



THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

JUNE 2016

Blair of Rattray

Elphinstone Birthday Book

Thomas A. Cockburn, Ostrich Farmer

A Great War Hero

J. M. Barrie

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Front Cover:

The Society's Coat of Arms

Back Cover:

Postcard in possession of Russell Cockburn

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The Scottish Genealogist

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From Deportation to Doctorate and a new Dynasty in America: James Brand, 1722-1795

John Brand

James Brand, born 1722, was the son of Alexander Brand [1685-1760], a well-known and highly regarded clock and watch maker in eighteenth century Edinburgh.¹

His antecedents were formerly obscure but recent research has now revealed that he was the eldest son of John Brand, a baxter in the Canongate, by his second wife Margaret Waugh,² and in this way he is now considered to be connected with the Brand family of Baberton some two to three generations earlier.

John Brand [the baxter] was a Captain in the Edinburgh Militia at the time of Alexander's birth in 1685, and two years later became Dean of the Canongate Baxters when his second son by Margaret Waugh was born. In 1711 Alexander Brand married Margaret Tarbet, 'daughter to the deceast John Tarbet' [sic], formerly a 'wright' in St. Andrews.³ They had six daughters, but only two sons, Charles born 1720 who died in infancy, and James born 1722,⁴ who after a remarkable and adventurous life survived to found a new dynasty in Virginia, where he died in 1795 at the age of 73.

Alexander Brand had become a Freeman of the Canongate Hammermen on 12th April 1716, his essay piece being 'ane balance of ane watch and ane pendulum spring clock'.⁵ However on 17th December 1726, the then Lord Provost of Edinburgh [George Drummond] requested that 'although an outsider', he should be admitted to the Edinburgh Hammermen, his essay to be 'ane 8 days pendulum clock and a lock to the door with a key'. This timepiece was later placed in the Magdalen Chapel, their meeting place.⁶ As a practising watchmaker he took on a series of apprentices, one of whom was his son James born 1722, and another who was a family member from Kincardine, [connection unknown - but also named James] born a few years earlier in 1718.⁷

At the time of the second Jacobite Rebellion in 1745 both young men espoused the rebel cause. There was apparently considerable support in Kincardine for the 'Young Pretender', and James Brand, born 1718, became a Major in Bagot's Hussars, who were largely recruited from the sons of farmers in this region. Although he survived the battle of Culloden in 1746, he was captured and later tried at Carlisle on 18th September, when he was found guilty of treason and sentenced to death. He met his end in a mass execution at Gallows hill on 18th October 1746. It is reported that 'James Brand, Major and Gentleman, would fain have saved his life by going to the Plantations, but the king spurned his petition for mercy'.⁸

The younger 'James', born 1722, was more fortunate. Perhaps influenced by his older 'cousin' from Kincardine he had also become a Jacobite. His name is to be found listed among 'Persons engaged in the Rebellion' and a contemporary account [published much later] revealed that he was 'a watchmaker's son who had commanded a party of rebel hussars and assisted in levying the Cess at Selkirk, but whose present abode was unknown'.⁹ He was captured near Moffat on 11th November 1745. As related in another contemporary account 'the pretenders army march'd from Moffat on the way to CarlisleMr. John Kirkpatrick, Lieut. of the Cumberland Light Horse took James Brand, Lieut. and quarter master of Lord Kilmarnock's Squadronbrought him to Carlisle and examined by General Wade....behaved very insolently and said he did not value if he was shot immediately. He was dressed in a highland plaid and bonnet on one side of which was a plate cockadehad two cases of uncharged pistols and a backsword....had about him a remarkable cap work'd round with an iron chain which covered his neck shoulders and breast a sufficient fence [sic] against any sword'. After examination he was committed to Newgate prison in London.¹⁰

It was perhaps fortunate for the young Lieutenant that he was sent to Newgate and therefore took no part in the Battle of Culloden unlike his 'cousin', the Major from Kincardine, and was therefore judged less severely at the end of hostilities. At any rate in 1747 when the fate of the remaining prisoners was being decided, he was among those sentenced to be deported to the Colonies, i.e. America, albeit to be sold into slavery on the Plantations. The contract for transporting the prisoners was given to Messrs. Gildart and Smith who were paid 40 Shillings per head. The first sailing from Liverpool took place on 26th April 1746. James Brand was deported was on the ship 'Gildart', master Richard Holmes, which left Liverpool on 24th February 1747 and in July of that year landed 82 prisoners at North Port, Potomack, Maryland.

The prisoners were sold in a deck auction to plantation owners under the terms of a ten-year bond, and Lt. James was bought by one William Samuel Hunter.^{8,12} Although sold as slaves, some of the deportees were later freed by their new owners who were sympathetic to the Jacobite cause. Lt. James did not serve his period of indenture, but in some way, probably with the support and connivance of his 'owner' managed to make his way back to Scotland, where he was able to study and graduate in Medicine at Edinburgh University. No doubt he would have had to have done this under an assumed name, because if discovered he could have been convicted as a felon, and possibly executed. No 'James Brand' is listed in *Medical Graduates for Edinburgh 1751-1761*, but there is mention of one 'Thomas Hunter' described as 'Anglo-British' in 1754, and this could possibly have been his alias.

After graduation Dr. James Brand returned to America, where he married Ann Hunter, daughter of William Samuel Hunter, now described as an Anglican clergyman, in Fredericksburg, Maryland.

They settled in Virginia in Augusta County where they raised a large family of 6 sons and 2 daughters. Dr. James took part in the Revolutionary War, and finally died in Virginia in 1795. In his Will he left his own Plantation to his wife Ann, and lands in Kentucky to his sons, of whom the two eldest, Richard and George, had also returned to Scotland and qualified in Medicine. There are now several living descendants of Dr. James Brand in the United States, and many of the events in this story are based on an account written by McDonald Hughes Brand, who is a direct-line descendant of Dr. James Brand, through his eldest son Richard [1761-1831]. He now lives in Missouri, U.S.A.¹³ and has published his family tree outlining his descent from Dr. James Brand some six generations ago in 'Ancestry.com'. Recent DNA testing has now shown that his profile and that of the present author are very closely similar, and this indicates that we have a common ancestor some 11 generations ago, which is a good fit for descent from the Brand Family of Baberton, Midlothian.

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- ² Alexander Brand, OPR Births, Canongate Baptisms, 4 October 1685, 685/03 0060 0197. [Misleadingly transcribed as 'Braund'.]
- ³ Alexander Brand OPR Marriages, 23 November 1711, 685/01 0460 0114 Edinburgh.
- ⁴ James Brand OPR Births, 3 March 1722, 685/01 0170 0050 Edinburgh.
- ⁵ John Smith, 1921. *Old Scottish Clockmakers 1453-1850*, Oliver and Boyd Edinburgh.
- ⁶ Minutes of the Edinburgh Hammermen 1726, p.277, Edinburgh City Archives.
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- ⁸ Jacobite Gleanings from State Mss. 1903, Ch. 5, p.43, and Ch. 3, p.36 [Courtesy of Alan Wills <whitecockade@yahoo.co.uk>] also in *The London Magazine and Monthly Chronolager* 1746, Vol.15, Harvard University.
- ⁹ A list of Persons engaged in the Rebellion, Edward Wyvill and the Surveyors of Edinburgh etc., Roseberry, 1890, Scottish History Society, vol. 8.
- ¹⁰ *The True Patriot and Related Writings*, 1987, ed. W.B.Colley, Wesleyan University Press.
- ¹¹ www.Jacobites.info.
- ¹² McDonald Hughes Brand, p.c. 2012, also his 'members tree' on www.Ancestry.com.
- ¹³ *Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish settlement in Virginia*, www.Google e – book, p. 206, 26 January 1795.

As seen on TV!

Newly published is the book *Secret Edinburgh: An Unusual Guide*, by Hannah Robinson, which includes the Society's Library. On Wednesday 1st June, the Edinburgh World Heritage Trust organised a mystery tour of three "secret" locations in the Old Town, one of which was our Library at 15 Victoria Terrace. The tour was filmed and featured on Scottish Television's news broadcast the following day, to coincide with the book's publication.

The Blair Stone of Rattray deciphered: a Proof of Ancestry

Charles D. Waterston

My ancestry can be traced with confidence to William Blair of Aberbothrie. This article offers evidence to suggest that he may well have been the son of John Blair in Rattray who died on 7th June 1681 aged 53 and is buried in Rattray Churchyard.

In a manuscript Date Book kept by William Waterston (1804-1884), now in the possession of the writer, the following appears:-

Note respecting Blair Family dictated to W.W. by his grandfather C Blair shortly before his death in 1829:

His father William Blair married Jean Ramsay, daughter of Charles Ramsay, Merchant, Dundee. W[illiam] Blair was son of James Blair, Glover, Dundee, who married — he had two sons, the said William & a younger son burned by a fire in his house. He also had one daughter married to Mr John Walker, Merchant, Dundee, who was father of William Walker, Writer, Dundee. The said James Blair was son of William Blair, Tacksman of the Mills & Mill Lands of Blair Gowrie who was a younger son of Blair of Glasclune.

