

St. Andrew Society of Colorado

Scottish Reading List for Children, Teens and Adults



www.coloradoscots.org

Following is a suggested reading list of books by Scottish authors or about Scottish themes for children, teens and adults, courtesy of the St. Andrew Society of Colorado. Some titles are listed in more than one category because reading abilities, maturity levels and interest areas vary among age groups.

NOTE: Not all of these books have been read by the list contributors. It is strongly recommended that adults preview these books for suitability before recommending and gifting to family and friends.

The list is FREE but a donation is requested via check or our web site payment system and would be greatly appreciated. Donations will be used for our scholarship program and other general functions. Our further goal is to encourage the proliferation of **Scottish book clubs** around North America.

Please contact the SASC at www.coloradoscots.org with any suggestions or questions you may have.

Happy reading...Aye!

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Pre-School and Kindergarten/Read-Aloud Picture Books (for adults to read to children)

- *A Child's Garden of Verses* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Always Room for One More* by Sorche Nic Leodhas and illustrated by Nonny Hogrogian (Winner of the Caldecott Medal)
- *An Illustrated Treasury of Scottish Folk and Fairy Tales* by Theresa Breslin and illustrated by Kate Leiper
- *Greyfriars Bobby* by Eleanor Atkinson (NOTE: There are multiple versions of this story including ones by Forbes MacGregor, Betty Kirkpatrick, Ruth Brown, Lavinia Derwent and Martin F. Cottam, Jan Bondeson, and David Ross.) There are also two film versions of this story.
- *Katie and the British Artists* by James Mayhew
- *Katie in Scotland* by James Mayhew
- *The Ghosts' Trip to Loch Ness* by Jacques Duquennoy
- *The Very Fine Clock* by Muriel Spark (author of *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* and illustrated by Edward Gorey – out of print; but used copies available)
- *The Wee Scot Book: Scottish Poems and Stories* by Aileen Campbell (illustrated by author; includes Old Scots Doric script with English translation; also available in cassette version in author's Scottish brogue and musical accompaniments)
- *Wee Gillis* by Munro Leaf and illustrated by Robert Lawson

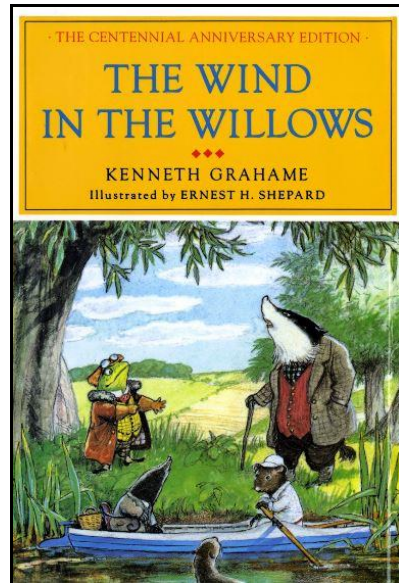
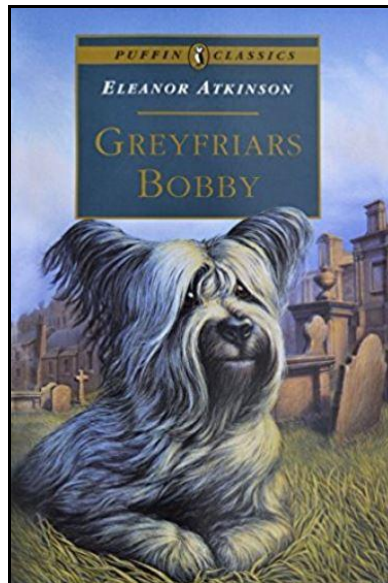
Early Readers (1st to 2nd Grades)

- *B is for Bagpipes: A Scotland Alphabet* by Eve Begley Kiehm and illustrated by Alexa Rutherford
- *Luck of the Loch Ness Monster: A Tale of Picky Eating* by Alice Weaver Flaherty and illustrated by Scott Magoon
- *Nessie the Loch Ness Monster* by Richard Brassey
- *Scottish Alphabet* by Rickey Pittman and illustrated by Connie McClennan
- *The Giant King* by Kathleen T. Pelley
- *This Is Edinburgh* by Miroslav Sasek (reprint)

