

THE BURNETT BANNER

Burnett Newsletter
(including House of Burnett News)

Edition No 39
September 2017

BURNETT GATHERING **Monday 31st July - Saturday 5th August**



For a week, all at Crathes were very pleased for the presence of over 200 Burnetts at Crathes for a programme of events and activities which I hope included something for everyone. There were, for us, many memories. For each of those who came, there may have been other moments which may be recalled. For my family and for all here who participated in the Gathering, it was a memorable and happy week.



late John Burnett and to whom the 2017 Gathering was regarded as a dedication. It was also rewarding for us that two of his children, Britton and Cameron, pictured, were able to be with us.

The large interest in the Gathering was largely thanks to the activity and success of the House of Burnett and to those who contribute so much to that Society. For the existence of the House of Burnett, we must also thank the

A highlight of the visit was the attendance of 'Her Majesty' the Queen at the Aboyne Highland Games



MONDAY

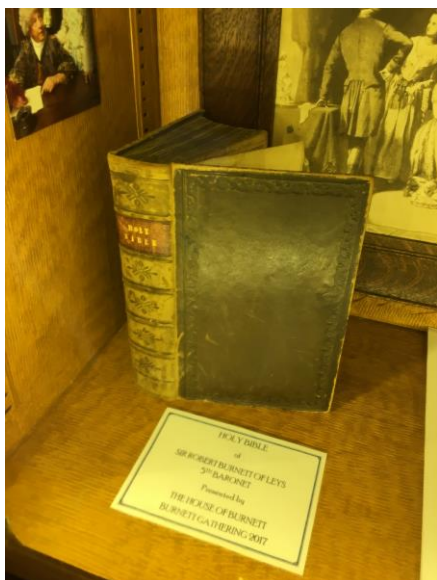
The tours included visits to Ballindalloch Castle and Culloden Battlefield and was guided by Blue Badge Scottish Tourist Guides, Elma McMenemy and her associate, Berenice Currie and assisted by Andrew Mullins and Florence Cochrane-Dyet.



Ballindalloch Castle has been home to the Macpherson-Grant family since 1546. One coach was also able to visit the family's new Whisky Distillery.

The coach travelled through the ancient Forbes and Gordon lands and over the Grampian mountains, passing The Glenlivet Distillery to Culloden. The Battle of Culloden was the final confrontation of the Jacobite rising of 1745 when the forces of Bonnie Prince Charlie were decisively defeated by loyalist troops commanded by the Duke of Cumberland.

On Monday evening, Jacky Daugherty, President of the House of Burnett, presented a copy of the Holy Bible belonging to Sir Robert Burnett, the 5th Baronet. This is a much appreciated addition to the library and archive and is on display in the Family Room in the Castle.



TUESDAY

With our same Guides, Tuesday's tours were to Arbroath Abbey and St Andrews, the home of Golf and where there was a demonstration of Chocolate making by Iain Burnett, the Highland Chocolatier who produced for us his internationally recognised chocolate truffles adorned with the Burnett Clansman's Badge.



This tour offered an insight into Scotland's early history. The route was over the Grampian to Stonehaven and followed the North Sea coast. Arbroath Abbey is regarded as the birthplace of Scotland.



In the evenings of Monday and Tuesday, we were treated to lectures at the Banchory British Legion by Charles Burnett, former Ross Herald. On Monday the subject was on Family History and Heraldry. On Tuesday it was the Heraldry that we would see during the week - and there was plenty to see.



WEDNESDAY

Tours of the Castle were arranged by Ron Nairn, the Head Guide.



Assisted by the Estate Ranger, Thys Simpson, we walked to view the Crannog, an essential for all Burnett visitors to Crathes. This is the man-made island on which the Burnetts lived in the 14th century before they built Crathes Castle

Lunch at The Raemoir Hotel was probably the largest assembly of Burnetts of all time. It included the official appointment of Jacky Daugherty and Jim Burnette as Burnett Lieutenants with the passing to them of Badges and Flags as recognition of their offices.



