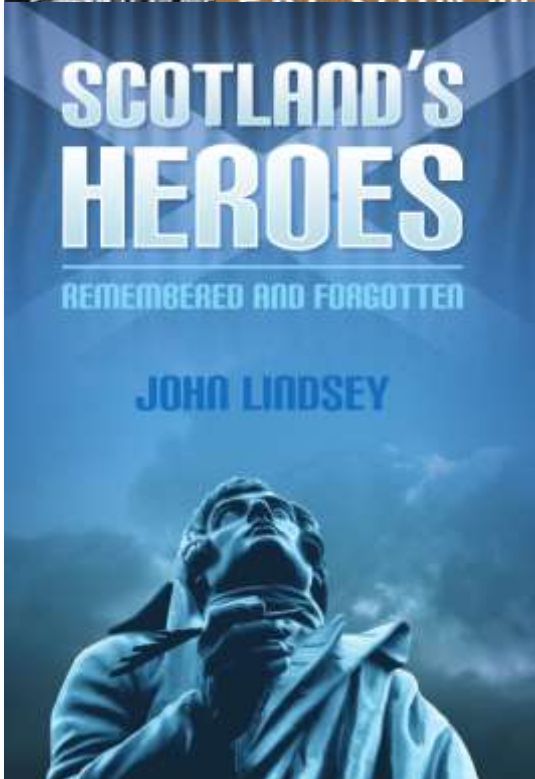
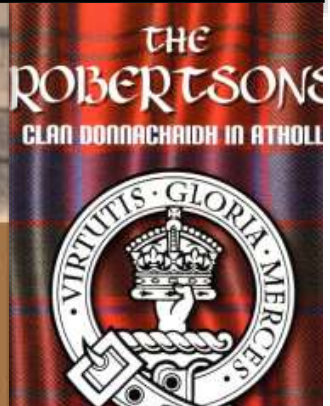


# Scotland: non-fiction & facton



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# Social history

# A Vintage Port

## Reflections on a *Clydeside* Childhood

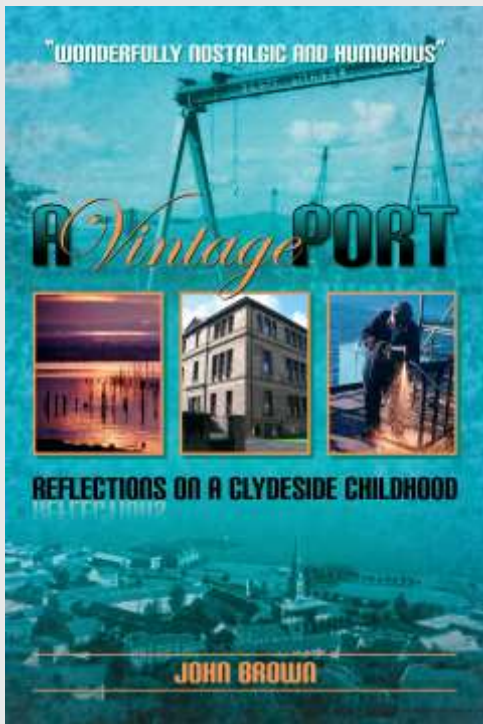
**John Brown**

Scottish social history ISBN 978-1-904440-89-5

Paperback 145pp RRP: £7.99

John Brown's wonderfully nostalgic and humorous collection of memories and anecdotes recalls growing up amidst the tenements of Port Glasgow in the Forties and Fifties. Close-knit families and camaraderie; simple pleasures and the often harsh working conditions of the shipyards.

Many readers will be reminded of such delights as pre-Christmas visits to Glasgow, including Fergusons in Union Street, and the magic of the festive-season menagerie.



Also recalled are the many youthful games, songs and forms of play of the time.

The book evokes an affection for Clydeside not long after World War II. It is crammed with the sights, sounds and smells of a time when life was very different and a basic sense of honour was present.

A reminder of a time when "stress" was nothing more than a word used in engineering science!

# A Case of Export

## Reflections on a Clydeside Childhood

**John Brown**

Scottish social history ISBN 978-1-909238-41-1

Paperback 152pp RRP: £7.99

In *A Vintage Port*, John Brown recalled his early life in Greenock and Port Glasgow – twin towns clinging to the south bank of the River Clyde - reminiscing about his childhood and early days in Port Glasgow.

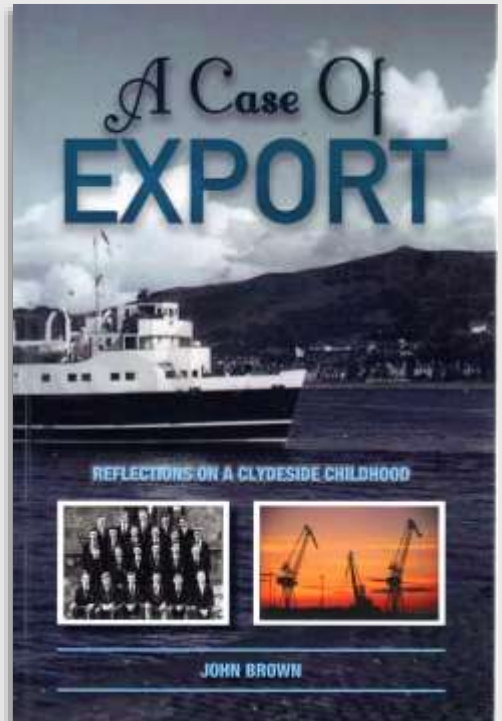
In *A Case of Export*, John continues his story.

Education at Greenock Academy affords him greater opportunities, not only in education but also social activities. The many friends he makes there – fellow students, teachers and ministers – will greatly influenced his subsequent career.

University follows at a time when the computer age is dawning.

The family move to the south of England – opening up job opportunities for both father and son.

After a successful career in electronics, John returns to Scotland, always remembering the humour and way of life of his hometowns even though the twenty-first century has brought great change.



