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Charles Blair

George Hay Forbes

First Berkeleys in Scotland

Murray of Ochertyre

Señora Spencer

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

E-mail: enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com

Website: www.scotsgenealogy.com

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Back Cover:

Portrait of Charles Blair by John Zephaniah Bell,
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The Scottish Genealogist

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A Perthshire merchant's tale: Charles Blair 1760-1829

Charles D. Waterston

In a previous article I traced my ancestry to John Blair "*ane Honest man...who departed the 7 of June 1681, and of his age 53*" as recorded on his table tombstone in Rattray Churchyard.¹ The article arose from my interest in a Date Book kept by William Waterston (1804-1884), now in my possession which includes a "Note respecting Blair Family dictated to W.W. by his grandfather C. Blair shortly before his death in 1829". My work confirmed that Charles Blair's notes – so far as they went - were remarkably accurate. However, Charles Blair's own life is also of great interest since it illustrates the impact of events on one family among many during a period of great social, material and social change in the ancient City and Barony of Dunkeld in consequence of the bridging of the River Tay by Thomas Telford.

Charles Blair 1760-1829

A familiar sight in Dunkeld is the licensed grocer's shop and cafe at the corner of Atholl Street and High Street which, with its many potable and edible delights, tempts all who make their way to the Cathedral (Fig.1). So it has been since 1810 when Charles Blair moved into the property he had built and which opened a new phase in his merchants business.



Licensed grocer's shop and cafe at the corner of Atholl Street and High Street.

Charles Blair (baptized 9.2.1760, died 9.12.1829) was the sixth child of William Blair, merchant in Dunkeld and Jean Ramsay of Dundee. He probably entered the merchant business which his father had established in Dunkeld in 1747 and it is likely that he succeeded him as proprietor of the business in 1795 some three years prior to William's death in 1798. The late Mr A. Murray Robertson remembered that a notice "Established 1795" was for long displayed on the outside the shop which Charles built in Atholl Street. He suggested that it marked the date when the business became established under Charles's proprietorship.² That shop, however, resulted from Blair's response to a personal crisis which arose from an Act of Parliament which changed his life and the whole aspect of Dunkeld.

Charles had married Elizabeth Cargill on 10th June 1779 and was already the father of three daughters when an Act enabling John, fourth Duke of Atholl and his heirs to build a bridge over the River Tay at or near the Town of Dunkeld became law on 17th May 1803.

It was the government's view that, since the highlands were now at peace following the 1745 rebellion, road improvements were required to facilitate the development there of agriculture and industry. Thomas Telford was commissioned to prepare a report which was submitted to the Commissioners of the Treasury in 1802 which *inter alia* recommended the bridging of the River Tay at Dunkeld. The Commissioners wished the bridge to be built but felt unable to afford the cost. The history of the building of the bridge has been ably written by Christopher Ford who saw the Act of 1803 as an early example of a Public Private Enterprise agreement whereby a private source, in this case the Duke of Atholl, would build the bridge and thereafter benefit from the tolls, but would do so with a substantial subsidy from the Commissioners.³

Replacement of the east and west ferries over the Tay by the masonry bridge, which was built between 1805 and 1809, involved the realignment of the main street of Dunkeld from one parallel to the river now represented by the Square, High Street and Brae Street to the north/south thoroughfare of Bridge Street and Atholl Street. The position of the bridge was chosen from a number of considered sites partly "because the north end aligned with the main street of Dunkeld".⁴ The Stobie map of Dunkeld preserved in the Blair Archive is more detailed than the printed version (1XXX) and I am grateful to Mrs Jean Anderson for informing me that it shows no north/south street as such but the road from the east ferry came up into the town at the point where the road off the bridge would arrive. However the road from the bridge was wider than the ferry-track and needed the purchase and demolition of some houses on the road down from Brae Street to the Cross to make Atholl Street. These alterations were controlled by the 4th Duke of Atholl, the feudal superior of Dunkeld.

Little has been written of the anxiety and upset to the lives of its many citizens which these changes in Dunkeld must have caused. Where William and Charles

Blair had conducted their business prior to 1810 is not known. Although Charles' place of business may not have been demolished in the course of the bridge works, the upheaval certainly changed the whole aspect of trade in the burgh and may well have been a threat to his livelihood.

Charles appears to have established good relationships with the factor of the Atholl Estates, Thomas Palliser, at an early date. In a letter to Mr Palliser from Dunkeld dated 8th November 1804 he wrote an amusing account of a dinner following a review of the County Volunteers.⁵ Blair's friendship with Mr Palliser probably stood him in good stead when he sought to advance his own interests during the alterations in Dunkeld following construction of the Bridge. He was quick to see the business opportunities of feus being offered by the Duke for development along the new roads and, about a year before completion of Telford's bridge, he wrote to Thomas Palliser, the Duke's factor, expressing interest in a feu on the west side of the new, as yet unnamed, Atholl Street on the corner with the old High Street.⁶

Dunkeld 17th Feby 1808

Sir

I lately took an opportunity of mentioning - that if His Grace The Duke of Atholl was to let out the ground upon the side of the New Road as it passes thro Halls property (so called) I would wish to have a stance of it - but concluded from what you then said that His Grace had not then fully determined in what manner that ground was to be disposed of - at same time you thought that if His Grace was to part with it for Building stances - that He would take good care that any buildings so near the Bridge should be upon a neat & uniform plan. I have - since I spake with you upon the subject - examined the part of Halls & Robertsons which will remain upon the West Side of the New Road - & think there will be 4 Lots or stances of about 50 feet on the new Road & from 40 to 45 - backwards - say to West/

The Stance I wish for is next the present Street 50 feet along the new road - including the Old House at present occupied by John Mallhen - & the Houses on Robertson's Property - as there may be got out of them as much materials as would Arch over Relloch [?] - for 50 feet back & also do much towards raising the foundations to a level with the New Line of Road. What is not for use in the building - together with the spare Rubish from Foundations I will lay down either above or Below Bridge - as His Grace shall direct - & Build to a plan - aproven of by His Grace - of two Story High - which I hope will be thought most suitable - Higher intercepting the View of Grander Objects.

As I understand I was the first who had spoke upon the Subject - I flatter myself that if His Grace is to dispose of the Ground in the manner - that I will be accomodate with the Lot I mention upon reasonable terms & in that hope - made out a Sketch of the way I would propose laying it out -

which I have sent to John Stewart - that He may make / out a plan for His Grace's Inspection - which I will expect in a few days - & hand you - that if I am to be accomodate with the Ground He may point out any alterations He thought necessary.

