



THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

SEPTEMBER 2011

John Rennie

Robert Taylor, MM & Bar

The Scottish Catholic Archives

A Banffshire Night Out

Falconers of Ellon

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

Vol. LVIII No. 3

The Scottish Genealogy Society

Hon. President:

W. David H. Sellar, Lord Lyon King of Arms

Hon. Vice-Presidents:

Miss Joan P. S. Ferguson, MBE, MA, ALA, FRCP (Edin)

Ivor R. Guild, CBE, FRSE, MA, LL.B, WS

Angus Mitchell, CB, CVO, MC

Dr Jean Munro, FSA Scot.

D. Richard Torrance, BSc.

Chairman of Council: Mrs Joy Dodd

Hon. Secretary: Ken A. Nisbet, BA (Hons), Dip. MSHR

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs Dorothy Tweedie

Hon. Librarian: Mrs Moira Stevenson, MA Dip Lib

Hon. Examiner: Stuart A. F. Faed, BSc (Hons), CA

Council:

Les Hume; Gregory Lauder-Frost, BA (Hons), FSA Scot; Mrs Alison Moffat LL.B;

Charles Napier, Hon. Fellow of Edinburgh University, FSA Scot;

Miss Barbara Revolta, Dip. Arch.; Mrs Moira Stevenson, MA Dip Lib;

Miss Naomi E.A. Tarrant, BA, FSA Scot, FSA; Irene Sweeney Townsley; Liz Watson

Membership Secretary: Ken A. Nisbet

Sales Secretary: Mrs Rhona C. D. Stevenson

Syllabus Secretary: Miss Barbara Revolta, Dip. Arch.

Council Minutes Secretary: Gregory Lauder-Frost, BA (Hons)

Chairman of Publications Committee: Craig Ellery, BA (Hons)

Webmaster: Richard Torrance

The Scottish Genealogy Society, 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL

E-mail: enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com

Website: www.scotsgenealogy.com

Scottish charity No. SC016718

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: Portrait of John Rennie by Sir Henry Raeburn, 1810

Reproduced by kind permission of the
Institution of Civil Engineers, One Great George Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3AA

CONTENTS

John Rennie - <i>Joy Dodd</i>	99
Sir William Graham - <i>John P. Ravilious</i>	112
The Falconers of Ellon - <i>James Waugh</i>	117
Scottish Catholic Archives	122
Moray Burial Ground Research Group	124
Robert Taylor - <i>Alex Wood</i>	126
Banffshire night out - <i>Bruce B. Bishop</i>	134
Seton of Northrigg - <i>Gregory Lauder-Frost</i>	136
SAHS Conference 2011 - <i>Joy Dodd</i>	140
Book Reviews	142
Recent Additions to the Library - <i>Eileen Elder & Joan Keen</i>	146
Dates for your Diary	148

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.

Correspondence, Subscriptions, Publications

General correspondence should be sent to the Honorary Secretary and subscriptions to the Membership Secretary.

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.

Email: enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com

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

Our website can be accessed on www.scotsgenealogy.com

Copyright - All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written consent of the publisher.

Views expressed in articles or correspondence are those of the contributor and may not be those of the publisher.

John Rennie

East Lothian's Engineering Genius – His Formative Years

by Joy Dodd

I must notice in a particular manner the singular proficiency of a young man of the name of Rennie... If this young man is spared and continues to prosecute his studies, he will do great honour to his country

So wrote David Loch, HM Inspector General of Fisheries, in his 1778 *A Tour through the Trading Towns and Villages of Scotland*. At this point John Rennie, born 7th June 1761, was still a growing lad.

In some respects, the story of John Rennie's life and career is one of outstanding talent, drive and determination, fostered and encouraged by similarly-minded persons who recognised his potential and capabilities. Added to these should be education, professionalism and reliability, and a constant striving to perfect techniques.

He was born at Phantassie Farm, just outside East Linton in the parish of Prestonkirk, the youngest of nine children born to Jean Rennie and her husband and cousin, James Rennie, tenant farmer there.



John Rennie.

June 18th • John Son to James Rennie & Jean Rennie
was Born June 7th & Baptized D. 17th Witnesses
H. Cairns, Matthew Sheriff, & M. Richardson

1761 Baptism Register, Prestonkirk.

Reproduced by permission of the Registrar-General for Scotland

James Rennie was an innovator in farming, one of the first to introduce turnips as a crop appropriate to the local soil, and he placed emphasis on his sons' education and relevant training. The eldest son George was sent on a tour of other farms to observe new techniques and methods. The agricultural Rennies in their turn became known for their model farm.

But tragedy struck the family in November 1766 when James Rennie died. His widow and his son George took over the tenancy, and the family continued to live and work there, eventually buying the land.

Attending the local school brought the child John Rennie into contact with Andrew Meikle (1719 - 1811), whose workshop at Houston Mill was on the

route from the farm to the school. Meikle was the local millwright and himself an innovative engineer and contributor to the agricultural revolution. He designed a threshing machine in 1776, working on it for a decade until he was satisfied with it and could put the design into production, as well as devising an automatic fanner for winnowing grain, "spring sails" for windmills,



Andrew Meikle.
(By T. D. Scott, after Ruddock)

which used adjustable shutters instead of sailcloth, and a number of other machines to increase productivity. His prowess and ingenuity became renowned throughout the country and he was often called upon to travel to other areas to offer solutions to problems. As early as 1768 he applied for a patent for one of his inventions, in itself an innovative move, which may have set an example of "professionalism" which Rennie was to follow.

The young John was fascinated by the workings at Houston Mill, by tools, machinery and construction, and, rather than playing with other boys, spent many hours with Meikle and his workmen who were happy to explain how everything worked and to what purpose. Much of his time was spent building his own little models of ships, windmills and a steam-engine. Andrew Meikle became not only a father-figure to the child, but also his first engineering mentor.



Houston Mill.
(By E. M. Wimperis, after a Drawing by J. S. Smiles)

At 12 years old, John Rennie left the local Preston school and started working for Meikle, where he remained for two years. Thereafter he was sent to Dunbar High School, where he soaked up all that was to be taught there within two years. His mathematics teacher, Mr Gibson, was suitably impressed by his pupil, and when he left Dunbar to accept a promoted position at Perth, he invited John to be his replacement, but this invitation was declined (although he taught for a few weeks until the new teacher arrived). John Rennie valued education, but he far preferred practical problemsolving to teaching theory.

He returned to Andrew Meikle's employ and continued training to become a millwright. In September 1779 he set up business on his own account, and his first customer was – Andrew Meikle, who contracted him to build a new north mill at nearby Knowes, to which he had removed.

However, the thirst for knowledge called again and in 1780 he enrolled at the University of Edinburgh, studying Natural Philosophy under Professor John Robison, physicist and inventor, and Chemistry under Professor Joseph Black, the renowned scientist. In this way he became the first professional civil engineer to have a university education. As light relief from his studies, he taught himself to read French and German and to play the flute, violin and bagpipes. The latter may have seemed an odd choice, but Andrew Meikle was proficient on Northumbrian pipes, which may have been an influencing factor. During the long vacations, he continued with millwright work.

After University, he set off for England, armed with letters of introduction, intending to tour mills, factories, bridges, canals and other engineering projects. One such letter from Prof. Robison introduced the young engineer



Albion Mill.

to James Watt, who with Matthew Boulton had a large works near Birmingham. Boulton & Watt intended to install a large corn-mill, the Albion Mills at Southwark, London, and required an engineer to oversee the installation of machinery. The contract was not without some difficulties, and Rennie was of the opinion that, once installed, the machinery was overworked and under-maintained. A fire in 1791 destroyed the Mills, Rennie's first major work. Nonetheless, it took him to London in November 1785 and earned him Watt's approval, an invaluable asset for an aspiring career engineer.

Another letter of introduction brought him to John Smeaton, then the most outstanding engineer of the age who had first coined the term "civil engineer". Smeaton invited Rennie to join the Society of Engineers which he had founded in 1771. (This was the forerunner of the Institution of Civil Engineers which hosts an annual Smeaton Lecture.) Smeaton's appreciation of Rennie's talents also boosted the latter's career.

How proud the Rennie family and Andrew Meikle and his workmen must have been to learn that their son, brother and protégé was on his way to fulfilling his potential!

Rennie's career blossomed, and from mills he progressed to canals, aqueducts, bridges (both stone and cast iron), land drainage, docks, harbours, dockyards, breakwaters and lighthouses, as well as devising secondary apparatus to facilitate the construction of main projects, for example improved diving-bells and early railways. He became the foremost (and best-paid) civil engineer of his day, known for the reliability of his designs, his attention to detail in all aspects of the execution of his designs, and his engineering reports,



Opening of Waterloo Bridge on the 18th of June 1817. (By Cooke after Reinagle).

described as “models of clarity”. He was offered a knighthood by the Prince Regent, later George IV, but he declined it.

John Rennie left behind an astonishing legacy of work, as well as standards to which other engineers should aspire, and while some works have since been destroyed or demolished – or even removed to Arizona! – many can still be viewed around the country.

All this from a wee laddie who was fascinated by and welcomed into the local millwright's workshop.

Phantassie Farm and its famous Doocot still stand, but the farm is private property, of course. Some of the buildings of Houston Mill have been converted into private dwellings. The North Mill at Knowes Mill was destroyed by fire in 1891 and its ruins stand beside the garden of the former mill-house.

Major Works in Scotland

1778-1784	North Mill at Knowes Mill, East Linton	1812-1814	Cree Bridge, Newton Stewart
1794-1809	The Crinan Canal	1814	South Pier, Ardglass Harbour
1797-1805	The Aberdeenshire Canal	1811-1820	Newhaven Pier
1800-1804	Kelso Bridge	1819	Helmsdale Harbour
1805-1809	East India Dock, Greenock	1819-1820	West Pier, Stranraer Harbour
1806-1808	Musselburgh Bridge	1819-1824	Cramond Bridge, Edinburgh (demolished 1963)
1807-1811	South-East Pier at Fraserburgh Harbour	1819-1820	Pylons for Union Chain Bridge, Paxton
1807-1811	Bell Rock Lighthouse	1821	Bride of Earn
1808-1811	South Harbour, Peterhead	1821	Ken Bridge, New Galloway (completed in 1824, after Rennie's death)
1809-1818	South Queensferry Pier		
1809-1821	Berwick Harbour and Lighthouse		
1810-1817	West Dock, Leith		

Major Works outside Scotland

1784-1788	Machinery for Albion Mills, London	1810-1821	Admiralty Pier, Holyhead
1792-1803	Lune Aqueduct, Lancaster Canal	1811-1817	Waterloo Bridge
1794-1810	Kennet & Avon Canal	1812-1814	Fosdyke Bridge
1798-1802	Wolesley Bridge, Staffordshire	1812-1817	Witham Navigation
1801-1805	London Docks	1812-1821	Plymouth Breakwater
1802-1810	East, West & Wildmere Fens	1813-1821	Sheerness Dockyard
1802-1817	Royal Canal, Ireland	1815-1819	Southwark Bridge
1803-1806	East India Docks, London	1815-1820	Pembroke Dockyard
1803-1809	Humber Docks, Hull	1815-1821	Custom House Dock, Dublin
1804-1805	Royal Military Canal	1816-1819	Deptford Dockyard
1804-1806	Town Bridge, Boston	1817-1819	Wellington Bridge, Leeds
1807-1809	Darlaston Bridge, Staffordshire	1817-1820	Kingstown Harbour
1807-1821	Ramsgate Harbour	1818-1821	Eau Brink Cut
1808	Margate Harbour	1820-1821	Yarmouth Haven
1809-1818	Howth Harbour	1820-1821	Chatham Dockyard
1809-1821	West India Dock	1820-1821	Bottisham & Swaffam Fen
1809-1821	Manchester Waterworks	1821	New London Bridge design
1810-1814	Grand Western Canal		

John Rennie

The Times October 17th 1821

The remains of this ingenious and much-regretted individual were yesterday deposited in St Paul's Cathedral. The funeral arrangements were conducted (we understand) by Messrs. Wilkinsons of Ludgate-hill: all the appointments, without any affectation of spleen-dour, were extremely handsome and well devised; and in the long train of mourners who followed this man of science to his grave, were many to whom his exertions had been valuable, and many by whom his talents had been admired.

As early as 11 in the forenoon, a considerable crowd had collected itself opposite Mr Rennie's house in Stamford-street, Blackfriars; and at that time the funeral coaches and private carriages assembled formed a line of nearly a mile in length : a hundred and fifty horses, with a proportionate number of attendants, were employed in the cavalcade. About 12 o'clock, preparations being complete, the removal of the body was commenced. The coffin, which was of gigantic proportion, covered with black velvet and ornamented with gold, was carried by eight bearers

Through a crowd of uncovered and silent spectators and the *cortege* consisting of hearse, with six horses, sixteen mourning coaches, with four horses each, and nineteen private carriages (several of them with four horses also), moved slowly towards the place of its destination. The doors of St. Paul's were surrounded even before the Funeral started from Stamford-street; and the key-keepers profited by pence exacted for prompt admission to the curious or impatient; but it was not until near one o'clock that the procession appeared in sight.

A few minutes before 1 o'clock the dark train entered the gates at the top of Ludgate-hill, and, sweeping round the wide area, approached the steps of the Cathedral. The body was then taken from the hearse, and carried, followed by sixty mourners, into the little chapel on the north side of the church; the funeral service was read; and the interment subsequently took place with the accustomed solemnities, in a vault at the east end, and on the south side of the building, near the tomb of the late Lord Collingwood.