# The Depression Boy

## Growing up in Glasgow in 1920s & 1930s

Alex Clark

Scottish social history ISBN 978-1-904440-72-7

Paperback 222pp RRP: £9.99

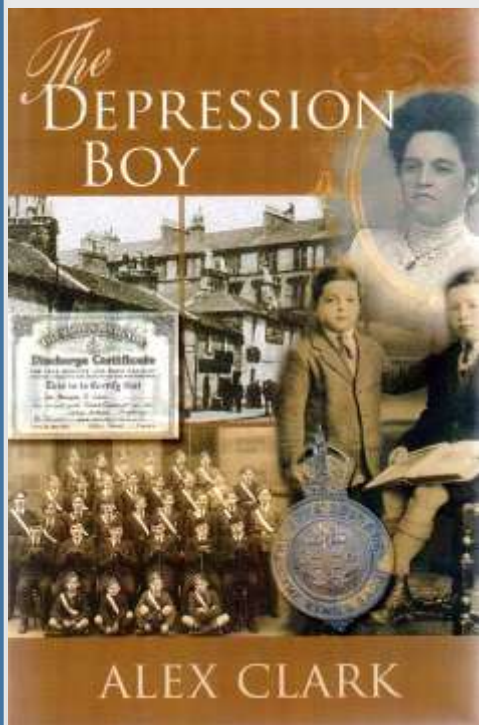
In the 1920's, depression wrapped the city of Glasgow like a cloak. Jobs were hard to find and the rent man was never far away, but it was with an unassailable optimism that Glaswegians lived their lives and brought up their children. Alex Clark, born in 1920 in a Partick tenement, close to the shipyards, is a typical example of a boy born in the depression. Young Alex was clever and a good footballer, he attended Hutchesons' Grammar School for as long as the family could afford it.

The author's account of his early years describes the poverty and struggles that were part of daily life. He joined the Boys Brigade, which

became an integral part of his life, and was awarded the King's Medal for his achievements; the self-discipline he acquired helped form his character, so important in later life. (In *Almost A Hero* he describes his wartime activities and capture during the Battle of Crete.)

Though times were tough, there is never a hint of self-pity. Simple enjoyments were savoured in a way it is hard to appreciate today.

Lavishly illustrated by many unpublished pictures, Alex Clark's narrative is a valuable contribution to the life of a unique city during a low time in its history.



# Eighty Years In The Highlands

## The Life & Times of Osgood Mackenzie of Inverewe

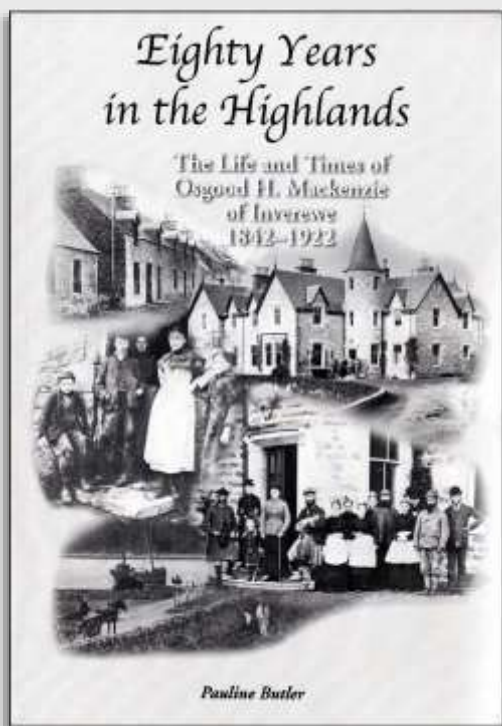
**Pauline Butler**

Scottish social history/horticulture ISBN 978-1-906775-13-1  
Paperback 400pp RRP: £14.99

From 1863 Osgood Hanbury Mackenzie created and developed a garden at Inverewe, on the remote north-west coast of Scotland. It has become famous for the variety and rarity of plants grown 'in a region in which it had not been thought possible for them to exist'. However, few of the thousands who visit Inverewe appreciate his significant role as a 'heritor' in the Wester Ross community of Gairloch and Poolewe, or know of his interests in farming, natural history and Gaelic culture.

Pauline Butler details Osgood Mackenzie's life in the context of the local area, taking us from his childhood in the 1840s, years of destitution and famine, through the crofting and Poor Law, religious and education reforms of the later 1800s and into the widening horizons of the 20th century.

Contemporary photographs, most previously unpublished, illustrate the personal and public life, the drama (e.g. when his Mansion House went up in flames) and poignancy of this complex man. A fascinating and valuable contribution to our understanding of the Highlands during his lifetime.



# Madgie: A Life In Farming

Marjory MacQueen, with Jane Macaulay

Scottish social history/farming ISBN 978-1-909238-52-7  
Paperback 94pp RRP: £7.99

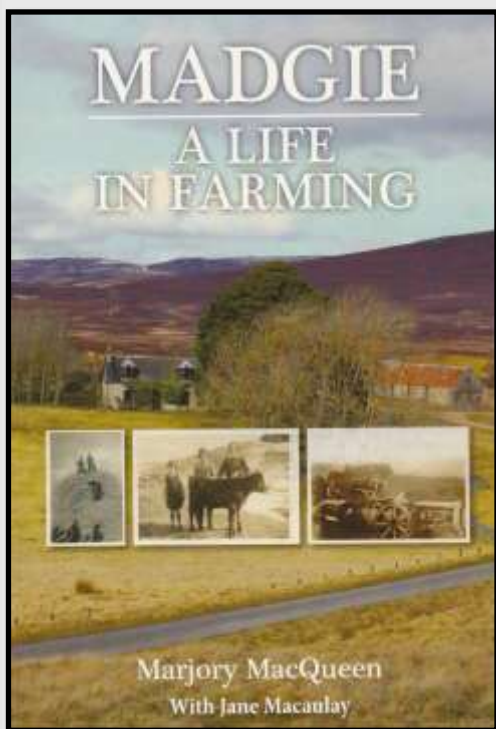
Marjory (Madgie) MacQueen was born in 1923 on her parents' farm in the hills above Dulnain Bridge in Strathspey. The eldest of three girls, she helped her father from an early age, taking over the farm after his death. Madgie was a prominent member of the farming community, a breeder of Highland ponies and one-time president of the local agricultural show at Grantown-on-Spey.

Madgie's descriptions of life on a Highland farm in the 1930s and 1940s highlight the unrelenting toil that was the norm - mechanization was just beginning to be embraced. What comes across is her great sense of fun and the enjoyment she took from working at the harvest, the

threshing mill and other jobs, as well as from convivial evenings with farming neighbours.

