

Chronology of Scottish History (Before 1600) from rampamtsotland.com



King Robert the Bruce at Bannockburn

You will find in these chronology pages the precise dates of over 700 historical events which took place over the last 2,000 years of Scottish history. Links are also provided to over 400 related articles where you can obtain more information on the events - and the people - that made Scotland what it is today. Note that where the same subject appears more than once in this chronology, alternative links are often provided to give a broader picture.

January 24 76

Birth of Publius Aelius Hadrianus, who built [Hadrian's Wall](#) to cut off Scotland from the rest of Britain.

December 7 521

Day on which St. Columba was reputedly born in Donegal, Ireland. After being banished to Scotland, following battles over monastic possessions, he established a monastery on Iona. Columba is credited with converting King Bridei, the leader of the Picts in Scotland, to Christianity.

May 12 563

Community of Iona founded by Colum Cille (St Columba) from Ireland.

June 9 597

Colum Cille died.

January 13 603

Death of [St Mungo](#), patron saint of Glasgow (and also known as St Kentigern).

March 6 608

Death of St Balfred, the hermit monk of the Bass Rock, off North Berwick. The island is now a bird sanctuary.

February 22 664

Death of St Boisel (after whom the village of St Boswells is named), the second prior of Melrose Abbey (after St Aidan).

May 20 685

Battle of Dunnichen (also known as Nechtansmere), south of Forfar in Angus, as a result of which the Picts stopped the advance northwards of the Angles of Northumbria.

September 23 704

Death of [St Adamnan](#), biographer of St Columba.

September 1 714

Death of [St Giles](#), patron saint of Edinburgh (and Elgin).

February 13 858

Kenneth MacAlpin, King of Dalriada and the Picts, died at Forteviot.

March 25 1005

Malcolm II ascended the throne.

November 25 1034

Malcolm II died at Glamis, succeeded by Duncan I.

August 14 1040

King Duncan I killed in battle at Pitgavney, near Elgin, by his cousin [Macbeth](#).

August 15 1057

[Macbeth](#) killed in battle by Malcolm at Lumphanan, near Aberdeen.

August 15 1057

Lulach, Macbeth's stepson, ascended the throne and was crowned at Scone.

March 17 1058

King Lulach killed by [Malcolm III](#) at Essier, Strathbogie.

April 25 1058

Malcolm III (Canmore) crowned.

November 13 1093

King [Malcolm III](#) (Canmore), last of the Celtic kings was killed at the Battle of Alnwick. Succeeded by Donald III.

November 12 1094

King [Duncan II](#) died at Battle of Monthechin, Kincardine.

June 21 1098

Priory at Coldingham founded.

January 8 1107

[King Alexander I](#) crowned.

April 23 1124

[King Alexander I](#) died at Stirling Castle, succeeded by David I.

August 22 1138

Battle of the Standard at Northallerton in which King David I was defeated by the English.

April 9 1139

Second Treaty of Durham in which David I is recognised as King of an independent Scotland by [King Stephen](#) of England.

March 20 1141

[King Malcolm IV](#) born.

May 24 1153

King David I died at Carlisle.

June 12 1153

Malcolm IV crowned at Scone

December 9 1165

[King Malcolm IV](#) died at Jedburgh Castle, succeeded by William I.

December 24 1165

[King William I \(Lion\)](#) crowned at Scone.

July 13 1174

King [William](#) surprised and captured by the English at Alnwick.

August 24 1198

[Alexander II](#), son of King William I, born.

December 4 1214

[King William I \(Lion\)](#) died at Stirling Castle and was succeeded by his son Alexander II.

December 6 1214

[King Alexander II](#) crowned at [Scone](#).

November 21 1218

A Bull of Pope Honorius III affirmed the independence of the Catholic Church in Scotland.

September 4 1241

King [Alexander III](#) born at Roxburgh.

July 8 1249

King [Alexander II](#) died on Isle of Kerrara, Oban Bay.

