

Dawn Macfarlane looked to her Scottish roots to reveal the many facets of a 19th-century Excise Officer in Dumfries, who was better known as a poet: **The Passionate Mr Burns**. Poems universally recognised today, such as *Tam o'Shanter* and *Auld Lang Syne*, brought him fame at an early age, and influenced the Romantic Movement. Burns' life was a candle burnt at both ends and ended at just 37 years old – but what a lot he packed into it! Dawn brought insights into the legends and controversy that surround the man called “the Scottish Bard”.