

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

MARCH 2011

The 1911 Census

Gladsmuir Parish in 1911

St Cuthbert's Parish Census, 1790

Dunse Relief Church

The MP's Secret

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

Vol. LVIII No. 1

The Scottish Genealogy Society

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This edition of *The Scottish Genealogist* was edited by Caroline Gerard, with the valued assistance of Joy Dodd, of Jim Cranstoun, Craig Ellery, and Richard Torrance, of Chic Bower at Sprint Repro and of all our regular and occasional contributors.

Front Cover: The Society's Coat of Arms

Back Cover: Postcard of Harelaw Road, Parish of Glasdmuir

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The Society is an academic and consultative body whose constitutional objects are to promote research into Scottish family history and to undertake the collection, exchange and publication of information and material relating to Scottish genealogy. Copies of our Constitution are available to members upon request. We assist members with modest enquiries, but do not carry out professional research. Private researchers are available, and we can also provide an ASGRA list upon request.

Meetings

Monthly meetings of the Society are held September to April in the Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, at 7.30pm around the 15th of the month, unless otherwise stated.

Membership

Single membership £20; Family and Institutional membership £25.

The Society is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a charity. Members who pay UK income tax are thus encouraged to pay subscriptions under the Gift Aid Scheme so that the Society may recover the tax paid on these sums. Details of arrangements for the scheme can be obtained from the UK Membership Secretary.

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Email: membership@scotsgenealogy.com

Information about the Society's publications and back numbers of The Scottish Genealogist can be obtained from the Sales Secretary.

Email: sales@scotsgenealogy.com

All postal correspondence should be addressed to:

15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL, Scotland.

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The Scottish Genealogist

Relevant articles are welcomed by the Hon. Editor preferably submitted in MSWord or rtf format via email or on a CD Rom. (Please, no formatting.) Illustrations are preferred in .jpeg format. Members' queries are also welcomed for inclusion in the magazine: a £2 per entry charge is made to non-members.

Email: editor@scotsgenealogy.com

Scottish Genealogy Society Website

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The Scottish 1911 Census

by Caroline Gerard

The release of the 1911 Census, taken on Sunday 2nd April that year, will be launched officially on Tuesday 5th April 2011 at the ScotlandsPeople Centre.

In 1911, the number of Enumerators in Scotland was about 9000, each delivering forms to between 200 and 300 households. In 2011, by contrast, the number of Enumerators will be nearer 6000, delivering to around 450 households each. Perhaps this sounds as though Enumerators of the 21st Century are worked harder, but it's far from such an onerous task now. In 1911, the Enumerators had to return to the households to collect the Schedules, starting on Monday 3rd April, then transcribe the data into the Books with which we are all familiar. This had to be completed by 10th April – and in those times there were many more members in the average household. While it was considered that the Enumerator's job was easier than it had been, due to greater general literacy, there were still many human errors, not to mention unwelcoming householders. The latter could often be appeased by the quiet mention of a potential £5 fine: in 2011 non-compliance may result in a fine of up to £1000.

Furthermore, since 2001 householders simply post back their schedules in the supplied envelopes, and the Enumerator does not do much more than record that they have been received and follow up non-returns. In 2011, for the first time, there will be the opportunity to complete a schedule online.

The population hasn't increased by so very much in the past century: in 1901, the year of the first national census, Scotland's population was 1.6 million, in 1911 4.7 million and in 2010 it was estimated to be 5.2 million.

There were some problems in 1911 ensuring that everyone was included and that information was collected as accurately as possible: not because of Jedi Knights as in 2001, but objections, deliberate tricks and the general perversity of humanity.

One "Parish Minister" wrote to *The Scotsman* complaining that the Instructions required him to state his profession as "Minister (Established Church)", while he intended to give his proper and legal title of "Minister (Church of Scotland)". He considered this other title to be "a discourtesy to the National Church" and felt that an apology was due. And we thought all these demands for government apologies were a new politically-correct phenomenon?

There had been concern that crews returning to ships berthed at Leith might be inadvertently omitted. If the ships were expected to sail in the early hours of the morning, sailors were in the habit of not booking (and thus not paying for) a bed in a lodging-house, but waiting instead in a shelter at the docks. However, it transpired that most lodging-house keepers simply extended on

paper the length of their guests' stay. Handy for those of us tracking our marine ancestors!

In Glasgow it was reported by *The Scotsman* that between midnight and 2am at police stations "the names and other necessary particulars were taken regarding 360 persons in custody". Given the reasons that some persons may have been in custody overnight, perhaps some of that information should be treated with caution. The Glasgow police also enumerated some 250 persons sleeping outdoors in "parks, squares and other open places and outhouses".

Mischief, as ever, was afoot. Some people set out to evade the Census, just for fun. Some whist parties were arranged outwith homes, some nocturnal picnics were held (with the bonus of a glorious sunrise) and at one party, someone spotted a chap outside who seemed to be watching the house and counting those who arrived. There was the suspicion that he was "a Census spy", so the young people took it in turns to slip out of the back door of the house, down the lane and enter the house again by the front door as apparent new arrivals, leaving the chap outside to wonder how the house could accommodate so many merry-makers!

The group deliberately evading enumeration on principle, who gained the greatest publicity, were the Suffragettes. "No vote, no census!" was the slogan. Some booked public rooms and sat there all night, or in untenanted shops, so that they could not be counted within a household. In Dundee, members of the Women's Social and Political Union, organised by Miss Daisy Fraser Smith, assembled at the meeting-place at 61 Nethergate. In Glasgow there were "two militant suffragist societies", the Women's Freedom League and the Women's Social and Political Union. The former kept open its headquarters in Sauchiehall Street all night.

In Edinburgh, Miss Lucy Burns invited guests to entertainment (music, speeches and "waxworks") at the Cafe Vegetaria, in the south of the city. It all began at 12.30am, with tea and coffee served at 2am, followed by an interval between 3 and 5am, during which time the attendees could either sleep or play bridge. At 5am, the programme resumed with songs and also violin and piano recitals. The "waxworks" were in fact acted by members of the assembly. There was a romantic (in the older sense) section including such features as 'Young Lochinvar and Fair Ellen'. The political section included caricatures of Asquith and Churchill, the former in various disguises he was alleged to have adopted to have avoided suffragettes while travelling abroad and the latter impersonated by a lady who apparently resembled him.

One of the most audacious evasion attempts was not in Scotland but in London, where a woman was discovered in the crypt of the House of Commons. As she refused to give any account of herself, there is no way of determining if she was distantly related to one Mr Fawkes.

It's not known how many people eluded enumeration, but the official statement was that the effect on the count was "negligible".

In 1911, for the first time, Hollerith machines were used in Britain to analyse the data. These had been in use for the US Census from 1890, reducing the analysis time dramatically. They had been devised by one Herman Hollerith, who had watched train conductors punching passengers' tickets in varying parts of the tickets to indicate a number of categorisations. He spotted the potential of this methodology and invented a system whereby data would be recorded on punched cards to be read by a tabulating machine. Not only was this a very much faster method of collating the raw data, it meant that analysis could be more flexible and the results could take many more forms. A far greater number of statistics could be gleaned from the information gathered. Herman Hollerith went on to found his own company, Tabulating Machine Company, and when in 1924, after a couple of mergers, it required a more advanced descriptive name, it was changed to International Business Machines – IBM.

There was understandable excitement when the English and Welsh 1911 Census was released, as the original Schedules had been retained and are now digitised, available to view online. Seeing ancestors' handwriting, sometimes for the first time, can be a thrill. This will not be the case in Scotland, alas, where, as with earlier Census Returns, the Schedules were destroyed and only the Books preserved.

The 1911 will not be transferred to microfilm for use in libraries, as were previous census returns. The only access will be via the ScotlandsPeople system, either at the Centre or online. As the household entries required two pages each, the result will be in A3 format, rather than A4 – and in colour! (And at the same price for an electronic download.) Because of the far greater physical size of the Enumerators' Books, they will not be stored at New Register House. Some other new features will be the availability of digitised images of the street indices and the files of the GROS staff who worked on the Census. The latter will be unindexed, but free to view. An example of this is shown on pages 6 and 7.

In accordance with the legislation requiring a strict 100-year closure, we cannot reproduce a sample page from 1911 in advance of its release, but the Registrar General for Scotland has kindly granted permission to reproduce the Enumerator's Example page – and supplied a digital image, too – which may be viewed on pages 8 and 9.

With thanks to Davina Williams for her assistance.

Think of your future family researchers!

Why not spare them the wait until the 2011 Census, to be taken on 27th March, is released in 2111?

Make a copy of your 2011 Schedule and keep it with your family papers. If you'd like to learn more about it or download a sample schedule, visit www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/census/censushm2011

in Enumeration Book.

IV.

Parliamentary Burgh of Edinburgh		Parliamentary Community of South Edinburgh		Municipal Burgh in-Police-Burgh of Edinburgh	
Special-Resourcing-District of		Special-Lighting-District of		Island of	
PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION					
Personal Occupation	Industry or Service with which Worker is connected	Employer, Worker, or on Own Account	If Working at Home	BIRTHPLACE	Nationally If born in a Foreign Country
1 Spirit Dealer		Employer		Edinburgh, Edinburgh	
				Dunfermline, Edinburgh	
				Edinburgh, Glasgow	
				Do do	Blind
2 Provisioner		On Account	At Home	Perth, Fife	
3 Nursery School Teacher		Employer		Ireland	
				Kirkcaldy, Fife	
				Do Kirkcaldy	
4 School Boiler				Perth, Fife	
				Do do	
5 Grocer (Shop Assistant)		Worker		Stirling, Fife	
6 General Servant				England	
7 Engineer	Printing Works	Worker		Canterbury, Kent	
				Do do	
8 Handloom Weaver (Home Work)		On Account	At Home	Perth, Fife	
9 Tailor (Tailor)		Worker		Hungary	Hungarian
10 Insurance Clerk	Insurance Company			Ireland	
				Do	
				Edinburgh, Edinburgh	Totally Deaf
11 Agent	Civil Service			Do do	
12 Law Apprentice				Do do	
13 Electrician	Railway Company			Edinburgh, Edinburgh	
14 General Servant				Edinburgh, Edinburgh	
15 Medical Practitioner				Edinburgh, Edinburgh	
16 Medical Student				Edinburgh, Edinburgh	
				Do do	
17 Housewife (Domestic)				France	Nat. Brit. Subject
18 General Servant				Edinburgh, Edinburgh	
19 Agricultural Labourer		Worker		Ireland	
20 St. Margaret					

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REGISTER of ESTABLISHMENT

Census 1911

(For Appointment of the

Name.	Age on Appointment.	Record of Commencement.
<u>Women Supervisors</u>		
Jemima Bruce	33	22 May 1911
Violet Goldie	18	
Marion Jockel	26	
Roberta McEwan	23	
Mary Watt	31	
Nellie Wood	27	25 May 1911
<u>Girl Assistants</u>		
Minnie C. Braudé		29 May 1911
Agnes Brown	15 - born 27 April 1896	
Christina Brown	15 - - 11 April 1896	
Isabella K. Campbell	16 - - 26 May 1895	
Isabella Cowan	-	
Margaret Dawson	-	10 July 1911
Violet Donaldson	17 - 27 Dec. 1893	24 May 1911
Margaret Fraser	15 - 7 Oct. 1896	27 Nov. 1911
Margaret Gourlay	17 - 11 Aug. 1893	29 May 1911
Horne Gowans	16 - 22 Sept. 1894	
Christie Hartness	16 - 10 Aug. 1894	5 June 1911
Violet Harper	-	29 May 1911
Margery E. Hunter	17 - Sept. 1894	16 Oct. 1911
Jessie Jeffrey	17 - 12 March 1894	29 May 1911
Catherine Johnson	-	
Christie Kelly	15 - 18 Dec. 1895	
Catherine Knight	16 - 10 July 1894	

details see File PC (6) No 17711

[illegible]



P.B.F.A. BOOK FAIRS in SCOTLAND 2011

*Always a mixed range of antiquarian and secondhand books,
and often maps and prints for all tastes and pockets*

March

Fri/Sat 11-12 EDINBURGH:

Radisson Blu Hotel, 80 High Street, Royal Mile. Noon-7, 10-5, free

Scotland's Premier Fair held in conjunction with the ABA; approximately 60 exhibitors.

