



THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

MARCH 2014

**A Knight in Newhaven
Captain Thomas Graham
The Howff Cemetery, Dundee
Two Naval Ancestors
Mortimer**

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

Vol. LXI No. 1

The Scottish Genealogy Society

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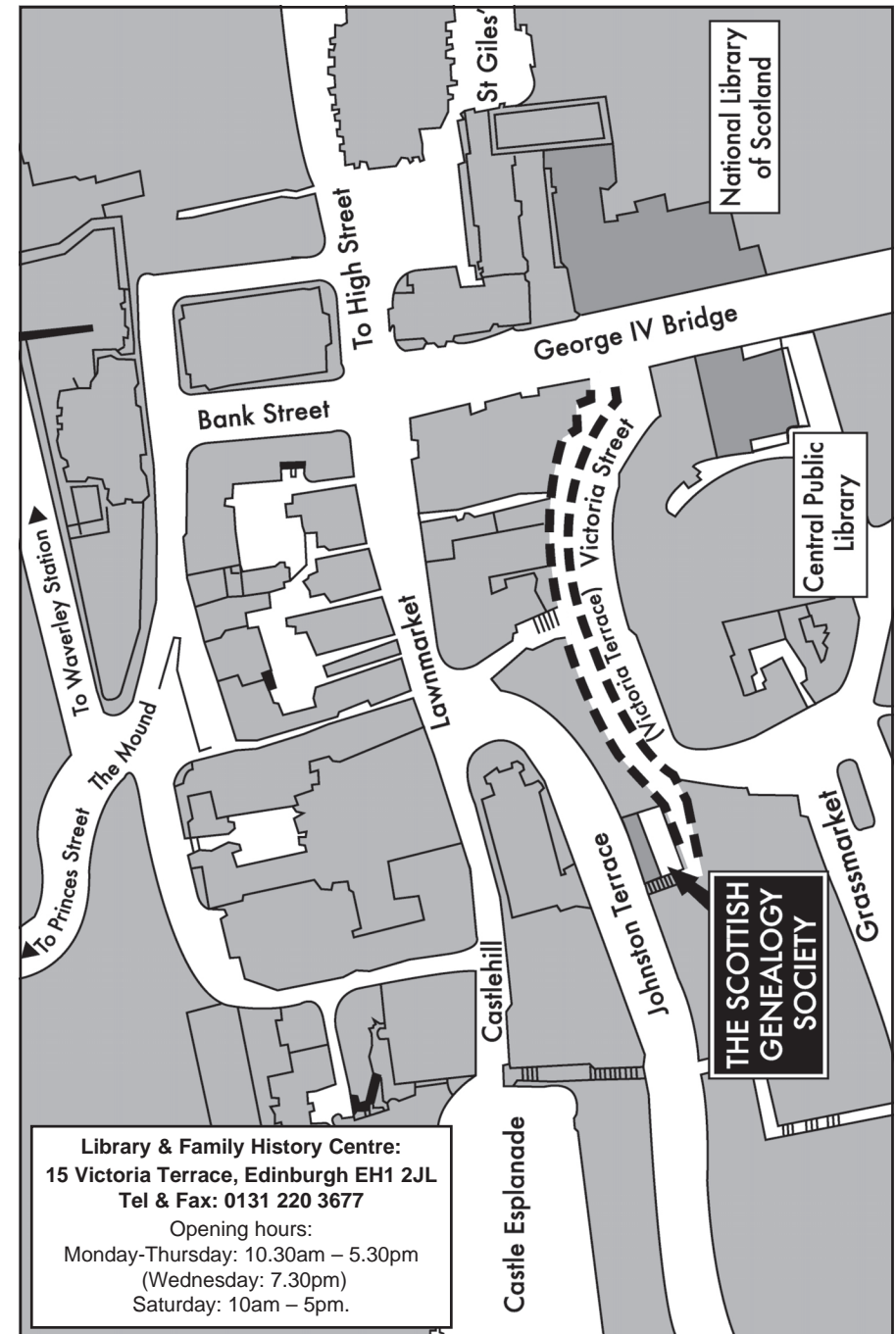
This edition of *The Scottish Genealogist* was edited by Caroline Gerard, with the valued assistance of Chic Bower at Printing Services Scotland and of all our regular and occasional contributors.

Front Cover: The Society's Coat of Arms

Back Cover: Captain Thomas Graham of Airth, attributed to John Moir, c1776-1857

On display at The Georgian House, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

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SAFHS 25th Annual Conference and Family History Fair



The Carnegie Conference Centre,
Halbeath Road, Dunfermline,
Fife KY11 8DY

Saturday 26 April 2014,
9.30am to 4.45pm

Speakers include:

Martyn Gorman, David Holman, Ian Leith and Ken Nisbet

Other short talks and workshops by:

Kirsteen Mulhern, Lloyd Pitcairn, Jim Ryan and others

Plus a Children's Workshop!

Costs: Full Conference (incl. lunch and refreshments) £32

Family History Fair only £2

Programme and Booking Form from: jb.bishop@btinternet.com

See also: www.safhs.org

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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 UK membership £20; Family, Overseas and Institutional membership £25.

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

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

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

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The Scottish Genealogist

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

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A Knight in Newhaven: Sir Alexander Morison (1779-1866)

Ramsay Tubb and John D. Stevenson

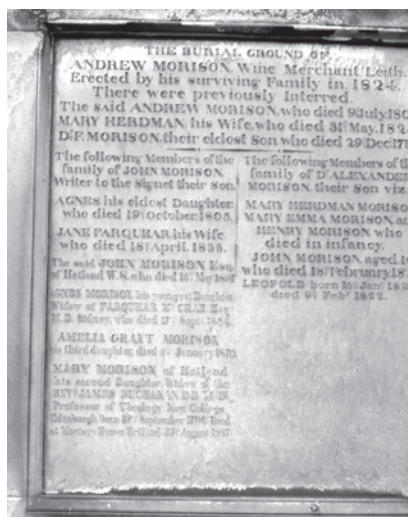
In the Scottish National Portrait Gallery hangs a painting of Sir Alexander Morison, dated 1852, with the following caption:

The royal physician and pioneering psychiatrist Sir Alexander Morison specialised in treating mental illness. While he was working at the Bethlem Hospital in London, one of his patients was the artist Richard Dadd. Dadd, who was famous for fairy paintings, had schizophrenia, and had murdered his father, believing him to be the devil. Morison is shown in front of his house at Newhaven and the ship-filled Firth of Forth, a scene copied from sketches sent by a family member. The distinctively dressed fishwives may have been copied from an earlier photograph by Adamson and Hill.

(The painting may be viewed online at either www.nationalgalleries.org or www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings)

Alexander Morison was born at Anchorfield, Newhaven, on 1 May 1779 and baptised in Edinburgh on 31 May:

Andrew Murison Writer in Edinburgh and Mary Herdman his spouse
College Kirk parish a Son Born 1st current named Alexander witnesses
Alexander Forbes Writer to the Signet and Alexander Forbes Writer in
Edinburgh.



St Cuthbert's Kirkyard.

Andrew Murison was a younger son of a landed family in Aberdeenshire and was variously described as a Macer to the Court of Justiciary (at his son John's baptism in 1766), a writer (at his son Alexander's baptism in 1779) and a wine merchant in Leith (on his monumental inscription in St. Cuthbert's churchyard). He acquired the small estate of Anchorfield which was at the eastern extremity of the fishing village of Newhaven in the parish of North Leith, where the Anchorfield Burn discharged into the Firth of Forth. The locals frequently followed an ill-defined and poorly maintained track along the shoreline in front of Anchorfield House when travelling between Newhaven and

Leith, and in the 19th century there are numerous reports of injuries and indeed fatalities in this vicinity as a result of coastal erosion of the track, and the area was colloquially known as the Mantrap.

Andrew Murison was granted arms by the Lord Lyon in 1791:

Andrew Murison, Esquire, Writer in Edinburgh and heretable Proprietor of Anchorfield BEARS Argent three Moors heads couped proper banded Azure within a Bordure ingrailed Gules, CREST three Moors heads conjoined on one Neck proper. Motto Mediocriter.

He died in 1809, followed by his wife in 1824 when the family monument was erected in St. Cuthbert's churchyard.

Alexander was taught at home until the age of eight when he was enrolled at the High School in Edinburgh. When he was eleven it seemed that he was destined to follow his older brother in making his career at sea, but after one voyage to Portugal he wrote to his father 'craving to be restored' to dry land. He was sent off to a tutor in Cumberland, the Rev. Sewel, to be prepared for university. At the age of 13, he matriculated at Edinburgh University and, after two years of general studies, he began his medical education. From November 1794, he combined his medical studies at university with a five year apprenticeship with one of Edinburgh's leading surgeons, Alexander Wood ('Lang Sandy' Wood). He graduated in 1799, his MD thesis, 'De Hydrocephalo Phrenitico', suggesting that he may already have had some interest in neurological and mental disorders.

The same year, he married Mary Ann Cushnie in Edinburgh:

Alexander Morison Surgeon St. Andrew Church Parish and Miss Mary Ann Cushnie same Parish Daughter of the Deceased Mr. Alexander Cushnie late Merchant in Aberdeen.

Within weeks of graduating, Morison became a licentiate of both the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and went south for two years to gain further hospital experience in London. At the Westminster Hospital he renewed his friendship with Alexander Crichton who was already established as a physician there. Alexander Crichton and Morison's older brother, Francis, had been at Edinburgh University together and both had been apprentices of 'Lang Sandy' Wood, but Francis had died of typhus in 1794 while on the staff at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

However, when Morison left London in 1801 he had already abandoned his intention to make a career in medicine as his wife had inherited a major share in a sugar plantation in Jamaica. On his return to Scotland, he bought a farm in Galloway and the Bankhead estate in Midlothian. For the next few years he devoted himself to the study of agriculture and the management of his estates. In 1804, on his Bankhead estate, he built Larchgrove, the house that he was later to donate to the College.