Madgie died in 2016 aged 92, having dictated her memoirs to the author. She leaves behind a valuable account of a long-gone way of life that sustained many upland communities in Scotland and beyond.

Jane Macaulay, grew up on a Strathspey farm and knew Madgie all her life. It was her idea to transcribe Madgie's memories and the character of this well-known, extrovert lady comes through strongly on every page.





# Cawnpore To Cromar

## The MacRoberts of Douneside

**Marion Miller**

Scottish social history/military ISBN 978-1-909238-09-1

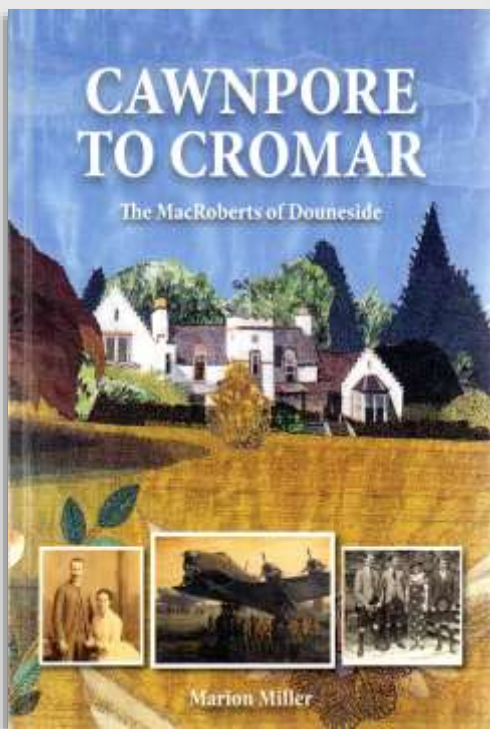
Paperback 208pp RRP: £12.99

*A comprehensive biography of an important Scottish family whose success and generosity has greatly benefited a large number of people.*

In the darkest days of World War II, Rachel MacRobert's very personal challenge to the Nazis inspired the British public to battle on. Alone, without a husband by her side and mourning the loss of her three aviator sons, she travelled the country to raise morale.

But words were not enough: with boldness and imagination this American from Massachusetts, who made Aberdeenshire her home, took the fight to the enemy by donating a warplane to the RAF.

This book sheds new light upon the legend of MacRobert's Reply and tells the extraordinary and colourful stories of Sir Alexander MacRobert and his first wife Georgina. 'Mac' may have begun life in a tenement in Aberdeen, but he turned an ailing woollen mill in India into one of the most successful enterprises in the British Empire. He was the creator of a vast fortune and his endowment, along with other land and property assets, formed the basis of one of the United Kingdom's major charitable trusts. The MacRobert Trust is still based in Tarland today.



# Leaning on a Gate

## The Writings of Elizabeth Macpherson

Illustrated by Eva Skea

Scottish social history/farming ISBN 978-1-904440-62-8

Paperback 250pp RRP: £9.99

Elizabeth and Ian Macpherson took the tenancy of a small upland farm on the edge of the Dava Moor in 1938. Ian, whose novels made a significant contribution to Scottish literature, combined his writing with broadcasting and farming.

On his death in 1944, Elizabeth took to writing a weekly column in *The Bulletin and Scots Pictorial* under the title of *Leaning On A Gate*. When *The Bulletin* ceased publication she then wrote a column entitled *In The Country* for *The Glasgow Herald*.

During the course of the next thirty years, Elizabeth Macpherson's

produced in her articles some of the most evocative and descriptive writing about the countryside, her animals and the farming practices of the day. Always perceptive and with a gentle humour, she leaves a vivid picture of the hard physical life which was the lot of the farmer during the Forties and Fifties.

This selection forms a tribute to her skill as a writer and is a valuable record of a way of life gone for ever.

### LEANING ON A GATE



Elizabeth Macpherson

Illustrated by Eva Skea

**General**

# Rivers Running Far

## The Story of Those Who Went Away

**Hugh Allison**

Scottish ancestry & social history ISBN 978-1-904440-70-3

Paperback 225pp RRP: £12.99

Taking his own family as an example, Hugh Allison looks at the factors influencing the Scots' immigration and identifies the questions with which anyone can begin to investigate their own forebears.

Hugh Allison follows the stories of hundreds of emigrants, including some of his own extensive family, many of whom emigrated to Australia and America, from the early eighteenth century up to the present day. Their stories are typical of the Scottish diaspora and while they probably raise more questions than answers the thought prevails that Scots never considered emigration as a permanence. Their heritage and family ties remain undiminished down through the generations and "Scottishness" touches the lives of tens of millions of people around the world.

This book will help many Scots whose families are scattered round the globe and are now brought closer through modern communications and the ease of "ancestral tourism". It will encourage many to trace their ancestors satisfying the question "where did I come from?"



# Scotland's Heroes

## Remembered & Forgotten—Scotland's Statues

**John Lindsey**

Scottish social history/travel ISBN 978-1-904440-87-1

Paperback 258pp RRP: £14.99

John Lindsey reveals the background of the many personalities honoured with a statue in Scotland.

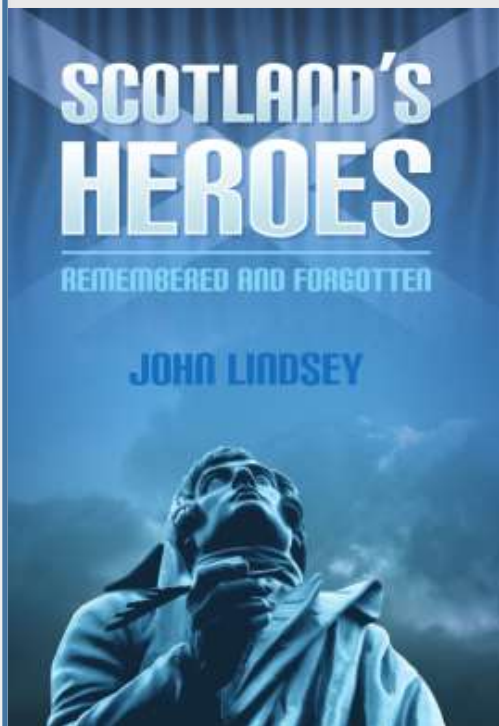
With great historical accuracy and humour he takes the reader on a journey across Scotland, disclosing little-known facts about the figures of William Wallace, Andrew Carnegie as well as such stalwarts as Desperate Dan and Grey Friars Bobby.