Verification of Charles Blair's account of his ancestry has proved it to be accurate and dating can be summarised thus. My paternal ancestor George Waterston (1778-1850) married Jane Blair (1780-1838) in 1803, daughter of Charles Blair (1760-1829) Merchant, Baron Baillie of Dunkeld and Elizabeth Cargill (1759-1826). Charles was the son of William Blair (c.1726 -1798) of Dundee and later merchant in Dunkeld who married in 1752 Jean Ramsay (c.1729-1800). William was the son of James Blair (born c.1699) Glover, Burgess of Dundee and his first wife Elizabeth Cardean (b. ?1695-c.1726). By his second wife Elizabeth Wilson, James had a daughter Elizabeth (1729-?) and two sons named John, the first born in 1730 who died in infancy and the second born in 1732 who may have died in a house fire. Elizabeth married John Walker, Glover in Dundee, who was the father of William Walker (1757-1824), Writer in Dundee. James (c.1699-?) was the son of William Blair in Grange of Aberbothrie (d.1732).¹ But who was the said William Blair in Grange of Aberbothrie, Tacksman, and could he have been a younger son of Blair of Glasclune?

A search of the Old Parish Registers yielded some answers but raised new questions.

In that of Bendochy we read:

William, lawful son to John Blair & Jane Miller was baptized at the Church of Bendochy the 12th day of August 1671²

For reasons given below I believe this records the baptism of the “William Blair in Grange of Aberbothrie” mentioned in *The Sandeman Genealogy* (note 1). A search of Perthshire marriages revealed one in the Parish of Caputh for 1692 which may be transcribed thus:-

Februaei 28 92

*Compired befor the minister William Blaier in the par: of Rattray and
Christan Griman in this paroch and gav up ther names to be prclamed
and confing of plegges mar: the 22 march.*³

We know from the record of baptisms in the parish of Bendochy in Perthshire, that William Blair lived at Blacklaw before moving to Grange of Aberbothrie. Blacklaw [Grid Reference NO224458] and Grange of Aberbothrie [Grid Reference NO235464] are shown on the maps of today as single farms. In the seventeenth and early eighteenth century, when William Blair would have known them, these places would have been townships. Grange of Aberbothrie, at the confluence of the rivers Ericht and Isla, was the largest township in the parish east of the Ericht.

Two sons were born to William Blair and Christian Grimmon at Blacklaw, baptised Andrew on 12th February 1693 and David on 2nd July 1694.⁴ However there is a blank in the baptismal register of Bendochy parish from 12th May 1695 and 29th December 1700 and their son James was born during that period c.1699, perhaps at Blacklaw. It is known that William had another son, his namesake William, who may have been born in Bendochy during the blank years of the baptismal register. This William is named, with his father, as a witness to the baptism of William (1726-1798), son of James Blair and Elizabeth Cardean, where he is described as “William Blair, uncle”.

Baptism, 29th June 1726,

James Blair, Glover, Eliz. Cardean (Parents). William (Child)

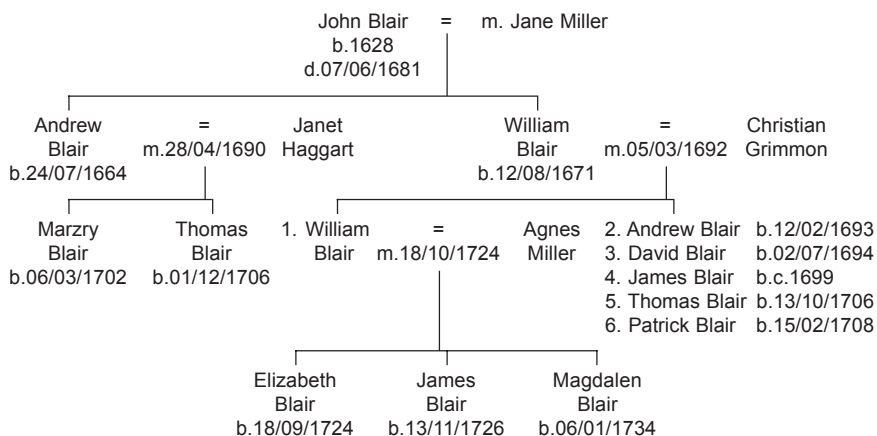
William Blair, grandfather, William Blair, uncle, William Blair, maltman.

*(Witnesses)*⁵

The two youngest sons of William Blair and Christian Grimmon were born at Grange of Aberbothrie and baptised Thomas on 13th October 1706 and Patrick on 15th February 1708.⁶

It was noted that, at the time of his marriage, William Blair was recorded in the Caputh Parish Register as having come from the parish of Rattray. Blacklaw appears to have been the family home since we know that Andrew and David, the elder sons of William, later in Grange of Aberbothrie, were born there. It may be objected that if William Blair came from Blacklaw he cannot be identified as the man of that name who married Christian Grimmon since Blacklaw is not in the Parish of Rattray. In Rattray graveyard, however, there is a flat stone which bore the marginal inscription *Heir lyes ane Honest man, JOHN BLAIR, in Blaklaw, who departed the 7 of June 1681, and of his age 53.*⁷

Fig.1. Diagram showing relationships of William Blair (1671-1732)



For anyone living at Blacklaw, the parish church of Rattray is very much more accessible than the parish church of Bendochy since Rattray lies two miles west of Blacklaw along a direct road (now A926) whereas Bendochy church lies about three miles south-south west and is separated from Blacklaw by minor tracks and more seriously by the river Ericht. In 1631 John Rattray, minister of Rattray, had petitioned the Privy Council that a bridge be built over the Ericht. Dr Marshall quotes from the petition:

*In stormy weather there is no ford, and very oft, for the space of aucht days together, all passage of the water, either by coble, horse, or foot, is interrupted, to the great hinder of His Majesty's subjects, and to the extreme hazard of many lives, of whom, during the time the supplicant has attended the kirk of Rattray, aughteen persons, to his knowledge, have perished in the water.*⁸

The petition was successful and a bridge was built by public subscription near Craighall about a mile north of the Brig o' Blair at Rattray which was also built by public subscription in 1777. As late as 1838 it was noted of Bendochy Church, "There are about 60 parishioners belonging to the Established Church who usually attend public worship at the parish churches of Rattray and Alyth; 40 usually communicate at Rattray."⁹ Two hundred years earlier, when the local population was greater, the number from Bendochy worshipping at Rattray Church would also have been greater. Almost certainly "honest John Blair in Blacklaw" was one of those who took the straight road to Rattray Church where he now lies in the churchyard that would have been familiar to him. There is reason to believe that "honest John in Blacklaw" was the father of William Blair in Blacklaw and they may well have worshipped in Rattray Church together Sunday by Sunday. It is little wonder, therefore, that when the bridegroom at Caputh was asked,



Fig.2. Photograph of Rattray Churchyard showing the position of the Blair Stone, the only table grave in the photograph, showing its position in relation to the church door and the Mausoleum. Probably taken between 1880 and 1900 and acquired by the late J.M.Hodge, Blairgowrie.

when formalising his marriage there, what parish he was from, "Ratray" would have been his answer.

William's older brother Andrew¹⁰ continued to inhabit the family home at Blacklaw after William had moved to Grange of Aberbothrie. Marzry, daughter of Andrew Blair in Blacklaw was baptised in Bendochy on 6th March 1702 and Thomas son of Andrew Blair and Jannet Haggart in Blacklaw was baptised in Bendochy on 1st December 1706.¹¹

Blacklaw and Grange of Aberbothrie were then cultivated in the runrig system. In those unsettled times the houses of the portioners were grouped together for safety and Stobie's map shows that there were still a group of six buildings at Grange in 1783. As late as 1796 there were still six proprietors.¹²

In Charles Blair's account of his ancestry he said that William Blair in Grange of Aberbothrie was "Tacksman of the Mills & Mill Land of Blair Gowrie". If on the lands of Blair, these may have been Lornty, Bankhead, Mill and Mil lands of Blair, the town and lands of Easter Mause, Town and Lands of Hilltoun of Mause and the pendicle called Gateside which are all situated on the west bank of the Ericht.¹³ Except for the northernmost, these were on the lands of Blair which, from 1682, belonged to George Drummond, 5th of Blair who could have appointed William Blair to collect the tacks due to him from these properties. On the other hand and more probably, Charles Blair may well have used the term "Blair Gowrie" *sensu lato* to include Mills and Mill lands in the Blair Gowrie district. In William Blair's time the most important centres of the district were Alyth and Ratray. In Charles Blair's time these had been eclipsed by the rapid expansion of Blairgowrie through the onset of the industrial revolution and the opening of large textile mills powered by the waters of the Ericht and serviced by hundreds of workers for which new accommodation had been built. Charles Blair, a Dunkeld man born and bred, could well have associated "Blair Gowrie" with the district, including Ratray and Bendochy, rather than the burgh of Blairgowrie. If so, it is possible that William Blair was Tacksman in the district in which he lived.

Grange of Aberbothrie was owned by David Kinloch of Aberbothrie 1st Bt. of Nova Scotia who died c.1700.¹⁴ His son James 2nd Bt. of Nova Scotia sold the lands of Grange of Aberbothrie to Patrick Stewart, son of John Stewart of Killiechassie, who was invested with their legal possession with his wife and James Stewart his eldest son on 20th July 1702.¹⁵ These dates are significant since the change of ownership coincided with the time of William Blair's removal from Blackhill to Grange of Aberbothrie and suggest that Blair may then have been appointed by Patrick Stewart as Tacksman for his newly acquired lands and mill-lands of Grange of Aberbothrie. We have seen that the birthplace of William's son James is unrecorded since he was born during a period missing from the record of Bendochy Parish. We do know, however, that his next son Thomas was born at Grange in 1706.