A group then visited Kemnay House where we were given guided tours by Alex Burnett of Kemnay and her family and entertained by the North East of Scotland Music School Flute Choir.



Others returned to Crathes for Guided Garden Tours of the Gardens with Chris Wardle, the Head Gardner, Croquet with Bob Burnett, former Scottish Champion, Go Ape Tree Top adventures and Scottish Country and Ceilidh Dancing Classes with Isobel McMillan.

The programme was amended to allow for filming by the BBC for possible inclusion in a forthcoming series *Scotland from The Sky*. For this there was engagement with the Burnett Gathering thereby

demonstrating the enduring significance of this location as a Gathering place from the time of the Mesolithic Calendar in the nearby Warren Field, to the present day.

On Wednesday evening there was a performance by BlitzEntertainment of Third Degree Burns, a Scottish Theatrical musical farce at Woodend Barn



THURSDAY

We climbed Scolty Hill to the monument of General William Burnett and this was followed by a journey on The Royal Deeside Railway. Our dancing instructor, Isobel McMillan arranged an impromptu performance on the platform of the Royal Deeside Railway Country Dance.



The afternoon activities included more Croquet sessions, more Garden Tours and Archaeological Walkabouts with Derek Alexander, Head of Archaeological Services for The National Trust for Scotland

Unfortunately, rain then prevented the staging the annual Inter-clan Croquet match which was to be contested by the House of Gordon, Clans Forbes, Hay, Fraser, Strachan, Irvine and two teams from the House of Burnett

The House of Burnett meeting took place in the evening and later Ron Nairn led the Ghostly Tour of Crathes Castle.

Visitors kept the Ghillies and Gamekeepers busy throughout the week with success with Roe Deer, Rabbits and Salmon



FRIDAY

One group visited Drum Castle where we were met by David Irvine of Drum and his wife, Caro, and given a guided tour of the Castle. Drum Castle is an important visit for Burnetts. The Irvines of Drum and the Burnetts of Leys were both granted land by King Robert the Bruce in the 14th century.



We lunched at the Grampian Transport Museum and in the afternoon went to Craigievar Castle. We were met by Kirstie Forbes-Sempill, who recalled memories of her youth where she was brought up.



Elma McMenemy led the tour to Fettercairn Distillery and Edzell Castle with lunch at the The Grassic Gibbon Centre at Arbuthnott and Dunnottar Castle, the medieval fortress located upon a rocky headland near Stonehaven.



Charles Burnett, with Victor Burnett, led the Aberdeen tour taking in The Grant Room, the former Court Room in Marischal College and the impressive Neo-Gothic Town House. The group enjoyed meeting the Lord Provost of Aberdeen, Barney Crockett. Lunch was in the Maritime Museum and the group then visited Trinity Hall, the home of the seven incorporated trades

In the evening, 180 of us packed the Woodend Barn for a traditional Grand Ceilidh. Appearing on stage were Alasdair Johnston and the New Distillery Ceilidh Band, Megan Albon, and two younger rising stars, Arthur Coats and Douglas Barber.



SATURDAY

Aboyne Highland Games, lunching at the Burnett Tent which we share with Clan Forbes.



Highlight of the day was a visit by H.M The Queen to mark the 150th anniversary of the Games. She officially approved a new caber by sprinkling it with whisky.

We were twice visited at our tent by the Banchory Pipe Band in their Burnett tartan



For the evening, as farewell to those who attended the Gathering, we had a Barbecue at the Milton of Crathes and where we were entertained by Brian Cruickshank and his band, and because of the weather, fortuitously had the availability of the porch of the Milton Brasserie, where they could be enjoyed by those who braved the drizzle and those who preferred to stay dry.

