



## Scotland's Ain Kingly Hooses: Pairt 2

Walcome tae pairt twa o Scotland's Ain Kingly Hooses. In this pairt we hear about the Jynt kings o Dalriada an Pechtland fae AD 789 til AD 900

### HOOSE O FERGUS

**Constantine son o Fergus 789-820** Constantine son o Fergus o Dalriada, a Gaelic-speakin Scot, wis the first king tae rule ower baith Pechts an Scots. Becomin king o Dalriada in 785 he conquest the kinrik o Fortrui bi 789, an, bi 800, the lave o Pechtland. He flittit fae the wast tae the Pechtish east an held his coort in thae airts. Tho his mither leid wis Gaelic, he wis appearinly at hame wi Pechtish tradeetions. It micht be that the Viking raids that haed sterit in his day, led til his slidder grup on Pechtland efter 814 but it wis unner Constantine an his follaers on the throne that the kinrik o Scotland wis born. Ae tradeetion threaps that he dee'd in Kilchousland monastery in Kintrye in 820.

**Innes son o Fergus 820-834** Innes wis the brither o Constantine. He wis maist likely king o Dalriada unner his brither an syne follaed him as owerlord o baith Pechts an Scots in 820. Auld fernyears claims that Innes brocht the relics o Saunt Andra tae Scotland. It is clear eneuch that the first kirk at Kilrimont, biggit in the 8ct century, wis repairit in his day, an a sma toun grew up as mair an mair pilgrims made thair wey tae worship at the releegious cult. Syne the toun wad be cryed Saunt Aundraes in the Scots leid. King Innes upheld the maucht o his kin an wis follaed bi his nevey as king ower baith the Pechts an Scots.

**Durstane son o Constantine 834-837** The nevey o King Innes. No muckle is kent about this king o twa-three year but the Vikings micht'a brocht about his dounfaw.

**Ewen son o Innes 837-839** King Ewen - alang wi mony o the Pechtish an Scots heids o kin - fell in a muckle fecht agin the Vikings in Fortriu in 839. Atween 839 an 848 Ewen's kizzen, Kennet son o Alpin, an a fairly o Pechtish kings fae the north-east o Scotland, wis at heid an aix ower the disputit owerkingship.

### HOOSE O ALPIN

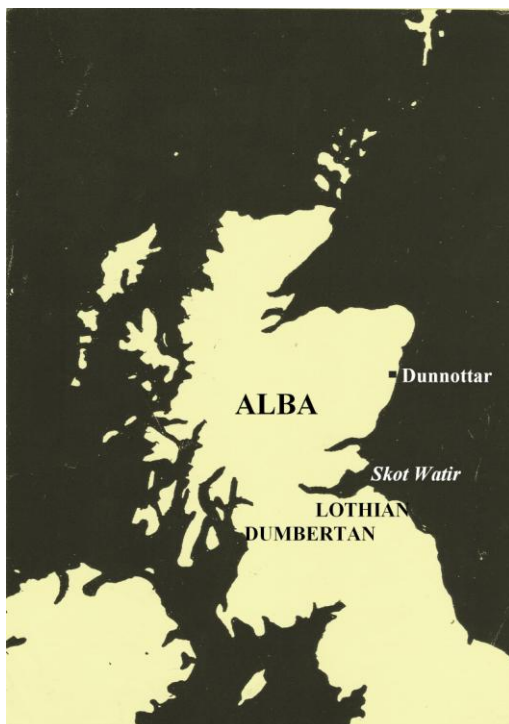
**Kennet son o Alpin 839-858** Kennet cam tae pouer in the days whan the Dens an Norse - the Vikings - defait the Scots an Pechts in Fortriu. His faither micht'a been slauchtert in the same fecht an sae Kennet becam king ower Dalriada. In 843 he took the owerlordship o Pechtland an-aw, an gauin bi auld accoonts – an modren speirings – it wis a bluidy adae. The war a puckle kings in north-east Pechtland that focht agin him but Kennet wis the maister an mair

bi 848. Stories o his slauchter o the Pechts is grundit on the fechts o the 840s, while chroniclers tells us that Kennet invadit Lothian a hantle times. Kennet follaed his kinsmen in makkin the Pechtish east his sate o pouer: dootless he wis lossin land tae the Norse. Kennet brocht in help fae Irland, an made mairrage alliances wi the Brets, an even the Vikings an-aw. He dee'd on the 8 Februar 858 at his hoose o strength at Forteviot.