William Blair in Grange of Aberbothrie probably died in 1732 since we read in

the Parish Records of Bendochy, April 30th of that year, “After Sermon The Session met after Prayer Colls. 14ss 8d Given in for the lift of the Mortcloth to William Blair”¹⁶

When discussing William Blair’s claim that he came from Rattray parish it was stated that honest John Blair in Blacklaw who is buried in Rattray Churchyard may have been the father of William Blair in Blacklaw and later Grange of Aberbothrie. Closer study of the stone provides convincing evidence that this is the case. A hundred years have elapsed since John Hunter recorded the inscription on John Blair’s gravestone in Rattray Churchyard. When he did so the thick flat sandstone slab of the memorial was supported by three vertical slabs so that the inscriptions could be more easily read (fig.3).

Today the supports have been removed, the slab lies on the ground and the inscriptions have weathered away completely. At the head a winged soul still spreads its wings, while at the foot *memento mori* in the form of an hour glass and crossed bones may still be seen. Hunter’s transcription of the stone is reproduced (fig.3).

From the inscription we know that John Blair was born in 1628 but there is no proof of where. The baptismal records for births between 1622 and 1659 at Rattray are missing and were not recorded in the Parish Records of Bendochy until 1642 or Caputh until 1670.

ed the 7 of June 1681, and of his age 53.	Heir	lyes	ane	H
	Remember man			onest
	As thou goes by			
	As thou art n			man,
	ow so once wa			
	s I. As I am now s			JOHN
	o must thou b			
	e. Remember			BLAIR,
	Man that th			in
	ou must die.			Blacklaw,
	I.B.	I.M.		
	W.B.	C.G.		
	W.B.	A.M.		
	—			
	Memento Mori.			
	depart	who		

Fig.3. John Hunter’s transcription of the Blair Stone as published by him in 1913.¹⁷

As I stood at the foot of the Blair stone in Rattray Churchyard it was the heart rather than the head that took command. The man honoured by this old weathered monument was a boy of ten when the National Covenant was signed. John Blair could have seen the Duke, later Marquis of Montrose pass through the lands of his parish on several occasions. As a young man of eighteen did he witness at Rattray on 39th July 1646 that ill-fated Marquis disband his army at Rattray by command of Charles I at the end of the Civil War? Was he shocked, like so many others, when Charles I was beheaded three years later? Was he relieved when Cromwell’s puritanical regime came to an end with the Recessory Act of 1662 and a bishop returned to his diocese of Dunkeld? Living in 17th C. Scotland was perilous.

Of particular interest in establishing the relationships of John Blair are the three pairs of

initials which Hunter transcribed from the face of the slab. I believe the first pair IB and IM are those of John Blair himself and of his wife Jane Miller. It was not unusual in such inscriptions for the letter I to be used in place of J. If Jane survived her husband, which is likely since her name does not appear in the marginal inscription, the initials may well have been added after her death by their son William (died 1732) who, with his wife Christian Grimmon, are remembered by the middle initials WB and CG. Below them appear the last initials to be added, WB and AM, which I believe are those of William Blair of the third generation and his spouse Agnes Miller.

I have stated earlier that William jnr. could have been born to William snr. and Christian between 1695 and 1700 during the blank period in the baptismal register of Bendochy parish. However I believe the initials WB and AM on John Blair's stone in Rattray Churchyard makes this supposition unlikely. William snr. and Christian do not appear to have followed any conventional pattern in naming their children. However it is unlikely that they would have waited until the birth of their third son before the father's name was used. It is more probable that since William jnr. was his father's namesake, he was the eldest son. Since there is no evidence that William snr. had been wed prior to his marriage to Christian Grimmon in 1692, was William jnr the product of a pre-nuptial relationship of William snr. with Christian Grimond? That this may be so is suggested by the entry made by James Griman "father" of the birth of William in the Caputh Parish Register on 2nd July 1692. The Parish Registers do not record Christian Grimmon's baptism so her father's name is unknown – perhaps it was James. Were this so, Christian would have been four or five months pregnant at the time of her marriage. The temporary adoption of a child by the parents of a mother in these circumstances was not uncommon. I believe the presence of the initials of William Blair jnr. and his spouse Agnes Miller on the Blair Stone provides proof that at the time they were inscribed he was the senior descendent of his grandparents John Blair and Jane Miller. As eldest son this was more probable than as third son which would have required not only his Uncle Andrew but also his brothers Andrew and David to have predeceased him.

A search of marriages in Bendochy and Rattray of the correct period and corresponding initials revealed only one which satisfied the criteria required by the Blair Stone of Rattray, that of William Blair, who I recognise as William jnr, and Agnes Miller. Because of the circumstances of the union it received a fuller account than usual in the Parish Records of Bendochy.

Sab: Octor 18, 1721

After service session met and was Constituted by prayer.....This day the Minister represented to the Session he being Certainly Informed yt (that) William Blear and Agness Millar, both in this parish, were guilty of the sin of fornication and they, having Confessed ye same before him, Ordered them to Compear before ye Session this day and they being Called

*Compeared and Confessed the same before him, Ordered them to Compear before the Session this day and they being Called Compeared and Confessed the same upon their knees before the Session and were appointed to wait upon the discipline of the Church and Agness Millar made her first Compearance this day and was spoken to by the Minister.....*¹⁸

Three weeks later the couple, having made their penance, had their baby girl baptised in Bendochy Kirk on 8th November

*William Blear had a child, it was begat in fornication, baptised Elizabeth, the Mother's name is Agness Millar.*¹⁹

In the Parish Record of Rattray we read that

*William Blair, Wright in Rattray, had a child lawfully procreat between him and his spouse Agnes Miller, baptised 13th November 1726, James.*²⁰

Their daughter Magdalen was baptised at Rattray on the sixth January 1734 but no other of their children, if any, are recorded there.²¹

The evidence provided by the Parish Registers and the Blair stone in Rattray churchyard, suggests that because Blacklaw was the home of John Blair (1628-1681) and William Blair (1671-1732), later in Grange of Aberbothrie, they were father and son. Both had connection with the Church of Rattray. Their life spans are consistent with father and son and the added pairs of initials on John Blair's stone are those of three generations of the family.

In recalling his ancestry Charles Blair stated that William Blair in Grange of Aberbothrie was a younger son of Blair of Glasclune. The evidence suggests that this is unlikely but if so the connection with the Blairs of Glasclune must be through "honest John Blair" who lies in Rattray Churchyard.

Glasclune Castle (Grid Reference NO15408 47009) in the parish of Kinloch was built by the Herring family before 1510.²² It passed to the crown when the Herrings became bankrupt after which the castle and lands of Glasclune were purchased by George Blair of Pittendreich who had two sons John and James.²³ John succeeded his father in the lands of Pittendreich and James to the lands of Glasclune who thus became the first Blair of Glasclune and was succeeded by his son George as second of Glasclune whose wife Eupham bore him children in the 1650s and 60s.²⁴ Their eldest son John succeeded as 3rd of Glasclune. Since "honest John Blair in Blackhill" was born in 1628 and if he was indeed a younger son of Blair of Glasclune, his father could only have been James Blair, first of Glasclune. If that were the case his namesake Rev John Blair MA, son of John Blair of Pittendeich, a zealous supporter of the House of Stuart and minister of Caputh in 1663 and from 1667 to 1703 of Kilspindie, was his first cousin.²⁵

Whether or not William Blair in Grange of Aberbothrie had any relationship with the Blairs of Glasclune is questionable but not impossible. The Blairs of Glasclune were fiercely loyal to the House of Stuart and fought for the Jacobite cause.

Their last representative Colonel Thomas Blair was out in 1745 but escaped to Norway and never returned to Glasclune having been named among the exemptions from the general amnesty of 1747. William Blair's son James, on the other hand, had taken the oath of loyalty as a Burgess Glover in Dundee²⁶ and was befriended in that city by John Glas who championed the separation of church and state and in 1730 was expelled from his charge at Tealing for his public criticism of the Church of Scotland.²⁷ In Dundee Glas was witness to, and probably baptised, James' two infant sons John on 24th December 1730 and a second John on 1st February 1732.²⁸ James' descendants attended the Glasite or Sandemanian Meeting Houses in Dundee, Dunkeld, Perth and in Edinburgh until the closure of the last in 1989.

That the strength of a chain is the strength of its weakest link is a saying which the genealogist does well to remember when constructing family relationships. The older ancestors mentioned lived in the earliest days of the Old Parish Registers which were not always comprehensive in their coverage. Often the only name given in the baptismal registers, especially in the early ones, is that of the father. This is a matter of regret since the mother's name often leads to the identification of the father. Blair is a common name in Perthshire and the given names John, William, Andrew, James, Patrick and Thomas abound. For these reasons the link I have established may be weak. Readers of *The Scottish Genealogist* may have evidence to strengthen or break the chain.

