



25 Buccleuch Place
Edinburgh
EH8 9NL

THE SCOTTISH TEXT SOCIETY
Newsletter Number 1 – October 2010

Dear Member

First of all I should like to extend a warm welcome to you all through this, the Scottish Text Society's first newsletter to members.

At the half yearly meeting of the STS Council in September 2010 it was recognised that members of the Society might wish to be kept up to date with what was happening in the Society, and in particular the position and possible timescale regarding the preparation and publication of new volumes. This newsletter is the result and I hope that you find it both interesting and informative. As this is a new venture I would be grateful for any comments or suggestions that you might have for inclusion in future newsletters. We hope that the newsletters will appear roughly every six months. If, on the other hand, you do not wish to receive any future newsletters please let me know and I shall remove your name from the distribution list. The newsletter will also be published on the Society's website (www.scottishtextsociety.org) so don't despair if you accidentally delete the email version!

The Society had hoped that the latest volume *The Ballad Repertoire of Anna Gordon – Mrs Brown of Falkland* edited by Sigrid Rieuwerts of Siegen University would be available late this year but technical problems with the printing of the musical notation have held this up and the likely publication date is now March/April 2011. This edition, which will become volume 8 in the Society's 5th series, will, however, be sent to all those whose membership was extant in 2010.

It looks as if 2011 will be a busy one for the Society. In addition to *The Ballad Repertoire of Anna Gordon* mentioned above we expect to publish Jeremy Smith (ed), *Older Scots: A Linguistic Companion*. This is designed to help students and others learn to read Older Scots, and as such, is a new departure for the Society. The Society will publish this volume in hardback (for libraries and members) and in paperback (for students and the general public). In addition, the Society is extending its range into the seventeenth century, with the imminent completion of John MacQueen's edition of one of Archibald Pitcairne's plays, *The Phanaticks*. Unfortunately it is not possible at this time to give definite publication dates for either of these volumes.

Other works in progress for publication post 2011 include *The Poems of John Stewart of Baldynneis* (editor Katherine McClune), and *Comic and Parodic Poems in Older Scots* (editor Janet Hadley Williams). Again it is not possible to give definite publication dates for the above but there is also work in progress on, among others, *Five Older Scots Romances* (editor Rhiannon Purdie), *Scottish Satirical Literature* (editor Tricia McElroy) and a revised edition of Gavin Douglas's *The Eneados*. It is intended that this last will be published as two volumes of text; the first containing the text and textual notes and the second a collection of essays on Douglas and *The Eneados* to be published separately in due course.

In its function as a charitable organisation the Society was pleased to be able to grant five bursaries of £75.00 each to post-graduate students to subsidise their attendance at the Early English Text Society conference in May of this year. The Society will also be present at the 13th International Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Scottish Language and Literature at the University of Padua in July next year where it is sponsoring a session of papers, organising a round table to discuss digital publishing, and hosting a reception.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place on Friday 8 April 2011 in Glasgow. The time and venue will be publicised on the Society's website nearer the time.

I hope that you have found this newsletter worthwhile and, as stated above, I should be grateful for any comments you might have.

Yours sincerely

John M Archer
Administrative Secretary
Scottish Text Society