

INSTITUTE FOR NORTHERN STUDIES

Annual Report 2022-2023

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INTRODUCTION



Welcome to the UHI Institute for Northern Studies Annual Report for 2022-23. I hope you will find it an interesting read – we have certainly had a busy and interesting time of it this year. Teaching highlights included a win for Andrew Jennings in the HISA ‘Most Engaging Video Conference Lecturer’ category and honourable mentions for Andrew Lind, Lynn Campbell, and Oisín Plumb in this and other categories – well done, team! Research highlights included the REF 2021 results – INS led the UHI Area Studies submission which was rated 1st in Scotland and 1st equal with a perfect score for research

impact in the UK along with UCL and Exeter. Other highlights include a number of successful grant bids including the Norse and the Sea, led by Alex Sanmark, and the HerInDep project, led by Andrew Jennings, and indeed the appointment of new research staff. Another great highlight was the award of the Nils Ahnlund Prize to our very own Stefan Brink. I count myself very fortunate to work with such exceptional colleagues. As for me, I finished one UHI secondment as acting Vice Principal Research and Impact in May 2022 and started another as Head of Research Environment and Culture (part time) in March 2023. As you can see, it is all go at INS!

Donna Heddle

June 2023

BACKGROUND

Established in 2007, we operate from three key locations in Orkney, Shetland, and Perth. We also work closely with both Orkney College UHI and UHI Shetland and their associated learning centres and island communities. Originally titled the Centre for Nordic Studies, our first staff were employed in 2009, and today we offer five postgraduate degrees to students across the globe, plus one undergraduate Honour degree at both single and joint Honours. The Centre for Nordic Studies gained Institute status in 2017 becoming the Institute for Northern Studies. The Institute was founded by Professor Donna Heddle, who has worked at the University of the Highlands and Islands at Orkney College since 1999.



Scott's House in Kirkwall

The Institute for Northern Studies led the UHI Area Studies submission to REF 2021 which came 1st in Scotland overall and 1st equal in the UK for research impact. We are internationally renowned for our innovative postgraduate teaching and research programmes in Orkney and Shetland Studies, Highlands and Islands Literature, Viking Studies, Island Studies and an online-only MLitt in Scottish Heritage.

LINKS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS AND PROFILE-RAISING ACTIVITIES

UARCTIC THEMATIC NETWORK ON NORTHERN AND ARCTIC ISLANDS STUDIES RESEARCH



Dr Andrew Jennings established the Northern and Arctic Island Studies Research Thematic Network with the University of the Arctic (UARctic).

The overall goal of the Northern and Arctic Island Studies Research Thematic Network is to support Arctic and Northern Island communities to socially, materially, and culturally benefit from the discipline of Island Studies, which at its core believes that islands have the human and intellectual capital to undertake research for themselves.

The Network will explore how islands can be helped to develop resilient, dynamic, and sustainable communities, charting the changing relationship between islanders and the sea, and exploring innovative ways of adapting to the effects of climate change. Topics within this overarching objective will include researching the sustainability of cold-water island tourism; how island subnational jurisdictions with small populations use their powers of jurisdiction and interpersonal relationships to forge relationships with other islands - outside of the usual state-to-state relationships; what makes young people want to stay in or to leave their local island community; what is the role of 'local knowledge' (and intergenerational relations) in young people's future perspectives and attachment to their island places?

VISIT FROM MALMÖ UNIVERSITY

Staff and Students from the Department of Society, Culture and Identity at Malmö University visited the Institute for Northern Studies on the 26th and 27th of September. The first day was a discussion of research with the staff and students of the Institute for Northern Studies. On the second day the group with staff and students from INS had a guided tour of Orkney. INS has a memorandum of Understanding with Malmö and currently contributes to their MLitt Critical Heritage Studies. We are looking forward to further project and curriculum development.



Staff and Students from Malmö University

ST MAGNUS CATHEDRAL CONCERT

'ORKNEY, SCOTLAND AND NORWAY: STORIES IN MUSIC AND VERSE'



Preparation for the concert in St Magnus
Cathedral

The Institute for Northern Studies and the Year of Stories 2022 was proud to present an incredible free concert celebrating the links between Orkney and Scotland and Norway. The evening showcased some of the very best Orkney-based musicians, who played music from Orkney, Scotland and Norway. Ian Crockatt performed translated verses by Earl Rǫgnvaldr Kali Kolsson, as well as new compositions inspired by the story of his life, in the cathedral he himself had built. This event was part of the St Magnus Symposium and will allow locals and visitors alike to experience the best of Orkney's culture past and present in one of Orkney's most iconic buildings.

The concert was organised by Dr Oisín Plumb and featured Heather Woodbridge, Karen Tweed, Douglas Montgomery and Brian Cromarty, The Young Eens, and Ian Crockatt.

YEAR OF
STORIES
— 2022 —

ISLAND STUDIES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2022



'Creativity, Ingenuity, and Practice'

Conference in association with the Small Island Cultures Research Initiative (SICRI) and the Centre for Island Studies, UHI.

June 22-25 2022

This hybrid conference shared knowledge of and celebrate facets of island creativity. Proposals were invited for papers, panels, posters, roundtables and (creative) workshops that highlighted the many ways island societies put their manifold creative skills into practice, from their distinct responses to political, environmental, economic and social challenges, to the development of island creative economies and the promotion of community well-being. There were submissions on the following topics:

1. Creative Economy on Islands

2. Experience of the Island-based Creative Practitioner
3. Creative Entrepreneurship on Islands
4. Creative Approaches to Island Political, Environmental, Economic and Social Challenges
5. Creative Approaches to Sustainable Island Tourism
6. Other themes relating to islands studies were also considered

There were over 40 attendees from places as diverse as New Zealand, Canada, Papa New Guinea and Easter Island.

INDIGENEITY IN EUROPE WORKSHOP

Some 40 participants representing diverse institutions, expertise and knowledges gathered at an international scoping workshop in July, entitled 'Indigeneity in Europe: Issues and Perspectives', to share and develop understandings of indigeneity in the European context. The event was a collaboration between the Institute for Northern Studies UHI, the Place Wisdom Working Group of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF), and Learning for Sustainability Scotland.



Artwork by Andrea Redmond

The workshop, which was organized at UHI Perth on 28 July 2022, included linked events taking place the evening before and the morning after. Johan Sandberg McGuinne, Indigenous knowledge and tradition bearer of the South Sámi in Sweden and a Scottish Gaelic translator, teacher, poet and academic, was invited to give a public keynote sharing Indigenous methodologies, including creative engagement with the living traditions of Place

Wisdom. The lecture was hosted by Culture Perth & Kinross and took place in the Soutar Theatre of Perth's AK Bell Library.

The event was aligned with a research program initiated by the Alliance for Intergenerational Resilience (AIR) and developed in collaboration with universities especially in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, as well as interested individuals from Scotland and elsewhere. Drawing on ethnographically grounded, radical approaches to human ecology and creative ethnology, this research will generate novel interaction across boundaries – generational, disciplinary, sectoral, national/regional and geo-cultural.

The workshop was structured along four interconnected live-streamed sessions and was divided into the following themes:

1. Lands, peoples and languages
2. Living from the land
3. Spiritual knowledge
4. Intercultural and intergenerational issues.

Key questions included: What are the impacts of 'development', climate, ecological and cultural change on interrelated intergenerational resilience practices (IRP)? For example, what is the nature of the symbiosis between the loss of language and physical connection to place, and vice-versa?

