Burnett Newsletter (including House of Burnett News) Edition No 17 March 2012

BURNETT GATHERING 31ST JULY - 3RD AUGUST 2013

The 2013 Gathering programme will include the essential items for any Burnett who comes to Crathes. There will be new events, activities and options many of which will be offered to members of other clans and who will be visiting Deeside during the week which ends with the Aboyne Highland Games. In the past, gatherings have been more suited to adults, but in future, there will be many activities which should also be of interest to younger visitors. See Pages 3 and 4 of this Banner for details of programme.

LONDON BRIDGE



One of the longstanding guides at Crathes Castle is Ernest Sangster. Few of the guides have accumulated the quantity of information about the Crathes and the Burnett family as Ernest and he is someone who frequently advises me on historical facts. Continued on page 9.

THE PAINTED CEILINGS OF CRATHES CASTLE

The late 16th century painted ceilings of Crathes Castle are probably the finest in Scotland. Charles Burnett, Ross Herald, describes on Pages 7, 8 & 9.



DIANA BURNETT

Our newest member of the Board of Directors to the House of Burnett is Diana Burnett. She was born Diane Eleanor Burnet to Kay Beem of North Bellmore, New York and Harry Burnett of



Ashtabula, Ohio, in the 'summer of love' 1969. She comes from a grand old line of Burnett's who settled in Hubbard, Trumbull County, Ohio, arriving by wagon as pioneers from Morristown, New Jersey. Her immediate living

family members are (in order of their earthy arrival) Susan (Burnett) Baum of Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey; Brian Burnett of Toledo, Ohio; Wayne Burnett of Navarre, Florida; Scott Burnett of Tampa, Florida, and Diana completes the line-up as the official "baby-of-the-family". Her family's Burnett genealogy was compiled by her sister Susan Baum, with whom she shares a love of solving historical puzzles (available for view at:

http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/2613243/family)

Diana lives in Miami Beach, Florida and works administratively at the Early Childhood Education Department of Temple Beth Sholom, a Jewish congregation and community center, serving the wider Miami Beach community. She is active in her community planting trees, promoting community gardens, and organizing Beach and park clean-ups. Diana loves animals and has two cats, Leela and Beebe, and she occasionally foster homes dogs or other critters for local pet rescues. Other areas of interest are (the philosophical kind), practicing yoga following current and world events, Kayaking, and hunting for the best pizza in-and-beyond town.

Diana is proud to be a member of the House of Burnett and aims to be a helpful and constructive member of the board. She looks forward to getting to know the wider Burnett family!

Leland L Burnett

ANNUAL BURNS SUPPER

Recently, over here in the "Colonies" in the Wilmington, North Carolina area, the 19th Annual Robert Burns Supper and Celebration was held by the Scottish Society of Wilmington. As usual, there was a large number of Scots in attendance, several being Burnetts. In addition to various Scots making appropriate comments we ate well including the sharing, all around, of Haggis. The bagpipers delicious especially good music with the cheering of those in attendance. In addition to the bagpipers there was a small band playing beautiful music and many couples got up and danced.

Prior to dining there was **The Selkirk Grace** which went as follows: "Some hae meat and canna eat, and some wad eat that want it, But we hae meat, and we can eat, and sae the Lord be thankit."

We all had a good time and we look forward to the Family Gathering in Scotland next year.

Congressman Mike McIntyre was instrumental in starting and is Co-Chair of the Special Operations Forces Caucus and Co-Chair of the Friends of Scotland Congressional Caucus. Overall, the Friends of Scotland Congressional Caucus is a bi-partisan caucus created in 2006. Since its inception, the Caucus has sponsored the annual national celebration of Tartan Day on Capitol Hill. The Caucus was created to serve as a voice within Congress for Scottish-Americans, identify ways the U.S. and Scottish government can effectively work together, and pursue official recognition of National Tartan Day in the United States.



From left to right, Stephen, son of GHB & Amy Burnett, Julian & Vivian Burnett, U.S. Congressman, Mike McIntyre, Gilbert & Barbara Burnett.