My reason for wishing this piece of Ground is that the place I presently occupy will not answer for a Retail Bussiness - & I must if well be in the way of it by Moving to the Eastward.

It is of consequence to me that I know as soon as possible whether or not I am to succeed in this application - tho I do not wish my entry to take place sooner than Whitsunday 1809. And if I knew before His Grace's departure for London it would be in my favour by giving me so much more time to provide Materials which are easiest got in the Sumr months - & would enable me to begin at the term of Whity 1809 - so have the building compleated before Winter. Your mentioning this to His Grace as soon as convenient will oblige.

Your Most Obyt

Chas Blair

Thomas Palliser Esqr.

Blair was granted the feu he had requested and his house/shop was built at the corner of Atholl Street and High Street. William Waterston's Date Book states "September 1810, C Blair remvd to new house in Atholl St."

The Feu Disposition for this property from the Duke of Atholl to Charles Blair is dated 1815 and states that "In terms of our understanding Charles Blair has already built a dwelling house ..." on the site. It defines the bounds of the feu as follows:

On the East by the said Street [Atholl Street], on the South by the High Street, on



Dunkeld Bridge, from the collection of the Dunkeld Community Archive and reproduced with permission

the West in part by a common lane or entry 7 feet 6 inches wide betwixt a house belonging to John Proudfoot, Merchant in Dunkeld and the piece of ground hereby disposed and in part by ground the property of the said John Proudfoot, and on the North by the piece of ground disposed by me to John Duff, Merchant in Dunkeld and as delineated on a plan made by Patrick McNaughton, Land Surveyor.⁷

McNaughton's plan may be that entitled *Plan of Atholl Street distinguishing the different Feus, His Grace the Duke of Atholl, Proprietor*⁸ which shows Blair's feu as No.1, having a frontage to Atholl street of 50.0 feet and within 4 Roods, 16 yards 5 feet. The adjoining Feu to the north disposed to John Duff is No 2 with a frontage also of 50ft but within is 4 Roods 11 Yards 5 feet. The Atholl Street feus are also shown on the *Dunkeld Town Scroll*⁹ naming Cha. Blair at No.1, J Duff at No.2 and Robertson at No 3 on the West side and with Mr Cargill opposite on the east side.

The disposition required Blair to lay within six months a pavement of flags 3 feet 6 inches wide and also causeway Atholl Street opposite the ground feued to the middle of the street and to keep this in repair and to concur with the proprietor of houses opposite (Robert Cargill). The initial feu duty was £3:15:0. The cost of the building was about £1200.¹⁰ The shop at 1 Atholl Street has remained a licensed grocery and is now owned and managed by Simon and Sarah Yearsley. I am grateful to Mr Yearsley for telling me that one of the advantages offered by Blair's building is its ample cellarage. Atholl Street is higher than the older streets it crossed, its elevation being dictated by the height of Telford's bridge. However, it was possible to preserve the large cellars of a number of the buildings which were demolished when Atholl Street was constructed. Blair's shop is on the site of a pre-existing building which probably fronted the old road leading from Brae Street to the Cross. His new house was built in a way that preserved and gave access to the deep cellarage of the building it replaced.

Charles' new shop proved as successful for his retail business as he had hoped and his family grew apace. Between 1784 and 1800 nine more children were born three of whom appear to have died in childhood (see Appendix 1). He was probably as active and respected in the affairs of Dunkeld as he was in the Glasite church for in 1818 the Duke of Atholl appointed him Baron Bailie of the City and Barony of Dunkeld. His Commission is preserved in the Blair Castle.

I, John Duke of Atholl, Having confidence in the integrity and ability of Mr Charles Blair, Merchant in Dunkeld for executing the aftermentioned Do by these present make, Nominate, Constitute and Appoint the said Mr Charles Blair to be Baron Bailie of the City and Barony of Dunkeld, vacant by the resignation of Mr Robert Cargill Merchant in Dunkeld, late Bailie thereof. Giving, Granting and Committing to the said Charles Blair full power and Commission to sit affix, affirm, hold and continue Baron Courts within the said city of Dunkeld, And to judge and determine in all matters civil and criminal that shall come before him, proper to be judged and

cognosed of by a Bailie of Barony, conform to the Laws and acts of Parliament of this Kingdom and more particularly with power to my said Bailie to hold and execute all manner of jurisdiction competent in time of fairs and public markets and to cause put his Decrees and sentences to due and lawful Execution and to [associate ?] absents and punish transgressors agreeable to Law; Fines and [assessments ?] of Court to uplift and exact, and with power also to appoint clerks, Fiscals and all other officers of Court, for whose faithful discharge of their respective offices he shall be answerable: and generally to do every other thing which any other Baron Bailie by the Law and practice of Scotland may lawfully do. With allowance to my said Bailie of Thirty pounds Sterling of yearly salary, beginning the first year's payment thereof at Whitsunday One thousand Eight hundred and Nineteen. Declaring this present commission to continue until I shall please to revoke or Recall the same. And I consent to the Registration hereof in the books of Council and Session or others competent therein to remain for preservation and for that Effect I Constitute

My Procurator In Witness whereof these presents written by Frederick Graham my Factor on stamped paper are subscribed by me at Dunkeld the Twenty first day of May Eighteen hundred and Eighteen years before these witnesses Mr George Condie, Writer in Perth, and the said Frederick Graham.

*[signed] Geo. Condie Witness
F Graham Witness*

Atholl¹

The new Baron Bailie lost no time in entering upon his duties because, on the 22nd May 1818, he had to take in charge a former tenant of Dowally who had become "a furious Lunatic in consequence of drinking". He had paid Dr McFarlane two guineas to have the man certified insane and employed two constables and a carter to take him to be cared for by his brother in Badenoch.¹²

On 10th October 1818 a confident but prudent Charles Blair made his will.¹³ How different was the tone of the Codicil written on 12th February 1824 for, by then, he had "met with considerable losses".

