

THE BURNETT BANNER

Burnett Newsletter
(including House of Burnett News)

Edition No 36
December 2016

BURNETT GATHERING **30TH JULY - 5TH AUGUST 2017**

Pages 17 & 18 describe the programme for our 2017 Gathering at Crathes. There is a strong interest in attending and whilst reservations can be made at least until March 31st, anyone considering attending should advise us at an early date if they wish to be sure of accommodation in the immediate area.

On behalf of all Burnetts, can I thank all those members of the House of Burnett for their contribution towards the maintenance of the good name of Burnett. There have been many days of attendance at Highland Games and other events and that input has clearly been rewarded.

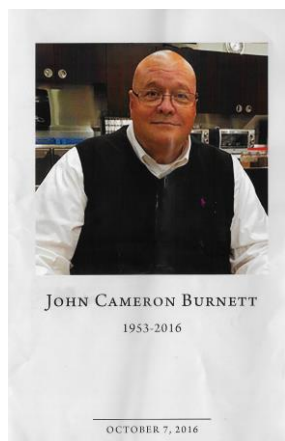
We have a magnificent programme of events for the Gathering at Crathes in July and I hope that it will go some way to show our appreciation of those efforts.

We have no official society or membership in the United Kingdom but in 2017 that may change.
Meanwhile, from all of us at Crathes, a very Happy Christmas and a Good New Year to all.

James Burnett

JOHN CAMERON BURNETT

John Burnett was largely responsible for the creation



of the House of Burnett and sadly died from a tragic accident on Friday, September 30th whilst hiking on Mount Nebo in Arkansas. John had become a good friend and my Tosheador or representative in the United States. He will be very sadly missed. Our sincere sympathy goes to his wife, Lana and his children Britton, Cameron, Erin, and Wes as well as his brothers

and grandchildren.

There was a well-attended funeral service, October 7th, at Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Atkins. There was a large crowd including lawyers, judges and community leaders in addition to his family and many friends including Burnetts. Keith Coker introduced the service and read the prayer and Wes Burnett closed the service. Jim Burnette spoke on behalf of himself and the House of Burnett. He praised John as a goodwill ambassador who attended many highland games with him, how they became

good friends, shared many personal experiences for being a devoted family man.

Continued on Page 3

James C.A. Burnett of Leys

BRIDGET FORBES BURNETT

We were also very sorry to hear of the death of the Bridget Burnett who was particularly noted for her commitment to helping the disadvantaged in West Africa.

See page 3

BURNETT LIEUTENANTS

Following the death of John Burnett, we have reviewed the role of *Tosheador* or representative.

See Page 4

HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Let me wish you and your families the happiest of Holidays and a healthy and prosperous New Year!

The officers for 2017 will remain – President, Jackelyn A Daugherty, Secretary, Leland Burnett, and Treasurer, Mike Burnett. We have one new Board member, Guy F Burnett, who I have appointed to serve out John A Burnett's term. His credentials are elsewhere in this edition of the Banner.

Your Board of Directors met earlier this month and I wanted to pass along to you several of the decisions that were made that may be of interest to you.

The first is that the House of Burnett, Inc. will compensate those who do Highland Games for the expense of their registration fees. If you set-up a tent for us at a Highland Game please make a copy of your registration form and send it to me, Leland, or Mike Burnett and we will send you a check. Should you be interested in representing the House of Burnett at a Highland Game please contact me or Leland for more information about how we can help you get started.

Second, the House of Burnett is introducing a new "Lifetime Membership" for a one-time amount. We will offer an attractive gift for taking this option. Avoid wondering if your dues are current and support the House of Burnett at the same time! A few details need to be arranged so I will formally announce the Lifetime Membership in the Spring Burnett Banner. We, as the House of Burnett will contribute annually to the maintenance of the Centinela Adobe in Westminster, CA. The Adobe was the home of Robert Burnett 17th Baronet of Leys from 1860 – 1869. It is currently maintained by the Historical Society of the Centinela Valley.

Lastly, an on-going memorial award to a deserving Piper will be made at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in the name of John A. Burnett, our late Board Member, and at the Batesville Highland Games in Arkansas in the name of John C Burnett our late Tosheador.

Should you have any questions or comments on these Board of Directors decisions please contact me at jdaugherty@1791.com or azlassie@gmail.com.

Hope to see all of you in Banchory this summer!

Cordially,

Jacky Daugherty
PO Box 666
Topock, AZ 86436

NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY HOUSE OF BURNETT

Greetings;

Congratulations to Tony Burnett of Muncie, IN. and BB McGinley, Missoula, MT., who were elected to a 3 year term on the Board of Directors.

On Dec. 10th at the Board of Directors meeting the Board will be electing the Executive Officers. As of this writing the following Executive Offices: President Jackelyn Daugherty, Topock, AZ., Secretary Leland Burnett, Sturgeon Bay, WI and Treasurer Mike Burnett, San Antonio TX are running unopposed.