BURNETT GATHERING 31st JULY - 3rd AUGUST 2013

The BURNETT PROGRAMME and optional events



CRATHES CASTLE AND GARDENS
Including entrance and guided
tours of the Castle & Gardens
(Guided tours for younger visitors)



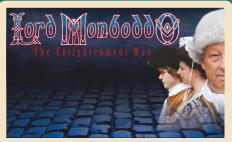
CRANNOG ON THE LOCH OF LEYS
Guided visit to view the home of
the Burnetts when they arrived in
the 14th Century



KEMNAY HOUSE
Guided tour with Susan Burnett of
Kemnay (T)(B)
or
CRAIGIEVAR CASTLE

Guided visit to the fairy-tale castle built in 1626 by William Forbes (Danzig Willy)





AN EVENING WITH MONBODDO

Light-hearted theatrical event
including selections from Lord
Monboddo the Enlightenment Man



MUCHALLS CASTLE
Visit to 17th century Burnett castle
(T)(B) or



DRUM CASTLE
Guided tour of 14th century
ancestral home of the Irvine family
by David Irvine of Drum (T)



ABOYNE HIGHLAND GAMES
Hospitality at the Burnett Tent and visitors can participate in the Clan March (B)



SCOLTY HILL
Guided walk overlooking Crathes to
the General William Burnett
monument

CHIEF'S LUNCH Lunch with the Burnett family (B)



GRAND CEILIDH

A traditional evening of supper,
song and dance at Woodend Barn
to end the visit



DEESIDE RAILWAY JOURNEY

CHOICE OF 3 GUIDED DAY TOURS

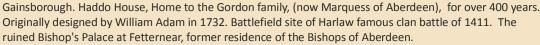
1: Southern Tour (T)

Fettercairn Distillery and Dunnottar Castle, one of the most important and spectacular of Scottish castles and Blairs College Museum to see the magnificent collection of paintings, church textiles, sacred silver and Jacobite memorabilia belonging to the Scottish Roman Catholic Church. Lunch at the Lewis Grassic Gibbon Centre.



2: Northern Tour (T)

Fyvie Castle, 13th-century castle with original stunning Edwardian interiors and home to a superb collection of arms, armour and paintings, including works by Raeburn and



3: Aberdeen Tour (T)

The Town House, St Machar's Cathedral, King's College Chapel, the Senate Room, Marischal College, Saint Nicholas Kirk, and Saint Andrew's Episcopal Cathedral. The tour will be guided by Charles Burnett, the Ross Herald and will also include a brief visit to the iconic building of the new University Library.



AN EVENING OF HERALDRY - THE SHORTHAND OF SCOTTISH HISTORY

An introduction by Charles J Burnett, Ross Herald, to the fascinating and colourful science of heraldry which is the visual language of Scotland's history and heritage. A must for any visitor to Scotland who wishes to know more and to increase their appreciation of all they might see when in the ancient realm of Scotland and on the tours of the following day. The evening will include some audience participation.

OPTIONAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Country Dance sessions with Isobel McMillan, Scottish Country Dance teacher and Chair of the Aberdeen Branch of the Royal Society of Country Dance

Salmon Fishing on the River Dee with tuition from the Estate ghillie. Equipment provided

Scottish Cooking session with Graham Buchan, chef to royalty at Banchory's newest restaurant, The Cow Shed

Croquet on the Lawn at Crathes Castle

Roe Deer and Fox Hunting: Evenings with the estate game keeper Evening Ghost Tour at Crathes Castle

Go Ape Treetop Adventure at Crathes Castle. Enjoy breathtaking scenery on a tree top forest adventure.

Battle Grounds Paintball including infamous trench warfare, archery and state of the art laser tag games zones.

....and more to follow

NOTES

- (B) items will only be available to those associated with the name of Burnett. All other events and activities will be available to others. (T) Transport included for all.
- The charge for the Burnett programme of events as shown above will be £290.00 inclusive of VAT. For those aged 10 16 (inclusive) the charge will be £180.00 and for those aged under 10 there will be no charge.
- The Burnett programme excludes accommodation (arranged through Alba Travel and Events) but will include all transport.
- For any subscriber to the Burnett programme who wishes to participate in an optional event or activity, there will be an extra charge.
- Monboddo and Heraldry evenings include supper for Burnett programme.
- Entry to Aboyne Games field not included.
- The programme may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Details of all (excluding Burnett (B)) events and activities and the charges for these will be available after August 1st 2012 on www.burnett.uk.com or by contacting Leys Estate (see below).