Thanks are due to The National Library of Scotland, National Records of Scotland, Dundee Central Library, and Perth & Kinross Archives A.K.Bell Library. For their help and interest I am grateful to members who staff the library of the Scottish Genealogy Society. Among friends who have helped me thanks are due to Miss M.J. Anderson, Edinburgh; Mr G.C. Fleming, Alyth; Mr A.D. Hodge, Blairgowrie; Dr A.L.Murray, Inverurie, and Mr I.G. Scott, Edinburgh.

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- ²² John Gifford, *Perth and Kinross* p.382, The Buildings of Scotland, Penguin.
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Thomas Alexander Cockburn, Ostrich Farmer

Russell Cockburn

While doing research into my own family, I came across a distant relative Thomas Alexander Cockburn, born in Inverness on 17 September 1855. His parents were George Cockburn and Annie Martin, who'd married at Free St George's Church on 9 September 1847. Annie was stated to be the daughter of the late Thomas Martin, Flesher, and resident at 5 North Charlotte Street. George Cockburn had been born at Edinburgh in 1820 to John Cockburn, Hotelier, and Harriet Mace. When he married, George was a Hotelier at the British Hotel, 70 Queen Street, later the site of The Mary Erskine School. This, as many readers will know, is around the corner from North Charlotte Street. By the time of Thomas's birth George was Hotel Keeper at the Union Hotel, High Street, Inverness.



Thomas Cockburn with one of his ostriches
Postcard in the author's possession

George died on 26 October 1863 and Annie went on to marry Alexander Belford from Berwick-upon-Tweed, who, curiously, had been a guest at the Union Hotel in 1861. At least some of the children, Thomas and his siblings, then went by the name of Belford, then changed back to Cockburn, which did not aid research! Annie died at Aberdeen on 24 January 1875.

In 1893 Thomas emigrated to the USA where he started his new life in Pasadena, California, and became one of the proprietors of an ostrich farm there. On 10th

November 1897, aged about 40, he married Anna Schildknecht, age 29, of San Francisco, originally a native of Germany. In 1900 Thomas and Anna had a son born named Edwin Berry Cockburn, who did not follow in his father's footsteps, instead becoming a Bank Teller.

By then Thomas and Anna had moved to San Antonio, Texas, where in 1898 Thomas had started his own ostrich farm at San Pedro Springs. He began with four birds, and later a further thirty birds arrived by road from California.

The long, soft and fluffy plumage of ostriches was in great demand at the time as a flamboyant fashion detail. Also valued were their meat and their skins for leather. The feathers were harvested twice a year from the birds, then sprayed to make them glossy and dyed before they were ready for market.

Thomas produced a pamphlet offering Boas, Capes, Collars, Tips, Plumes and Fans to the public available at the farm and noted that "the local product is considered by connoisseurs to be much superior to South African ostrich articles".

Thomas and his family then moved to Hot Springs, Arkansas, a popular health resort, where Thomas started another ostrich farm, beginning with a stock of 300 ostriches and planning to add 100 birds every year. The farm was located near the Alligator Farm in the Whittington Park area. By 1903, the Ostrich Farm in Hot Springs was known as "the largest and most up-to-date Ostrich Farm in America". A shop in Hot Springs sold the feathers, and an even larger market existed around the country.

The Ostrich Farm became a popular attraction for both tourists and local residents. The birds were used to give rides to children, pulled small carts with passengers, and even raced on a track at the farm. The races involved an ostrich versus a thoroughbred horse: over a short distance the ostrich would win but over a long distance the horse would win. The ostrich is the world's largest bird, an adult bird being between about 7' and 9' high, and it compensates for being flightless by running at great speed, up to 43 miles or 70km per hour.

Two of Thomas's tallest and most popular ostriches were named Black Diamond and Whirlwind (*see back cover illustration*), which would appear at County and State fairs and were the most popular attractions. Many postcards of them were printed, presumably providing more revenue.

On 3rd November 1920 Thomas married for the second time Zueline Emily Grimlinton at Hot Springs, Garland County, Arkansas. He died on 4th July 1930 and was interred in Hollywood Cemetery in the town. His son Edwin, the Bank Teller, died 21st July 1970. The fashion and demand for feathers tapered off in the 20th Century, although the Ostrich Farm remained in operation until 1953. An Ostrich Festival continues at Chandler, Arizona.

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Acknowledgement: San Antonio Express and News, Texas. USA.

Encyclopedia of Arkansas

A Hero of The First World War killed at North Queensferry

J. Colin Bain

During recent research regarding the backgrounds of the men named on the War Memorial at North Queensferry, Fife, a story, unknown to the present generation of locals, has come to light. While much of this information is not directly related to the genealogy of Scots, *per se*, it may serve as a useful illustration of what may turn up unexpectedly and of how information may lead us down other paths. The man concerned is not in fact named on the Memorial, but his name first showed up as having a North Queensferry connection during a web search.¹

He was George Cyril Olguin Paton. George was born on 13 September, 1894 at Lavalle 2309, Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina and baptised on 28 November 1894 in St John's Anglican Cathedral, Buenos Aires.² His parents were Robert Paton "Gerente de seguros" [Insurance Agent?] and Rose Clementine Olguin or Paton. Robert was born on 31 January, 1864 at Wigtown, the son of George Paton, joiner and Jane Taylor or Paton.³ He had an older sister, Helenora Wylie Paton who subsequently married a James Cairncross and had a son, also James, who became a doctor, of whom more later.⁴

Robert evidently emigrated to Argentina, where he became manager of an insurance company and married a local lady in 1890. Rose was born in 1861 in Argentina and her family background was both diverse and colourful. On her mother's side, she was a granddaughter of John Trelawny (friend of the poets Byron and Shelley). Her mother was Zella Trelawny, the only surviving child of Trelawny's third wife Tersitza, who was the sister of the Greek war leader Odysseus Androutsos, with whom Trelawny served during the Greek War of Independence (Byron died on the way to join the war).⁵

It appears that Rose's Argentinian father came to Britain to qualify as a surgeon. He was Jose Olguin MRCS born 9 October 1822 in Parana, Argentina and died 10 November 1885 at Steyning Sussex. He was reputedly the very first Argentinian to qualify in England.⁶

The 1871 Census for Marylebone, London, lists the Olguin household at 14 Hinde Street⁷:

Zella de Olguin, head, married, (44), Wife of a Surgeon, b. Greece –
Zante – B. [British] Subject
Ramona Olguin, daughter, unmarried (17), Scholar, b. Paris
Olivia Olguin, daughter, unmarried, (11), Scholar, b. South America
Rose Olguin, daughter, unmarried, (9), Scholar, South America
Frank Olguin, son, unmarried, (8), Scholar, b. South America

Charlotte Olguin, daughter, unmarried, (5), Scholar, b. South America
A. Tonnies [?], Guest, unmarried, (35) Merchant, b. Germany, Nat.
[Naturalised] B. [British] Subject
Mary May, Servant, (17), b. Scotland
Elizabeth Ozmond, Servant, Widow, (50), b. Bath

It is unclear where Jose was at the time of this Census.

The 1881 Census for Kensington, London, lists the Olguin household at 107 Cambridge Gardens⁸:

Joseph Olguin, head, married, (58), Surgeon MRCS Eng., b. Argentine Republic Parana
Zella Olguin, wife, married, (53), b. Greece Zante
Francis O Olguin, son, unmarried, (18), Scholar, b. Argentine Republic Rosario
Rose C Olguin, daughter, unmarried, (19), Scholar, b. Argentine Republic Rosario
Zella A Olguin, daughter, unmarried, (7), Scholar, b. Middlesex Marylebone
Mary Jane Tomaline, Patient, unmarried, (64), Interest of money, b. Middlesex City [?], Lunatic
Susan B. Lansing, Patient, widow, (41), annuitant, b. Middlesex St Georges, Good mobility [?]
Florence R. Lansing, Visitor, unmarried, (22), [no occupation given], b. Middlesex Paddington
Eliza Morris, Patient, unmarried, (64), house property, b. Middlesex St Georges, Chronic Diarrhoea
Mary Ann Godfrey, Servant, unmarried, (23), cook, b. Berks. Radley
Lydia Parraman, Servant, unmarried, (20), maid, b. Berks, Abingdon

Altogether a somewhat unusual household.

The 1895 census of Argentina⁹ lists the family of Robert and Rose (by now married with children) as:

Paton, Roberto (31) Ingles. b. Comercio
Paton, Rosa de (32) b. Argentine [Married for] 5 [Years]
Paton, Juana (4) b. Argentine
Paton, Jorge Ciryll (1) b. Argentine

In 1901, some of the Paton family appear in the UK Census at 34 Hove Villas, Hove, Sussex¹⁰:

Rose C. Paton, Wife, M [Married], (38), own acc., b. Argentine R. [Republic]
Zella T. Paton, daughter, (10), b. Argentine R.
Geo. Cyril Paton, son, (2) [actually he was 7 – enumerator mistake?], b. Argentine R.
Harry Mafeking Paton, son, (10 months), b. Argentine R.
Ellen Prothero, Nurse, Single, (35). Nurse Sick, Worker, b. Brecon (Welsh)

Maud Flint, Servant, Single, (35), Cook Genl. [General] domestic, worker,
b. Eng. [?]

May Linstead, Servant, Single, (14), Under Nurse domestic, worker,
b. Brighton Sussex

Robert is assumed to have been still in Argentina, to which the family returned in due course.