In common with much of Scotland, business was depressed in Dunkeld following the end of the Napoleonic Wars. In 1823 there were bankruptcies in the town. In his Date Book, William Waterston states that in May of that year there were failures of two Perth Bank agents at Dunkeld. From Warrants of Testaments relating to Jean Ramsay, Charles' mother, it is known that she had some shares in the Perth Banking Company.¹⁴ If Charles Blair had also invested in that company these failures could have accounted for his loss. In any event, like other merchants at this time, he became embarrassed financially and had to accept a draft for £400 from Roderick Robertson which he was able to repay within four years.¹⁵

It was a sad and difficult time for Blair. His wife Elizabeth “who has been an agreeable, affectionate companion to me for Forty-five years showing in her life and conversation a good example to her family” died on 24th May 1826.¹⁶ Three months later he wrote to the Factor offering to sell to the Duke the tenement on the High Street (now Brae Street) which his father William Blair had bought in 1785 and which Charles appears to have inherited in 1798 (William Blair below).¹⁷ In the year before he wrote his letter Charles had granted a disposition in favour of his sister Isabel in life-rent of part of the tenement, for £108 which is dated 3rd August 1825.¹⁸ He tells the factor that the reversion or right to the life rented property would be worth £100, as the lady is 62, and it would rent for £13 per year. The rest of the property he reckoned to be worth £600, the principal tenant being his son Charles for whom he asked a 21year lease were the property to be sold.¹⁹ The tenement was indeed bought by the 4th Duke of Atholl for £700.²⁰

The second way in which Blair sought to repair his finances was to seek payment from the Duke of his salary as Baron Bailie. His first request was sent on 26th July 1827 in which he pointed out that the arrears in his salary, which had not been paid for nine years, now amounted to £270. Further requests followed until a statement was sent with a letter dated 28th May 1829 to F Graham the Factor. This states that Charles Blair had been appointed the Duke's depute Bailie of Dunkeld in 1818 with a yearly allowance of £30, the first payment being due at Whit 1819. Nothing had been paid for the years 1819 to 1828 at that rate apart from £13:6:8 to account paid by F Graham on 8 March 1828, leaving an outstanding balance of £286:13:4. Blair was then informed that henceforth the yearly salary would be reduced to £20. The balance due to him at 15th May 1829 was therefore £306:13:4.²¹

History does not relate if he received any salary as Baron Bailie but it seems probable that he had to be content with the honour which that office brought. He was already asthmatic and William Waterston records that Blair was in bad health when he visited Edinburgh on 10th September 1828. On the 9th December 1829 he died and was interred beside his wife, and with his father and mother, in the family grave in the ruined nave of the Cathedral.

As Charles' family read his will, written in 1818, they would have found in it special provision for his “sister-in-law” Editha Cargill and in the Codicil of 1824 they would read “My sister-in-law who came under my charge when an infant, I have always considered as a child of my own, will, I trust continue to make her sister's house her home and look up to her as to a parent and doubt not all my children will behave to her as they ought to one who, next to their parents, is entitled to their kind attention.”²² William Waterston's date book records the death of Edith Cargill as having taken place on 25th July 1851 at the age of 74. Her birth in 1777 would have taken place two years or less before the birth of Helen, love-child of Charles Blair and Elizabeth Cargill, who was baptized one week prior to their marriage. One may speculate that Edith was a indeed an

earlier love-child of Charles and Elizabeth, born when Charles was about seventeen and brought up as part of James Cargill's family until the marriage of Charles and Elizabeth took place. It would seem reasonable that she would then move with her mother and so come under the care of her natural father as an infant of some two years of age.

I am greatly indebted to Mrs Jane Anderson, archivist at Blair Castle, for her expert and cheerful help over many years in accessing the papers in her charge of the Dukes of Atholl and the Atholl Estates. My thanks are also due to the staff of the National Archives and the Scottish Record Office, Edinburgh and the volunteers at the library of the Scottish Genealogical Society for their assistance. I remember with pleasure also the help I received many years ago from the late Mr A. Murray Robertson of Pitlochry, and recently from Mr Simon Yearsley of Dunkeld.²³

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Endnotes

- ¹ C.D.Waterston The Blair Stone of Rattray deciphered: a Proof of Ancestry *The Scottish Genealogist* lxi, 2016, pp.42-51. The stone now lies on the ground and the inscription has been weathered away leaving only traces of the *memento mori*. Fortunately, the inscription was recorded by Revd John Hunter in his *Memorial Inscriptions in the Churchyard of Rattray* 1913.
- ² Letter of A Murray Robertson to C.D.Waterston 25th January 1997.
- ³ Christopher R Ford *Dunkeld, Telford's Finest Highland Bridge* Perth and Kinross Council 2004.
- ⁴ *Ibid.* p.35.
- ⁵ *Chronicles of the Atholl and Tullibardine Family*, Privately printed, 1908 vols 1-5, 1991 vol 4, 210-11.
- ⁶ Blair Archive 48(9)49.
- ⁷ SC 49/48/143 in the Scottish Record Office, Historical Research Room.
- ⁸ Blair Archive, unregistered.
- ⁹ Blair Archive No.94, undated, Box 21 D
- ¹⁰ James C Blair 27th April 1830, Blair Archive 69(6)215
- ¹¹ Blair Archive, Bundle 1232.
- ¹² Blair Archive 69(3)47.
- ¹³ National Archives of Scotland SC49/31/10, pp.950-983.
- ¹⁴ National Archives of Scotland cc7/7/115
- ¹⁵ Blair Archive 69(3)346.
- ¹⁶ National Archives of Scotland SC49/31/10).
- ¹⁷ Precept of Clare Constat by the 4th Duke had been given in favour of Charles Blair dated 7 January 1803 and sasine thereon dated 22nd May 1804. Blair Archive Box 17, Parcel lxxiii, items 8 and 9.
- ¹⁸ Blair Archive Box 17, Parcel lxxiii, item 10.
- ¹⁹ C Blair to F Graham 11th November 1826. Blair Archive 69(2)468.
- ²⁰ Blair Archive Box 17, Parcel lxxiii, item 11, disposition by Charles Blair in favour of John 4th Duke dated 11th August 1828 and item 12 Sasine thereon dated 14th October 1828.
- ²¹ Blair Archive 69(3)289, 290, 69(3)346,439, 440 and 69(5)207.
- ²² National Archives of Scotland SC49/31/10.