By 1805 farming was proving to be less rewarding than he had hoped and he began to think again about a career in medicine. He sold off parts of his land to his brother and his brother-in-law and travelled to Russia to visit Crichton, now Sir Alexander Crichton and Physician to Tsar Alexander I, to discuss the possibility of practising at St. Petersburg. However, nothing came of the visit and he returned to Edinburgh. In 1807 he was invited to become 'travelling' physician to Lord Somerville who was about to travel south to take up residence in London and Surrey. He was in London for only four weeks, but in that time he met and was consulted by a number of families of the English aristocracy and several of the French nobility who had fled to England at the outbreak of the Revolution. He decided to practise in London, and with that in mind he became a licentiate of the London College of Physicians. He moved to London permanently in February 1808 and with Somerville's support he set up practice at 17 Half Moon Street and in Surrey. However, by the following year his practice had not flourished and he accepted an appointment as Visiting Physician to the private lunatic asylums in Surrey. Thereafter he kept on a house and consulting room in London (at 17 Half Moon Street, then 3 St. James Square and finally at 26 Cavendish Square) whilst maintaining his connections with Surrey. He established a position on the fringes of court society in London and at Brighton and accepted warrants as Physician Extra-Ordinary to the Princess of Wales and later as Physician-in-Ordinary to the Household of the Duke of Albany, although neither appointment carried a salary or any duties. His practice still did not flourish, and he remained dependent on the patronage of Lord Somerville.

While Morison struggled to establish himself in private practice in London, his income from the plantation in Jamaica was steadily growing less and at the same time his family continued to grow (his wife had 16 pregnancies during the marriage). It was now necessary to find another source of income and in 1815, when George Rose introduced his Madhouse Bill in Parliament, Morison had hopes of being appointed as one of the Commissioners in Lunacy. Encouraged and probably financed by his brother John, in 1818 he travelled to Paris with letters of introduction to Jean Esquirol at the Salpetriere. By this time, Esquirol was attracting large numbers of students from different parts of Europe, and over the next few years Morison made four more visits to Esquirol who became his mentor on the management of the insane.

Back in Britain, in the summer of 1818 Morison visited the Retreat at York, St. Luke's in London and the asylums in Wakefield and Glasgow. He once again became a travelling physician, this time accompanying the Marchioness of Bute on a prolonged tour of Italy. Then in 1822 he became personal physician to Mrs. Coutts, the wealthy widow of the banker Thomas Coutts. He was still determined to 'follow the lunatic department of medicine' and in January of the following year Mrs. Coutts decided 'to establish a fund for a professorship to perpetuate the memory of so excellent a man as the late

Thomas Coutts'. The offer was rejected by Edinburgh University and by the Edinburgh College of Physicians principally because the terms of the endowment included the provisions that Morison would be a trustee, that he would be the professor and that on his death he would be succeeded by his son.

Morison was undeterred and in Edinburgh he hired a classroom at the university to give a course of lectures on mental diseases and became the first man in Britain to devote a complete course of lectures on the management of the insane. He began a similar series of lectures in London at his house at Cavendish Square, and thereafter he lectured each autumn in Edinburgh and each spring in London. But without an association with Edinburgh University, the project did not have the prestige that Mrs. Coutts had envisaged for her memorial to her husband, and in 1826 she withdrew her support. Morison found a few new subscribers and managed to continue, and in the years that followed, the attendance at his lectures slowly grew, the number of lectures in each series increasing from 11 to 18 and he published the text of his lectures.

In 1827 he became President of the College, and two years later was able to identify himself as 'President of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh; Physician to His Royal Highness Prince Leopold; Inspecting Physician of the Surrey Lunatic Houses and Lecturer on Mental Disease, etc'. In London he was at last becoming established, and in 1832 he was appointed Visiting Physician at the Middlesex County Asylum, Hanwell, and in 1835 was given the privilege of taking his students there to gain practical experience of mental disease under his guidance. In May of that year he was appointed Physician to Bethlem Hospital with rights to teach there, and he was now Physician to Surrey Asylum, Springfield. His private practice among London's fashionable society was also prospering, and in 1838, his long delayed success was recognised when he was knighted.

Mary Ann Cushnie died in Marylebone, London in 1846. In the 1851 census, Alexander is living at 26 Cavendish Square, Marylebone with 4 of his unmarried daughters and 3 servants. Later that year, he married Grace Young in London, and in 1861 they were living in Currie with one daughter and 3 servants. Sir Alexander's son and namesake was a member of the Royal College of Surgeons in England and entered the military service of the Honourable East India Company. He died on 5 February 1861 at Anchorfield, Newhaven, on the family estate on his return from India invalided. This Alexander also had a son, Alexander Blackhall-Morison who was a doctor of medicine and bequeathed a collection of family documents to the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh.

Sir Alexander died at Balerno Hill House, Currie, on 14 March 1866 and the informant on the death certificate 6 days later, the day of his funeral, was his



Family gravestone in Currie Kirkyard.

teenage grandson and namesake. In his later years, Morison was frequently referred to as the Father of the College (the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh). A meeting of Council was held on 16 March 'in consequence of the death of Sir Alexander Morison the father of the College', and it was agreed that they would attend his funeral 'from the position he had held in the College as well as from his eminence'. The funeral was held at Currie Kirk, on the outskirts of Edinburgh and he was buried in the churchyard there. Grace Young died at 4 Napier Road, Edinburgh on 12 July 1889 and upon the death of Sir Alexander's grandson and namesake in 1927, the monumental inscription was erected in the churchyard in Currie.

Captain Thomas Graham

Fraser Paterson

I'm a freelance writer and one of my specialties is Scottish history. I'm also a volunteer guide at The Georgian House for the National Trust for Scotland. Spending many hours in various rooms at No 7 Charlotte Square, the stories behind the portraits that adorn the walls began to fascinate me. When I was selected for a six-month career development programme with the NTS, I decided to spend half that time researching a family whose portraits can also be seen at Gladstone's Land on the Royal Mile, another NTS property.

That family were the Grahams of Airth. Airth is in the Falkirk area of Stirlingshire and lies on the banks of the River Forth. Judge James Graham (8th Dec 1676 to 5th Nov 1746) purchased Airth Castle from a Jacobite family, the Bruces, who were forced to sell after the failure of the 1715 rebellion. He styled himself 'of Airth' from 1721. The Judge too had Jacobite beliefs and was closely associated with Bonnie Prince Charlie. He was invited to attend council at Holyrood in the days immediately following the Battle of Prestonpans. Indeed, three of his children are buried in Holyrood Abbey. However, his story is for another day.

Thomas Graham 1768-1836

This article is about one of his grandchildren, Thomas Graham (1st March 1768-1836), who became a Captain in the East India Company. The NTS kindly permitted me to take photographs of the family portraits and also to use some they have. They permitted me also to use the small amount of information they have on each family member, as a starting point for my research. Sadly some of it proved inaccurate. However, much more fascinating information was discovered. My fully referenced findings have been passed on to one of their curators, Alastair Smith.

Much of my work centred on the family manuscripts which are held at the National Library of Scotland. As you can see from the bibliography, I was also given very helpful guidance by the SGS in finding other sources within the library at Victoria Terrace. Much of what follows are extracts from family letters.

Captain Thomas Graham was well liked and respected by those he sailed with, and was a caring man. However, he also had an unpleasant side to his character, in that he thought nothing of purchasing a fatherless child, as you will see.

His father was William Graham of Airth. He married Caroline Mary Home in 1807, and had several children including William, Thomas and Carolus. In reading the family correspondence, I felt I was intruding into the private affairs of others, but it was for a worthy purpose: to reveal their story for future

generations. Much of what follows are diary extracts, which give an intriguing insight into the life of a successful member of the landed gentry in Scotland.

Life at sea and in India

On 17th July 1782 Thomas wrote very poignantly to his father, stating that he “hopes we will live long enough to see each other face to face”. The solitary nature of life on the waves was clearly affecting him. His father passed away eight years later.

Another letter shortly after this date refers to correspondence he received from the General “by Mr Dundas. I answered it immediately. He ordered me to draw upon him for to which I have done...laid it out on jewellery and books as an adventure”.

Further correspondence written on 28th February 1787 refers to him having to wait for “a fair wind down channel to pursue our voyage”. It later states that he has to interrupt his letter because “there’s all hands called. I must away upon deck”. He continues, “Our ship is quite full, which is much against me, as being a young officer”, and makes reference to where this means is belongings are positioned. He also refers to a good friend Mr Dickson, an old school friend of his, who “may have it in his power to do me marry good”. He also refers to thousands of letters he has to give to people in India, a task he views as “rather troublesome”, but when he reflects on “what satisfaction I may give some poor soul, I take them with pleasure”. Earlier correspondence also makes reference to his getting on well with all his shipmates. From this it is fair to draw the conclusion that Captain Thomas Graham was a very personable and caring man.

In another letter of dated 26th August 1787 he refers to meeting a friend in Calcutta, “I stayed with him for a few hours and drank bottle or two of his cool claret”. The same letter refers to friends in Singapore, where he also visited, as having servants for everything they do, and makes reference to one individual who has 60! It must have been a tough life for some.

In correspondence dated 29th October 1788 he refers to enhancing his general seafaring knowledge, as well as going through a course of book-keeping, which “must be of great use to me in my line as a merchant”. For his amusement he is “retrieving my Latin with my friend Martin, and reading Guthrie’s Grammar, a book which gives a more concise history of the different countries of the globe than we have”.