April

Sat 16 DUNBLANE: Victoria Halls, Stirling Road. 10--5, £1

Sun 17 GLASGOW: Pond Hotel (Kelvin Suite), Great Western Road. 10-5, £1

May

Sat 21 DUMFRIES: Assembly Rooms, George Street. 10-5, £1

June

Sat 18 EDINBURGH: Radisson Blu Hotel, 80 High Street, Royal Mile. 10-5, £1

Sun 19 SCOTTISH BORDERS: Corn Exchange, Market Square, Melrose. 10-5, £1

July

Thurs 28 - SKYE ANTIQUARIAN BOOKS FESTIVAL 2011

Sat 30 F' EILL SHEANN LEABHRAICHEAN AN EILEAN 2011

Aros Cultural Centre, Viewfield Road, Portree, Skye 12-5.30, 9-5.30, 9-4.30, £1

August

Sat 6 FORFAR: The Reid Hall, Castle Street. 10-5, £1,

Sun 7 BALLATER: Victoria Hall, Station Square. 10-5, £1, *

Sun/Sat 14-20 EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: Bute Suite, Roxburghe Hotel, Charlotte Square.
Noon-6 Sunday, 10-6 Monday to Saturday, free

October

Sat 22 EDINBURGH: Radisson Blu Hotel, 80 High Street, Royal Mile. 10-5, £1

Sat/Sun 29-30 ABERDEEN: Hilton Treetops Hotel, 161 Springfield Road. 10-5, £1

December

Sat 10 EDINBURGH: Radisson Blu Hotel, 80 High Street, Royal Mile. 10-5, £1

All fairs have disabled access & facilities unless marked *

Fairline - 01763 249212 for details of forthcoming fairs

www.pbfa.org for details of fairs, news & members

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Free printed calendar on request, please send SAE

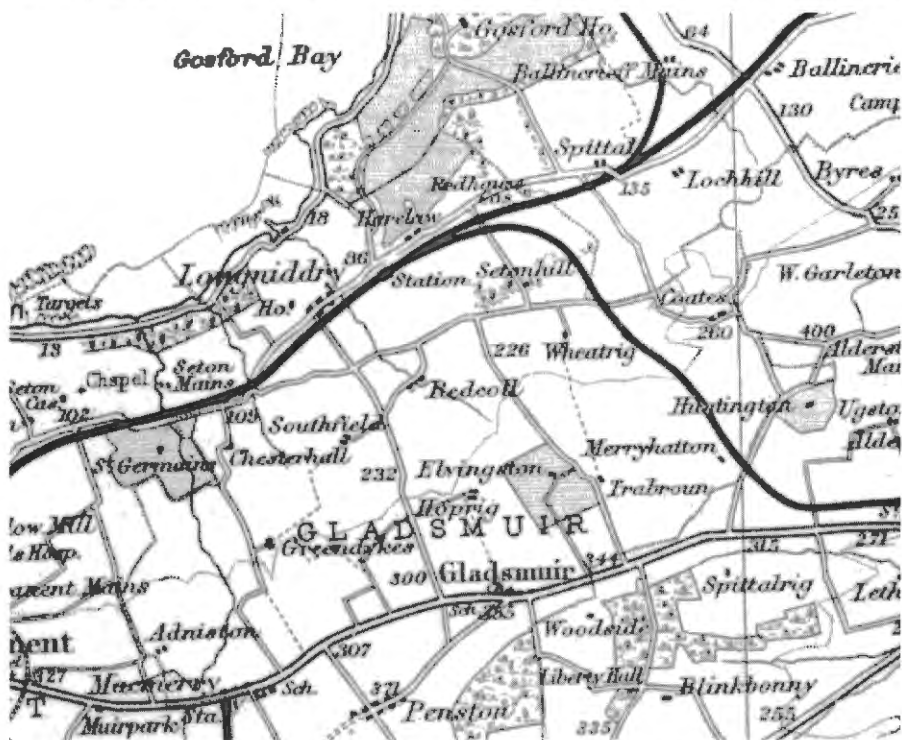
The Parish of Gladsmuir in 1911

by Jim Cranstoun

The East Lothian parish of Gladsmuir has a north-central position in the county. The main part of the parish is situated on a ridge known as the Tranent-Garleton Ridge and on a gentle slope to the north which leads to a mile-long incursion onto the coast of the Firth of Forth.

The pattern of human settlement was a fairly scattered one. There was a vestigial settlement at Longniddry in the north of the parish, another decayed village at Gladsmuir, the site of the parish church. The largest substantial concentration of houses was the mining village at Macmerrie which had effectively replaced an older settlement at Penston.

The human population of Gladsmuir parish was 1433 in 1911. This represented a steady decline from the maximum of 1945 souls in 1861. This was a common feature of Scottish rural parishes during the later nineteenth century and represents the situation where an increasing birth rate was



Part of the Parish of Gladsmuir from the Bartholomew Survey Atlas of Scotland, 1912

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steadily being undermined by a rising trend of outward migration, mainly on the part of farm workers who were increasingly seduced by the vision of comfort and conveniences of life in the towns. This was particularly the case with women farm workers, or bondagers as they are sometimes known, who had habitually carried out much of the heaviest physical work on the farms. By 1911 the number of women working on the land was about one-third of the number a century earlier.

Economy

Gladsmuir participated in two of East Lothian's three main economic activities – farming and coal mining. Fishing was never included as the parish had no natural harbour.

Agriculture

The enumeration of the 1911 Census indicates the size and specialisms of the agricultural workforce giving an indication that Gladsmuir's farms were staffed largely to carry out arable farming activities, though work with livestock also played an important part.

The main crops were root vegetables, suited to the area's rather sandy soil. The livestock was predominantly dairy cattle, sheep being better put to graze on higher ground. Scottish agriculture was still depressed, as from 1871 cheaper grain was being imported from the USA. This situation continued until the Great War inhibited imports and thereafter was depressed again. Much of the land previously used for grain was turned over to grazing. There was almost no mechanisation then, the bulk of the work still being done by horse and by hand.

East Lothian had its share of migrant workers, but such persons arrived in May and worked until October, and therefore do not appear in Census Returns.

The change to less labour-intensive farming meant that houses remained vacant. Perhaps an unexpected result of this was the reduction of illegitimate births, as a young couple could find a home more easily and thus would marry, rather than the young mother stay single and with her family. The higher illegitimacy rates in Banffshire and Wigtownshire have been attributed (in part) to housing shortages in those areas.

Land ownership in the early 20thC was the preserve of the few, in Gladsmuir notably of Lord Lamington, the Earl of Wemyss and March, Archibald Hay Tennent, Robert Ainslie of Elvingston, the Earl of Haddington, Lord Binning and the Marquis of Linlithgow. Such persons would have their land let to tenant farmers and enjoy the income. As Lloyd George's Finance Act of 1910 and the subsequent "Domesday" Survey increased taxation of the rich, those who did not have substantial incomes from other sources, such as mining or industry, found that they had to sell part of their lands, and thus ownership became more diverse.

Mining

Mining was of the old-fashioned style, of drilling into the side of a hill and working the seam until it ran out, rather than sinking a deep shaft, expensively, to less accessible coal. (It's rumoured that at some mines, the Edinburgh Collieries Company, when backfilling the mines after exhaustion, used some of their own records in revenge on the government for nationalisation!) Despite the health risks, mining was considered a better job with higher pay. In many areas "gangsters" would recruit their own bands of miners, but at Macmerrie the Riggonhead Coal Company appears to have had long-term employees.

The opening and closing of collieries could have major effects on the population of individual parishes. Geological problems with coal seams could lead to sudden closures. The Riggonhead Coal Company, which in 1909 rented around fifty cottages to house its miners, ceased operations before 1914. Ten years later all coal mining in Gladsmuir Parish had ended. Some miners moved into Tranent, Prestonpans, Cockenzie and Port Seton – and some

joined the Army when war broke out. While the miners at Gladsmuir were less militant than those in other parts of Scotland, they did take part in the National Strike in early 1912 (for a minimum wage), so that discontent must have been rumbling during the previous year.

Events

The electors of East Lothian were expected to do their duty at the Polling Stations on 20th April 1911, for the third time in 15 months. After the two General Elections of 1910, a by-election was required after Richard Haldane was elevated to the House of Lords. By that time all male householders were enfranchised, although polling stations were few and far between. Despite this, the turnout was over 80%. Another Liberal, John Deans Hope, was returned. (The seconder on his nomination paper was one Thomas Blair of Hoprig Mains.) For the first time, some women were employed as polling clerks, and at the count in Haddington, several of the enumerators were also women.



Memorial to Colonel James Ainslie Younger of Elvingston, in the ruins of the old kirk of Gladsmuir

Another major event that year was the Coronation on 22nd June of King George V and Queen Mary, and villages and towns held their own celebrations.

Changes

Life had gone on in Gladsmuir much as it had done for decades, despite a few changes in farming, a reduction of the population, the introduction of the Old Age Pension and the occasional new invention such as the motor-car or the telephone. But changes were on the horizon. The mines would close.

Land would be sold. The Great War would take its unimaginable toll on the young men of the parish, both in terms of deaths and of health. Longniddry would see new houses built in the 1920s, partly as a "dormitory town" and partly as Earl Haig Homes for disabled ex-servicemen, and a new church would be built. By the time of the 1921 Census, the previous decade's events had altered some of the nature of the parish and its people forever, so that the 1911 Census will show almost the last complete picture of a bygone era.

And finally the weather

After a very cold November in 1910 and an unpredictable Spring, the Summer of 1911 was hot and sunny!

Sources:

Census of Scotland, 1911.

C.P. Snodgrass, *Third Statistical Account of Scotland: East Lothian*, 1953.

**The Scottish Genealogy Society holds
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All facilities in our Library, including 'our complete collection of
Scottish Old Parish Records microfilms' will be available to you.**

**The maximum number per group is 12,
and volunteers will be there to offer advice.**

**For further details contact
John D. Stevenson or Charles Napier
at enquiries @ scotsgenealogy.com or 0131-220 3677.**

CENSUS, CHURCH & CITY

22nd SAFHS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Visit Edinburgh in June 2011

The Scottish Association of Family History Societies Conference 2011
is being hosted by the Scottish Genealogy Society.

Saturday 25th June 2011

Adam House, 3 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1HR.

9.30am - 4.30pm

Conference speakers

Delegates - £15.00

Do you have ancestors from Edinburgh, or are you interested in its past? **Richard Hunter**, the Archivist at the Edinburgh City Archives, will introduce us to the wealth of its holdings.

We all use the Church of Scotland records in searching for our families. Have you ever searched the archives of the Scottish Episcopal Church? **Dr Tristram Clarke** from the National Archives of Scotland will give us an insight into these records.

In 2011, at last the Scottish 1911 census will be available. **Duncan Macniven** from GROS is the best person to inform us about the long-awaited release of this Census.

The Catholic Archives have recently been made available on Scotland's People, through the initiative of **Andrew Nicoll**, their Archivist. A resource of interest to everyone, not just those with Catholic ancestors.

Application forms can be downloaded,

or contact us on 0131 220 3677,

or e-mail: safhsconference2011@scotsgenealogy.com

Family History Fair

Free entry to all

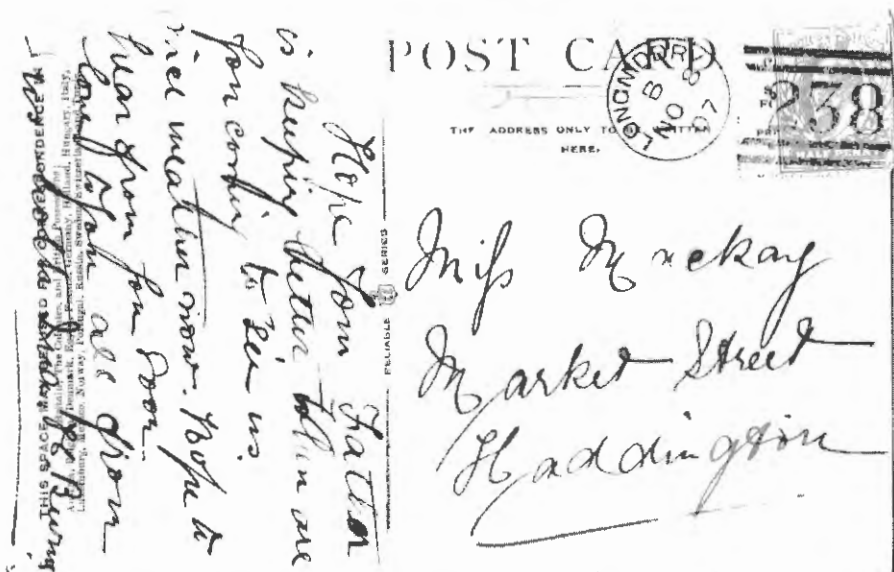
If you do not have the time to attend the talks, come and browse the many Family History Society stalls.