We have so far failed to trace any reference to George's education or subsequent employment, but it appears that he was living in Argentina in the run up to the beginning of the First World War. In common with a good number of men in Argentina with British ancestry, following the outbreak of war, George decided to travel to the United Kingdom and enlist in the British Army. His Record of Officer's Service, while voluminous, is not helpful in regard to answering these questions and in fact is mostly taken up with issues surrounding disposal of his estate after his death took place. On his application he gave his permanent address as being "San Martin F.C.C.A., Buenos Aires" and his present address as "C/o C. Irving Esq, 'Douglas', Eversleigh Road, Finchley". "F.C.C.A" is assumed to stand for Ferrocarril Central Argentino, so it is possible he had worked on this British-owned railway. His stated preference was to serve in a Scottish infantry regiment. His medical examination stated that he had "A slight error of refraction in R. eye". He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Scots Fusiliers on 5 May 1915, on the recommendation of the British Legation in Buenos Aires¹¹. We need to bear in mind that in this period, commissions were frequently awarded on the basis of little more than educational qualifications and the recommendation of someone in an official capacity. His appointment was reported in the *London Gazette* of 12 May 1915 and he was posted to the 9th Battalion.

The 9th Royal Scots Fusiliers, which was then at Paisley, was a Reserve Battalion which had been formed at Gourock in October 1914 and moved to Paisley in April 1915. In August 1915 it was moved to Stobs and in October 1915 to Catterick. Finally in April 1916 they were moved to "Inverkeithing"¹². In practice, this appears actually to have meant the Ferryhills area of North Queensferry, which then lay in the parish of Inverkeithing, with the officers living in Garthill House, Ferryhills Road, North Queensferry. This battalion never deployed overseas and in fact in September 1916 the unit was converted into 55 Training Battalion. North Queensferry did in fact have an army barracks, Carlingnose Barracks, but this was relatively small and housed a contingent of the Royal Garrison Artillery, who manned the heavy guns defending the Forth Railway Bridge and Rosyth Dockyard. There was also a small detachment of Royal Engineers in the barracks for local maintenance and construction tasks. The barracks lay east of Ferryhills Road towards the sea, in the area now occupied by the Carlingnose housing estate. At its northern end is a small sandy bay known as Port Laing, which was apparently used as a training area. Garthill House overlooks this area. North of the house in what is now Cruicks Quarry,



Col. Paton's gravestone after the temporary repair.
Photograph by Colin Bain

there was then a golf course and Crooks farm on the east of the road to Inverkeithing, while the rough grazing of the Ferryhills lies to the west of the line of road. The modern road has been shifted westward to avoid the expanding quarry site. Although no definite information is available, logic indicates that the battalion may have been encamped in the golf course/ Ferryhills area.

With effect from 1 April 1916, George was promoted to Lieutenant and this was reported in the *London Gazette* of 14 May 1916.

On the evening of Tuesday, 20 June 1916 he was

supervising a group of his men at Port Laing engaged in throwing live grenades from a practice trench. The classic, modern factory produced "Mills bomb" with its pineapple appearance, had only been introduced in the army in 1915 and training in its use was considered vital preparation for trench warfare. Such practice, particularly for a beginner, is still one of the most nerve-wracking and potentially dangerous aspects of a soldier's training. Someone failed to throw a grenade as far as intended, thereby endangering everyone in the group. George spotted the mistake and called out a warning to take cover. He then himself ran forward in an effort to throw the weapon clear, but it exploded and he was killed. His men survived unhurt. The incident was first reported in the *Daily Record* headed "Heroic Lieutenant killed by grenade when trying to save his men"¹³ and then the *Times* as "Officer's death to save his men."¹⁴ It even found its way into the *Hull Daily Mail*¹⁵.

The most detailed account appears in the *Scotsman*.

An Officer's heroic act

The remains of Lieut. George Cyril Olgun Paton, Royal Scots Fusiliers, were interred with military honours yesterday afternoon. Lieut. Paton was engaged on Tuesday evening with a number of men who were practising bomb-throwing. A live bomb was thrown and it fell short of the objective. Recognising the imminence of danger to several men, Lieut. Paton rushed forward for the purpose of throwing the bomb further away. He was in the act of lifting the missile when it exploded. But for the promptitude with which Lieut. Paton acted, several men, who had got out of harm's way on being warned by the heroic officer, would have been killed or seriously injured. Lieut. Paton, who is a cousin of Dr Cairncross, Dunfermline, came to this country from Buenos Ayres to enlist shortly after the outbreak of war.¹⁶

The death of George was registered in these terms:

George Cyril Olquin Paton, Lieut 9th battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers (Single), died 20 June 1916 at Port Laing, North Queensferry (Usual residence Buenos Aires), age 23, father Robert Paton, Insurance Manager, mother Rose Paton [no further details of mother] Cause, Killed by bomb exploding which he was trying to throw away from a position endangering men. Registered on the information of John S. Soutar Procurator Fiscal.¹⁷

George was buried in Hope Street Cemetery, Inverkeithing about a mile as the crow flies from the place of his death. The grave was marked by a cross with the inscription:

IN
MEMORY OF
LIEUT. GEORGE C O PATON
BELOVED SON OF
ROBERT AND ROSE C. PATON
KILLED IN BOMBING ACCIDENT AT
NORTH QUEENSFERRY JUNE 20TH 1916
HE DIED TO SAVE HIS MEN
"GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS"
ALSO HIS FATHER
ROBERT PATON
THE DEARLY BELOVED HUSBAND OF
ROSE C. PATON
BORN JAN 31ST 1864
DIED IN BUENOS AIRES NOV 1ST 1916
PEACE PERFECT PEACE

This cross was in a very badly damaged condition early in 2015 and this state of affairs was called to the attention of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, who have agreed to take on responsibility for the grave and intend to replace the

stone with one of their own design. In the interim they have persuaded Fife Council to make a temporary repair and this has been carried out satisfactorily. The Scottish National War Memorial at Edinburgh Castle also records the death of George.

The fact that George's father, Robert, died not long after his son caused complications with regard to the disposal of his estate. His personal effects were gathered up by his fellow officers at Garthill House to be sent to his mother. He had also left the sum of £74.16.00 (£74.80) but under Argentinian law various court procedures were required in regard to his finances and these would have swallowed most if not all of this amount. These were eventually side-stepped by the War Office, who authorised the British Consul in Buenos Aires to quietly pay the sum to the mother, while they reimbursed the Foreign Office¹⁸.

After the war, George's mother was sent his British War Medal¹⁹, which was awarded to all those who spent time in uniform during this period. While nowadays such a heroic action would almost certainly lead to a posthumous decoration, there was no such provision available in 1916 for actions not "in the face of the enemy" and over time the event was forgotten.

It is planned to commemorate the centenary of George's death with an event to be held at 2pm on Monday 20 June 2016 at Port Laing, North Queensferry, when a memorial plaque will be unveiled.

By an extraordinary twist, a Lieutenant Henry Ernest Stewart (Born Henry Ernest Pinfold) serving in 55 Training Battalion was killed at Cruicks, North Queensferry in a tragic, but otherwise unremarkable, grenade accident on 19 November 1917. He is buried alongside George Paton.

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Elphinstone Birthday Book 1712-1799

Bruce B. Bishop FSA Scot, ASGRA

The Elphinstone family in Stirlingshire and Dunbartonshire were mainly followers of the Church of England. The Church of England was well-represented amongst the Scottish 'landed' classes in this part of Scotland, and later evolved into the Congregational Church. There are therefore very few mentions of the Elphinstone family in the Old Parish Registers of the Church of Scotland. The family did, however, keep a 'Birthday Book', as the following extracts show.

Extracts from "The Elphinstone Birthday Book"

NRS Ref GD156/48/10

The entries in the book are in a fairly random order, but for the purpose of this transcription they have been placed in chronological sequence. All spellings etc. are as in the original document.

- 1712 Ellonar Elphinston was borne att Elphinston the last day of Octr: 1712 att ten a clock att night and died young
- 1714 Archbald Elphinstone was born at Elphinstone the 18 of June in ye year 1714 at six in the morning and was christend the same day by Mr R Barklay minister to the Church of England congregation at Alloa
- 1715 Elenor Elphinstrone was born 15 of Sept 1715 and was christened by Mr Barclay minister to the Church of England congregation att Aloa
- 1718 William Elphinstone was born at Elphinstone 20 of June 1718 and was christd by Mr Walter Stirling Minr at Stirling he dyd young
- 1719 Lady Clementina Fleming was born at Cumbernauld the 18th day of February 1719. She died in London the 1st day of January 1799 was buried at Biggar
- 1721 Margrat Elphinstone was born att Elphinstone died young 1721 and was christnd by Mr Walter Stirling minister at Sterling
- 1721 Elis: died young
- 1725 Primrose Elphinstone was born at Elphinstone January 27 day 1725 and was christned by Mr Walter Stirling Minister att Stirling
- 1735 Charles Elphinston third sone to Charles Ld Elphinston was married to Lady Clementina Fleming only daughter of John Earle of Wigtown by Lady Mary Keith eldest daughter off Wm Earle of March [*Earl Marischa*] hereditary Marshall off Scotland at Cumbernauld the fourteenth day off October in the year 1735
- 1737 The 26th day of January she [Lady Clementina Fleming] was delivered off a son att Elphinstone christened John by Mr John Bruce minister at Airth
See 1781