A letter dated 11th February 1789 refers to him working from 6 in the morning until 7 at night, sometimes later. A watch was also kept through the night to prevent the soldiers of the East India Company from deserting.

In other correspondence he asks after his family. In several he also asks for and makes reference to his good friend Jamie Erskine. On occasion he also

requests his father's financial help in acquiring 'investments', promising to return his money in full upon his return.

He was on the ship *Busbridge* at this time. Cargo notes confirm this. The ship's cargo included pickled tongues, anchovies, French olives and claret. It also refers to ten volumes of Johnson's Shakespeare being part of the cargo to Madras that month. The journey would conclude in Bengal. I was rather twistedly hoping to find reference to Georgian drug smuggling, namely opium in the cargo, but alas no joy!

At the young age of just 24 he became an apprentice mason of Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning. There is a certificate from the Right Worshipful Master of the lodge verifying his entry. It states that he became so "In the Year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two and of masonry the five thousand seven hundred and ninety second year". Why it has a date of 24th December 1829 written on it in the lower left hand side, in the same handwriting, I cannot fathom.

The manuscripts also contain a bond dated 15th March 1796. It relates to a loan of £2000 he received from Day Hort McDowall of Walkinshaw (he was also an executor for Thomas's father Judge James), payable "on the term of candelmass next", or else he would incur a late payment penalty of £400, plus interest thereafter. It does not state what the loan was for, merely that he was Captain of the *General Goddard* at the time. This was possibly his first command.

Naval manoeuvres

Captain Thomas Graham made a journey to the Cape of Good Hope off South Africa on the *General Goddard*, where he arrived on 31st July of that year. She arrived at Table Bay where Thomas Graham states in a letter that two or three of his men had contracted the fever and died during the voyage. It states of plans to remain there until the second fleet from England joins them. They have no certainty of the Dutch squadron's location. He goes on to state that Admiral Keith Elphinstone is reluctant to let them proceed with so small a force.

In correspondence dated 1st September 1796 he states concerns to an agent, John Pringle, about the safety of the ship due to low army numbers, for the journey to India. Five days later in a letter to Robert Wignam Esq he expresses his frustration at being laid up at Table Bay so long. He makes reference to the fact that suddenly, after six weeks in the Bay, they are asked to set sail without a single ship-of-war to defend them, especially as the French force were known to be very much superior to "the Indiamen". Early on the morning of 7th September they were due to set sail. However due to several fruitless attempts to leave Table Bay, they did not successfully manage to do so until 16th of that month.

Thomas writes to his elder brother James on 15th October 1796, from the *General Goddard*. In it he states, "Our voyage to the Cape from England was fifteen weeks, and upon our arrival there, we had intelligence of a Dutch fleet on their way to attack that place, our troops were consequently disembarked and we detained until their arrival. The Dutch fleet arrived at Saldanah Bay in August and in the (*illegible*) end of the month the whole of them were captured by George Elphinstone [*George Keith Elphinstone was his full name*]. It was the end of September before we left the Cape, our passage hitherto has been remarkably good, but as we are bound to Madras I am afraid it will be yet a very long time before we reach Bengal. I mean to dispose of as much of my will investment as I can at Madras but think I shall bring on some claret and beer to Bengal. Pray write to any of your friends at Calcutta who may be able to assist and advise me in the sale of my (*illegible*)."

The last word I could not read. Most frustrating. The letter continues, "If any of your friends have children to send home, recommend them to me, I am a famous hand for that kind of thing....The young ones are really good articles, they drink no claret...."

He goes on in his letter to James, "I had ordered a couple of hounds for you, but my ship being chock full of troops made me countermand them".

There is a document which states the following as sold for ready cash, from the *General Goddard* in November 1796: one six-volume prayer book, one philosophy book, and two dozen packs of cards. It is not too difficult to see where the priorities of the crew lay!

Thomas Graham sent a letter to Robert Wignam Esq. from Madras on 3rd January 1797. In it he refers to their successful arrival on 16th November. The voyage took two months. On seeing a squadron of French ships cruising in the Bay, they diverted to another part of the Bengal coast, Trincomalee Bay, to seek convoy to Bengal.

Further correspondence sent to Robert Wignam Esq refers to the *General Goddard* being in a poor state due to bad weather encountered on the way up from the Cape, the fact it had sprung a leak in a severe gale, and that Capt. Thomas Graham had done his best to locate it. It refers to much additional expense due to be incurred to repair the sails and rigging. Capt. Thomas Graham requests in another letter dated 9th February 1797 of the Hon. Sir John Shore, Governor General in Council permission to bring the *General Goddard* up the river for the purpose of making repairs.

Return to India

Thomas writes again to his brother James on 15th May 1797, from Barrackore, in which he describes himself as "one of the most sober in Calcutta". He also states, "my side pains me a good deal but I persevere with the mercury which now begins to affect me". Liar! Mercury, as readers will know, was not

for a painful side. He continues by advising James, “I do hope your illness is getting better; if your illness is at all serious do leave the country at once – a year or two in Europe would set you on your legs, and without cutting deep on your finances”.

Thomas regularly wrote to James. The two were very close right up to James's early death in 1805, only his 44th year. They often had an eye for the same woman – marriage did not stop the Captain – as is proven in correspondence from his brother.

In correspondence of 5th June 1797, and sent from Calcutta, he states with regard to James's removal from his position at Punneah, that “the particular part of your conduct found fault with by government is their being sent to work on the roads without being regularly convicted”. This was not the true reason. James lost a judicial position, which had been very important to him, as a result of sentencing a Suk of Calcutta to death for intemperate conduct. Suks were very important to the British in India, as they were superior to British cavalymen and, as such, James's harsh sentence was politically naïve.

A digital copy of Miss Christian Dalrymple's diaries was very kindly provided to me by Mark McLean, the Learning Officer at NTS property, Newhailes, in Musselburgh. It shows on several occasions from 1798 Capt. Graham visiting for dinner, and often saying overnight at Newhailes. The first reference of this is in her entry of 5th November 1798. “Whist, casino, loo”; and lottery tickets were popular evening games.

Further career

He was a Captain in the East India Company in the early 1800s, and served on a ship called *Wyndham*. The Asiatic Annual Register of 1804 mentions “a very brilliant achievement” by Capt. Graham, when he captured two French privateers. “The enemy had recourse to their favourite expedient of boarding; his attack was obstinately opposed, as may be imagined. When we add that the first officer was killed, the second officer fell overboard in the confusion and was unhappily drowned, the officer commanding a detachment on board was also killed, whilst the brave Commander had one of his arms shattered, but is said not to have quit the deck.”

The *Wyndham* was an armed merchant ship carrying 20 guns but by 1810 had been modified to carry more than 26, probably as a consequence of the Napoleonic wars. These were heavy ships, often between 800 and 1300 tonnes. They could hold their own against pirates and other raiders. However, the *Wyndham* was captured by the French later that same year despite modification, having changed hands four times in ten months. The Asiatic Annual Register of 1809 notes concern for its capture. Thomas Graham was still serving as a Captain with the East India Company in 1825, as noted in a court case of the time.

The Airth papers contain a Charter dated 22nd May 1804 from James, Duke of Montrose, on behalf of King George III, to Thomas Graham, commissioning him to be Captain of a Company in the Eastern Battalion of Stirlingshire Volunteer Infantry. It goes on to state that he was not allowed to take rank unless called into active service. His role was to exercise the officers and soldiers and keep them in good order and discipline. Later in the Charter it is stated that it was given by the Duke under his hand and seal, 6th November 1806.

In an interesting insight into how Window Tax was addressed by the wealthy, in a letter from William Stirling at Dunblane near Airth, who was working for Thomas at the time, the following line is contained; "I have caused the doors and windows of the (*illegible*) to build up with stone". Thomas was staying at No 2 North Parade in Bath at the time, 5th April 1808.

Captain Thomas Graham latterly changed his surname to Thomas Graham Stirling. Strowan was the estate of his maternal uncle Sir Thomas Stirling of Ardoch. He succeeded to it upon the death of his father William. The estate of Strowan was to go to Captain Graham's second son Thomas, but, being very extravagant, he kept it. Evidence of this is in the manuscripts. His son had to take him to court for it! It seems that much of the land was used for growing crops, as this is specifically mentioned in the family papers.

The purchase of a child

One W. Houston sends a letter to Thomas at Airth Castle on 7th June 1813. It starts with a very harrowing sentence: "I must confess that I thought you had had from experience more knowledge of the (*illegible*) in existence for the support and protection of that unfortunate class in society, bastard children". As the letter continues it is clear that it refers to the adoption of "James". A section in it quotes thus, "the child's mother might keep the child till it was 14 years of age without giving up any part of her claim against him for its support. The day I was in Glasgow I had the pleasure of an interview with the wicked woman. She said that she would not give James up the child, but that she would give up her claim on him for £32, to be paid by you, which is £4 a year instead of £6 for the remaining 8 years. I think she would take less, and I believe it would be better for James to settle the business in this way". I found this particularly disturbing, not least as I was adopted from a Church of Scotland home in Glasgow. Ouch!

An interesting legal document is a petition brought to the Lords of Council and Session by local farmers and distillers in the county of Clackmannan against Thomas Graham Stirling Esq of Airth, in respect of repair and maintenance of a harbour he owned. Thomas Graham Stirling's defender's agent was James Dundas. The Dundas family of Arniston and the Grahams of Airth had close ties over at least two generations.

There are many legal papers contained in the Airth documents, where James Dundas acts as agent both for and against Thomas Graham.

William Stirling writes again to Thomas on 28th Dec 1822, who is now back at Airth. In it he requests “the honor of Thomas’ company to the funeral of Miss Erskine, his sister in law on Thursday next at 12 o’clock from G(*illegible*) to the place of internment...” There are many references to funerals and illnesses throughout the Airth papers.