RESERVATIONS

For reservations for travel to and from Glasgow and for accommodation, please contact:

Alba Travel and Events (Christine Seaton) 30 Castlefield, Cupar, Fife, KY15 4DB

Tel: +44 (0)1334 656548 Email: christine@alba-travel.co.uk Website: www.alba-travel.co.uk

Visitors to the Gathering can attend events under their own transport and accommodation arrangements.

Alternatively Alba Travel and Events will organise the following which will include all accommodation and transport and for all Burnett Package events and activities. For this there are three choices:

- i) 7 nights Leaving Glasgow Monday 29th July and returning Monday 5th August
- ii) 10 nights to include a 3 day tour of the Scottish Highlands. Monday 29th July Thursday 8th August
- iii) 5 nights for visitors arriving at Banchory by other transport. Tuesday 30th July Sunday 4th August

For reservation of the Burnett package programme, please contact:

Leys Estate (Fiona Lees) Banchory Business Centre, Burn O' Bennie Road, Banchory, AB31 5ZU

Tel: + 44(0)1330 823343 Fax: +44(0)1330 820670 Email: info@leysestate.co.uk

THE BURNETT CONNECTION HOB PRESIDENT JACKELYN DAUGHERTY



JD Burnett and Minnie May Riddle. (Great Grandfather) and Great Grandmother) JD was born in Bedford Co, VA; died in Jonesboro, AR. Minnie was born in Lake Co, TN; died in Jonesboro, AR.



Samual, George, and Mattie Burnett. Grandfather, Great Uncle and Great Aunt. (No picture of the 4th child of JD and Minnie)



Mimie Clementine Dowdy and Samual Edward Burnett. Grandmother and Grandfather



Samual Edward Burnett as a young man. Born in Lake Co, TN;died in West Allis, WI.

I want to thank Michelle Marollis for the pictures and information.

If you wish to inquire about this family contact Leland Burnett who can put you in touch with Michelle.

Leland L Burnett

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STORY FOR THE HISTORY BUFFS OF THE EARLY WESTERN UNITED STATES

For over twenty one years, Judge Isaac C. Parker held the bench of the US Court for the western District of Arkansas (1872-1896). Park heard thousands of criminal complaints involving disputes and violence between Indians and non Indians. He sentenced 160 people to death. "Do equal justice is my motto". He is referred to as the "the hanging Judge." The following is one of these cases, furnished by House of Burnett member Jeremy Lynch who works at the Fort Smith Arkansas National Historic Site.

The unprovoked murder of Ellis McVay was one of the most brutal and vicious ones to come across the docket during Judge Parker's time in Fort Smith.

McVay was a farmer who lived with his wife and children on the boundary of the Creek and Choctaw Nations in Indian Territory. A hired hand named William Barnett also lived with the family. On the night of December 3, 1880, Amos Manley and his brother Abler were passing through the area on their way to the Choctaw Nation to look for work. It was an extremely cold night and upon coming across McVay's cabin, the pair decided to stop for some warmth. Not wanting to go back into the cold, the Manley's ask McVay if they could stay the night, saying that they would continue their trip the next morning. McVay consented and the Manley's bedded down on a pallet in the main room with hired hand William Barnett asleep in the corner from them.

For some unknown, reason the Manley's awoke at 3 in the morning, reached for their guns and crept toward the sleeping McVay. Amos fired his gun first, striking the farmer in the head, and Abler finished him off with two shots to the abdomen. Barnett, roused by the gun fire, grabbed his gun. In the struggle that followed, one of the Manley's retrieved an axe from beside the fireplace and chopped off Barnett's left hand. During the struggle with Barnett Mrs. McVay slipped out the back door and fled barefoot with the children. William Barnett also suffered a severe gash to the neck. While Barnett lav bleeding from his wounds, he was struck several more times on the back and legs. The killers eventually left Barnett for dead and made their escape, but they were caught the next day and taken to Fort Smith for trial. Convicted of murder in Judge Parker's Court, the Manley's were hanged on September 9, 1881.



William Barnett and family in 1911. Look closely at the photo and you will notice Barnett is missing his left hand; a result of the Manley brothers' attack in 1880.

Leland Burnett

THE CRATHES ICE HOUSE



A site of interest at Crathes and which visitors may well not see is the old ice pond which was used to provide for the

ice house near the castle and which was used to chill and preserve food. Artificial ponds like this were a more reliable source of ice than lakes or mill ponds because the freezing process could be controlled with water being gradually fed in to ensure a quick freeze.