- Second hand book stalls - Postcard stalls - get help from Scotland's People, and the National Archives, Lothian Health Board Archives, National Library of Scotland, EDINA, FIBIS, etc.- ask the experts – get help with starting (or developing) your Family History. A full list of who will be attending can be found on our website.

www.scotsgenealogy.com

The People of Gladsmuir in 1911

by Caroline Gerard



Hope your Father is keeping better. When are you coming to see us. Nice weather now. Hope to hear from you soon. Love to you all from us both.

So wrote Ina H. Burns on the postcard of Harelaw Road (see back cover) to Miss Mackay in Haddington on Friday 8th November 1907.

One of the challenges of writing about a Census before it is released is attempting to determine who will be enumerated within a particular parish or district and who will not. With the aid of the 1901 Census, the 1909-10 Valuation Rolls, the Gladsmuir list of War Dead and Roll of Honour, the Statutory Registers plus our own recently-published Gladsmuir MIs, I've made such an attempt to identify some of the people of Gladsmuir who should prove to be present (or absent) on the night of 2nd April 1911.

In 1911 some of the population of Gladsmuir was reasonably settled, while other families moved around East Lothian from one hiring to another, and throughout the parish there was, of course, influx from other parts of the country. However, there doesn't appear to have been very much social interaction between the farming and mining communities.

Macmerry

The miners of Macmerry were inclined to stay put, with successive generations

following the same occupation and marrying neighbours, forming a closely-knit community as is often the case in mining areas. The names Bathgate, Fairgrieve, Hogg, Livingstone, Ormiston and Porteous are repeated throughout the hamlet. And yet there was a little pocket of Gaelic-speakers! The 1901 Census shows that some of the farm servants – young, strong and healthy girls – recruited by agents to come down from the Highlands and Islands (in this case, often Duirinish, Skye) to work in East Lothian had married into these mining families. While there is no indication that their children were taught Gaelic, the wives surely must have spoken it amongst themselves – possibly to complain about their husbands! And how many Gaelic words and turns of phrase made their way into family vocabularies?

About a dozen Lowland lads from this small community married Highland lassies, and some examples are as follows:

On 22nd November 1872 George Gordon married Catherine Morison. In 1901 and 1909 George was still mining at Macmerry, as were 2 of his sons, James and Donald.

On 12th November 1875 William Bathgate married Mary McDonald. He also in 1901 and 1909 was mining at Macmerry, together with at least 4 sons, James, John, Simon and Charles, all miners.

On 27th November 1892 Frank Chambers Smith married Catherine McPherson. By 1901 they had 4 young children and by 1911 probably more. Frank and Catherine lie buried in Gladsmuir Kirkyard, having died in 1937 and 1947 respectively.

On 30th June 1893 James Hogg married Ann McDonald. In 1901 the family has expanded by 5 members, Alick, David, Euphemia, John and Mary. James is listed in 1909-10 and hopefully lived until 1911 and beyond.

On 1st May 1896 John Livingstone married Annie McLeod. In 1901 they had three little daughters, Christina, Janet and Isabella.

On 9th June 1898 John Herkes married Flora McCampbell McPherson. In 1901 they had one small daughter Annie. He appears to be missing from the 1909-10 Valuation Roll. Whether he died or the family moved before then remains to be established.

Farm servants

This was a far more mobile section of the population. In his autobiography, *"Look After The Bairns": A Childhood In East Lothian*, (Tuckwell House 1999), Patrick McVeigh writes (although of a somewhat later time) that the larger farms, with a number of families housed and working there, became "small hamlets in themselves and to a very large extent formed self-contained communities". He explains that the families would be hired for a year, from Martinmas or Lammas, and that during the flitting times the school would close. He writes further



Detail from a modern gravestone in Gladsmuir Kirkyard.

...we would come across a cart with its occupants moving from farm to farm. Even as a boy I could feel some pity for the family with all its possessions piled up in the cart, mainly a big double bed or perhaps two, and a kitchen dresser of cheap pine, usually painted green. The few household goods were as many as we had in our own house, but it was the exposure of poverty on the back of a slow-moving cart which I felt, and which I will always remember.

At Samuelston in 1901, James McAdam, the Farm Grieve, age 43, stated that he had been born in Greenlaw, Berwickshire. His wife Helen had been born in Jedburgh. And the children? Janet, at 17 the eldest, had been born in Sprouston, Roxburghshire. The next two girls, Isabella and Mary Jane, had been born in Stanley, Perthshire. Joan and James had been born in Broughty Ferry, Forfarshire.

Then Georgina had been born in Peebles, followed by Helen in Haddington. The two youngest, Antonia and Agnes (9 months) were the only children born in Gladsmuir. James McAdam doesn't appear in the 1909-10 Valuation Roll, so presumably the family moved, yet again, out of the parish and will not be enumerated in the 1911 Census.

At Hodges Farm in 1901, Robert Glass, a 32-year-old ploughman, stated he had been born at Cockburnspath, Berwickshire, and his wife Jessie at Morham, East Lothian. Her parents, Robert and Marion Hannan, also in the household, had been born at North Berwick and Whitekirk. The young couple had two surviving daughters, Marion and Isabella, born at Bolton and Gladsmuir. However, the householder Robert Glass is listed there in the 1909-10 Valuation Rolls, so perhaps they stopped moving around the country, at least for a while.

His neighbour George Kerr (also not listed in 1909-10), age 24, had been born at Cockburnspath too, and his wife Margaret at Whitekirk. Their two daughters Agnes and Isabella had been born at Prestonkirk, while Margaret's mother, Agnes Anderson, had been born at Ayton, Berwickshire and a niece Joan Anderson had been born at Stenton, East Lothian.

Thomas Fender won't appear in the 1911 census. He was a ploughman at Hoprig Mains for some years, but on 23rd March, 10 days before the Census was taken, he was found dead in a water barrel, after suffering a short while of cardiac disease and mental depression. (There was no suggestion of suicide.) He was 64 years old and the husband of Helen Reddie.

Other occupations

No community survives without supportive services, of course. Some of the people involved were native to the parish or area and had opted for occupations other than farming or mining, while others had migrated into the parish for employment or professional opportunities.

Thus we find that in 1901 at Macmerry 48-year-old Robert Blair was the Postmaster (from Dirleton, but all his children were born in Gladsmuir), while his 13-year-old son John worked on the Telegraph.

There were three other postmen in the parish, Andrew Duncan, Robert Duncan and Andrew Purves Gillies. The last of these had been born in Gladsmuir in 1881, was a Railway Surfaceman in 1901, a Postman in 1909, went on to serve with the Royal Scots during the Great War and died at Longniddry, age 80, in 1962.

There were two Reading Rooms, at Macmerry and Longniddry. The former was organised by a



The ruined kirk of Gladsmuir.

committee "per George Smith" in 1909 (possibly the septuagenarian who died at Tranent on 21st May 1912) and the latter is now a Listed Building, a site of an historical event and a gift shop.

A number of shops served the community, but no public house. Any alcohol had to be

purchased at the licensed dealer. The little railway station needed staff too, and there were still a fair number of coachmen.

The police officer, presumably not over-worked, was Andrew Gallie, based at Macmerry. He was age 33 in 1901 and had been born in Tiree. In 1891 he was working as a Granite Polisher in Peterhead.

Within the next few years he had joined the police force and was based at Broxburn when he married Euphemia Webster at Edinburgh on 4th June 1895. His son George was born at Port Seton, but the family later moved into Gladsmuir and settled there for some time.

The parish ministers seemed to enjoy living at and caring for the human flock of Gladsmuir. The Rev. William B. Turnbull, incumbent at the time of the 1901 Census, stayed for 30 years. In 1911 the incumbent will be shown to be Rev. Bruce McEwan, with a ministry of only 7 years before being translated to Old Machar. (He was followed by the Rev. W.R. Wiseman, who lasted 34 years. Two of his sons served in the Royal Scots during the Great War.)

There were several schoolteachers, of course. One of these, Williamina Baird, was the widow of a Master Baker who had died in London in 1900. She lived at Samuelston, near that school, and died age 60 in 1919, so we can expect to see her, age around 52, in 1911. She had at least 3 sons:

William who died in childhood; Alexander who registered her death and James who was a Chaplain to the R.F.A when he died in France in February 1918. Some of this information is from the gravestone transcribed in our Gladsmuir MIs: curiously, James is listed neither on the Gladsmuir War Memorial nor in the CWGC website.

Another teacher was Mary Janet Stott, the only child John Stott and Janet Anderson, born in Leith in 1869. She taught in Gladsmuir for a number of years and moved back to Edinburgh when she retired and died there in 1948. Pat McVeigh remembered being taught by her when he began school in around 1930. He writes

...for some mysterious reason she had the reputation of being a good and understanding teacher amongst the parents of the village. Miss Stott was an ancient, near to retirement, but she used her tawse with enthusiasm, mostly of course on the unfortunate farm children.

Catherine Blair

One of the most outstanding residents in 1911 was Catherine Blair, wife of Thomas Blair, tenant farmer at Hoprig Mains. She was a committed (but not militant) Suffragist and supporter of the Women's Social and Political Union, who wrote well-reasoned letters to *The Scotsman* and other newspapers on this very topical subject. She'd been born at Bathgate as Catherine Shields, a farmer who advocated "democratic principle and public service", and in

1894 she married Thomas (already farming at Hoprig), who was a decade her senior. Their children were born there and their son Thomas served in the Royal Scots during the Great War.

She became very aware of the isolation of some wives and mothers, who might spend most of their time caring for the homes and children with little social interaction. She learnt of a movement in Canada and imported it – it became the Scottish Women's Rural Institute. It was to be founded in Macmerry, but an outbreak of measles had the inaugural meeting relocated to the Reading Room at Longniddry, where 37 women joined on the first night, with Lady Wemyss as the first Honorary President.

This was social interaction with a practical purpose. Mrs Blair started the Mak' Merry Ware studio two years later, producing hand-crafted and hand-painted pottery and an income for the members.

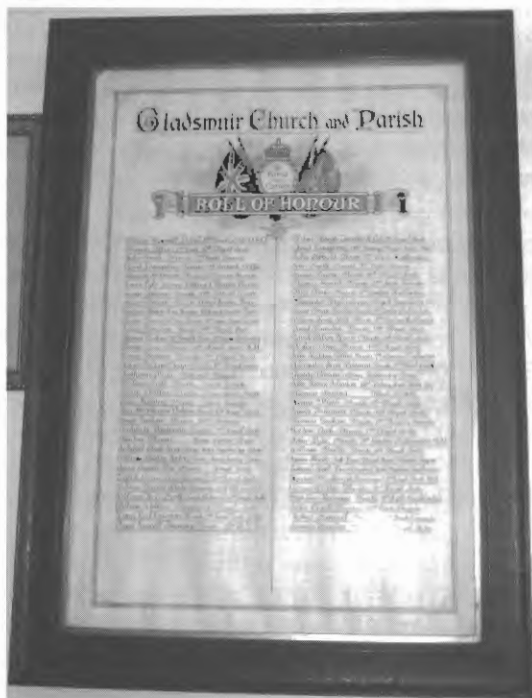
The approaching war

Despite the local MP, Richard Haldane who was elevated to the House of Lords in 1911, being instrumental in the modernisation and reinforcement of British armed services, few people in Gladsmuir could have had any idea of what was to come just a few years after 1911. Some of the families of 1911 would be ripped apart by the Great War.

In Gladsmuir Church there are not only War Memorials but also framed Rolls of Honour, listing those who served (also in the Second World War). What is not recorded, of course, is in what state were the survivors when they returned home. (These lists are included in the Gladsmuir MIs.)

David and George Lumsden of a farm servant's family went off to France: David returned and could bury his parents in the kirkyard in 1923 and 1932, but George was killed age 18 in July 1916.

Andrew Purves Gillies, one of the postmen, returned from



One of the Rolls of Honour inside Gladsmuir Parish Church.

the Front, but his brother John Haddon Gillies died in the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh in 1918.

And what of Ina H. Burns?

One Andrew Burns, later farm grieve at Harelaw, had been born in the parish of Gladsmuir in the 1830s. He moved about the country for a while, marrying Jessie Hall in 1861 at Dysart and having his first few children born at Rhynd, Perthshire, before returning to his native parish in the later 1870s.

Their last child Janet (or Jessie) was born at Harelaw on 16th July 1878.

The house at Harelaw was commodious for the times, having 5 rooms, so that adult children (and spouses) wouldn't have felt such a lack of privacy as did other families. On 20th June 1907 his son John H. Burns married Jacobina Henderson, a 34-year-old spinster of Ivy Cottage, Longniddry. It was she who wrote the postcard, a few months after her marriage and before the birth of her daughter Jacobina Mackay Henderson Burns on 12th March 1909.

Andrew and Jessie retired to Haddington, while other members of the family moved into Edinburgh, but we know where they will be found in 1911.