The workshop closed poignantly with the first screening of *The Dreaming Bog*, an eco-poetic story about Climate Change told through the lens of the Bogs and Peatlands of Northern Scotland and the Mires and Swamps of Finland. The film is based on the opening act of an epic new poem by Caithness Makar George Gunn, 'Six Thousand Years of Sunlight', and was produced by Sutherland-born filmmaker, Robert Aitken.

The event was sponsored by the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF).

YARNS AND YARNS



Yarns & Yarns!
A virtual knitting and storytelling circle around the North

18 April 2023
6.30pm (British Summer Time)





Our Yarns and Yarns sessions, a virtual knitting and storytelling circle around the North, are very popular. Around 170 members of the public participating in each session and are organised by the members of UArctic's Thematic Network on Northern and Arctic Island Studies Research.

The first session was held from St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada with the regular weekly knitting group at the St. John's Public Library by the UArctic member Heritage NL. The second session was held on 18 April by the Institute for Northern Studies, UHI featuring Hege Therese Nilsen from Osterøy Museum, Bergen, Norway, Dana MacPhee from Uist Wool, Grimsby, Outer Hebrides, and the North Uist Knitting Group.

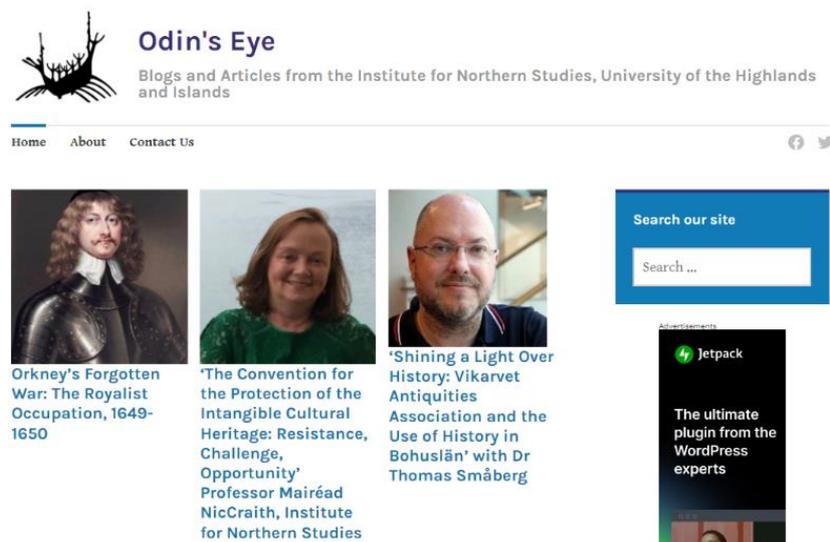
SEMINARS, CONFERENCE PAPERS AND TALKS

- March 2023: Professor Alexandra Sanmark 'Law and thing in the Viking Age', the Swedish History Museum, Stockholm
- February 2022: Professor Mairéad Nic Craith at the Virtual Geopoetics Day presented the Tony McManus Lecture: 'On Common Ground: Kenneth White and John Moriarty'.
- February 2022: Professor Alexandra Sanmark participant in a round table discussion on Social Boundaries and Legal Orders at the Social Boundaries Conference, online but organised by the University of Montréal
- February 2022: Professor Alexandra Sanmark 'The Norse and the Sea', Lewis Maritime Festival
- March 2022: Professor Alexandra Sanmark is presenting 'Medieval Sites of Power and Assembly in the Thames Valley' to the Surrey Archaeological Society.
- April 2022: Professor Ullrich Kockel Inaugural Lecture of the State Research Programme "Landscapes of Identities: History, Culture, and Environment, 2022-24": Across the 'Fundamental Field' in the European North: Ethnological Perspectives on Indigenous Knowledge and Land-based Learning, Rīga, Latvia.
- June 2022: Dr Andrew Jennings gave the keynote lecture at the ISISA 18th 'Islands of the World' Conference - Zadar and area, Croatia - 13-17 June 2022.
- June 2022: Professor Stefan Brink Conference Paper at 'Unfreedom in the Premodern World: Comparative Perspectives on Slavery, Servitude & Captivity', organized by Trinity College, Dublin on June 23rd & June 24th, 2022. 'Slavery in Early Scandinavia. An Interdisciplinary Approach'
- July 2022: Professor Stefan Brink Conference Paper at International Medieval Conference, Leeds 2022 'Territorial and Social Borders in Medieval Scandinavia'
- July 2022: Presentation on "Ireland's Indigenous Wisdom" at Workshop on "Indigeneity in Europe: Issues and Perspectives", Perth UHI 27-29/07/22; organised jointly with Place Wisdom Working Group of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF) and part-funded by SIEF; including public lecture at A.K. Bell Library. Professor Mairéad Nic Craith.

- August 2022: ‘Scottish assembly sites and non-violent intercultural interaction’, Professor Alexandra Sanmark and Irene García Losquiño, Saga conference.
- August 2022: ‘Faith in Fife: A History of Religious Disruption’ Symposium, University of St Andrews
- October 2022: ‘Assembly sites and non-violent intercultural interaction in the viking diaspora’, Professor Alexandra Sanmark and Irene García Losquiño, Workshop on ritual landscapes, Cultural Interactions and Power in the Atlantic European Landscape. From the Iron Age to the Early Middle Ages, Santiago de Compostela, Spain.
- October 2022: Professor Stefan Brink, Public Lecture, Stephenson College, Durham ‘Reconstructing Early Scandinavia. People, Territories and Settlements’
- October 2022: ‘The Royal inauguration site at Mora, Sweden’, at Political Landscapes in the Early Middle Ages’, Professor Alexandra Sanmark, University of Salamanca.
- October 2022: Professor Stefan Brink: Paper at conference Cultural Interactions and Power in the Atlantic European Landscape: From the Iron Age to the Early Middle Ages in Santiago de Compostela, Spain

ODIN’S EYE AND MIMIR’S WELL

Odin’s Eye is the blog site for the Institute for Northern Studies and it mainly contains our Mimir’s Well articles. Mimir’s Well is a column written for The Orcadian newspaper by members of the team, friends, visiting lecturers, professors, fellows and sometimes students. Since the launch of Odin’s Eye in February 2022 the blog has received 1718 views.



Mimir is a giant from Old Norse mythology, renowned for his wisdom. The source of Mimir’s wisdom was the water of a well by the root of Yggdrasil, the World Tree, known as Mimir’s Well. The god Odin wanted a share in Mimir’s wisdom too, which he got, but he had to leave one of his eyes to Mimir as a pledge. This is how Odin became the wisest of the gods.

The column Mimir's Well appears now and again, depending on what inspires us to write. As we are a multidisciplinary team, the topics of the column will span widely, from history and archaeology via folklore and ethnology to literature and language.

The blog contains more than just the wisdom of Mimir however, so we thought it appropriate that Odin should have his eye over the remainder of our content – articles in the Shetland Times or Shetland Life, seminars and more.

- October 2021 'Views in Orkney and on the North Eastern Coast of Scotland' by Countess Duchess of Sutherland (Elizabeth Leveson-Gower, 1765-1839)
- February 2022 'The Island of Faray Orkney's lesser known North Isle'
- April 2022 'Shetland's Boats: Origin, Evolution and Use'
- June 2022 'Orkney's Forgotten War: The Royalist Occupation, 1649-1650'
- June 2023 'Viking burials in Orkney: Where are they and how to visit them?'

