

THE BURNETT BANNER

Burnett Newsletter
(including House of Burnett News)

Edition No 31
September 2015

BURNETT GATHERING **31st JULY - 6th AUGUST 2017**

There will be a Burnett Gathering at Crathes during the week 31st July – 6th August 2017. Since previous Gatherings have been rushed and particularly exhausting for those who have travelled from afar, we are planning to spread the programme over the whole week which ends on the Saturday with that being the date of the Aboyne Games.

We have learned a lot from previous visits and we will endeavour to ensure that the 2017 programme will be efficient and well organised and include an even wider variety of events than in previous years and some new ones. However, the programme will be planned to provide the option of a visit which is less than the full week without reducing the enjoyment of those who wish to be here. Further details will be posted in the next Banner and on the website in due course.

Options for accommodation will include the Villas at Inchmarlo (www.inchmarlo-golf.com) where there has recently been a major programme of improvements to the Villas and Apartments, the restaurant and the Golf Course where the greens are as fine as any in the country.

Any visitors to Crathes at any time may wish to consider this accommodation.

James C A Burnett of Leys

SUSAN LETITIA BURNETT OF KEMNAY

1922 - 2015



See page 13

ALEXANDER BURNETT

Alexander is contesting the constituency of Aberdeenshire West in the Scottish Parliamentary Election in May. In an exclusive interview for the banner, he said "I am thrilled and delighted to have been selected as a candidate in next May's Scottish Election. Whilst a slightly different constituency area from this year's UK General Election, it is an area I know well and call home. I look forward to the challenge ahead and meeting many Burnetts on the campaign trail. It is a very exciting time to be involved in British politics and this election is a great opportunity to make a Scottish Government accountable and one that uses all the new powers that are available, responsibly and for all of its people."



NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY

Greetings to All;

In Wisconsin we had a great summer and the Cherry Growers had a good season. Overall I had a memorable time at the Family functions I attended. Meeting old friends and making new ones is always a joy. I hope everyone else had a great summer.

It was exciting to see the numbers of Burnett's who were at the events I attend. With the help of other Burnett's who had Burnett Tents at Games in their area we have signed up over 68 new members. The last weekend of May I attended The Glasgow KY. Games where we were awarded a plaque for having the most generations present. (5) In Aug. I attended the Burnett Reunion at Sloen's Valley KY. where we enjoyed the company of 42 of the Burnett Family. We were the Honor Clan at The Wisconsin Games and had a good turnout with such a short notice. I was at the Columbus IN. games on 12 Sept. Thanks to John A Burnett and his wife we again had a Burnett representation at the Grandfather Mountain Games and signed up 16 new members. John and his Wife will be manning a tent at the Stone Mountain GA. Games on 17 - 18 Oct. Anyone in the area please stop by. It has been a long time since we were there.

Elections for Board of Directors to take office in Jan. 2016 will be taking place in Dec. I will be calling for the vote in Nov. Two Board Members will be elected for three year terms. Throw your hat in the ring we need new ideas. The Board will also be electing the executive officers (President, Secretary and Treasurer) who will take office on 1 Jan.

Dues come due on 31 Dec. 2015. Some of you paid early and adjustments were made to others, so please look at your membership card to determine if you owe dues or are good until Jan. 01, 2017. Those who wish to pay thru Paypal please do so.

If there is any confusion contact me and I will sort thing out for you. We cannot continue what we do without dues so please respond.

Another pressing issue is the updating of e-mail address. Please help me out.

We need articles for the Banner. If you have anything of interest to the family please submit them.

We are talking about making a trip to Scotland in 2017. We need 50 plus to make this possible so start thinking about it.

Yours Aye

Secretary, Leland Burnett
burnett@dcwis.com

GOD OR GOLF?

St Andrew's, Scotland, is often referred to as the "home of golf" but it has been found that the game was being played much earlier in time by a Burnett elsewhere in Scotland.

Church "Kirk Session" records for Fraserburgh in North - east Scotland, dated 18 November 1613, recorded that a John Burnett and several of his companions were reprimanded for "playin' at the gouff" on the Sabbath Day instead of attending church. In the case of John Burnett, he was ordered to sit on the minister's stool in penance thus bringing his wickedness to the attention of the whole congregation.

A Golf Club was formally established in Fraserburgh in 1777 and is regarded as being the fifth oldest club in Scotland and the seventh oldest in the world.