March talk

Held over from January 2010 because of heavy snow in the Borders, on 21 March Rachel Hosker of the Heritage Hub will present an overview of the archives and services available.

April talk

When Joanne M. Lamb moved into Dalrymple Crescent at the Grange, Edinburgh, she set about researching history of the house and then the street. In doing so she discovered a microcosm of Victorian Edinburgh – and a few surprises! Her book on this subject was published in January 2011, and we may also enjoy her short presentation on 18 April. See review on page 46. We believe that she will bring with her some copies for sale.

May visit

This year, by request, the annual visit will be held on a Saturday, 14 May, to explore Corstorphine. At 2pm we will have a short (one hour) guided tour of the old Corstorphine Village, followed by a visit to the Heritage Centre of the Corstorphine Trust at the Dower House. Please book your place at the Library.

The 1790 Census of St Cuthbert's Parish

by Jessie A Denholm

Anyone who has researched their family history back into the nineteenth century knows how useful census material can be. It can give us a 'snapshot' of the lives of our ancestors and show them in the context of the society in which they lived. Unfortunately we cannot usually go back beyond 1841 with census material. The censuses taken every ten years between 1801 and 1831 were merely 'head counts' which do not name individuals or give information about families. A census which gives names of householders and some information about their households is, therefore, something of a bonus for both the Family Historian and the Local Historian and is somewhat unusual. In this article I want to discuss the circumstances in which this census was taken, the sort of information it contains and the use that can be made of it.

St Cuthbert's Parish

Anyone who has researched ancestors who lived in the Edinburgh area will probably have come across references to St Cuthbert's Parish. It lay outside the walls of Edinburgh. By 1790 the area covered by the first stage of the Edinburgh New Town (the rectangle bounded by the north side of Princes Street, St Andrew's Square, the south side of Queen Street and Charlotte Square) had been taken out of St Cuthbert's Parish to form the new parish of St Andrew's. Some places in St Cuthbert's Parish were immediately outside of Edinburgh. Others were scattered agricultural and industrial communities lying to the north, south and west of Edinburgh. Canongate Parish also had boundaries with St Cuthbert's Parish. It was a large parish running from the sea at Wardie to the Braid Hills. If you want to examine the precise boundaries of St Cuthbert's parish, I would suggest that you go to the National Library of Scotland website www.nls.uk/maps/counties and view Gellatly's "New Map of the Country 12 Miles Around Edinburgh" (1834).

Why was the Census taken in 1790?

It was instigated by Sir John Sinclair, the MP for Caithness. He was interested in various new ideas that were springing up in the late eighteenth century. While travelling in Germany he came across the idea of 'statistics' which there meant 'information useful to the State'. He, however, gave it a wider meaning so that it covered all information concerned with the measurement of the happiness of the people. He aimed to gather such information and build up a detailed picture of Scotland, parish by parish. In May 1790 he asked the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to agree to him writing to the ministers of all 938 parishes in Scotland asking for information. This was agreed and the eventual end product was the work known as *The (Old) Statistical Account (OSA)*. It and its successor, *The New Statistical Account (NSA)*, which was prepared in the 1830s, comprise a valuable resource for

18/

Leston

Name	Parsons		Children		Lodges		Sewards		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Bro. Over	196	190	195	120	53	6	36	33	769
Tipperline									
Wm. Munich		1	1	1	1		2		6
Robt. Paterson	1	1							2
Henry Morrison	1	1	2	1					5
Wat. Anderson	1	1	1	1					4
Sat. Gilbert	1	1	2	1					5
Sat. Chisholm	1	1	2	1					5
John Steel	1	1	3	1					6
Wm. Paterson	1	1	3	1					6
John Fairbairn	1	1	2	2					6
George Martin	1	1	1	3					6
Robt. Rankin	1	1	1						3
Ended									
210	146	201	213	132	54	6	38	33	823

both family and local historians and can be consulted online at www.edina.ac.uk/stat-acc-scot . For the OSA a consolidated account was produced covering the Edinburgh parishes, Canongate, St Cuthbert's, North Leith and South Leith – to find it on the website search for Edinburgh.

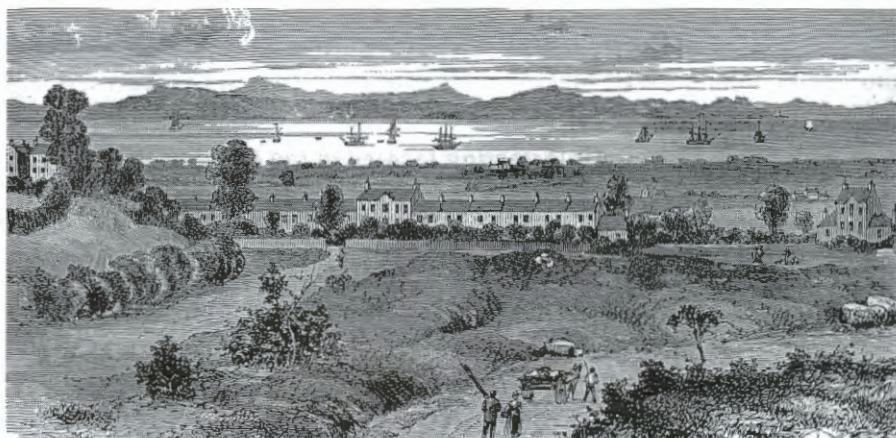
How was the request for information tackled in the Edinburgh area?

One of the questions which Sir John asked was about the population of the parish. In Edinburgh the ministers and elders of the Edinburgh parishes plus St Cuthbert's, Canongate, North Leith and South Leith decided to make an 'enumeration' of most of the parishes. This involved a count of the number of families (households), and the numbers of males and females in them. St Cuthbert's Parish embarked upon a rather more elaborate enumeration. They collected the names of the heads of household and for each household the numbers of parents, children, lodgers and servants. The numbers of males and females within each of these categories was also recorded. The information gathered was recorded in tabular form on four hundred and eleven pages. The layout is remarkably like that of a modern spreadsheet with headings, rows and columns. There is a copy in the National Archives of Scotland among the Kirk Session records for St Cuthbert's.

The Census – style and accuracy

The Census is an impressive document extending to four hundred and eleven pages. Typically each page contains between twelve and fourteen entries. The first page is marred by a large ink blot which obscures some of the information recorded there. Otherwise it is perfectly legible. It is written in a very neat style but at a time when educated people in Edinburgh were excessively anxious to ensure that they were using correct *English* spelling. For instance the surname 'Thomson' has in many instances been put into the English style of 'Thompson' – I have not seen the latter name used in any other eighteenth or early nineteenth century records of St Cuthbert's parish. The same thing sometimes happens with place names. The street name 'the Pleasance' – which is still in use nowadays – has been rendered as 'Pleasants'.

At the time when the census was taken it was thought that there might have been some undercounting of the population. Some people thought that the census as a precursor to some new formation of taxation and may have taken steps to ensure that they were not counted. I suspect that there may have been some over-counting. The problem centres on the number of servants, particularly male servants, counted as part of many households. Male domestic servants were a luxury on which a tax was levied and very few people in the parish would have had them. In many instances the male servants shown for a household would have been employees in the householder's business but not resident in the household. One clear instance of this occurs at Picardy (rendered as Piccardy in the census). This was a



Picardy Village from Grant's "Old & New Edinburgh".

community established in 1729 for French weavers brought over to set up the weaving of cambric in Scotland. In 1790 some of the householders still had Frenchsounding names and those whose occupation I have been able to trace were weavers. They also had large numbers of male servants – eighty-two if them in a community consisting of twenty-three households. It is highly unlikely that there would have been room for them to live and work in these households. If they were also counted in their own homes there may have been some double counting.

There were also some instances of households that consisted entirely of servants. The largest of these is to be found at Gorgie Mills where the 'householder' is named as 'Messrs Reid & Co' and consists of 150 female servants and 150 male servants. This would be a very large establishment if they all lived there! While these problems may affect the overall population statistics, there is no reason to suggest that the information given for individual households is unreliable.

Using the Census for Family History

The most likely starting point for using the census information for Family History purposes would be a baptism or marriage record (or possibly even a burial record) for an ancestor that you have already been able to trace in the Old Parish Records for St Cuthbert's Parish. These records for St Cuthbert's Parish are particularly rich in detail. The Baptism records show the names of the parents, the area of the parish in which they lived and the occupation of the father. Baptisms had to be witnessed and until the mid 1780s the normal practice in St Cuthbert's Parish was to record the names of two individual witnesses. The practice then changed so that where the child was baptised in church, the witnesses were stated to be the congregation of the church in which the baptism took place.

Interestingly this was not always the parish church (St Cuthbert's, then normally known as the West Kirk) or the Chapel of Ease (later Buccleuch Parish Church). This can give you some idea of your ancestor's church-going habits.

The Marriage records also show the name and occupation of the bridegroom and the name and parish of the bride's father. Burial records are similarly informative but are different in style to the elegant baptism and marriage records and indeed the 1790 census. They use the old Scottish forms of both surnames and place names. For instance the 1790 Census lists ninety-two householders with the surname 'Brown'. Any of them who died in the next 30 years and who were buried in St Cuthbert's Kirkyard would in most cases have been recorded under the name 'Broun'.

There may be problems in tracking down your ancestor in the 1790 Census. These may stem from variations in the spelling of surnames. Another difficulty arises from the use of the word 'Mr' without the Christian name of the person concerned. The word 'Mr' was usually used as a mark of respect denoting high (or reasonably high) social status. This may have been gratifying to those concerned but it makes things difficult for us when tracing common names. It is much easier to identify someone – probably of lower social status – whose Christian name is given.

Places

It is apparent from examination of the census data that it must have been collected by reference to an elder's 'bounds' – that is the district within the parish for which an elder (a member of the Kirk Session of St Cuthbert's) was responsible. The clearest indication of this is in the Portsburgh area. This was a densely populated urban area located just outside of the Grassmarket area of Edinburgh. Although there is evidence from other sources that its streets and closes had names, the census information was collected under the designations 'Portsburgh 1st Bounds' and 'Portsburgh 2nd Bounds'. This practice was maintained in some other areas. There are also urban areas where the streets and the closes off them are individually named and rural areas where each farm and mansion is named. This lack of consistency can sometimes make it difficult to reconcile addresses from the Old Parish Records with those from the Census.

Women

There are relatively few women householders listed in the Census. Those that are there are mostly shown as 'Mrs' or 'Miss' and are similarly shown in the Edinburgh Directory for 1790. This indicates that they were 'ladies' or 'gentlewomen' who were of independent means and did not need to work for their living. There are, however, some who are shown as dressmakers, milliners and similar occupations. Mrs Fletcher who lived on the south side of Crosscausway is shown in the Directory as a gingerbread baker. One intriguing

entry is that for Bety Ross who lived on St John's Hill – a street near the Pleasance. Beside her name is the annotation 'a Black'. She may well be the only Black householder in St Cuthbert's parish. She lived with her five children and three lodgers.

Tracing Edinburgh's Elite

By 1790 many of the people in the higher social echelons had left the crowded Old Town of Edinburgh. Not all had chosen to move north to the New Town to live among what Robert Louis Stevenson aptly called its 'draughty parallelograms'. Some people much preferred the new developments located to the south of the city. Besides being more sheltered, they also had the advantage of not being within the jurisdiction of Edinburgh Town Council and, therefore, not subject to Edinburgh taxes!

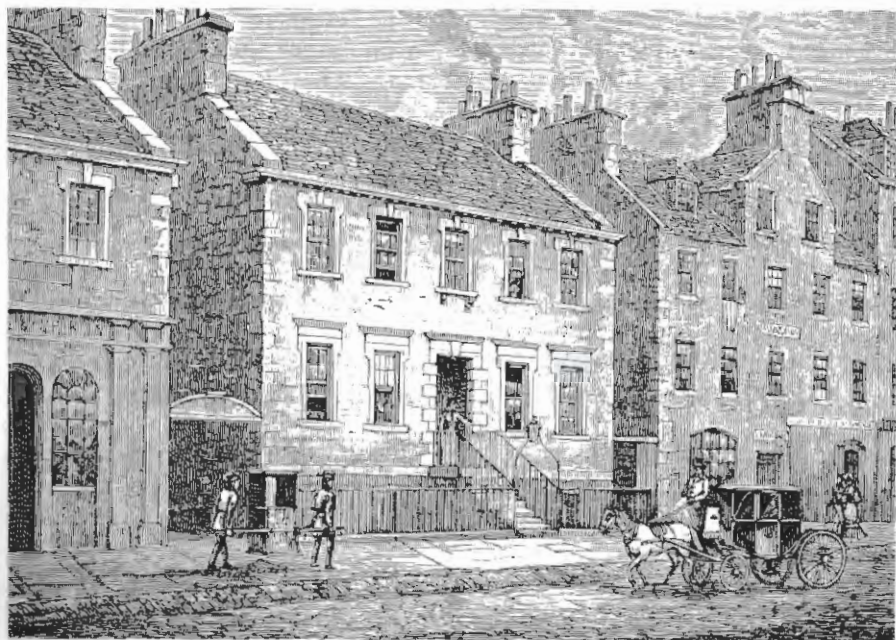
In George Square we find the home of Sir Walter Scott's father. Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832) was born in College Wynd in the Old Town but the family had moved out to the healthier environment of George Square after the deaths of several of the children. From the census we learn the household of Mr Walter Scott in 1790 consisted of himself and his wife, four sons, one daughter and three servants.