OTHER PODCASTS, BLOGS, TV AND RADIO APPEARANCES

- Professor Alexandra Sanmark was interviewed for two episodes of a major new Swedish TV series, not yet aired, called the 'History of Sweden'.
- Professor Stefan Brink: Consultant for National Geographic series 'The Rise and Fall of the Vikings'.
- Professor Mairéad Nic Craith, 2022, Blog Post '[Implementing language rights in Northern Ireland: new opportunities for dialogue](#)' (with P. McDermott)
- Dr Andrew Lind January 2023 '[Orkney and the Carbisdale Campaign, 1649-1650](#)', interview on BBC Radio Scotland's Time Travels.

SOCIAL MEDIA

All our seminars and many of our conferences are recorded and available on our YouTube channel [Institute for Northern Studies at UHI - YouTube](#). Since January of 2021 recorded seminars on the Institute for Northern Studies' YouTube channel has received 2866 views and 68 likes. The Institute's Facebook page has had since January 2022 a reach of 98,033, 4,131 page visits and has 3,519 followers. On Twitter the Institute for Northern Studies has 3,020 followers.

IMPACT OF THE INSTITUTE FOR NORTHERN STUDIES

PUBLIC SEMINAR SERIES

Dr Andrew Lind organises and chairs the INS Public Seminar Series. These seminars host academics from a range of fields to discuss their research and receive feedback from colleagues and members of the public.



- 24 February 2022 7pm 'The Ministry and Magic in Early Modern Orkney' with Professor Peter Marshall, University of Warwick.
- 31 March 2022 7pm 'Shetland in the Sagas: Invisible or Hidden?' Brian Smith, Shetland Archives
- 21 April 2022 7pm 'Shining a Light Over History: Vikarvet Antiquities Association and the Use of History in Bohuslän' Dr Thomas Småberg, Malmö University
- 11 May 2022 1pm 'The Convention for the Protection of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: Resistance, Challenge, Opportunity' Professor Mairéad NicCraith
- 26 May 2022 1pm 'Across the 'Fundamental Field' in the European North: Ethnological Perspectives on Indigenous Knowledge and Land-based Learning for Sustainability' with Professor Ullrich Kockel, Institute for Northern Studies
- 22 September 2022 1pm 'Losing Sight of the Shore: How Edinburgh Doctors Led the British Imperial Century' with Professor Wendell McConnaha
- 27 October 2022 7pm 'The End of the Highland War? - The Scots-Dutch Brigade and the Fort William Expedition, 1690' with Dr Graeme Millen
- 28 November 2022 7pm 'Developing the Visitor Appeal of Orkney's Norse Heritage Sites: A Route to More Sustainable Tourism?' with Dr Annie Thuesen
- 23 February 2023 7pm 'The Viking-age Reuse of Insular Metalwork From Northern Britain' with Dr Adrian Maldonado, National Museum of Scotland
- 27 April 2023 7pm 'Ireland, Scotland, and the Wider Gaelic World: Re-thinking the Paradigms' with Dr Simon Egan, Queen's University Belfast

CULTURE PERTH KINROSS SEMINAR SERIES



The Institute for Northern Studies continued partnership with Culture Perth and Kinross resulted in a joint series of live in person lectures at the AK Bell Library in Perth organised by Dr Oisín Plumb.

- 6 March 2023 'Vikings in Spain' with Dr Irene Garcia Losquiño, University of Santiago de Compostela and Visiting researcher at INS Perth in February and March 2023.
- 17 April 2023 'Perthshire's Slavery Past' with Frankie Aird, PhD student at the University of Stirling.
- 15 May 2023 'Violent Sacrifices in Viking Age Britain and Ireland' with Dr Shane McLeod, INS.

ISLANDS MATTER SEMINAR SERIES



The Islands Matter webinars are the result of a collaboration between Dr Andrew Jennings Institute for Northern Studies UHI, Professor Frank Rennie UHI Outer Hebrides and Dr Beth Mouat UHI Shetland. This series of webinars was set up to address the hunger in the Scottish islands to hear from experts based in other islands worldwide, and to help

inform the UHI Islands' Strategy.

- 17 February 2022 'Small and smart in six strategies: Non-sovereign island territories achieving Islandian sovereignty' with Gerard Prinsen of Massey University, New Zealand
- 3 March 2022 'Women in Manx Politics: Small island democracy?' with Professor Peter Edge Oxford Brookes University, Dr Alex Powell Oxford Brookes University and Dr Catriona Mackie University College Isle of Man.
- 17 March 2022 'A Fishy Tale' with Dr John Goodlad speaks about his most recent work.
- 5 May 2022 'Shetland's Boats Origin, evolution and use' with Dr Marc Chivers.
- 22 September 2022 'Scottish Government research on island depopulation in Japan' with Dr Jane Atterton from SRUC.

- 20 October 2022 'First a wudd, and syne a sea: Scottish stories of memorable landscape change in their global context' with Professor Patrick Nunn, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia.
- 17 November 2022 'Scottish Islands as sustainable development transition zones?' with Adele Lidderdale, UHI.
- 8 December 2022 'Mental Health Research and Scottish Islands' with Professor Sarah-Anne Munoz, Professor of Rural Health, UHI
- 23 February 2023 'Young people and place attachment in the Faroe Islands today' with Firouz Gaini, Professor in Anthropology at the Faculty of History and Social Sciences, University of the Faroe Islands.
- 30 March 2023 Islands Matter: 'The Orkney Yole: An exemplar of intangible cultural heritage' with Ron Bulmer, UHI.
- 18 April 2023 'Dementia in a Rural Setting' with the Scottish Rural Health Partnership.

OTHER UHI SEMINARS AND TALKS

- 31 March 2022 1pm 'Ethnology Re-Wilded, Re-Grounded, and Re-Enchanted: Encounters in the Morphogenetic Field' Professor Ullrich Kockel. This presentation was part of the Humanities & Arts Research Cluster (HARC) and the Society, Identity, Landscape & Knowledge (SILK) research cluster theme for 2022 of 'Enchantment and Wonder'.
- March 2022 – 'Abjured – Royalism and Episcopacy in Scotland during the British Civil Wars, c.1638-1651', On the Margins and in the Middle: Negotiating the Local, the Regional, the National, and the International in Early Modern Europe, c.1400-c.1650, The Renaissance Society of America, Dublin by Dr Andrew Lind.
- 18 May 2022 "By the Power of the Sword" - Orkney and the Carbisdale Campaign, 1649-1650' Dr Andrew Lind presented to UHI's Centre for History part of their 'History Talks Live' series.
- 8 June 2022: at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in Skye Dr Sven Kalmring gave a lecture in-person titled 'The Viking Ship: Roots, Boatbuilding and Development'.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY STUDENTS (PHD)

DR ANNIE THUESEN

We are delighted to announce that our student Annie Thuesen passed her PhD viva with minor corrections. Her thesis is entitled *The sustainability of cultural tourism and its effects on communities: The case of Orkney*.

The project looked at the sustainability of cultural heritage tourism in Orkney, with a particular focus on opening access to underutilised Norse and Viking sites with the intention of abating footfall erosion at more well-known heritage sites.

This project was funded by the European Social Fund and Scottish Funding Council as part of Developing Scotland's Workforce in the Scotland 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Fund Programme.

Annie was supervised by Professor Alexandra Sanmark, Institute for Northern Studies in Orkney, University of the Highlands and Islands, Dr Colleen Batey, Department of Archaeology, University of Glasgow and Dr Piotr Niewiadomski, Department of Geography & Environment, University of Aberdeen.



Dr Annie Thuesen

DR FLEUR WARD

We are delighted to announce that Fleur Ward has completed her PhD entitled *Mapping of digital connectivity and island governance: a comparative study of the Scottish archipelagos and Irish islands*.