I was able to attend the Columbus IN and the Indianapolis IN Games. We almost had a clean sweep in IN by winning the best tent award in Columbus and a second place in Indianapolis. James Burnette represent the Burnett's at Stone Mountain GA where he had a great number of people visit the Burnett Tent.

It is time to start planning for the 2017 year and if anyone wants to set up a tent at any of the games let me know. We will furnish a kit for the conveners, to be supplied by the House of Burnett. We will also give you advice on how it works.

I hope everyone knows the Burnett Gathering in Scotland is just around the corner. Get your plans done early. By the first of the year we will have chosen a hotel in Glasgow for the 29 July and 7 Aug where a bus will pick up passengers on 30 July and drop the off on 7 Aug. As soon as the hotel is chosen we will send out the name of the hotel and a way to make reservations. The charge for the transportation will be 15 pounds each way. I will be calling for a count early in 2017. The date for being in Banchory would be from 31 July to Aug 6th. The information will be sent out soon.

We continue to look for articles, pictures, or questions for the Banner so, help us out and submit them.

I need to remind the Membership of two things, (1) I need E-Mail and home addresses to be updated. As of today I still have over 30 persons that I can't reach. (2) It is time to pay your dues for 2017.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a great 2017.

Leland L. Burnett
Secretary, House of Burnett
5982 W. Carlsville Rd
Sturgeon Bay, WI. 54235.

NEW HOUSE OF BURNETT BOARD MEMBER

Guy F Burnett

Guy was appointed by President, Jacky Daugherty to complete John A Burnett's term.

Guy was Born in Los Angeles and raised in Turlock, California (in the Central Valley). He did missionary service for 2 years in Siberia, after high school, becoming fluent in Russian. He Graduated from Utah State University with a BA in Political Science in 2003 and from the University of Utah with an MA in Political Science in 2007.



He caddied on the Nationwide Tour for several events for Boyd Summerhays and graduated from Claremont Graduate University with a PhD in Political Science in 2013.

Guy taught college on a Marine Corps Base in California from 2007-2009 on the USS George Washington (aircraft carrier) in 2009 and at the University of Alaska Anchorage. He is currently teaching college at Hampden-Sydney College in Farmville, Virginia.

His first book released in 2014 was on eminent domain and property rights and he has published articles in several national journals and newspapers. He is currently the sitting Director of The Center for the Study of the Constitution.

He has an interest in languages speaking Russian fluently plus some Spanish, Arabic, Latin and French together with a number of other subjects.

I am sure that all those associated with the House of Burnett welcome Guy to the Board.

James C.A. Burnett of Leys

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Bridget Burnett

November 12th 1928 – October 8th 2016

I was very sorry to hear from Mark Palumbo of the death, at the Genesis Elder Care Mountain View Center in Rutland, of his mother Bridget Burnett following a long illness. We very much enjoyed the company of Bridget and two of sons, Mark and Malcolm at the 2000 Gathering and they have made much appreciated contributions to the family room at Crathes.



Bridget was born in Edinburgh and was the daughter of Thomas Leslie Forbes and Eve Diane Burnett who was a Burnett of Kemnay. She was enrolled in the Convent of Sacred Hearts at Roehampton and went to live in 1945 after the war in America married Michael John Palumbo.



Bridget had six sons and spent much of her life helping many in Africa to overcome hunger and poverty. Followers of the Banner will recall an account of her wonderful work in Banner 11 in 2010. I think that the picture of Bridget amongst the children in Kenya in 2010 says it all. She loved to travel and enjoyed gardening, antique collecting and raising Scottish deer hounds. She leaves behind six sons and four grandchildren. Bridget's passing is a great loss to many of us.

John Cameron Burnett
1953– 2016

John was raised on a farm just north of Atkins and later graduated from the University of Arkansas School of Law. He served in several roles for his community and most recently as a Public Defender for Johnson County. He also previously served as Atkins City Judge, Chairman of the Benton County Election Commission and on the Quorum court, as well being as an Arkansas delegate to the 1984 Democratic National Convention



As Jim went on to say so aptly, Johnny was larger than life and had the personality to go with it. He was a proud Yellow Dog Democrat and never missed an opportunity to antagonize Republicans. Johnny's uncommon empathy, desire for justice, and relentless pursuit to better the lives of those around him won him admiration, respect, and love from all those he encountered.

I was honoured to be allowed to send a brief message for the service and which included the following

I hope that John understood the appreciation that the Burnetts at Crathes had for him and the admiration with which we held him. The House of Burnett developed as an amalgamation of the Burnett Society, which was founded by Mary Dunklee, and Clan Burnett Inc. and John was the major player in formalising the successful Society which we have today. The existence of such a Society is as important for Burnetts in Scotland as it is for those overseas. It is an essential part of the promotion of the name of Burnett and establishing links with Burnetts around the world and for this we owe John much gratitude. Not least, we should thank him for the magnificent Great Burnett Heraldic Poster, The Arms of the Burnetts, which, after many years and a lot of work, he launched at the Gathering in Las Vegas last year.