Upon the professional talents of Mr Rennie, little, if any, comment can be necessary. For along time prior to his death few works of magnitude, either public or private (by whomever they might be devised), were executed without his assistance. A Scotsman by birth, he inherited the sagacity and industry characteristic of his country: and self-educated, self-assisted he rose, from a station labourious and obscure, to the highest eminence in the scientific profession which he pursued. Upon whatever undertaking proper to an engineer — whether ; lands were to be drained, or waters to be filtered — bridges erected, or machinery devised — few ever consulted Mr Rennie without consulting him to advantage. If his plan was ingenious, his execution of that plan would be still more excellent. No man was more anxious for the durability of his works: few so immediately perceived all the difficulties, immediate and remote, with which an operation was likely to be attended. It was not only at what would occur on the morrow that he looked, but at what was to occur 50 years afterwards;

not only at the remedy for the existing evil, but for prevention of the evil that might, unprovided for, exist in time to come.

Mr Rennie was for many years an intimate friend of the late Mr Watt and possessed much of that untiring ardour in pursuit, that fondness for his profession, which led the improvements upon improvements devised by the latter in the steam engine. To enumerate the inventions of this able engineer, or even the leading object in which he has been engaged, would compel us far to exceed the brief space which we are enabled to devote to his memory.

Among the inventions, his mode of exploding sunken rocks by the assistance of the diving bell, and his devise for measuring the force of water, will be within the recollection of every man of science.

Among his public works, the Waterloo-bridge, the Breakwater at Plymouth, and the dikes erected after the inundation (a few years since) in Holland, will not hastily be forgotten. Many valuable projects will probably have died with Mr Rennie, and his loss will be deeply felt by those in whose speculations he was engaged : on the other hand, the fortune and reputation to which – to his honour be it spoken – from a station of comparative obscurity he had risen, will animate the exertions of genius under difficulty.

Among a vast number of distinguished persons who followed Mr Rennie to the grave, we noticed Sir Joseph Yorke, Sir Humphrey Davy, Sir J. Seppings, Sir George Cockburn, Sir J. B. Martin, Sir Thos. Lance, Sir James Shaw, Mr. Geo. Abercrombie Robinson, chairman of the East India Company, Mr. Hamilton, Under Secretary of State, Mr Chantry, Royal Academician, Mr W. T. Brande, &c. &c. Mr G. Rennie, the eldest son of the deceased, appeared as chief mourner.

The service was read in the chapel by the Rev. Mr. Hayes : The Rev. Mr Mapleton officiated in the vault. Some confusion arose from the efforts of the crowd to force themselves with the procession into the church, but no serious accident occurred.

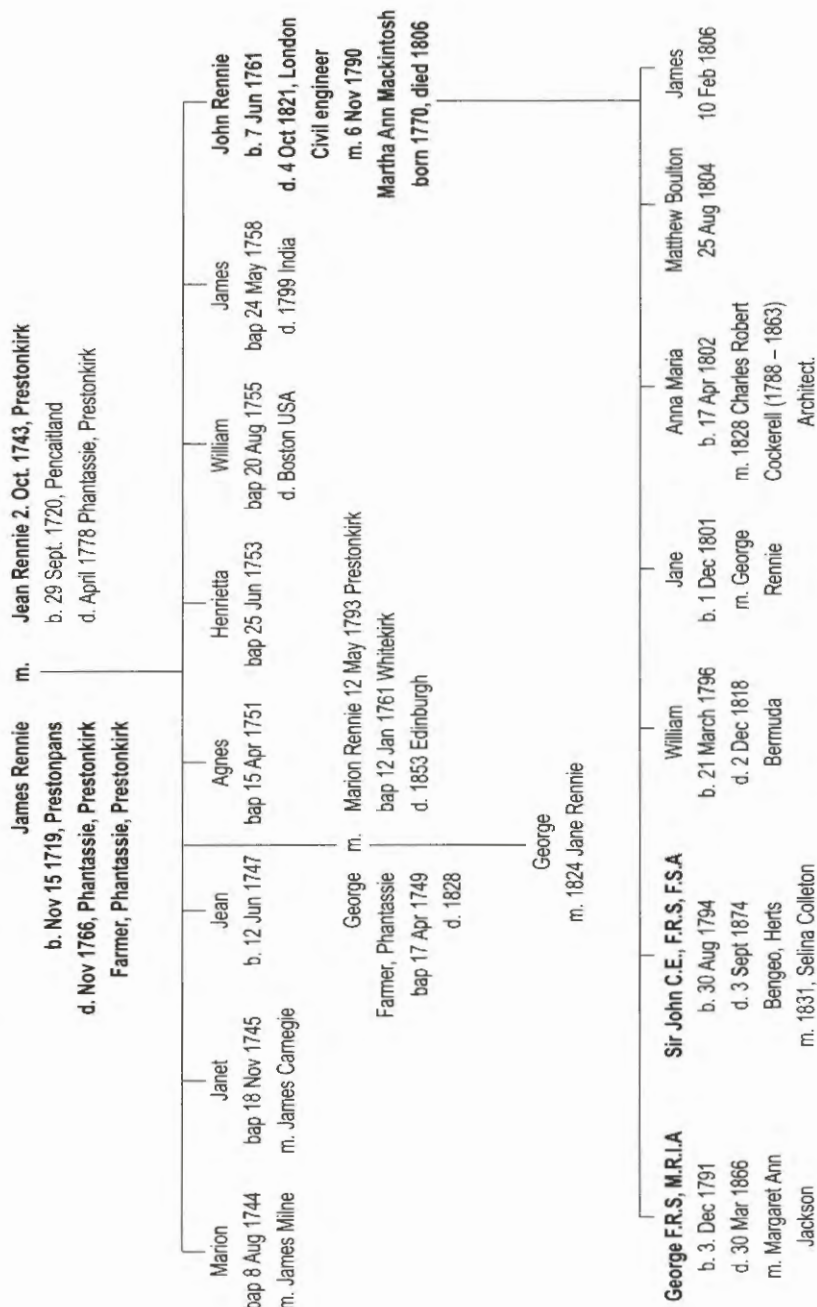
The Gravestone

HERE LIE THE MORTAL REMAINS OF JOHN RENNIE,
CIVIL ENGINEER, F.R.S., F.A.S.

BORN AT PHANTASSIE, IN EAST LoTHIAN, 7TH JULY
1761; DECEASED IN LONDON 4TH OCT. 1821

THIS GRAVESTONE IS DEDICATED TO HIS PRIVATE VIRTUES,
AND RECORDS THE AFFECTION AND THE RESPECT OF
HIS FAMILY AND HIS FRIENDS; BUT THE MANY
SPLENDID AND USEFUL WORKS BY WHICH, UNDER HIS
SUPERINTENDING GENIUS, ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND
IRELAND, HAVE BEN ADORNED AND IMPROVED,
ARE THE TRUE MONUMENTS OF HIS PUBLIC MERIT.
WATERLOO SOUTHWARK BRIDGES PLYMOUTH
BREAKWATER SHEERNESS DOCKS

John Rennie, Civil Engineer, Family tree



The Rennies of Phantassie

by Joy Dodd

James Rennie came to Prestonkirk about 1741/42, when he became tenant of the Earl of Aberdeen on the estate of Phantassie. He probably came from Tranent, where a large extended family of Rennies were farming at Myles Farm in the south-west of the parish of Tranent. He gained a reputation as a successful farmer and in 1753 took a lease of land in East Linton where he built a distillery. James represented the Earl at the Heritors' meetings at Prestonkirk, but he was never an elder of the kirk. The family subsequently bought these lands. James died in November 1766 and was buried in the family burial ground in Prestonkirk.

In September 1743 James Rennie married Jean Rennie, his first cousin, daughter of James Rennie and Jean Craigdailly. Jean Rennie died in April 1778 at Phantassie.



Rennie's Birthplace, Phantassie.
(By E. M. Wimperis, after a Drawing by J. S. Smiles)

Children, all born at Phantassie:

Marion baptised 8th April 1744 married James Mylne (died 1788) of Loch Hill, Aberlady. She died 6th April 1809 and is buried in Aberlady.

Janet baptised 18th November 1745, married James Carnegie (died 1784) and had 6 children. They lived in East Linton, in the row of houses where the chemist shop now is. Janet died about 1816/16.

Jean baptised 12th June 1747.

George baptised 17 April 1749. He was only 17 when his father died and succeeded his father to the tenancy of Phantassie, purchasing the estate in 1803. His farming methods were world-renowned and brought visitors from all over Europe. He was a Justice of the Peace for Haddingtonshire. George

died in 1828. On 12th May 1793 he married his cousin Marion Rennie daughter of John Rennie and Margaret Wardlaw. She died in Edinburgh in 1853. Both are buried at Prestonkirk.

Children:

James baptised 18th June 1794, died young

Margaret baptised 14 May 1795, married John Rennie Manderson

John baptised 16 December 1797, married Sarah Campbell, drowned 1835

Jane baptised 6th April 1799, died young.

George baptised 26th April 1801. Sculptor and Politician. Governor of the Falkland Islands. Died 1860. Married his cousin Jane Rennie 1824 (daughter of John Rennie, engineer). Three sons.

William baptised 4th July 1803, died young.

Janet baptised 5th January 1807, died 21st January 1875. Married James Aitchison of Alderston (died 1863) Four daughters. Buried Inveresk in Aitchison burial ground.

Thomas baptised 20 July 1809. Sea captain.

Agnes baptised 15th April 1751

Henrietta baptised 25 June 1753, died unmarried after 1815. Went to London to look after John Rennie's children after his wife died in 1806.

William baptised 20 August 1755, went to sea. He was taken prisoner during the first American war, and he died in Boston U.S.A.

James baptised 24th May 1758. Studied medicine at Edinburgh University. Entered the army as assistant surgeon. Served in the Indian Campaign under General Harris against Tippoo Saib. He was killed while dressing the wound of his commanding officer at the Siege of Seringapatam.

John baptised 17th June 1761. Renowned Civil Engineer. Married 6th November 1790, Martha Ann Mackintosh (born 1779, died 1806) daughter of Lauchlan Mackintosh.

Children:

George born 3rd December 1791, died 30 March 1866. Married Margaret Ann Jackson, daughter of Sir John Jackson M.P. Educated at St Paul's School, London, and Edinburgh University. Appointed inspector of machinery at the Royal Mint in 1818. Civil Engineer, worked with his father and brother John and continued building bridges and railways after his father's death.

Managed the mechanical business of the family firm. George died on 13th August 1881 and is buried at Holmwood, near Dorking. Two sons, one daughter.

John, C.E., F.R.S., F.S.A., born 30th August 1794, died Bengoe, Herts 3rd September 1874. Educated at Dr. Greenlaw's school, Isleworth, and Dr Burney's school in Greenwich. Entered his father's works in

1809 and was involved in many of his father's projects. Took a Grand Tour 1819-1821.

Continued to work with his brother George after their father's death. Constructed London Bridge from designs drawn by his father. He received a knighthood for this. Member and President of the Institution of Civil Engineers. Married 1831 Selina Colleton. Sir John died at Bengoe, Hertfordshire on 3rd September 1874.

William born 21st March 1796, died 2nd December 1818 in Bermuda. Naval lieutenant.

Jane born 1st December 1801, married 1824 George Rennie junior of Phantassie, her cousin. Travelled to Europe and the Falklands with him. Two sons.

Anna Maria born 17th April 1802, died London 24th November 1873; married 1828 Charles Robert Cockerel, architect, surveyor to St Paul's Cathedral, (1788 – 1863). Both are buried St Pauls Cathedral.

Matthew Boulton born 25th August 1804, married 1856 Julia Curteis Gilkerson.

James born 10 February 1806, died unmarried 1883. Financier.

Exhibitions

To mark the 250th anniversary of John Rennie's birth, exhibitions were staged at various venues within the UK.

The East Lothian Antiquarian and Field Naturalists Society mounted one such at the John Muir Birthplace, Dunbar, with some smaller displays in East Lothian libraries.

The Institution of Civil Engineers, London staged another, for the month of August only, at its headquarters in London. This included a number of original plans, illustrations, tools and artefacts, as well as the Raeburn portrait. Some of the artefacts and documents will remain on display for a while longer at One Great George Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3AA. A reduced version of this exhibition will travel to other venues in the UK, which are yet to be announced. Details may be advertised on www.ice.org.

The ICE was founded on 2nd January 1818, and Thomas Telford (another Scottish engineering genius – of course!) was elected its first President in 1820, for the rest of his lifetime. Thus it was not for a few decades that a Rennie was elected President, this being John's son, Sir John Rennie.

Andrew Meikle

Andrew Meikle, Man of Invention, a talk by Joy Dodd, will take place on Friday 11th November 2011, at 7.30pm, in the church at Prestonkirk (East Linton). It is hosted by the East Lothian Antiquarian & Field Naturalist Society and is open to the public. Donations welcome.



Baluster from Rennie's Waterloo Bridge, London (1817 – 1934)
at the Rennie Memorial, Phantassie

Memorials

Other than his gravestone in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral, London, until this year the only memorial to John Rennie was near his birthplace at Phantassie. This was designed by John Wilson Paterson, A.R.I.B.A., with a portrait roundel by Alexander Carrick, A.R.S.A. Standing before the roundel and commemorative plaque is a baluster from the original Waterloo Bridge.

THIS MEMORIAL TO JOHN RENNIE 1761-1821, CIVIL ENGINEER
WAS ERECTED IN 1836

AND RE-LOCATED AT THIS SITE IN 1881 BY

THE EAST LOTHIAN ANTIQUARIAN

AND FIELD NATURALISTS SOCIETY

THE INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

SIR ROBERT MCALPINE AND SONS LIMITED.

The memorial was dedicated and unveiled by Lord Wemyss on 8th October 1936. The memorial was relocated to a more benign position and re-dedicated on 20th September 1981. In 2011, after a little restoration work, it had another re-dedication ceremony on 4th June.

Two new memorials have been erected to commemorate John Rennie and his work, both dedicated on the 250th anniversary of his birth, 7th June 2011.

The first is at Rudyard Dam & Reservoir, built in 1801 to supply water to the Leek branch of the Trent & Mersey Canal. It became the second largest reservoir in England. In 1829 the North Staffordshire Railway Company built a track around the shore of the lake, providing a scenic journey for daytrippers. It was there in 1865 that John Lockwood Kipling met the young Miss Alice Macdonald, whom he married. They named their first son after their meeting-place.