Leaves and twigs were removed from the water as it froze. Broken up with poles, the ice was scooped into barrows and wheeled up the ramp that can be seen leading from the ice pond cut into the bedrock. A large dam 150 metres upstream controlled the water which was carried downstream via the lade to the pond.

Ice houses were underground cold food stores filled with ice keeping seasonal foods cool before the convenience of home freezing.

They had an entrance passage with at least one inner door to help keep the air inside cold. This door opens directly into a deep square chamber. Ice houses often had hatches in the top of the dome for filling the ice chamber and sometimes hooks for hanging the food in the cold air. They were usually built on sloping land to made sure that meltwater from the ice drained away.

The ice pond went out of use in the late 19th century when large clean blocks of ice were imported from North America and Norway. Archaeologists excavating the pond in 1996 found the broken remains of the ceramic overflow pipe along with large quantities of 19th century bottle glass, ceramic food and drink containers, broken crockery and animal bones. No longer needed for ice, the pond became a convenient place to tip kitchen rubbish.

James CA Burnett of Leys



THE PAINTED CEILINGS OF CRATHES CASTLE

Crathes Castle is one of many buildings in Scotland which contain late 16th century painted ceilings. The survival of the ceilings was caused by changing fashions of interior decoration and the introduction of plaster. The ceilings were simply plastered over – thus ensuring their preservation for future generations.

Crathes has two fragments of painted decoration on plaster in the Great Hall which gives a clue to what the room must have looked like at the beginning of the 17th century – a riot of colour!





On the left are the impaled Arms of Alexander Burnett of Leys and his wife Janet Hamilton, he inherited the lands of Leys in 1529. On the right are the Arms of Alexander Burnett of Leys who inherited in 1578, and his wife Katherine Gordon of Lesmoir.

However Crathes is better known for the painted tempera decoration in four other rooms – the Stair Chamber, the Nine Nobles' Room, the Green Lady's Room, and the Muses' Room. Each has painted decoration on the beams and underside of the floorboards of the room above. All were painted by itinerant craftsmen after the floors were laid so they always had to work above their head. The painting sequence was as follows; The whole ceiling was painted white with a mixture of chalk and size, the latter being an adhesive medium obtained by boiling down animal skins. Once this mixture had dried the painter drew his designs with a strong black outline before finally adding fill-ins of colour. The tempera paint used were natural materials such as lamp black from soot, white from chalk, brown and yellow from natural earth colours, green from copper verdigris, and then blue from a crushed mineral called azurite.

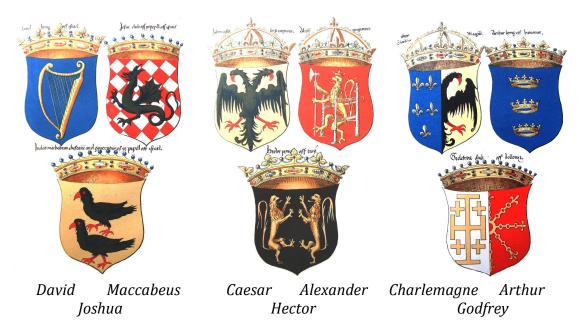




This illustration gives the feeling of the ceiling before the colour is applied, and the finished result on the right which shows the Green Lady's Room. The subject matter of the decoration at Crathes is varied with a mixture of figurative painting, heraldry, natural botanical forms, linear patterns and many painted inscriptions, particularly along the beams. These take the form of Biblical texts or virtuous sayings such as:

The Stair Chamber ceiling was only discovered in the 1980's and contains text and various patterns on the beams.

The Nine Nobles Room is perhaps the most interesting. The painted decoration had been covered over with plaster in the seventeenth century and was only rediscovered in 1876 and gave the room its name because the figurative painting depicts the Nine Nobles who were called the *Nine Worthies* in Scotland. Three are from the Old Testament; David, Joshua, and Judas Maccabeus, three from Classical Times; Julius Caesar, Alexander the Great and Hector of Troy, and three from the Middle Ages; Charlemagne, King Arthur and Godfrey de Bouillon. They were all admired for their heroic qualities and were given their own coats of arms, though all lived before heraldry was invented! Shown are their Arms from the Lindsay Armorial.



At Crathes, each Worthy is dressed in armour or robes and is accompanied by his Arms as depicted in the Lindsay Armorial of 1542. The painter may well have used the Armorial as his source of reference. The beams in the Room bear inscriptions describing the achievements of each Worthy.