Amongst the manuscripts I came across a list of members, with rules abridged, for the Wig Club, Edinburgh Royal Exchange Coffee House 1824. The said rules state that the club can have no more than 70 members. The 19th member is Lord Melville. The 58th member is Thomas Graham Stirling of Airth. The third rule states that “the six regular stated meetings to be on the 2d Wednesday of December, the 2d Wednesday of January, the 2d Wednesday of February, the 2d Wednesday of March, the 2nd Wednesday of April, or the day immediately following the regular meetings of the Caledonian Hunt; and the sixth meeting to be upon Thursday of the race week in Edinburgh”.

Also amongst the papers was an advert for a lost gold chase watch, “Chasing on the case consists of four heads and four busts. Blue ribbon for chain”, and offering a reward for its return. There is no indication that Thomas ever had it returned to him.

This concludes the most recent correspondence specific to Captain Thomas Graham. Clearly he was a very successful and brave man, devoted to his career, and also to the name of his family. He would have been fascinating to meet and talk with, but that is for another life.

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Fraser Paterson’s Scottish History website is www.fpaterson.wordpress.com

For the opening hours of The Georgian House and Gladstone’s Land, visit www.nts.org.uk

Howff Restoration Group

Karen Nichols

Dundee is establishing a restoration group aimed at restoring decaying memorials and reuniting fragmented stones. The Howff is a former orchard of the Franciscan (Greyfriars) monastery the order of which was established by Dervorguilla, a 13th century Anglo-Saxon princess, whose grandfather bestowed the first church of St. Mary's upon the burgh in 1190. Originally built north of the royal burgh and outwith its defensive walls, the expansion of Dundee crept around its perimeter until it is now an oasis of peace at the heart of the city centre.

The site has associations with Robert the Bruce and Mary, Queen of Scots. In September 1564, the latter signed a charter granting the land of the former



Provost Thomas Bell's Grecian temple
with clear signs of lamination.

Cordeliers to the royal burgh as a place of sepulchre. The first internment took place the following year. It is mooted that the site is second in importance to Edinburgh's Greyfriars for the quality of its seventeenth century memorials. The source of this assertion is a question for the research group! Since the industrial revolution the

site has been most associated with the Nine Incorporated Trades of Dundee. "Howff" means "meeting place", and it is from this period that the site gained its name. Many of the stones are carved with the emblems of these bakers, dyers and shoemakers. Interestingly though, the tailors must have been modest as their mark is difficult to find.

Although the Howff was closed to internments in 1867, a local MP, George Duncan, asked permission to be buried beside his wife. Therefore, Dundee's first MP to enter Westminster promoting reform for the working man was, appropriately, the last burial eleven years after the site closed.

The restoration group is fortunate in the volume of archival material to inform any decision related to the original condition and position of the stones. Due to its dilapidated condition in 1834 the hospital master of the Royal Infirmary, Peter Dron, organised an aesthetic rearrangement of certain stones. As with so many burial sites areas were levelled by up to 5ft, in order to extend its

usefulness, and its stones were numbered. A local printing magnate, Alexander Lamb, produced chronological and alphabetical indexes which are available to view in Dundee Local and Family History library. In addition to their photographs of some of the more elaborate stones, later images exist from a time of widespread change to the structural layout of the town. At the turn of the 20th century Alexander Wilson recorded central Dundee and bequeathed his images to the library in 1923. These images show highly carved memorials to local landed families, such as the Ogilvies, and graphically illustrate the effects of erosion since the 1830s. Combined with the index it will be possible to identify stones that can not with certainty be identified today.



Purple geraniums in bloom at the Howff.

In 2014, 450 years after Mary, Queen of Scots, granted the land as a place of sepulchre, volunteers from all walks of life are supporting the restoration of this historic, peaceful, cemetery. In 2015, 450 years after the first internment it is hoped that the first signs of that restoration will be visible.

To keep up to date with the progress of the group please Like this Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/howffrestorationgroup?ref=ts>

Should you have information related to the site or believe you are a living heir to a family whose stone requires preservation, please contact Karen Nichols at scotiaheritage@gmail.com

Two Naval Ancestors: Jubal Bennett, 1841-1899 and John Forrest, 1889-1915

Jean Lindsay

Jubal Bennett, my grandfather, was born in Torquay. He was the fifth child of John Hastings, a cabinet-maker, and Susan Bartlett, and was the second son in a family of five boys and eight girls. Charles, the last child, was born in 1860. The Bennetts came originally from Cornwall and can be traced back to c 1530 in Menheniot, where Robert married in 1555. There were two children of the marriage: Richard and Alice. Stephen Bennett, of generation eight of the family, was born in South Hill, Cornwall, c 1773, and he married Mary Warne in 1797 at Menheniot. There were no children of the marriage, but, after Mary's death, Stephen married Elizabeth Potter on 14 December 1802 at Totnes, Devon. Stephen was Jubal's grandfather, and the Bennetts never returned to Cornwall, but lived thereafter in various parts of south Devon.



Jubal Bennett

John Forrest, my uncle, was born in Glasgow in 1889, the second son and fourth child of George and Alice Hinde, in a family of four boys and three girls. The youngest child, George, was born in 1894. John's father was a telegraph clerk on the Caledonian Railway. The Scots Ancestry Research Society traced the Forrests back to c 1740. Three generations of Forrest, from c 1740 to c 1815, had lived in Biggar in Lanarkshire: John senior, John junior and James. In 1815 James moved to the nearby village of Lamington on his marriage to Margaret Telfer who was born there in 1779. Margaret's father was a carrier. The Telfers were related by marriage to Sir William Wallace, and they were also related more closely with the Gladstone family of Biggar, which produced the 19th century Liberal Prime Minister, William Ewart Gladstone (1809 - 1898). James and Margaret had 12 children. In 1857, William, the sixth son,



John Forrest (right)

The Forrest Family, Glasgow, 1896.



Jessie age 14, Ellen age 12, Jimmie age 4, John age 7,
William age 10, George age 2, Alice (Mama), Minnie.

George Forrest, the children's father, died in 1896, before the photograph was taken.

and John's grandfather, married Janet Brown, daughter of a cooper of Carnwath, and William became gardener and sometime gamekeeper to Alexander Baillie Cochrane, the land owner of Lamington. The Census of 1871 shows that William and his family lived at East Lodge on the estate. There was no naval tradition in either the Bennett or Forrest families.

Their early days

The year of Jubal's birth was the beginning of a New Age. Victoria became Queen in 1837 at the age of 17, and declared she would be "good". A higher moral tone was set for the monarchy, and the Victorian era was one of reform and changes in transport, trade, education and industry, so that Britain became known as the "workshop of the world". The empire expanded across the globe, and in 1876 Victoria became Empress of India.

The expansion of the Great Western Railway (GWR) led to the development of Torquay, once a fishing village, into a fashionable resort, popular throughout the year because of its mild climate. The town became an important yachting station with an annual regatta.

Jubal's father married Susan Bartlett in 1834 at Totnes, where they were both born. They had 15 children, and it is probable that Jubal was given his biblical name (Genesis IV, 19 - 21) in memory of Susan's nephew who died young. Despite the years of Jubal's childhood being known as the "Hungry Forties", dominated by the Irish Famine and Chartism, Torquay continued to flourish. Jubal attended Barnstaple Grammar School, but there are no records for his schooldays. He was independent-minded and probably his imagination had been stirred by the sight of ships and yachts out in Torquay harbour. His education might have given him a patriotic wish to serve his Queen and country.

The arrival of the Caledonian Railway in Lamington heralded the disappearance of the long-distance coaches on the toll-road which ran through Lamington, from Edinburgh to Dumfries. A railway station was built about a mile from the village, as Alexander Baillie Cochrane did not wish to spoil the pretty model village which he had created. In 1880, he became Lord Lamington and lived at the Big House, built by him in Tudor style. The gardens had rustic bridges and glass houses. They disappeared on the death of Lord Lamington in 1951, and the Big House was demolished in 1953. East Lodge survives, and in the circular graveyard of the parish church are the graves of the Forrest and Telfer families. John's father, George (1861 - 1896), was William's second son, and as telegraph clerk, he moved to Carlisle railway station. The Census of 1881 shows that he was one of three lodgers at 49 Sheffield Street, still in existence, and Ellen Boyd (1832 - 1925) was the landlady who had been born in Dublin, one of the four children of William Hinde (1784 - 1875), a Peninsular War hero. The Hinde family settled in Dumfries, where Ellen married Hugh Boyd, a shoe-maker, the son of a farmer, in 1856. They had three daughters, but in 1860, Ellen left Hugh and became the mistress of William McDiarmid, the unmarried editor and owner, of the *Dumfries and Galloway Courier*. They had two children, Alice, my grandmother, born in 1863 and John, my great-uncle, born in 1865. In that year, Ellen was abandoned, and William McDiarmid moved to Edinburgh, where, in 1870, he married Elizabeth Scott Findlay. They had no children, and William died in 1895, aged 75, leaving considerable wealth, but no legacy for Ellen. Alice and John had only their mother's maiden name, Hinde, on their birth certificates. Ellen moved from Dumfries to Carlisle, and took in lodgers, including George Forrest. Alice, John and Maria, her daughter from her marriage to Hugh Boyd, lived with her.

On the face of it, Jubal's family was less colourful. On 16 September 1856, when Jubal was nearly 16, he applied to join the Royal Navy. He joined at a time when Britain was making changes in the navy, especially in shipbuilding, with the first iron-clad ship, the *Warrior*, built in 1860. Steam-power, more powerful guns and more powerful gunnery began to revolutionise war at sea. Well-trained crews were in demand, and boys like Jubal were needed.