July 13 1249

King Alexander III crowned at Scone

October 2 1263

Battle of Largs - Scots defeated the Vikings who were attempting to invade.

December 15/16 1263

[King Haakon of Norway](#) (which at that time included Orkney, Shetland and the Western Isles) died on Orkney at midnight on 15/16 December.

July 2 1266

Treaty of Perth, Norway renounces claim on the Hebrides.

July 11 1274

Robert the Bruce born.

August 22 1282

Devorgilla, Countess of Galloway founded Balliol College, Oxford. She was mother of John Balliol (who acceded to the Scottish throne in 1292).

October 14 1285

Second marriage of King Alexander III (to Yolanda de Dreux).

March 19 1286

[King Alexander III](#) died after crossing the river Forth to Fife at Queensferry.

March 19 1286

Queen Margaret, Maid of Norway (daughter of King Erik II and grand-daughter of Alexander III) inherits the throne.

January 21 1290

Sweetheart Abbey, near Dumfries, founded by Devorguilla, mother of John Balliol.

September 26 1290

[Queen Margaret](#), Maid of Norway ("Eiriksdotter") died, en route from Norway to Scotland.

May 30 1291

Claimants to the Scottish throne met [King Edward I](#) of England at Norham on Tweed to resolve succession.

November 17 1292

[John Balliol](#) acceded to Scottish throne.

November 30 1292

[John Balliol](#) ("Toom Tabard" or "Turncoat") crowned.

April 1 1295

Robert Bruce, "The Great Competitor" and grandfather of King Robert the Bruce, died.

October 23 1295

Treaty between King John Balliol of Scotland and King Philippe IV of France which promised mutual help against the English - the start of the "Auld Alliance".

March 30 1296

Destruction of Berwick by King Edward I of England, slaughtering many of the population of 15,000, partly in retaliation for Scotland signing the alliance with France.

April 27 1296

Scots defeated by the English defenders of Dunbar Castle at Battle of Dunbar.

July 8 1296

King John Balliol abdicated at Montrose.

August 8 1296

King Edward I removed to England the Stone of Destiny on which generations of Scottish kings had been crowned.

August 28 1296

Edward I of England held a parliament at Berwick to which he summoned all Scottish landholders to sign the [Ragman Roll](#).

September 11 1297

[Battle of Stirling Bridge](#), Wallace (as famously portrayed by Mel Gibson in "Braveheart") defeats Edward I.

October 11 1297

Letter from Wallace and Moray to the mayors of Lubeck and Hamburg saying that "The Kingdom of Scotland has, by God's Grace, recovered by battle from the power of the English".

July 22 1298

The army of the English King Edward I, using longbows for the first time, defeated the Scots led by Sir William Wallace at Battle of Falkirk.

August 23 1301

[King Edward I](#) lodged at the Convent of the Dominicans (the Black Friars) in the High Street, Glasgow.

February 23 1303

Battle of Roslin in which a Scots army of 8,000, led by Sir Simon Fraser, Sinclair of Rosslyn and the Red Comyn, surprised an English army of 30,000 led by Sir John Seagrave and defeated them.

May 20 1303

France and England make peace, releasing forces to attack Scotland.

July 20 1304

Stirling Castle, the last of the Scottish castles to be captured by Edward I.

August 3 1305

[William Wallace](#) betrayed and handed over to the English.

August 23 1305

[William Wallace](#) executed

February 10 1306

[Robert the Bruce](#) murdered Red Comyn.

March 25 1306

[King Robert I](#) ("The Bruce") crowned at Scone.

June 19 1306

Army of [Robert the Bruce](#) routed at Methven.

August 11 1306

Battle of Dalry, [Robert I](#), attacked and defeated John MacDougall of Lorne, kinsman of John Comyn.

September 7 1306

Sir Simon Fraser, the "Scottish Patriot", who fought alongside Wallace and Robert the Bruce, was executed by the English and his head displayed in London alongside that of Wallace.