This PhD was funded by the European Social Fund and Scottish Funding Council as part of Developing Scotland's Workforce in the Scotland 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Fund Programme.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) plays a pivotal role in how Scottish Island Councils govern community and business development. It is vital that Scottish Island Councils fully utilise, integrate and govern ICT in their communities as it drives growth, engagement, sustainability and island proofing. Through a comparative approach this

research will advance current island governance theory, and provide research based findings on the nature of ICT use in island communities worldwide.

This project assessed the impact of ICT on island communities and examine its use in various sectors including tourism, food and drink, and the creative industries. From these findings, Scottish Island Councils will be provided with strategic information concerning how to use and develop their own ICT systems which could lead to

increased efficiency, improved community engagement and economic empowerment within their jurisdictions. Fleur is based in Orkney and she was supervised by Dr Andrew Jennings.



Dr Fleur Ward

CURRENT PHD STUDENTS

- Lynn Campbell: *Orkney through the lens of the Kirk 1680-1750*
- Julie Cassidy: *Highland Park: From Sagas to Stills*
- Cait McCullagh: *Curating Heritage for Sustainable Communities in Highly Vulnerable Environments: The Case of Scotland's Northern Isles*
- Tara Athanasiou: *Dangerous Relations? The facts and fictions of female relationships in the Old Norse World*
- Evelyn Anderson: *Shetland before the NHS: a study to explore factors that influenced Islanders wellbeing, health and care*
- Adele Lidderdale: *The National Islands Plan: a journey to transformational change for Scotland's Islands?*
- Shanna Bryman: *Making Herstory: Evaluating Female Leadership in the Viking Age*
- Hloniphile Khuzwayo: *Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) with women for sustainable rural development: a case study of a selected Maluti mountain rural community (South Africa)*
- Anthony Olsson: *Faroese and Irish/Scottish-Gaelic balladry: motifs and intercultural connections*
- Peter Randall: *The Ping in the Kings' Sagas*
- Erica Clarkson: *The Scottish Islands Happiness Study – What Makes a Happy Island?*

- Niamh MacKenzie: *Drystane Dyking: Understanding Cultural Significance and Developing Skills in Scottish Island Communities*
- Pádraig Ó Dálaigh: *The Tradition of Unbaptised Infants' Burial Grounds (Cillíni/Killeens) in South-West Cork, Ireland*

MASTERS BY RESEARCH (MRES) STUDENTS

- John Peach: *Did the arrival of pagans from the Viking Diaspora have an influence on the religious practice of early medieval Anglo-Saxon Christians?*
- Alexandra Simpson: *The Norwegian Bjarkøyretten of Nidaros, Oslo and Bergen, translated from Old Norse into English*
- John Leith: *The Leith Papers*
- Matthew Short: *Dramaturgies of the Highlands: Narrativising heritage through theatre*

PHD AND MRES WORKSHOP

A workshop for all PhD and MRes students was held at UHI Perth in October. At this event, all students were given the opportunity to present their research to staff and students. This proved to be a great success and it was fantastic to hear about the different lines of research being pursued, covering areas such as the Viking Age, to the early modern Church in Orkney and Scottish Island Governance.

GRADUATION



Dr Rebecca Ford and Dr Annie Thuesen

The Institute for Northern Studies celebrated with the graduates from 2020, 2021 and 2022 in St Magnus Cathedral in September this year.

Dr Rebecca Ford celebrated her successful completion of her PhD in 2021. Her PhD is entitled [*Words and Waves: a dialogical approach to discourse, community, and marine renewables in Orkney*](#) and is pictured here with Dr Annie Thuesen who also graduated with her PhD in 2022 *The sustainability of cultural tourism and its effects on communities: The case of Orkney.*

MLITT COURSES

The Institute for Northern Studies has five taught MLitt courses Highlands and Islands Literature, Island Studies, Orkney and Shetland Studies, Scottish Heritage, and Viking Studies. In 2022 the Institute for Northern Studies had fourteen students graduate from the taught Masters courses of which six students gained a Distinction and in addition to this there were three students who gained Postgraduate Diplomas.

BA CULTURE AND HERITAGE, SINGLE AND JOINT HONOURS

The BA (Hons) Culture and Heritage is available as both single and joint Honours degrees, and it shares the joint awards with Archaeology, Criminology, Geography, History, Literature, Politics, Sociology, and Theology.

DISPLAYING THE PAST: MUSEUM STUDIES



Each year the module Displaying the Past: Museum Studies, part of the BA (Hons) Culture and Heritage course, offers students the opportunity to study museums in greater depth and introduce them to the myriad ways in which different museums operate. Pulling together the passions of students scattered across Scotland from such various places as Orkney, Mull, Edinburgh and the Black Isle, in this exhibit you will find a wide range of objects ranging from a Green Man to teapots, ancient societies and cemeteries, and the captivating stories about their backgrounds. You can view the online exhibition for 2023 'Retelling the Ancient Times' here: <https://bit.ly/3Co6FNd>

RESEARCH THEMES

Our staff offer supervision in researching various aspects of the history and culture of the regions of Scotland, with specialisms in archaeology, medieval history, literature and art, placename studies and with the history and culture of the North Atlantic regions. The main subject supervision is in a wide range of topics including:

- Viking Studies
- Medieval and modern history and culture of Scotland
- Links between Scotland and the Nordic world
- The history and culture of the Scottish islands within the North Atlantic region
- Highlands and Islands Literature
- Island Studies
- Scottish Heritage
- The languages and dialects of Orkney and Shetland
- Pictish Studies
- Culture and Sustainability

PROJECTS AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

ST MAGNUS SYMPOSIUM



Keynote Speaker Dr Ian Crockatt

Our conference, 'Ruler, Poet, Saint: Rognvaldr jarl Kali Kolsson and his World' ran successfully from 1-3 September 2022 in Kirkwall, Orkney.

The conference took the form of a two-day symposium and was part of the International St Magnus Conference series organised through the Institute for Northern Studies. Over two days we heard two keynote presentations by Professor Judith Jesch and Dr Ian Crockatt and 15 conference papers focused on the life and times of the twelfth-century Earl of Orkney, Jarl Rognvaldr.

The last day consisted of a coach excursion around Orkney. Participants were taken to key sites in the Norse history of Orkney: St Magnus Cathedral, the Bishop's and Earl's Palaces in Kirkwall, Maeshowe, Birsay Bay and Earl's Bu, Orphir.



St Magnus Symposium Delegates

THE NORSE AND THE SEA: THE MARITIME CULTURAL LANDSCAPE OF SCANDINAVIAN SCOTLAND (NAS)

Project leads: Professor. Alexandra Sanmark and Dr Sven Kalmring, Swedish History Museum, Stockholm.

Co-Investigators: Dr Andrew Jennings, Dr Shane McLeod, Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Dr Dennis Wilken, Institute for Geosciences, Christian-Albrechts-University of Kiel.



Potential Harbour on Lochaber Coast
Photo Credit: Steven D P Richardson

This project investigates the maritime cultural landscape in Scandinavian Scotland (c. AD 790-1350), through an interdisciplinary approach using archaeological, written and toponymic evidence and address the overarching questions of connectivity and communication in Norse Scotland. The term ‘maritime cultural landscape’ was originally coined by Norwegian archaeologists

Christer Westerdahl to denote ‘the unity of remnants of maritime culture on land as well as underwater’. This formed part of his ground-breaking analytical framework developed for the Bothnian/Baltic area and which has been successfully applied in Scandinavia, Germany and the North Atlantic. This concept has been virtually unexplored for Scandinavian Scotland, despite being equally applicable to this area. By bringing this innovative research framework combined with archaeological and geophysical fieldwork to Scotland, this project is generating new data on maritime culture and enable important study of this geographic area from a whole new perspective.