The certificate which he signed, in neat, small hand-writing, declared that he was "a well-grown, stout lad, of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, free from all physical malformation, and intelligent and fit for service in the Queen's navy." The certificate was signed by a naval captain and two medical officers. A form to be sent to the Accountant-General, gave Jubal's height as 4ft 10ins, complexion "Fair" and hair "Light brown," and his eyes "Lt hazel."

George, John's father, fell in love with Ellen's daughter, Alice, and they married in 1882. My father, William, was born in Carlisle. George was transferred, as a telegraph clerk, to Glasgow, where John and two of his brothers were born. The Forrest brothers were, William, 1886 - 1951, John, 1889 - 1915, James, 1891 - 1916, and George, 1894 - 1916. The family lived in a tenement block, now demolished, in Grove Street, in central Glasgow. The children all attended Grove Park School, and John, like his brothers, spent school holidays in Lamington, staying at East Lodge, with his grandmother. Janet Forrest had been widowed in 1882 but allowed to stay on at the lodge. Janet died in 1912, and in the Census of 1901, her occupation was given as gatekeeper. She had been a central figure in the children's lives, a member of the Free Church of Scotland, and a very tolerant person. She kept bantam hens, and had a musical-box, fondly remembered by my father.

In 1896, George, John's father, died of T.B., aged 35. Alice, his wife, had seven children to support, so she worked as an office-cleaner. Perhaps in one of these offices, she met James Dennell, an unmarried optician. In July 1900, the pair married at Glasgow, and had four children, a boy and three girls, the last two daughters being born in Oldham, 8 miles from Manchester, where the family moved in 1904.

Oldham was then a cotton-spinning town, and John worked in a cotton-mill, but in October 1908, aged 19, like Jubal, he enlisted in the Royal Navy for five years. Perhaps he had a childhood ambition to go to sea, and he was probably inspired by the sight of the shipyards, and the sea-going ships on the Clyde. He enlisted in the more relaxed Edwardian era, but Germany's increasing naval strength posed a growing threat to the British navy.

Contrasting naval careers

Jubal renewed his engagement for 10 years (CS No 31278), when he was 18 and serving on the *Niger*. From 1861 - 1865 his ship was the *Sheldrake* and his rating was able seaman. Jubal's character was described as "Very Good". John's first ship was the *Vivid II*, on which he served from October 1908 to January 1909, and his character, too, was given as "VG". He served as a stoker 2nd class. His service record, SS 107780, which he signed in bold, large hand-writing, is to be found in the Public Record Office. Jubal served on the *R Adelaide*, the *Doris*, the *Minotaur*, the *Agincourt*, the *Duke of Wellington*, the *Royal Oak*, the *Vanguard*, the *Lord Warden*, the *Hercules*, and the *Cruiser*. John served on the *Leviathan* from January 1909 to February

1913. In November 1912, John had been promoted to Stoker 1st class. From February to September 1913, he served on the *Vivid II*, and then he returned to Devonport, where he did not sign on for the seven-year contract, so he was discharged. His height was given as 5ft 4ins, complexion "fresh", hair "Dk Brown" and his eyes "Blue". He went back to Oldham, where he set up a small engineering firm, realising that naval life was not for him. His experience of working in a hot, cramped engine-room might have affected his decision.

The Royal Navy suited Jubal. In July 1879, he returned to the *R Adelaide* until February 1880. By that time he had served almost 24 years, and had sailed on 13 ships. He was given a pension as Petty Officer 1st class. He had been a bo'sun's mate or warrant officer on the *Royal Oak* in 1871, when he had been in charge of all work on the deck. One of his few possessions was his silver bo'sun's pipe or whistle, engraved with his name, and which he used to pipe orders throughout the ship. During his career, his character was given as "V. Good", but from 11 October 1871 to 9 January 1872, these days were not allowed to count towards his pension, and he was demoted to able seaman. On 1 January 1873, he was restored to Petty Officer 1st class. No explanation was given of his lapse from good conduct. His ships are listed in his record in the Public Record Office.

John was only at home for a short while, when on 4 August 1914, Britain declared war on Germany after the Germans invaded Belgium, and two days later, John was recalled to the Royal Navy. The old battleship *Goliath*, was John's wartime ship, and again his conduct was "VG". The *Goliath*, which proved too aptly named, along with other ships of the same class, was ordered to take part in the campaign in Gallipoli. This is a part of a peninsula forming the southern shore of the Dardanelles. The straits between the Aegean Sea and Sea of Marmora were part of the strategic waterway linking the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea. On 25 April 1915, an Allied Force, mainly British, Australian and New Zealander, was landed on the peninsula in an effort to seize forts guarding Constantinople (Istanbul), and open up a route to Russia. The Turks, however, were prepared for the attack and the invading troops were met with heavy resistance. On the night of 12 May 1915, a Turkish torpedo boat proceeded stealthily down the straits under the control of a German officer, Lieutenant-Commander Rudolf Firle, and reached Morto Bay without being spotted by the patrolling destroyers. She was challenged by the anchor-watch of the *Goliath* at a range from which her torpedoes could not miss, and the *Goliath* keeled over on her side. She went down so quickly that lifeboats could not be launched. Only 183 officers and men were rescued from a crew of over 800. Captain Shelford went down with his ship, as did John Forrest who had no chance of escape down in the engine-room. Rudolfe Firle was given a hero's welcome in Constantinople; and Winston Churchill was blamed for the failure of the campaign. He resigned as First Lord of the Admiralty.

Jubal only saw action in one campaign in the Maori Wars in New Zealand, 1860 - 1861. He was awarded a medal in honour of his bravery against the Maoris who were trying to maintain their identity against European influence. At this time, Jubal was Ordinary Seaman on the *Niger*, his first ship. After almost 24 years' service, Jubal left the Royal Navy with a pension, a medal, three good conduct badges, and aged 39, unmarried, he was ready for a peaceful life in Torquay, his home town. There, in 1888, he married Mary Clifford, whose family had lived for centuries in Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, as stone masons and builders. The marriage was short, as in 1899, Jubal died of a heart attack, aged 58. He left behind his wife and three young daughters, the youngest being my mother, aged three.

John's life ended at the age of 26. He was unmarried, and his mother was sent his death certificate which gave his name, rating and port division, SS 107780 (R.F.O Dev. B 5391) and his ship *Goliath*, place and date of birth, 18.1.1889, Glasgow, date of death, 13. 5.1915, and cause of death, "On War Service". His name is engraved on the Plymouth naval memorial on the Hoe. The obelisk was designed by Sir Robert Lorimer and it commemorates over 7,000 sailors of World War I and almost 16,000 of World War II. John Forrest's Grave Memorial Reference is 6. Jubal, by contrast, was buried quietly in the churchyard of St Mary's church, St Marychurch, Torquay.

Jubal and John, my naval ancestors, were very different in character and experience, but they had their service in the Royal Navy in common. Both contributed, in a small way, to the legend of Britannia ruling the waves, and they left behind them family memories to stir the imagination. John's mother, my grandmother, remained stoical after his death, which was to be followed by the death in action of her two sons, Private James and Private George, in 1916, leaving only my father William of the Forrest boys remaining.

My mother was proud of her father's naval career and spoke often of him, although she had never known him. He seems to have been likeable and easy-going, and his memory inspired her to cope with any crisis in family-life. She would utter the words, "Worse troubles at sea". These words helped her to overcome any disaster that might arise. My father, by contrast, rarely spoke of John, his brother, or of James and George, his other brothers. Perhaps for him, their memory was too poignant.

Acknowledgements

I should like to acknowledge the help I received from my two late aunts, Lucy and Peggy, who gave me information about the Forrest family and their half-brothers. My distant cousin, Brian Lambie, retired curator of Biggar, informed me about the Lamington estate and the Forrest and Telfer families. My daughter, Cora, gave advice and help, and she and my son John have taken an interest in their naval ancestors. I hope that this account will help to preserve their memory.

The Mortimers of Scotland 1126 to 1700

John G.M. Mortimer

Mortimer is one of quite a few surnames in Scotland which are obviously of Norman origin. This is due in part to the fact that after 1066 the Celtic monarchy of Scotland was actively encouraging Anglo-Norman barons to come north to promote a move towards a more feudal form of government. Indeed, Scotland at that time was seen as 'The land for younger sons'.

And so, when I was drawing up my family-tree and was able to trace the male-line back to 1700 from registration documents, I decided to try and 'bridge the gap' back to 1066. It so happened that, by chance, I was introduced, to a Mrs Mary Mackie (nee Mortimer) who had already embarked on sifting through the Scottish archives searching out and recording all the Mortimer references she could find.

On this foundation and by continuing the research of the archives and extending the search by personal enquiry and visits to the relevant locations, a comprehensive database was built up of Scottish Mortimers, each identified by date, location and a biographical note. By plotting these on a parish map of Scotland, we were able to demonstrate how Mortimer as a surname had spread across Scotland and thus we could provide 'linkage points' for Mortimers who claimed Scottish ancestry.

By 1700, after some 18 generations, the surname Mortimer had spread with 67 separate families in 34 parishes in 8 counties. The plotting procedure revealed five distinct clusters of the name.

Aberdour, in the County of Fife, between 1126 and 1325.

Fowlis Easter, in the County of Angus, between 1189 and 1377.

Craigievar, in the County of Aberdeenshire, between 1377 and 1610.

Auchinbaddie, in the County of Banffshire, between 1384 and 1650.

Flemington, in the County of Angus, between 1476 and 1628.