Eileen A. Bailey

BURNETT'S KIRRIEMUIR GINGERBREAD

Kirriemuir in Angus, Scotland, is, perhaps, best known as being the birthplace of J. M. Barrie, the author of the much loved tale of "Peter Pan" but it is also famous for a certain culinary delight.

Most people are familiar with "gingerbread", variations of which are local to many parts of Britain and the world and considered as either a type of cake or bread.

One particular variety - "Kirriemuir Gingerbread"- is associated with that town having been made there by generations of the same family. What is interesting is that it was first made by a local Southmuir, Kirriemuir baker, Walter Burnett who, it is said, was originally given the recipe by a tramp. By 1901 the family business was being run by a John Burnett whose young son, also named Walter, worked in the bakery. It is interesting to note that, at that time, the family lived at Crathies Cottage in Kirriemuir.

The Burnett bakers may have gone but "Kirriemuir Gingerbread" lives on and is now being manufactured by Bells, a wholesale company in Shotts, Lanarkshire.

Eileen A. Bailey

HOUSE OF BURNETT PHOTOS

And this is why we put up with those harsh Wisconsin winters...

Cherry trees for miles

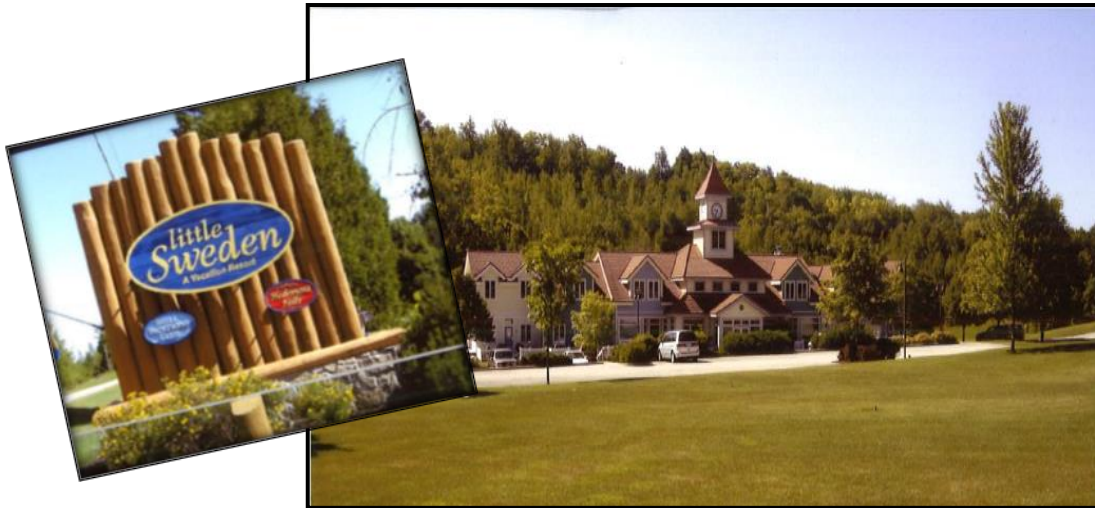


Gorgeous water views, any time of day





Beautiful places to dine, and stay



Even a place where Goats roam the roof during the day.





Caprice, Great-granddaughter of HOB Secretary Leland Burnett leading the Burnett clan in the tartan parade at the Highland Games in Glasgow, KY



Leland preparing to salute the Chief of the Glasgow Highland Games during the opening ceremonies.



Leland with great-grandchildren Caine and Braelin in line to march in the tartan parade at the games in Glasgow, KY.

The House of Burnett received the award for most generations in attendance at this year's Highland games in Glasgow, KY!



**Registration is now under way for the
18th Annual New York Tartan Day Parade on
Saturday, April 9th, 2016.**

Visit the nyctartanweek.org website to **REGISTER** .

The 2016 Tartan Week season officially began with our visit to the Long Island Scottish Festival on August 22nd. Members of the New York Tartan Day Parade Organizing Committee were on hand to discuss new ideas and plans for 2016.



Pictured from left to right are :

Alan L Bain, President NY Tartan Day & Chairman of American-Scottish Foundation.

Lesley MacLennan Denninger, Chieftain,
New York Caledonian Club.

Lee Harwell, 81st Chief, New York Caledonian Club

Kyle Dawson, Treasurer, NY Tartan Day Committee &
New York Caledonian Club.