There are some names you might not expect: a dog, a cow, a woman doctor who spent her whole life convincing everyone she was a man, and a 'hero' who would now probably be imprisoned for cruelty.

In Robert Burns, Scotland has a man honoured with more statues world-wide than perhaps any other figure - certainly than any other poet.

Essential reading for anyone interested in Scottish history and the personalities who had such an influence in their native land and further afield. Its geographical layout makes it easy for the traveller to use as a reference book.

How many times have we said, 'I wonder who the statue is to?'



# From The Far Haaf to the Sma' Half

## A History of DCL—Distillers Company Limited

**John J Blanche**

Whisky/business history ISBN 978-1-906775-99-5

Paperback 424pp RRP: £14.99

Life on the Shetland Isles in the 19th century was harsh and unforgiving. Crippling tenancy agreements, poor living conditions and ferocious weather forced many families to wave goodbye to their children who left in search of a better way of life on the mainland.

This book tells the story of one such family. It offers a fascinating insight into the lives of Shetlanders through the ages. From humble beginnings in subsistence crofting, the family grows into a veritable business success with their own retail chain and distillery.

Embodying a wealth of commercial wisdom, the tale begins in Shetland and, after witnessing ground-breaking developments in the distilling and retail worlds, returns full-circle for the building of Shetland's first distillery.



# The Story Of Nethy Bridge

**Jane Macaulay**

Scottish social history/tourism ISBN 978-1-909238-05-3  
Paperback 126pp RRP: £8.99

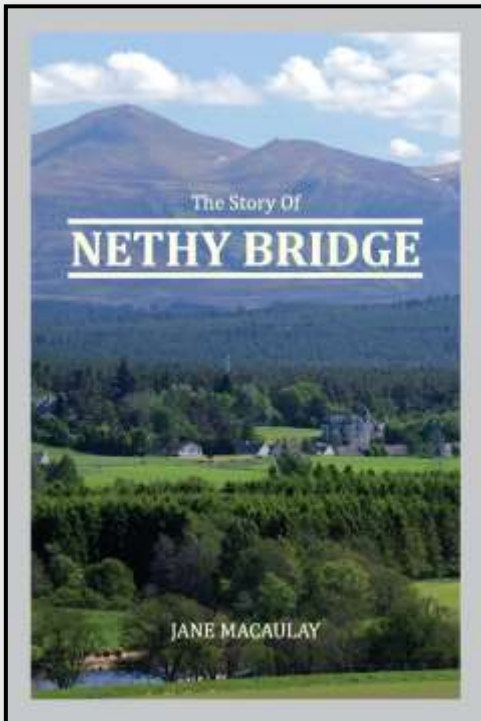
**An ideal history for visitors to, or residents of, Nethy Bridge.**

In 1810, Thomas Telford, the famous Scottish engineer, designed the bridge over the river Nethy, thus giving a name and easy access to the scattered settlement sheltering in the shadow of the Cairngorm mountains. Nethy Bridge, one of the most scenic villages in the Highlands, has since become a mecca for tourists, sportsmen and wildlife enthusiasts.

The author, Jane Macaulay, was born in the village and is the fifth generation of her family to live there. She has drawn on local archives as well as many conversations with members of the community to produce this history .

She relates how changes in land ownership, the influence of two world wars, the coming of the railway and the influx of new families have all played their part in its development.

Like all villages, change is endemic. As she writes: 'One thing is certain: we can't go back, but we can move forward without forgetting all the things that make up our heritage.'



# The Great Moray Floods of 1829

**Sir Thomas Dick Lauder**

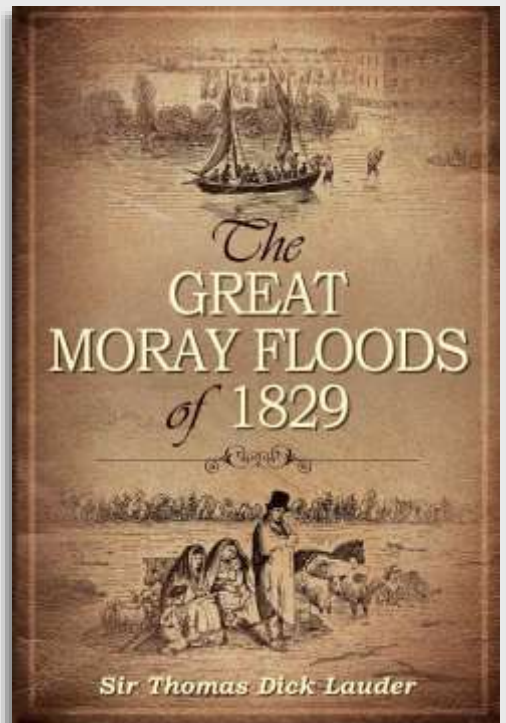
Scottish history ISBN 978-1-904440-26-0

Paperback 432pp RRP: £14.99

In spite of the floods caused by modern day global warming, the greatest floods ever to have hit the North of Scotland occurred in August 1829. Heavy rains deluged the lands from Wick to the Grampian Mountains. A combination of drought, followed by freak weather conditions caused the rivers especially in Moray, Banffshire and Inverness-shire to rise to levels never experienced before or since.

Sir Thomas Dick Lauder's account meticulously records the events leading up to the storm and the disasters caused by the flood. Using many local sources of information, he paints a picture of a community fighting to save their belongings and rescue their livestock. For many it was a matter of life or death.

The beautifully drawn etchings and maps record just how immense the floods were and how terrifying it must have been to have lived through them.