Elementary School/Independent Young Readers (3rd Grade and Up)

- *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery
- *Children's Atlas of Scotland: Its Geography, People and Places* by Theodore Rowland-Entwist
- *Down the Bonny Glen* by Melissa Wiley (from the *Martha Years* series; illustrated by Renée Graef)
- *Edinburgh* (Horrible Histories series) by Terry Deary
- *Favorite Fairy Tales Told in Scotland* by Virginia Haviland and illustrated by Andrea Shine
- *Find Out About: The Celts: What life was like for the warlike tribes of Ancient Europe* by Fiona Macdonald
- *Greyfriars Bobby* by Eleanor Atkinson (NOTE: There are multiple versions of this story including ones by Forbes MacGregor, Betty Kirkpatrick, Ruth Brown, Lavinia Derwent and Martin F. Cottam, Jan Bondeson, and David Ross.) There are also two film versions of this story.
- *Hippocrene Children's Illustrated Scottish Gaelic Dictionary: English – Scottish Gaelic/ Scottish Gaelic – English*
- *Little House in the Highlands* by Melissa Wiley (from the *Martha Years* series; illustrated by Renée Graef)
- *Mary, Queen of Scots: Queen Without a Country, France, 1553* (The Royal Diaries series; some mature content; age level 9 and up)
- *Peter Pan* by James Matthew Barrie (and any of the many other works he wrote)
- *Scotland* (*Enchantment of the World* series) by R. Conrad Stein (ages 10 and up)
- *Scotland* (*Festivals of the World* series) by Jonathan Griffiths (no reading level listed)
- *Scotland* (Horrible Histories series) by Terry Deary
- *Stories from Scotland: Oxford Children's Myths and Legends* by Barbara Ker Wilson (grade level 4 and up)
- *The Clue of the Whistling Bagpipes* (*Nancy Drew Mystery Stories*, No. 41) by Carolyn Keene
- *The Far Side of the Loch* by Melissa Wiley (from the *Martha Years* series; illustrated by Renée Graef)
- *The Island of Mad Scientists: Being an Excursion to the Wilds of Scotland* by Howard Whitehouse and illustrated by Bill Slavin
- *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Macdonald Kipling

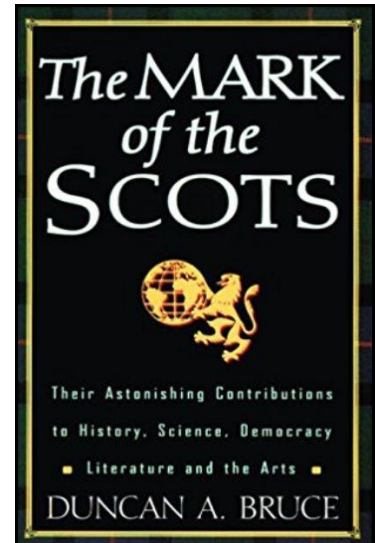
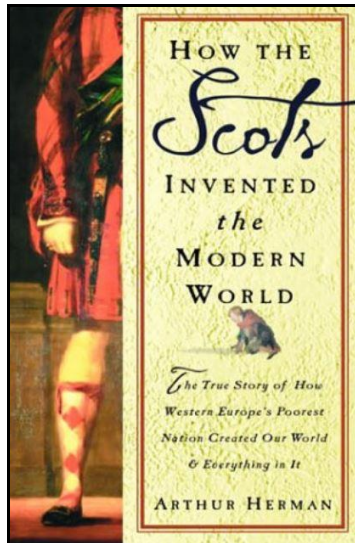
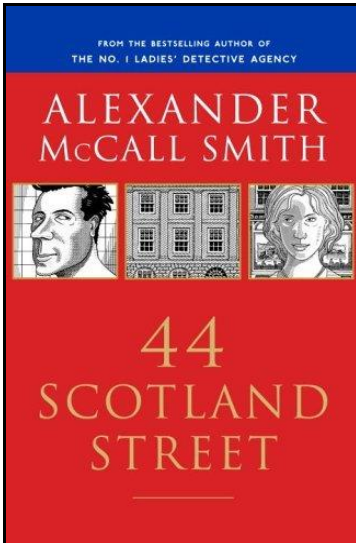
- *The Mystery of the Loch Ness Monster* (*Can Science Solve?* series) by Holly Wallace
- *The Story of Scotland* by Richard Brassey
- *The Story of Scotland* by Richard Brassey and Stewart Ross (written in comic book style; won the Saltire Society ITES Award for Educational Publications and the Scottish Arts Council Children's Book Award)
- *The Story of Scotland's Flag and the Lion and Thistle* by David Ross
- *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame
- *Welcome to Scotland* (*Welcome to My Country* series) by Graeme Cane and Lise Hull



