

# Famous facts about



# SCOTLAND



# FAMOUS HISTORICAL FIGURES



## **William Wallace (1272-1305)**

William Wallace was a Scottish outlaw and hero who fought the English to gain Scottish independence. He and his small army famously defeated the English army at the Battle of Stirling Bridge.



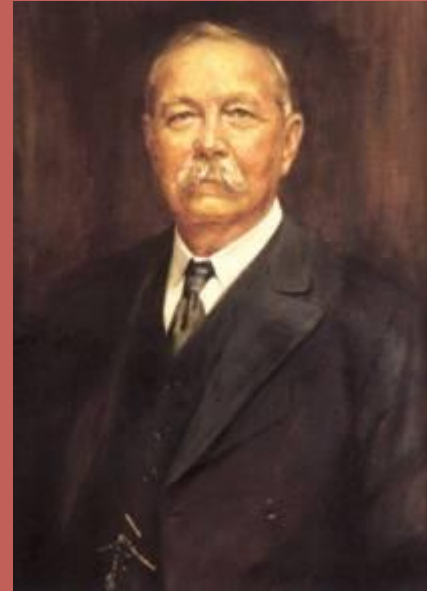
## **Mary, Queen of Scots (1542- 1587)**

Mary Stuart was Queen of Scotland about 425 years ago. She became queen when she was less than a year old. She married three times and was eventually accused of plotting to kill queen Elizabeth I of England. She was executed in 1587 at the age of 45.

# FAMOUS WRITERS

## Arthur Conan Doyle

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was the author of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* and many other stories. The most famous character in his books was the detective Sherlock Holmes.



## Robert Louis Stevenson

Robert Louis Stevenson was born in Edinburgh. He wrote *Treasure Island* during a rainy holiday in 1883. Other famous books he wrote were *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* and *Kidnapped*.

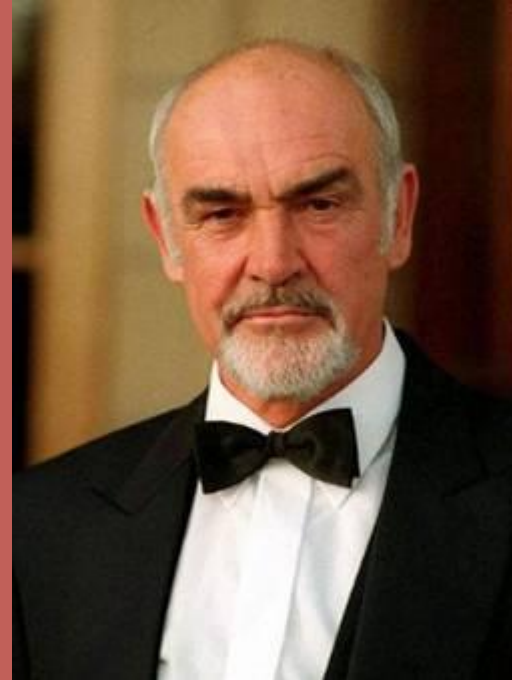




# FAMOUS ACTORS

## Sean Connery

Sir Sean Connery, who was born in Edinburgh in 1930, came from a poor background. He became a famous film actor after his leading role in the *James Bond* films.



## Ewan McGregor

Ewan McGregor was an almost unknown Scottish actor until he appeared in *Trainspotting*, a tough film about the lives of drop-outs in Edinburgh. After that he played Obi-Wan Kenobi in the second *Star Wars Trilogy* and has appeared in many other films since then.



# FAMOUS TRADITIONS

## The tartan kilt

A kilt is a skirt-like garment made of tartan wool. Historically, each Scottish clan ( a family or tribe) has its own tartan pattern. Pipers usually wear kilts when they play the bagpipes, and Scottish men often wear kilts at formal social occasions, like weddings.



## The Loch Ness Monster

Loch Ness is a very deep lake in the north of Scotland. Some people believe that they have seen a large dinosaur-like “monster” in Loch Ness. For this reason, Loch Ness is one of Scotland’s top tourist attractions.