Aberdour

*The morning's e'e saw mirth and glee I' the hoary feudal tower
Of bauld Sir Alan Mortimer, The Lord of Aberdour*

(The opening lines of the poem "Sir Alan Mortimer" by David Vedder, 1790-1854)

In 1126, a young Anglo-Norman knight, Sir Alan Mortimer, came north into Scotland, to Aberdour in Fife, to marry Anicea, daughter and sole heiress of Sir John Vipont, or Vieuxpont. And so, Alan, the younger son of Sir William Mortimer of Attleborough, Norfolk, and grandson of Ralph Mortimer of Wigmore, Herefordshire, and great grandson of Roger, who in 1054 first assumed the name 'de Mortemer', became Lord of Aberdour.

It was the Norman practice, as each baron established himself, to

acknowledge the Church; Roger (1054) founded the Cluniac Monastery at Lyons-la-Forêt, Normandy; Ralph (1068) established the Priory at Wigmore; so Alan gave "the entire moiety (half) of the lands of his town of Aberdour to God and the monks of St.Colme's Isle", (in the Diocese of Dunkeld in Perthshire). A Papal Bull from Pope Lucius (1181-85), in the lifetime of Alan's son William, confirms the gift of "half ploughgate of land, (fiftytwo acres) and half rental of the mill of Aberdour".

William must have been regarded as a baron 'of high status', for not only was he a Witness to 3 or 4 Royal Charters, the first in 1166, but, having been taken prisoner at the Siege of Alnwick (1174), he was used as a hostage at the subsequent Treaty of Falaise.

In 1180, there was a rather bitter dispute between William and the Abbot of Inchcolm, concerning a vacancy at the church of Aberdour (St.Fillan's). The story is that although the Abbot had the 'right of presentation', William was, in modern jargon, 'leaned on' by David, Earl of Huntingdon and brother of the King, to install his clerk, Robert, as chaplain. After considerable acrimony, the matter was settled by a Papal Bull granted by Pope Alexander III which affirmed that the church of Aberdour was in the possession of the monastery and that the Abbot had the Right of Appointment.

The castle and lands of Aberdour remained in the possession of the Mortimers until Robert the Bruce, in about 1325, granted the lands to his nephew, Thomas Randolph, Earl of Moray.

The Church in Scotland, since the Synod of Whitby in 664, had developed various characteristics of ritual and discipline that were out of step with the English Church; one difference, (important, as it happens, for the continuance of the Mortimer line), was that, in the Scottish Church, celibacy was not a strict requirement.

An early ancestor of the Mortimers was Hugo, Bishop of Coutances (989), and now we find a Hugo Mortimer as Prior of the Isle of May (1165-1200), and a Constantine Mortimer at Lindores Abbey.

Roger was a favoured name amongst the early Scottish Mortimers, for it was a Roger, said to be the son of Constantine, who around 1209, was appointed Sheriff of Perth(shire). This was, at that time, a very senior administrative post and during his term of office, Roger was a royal emissary sent to negotiate terms of peace with King John of England.

We know that this Roger had a son, named Hugo, and there is a record, in 1221, of a Hugo Mortimer being the Clerk to King Alexander II, probably one and the same person.

Fowlis Easter

In 1189, Roger married Christina de Maule, and thereby acquired the Castle and lands at Fowlis Easter, just to the west of Dundee in the County of Angus

(otherwise known as Forfarshire). It is understood that these lands and Castle of Fowlis had been bestowed upon Christina's father, William de Maule, by King David I, as a reward for his bravery at the Battle of the Standard in 1138. There was a dispute over this inheritance and it is interesting to note that in the settlement, confirmed by Roger and his son, Roger's son is styled in the Register "Hugo de Mortuo-Mari".

'Under the Hammer' of Edward I of England (as recorded in the Ragman Rolls), a Roger Mortimer, Lord of Fowlis, 'done homage' on the 14th March 1296; but on the 28th August 1296, and coincidentally another or the same Roger, "Sir Roger Mortimer of the County of Perth", paid homage at Berwick. And it was in a garrison in Dundee, in 1312, that we first hear of probably their younger son, Roger, who in 1333, was to lead a section of the Scottish army at the Battle of Halidon Hill.

In 1360, by a Grant by John, Earl of Atholl, the Mortimers obtained lands at Ballandro (father up the coast, near Kingshaven in Kincardineshire), which then remained in Mortimer possession until 1468. The last owners were George Mortimer and his son George, both having registered Coats of Arms in 1465, just before they 'resigned' the property.

The lands at Fowlis Easter remained in Mortimer hands until 1377, when Janet, only daughter of yet another Roger, married into the noble Gray family (Janet was said to be "an heiress of Aberdour"). However, there is a record that, two hundred years later, in 1545, a Malcolm Mortimer held 'temple-lands' (of the Order of St. John) in the area. There is also, between 1567 and 1575, a Patrick Mortimer was Reader at Fowlis Church in which one of the stained glass windows has the Mortimer Coat of Arms. All of which suggests that the Mortimers remained well established in this area.

Craigievar

The first mention of a Mortimer in Aberdeenshire is of a "Mortimer of Craigievar" who married an "heiress of Aberdour", in 1377: this would suggest that a branch of the Mortimers of Angus was, by this time, well established at Craigievar, and would represent the ninth generation.

The family name is further extended at this time, into Banffshire, by the grant of land in the Parish of Alvah, by Lady of Mar (a recurring benefactrix), to a younger son of the Mortimers of Craigievar. This is a good example of how the name would have spread.

Bernard (Mortimer) of Craigievar, continued the association with Lady of Mar; and the association with the landed gentry was extended when his daughter, Isobel, in 1391, married Sir Andrew Leslie of Balquain, which is geographically close to Craigievar.

In 1457, Edmond (Mortimer) inherited Craigievar, to be succeeded by Alexander, whose brother John was bailie to his cousin, Lord Leslie.

It is at this time, 1450-1500, that the name spreads to Aberdeen, with Henry and Andrew, both probably younger sons of the Craigievar Mortimers, being Burgesses of that City. Also at this time, there is mention of a Duncan and a Thomas as witnesses and of an Alexander as a chaplain.

William (Mortimer), having inherited Craigievar, acquired additional land in the parish of Inverurie (in the Barony of Leslie), and was succeeded in quick succession by Alexander and then John.

We now enter a disturbed period in the history of the Mortimers of Craigievar, with John and his son and heir, James, being involved in serious fracas and, as a consequence, being subject to "Bonds of Caution". Also at this time, John's brother, Alexander, is outlawed on a charge of murder. All of this must inevitably have led to their subsequent impoverishment and the sale of Craigievar. In 1610, John had to sell Craigievar, before the building of the present Castle was completed, and "remove back" to Angus; probably assisted by Lord Glamis.

The Mortimers had held Craigievar through eight generations and this would account for the spread (1) locally to Glencat and Inverurie, probably assisted by the traditional friends of the Mortimers, - Atholl, Mar and Leslie, (2) to Aberdeen City, where the Mortimer name recurs in the records over a period of 200 years, and (3) back into Angus.

However, other members of the Craigievar family, who had settled in Aberdeen, namely John and Alexander, were responsible members of the community; John was the Treasurer of the City Council and his son, Thomas, held various senior diplomatic posts, negotiating with the English; and his son, Thomas, is recorded as a Burgess of the City.

Auchinbaddie

The Mortimers first came to Auchinbaddie in the parish of Alvah in Banffshire, when, in 1384, John (tenth generation) was granted land by Margaret, the then Lady of Mar: thereafter there is, practically, a direct ancestral line right up to the nineteenth generation.

Around 1650, records show that Walter, the then owner, and his son George were listed as "delinquents" for refusing to raise taxes. This offence may have been indicative of more serious financial problems, for Walter's grandson George, is on record, not as a landowner but as a merchant. It can reasonably be assumed that during those 300 years of continuous occupancy at Auchinbaddie, younger brothers would have moved away to take up tenancies of farms in surrounding parishes, even into Aberdeenshire and Morayshire.

Flemington

By 1476, the Mortimers were said to be "well established" at Flemington, a small estate near Forfar, in the parish of Aberlemno. We have a copy of the

deeds, 'the Flemington Charter', which, unfortunately, do not go back far enough to explain how it came into Mortimer possession, but once established there, the Mortimers remained for 7 or 8 generations, allowing the spread of the family (and the name), to neighbouring farms and small estates.

In the early 1600s Thomas had to sell Flemington, (after eight generations), just as John, having sold Craigievar, "returns" to Angus to re-establish the family at Brechin.

This was clearly a period of instability and dispersal which is reflected in the wider distribution of the family name in the second half of the 1600s, as recorded in the parish records.

The "return" of John, having sold Craigievar, and his relationship with Lord Glamis is significant on two counts; (1) it indicates the family ties between the various branches of the Mortimers and (2) the patronage of Lord Glamis which is confirmed by number of Mortimers with holdings on his Strathmore estate.

We believe that, contemporaneously with Thomas, (i.e. the 18th generation), other Mortimers farmed in the neighbourhood of Flemington, being descendents of earlier branches (younger sons). At Flemington, still a working farm, there are the ruins of a traditional fortified house, typical of small Scottish estates, which would have been the home of the Mortimers. When, in 1628, Thomas Mortimer had to sell 'The Mains of Flemington', other neighbouring farm lands remained in Mortimer possession up to and after 1700.

Elsewhere

In the early 1600s there is a report of a George Mortimer, a "trafficking Jesuit", languishing in a Glasgow prison awaiting deportation.

In 1506 a Walter Mortimer was Chaplain at Dunkeld Abbey and then, in 1507, Auditor and Steward to the Bishop. This highlights that throughout this history there have been many references to associations between Mortimers and the Church. Whether this is a peculiarity of the Scottish Mortimers or simply because such associations were recorded, is a matter of conjecture.

As we approach 1700, in Fife there was a Patrick Mortimer, baillie of Cupar, who was the Member of Parliament for Perthshire 1681-2.

