

News from the Scottish Studies Office

Fall Colloquium features regulation of Scotland's culture and society. *New Scottish History Magazine Launched*

by Rob Falconer

On October 13, 2001 the Scottish Studies Program at the University of Guelph hosted its annual Fall Colloquium. For the past 27 years, the Scottish Studies Fall Colloquium has highlighted key areas of research being undertaken in Scottish history and literature.

Once again, this year's Colloquium was attended by members and supporters of the Scottish-Canadian community, as well as leading academics in the fields of Scottish and Scottish-Canadian literature, history and politics.

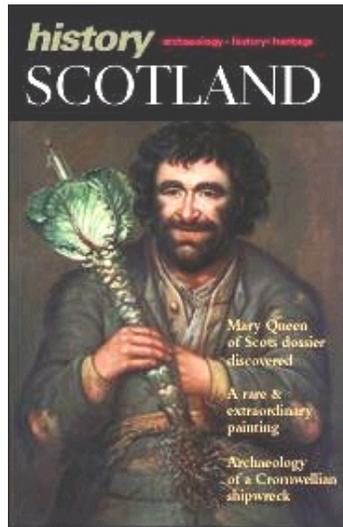
With speakers from Canada, the United States and Scotland, a variety of topics, including Scottish contributions to Canadian Literature, Scottish Health Policies, and the new Scottish Parliament underscored the Colloquium's theme: "Regulating Culture and Society in Scotland." As well, the Scottish Studies Program was pleased to have Professor Keith M. Brown as the Plenary Speaker; Dr. Brown was the recipient of the Frank Watson Book Prize. Professor Brown's paper on the Scottish Nobility in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Scotland made for a brilliant conclusion to an already remarkable day.

As always, the tremendous support of the Scottish Studies Foundation, the University of Guelph and the Scottish Studies Program made the day possible. For all who were in attendance this year and to those who were unable to attend, we hope that you will be to join us again next fall.



Jacqueline Murray, Dean of Arts at the University of Guelph presents the Right Honourable Helen Liddell with a copy of Jane Urquhart's novel, The Stonecarver. Ms. Urquhart is a Graduate of Guelph.

The annual Fall Colloquium of the Scottish Studies Program was also the venue for the North American launch of a new magazine, *History Scotland*, exploring Scottish history, archaeology and heritage. The magazine includes interviews with leading historians and explorations of important themes and



events in the development of Scottish culture and society. *History Scotland* is aimed at a wide readership, including not only professional historians, but also all people with an interest in Scotland's past. Free copies of the first issue of the magazine, a companion to the hugely successful *History Ireland*, were distributed to all who attended the Fall Colloquium. The launch in Scotland in October, at the Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, was attended by nearly three hundred people, and was presided over by the Historiographer Royal, Professor T.C. Smout. Guelph was selected as the site of the North American launch of the publication, which indicates the profile that the Scottish Studies Program at the University of

Ulster-Scots Funding Received

Following the January visit of the Chairman of the Ulster-Scots Agency, Lord Laird of Artigarvin to the University of Guelph, and subsequent visits by Professor John Wilson and Dr. Billy Kelly of the University of Ulster, the two universities concluded a funding agreement to support student research at Guelph.

Under provisions of the "Good Friday Agreement" aimed at promoting the study of cultural heritages in Ireland, the Department of History at the University of Guelph has received funding from the Ulster-Scots Agency and the Institute of Ulster-Scots Studies at the University of Ulster for a three-year post-doctoral fellowship.

The holder of the award will receive a stipend of between \$25,000-\$35,000 per year, and will have teaching opportunities within the Department. The holder will examine some aspect of the history of Scottish settlement in Ulster and/or the Ulster-Scots population abroad. Topics may include the structure of Ulster-Scots settlement in Canada; aspects of community development in Ulster or Canada in historical perspective, including relationships between Ulster-Scots and other populations; and the position of Ulster-Scots in the commercial, political and cultural framework of Ulster, Canada or elsewhere.

Professors Cathy Wilson and Kevin James in the Department of History at Guelph have both undertaken research on the nineteenth-century Ulster-Scots, who are descendants of Scottish settlers in Ireland who migrated across the Irish Sea, and who were particularly important during the plantation and settlement of Ulster in the seventeenth century.

The fellowship is currently being advertised, and the holder is expected to begin research at Guelph during this academic year. This funding agreement builds upon contacts between the Foundation, the University, and Scottish community in Canada and Ulster, and provides support for the continuing development of the Scottish Studies program at Guelph.

Guelph has abroad. Details of the publication and subscription information are available on the magazine's website: www.historyscotland.com.