

An awfy tautology for Barons

FOR 1ST SCOTTISH BARONS' DAY AT THE PRESTOUNGRANGE GOTHENBURG IN PRESTONPANS



Gif ye're a fresh beginner
at this noble Baron lark
please find attached hereto a guide
for those still in the dark.

A Baron's lot's a quantity
o' Queen's men
in the main
and your gaithering here thegither
Revives the noble rank again....

For there's divers Barons' duties tae be done
and their lot need not be an unhappy one!

Remember back past history
when a Baron could be called
by Royal Liege tae violent wars
tae serve his Sovereign Lord!

Well, your towers are built of ivory now
and no o' stanes and mortar
but the good news is your duties
don't include the pain and slaughter!

Aye! Yestermen ye may be
and nearly gone the day
so rise up and stand! Review again-
the role ye still may play!



Mair preferable - be philanthropists
encouraging the Airts;
as wi' Prestoungrange
and Dolphinstoun
and roond about thae pairts!

That Barons can be leaders still's
mair desirable in this age
o' battered cyber-cliches-
be a healthy Baronage!

Upget then on this Feast Day
first o' a thousand mair
each 28 November
We'll repeat the same again!

So welcome tae this Barons' place
that some find unco strange-
Your presence on the scene is grand
By behest at Prestoungrange

Nae Jack-in-office Barons they
hae wished ye this advice-
free gratis and for naething
so please read it ower twice!

*John Lindsay, Poet Laureate
November 28th 2005*