I have many fond memories of John from staying with the family in Oklahoma to his stay with us at Crathes. I am grateful to him for his role as my Tosheador in the United States. I forgave him for arranging for us to attend the Grandfather Mountain Games, but not telling me that, in the absence of any Chiefs of larger clans, I was to be the Honoured Chief and had to address an attendance of about ten thousand Scots. I recall arranging to meet him for a drink after arriving at Dallas Fort Worth to discuss the programme for the Highland Games in Arlington where the House of Burnett were to have a strong presence. We did not appreciate that Arlington was in a dry county and the nearest place where we could find somewhere to sit down and have a chat with some refreshment was a Hooters restaurant. All part of the great experience for us Scots. John never failed to be great company and it is something that many will miss.



James C. A. Burnett of Leys

HOUSE OF BURNETT LIEUTENANTS

John Burnett acted as the Tosheador or my representative in the USA. Burnetts in the USA are fortunate inasmuch as the House of Burnett is an established society and both worked well together, but the role of the Tosheador might have been different if such an organisation had not existed.

There is no Burnett organisation which is similar to the House of Burnett. That includes Scotland and yet there are many Burnetts throughout the world who might like to benefit from the existence of a society. We have therefore decided to replace the title of Tosheador, which is maybe less than wholly appropriate for a lowland Clan, with that of Burnett Lieutenant and endeavour to expand the promotion of the name Burnett

The duties of the Burnett Lieutenants should be

- To represent the Chief of the Name at all public gatherings of the House of Burnett in their area.
- To welcome new Members of the House and to present them formally with Certificates of Membership.
- To disseminate information and decisions from the Chief of the Name to Members in their area.
- To act as a conduit for Members to contact the Chief of the Name with any problems, enquiries, or suggestions.

I would be pleased to know of any Burnett outside the USA who feels suited to be a Burnett Lieutenant. If any reader is interested, please contact me and I will provide a more detailed explanation of the role.
james.burnett@leysestate.co.uk

James C. A. Burnett of Leys

A SHINING STAR

This past year has been a trial for me and my family. In January I lost my grandfather, Robert Edward Fraser. In March, my grandmother Billie Faye Burnett-Ritter left this earth. Then, in June my uncle, Kenneth Edward Burnett also passed. While dealing with the grief of losing these members of my family the months of August and September brought flooding waters to my home in Lafayette, LA.

As I lost my home and had to leave with my "tail between my legs" to my mother's house in Texas to begin rebuilding my life, it also gave me the break I desperately needed. As I sat outside on the veranda one evening I was thinking of the events that had

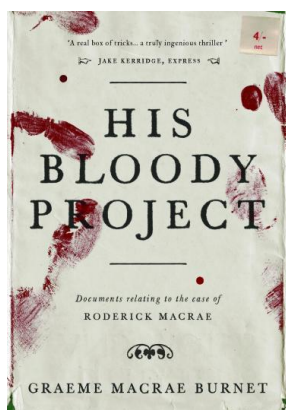
unfolded over the course of this year. Then I noticed it, a star shining brightly in defiance of the still lite evening sky. As I looked at it, the more I found myself wanting to be that shining star. Although it was not yet dark enough for the other lights to appear, it shined it's light with great visibilty in the evening sky. It was that evening as a sat there, that I decided that the events that have happened should not keep me from being able to live happily, but instead to live in memory of those who have passed and shine defiantly like that star into tomorrow. I have a lot more to do before I can build to what I lost in the flood waters, but I will continue to shine brightly. As we are now in the holiday season may we all remember, be like that star was for me that night, we must all continue to shine brightly because we never know who's star we might be.

Daniel S. Burnett
House of Burnett, Director

HIS BLOODY PROJECT

by Graeme Macrae Burnet

I trust that the author has no objection to a note in the Banner about a book which was shortlisted for the leading literary award in the English speaking world. It is appropriate that a story relating to the name of Burnett, by whatever spelling, can find its way into our publication



His Bloody Project or *Documents relating to the case of Roderick Macrae*, is a

memoir of the life and conviction of a young crofter and written while awaiting his trial in Inverness in 1869 for murder. The story was discovered by Graeme Macrae Burnett while researching his own roots. Much information about the book is available on the Internet. All I can say here is that it is well worth the read and quite justified in being heavily fancied to win the prize. Sadly it just failed to do so.

James C.A. Burnett of Leys



VISITORS TO CRATHES

Unfortunately, as I was abroad, I was unable to meet with Debra Sandler when she visited Crathes in October with friends, but Victor was on hand to welcome them. Debra (Keck) Sandler is a fourteenth generation descendant of Robert Burnard (Burnett) of Leys.



