



Scotland's Ain Kingly Hooses: Pairt 10

Walcome tae pairt ten o Scotland's Ain Kingly Hooses. In this pairt we learn about Chancy Dauvit, the laddie king that wis a guest in Fraunce, a presonar in Ingland, an a pawkie cheil at hame.

HOOSE O THE BRUCE

Dauvit II The Chancy 1329-1371 Born 5 Mairch 1324 at Dumfaurlin, in Fife, he wis the ae son o Robert I an Leezabeth o Burgh. At the age o jist fower, Dauvit wis mairried on Jean Plantagenet o Ingland, on 12 July 1328 at Berrick, as the price o peace atween the twa kinriks. Born on 5 July 1321, at the touer o Lunnon, Jean wis seven year auld at her mairrage, her faither bein Edwart II an her mither Isabella Capet o Fraunce. Jist a year efter this waddin, in Juin 1329, King Robert dee'd an Scotland haed a five year auld king. Auld King Robert's nevey, Tamas Randal erle o Moray, wis noo the guardian o the kinrik in name o Dauvit. But it wis a whilie afore wee Dauvit wis crount. The Scots haed wantit the paip tae send haly yle fae Rome as a mark o Scotland's freestaunin kingship, an at his crounin on 24 November 1331, at Scoun, Dauvit wis the first Scots king tae hae his heid droukit in haly yle.

Dauvit haed the ill sponse tae come tae the throne as a bairn. The war a hantle o Scots lords in Ingland – unfreens o the Bruce – ready tae come hame an tak back thair auld lands, an jist as mony Inglis lords wi sliddery claims on lands grantit oot bi Langshanks. The claimant Edwart Balliol, born *ab.*1283, wis the son o King John Balliol an Isabel o Warwin, an noo turnt up at the coort o Ingland tae fleitch the Inglis king for uphaud, even tho Ingland an Scotland wis at peace. The deith o the guardian, Tamas Randal, on 20 July 1332 cuidna'a been mair untimeous. Edwart Balliol an his follaers landit in Fife fae ships an took on the split-new guardian, Donal erle o Mar. The war a shairp fecht wi airchers an langbowmen at Dupplin Muir, in Perthshire, whaur Donal wis slain wi mony o his host on 12 August. Edwart haed hisel crount king at Scoun on 24 September, but the Bruce pairty made Sir Andra Murray o Bothwell guardian in name o Dauvit. Sae Scotland noo haed the twa kings. Whan Sir Andra Murray wis taen presonar in October 1332, Lord Airchibald Dooglas wis appyntit in his steid an focht on. Bi the November King Edwart Balliol haed tae shift sooth tae Roxbra as his grup on Scotland sliddert. While at Roxbra he pit his seal tae twa letters awnin Edwart III o Ingland as his owerlord, hechtit sodgers for Ingland's weirs ootland, an gied ower the shire o Berrick tae the croun o Ingland. Sae faur, the king o Ingland haed been a private pairt-takar but aince Balliol cam fleein ower the border in Dezember, efter a bicker wi the Bruce pairty at Annan – in his barries an wantin a sark – Edwart III claimed that the Scots haed lowsed on

England's mairches. It wis the excuse the Inglis king haed been waitin on, an he brak the treaty o peace. Forgettin the kannie tactics the Bruce haed learnt them, the Scots unner Airchibald Dooglas met Balliol an Edwart III at Halidon Hill by Berrick, in open field o weir. On 19 July 1333 the heich-heidit Scots gied up thair guid poseetion, an gaed ramstam at the inemy. Thay warn a jist waured, but wis slauchtert wi the langbow. It is said that the arras fell like a plump o snaw, leain the Lord Airchibald among the deid. Soon efter, Balliol held a pairlament at Scoun an forfeitit the follaers o Bruce, an in Februar 1334 he confirmed in anither pairlament that he haed grantit awa the hail soothland shires o Scotland – fae the Lothians tae Dumfries - til his 'lord' Edwart o England. Only bairns daured cry Dauvit king, it wis said.

King Dauvit, aged 10, wis noo sent awa tae Fraunce tae be a guest o his ally King Philip VI. Philip gied Dauvit, his wife Jean, an Dauvit's sisters Maud an Magret, Gaillard castle whaur thay held a sma coort for Scots ootland. Back hame Dauvit's follaers rose up. The twa leaders, John Randal erle o Moray, an Robert the Stewart, nevey o King Dauvit, wis baith jist bits o boys but thay gart Balliol flee for a time. The year efter, Sir Andra Murray o Bothwell took ower as guardian til he dee'd in 1338. The Scots siegit Perth – Balliol's heidquarters – an it randert in 1339 aince Balliol haed fled. Robert the Stewart took ower the fecht an brocht his uncle Dauvit hame fae Fraunce in the simmer o 1341. Bi noo the Inglis king haed got hisel insnorled in the weirs wi Fraunce, leain Dauvit tae claim back his croun. But whan the Frainch king askit Dauvit for help, in 1346, the Scots king cuidna say na, an sae the Scots invadit England. Jist by Durham the war a muckle fecht on 17 October 1346 atween King Dauvit an the lords o the north o England. Dauvit took twa arras, an in the stramash an Inglis baron got a grup o him, but no afore Dauvit knockit a wheen o thon baron's teeth oot. Chancy Davie, as the king wis efterwards kent, wis taen a presonar, tho his nevey the Stewart got back hame an wis soon at the heid o the king's cooncil as lutenant o the kinrik. Edwart Balliol wis lowsed on Scotland in the hairst – his hinmaist shot at the croun – but Edwart o England haed Dauvit in his hauns an thocht better tae treat wi him.