The Green Ladies Room is painted with a mixture of grotesque faces, weird designs and appropriate advice on the beams such as; *From fools no friendship crave.* I am sure our Chief's ancestors took all the various pieces of advice to heart!

The final elaborate scheme of decoration is the female equivalent of the Nine Nobles ceiling and can be found in the Muses' Room. Here there are sixteen Ladies who symbolise the nine Muses and the seven Virtues – more inspiration to the Burnett family ladies over the centuries. The Nine Muses have their origin in Greek myth and are shown playing various musical instruments.







The Muses

The seven Virtues; Temperance, Fortitude, Wisdom, Justice, Faith, Hope, and Charity, all hold an appropriate symbol - Hope has her anchor, Justice her scales. In the middle of the ceiling are the impaled Arms of Alexander Burnett and Katherine Gordon which help to give a period for the painting of the ceiling, sometime between 1578 and 1619, probably before 1600.

The trading and treaty ties between the Kingdom of Scotland and Northern Europe were always much stronger than those with England. Scotland's architecture and internal decoration were much influenced by continental practice. The Royal Burgh of Aberdeen and the hinterland around it were isolated from the rest of Scotland by the mountainous ridge called the *Mounth*, south of Stonehaven. This meant Aberdeen looked across the North Sea for trade and inspiration. The fashion for tempera painted decoration is not at all common in England, but in Scotland decorative painters used printed books from Hamburg, Amsterdam, and Paris to provide visual references for their painted schemes.

Alexander Burnett of Leys must have spent a considerable sum of money to decorate his Great Hall, and four other Rooms in Crathes Castle, and apart from the desire to beautify his home, is it possible he was influenced by his great friend, Alexander Seton, Lord Fyvie, later Earl of Dunfermline, and Chancellor of Scotland. Lord Fyvie would pass, and possibly stay at Crathes, on his way north and south to and from his great castle at Fyvie. He was a patron of the arts and had commissioned painted decoration for Pinkie House, his home in East Lothian. He may well have inspired the laird of Leys to add moral decoration to Crathes and we must be thankful if that was the case.

LONDON BRIDGE

One of the longstanding guides at Crathes Castle is Ernest Sangster. Few of the guides have accumulated the quantity of information about the Crathes and the Burnett family as Ernest and he is someone who frequently advises me on historical facts.



On Armistice Day each year, much of Britain comes to a halt and observe two minutes silence to mark the end of the Great War which was at 11.00 on November 11th 1918. On a previous visit to London, Ernest noticed that the traffic noticeably continued to flow at this time and concluded that one way of encouraging the mark of respect to be maintained in the capital was for the bascules on Tower Bridge to be raised. He contacted Sir Robert Smith MP, our local Member of Parliament, who worked with the City of London Corporation and the London Transport Authority to fulfil Ernest's proposal. They succeeded and, in the words of Bridge Master Eric Sutherns, "Each bascule weighs 1000 tonnes, so it is no exaggeration to say that this

will be the most spectacular salute in London, and entirely appropriate as we pause to remember the war dead". The Bridge will now be raised on every Armistice Day - and thanks to Ernest Sangster (pictured above with Sir Robert Smith MP and the Tower Bridge Master Eric Sutherns)

An even less Burnett related fact is that Ernest's grandson, Thomas Sangster is probably known to many readers due to his success in the film world. A Cousin of Hugh Grant, Thomas played a supporting role in Love Actually and has starred in Nowhere Boy and in three films with Colin Firth including Nanny McPhee and The Last Legion

P.S. Not inappropriately Ernest lives in Burnett Road in Banchory.

STAMP OF APPROVAL



Readers may recall information on the reinstatement of the Deeside Railway Line. The latest news is that of the Royal one Deeside Railway Preservation Society's locomotive has been honoured in the form of a stamp issued by the Royal Mail. The

image of the Bon-Accord tank engine, which is now based at Milton of Crathes, is part of the new Classic Locomotives of Scotland range.

The £1 stamp shows a picture of the Andrew Barclay number 807 propelling coal wagons along Aberdeen's Miller Street in 1962, shortly before the engine was withdrawn from service. Bon-Accord was rescued was rescued from being scrapped in the 1970s and steam enthusiasts began a long drawn process of scraping rust and preservation. The photograph shows this scene and Bon-Accord at the Milton of Crathes today.