The First Berkeleys in Scotland

Timothy Gordon Barclay¹

Introduction

The arrival of the Berkeleys in Scotland has been the subject of some conjecture for over four hundred years. A traditional Aberdeenshire account, first appearing in writing in the sixteenth century, assigned this arrival in the north to a younger son of the reeve of Berkeley, Gloucestershire, supposedly in company with Edgar and Margaret Ætheling, in c.1069.² Though this myth continued to be perpetuated well into the twentieth century, quite rightly it was discarded by George Chalmers in 1807 in favour of an early twelfth century origin for the family.³ Finally, in 1965 the eminent Scottish academic and historian, Geoffrey Barrow, firmly dated the arrival of the Berkeleys in Scotland to the reign of King Stephen, and in the past fifty years this timeframe has become accepted by most academics.⁴ However, as part of his investigation, Barrow also suggested the Scottish Berkeleys hailed not from Berkeley, Gloucestershire, but Berkley, Somersetshire, and were part of an exodus of dispossessed West Wessex Angevin supporters, including Robert of Bampton and Ralph Lovel of Tintinhull.⁵ This 'Berkley hypothesis', though popular, is yet to be tested. As such, with recent corrections to the history of the English Berkeleys offering new chronological evidence, a re-examination of the evidence for the origins of the first Scottish Berkeleys may now be undertaken.

The reign of David *ceann mòr*, king of Scotland, earl of Huntingdon, Cumberland and Northumberland, and brother-in-law of King Henry I of England, witnessed the first large scale migration of Normans from England and western Normandy to southern Scotland. Following Henry's death and David's initial actions against King Stephen in 1136, he was again persuaded by Stephen's opponents in 1138 to intervene on behalf of his niece, the Empress Matilda. Although defeated at the Battle of the Standard on 22 August of that year, the marriage of his son, Prince Henry, and Ada de Warenne, in 1139, ensured a continued connection between the kingdoms. The reigns of Henry and Ada's sons, Kings Malcolm IV and William I of Scotland, then featured a sustained second period of Scottish immigration distinguished from the first by both the wide variety of sources of immigrants and the smaller, more northerly lordships granted to them.⁶

The first appearances of Robert and Walter de Berkeley in Scotland date to the final months of Malcolm IV's life, as witnesses to a grant by Robert Avenel, probably executed in the royal court between 28 March and 9 December 1165.⁷ As this was around the same time Godfrey de Arundel and Henry Lovel first appear in Scotland, and as Geoffrey Barrow believed the 'Robert' who held Berkley in 1086 under Roger de Arundel may have also held Arundel's manor of Cary FitzPaine, near the Lovel's castle of Cary, he thus suggested the Berkeley brothers also hailed from Somerset.⁸ However, Berkley was assessed at two and a half hides (typically half a knight's fee) and was worth only 40 shillings in

1086, while Cary FitzPaine was worth only half of that.⁹ This suggests an insufficient base from which brothers of such high status as Robert and Walter de Berkeley might appear two or three generations later.

Looking further, a 'Robert' was lord of five of Roger de Arundel's manors – Skilgate, Milton (in Skilgate), Raddington, Cary FitzPaine and Berkeley – in Somerset in 1086, and 'Robert' also held one hide from Roger at Upper Cheddon.¹⁰ While it may be argued these were not necessarily all held by the same man, their combined value of 160 shillings, or around one and half to two knights' fees, appears more conducive to Barrow's hypothesis. However, the 'Robert' who held both Skilgate and Milton in 1086 was identified in the Exeter Domesday as Robert de Gatemore.¹¹ Furthermore, Robert's successor, Matthew de Gatemore, evidently had his caput at Skilgate in the time of Henry II, Isobel de Gatemore held half a knight's fee in Raddington before 1198, and members of the Albemarle (Aumâle) family held Skilgate, Cary FitzPaine and Berkley under Robert fitz Payn (successor to half the Arundel lands) in the thirteenth century.¹² It is thus more than probable that it was Robert de Gatemore who held all five manors under Roger de Arundel at Domesday.

A review of the careers and descendants of Robert and Walter de Berkeley is an effective position from which to begin forming an alternative hypothesis. Firstly, regardless of their origins, the de Berkeley brothers quickly rose to prominence in the court of King William: Walter succeeded Philip de Valognes as chamberlain to the king from c.1171, and of the 590 acts of King William in the *Regesta*, Walter was witness to 88 (51 named as chamberlain) while Robert de Berkeley signed 45 acts.¹³ Between about 1170 and 1174 Robert married Cecilia, daughter of Liulf of Maxton (Roxburghshire), and thus became Lord of Maxton *de jure* following Liulf's death after 1177.¹⁴ Correspondingly, between about 1165 and 1173 Walter de Berkeley acquired the lordship of Urr, in Desnes loan, from Uhtred of Galloway, and constructed there one of the largest mottes in Scotland.¹⁵ In addition, after 1173 Walter received the barony of Inverkeilor on the Angus coast and Chamberlain Newton in Roxburghshire from King William, and before 1174 he also received a grant of one ploughgate in Lessudden (now St. Boswells) in Roxburghshire and Plenmeller in Northumberland from his kinsman, Robert de London.¹⁶

While Walter de Berkeley is the better recorded of the two brothers and attained higher standing in the royal court than did Robert, this took time, and in the five charters they witnessed together before Walter's advancement to the position of chamberlain, Robert was placed before Walter on four occasions.¹⁷ Almost certainly then Robert was the elder brother, which raises several points. Firstly, although unrealised by Geoffrey Barrow, Cecilia of Maxton was the widow of Ranulf fitz Willard at the time of her marriage to Robert de Berkeley between 1170 and 1174, and as Cecilia's granddaughter, Alina, was married to Sir Hugh de Normanville by 1189, Cecilia was unlikely to have any further children in the

1170s.¹⁸ From Cecilia's perspective then, her second marriage to Robert de Berkeley brought an advocate for her children in succession to their father and maternal grandfather while simultaneously avoiding the potential complications that could be caused by the production of further heirs. However, it would be most peculiar for the king to have arranged such a union if Robert did not already have heirs of his own before his marriage to Cecilia. Probably then, Robert did have heirs who were as old or older than Cecilia's daughters and similarly were not to be disinherited by any younger siblings, especially (from an heiress' perspective) any younger brothers.

de Ardrossan

What can be determined of Robert de Berkeley's supposed heirs, or the lands they were to inherit? Turning to the second of these questions first, it is not unreasonable to suppose, as Robert de Berkeley's younger brother, Walter, acquired manors worth several knights' fees in all, Robert himself held a similarly sized estate. Geoffrey Barrow suggested Robert was erroneously recorded as Richard de Berkeley, lord of Ardrossan, in a charter of the lord of Cunningham from the second half of the twelfth century, and the "lands and barony of Ardrossan extending to 180 marks OE" compare favourably with the extent of Walter de Berkeley's lands.¹⁹ Similarly, the marriages of Robert's brother, Walter, and their kinswoman, Richenda de Berkeley, imply the family had an early association with south-west Scotland. Arthur de Ardrossan, first of that name on record, was witness with Richenda's husband, Robert fitz Warnebal, to a charter by William de Moreville before 1196, and was also witness to a charter by Alan fitz Walter before 1204.²⁰ Arthur continued to witness charters for his Cunningham superiors until c.1225, meaning his apparent birth date during the third quarter of the twelfth century corresponds closely with that to be expected of Robert and his first wife's son or son-in-law.²¹