May 10 1307

Battle of Loudon Hill, near Darvel. King [Robert I](#) comprehensively defeated English forces under de Valence.

July 7 1307

Death of [King Edward I](#) of England.

December 24 1307

Battle of Inverurie in which Robert the Bruce defeated the troops of John Comyn. (The date for this battle is disputed by historians).

August 15 1308

Battle of the Pass of Brander in which John MacDougall of Lorne who was supporting [King Edward II](#), was defeated by King Robert I.

November 8 1308

Scholar and philosopher [John Duns Scotus](#) died. His dry subtleties led to the word "Duns" or "dunce" meaning dull and incapable of learning. Beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1993.

March 16 1309

King [Robert the Bruce](#) convened his first parliament, at St Andrews.

July 16 1309

James Stewart, High Steward of Scotland, died.

October 29 1312

Treaty of Inverness with Norway.

February 7 1313

Robert the Bruce captured Dumfries.

May 18 1313

[Robert the Bruce](#) invades Isle of Man.

June 24 1314

Robert the Bruce defeated Edward II at [Battle of Bannockburn](#).

September 12 1315

Thomas Dun, a privateer, sailed into Holyhead, captured an English ship and over-ran the island of Anglesay.

March 2 1316

King [Robert II](#) born in Paisley.

May 2 1316

Edward Bruce, brother of King Robert the Bruce, crowned High King of All Ireland.

March 28 1318

King Robert the Bruce captured Berwick on Tweed.

October 14 1318

Edward Bruce, brother of [Robert the Bruce](#), killed in a battle near Dundalk, Ireland.

April 6 1320

[Declaration of Arbroath](#) - "For we fight not for glory nor for riches nor for honour, but only and alone for freedom, which no good man surrenders but with his life".

March 5 1324

King [David II](#) born.

September 21 1327

King [Edward II](#) of England died, succeeded by [Edward III](#).

March 17 1328

Treaty of Edinburgh between King Robert I and [Edward III](#) which recognised Scotland's independence, ending the 30 years of Wars of Independence.

June 7 1329

[Robert the Bruce](#) died, Cardross Castle.

November 24 1331

[David II](#) (aged 7) crowned at Scone.

July 20 1332

Thomas Randolph, Earl of Moray and Regent of Scotland, died at Musselburgh. Donald, Earl of Mar, appointed Regent in his place.

August 12 1332

Battle of Dupplin near Perth in which Edward Balliol defeated the Regent, Earl of Mar.

September 24 1332

Edward Balliol, son of John Balliol, crowned at Scone. He was deposed by supporters of David II in December 1332, restored in 1333, deposed again in 1334, restored in 1335 and finally deposed in 1341.

November 23 1332

Edward Balliol formally acknowledged King Edward III of England as his feudal superior.

June 8 1333

[King Edward III](#) orders the capture of the Isle of Man from the Scots.

July 19 1333

Battle of Halidon Hill. Sir Archibald Douglas (guardian of [David II](#)) routed by Edward Balliol and [Edward III](#). Scots losses were nearly 600, English losses 14.

August 14 1337

King [Robert III](#) born at Scone.

June 16 1338

Siege of Dunbar Castle by the English was raised.

April 17 1341

Edinburgh Castle captured from the English.

October 17 1346

Battle of [Neville's Cross](#) during which King [David II](#) was captured by the English King Edward III.

October 3 1357

[Treaty of Berwick](#), freeing [David II](#) from imprisonment by the English.

May 31 1367

[King Robert III](#) married Annabel Drummond.

February 22 1371

King [David II](#) died at Edinburgh Castle.

March 27 1371

[King Robert II](#), nephew of King David II, crowned at Scone, aged 55.

October 28 1371

Treaty of Vincennes creating a Franco-Scottish alliance.