Some of those who attended the Gathering, went on to Edinburgh after leaving Royal Deeside

There was another event of significance. Judge Gilbert Burnett and many of his family, stayed to allow Gil to celebrate his 92nd birthday at Crathes. For this, we all held a tea party in the Golden Garden. Vinny made an armorial cake, Tom Blackhall, a young and successful young piper, gave us musical accompaniment, tea was poured into the old family china from the old Castle teapot for the first time for about 100 years and his family gave him some suitably banded Cuban cigars. What made the afternoon additionally special was the flying with our own flag on the Castle, of the Stars and Stripes which Britton and Cameron had so kindly given to me during the previous week. "Old Glory", above the Castle, was the icing on the cake. It was a very memorable occasion.



2017 saw what was probably the largest ever gathering of Burnetts. We hope that, in 2121, we will again be able to provide hospitality, and enjoyment for Burnetts and their families and friends.



James C A Burnett of Leys

NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY

Greetings to All;

What a great time we had at the Gathering in Scotland. There were over 200 of the Burnett family at the gathering I want to thank the Chief and his family for making it such an enjoyable time. It was great to see old friends and lots that I only knew through e-mails. I must say my family had a blast.

Since returning on 8 Aug I attended a family reunion at Sloan's Valley KY where 49 attended. Over Labor Day weekend We had a House of Burnett Tent at the Wisconsin Highland Games where we won the best Clan display. We followed that up by going to the Columbus IN Games. Unfortunately we could not win the best tent award because of the rule of not being able to win 2 years in row.

It has been confirmed that the House of Burnett will be the Honor Clan next year at the Glasgow KY. Highland Games. Please mark your Calendars for the Glasgow Games on 1-3 June 2018. We need a good turnout.

Elections for Board of Directors to take office in Jan. 2018 will be taking place in Nov. I will be calling for the vote in Oct. 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. The Board will be having a meeting in mid Nov. If you have anything you would like to be considered on the agenda please let me know so I can pass it to the President.

If you have any questions contact me.

Yours Aye

Secretary, Leland Burnett
burnett@dcwis.com



FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

At the instigation of the ambitious young brother of King of the Scots, Henry VIII led an army against Scotland. King James IV and the "flowers" of Scottish nobility were brutally slain at the Battle of Flodden on September 9, 1513, one of the greatest disasters to befall the country.

The pipe tune "Flowers of the Forest" was a soulful lament written shortly after the battle took place.

The "forest" refers to a district of Scotland called Ettrick Forest where the battle took place.

Following in this tradition, Lois Caputo who died on 29 Aug. 2017, has had her name entered into the roll, of the Flowers of the Forest, at the Wisconsin Scottish Games during the Kirking of the Tartan Ceremony on Sunday 3th of Sec, 2017. Nina Radcliffe's name was entered into the roll of the Flowers of the Forest at the Columbus IN. Games on Set. The 10th. Obituaries of both appear elsewhere in this edition of the Banner.

Leland L. Burnett
Secretary, House of Burnett



GIANINA RADCLIFFE

We were very sorry to be aware of the passing of Nina Radcliffe. Nina has attended several Gatherings at Crathes. Her genealogical interest with her Burnett family history was a subject on which she worked with Eileen Bailey over a number of years. This, together the writing of her husband John, who wrote a number of novels based on Orkney and Shetland, which he visited several times, demonstrated their deep affection for Scotland.



LOIS CAPUTO

Following the Gathering, I received many very generous letters from Burnetts who came to Crathes. None was more moving as that from Lois Caputo who attended with her sister Verna and nephew, Bob Huff. I am only sorry that I did not have time to spend more time with them and learn more about them and their life at home. Meanwhile I include here the obituary which has been passed to me.

Age 80, of Bethel Park, unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, August 31, 2017. Beloved Wife of Joseph Caputo, Sr. for 61 years; Loving Mother of Joe, Gary, and Don (wife CathyJo) Caputo; Proud Grandmother of Ashley, Alyssa, Nick, and Jake; Caring Sister of Verna Lee Huff and the late Eugene and Donald Owings; Sister-in-Law of Billie Owings; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Lois was born in Colorado Springs, CO on October 4, 1936 to the late Leonard and Margaret Owings. Lois loved to entertain with elegant meals and genuine discussions. She never met a stranger that wasn't instantly transformed into a friend. Lois' number one

passion was her family and close friends. She will be truly missed by all who knew her.