Circumstantial evidence aside, Barrow's suggestion itself requires further examination. Timothy Pont, writing at the beginning of the seventeenth century, stated the grantor of the charter to Kilwinning Abbey was Richard de Moreville,²² but over a century later George Crawford wrote that Richard's father, Hugh de Moreville, was the donor concerned.²³ Although Barrow used Crawford's statement for his suggestion regarding the identity of the lord of Ardrossan as Robert de Berkeley (thus dating it to prior to Hugh's retirement in 1162), further evidence suggests that Kilwinning Abbey was founded by Richard de Moreville after succeeding his father, and this timeframe better suits Barrow's ideas (in the sense that the twice named 'Richard' may be explained as an error of duplication). However, despite their different accounts regarding the donor concerned, both Pont and Crawford agreed that his witness was Richard de Berkeley, and if Barrow is correct, then either Pont or Crawford were erroneous in name of both donor and witness. This is an unlikely scenario. As such, without further evidence to the contrary, it remains most likely that Richard de Berkeley was the name of the first recorded lord of Ardrossan.

de Addeville

Humphrey, son of Theobald, otherwise Humphrey de Berkeley, and his wife, Agatha, are the next Berkeleys found on record in Scotland having inherited lands in Ardoyne, Aberdeenshire. However, while older accounts placed Humphrey as cousin or nephew of Robert and Walter de Berkeley, upon re-examination of the source material in the British Museum, Geoffrey Barrow found Humphrey was therein described as the son of Theobald de Ad(d)eville, and that it was his wife who was surnamed 'de Berkeley'.²⁴ In light of this discovery, Barrow then suggested Agatha was the daughter of Walter de Berkeley and his wife, Eve, who was herself the heiress of, among other lands, Ardoyne.²⁵

There are certain difficulties with this suggestion. Firstly, as Agatha acquired Ardoyne during both Walter de Berkeley's and Eve's lifetimes but evidently held the same in chief of the king, this suggests Agatha did not inherit Ardoyne from them. Moreover, while Barrow apparently rejected established opinion that Eve was most probably the daughter of Uhtred of Galloway, in this matter the antiquarians appear to have been right.²⁶ In all probability then, Agatha was not Eve's daughter.

Given the above, a modified hypothesis offering Agatha as the daughter of Walter de Berkeley and an unknown first wife, the heiress of Ardoyne, has more recently appeared.²⁷ However, problems also exist with this interpretation. Shortly before Walter de Berkeley's death, Agatha's lands in Ardoyne were exchanged by the king for "four ploughgates of arable of Conveth (Laurencekirk), towards the east".²⁸ Together with a grant in 1189 to her husband, Humphrey, of the same lands *de jure* and thane's rights in Conveth (including patronage of the church and multures from the parish), this produced an estate rendering the service of a half a knight.²⁹ In addition, around the same time Humphrey received seven davochs in Fordoun, three and a half miles north-east of Conveth, also with rights *in forestam* of the same, and evidently also acquired the mill of Conveth.³⁰ However, these properties and rights seem to have formed at most about three knights' fees, and were of substantially less value than Walter de Berkeley's lordships and lands of Urr, Inverkeilor, Chamberlain Newton, Lessudden and Plenmeller, together worth more than six knights' fees.

It may be reasoned that, as Agatha de Berkeley apparently had no rights to Urr, this may have been granted to Walter de Berkeley and Eve of Galloway (and to the heirs of their bodies) conjointly. However, even if so, the grants of Inverkeilor, Chamberlain Newton, Lessudden and Plenmeller, amounting to over one and half knights' fees in all, were issued to Walter and his heirs - without further qualification - in feu and heritage, and Agatha was certainly born before Walter acquired any of these estates. Similarly, while the grant to Agatha of land in Conveth was explicitly made in exchange for her lands in Ardoyne, there were no further conditions made on this or any other of her or her husband's grants from the king. As such, to imagine that Agatha or Humphrey were granted the same in resignation of their rights to any other lands is fanciful. If Agatha was

Walter's elder daughter then, there thus seems no reason her heirs should not have held at least some of Walter's lands, either by primogeniture and in preference to, or by parcenry and in conjunction with, Walter's much younger heiress, the wife of Ingram de Balliol.

de Balliol

The barony of Urr was a major estate in the extreme south-west of Scotland and was part of Desnes loan, first granted to Uhtred of Galloway after 1160. The lordship equated to something like four and a half knights' fees in extent, and encompassed the parishes of Urr and possibly Blaiket, a portion of Kirkgunzeon and at least part of Lochrutton, and also included a small port on the Solway Firth.³¹ Urr and its appendices thus included some of the best land in the region, and judging by the archaeological evidence at the motte of Urr revealing the remains of an extensive fire there probably dating to the revolt of Uhtred and especially his brother, Gilbert, in late 1174,³² Walter de Berkeley was settled at Urr for some time before his capture with the king at Alnwick in July of that year.

The first appearance of Walter de Berkeley's son, John, was as witness to a grant by Alan fitz Walter to the Abbey of Melrose between 1189 and 1193.³³ Despite previous assertions John de Berkeley died in his father's lifetime, as it was almost certainly he who witnessed two writs of Roger, bishop of St. Andrews, to Arbroath Abbey in 1198 or early 1199, this belief appears misplaced.³⁴ However, John was certainly deceased by the time his father's lands in Lessudden were granted by King William to Robert fitz Maccus in December 1199, and his *pro anima* appearance in his mother, Eve's, gift of 25 acres in Stenton, East Lothian, to Melrose Abbey between 1200 and 4 December 1214, was his last.³⁵