April 4 1373

Parliament held by King Robert II at Scone, resolved that his son, the Earl of Carrick should succeed his father as King (as [Robert III](#) although he was baptised John).

April 4 1384

John of Gaunt, son of [Edward III](#) attacks Scotland.

August 5 1388

James, Earl Douglas, died out of sight of his army, in a bush, at [Battle of Otterburn](#) in which Scots defeat Henry Percy, (Hotspur) but with the loss of the Earl of Douglas.

April 19 1390

[Robert II](#), grandson of [Robert the Bruce](#), died at Dundonald Castle and was buried at Scone.

June 17 1390

[Wolf of Badenoch](#) burns Elgin Cathedral.

March 13 1395

Death of poet and historian John Barbour, author of "The Bruce" recounting the history of King Robert I.

August 14 1390

King [Robert III](#) crowned at the Augustinian abbey of Scone.

September 28 1396

"Battle of the Clans" between clans Chattan and Kay on the North Inch, Perth, in front of King Robert III.

June 2 1398

[Prince Henry St Clair \(Sinclair\)](#) landed in Nova Scotia, having sailed from Orkney.

April 3 1401

Murder of Duke of Rothesay, heir of [Robert III](#).

September 14 1402

Scots led by 4th Earl of Douglas defeated at the [Battle of Homildon Hill](#) by English army led by Percy 'Hotspur'.

March 30 1406

[King James I](#) captured by English near Flamborough Head on his way to France.

April 4 1406

King Robert III died and James I ascended the throne (but was not crowned until 1424 as he was a prisoner of the English).

July 24 1411

[Battle of Harlaw](#) near Inverurie in which Donald, Lord of the Isles fought an indecisive but bloody battle against the Earl of Mar. At the time, both sides thought they had lost, their descendants both thought they had won.

February 25 1412

Bishop Henry Wardlaw established St Andrews as a "university" although it was not officially inaugurated until 4 February 1414 when a Bull of Foundation was promulgated by Pope Benedict XIII.

March 22 1421

Scottish and French troops under the command of the Earl of Buchan defeated English forces at Baugé in Anjou, France.

December 4 1423

Treaty of London, releasing [James I](#) from his 18 years captivity in England.

February 2 1424

[James I](#) married Lady Jane Beaufort, daughter of the Earl of Somerset, in London.

May 2 1424

King [James I](#) crowned at Scone

May 26 1424

The parliament convened by King James I approved the arrest of a number of the Scottish nobility - and also banned the playing of football.

October 16 1430

[King James II](#) born.

February 20 1437

[King James I](#) murdered in Perth by a group led by Sir Robert Graham.

March 25 1437

Coronation of [King James II](#) at Kelso Abbey.

November 29 1440

6th Earl of Douglas and his brother David murdered at the "Black Dinner" in Edinburgh Castle in front of the 10-year-old [King James II](#).

October 23 1448

Battle of Sark in which an invading English force under the Earl of Northumberland was repulsed by the Scots led by Hugh Douglas, Earl of Ormonde, near Gretna.

December 31 1448

Franco-Scottish alliance renewed at Tours.

August 27 1450

St Salvator's College, [St Andrew's University](#), founded.

January 7 1451

[Glasgow University](#) founded at the request of James II and Bishop Turnbull.

July 10 1451

King [James III](#) born at Stirling.

February 22 1452

King James II killed William Douglas at Stirling.

March 6 1457

King James II decreed in an Act of Parliament that there should be regular target practice and military parades and that "football and golf be utterly cried down and not used". This was the first time that the games had been mentioned in Scottish documents.

August 3 1460

King James II killed by an exploding cannon at the siege of Roxburgh Castle.

August 10 1460

King [James III](#) crowned at Kelso Abbey.

February 13 1462

Treaty of Westminster-Ardtornish between the Lord of the Isles and [Edward IV](#), the King of England.

July 13 1469

King [James III](#) married Margaret of Denmark.