The project builds on three main strands of research: existing research on the Norse settlement of Scandinavian Scotland, smaller research initiatives focusing on maritime Scotland, as well as research on maritime cultural landscape from Germany, Scandinavia and the wider North Atlantic.

The research is carried out through three work packages. The first one encompasses a PhD project entitled ‘*Norse harbours in the west of Scotland*’ for which a number of Norse landing places in Scotland will be identified and examined through geophysical survey and targeted excavation. In the second work package ‘*The Norse in the North and West of Scotland: settlements and the sea – the toponymic evidence*’, Shane McLeod and project

partners are examining place-names to provide insight into maritime travel and harbours in Scandinavian Scotland. Data is also drawn from oral traditions through study of local folklore and interviews with local people, as such traditions are still strong in rural Scotland. In the third work package ‘Travel and communication in Scandinavian Scotland and the wider North Atlantic’ an overarching view of the maritime cultural landscape as well as travel and communication is being created through detailed analysis of Norse archaeological remains and landscape study. All in all, the project aims to provide a whole new view of Scandinavian Scotland.



Prof. Alex Sanmark on fieldwork in Eigg. Photo Credit Steven D P Richardson.

The Norse and the Sea project organised a week-long excavation on the Isle of Eigg, examining traces of Viking Age marine activity at the Bay of Laig. Professor Alex Sanmark gave a talk about the project and the fieldwork at the Eigg Community Hall and there was also a visit from Eigg Primary School.

Funding for the project comes from the UK-German Funding Initiative in the Humanities from the Arts and Humanities Research

Council (AHRC) and the German Research Council (DFG).

MORA ÄNG: SITE OF ROYAL INAUGURATION, ASSEMBLY AND CULT

INS Project lead: Professor Alexandra Sanmark.

The project involves an archaeological landscape study of the assembly and royal inauguration site at Mora äng in Uppland, north of Stockholm. Mora is mentioned as a royal inauguration site from the late 13th century to the 15th century in various sources, as well as in carved stones at the site. The earliest reference is found in Erikskrönikan (Eric’s Chronicle, which recounts that Magnus Ladulås was elected king here in 1275).

Assembly sites were always located at key places in the landscape, often where several major roads and waterways met, so that the place could be easily reached by people throughout the surrounding area. Mora äng displays typical assembly site features, and is located next to the river Långhundraleden, now called Fyrisån, an important water route linking the interior of Uppland with the Baltic Sea. Mora was presumably a suitable location for an assembly for the three folkland units that later came to form the province of Uppland, i.e. Tiundaland, Attundaland and Fjädrundaland, since it was situated on the

boundary between Tiundaland and Attundaland. This site was also the most suitable for attendees from Fjädrundaland, since they could travel along the Örsundaån river to the northern part of Lake Mälaren and then on to Mora via Fyrisån and Långhundraleden.



View of the fields at Mora, inauguration site for kings of Sweden. The building in the foreground contains a number of carved stones commemorating the medieval royal elections.

Assemblies and royal inaugurations involved many rituals, which can be traced both in archaeological and in written evidence. According to Eric's Chronicle, the newly elected king was to be lifted up on a stone at Mora. In the 17th century stated that the king's stone was surrounded by twelve other stones. According to the medieval provincial laws the people of Svealand could dethrone their king, something which as is also mentioned in

Icelandic sagas. The Saga of Olav the Holy mentions that five kings had been drowned at Múlathing [Mora Assembly].

Studies of assembly sites have revealed they were often surrounded by stones or posts, interpreted as a form of viband, which was the holy demarcation of assembly sites mentioned in medieval texts. The topography of the site, together with watercourses and wetlands and monuments were used to create 'a symbolic island', where special laws and regulations applied. A reconstruction of older shorelines at Mora äng suggests that during the Vendel period (c. AD 550-750) and/or the Viking Age (c. 750-1050), it was a small island surrounded by water or marshland. This is further evidenced by place names: Mora means "wetland", and the adjacent meadow is called Blötan ("wet field"). In 1904 a long and narrow elevation was examined, and found to be constructed of gravel and stone with some evidence of post holes. A clearer picture developed following recent geophysical investigations, which revealed that the construction was at least 145m long. It has been interpreted as the remains of a substantial road embankment or jetty, which led from a landing place on the river to an old road and the higher ground that was the focus of the assembly site. Here there was a large mound, known as Juthögen. Rituals surrounding royal inaugurations can be traced far back in time and often seem to have centered on mounds of this kind.

The project team will carry out detailed map studies, two small-scale archaeological investigations, and archaeological environmental analyses to enable a reconstruction of the

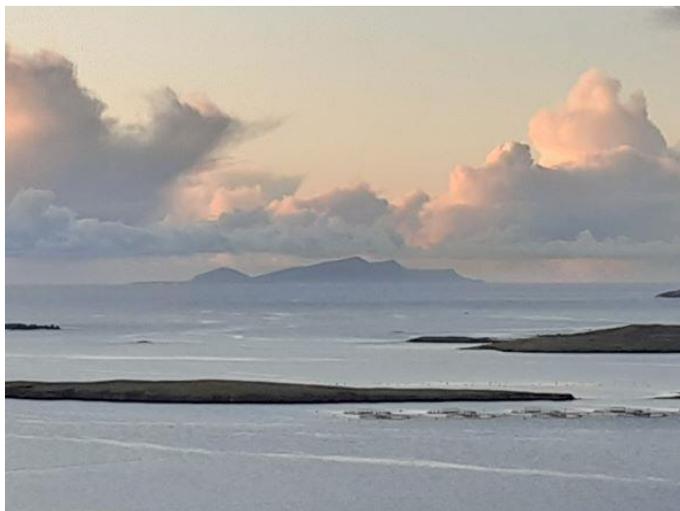
earlier landscape. The first excavation will focus on “the pier”, i.e. the potential linear monument and the second one on the small “island” where the Juthögen mound was located.

Excavations were held at Mora in Sweden, where medieval kings of Sweden were elected and inaugurated. The excavations revealed the remains of a paved medieval road leading into the inauguration site. Further excavations will be held next year.

Project Team Members: Professor Alex Sanmark (Institute for Northern Studies), Kristina Jonsson (Jamtli), Mathias Bäck (Arkeologerna) and Marta Lindeberg (Arkeologikonsult).

Funding by the Berit Wallenberg Foundation.

ISLAND STRATEGY PROJECT



The University of the Highlands and Islands has launched an online survey to gather the views of community members, public bodies, businesses and the voluntary sector of the islands of Orkney, Shetland and the Outer Hebrides in relation to the university’s Islands Strategy published in 2020.

This strategy sets out how the university will work with partners to extend and strengthen its activities

across the islands, and deliver outcomes in respect of seven key strategic themes:

- Skills, workforce development, entrepreneurial support and talent attraction
- Producing a short course pan-islands prospectus offering provision in culture, heritage, archaeology and creative industries
- Profiling postgraduate online provision in culture, heritage, archaeology, marine sciences and creative industries
- Strengthening research activity in the islands
- Increasing pan-islands academic activity associated with University of the Highlands and Islands institutes, centres and departments
- Supporting our islands’ languages, including Gaelic language, island dialects and Nordic cultures

- Attracting new activity and people to the islands and to be based in the islands.