- 1737/8 Elisabethe Primerose Lady Elphinstone dyed at Elphinstone off an Apoplexy; on Thursday the sixteenth of February 1737/8 betwixt eight and nine in the morning and left Cha; Ld Elphinston a widower and is the 9th Lord Elphinstone
- 1739 The 29th day of A[u]gust 1739 she [Lady Clementina Fleming] bore an other son christened Charles by Mr John Bruce, Minister at Airth. [he was] killed on board the St Georg (sic) Man of War, Ad[miral] Brodick comander, the ship took fire att sea in her voyage to Gibralter
- 1740 Their [Charles Elphinstone and Clementina Fleming] third son was born at Elphinstone upon the thertenth off Sepr 1740 and christened William by Mr John Bruce minister at Airth
- 1741 Their [Charles Elphinstone and Clementina Fleming] first daughter was born at Elphinston the 19th off September 1741 and was christend Mary by Mr James McKie minister at St Ninians. Died at Tulliallan 8th of May 1825
- 1742 Their [Charles Elphinstone and Clementina Fleming] second daughter was born at Elphinstone the 24th off Sepr 1742 and christend Elisabeth by Mr James McKie minister at St Ninians. Died young.
- 1743 Their [Charles Elphinstone and Clementina Fleming] fourth son was born at Elphinstone the 26th off November 1743 and christened Lockheart by Mr James McKie minister at St Ninians. This boy was unfortunately kiled at Elphinstone upon the 24th day of August 1748 by geting on to a Hors Cart that was standing empty at the barn door (and no servant present) and whipt the hors with some rope in the cart the hors run off ... overturned the cart by which the poor boy was throwen out with such force that his scul fractured and the bones separate[d] the thickness off a crown piece and one of his arms broke
- 1746 Their [Charles Elphinstone and Clementina Fleming] fivet sone was born at Elphinstone upon seventh day off Janr 1746 years; and christend at Elphinstone upon the tenth day of February by Mr James McKie minister at St Ninians and called George Keith. David Bruce of Kinnaird and Thomas Dundas of Lethen the witnesses. Died at Tulliallan March 1823. *See also 1775*
- 1747 Their [Charles Elphinstone and Clementina Fleming] third daughter was born at Elphinstone the 13 day of May 1747 and called Elanora ... by Mr Forbes minister of ... Stirling and Dennistone witnesses ... She married May 1777 William Adam Esqr of Woodstone – she died Febry 14th 1800 leaving; John, Charles a Captn in the Royal Navy, William a lawyer, Frederick in the Army, Francis, Clementina
See 1785
- 1748 Their [Charles Elphinstone and Clementina Fleming] fourth daughter was born at Elphinstone the twelveth day off June 1748 att five in the

evening and christend by Mr John Forbess minister off Airth upon the 15th of said moneth by the name of Primerose; Mr David Forbess, Mr John Ogelvie and Gilbert Robertson merchant in Elphinstone, witnessess. Died unmarried in London 18th January 1802 & was buried in Grosvenor Chapel.

- 1749 Their [Charles Elphinstone and Clementina Fleming] fifth daughter born at Cumbernauld 26th of Agust 1749 christand Clementina by Mr James Robe, Minister att Kilsyth
- 1751 A daughter never christend
- 1752 A son Malcome died young by Mr Forbess
- 1753 A daughter christend Margart died young by Mr Stoddart minister at Kirkintilloch
- 1755 A son christaind Hugh died young by Mr Stoddart
- 1758 Charles Lord Elphinstone died at his house of Elphinstone the 20th day of February 1758
- 1759 A daughter christanid Charlotte born the 14th of Janr 1759 christiand by Mr James Stodart Minister at Kirkintilloch
- 1759 Clementina
- 1759 Primrose Elphinstone died the 20th of Novr 1759 at Edinburgh she married Alexander Earl of Home and left a son William and a daughter Elizabeth Elenora
- 1774 William Elphinstone married in the [year] 1774 – Elizabeth Fullerton, daughter of William Fullerton of Carstairs – has issue John, Charles a Captn in the Royal Navy, William, James Drummond, Clementina, Elizabeth [who] died Octr 28th 1802 buried in Grosvenor Chapel, Anne.
- 1775 George Keith, Captn in the Royal Navy in 1775. Married April 1787 Jane Mercer eldest daughter of William Mercer Esqr of Aldie in Perthshire - she died at Scarthing Moor on her way to London Decr 1789 & was buried at Biggar – she left one daughter Margt born June 12th 1788. He [George Keith] was made a Rear Admiral in 1794 and knighted of the Bath Lord Keith of the Kingdom of Ireland & a British Peer by the same title 1802
See also 1746
- 1780 William, Lord Douglass was an officer in the Coldstream Regt of Guards & died in America in 1780 of a wound received there
- 1781 Charles Lord Elphinstone died in Edinburgh the 6th day of April 1781 & was buried at Biggar
- 1781 11th Lord. John Elphinstone born January 1737 suc[ceded] his father Charles Lord Elphinstone April 1781 – He married Anne daughter of James Lord Ruthven by Lady Anne Stuart daughter of James Earl of

Bute. His Lordship died 19th of August 1794 at Cumbernauld House and was buried at Biggar – leaving John who succeeded him; Charles born ... in the Royal Navy; James Ruthven; Mount Stewart; Anne Stuart; Clementina Fleming.

- 1783 She [?] married 9th March 1783 Thomas Dundas Esqr of Fingask - he was a Major Gen[era]l in the Army and died the 3d of June 1794 of the yellow fever at Guardeloupe - leaving six daughters and one son
- 1785 Clementina, [grand-daughter of Charles Elphinstone and Clementina Fleming] married March 1785 James Drummond Esqr of Perth, created Lord Perth in 1797. They had Clementina born May 1786; Jemima Rachel born April 1787, died 1788; James born Octr 1791. Lord Perth died August 1799, Lady Perth died August 31st 1822 in her house Park Street, London & was buried at Inverpeffry ... Clementina her only [surviving] child married Octr 20 1807 the Honbl Robert Bannell the eldest son of Lady Willoughby of Gorydyer and the 1st Lord Gorydyer & had ...
- 1799 Lady Clementina Fleming was born at Cumbernauld the 18th day of February 1719. She died in London the 1st day of January 1799 was buried at Biggar.

**The Scottish Genealogy Society holds
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***.... at their Library and Family History Centre at
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Watten Kirkyard Burial Lair Book

David Macadam

The Church of Scotland – in its Kirk Session and together with the heritors of each parish - were tasked in the past with the responsibility of maintaining the records of their burial grounds. Sadly, in general, they were somewhat slack about this, with the result that any records before 1925 when the maintenance of Church graveyards was transferred to local authorities are scant.

There were supposed to be records kept by any number of people. The record of deaths in the Parish records up to 1854 may show who in your family died and when, but where on earth they were interred in the graveyard can sometimes be anyone's guess. I am sure we are all familiar with plowtering round a graveyard trying to make out the inscriptions of each grave we pass looking for "Auntie Jeanie". Certainly there are burial registers which can be accessed through ScotlandsPeople dealing with internments up to 1854. Additionally some Kirk Session records deal with this matter and they will be in National Records of Scotland. But in general they are poor.

The genealogical societies in Scotland have laboured mightily over the last 50 years transcribing gravestones and monuments throughout Scotland. Many of these have been published and others exist in manuscript form in local genealogical societies, and are readily available to inspect. But wind, weather and unthinking councils and churches, mean many gravestones are either removed, flattened face side down, or are now too worn to identify who occupies the lair.

So, who else might have made a note at the time?

The local Sexton or Gravedigger would keep a note of the lairs and who owned them, together with an indication of how full they might be. The Kirk Elder charged with overseeing the graveyard would also be a candidate for such a record.

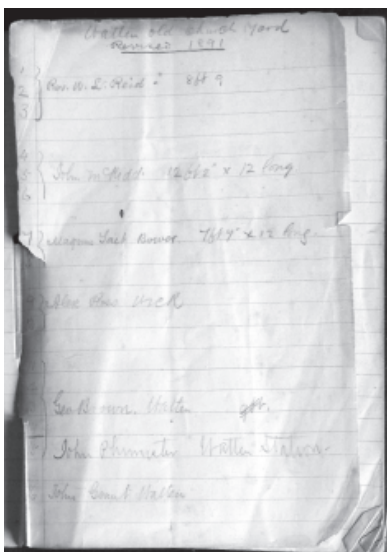
Which is where my great-grandfather Robert William Macadam the miller at Watten Mills comes in.

Robert was an elder of the kirk and one of his tasks seems to have been looking after the dispositions of bodies in Watten Kirkyard. He kept his records in a small notebook of the kind purchased cheaply at a local stationer. They list each lair plot by number, and in order of rows, with the name of the person or family responsible for this lair and their address, which, as this is a rural parish, usually meant the name of the farm. They also note sizes in some cases and even where a lair is not suitable for burial, as for instance it is too close to a wall. Strangers' plots are shown too.