The second is at Pembroke Dock, Milford Haven. Rennie was advising the Navy Board on the development of the new shipyard there, and his last engineering report, written in 1821 shortly before he died, comprised his advice on the dock gates.



Portrait roundel by
Alexander Carrick
on the
Rennie Memorial,
Phantassie



Rennie Memorial on the outside of Phantassie garden wall, East Linton

Sir William Graham and the Countess of Strathearn

By John P. Ravillious

The career of Sir William Graham of Montrose (d. 1424) is rather well-known, largely due to his service to the Scots crown and to Archibald Douglas, Earl of Douglas and Duc de Touraine (d. 1424). The marital part of his life has however been a problem for centuries. His second marriage to Mary (or Mariota) Stewart, the widowed Countess of Angus and daughter of Robert III, king of Scots is well documented, but the obscurity surrounding his first marriage has been the source of conjecture. There was an identification of his first wife as a daughter of Sir John Oliphant of Aberdalgie, but this has been noted as an error concerning the wife of his half-brother Sir Robert Graham, the regicide [1].

There is an interesting charter which I noted some years ago in which Alexander Graham (dvp bef 1421/2), eldest son and heir of Sir William Graham, was called 'brother' by Euphemia Stewart, Countess Palatine of Strathearn

'11. Charter by Euphemia, Countess Palatine of Strathern, to her brother, Alexander the Grahame, son of William the Grahame, Knight, for his good and faithful service, of the lands of Callandermore and Callanderbeg in the Earldom of Strathern. To be held of the granter in feu and heritage for payment of homage, service, ward and relief, and three Suits of Court.

Dated at Perth, 13th July 1414.' [2]

The evidence provided by this charter was as intriguing as it was inconclusive. The Countess who granted this charter was Euphemia Stewart, Countess Palatine of Strathearn, the only known daughter and heir of David Stewart, Earl of Strathearn and Caithness (d. ca. 1386), by his wife, a daughter of Sir Alexander Lindsay of Glenesk [3]. Given that the wife of Alexander Graham had never been identified, I conjectured at the time that she may have been an otherwise unknown younger sister of Euphemia Stewart, making him her brother-in-law.

Direct evidence of the nature of the relationship has since been sought without success, but more recently another piece of indirect evidence was noted which makes the nature of the relationship fairly certain. This was a precept of sasine by Euphemia Stewart dated at Kincardine, 27 January 1401/02:

'18. Precept of sasine by Eufemia Stewart, Countess Palatine of Strathearn, ordering the steward or mair of fee of Strathearn, to give sasine of the lands of Pitcarne, with their pertinents, to Malcolm of Crambeth; which lands Hugh of Crambeth lord of the said lands, with

consent of James of Crambeth, his brother, freely resigned into the hands of the said Eufemia, at Kincardyne, on the 27th January. Given under the seal of William of Graham, Lord of Mukdog, her father, in the absence of her chancellor, 27 January 1401.' [4]

This charter is interesting because Countess Euphemia's biological father is known to have been David Stewart, the son of Robert II, as noted above. Sir William Graham's designation as "her father" in this charter only makes sense in light of the later charter of 1414 calling Sir William's son Alexander Graham her brother. Given the death of Euphemia's father ca. 1386 when she was an infant or very young child, the only person whom she would reasonably call her father (other than the Pope) would be a beloved – or at least well-respected – stepfather.

From the foregoing, it now appears certain that Sir William Graham married as his first wife NN Lindsay, widow of David Stewart, earl of Strathearn [5]. As the eldest son of the dowager Countess of Strathearn, even by a second marriage, Alexander Graham would have been the heir of his mother. What property his mother held as her *maritagium* is unknown: as a result, evidence of land tenure cannot be produced in support of this identification.

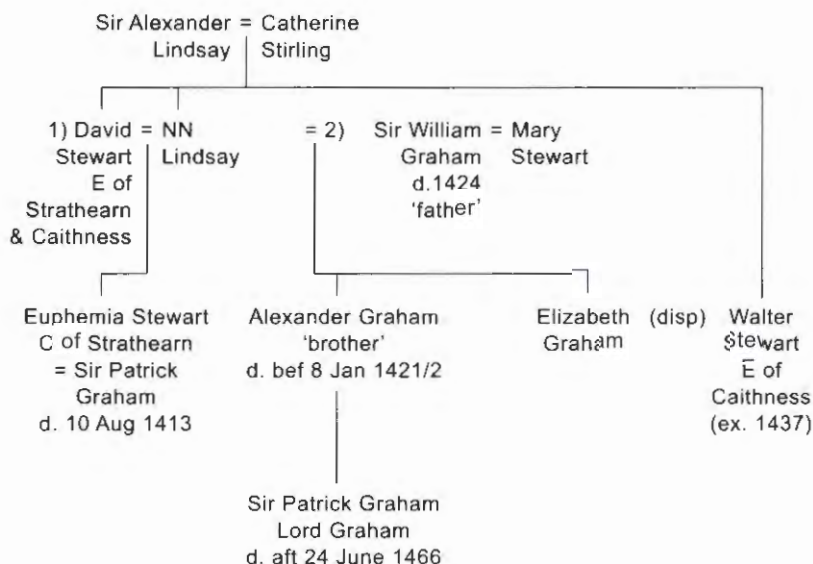
However, there is heraldic evidence which bears on this matter. J. S. Clouston wrote in 1938 concerning the Scots arms portrayed in the *Armorial de Berry*, a French armorial with important evidence concerning the Scots nobility and landed class in the mid 15th century. Amongst the arms with which Clouston dealt, there was a coat given as that of the "Sire de Grain", described as Or, a galley gules, three escallops in chief sable [6]. The charge of Three escallops is that of the Grahams, but the use of the Galley (a feature of arms of the Lords of the Isles and other Highland lords) has not been noted in any other medieval arms of the Grahams. These arms were identified by Clouston as those of the Lord Graham ('sieur de Graham'), but given the presence of the Galley Clouston reasoned that these were arms assigned by Berry to Malise Graham, Earl of Menteith (formerly of Strathearn), due to his link to the old Strathearn connection to the Earldom of Orkney [7].

With the identification of Sir William Graham's first wife as the widow of David Stewart, Earl of Strathearn and Caithness, another solution to the identity of the Graham armiger can be put forward. Patrick Graham, 1st Lord Graham (d. after 24 June 1466) was the eldest son of Alexander Graham, and after his father's death the heir of his grandfather, Sir William Graham of Montrose [8]. Patrick Graham was created Lord Graham on 28 June 1445, and was the Lord Graham at the time (1445-1450) of the creation of the *Armorial de Berry*. His paternal grandmother (nee Lindsay) was the Dowager Countess of Strathearn and Caithness, which fact was evidently known to the creator of the *Armorial*. Bruce McAndrew has privately suggested that Sir William Graham may well have conspired with Walter Stewart, created Earl of

Caithness after his brother David's death and the resignation of the same by his niece Euphemia, to secure the Strathearn earldom for his half-brother Patrick together with the hand of the young Countess, Euphemia Stewart. Any such arrangement was not long-lived, as Malise Graham, Earl of Strathearn and son of Patrick Graham and Euphemia Stewart, lost his earldom of Strathearn when King James I forcibly exchanged the same with him for the earldom of Menteith in 1428. This precipitated King James's assassination in 1437, following which occurred the execution of Walter Stewart and the forfeiture of his earldom of Caithness [9].

Clouston had suggested that the Galley in the arms of Lord Graham (BER1325) was evidence of an alliance between Malise Graham, earl of Menteith and William Sinclair, Earl (really Jarl) of Orkney in connection with Sinclair's designs on Caithness prior to 1455. It would now appear this alliance was really between Sinclair and Patrick Graham, Lord Graham.

The appearance of the Galley in the arms given by Berry may be a result of this alliance, but it is also possible that Berry erred based on a misunderstanding of Patrick Graham's ancestry. Patrick Graham's paternal grandmother now is understood to have been Countess Dowager of Strathearn and Caithness, but he himself was not descended from David Stewart, and so had no valid claim to the earldom or the arms. BER1325 then evidently reflects composed arms of Graham and Caithness, due to an incorrect inference of Graham's descent from the extinct (Stewart) line of the Earls of Caithness.





J. Storer Clouston, "The Armorial de Berry" (Scottish Section),
in Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, 1937-38,
Vol. LXXII (6th ser., vol. XII), p. 93

Notes

- [1] J. Balfour-Paul, *The Scots Peerage*, Vol. VI, pp. 215, 217. Sir William Graham is given by Crawford as having married Mariota Oliphant as his first wife but no documentary evidence for this was cited by Crawford, or has been elsewhere noted to date [*The Peerage of Scotland* (1716), p. 338]. For a discussion of Sir William's parentage, see J. Ravillious, "The Ancestry of Sir William Graham of Montrose (d. 1424): Heraldry as Genealogical Evidence", *The Scottish Genealogist* (March 2009), Vol. LVI, No. 1, pp. 36-39.
- [2] Second Report of the Muniments of His Grace the Duke of Montrose at Buchanan Castle: the Menteith Charters, in *Third Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts* (London: George Edward Eyre and William Spottiswoode, 1872), Appendix, p. 397, no. 11.
- [3] *Scots Peerage*, *ibid.*, Vol. VIII, pp. 259-260.
- [4] Athole Charters, in *Seventh Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts* (London: George Edward Eyre and William Spottiswoode, 1879), Appendix, Part II, p. 706, no. 18.
- [5] In the course of preparing this article, it was found that the Strathearn article in *Complete Peerage* noted the possibility of this marriage given the charters in question, stating, "It is difficult to account otherwise for these relationships." [G. E. Cokayne, *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. XII(1), p. 390, note (e)]
- [6] J. Storer Clouston, "The Armorial de Berry" (Scottish Section), in *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, 1937-38, Vol. LXXII (6th ser., vol. XII), p. 93. The arms of Graham in question are generally referred to as BER1325.
- [7] Clouston, *ibid.*, pp. 93-94. For further discussion of this and other features of Graham heraldry, see Bruce McAndrew, *Scotland's Historic Heraldry* (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2006), p. 219.
- [8] *Scots Peerage*, *ibid.*, Vol. VI, pp. 220-221.
- [9] Private correspondence with Dr. Bruce A. McAndrew. This suggestion has much merit. We know that Patrick Graham and Euphemia Stewart were married no later than 5 December 1406. Sir William Graham and Walter Stewart, Earl of Caithness were certainly allied before 1 August 1404, when a papal dispensation was granted at Marseilles for Walter's marriage to Elizabeth, Sir William's daughter. The text of the dispensation, from Francis McGurk, ed., *Calendar of Papal Letters to Scotland of Benedict XIII of Avignon, 1394-1419* (Edinburgh: T. and A. Constable for the Scottish History Society, 1976), p. 122: Reg Vat 326, 220-220v

To Walter, earl of Caithness, and Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Graham, Dunblane diocese. Indult is granted dispensing Walter to marry Elizabeth notwithstanding their being related in the third degree of affinity in that Walter had been married to the late Margaret who was related to Elizabeth in the third degree of consanguinity, and also because the late Robert de Keyth, kinsman of Walter, had wished to marry Elizabeth but had been unable to as they did not have a dispensation. On the consummation of the marriage between Walter and Elizabeth they are held to pay 10 merks sterling to the fabric fund of the Friars Minor of Dunfries, Glasgow diocese. St. Victor, Marseilles, Kal. Aug., anno 10. SRO, Vat. Tran., iv, no. 74'

This marriage never took place. Elizabeth Graham was subsequently dispensed to marry Sir John Stewart of Dundonald, illegitimate son of King Robert II and half-brother of Walter Stewart, Earl of Caithness (Mandate dated at Porto Venere, 3 Feb 1407/08: McGurk, *ibid.*, p. 170). Had Walter Stewart and Elizabeth Graham consummated such a union, canon law would not have allowed her to marry Walter's half-brother.

The Falconers of Ellon

by James Waugh

An initial request to look at two documents from the early 19th Century was the beginning of a search through many documents relating to the Falconers of Ellon. The original documents were a bond, dated 1826, and a Sasine, a legal document that records the transfer of ownership of land, dated 1829.

The bond was the record of a loan of £1,000 (£585,000 in today's value) by the Reverend John Falconer of Fyvie to three Edinburgh businessmen who used the money to invest in housing on the edge of the Edinburgh New Town.

The money earned from this loan was passed to Cosmo Falconer in the Sasine lodged in Edinburgh in 1829. After working on these two documents I realised that the Falconers were a family from the North-East who were involved in the growth of Scotland as an economic centre based on trade, commerce and industry.

Sylvester Falconer

In the period I will describe there were eight children born to Sylvester Falconer (b 1708) who originally came from Ellon. Cosmo describes Ellon as a place:

Where my father spent many a happy but ill rewarded day attending to the then Earl of Aberdeenshire factor age

Indeed, Cosmo noted in his Testament of 1850 that the family were in the North-East for many years:

The parish of Old Deer where my Grandfather died [1745] and where a gravestone is still extant, he having retired to that parish in the "troubulous" times of the 18th century.

The gravestone can still be found to this day in Old Deer.

The OPR record of Sylvester's birth (Ellon 1708) notes that his father was:

John Falconer Chamberlain of Arnage

Seven sons and one daughter were born to Sylvester. Four of the sons stayed in the North-East, three moved to Central Scotland and one, Andrew, moved to Holland and became a merchant in the Staple port of Verre. While the North-East section of the family still had strong connections with farming, it is obvious from records that industry and trade were important factors in the growing prosperity of the family. Alexander Falconer, living at his farm at Artrochie near Ellon, records in his testament (1846) that he had built granary, coal and lime sheds in Newburgh which he held jointly with Cosmo. Two schooners were also owned by Alexander, the *Falcon* and the *Eagle*, berthed at Newburgh.