Lois wrote to us a very moving and generous letter and which we very much appreciated. I don't think that she would mind if I quote from it. "There aren't sufficient words to express my perfect experience during the Gathering reunion. I've never been across the "pond" and so it was a new adventure. To meet the family descendants of my ancestors was a lovely occasion." It is nice to think that she probably had some of those memories in mind during her latter days.

The photograph is of Lois, Verna and Bob with Alexander at the Aboyne Highland Games



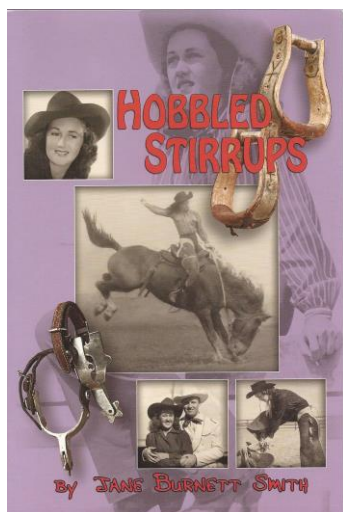
James C A Burnett of Leys



JANE BURNETT SMITH

Amongst the many Burnetts who attended the Gathering at Crathes in August, was Camille Smith from Mesa Arizona. Camille's mother was a remarkable lady whose life is best described in the obituary from Camille.

Jane Burnett Smiths autobiography is aptly described as a "no-holds-barred account of the career of one of the few women to ride saddle broncs professionally.



Jane Agnes Burnett was born in Rock Creek, Ohio on December 16, 1919 to Clint and Agnes Burnett. She grew up on their cattle ranch east of Lewistown, learning all the skills that made her, as her father said, "quite a hand". At a young age, she worked

cattle with the adults and even helped drive tractor during haying season.

She became interested in music during her school years, and would later pursue a career in singing. Also being interested in rodeoing, she began at the young age of 11 going to local rodeos. The ranch house was about three miles from the highway so she rode her horse bareback to the highway, then spooked the horse till it ran back to the ranch. Hitchhiking was her mode of transportation.... much safer in that day and age. There was always a note to her mom and dad on the kitchen table that said "Gone to the rodeo. Love Jane," making sure they knew where she was and wouldn't worry. Of course, she didn't realize that they would worry about them anyway... their 11-year-old daughter hitchhiking to ride a steer in a rodeo, somewhere across the state of Montana!



She continued to ride until her early 20s, travelling all over the U.S. and into Mexico. One of the first women to ride broncs in Madison Square Garden, she met many famous people, including the Mayor of New York. During her rodeo years, she met Gene Autry who helped her get a few small acting roles in Hollywood movies.

Jane joined the WACS (Women's Army Corp) which established the Ferrying Command, an organization responsible for flying US-built airplanes to points where they could be delivered to ferry pilots. Just as she finished training to become a pilot, the program took a different direction, and she didn't get a chance to pilot.

She moved to San Diego, CA to live with her grandmother. Becoming a photographer and a singer in a nightclub was one of the ways she made a living and also worked for the railroad as a telegrapher.

She went back to Montana and married Woody Smith from Gilt Edge and they moved to Alaska to

run an ice-cream factory. They missed their families in Montana and came back to buy the Bar 87 in Windham and Woody started his crop-dusting business in Stanford. After 6 years they moved back to Lewistown and Jane began doing portrait photography. A short time later she and her children spent the summer at Chico Hot Springs, near Livingston, playing the organ at the resort.

Shortly after that, she became the first woman to boat down the Colorado rapids. It seemed she never tired of that adrenaline rush.

Getting very tired of the cold weather, she and the kids moved to Scottsdale, AZ, where she worked assembling circuit boards for Motorola. Woody still had his business in Stanford, but would spend winters in Arizona with the family where he would have small parts in western movies.