It was Ingram de Balliol who was the next lord of Urr and Redcastle, and it was via his wife, John de Berkeley's younger sister, that Ingram acquired these lands.³⁶ However, while Ingram was of age by 1202 he was a younger son of Eustace de Helicourt and the marriage of his eldest brother, Hugh de Balliol, cannot be dated earlier than 1207.³⁷ Following John de Berkeley's death, Ingram did not take possession of his lands at Lessudden and Plenmeller (as subtenant) or at Chamberlain Newton (in chief of the king), and a certain Robert was steward of Walter's lands at Inverkeilor during the first decade of the thirteenth century.³⁸ No connection between Ingram and Walter de Berkeley can even be established until late in the second decade of the thirteenth century and, as such, it is probable Ingram and his wife were only married after 1210.³⁹ Given then Ingram's wife must also have been the daughter of Eve of Galloway, this, in turn, dates Eve's birth to after 1150, correlating well with her marriage in the late 1160s or early 1170s.⁴⁰

de Berkeley

Humphrey de Addeville died after 1201 and his and Agatha de Berkeley's son, Humphrey de Berkeley, like his kinsman, John de Berkeley, evidently died young, possibly before his father. The lands of Conveth and Fordoun then passed to

Agatha de Berkeley's daughter, Richenda de Berkeley, and her husband, Robert II fitz Warnebald, lord of Kilmaurs in Cunningham and sheriff of Lanark.⁴¹

Exactly when these events occurred is uncertain. However, following a perambulation made in the presence of the justiciars Matthew, bishop of Aberdeen, and Gilbert, earl of Strathearn, in 1198 Humphrey de Addeville granted the entire land of Balfeith, previously in dispute between Humphrey and Walter fitz Sibbald, to Arbroath Abbey.⁴² Balfeith, in Fordoun, adjoined Walter's lands at Abbeyton on the south and, probably soon after August 1199, Philip de Melville granted to Arbroath Abbey all the lands in Abbeyton he acquired in marriage with his wife, Eve, daughter of Walter fitz Sibbald.⁴³ Walter then confirmed Abbeyton to the abbey as witnessed by Humphrey de Addeville (amongst others).⁴⁴ However, Earl Gilbert then enquired as to whether the marches of Humphrey's and Walter's lands, now held by Geoffrey de Melville and Robert fitz Warnebald, had changed.⁴⁵ Most likely this letter was related to Gilbert's continuing role as justiciar, and as he was replaced in this position by William Comyn before September 1206, probably before September 1205, this suggests both Richenda was married, and her father deceased, before this time.⁴⁶

Some years later, but probably before c.1218, Richenda and Robert granted all their lands in Fordoun to Arbroath Abbey for the provision of an allowance, followed by a further grant of the same in alms because of the monks' "support in their great need".⁴⁷ However, these were evidently Richenda's father's and his heirs' (not heir's) lands, and she and Robert could not warrant their donations alone. As such, by c.1219 the abbot and monks of Arbroath had been forced to come to terms with her paternal uncle, John de Addeville, whereby following Richenda's death they would hold Fordoun and the mill of Conveth from John for four and thirteen marks per annum (respectively).⁴⁸

It may be surmised from these three grants that Richenda, having by 1219 suffered an extended period of ill-health, was expected to die without heirs of her body, possibly soon. However, she evidently recovered, and in settlement of the abbey's claims against her for their concessions to John, by c.1220 Richenda and Robert had granted in alms to Arbroath her father's mill of Conveth with right to multures from the whole parish.⁴⁹ Although, in so doing, they were again effectively disinheriting her uncle of his interests in the same and, based on history, this was a position that could not endure, the abbey was at least temporarily in a commanding position from which to form a new accord. As such, in c.1219 or 1220, John and his son, Robert, then granted all their rights to Humphrey's inheritance in Scotland in alms to the abbey, matching Richenda's and Robert's gifts, but with Fordoun to be held by them from the abbey following Richenda's death for one pound of pepper annually, and the mill of Conveth for a further twelve marks.⁵⁰ This was confirmed by Alexander II on 1 January 1221 at Dundee, and following further testimony anent the marches of the lands of Balfeith and Abbeyton in November of that year, on 22 December 1222 the king confirmed all the inheritance of Humphrey de Addeville in free alms to Arbroath,

to be held by Richenda and Robert from the abbey during their lifetimes.⁵¹

With her father's inheritance now disposed of, Richenda and Robert remained in possession of the same under Arbroath for at least another seventeen years or so, while continuing to hold her mother's lands in Conveth in chief of the king. However, towards the end of their lives, between 1239 and 1242, Richenda and her husband granted to Arbroath abbey Conveth, Halton and Scotston, in feu-ferm for 100s. during their lives and 20s. annually to Richenda's "nearest heirs who are born in the said lands and who are distinguishable" after her death.⁵² Although in the interim Richenda and her husband had (with consent of the abbot) infeft Roger Wyrfaute and his wife, Cecilia, in half a davoch beside Scotston (about halfway between Conveth and Fordoun) previously held by Hugh fitz Waltheof, and, as such this, and also one oxgang of land near the mill of Conveth (otherwise granted as an endowment for a lamp at the altar of St Mary in Arbroath), were excluded from Richenda and Robert's grant, Arbroath was now in possession of all other lands granted to Richenda's parents half a century earlier.⁵³

In 1242 Roger Wyrfaute and Cecilia granted their land near Scotston to St. Andrews Cathedral Priory in free alms, and that same year Arbroath Abbey set the demesne lands of Conveth (excluding the advowson of the church and church lands), Halton and Scotston to John Wishart for an annual render of eight marks (106s. 8d.).⁵⁴ However, following her husband's death, in 1245 or 1246 Richenda de Berkeley, now a free widow, extended and confirmed her previous grants, with the lands of Fordoun, mill of Conveth and multures of the parish to be held by Arbroath in free alms, and her lands in Conveth in feu-ferm for 20s. annually.⁵⁵ Richenda also confirmed to Roger Wyrfaute his lands in Conveth, and before 1250 Roger, with consent of his wife, again granted their lands to St. Andrews Priory.⁵⁶ Presumably then soon after 1258 Roger, without any mention of Cecilia, granted to St. Andrews the same lands to be held of Richenda de Berkeley and her heirs for one pound of pepper annually, and finally, in December 1261, St. Andrews made over their lands in Conveth to Arbroath Abbey for one pound of pepper per annum.⁵⁷

