish History and Literature.<sup>21</sup> The foundation of the Scottish History Society is part of this wider story of the increasingly assertive promotion of a unique Scottish historical and cultural identity, and a rejection that this was in any way, ‘a parochial and backward-looking patriotism which stood in the way of wider loyalties’.<sup>22</sup>

The first 50 years of the Society were among its most productive, with at least two volumes – sometimes more – being published every year, supported

<sup>16</sup> Morton, *Unionist Nationalism*, 1–21.

<sup>17</sup> Morton, *Unionist Nationalism*, 155–72.

<sup>18</sup> *The Scotsman*, 3 February 1886; See also M. Ash, ‘Scott and Historical Publishing: The Bannatyne and Maitland Clubs’, in Abertay Historical Society, *Scots Antiquaries and Historians* (Dundee, 1972), 26–42.

<sup>19</sup> G. Morton, *William Wallace: A National Tale* (Edinburgh, 2014), 162–3, 178.

<sup>20</sup> B. Leneman, ‘The Teaching of Scottish History in the Scottish Universities’, *Scottish Historical Review*, 52 (1973), 165–90; R. Anderson, ‘University Teaching, National Identity and Unionism in Scotland, 1862–1914’, *Scottish Historical Review*, 91 (2012), 1–41; R. Anderson, ‘The Development of History Teaching in the Scottish Universities, 1894–1939’, *Journal of Scottish Historical Studies*, 32 (2012), 50–73; D. Broun, ‘A Forgotten Anniversary: P. Hume Brown’s History of Scotland, 1911’, in (ed.) N. Evans and H. Pryce, *Writing a Small Nation’s Past: Wales in Comparative Perspective, 1850–1950* (Farnham, 2013), 267–82.

<sup>21</sup> Anderson, ‘University Teaching’.

<sup>22</sup> Anderson, *Education and the Scottish People*, 217. This was of course true of other publication clubs and societies established in the same period; see Morton, *Unionist Nationalism*, 91, 95; G. Dunlop (ed.), *An Account of the Signet Club with Extracts from the Minutes and a Complete List of Members, 1790–1902* (Edinburgh, 1902); C. S. Terry, *A Catalogue of the Publications of Scottish Historical and Kindred Clubs and Societies* (Glasgow, 1909).

by a limited membership restricted to 400 subscribers.<sup>23</sup> Arguably, these volumes – discussed in more detail in the next section – form the bedrock of 20th- and 21st-century Scottish historical scholarship. That scholarship saw a significant expansion from the late 1960s, as more academics took up research in the discipline, and academic posts and departments expanded. New fields were opened up, in all periods, topics and approaches, and this has been reflected in the volumes published by the Society since the 1970s. As well as the bread-and-butter publications based on the records of state and church, particularly in the early modern period, volumes have begun to appear that indicate historiographical trends such as ‘history from below’, environmental history, gender history, the history of trade unionism and the history of health and medicine. The Society’s membership is no longer restricted in number and is open to anybody interested in or who values Scottish history, a further reflection of the democratisation of scholarly endeavour.

The 188 (and counting) volumes that make up the Society’s canon can tell us much about the changing trends and shifting focus of Scottish historiography from the late nineteenth century. The volumes are organised into six series, which vary in number of volumes, from over 60 in series one, to only 20 in series two. The series do not impose any order in terms of coverage of topic or period; the Society always has and continues to operate on the basis of receiving proposals for volumes and miscellany pieces from prospective editors and judging them on their own merits. This is not to say that throughout its history, for example in the early 1960s, the Society did not attempt to target some periods and topics it felt were underrepresented, particularly the medieval and modern periods.<sup>24</sup> However, the Society operates no specific controls over what is published in terms of period or topic, and so acts as a mirror to academic trends.

Some elements of the publications have evolved over time, however; principally the growing relative importance of the scholarly introductions and apparatus provided by the editors. In our earlier volumes, these might be quite short and sketchy, and the focus was on simply presenting the transcribed materials as fully as possible. For the modern reader and scholar this does, of course, present some challenges. As earlier editors did not routinely discuss in their introductions the finer points of their transcription and editorial methods, historians and others wishing to use the volumes as the basis for their research are well advised to go back to check the original manuscripts. Likewise, referencing and contextual materials were regarded as less of a priority in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, making the volumes perhaps a little less accessible to the general reader than they are today. Looking over

<sup>23</sup> See NRS, GD401/1/1, Minutes of the Scottish History Society, vol. 1, 1886, for the speed at which the limited membership was taken up and calls for it to be extended; see also *The Scotsman*, 1 May 1886.