# The Robertsons

## Clan Donnachaidh in Atholl

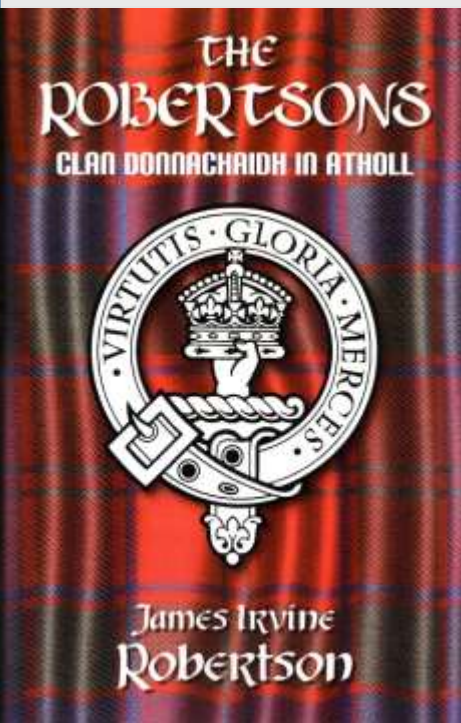
### James Irvine Robertson

Scottish social history/ancestry ISBN 978-1-904440-63-5

Paperback 109pp RRP: £9.99

The Clan Donnachaidh bears some of the most renowned and recognizable family names in Scotland. As Scots sought a new life beyond their native shores, so the Robertsons, Duncans, Reids, McRoberts and many others settled in far flung countries of the world.

But clanship forges an unbreakable link. For those who ventured abroad, and for those who remained in clan country amidst the beautiful hills, lochs, heather and forests of Atholl, it's world-wide association remains as strong a bond as ever.



This history forms a further bond in the chain of kinship for all members of Clan Donnachaidh, wherever they may be. It will serve as a reference for them, as well as for their generations to come.

# Biography/Autobiography

# The Pioneer Flying Achievements of Preston Watson

**Alastair W Blair & Alistair Smith**

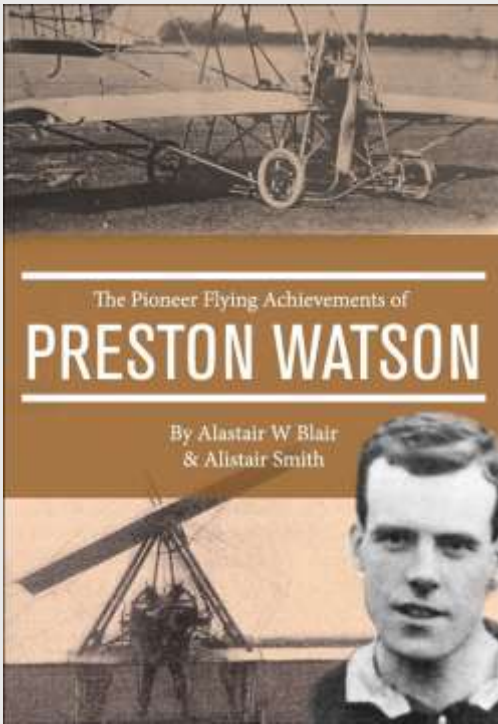
Aviation history/biography ISBN 978-1-909238-48-0  
Paperback 192pp RRP: £12.99

At the turn of the 19th century, what was to become the aviation industry was the preserve of a few enthusiastic amateurs whose ambition to be the first fly bordered on obsession. The Wright brothers, Otto Lillienthal, Percy Pilcher and others were on the cusp of success.

Preston Watson was born in Dundee in 1881 and from an early age showed an innovative interest in developing a flying machine which could take off and land under its own power. While records are incomplete, many believe that Watson beat the Wright brothers into the air by a margin of months in 1903. His unique rocking-wing aircraft was

launched, with the engine at full power, by a simple catapult device. His subsequent two machines aimed to improve this performance. He is credited with inventing the joystick – the idea is still in use in every aircraft today.

Determining who was first to fly is not the objective of this book. Rather, it records the hitherto unsung efforts of this son of Dundee whose short life – he died aged thirty-four – had a significant influence on the history of aviation.



# The Poet Chief

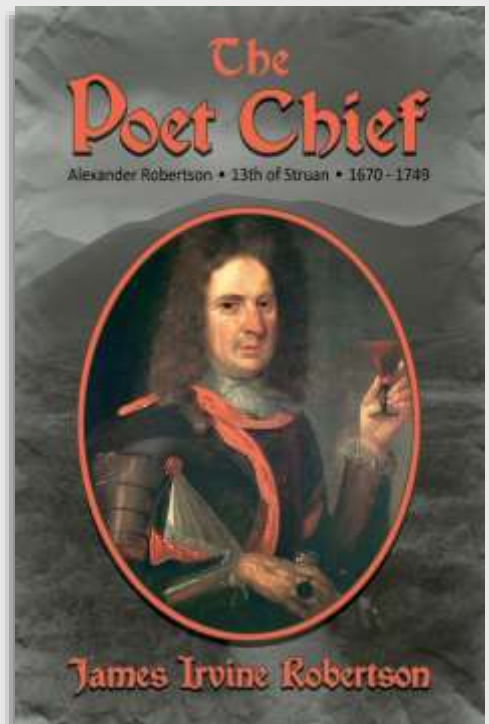
**Alexander Robertson 13th of Struan, 1670-1749**

**James Irvine Robertson**

Scottish history/biography ISBN 978-1-906775-27-8  
Paperback 178pp RRP: £12.99

In 1749, having made his peace, an old man was dying. His bed lay amid the remains of a burnt-out cottage on the southern shore of Perthshire's Loch Rannoch. So was ending the life of Alexander Robertson, 13th of Struan, one of the most famous – some would say notorious – men in Scotland. The cause to which he had devoted his life lay in ruins and many of his followers had been killed in his service. He had been dispossessed and twice forced to flee to France under sentence of death, spending more than twenty years in exile. He was unique in having taken a prominent part in the three great Jacobite Risings on behalf of the banished Stuart kings. His legacy was debt, some poems and his own legend.

James Irvine Robertson's biography of Alexander Robertson, 13th of Struan, conveys the passionate feelings that the Stuart risings evoked in the Highlands over a century of political and armed conflict. Meticulously researched, and quoting from a large number of contemporary letters and accounts, the author conveys the tragedy of the Jacobite cause through the life of one of its most faithful participants.