**Donal I son o Alpin 858-862** He wis the son o Alpin an brither o Kennet. Donal follaed his brither as king an haed tae fecht wi the Norse, but didna lang ring. He dee'd 13 Aprile 862 at Scoun.

**Constantine I son o Kennet 862-877** Son o Kennet. Like his faither an uncle, Constantine haed tae politic an warsle wi the Norse turn aboot acause his kinrik o Alba wis on the gate atween the Viking kinriks o Dublin an York, an astrictit tae the north bi the Norse in the isles. In 875 the Vikings focht the Brets an the Pechts efter the Vikings haed been driven oot o York, an syne thay stertit tae spyle Alba. Bi 877 Constantine wis aw oot wi the ootlins an brocht them tae fecht, either at Innerdovot in Angus or by Dollar in Fife, but he wis defeat an killt.

**Heith Lichtfit 877-878** Heith wis anither son o Kennet. Heith follaed his brither as king but haed tae fecht wi the Norse reengin the kinrik. Forby thon fashery, Heith wisna lang in pouer whan the kinred o Greigor made a claim on the croun an brocht him tae fecht at Strathallan, Perthshire, whaur he wis killt.



**Greigor son o Donal 878-889** Greigor wis the son o Donal I and kizzen o Heith. In thae days the kingship wis held bi the custom o tanistry. This meant that aw the adult men o the faimly, sprung fae the same gransher, haed a richt tae kingship. Nae bairn cuid be king an the croun wis aye held bi an adult man, but it led tae deidly feuds an slauchters acause that many cheils cuid pit forrit thair ain claims. The kinsmen o Greigor maist likely slew Heith wi a hauder fae Dumbertan an ruled Alba while Eochy, anither kizzen, held Dumbertan itsel. Greigor dee'd at Dundurn *ab.*889

**Eochy o Dumbertan 878-889** Eochy wis the son o Rhun king o Dumbertan that wis mairried til a dochter o Kennet son o Alpin. Eochy's granfaither, Habart,

haed been slain bi Constantine I sae historians jalouse thon micht'a been the reason for his uphaud o Greigor agin the family o Heith. Eochy wis likely a haufling whan he cam tae the kingship but he ruled along wi Greigor in Alba. The twa kings fell fae pouer in 889 an wis herried oot the kinrik. Eochy wis the hinmaist o the hamelt kings o Dumbertan. His time an place o deith is unkent.

**Donal II The Gallus 889-900** Donal The Gallus wis the son o Constantine I. Donal I led his kin agin Greigor an Eochy in 889 an took the croun for hisel. In the years 889-90 Donal appearinly conquest Dumbertan, garrin Eochy flee. Mony Brettonic nobles noo took thairsels aff in a muckle flittin tae thair kinsmen in Wales. It wis unner Donal II that the Gaelic Scots first lowpit the *Skot Watir* – or Firth o Forth - bade amang the Auld-Angles speakin fowk, an won owerance o the lands o Lothian. Lothian haed been pairt o the kinrik o Northumberland, but hit haed been conquest wi the Dens no lang afore, leain Lothian tae staun its lane. King Donal wis novative in kirk an state bi elidin awthing in Pechtish law that wisna conform tae the laws an weys o the Gaels. Fae noo on the wad be nae question that the Gaelic leid an customs wis tae come afore aw ither tradeetions in the kinrik o Alba. King Donal dee'd at Dunnottar in 900. He haed brocht aw the kinriks o the north intae the girth o Alba.

© Dauvit Horsbroch