Camilla G Hellman, Marketing & Sponsorship and
Heather M Quist, Marketing & Press Committee.

Keep up to date with the latest news and event details through the [nyctartanweek](http://nyctartanweek.org) website and by following us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

And mark your calendars - from the weekend of April 2nd, through at least April 10th, join us in New York City to celebrate our great Scottish American heritage.

Yours Aye,

The National Tartan Day New York Committee

.For further information on Sponsorship, or ways to become involved, please contact the Sponsorship/PR Committee:

Camilla Hellman or Heather Quist
Email: Info@nyctartanweek.org





A KER/BURNETT MARRIAGE OF HERALDIC INTEREST

Charles J Burnett Esq. Ross Herald of Arms Extraordinary

The Moray Burial Ground Research Group was founded in 2003 in order to survey and record every burial ground in Moray, 140 in total, which includes the western part of the old county of Banffshire.

Since that year 60,000 names have been indexed and 55,000 photographs of gravestones and other memorials have been taken. The record of each graveyard is then published.

The Group are currently recording the Grange Churchyard and Cemetery which lies between Keith and Glenbarry in western Banffshire. Amongst the gravestones is one shown above bearing an impaled shield. As Honorary President of the MBGRG any stones bearing Arms are normally sent to me in order to give the blazon, or written description, of what is on the shield. Behind this shield lies an interesting story.



The complete memorial is shown here. It consists of two parts; an upper oval panel of Portsoy marble within a freestone frame, which carries an inscription in Latin, this will be translated later; a lower section made of dark blue stone carved with a shield and the initials M. A. K. and below A. G. These stand for Magister Alexander Ker and Anne Gordon. 'Magister' is an honorific title for the graduate of a university. The man involved was Alexander Ker, a graduate of King's College University of Aberdeen, who was the parish minister at Grange in Banffshire from 8th January 1652 until his death in 1693.

Alexander Ker was married to Anne Gordon and they had four daughters. Anne died on 16th August 1666 and was buried at the Grange Churchyard. The memorial heraldic stone was mounted on an interior wall of the old Grange church. The stone bears an impaled coat of arms; dexter, a chevron charged with three mullets [stars] with a unicorn head below, for Ker, sinister, three boar's heads couped, for Gordon.

Two years after Anne died Alexander Ker married again, this time to Bessie Burnett, the third child and elder daughter of Alexander Burnett of Sheddocksley, a cadet of Leys. The estate of Sheddocksley lies on the outskirts of Aberdeen and is part of the Freedom Lands granted by Robert the Bruce to the Royal Burgh of Aberdeen. Alexander Ker and Bessie were married on 17 September 1668 in Aberdeen.

Some five years after the marriage Alexander Kerr petitioned the Lord Lyon for a grant of Arms which is recorded on page 172 of the First Volume of the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland. He was granted; Azure, on a chevron Argent between two holly leaves in chief Proper and a unicorn's head erased of the Second, three mullets Gules i.e. a blue shield with a white chevron on which are three red stars with, above the chevron two green holly leaves, and below the chevron a white unicorn's head. Ker was also given a motto; VIRESCIT IN ARDUS VIRTUS – Virtue flourishes in difficulty.



Ker of Knock



Burnett of Sheddocksley

Our interest lies in the fact that Alexander Ker decided to use two Burnett holly leaves to differentiate his Ker Arms from other Kers, and he also chose a motto which is not unlike the motto of the Burnett Chief – VIRESCIT VULNERE VIRTUS – Strength draws vigour from an injury.

Alexander Ker, 66 years old, died in 1693 and was presumably buried in the churchyard. An oval panel made of Portsoy marble, set into a freestone frame was mounted on an interior wall of the old church. The Latin inscription translates as follows:



*Alexander Ker, a learned man, although not a doctor, second pastor of this church after the Reformation, but second to none in the faithful discharge of his sacred duties; a man of great ability and unwearied activity, richly endowed with all the gifts necessary to a minister at home and abroad, taught, cultivated, and promoted, by voice, life, and example, truth, piety, and charity. Here, where he spent his strength, he laid down his remains, A.D. 1693, in the 66th year of his age, and the 43^d of his ministry.
Remember we must all die.*

Presumably Ker's widow and her four step daughters arranged the funeral, but they did not arrange, or possibly were unable to afford, to have a new armorial stone carved to show Ker's registered Arms impaled with those of Bessie Burnett of Sheddocksley. It may be Mr Ker's memorial was erected and paid for by the congregation who wished to remember their devoted minister. They may have composed the inscription and were more concerned to record his virtues rather than his status as an armiger.

