



# THE Living Memory Association NEWSLETTER

## Robert Burns 1759 - 1796



A Burns Supper.  
Photo courtesy of Kaihsu Tu.

This portrait of Burns, by Alexander Nasmyth has become the most well-known image of the famous poet.

Robert Burns was born in 1759, in Alloway. Like his father, Burns was a tenant farmer. He later became an excise collector in Dumfries. Burns lived on Ellisland farm in Dumfries.

### Address to a Haggis

Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face,  
Great Chieftain o' the Puddin'-race!  
Aboon them a' ye tak your place,  
Painch, tripe, or thairm:  
Weel are ye wordy of a grace  
As lang 's my arm...

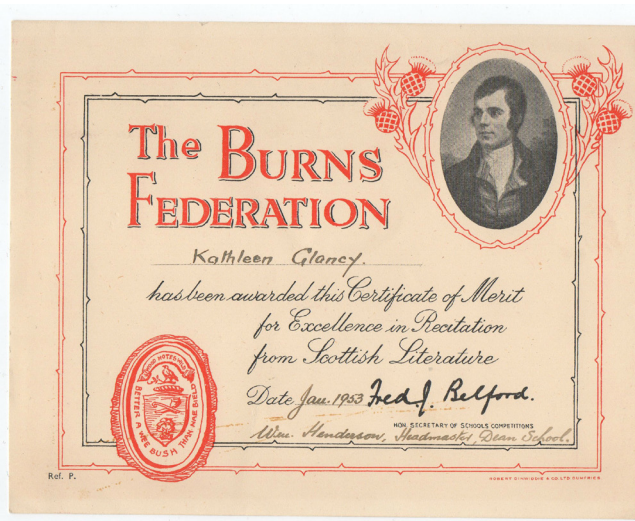
Haggis is made of the heart, liver and the lungs of a sheep, minced with onion, oatmeal, suet and spices, then mixed with stock, and cooked encased in the animal's stomach.





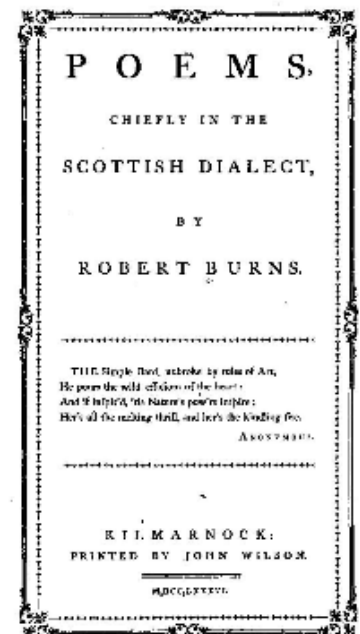
Burns' Cottage in Alloway, Ayrshire. This is where Robert Burns was born in 1759. He died in 1796 in Dumfries and is buried there.  
Photo courtesy of August Schwerdfager

The first Burns supper was held in July 1801 when nine of Burns' close friends got together to mark the fifth anniversary of their friend's death. It took place at Burns Cottage in Alloway and included a meal of haggis and performances of his work.



Burns Federation Certificate awarded to Kathleen Glancy in 1953.

Before his first collection of poetry – *Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect* – was published, he considered emigrating to Jamaica to work on a sugar plantation. But after the success of his book he decided to remain in Scotland and moved to Edinburgh instead.



Robert Burns was voted "The Greatest Scot" by viewers of Scottish TV (STV) in 2009. He beat other great Scottish figures, including William Wallace, Sir Alexander Fleming and Robert the Bruce.

## Tam O'Shanter

When chapmen billies leave the street,  
And drouthy neibors, neibors meet,  
As market days are wearing late,  
An' folk begin to tak the gate;  
While we sit bousing at the nappy,  
And getting fou and unco happy,  
We think na on the lang Scots miles,  
The mosses, waters, slaps, and styles,  
That lie between us and our hame,  
Where sits our sulky sullen dame,  
Gathering her brows like gathering storm,  
Nursing her wrath to keep it warm...



Tam drinks with Soutar Johnnie in Kirkton Jean's tavern.

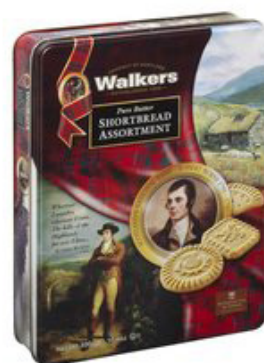


There are statues of Burns in places as far afield as New Zealand, Vancouver, Russia and Detroit.

There are more statues, monuments and memorials dedicated to Robert Burns than any other non-religious figure, after Queen Victoria and Christopher Columbus.

The statue photographed here is in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Queen Street.

A selection of some of the merchandise that Robert Burns' image has appeared on.



## Selkirk Grace

Some hae meat and canna eat,  
And some wad eat that want it,  
But we hae meat and we can eat,  
Sae let the Lord be Thankit!

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This is the entrance to the pend with The Globe Inn, a favourite howff of Robert Burns in Dumfries. It was established in 1610 and is one of the oldest working taverns in Scotland.



## Auld Lang Syne

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And auld lang syne!

For auld lang syne, my dear,  
For auld lang syne.  
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.

Auld Lang Syne is recognised by the Guinness Book of World Records as one of the top three most popular songs in the entire English language.



Do you have memories, stories,  
or photos you'd like to share?

Please get in touch:

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