Emme

Amongst the patchwork of grants and confirmations described above, it is of note that the davoch in Glenfarquhar granted by Humphrey de Addeville to his son, Humphrey, and confirmed by the king between 29 December 1195 and 1203, probably before 1201, had passed from the younger Humphrey to his sister, Richenda, at his death.⁵⁸ The abbot of Arbroath appears to have enjoyed undisputed title to Fordoun and the mill of Conveth after John and Robert de Addeville's resignations, and before 1265 John Wishart, Arbroath's tenant in Conveth, acquired Fordoun from the abbey and infeft Alexander Comyn, earl of Buchan, in the same.⁵⁹ However, Richenda's rights to her parents' inheritance were evidently contested – or at least, contestable – by more than just her uncle, John de Addeville, and cousin, Robert. In March 1284, Hugh Emme (old English for 'uncle'), son and heir of Constancia, "niece and heiress of Lady Richenda,

daughter of Humphrey de Berkeley", resigned his rights in the lands of the Mearns and the mill of Conveth to Arbroath Abbey. As Richenda's heir, Hugh presumably held rights to the 20s. per annum due from the abbey for their lands of Conveth, Halton and Scotston, and in exchange for his resignation, Hugh was granted the Abbey's lands of Letham Grange, Angus (about three miles south west of Inverkeilor and seventeen miles south south-east of Fordoun) at an annual rent of 20s.⁶⁰

Without appeal to an otherwise unknown sibling, Hugh's mother, Constanca, was presumably the daughter of the younger Humphrey de Berkeley and was born sometime around the issue of the royal confirmation of Humphrey's davoch in Glenfarquhar. Possibly then, Constanca was otherwise Cecilia, the wife of Roger Wyrfaute (who was himself possibly the grandson of Hugh fitz Waltheof), whose possession of land at Scotston that could not be warranted by Richenda (who held the same in chief of the king), is otherwise unexplained. Convincingly though, as no de Addeville or de Berkeley was called on to confirm the earlier grants of Fordoun and Conveth or held these lands from Arbroath Abbey after Richenda (and some degree of involvement should be evident even in the case of absentee landlords), the assumption that the later Barclays of Scotland were descended from the earlier Berkeleys via John de Addeville and his son, Robert (neither of whom appear in any records with the Berkeley surname), is highly doubtful.

This raises a further point. For while as tenants of the lords of Cunningham and Galloway Robert fitz Warnebold, the de Ardrossans and de Balliols occur in one another's company on several occasions, none was called upon to confirm, or even witness the grants and confirmations of, one another. In addition, the pattern of inheritance at Fordoun and Conveth whereby Richenda de Berkeley's rights were regarded as superior to both her paternal kinsmen and niece, provides further evidence that her mother, Agatha de Berkeley, could not be Walter de Berkeley's elder, disinherited daughter. Indeed, as Richenda's and her brother Humphrey's births were contemporary with that of Walter de Berkeley's son, John, but occurred some years earlier than that of John's sister, it is most likely that Agatha de Berkeley was Robert and Walter de Berkeley's younger sister or niece. However, if the former, as Agatha was both the sole heir of Ardoyne and was born significantly later than her brothers, it may be reasoned she was the daughter of their father's second wife.

Analysis

The greatest difficulties in identifying the origins of the first Scottish Berkeleys as cadets of the English Berkeleys have always been chronological. Certainly, Robert and Walter de Berkeley were born about 1139 (± 5 years). On the one hand, this makes them too old to have been the sons of the English Roger III de Berkeley (d. about 1190) or his cousin, William I de Berkeley (d.1149), whose heirs were born from the late 1140s. On the other hand, it also makes them too young to have been either Roger or William's brothers. Recent corrections to

the history of the English Berkeleys do not alleviate these problems, and as such, consideration should be given to the potential for Robert and Walter de Berkeley to have belonged to the second – not first – generation of Scottish Berkeleys.

Whoever Robert and Walter de Berkeley's father was, he was born before about 1120, most probably in the 1110s. Roger III de Berkeley, born soon after about 1117, is therefore chronologically less likely to have been Robert and Walter's uncle than was his cousin, William I de Berkeley, who was born before about 1111.⁶¹ Though Roger did have at least one elder sister, no identifiable Berkeley kinsmen witnessed Roger and Robert fitz Harding's marriage accord in late 1154 or early 1155, and despite Roger's and his children's numerous appearances in the records, there is no indication he had any brothers or nephews.⁶² Presumably then, he did not.

By elimination, it may be suggested that Robert and Walter de Berkeley's father was most likely a younger cousin of Roger III de Berkeley. Roger's uncle, Eustace de Berkeley, held the manor of Nympsfield within Berkeley Herness in the early 1120s, and his son, William, appears as the wealthy custodian of Berkeley during Roger III's minority in the 1130s.⁶³ William I de Berkeley's position as a supporter of the earls of Gloucester and Hereford and the Empress Matilda in the 1140s was matched by Roger's continued adherence to the Angevin party after his succession, and it is more than probable that Roger accompanied Matilda's son, Henry Plantagenet, along with Hereford and other young men of rank, north to the Scottish court at Carlisle in 1149.⁶⁴ This provides a reasonable context by which William and Roger's kinsmen may have found royal favour in Scotland.

Another line of evidence should also be considered. While Walter de Berkeley's acquisition of dispersed single and fractional fees in Roxburghshire, Northumberland and Angus are typical of William the Lion's reign, the centralisation and extent of the barony of Ardrossan indicates an original infeoffment prior to this time. However, Walter's acquisition of Urr, about four and a half fees in extent, implies an early familiarity with the management of a large lordship, as well as the probability of a nearby geographic origin.⁶⁵ Notably, both Ardrossan and Urr were connected with the Irish Sea, and via the lords of Galloway to the kings of Man. This connection was matched by that of Bristol, Gloucestershire, which expanded from a small burgh supplying English slaves to Ireland before the Conquest to become one of England's premier ports in the twelfth century, culminating in a grant of colonisation and trading rights with Dublin under Henry II.⁶⁶ Eustace de Berkeley, as a younger son of Roger I de Berkeley, possibly took advantage of the opportunities available to him locally, and his success at whatever his pursuits is indicated by the apparent increased wealth and status of his son, William I. However, as William apparently had no terrestrial interests until the 1140s, it appears his chief interests lay elsewhere.