Alexander

Alexander was close to his brother Sylvester (born in Logie Buchan) who lived at Oldyards near Auchmacoy:

Alexander, who has in various ways assisted me.

Alexander inherited the bulk of Sylvester's estate, including the tack granted by Thomas Bain Esq. of Auchmacoy in 1809. The remaining brothers were left sums ranging from £20 to £80. Indeed, Sylvester was left £600 by his brother Patrick in his testament of 1834. (£10.00 in 1842 is worth £585 today money). Alexander had one son and four daughters.

John

It is noticeable that the Falconers were not only wealthy but also enlightened. John and Cosmo show that education was also a priority of the Falconers of this period. John Falconer was born in 1755 and educated at Marschal College from 1775 to 1778 and was licensed by the Presbytery of Ellon. John was presented to the parish of Fyvie by General Gordon of Fyvie and was ordained on 3rd of December 1794.

John married Margaret Touch, the daughter of William Touch, R.N., in May 1807. John and Margaret had one daughter, Elizabeth Jane, in September 1813. Elizabeth Jane died on 20th of December 1825. After John died on 19th December 1828, leaving Margaret the lease of his farm in Ardmedden, Margaret had one further marriage with a member of the clergy in Fyvie, Rev James Cruikshank.

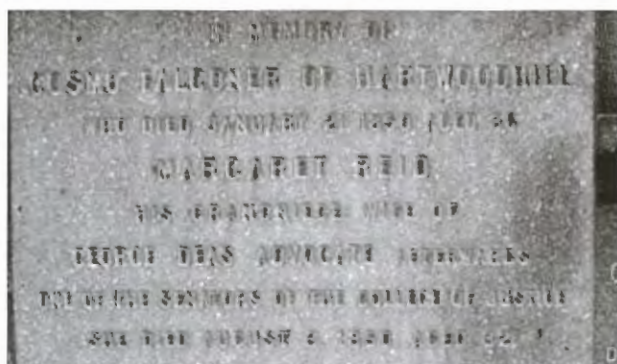
The £1,000 bond of 1826 was given to James Dawson, a Coal and Stone Merchant of Porthopetoun (which is at the Eastern end of the Union Canal), to John Barber, a surgeon in Edinburgh, and to John Grey Wilson, an Ensign in the army. The return on this investment was to remain a valuable source of income until the end of the 19th century.

Cosmo

The extraordinary Cosmo Falconer Esq. of Hartwoodhill has been my main focus when looking into the history of the family. He (was the brother) of The Rev John Falconer of Fyvie and was born in Ellon in 1764.

Cosmo trained as a Writer to the Signet in the office of Thomas Sellar in Elgin. This is the same office that trained Patrick Sellar, Thomas's son. Patrick Sellar was to enter Cosmo's life in 1809 in relation to the estate of the Countess of Sutherland. Falconer was responsible for the implementation of plans in 1805 for the improvement of the Sutherland Estate. A major factor in the need for change was the position of the local population and the need "to sweep away a superfluous population".

By 1807 Falconer was in the process of introducing sheep to Lairg and the installation of a village on the coast. In the first instance 300 sheep from Lairg were moved to the north shore of Loch Naver. By the end of 1809,



His close friend, Sir George Deas, put Cosmo in his large family plot in Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh. George Deas was appointed Sheriff of Ross and Cromarty in 1851 and was solicitor-general for Scotland for a short time. Deas took over the Hartwoodhill Estate in Lanarkshire when Cosmo died.

Patrick

Patrick Falconer (b 1770 in Logie Buchan) is noted as a merchant in some of the family testaments but this does not highlight Peter's importance in the development of Scottish industry. In Patrick's testament of 1834 he notes that most of his wealth can be found in the private books or ledgers of R. Dalgleish, Falconer and Co. of Lennoxtown. At another point in his testament Patrick notes that his executors should:

Consult with my friend and partner, Mr Robert Dalgleish, in all matters

In 1805 the partners became tenants of Lennoxmill which produced printed calico cloth. By 1810 the mill introduced a cylinder-printing machine, which was an improvement on the copper-plate printing presses and tables. At the height of production the mill gave employment to 245 men; 135 women; 169 boys and 140 girls; in total 689 workers. About 250,000 pieces were produced annually, consisting of garments for home and export trade.

I found this reference to Patrick Falconer in documents issued by the St Andrew's Society of New York (1925) noting that Patrick Falconer developed a partnership with:

John Monteith & Co., the founders of the great manufacturing business at Blantyre

This partnership was dissolved when Patrick joined R. Dalgleish in Lennoxtown in 1805.

Patrick married Isabella Stirling in the parish of Paisley Middle and built a house in Blythswoodhill, Glasgow, for the sum of £148,500 (in today's money). Patrick left £0.75m (today's value) in his testament of 1834, including £2,500 to the Magdalene Asylum, founded in Glasgow in 1812.

Andrew

After a long search I found that Andrew Falconer was a merchant in the staple port of Veere in Holland. References in the documents of the family call the port Campvere. The Staple Contract granted Veere a monopoly on importing, storing and trading Scottish goods in the Netherlands. The Veere/ Scotland ties had been strengthened by the marriage in 1444 between Wolfert VI of Borssele, Lord of Veere, and Mary Stuart, the daughter of the Scottish king, James I, and Joan Beaufort. Mary died in 1465 and was buried in the Grote Kerk. The Scottish traders (who came mainly from Edinburgh, Perth, Culross, St. Andrews, Dundee and Aberdeen) received several privileges in the town they called Campvere. The Scots' ships were given preferential treatment

and they had their own taxation and legal system. Housing was also put at the Scots' disposal. The so called 'Scottish Houses' are two of the buildings occupied by traders that have been preserved. The Scots not only lived in these houses but also used them as business premises. Nowadays they are preserved as a museum. The Staple at Veere was all but over by 1799.

In the testament of John Falconer (1829) he refers to "the late Andrew Falconer of Campvere" when leaving money to Andrew's wife, Isabella White and her daughter Charlotte. I cannot say when Andrew was active in Veere.

The three remaining members of the Falconer family are George and Margaret. The amount of information on these two was limited and therefore their details are quite short.

Sylvester

Sylvester Falconer remained in the North-East and died at Ellon in 1838.

George

George Falconer worked a tack for a term of years, on the Kinloch Estate in the parish of St Fergus.

George was married to Katherine Kilgower or Falconer to whom he left goods and gear and life-rent of their house. Katherine also received £300 (13,230.00 in today's value). George died in 1836

Margaret

Margaret Falconer is mentioned in the testament of Sylvester Falconer and the marriage of Margaret to James Milne, merchant of Leith, dated 1802:

James Milne and Margaret Falconer, daughter of the deceased, Sylvester Falconer, near Ellon, gave up their names for marriage.

The marriage was witnessed by Cosmo Falconer.

Thus from these few documents can be inferred the range of the Falconers' interests and connections: farming in Aberdeenshire; textiles in Lennoxton; overseas trade; the Sutherland Clearances; the financial circles of Edinburgh and the building of the capital's New Town.

Note: Except where noted all quotes are from the testaments of members of the Falconer family of Ellon.

Treasurer

The Society is looking for someone to take over the role of Treasurer (which is a Council appointment rather than an elected position). If you have some financial experience and would be interested in contributing to the running of the Society in this way, please contact the Secretary, Ken Nisbet.

enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com

Scottish Catholic Archives

Almost "hidden in plain sight", it's possible to walk past Columba House, in Edinburgh's New Town, without suspecting what a treasury awaits behind its door. While some the holdings of some archives are (and should be) stored in environments with controlled temperature and humidity, with computers and other electronic equipment humming everywhere (but as quietly as possible), this is a "proper" library: access by ringing a doorbell, greeted personally by staff, then wooden shelving, immovable solid wood tables and solid chairs. It's all so assuredly established and comfortable – and yet so stimulating.

This is not to say that that modern techniques are not applied and operating to maintain the Scottish Catholic Archives. Of course they are. The staff are all exceptionally well qualified in their field and knowledgeable about their very specific holdings and the catalogues of the Archives and Library are in immaculate condition, in some cases digitised.



Columba House

One of the most useful Library holdings, from a family history research viewpoint, is the run of issues of *The Scottish Catholic Directory for Scotland*. This is the best way to establish which chapels, churches and cathedrals were in existence where and when, and which priests ministered to these congregations. It contains also obituaries of priests.

On open shelves, should a reader find that he or she needs to dip into such, are the volumes of the Innes Review, the New Spalding Club, the Bannatyne Club, the Scottish Church History Society, *The Scots Peerage* and so on. There also swathes of books on the history of education and the social conditions of Scotland, and on the histories of other denominations, *Fasti*, for example. Naturally there are many books about the Catholic Church in Scotland, the Reformation and a number of biographies of specific Catholic personages, although not too much on individual religious orders. There are *Petitions 1342 – 1419*, *Papal Letters 1198 – 1498* and *Calendars of Papal Registers*, from 1198 to present, as well as *Lettres de Marie Stuart*. All these are catalogued in a card-index system.

The archives, stored more fastidiously outwith the main Library rooms, comprise another rich resource. The catalogue, originally written by hand onto A4 sheets, is collected into a series of loose-leaf folders. Members of staff are in the process of scanning these pages and adding them to the website www.scottishcatholicarchives.org.uk. These aren't searchable, but

arranged so well that it takes little time to discover that SCA does hold, for example, its earliest document, a Papal Bull dated 1177 from Alexander III granting the Scots Monastery of St James at Ratisbon to train Scots priests. As many Scots priests did train overseas, there are records from Seminaries in France, Germany, Spain and Italy.

The website provides much of interest, including news, a list of SCA's publications, and a Family History Forum.

The question, "What material do readers generally consult here?" received the answer, with outstretched arms, "Everything."

The Scottish Catholic Archives are housed at Columba House, 16 Drummond Place, Edinburgh EH3 6PL. As do many archives now, the SCA requires 2 passport-style photographs and some identification before a reader's ticket can be issued. Please check its website for usual opening hours and closures.

Book Review

Scottish Catholic Family History – A family historian's guide to Catholic Parish Registers and Cemetery Records for Scotland and the Bishopric of the Forces

Andrew R Nicoll; Aquhorthies Press, 2011; ISBN 978-0-9557591-7-8; £10

At long last, the definitive guide to Scottish Catholic records prior to the advent of Scottish Civil Registration in 1855, now available on the Scotland's People website, and it's all that the researcher would hope it to be.

The information is clearly laid out on the pages and liberally peppered with illustrations, reproductions of documents, converting what otherwise might have been a dry listing into a reading pleasure.

It runs through births & baptisms from 1703, marriages from 1794 and deaths & burials from 1782.

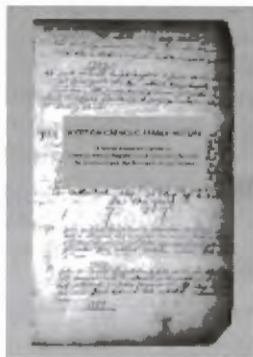
And then there's the additional information, such as *Status Animarum* (the numbers of parishioners), the *Seat Rents*, *Sick Calls* (with sometimes the outcomes of the ailments), *Converts* and some records that parishioners had been to Confession. Obviously there are no details of the content of the last category – now, that would have been interesting! All these listings are itemised by parish, with chronologies.

There is also a list of Services parishes, from Aden and Aldershot to Uxbridge and Yatesbury, and a guide to the Catholic cemeteries within Scotland. Also included as an Appendix is a lengthy list of Latin personal names and their equivalents in English.

This book is definitely the essential guide to Catholic records in Scotland and is destined to become one of the classic reference guides in all libraries and on individual researchers' shelves.

Available via the SCA's website www.scottishcatholicarchives.org.uk and from the SGS's online shop within www.scotsgenealogy.com

Caroline Gerard



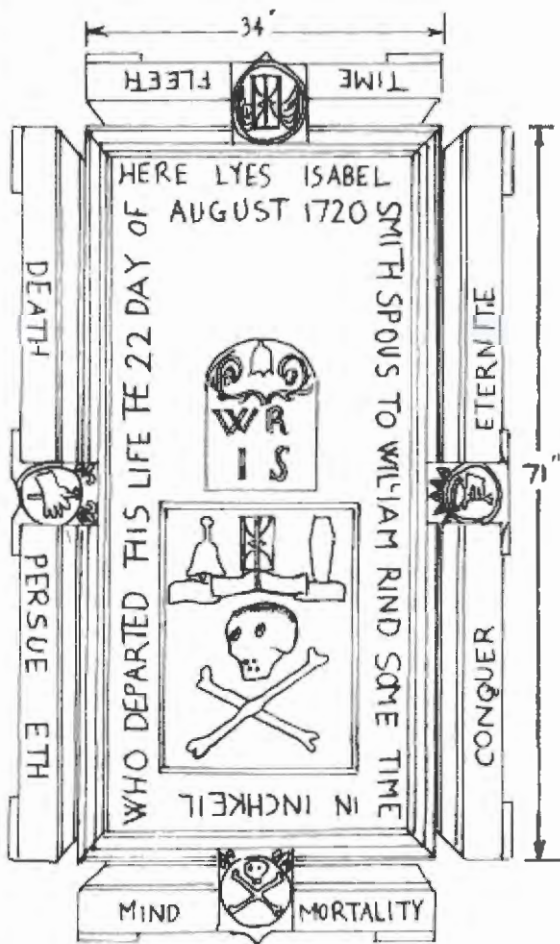
The Moray Burial Ground Research Group

If you missed the talk by Bruce Bishop in November 2010 on the work of the Moray Burial Ground Research Group, then there's a splendid 4-page article in the September 2011 issue of *Family Tree*. Read it in your library!

Many of the stones are buried, and in consultation with Moray Council, the Council for Scottish Archaeology and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland, the MBGRG has been painstakingly locating these stones, uncovering and cleaning them, then both drawing and recording them before re-burying them.