The two memorials were originally inside the old Grange church but it had become ruinous by 1793. A new church was built a short distance away in 1795 and these two memorials, which had been separate, were placed together and built in to the outer churchyard wall. This explains the difference in stone and style.

Burnett genes have been shared with many other Scottish families, but to my knowledge this is the only Ker/Burnett marriage I have seen recorded. The Ker, or nowadays Kerr, family is mainly associated with the Border region of Scotland, not the North-East.

Members of the House of Burnett who have ancestors from the Moray/western Banffshire area of Scotland might be able to obtain further familial information by contacting the Moray Burial Ground Research Group at www.mbgrg.org

I am indebted to Keith Mitchell Esq. Elgin, Mark Hamid, Lyon Office, Edinburgh, and John Burnett Esq. Toshead, USA, for providing invaluable information and assistance, along with various digital images for reproduction in this article.

VISITORS TO CRATHES

Paula and David Frankel made their first visit to Crathes in September. Paula is descended from William Burnett who arrived in Bedford West Virginia in 1819. Paula, who has worked for NASA, is the daughter of James Paul Burnett and she and David live in Anapolis, Maryland.



I met up with Jonathan and Brenda Epperly (Burnett) at the Castle by chance whilst waiting to meet Brett Burnette and his friends who were visiting Crathes. Jonathan and Brenda come from Sacramento, California.



Brett's father Mahlon Admire Burnette III, is a descendent of Charles Burnet who came to America in 1625 and settled in Virginia. Mahlon, Mary and the family still live in Virginia and operate the family farms in Leesville, Virginia. Brett was travelling with his friends, Rachel Moose and Matt Hart and I met them briefly at the Milton of Crathes on their way to the Castle



I was very pleased to meet up with Ted and Judy Cozine and their grand-daughter Taylor Cozine when they visited Crathes in September. Taylor is now attending St Andrews where she is reading English. We walked out to the Loch of Leys where sharp-eyed Taylor spotted her potential prince?



VISITORS TO CRATHES cont...

Calvine Burnett Bowen and Charles Clymer Bowen from Lake Forest, Illinois visited us in August. Calvine's sister, Sally Searle and her late husband, Bill and also from Lake Forest, were frequent visitors to Banchory in the past because of Bill's love of grouse shooting. We were very pleased to meet Calvine and Charles whose mission included a visit to Calvine in Perthshire and maybe the origin of her name.

Staying with us when Charlie and Calvine visited us was one of Fiona's cousins, Rohays and her husband Alexander Galizine, who has close relations in Lake Forest and who are also very good friends and neighbours of the Bowens What a small world.



George and Diana Burnett from Covington, Texas had a little hand fasting vow renewal at Crathes in August. As you can see in the photograph, Diana wore her dress sash with a little assistance from their tour guide. This was their second visit to Crathes and Diana has told George that, when she retires, she intends to be a volunteer at the Castle. She already has her sash!



James C A Burnett of Leys

HENRY CECIL GATES AT YORK RACECOURSE

In memory of my brother Henry, for whom the Yorkshire racing fraternity had a particular affection, the York Racecourse Authority has installed some very fine gates into the paddock in his honour. It is a rare occasion that anybody should be so honoured and I was fortunate in being able to be present at the opening ceremony. Many of the family were present and we sported buttonholes of the Sweat Peas which were produced by Fothergills a few year ago and reflected Henry's racing colours.



James C A Burnett of Leys

SUSAN LETITIA BURNETT OF KEMNAY

It is with great sadness that many of us will hear of the death of Susan Burnett of Kemnay and head of that illustrious branch of the family which stemmed from the youngest brother of Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, the first Baronet of Leys.

Susan and her family have provided visitors to our Burnett Gathering with the warmest of welcomes to Kemnay House and taken very considerable trouble to display much of the family history as shown in the photograph of one gathering visits. It is reported that

she hid the Crathes Castle front door key, which was removed from Crathes during an 18th century family feud, whenever I visited Kemnay House



in case I might try to recover it, is a good story but probably remote from the truth. She was a firm family friend.

The following joint eulogy is from her daughter Letitia and the lay priest, Avril Hern.