Middle/Junior High School (Fiction and Non-Fiction)

- *44 Scotland Street* (and any other books about Scotland by Alexander McCall Smith)
- *A Celebration of Innovation and Achievement: Scottish Firsts* by Elspeth Wills
- *An Illustrated History of Scotland* by Elisabeth Fraser
- *Ancient Scotland* by Stewart Ross
- *Captains Courageous* by Rudyard Macdonald Kipling
- *Duncan's War* by Douglas Bond (book 1, Christian content)
- *Great Scots: How the Scots Created Canada* by Matthew Shaw
- *How the Scots Invented the Modern World: The True Story of How Western Europe's Poorest Nation Created Our World and Everything In It* by Arthur Herman (hardcover version is best)
- *Ivanhoe* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *King's Arrow* by Douglas Bond (book 1, Christian content)
- *Marmion* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Rebel's Keep* by Douglas Bond (book 1, Christian content)
- *Rob Roy* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Selkirk's Island: The True and Strange Adventures of the Real Robinson Crusoe (the Scot, Alexander Selkirk)* by Diana Souhami
- *The Braid* by Helen Frost
- *The Emperor's New Kilt: The Two Secret Histories of Scotland* by Jan-Andrew Henderson
- *The Farfarers: Before the Norse: Did Ancient Scots Cross the Atlantic Before the Vikings?* by Farley Mowat
- *The Mark of the Scots: Their Astonishing Contributions to History, Science, Democracy, Literature and the Arts* by Duncan A. Bruce
- *The Master of Ballantrae: A Winter's Tale* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *The Scottish 100: Portraits of History's Most Influential Scots* by Duncan A. Bruce
- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson

- *The Wild Queen: The Days and Nights of Mary, Queen of Scots* (Young Royals series) by Carolyn Meyer (ages 12 and up)
- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson



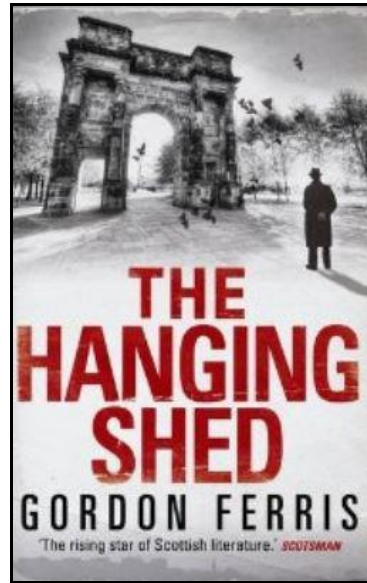
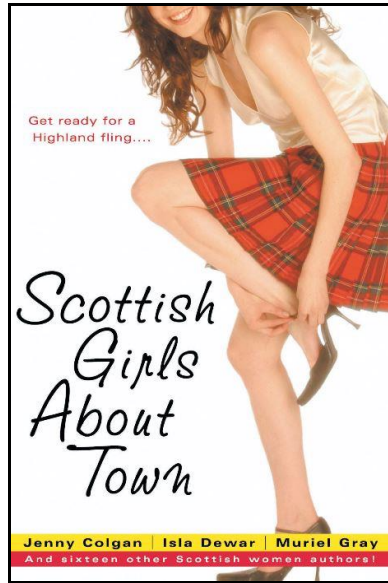
High School and Adults