Another nineteenth century worthy whose childhood home can be identified on the census is Henry Cockburn (1779-1854) who was to have a distinguished



George Square from Grant's "Old & New Edinburgh".

career as an advocate and later, as Lord Cockburn, a judge. His parental home is described as being at the 'Back of the Meadows' and the household consisted of the parents, ten children and seven servants. Lord Cockburn writing in the 1820s (Henry Cockburn *Memorials of His Times*, Edinburgh 1856) gave the address of his parents' home as Hope Park and described how he and other boys roamed through the open countryside to the south of the house. This location seems to have combined the advantages of country living with proximity to the city.



Nicolson Street from Grant's "Old & New Edinburgh".

Nicolson Street nowadays is a shop-lined street with a lot of through traffic. In 1790 it was a quiet street and had been one of the first places where wealthy Edinburgh people could aspire to have a whole house for the use of their household. Again to quote Lord Cockburn's memories of his boyhood, it was a 'great haunt of doctors in those days'. He recalled the beds of blue and yellow crocuses in the garden of Dr Monro whose house stood in a small field entered from Nicolson Street.

Dr Monro was the Professor of Anatomy – the second of three generations of the same family who held the Chair of Anatomy at the University of Edinburgh for one hundred and twenty-five years. He can be found in the 1790 Census where his household consisted of himself, his wife, three children and eight servants. Also in Nicolson Street we find Dr Joseph Black whose

more modest household consisted of himself and three servants. Dr Black was the Professor of Chemistry and was famous as the discoverer of Carbon Dioxide and of the concept of Latent Heat.

Humbler Folk

It is comparatively easy to find information about the upper strata of Edinburgh society in the late eighteenth century but they would represent only a small proportion of the five thousand three hundred or so households listed in the Census. It is, however, possible to expand our knowledge of these people by linking the census entries to other records, in particular to *Williamson's Edinburgh Directory 1790-92* (available online on www.nls.uk) and the Baptism Records of the Parish of St Cuthbert's. These yield information about occupations and, in the case of the Baptism Records, church-going habits.

So far I have only tested this technique on two areas north of the New Town, namely Broughton and Canonmills. Broughton is located northwards from the top of Leith Walk. It was a village where 1030 people lived in 120 households. Of those householders traced so far, four were weavers. Some were connected with the building trade – masons, a glazier, a plasterer and a painter, some were smiths and wrights. There were three 'gentleman's servants' and a coachman who probably worked for wealthy people in the New Town. There were some with more middle class occupations such as a writer (lawyer), a teacher, an Excise Officer and a seed merchant. By 1790



Broughton Village from Grant's "Old & New Edinburgh".

the days had long since passed when it was compulsory to attend the parish church. Of the twenty-six householders traced through the Baptism records, four had apparently left the Church of Scotland as their children were baptised in several different secession churches. Only eleven of the others had their children baptised in the parish church. The remainder used various Church of Scotland congregations, in South Leith or in Edinburgh.

If we then go to Canonmills we find a rather different sort of community where 767 people lived in 104 households down by the Water of Leith. Most of those traced so far worked in various processing industries – there were skimmers and tanners, millers and mill workers, carters and labourers and one yarn boiler. Also mentioned is a place referred to as 'Dysters Factory' where there were sixteen male servants and ten female servants – again I wonder whether they actually lived there. A spirit dealer and a cowfeeder (dairyman) catered for various need of this community. Again we get a glimpse of their church-going habits. As with the people of Broughton, some had their children baptised in the parish church, some in Edinburgh or South Leith parish churches and two in secession churches.

None of the secession churches were particularly convenient for people from Canonmills and it must have required a great deal of commitment to make the long uphill journey to attend the secession church in Bristo Street, particularly before the South Bridge was opened in 1789.

This process gives us a glimpse of two different types of community within St Cuthbert's Parish. One is predominately a community of artisans servicing the expanding city. The other is an industrial village – one of many located on the Water of Leith. The process could be expanded by examining the burial and marriage records and could in the fullness of time cover the entire parish.

Finally

The material in the Census is potentially useful, particularly when linked to other records, to anyone who is studying family or local history based on the area covered by St Cuthbert's Parish. I intend to do some further work on this material in an attempt to build up a more comprehensive picture of the parish as it was in 1790 and I hope that others will do likewise. The transcription of the Census, together with Introductory Notes and indices, is going to be published on CD by the Society. At the time of writing (February 2011) the date of publication has not yet been determined, but it will of course be publicised in the Society's Journal, Sales Catalogue and Website.

Relief Congregation, Dunse, December 1835

Names and No. of the Members, Seat Holders, and Children

*above and below 12 years of age residing in the
Parish of Dunse belonging to the Relief Congregation.*

Names of the Streets	No.		heads of families	children members	sitters not mem	above 12	below 12	No. in each house
Bridge End Henderson McDonald	1	Robert Watson and wife	2	"	"	"	4	6
	2	John Pringle and wife <u>loft</u>	2	"	"	"	1	3
	3	Thomas Taylor and wife <u>dead</u>	2	"	"	"	1	3
	4	Mrs Pirrie dead and Ann Scougal	2	"	"	"	"	2
	5	Mary Spence	1	"	"	"	"	1
Bank Street	6	Thomas Robertson and wife <u>dead</u>	2	"	"	"	"	2
	7	James Hillstone and wife	2	2	"	3	1	8
	8	William Landles and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
	9	Abram Darling and wife	1	"	1	"	"	2
	10	Jenet Smith <u>sent and junr</u>	2	"	"	"	1	3
Mansfield	11	Isabel Cockburn <i>W Dugless</i>	"	"	1	"	1	2
	12	Robert Pringle and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
	13	Ann Cockburn	1	"	"	"	"	1
	14	William Cockburn Junr.	1	"	"	"	"	1
	15	Margaret Wier	1	"	"	"	"	1
	16	Elizabeth Wilson	1	3	"	1	"	5
	17	William Emen and wife & Dau.	2	3	"	"	"	5
	18	William Cockburn Senr. and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
			28	8	3	4	9	51

Names of the Streets	No.	<i>Brought over</i>	heads of families	children members	sitters not mem	above 12	below 12	No. in each house
Easter Street	19	Mary Steventon	28	8	3	4	9	51
	20	George Rose and wife	1	"	"	"	"	1
	21	George Thomson and wife	2	"	"	1	5	8
	22	Alexr Maclaren and wife	2	1	"	1	2	6
	22	Peter Hair and wife loft	2	1	"	"	"	3
	23	John Bryce	2	"	"	"	3	5
	24	James Maclaren and wife	1	"	"	3	"	4
	25	William Cockburn and wife	2	1	"	1	1	5
	26	Isabel Purves	2	1	"	2	"	5
	27	John Landles	1	1	"	"	"	2
	28	Mrs Kerr	1	"	"	1	"	2
	29	William Symington	1	"	"	"	1	2
	30	Mrs Penny & son	2	"	"	"	2	4
	31	Elizabeth Cunningham	1	"	"	3	"	4
	32	James Dickson and wife & family	1	"	"	"	"	1
	33	John Donaldson and wife G Yong	2	1	"	2	3	8
	34	John Aitchison and wife & dau.	2	2	"	"	"	4
Mackie Place	35	Ann Watson	2	2	"	"	"	4
	36	Thomas Hame and wife	1	"	"	"	"	1
	37	Peter Middlemiss and wife	2	"	"	"	3	5
	38	John Turnbull & sisters	2	"	"	"	3	5
	39	Samuel Cockburn	1	2	"	1	"	4
			61	20	2	19	33	135

Names of the Streets	No.	heads of families	children members	sitters not mem	above 12	below 12	No. in each house
	<i>Brought over</i>	61	20	2	19	33	135
	40 Mr Kerr and wife	2	4	"	1	"	7
	41 Mrs Hill, D. Hill, A. Hill	3	"	"	2	"	5
	42 Samuel Virtue and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
	43 Isabel Laurie and E Laurie	2	"	"	"	"	2
R. Webster & sister	44 Thomas Holywell and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
Chambles	45 Margaret Burns	1	"	"	2	"	3
Wynd	46 William Fortune	2	"	"	"	5	7
	47 William Henderson and wife	2	"	"	2	4	8
	48 David Brown	1	"	"	"	"	1
	49 Isabel Middlemiss	1	"	"	"	"	1
Castle	50 Margaret Holwell	1	"	"	"	"	1
Wynd	51 Thomas Stoddart and wife	2	"	"	"	5	7
	52 Edward Stevenson and wife & son	2	"	"	1	"	3
	53 Helen Redpath	1	"	"	"	"	1
	54 Andrew Newton and wife & dau.	2	"	"	2	1	5
	55 Adam Johnson and wife & dau ??	2	"	"	"	"	2
	56 William Duff and wife & son	1	"	1	3	"	5
	57 John Whitehead and wife	2	1	"	2	"	5
	58 James Newton and wife	2	4	"	"	"	6
	59 Robert Bruce and wife	2	"	"	1	"	3
	60 Janet Kay	1	"	"	"	"	1
"	Henery Newton & wife						
		97	29	3	35	48	212

Names of the Streets	No.	<i>Brought over</i>	heads of families	children members	sitters not mem	above 12	below 12	No. in each house
	61	Mary Dods	97	29	3	35	48	212
	62	John Davidson and wife	1	"	"	1	4	6
	63	Robert Davidson and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
	64	Robert Dods and wife	2	"	"	"	5	7
<i>D. Dodds & wife</i>	65	Henry Turner and wife	2	4	"	"	"	6
<i>A. Dodds</i>	66	James Dods	2	"	"	"	2	4
	67	Jean Bell and Isabel Heatlie	1	"	"	"	"	1
	68	William Dickinson and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
	69	George Dickinson and Jean Dickinson	2	"	"	1	"	3
Pleasants	70	James Blackie and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
Street	71	Robert Murray and wife	2	"	"	2	3	9
	72	Alex Fortune and wife	2	"	"	"	3	5
	73	Alexr Rodger and wife & son	2	"	"	"	"	2
Clouds Street	74	Jean Johnson	2	"	"	2	5	9
	75	David Dunse	1	"	"	"	"	1
	76	James & <u>William MacLauren</u>	1	"	"	"	"	1
	77	Thomas Stobo	2	"	"	"	"	2
	78	William Rutherford	1	3	"	2	"	6
	79	Isabel Bell	1	"	"	"	"	1
Horse Market	80	William Robertson	1	"	"	"	"	1
	81	James White and wife	1	2	"	"	1	4
		Robt Robertson & wife	2	1	"	"	"	3
		Jean Robertson						
			131	41	3	43	71	289

Names of the Streets	No.	heads of families	children members	sitters not mem	above 12	below 12	No. in each house
	<i>Brought over</i>	131	41	3	43	71	289
New Town	82 Alison Galightly	1	1	"	"	"	2
G. Davidson	83 Fanny Johnson	1	"	"	"	"	1
J. Robertson	84 John Robertson	1	"	"	"	"	1
Hillston	85 Margaret Blair, Adam Blair	1	3	"	"	"	4
	86 Robert Blair and wife	2	"	"	"	3	5
	87 William Stewart and wife & son	2	1	"	1	"	4
R. Stuart & wife & son	88 Margaret Heatlie	1	"	"	"	"	1
	89 Isabel Taylor	1	"	"	"	"	1
	90 Mary Turnbull, Margt. Broomfield	1	1	"	"	"	2
	91 Margaret Allan & son & daughter	1	"	"	3	2	6
	92 Janet Pearson	1	"	"	"	"	2
	93 Margaret Brown & Daughters	1	2	"	"	"	3
	94 Robert Pringle and wife	2	"	"	"	2	4
	95 John Wilson and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
	96 Margaret Purves & Willm. Bell	1	"	1	"	"	2
	97 Janet Haig	1	"	"	"	"	1
	98 Helen Landles	1	"	"	"	"	1
	99 Isabel Spears and Isabel Jaffery	2	"	"	"	"	2
Black	100 Adam Cockburn and wife parents	2	1	"	2	"	5
Bull Wynd	101 John Virtue and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
	102 Walter Holwell and wife	2	1	"	"	"	3
	James Ramsey						
		160	51	4	49	78	342