In order to gather a wide range of opinions from residents on the three islands a research project is being undertaken by university staff with a specific focus on language, heritage, archaeology, education, community development and the creative sector/arts. The research project aims to identify how specific strategic themes of the Islands Strategy have the potential to support community and economic development priorities for the islands of Orkney, Shetland and the Outer Hebrides. A particular aspect of the research will focus on how well the UHI Islands Strategy aligns with the respective developmental priorities of businesses, civic society groups and public sector organisations resident in the islands.

The research process is envisaged as a two-way process of engagement between the university and the island communities. It is envisaged that outcomes from the research project will identify ways by which island communities will benefit from closer access to the resources of the university, on the one hand, and the university will acquire research-led insights to inform a more coherent strategic engagement with the various challenges of island communities, on the other hand.

WHERE WERE THE ORCADES? A STUDY ON THE 'ANGLO-SAXON MAPPA MUNDI'

Support from the Scottish Catholic Historical Association *Early Career and Independent Researcher Fund* is allowing Dr Oisín Plumb to undertake a project looking into the use of the term 'Orcaades' in early medieval sources. Early medieval references to *Orc*, *Orcaades*, and *Orcaades Insula* are usually translated as 'Orkney'. However, the lack of overt early medieval references to Shetland or the Western Isles prior to Norse settlement suggests that such a translation cannot be accepted without question. The ninth abbot of Iona, Adomnán's treatment of the *Orcaades* suggests that he perceived the term to encompass the farthest reaches of humanity- emphasising Iona's key role in ministering to the ends of the Earth. The ambiguous nature of references to the *Orcaades* after Norse settlement suggests that there may have been some continuity in the use of the term to cover most of Scotland's most northerly islands.

This project will ask if medieval scholars considered the *Orcaades* to encompass a wider territory than Orkney alone, looking specifically



Image of 'Mappa Mundi' or 'Cotton' or 'Tiberius World Map', The British Library [Cotton MS Tiberius B V/1]

at the portrayal of the *Orcades* within the ‘Anglo-Saxon mappa mundi’ within British Library Cotton MS Tiberius B V. On the map, islands labelled ORCADES INSULA cover an extensive area. Some look as if they have been drawn on top of what had previously been parts of the Scottish mainland. The investigation will consider if this map has been adjusted over time and, if this is the case, why this might have been. The grant from the Scottish Catholic Historical Association funded travel to London to allow for investigation of the manuscript. Multi-spectral images provided by the library have provided further invaluable material for the study.

Funding by Scottish Catholic Historical Association early career and independent researcher fund.

WINDSWEPT A KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER PARTNERSHIP (KTP)



This project, which is run in partnership with UHI Moray, Environmental Research Institute (ERI), Institute for Northern Studies (INS) and the North of Scotland KTP Centre, will apply a cross-disciplinary approach to increase this microbrewery’s operational and economic sustainability by introducing technologies to reduce energy usage and wastewater volume, and enhancing the company’s brand identity by engaging the community and other stakeholders in shaping the vision and sharing the sustainability journey as it unfolds.

CONNECTIVITY AND COMMUNICATION IN NORSE ORKNEY

This project, led by Professor Alex Sanmark in cooperation with Professor Richard Bates (University of St Andrews) broadens the investigation of communication and connectivity of Norse society in the Orkney archipelago and the wider North Atlantic between the 9th and the 15th century AD, using an innovative and interdisciplinary methodology. This work builds on a pilot project, which located major navigable waterways that cut across the West Mainland of Orkney, thus explaining the concentration of power of the Norse Earls in this area of Orkney. This project combines research detailing place-names and medieval written sources, inspection of the landscape using historic maps and fieldwork including geophysical analysis of abandoned river channels as well as core sampling of buried landscapes, such as silted-up lochs. It examines the Orkney archipelago in the search for inland water routes, portages for boats and ‘defence systems’, drawing on the growing evidence of such features in Scotland and Scandinavia. In addition, tidal modelling will be carried out, allowing an evaluation of suggested outer waterway paths around and through the archipelago which will be compared with inland waterways. In this way, the project will produce novel and ground-breaking results connecting inland waterways to marine transport corridors, with the ultimate goal of producing a whole new map of Norse Orkney within its wider

geographical setting in the North Atlantic. The results will be presented in digital maps, as well as a number of publications examining in detail the fieldwork methodology and how identified communication routes changes our view of communication in the Norse period.

The project is funded by an APEX award from The Royal Society.

SCOTTISH ISLAND FUTURES 2050 AND BEYOND

With the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 and the current £100 million Islands Growth Deal, Scottish society is becoming more aware of the importance of the Scottish islands. However, what future awaits them? Four themed workshops researched potential futures, exploring their



demographic challenges, their large-scale renewable power generation projects, space centres, rich cultural heritages, and creative industries. The workshops involved expert island researchers from Scotland, Ireland, and members of the UArctic Thematic Network Arctic and Northern Islands Research from the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Canada and Finland. The experts engaged with islanders during the workshops, conference and on the Institute for Northern Studies UHI website.

The experts discussed the topics together in the mornings and in the afternoons the sessions were streamed.

The following core questions were addressed:

1. How will vibrant, successful island populations be maintained into the future?
2. What level of autonomy will best serve the island communities going forward?
3. How can the islanders best engage with the changing environment?
4. How can islands become sustainable, and how can large-scale developments be absorbed by small island communities?
5. What role will island cultures and languages have in future scenarios?

The four workshops were as follows:

- The Future of Core Periphery Relationships 3 February 2023

This workshop was held in Shetland and focused on island governance. Participants explored relationships between islands and their metropolises i.e. Edinburgh and London. Are there better models of governance? Is island autonomy a goal to be strived for.

- Speaking of the Future - the Role of Language, Culture and Heritage 3 March 2023

This workshop was held in the Outer Hebrides and examined the role of the indigenous culture and languages in supporting vibrant communities. Is there a future for Gaelic and the Northern Isles dialects?

- Future Sustainable Communities – exploring the scope and scale of island development 21 April 2023

This workshop was held in Orkney and examined the optimum level of development for islands. Ought they to be industrialised, or should the focus be on small scale development, such as support for the creative industries?

- Networking for the Future – islands doing it for themselves 26 May 2023

This online workshop focused on inter-island discourse, and the creation of island focussed networks. Island communities can establish links with each other, without involving the centre. What will be the future for islands if this trend continues?

The workshops are intended to have a direct impact on Scottish island communities, bolstering islander agency, supporting islanders to make informed decisions and to maximise their potential, while minimising the effects of future threats, and helping them to chart a course to a sustainable, vibrant future. They are also intended to have an impact on policy makers and informing local and National Government policies.

HERITAGE IN DEPOPULATED EUROPEAN AREAS



Staff: Dr Andrew Jennings (PI) and Dr Andrew Lind (CoI)

In collaboration with colleagues at Charles University (Prague, Czech Republic) and Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania), the Institute for Northern Studies is a contributing institution to the Heritage in Depopulated European Areas (HerInDep) project. The project deals with how the decline of European peripheral areas is contributing to the loss of intangible culture, abandonment and the degradation of buildings

and landscapes, and the impact which this has on the people who live in these depopulated areas. The primary goal of the project is to explore how fragile local communities can resist the consequences of demographic change. The basic theoretical point of departure is that individual and collective remembering of the past is inevitably complex and involves a process of conciliation, remembrance, and oblivion - ghosts of the past inevitably impact present day values. The project will explore how depopulated communities and actors make sense of new realities and power structures in terms of policy, regulation and economic resources, and how these influence both actions and interactions. It will also focus on the stimuli of repurposing processes and the ensuing effects, consequences and potential of abandoned heritage.