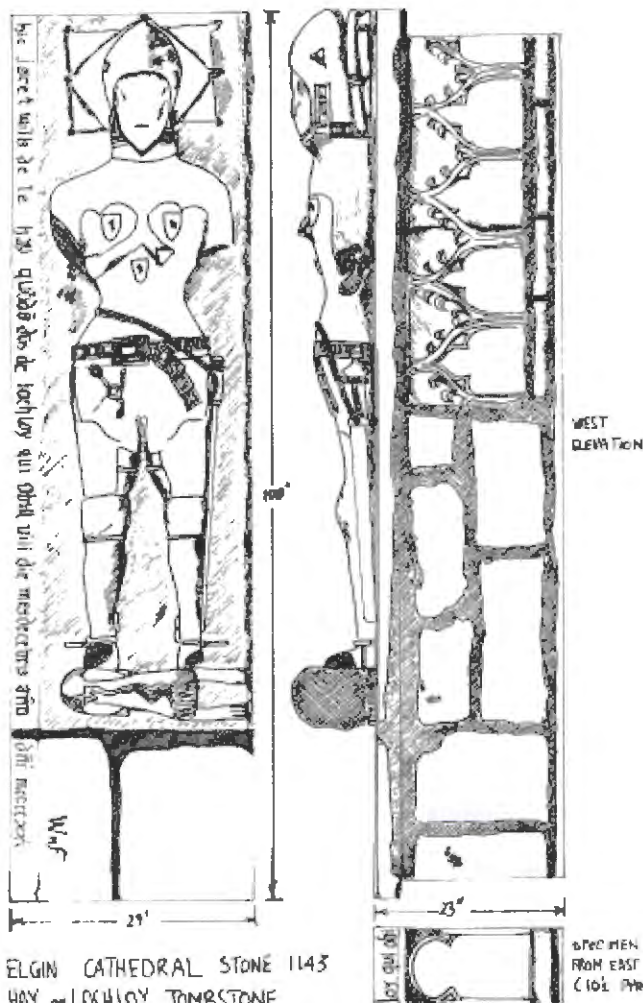
The oldest uncovered so far is at Alves and dates back to 1571 (although another with no inscribed year has been dated by the National Museum of Scotland to around the 14th century). This is the stone bearing the legend, *Fra birt to graiit, na rest we haif*.

The article describes the techniques followed and some of the exciting discoveries. Included are a number of colour photographs of the uncovered gravestones, plus some other photographs of the Group at work. Of course, at Bruce's talk the audience could ask questions afterwards – and we did!



DUFFUS ST PETERS
STONE 339
BBB 28 JUNE 2009

Drawing by Bruce Bishop
Reproduced by permission of MBGRG



BBB 10 SEPT 2006

Drawing by Bruce Bishop
Reproduced by permission of MBGRG

The Group has a very good website www.mbgrg.org which includes reports on its work, PDFs of its regular newsletter, the list of its publications (also available at the SGS Library or via the online shop www.scotsgenealogy.com), as well as some splashes of humour. Fascinating reading.

Well done to the Group for its excellent work, to Mary Evans for ensuring the Group's work is more widely publicised and to *Family Tree* for recognising a very good genealogical story.

Robert Taylor, MM and Bar – a Soldier's Tale

by Alex Wood

A student in my genealogy class brought me a set of military papers relating to her great-uncle, keen to decipher the story they told.

She knew Robert Taylor had served with the Gordon Highlanders in World War II, had been decorated and been killed in Holland. What else would these papers, which had been in the possession of Taylor's son, inform her of his life?

Military records create several difficulties, not least the military jargon and abbreviations. Military papers from the Army Personnel Centre come with an attached list of military abbreviations. The armed forces abbreviations website is also useful: <http://www.armedforces.co.uk/abbreviationsah.htm>

To grasp a soldier's story it is also useful to know where, and to what purpose, his battalion or regiment was engaged at any particular time. There are published histories of most British regiments and various useful websites. The most comprehensive guide to the location of units is Robert M.

Kitzmilller II's, *In Search of the Forlorn Hope*. Unfortunately it only covers the period until 1914. Care must also be taken: because a soldier was attached to a particular battalion and that battalion was employed over particular dates in a specific campaign does not automatically mean that the soldier was there. He may have been wounded, in hospital, on leave, or missing for countless other reasons.

Attestation Papers

Taylor's military records start with his attestation papers. His army number was 2876093, an invaluable reference. By the 1930s, a soldier received an army number on enlistment which then followed him, irrespective of the regiment in which he served. He enlisted with the Gordon Highlanders for 7 years with the colours and 5 with the reserve. He was born in St Giles Parish, Edinburgh, on 23rd June 1913 of a Scottish father. He was a boot repairer, unmarried, without children and had not previously served in the armed forces, was not and had not been an indentured apprentice and had no criminal record. His "apparent age" was 19, he was 5' 6¾" tall, weighed 129 pounds, was of swarthy complexion, had blue eyes, black hair, a scar on the back of his head and two scars, above and below the left knee. He was a Presbyterian and was certified medically fit.

Annual Report and Employment Sheet

The annual report and employment sheet provide perhaps the most informative data on the soldier's behaviour and personality.

Private 26.7.34

Good soldier – honest, clean & sober.

Private 18.9.35

Excellent type of man, always willing & cheerful. Good first year machine gunner & range taker. Clean & smart. Third class certificate of education.

Private 29.9.36

An intelligent and capable man. Good at games. Could be a great asset in the company if he so desired. 2nd class certificate of education.

Private 28.9.37

Intelligent & capable. Employed as a clerk. Has initiative and is self-reliant but is inclined to be casual.

Private 1.10.38

He has improved this year – he is a good man & if he were a little more level headed would be excellent. He has a sense of humour & is loyal.

Army Form B220B

Army Form B200B carries data on the soldier's career, including promotions, training and military history. He was declared a deserter in August 1932, surrendered himself to the military police at Edinburgh Castle in November and was awarded 28 days detention (for which he earned 5 days remission) and the forfeiture of 103 days' pay. Taylor was employed as a machine gunner from 1934 to 1938 and as a clerk from 1937 until 1939. His 7 years' service should have ended in February 1939 but were extended for 6 months and he transferred from the colours to the reserve on 27th August 1939.

He was recalled to the colours on 2nd September 1939. He had spent six days in the Reserve. Britain declared war with Germany on 3rd September. He must have cursed his luck. There follow brief tables illustrating his war service during the latter part of the 1939-45 War in North West Europe.

Military History Sheet and Card Indexes

These start with the name and address of Taylor's mother and with the name and regiment of his brother, Henry, good genealogical data. It continues the chronology from the earlier Military History Sheet with details of his war service and postings, wounds suffered, medals and decorations awarded (with London

Attestation Papers

Gazette references) and of his next of kin, marriage and the births of his children. On re-joining he was posted to Number 5 Company, Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps, as a dock labourer before he returned to the Gordons. He is shown to have been drunk on duty in January 1943 and absent for six days in 1944.

Constructing a Chronology

What became clear was that the data provided by Robert Taylor's military papers was not in any meaningful order and required rearranging. Using a spread-sheet allows data to be extracted from the original material and rearranged in date order. It also supports the inclusion of material from sources such as regimental web-sites.

DATE	EVENT	RANK	ARMY UNIT	PLACE
23-Jun-13	DoB			Cowgate
19-Jul-32	Enlisted			Edinburgh
21-Jul-32	Posted	Private	GHs Depot	
14-Aug-32	Declared deserter	Private	GHs Depot	
24-Nov-32	Surrendered to CP Edinburgh	Private	GHs Depot	
25-Nov-32	Awarded 28 days Detention	Private	GHs Depot	
17-Dec-32	5 days Remission earned	Private	GHs Depot	
28-Apr-33	Awarded 3rd class education certificate	Private	GHs Depot	
03-Oct-33	Posted	Private	2nd Bt GHs	Aldershot
26-Jul-34	Annual assessment	Private	2nd Bt GHs	
Jul-34	Serving as a machine gunner	Private	2nd Bt GHs	
09-Sep-35	Awarded 2nd class education certificate	Private	2nd Bt GHs	Gibraltar
18-Sep-35	Annual assessment	Private	2nd Bt GHs	
25-Sep-36	Annual assessment	Private	2nd Bt GHs	Singapore
Feb-37	Serving as a clerk	Private	2nd Bt GHs	
28-Sep-37	Annual assessment	Private	2nd Bt GHs	
01-Oct-38	Annual assessment	Private	2nd Bt GHs	
28-Feb-39	Posted (& posting extended for 6 months)	Private	GHs Depot	Aberdeen
27-Aug-39	Transferred to Section B, Army Reserve	Private	GHs Depot	Aberdeen
01-Sep-39	Poland invaded			
02-Sep-39	Rejoined from Reserve	Private		
03-Sep-39	Outbreak of WWII			
06-Sep-39	Mobilised & Posted	Private		Stirling
27-Jan-40	Posted	Private	No 5 Coy AMP Corps	
23-Jun-40	Posted to ITC	Private	ITC	
10-Jul-40	Posted to 1st Bt GHs	Private	1st Bt GHs	
01-Jan-41	Mustered with regmntl pool as eqpmnt repairer	Private	1st Bt GHs	
23-Jul-41	Married	Private		Edinburgh
18-Apr-42	Daughter (Mrgt Rose Cruickshank) born	Private		(Aberdeen)
20-Aug-42	Promoted Unpaid Lance Corporal	L/Cpl	1st Bt GHs	M East
28-Oct-42	Wounded (& posted X List II)		1st Bt GHs	M East
23-Nov-42	Posted X List (iv) d & reverts to private	Private		M East
28-Dec-42	Posted (i.e. returns) to 1st Bt GHs		1st Bt GHs	M East
07-Jan-43	Demustered			
07-Jan-43	Promoted Acting Corporal	Cpl	1st Bt GHs	
27-Jan-43	Charged: drunkenness on duty (2nd); reduced to Pte	Acting Cpl/ Pte	1st Bt GHs	
17-Feb-43	Appointed Unpaid and Paid Lance Corporal	L/Cpl	1st Bt GHs	
10-Jul-43	Invasion of Sicily	L/Cpl	1st Bt GHs	Sicily
10-Jul-43	MM for bravery at landings at Cap Passaro			
26-Aug-43	Promoted Unpaid and Paid Acting Corporal	Cpl	1st Bt GHs	Italy
Sep-43			1st Bt GHs	
21-Oct-43	Military Medal awarded (London Gazette)	L-Cpl (sbsntnve rank)	1st Bt GHs	
24-Nov-43	Promoted W/S (War Service) Corporal	Cpl	1st Bt GHs	
28-Nov-43	Serving at Home (i.e. in UK)			
Jan-44	Battalion returns to UK			UK
Jun-44	Battalion lands in France			NW Europe
18-Jun-44	Wounded	Cpl	1st Bt GHs	Normandy
18-Jun-44	Awarded Bar to MM for action at Escoville	Cpl	1st Bt GHs	Normandy

22-Jun-44	Y List A: posting after wound			
25-Jun-44	Home			
02-Aug-44	Bar to MM awarded (London Gazette, 31 Aug 44)	Cpl	1st Bt GHs	
03-Aug-44	Posted: No 1 Infantry Depot		No 1 Infantry Depot	
09-Aug-44	Absent until 15 Aug: reprimanded, lost pay	Cpl	No 1 Infantry Depot	
19-Aug-44	Posted 30 RHU		No 30 RHU	
18-Sep-44	Serving (i.e. arrived back) in N W Europe			
23-Sep-44	Son (Robert James) born			(Edinburgh)
14-Oct-44	Posted (i.e. returned) 1st Bt GHs		1st Bt GHs	NW Europe
02-Nov-44	Missing	Cpl	1st Bt GHs	Holland

Such a chronology creates a logical, readable and meaningful narrative of the soldier's experiences.

Award of Military Medal

It was known that Taylor had been awarded the Military Medal. Announcements of decorations can be found in the London Gazette: <http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/>. As with other MM awards, the London Gazette announcement gives only minimal information.

No 2876093 Lance-Corporal Robert Taylor,
The Gordon Highlanders (Aberdeen)

He was awarded a Bar to his MM. Again the London Gazette announcement is minimal.

No 2876093 Corporal Robert Taylor MM,
The Gordon Highlanders (Aberdeen)

The Military Medal was awarded to warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men serving in the army for bravery in the field.

The National Archives at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/> holds details of Military Medal awards. Enter the site and search the section noted as "Recommendations for Honours and Awards".

Taylor's original Military Medal was awarded for gallantry during the Sicily landings in July 1943.

Taylor's section had been transporting ammunition when an enemy machine gun pinned down the advance. He led his men in a charge, using grenades and bayonets, knocked out the enemy machine gun post and took several prisoners. The recommendation went from his own Commanding Officer up the chain of command, before endorsement by Generals Montgomery and Alexander.

Taylor was awarded a bar to his Military Medal (i.e. a second award of the same decoration) for action in Normandy, shortly after D-Day (6th June 1944). On 18th June his unit was attacking through dense woodland. Taylor was wounded in the shoulder but despite this continued to lead his men and was personally responsible for wiping out an enemy mortar crew. His commanding officer recommended him for a Distinguished Conduct Medal for this action but ultimately he was awarded the lower award of an MM.

[illegible]

No. 349355 Lance-Corporal Robert William Bennett, M.M., Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Surrey).

No. 813339 Warrant Officer Class II (Company Sergeant-Major) Horace Ambrose Baker, M.M., The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Sussex) (St. Leonards).

No. 349352 Sergeant John Ernest Leach, M.M., The Southshires and Northshires Regiment (Joint Reserve Service Troop) (Dunstable).

No. 349353 Lance-Sergeant William George Dawes, M.M., 1st Middlesex Cavalry (Duke of Cambridge's Cavalry) (London, N.W.).

No. 349354 Lance-Sergeant Walter Higginson, M.M., The Durham Light Infantry (Durham, S.W.).

No. 349355 Corporal David Oswald Michael, M.M., The Durham Light Infantry (Durham, S.W.).