# The Good Sir James

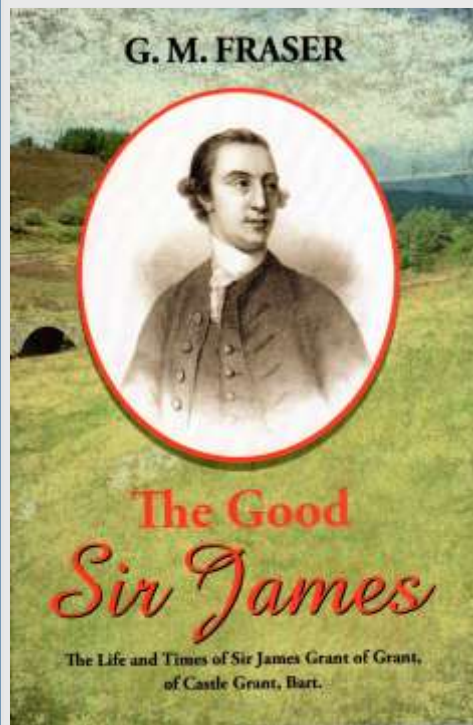
## The Life and Times of Sir James Grant of Grant, of Castle Grant, Bart.

**G M Fraser**

Scottish history/biography ISBN 978-1-906775-30-8  
Paperback 334pp RRP: £12.99

Life in the north of Scotland in the C18th was, for most, rudimentary at best. The national government was remote and local government unheard of, leaving social organization to the community.

James Grant of Grant was born at Castle Grant in 1738. In 1773 he inherited the vast Strathspey estate, extending from Lochindorb in the north to Aviemore in the south, as well as the large Urquhart estate. He was an MP, Lord Lieutenant of Inverness and raised two regiments for the Crown at the start of the French revolutionary war.



Academically brilliant and innovative, Sir James was a leader of the Age of Improvement, overseeing agricultural advances and even town planning when he established Grantown on Spey village.

During the 1782/3 famine Sir James' kept the population from starving by importing grain from the South, largely at his own expense.

Using the extensive Seafeld Muni-ments records, Martin Fraser vividly describes life during of the 18th century and Sir James' role in improving it for his tenants.

# Archibald Simpson, Architect

## His Life & Times

**David Miller**

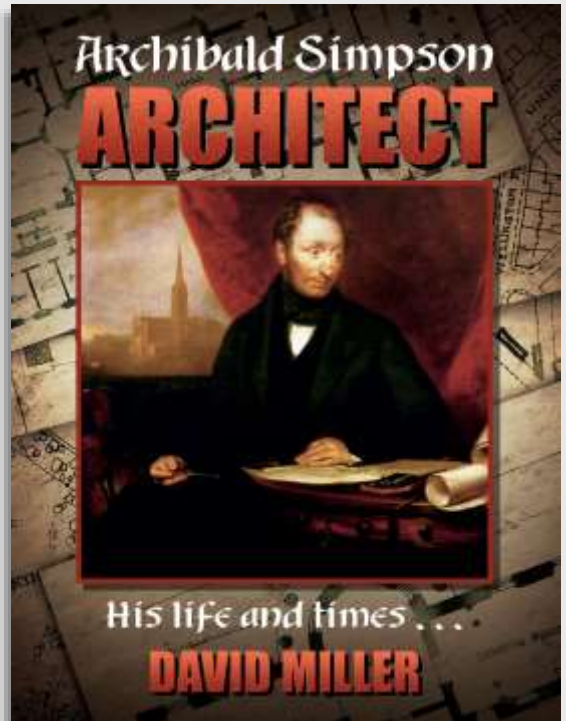
Architecture/biography ISBN 978-1-904440-84-0

Paperback 358pp £16.99

Archibald Simpson (1790-1847) is the man to whom Aberdeen owes its finest and most effective public buildings. He is one of Scotland's greatest local architects of modern times. The Royal Infirmary, Marischal College, the Athenaeum Buildings and The North of Scotland Bank are only a few of the projects that reflect his influence on the City.

Further afield, Simpson's genius can be seen in private houses and churches in the North East, most notably the Established Church in Elgin, the mansion House at Newe and the Duchess of Gordon's Schools in Huntly.

David Miller, himself an architect who lives in Aberdeen, has written this definitive account of Simpson's life and works, comprehensively illustrated showing many of his most important public buildings as well as more modest commissions. It is a long overdue tribute to a man who has greatly influenced the way the City has developed over the last two hundred years.



# Tudor Johnny, City Architect Of Aberdeen

## The Life & Works of John Smith

**David G Miller**

Architecture/biography ISBN 978-1-904440-97-0

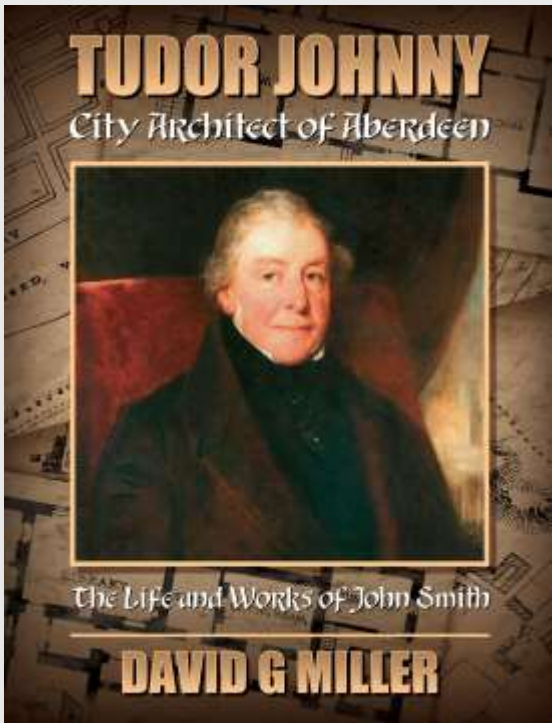
Paperback 448pp RRP: £19.99

John Smith – ‘Tudor Johnny’ – was born in 1781 to a master builder and architect in Aberdeen, the City over which he was to have a profound influence during his long career. John entered the family business and studied at first hand the wrights’ and masons’ skills. After a period training in London, the young Smith returned to Aberdeen, then in the throes of trebling in size. Smith’s work can be seen today as some of the city’s most important and memorable buildings - his commissions extend throughout the North East.

Smith’s reputation has, until now, been somewhat overshadowed by

that of his contemporary, Archibald Simpson, with whom he shared a friendly rivalry and often collaborated. In this book the David Miller examines the complete works of John Smith and places his output high up in the history of architecture.

David, also an architect, lives in Aberdeen and has been closely associated with the city’s buildings.