Susan was born in Calcutta on the 16th Oct, 1922, to Arthur Mowbray Burnett and Muriel Anderson Speed. She came to Britain with her mother and brother Michael in 1926 to live at Smokeham in Somerset where her sister Jean was born. Susan's early memories of Kemnay were visits to her grandfather John Alexander Burnett. She and Jean would often sit beneath the Library table frightening themselves with diagrams from Gray's anatomy, much to their grandfather's amusement!

In 1935, after the death of John, the family moved back to Kemnay House. Susan attended Kemnay School where she took part in the celebrated annual Shakespeare Play productions performed beneath the Shakespeare Tree at Kemnay House. During the war she served as a Cypher Clerk in the WRENS and in 1945, at Fort George, met Fredrick James Milton navigator and pilot with the South African Air Force. They married in South Africa in 1946. Sadly their first born, Timothy, died in 1948, survived by his sister Letitia born in 1947. Caroline was born in 1951 and Alice in 1957.

Susan and her family lived for 18 years in Ehrenbreitstein, a sheep farm 6000ft above sea level on the Free State side of the Drakensberg mountains. A beautiful place full of wild flowers giving birth to Susan's passion for South African flora. She made detailed watercolour studies of these and continued painting botanical subjects into

her nineties. Susan enjoyed exhibiting these at the annual open studios.

After the death of her mother in 1963 Susan, Fred and the children returned to Kemnay where they took the Estate farms in hand and set about restoring Kemnay House. Susan's great delight was to organise musical evenings and concerts, often inviting professional musicians to perform in the drawing room or on the old square pianos in the dining room. The post-concert suppers became legendary particularly the wonderful cakes, Strawberry chiffon, Angel cake and Black Forest Gateau, to mention only a few. Susan and Caroline also enjoyed organising the annual Kemnay House Show jumping that took place in the 1980s. She was also very interested in the local community and served on the Kemnay Community Council for almost 30 years, retiring at 85 when she said that it was time for younger blood to take over.

Susan leaves her three daughters, four grand children, Alexandra, Mark, Rachel and Charles and four great grand children, Isabelle, Callum, Jodi and Alexander with many memories and the knowledge that she lived a full and happy life.

Many of us here will have our own special memories of Susan. Perhaps standing at the back door of Kemnay House with one or other Jack Russell, or latterly sitting in her kitchen, always ready for a chat and a cup of coffee, or tea – tea, of course loose leaf tea made in a silver pot with a slice of lemon to accompany it – Sherry on Sundays. I am told of the way her great grandchildren, Izzy and Callum, delighted in bursting in on her to raid the golden biscuit tin before settling with Gaga, as she was affectionately known, to listen to stories about her life, often retold again and again to their amusement. And before them, the previous generation, her grandchildren also remember the visits to the kitchen and the delicious home cakes and again more stories to listen to.

There were indeed many good tales told in Susan's inimitable way. Two particularly stand out. The one, many of you may have heard it, where she was invited to Balmoral to Princess Margaret's 7th birthday party, and because she didn't want to eat the jelly, for some reason, she placed it in the pocket of her new green silk dress and ruined it. She also claimed at that same party to have tussled with the then Princess Elizabeth, pulling her down on top of her, who she said had a very good French accent.

Another tale she loved to tell dated back to her teens when someone dared her that she couldn't walk through Kemnay without being recognised. So Susan dressed up as a tramp, walked through the village, speaking doric – and won her bet for no one did recognise her. However, for her the best bit was that her father then drove past her in the drive on her way

home as she was picking up sticks, stopped the car and glared at her completely failing to see who it was.

As her church family we remember her sitting here at the organ. She must have been our organist for over 50 years. Her commitment was huge barely missing a Sunday. I well remember a Midnight Service, Christmas Eve 1996, we had a thunder with snow storm, and only 5 people made it through the horizontal blizzard, even our priest had fled home, and suddenly there was Susan walking triumphantly up the path with merely her trademark headscarf on as a nod to the inclement weather. For the last 12 months it has taken her an increasingly long time to walk up our path with her two sticks and to get down and onto the organ stool, but this she managed until January of this year.