Fiction

- *44 Scotland Street* by Alexander McCall Smith (and any other books by Smith)
- *A Place Called Freedom* by Ken Follett (some adult content)
- *Bone Rattler* by Eliot Pattison
- *Cape Breton Road* by D. R. MacDonald
- *Death of a Gossip* by M. C. Beaton
- *Duncan's War* by Douglas Bond (book 1, Christian content)
- *Extraordinary People* in the *Enzo MacLeod* series of five books
- *Eye of the Raven* by Eliot Pattison
- *Ice Station Zebra* by Alistair MacLean
- *Ivanhoe* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *King's Arrow* by Douglas Bond (book 2, Christian content)
- *Kissing Christmas Goodbye* by M. C. Beaton
- *MacGregor's Lantern* by Corinne Joy Brown
- *Marmion* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Mr. Mac and Me* by Esther Freud (about Charles Rennie Mackintosh)
- *Murder Most Scottish* (a short story collection selected by Stefan Dziemianowicz, Bob Adey, Ed Gorman and Martin Greenberg)
- *My Heart Lies Here* by Laurie Marr Wasmund
- *No Great Mischief* by Alistair MacLeod
- *North Sea Requiem* by A. D. Scott, and several other good mysteries
- *Original Death* by Eliot Pattison
- *Poet's Pub* by Eric Linklater

- *Raven Black* by Ann Cleeves, and several other books
- *Rebel's Keep* by Douglas Bond (book 3, Christian content)
- *Rob Roy* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Runaway* by Peter May. He also wrote *The Lewis Trilogy: The Black House, The Lewis Man, and The Chessmen*.
- *Scottish Girls About Town* by Jenny Colgan, Isla Dewar and Muriel Gray (*and sixteen other Scottish women authors*)
- *Sherlock Holmes* stories/books by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- *The Candlemass Road* by George MacDonald Fraser
- *The Field of Blood* by Denise Mina, and several other novels and series
- *The Game of Kings, The Lymond Chronicles, The House of Niccolo and King Hereafter* by Dorothy Dunnett (and any of her other historical fiction books)
- *The Guns of Navarone* by Alistair MacLean
- *The Hanging Shed, Bitter Water, Pilgrim Soul and Gallowglass* by Gordon Ferris from *The Douglas Brodie* series (and other books by Ferris including *The Danny McRae* series)
- The *Inspector Rebus* series by Ian Rankin, and any of his other books
- *The Lost World* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- *The Master of Ballantrae: A Winter's Tale* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *The Outlander* series (aka *Cross Stitch*) (which is also a TV miniseries and a musical). The *Lord John* series (one of which is *The Scottish Prisoner*) by Diana Gabaldon
- The *Para Handy* stories by Neil Munro (alias Hugh Foulis), as well as the film *The Maggie* (1954) which is based on the well-known *Para Handy* stories
- *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* by Muriel Spark (also a film)
- *The Proper Treatment of Blood Stains* by Catriona McPherson, and several other novels
- *The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane
- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Where Eagles Dare* by Alistair MacLean

- *Whisky Galore* by Compton Mackenzie (also a film)
- *X Marks the Scot* by Kaitlyn Dunnett, and several other novels