February 20 1472

Orkney and Shetland annexed from Norway.

August 17 1472

The see of St Andrews became an archbishopric by a bull of Pope Sixtus IV.

March 17 1473

[King James IV](#) born.

August 24 1482

[Berwick on Tweed](#) finally ceded to England (Edward IV) after changing hands 12 times.

June 11 1488

Battle of Sauchieburn during which King James III died attempting to subdue a group of rebel barons.

June 26 1488

[James IV](#) crowned king at the age of 15 at Scone. He reigned until 1513 when he fell with the flower of Scotland's nobility at the [Battle of Flodden Field](#).

November 29 1489

Margaret Tudor, daughter of Henry VII of England was born. She later married King

James IV of Scotland in the "Union of the Thistle and the Rose". It was due to her bloodline that King James VI of Scotland was able to inherit the crown of England in 1603, after the death of his cousin, Queen Elizabeth I.

January 9 1492

The Diocese of Glasgow was elevated to an Archdiocese by Pope Innocent VII.

February 10 1495

A bull from Pope Alexander VI confirmed the foundation of Aberdeen University.

December 17 1502

Marriage contract between [James IV](#) and Margaret Tudor signed by King James.

May 28 1503

Papal Bull signed by Pope Alexander VI confirming the marriage of King [James IV](#) and Margaret Tudor and the "Treaty of Everlasting Peace" between Scotland and England.

August 8 1503

King [James IV](#) married Margaret Tudor, daughter of King Henry VII of England. The marriage was known as the Union of the Thistle and the Rose.

July 1 1505

Edinburgh Council granted a charter to the "Barber Surgeons" enabling them to practise surgery within the city boundary and creating the basis for the Royal College of Surgeons.

October 9 1506

[King James IV](#) ratified the Charter incorporating the Surgeons and Barbers.

September 14 1507

Edinburgh merchant granted exclusive privilege by King James IV of running a printing press.

April 4 1508

Production of the first printed book in Scotland with a definite date - a vernacular poem by John Lydgate 'The Complaint of the Black Knight'. The press was set up in Edinburgh by Walter Chepman, an Edinburgh merchant, and his business partner Andrew Myllar, a bookseller, near what is now Cowgate.

October 11 1511

Ship "Great Michael" launched for King [James IV](#).

April 10 1512

[King James V](#) born.

September 9 1513

[James IV](#) killed in battle at [Flodden Field](#), near Branxton, in the English county of Northumberland.

September 21 1513

King [James V](#) crowned at Stirling Castle.

November 22 1515

Birth of Mary of Guise, the French Queen Consort of James V. She was regent of Scotland during the minority reign of her daughter, Mary, Queen of Scots.

May 1 1522

England declared war on both Scotland and France.

July 25 1526

[Battle of Melrose](#) in which Sir Walter Scott of Buccleuch attempted to rescue King James V from the clutches of Douglas, Earl of Angus.

February 29 1528

Patrick Hamilton, a Protestant martyr, was burned at the stake in St Andrews.

July 5 1530

Border reiver John Armstrong and 50 of his men were hanged for blackmail at Carlanrig by King James V.

May 17 1532

King James V established paid judges to sit as the Court of Session, the highest civil court in Scotland.

January 1 1537

[King James V](#) married Magdalene of France.

February 17 1540

King James V passed a law which recognised Scotland's gipsies.

November 24 1542

Rout of Solway Moss in which King James V sent a force of 10,000 into England which was defeated by an English force led by Sir Thomas Wharton.

December 8 1542

[Mary, Queen of Scots](#), born Linlithgow Palace. "It cam wi' a lass; it gang wi' a lass"

December 14 1542

[James V](#) died at Falkland Palace.

July 1 1543

Treaty of Greenwich, between [Henry VIII](#) and Earl of Arran, Regent of Scotland, agreeing betrothal of [Mary Queen of Scots](#) (aged 6 months) and Edward Prince of Wales (aged 6 years). The treaty was repudiated by the Scots Parliament.