No. 349356 Corporal (Acting) Taylor, M.M., The Gordon Highlanders (Aberdeen).

No. 349357 Corporal (Acting Sergeant) Raymond Walter Bennett, M.M., The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own) (London, N.W.).

No. 349358 Corporal William James Horrobin, M.M., Corps of Royal Engineers (Salford).

Taylor was reported missing on 2 November 1944 in Holland. The deaths of Scottish soldiers who died or were killed overseas are recorded on the regimental death returns in Register House.

Corporal Robert Taylor's death is recorded on the Gordon Highlanders' WWII deaths record.

2896073 Corporal TAYLOR Robert 31 Scotland 2.11.44
Western Europe Killed in Action

It is noteworthy that he was not the only Robert Taylor of the Gordon Highlanders who died in WWII.

He had a name-sake, a Private killed in action in Italy only two months before his own death, who, of course, had a different army number. This clearly illustrates the key importance of the army number as a differentiating identifier.

A search of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission site.

http://www.cwgc.org/search/casualty_details.aspx?casualty=2034384

confirms the above details and identifies the burial place of Robert Taylor as Bergen-op-Zoom War cemetery in Holland. A photograph of his grave shows the moving inscription which would have been requested by his wife: "There's comfort in knowing we will meet again someday when grief & pain are over".

The Genealogical Trail

The military data is fascinating. It also leads to more traditional genealogical sources. Taylor's date and place of birth are given on his attestation papers, facilitating the discovery of his birth certificate.

From this it would be a simple step to start to establish his family tree. His military papers also state the date and place of his marriage. The Birth Certificates of his children can also be traced from the data in his military



Gordon Highlanders
(Pre-War Dress Uniform)



Gordon Highlanders
(Sicily)

papers. His daughter was born in Aberdeen, his wife's home town, his regimental base and, since his marriage, his home town. His son however was born in Edinburgh. It is unclear why Taylor's wife was in Edinburgh for the birth of his son but Taylor would never have seen his son as he had returned to the front prior to his birth. His noted absence from his unit from 9th to 15th August 1944, while unexplained, makes much more sense knowing that his wife was then some eight months pregnant.

In Conclusion

Robert Taylor was a heroic soldier – as well as one who twice during his military career was absent without leave and who was "inclined to be casual" and insufficiently "level headed". Perhaps by the time that Sicily had been left behind and Normandy well on the way to reconquest, his officers would have put a greater value on his individual characteristics. His military papers give a powerful indication of the man behind the name, rank and number. They also point to other documents which establish the life and lineage of a soldier, tragically killed without having ever seen his son.

Such military papers make an excellent starting point in pursuing an soldier's personal and family history. A few technical conclusions can be drawn.

- The data in military papers is not usually in chronological order. To make sense of it, it must be rearranged.
- To make sense of military data it is always useful to have some general knowledge of the relevant regimental and campaign histories.
- The National Archives and the London Gazette are key tools in tracing service careers.
- Information on servicemen and women who died while serving will be far more detailed than for those who survived. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission is an excellent starting point.
- Military records often carry excellent pointers to civil records by noting dates and places of birth and marriage.

OUR LATEST CD PUBLICATIONS



A complete transcription of all monumental inscriptions in this East Lothian parish graveyard.

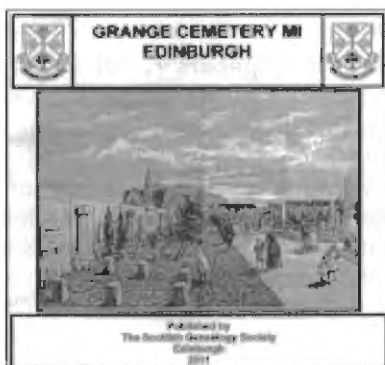
ISBN: 1-904060-63-3 £7.50



A list of all burial and mortcloth records to complement the graveyard monumental inscriptions.

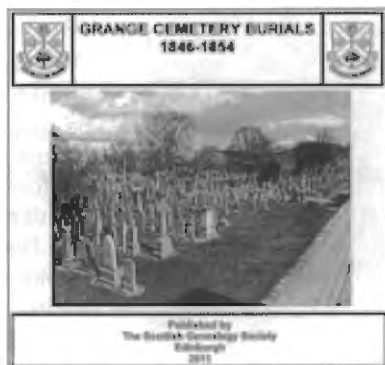
ISBN: 1-904060-62-5 £6.00

LATEST CD PUBLICATIONS



A complete transcription of all monumental inscriptions in this South Edinburgh graveyard.

ISBN: 1-904060-69-2 £12.00



A list of all burials in the same Edinburgh graveyard between 1846 and 1854.

ISBN: 1-904060-44-7 £6.00

The Scotsman 02 December 1840

On the 21st November 1840, the first child of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert was born. This was Victoria Adelaide Mary Louise who was given the title of The Princess Royal, she being the eldest daughter of the monarch. She went on to marry Crown Prince Frederick of Prussia (in 1858) who later became German Emperor and King of Prussia. She died on 05 August 1901, just three months after her mother. While there was great rejoicing throughout the land, with the rejoicing for the successful birth and the well-being of the Queen and Princess being widely reported in the newspapers, it is nice to know that the more practical side of the event was also reported. This was found buried in the editorial columns of the *Scotsman* newspaper, without a heading or title, sandwiched between a paragraph on "The Marnoch Case", a court case regarding the appointment of a Minister to the Parish of Marnoch, and a paragraph concerning the "Bell Lectures", a series of annual lectures about the Madras System of Education:

Mrs Packer, who, it is said, has been appointed wet-nurse to the Princess Royal, is a native of Edinburgh, where she was well known as Miss Augusta Gow. She is the daughter of the late Nathaniel Gow of this city, and grand-daughter of the celebrated Neil Gow ("Famous Neil").

Mrs Packer studied music at the Royal Academy, London, with the view of becoming a public singer, in which character she appeared here at several concerts. Mrs P, has, or at least had, a splendid figure; and no doubt possesses all the qualifications requisite for the proper performance of the duties of her important office.

Contributed by Charles Napier

**The Scottish Genealogy Society holds
Scottish Family History Evening Workshops....**

"YOUR AIN FOLK"

**.... at their Library and Family History Centre at
15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh.**

**We welcome enquiries from Local History Societies,
Family History Groups, Church Groups, Clubs, etc.... in fact any
groups interested in researching family history.**

**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.**

A Banffshire night out, 1768 style

By Bruce B. Bishop, FSA Scot.

In the parish of Mortlach in the second half of the 18th century there were few settlements of any note. The building of the town of Dufftown was several decades in the future, and even the Kirkcoun of Mortlach was just a few cottages near to the kirk. The concept of a public house or an inn seems to have been foreign to the people of the parish, and even the minister, writing for the Old Statistical Account, had, unlike many of his contemporaries, little cause to complain.

But complain he did: "The drinking of whisky instead of good ale is a miserable change, so likewise is the very general use of tea. These put together have been exceedingly hurtful both to health and morals. Hence too many become tipplers, neglect their business, and go to ruin". It is not often that you hear of a nice cup of tea being detrimental to health and morals!

But some of the men and women of the parish still needed a good night out, so what better than a tour of some of the fermtouns – and not just for a cup of tea. And so it was in March 1768. It was just unfortunate that they chose the Sabbath for their outing.

"Session met when they unanimously agreed that they have heard of an uncommon and very gross Sabbath breach having been committed the 27th of March by John Robertson in Lackie; Janet Brown his wife; Janet Garrow, widow there; James Davidson there; Margaret Davidson there; Elspet Smith in Achgorm, Isabel Robertson in Scian Lackie; Janet Robertson there; Christian Brander in Achinhanick; James Bain, servant in Parkbegg; Helen Robertson in Tininver; Robert Thomson in Hardhaugh and Walter Robertson in Achlochrach. That they had just drunk to excess in Hardhaugh then a number of them gone to Burngallie to Andrew Watt, forc'd more liquor, been there guilty of horrid swearing and other heinous indecencies together. From there they went tumultuously to John Pedie's house in Mid Lackie where the few that got thither urged the people to give them some whisky and then they concluded the night with that and outrageous behaviour which drunk people when contradicted usually have ..."

The Session when faced with such "abominable behaviour" agreed to meet the following Thursday to consider the matter.

They didn't get very far, as apart from James Davidson, the tailor in Lackie, and Isabel Robertson, they all claimed they were perfectly sober, and there seem to have been no viable witnesses willing to come forward (probably all too drunk). So the Session decided to punish all of them anyway, and it was now that ecclesiastical geography of the area came to the fore. The strongly pro-Catholic lands of Glenrinnnes were not far away, and many of the

'delinquents' just claimed that they were of the Catholic persuasion and would not accept the discipline of the Established Church. The Kirk Session's case fell apart.

So when you research your ancestors in these parts of Banffshire, take heed, they may have been of the Established Church when it suited them and may have professed to be Catholics when the discipline of the other church went against them. But above all they were real people, just like us, and not just names on a family tree. They liked a good night out and a (maybe not so quiet) drink, and they were not above telling a little white lie when it suited them. How little times have really changed!

A surprising baptism!

In the Baptism Register for Eckford (787A/1) for 1821, the following suddenly appears:

To find the age of the Moon

Add the Epact for March 1 for Aprile 2 for May 3 for June 4 for July 5 for August 6 for September 8 for October 8 for November 10 for December 10 for January 0 February 2 –

Having added to the Epact the Number for the month according to the Rulle foregoing add thereto the day of the Month for which the Moons age is required thes three summes add there to if Less than 30 is the Moon age if More than 30 then Divide it by 30 the Re...

July 27 Robert Gray in Eckford Moss had a Daughter Baptized named Elizabeth

Ditto John Mather in Eckford had a

Contributed by Liz Watson

Lunar theory was often published in Almanacs (after the theories postulated by Laplace and later by Burckhardt) and were used in the construction of navigational ephemerides, particularly with respect to tide tables, and used also to assess longitude at sea. Both might seem pointless in rural Roxburghshire; however it also helped to calculate the date of Easter. But only this parish clerk knows why he chose to start copying the formula into the Baptism Register.

From St Cuthbert's burial register 685²/23

19 October 1766

David Wombles, musitian in fountainbridge lies 14 ft. N from Orrs ston. Aged 39, vomiting of blood.

Contributed by Richard Torrance

More on Seton of Northrig

By Gregory Lauder-Frost, F.S.A.

I was interested to read Ewen Collins's article on this family (*Scottish Genealogist* June 2011, vol.lviii, no.2), as I had researched them previously. He is correct in the lineage of George 2nd Lord Seton (d. bet. June 11, 1507 - April 6, 1508) and his wife, Margaret Campbell, their second son Robert, who fell at the Castle of La Rocca, Milan, Italy, fighting for King Louis XII of France, and his son Alexander Seton. I would like now to add more detail to this and to note also one or two corrections, which need to be made.

Alexander Seton acquired Northrig by his marriage to Janet, daughter of **William Sinclair of Northrig**, Haddingtonshire (*not* Sir John Sinclair). In the Earl of Wemyss Charter Chest is a charter by Andrew Macdowall, elder son of Dougal Macdowall of Makerstoun, in favour of William Sinclair, of one-third of the lands of Morham including Northrig &c., dated 22nd February 1484. Sasine of same followed on 7th April 1485. That was followed by a Precept of Clare Constat dated 1st March 1535 by Patrick Hepburn Earl of Bothwell, the superior, for investing 'Sir' John Sinclair as eldest son and heir to the said William, his father, in the said one-third of the lands of Morham. Sasine followed on 14th March 1535.

That was followed by a Charter of Alientation, granted on 6th November 1538, by 'Sir' John to Thomas Sinclair, *his brother*, in liferent, and to Alexander Seton and Janet Sinclair his spouse, in fee, of the said one-third of the lands of Morham. Precept of sasine was made on 6th and sasine registered on 8th November 1538 accordingly.

That in turn was followed by two Procuratorys of Resignation by 'Sir' John Sinclair resigning one-third of the lands of Morham in favour of Alexander Seton and his spouse in liferent, and Thomas Seton *their son* in fee. Both were dated 30th May 1554 and confirmed by charters of the superior, Patrick Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, on 14th June 1554. Sasine dated 21st August 1554.

The reason John is not Janet's father, but her brother, and for him to be casually styled 'Sir', is because he was in Holy Orders, so did not marry and had no issue. This is confirmed in a National Archives of Scotland charter (GD220/6/248) dated 16 May 1543 in a Charter of resignation by "Sir John Sinclair, chaplain, son and heir of deceased William Sinclair in Northrig of Morhame".

Little is known of Thomas Sinclair, Janet's brother, other than in 1547 he was acting as a "servitor" (June) and "Procurator" (August) for Robert Lauder of The Bass (d.1576) (ref: RH6/1408 and NP1/12). John, Thomas and Janet had another sister, whose name is unclear, but who is said to have married

William Knox, farmer of Mainhill, Morham, father of John Knox, the Protestant Reformer. (Ref: *John Knox* by Lord Eustace Percy, London, 1937, p.42).

Alexander Seyton of Northrig (and occasionally designed 'of Morham') appears as a witness in several charters under The Great Seal following his marriage, the last in 1567, when he witnessed a charter to his second son,

Henry Seton, Vicar of 'Aberfule' is mentioned in charters under *The Great Seal* in December 1564 (reconfirmed July 1659) and May 1567 (confirmed April 1569) and December 1567 (confirmed March 1580/1). Crucially, in the Haddingtonshire Retours of Service (no. 123), Alexander Seton, an officer of Haddington Burgh, was served heir male of entail on 30th October 1628 to Henry Seton his grandfather's brother, in the grain mill of Monkmill in the lands of Bearfoord and other rights pertaining to lands, grain, and milling from the lands of East and West Monkrigg and Coitwalls.