<sup>24</sup> See for example, NRS, GD401/2/1–2, administrative files: Minutes from a special ‘Report of Committee on Policy’ meeting, September 1962: ‘Memorandum on Publications Policy’, May 1962.

the full list of the Society's volumes, an impression of the early urgency of the publication programme can be gleaned, as significant amounts of work were published almost immediately. Nine volumes were published in the first four years of the Society, for instance, perhaps demonstrating the level of excitement that the establishment of the Society and its work had generated.

What of the coverage of topic and period in the Society's volumes? We could argue that an examination of the topics and periods on which the Society has published, and how the emphasis has changed, can give us a rough reflection of the key trends of Scottish history as a discipline. Likewise, a consideration of the editors, many of whom edited multiple volumes particularly in the early years, can tell us something about the development of the discipline, in both its academic and independent scholarly guises. Overall, we can make the very general point that the discipline has certainly flowered in both scope and reach since 1886; the range of materials and subjects of study have grown exponentially, reflecting the broader trends in historiography across Britain, including gender history, cultural and material histories, history from below, and imperial and post-colonial history.<sup>25</sup> However, we can also see from the list of volumes that there were times at which the Society struggled to attract submissions and, indeed, were somewhat disappointed when they received publication proposals for areas where they were already well served. In 1962, the Society held a series of extraordinary meetings and a long report on their membership and publication policies was considered. The Society was described as being 'practically moribund', and its publications having become too concentrated in the areas of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries: the report suggested that around 90 per cent of the Society's publications up to 1962 fell into those categories.<sup>26</sup> A glance at the list of volumes does indeed bear this out, but efforts made since that report and the regeneration of the Society – and the wider discipline from the mid-1960s onwards – has meant that this has been balanced to some extent, with more medieval and modern materials published.

Although the bulk of the materials published before the 1960s is concentrated on the whole into three centuries, there is yet a great deal of variation of topic. There is, of course, a good representation of what we might call the 'usual suspects': the Jacobite Risings (which are extremely well represented); the history and activities of the Scottish parliament; the Kirk and genealogical collections.<sup>27</sup> However, some more surprising or niche

<sup>25</sup> See for example, from 5th series, vol. 18, *Journal of My Life and Everyday Doings 1879–81, 1885–92*. James Wilson, *Farmer in Banffshire*, (ed.) Peter Hills (Edinburgh, 2008); vol. 12, *Mid and East Lothian Miners' Association Minutes 1894–1918*, (ed.) Ian MacDougall (Edinburgh, 2003); vol. 13, *Scotland and the Americas, c.1650–c.1939: A Documentary Source Book*, (ed.) Allan I. Macinnes, Marjory Harper and Linda G. Fryer (Edinburgh, 2002).

<sup>26</sup> NRS, GD401/2/2, 1962 Report.

<sup>27</sup> See for example, 1st series, vol. 7, *Register of the Minister Elders and Deacons of the Christian Congregation of St Andrews, Comprising the Proceedings of the Kirk Session and of the Court of the Superintendent of Fife, Fothrik and Strathearn, 1559–1600, Part Second: 1582–1600*, (ed.) David

material was also collected and published including narratives, journals and correspondences across a wide range of matters, such as estate management, agricultural improvement, household account and recipe books, travel writings and journals, and charters and papal bulls.<sup>28</sup>

There is certainly an evident widening of focus from the 1970s onwards, reflecting the great expansion of academic Scottish history from that period. In particular, we can trace a growing emphasis on modern Scottish history – everything from the industrial revolution, to reformed electoral politics, to the experiences and careers of Scots overseas, and imperial activities.<sup>29</sup> This is not to say that those topics traditionally central to Scottish history have been relatively neglected since the 1970s: the Society has still published on the 1707 Union for instance, and the seventeenth-century Scottish parliament, but in many cases, the angle or focus has changed. Popular politics and protest, family, gender and household histories, and the Scottish contribution to the imperial project are all areas currently represented in the Society’s volumes. The now very outdated view that there could not be a separate Scottish history after 1707 has been firmly rejected, and more material from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries has been published.