Twelve years ago the Bon Accord Locomotive Society was formed to restore the loco and the rebuilding process was completed in 2009 before being transported to the Deeside Railway in March 2010 where it has since run passenger services.

The Kilmarnock-built Bon-Accord is owned by the Grampian Transport Museum at Alford, but leased to Royal Deeside Railway volunteers who use the 20-ton engine to haul carriages along the former railway line from Crathes.



James CA Burnett of Leys

SCOTTISH HERALDY

The envelopes below were printed in 1971 with the issue of stamps as illustrated. I suppose that I am somewhat flattered that they appear to be collector's items, that they may have increased in value and that I appear to have been elevated to the peerage.



Description:

Lord Burnett of Leys signed Benham official BLCS24, Scottish Heraldry FDC. Good condition Estimate:£6 - £8

www.the-saleroom.com/en-gb/auction-catalogues/chaucer-auctions/catalogue-id-2859963/lot-13593213

A GENTLEMAN

John Hunter, who was a dealer in wood and known as "The Merchant", was a very outspoken man. Once, when seated beside his woodpile on the banks of the Dee, the Laird came up to him and said "John why are you not working?". John replied "Let them work that canna do better - I'll gar that cairn of sticks pay my rent so I have nothing to fear. I'm thinking of becoming a clean-fingered gentleman"

"What is a gentleman?" asked the Laird. "Just a man like yourself, Sir Robert" answered John "who does no work from one year's end to the other!"

(from "The Book of Banchory" by V.J. Buchan Watt. published 1947)

The Editor

GARGOYLE

Back in edition 15 I wrote an article about being given a Gargoyle by my wife for my 70^{th} birthday.

It has now been installed and is working. Dribbling needs to be addressed though!



James CA Burnett of Leys

DISAPPOINTMENT

I recently received an interesting communication from a lady whose grandmother was reported to be a maid to my great-grandmother at Crathes 100 years ago. She recalled that her grandmother grew up in Edinburgh and learned dress making at Jenner's Department store. She was at Crathes from about 1910 or 1911 and stayed until the First World War broke out. She then left to work at an ammunitions factory in Birmingham. After the war, she married and moved to England.

The grandmother lived in America with the family of the writer who recalled her talking about Crathes. How she wished that she had listened longer and remembered more, but she does remember her talking about all the secret passages in the castle and how much fun the

staff had behind the scenes. The biggest story, though, was that her grandmother's lady had a booking on the Titanic and her grandmother and others were to go with her. When they arrived in London, the lady changed her mind and returned to Crathes Castle. The grandmother always said she was so angry because she always wanted to go to America.

This was new and interesting information to me and I was looking forward to hearing more when the writer was planning to come to Crathes. Unfortunately, her mother, who was the conduit of the information, has recalled that she was mistaken and the grandmother actually worked for a lady in a castle near Glasgow! – Disappointment.

James C A Burnett of Leys

GLAZING AT HOUSE OF CRATHES 1656

Visitors to House of Crathes, (especially the gentlemen), may have seen the above document. I don't know how much glazing work was involved at the Castle which was then described as a house, but the degree of risk of default of payment and comparison of charges may be of interest.

I, Sir Alexander Burnett of Leyis Knight grantis me be thir presentis ristand award to Thomas Cuschney glassier in Abirdeen the sowme of aught scoir fourtein markis money for repairing my house of Crathes in glasse windowis and uther windowis and mending my glasse windowis thair and in my yll in the Kirk of Banchorie Quhilk sowme of Aught scoir and fourtein markis money for his warl as said is I bind and obleisses me my airis executors and assignayis to pay to the said Thomas Cuschney his airis executors and assignayis at Witsonday nixt One thousand sex hundrethe feftie sex yeiris with teh sowme of fourtie pounds money in caice of failizie as also I the said Sir Alexander Burnett of Leyis Knight obleisses me and my foirsaids to pay to the said Thomas Cuschney and his forsaids the yeirlie annell rent and profeitt of the foirsaid principall sowme of aught scoir fourtein markis money ay and sae lang as the samen sall hapen to be ristand awand be me or my foirsaids to the said

Thomas Cuschney and his foirsaids after the day of paymentt aboune wreittin and for the mair secuiritie and fair obserweing heirof I am content and consenttis that thir presenttis be insertt and registratt in the bookis of Counsell Commissir of Sheriff bookis of Abirdein to have the strengthe of ane confessit act and judiciall decreitt with executorialls of poynding and horning the ane butt (without) preiudice of the uther To pas upoune ane singell chairge of sex dayis allenerlie and to that effect constitutes my lawfull procurator to consentt heirto be thir presentitis wreittin be the said Thomas Cuschney and subscribit with my hand at Crathes the fyft day of Maii One Thousand sex hundrethe and feftie sex yeirs Befoir thir wntnesses Alexander Burnet of Craigtoune James Clark Sklaiter in Abirdein and Wm Anderson serwant to the said Thomas Cuschney.