There are more modern records too for Watten. There is one for Watten's First Cemetery which is the first of the three walled plots in the cemetery containing the ruins of the old church¹ as well a more general publication of Caithness

Monumental Inscriptions.² John Nicolson of the Caithness Genealogy Society specifically notes in his introduction to Monumental Inscriptions that “it does not provide the complete list of all persons interred as a number of lairs have no memorial stone”. This of course is exactly the type of lacuna that a lair book might remedy, especially as it seems to cover the Second Cemetery as well.

Physically it really is a scrappy little book and some pages are loose. Its covers have long gone and with most of entries in a faded pencil it really does not jump out as being of any interest whatsoever. Maybe that’s why it was overlooked all these years. Maybe that is why so few of them still exist, just destroyed after a death, disposed of along with other ephemera without much thought.



This one survived simply because my grandmother continued to live in the same house that Robert died in until her death in the 1970s. Thereafter the book, along with all the other documents that she had preserved (she really was an old pack rat), came to my father and in turn to me, where it stayed in its box under the bed for long and weary.

It is written on 35 leaves and notes 565 lairs.

It was only on a trawl through the papers I came across it again and wondered about it. So I got in touch with Gordon Reid the archivist of the North Highland Archive in Wick asking if he might be interested in it. The book begins with a general review of the graveyard in 1891 presumably when Robert Macadam took over responsibility for the graveyard. It would continue therefore until no later than 1927 when Robert retired and moved to Wick, taking his book with him.

And, yes indeed, Gordon was interested. He confirmed that the North Highland Archive receives many inquiries regarding burials every year and there is a distinct lack of these records. The little bookie is most interesting, quite something, but not really a part of my family archive. So I have taken a copy of the work and sent the original up to the Highland Archive in Wick where I hope it might assist lots of people.

Endnotes

¹ Monument Inscriptions First Cemetery at Watten, Caithness: Caithness Family History Society 2009.

² Caithness Monumental Inscriptions pre 1855 compiled by A.S. Cowper and L. Ross: Scottish Genealogy Society 1983.

Tracing J. M. Barrie back to the first page of the earliest OPR

Jack Blair

My paternal grandmother Jessie Jamieson's quiet boast to her family was that her grandmother, Jean Ogilvy (1807-1866), was cousin to Margaret Ogilvy the mother of J. M. Barrie. Research showed this to be true, as Jean's father John Ogilvy (1781-1810c) was a writer in Edinburgh when he married there in 1806. On his early death, Jean was brought up by his parents Andrew Ogilvy and Jean Edward in Landhead of Ascreavie in in the parish of Kingoldrum, Angus. Andrew (1750-1817) had earlier farmed Over Ascreavie and Jean had inherited an acre of East Chapelshade in Dundee on the death of her uncle and guardian Thomas Edward in 1786. This had enabled them to educate their eldest son John at St Andrews University. However, the lean years of the 1790s took toll on many farmers and among these, Andrew was driven into sequestration in 1800. Their third son Alexander (1788-1851) was at that time 12 years old and presumably found work at the nearby quarry at Meams and became in time a stonemason in Kirriemuir. Alexander was the father of Margaret Ogilvy (1818-1895), mother to J. M. Barrie, who recorded that as a girl, his mother had taken food up through the long parks (perhaps of Kinnordie) to her father, presumably during the quarrying season.

Andrew Ogilvy, the grandfather of Jean and Margaret, was born in 1750 to David Ogilvy (1721-1784) the laird of Ascreavie. Just as the family legend recalled, his birth was "on the wrong side of the blanket", he being the eldest of David Ogilvy's natural children. David Ogilvy was the son of "Young Ascreavie," namely James Ogilvy younger of Ascreavie, by his wife Betty, the daughter of William Ogilvy, wadsetter of Meikle Kenny, whom he had married in 1713.

James died about 1733 but his son David was not served heir of Ascreavie until 1756.

James was born about 1685, son to James Ogilvy and Eupham Gray, the progenitors of the family Ogilvy of Ascreavie. This James Ogilvy elder of Ascreavie had been reared at Ascreavie which his father, Donald Ogilvy, had farmed from the mid-1650s. Although the third son of a tenant farmer, James appears to have had access to considerable capital and to have been a successful businessman. His marriage in 1673 to Eupham Gray brought her tocher of £1000 Scots to which he agreed to make up to 2300 merks to be invested in suitable land in Angus. This they did and were jointly infeft in a wadset of Nether Ascreavie in 1677. Eventually they were able to purchase all of Ascreavie from John Ogilvy elder of Balfour and on 27th January 1697 James Ogilvy was seised in the lands of Nether and Over Ascreavie and Landhead of Ascreavie and thereafter was designed James Ogilvy of Ascreavie. James Ogilvy had an

interesting heritage springing from Ogilvy of Bellaty, as implied in the letter written in 1775 by Mr Adam Fergusson of Moulin, a copy of which is held in Perth & Kinross Archives under reference MS14/119. Donald Ogilvy (1605c – 1680c) the father of James was third son of David Ogilvy of Bellaty. With the approach of the Reformation, Donald Campbell Abbot of Coupar Angus disposed of considerable portions of the Abbey lands to his children and kinsfolk. In May 1558, Abbot Donald granted a charter of the Newton of Bellaty and other lands in Glenisla to Margaret Campbell (1525c-1600) and her husband David Ogilvy (1529c-1599). It seems probable that their son, David Ogilvy of Bellaty (1569c-1629) named his third son Donald after the Abbot.

These forebears of James Ogilvy first of Ascreavie are strongly associated with the Braes of Angus. However the origins of his wife's family lead us to the Carse of Gowrie.

Eupham Gray was daughter to Master James Gray (1615c - 1680c) and his spouse Eupham Chalmer. Master James was third son to James Gray of Kirkland (1575c -1620) and Helen Hay (1579 – 1655c) who married at Errol in July 1606. Sometime after the death of James in July 1620, Helen Hay married James Ogilvy who in 1632 was granted charter of Shannally which lies in the parish of Lintrathen about four miles west of Ascreavie. In 1648, James Ogilvy of Shannally provided the tocher for Eupham Gray the daughter of his wife Helen, by her first husband, when Eupham married Alexander Lyel of Murthill. Ogilvy of Shannally appears to have been close to his younger step-children for in that same year Mr James Gray, Helen's third son, was witness at Shannally when her husband extended his estate with the purchase of Kinclune. As his father had died when Master James was still a young boy it seems likely that James Ogilvy had paid



Megginch Castle built by Pater Hay about 1575

for his step-son's university education. Shannally's generosity also extended to the daughter of Master James, also named Eupham Gray, for he was party to the earlier mentioned marriage contract of 1673 providing the tocher of £1000 Scots.

As already mentioned Eupham Gray's grandfather was James Gray of Kirkland. He was second son of Andrew Gray of Baledgarno (1545c- 1615c) and his wife Janet Hay. Their marriage contract of 6 March 1570/71 shows that Janet was the daughter of Peter Hay of Megginch who agreed to provide a tocher of 800 merks subject to her infetment in the half lands of Baledgarno. Janet was the eldest of his ten children by his wife Margaret Ogilvy. She was born when he was still designed as Peter Hay younger, son and heir apparent of Peter Hay of Megginch. The entry on the first page of the Old Parish Register of Baptisms at Errol reads:

14 Novenb (1554)

Janet hay daughter to Peter hay and Margaret ogilvie in inchcoonan.

A year later when Peter and Margaret's eldest son was baptised it records that they were in "*Inchconane now called meginch*".

Thus we find that the lineage of Margaret Ogilvy the mother of J. M. Barrie not only traces back to her 6 x great-grandmother Janet Hay whose baptism appears on the first page of our earliest OPR but that same entry links her to another Margaret Ogilvy (b. 1532c) who was daughter to Patrick Ogilvy of Inchmartine.

September talk

East Lothian Poor Law Records

It wasn't only those paying taxes and/ or leaving estates who provided their descendants with financial records to help track lineages: sometimes our ancestors fell on hard times, due to poor harvests or other adverse conditions, and had to apply to the parish for assistance.

Fran Woodrow, Archivist, will explain what's available.

October talk

18th Century – Town or Country, Everyone Knew Their Place

Or did they? Was the social hierarchy rigid, or was "social mobility" already more prevalent than we believe? Bruce Bishop will enlighten us!

Register of BURIALS at The Scottish Cemetery, Calcutta. An inscription book for the Church of Scotland									
When Buried		Burial	Age	Cemetery	When Buried	Year	Month	Day	Cause of Death
Year	Month								
1935	January 30 th	David Durward BOATH	37	Bongay's	1935	January	30 th		Heart Failure
1935	January 18 th	Margaret Agnes MACENZIR	18	Spinster	1935	February	19 th		Heart Failure
1935	February 23	Christine Gordon COUNSELL	25	Spinster	1935	Feb.	24		Heart Failure

Register of BURIALS at The Scottish Cemetery, Calcutta

(in connection with the Church of Scotland)

- No. 1076 Died 30 January 1935 David Durward BOATH Age 57 Engineer, Union South Jute Mills CoD Heart Failure
Buried 30 January 1935 by Joseph Blacklock Kirkpatrick, Mills Chaplain, Church of Scotland
- No. 1077 Died 18 February 1935 Margaret Agnes MACENZIR Age 18 Spinster
Buried 19 February 1935 by George Buchanan, Second Chaplain, St Andrew's, Church of Scotland
- No. 1078 Died 23 February 1935 Christine Gordon COUNSELL Age 25 Spinster
Buried 24 February 1935 by High Embling, Bishop, Church of England

Following the wonderful work to restore the Scottish Cemetery at Kolkata, the burial register (about 1800 graves dating from 1826) has been transcribed digitally by members of the Kolkata Scottish Heritage Trust and it is expected that these invaluable records will be available online soon, in a searchable format.