From the overall perspective, one can see the relative success of those of the Scottish Mortimers who 'moved to the City', and it would have been the younger sons, compared to the gradual decline in status of those who remained on inherited land.

This legend was wedded to verse by David Vedder, a lyric poet, who was born in Orkney in 1790, and as a seaman, would have collected such legends when calling at various ports, including Aberdour.

The Monastery on Inchcolme

About the year 1123, Alexander I was in a boat crossing from Queensferry, when a great storm blew up and the vessel was driven towards the island of Aemona, "Island of the Druids". At the height of the storm, Alexander called on St.Columba to save him and his attendants; on reaching the island he was given succour by a poor "St.Columba" hermit. Also, Alexander believed that his parents, being childless, had called upon St.Columba for a child, and he was born. As a memorial, Alexander founded the Monastery, dedicated to St.Columba, on the island known thereafter as "Inchcolme".

Vedder's poem, quoted above, describes that the intervention of the monks of Inchcolm resulted in the release of Sir Alan Mortimer's daughter from fairy capture, and for this service the grateful father bequeathed half of his lands.

As with all legends, there is a kernel of truth in this one, for it is recorded in the register of the Abbey of Inchcolme, (ref Sibbald), that, "Alanus de Mortuo mari, miles, dominus de Abirdaur, dedit omnes et totas dimidietates terrarum villae suae de Abirdaur, deo et monachis de insula Sancti Columbi, pro sepultura sibi et posteris suis, in ecclesia dicti monasterii".

[Sir Alan Mortimer, Lord of Aberdour, gave the half of the lands of his town of Aberdour, to God and the monks of St. Colm's isle, for the benefit of a burial-place to himself and his posterity, in the church of their monastery.]

But, there is a twist to this tale.

"Mortimer's Deep" is the name given to the passage between the mainland and St. Colms Inch in the Firth of Forth. The legend told to account for the name relates that Alan Mortimer, lord of Aberdour, bequeathed a tract of land near Aberdour to the monks on condition of his body being buried within the hallowed precincts of Inchcolm. "The monks carrying his corps," says Sibbald, "in a coffin of lead, by barge, in the night time, to be interred within their church, some wicked monks did throw the samen in a great deep, betwixt the land and the monastery, which to this day by the neighbouring fishing-men and salters is called Mortimers Deep". (*History of the sheriffdoms of Fife and Kinnross, 1803*).

'Mentioned in despatches'

William de Mortimer, 1174

During a protracted period of conflict between Scotland and England, at the Siege of Alnwick, when King William I of Scotland was captured, it is recorded in the Chronicle of Melrose that, "William de Mortimer fought well on the King's side".

And in another Chronicle, we are told, "...William de Mortimer behaved very well that day, he goes among the ranks like a wild boar, gives great blows and often takes his share of them...". William de Mortimer was also captured

and was a hostage at the subsequent Treaty of Falaise. It was later reported that these hostages were “the greatest that of our land were seen”.

Roger Mortimer, 1333

In the vain attempt to relieve the siege of Berwick, a Roger Mortimer, probably the son of Roger Mortimer, of Fowlis Easter, led a section of the Scottish army at the Battle of Halidon Hill.

A most unnatural murder

It “cam’ wi’ a lass and gaed wi’ a lass”

And so it was with Fowlis Castle, (of Fowlis Easter just west of Dundee). For just as it came into the possession of the Mortimers through the marriage of Roger Mortimer in 1196, to Christina de Maule, so did it pass out of their hands, 200 years later, by the marriage of Janet, only daughter of Roger Mortimer, to Sir Andrew Grey; but their mark was left by the inclusion of their Coat of Arms in a stained glass window in the church.

But! At some time during these 200 years, or so legend would have it, the turret stair of the Castle of Fowlis was the scene of the murder of his mother, (by which Mortimer, we cannot be precise), and it was put about that the name Mortimer was from the French ‘*Morte de mere*’.

Another Murder Story

Katherine de Mortimer

Katherine was the mistress of King David II of Scotland and known as the “Welsh Woman”, so we can assume that she was not descended from the Scottish line. She was murdered by a Richard Holby on the 24th July 1360 at Soutra, whilst riding from Melrose to Edinburgh. Thomas Stewart, Earl of Angus, was accused of having a hand in the affair, was imprisoned in Dunbarton Castle and died there of the plague.

A more honourable legend concerns a Lady

Isobel Mortimer

Isobel, daughter of Bernard Mortimer of Craigievar, the long suffering wife of Sir Andrew Leslie, who is said to have fathered 20 children, most outside of matrimony. Legend has it that seven of their mothers, in sundry places, were in childbed on one night, and Lady Isobel sent to each and every one, half a Boll (1 Boll = 6 bushells) of meal, half a Boll of malt and a wedder (pledge) and 5 shillings in money.

And there is more to this Lady’s magnanimity, for when her errant husband, having been outlawed for the abduction of many women, was finally tracked down and shot by the Sheriff of Angus, at Braco, she founded a chapel there, in his memory.

The legend continues, for it is said that eleven of his sons were killed, in

1411, fighting under the command of the Earl of Mar, at the bloody Battle of Harlaw, known thereafter as "The Reed Harlaw"; the site of the battle is close to Balquain, the ancestral home of the Leslies, who were related by marriage to the Mortimers of Graigievar.

A man of honour

David Mortimer, b 1812

David was the miller at the Mill of Knockenbaird, in the parish of Insch, Aberdeenshire, but around 1850 the business failed, and David was declared bankrupt. He left Scotland, trying his luck first in Canada, then in California, before trying Australia, where he struck lucky at the Beechworth Goldfield, Victoria. He returned to Scotland, repaid his debts in full, and after marrying a local girl, went back to Australia. However, from then on, things didn't work out well for him, but such an honourable act, to return home to pay off his debts, remains a source of considerable pride for his descendants.

A fuller version of this article, together with illustrations of Coats of Arms and a list of Archival Sources, has been lodged in the Society Library.

Lanarkshire Family History Society Local and Family History Show

**Saturday 23rd August 2014, Motherwell Concert Hall ML1 1AB
10am to 4.30pm**

Confirmed speakers:

Dr Fiona Watson on the Battle of Bannockburn;
Dr Irene O'Brien on the resources of the Mitchell Library;
Dr Bruce Durie on Scottish Heraldry;
Chris Paton on Irish Resources for Family History.

Exhibitors will include PRONI, New Lanark, the David Livingstone Centre, Scottish Local History Forum, the Universities of Dundee and Strathclyde, plus Lanarkshire Police Historical Society, various Scottish Family History Societies and a number of local heritage groups.



Admission to fair only: £2

Admission plus talks: £4

Accompanied children: free

(Bookings from April 2014)

<http://lfhsshow2014.weebly.com>

Query

2977 The MacLeods of Suardal / Swordale

The *Inverness Courier*, 12 Dec. 1850, printed a transcript of an “Address of the Clan Macleod to the Chief of Dunvegan, Macleod of Macleod”, which was dated Jan. 8 1746. During 1745, the MacLeod chief had raised a force to oppose Prince Charles. According to the *Courier*’s article, this force had suffered a reverse on 23rd December 1745 when attacked at Inverury (sic) by superior numbers. The address, perhaps a response to this reverse, was from a number of the Chief’s tacksmen in the Dunvegan area, assuring him of their support. One of the signatories was Norman M’Leod, Swordale.

Donald MacLeod of Swordale (died c.1780), *Gobha Mor Shuardail*, smith and armourer to MacLeod of MacLeod, gave the name Norman to his eldest son, subsequently minister of Morvern and progenitor of the MacLeods of Fuinary. According to the usual naming pattern, this would imply that Norman was Donald’s own father’s name. A reasonable conclusion would seem, therefore, that the signatory of the address was indeed Donald’s father.

However, *The MacLeods – the Genealogy of a Clan, Section Three*, by MacKinnon & Morrison, published by the Associated Clan MacLeod Societies, states that Donald’s father was also Donald, second son of Donald MacLeod of Fasach. The same source says that Donald of Fasach’s eldest son was Norman, who succeeded him in the tack of Fasach. Was it this Norman, then, who had had a tack of Suardal before succeeding to Fasach, and who had signed the address?

The writer would be grateful if any MacLeod genealogist could confirm this or, alternatively, otherwise identify this signatory. lord97@btinternet.com

John Lord

Advertising in ***‘The Scottish Genealogist’***

Our journal now accepts advertising
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Book Review

Insanitary City: Henry Littlejohn and the Condition of Edinburgh

Paul Laxton & Richard Rodger; Carnegie Publishing Ltd, 2014; ISBN 978-1-85936-220-4

We all know that housing conditions in the middle of the 19th century, for many of Edinburgh's residents, were appalling, especially in the slums, and that, by stages, "something was done about it". Fewer of us remember who was instrumental in identifying the reforms required. Some measures had been introduced in the first half of the century, but by no means enough. When the time came to install its first Medical Officer of Health, Edinburgh got lucky: it had Henry Duncan Littlejohn.

He was already a Police Surgeon, and some of us will have seen his signature on entries where an investigation was required into a sudden death. He was a tireless advocate of a more holistic approach to poverty and the causes of ill-health, was more concerned with morbidity than mortality. His approach to the classification of Sanitary Districts seems obvious – as all good ideas do, once someone else has pointed them out. His meticulous research and the accuracy of his extracted figures, without the aid of computers, would astound the modern statistician.

He concerned himself with adequate water supply, provision of water closets, good drainage and sewerage, ventilation, the condition of bakehouses and byres, the sale of diseased meat (a hot topic at the time), smoke pollution, cleansing, the burial of the dead and the condition of the Water of Leith. He was an early proponent of cremation (and was himself cremated). In 1865 he published his *Report on Sanitary Condition of Edinburgh*, which was hugely influential, although not without its critics. It led to the City Improvement Act of 1867 which was implemented surprisingly rapidly. Twenty years later, Littlejohn considered that he had achieved many of his objectives.