James C.A. Burnett of Leys

THE YEAR OF HISTORY, HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY 2017

The Burnett Gathering has joined the Partner Programme of The Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology 2017. This is an initiative led by Visit Scotland to celebrate the richness of Scotland's intriguing history, impressive cultural heritage and fascinating archaeology at exciting experiences and events. It is to encourage the exploration from ancient sites and cultural traditions to our myths, stories and legends that date from the Neolithic era, uncover the history of the Scottish clans and taste whisky and local delicacies that have been hand crafted in Scotland for hundreds of years.



The Burnett Gathering programme has much in common with YHHA. Amongst other items of interest, we are planning a presentation of the archaeological work that has been carried out at Crathes during recent years from the site of buildings which were attached to the Castle to the Oldest Lunar Calendar in the world. Further information to be provided in due course.

James C.A. Burnett of Leys

SEASIDE HIGHLAND GAMES



Margaret Burnett and Jeff from Los Angeles



Joe Carter in Winnetka, a suburb of Los Angeles and his mom, Gail Barnett

STONE MOUNTAIN GAMES



STONE MOUNTAIN GAMES CONT...



CENTRAL VIRGINIA GAMES

Pictures taken by Tana Moore, Convenor at the Central Virginia Celtic Festival and Highland Games, October 22 & 23, 2016 at the Richmond Raceway Complex

The Richmond games had a big crowd show up on Saturday. Not as many on Sunday but still plenty of people.

House of Burnett tent was set up next to the athletic field where there was a lot of activity going on from spectators and athletes as well. It was a nice sunny weekend, a little on the cool side and very windy. With the help from duct tape and tie wraps we kept the pictures and Burnett banner from blowing over. Sunday we participated in trick or treat for the children. Young and old both enjoyed the candy.



Mycah Oliver (Tana's grandson) getting ready for parade of clans.



*Nancy & Bill Neale.
Nancy's mother was a Burnett*



Bill Moore (Tana's husband) after getting set up, waiting on visitors

INDIANAPOLIS GAMES



It was almost a clean sweep in Indiana as the House of Burnett received 2nd place for Best Tent at the games in Indianapolis after winning 1st place at the games in Columbus!



Andrew Burnett, Jesse Burnett & Nathan Burnett at the games

ATHLETICS



We are very pleased to provide support for two of the finest young athletes in the United Kingdom. Kathryn Christie, whose grandfather was a tenant farmer on the Leys Estate, was unfortunately unable to take part in competition in 2015 and 2016 due to a medical condition with her both feet. However, she has undergone operations to correct this and we are delighted that she will be back on the track for 2017.



Prior to this problem, Kathryn's Championship performances were impressive. In 2014, aged 19, she was the Scottish and Scottish Universities Indoor Champion at 60m as well as Scottish Indoor Champion at 200m. Outdoors, she was the Scottish and Scottish Universities Champion at 100m and 200m, setting a new Championship best in the Universities 200m. This Scottish Championship double was her second in three years.

On the UK stage in 2014, Kathryn won a Silver Medal in the England Under 23 Championships at 200m and also won the UK Inter County Championships at 200m. Only two other Scottish females have won a Sprint Title at the Inter Counties in the last 20 years, with the last being Lee McConnell in 2009.

Alisha Rees excelled in 2015, with the climax to her season being silver and bronze medals in the sprints at the Commonwealth Youth Games in Samoa.

She has enjoyed a very successful 2016, which is her first year as an Under 20. In Indoor competitions she ran within 0.02s of the all-time Best Performance for a Scottish Under 20 athlete over 200m, the time having been set by Linsey Macdonald in 1982. In Outdoor Competitions, Alisha gave outstanding winning performances, including the Scottish Schools 100m; the Celtic Games 100m and 200m; and silver and bronze medals in the England Under 20 Championships. Amongst many other successes, she won a Silver Medal in the 200m at the European Youth Athletics Championships in Tbilisi, Georgia. All this was during a demanding and satisfactory academic year at school. We look forward to 2017 with best wishes to Kathryn and Alisha



BURNETTS IN AUSTRALIA

Herewith some photographs of a Burnett reunion Christmas Lunch in 2015 and which I have received from Saxon and Katherine Burnet from Sydney and sometimes in Golf Coast, Queensland. They attended the Aboyne Games in 2011 with their daughter Pearl.



The Burnet Christmas gathering has been held year since 1925 and organised by Saxon's grandparents, Charles and Katherine Burnet. This was a way of gathering the extended family together once a year for Christmas celebrations and to see them. The group, normally 30-40 and growing with an increasing younger generation, comes from all over Australia and as far away as Perth. They now have a very strong consignment of the Sevenoaks clan which is Saxon sister's side of the family and again it will be held in the Sevenoaks house.



Saxon has been compiling a family history over the last few years and is keen to assist with the promotion of the name of Burnett in Australia. Any reader who wishes to contact Saxon, please let me know and I will pass on the contact detail.

James C. A. Burnett of Leys

A BURNETT LEGEND

From Charles Burnett, Ross Herald

Charles Burnett had the good fortune to meet Fenton Wyness, a renowned architect and author who assisted with some restoration work in the Great Hall at Crathes. I also recall a visit from him but was too young at the time to appreciate whom I met. Fenton Wyness was responsible for *Legends of the North East* which included a story about the Loch of Leys and from which Charles Burnett has provided me with the following.