Names of the Streets	No.		heads of families	children members	sitters not mem	above 12	below 12	No. in each house
		<i>Brought over</i>	160	51	4	49	78	342
Back Street	103	John Mann and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
Jasper & wife	104	Andrew Moffet and wife Elder	2	3	"	"	"	5
Aitchson	104	Samuel Cockburn	1	2	"	2	2	7
Cockburn	106	Agnes White	1	"	"	"	"	1
& wife	107	George Pringle and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
Mary Cockburn	108	John Purves and wife	2	"	"	"	4	6
	109	George Brown and wife	2	1	"	2	3	8
	110	John Wilson and wife	2	"	"	3	3	8
	111	Hugh Dryden	"	"	1	"	"	1
	112	David Virtue and Daughter	1	1	"	2	"	4
	113	James Watherhead	1	"	"	"	"	1
	114	Elizabeth Nielsan & daughter	1	1	2	1	"	5
	115	Margaret Corsing	1	"	"	"	"	1
	116	George Davidson Betty Davidson	2	1	"	"	"	3
	117	Robt Gray	1	"	"	"	"	1
South Street	118	William Craick and wife	2	"	"	1	3	6
Mary Spence	119	George Heatlie and wife	2	"	"	"	3	5
	120	Mrs Heatlie	1	"	"	"	"	1
Whittane & wife	121	John Johnson and wife & son	2	"	"	4	1	7
W Aitchison	122	Stephen Hillslop and wife Elder	2	"	"	"	"	2
H. Clark	123	Robert Wilson and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
	"	G & Thos Nilson ??						
			192	60	7	64	97	420

Names of the Streets	No.	heads of families	children members	sitters not mem	above 12	below 12	No. in each house
		192	60	7	64	97	420
	<i>Brought over</i>						
South Street	124 Peter Pringle and wife	2	"	"	1	2	5
Peter Virtue	125 Elizabeth Pringle Eliza Pringle	1	1	"	"	"	2
	126 Jenet and Alison Robertson	2	"	"	"	"	2
Ibester Street	127 Mrs Barrie and <u>Andrew Barrie</u>	2	"	"	"	"	2
	128 Margaret Currie	1	"	"	"	"	1
	129 William Macgregor and wife	2	"	"	"	2	4
	130 Robert Stewart and wife	2	"	"	2	2	6
	131 James Cairns and wife & family	2	1	"	"	3	6
J Robertson	132 John Stirling	1	"	"	"	"	1
Alison Thea ??	133 E. Rae and Eliza Johnston	2	"	"	2	"	4
Symington	134 Archd Stoddart and Cristian Stoddart & Isobel	2	"	"	"	"	2
G Pringle & wife	135 Alex Park & Margt Park	1	3	"	"	"	4
	136 Alex Collay and wife	2	"	"	"	"	2
	137 Mrs White	1	"	"	"	"	1
	138 John Edgar	1	"	"	"	"	1
	Total in Dunse Town	216	65	7	69	106	463
Wellfield	139 Elspath Crow	1	"	"	"	"	1
Johnsfield	140 John Whitelaw	1	"	"	"	"	1
Do.	141 John Henderson	1	"	"	"	"	1
Cockburn	142 John Darling and wife	2	"	"	"	2	4
Mile	143 William Darling and <u>Mrs Middlemiss</u>	2	"	"	"	"	2
		223	65	7	69	108	472

Chapel John Rae & wife &
George Rae & Miss Rice

Names of the Streets	No.	heads of families	children members	sitters not mem	above 12	below 12	No. in each house
Chapel		223	65	7	69	108	472
	<i>Brought over</i>						
	144 David <u>Waldie</u> and wife & daughter	2	1	"	"	"	3
	145 David Darling and wife & family	2	1	"	2	2	7
	146 George Symington	1	"	"	1	"	2
	147 Margaret Cairns	1	"	"	"	"	1
	148 John Logan and wife & son	2	2	"	"	"	4
	149 Charles Lugton and wife & Daughter	2	1	"	2	2	7
	150 Mrs Cockburn	1	1	"	2	3	7
	151 John Webster and wife	2	2	"	3	"	7
		236	73	7	79	115	510

Chapel John Rae 6 members 1 Sitter

236	Heads of Families etc
73	No of Children Members
309	Total No of Members
7	No of Sitters not Members
79	No of Children above 12 years of age
115	No of Do. Below 12 years of age
570	Total no in the Parish Belonging to the Relief Chapel.

Residence	Parish	No.	heads of families	children members	sitters not mem	above 12	below 12	No. in each house
Town and Parish of Dunse								
<i>Brought forward</i>								
Chapel	Dunse	152	236	73	7	79	115	510
Dunse Castle	Do.	153	2	4	1	"	"	7
Clock Mile	Do.	154	1	"	"	"	"	1
Dunse	"	155	2	"	"	2	2	6
Do.	"	156	3	"	"	"	"	3
Manderson Lodge	"	157	1	"	"	"	"	1
Turteldean	"	158	1	4	"	"	"	5
Rules Mains	"	159	2	4	"	"	"	6
Barrow Mill	"	160	2	"	"	2	4	8
Burnhouses	"	161	1	"	"	"	"	1
			1	"	"	"	"	1
No of children members			253	85	8	83	121	549
Total no of Members			85					
			337	"	8	83	121	549

Relief Congregation, Dunse, December 1835

NAS CH2/571/14/1

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ANOTHER NEW SGS PUBLICATION

Dean (Edgehill) Cemetery lies on the corner of Queensferry Road and Dean Path. It is now privately owned by the Dean Cemetery Trust.

The cemetery was laid out in 1909, on ground originally purchased by Colonel John Learmonth in 1877.

There are 1,312 recordings from the cemetery and a further 22 from the adjacent Dean Parish Church including war and John Watson school memorials.

ISBN: 1-904060-60-9 £10.00

The MP's Secret

Respect Your Ancestors – But Don't Always Believe Them!

by Alex Wood

In the early 20th century, Sir George McCrae was one of Edinburgh's elite. Born in Aberdeen, he moved as a child to Edinburgh where he was raised by his uncle, John Buchan. He left school aged ten to work as a message boy but shortly afterwards was apprenticed to a hatter. Before his 17th birthday he became manager of the shop which his employer operated in Dunfermline. Aged 18, in 1878, he returned to Edinburgh to manage the Edinburgh branch. He also became a private soldier in the Volunteers, the precursor of the Territorial Army. By 1879 he had been promoted to Sergeant. He also became involved in Liberal politics.

In 1880 McCrae established his own business and married Lizzie Russell. McCrae's business prospered and he was commissioned in the Volunteers. In 1889 his life took another momentous turn: he was elected as a councillor to the Corporation of the City of Edinburgh. In 1891 he became a highly successful Treasurer of the City Council. He was elected as Member of Parliament for East Edinburgh in 1899. By 1905 he was a Colonel in the Volunteers when Campbell-Bannerman's Liberal government was elected with McCrae one of its loyal parliamentary members. He played a major parliamentary role in establishing the Territorial Army and was knighted in 1908. He remained an MP until 1909 when he took over as Vice-Chairman of the Scottish Local Government Board. He was also the commanding officer of the 6th Battalion, The Royal Scots (TF). In 1913 however, his wife Lizzie died. Earlier in that year, while she had been ill, he resigned his command of the 6th Royal Scots.



The gravestone of Sir George McCrae, in Grange Cemetery.

The CD of MIs will be published by the SGS later this year.

McCrae re-enlisted in 1914 and raised a battalion, the 16th Royal Scots, which recruited many of the Heart of Midlothian football team. McCrae forged the battalion and led it with credit. He was awarded a DSO for his leadership on the Somme in July 1916. After the war he returned to politics, unsuccessfully contesting Central Edinburgh as a Liberal in 1922 but winning the Stirling and Falkirk Burghs seat in 1923. He died in 1926.

All of the above is superbly told in Jack Alexander's *McCrae's Battalion, The Story of the 16th Royal Scots* (Mainstream, Edinburgh, 2003). Alexander also points out that McCrae was illegitimate, a fact which McCrae did his best to conceal. Even Alexander's account however, contains some minor errors. He gives McCrae's date of birth as 29 August 1861: it was 1860. He states that his mother, Jane Buchan, "when registering the birth, named the father as 'George McCrae, Mason'. There is no evidence that such a man ever existed."

His mother may have indicated to George or to other family members that George's father was one George McCrae, Mason, but no such name appears on the birth certificate which notes him as illegitimate (GROS 1860, 168/2 679). There is however some evidence that such a George may have existed. In February 1859, 18 months before George's birth, there was recorded the birth of Margaret McRae, daughter of George McRae, Mason, residing in Nelson Street, Aberdeen. McRae (slightly different spelling) was a married man. There is at least one other George McRae, mason, of an appropriate age, residing in Aberdeen, over the decades following George's birth. Although therefore the mystery of paternity remains unresolved, there does remain the possibility of his being the son of one George McCrae (or McRae), mason.

When George McCrae married in 1880, he was less than forthright. He declared that he was George Buchan McCrae, son of George B. McCrae, Mason (Journeyman) and Jane McCrae, maiden surname Buchan (GROS 1880, 424 95). Firstly, George B (or Buchan) McCrae was the name by which the young George was known. His father would have been very unlikely to have had as a middle name the maiden surname of his wife. The more fundamental error is the statement that his mother was Jane McCrae. Jane Buchan appears on the 1871 census, residing with young George (noted however as George McCrae) and her mother and noted as Unmarried, and on the 1881 census, living alone in 12 East Arthur Place, Edinburgh, again declaring herself to be single. Jane Buchan married neither George McCrae nor anyone else.

Her son however maintained the pretence that she had. By 1901 Jane Buchan was residing in George's home but appears on the census as Jane McCrae, mother of George, and a widow (GROS 1901 Census, 685/5 109 7). While he bent the truth on several occasions by pretending that his mother had married, he did not do so when she died.

Her death certificate (GROS 1902, 685/5 1362), on which her son, George,

	Maric	1802	F	64	James Buchanan Presumptive	Coryell Co.	1802
	Buchanan	December 22	7 ²⁰	Mason	Laborer	Brooks -	December 22
	Nine	Wm. York		(deceased)	10 days		in Edinburgh
1302		2d John Ann					
		Edinburgh		Marjorie Buchanan cert. by	Occupier &	James Bury	
		Terrace		Mr. Bowie	In presence	Emile Hoyer	Registrar.
	(Single)	Edinburgh		(deceased)	5 ¹ day		

Death of Jane Buchan

Page 227.
1860. BIRTHS in the District of Old Machar in the Burgh of Aburdeen

No.	Examinee, and Name (if given) Place, when given or alleged to be given; and Name (if given) of School	When and Where Given, with Name of School	Sex	Name, Residence, and Rank or Position, if Public	Name and Address of Person to Whom	Specimen, Qualification, and Signature of Examinee, if full of the Item is written with the blank covered.	When and Where Registered, Signature of Inspector
679	Buchanan, George	1860 August twenty-fourth A. D. 12 P. M. 82 Bonaparte Hotel Marden	M	John Buchanan Bonaparte downout	John Buchanan N. H. 185	1850 September 5 th at Aspinwall	Wm. Good Aspinwall

Birth of George Buchan, later George McCrae

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signature of Parties. Rank or Position, whether Single or Widowed, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Civil Residence.	Name, Rank, and Rank or Position of Officer. Name, and Maiden Name of Minister.	If a regular Marriage, Signature of officiating Minister and Witnesses. If a Special Marriage, Signature of Declaration, or Word's Witness.	When & Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
	1880-1.	(Signed)	19	Bankersville, Ind.	George B. Whitaker	(Signed)	1880-1.
	on the thirteenth day of July	George Buchanan & Eliza Hanna and 6 others.		Edinburgh	Marion Cunningham	John Pitts W. S.	July 19 th
	at New Hope				Marion W. Buchanan	Minister of 1 st change	
	Greensboro, N.C.	(Buchanan)				Buchananville, N.C.	at Greensboro, N.C.
185	After Bonnie according to the laws of the Church of Scotland.	(Signed) Loggie Cameron Russell	19	New Hope Greensboro, N.C.	William Russell Church Officer	(Signed) Marion W. Buchanan	Bonnie Hanna Minister
		(Spencer)			Catherine Russell R. S. Miller	Marion W. Buchanan	Bonnie Hanna Minister

Marriage of George McCrae, previously George Buchan

Reproduced by kind permission of the Registrar General for Scotland

was the informant, rightly notes her as Jane Buchan, Single, but notes her occupation as Nurse. McCrae moreover, notes himself, not as her son, but as "Occupier (i.e. of the house in which death occurred) & Employer". When he declared her death he did not deny that his mother was unmarried. He denied that she was his mother.