Another facet of interest to the observer of the development of Scottish history as a discipline is an examination of the editors who actually transcribed the works and brought them to publication. Perhaps unsurprisingly, in the early years of the Society’s work the editors were rarely academic historians. More often they were archivists and what we might now call ‘amateur’ historians, although the quality of the work produced was anything but amateur. A number of these editors were ministers of the kirk, who perhaps had access to important seams of archival records – and the time to transcribe and edit them – as part of their daily work.<sup>30</sup> We can also see a pattern in the early

Hay Fleming (Edinburgh, 1890); vol. 8, *List of Persons Concerned in the Rebellion, Transmitted to the Commissioners of Excise by the Several Supervisors in Scotland in Obedience to a General Letter of the 7th May 1746 and a Supplementary List with Evidences to Prove the Same*, (ed.) Rev. Walter MacLeod, with a preface by the Earl of Rosebery (Edinburgh, 1890); 2nd series, vol. 6, *Selections from the Records of the Regality of Melrose 1605–1661, Volume I*, (ed.) Charles S. Romanes (Edinburgh, 1914).

<sup>28</sup> See for example, 1st series, vol. 1, *Tours in Scotland 1747, 1750, 1760 by Richard Pococke, Bishop of Meath*, (ed.) Daniel William Kemp (Edinburgh, 1887); vol. 28, *The Compt Buik of David Wedderburne, Merchant of Dundee, 1587–1630, Together with the Shipping Lists of Dundee, 1580–1618*, (ed.) A. H. Millar (Edinburgh, 1898).

<sup>29</sup> See for example, 4th series, vol. 5, *The Minutes of Edinburgh Trades Council 1859–1873*, (ed.) Ian MacDougall (Edinburgh, 1968); 5th series, vol. 1, *Government and Social Conditions in Scotland 1845–1919*, (ed.) Ian Levitt (Edinburgh, 1988).

<sup>30</sup> See for example, 1st series, vol. 2, *The Diary and General Expenditure Book of William Cunningham of Craigends, Commissioner to the Convention of Estates and Member of Parliament for Renfrewshire, Kept Chiefly from 1673 to 1680*, (ed.) Rev. James Dodds (Edinburgh, 1887); vol. 3, *The Grameid, a Heroic Poem Descriptive of the Campaign of Viscount Dundee in 1689 and Other Pieces by James Philip of Almericlose, 1691*, (ed.) Rev. Alexander D. Murdoch

years of the Society of a number of dedicated editors, publishing multiple volumes. Early names include David Hay Fleming, W. G. Scott-Moncrieff, and prominent Scottish historians such as C. Sanford Terry and P. Hume Brown.<sup>31</sup> In 1923, the Society published its first volume edited by a woman, Marguerite Wood, on the correspondence of Mary de Lorraine, and Wood would go on to publish a number of other volumes in the 1920s and 1930s. Indeed, the Society has a relatively strong record of female editorship, a trend exemplified in the work of Annie I. Dunlop, who edited and published no less than three volumes, meriting an obituary in volume 12 of the fourth series.<sup>32</sup>

In its coverage of topic and period, as well as its editorialship and management, the Society reflects the development of Scottish history as an academic discipline from the late nineteenth century. From a boom of interest and support in the late 1880s, to something of a decline in the early 1960s, and a subsequent rebirth from the 1970s into the present day, the Society has both mirrored and encouraged the growth of the discipline over 130 years.

It should be clear from the foregoing that, throughout its history, the Society has contributed a great deal to Scottish historical scholarship and academic and public understandings of the nation's past. Until fairly recently, this was mainly conducted through our publications, but the Society has endeavoured to expand its remit, and it is perhaps fitting to finish this short article outlining those new activities and roles, and to think about what the next 130 years may hold.

Although established as a publications society, the Society uses its neutral position to act as a voice and a champion for the discipline of Scottish history more broadly defined. This has manifested itself in a number of different ways and will no doubt further expand in the future. Perhaps not surprisingly for a society such as ourselves, we have acted as a champion for the position and funding of archives, and archivists (public and private), within and outwith Scotland. Our central purpose is to make manuscript and rare printed material as widely available as possible, and so the funding and organisation of archival

(Edinburgh, 1888); vol. 12, *The Court Book of the Barony of Urie in Kincardineshire, 1604–1747*, (ed.) Rev. Douglas Gordon Barron (Edinburgh, 1892).