Readers may be interested in the value of the fourteen "markis"in connection with work in 1656: "markis" is a form of expressing the plural of "mark" or "merk" as it was more commonly known in Scotland. During the period from about 1649 to 1680 there were coins in circulation of the denominations of Four Merks, Merk, Half-Merk and Quarter- merk.

Four Merks was worth the equivalent (in predecimal coinage) of 53 shillings and 4 pence(this increased to 56 shillings in 1681)

One Merk was worth 13 shillings and 4 pence (increased to 14 shillings in 1681) Given that 1 (pre-decimal) shilling converted to 5p, I calculate that in modern currency your 14 merks was the equivalent of £9.35 or about \$14.75. Maybe this can be attributed to inflation!



James C A Burnett of Leys

IMPRESSIONS OF CRATHES BY DEATON JONES

"Be careful. There may be a pellet or two," I was warned while enjoying a delicious meal prepared with pheasants caught earlier within Aberdeenshire, Scotland. This was a bit of a shock after having lived in New York the past few years, but it only served to make the meal all the more authentic and enjoyable.

My weekend at Crathes was nothing but delightful. Currently a student at Columbia University in New York and studying abroad in Paris for the semester, I was amazingly relieved to be in such a naturally and strikingly beautiful place. With the gracious hospitality of Jamie, Fiona, Victor, Alexander, and Lavinia Burnett, I was easily won over by the historic place I had heard so much about from my father and grandparents.

Wanting to take in as much of the vast Scottish scenery as possible, I took advantage of my short vacation and went on two long runs along the Deeside Way in preparation for the Paris Marathon in April. The rolling hills, roadside sheep, and ubiquitous stone architecture kept me distracted from the morning drizzle. And, as Fiona predicted, the sun fought to make an appearance by mid-afternoon each day.



The Crathes grounds itself was most splendid. I was pleasantly surprised to see the castle tours filled with tourists and my family's history as a main point of interest. The gardens were incredibly elegant, although I was told they were not in their best form

coming out of the winter season. Most intriguing was the description of a tree whose leaves shift from purple, to white, to orange and at one point in the year contain all three colors.

Aside from physical beauty, a tour of Crathes Castle, its gardens, and the view of the Crannog on Loch of Leys made me feel more connected to my widely stretched family than I ever thought possible. Knowing that I was standing on land inhabited by my ancestors as far back as the 14th century was simply spectacular. I greatly look forward to the future when I can visit again and hopefully see the flowers in full bloom.

BISHOP BURNET'S THOUGHTS ON EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

All histories tell us, beside the evidence reason gives for the thing, what advantages youths have reaped from the wise educators, and the best and greatest Princes have been those whom philosophers bred.

The measures whereby governours should be chosen are these; first, he should be one that sincerely fears God; for, since that is the chief design of man, it should be first looked to; yet

THOUGHTS

ON

EDUCATION.

By the late Bishop BURNET.

Now first printed from an original Manuscript.

LONDON:

Printed for D. Wilson, at Plato's Head, in the Strand, M,DCC,LXI.

superstition religion should be none of the qualifications would desire in one. but one of generous, sublime, and rational maxims, should be chiefly fought for. Branches of these are virtue, candour, contempt world, humility, and meekness; for one that hath crooked

notions or bad practices in any of these, must make a bad governour.

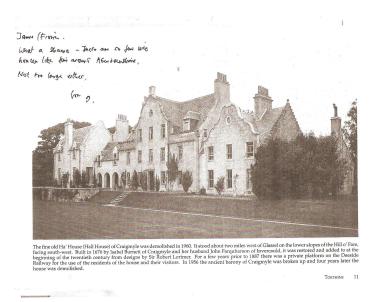
Wisdome and discretion is to be sought in the next place, without which even a good man will prove a bad governour., if he have not the wise arts of gaining the youth's love, of tyming

reproofs, of insinuating precepts, and of moderating his corrections.