Fenton Wyness, 1903 – 1974, was a well-known Aberdeen architect, antiquarian and author. He published fourteen books, illustrating several in his own unique style. In 1970 he published a small paperback book for young people entitled *Legends of Northeast Scotland* which had a distinctive cover featuring the coat of arms of Aberdeen County Council. The shield has four quarters symbolising the four main area of Aberdeenshire; Buchan, Mar, the Garioch, and Gordon. The book contains twenty-four short stories, one of which concerns the Burnett family.



Book cover designed by Fenton Wyness



Illustration for 'The Phantom of the Loch'

As a tribute to Fenton Wyness who was a personal friend of mine, here is the Burnett legend taken from his book with full acknowledgement to his memory.

THE PHANTOM OF THE LOCH

On a beautiful site on the north bank of the River Dee, not far from the village of Banchory, stands the ancient castle of Crathes. It is the ancestral home of the Burnetts of Leys, and is one of the most beautiful castles in Kincardineshire. Crathes Castle was built towards the end of the sixteenth century, but prior to this the Burnetts stayed at their stronghold on the Loch of Leys, a short distance north-west of the present castle. The Loch of Leys has long since been drained, but even today the site of the Burnetts' island home can still be seen.

In this stronghold lived Alexander Burnett, 8th laird of Leys. He married late in life, Agnes Lechtoun, a proud and ambitious woman who bore him a son also called Alexander. When the boy was about six years of age the laird died, so that the duties of the Barony fell to Lady Agnes. These duties suited her well, for she was a domineering woman who loved to exercise her power over others. One evening when Lady Agnes and the young laird, who was now nearly seventeen years of age, were sitting in the great hall of the castle a servant came running in to tell them that a nobleman and his retinue were calling for boats to bring them to the island. Lady Agnes and the young laird hastened to prepare for the arrival of the stranger, and in a short time Sir Roger de Bernard, from France, and his daughter Bertha were announced.

The de Bernards were related to the Burnetts through a cadet branch of the family which had settled abroad many generations before. Roger de Bernard had always longed to visit the ancestral home of the family, and as France was in a very unsettled state, he had taken the opportunity of bringing his daughter with him. Lady Agnes and the young laird welcomed their relatives, and to celebrate the occasion a great banquet was arranged for the following evening. The banquet was attended by many of the neighbouring lairds and their wives, and was a great success. After the feasting was over, Lady Agnes made a speech of welcome, which was replied to by Sir Roger. He thanked Lady Agnes and the young laird for their welcome, and said that he proposed to leave his daughter Bertha in the safe keeping of his kinsman while he returned to France to settle up his affairs, after which he would come back to Leys.

Alexander, the young laird, jumped to his feet and said he was honoured to be allowed to look after Bertha de Bernard, and his words were applauded by all. But one of the company did not relish the arrangement. This was Lady Agnes, for she had already noted the friendship that had sprung up between her son and Bertha. Lady Agnes had made other plans. She had decided that the laird of Leys should marry into the noble family of the Lords of

Lorne, and she did not intend to let anyone upset her scheme. In a day or two Sir Roger de Bernard bade farewell to his daughter, and left for France. It was summer and Alexander, the young laird, and Bertha de Bernard spent most of their time in the saddle galloping over the hills and moors, and visiting friends and neighbours. Wherever they went they were popular, for their natural charm was a joy to see, and it was evident that they were deeply in love. Only the Lady Agnes disapproved. In autumn, Alexander was obliged to go south to see the Abbot of Arbroath about a land dispute. He was uncertain how long his business would take him, and Bertha dreaded his going. She knew only too well that Lady Agnes resented her friendship with her son, so after he left Bertha hardly ever came down from her room in the tower.

Winter came and there was no sign of Alexander returning to Leys. Bertha fell ill of some wasting disease, and by the time spring came round little hope was held out for her recovery. One day towards the end of June, Alexander returned home, but to his surprise there was no welcome awaiting him. Everything was quiet on the island and hurried to the great hall to find out what was wrong. Imagine his horror when, in the centre of the lofty room, he saw a bier on which lay his beloved Bertha. His mother, Lady Agnes, crossed the room to comfort him. His brain reeled, and he felt faint. Alexander reached for a cup of wine standing on a table nearby, but his mother snatched it from his grasp and dashed it out of the window into the loch. Not a word was spoken between them, but Alexander understood. Bertha de Bernard had been poisoned.

