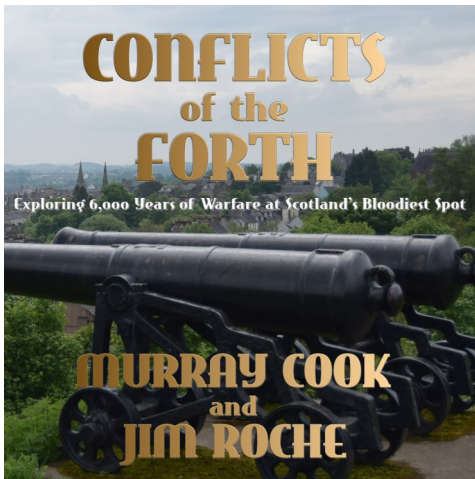


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Conflicts of the Forth

Exploring 6,000 Years of Warfare at Scotland's Bloodiest Spot

Explore the tumultuous battlegrounds of Stirlingshire and Scotland's Forth Valley in *Conflicts of the Forth*, a gripping journey through centuries of historic warfare. Archaeologist Dr Murray Cook and military history enthusiast Jim Roche bring to life the epic clashes that shaped the destiny of a nation. From William Wallace's heroic stand at Stirling Bridge to the strategic manoeuvres of World War II, this book vividly portrays the courage, tactics, and human drama that unfolded on these storied fields of conflict.

Delving deep into the archaeology and historical records, the authors uncover the untold stories of the soldiers and officers who died on these battlegrounds, shedding new light on their lives and sacrifices. With meticulous research and vivid storytelling, *Conflicts of the Forth* offers a compelling narrative that will captivate both history enthusiasts and general readers alike. Whether you are a lover of Scottish history or an inquisitive visitor to the region, this book is an essential guide to understanding the rich tapestry of conflict that has shaped the landscape and people of the Forth Valley and Stirling.

Author Biography

Dr Murray Cook is Stirling Council's Archaeologist. He lives in the city with a long-suffering wife, three teenage girls and two pesky but loveable cats. He has undertaken numerous excavations across the region and published over 50 books and articles. He won a Stirling's Provost Award in 2018 for his work for the Council, where he has helped raise over £300,000 to be spent on community archaeology and research, and was even invited to see the Queen at Holyrood Palace, along with a few hundred others! He has appeared on several TV programmes, and has sometime even been paid. He writes a regular column in the *Stirling Observer* upon which this book is based, is an Honorary Research Fellow at Stirling University, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, runs an occasional course at Forth Valley College on Stirling and likes to do it in ditches (archaeology that is!). He also co-runs regular training digs open to all under the name Rampart Scotland.

Jim Roche returned to Scotland in 1995 with his wife Morven and their three children, and has lived in Stirling since then. They now have two grandchildren. After graduating in Physics at Glasgow University in 1974, Jim worked in Operations Management before studying Marketing at Lancaster University.

Jim worked in the marketing of new products for Cadbury, where he launched the Wispa bar (the original was far better than today's version). He became a Board Director of Bacardi-Martini, and remembers crossing the Atlantic on Concorde to attend an urgent meeting in New York. In business, Jim has worked with a wide range of organisations which have included food, software development, telecoms, games and virtual reality, forestry estates, electronics and precision engineering. He has several published articles on military themes as well as on Church history. Jim has volunteered at various archaeological digs, most particularly at the Roman frontier at the Gask Ridge over several seasons.

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