Robert Burns







Robert Burns

Robert Burns was born in Scotland on 25th January 1759.

He is famous for writing poetry which is still read today. He also wrote folk songs which are also still enjoyed nowadays.

He wrote some poems in Scottish dialect. They were about all sorts of things including his beliefs about politics, the church and animals.



Robert Burns

Scottish people are very proud of Robert Burns and the things he achieved in his life. He is known as Scotland's national poet.

The Robert Burns Birthplace Museum is situated in the location of his first ever home in Scotland.

In the museum at Burns cottage, there are artefacts which were Burns' personal belongings such as his quills and manuscripts of his work.

There are even the pistols that he carried when he worked as a tax collector and needed them for protection!



Burns Night

Robert Burns is remembered and celebrated every year on January 25th, his birthday. As his work is famous all over the world, people in countries other than Scotland celebrate Burns Night, often with a Burns Supper.

Robert Burns wrote a poem called 'Address to a Haggis'. As a result, haggis is always part of a traditional Burns Supper, sometimes brought to the table on a silver plate while the bagpipes play.

A haggis is a savoury pudding made with sheep's stomach stuffed with minced sheep's liver, heart, lungs, oatmeal, onion and suet. Scotch Whisky will also be served.

Burns Night

Before tucking into your meal, either 'Address to a Haggis' or another (much shorter) Burns poem called 'The Selkirk Grace' might be said:

The Selkirk Grace

Some hae meat and canna eat, And some wad eat that want it; But we hae meat, and we can eat, And sae let the Lord be thankit.

A Burns night would not be complete without bagpipes!





Life for Robert Burns

Robert Burns died in 1796 at the age of 37. Although he is successful and popular today, this wasn't the case when he was alive.

Robert Burns wrote about what he believed and didn't worry about what others thought. Not everyone believed the same as he did so he had very few friends and struggled to get a job meaning he was very poor.

He had 12 children before he died and there are around 600 living descendants of his today.