It was a bitter blow for the young laird, but with the passage of time the memory of Bertha passed from his mind, and life at the castle gradually returned to normal. About a year after Bertha's death, the family were sitting at supper in the hall. Suddenly the door swung open and into the room strode Sir Roger de Bernard. He had come back for his daughter. On his way over from France he had heard of her death and, as he stood at the end of the table, he accused Lady Agnes of killing her. A terrible scene followed, and Sir Roger called down curses upon Lady Agnes who, he said, had broken faith with him and cruelly killed his daughter to further her own ends. A curious chill seemed to enter the room. The hangings on the walls moved as if by some sudden wind. Lady Agnes sat bolt upright in her chair. She seemed transfixed with horror. Slowly she rose to her feet and screamed "she comes, she comes!" – then with a horrible laugh sank to the floor dead.

When the awful memory of the tragedy was forgotten, Alexander Burnett, 9th laird of Leys, married Janet Hamilton, kinswoman to Archbishop Hamilton, and they were very happy together. Alexander decided that the old island castle of Leys would be better left to its tragic memories, so in 1533 he commenced to build the present Crathes Castle, but did not live to see it completed.

Once a year, it is said, at the witching hour of midnight, the ghostly figure of a woman rises from the site of the old castle of Leys and glides slowly over the hill of Banchory to Crathes Castle. Some say it is the wraith of Bertha de Bernard going to see the beautiful castle built by her lover, while others maintain that it is the shade of Lady Agnes forever earthbound on account of her terrible crime.

Comment: *The illustration by Fenton Wyness shows the Loch of Leys with its wooden castle built on the Crannog. The crannog was an artificial man-made island of safety in the middle of the loch. Above are the Arms of Burnett of Leys balanced on the left by the Phantom in medieval dress.*

OFFICERS OF ARMS IN SCOTLAND 1290 - 2016

A new book by Charles J Burnett Esq. former Ross Herald and President Emeritus of the Heraldry Society of Scotland has been published by the Scottish Record Society.



The book is an expanded update on the *Court of the Lord Lyon 1318-1945* by Sir Francis Grant, published in 1946 by the Scottish Record Society. Since then further research has added

the names and numbers of Scottish Officers, and details of the individuals appointed since 1946 have been included. The book is profusely illustrated in colour and consists of eight

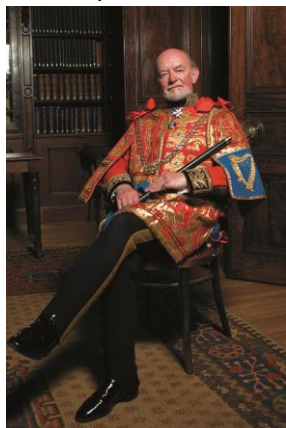
sections including Acknowledgements, Introduction, Evolution of the Officer's Uniform, Location of Places associated with the Officers of Arms, List of Officers and Other Officials of Lyon Court, Biographies of Officers and Herald Painters, List of Illustrations with Sources, and a Bibliography.

Copies, price £20.00 plus UK postage and packing £3.75.

Please contact Victoria Arrowsmith-Brown, Honorary Secretary, Scottish Record Society by email at secretary@scottishrecordsociety.org.uk to purchase copies. The Scottish Record Society is a charity, number SC032276. and for membership and contact details, see www.scottishrecordsociety.org.uk

CHARLES BURNETT - 'FORMER ROSS'

Charles has officially retired as an Officer of Arms, the Ross Herald, to become 'former Ross'. The combination of this event and the reprint of his book on the Scottish Officers which was published in August but required a reprint in November - surely some record! - prompted me to ask him to provide a short valediction for the Banner. I am very grateful for this although I don't envisage any retirement from the wealth of advice and information which he provides for the interests of Burnetts. We look forward very much to his contribution towards the Burnett Gathering next summer.



Many of us are aware that Aileen has not been well over the last year, but will be pleased to know that she is back to good health.

Personal Career Details

After graduating from Gray's School of Art, Aberdeen and Aberdeen College of Education, he was employed in London at the Central Office of Information where he was a member of the design and management team for the British Pavilion at Expo 67 in Montreal, Canada.

He returned to Scotland in 1971 and was appointed head of design at the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland in Edinburgh. In 1985 he transferred to the United Services Museum in Edinburgh Castle as curator of fine art, silver, and medals. While there he completed a part-time M Litt degree at Edinburgh University.

After eleven years working in the magical atmosphere of Edinburgh Castle, he was appointed Chamberlain of Duff House, Banff, an eighteenth century William Adam mansion filled with fine art and furniture. Apart from managing some thirty members of staff he was responsible for arranging an annual programme of temporary exhibitions, concerts, lectures, and other events. He retired from Duff House in 2004.

In 1983 he was appointed one of the Queen's Heralds in Scotland. This is an honorary position which involves ceremonial duties, giving advice, and lecturing on heraldry and related subjects. As a result he has travelled extensively and delivered over two hundred and ninety lectures; one outcome of speaking in the USA has been my becoming an honorary citizen of the State of Oklahoma!

