

## MARY'S COATS OF ARMS



Mary, Queen of Scots



Mary, Queen of Scots,  
wife of François, Dauphin of France



Mary, Queen of Scots, Queen of England,  
wife of François, Dauphin of France



Mary, Queen of Scots  
and Queen of France

WWW.MARYQUEENOFSCOTS.CO.UK

## ABOUT THE SOCIETY

Formed in 1992, the Marie Stuart Society promotes further study of the life and times of Mary Queen of Scots through research, lectures, activities and publications.

The Society supports many projects to preserve Mary's memory including:

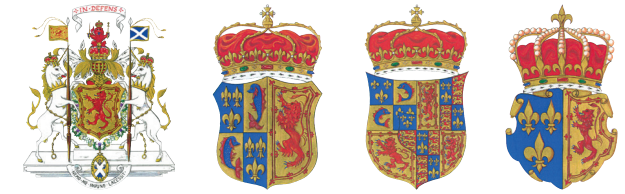
- ▶ a life-size statue at Linlithgow Palace, where she was born
- ▶ a tree at Dundrennan Abbey, where Mary left Scotland
- ▶ an annual Service around Mary's birthday in Westminster Abbey, where Mary is buried
- ▶ plaques and Information Boards at key sites
- ▶ donations of models of the statue to key sites associated with Mary

The Society has well established links with other organisations and historical societies.



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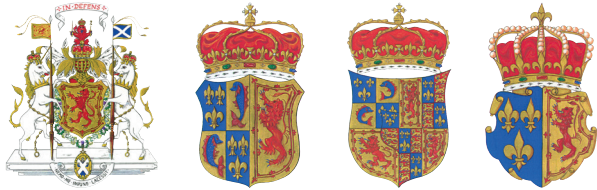


## THE MARIE STUART (MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS) SOCIETY



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## ABOUT MARY

### Mary's birth and early life

Mary, daughter of King James V of Scotland and Mary of Guise, was born at Linlithgow on 8 December 1542. She was sent to France in August 1548, accompanied by the 'Four Marys' – Beaton, Seton, Livingston and Fleming.

### Life at the French court

Mary was welcomed into the Royal household and spent the happiest years of her life there. She was well educated and in 1558 at the Louvre Palace and the Notre Dame Cathedral she married the Dauphin, Francois, becoming Queen Consort of France when he became King. She returned to Scotland in August 1561 after his early death.

### Return to Scotland

For six difficult years Mary tried hard to keep control of a poor nation, emerging from the religious turmoil of the Reformation led by preacher John Knox. She married Henry, Lord Darnley in July 1565 and in June 1566 she gave birth to a boy, the future James VI of Scotland.

### Conflicts and abdication

Darnley was killed in February 1567 and Mary married the suspected ringleader, the Earl of Bothwell, in May. The Scottish nobles took Mary prisoner to Loch Leven Castle. Despite escaping she was pursued and lost a battle at Langside. Again she fled and left Scotland from Dundrennan in May 1568.

### Imprisonment in England and death

Her cousin Elizabeth I kept Mary prisoner for 19 years, the majority being in Sheffield and Derbyshire. Mary was eventually coerced into an escape plot and consequently she was beheaded for treason at Fotheringhay Castle on 8 February 1587. She was buried in Peterborough Cathedral on 1 August 1587 but moved by her son to her final resting place in Westminster Abbey in October 1612.

## DIRECT ORDER OF SUCCESSION FROM MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS

Monarch	Birth and Death
Mary Queen of Scots	(1542-87)
James VI and I	(1567-1625)
Charles I	(1625-49)
Charles II	(1650-85)
James II	(1685-88)
William and Mary	(1688-1702) (1688-94)
Anne	(1702-14)
George I	(1714-27)
George II	(1727-64)
George III	(1760-1820)
George IV	(1820-30)
William IV	(1830-37)
Victoria	(1837-1901)
Edward VII	(1901-10)
George V	(1910-36)
Edward VIII	(1936)
George VI	(1936-52)
Elizabeth II	(1952- )



## MEMBERSHIP

There are different categories of membership including individual, corporate, joint and students. Details of the annual membership fee; how to apply; and the range of payment methods are available on the Society's website.

### Membership benefits include:

- ▶ An all-day Annual Gathering with the venues chosen that have Marian connections
- ▶ Programme of regular lectures and outings throughout the year across the UK
- ▶ A regular Society Journal
- ▶ Access to the Society archives which contains rare books and prints
- ▶ A membership badge
- ▶ Occasional updates about Mary in the news and other organisations' events about her life and times

If you have any queries or would like more information, please contact:

[president@maryqueenofscots.co.uk](mailto:president@maryqueenofscots.co.uk)

Your personal details will be stored confidentially, and we will not pass on your details to any other organisation, or use this information for any other purpose than informing you about matters relating to the Marie Stuart Society.

**We look forward to meeting you!**

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