While living in Arizona, she became a manicurist and worked at some of Scottsdale's finest resorts. Her son Loren was an avid scuba diver and she decided to follow suit and become a certified diver when she was in her 50s. After her children were in college and away from home, she lived in Santa Barbara CA, for a year to study underwater photography at Brooks Institute. A few years later, she would visit Loren in Guam and had a chance to use her diving and underwater photography skills.



She was always interested in writing and published many articles and wrote two Spanish language textbooks, and a Spanish/English English/Spanish puzzle book, which are still in use in schools today. (Unbeknownst to anyone except her daughter Camille, Jane did not actually speak Spanish!! She figures out the puzzle in English and then did the translation.

Her daughter Camille, with her two children, was ready to leave Arizona and they all moved to Reno, Nevada, where they both worked as blackjack and roulette dealers in various casinos. She dabbled in real estate for a few years before moving back to Arizona.

When she was in her late 50s, Jane decided to take tennis lessons and for the next 30 years, it would be a big part of her life. She travelled around California, taking tennis clinics from instructors that also trained some of the bigger names in professional

tennis. She always strived to excel at anything that she did.

After about 10 years, they all moved back to Arizona, where Jane became interested in medical transcription. She worked for several X-Ray offices and hospitals before retiring. She had always been interested in writing fiction, so her next project was to write two rodeo-based murder mysteries. After those were completed and sold, she pulled out her biography which she had written 40 years previously. At that time, all the publishers were in the eastern U.S. and didn't believe that anyone would be interested in a cowgirl's story. She edited the story, adding some information that she had forgotten and added some photos, and found a publisher. She was nominated for the Cowgirl Hall of Fame but was never inducted.

Learning to play pool (billiards) at a young age paid off later in life when she won the Senior Olympics for Pool several years in a row, and belonged to several local competitive groups where she kept her skills sharp.

She was definitely one-of-a-kind



WISCONSIN AWARD

Congratulations to Leland, Nicole Zimmerman and members of the House of Burnett for winning the Award for the Best Display at the Wisconsin Games in Waukesha Wisconsin



VISITORS TO CRATHES

GUY BURNETT

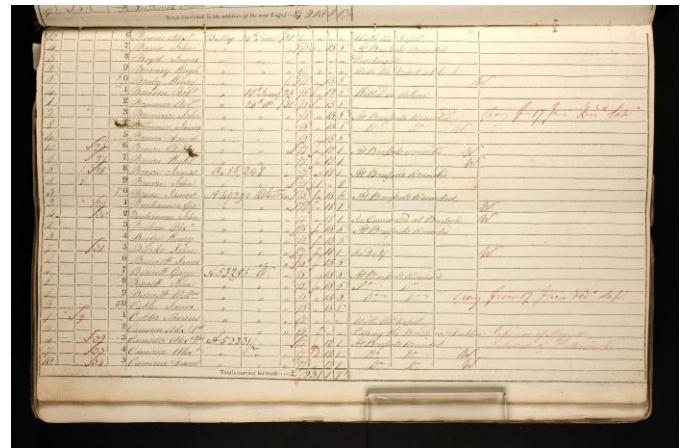
It was very good that Guy Burnett, who is a Board Member of the House of Burnett, was able to get to Scotland this year although he was not able to be at the Gathering. Guy is a professor of political science and law and Assistant Professor of Government and Foreign Affairs at Hampden-Sydney College, and the author of *The Safeguard of Liberty and Property*. A busy man, he is lecturing in the US and is currently in Los Angeles speaking on Solzhenitsyn's condemnation of the Russian Revolution of 1917 - 100 years ago next month!



In addition to both being Burnetts, (we did manage to walk out to the Crannog), we had other common interests of which one was golf and we had a relaxed contest at Inchmarlo



One of Guy's many interests has been research into the Battle of Waterloo. He was able to find 4 Burnetts (James, George, John, and William) from Scotland (a few others from England) who were in the Gordons. Two were killed in action. (he believes one at Quatre-Bras the day before), and one other was wounded. He sent copies of the Waterloo muster roll sheet with their names on the rolls of one of the most pivotal battles in history.



