

Alba: Celtic Scotland in the Medieval Era

Edited by E. J. Cowan and R. Andrew McDonald

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- The Invention of Celtic Scotland, *Edward J. Cowan* (Professor of Scottish History at the University of Glasgow)
- The Seven Kingdome in De situ Albanie, *Dauvit Broun* (Lecturer in Scottish History at the University of Glasgow)
- What happened to the Caledonians?, *Alan Bruford* (was a Reader in Scottish History in the School of Scottish Studies at the University of Edinburgh)
- The Battle of Dunnichen and the Aberlemno Battle-Scene, *Graeme D. R. Cruickshank* (independent historian and research, and the operator of Edinburgh Historical Enterprises)
- The Province of Ross and the Kingdom of Alba, *Alexander Grant* (Reader in Medieval British History at the University of Lancaster)
- Reform Monasticism and Celtic Scotland: Galloway, c.1140-c.1240, *Keith J. Stringer* (Reader in Medieval British History at the University of Lancaster)
- Rebels without a Cause? The Relations of Fergus of Galloway and Somerled of Argyll with the Scottish Kings, 1153-1164, *R. Andrew McDonald* (Asst Professor of History at the University College of Cape Breton in Nova Scotia, Canada and author of “The Kingdom of the Isles, Scotland’s Western Seaboard, c.1100-c.1336 – an excellent book which I heartily recommend)
- Hebridean Sea Kings: The Successors of Somerled, 1164-1316, *W. D. H. Sellar* (formerly a Senior Lecturer in Scots Law at the University of Edinburgh, is a Research Fellow in Scottish History at the University of Glasgow and associated with the Lyon Court)
- The Tale of Leper John and the Campbell Acquisition of Lorn, *Steve Boardman* (Lecturer in Scottish History at the University of Edinburgh)
- Achilles’ Heel? The Earldom of Ross, the Lordship of the Isles, and the Stewart Kings, 1449-1507, *Norman Macdougall* (Senior Lecturer in Scottish History at the University of St. Andrews)

Taken as a whole, the volume spans virtually the entire medieval period, from the Caledonians of Late Antiquity to the rebellions of Donald *Dubh* MacDonald, a claimant to the MacDonald Lordship of the Isles, in the early sixteenth century.

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“The theme of the interactions and relations between Scottish kings and powerful regional lords serves to link the remaining four essays. In ‘Rebels without a Cause: The Relations of Fergus of Galloway and Somerled of Argyll with the Scottish Kings, 1153-1164,’ R. Andrew McDonald compares and contrasts the relative position of Fergus and Somerled as powerful, largely autonomous rulers on the margins of the Scottish kingdom, and considers in detail their turbulent and ultimately disastrous relations with the Canmore kings. David Sellar, in ‘Hebridean Sea-Kings: The Successors of Somerled, 1164-1316,’ takes up with the death of Somerled in 1164 and explores the careers of his descendants, with a special emphasis on the MacDougall Lords of Argyll, highlighting their roles as both Scottish magnates and Hebridean sea-kings.”