September 9 1543

[Mary Queen of Scots](#) crowned at Stirling Castle.

May 7 1544

Earl of Hereford invaded Scotland on behalf of Henry VIII in an attempt to force the Scots to agree to the marriage of Mary to Henry's son, Edward. This is known as the "Rough Wooing".

July 3 1544

Battle of the Shirts between members of the Clan Fraser and Clans Ranald, Cameron and Donald. One of the bloodiest clan battles - only 12 men out of 1,000 combatants are said to have survived.

February 27 1545

Battle of Ancrum Moor in which Scottish forces, led by Earl of Douglas, defeated an English army twice their size.

August 1 1545

Birth of [Andrew Melville](#), "true father of Presbyterianism in Scotland".

March 1 1546

George Wishart, a Protestant martyr, was burned at the stake in St Andrews.

May 30 1546

David Beaton, Archbishop of St Andrews, assassinated.

September 10 1547

English defeated Scots at [Battle of Pinkie Cleugh](#), near Edinburgh. The battle was sparked by English demands that Edward VI of England (aged 10) should marry Mary Queen of Scots (aged 5) - an event known as the "Rough Wooing". It is estimated that 15,000 Scots were killed, 1500 captured and English losses amounted to only 500.

July 7 1548

Treaty of Haddington, between France and Scotland, confirming the betrothal of [Mary Queen of Scots](#) and Dauphin of France.

October 4 1552

Members of the [Kerr](#) family from the Scottish Borders and enemies of the neighbouring [Scott](#) family, attacked and killed Sir Walter Scott (an ancestor of the writer) in the High Street of Edinburgh.

May 3 1557

[John Knox](#) began the [Reformation](#) in Scotland.

April 24 1558

[Mary, Queen of Scots](#), married French Dauphin, [Francis Valois](#) (he was aged 14) at Notre Dame in Paris.

April 28 1558

Walter Mylne, burned to death in St Andrews, the last pre-Reformation martyr.

July 7 1559

[John Knox](#) became the first Protestant minister appointed in Edinburgh.

July 10 1559

King Henri of France died. Mary Queen of Scots' husband, [Francis](#), becomes King of France.

February 27 1560

Second Treaty of Berwick between England and Scotland, providing English assistance to remove French forces of [Mary of Guise](#) from Scotland.

June 6 1560

Treaty of Edinburgh between France and England, recognising sovereignty of Mary Queen of Scots and her first husband Francis II.

June 11 1560

Mary of Lorraine, Queen of King James V and mother of Mary, Queen of Scots, died in Edinburgh Castle.

August 11 1560

Latin Mass prohibited in Scotland by Parliament as Protestant faith gained the ascendancy.

December 5 1560

[King Francis II](#) of France, husband of [Mary Queen of Scots](#), died.

December 20 1560

First General Assembly of the [Church of Scotland](#).

August 19 1561

[Mary Queen of Scots](#) lands at Leith on her return from France, after the death of her husband, King Francis II

October 28 1562

Battle of Corrichie, Earl of Moray defeated Catholic Gordons of Huntly who were attacking Aberdeen.

February 14 1565

[Mary Queen of Scots](#) meets Lord Darnley for the first time. They married in July 1565.

March 9 1566

David Rizzio murdered by Ruthven in the Palace of Holyrood.

June 19 1566

Mary Queen of Scots gives birth to the future [King James VI](#) of Scotland and I of England.

February 10 1567

[Lord Darnley](#), husband of [Mary Queen of Scots](#), assassinated.

April 24 1567

First printed book ever published in Gaelic. It was "*Forms of Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and Catechism of the Christian Faith*," translated from English by Bishop John Carsewell of the Isles.

May 15 1567

[Mary, Queen of Scots](#), married Earl of Bothwell (at 4am).