STEPHEN BURNETT

There have been many occasions when by chance I have met up in the Castle with visiting Burnetts. Maybe it demonstrates how many to come here. Last week I was pleased to meet Stephen Burnett from Indiana and Sarah Heckenkant who sadly had little time to spend before moving to elsewhere in Scotland



WENDY AND BONNIE LANE

Bonnie Lane, with her daughter Wendy, visited us in 2015 and I was very pleased that she returned last month with her other daughter Tammy. We did the walk to the Crannog which is one of the essentials for visiting Burnetts. Tammy enjoyed her first visit to Scotland so much that she thought that she might immigrate!



A HAIRY POND MONSTER SEEN AT CRATHES SCHOOL

Many of those who attended the Gathering and walked towards the Crannog, will have been addressed by our Countryside Ranger, Thys Simpson. He has sent me the following for the Banner.

In 2017 the Crathes Primary school, situated in the middle of Leys Estate, had the exiting chance to look and learn about the local wildlife around their school in a different and new way. In a project sponsored by Scottish Natural Heritage and with the help of the Leys Estate Countryside Ranger Thys Simpson, the children from the Primary classes 3, 4 and 5 used a wildlife camera to spot what wildlife moves about the school at night or when they are in the classroom. The results were impressive with Roe Deer, Badger, Wood mice, Voles as well as a wide variety of birds from Robins, Dunnock to Jay's and Pidgeon's and Jackdaws were spotted.

One of the camera locations was near the pond in the school's wildlife garden and the backside of a very hairy animal was filmed. Although a few suggestions, actual footage with positive identification was not possible. The children who were part of the project named it "The Hairy Pond Monster" in the end to everybody's satisfaction. Although we did not win the competition, the pupil engagement with the project was superb as all the children were very keen to see the results each time and talked about their findings on the playground and at home with their parents, relatives and friends.

The eagle eyed amongst you may spot the familiar face of Hester Burnett, her red hair maybe used to identify her, during the switching on of the wildlife camera at the pond location.



James C A Burnett of Leys

INFORMATION REQUIRED JOHN BURNETT & MARJORY MURDOCH

I recently noticed an enquiry from a Burnett descendant living in Birmingham Michigan who is seeking information on her ancestors, John Burnett and his wife Marjory Murdoch. The only informaton she has is a marriage date in 1755 at Tyrie, Aberdeenshire and their children Lauchlan b.1794, John b.1759, Elizabethh b.1765 and Madaline b.767

All we have been able to discover is that John was resident in Aberdour in 1755. There is a Tyrie burial record which states that on 31st August 1794, a John Burnet from Ardlah was buried. Witnesses were George Scot & George McPherson both in Ardlah. Taking account of the handwriting in these records, "Ardlah" may refer to Ardlaw which was in the nearby Aberdour area. e.g. Mains of Ardlaw.

If any reader can be of assistance, please let me know and I will pass on the information