Susan chose our music and was fiercely protective of the type of hymns we sang – no rubbish was ever allowed. What was categorised as Rubbish was rather firmly and clearly defined by her. But having said that she did choose carefully and prayerfully, having read and studied the Gospel for that Sunday, and certainly I would find on occasions preaching here, I would suddenly be aware that what I was saying very much matched with the words of the hymn that she had chosen and we had just sung, and that was special. She was a prayerful person and could never pray for dear friends or SA without tears in her eyes.

There were though occasions when she would reprimand someone at the end of a service for singing a bum note – as she put it - there was nothing wrong with her musical ear and she wasn't afraid to say so. She was never afraid to speak her mind, you certainly knew where you were, and she would most definitely call a spade a spade. And sometimes she called it other things as well. But plenty of moments of laughter and of humour too. For instance she would like to interweave a nursery rhyme into what she was playing, Three Blind Mice, and later quiz us as to whether or not we had been properly listening.

I have done funerals with Susan when she has learnt new pieces to play on the organ especially for that person.

She had some very close friends within this congregation and Clara, one of these friends, was the only person I knew from whom Susan would take an order. Clara predeceased Susan but I can hear her now saying - Come on gel. And Susan did.

Susan was full of years, her body and soul frail latterly and refusing to obey her much to her great irritation - so really her time had come but we will miss her greatly.

TERCENTENARY OF THE RAISING OF THE STANDARD FOR THE OLD PRETENDER

There was a Choral Evensong held in St Andrew's Cathedral on September 6th to mark the three hundredth anniversary of the raising of the Standard by the Earl of Mar during the Jacobite rising of 1715. This was the attempt by the Old pretender James Francis Edward Stuart (right) to regain the thrones of England, Ireland and Scotland for the exiled House of Stuart. His son, better known as Bonnie Prince Charlie, made a second attempt in 1745

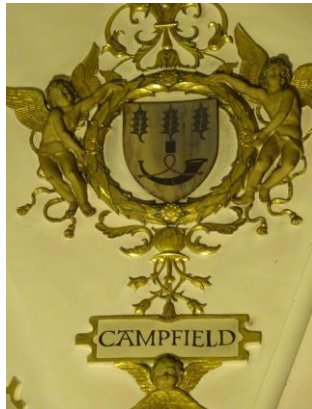


To further the Pretender's objective, on September 6th at Braemar, accompanied by 600 supporters, he raised the standard of James the 8th (of Scotland) and 3rd (of England). In response, Parliament passed an Act which gave tenants who refused to support the Jacobites the land of their landlord if he was a Jacobite. Some of Mar's tenants travelled to Edinburgh to prove their loyalty and acquire title to their land. Although initially successful, the forces supporting James were defeated at the Battle of Sheriffmuir in November 1815

Readers may be familiar with St Andrews Cathedral. The ceiling of the north aisle contains the Coats of Arms of the American states from where finance came to help with the the restoration of the Cathedral in 1930. On the south aisle ceiling are the arms of those clans who sympathised with the Jacobites. The Burnetts of Leys wisely kept their heads below the parapets, but there are two Burnett cadet families whose arms are displayed. Julia Burnett-Stuart was present to represent the Burnetts of Crichton and I probably represented the Campfield branch.



The service was led by the Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney, The Right Reverend Doctor Robert Gillies. At a gathering in St Margaret's Church in the Gallowgate, there was a read the Proclamation and Alan Macleod sang Oran air La Sliabh an t-Siorram (Song of the Day of Sherriffmuir). Pipers led the procession to St Andrew's and to the Jacobite Aisle where a second Proclamation was read and which was followed by a traditional Scottish Song, Wu'll ye go to Sheriffmuir, by Yvonne Morton and then the service. It was an interesting, historical and moving event.



I am grateful to Gordon Casely for the photographs

James C A Burnett of Leys

THE LOCH BOOTS

Readers may have read in a past Banner that what was arguably the first aeroplane was designed, built and 'flown' at Inchmarlo. That project might have been regarded only as a qualified success, but credit should be given to the inventor, Mr George Davidson, for trying.



Another and more recent 'invention' might deserve a similar review and praise. This is the low budget Loch Boot which was designed with the objective of allowing Burnetts to walk on water, (almost a first), to reach the Crannog on the Loch of Leys. Although the

loch may not be open water, it is very wet with water that is deeper than a wellington boot. Historic Scotland have asked us not to have any permanent access arrangement in order to protect the Crannog and so a search has been to find an alternative way of reaching the island.

