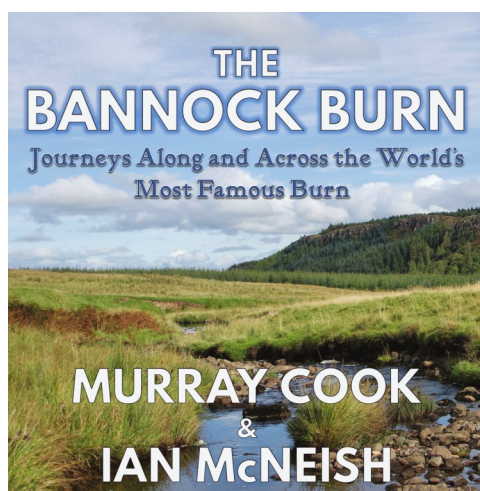


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The Bannock Burn

Journeys Along and Across the World's Most Famous Burn

Winding from Earl's Hill to the River Forth, to follow the Bannock Burn is to chart the twists and turns of Scotland's history. Over the centuries, its shores have seen duns and brochs, mills and lime kilns, Romans and redcoats, and much more besides. Its meandering waters have driven industry, provided sustenance and played witness to some incredible stories.

In this book, Dr Murray Cook and Ian McNeish invite you to join them as they walk from the source of the Bannock Burn to the point where it meets the Forth near Stirling, relating many remarkable tales along the way—some of them dating back millennia. From the area's unique geology to its industrial heritage, by way of military engagements and some truly amazing people from history, they explain why the Bannock Burn has become the most famous burn in the world.

With detailed directions about how to retrace the authors' steps, get ready for a journey like no other as they uncover some astonishing surprises including a lost town, an American legend of the Alamo, an account of an alleged witch, a recovered Spitfire, prize-winning race horses, fascinating tales of tartan and whisky, a clock with an extraordinary secret, and some astounding archaeological discoveries. It really will be an expedition that you won't want to forget!

Author Biography

Dr Murray Cook is Stirling Council's Archaeologist and is from Leith originally, though he also lived and went to school in Edinburgh. He lives in Stirling with a long-suffering wife, three teenage girls and two pesky but loveable cats. He has undertaken numerous excavations across the region and published over 40 books and articles. He has appeared on several TV programmes, writes a regular column in the *Stirling Observer* and runs Stirling Archaeology, a Facebook page dedicated to Stirling's fantastic heritage. Murray is an Honorary Research Fellow at Stirling University, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, runs an occasional course at Forth Valley College on Stirling, and also co-runs regular training digs open to all under the name Rampart Scotland.

Ian McNeish was born in 1946, in Falkirk. His formative years in the post-War period were spent in Bonnybridge, then Balloch. In 1974 Ian joined Ross and Sutherland Constabulary, and in seven months was trusted to police in a single station officer role within a rural area of Scotland with a population of six thousand people. In 1978 Ian transferred to Central Scotland Police, where he rose to the rank of Chief Inspector before retiring in 2004. On leaving the police service, Ian set up his own company advising small businesses on policy issues as well as carrying out investigations on employment disputes and preparing reports. His spare time is taken up with mountaineering, for a time being in Mountain Rescue. He has found time to ascend Mont Blanc and climb all the Munros. He also cycles and has some long distance treks to his name, including cycling from Edinburgh to Paris. He plays competitive curling and also coaches beginners. He has a family: three boys and six grandchildren. When he is not employed with any or all of the above, he writes.

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