Editor



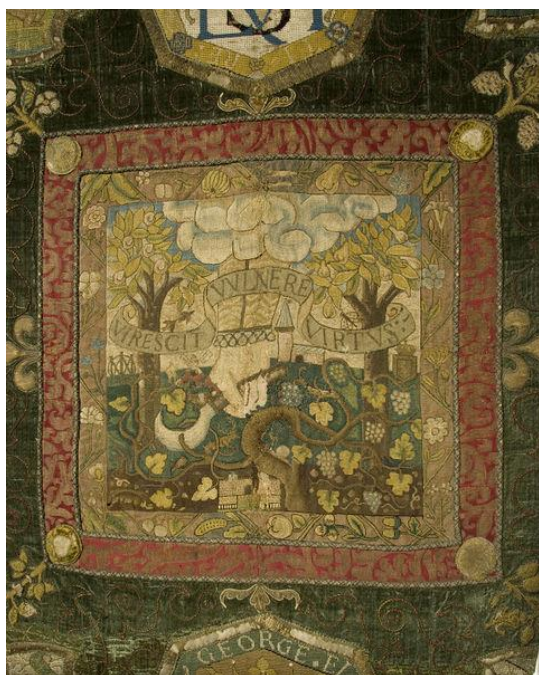
PRUNING AND PELICANS KEITH BURNETT

Earlier this year I strode up to Edinburgh castle, ambled into the room where Mary Queen of Scots supposedly gave birth to the future James VI/I, and pulled up sharp when I spotted the recreation of the enormous tapestry which she made while in captivity in England. There in the middle was a design I associated with the Burnetts, not the Stuarts; true, we shared a motto, but the backdrop usually employed by Stuarts refers to the legend of the pelican plucking flesh from her own breast to feed her young, not the hand pruning vines seen in this design. Could this, perhaps, indicate Jacobite leanings in our ancestry? As a historian I know the dangers of jumping to conclusions, but this was all too tempting – so I consulted an expert. We have an expert who we can claim as our own in the form of Ross Herald Extraordinary, Charles Burnett. Charles soon set me straight as regards conspiracy theories, demonstrating that both motto and artwork had been rather more fluid during the time that Mary was wielding her needle.

Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, for instance, informs us that in 1550 Burnet of

Burnetland (in the Borders of Scotland) took Burnet of Leys to court in front of Lyon Sir David Lyndsay of the Mount, arguing that Leys should not use the *Virescit vulnere virtus* motto as he, Burnet of Burnetland, was the senior Burnet Representer. For a while the Burnets of Leys used an alternative motto, *Alterius non sit qui potest esse suus* (also a motto used by Paracelsus, curiously enough) – so the 'VVV' has not always been a fixture shared by Burnetts and Stuarts.

The Stuarts may have beaten us to the pruning-hand-and-vine design too. Charles knows of a medal in the National Museum of Scotland showing the Arms of Scotland on the obverse with MARIA DEI G SCOTOR REGINA (Maria, by the grace of God Queen of Scotland) in the exergue, and on the reverse the hand pruning the vine with VIRESCIT VULNERE VIRTUS inscribed round the edge, dating from 1557. The 'Marian Hanging', now on permanent loan from the V&A to Oxburgh Hall in Norfolk, was sewn later between 1569 and about 1585. It appears that Burnetts adopted it later still, since the earliest carved panel with the full Burnett Achievement of motto, crest, shield and supporters was carved after 1626 when Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia. Compared to some other Scottish families the Burnetts of Leys came to heraldry quite late and only through a significant marriage into money could the family move from a crannog on a loch to a substantial stone-built fortified house, after all.



So, is there evidence of rebellious minds in this coincidence of design? Probably not. As Professor Michael Bath points out, printed *Emblem Books* were in fairly popular use by artists and embroiders amongst 16th century intelligentsia, and Mary evidently had access to an interesting range of graphical sources – as the presence of toucans and cockatrices on the same embroidery is testament to. Several of these emblems became, in due course the crests of Scottish families; for example an ostrich holding a horseshoe in its beak had appeal as there was a belief that an ostrich could eat anything, thus becoming a symbol for fortitude used by Lady Saltoun, Head of the House of Fraser. It is just as possible that the emblematic nature of the pruning hand, and the motto, was taken up by the Burnetts not because of any Marionite or Jacobite leanings, but because the symbolism appealed to them. That said, the heraldry alone doesn't *disprove* any such sympathies...

For more detail see Michael Bath (2008) *Emblems for a Queen: The Needlework of Mary Queen of Scots*. Archetype Publications: London. ISBN 978-1904982364



MONBODDO WITH ROBERT BURNS AND LADY FRIENDS

I was recently given a photograph of this picture which hangs in the Castle Hotel in Huntly. I can only assume it is of Lord Monboddo's drawing room, as he appears to be the host. Of interest are the ladies in the picture.