It is almost impossible today to imagine the social stigma in privileged society of the illegitimate 100 years ago. George McCrae had been an elder of the Church of Scotland, a successful businessman, a popular politician, a forceful civil servant and a war hero. He was a gentleman on whom the King had been pleased "to confer the honour of Knighthood at Buckingham Palace" (*The London Gazette*, July 28, 1908). Humble origins were acceptable to the establishment of which George McCrae desperately wanted to be a part. Illegitimacy patently was not.

George Buchanan	Head	Wife	37	Landdress	Ministerial H. House
Margaret Do	Mother	18	27	Landdress	Employment Merchant
George McCrae	Son	19		Merchant	

1871 Census, 31 Arthur Street, Edinburgh

George McCrae	Head	Wife	37	Merchant House & Draper	Employer
Eliza do	Wife	37	28	do's wife	
Kate do	Daughter	19	19		
George do	Son	14	14	House	
William do	Son	15	15	House	
Elizabeth do	Son	13	13	Scholar	
Bladys do	Daughter	19	19	do	
Florence do	Daughter	6	6		
Eliza do	Daughter	4	4		
Robert do	Son	7	7		
James do	Mother	W.	65	Annuitant	

1901 Census, 8 Whitehouse Terrace, Edinburgh

From a genealogist's perspective, the story of George McCrae carries several warnings.

Errors of fact will enter even the best of histories.

Always return to the original documents.

If a birth certificate cannot be found, consider the possibility of illegitimacy and search for the certificate under the party's forename plus the party's mother's surname.

Treat all evidence, including that found in marriage and death certificates or in census returns with a due pinch of scepticism.

Informants could have strong reasons to hide the truth.

Jane Buchan lies in Newington Cemetery, in an unmarked grave.

Edinburgh Burial Searches

The City of Edinburgh charges £14.24 an hour for searches of its cemetery and crematorium records. On receipt of the search criteria (preferably including full name of the deceased, date of death and last known address), the Council will calculate the cost of the search, advise and invoice accordingly. Applications by letter or e-mail only to:-

Mortonhall Crematorium
Howdenhall Road
Edinburgh
EH16 6TX

mortonhallcrematorium@edinburgh.gov.uk

Book Reviews

Dalrymple Crescent, a Snapshot of Victorian Edinburgh

Joanne Lamb; T & J Lamb, 2011; ISBN 978-0-9566713-0-1; £15.99

Joanne Lamb moved into her present home in Edinburgh in 2007 and found herself becoming curious about the previous inhabitants. Having started with her own house, she became intrigued by the histories of the surrounding houses, and soon found herself investigating the whole street. This book is the result. It thus tells the story of a street, of each house and its inhabitants, and in so doing provides a fascinating social history of those who lived and worked in one particular area of Edinburgh in the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Dalrymple Crescent is today much as it was 150 years ago: a short, gently curving, street in Grange, a well-to-do area on the southern slopes of the city. Its houses, of which there are 27, were all built of stone over a period of some 25 years, which gives them a visual unity even though their sizes and styles are quite variable. The road itself is not wide but it appears spacious as each house is set well back in its plot. Like many of the streets in Grange, it is named after a member of the family of Sir Thomas Dick Lauder on whose land it was built, in this case the wife of his son, Sir John Dick Lauder, Lady Anne Dalrymple.

The book is divided into three parts. In Part 1, we learn of the building of the Crescent, its context and feuing. Part 2 gives details of those who lived in each house up to 1900 including their servants, whereas Part 3 covers more general details of life in Victorian times. The material has been carefully researched using a wide variety of records: the nineteenth century statutory birth, marriage and death certificates; the Post Office directories of the period; the Sasine records and Valuation Rolls of the city and *The Scotsman* newspaper archive. Some who lived there were quite eminent, such as Sir John Sibbald at No 16, who was for 20 years commissioner for lunacy for Scotland and a pioneer in the care of the mentally ill. Nearby at No 14 lived Professor Donald MacKinnon, a crofter's son from Colonsay, who became the first Professor of Celtic at Edinburgh University. Occasionally too the street became notorious, as in 1865, when a certain John Hunter of 'erratic disposition' murdered his sister and mother outside their home at No 6.

There are several useful indexes: a list of the names of the principle people mentioned; a short glossary of architectural terms used in Scotland at the period; and a list of the more than 40 photographs which are included. Lacking, however, is a full index of those written about, frequently in considerable detail, and this is a pity from the point of view of the family historian, who is likely to be seeking a particular kinsman.

Kirstine Baxter

On the Crofters' Trail: In search of the Clearance Highlanders

David Craig; Birlinn, Edinburgh, 2010, paperback; ISBN:978 1 84158 801 8; £9.99

This is the 3rd edition of a book first published by Jonathan Cape in 1990, and by Birlinn in 2006. There do not appear to be any major additions or corrections but

the introduction to the 2006 edition is included and there is a new preface by the author. There are 14 black and white illustrations, maps and notes, but no index. For those who have not come across this book before, the author travelled through the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and eastern Canada in search of the descendants of those who emigrated at the time of the Clearances. He was interested to know what stories had been passed down through the several generations that separate today's people from those who had to leave their homes. He found that the memories were still very fresh and the tales are both tragic and comic. Take that of George William Traill of Rousay, who evicted 42 families from their land in 1845. When confronted by the Free Church minister, he said he had a right to do what he wanted as the land belonged to him. The minister answered that 'The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof'. A year later Traill was struck dead of a heart attack in the lavatory of his London club, and to many the minister's words appeared to have been as a curse.

The author's approach makes for a very moving book and it is good to have this interesting and important work in print again.

Naomi E A Tarrant

Spott, East Lothian: Burial records

Transcribed and indexed by Roy Pugh; The Scottish Genealogy Society, 2010;

ISBN: 1-904060-55-2; £5.00

Yet another welcome addition to the ever-growing 'library' of East Coast publications for historians, this is a well-produced and compact, easy-reference volume of Spott parish burial records.

Spott, situated two miles south of Dunbar, is fortunate in having burial records that are largely intact between 1683 and 1742. The kirk session records also survive from 1642. Together they provide a valuable resource for ancestry research. The burials are continuous from 1683 to early 1807, but are missing for the next ten years. However they continue intact from 1817 up to 1 January 1826, with a final single entry in June 1842.

If you have ancestors in or around this parish in this era, these burial records can open a window into their lives, hopefully back to the 17thC.

There is an introduction and brief history of the parish and its records. This is followed by a useful index of surnames and place-names mentioned in the text and examples of alternative and old spellings of these names.

The records note the deaths of the ordinary folk in this small, rural parish, alphabetically in spreadsheet format. Although details of any mortcloth dues are not given, they record the Christian & surnames, the place of abode at time of death, the date of burial, and in some cases the spouses name. The majority of entries also give useful additional information that can be parent's name(s); another place of burial; status at death, e.g. relict, minister; and occupation.

This is a valuable and necessary addition to the collection of any historian researching this area of East Lothian.

Craig Ellery

***Colinton Characters, or, a second set of biographical annals
of the Parish of Colinton***

Colinton Local History Society, Edinburgh, 2010; £7

The aim of this collection of essays by the Colinton Local History Society is to bring another dimension to its previous publications, which trace the social, industrial and economic development of Colinton, by describing the lives and achievements of some of the people who have lived there over the centuries. Dr Thomas Murray's *Biographical Annals of the Parish of Colinton* already existed, but, since its publication in 1863, many more "characters" have made their mark on the parish and more information on others has come to light. The goal is to give a wider picture, not limited to the upper levels of society or those who had achieved great personal success, but describing also ordinary people who perhaps illustrate a particular aspect of life in the village. Above all an attempt has been made to include the lives of Colinton women.

The essays were researched and written by members of the CLHS and edited by Alistair Davidson, who sadly did not live to see the book published.

Some of the characters described had more influence on Scotland at a national level than directly on Colinton, such as Sir Adam Otterburn of Redhall, lawyer and diplomat during the troubled years of the mid 16th century. Another such is the Rev. Dr. James Gardner who retired quietly to Colinton in 1860, but had played a major role in the formation of the Free Church of Scotland in 1843. In contrast, the Rev. Dr. Lewis Balfour (grandfather of Robert Louis Stevenson), minister of Colinton from 1823 to 1860, although sympathetic to the reasons behind the Disruption, eventually opted to remain in the Church of Scotland. Had he "walked", many of his parishioners might have followed him, completely changing the religious profile of the village.

Sir John Foulis of Ravelston (1636 – 1707) had a comparatively brief connection with Colinton, having bought Woodhall House in only 1700, but his importance comes from the fascinating and detailed picture of late 17th century Scottish life left by his meticulously kept Account Books.

The personalities discussed cover a wide range of professions and backgrounds, from ministers, doctors, military men and teachers to the artist Phoebe Anna Traquair and the poetess Kate Bone, not forgetting the murderer Edwin Salt and Tod the Roaring Shepherd.

The distinguished architect Sir Robert Rowand Anderson left a lasting legacy to the village in the many houses he built there. Another tangible contribution was made by Jane Johnston, a widow who moved to Colinton in 1851 and became, unusually for the time, a successful businesswoman, running an inn and a grocery, investing in property and erecting Janefield, a tenement of shops and houses which still stands. Finally, there are even two essays by the late Alistair Davidson on fictional characters connected with the village.

Although many of the lives recounted are of the great and good, a welcome balance is found and a rounder picture of Colinton life is presented by including humbler lives, such as those of mill workers, although material in this area must

necessarily be harder to find. All the contributors are to be congratulated for their determination in hunting down information and then forming it into clear and very readable essays, making a book to be enjoyed at many levels. Its appeal to those who know Colinton - and want to know more - is obvious, but it has much to offer to a wider public, reflecting both political and social history in a national perspective. The people described relate directly to Colinton, but their counterparts, similar but different, existed in every community in Scotland.

Eileen Elder

A Who's Who of Your Ancestral Saints

Alan J. Koman, Baltimore, 2010

This title is more specialist than the general run of dictionaries of saints. The creation, or rather the discovery of saints, attains its most complex and bureaucratic form in the system set up by the Roman Catholic Church. Saints are discovered by a process which is known as canonisation which may take many years to achieve completion or may be speeded up, as happened in the recent case of Mother Teresa of Calcutta. The initial process of investigation of the candidate proposed for sainthood is carried out by an expert under the auspices of the local bishop of the area. After further study the case is sent to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome. If the application is approved the candidate may be granted the title 'venerable' and then 'blessed' (this stage is known as Beatification). One of the conditions for satisfactory progress is evidence of at least two important events relating to the life of the candidate. These must be posthumous to the life of the candidate.

After further deliberation the Pope completes the process by canonising the candidate a Saint.

Other denominations of great antiquity, notably the Orthodox and Armenian Churches, have similar, if less complex procedures. Other Christian denominations also have saints largely following from the Catholic tradition though with significant truncations made in their functions. There may have been a common fund of Saints before the split between the Eastern and Western Churches. An icon dedicated to St Patrick is to be found in one of the churches in Thessaloniki, Greece, may be an indication of this.

Koman's research in the compilation of this work has clearly been assiduous and extensive. The book contains brief biographies of 275 saints in the ancestry of 24 named individuals who date from the medieval period of European history. As such they relate largely to members of the pre-Reformation Western Church with the addition of a few Byzantines and Armenians. Two features emerge from this compilation: one that Sanctity seems to run in families; the other that Saints seem to be, in general, high status individuals. This may be an indication of inherent Eurocentric bias in the 'discovery' of saints. From the later 20th century the Vatican has sought to remedy this imbalance with the discovery of many new Saints in Latin America, Africa and Asia. A recent example of this was the canonisation in 2010 of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop who gained a reputation

as the first Australian nun to leave the cities of Australia to minister to that nation's isolated, rural poor.

Jim Cranstoun

The Poor had no Lawyers: Who owns Scotland (and how they got it)

Andy Wightman, Birlinn, Edinburgh, 2010, ISBN: 9781841589077

In this work Wightman provides a comprehensive guide to the issue of land tenure in Scotland. The polemical edge to the topic is provided by his interpretation of it as a series of conspiracies by elite groups, mainly the aristocracy, to deprive the ordinary population of Scotland of their rights to the nation's land. In this task Wightman is following in the footsteps of, among others, Tom Johnston, who in his *Our Scots Noble Families*, first published a century ago, wished to show "that our Old Nobility is not noble, that its lands are stolen... either by force or fraud... show the people that the titledeeds are rapine, murder, massacre, cheating of court harlotry". So what to most people would appear to be a fairly dry issue can come alive when folk memories of clearances and dispossession are revived.