The other sons are, as Mr Collins lists, George (living in 1564), Thomas, and:

John Seton a Burgess of Haddington, who had property in the Nungate there. He died before 1600. His son and heir was **Alexander**, also a Burgess of Haddington, who was still living on the 30th October 1628 and who inherited his uncle Henry Seton's property as mentioned above. A Charter was drawn up by Patrick Hepburn in Stevinstoun (outside Haddington) in fulfilment of a contract made between him and [this] Alexander Seton, Burgess of Haddington, son and heir of the later John Seton, Burgess of Haddington. It granted to the said Alexander in feu-farm, four acres and a half of land in the territory of Nungate, near the burgh of Haddington, as particularly bounded and described in Charter number 726 dated 28th June 1561, in the sheriffdom of Edinburgh, constabulary of Haddington; which lands formerly belonged in feu to John Hepburn in Nungate, and were disposed by him in feu to the late Alexander Seton of Northrig, grandfather of the granter and his heirs for a yearly feu-duty of 19s 6d., with other dues. It was dated at Haddington, 3rd July 1600. Witnesses were: Thomas Seton of Northrig; George Hepburn of Athelstanefurd; George Wauchope, advocate; George Hamilton, portioner of Blackness; Robert Pringle, servitor of the notary; James Gray, common clerk of the burgh who, with John Wilkie, co-notary, signs for the granter. (Ref: *Calendar of the Laing Charters AD854-1837* edited by the Rev., John Anderson, Edinburgh, 1899, pps: 341-2, number 1398.) It would appear that Alexander Seton the burgess married Helen Carkettle.

The eldest son and heir of Alexander Seton of Northrig had a feu charter of his parent's lands in the barony of Morham, as **Thomas Seton of Northrig**, from Francis Stewart, Earl of Bothwell, dated 5th May 1587. (NAS/GD237/6/2). In the decade following 1589, Thomas Seton of Northrig appears several times as a Cautioner for others in disputes and feuds in the *Registers of the Privy Council*.

Thomas Seton of Northrig is a witness to a charter to his nephew Alexander

Seton, burgess of Haddington, a son of Thomas's brother, John, dated 3rd July 1600, at Haddington.

(Ref: *Calendar of the Laing Charters AD854-1837* edited by the Rev., John Anderson, Edinburgh, 1899, pps: 341-2, number 1398.) Thomas married Griselda, daughter of Archibald Preston of Valleyfield and they had issue. Mr Collins gives 8 children but I know of only two:

George Seton of Northrig, the eldest son and heir. Following the forfeiture of Francis Stewart, Earl of Bothwell, his superiorities were granted to Sir Walter Scott of Branxholme. In the Earl of Wemyss charter chest is a charter by Sir Walter of the same one-third of Morham to George Seton, eldest son to Thomas Seton of Northrig, dated 24th March 1601. Sasine was granted 13th February 1604. We know that George married before November 1601, Margaret Forrest. Thereafter there are several charter mentions of both. In the National Archives of Scotland (GD40/3/484 - charters for Bearford), there is a Precept of sasine by Mark, Commendator of Newbottle, and the convent thereof in terms of a precept from Chancery following on a Retour in favour of Margaret Forrest as heir to John Forrest of Monkmylne, her father, in a third of the mill of Monkmylne within the lands of Barfurde (sic) with the lands of Monkhauch (sic) free of all teinds, the multures and right of pasture 28 May 1587. Margaret was the eldest daughter of John Forrest of Monkmiln. His second daughter was Jean, and the youngest daughter was Mary who had married James Bruntfeild (or Brounfield) apparent of Eistfeild, son of Alexander Bruntfeild. These two younger sisters resigned their third shares in certain tenements and houses in Dirletoun, two husbandlands in runrig in the lands of the barony of Dirletoun, and a husbandland called Archerfield to George and Margaret Seton in 1602, who then sold the whole to Mr Patrick Forrest, an advocate and possible relation. (NAS/GD227/232/233/235 & Books of Council and Session, 16 Nov 1602).

I have not found any mentions of children to George and Margaret. This may indicate why Henry Seton (George's uncle – see above) ended up with certain lands which had come to Margaret, and why George's *brother* is recorded as:

Robert Seton of Northrig, as in the Earl of Wemyss Charter Chest at Gosford House is a sasine dated 23rd November 1606 by George Seton of Northrig to Robert Seton his brother, of the one-third of Morham, comprising Northrig, Standingstone, &c. The Sasine was registered at Edinburgh 6th December 1606. This is only a little over two years from when George was invested in Northrig. On the 7th August 1611 Robert witnessed a charter of the Countess of Winton and on 7th September 1622 for the Earl of Winton of some property in Tranent, as "Robert Seytoun, brother-german to George Seytoun of Northrig". (NAS/GD3/1/219 and GD205/Box 21/24).

Robert Seton sold Northrig: a charter of Alientation [sale] of Northrig was

made by Robert Seton with the consent of his brother George, to Walter Ker of Fawdonside [cadet of Cessford], to be held of the superior [Sir Walter Scott had now become Lord Buccleuch] and dated 17th July 1615. Sasine was dated 28th August. In the Charter Chest of the Earl of Wemyss, is an Instrument of Sasine in favour of Robert Hepburn of Alderston and Margaret Preston his spouse, of one-third of the barony of Morham, and Northrig, dated 21st July 1623. This had been purchased by Sir Robert from Sir Walter Ker of Fawdonside. A further charter is also there whereby Sir Robert Hepburn of Alderston gives to his eldest son, John Hepburn and his spouse Isobel Seton, daughter to Sir John Seton of Barns, the third part of the barony of Morham (includes Northrig), and the lands of Bearfoord and Easter Monkrigg, dated 23rd March 1632.

Mr Collins gives a Robert Seton of Monkmylne as a son of George & Margaret Seton of Northrig and has him being served to his *uncle* Robert Seton in 1649 in Monkmylne. However the Retour of 30th May 1649 (no.8651) clearly states that "Robert Seyton of Monkmylne" is being served heir to *his father* Robert Seyton, Baillie of Tranent. Clearly Robert junior is already in possession of Monkmill.

Therefore he cannot be the son of George Seton of Northrig and Margaret Forrest. Had that been the case it would have meant that they dispossessed him by signing over Northrig etc., to George's brother Robert who then sold it. Moreover, we know from previous Retours that on 30th October 1628 Alexander Seton, Burgess of Haddington, had Monkmylne etc., from his uncle Henry, who had somehow acquired it. I am also not able to find clear evidence that Robert Seton of Northrig (who sold it) is the one and the same as the Baillie in Tranent (a superiority of the Seton, Earls of Winton).

I feel more research is required on these families.

Newspapers

The British Library has uploaded over 2 million pages of 19thC newspapers – access via www.bl.uk

A NEW CD PUBLICATION

PORTOBELLO CEMETERY EDINBURGH *monumental inscriptions*



compiled by Craig Ellery

**All 3,471 memorial inscriptions
have been recorded in this
Midlothian cemetery.**

***Transcribed & compiled
by Craig Ellery***

ISBN: 1-904060-67-6 £10.00



Report on SAHS Conference 2011

By Joy Dodd, Chairman

In spite of it being damp and also National Armed Forces day in Edinburgh, all our plans fell into place.

The equipment worked, the coffee was good and many people attended.

The Conference was opened by our Honorary President Mr David Sellar, the Lord Lyon King of Arms.

All the talks including the free lunchtime talks were very well attended.

City: Richard Hunter from the Edinburgh City Archives gave an informative talk on its large and various holdings. He also related that the Archives staff had come across some school and other records. Well worth a visit if you have Edinburgh ancestors, but do allow time as not a lot of the material is indexed. The Archive Search Room is closed until October 2011.

Church: Tristram Clarke from the National Records of Scotland gave a very interesting talk on the history of the Scottish Episcopal Church, including some its difficulties in the early days, such as priests not being allowed to baptise children. In the 19th century many of its members came from industrial workers, such as weavers in Girvan and iron workers in Airdrie, who had migrated from England. Tristram is currently updating the NRS publication *Tracing your Scottish Ancestors*.

Church: Andrew Nicoll's very lively talk on the Scottish Catholic Archives started off the afternoon.

He explained the various records they hold at St Columba House. He and his assistants are to be congratulated on their work in collecting these records and making them available on online via the ScotlandsPeople Website.

Census: The last talk was from Duncan Macniven, Registrar General for Scotland. With the Scottish 1911 census having been released in April, it was interesting to hear some of the aspects of Scottish life that can be learnt from it - not just finding our ancestors. He also spoke about collecting the 2011 census and some of the differences in the contents of both.

The Family History Fair over three floors, with a wide variety of exhibitors, from our sister societies to postcard- and book-sellers, provided interest for everyone. It was certainly very busy at lunchtime.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members who gave their time and worked so hard to make this event such a success.



previously...

Scotland's History Festival

The Festival of History (Scotland) Ltd is a community enterprise with the intention of creating an annual event to celebrate our past and to widen the pathways to Scotland's history.

Originally scheduled to run in and around Edinburgh from 17th to 27th November 2011, interest is such that it has had to be extended to St Andrew's Day, 30th November. The directors are Susan Morrison, a comedian and journalist, and Ian Harrower, an experienced events organiser, advised by people from many walks of life and half a dozen of our universities.

There will be all manner of events, hosted by a range of organisations, both official and voluntary.

Some of these will include:

The Big Shiny Debates

With the Scottish Parliament and in association with Carnegie Challenge and the Scottish Law Society

Jock Tamson's Bairns

A stirring and evocative documentary exhibition honouring the waves of immigrant groups who became the new Scots and contributed so significantly to Scotland

Scottish History Fact & Fiction

Enlightenment meets Entertainment at Edinburgh's Central Library

Who Did You Think You Were Roadshow

With Scotland's People and National Registers of Scotland – genealogy roadshows

Time Banquets

With the Town House Collection. Eat and learn about Ernest Shackleton, David Hume and Elsie Inglis

Legends- Story-Telling Sessions

In association with the Storytelling Centre

And very many more!

Full details will be published on www.historyfest.co.uk

Book Reviews

The Picts: A History

Tim Clarkson; John Donald, Edinburgh; 2010; ISBN 981 1 906566 25 8; £14.99

The Men of the North: The Britons of Southern Scotland

Tim Clarkson; John Donald, Edinburgh; 2010; ISBN 978 1 906566 18 0; £20

These two books are being reviewed together because they have much in common. Both take us back into what used to be called the 'Dark Ages', into an era when the political entity called Scotland did not exist. This era was not so 'dark', in the sense of a lack of records, as may once have been supposed and the author prefer the term 'Early Historic'.

These books deal with the history and culture of two linguistic groups that have no presence in modern Scotland, which had died out by 1100 AD and have no successor language in Scotland. Both Pictish and Brittonic were Celtic languages within the linguistic family known to modern scholars as P-Celtic - a linguistic group represented in the modern world by Welsh, Breton and Cornish. While the Picts have left us a wonderful legacy of carved stones, they have not left any records written in their language. The only traces of Pictish are found in place names, particularly those beginning with the prefix 'Pit'. This means that the only records that give us a glimpse of the history and culture of the Picts are those compiled by outsiders and written in other languages such as Gaelic or Latin.

The position with regard to the North Britons is somewhat different because they spoke a language which was once spoken throughout Britain and in which there are surviving records which are accessible to scholars of Old Welsh.

Both languages were gradually superseded. The area north of the Forth, which was the territory of the Picts, became Gaelic-speaking until later that language was in turn replaced by Scots. The area south of the Forth became part of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumbria and adopted the language of that kingdom, gradually developing into the Scots language.

Is any of this relevant to the Scottish Family Historian? It certainly takes us back to an era well beyond that in which any of us could hope to establish an unbroken genealogy from written sources.

Even those who have proven connections with royalty will find that their descent tends to trail off into realms of myth and legend as they approach this distant time. We must, however, obviously have had ancestors living in this era and the fact that a language has died out does not necessarily imply that the people who spoke it have disappeared. The various upheavals that led to linguistic change may have caused the departure of the social and military elite but the ordinary folk probably just stayed where they were and adapted to the language and culture of the new rulers. Many of us may well be descended from the Picts or North Britons, particularly if our known ancestors had longstanding connections with the areas inhabited by these peoples.

These books comprise a valuable resource for anyone who wishes to explore what is known of these two peoples - their history, culture and the reasons for

their disappearance from the linguistic map of Scotland. They will not tell you who your ancestors were but will help you to understand the society in which they lived.

Jessie Denholm

Bristo Church of Scotland Baptismal Records 1772-1783 & 1837-1854

Transcribed and compiled by Russell W. Cockburn;

Scottish Genealogy Society, 2011; ISBN 1-904060-64-1; £7.50

Unearthed from the holdings of the National Records of Scotland, this is a treasure trove of baptisms not included in the standard OPRs of Edinburgh parishes. The introduction outlines the "family tree" of this church, as complex as any involved in the Secession movement, and explains why it holds such a central position in Scottish ecclesiastical history.

Aside from the genealogical information these records contain, the usual dates of births and baptisms, parents' names, fathers' occupations and the families' places of residence, plus details of the witnesses, it's an engrossing read for anyone interested in Scottish, and particularly Edinburgh, history. Periodically the clerk summarises the payments paid or due, in his own idiosyncratic style. A spreadsheet it is not! (But be warned: some ancestors are *named* as slow or non-payers.)

Reading through the entries reveals how far some people were prepared to travel to reach this particular church, from all parts of the city – the city now, not the city then. They came from Leith to the north, Cramond to the north-west, Coltbridge to the west, Colinton to the south and Peffermill to the east. There are even a few described as being "from the country".

The spelling of the names, especially in the 18thC section, is splendidly erratic. This means that after a while, the clerk's voice is audible from over the intervening centuries. The variant spellings of placenames too can be a challenge, not to mention fun to solve. Names such as Pottrow, Kenal Street and Baromourhade "click" after a moment or two – but where on earth was "Goos Dube"?

Caroline Gerard

A NEW CD PUBLICATION



BRISTO CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Baptismal records
1772-1783 & 1837-1854

Published by
The Scottish Genealogy Society
Edinburgh
2011

The baptismal records, not included in the old parish records, of one of Edinburgh's historic Secession congregations.