June 15 1567

[Mary Queen of Scots'](#) last night in Edinburgh, at the house of Sir Simon Preston, the Lord Provost, on the Royal Mile, prior to her imprisonment at Loch Leven castle two days later.

July 24 1567

[Mary Queen of Scots](#) abdicated and the young [James VI](#) acceded to Scottish throne. The Earl of Mar was appointed regent.

July 29 1567

[King James VI](#) (aged 13 months) crowned at the Church of the Holy Rude, beside Stirling Castle, following the abdication of Mary, Queen of Scots, five days earlier.

August 22 1567

James Stewart, Earl of Moray and a half-brother of Mary Queen of Scots, proclaimed Regent of Scotland.

May 2 1568

[Mary Queen of Scots](#) escaped from Loch Leven castle.

May 13 1568

Mary, Queen of Scots, defeated at Battle of Langside.

May 16 1568

[Mary Queen of Scots](#) sailed from Port Mary across the Solway Firth to exile in England.

October 1 1568

The Bannatyne Manuscript, the most extensive collection of early Scottish poetry in existence, was published by George Bannatyne, an Edinburgh merchant.

January 23 1570

James Stewart, the [Regent Moray](#) on the abdication of Mary Queen of Scots, murdered in Linlithgow, triggering civil war.

July 12 1570

Earl of Lennox appointed Regent of Scotland.

September 3 1571

Earl of Lennox, Regent of Scotland, murdered. Earl of Mar appointed Regent but he died in October 1572.

April 1 1571

Dumbarton Castle, under siege since January 1570, captured by Captain Thomas Crawford scaling the walls.

November 24 1572

[John Knox](#), leading reformer of Church of Scotland, died.

August 3 1573

Sir William Kirkcaldy of Grange executed, after defending Edinburgh Castle on behalf of Mary Queen of Scots from May 1568 to May 1573.

December 12 1574

[Anne of Denmark](#), wife of [James VI](#), born.

July 7 1575

The skirmish called "The Raid of the Redeswire", took place between Scottish and English borderers.

July 10 1576

First Bible (New Testament) printed in Scotland by Bassandyne.

September 14 1580

Birth of Robert Gordon of Straloch, Aberdeen, cartographer.

June 2 1581

James Douglas, 4th Earl of Morton, beheaded in Edinburgh Grassmarket, accused of the murder of [Lord Darnley](#).

September 28 1581

George Buchan, humanist, poet, historian and tutor of King James VI, died.

April 14 1582

[University of Edinburgh](#) founded.

July 3 1582

James Crichton of Eliock, the original "Admirable Crichton", died in a brawl in Mantua. Soldier, scholar, poet and athlete, he was a graduate of St Andrews University and a tutor of King James VI.

August 22 1582

James VI (aged nearly 8) abducted and taken to the Castle of Ruthven by the Earls of Mar and Gowrie - the so-called "Ruthven Raid".

June 27 1583

James VI escaped from Castle Ruthven.

December 13 1585

William Drummond, poet, born.

June 16 1586

[Mary, Queen of Scots](#) recognised Philip II of Spain as her heir.

February 8 1587

[Mary Queen of Scots](#) beheaded at Fotheringay Castle.

February 7 1592

[Earl of Moray](#) murdered at Donibristle.

June 5 1592

An Act of the Scottish Parliament came into force "concerning the Office of Lyon King of Armes and his brether Heraldis" creating the best regulated system of armorial bearings in Europe.

April 2 1593

Marischal College, second University in Aberdeen, founded.

December 6 1593

Battle of Dryffe Sands between the Border families of Maxwell and Johnstone, one of the bloodiest "clan" fights.

October 3 1594

Battle of Glenlivet, George Gordon, Earl of Huntly, defeated a Royalist force under 7th Earl of Argyll.

September 15 1595

City Baillie shot when Edinburgh High School pupils rioted when refused a holiday.

November 29 1599

Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons granted its charter by King James VI.