The first half of this book is a very readable account of the run-up to Littlejohn's appointment and the battles to implement better sanitary conditions, pitted against the usual municipal political bickering and machinations plus the predictable resistance of vested financial interests. Well-known names are peppered throughout, such as Sir William Chambers, David Cousin and Sir James Young Simpson, and many portraits, maps and tables provide illustration. One thing which becomes very clear is the power of the newspapers of the day, and the quality of their reportage.

The second half of the book is a facsimile reproduction of the *Report*, and it too contains fascinating reading, on all sorts of levels. In each district there are tables of population density, supplemented by specific cases. For example, in Middle Mealmarket Stair in 1863 were living 248 people in 59 rooms, which occupied 400 square yards, while 257 people lived in all of St Andrew Square. There are figures of trades and occupations, eg there were 57 chimney-sweeps, 127 hatters and 1,809 printers. Diseases and causes of deaths in relation to occupations are identified, as well as breakdowns of the totals relating to the sexes and ages of those affected. These are only a few samples.

It's hard to imagine a more thorough and interesting account of Littlejohn's contribution to our civic welfare: this is a definitive work. He may not have wanted or expected his work to be extolled beyond his lifetime, but he deserves a suitable memorial, and at last this book provides it.

Caroline Gerard

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Compiled by Joan Keen & Eileen Elder

St Andrew's UF Church Bellshill Church Churchyard MIs & Roll of Honour	LFHS
Lanark Cemetery St Catherine's Section MIs	LFHS
The Truth About Flora MacDonald	Allan Reginald MacDonald
Vindication of the Clanronald of Glengarry	
Shields Family History	Walt Shields
British Immigration from the British Isles to Philadelphia (1772-1773)	
Clan Donald Vols I, II, III	A MacDonald & A MacDonald
Glasgow and its Clubs	John Strang
The Royal Navy Day by Day	Captain AB Sainsbury
The Surnames of Ireland	Edward MacLysaght
The Princes Street Proprietors and other chapters in the History of the Royal Burgh of Edinburgh	David Robertson
Scottish Rural Society in the 16th Century	Margaret HB Sanderson
The Edinburgh Almanac 1812	
The Edinburgh Almanac 1825	
The Post Office Annual Glasgow Directory for 1845-46	
Gray's Annual Directory 1833-1834	
The Northern Isles: Orkney and Shetland	Alexander Fenton
Greenhall: A Community at School	Fred Pringle
The Shape of the Past 1, Essays in Scottish Ethnology	Alexander Fenton
The Shape of the Past 2, Essays in Scottish Ethnology	Alexander Fenton
Farm Servants and Labour in Lowland Scotland 1770-1914	T M Devine (Ed)
Scottish Country Houses 1600-1914	Ian Gow & Alistair Rowan (Ed)
The Scots-Italians: Recollections of an Immigrant	Joe Pieri
The Scottish Handloom Weavers 1790-1850 A Social History	Norman Murray
John Douglas Ancestors and Descendants (1823-2013)	Andre Dominguez
The Kirkyard of St Devenick-on-the-Hill (Parish of Banchory-Devenick)	ANESFHS
The Kirkyard of Kinnernie	ANESFHS
Voices from the Spanish Civil War	Ian MacDougall
Glasgow: Locomotive Builder to the World	Murdoch Nicholson & Mark O'Neill
East of Scotland Employment of Children in the Mines, and Collieries and Iron Works	Ian Winstanley (Ed)
Scottish Schools and Schoolmasters 1560-1633 John Durkan & Jamie Baxter Reid (Ed)	
The Brewers and Breweries of Ayrshire, Buteshire and Renfrewshire	Forbes Gibb & Rob Close
Forres, Elgin and Nairn Gazette: Death Notices, Articles concerning Deaths and Obituaries from the Forres Gazette, Part One 1837-1846; Part Two 1847-1851; Part Three 1852-1855	Douglas G J Stewart (Comp)
Ayr Cemetery, Holmston, Ayr (1906 extension, sections A, K & J)	Tron @ Ayrshire FHS

MIs Invermoriston Churchyard	HFHS
Register of the University of St. Andrews 1579 -1747	Robert Smart
Kirriemuir War Memorial World War One	Margaret Thorburn
Morningside	Charles J South
Terregles Parish Memorial Inscriptions	DGFHS
Sanquhar Kirkyard Memorial Inscriptions	DGFHS
Keir Parish Memorial Inscriptions and OPR Burials	DGFHS
Durisdeer Parish (Durisdeer & Kirkbride) Memorial Inscriptions	DGFHS
Military Bands and their Uniforms	Jack Cassin-Scott & John Fabb
The Scottish Soldier	Stephen Wood
Uniforms of the Foot Guards	
from 1661 to the present day	Bryan Fosten & William Y Carman
Edinburgh City Artillery Militia Papers 1864-78 & 1953	
Upper Donside MIs pre 1855	Alastair G. Beattie & Margaret H. Beattie
Tales of the Braes of Glenlivet	Alastair Roberts (Comp.)
Portobello and the Great War	Archie Foley & Margaret Munro
Genealogy in the Gaidhealtachd	Graeme M. Mackenzie
Dunnet Free Church, Births and Baptisms 1843-1867 & 1872-1897	
and Marriages 1845-1847; Canisbay Free Church, Births	
and Baptisms 1843-1875	Stuart Farrell (Comp.)
A Note on the Irvines of Brucklay	Alex. M. Munro
History of the Clan Gregor	William MacGregor
Act Relative to Clan Mac Gregors	
Facsimiles of National Manuscripts of Scotland Part II	Henry James
Plan of the Burying Ground of Penicuik	
Inquisitionum ad Capellam Domini Regis Retornatorium Vol. III	
Scots Magazine 1739-1806 Vol 1-68	
Scottish Genealogist Vol I – XII (3 Vol)	
Scottish Genealogist Vol I – XX (5 Vol)	
Notes Historical and Descriptive on the Priory of Inchmahome	
Map of Stirlingshire 1820, drawn by Willm. Johnson	
Armorial Bearings of the Stirlings	
Ordnance Survey Map of Callander, Dunblane, Dollar etc.	

Library improvements

Repairs to the building were needed due to the ingress of damp by the downstairs windows and the ladies' toilet. These have been dealt with efficiently and we took the opportunity to redecorate.

Following the installation of the new server last year, we have now bought new computers - six desktop and two laptops - which are running Windows 7 and Office 2010. Since we are retaining some of the old computers, we are now able to have three of the new computers solely for internet searching, a facility which is much needed.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2014

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 March "Mapping the DNA of Scotland" Katie Henderson and Helen Moffat.
14 April "Rentals for the Buccleuch Estates." Andrew Armstrong.
6 May Visit to Edinburgh Museums Collections Centre, Broughton Market, at 2.00pm. Please book at the SGS Library after arrangements have been finalised.
15 September "Pre 1841 Scottish censuses and other early population lists." Bruce Bishop.
13 October "Appallingly Adorned - the story of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site graveyards." Dr Susan Buckham.
17 November "Soldiers, sailors and airmen of Rosebank Cametery." Ken Nisbet.

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

New Register House Research Evenings 2014

(in conjunction with Standard Life FHS)

Please telephone the Library (0131-220 3677) for dates and to reserve your place.

Around Scotland

To discover programmes of our sister societies, log onto www.safhs.org.uk, access the list of members and follow their links.

Anglo-Scots

(a branch of the Manchester & Lancashire FHS)

Anglo-Scots meet at 2pm on Saturdays at Clayton House, Piccadilly, Manchester.

Scotslot Meetings 2014

Scotslot is a group of family historians with Scottish ancestry, who meet in Hertfordshire to talk about topics of mutual interest.

Sunday 16 March	Sunday 11 May	Saturday 5 July
Saturday 27 September	Saturday 22 November	

Scotslot meets in Southdown Methodist Church Hall, Southdown, Harpenden, Herts, at 2pm. Both dates and topics are subject to change and visitors, who are very welcome to come along, should check in advance either by post to: Scotslot, 16 Bloomfield Road, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 4DB or by e-mail to stuart.laing@virgin.net or liz.vanlottum@btinternet.com

Family & Local History Events 2014

- 5 April Tayroots Family History Day, Arbroath www.angusheritage.com
25 April SAFHS Conference, Dunfermline www.safhs.org.uk
June Leith Festival www.leithfestival.com

21 June -	Battle of Bannockburn Family History Project and Exhibition
2 August	Bannockburn Heritage Centre www.strath.ac.uk/genealogy/bannockburn/
23 August	Lanarkshire FHS Conference, Motherwell Concert Hall http://lfhsshow2014.weebly.com
28-31 August	Who Do You Think You Are? Live, Glasgow SECC www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com
13-14 Sept	"Wha's Like Us?" Family History Event, Tolbooth, Stirling www.my.stirling.gov.uk/events
September	Doors Open Days www.doorsopendays.org.uk
24 October	Scottish Local History Conference "Crime and Punishment", Perth www.slhf.org
November	Kirkcaldy Gravestones Conference www.kirkcaldycivicsociety.co.uk
November	<i>Previously...</i> Scotland's History Festival www.historyfest.co.uk
All year	Homecoming Scotland 2014 www.visitscotland.com/see-do/homecoming-scotland-2104

For details of some of these events, please read the features throughout this issue.
For others, access websites nearer the time.

**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.**

Edinburgh & Scottish Room, Central Library

The latest news from the City of Edinburgh Council is that the refurbishment of the Edinburgh & Scottish Room at Central Library, George IV Bridge, is nearing completion and that this popular facility is expected to be re-opened by early June.