My pictures shows the boots with the group of onlookers, (family only due to the necessary secrecy for what promised to be an invention of arguable importance), the setting off and the return, (some time later), after a design fault allowed the boots to separate from the 'soles'. However, buoyancy was proved and there is little doubt that a stronger binding would allow the journey to the Crannog to be completed in safety.



Whether this form of conveyance will be adopted for the next Gathering and Crannog visit, is yet to be decided.

The Editor

RAILWAY VANDALISM

Many Burnetts who have come to Crathes have had the pleasure of travelling on one of the trains which are stationed at the Milton of Crathes and carry visitors along a stretch of the reopened Deeside Line. Recently, but not for the first time, the trains have been damaged by vandals. Over £10,000 of damage was inflicted and the MKII Tourist Second Open Coach, the General User Van and Barclay 415 suffered from numerous broken windows.

The Prince of Wales has come to the aid of the Royal Deeside Railway Preservation Society with a generous donation from his Charitable Trust towards the cost of reparation. Doubtless, his contribution was encouraged by the history of the line which has carried the Royal Family from Aberdeen to Ballater for many generations.



James C A Burnett of Leys

THE CRATHES INTER-CLAN CROQUET CONTEST

The inaugural competition was held on the lawn at Crathes on Thursday July 30th during Aboyne Games week. It proved to be a great success and it is hoped that it will be repeated in future years

Readers may be pleased to know that the Burnetts were the victors winning 27 hoops with Clan Strachan coming a close second. We were fortunate to have the expertise of Charles Henderson, Chris Southworth, Robert Bell, Malcolm Robertson of the Crathes Croquet Club to give us guidance which resulted in an arguably high standard of croquet which was assisted by some light refreshments.



Malcolm Robertson, Roddy Strachan, Fiona Burnett, David Irvine, Caro Irvine, Robert Bogdan (Irvine), Fiona Strachan, Chris Southworth, Angus Hay, Charles Henderson, James Burnett, Pam Rotheroe-Hay, William Gordon & Andrew Gordon



James C A Burnett of Leys

ANOTHER BURNET GATHERING

In September 2014, the spectacular island of Mull, home of two of the country's rarest Burnet moths, Slender Scotch and Transparent, was the setting of the Burnet symposium. Butterfly conservation Scotland jointly hosted the event with Scottish Natural Heritage, The Burnet Study Group and the University of Aberdeen. Over 50 delegates attended from ten countries and the programme included lectures on burnet moth ecology, taxonomy, pheromones, phenology and studies of Burnets in South Africa and America.



And there is more.....

The Scottish Environment LINK drive to encourage Members of the Scottish Parliament to adopt a threatened species goes from strength to strength. Congratulations and thanks to Elizabeth Smith, Conservative MSP for Mid Scotland Fife, for selecting the Slender Scotch Burnet as her choice – as if Burnets are an endangered species and need protection!

James C A Burnett of Leys

CHARLES BURNETT MEDICAL BULLETIN

Many readers will be aware that Charles Burnett has recently undergone a serious operation at the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh. I am pleased to report that he is recovering well. He had to take it easy for a few days [no gardening or Hoovering!] but he will be able to fulfil all of his speaking engagements before long. Aileen and Charles have returned to Banffshire and wish to thank all who sent emails, telephone calls, and cards which were all very much appreciated. We were particularly grateful to Charles for being present at Las Vegas for the Reunion when he was not in the best of health at that time



NELL BURNET

There are and have been around the world Burnetts who can trace their kinship to Burnetts from Crathes and there are those whose families we know have similar origins but are regarded as indeterminate since there is no concrete evidence of their connection. There are also those who are unable to see a connection and of whom we welcome kinship. There also those of whom we are less likely to be proud.

Following a recent enquiry in relation to a television programme, I discovered that in 1746, John Blake Delaval, (later Lord John Hussey Delaval) was expelled from Pembroke College, Cambridge in 1746, for scandalously sneaking a “gentlewoman” into his chambers while she was disguised in an officer’s habit. The lady in question was one “Nell Burnet” as can be seen from an extract taken from a letter written by Delaval’s university peer, Thomas Gray on 27th December 1746. From the context of the situation her date of birth could be broadly between 1715 – 1730 (age 16-31). I have to report that we can find no link between Burnett and Delaval. We have also searched for records of a possible Nell/Helen/Eleanor Burnet born in England around 1725-30 with no success. John Blake Delaval was admitted as a Fellow Commoner to Pembroke College on 3rd July 1746 at which time he was said to be aged 18 (born 1728) hence our choice of dates for the Burnett search. If any readers can throw any light on Nell, we would be pleased to hear from them.