Dr Andrew Lind and colleagues from Charles University, Kaunas University of Technology and Broumov 2028 standing outside a former textile mill that is being redeveloped into an artists' residential retreat.

The project will focus on three case study regions, each led by one of the participating institutions: Broumovsko (Charles University), Kaunas (Kaunas University) and the Shetland Islands (UHI).

The project seeks to evaluate and inform the behaviour of local, regional and national stakeholders in relation to the threats of depopulation upon cultural heritage. The main desired change is that these stakeholders take into account local voices, those of local actors in depopulated communities. The stakeholders should communicate with local communities and other interested parties in preparing territorially specific cultural policies in order to face the threat of depopulation. The involvement of academia and different associated partners in the project will guarantee that the project will have an important societal influence on these depopulated European areas.

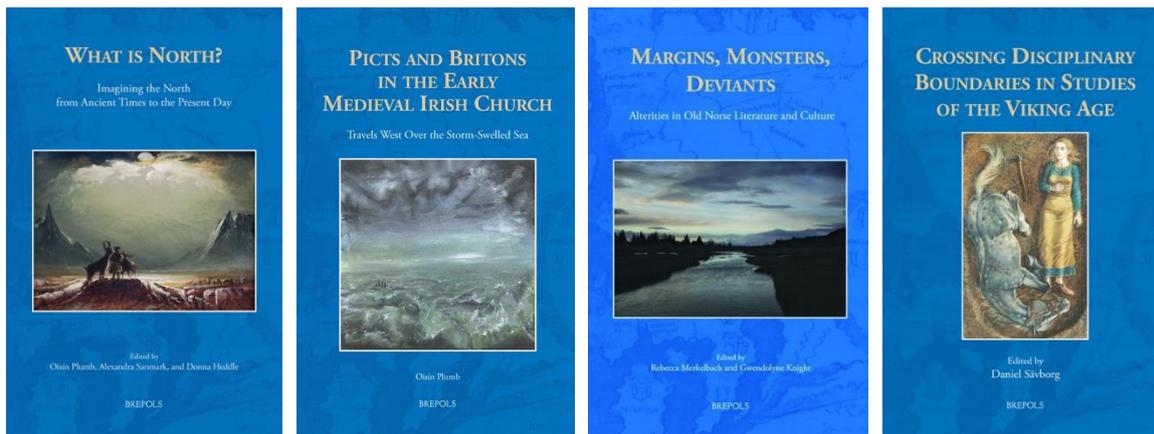


Funding: Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change (JPICH), Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC UKRI), Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MŠMT), Research Council of Lithuania (LMT)

Dr A Lind group of local stakeholders in Broumov about the Shetland part of the study

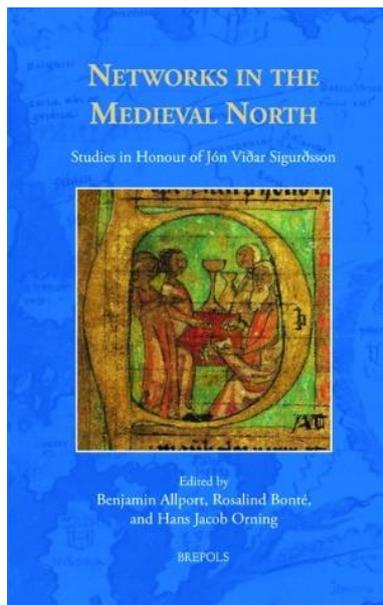
BREPOLS BOOK SERIES

The Institute for Northern Studies book series *The North Atlantic Word, Land and Sea as Cultural Space AD 400-1900 (NAW)*, published with Brepols (<https://www.brepols.net/series/NAW>), is continuing to attract high quality volumes.



So far, five books have been published, *What is North? Imagining the North from Ancient Times to the Present Day*, a themed volume from the third St Magnus Conference, Oisín Plumb's *Picts and Britons in the Early Medieval Irish Church*, the edited volume *Margins, Monsters, Deviants: Alterities in Old Norse Literature and Culture*, as well as another edited volume entitled *Crossing Disciplinary Boundaries in Studies of the Viking Age*.

The fifth, *Networks in the Medieval North: Studies in Honour of Jón Viðar Sigurðsson* has just been published. This volume was presented to Professor Sigurðsson on his birthday in June 2023.



A further 12 books are currently in various stages of production. This book series focuses on the cultural heritage of the North Atlantic World, covering the geographical region that stretches from Northern Europe and Scandinavia across to the Eastern seabords of Canada and the United States of America, and a timeframe that expands from the Late Iron Age up to the early modern period, the boundaries of this series are set deliberately broad in order to inspire research that spans geographical and chronological divisions and that seeks to compare and contrast elements of the North Atlantic World.

Proposals are welcomed from a variety of fields, in particular archaeology, history, literature, languages, and folklore.

Please contact Professor Alexandra Sanmark at Alexandra.Sanmark@uhi.ac.uk

STAFF



Institute for Northern Studies staff at Graduation 2022

Professor Donna Heddle, MA (Hons), PhD, FHEA, FSAScot, FRSA: Director of the Institute for Northern Studies and Programme Leader MLitt Scottish Heritage

Professor Stefan Brink, PhD, FRSE: Professor of Scandinavian Studies

Professor Alexandra Sanmark, MA, FSA, FSAScot, FRHist: Professor of Medieval Archaeology, Honorary Reader of Archaeology at Uppsala University

Professor Mairéad Nic Craith, BA, BEd, MA, PhD, MRIA, FAcSS: Professor of Public Folklore

Professor Ullrich Kockel, BA (Hons), DipBw, PhD, FAcSS, MRIA, FRSA: Professor of Creative Ethnology

Dr Andrew Jennings, MA (Hons), MSc, FHEA, FrHist, FSAScot: Associate Professor in Island Studies, Programme Leader on MLitt Island Studies, MLitt Viking Studies, MLitt Orkney & Shetland Studies, MLitt Highlands & Islands Literature

Lynn Campbell, BA, MSc, MLitt, FSAScot: Programme Leader and lecturer for BA (Hons) Culture and Heritage single and joint Honours degrees

Dr Oisín Plumb, MA (Hons), MSc, PhD, FHEA, FSAScot: Lecturer

Dr Andrew Lind, MA (Hons), MLitt, PhD, FSAScot: Lecturer

Katherine Irvine, Administrative Assistant

Fiona Kennedy, Administrative Assistant

The Institute also has a number of Teaching Assistants, Associate Members, Visiting Readers, Visiting Research Fellows, Honorary Professors, Visiting Professors and support staff. Full details of our teaching and research staff can be found on the INS website <https://bit.ly/3uBSr6y>.

NEW POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE



Dr Shane McLeod has joined the team as a Post-Doctoral Research Associate on the Norse and the Sea Project and is originally from Australia, where he completed his PhD on The Beginning of Scandinavian Settlement in England: the Viking ‘Great Army’ and early settlers, c. 865-900 (published by Brepols in 2014) in 2011 at The University of Western Australia. He was an Impact Research Fellow at the University of Stirling 2013-2015 working on the landscapes of Viking burial sites in Scotland and he started at the Institute for Northern Studies in 2022.

Dr McLeod has a strong interest in the Viking migrations to Britain and Ireland, including issues of migration routes and demographics, cross-cultural identities and migrant adaptation. His work on migration led to an investigation of the sex ratios of Viking settlers, resulting in one of the formative articles in the surge of interest in ‘shieldmaidens’. He has worked extensively on the ‘great army’ in England, including a paper in-press which tries to locate the overnight camps used by the army on their campaigns. He is also interested in performative aspects of Viking funerals and was part of the Funeralscapes team who hosted re-enactments of medieval funerals at archaeologically attested burial sites on the Isle of Eigg in 2014. He dreams of creating a Viking tourist trail of Britain, possibly as an app, to help people access Viking sites.

