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(e-mail: hillsa@geolsoc.org.uk)

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EH10 6DG

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DR IAIN ALLISON
Department of Geology and Applied Geology
University of Glasgow
The Gregory Building
Lilybank Gardens
Glasgow G12 8QQ

Front cover illustration

The Stone of Destiny, on which the Kings of Scots were inaugurated, was removed from the Abbey of Scone, Perthshire, in 1296 by Edward I of England and placed in Westminster Abbey where a special chair, the Coronation Chair, was made to house it. The Stone of Destiny is lithologically similar to a variety of the Old Red Sandstone found in Perthshire and there is every likelihood that it was a Pictish royal symbol long before the first record of a King of Scots being inaugurated at Scone in 877/8. The Stone was returned to Scotland in 1996 and is now on display in the Crown Room in Edinburgh Castle. It measures 67 cm by 42 cm by 26.5 cm and weighs 152 kg.

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A paper discussing the geological background to the Stone of Destiny will appear in the next issue of the Scottish Journal of Geology, Volume 34 part 2.

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