The weirs haed been ill eneuch for Scotland, but a deidly smit noo oxert alang wi them. Stertin in the dowp-end o 1349, sodgers fae England fechtin the Scots in the Borders gied this maist deidly smit – the Black Deith – tae thair inemies. It is jaloused nooadays that this wis a pneumatic plague, acause it spreid nae bother in caulder climates, an gaed fae body tae body, wi nae ratton in sicht. Efter the smitten's bouk haed baggit, he or she dee'd in aboot twa days. Aince it haed dwyned awa in 1350, atween a quarter an a third o Scots fowk haed dee'd. It wad veesit Scotland again in 1361 an 1379, an mony mair times efter thae years. King Dauvit haed been safe ahin the waws o the Touer o Lunnon, an syne, in 1361, wad traivel til Aiberdeenshire tae escape thon ootbrek. Atween hauns he wis in England whaur Edwart III proponed that shuid Dauvit will his croun til a son o Edwart's, the Inglis king wad write-aff ony ransom claim an awn Scotland as a kinrik wi its ain richts, subject til England as owerlord. Whit Dauvit thocht o this isna clear, but aince the Frainch, an Robert the Stewart, heard

about it, thay steert the fowk up for weir. In 1355 the Scots bate the Inglis at Nesbit Muir by Berrick. In turn, Edwart o Inglan brocht an airmy intae Scotland, in Februar 1356, an brunt his wey ben the Lothians, but he wis weary gettin. The same year he claucht King John o Fraunce an wantit King Dauvit, an Scotland, tae mak terms. Agin ony ploys comin aff, the Soothron king got Edwart Balliol tae



Dauvit II & Edwart III

sell his richts tae the Scots croun til him in 1356. Balliol hisel dee'd bairnless in Yorkshire, in 1364. Balliol haed haen a guid claim on the croun, but it wis the way he gaed about it that scunnert maist Scots. Bi the Treaty o Berrick, gree'd on 3 October 1357, King Dauvit wis brocht hame for a 100,000 merks ransom tae be payed ower ten year. The king's factors noo stentit the lands, hooses, an guid o the kinrik, for tae raise the siller that the kinrik cuid ill afford, but in daein this gied the burgesses mair o a voice in the gaitherings o the estates an pairlaments. It wisna lang afore King Dauvit divertit a bittie siller, meant for ransom payments, intil ither projects or intil his ain neive. His wife, Queen Jean, dee'd on 14 August 1362 at Hertford in Inglan an he took a second wife, Magret Drummond, the dochter o Sir Maucom Drummond. Thay war mairried oot o the bishop o Saunt Aundrae's hoose at Inchmurdoch, by Boarhills in Fife, on 20 Februar 1363. This same

year the war an attemptit rising agin the king. Three lords, Robert the Stewart, Weelum erle o Dooglas, an Paitrik erle o Maich, haed for the maist pairt run Scotland atween them while Dauvit wis awa in Inglan. Bi 1363 thay thocht the king fund less favour in them an that he wis spennin ower muckle o the siller meant for his ransom. His second mairrage, an the heizin o the Drummond faimly, nicht'a been anither thing that fasht them. But Dauvit hired mair sodgers an pit doun the Stewart an his freens, giein his gallus nevey time in the jyle.

In the wast o the kinrik anither lord haed, in Dauvit's een, usurp't the king's pouer. John o the Isles, heid o the MacDonell kinred, haed taen tae cawin hisel *ri innse gall*, a teetle that's owerset in Scots as 'king o the isles'. In the days o a mauchless Scots croun, John brocht guid lordship tae the Heilans an Isles whaur the king cuidna, even makkin treaties wi the Inglis, but Dauvit clearly didna want the faur wast gain the gait it haed done afore the 1260's. At the hinnerend, in 1369, Dauvit gaed north, dauntont, an syne peacified John, makkin it clear that in his een John wis a lord, an no his equal. Dauvit's ettle at joukin oot his ransom

payments brocht about mair veesits til Ingland – an mair ploys. Aince mair it wis pit tae Dauvit, bi Edwart o Ingland, that gin the bairnless king wad lea his croun til Edwart or ane o his sons, Dauvit wad be freed o ony ransom. But as tae this ploy, weirs an nationheid haed come faur eneuch tae undae it. The Estates o Scotland forgaitert in 1364 an threapit on freedom: thay wad raither pey the king's ransom nor thole an Inglis king as heir. The Scots noo played a pawkie gemm, gettin better ransom terms ilka time the Soothrons gaed tae weir wi Fraunce an haed tae keek ower thair shouders.

As for King Dauvit, he wis maister an mair o his kinrik. In 1367 he stertit biggin a new castle at Embra alang wi a muckle touer that wis cryed efter him. It wis pairt fort an pairt kingly hoose wi his ain chaumers, financed aff the rowth o customs revenues he wis noo makkin. In Mairch 1370 the bairnless king divorced Queen Magret, an haed thochts o mairryin a third time. But on 22 Februar 1371 Dauvit dee'd aw a sudden, at his muckle touer hoose in Embra, aged nearly 47. He wis burried at Halyrood. Magret Drummond seen him oot an dee'd 31 Januar 1375. Gien scowth efter 1357 Dauvit shawed that he cuid be a strang king. He will aye bide in the shadda o his kenspeckle faither but in the hinnerend Dauvit left Scotland freestaunin – jist.

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