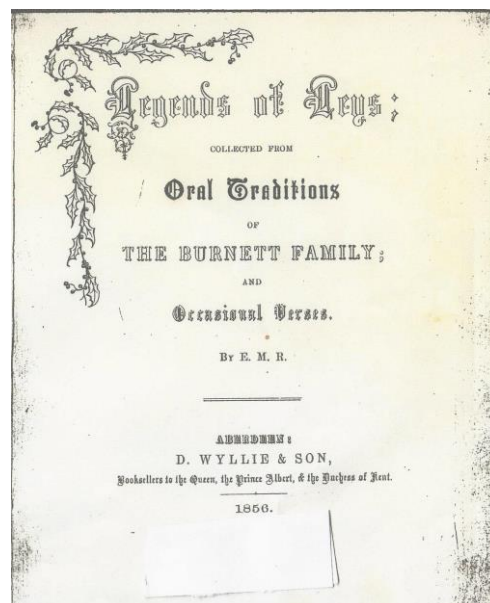
James C. A. Burnett of Leys

LEGENDS OF LEYS

Oral Traditions of the Burnett Family

A new found Burnett friend in Aberdeen has reminded me of the interesting small book, *Legends of Leys*, compiled or written by E.M.R. and to which I drew attention in Banner 15. When he first arrived in Aberdeen, he came across the book quite by chance in the Reference Section of the Aberdeen Central Library. Naturally intrigued, he was dismayed to discover that he couldn't borrow the book, and spent an hour or so photocopying the pages to peruse at his leisure. Sometime later, (maybe in the late 1980's), he had cause to examine the book again and discovered it was missing. He had hoped that it had been re-shelved for safekeeping in the library "overflow", but alas it was untraceable and he presumed stolen. Fortunately, there are reprints available and the content is available online.

Now he had always assumed E. M. R. to be of the "fairer" sex since it would be natural in 1856 for a woman to publish using initial. There then existed an Elizabeth Marjory Ramsay of Balmain who would have been 36 in 1856. Could this be the mystery scribe?



If any reader can provide any information as to who E.M.R. is, or, if they are aware of the whereabouts of an original copy of the book, we would be very pleased to be contacted.

Whilst it is pleasing to know that the stories are preserved for future generations of Burnett's, academics and other interested parties, consideration is being given as to how the subject might be expanded and may well be another feature of the Burnett Gathering in 2017. We have a number of ideas.

James C. A. Burnett of Leys

LETTER FROM HOLYROOD

Reflections on an eventful year.

- 2016 began ominously with the aftermath of Storm Frank, which caused the rivers Dee and Don to flood and affected and damaged Aberdeenshire far and wide, especially the Deeside town of Ballater.
- In May, it was honour to be elected as constituency Member of the Scottish Parliament for Aberdeenshire West. My maiden speech (link to video) seems a long-time ago now.. pleasure meeting so many people along the journey.
- 2016 has been a year to remember: one that will keep political connoisseurs talking for a long-time. With the referendum held on EU membership, and the U.S Presidential election of Donald Trump – a familiar face in Aberdeenshire - the world's political ground is moving, if not an earthquake, then a seismic shift in what the public expects from their governments.
- Despite all the global political noise, I have remained steadfastly focused on the daily concerns of my constituents, and it has been a great pleasure and privilege to have been able to make a difference where I can, even in small matters.
- My Energy spokesman brief has also been topical, with the debate about fracking receiving prominence, which has the potential to create many jobs, provided environmental standards can be safe-guarded.
- In the North-East, it has been another difficult year, with concerns over the job losses in the North-Sea Oil and Gas sectors and the sharp fall in the oil price, which has had a marked knock-on impact on the whole area. But there has also a strong focus on Renewables, Energy Efficiency and Tackling Fuel Poverty.
- But it has also been a year of sadness, with several departing before their time, in particular Alec Johnstone, a fellow North-East MSP, admired widely for his determined political advocacy in the Scottish Parliament since 1999, whose sudden departure was a shock to everybody. We all miss you (Picture)
- Thanks once again to the whole Burnett family, especially my amazing wife Vinny and the children, and the many others who offered their support from the world over.



- Wishing a happy Christmas to one and all. I for one hope 2017 proves less eventful!

Alexander Burnett

Holiday Tunes

Away in a Manger
Choir of the Bells
Dominick the Donkey
Frosty the Snowman
Holly Jolly Christmas
Jingle Bell Rock
Jingle Bells
Let it Snow
Little Drummer Boy
Little St Nick
O Holy Night
Rudolph
Santa Baby
Silent Nigh
Silver Bells
The Christmas Song
The First Noel
Winter Wonderland

Chicken Scratch NY

S G R D A M A F C I F Z Z X F K U H J X
W A W A Y O B R E M M U R D E L T T I L
C K M B H P L O D U R J T G J I H Z N O
Z D W T Z E D S Y E L C B Y R T G C G K
G N O S S A M T S I R H C E H T I J L L
Q A N K O I D Y A L F D G I R L N B E D
X L S O X Q R T B T I N W X N E T O B J
D R T J T I R H V A A H X I P S N A E W
F E I F W V T E C M B E U U B T E S L S
N D T U C C H S A Y A A I N S N L C L Q
B N E V X E G N X I L M T R I I I Y R W
F O L N I A I O Z T K L I N X C S J O U
B W V E S Y N W K M G F O O A K T E C N
G R O K A C Y M V Z E U A J Y S L D K U
M E Q W Q O L A O H K P I T Y K B N M Q
G T A P U I O N T S L L E B E L G N I J
L N F G C Z H N S L L E B R E V L I S E
I I Y E K N O D E H T K C I N I M O D S
L W B T K S L L E B E H T F O R I O H C
U I M U Y F C J H B X B V R U M Q C Y B

