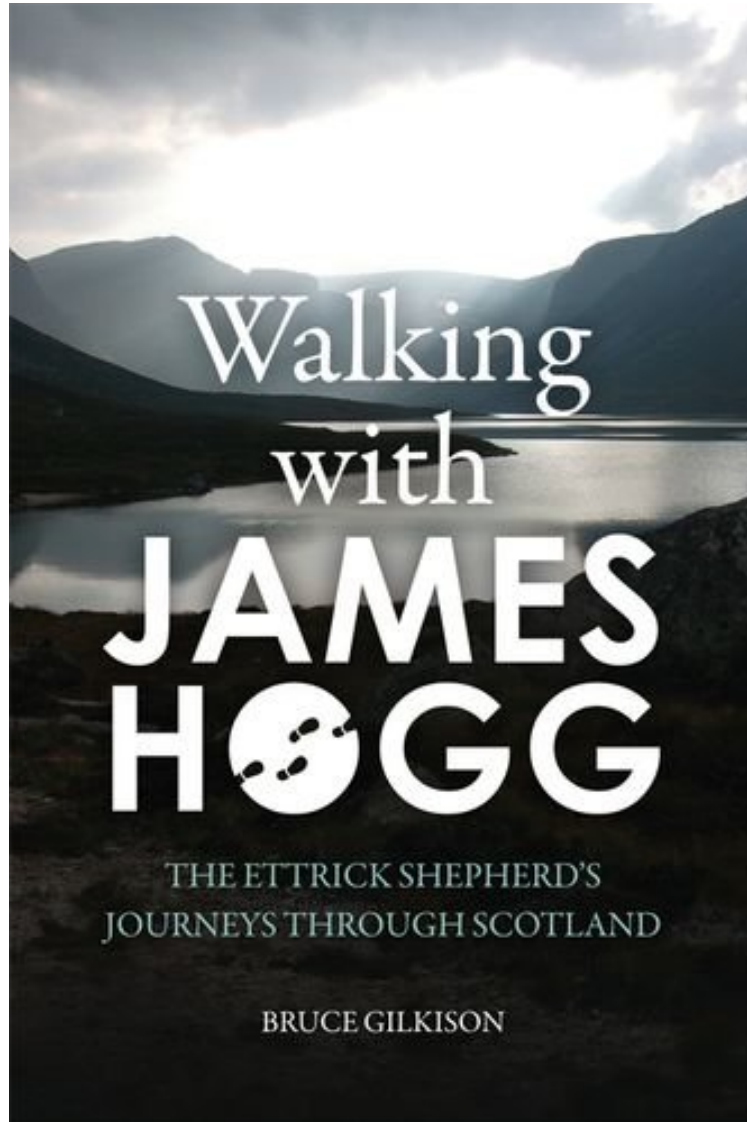


[E-BOOK] Walking with James Hogg: The Ettrick Shepherd's Journeys through Scotland

Walking with James Hogg: The Ettrick Shepherd's Journeys through Scotland

Bruce Gilkison

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Bruce Gilkison : Walking with James Hogg: The Ettrick Shepherd's Journeys through Scotland before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Walking with James Hogg: The Ettrick Shepherd's Journeys through Scotland:

James Hogg, also known as the Ettrick Shepherd, was a writer, poet, sportsman, musician and larger-than-life personality. In 1802, uneducated and still unknown, he set out on the first of a series of journeys through Scotland, from the Borders to the Highlands and Hebrides. The journeys were inspiring, life-changing and often frightening. They led him to a life of chaos, failures, fame, fun and literary masterpieces. Now, a descendant follows his footsteps and reflects on his experiences, and on the remarkable rediscovery of Hogg's works a century after his death. It is a story of tenacity, of daring to be different and, against all odds, success and a flourishing legacy. It is a lively look at an extraordinary life and some of his works, including *Confessions of a Justified Sinner*, considered by many to be one of the greatest novels ever written. Bruce Gilkison, a New Zealander and a great-great-grandson of Hogg's, walked through Scotland to discover what was special about him and his journeys. Like Hogg, he had no idea where these travels might lead. He found a world of stunning landscapes, fairies and mystery, genius and ambiguity, friendships and back-stabbings, and learnt about his flawed, lovable and eccentric ancestor.

Gilkison's self-deprecating curiosity succeeds remarkably well in channelling the well-attested charm of his great-great-grandfather, and in linking this benign "ancestor-worship" to his own twenty-first century appreciation for landscape and concern with ecology. -- *Studies in Scottish Literature*, 42:1 About the Author Bruce Gilkison is a New Zealander and a great-great-grandson of Hogg's.