A serene good nature is also a very necessary qualification for a governour; that by his moroseness he may not deterre teh youth from his company, but by his sweet behaviour may make him delight in conversation: yet with this there must be joined gravity, otherwise he shall quickly lose his authority; and indeed it is a rare compound to find a mixture of douceur and gravity. For the want of this did Marc Aurele turn off fyve of his son's governours; because at table upon the occasion of some buffoonery they laughed so intemperately, that they stamped, clapped their hands and frisked with their bodies.

CRAIGMYLE HOUSE

Some readers may recall something about the farm steading which we converted to a house at Thistleycrook on the Craigmyle. Thistleycrook now has two fireplaces which were in Craigmyle House and were purchased in 1960 by the owner of Muchalls Castle. Craigmyle was built by Isabel Burnett in 1676. Muchalls was built by Alexander Burnett who completed the building of Crathes. They were removed by the next owner of Muchalls and this was known about by a friend of ours, Andrew Keir. Consequently, the fireplaces found their way back to Craigmyle



EASTER RECIPES

SIMNEL CAKE

The Simnel Cake signifies the end of Lent which is a period of fasting and repentance culminating in a feast of seasonal and symbolic foods. Originally the Simnel Cake was made for Mother's Day by girls in service who were given the day off to visit their mothers.

Ingredients:

For the almond paste

250g/9oz caster sugar 250g/9oz ground almonds 2 free-range eggs, beaten 1 tsp almond essence

For the cake

175g/6oz butter or margarine
175g/6oz soft brown sugar
3 free-range eggs, beaten
175g/6oz plain flour
Pinch salt
½ tsp ground mixed spice (optional)
350g/12oz mixed raisins, currants and sultanas
55g/2oz chopped mixed peel
½ lemon, grated zest only
1-2 tbsp apricot jam
1 free-range egg, beaten for glazing

Method:

For the almond paste, place the sugar and ground almonds in a bowl. Add enough beaten egg and mix to a fairly soft consistency. Add the almond essence and knead for one minute until the paste is smooth and pliable. Roll out a third of the almond paste to make a circle 18cm/7in in diameter and reserve the remainder for the cake topping.

Preheat oven to 140C/275F/Gas 1. Grease and line a 18cm/7in cake tin.

For the cake, cream the butter and sugar together until pale and fluffy. Gradually beat in the eggs until well incorporated and then sift in the flour, salt and mixed spice (if using) a little at a time. Finally, add the mixed dried fruit, peel and grated lemon zest and stir into the mixture. Put half the mixture into a greased and lined 18cm/7in cake tin. Smooth the top and cover with the circle of almond paste. Add the rest of the cake mixture and smooth the top leaving a slight dip in the centre to allow for the cake to rise. Bake in the preheated oven for 1¾ hours. Test by inserting a skewer in the middle - if it comes out clean, it is ready. Once baked, remove from the oven and set aside to cool on a wire rack.

Brush the top of the cooled cake with the apricot jam. Divide the remainder of the almond paste in

half; roll out a circle to cover the top of the cake with one half and form 11 small balls with the other half. Place the circle of paste on the jam glaze and set the balls round the edge. Brush the cake topping with a little beaten egg.

Preheat the grill to high. Place the cake onto a baking tray and grill for 1-2 minutes, or until the top of the marzipan begins to brown. Alternatively, lightly heat the cake topping using a cook's blow torch, until the marzipan is golden-brown.



CHOCOLATE EGG NESTS

An easter holiday recipe with shredded wheat and melted chocolate make perfect nests for candy coated Easter Eggs. This easter holiday recipe is quick and easy to make. You could also make the chocolate nests using Rice Krispies.

Ingredients:

5 Shredded Wheat 75g milk chocolate 75g plain chocolate 50g butter 3 tbsp golden syrup mini candy coated eggs

Method:

Crush the Shredded Wheat into a bowl with your fingers. Break the chocolate into pieces and put into a saucepan together with the butter and golden syrup and melt over a gentle heat.

Line two baking sheets with non stick baking paper. Stir the Shredded Wheat into the chocolate mixture and spoon eight mounds onto the baking sheets, shaping into rounds with dips in the centre.

Chill in the fridge for several hours until set, then peel off the nests carefully and fill with mini eggs. Makes approx 8 Chocolate Nests