PANETTONE

Ingredients

Approx. 350g plain flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
15g fresh yeast
or
1 1/2 teaspoons dried yeast
50g caster sugar
4 tablespoons warm water (or milk)
3 eggs or 6 egg yolks
1/4 teaspoon vanilla essence
2 teaspoons finely grated lemon rind
100g butter, softened
75g sultanas
40g candied lemon peel, chopped
25g butter, melted

Method

Dissolve the yeast in the warm water, with a teaspoon of the sugar and leave in a warm place to froth.

Beat the eggs with the vanilla essence and lemon rind ready for use later.

Cream the softened butter and sugar together until fluffy. Then gradually mix in the egg mixture.

Sift the flour and salt into a bowl. Gently add and mix in the milky/yeast and then the creamed butter/sugar mixture. Mix until you have a soft dough.

Mix the rest of the sugar into the flour.

Turn it on to a floured board and knead for about 10 minutes until smooth and silky. Put into a warm bowl, cover, and leave for about 45 minutes to 1 hour or until doubled in bulk.

Knock back the dough and knead in the sultanas and peel. Shape the dough into a ball, put into a greased and lined 18 cm / 7 inch round cake tin and cut a cross in the top. Leave in a warm place for about 15 to 20 minutes or until doubled in bulk.

Brush the top of the Panettone with melted butter and bake in the center of a preheated moderately hot oven at 200°C / 400°F / Gas Mark 6 for 10 minutes. Brush again with melted butter and reduce the heat to 180°C / 350°F / Gas Mark 4 for a further 40 minutes or until the top is crisp and golden and a skewer inserted comes out clean. Cool on a wire tray. Serve cut into thick wedges.

BURNETT GATHERING

31st July to 6th August 2017



The 2017 Burnett Gathering includes events and activities which should appeal to Burnetts of all ages. There will be a number of new excursions and options for those who have been to previous Gatherings.

The Gathering programme will include a package of events and activities from Wednesday 2nd August - Saturday 5th August inclusive. There are also a number of options during the whole week.

Accommodation can be arranged be at the Self Catering Villas and Apartments (subject to availability) at the Inchmarlo Resort in Banchory (N)

Details of suggested alternative accommodation can be found in the notes below.

DAY ONE

Monday 31st July

Guided Tour of Ballindalloch Castle and Culloden Battlefield (N)

Evening

Family History Supper/Lecture (N)

DAY TWO

Tuesday 1st August

Guided tour of Arbroath Abbey and St Andrews including a visit to Iain Burnett the Highland Chocolatier (N)

Evening

Heraldry Supper/Lecture (N)

DAY THREE

Wednesday 2nd August

Guided Tours of Crathes Castle

Visit to the Crannog on the Loch of Leys

Burnett Luncheon

Visit to Kemnay House, home of the Burnetts of Kemnay (N)

Scottish Country Dancing Classes and Ceilidh Workshops (N)

Go-Ape Treetop Adventure (N)

Evening

Scottish Theatrical Production at Woodend Banchory

DAY FOUR

Thursday 3rd August

Guided walk up Scolty Hill overlooking Banchory
Journey on the Deeside Railway
Guided Tour of Crathes Gardens
Scottish Country Dancing Classes and Ceilidh Workshops (N)
Battlegrounds Paintball or Wilderness Challenge (N)
Croquet on the lawn at Crathes Castle (Annual inter-clan match)
Leys Estate Tour

Evening

Ghostly Tour of Crathes Castle

DAY FIVE

Friday 4th August

Choice of Local Guided Tours

Tour 1: Deeside

Craigievar Castle * Drum Castle * Blairs Museum

Tour 2: South

Fettercairn Distillery * Edzell Castle * Dunnottar Castle
Lewis Grassie Gibbon Centre

Tour 3: Historical Aberdeen

Trinity Hall * The Town House * Mitchell Hall * The Grant Room

Evening

Grand Traditional Ceilidh

DAY SIX

Saturday 5th August

Aboyne Highland Games with lunch at the Burnett Tent

Evening

Burnett BBQ

EVERY DAY ACTIVITIES

Access to Crathes Castle, Gardens and Grounds
Golf at Inchmarlo (N)
Salmon Fishing on the River Dee (N)
Evening Hunting with the Leys Estate Gamekeeper (N)

(N) Events and Activities not included in package charges.

Any additions or necessary changes will be posted on the [Burnett Website](#) or advised to those who have expressed an interest in attending