<sup>31</sup> See for example, 1st series, vol. 4, *Register of the Minister Elders and Deacons of the Christian Congregation of St Andrews, Comprising the Proceedings of the Kirk Session and of the Court of the Superintendent of Fife Fothrik and Strathearn, 1559–1600, Part First: 1559–1582*, (ed.) David Hay Fleming (Edinburgh, 1889); vol. 6, *Narrative of Mr James Nimmo, Written for his Own Satisfaction to Keep in Some Remembrance the Lord's Way Dealing and Kindness Towards Him, 1654–1709*, (ed.) W. G. Scott-Moncrieff (Edinburgh, 1889); vol. 40, *The Cromwellian Union, Papers Relating to the Negotiations for an Incorporating Union Between England and Scotland, 1651–1652*, (ed.) C. Sanford Terry (Edinburgh, 1902); 2nd series, vol. 11, *Letters Relating to Scotland in the Reign of Queen Anne, by James Ogilvy, First Earl of Seafield and Others*, (ed.) P. Hume Brown (Edinburgh, 1915).

<sup>32</sup> I. B. Cowan, 'Annie I. Dunlop (1897–1973): a Memoir', in 4th series, vol. 12, *Papal Letters to Scotland of Clement VII of Avignon 1378–1394*, (ed.) Charles Burns (Edinburgh, 1976).



repositories is of great concern to us. As well as supporting dedicated and specialised archival groups such as the Scottish Records Association and the Scottish Council on Archives, we contribute to consultations and campaigns around archives. Linked to this is our expanding role as a conduit for discussion and scholarly enterprise, for instance, in hosting a symposium over the future of the post-1878 Scottish Catholic Archives, when their location and management was under debate.<sup>33</sup> As a neutral society, unattached to any institution or university, we can play a valuable role in facilitating a balanced and democratic discussion on sometimes divisive issues.

Our chief purpose, however, is to champion the vital, fundamental work of academic transcription and editing to the discipline and public understanding of it. Academics have come under increasing pressures in recent years due to the Research Excellence Framework, and the primacy placed on research monographs and journal articles within that audit structure. The Society has successfully defended the place of academic editorial scholarship in the face of these pressures. Its position in academic life was confirmed in the report released in the wake of the results from REF2014, where the sub-panel report for History commented that scholarly editions tended to score as highly as monograph submissions and that it was the quality of the work, not the type of output, that dictated scores awarded.<sup>34</sup>

Linked to this has been a new initiative on the part of the Society, of running a series of events, open and free to all, on the value of academic transcription, and masterclasses on the technicalities of editing and transcription, relative to the medieval, early modern and modern periods. The society also runs an annual prize for postgraduate or postdoctoral editors, the Rosebery Prize, to encourage future work.<sup>35</sup> As well as raising awareness of the work of the Society, especially among postgraduate students and early career academics, these events are valuable opportunities for scholars to meet and discuss their work. They also raise the profile of the Society within the discipline, building on our wider efforts in this area. For instance, in a development that Lord Rosebery would never have been able to predict, the Society now runs a comprehensive website, Facebook page and Twitter feed.<sup>36</sup>

Through these events and by developing our social media presence, the Society is equipping itself with new tools to pursue its long-standing aims into the 21st century. To ‘collect what remains lest it perish’ remains our guiding purpose and the Society is evolving with the times to best secure that aim and

<sup>33</sup> See D. Tierney, K. Kehoe and E. A. Cameron, ‘The Scottish Catholic Archives and Scottish Historical Studies’, *Innes Review*, 65, no. 2 (2014), 79–94.

<sup>34</sup> See the full report at <http://www.ref.ac.uk/media/ref/content/expanel/member/Main%20Panel%20D%20overview%20report.pdf>, especially p. 52.

<sup>35</sup> For details, see <http://scottishhistorysociety.com/scottish-history-society-postgraduate-prize/>.

<sup>36</sup> Please see <https://www.facebook.com/ScottishHistorySociety/> and follow us on Twitter @ScottishHistSoc.

promote excellence in Scottish history scholarship for the next 130 years. With this in mind, the Society teamed up with the National Library of Scotland to digitise the whole canon of its published volumes, which was launched in November 2016. The volumes are hosted by the National Library on its Digital Gallery, freely available for all to use, study and enjoy; the next step for the Society into the digital age.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>37</sup> See <http://digital.nls.uk/scottish-history-society-publications/>.