The author identified six 'land grabs' which have brought us to the present situation – feudal colonisation, the despoiling of the church lands at the Reformation, the manipulation of the legal system to legitimise the previous illegal acts of the landowners, the takeover of the 'commonities', the hitherto undivided common property of neighbouring landowners which their tenants over which extended rights of common use had developed and the filching of the common lands of the burghs from the eighteenth century onwards.

Wightman has carried out a valuable task in assembling and updating our knowledge of this topic.

Jim Cranstoun

Advertising in 'The Scottish Genealogist'

Our journal now accepts advertising
for things relevant to genealogy.

A full page (black and white) is £80,
half page £40, and a quarter page is £20.

These are the only sizes accepted.

If you, or someone you know, would like to consider
advertising here please email the editor at:

editor@scotsgenealogy.com

RECENT ADDITIONS to the LIBRARY

Compiled by Eileen Elder

Gravestones and Memorials, Strachur & Strathallan Parish	Strachur & District Local History Society
Mentiplay/Mentiply Family Tree	Ross Mentiplay
Le Secret Généalogique des Desplanques de Béthune – Hesdignuel	L. Bollengier
Scotland, Owners of Lands and Heritages 1872-73	
Personal Names in Wills proved at Durham 1801-1803	
St Giles Cathedral: The Thistle Chapel	Philip R.G. Thirkell
St Giles Cathedral: Stained Glass Windows	Kirsty Nicol
St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh	
Lost Moray and Nairn	Bruce B. Bishop
Scottish Trades, Professions, Vital Records and Directories, a Selected Bibliography	
Scottish Catholics at Home and Abroad	David Dobson
Records of the Company of Shipwrights of Newcastle-upon-Tyne 1622 – 1967, Vol.11	D.J. Rowe (Ed.)
Banffshire, The People and the Lands, Parish of Botrophine pre 1850	Bruce B. Bishop
Athelstaneford Kirkyard, East Lothian, MIs	Craig Ellery
Aberlady Kirkyard and Cemetery, East Lothian, MIs	Craig Ellery
Galloway People in Carlisle Newspapers, Marriage & Death Intimations 1812-1855	Dumfries & Galloway FHS
Dumfriesshire People in Carlisle Newspapers, Marriage & Death Intimations 1775-1858	Dumfries & Galloway FHS
Wiston Parish Church Graveyard, MIs	Lanarkshire FHS
Carstairs 633 Deaths and Mortcloth Records	Lanarkshire FHS
Carmichael Deaths/Mortcloths 630, Symington Mortcloths 657, Wandell & Lamington Deaths/Mortcloths 659	Lanarkshire FHS
The Tsar's Doctor, The Life and Times of Sir James Wylie	Mary McGrigor
Heather in our History: The MacGregor Keay Story 1720-1927	D. Ruth Downs
The Founders of Dundee (South Africa)	
Military Graves of the Second Anglo-Boer War in Dundee (South Africa)	
Wigtown Martyrs (File of several documents)	
The Perth Guildry Book 1452-1601	Marion L. Stavert (Ed.)
Colinton Characters	Alistair H.B. Davidson (Ed.)
On the Crofters' Trail	David Craig

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2011

**All SGS ordinary meetings take place at 7.30pm in the
Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL
(unless otherwise stated). Admission free to all.**

- 21 March "Heritage Hub, Hawick – Scottish Borders Archives & Local History Centre" by Rachel Hosker
- 18 April "Dalrymple Crescent – a Snapshot of Victorian Edinburgh" by Joanne M. Lamb
- 14 May at 2pm May Visit - Guided Walk of Corstorphine and Visit to the Corstorphine Heritage Centre. Please book at SGS Library
- 12 September "The Sandemans of Springland" by Dr Charles D. Waterston
- 17 October "Emigration & Immigration Records on the Web" by Ken Nisbet
- 14 November "18th Century Taxation Records" by Joy Dodd

SGS meetings are open to all – bring your friends!
(Small donations from non-members will be appreciated.)

Family & Local History Fairs 2011

- 9 April Tay Valley FHS Book Fair
St Andrew's Church Halls, Dundee
- 7 May West Lothian History Fair
Linlithgow Academy
- 21 May East Dunbartonshire Family & Local History Fair
Milngavie Town Hall
- 25 June 22nd SAFHS Conference, hosted by the SGS
Adam House, Chambers Street, Edinburgh
(See feature on page 15)
- 10 September National Family History Fair
Newcastle Central Premier Inn
- All year Society of Genealogists – Centenary Celebrations
www.societyofgenealogists.com

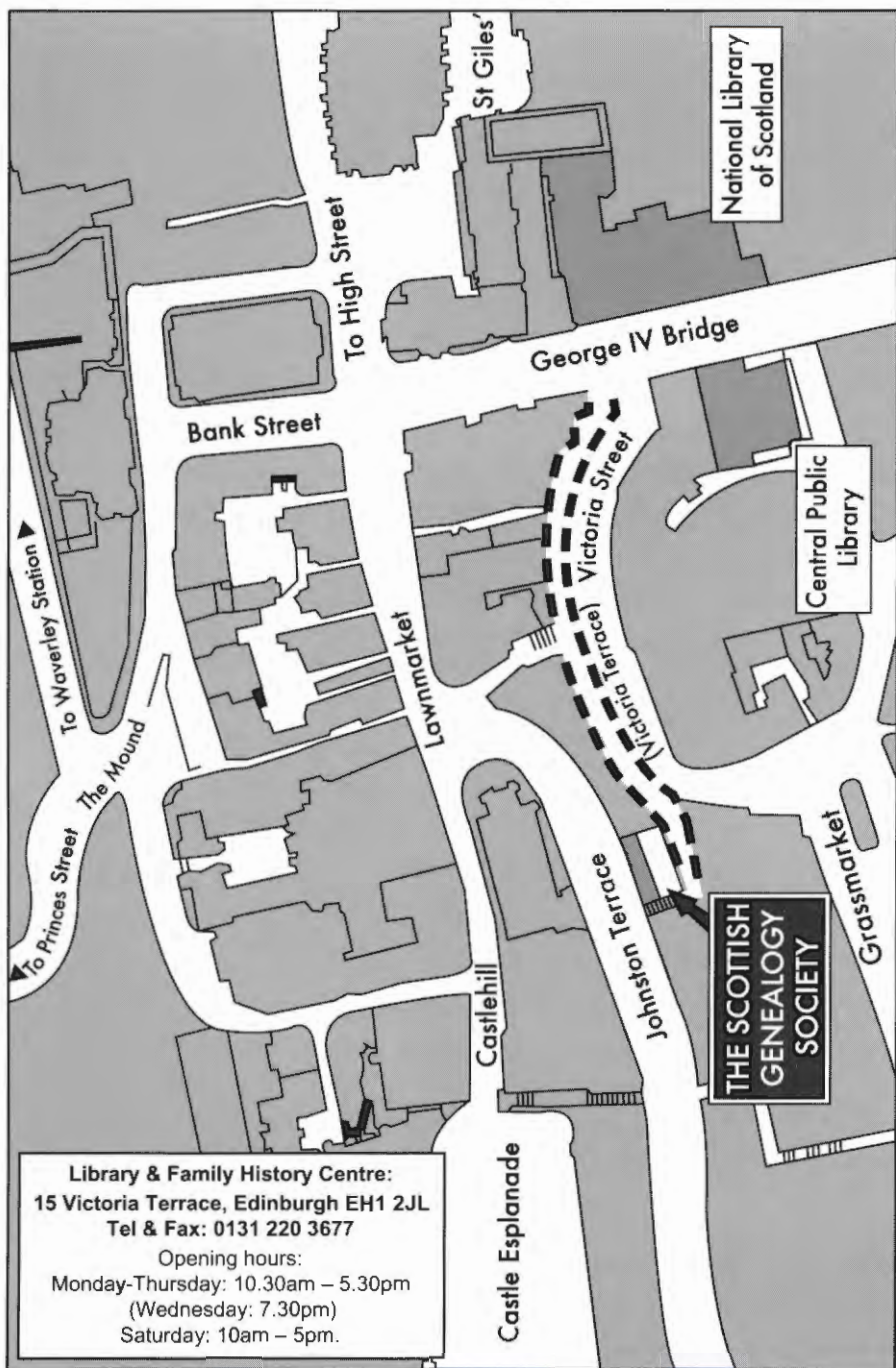
New Register House Research Evenings (in conjunction with Standard Life FHS)

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Wed 2nd March | Thu 24th March | Mon 18th April |
| Tue 10th May | Wed 1st June | Thu 23rd June |
| Mon 18th July | Tue 9th August | Wed 31st August |
| Thu 22nd September | Mon 17th October | Tue 8th November |
| Wed 30th November | Thu 15th December | |

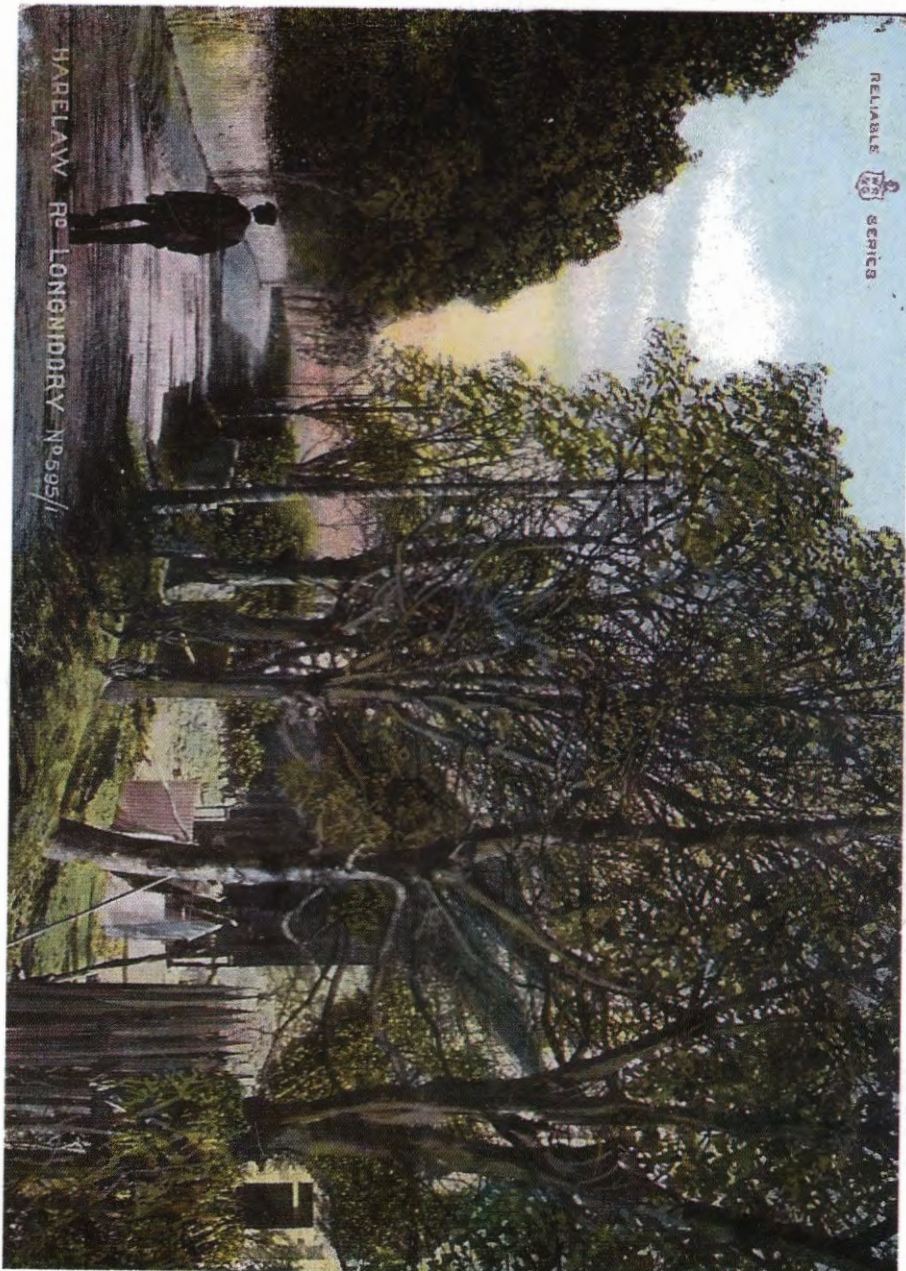
These are available to members of all SAFHS groups. Please telephone the Library to reserve your place.

Scotslot

Scotslot meets at 2pm at Southdown Methodist Hall, Harpenden. The door must be locked at 2.30pm, so if you plan to attend, please advise stuart.laing@virgin.net or Elizabeth van Lottum, 16 Bloomfield Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 4DB.



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