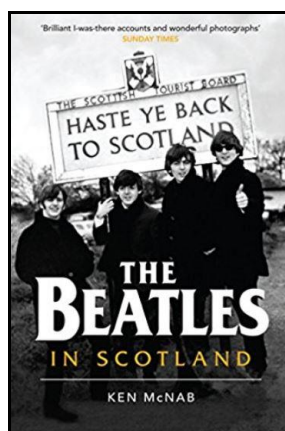


Non-Fiction

- *A Celebration of Innovation and Achievement: Scottish Firsts* by Elspeth Wills
- *A Dance Called America: The Scottish Highlands, the United States and Canada* by James Hunter
- *A Man Called Peter* by Catherine Marshall (also watched the film)
- *America B.C.: Ancient Settlers in the New World* by Barry Fells
- *An Illustrated History of Scotland* by Elisabeth Fraser
- *Ancient Celtic America (with an Appendix on Ancient Astronomy)* by William R. McGlone and Phillip M. Leonard
- *Ancient Scotland* by Stewart Ross
- *Before Barbed Wire: L.A. Huffman, Photographer on Horseback* by Mark H. Brown (Author), W. R. Felton (Author) , L. A. Huffman (Photographer)
- *Blood & Whiskey: The Life and Times of Jack Daniel* by Peter Krass
- *Born Fighting: How the Scots-Irish Shaped America* by James Webb
- *British Gentlemen in the Wild West: The Era of the Intensely English Cowboy* by Lawrence M. Woods
- *Caledonia Australis: Scottish Highlanders on the Frontier of Australia* by Don Watson
- *Crowded with Genius - The Scottish Enlightenment: Edinburgh's Moment of the Mind* by James Buchan
- *Far Off in Sunlit Places: The Scots in Australia and New Zealand* by Jim Hewitson
- *Farther Than Any Man: The Rise and Fall of Captain James Cook* by Martin Dugard
- *Flying Scotsman: The Extraordinary Story of the World's Most Famous Train* by Andrew Roden
- *Folk Lore – Superstitious Beliefs in the West of Scotland within This Century* by James Napier
- *From Limelight to Satellite: A Scottish Film Book* edited by Eddie Dick
- *Great Scots: How the Scots Created Canada* by Matthew Shaw
- *How the Scots Invented the Modern World: The True Story of How Western Europe's Poorest Nation Created Our World and Everything In It* by Arthur Herman (hardcover version also available)
- *Mary Queen of Scots* by Antonia Fraser (also watch the Vanessa Redgrave film version of *Mary Queen of Scots*)

- *Mary Queen of Scots: Truth or Lies* by Rosalind Marshall (also watch the Vanessa Redgrave film version of *Mary Queen of Scots*)
- *Mountain, Meadow, Moss and Moor: Joseph Denovan Adam, R.S.A., R.S.W. (1841-1896)* by Maria Devaney
- *My Life on the Range* by John Clay
- *On the Make: How the Scots Took Over London* by David Stenhouse
- *Plaids and Bandanas: From Highland Drover to Wild West Cowboy* by Rob Gibson
- *Saxons, Vikings and Celts: The Genetic Roots of Britain and Ireland* by Bryan Sykes
- *Scots in Australia: A Study of New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland, 1788-1900* by Malcolm D. Prentis
- *Scots in the North American West, 1790-1917* by Ferenc Morton Szasz
- *Scottish Art and Design: 5,000 Years* edited by Wendy Kaplan
- *Scottish Art* by Murdo Macdonald
- *Scottish Customs* by Shelia Livingstone
- *Scottish Customs: From the Cradle to the Grave* by Margaret Bennett
- *Scottish Genealogy* by Bruce Durie
- *Selkirk's Island: The True and Strange Adventures of the Real Robinson Crusoe (the Scot, Alexander Selkirk)* by Diana Souhami
- *Son of Adam* by Denis Forman (and the film version entitled *My Life So Far*)
- *Taking Tea with Mackintosh: The Story of Miss Cranston's Tea Rooms* by Perilla Kirchin
- *Tam Blake & Company: The Story of Scots in North America* by Jim Hewitson
- *The Beatles in Scotland* by Ken McNab
- *The Drove Roads of Scotland* by A.R.B. Haldane
- *The Emperor's New Kilt: The Two Secret Histories of Scotland* by Jan-Andrew Henderson
- *The Farfarers: Before the Norse: Did Ancient Scots Cross the Atlantic Before the Vikings?* by Farley Mowat
- *The Healers: A History of Medicine in Scotland* by David Hamilton