Transcribed & compiled by Russell W. Cockburn

ISBN: 1-904060-64-1 £7.50

Officers in the Edinburgh Almanacs 1758, 1773, 1784, 1787 and 1800

Transcribed by Russell W Cockburn; The Scottish Genealogy Society;

ISBN:1-904060-61-7; £7.50

Often in Family History we wonder whether there might be some source of information about our ancestors besides the formal records such as the Old Parish Records. There might well be such information in contemporary books or other publications but obviously we don't have unlimited time to pore through everything that is available. This CD gives ready access to information about 18th century army officers from sources that would otherwise be inaccessible to most of us – namely the editions of the Edinburgh Almanac for the years listed in the title.

As Russell Cockburn explains in his introduction, almanacs were annual reference books containing a wide range of information including army and naval listings and reports. He has extracted from these Almanacs a substantial amount of information about army officers. For 1758 he has listed, in tabular form, the names of 445 senior officers and 69 garrison commanders. For the garrison commanders, the information given usually included their rate of pay – for instance the Governor of Edinburgh Castle received £300 per annum. For those on the list of senior officers we get their rank, regiment, where they were stationed and sometimes their rate of pay.

By 1773 the amount of information given has increased substantially – 4672 officers of all ranks are listed and much other information is supplied. We learn, for instance, the names of 142 officers and garrison commanders stationed in North America. The same sort of information is provided for the later years and by 1800 the number of names given had increased to 9973 – this is indicative of the increase in the size of the British Army which by then was engaged in a long-lasting war with France.

The information given is derived from a Scottish source but is not exclusively Scottish information. It may, therefore, be of interest to anyone with officers of the British Army in their ancestry irrespective of what part of the United Kingdom they came from. The eighteenth century was, however, an era when the Treaty of Union gave Scots, particularly the younger sons of the gentry, the opportunity to serve in what had become the British Army. Sometimes a particular officer can be tracked through several of the almanacs enabling us to follow the progress of his career.

While this very much a source of information in tabular form, a lighter note is struck by the inclusion of several attractive illustrations of military offices of the time. These are from the collection of what were termed 'original portraits and caricature etchings' by John Kay, which were designed to amuse rather than flatter.

Jessie Denholm

Stronefield and other deserted Knapdale townships

Jean C. MacLeod; Natural History and Antiquarian Society Mid Argyll, 2010;

Stronefield is located in the south Knapdale region of Argyll. In her brief study

the author has sought to investigate why this township became deserted during the nineteenth century.

At the outset the author eschews any simplistic, monocausal explanation for this event, which was common in Highland and Lowland Scotland alike where landowners were required to remove the roofs of houses to avoid paying rates. Jean MacLeod has consulted a wide range of sources, including census schedules, legal records, Statistical Accounts, official reports and contemporary newspapers.

The main issue for historians of migration is the extent to which the population of Stronefield were pushed from their homes by an unsympathetic landowner or emigrated by free will to Canada, Australia or to urban Scotland. The author cites evidence of both instances. Large scale migration was nothing new to the population of Argyll, the previous inhabitants of which appear to have been largely expelled when the MacDonalds of Islay and Kintyre and their followers were forced to move to Antrim in the late 16th century. Yet MacLeod finds little evidence of any large-scale population movement during the nineteenth century. Census records indicate a gradual decline in population during the later 1800s. Voluntary emigration seems to have been a major factor in this process in this part of Scotland, rather than eviction. Emigrants to Canada could look forward to the ownership of land and freedom from the shackles of overweening landlords. The later emigrants to Australia, lured by the goldfields of Ballarat and Bendigo, perhaps faced a more uncertain future but many found new opportunities outside gold mining.

Jean C. MacLeod covers a wide range of topics in this volume. The book is provided with attractive and relevant illustrations and a comprehensive bibliography, as well as listings from the Censuses 1841 to 1901 and snippets from the Inverneil Estate Papers. There are sections on various aspects of Life at Stronfield, eg the livestock, diet, ecclesiastical history and Illegal Pursuits. There is also a list of place-names and prevalent personal names. For anyone proposing to undertake a local study of their own this work provides a very positive exemplar.

The book may be purchased for £15.00 (plus £1.50 postage in UK) from NHASMA (Natural History and Antiquarian Society of mid-Argyll) e-mail glasvaar@btinternet.com

Jim Cranstoun

Digging Up Your Roots

The popular BBC Radio Scotland programme is preparing a new series and would like to hear from the anyone who needs help getting through that brick wall or who has made some fascinating discoveries, "From family mysteries and skeletons in the closet to interesting artefacts and clues uncovered in the attic".

E-mail: diggingupyourroots@bbc.co.uk or telephone 01224 384 881

RECENT ADDITIONS to the LIBRARY

Compiled by Eileen Elder and Joan Keen

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| The Prestonpans Tapestry 1745 | Andrew Crummy and Others |
| Policing the Metropolis of Scotland | John McGowan |
| A Scottish Genealogist's Glossary | Lawrence R. Burness |
| The Protocol Book of John Brydin, | |
| Ninian Brydin and others 1526-1536 | The Walter Mason Trust |
| Scottish Architects' Papers: A Source Book | Rebecca M. Bailey |
| South Leith Parish Church 150th Anniversary of the | |
| New Building designed by Thomas Hamilton 1848-1998 | |
| A Dictionary of Edinburgh Furniture Makers | Francis Bamford |
| Wild Men and Holy Places | Daphne Brooke |
| An Old Kirk Chronicle, being a history of Auldham, Tyninghame and Whitekirk in East Lothian | F. Hatley Waddell |
| The Walls of Edinburgh | The Hon. Lord Cullen |
| Old Galston | Hugh Maxwell |
| Culloden and the '45 | Jeremy Black |
| Late 17th Century Edinburgh, a demographic study | Helen M. Dingwall |
| Kinloch Family History, Vols. 1-8 | |
| The Smillies: A Brief Family History | Miles A. English |
| Whitekirk St. Mary's Parish Church, East Lothian MIs | Joy Dodd (Ed.) |
| Scotland and Poland, | |
| Historical Encounters 1500-2010 | T. Devine & David Hesse (Ed.) |
| Fearn Free Church | Stuart Farrel |
| Scottish Catholic Family History | Andrew R. Nicoll |
| New Caledonian Mercury Vol. 1, No. 3, February 1990 | |
| Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association Newsletter No 101 September 2009 | |
| Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association Newsletter No 103 June 2010 | |
| Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association Newsletter No 104 September 2010 | |
| Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association Newsletter No 106 June 2011 | |
| MIs Cromdale Churchyard Badenoch & Strathspey | Highland FHS |
| MacLagan Families | E D MacLagan |
| Diary Kept by J Ballantyne, | |
| Ellsridgehill from Ellsridgehill to London, Cadiz and St John's | J Ballantyne |
| Grieve Family History | Ainslie Thin |
| The University Atlas | George Philip |
| The Complete Atlas of Britain | AA |
| The Last Edwardian Jester Mr Harry Dale and his Musical Family | Colin Dale |
| The Slogans and Warcries of Scotland of Old | Andrew Pearson |
| The Parishes of Banffshire: | |
| Rathven Episcopal Church Baptisms 1762-1779; 1799-1834 | Stuart Farrel |
| The Parishes of Moray: | |
| Elgin Episcopal Church 1721-1740; 1780-1855 | Stuart Farrel |
| Nairn Cemetery, Nairn, Highland (Victorian Section) | |
| A Survey of its Memorials | Stuart Farrel |
| Old Dalry in Edinburgh | Malcolm Cant |
| Old Currie, Balerno & Juniper Green | George Monies |

Old Tollcross, Morningside and Swanston
Moidart, among the Clanranalds
Glasgow Street Names
Eccentric Wealth: The Bulloughs of Rum
Canonmills and Inverleith
Dundee Episcopalians 1715-1815
Frontier Scots
The Campbells 1250-1513
From Heidelberg to the Highlands

Malcolm Cant
Charles MacDonald, John Watts (Ed)
Carol Foreman
Alastair Scott
Joyce M Wallace
David Dobson
Jenni Calder
Stephen Boardman

Letters by the Smith Family in Colonial Victoria
Roy Bridge, Cille Choirill Church CD
Kilmonivaig Church & Cemetery, Gairloch Burial Ground MIs CD
Glenelg Burial Ground Monumental Inscriptions CD
Tillicoultry Cemetery Monumental Inscriptions CD
Old Monklands Monumental Inscriptions CD2 1632-2005 CD
Balmacara Cemetery Monumental Inscriptions CD
Ratagan-Ardearg Burial Ground Monumental Inscriptions CD
Shiel Bridge, Clachan Duich Church & Cemetery Monumental Inscriptions CD
Lochalsh, Kirton Churchyard Monumental Inscriptions CD
Plockton Church Monumental Inscriptions CD
Fort Augustus, Kilchuimen Burial Ground Monumental Inscriptions CD
Greenock Cemetery Phase 2 Monumental Inscriptions CD
Paisley, Woodside Cemetery Monumental Inscriptions CD

Mark Harry

Scottish Military Research Group

The website www.scottishmilitarysearch.col.uk offers a number of matters of interest as well as a page of useful links.

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

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.

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

All year Society of Genealogists – Centenary Celebrations
www.societyofgenealogists.com

New Register House Research Evenings

(in conjunction with Standard Life FHS)

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 Meetings 2011

Saturday 29th October They Crossed the Atlantic

Sunday 11th December Mix and Match Members Meeting

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.

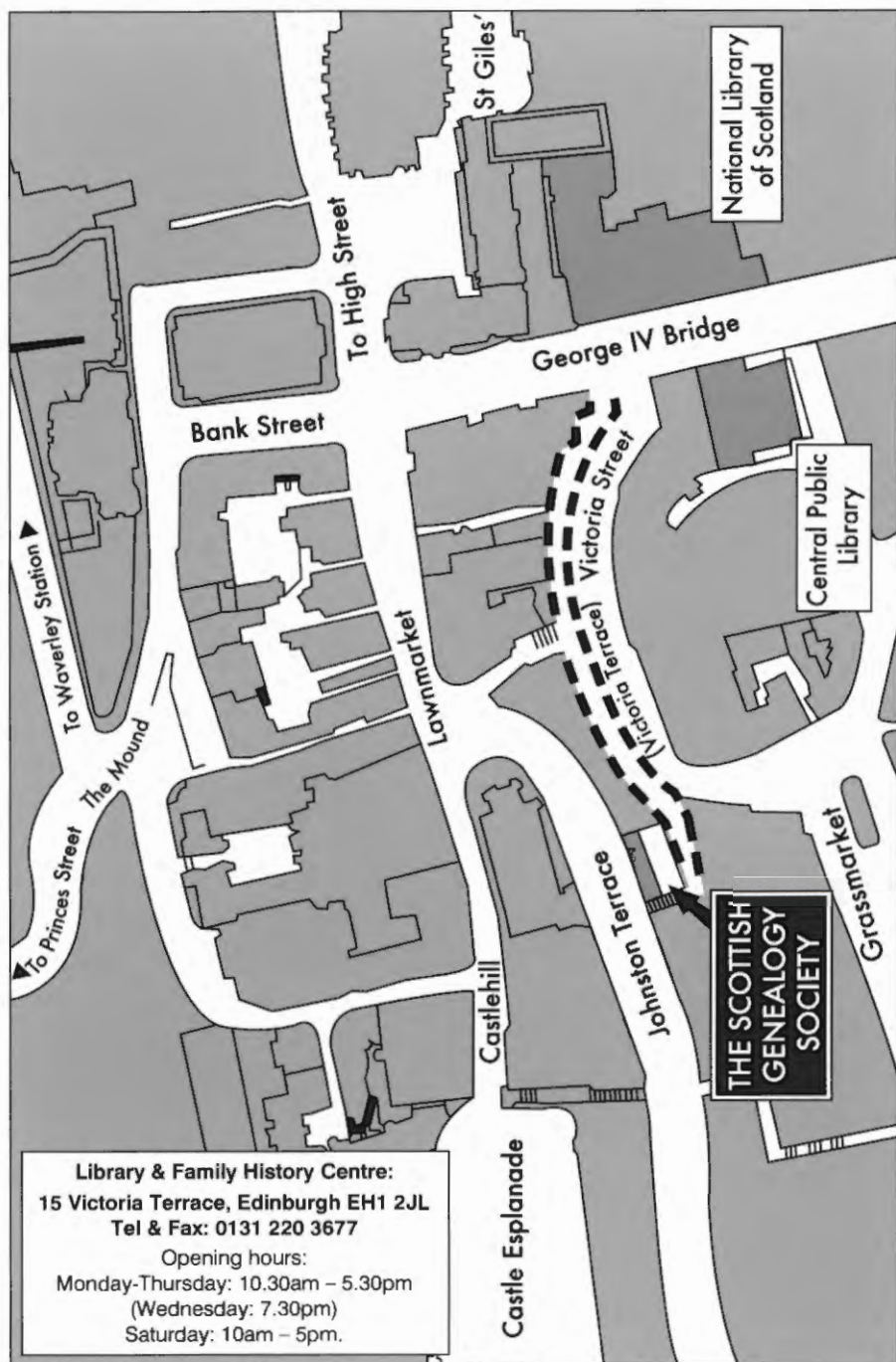
Conferences

4 November Scottish Local History Forum
Travellers, Turnpikes & Tar – 1000 Years of Scotland's Roads
www.slhf.org

12 November Scottish Records Association
Scottish Historical Gardens and Designed Landscapes
www.scottishrecordsassociation.org

17-30 November Previously... Scotland's History Festival
www.historyfest.co.uk

The **2012 SAFHS Conference** will be hosted by Tay Valley FHS in conjunction with Fife FHS.
www.safhs.org.uk





Published by The Scottish Genealogy Society.

ISSN 0300-337X

Printed by Sprint Repro (Scotland) Ltd., Dunfermline, Fife.