DR ANDREW JENNINGS BECOMES ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN ISLAND STUDIES

Professor Jane Lewis, Principal of UHI Shetland, nominated Dr Jennings for the award. She explains: “I have worked with Andrew since I moved to Shetland and have found him to be passionate and learned in his areas of scholarship relating to Viking studies and, more widely, islands studies. He provides leadership within UHI Shetland, the Institute for Northern Studies and the Centre for Island Creativity in these areas through teaching and research. Andrew has a strong international profile in his writing, conference



activities and collaborations. The range of invitations he receives underlines the international recognition of his work and expertise. I am delighted that he has become an Associate Professor with UHI.”

Speaking about his new title, Dr Jennings said: “I am honoured and very pleased that my work in island studies has been recognised in this way.”

Vicki Nairn, Interim Principal and Vice-Chancellor of UHI, commented: “The title of Associate Professor is reserved for academics with distinguished international reputations their research or scholarship. Dr Jennings is a worthy recipient and I have great pleasure in congratulating him on his award. Since he joined us in 2009, he has been dedicated to developing our islands studies expertise and has contributed to this field of study on the global stage by sharing his research through publications, media activity and international conferences.”

AWARDS AND PRIZES

- Professor Stefan Brink invited as a Fellow to the Institute of Advanced Studies at Durham University for the autumn semester (1 October 2022 to 24 December 2022).
- Dr Andrew Lind was nominated as a peer-reviewer for The Scottish Society for Northern Studies Journal, was elected Associate Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (2022) and was nominated for the Highlands and Islands Student Association (HISA) 2022 ‘Above and Beyond - Staff Award’, ‘Most Engaging Video Conference Lecturer Award’ and ‘Best Research or Dissertation Supervisor’ categories.
- Dr Oisín Plumb was nominated for ‘Most inspiring lecturer’, HISA Awards 2022, and ‘Most Engaging Online Lecturer’, HISA Awards 2023.
- Lynn Campbell was nominated for ‘Most Engaging Online Lecturer’, HISA Awards 2023.
- Dr Andrew Jennings was awarded ‘Most Engaging Video Conference Lecturer Award’ for the HISA Awards 2023.

PROFESSOR STEFAN BRINK AWARDED THE NILS AHNLUND PRIZE



The Royal Gustavus Adolphus Academy for Swedish Folk Culture has awarded Professor Stefan Brink PhD FRSE the Nils Ahnlund Prize for his distinguished academic career in a broad historiographic field involving place names, archaeology and ancient history.

Professor Stefan Brink said: “The Nils Ahnlund prize is the highest prize this academy gives, so I am very honoured.”

Professor Donna Heddle, Director of the Institute for Northern Studies, commented: “We are all delighted that the Institute’s very own Stefan Brink has been awarded this richly deserved prize which underlines his status as a world leading academic. Well done, Stefan, from all your colleagues!”

Vicki Nairn, UHI’s Interim Principal and Vice-Chancellor, added: ““Congratulations to Professor Stefan Brink and the team at the Institute for Northern Studies. This is an amazing achievement for Stefan and wonderful international recognition of the excellent research taking place at the Institute as reflected in the Research Excellence Framework 2021 results which UHI is proud to have achieved. UHI very much looks forward to working with our colleagues in the Royal Gustavus Adolphus Academy in the future”.

PUBLICATIONS

PROFESSOR MAIRÉAD NIC CRAITH

- Mairéad Nic Craith and Philip McDermott (2022). “Dialogues and Peace Agreements: Language and Identities in a Divided Society,” *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*. (Online First <https://doi.org/10.1080/1070289X.2022.2063498>)
- Philip McDermott and Mairéad Nic Craith (2022) “When language rights are not enough: Dialogue for reconciliation in post-conflict settings”, *Language Problems and Language Planning* 46:2 (2022), pp. 192–212. ISSN 0272-2690 | EISSN 1569-9889
- ‘Photo-Albums and Life-Stories: The Dilemma of Choice and Representation. In: Michaela Fenske und Susanne Dinkl (eds) *Durch Leben wandeln. Neuere biografische Forschungen*, Würzburg, 2021, pp. 209-34.
- The text of the annual Tony McManus lecture which was delivered on *Kenneth White & John Moriarty: Towards a Green Consciousness* and was published at https://bit.ly/Mairead_Lecture.

PROFESSOR ULLRICH KOCKEL

- ‘Adaptive Modernism and Beyond: Towards a Poetics of a New Scotland.’ *Culture Crossroads* 19, 2021, 8-26.
- Review of Lina Būgienė (ed.): *The Storytelling Human: Lithuanian Folk Tradition Today*. Lithuanian Studies without Borders. Boston: Academic Studies 2020. Submitted to *Lithuanian Ethnology* 2022.
- Kenneth White, “A Shaman Dancing on the Glacier”. In: Ulrich Marzolph (ed.), *Reading Matters*. Universitätsverlag Göttingen 2023, 205-9.
- Williams, L., U. Kockel, D. Alphonse and K. Perrin: ‘Garnering a globally relevant and inclusive praxis of Indigenist social-ecological resilience.’ Submitted as contribution to: Lalita Bharadwaj and Corinne Schuster-Wallace (eds), *Intersections of Sustainability*. Brill

PROFESSOR ALEXANDRA SANMARK

- ‘Thing sites and the Political Landscape in the North’, *Vikings in Scotland: 20 Years on* Edinburgh University Press (2022)
- ‘Tingets roll i det vikingatida samhället: en bakgrund till Eidsivatinget och Eidsiva lagtingområde’, *Eidsivatinget - den norske tingtradisjonen gjennom 1000 år* (2022)

DR ANDREW JENNINGS

- ‘Da Norn is lang given, but hit’s left a waageng’: The Distinctiveness of Shetland Cultural Identity. In K.A.Burnett, R.Burnett and M. Danson eds *Scotland and Islandness*:

Explorations in Community, Economy and Culture. (Peter Lang). This might have gone in the earlier report? (2021)

- Frolics and Freuterics: Norse Magic and Norse Words. In C. Cooijmans ed. *Islands of Place and Space: A Festschrift in Honour of Arne Kruse* (Edinburgh) (2022)

DR ANDREW LIND

- 'Orkney's Forgotten War: The Royalist Occupation, 1649-1650', *The Orcadian* (July 2022).
- 'The Scottish Civil Wars in Six Objects', in Andrew Hopper (ed), *The Civil Wars in 100 Objects* (Birmingham, 2023) [Forthcoming].
- With Edward M. Furgol, 'His Majesty's Loyal Subjects': *The Scottish Royalist Armies of the British Civil Wars, 1639-1654* (Helion & Company, 2024) (Forthcoming).

DR OISÍN PLUMB

- Oisín Plumb and Alex Sanmark (eds.), *Alternative facts and plausible fictions, North Atlantic World*, Brepols, Turnhout (Forthcoming)
- 'Memories of Pictish secular power in places of Christian ritual' in Sanmark, A. (ed.), Hall, M. (ed.), Geddes, J. (ed.) & Plumb, O. (ed.), *Places of Royal Power and Ritual in Early Medieval Scotland and Europe*, Sidestone Press, Leiden (Forthcoming)
- 'Where were the Orcades? Early medieval engagement with the islands at the edge of the Earth' (forthcoming)

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