Above is an example, with transcription. Copies of the original registers are kept at the Gatehouse on Karaya Road, Kolkata, if you're passing.

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

Scottish Charity No. 016718

Statement of Receipts and Payments for year ended 30th September 2015

	2015	2014
	£	£
Receipts:		
Member Subscriptions	18900	19099
Gift Aid	1638	3088
Legacy	268296	-
Donations	1751	1074
Investment Income	341	30
Sales - Publications	11624	15264
Conference Income	-	469
Other income	2504	3853
A: Total Receipts	305054	42877
Payments:		
Journal (Print & Dist)	9309	7542
Lecture Expenses	808	887
Library Running Costs	7484	14086
Insurance	2648	2815
Cost of Sales - Publications	4932	5217
Cost of Sales - Conference	1000	366
Computer Expenses	3556	6617
Postage	4082	3422
Stationery & Copying	1448	1591
Advertising	739	1212
Bank/Credit Card Charges	1283	1409
Sundries	930	135
Fixed Assets	-	5239
B: Total Payments	38219	50538
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year (A-B)	266835	(7661)
Less legacy	268296	
Operating Surplus/Deficit for the year	(1461)	
All funds are restricted		

Balance sheet for year ended 30 September 2015

Bank and cash in hand		
Opening balances	51720	59381
Surplus/(deficit) in receipts and payments statement	266835	7661
Transfer to Investments	(299500)	
Closing bank balance	19055	51720
Fixed assets at cost	269866	264733
Additions in year	-	5239
Disposals (no proceeds)	-	-
Closing balance	269866	269972
Other Assets at cost - Investments		
Opening balance	-	
Transfer from Bank	299500	
Closing balance	299500	
Stock opening balance at cost	23658	22927
Purchases	4932	5583
Sales	(6857)	(4852)
Closing stock	21753	23659
Liabilities at 30th September	-	-
All funds are unrestricted		

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Compiled by Joan Keen & Eileen Elder

The Territorials 1908-1914

A Guide for Military and Family Historians

Ray Westlake

St Magnus Cathedral War Memorial 1914-1918

Seaton Earls of Winton

Karen Hancock & Joyce Lee Kunz "Joy" Peck

Researching Adoption

An essential guide to tracing birth relatives and ancestors

Karen Bali

Foundlings – West Lothian's Abandoned children

Tombstones of the Omey 15 Graveyards transcribed

within Omagh District County Tyrone 1688-1900

W J McGrew

Orkney's Italian Chapel

Between Two Worlds: Lochmaddy 1600-1995

Martin MacGregor

Laigh Kirk Kilmarnock A short History

C S Schofield

Auchindrain

Erin to Edinburgh (19th Century Irish Immigrant

Forebears in Scotland and Their Descendants)

includes loose family tree

Eilis Catherine Owens

The Story of Calton Jail Edinburgh's Victorian Prison

Malcolm Fife

1841 Census Edinburgh: Street Index

Census Street Indexes Angus and Fife 1841-1871 (incomplete)

Harkness Heroines

Helen Ann Harkness

Alphabetical List of Streets etc in the City of Glasgow 1935

The Scottish Law Directory 1971

Debrett's Baronetage,

Knightage and Companionage 1964

P W Montague-Smith (Ed)

200 Years of Katrine and Sorn Parish A Cotton Tale

R Dalziel & T Harrison (Eds)

Watten Free Church Births and Baptisms 1844-1873,

Marriages 1844-1865; Pulteney Free Church Births

and Baptisms 1845-1854 and 1872-1887

Stuart Farrell (Comp)

Inverness Methodist Church Baptisms 1836-1914,

Glenurquhart Free Church Births and Baptisms

1866-1892 and Marriages 1860-1891

Stuart Farrell (Comp)

Gorgie and Beyond II, World War I.

About men who appealed against military service.

Nominal indexes and address listing

Edward S Flint (Comp)

Roslin, A Part of Lasswade Parish, Memorial Inscriptions

and other associated records

Roslin Heritage Society

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2016

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.

- 10-13 August XXXII International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences. www.congress2016.scot
- 19 September "East Lothian Poor Law Records" by Fran Woodrow, Archivist.
- 17 October "18th Century - Town or Country, Everyone Knew Their Place" by Bruce Bishop.
- 21 November "Earlier Records" by Gregory Lauder-Frost.

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

New Register House Research Evenings 2016

(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, to 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 2016

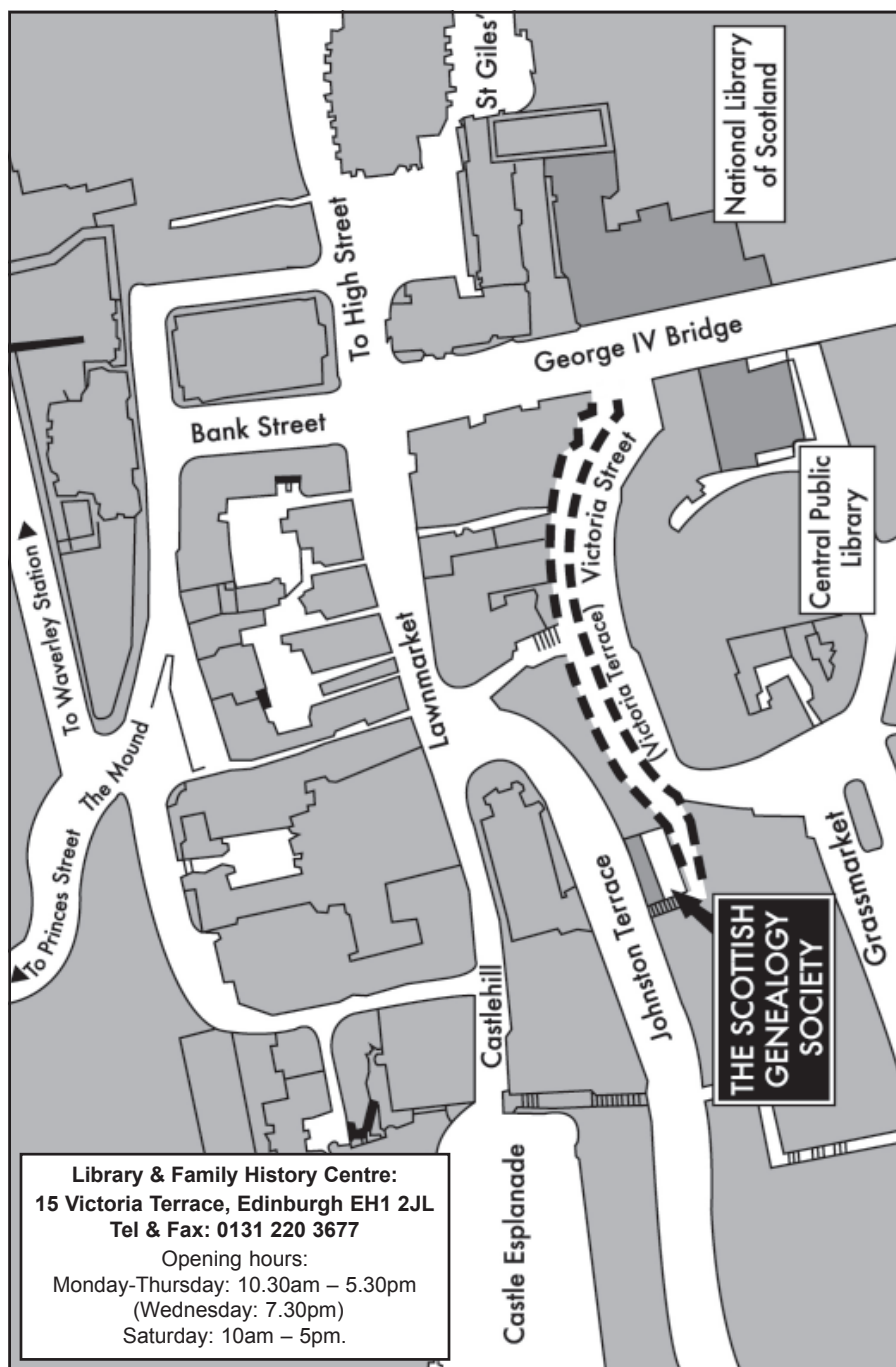
Scotslot is a group of family historians with Scottish ancestry, who meet in Hertfordshire to talk about topics of mutual interest.

Scotslot meets in Southdown Methodist Church Hall, Southdown, Harpenden, Herts, at 2pm. Venue, 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 email to stuart.laing@virgin.net

SAFHS Conference 2017

Building Bridges: Making Connections

Next year's Conference will be hosted by ASGRA (The Association of Scottish Genealogists and Researchers in Archives) on Saturday 22nd April 2017 at Cairn Queensferry Hotel, North Queensferry, Fife KY11 1HP.





"Whirlwind" Famous Trotting Ostrich, record $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in 1.5. Owned by Thomas A. Cockburn
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