# Where's The Nurse

**Margaret Stewart**

Nursing/autobiography ISBN 978-1-904440-76-5

Paperback 166pp RRP: £6.99

***An entertaining, warm and true story of a long nursing career.***

Margaret Stewart began training at Glasgow Royal Infirmary in 1960. She tells of patients - old Mr Hickey who sharpened the blade of his cut-throat razor during the night watches; and little Anne Marie whose aim in life was to be a dancer until, at nine years of age, her leg was amputated.

Young men in the orthopaedic ward enlivened the strict discipline of the day, whilst the dreaded ward sisters lived up to their reputations.

Margaret moved onto district nursing in Aberdeen, discovering another Scotland and a different kind of nursing care.



A book full of unforgettable characters including: crabbit Miss Robertson; Bella and her hidden pot of gold; and Giovanni and his parrot.

The loving care of families, and the triumph of the human spirit over illness, make this an inspirational story told with a sense of humour and deep compassion. We laugh and cry with her as she relates tales tragic and comic, both so much a part of human life.



# This Is What I Look Like

**Theresa Talbot**

Entertainment/TV & radio/biography ISBN 978-1-905537-84-6  
Paperback 176pp RRP: £7.99

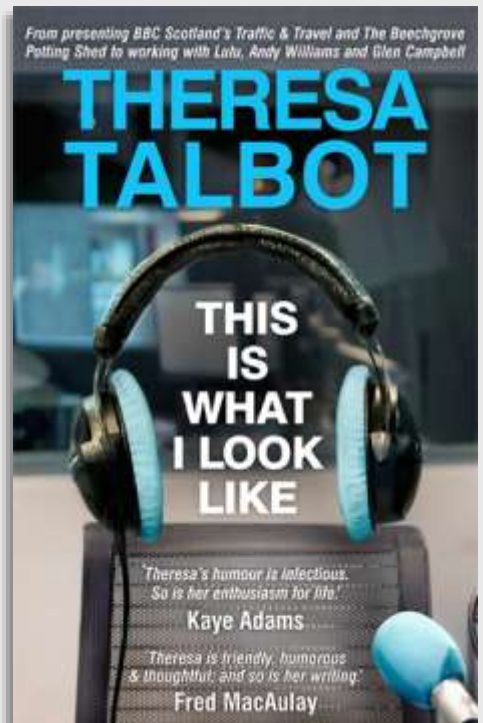
*From BBC Scotland's Traffic & Travel to working with Lulu, Andy Williams and Glen Campbell...via The Beechgrove Potting Shed and the Comedy Unit. This is an uplifting and hilarious memoir from one of Scotland's best-known radio voices.*

Theresa Talbot - 'TT' - is familiar to many as one of the leading voices behind BBC Radio Scotland's *Traffic & Travel* and as *The Beechgrove Potting Shed's* host. Yet few know what she looks like.

In this hugely entertaining voyage of self-discovery, Theresa tells of trying numerous occupations before eavesdropping on a No.66 bus...and thus ending up Radio Clyde, Q96 and the BBC, all via AA Roadwatch.

She recalls working with Lulu, bamboozling Andy Williams and having the chance to sing with Glen Campbell. Just as importantly, she confesses to her part in The Great Milk Float Robbery.

From an insider's guide to presenting *Traffic & Travel* to tips on rescuing chickens and having a stress-free Christmas.... One look at the Contents page and you'll know you're in for a treat.



**Military**

# The History of the 51st Highland Division

J B Salmond

**With subsequent history 1945-2013 by Dr Tom Renouf MM**

Military history ISBN 978-1-909238-49-7

Paperback 390pp RRP: £22.50

*'Of the many fine Divisions that served under me in the Second World War, none were finer than the Highland Division.'*

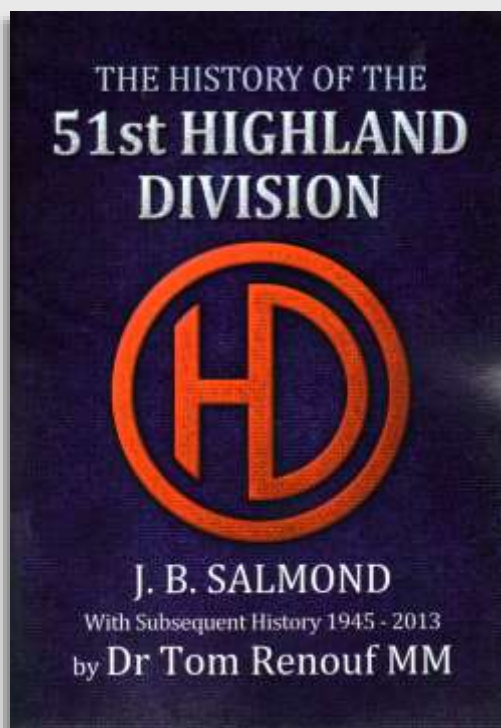
Field Marshal Montgomery

The 51st Highland Division was looked upon with admiration throughout the Allied Armies for its part in World Wars I & II. In Scotland it has become a potent symbol of national pride. The exploits of this famous Division are part of the very fabric of the country.

This outstanding history by JB Salmond was first published in 1953 and republished in 1995 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

This new edition, with World War I material by Neil Munro, will appeal to all those wanting to read more about these brave men.

Dr Tom Renouf has updated the history to 2013, recording the many poignant occasions when veterans of the Division have paid tribute to their fallen colleagues at memorials throughout Europe. The accompanying photographs confirm the deep loyalty of those who fought and the descendants of the civilians whose towns and villages the 51st liberated.



# A Cameron Never Can Yield

## A Prisoner of War's Escape from Germany to Gibraltar

**Gregor MacDonald**

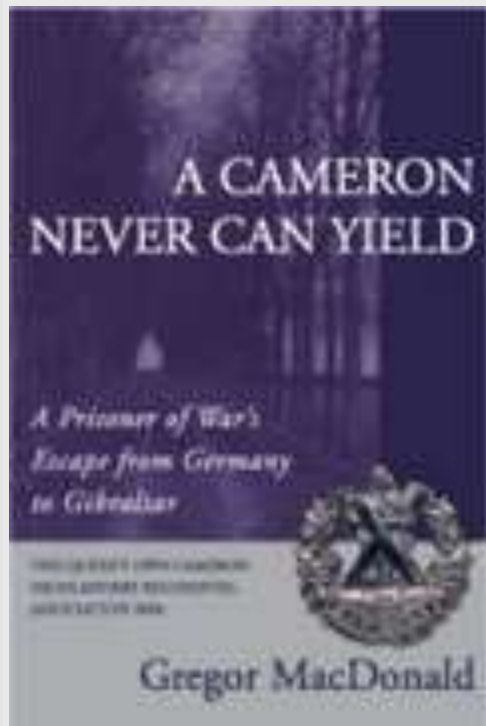
Military history ISBN 978-1-904440-55-0

Paperback 172pp RRP: £8.99

Gregor MacDonald, a native of the Isle of Harris, was recruited in the 4th Territorial Army Battalion of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in 1939. It was not long before the battalion was in the thick of action in France and the retreat and surrender of the 51st Highland Division at St Valery.

