## Contents

**FOREWORD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. MYTH AND LEGEND</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ANON: Sir Patrick Spens</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRAD: Sea Prayer from Carmina Gadelica</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>JAMES MACPHERSON: Carthon from The Poems of Ossian</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRAD: Great Silkie</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ERIC LINKLATER: Sealskin Trousers</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>JOHN Buchan: Skule Skerry from The Runagates Club</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ERIC LINKLATER: The Earldom from The Ultimate Viking</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ROBERT SOUTHHEY: The Inchcape Rock</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 2. WAR AT SEA | Introduction | 59 |
|               | GEORGE MACKAY BROWN: Ships of Julius Agricola Sail into the Pentland Firth from The Wreck of the Archangel | 63 |
|               | WALTER SCOTT: The Lord of the Isles Canto IV Verse XI | 64 |
|               | ROBERT LINDSAY OF PITSCOTTIE: 'Sir Andrew Wood' and 'The Great Michael' from Historie and Chronicles of Scotland | 65 |
|               | WILLIAM ROUGHEAD: The Toll of the Speedy Return from The Riddle of the Ruthvens; and other Studies | 69 |
|               | THOMAS GORDON: 'A Matter of Protocol' from The Old Scots Navy | 89 |
|               | TOBIAS SMOLLETT: 'The Fleet Sails for Cartagena' from Roderick Random | 91 |
|               | HAROLD BOULTON: Skye Boat Song | 96 |
|               | ANON: 'John Paul Jones's Cruise in Home Waters' from The Scots Magazine April 1778 | 97 |
|               | JOHN Buchan: Various Doings in the West from Mr Standfast | 101 |
|               | ANON: Newspaper Report of Loss of HMS Iolaire from Daily Record 2nd January 1919 | 117 |
|               | IAIN CRIGHTON SMITH: Iolaire from Collected Poems | 120 |
3. A LIVING FROM THE SEA

Introduction 123
ANON: The Bonny Ship the *Diamond* 127
SIR WALTER SCOTT: 'The Whale-hunt' from *The Pirate* 128
GAVIN MAXWELL: 'Shark-fishing in Soay' from *Harpoon at a Venture* 136
NORMAN MACCAIG: Basking Shark from *Collected Poems* 141
THOMAS PENNANT: 'The Herring Fishery' from *A Tour in Scotland and Voyage to the Hebrides, 1772.* 142
ANON: The Fisher Lass 148
ANON: Song of the Fish-gutters 149
RUARAIDH MACTHOMAS (DERICK S. THOMSON): Clann Nighean an Sgadain (The Herring Girls) 150
NEIL GUNN: The Derelict Boat from *The Silver Darlings* 152
R.B. CUNNINGHAME GRAHAM: Christie Christison 169
‘VAGALAND’ (T.A. ROBERTSON): Da Sang o Da Papa Men 178

4. VOYAGES

Introduction 181
ALASDAIR MACMHAIGHSTIR ALASDAIR: The Birlinn of Clanranald 187
SAMUEL JOHNSON: ‘Raasay’ from *A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland* 204
DOMHNALL GOBHA: Bha Mì òg ann an Strathghlais (I Was Young in Strathglass) Translation by Margaret Macdonell 206
HUGH S. ROBERTON: Mingulay Boat Song 208
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON: Early Impressions from *The Amateur Emigrant* 209
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON: The Voyage from *Treasure Island* 216
JOHN GALT: 'In the Firth' from *The Steamboat* 221
EDWARD GATTENS: The Sailing Ship 228
A.J. CRONIN: 'Maiden Voyage' from *Adventures in Two Worlds* 239
HERMAN MELVILLE: 'The Skyeman' from *Mardi* 249

5. PERILS OF THE SEA

Introduction 255
ANON: The Lowlands of Holland 257
WOODES ROGERS: 'The Rescue of Alexander Selkirk' from *A Cruising Voyage Round the World* 258
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON: 'The wreck of the Covenant' from *Kidnapped* 262
CONTENTS

JAMES BOSWELL: 'A Storm off Coll' from Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides 275
SAMUEL JOHNSON: 'A Storm off Coll' from A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland 280
CAROLINA OLIPHANT, LADY NAIRNE: Caller Herrin' 281
R.M. BALLANTYNE: 'The Wreck of the Arrow' from The Coral Island 283
NEIL MUNRO: The Canal Boatman by J-h C-nr-d from Glasgow Evening News 24/11/1898 293
NEIL MUNRO: 'The Clyde Gale of 1911' from Glasgow Evening News 6/11/1911 295
ALISTAIR MACLEAN: The Dileas from The Lonely Sea 299

6. PLEASURES OF THE SEA
Introduction 307
TOBIAS SMOLLETT: 'A Packet-boat to Boulogne' from Travels through France and Italy 309
WALTER SCOTT: 'Voyage on the Pharos' from John Gibson Lockhart's Life of Sir Walter Scott 314
GEORGE BLAKE: The Queen Mary from Down to the Sea 326
NEIL GUNN: Dawn at Sea from Highland Pack 339
COMPTON MACKENZIE: 'The Cabinet Minister Runs Aground' from Whisky Galore 345
ERIC LINKLATER: 'A Funeral at Sea' from The Merry Muse 362

7. THE AGE OF STEAM AND IRON
Introduction 381
RUDYARD KIPLING: McAndrew's Hymn 383
HENRY BELL: Observations on the Utility of Applying Steam Engines to Vessels etc. 389
ISAAC WELD: 'The Voyage of the Thames' from The Scots Magazine March 1816 394
NEIL MUNRO: The Ship-shop from The Clyde, River & Firth 400
NEIL MUNRO: The Vital Spark's Collision from Para Handy, Complete Edition 405
GEORGE BLAKE: The Trial Trip from the Shipbuilders 411

INDEX OF AUTHORS 417
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 419

NOTE: Titles given in quotation marks do not appear in the original and have been provided by the editors.