Picture by courtesy of the Meiklejohn Family
of the Castle Hotel, Huntly

Jane, Duchess of Gordon

Jane's father has been depicted as a drunk who allowed his family to exist in poverty in Edinburgh while he sold most of his vast estate. She was strikingly beautiful, intelligent and with a good sense of humour. She married Alexander Gordon, 4th Duke of Gordon, who had inherited a considerable fortune and the title at the age of nine. She had earlier fallen in love with the future Lord Lovat, but he was supposedly killed in America. Only during her honeymoon with Gordon, did she receive a marriage proposal from Lovat who was still very much alive.

The Duke and Duchess lived at Gordon Castle in Morayshire which was enlarged to be one of the largest homes in Scotland and where she entertained on a lavish scale. It was in her drawing room that Robert Burns first read his poetry to Edinburgh society, and she became his chief sponsor, purchasing all his early published works.

She fulfilled high ambitions for the marriages of her daughters. Georgiana became engaged to Francis Russell, 5th Duke of Bedford, but he died before they could marry and so she married his younger brother, the 6th Duke. She sought to have Charlotte married to William Pitt, the Prime Minister, but this failed and she eventually married the future 4th Duke of Richmond. Susan married 5th Duke of Manchester.

Jane planned to have Louisa married to the eldest son of General Cornwallis, who had been created a Marquess. However, Cornwallis refused to approve, claiming madness in the Gordon family. The Duchess confessed that the Duke was not Louisa's father and the marriage proceeded. Madeleine, the second daughter, only managed to find a Baronet, Sir Robert Sinclair.

But her outstanding achievement was the raising of the Gordon Highlanders Regiment. This success may have been partially due to a bet she had with the future King George IV that she could raise more men to form a regiment than the Government. To recruit, she toured Scotland organising reels. Anyone who joined in the dancing also joined the regiment and received the recruiting payment of a King's Shilling from between the Duchess's lips. The regiment continued until 1994 when it was amalgamated into The Highlanders.

Mrs Dunlop

Frances Dunlop, born Wallace and a descendant from a brother of William Wallace,

She suffered from depression after becoming widowed to John Dunlop or Dunlop. She was given a copy of some of Burns's poems and wrote to him offering to assist with his work. He accepted and they remained friends until the poet's death. There is

much recorded between them and Mrs Dunlop became godmother to Burn's son. Burns's many letters to Mrs Dunlop included his poem Auld Land Syne. Another refers to her godson. *"I myself am delighted with the manly swell of his little chest, and a certain miniature dignity in the carriage of his head & the glance of his fine black eye, which promises the undaunted gallantry of an Independent Mind."*

Peggy Chalmers

Undoubtedly one of the great loves of the poet, Peggy turned down a proposal of marriage from Burns. His fondness for her, both physically and intellectually, is undoubted. His letters include *"I just now have read yours. The poetic compliments I pay cannot be misunderstood. They are neither of them so particular as to point you out to the world at large; and the circle of your acquaintances will allow all I have said. Besides I have complimented you chiefly, almost solely, on your mental charms. Shall I be so plain with you? I will; so look to it. Personal attractions, madam, you have much above par; wit, understanding and worth, you possess in the first class. This is a cursed flat way of telling you these truths, but let me hear no more of your timidity."* Her 'timidity' was over Burns's proposed publication of the songs he had written to her. *My Peggy's Face, My Peggy's Form.*

Despite being turned down, they remained close and shortly before she was married, Burns wrote *"... when I think I have met with you and have lived more of real life with you in eight days than I can do with almost anybody I meet with in eight years — when I think on the improbability of meeting you in this world again — I could sit down and cry like a child!"*

Eliza Burnett was Monboddo's beautiful daughter and Burns's favourite Edinburgh Belle. Her relationship with Burns is already known to most Burnetts and Banner readers.

*Fair Burnet strikes th' adoring eye,
Heaven's beauties on my fancy shine,
I see the Sire of love on high,
And own his work indeed divine.*