Then a prisoner of war, Gregor MacDonald decided to make a break at the first opportunity. He succeeded in escaping during the march from the front.

This personal account records Gregor's route through occupied territory, Vichy France through Spain to Gibraltar. His harrowing experiences en route, especially in the Spanish jail of Zaragoza, leave the reader in awe of his indomitable spirit.



# The Spirit Of The Troops Is Excellent

## The 6th (Morayshire) Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders in the Great War, 1914 -1919

**Derek Bird**

Military history ISBN 978-0-956022-30-1

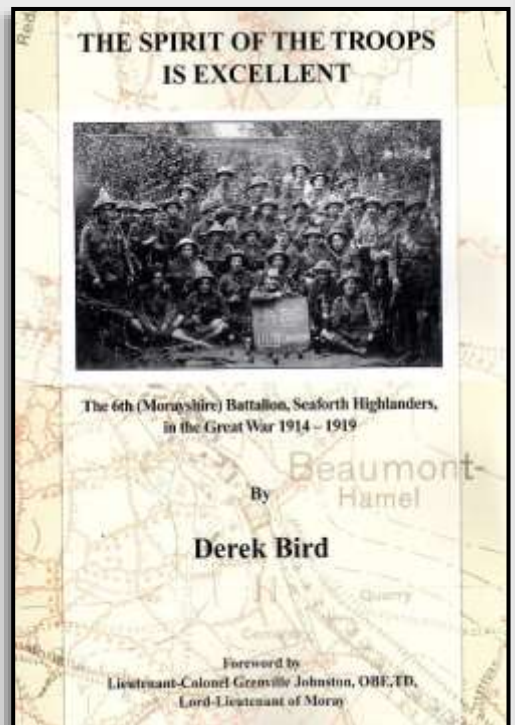
Paperback 266pp RRP: £18.99

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*Derek Bird has researched many aspects of the Great War and chairs the Scotland (North) Branch of the Western Front Association.*



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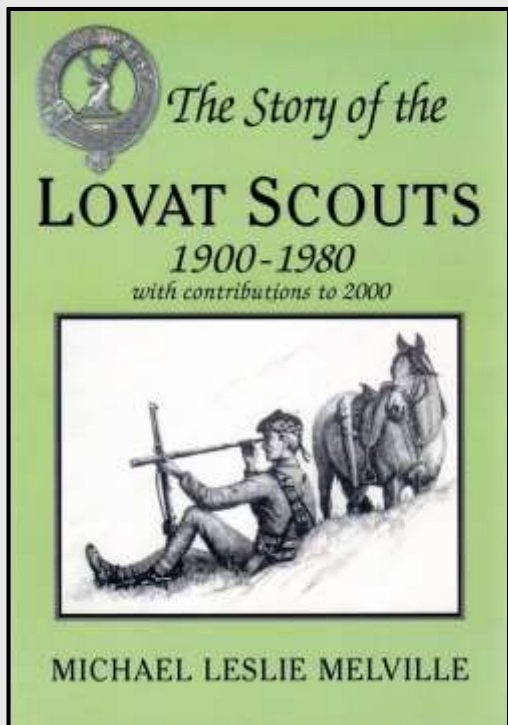
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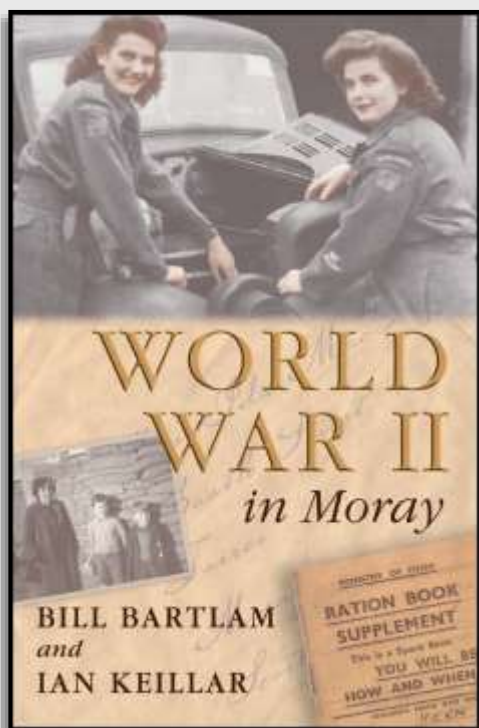
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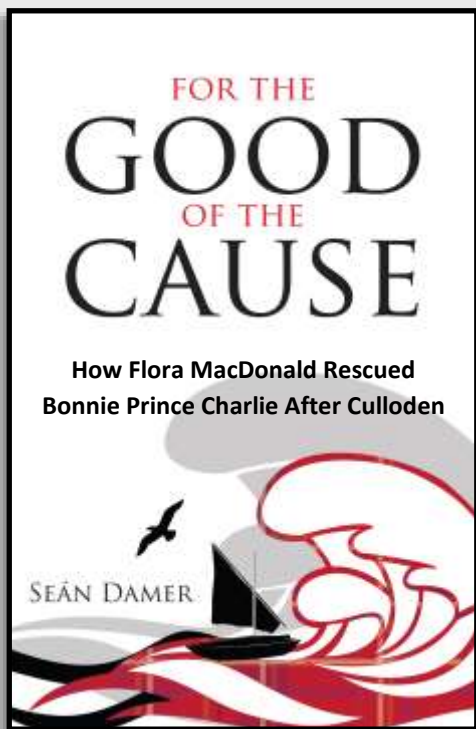
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