- *The King's Jaunt: George IV in Scotland, August 1822 ('One and twenty daft days')* by John Prebble
- *The Living Mountain: A Celebration of the Cairngorm Mountains of Scotland* by Nan Shepherd
- *The Mark of the Scots: Their Astonishing Contributions to History, Science, Democracy, Literature and the Arts* by Duncan A. Bruce
- *The Other Irish: The Scots-Irish Rascals Who Made America* by Karen F. McCarthy
- *The Scotch-Irish: A Social History* by James G. Leyburn
- *The Scots Invasion of South Australia* by John Grant Duncan-Hughes
- *The Scots of Chicago: Quiet Immigrants and Their New Society* by Wayne Rethford and June Skinner Sawyers
- *The Scots: A Genetic Journey* by Alistair Moffat
- *The Scottish 100: Portraits of History's Most Influential Scots* by Duncan A. Bruce
- *The Scottish Colourists* by Roger Billcliffe
- *The Steel Bonnets: The Story of The Anglo-Scottish Border Reivers* by George MacDonald Fraser
- *The Story of Scots in Hawai'i* by Rhoda E. A. Hackler
- *The Story of South Park* by Virginia Bayou Salado Simmons
- *The Tradition of Scottish Philosophy* by Alexander Broadie
- *Two Years at St. Andrews: At Home on the 18th Hole* by George Peper
- *When Grass Was King* by Maurice Frink
- *Why Scottish Philosophy Matters* by Alexander Broadie



Books by or about Robert Burns - Fiction



A list of Robert Burns's material is so extensive that we have not attempted a "complete" list herein. Following are some suggestions, but please search online for more resources.

- English translations from Scots
- Listening and study materials
- *Robert Burns: Selected Poems* edited by Carol McQuirk (Penguin Classics)
- Side by side translations
- *The Best of Robert Burns* (in English) by William Curran
- Web site (there are others): *Burns Country*: <http://www.robertburns.org/works/>

You should certainly read and recite six must-know works of Burns:

- *A Red, Red Rose*
- *Address to a Haggis*
- *Auld Lang Syne*
- *Selkirk Grace*
- *Tam O' Shanter: A Tale*
- *The Rights of Woman*

Books by or about John Muir – Non-Fiction



A list of John Muir material is so extensive that we have not attempted a “complete” list herein. Following are some suggestions, but please search online for more resources.

- *A Thousand-mile Walk to the Gulf* (1916) by John Muir and edited by William Frederic Badè
- *Edward Henry Harriman* (1911) by John Muir
- *John Muir: His Life and Letters and Other Writings*, by John Muir and edited by Terry Gifford (1996)
- *John Muir: Nature Writings: The Story of My Boyhood and Youth; My First Summer in the Sierra; The Mountains of California; Stickeen; Essays* (Library of America) by John Muir and edited by William Cronon (1997)
- *Letters to a Friend* (1915) by John Muir
- *My First Summer in the Sierra* (1911) by John Muir
- *Our National Parks* (1901) by John Muir
- *Picturesque California* (1888–1890) by John Muir
- *Steep Trails* (1919) by John Muir
- *Studies in the Sierra* (1950 reprint of serials from 1874) by John Muir
- *The Cruise of the Corwin* (1917) by John Muir
- *The Mountains of California* (1894) by John Muir
- *The Story of My Boyhood and Youth* (1913) by John Muir
- *The Yosemite* (1920) by John Muir
- *Travels in Alaska* (1979 ed.) by John Muir

Gaelic Books

NOTE: We have not attempted to include a Gaelic authors and books list at this time. For information about this area of Scottish literature, please consult the many Web sources, especially **The American Scottish Gaelic Society** at <http://www.acgamerica.org/>

Sláinte mhath! (Slahn cha vah!) (To your good health!)

Dedication: Brenda Shupp

This list, and the spirit of this effort, is dedicated to the memory of Brenda Shupp (1948—2017) who did so much for the St. Andrew Society of Colorado and it's Rocky Mountain Highland Dancers Program.