Tutthill continues quiet in his *Læta Paupertas*, & by this Time (were not his Friends of it) would have forgot there was any such Place as Pembroke in the World. all things there are just in Statu quo; only the Fellows, as I told you, are grown pretty rudish to their Sovereign in general, for Francis is now departed. poor dear M^r Delaval indeed has had a little Misfortune. Intelligence was brought, that he had with him a certain gentlewoman properly call'd Nell Burnet, but whose Nom de Guerre was Capt^{re}: Hargraves) in an Officer's Habit, whom he had carried all about to see Chappels & Libraries, & make Visits in the Face of Day. the master raised his Posse-Comitatus in Order to search his Chambers, & after long Feeling & Snuffling about the Bed, he declared they had certainly been there. w^{ch} was very true, & the Captain was then locked up in a Cupboard there, while his Lover stood below in Order to convey him out at Window when all was over. however they took Care not to discover her, tho' the Master affirmed; had he but caught her, he would soon have known, whether it was a Man, or a Woman. Upon this M^r Delaval was desired to cut out his Name, & did so: next day D^r L: repented, & wrote a Paper to testify he never knew any Hurt of him; which he brought to D^r Whaley, who would have directly admitted him here, if Stuart had not absolutely refused. he was offer'd about at several Colleges, but in vain. then D^r L: called two Meetings to get him re-admitted there, but every one was in exorable and so he lost his Pupil, who is gone, I suppose, to lie with his Aunt Price. Trollope continues in Dev'reux-Court: all our Hopes are now in the Commencement.

The Editor

MONBODDO



The Family Room in the Castle has recently undergone some changes with updates to the family tree and other displays. We have improved the lighting and the display of Burnett merchandise which is no longer available in the Trust shop although The Holly and The Horn is available in the Castle. All other items are available at the Milton Gallery.

Additional to the Family Room is a new presentation of Lord Monboddo including his spectacles, his silver tea pot and his Crown Derby Inkwell.



For those who visited Monboddo House in 2013, this painting, which Malcolm Hutton kindly gave me in 2012, may be of interest.

James C A Burnett of Leys

BURNETT ARCHIVE

The majority of the extensive Burnett archive has been kept in the Special Collections Department in the Sir Duncan Rice Library in the University of Aberdeen which was visited during the 2013 Gathering. I have recently given a large number of Burnett archival documents which have been in the possession of the National Trust for Scotland since the gift of Crathes to the Nation in 1952. I have now transferred these to the University where Siobhán Convery, Head of Special Collections, (pictured), kindly showed me where the archive is kept. It is a most impressive facility. We are grateful to both the National Trust for Scotland and the University for their role in the preservation of these documents. For possible interest the recently transferred documents include:



- 1358** Charter by David II to Alex Burnett
- 1378** Charter by Robert II to William Burnard
- 1458/59** Charter of excambion by Alexander Irvine of Drum to Alex Burnett of Leys
- 1554** Charter by Archbishop of St Andrews
- 1639** Letter from Earls of Argyll and Montrose to Thomas Burnett
- 1651** Letter from Charles II to Thomas Burnett
- 1650** Letter from Lord Marshall to Thomas Burnett
- 1645** Protection by General Middleton to Alex Burnett
- 1653** Will of Thomas Burnett of Leys
- 1707 & 1708** Two letters from Earl of Mar to Thomas Burnett
- 1700** Letter from Bishop Burnett to Sir Thomas
- 1192** Charter by Odo Burnard to Ralph Squire re land in Bedfordshire
- 1550/51** Charter by John, Archbishop of St Andrews to A Burnett
- 1774** Letter from Lord Adam Gordon to Thomas Burnett
- 1585** Crown Charter of Confirmation in favour of Alex Burnett
- 1863** Letter from Lord Palmerston to James Burnett
- 1651** Letter from Gen Monck to Alex Burnett
- 1651** Letter of protection by Robert Overton re troops on lands of Thomas Burnett
- 1700** Case for Colonel Rice re a duel

There are some charters and other documents which remain in the Castle and including 1626 Charter creating Sir Thomas Burnett a baronet of Nova Scotia which is on display in the Gallery

James C A Burnett of Leys