The evidence for economic factors featuring prominently in the arrival of the

Berkeleys in Scotland is further supported. The English Berkeley's were associated with the Aumâle region before the twelfth century, and Roger III de Berkeley and his heirs held freedom from customs due at the nearby port of St Valery in the 1100s.⁶⁷ The associations of the Scottish Berkeleys with the families of Addeville, Normanville and Balliol, all with continental homes on the French coast, and even the site of Inverkeilor itself on the North Sea, again imply maritime interests were prominent in both Berkeley lines. In conjunction with the evidence from the Irish Sea then, these interests appear to have been extensive. Indeed, the very nature of Walter de Berkeley's appointment as chamberlain of the king from the 1170s implies an established competence in the field of financial administration. Moreover, while Walter's advancement at the expense of Philip de Valognes has previously been unexplained, Barrow equated the position of the early Scottish chamberlain with that of the English treasurer and master chamberlain, and the process of purchasing these offices in England is evident from the second quarter of the twelfth century.⁶⁸ Tenure by commission possibly had a limited introduction in Scotland sometime thereafter, and may explain the otherwise contradictory circumstances surrounding the Walter and Philip's appointments as Chamberlains of Scotland in the second half of the twelfth century. This evidence also parallels William I de Berkeley's purchase of the custodianship of Berkeley for £190 in 1130, and again highlights an apparent ready access to wealth and resources common to the Berkeleys of Scotland and England in the twelfth century.⁶⁹

Given all the above then, most likely Robert and Walter de Berkeley's father was Richard de Berkeley, he was the younger son of Eustace de Berkeley, and he arrived in the north in association with his family's support for the Angevins during King Stephen's reign and as a natural extension of their interests in the Irish Sea. Richard's first wife, Robert's and Walter's mother, was presumably an Anglo-Norman, but by around 1160, Richard married the heiress of Ardoyne, mother of his daughter, Agatha de Berkeley.⁷⁰ Somewhat serendipitously, Barrow appears to have been correct in surmising Robert de Berkeley was the lord of Ardrossan. However, this was in succession to his father, and it was certainly Richard de Berkeley, not Robert, who witnessed a grant by the lord of Cunningham after 1162.

The identification of Richard de Berkeley as the first lord of Ardrossan and the younger son of Eustace de Berkeley explains not only Robert, Walter and Agatha de Berkeley's lack of inheritance from, or association with, the Berkeleys of England, but also their prominence in Scotland. Notably though, none of Richard de Berkeley's great-grandchildren in the houses of Ardrossan, Urr and Inverkeilor, and Conveth and Fordoun, bore the Berkeley surname, and it was instead Hugh Emme who was Richenda de Berkeley's nearest heir. As such, the assumption made by all previous writers that the later Scottish Barclays were descendants of the first.

Conclusion

As with many early families, it has always been necessary to chart a course of probabilities when attempting to unravel the history of the earliest Scottish Berkeleys, and this remains true of the present account. However, by exploring the totality of the evidence, the various hypotheses may be judged against the same. In effect then, the identification and elimination of the impossible and the implausible contributes as much as the certain or the probable does to the foregoing corrections.

There is certainly now sufficient evidence to discard the idea of a Berkley origin for the first Scottish Berkeleys. It is also manifest that Agatha de Berkeley was not the daughter of Walter de Berkeley, and the possibility of her being the daughter of Robert de Berkeley may be similarly rejected. The identity of the first lord of Ardrossan under the lord of Cunningham cannot reasonably be held to be other than the Richard de Berkeley recorded by both Timothy Pont and George Crawford, and the deduction that Richard was the father of Robert, Walter and Agatha de Berkeley, correlates chronologically with recent independent corrections to the history of the English Berkeleys. However, while Richard was a contemporary of the English Roger III and William I de Berkeley, and both were adherents of the earls of Gloucester and thereby associates of Henry Plantagenet and David, king of Scotland, Roger III de Berkeley had no surviving brothers. No such certainty surrounds William's siblings though, and without appeal to any hypothetical or unrecorded kinsmen, Richard must then have been William's younger brother. Further support for this identification is also provided by circumstantial evidence suggesting mercantile or financial reasons for his migration. However, as no evidence exists connecting any of his descendants with the Scottish Barclays of the later thirteenth century, Richard's relocation was evidently the first, but not only, migration of Berkeleys from Gloucestershire north during the reigns of the *ceann mòr* kings of Scotland.

Endnotes

¹ Contact details: tgbarc2000@gmail.com

² Hubert F. Barclay, *A History of the Barclay Family, Part II: The Barclays in Scotland from 1067 to 1660 (HOBFI II)* (London: The St Catherine Press, 1933), p.3, cites M. Lumsden, *Genealogy of the House of Forbes and Others* MS.

³ *HOBFI II*, pp.3-4; George Way and Romilly Squire, *Collins Scottish Clan & Family Encyclopedia* (Glasgow: Harpercollins, 1994), pp.72–73; George Chalmers, *Caledonia: or, an Account, Historical and Topographic, of North Britain, from the Most Ancient to the Present Times: With a Dictionary of Places, Chorographical and Philological, Volume I* (London: printed for T. Cadell and W. Davies, Strand; and A. Constable and Co, at Edinburgh, 1807), p.528.

⁴ G. W. S. Barrow, *The Kingdom of the Scots* 2nd Edition (*TKOTS*) (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2003), pp. vii, 292-293; Keith Stringer, 'Walter of Berkeley', *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, V, 392.

⁵ G. W. S. Barrow, ed., *Regesta Regum Scottorum (RRS)*, II (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1971), p.6.

⁶ *TKOTS*, p.283.

⁷ G. W. S. Barrow, ed., *RRS*, I (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1960), no.292; *Liber*

- Sancte Marie de Melros (Melr. Lib.)*, I (Edinburgh: printed for the Bannatyne Club, 1837), no.39.
- ⁸ RRS, I, no.265; *Domesday Book*, Folios: 94V, 95 Somerset; RRS, II, p.6.
- ⁹ *Domesday Book*, Folio: 94 V Somerset.
- ¹⁰ *Domesday Book*, Folio: 94V Somerset.
- ¹¹ *Exeter Domesday*, 442.
- ¹² F. W. Weaver, "A Cartulary of Buckland Priory", *Somerset Record Society XXV* (1909), pp.49, 82-5; *Memoranda Roll, 10 John* (London: printed for the Pipe Roll Society, 1955), p.89; *Feet of Fines, 10 Richard I* (London: printed for the Pipe Roll Society, 1900), p.241; *Curia Regis Rolls, Richard I –2 John* (London: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1922), p.65; *Inquisitions and Feudal Aids*, IV (London: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1906), pp.275, 285, 310.
- ¹³ RRS, II, *passim*. Walter was described as chamberlain in 62 secular and ecclesiastical records in all.
- ¹⁴ RRS, II, no.342; *Melr. Lib.*, I, no.67.
- ¹⁵ Richard Oram, *The Lordship of Galloway* (Edinburgh: John Donald, 2000), p.199.
- ¹⁶ RRS, II, nos.185-6, 171; BL, Add. Ch. 76749; *Pipe Roll, 22 Henry II*, p.138. Though a shared Somerset heritage could account for the kinship of Walter de Berkeley and Robert de London, their connection was almost certainly by affinity, not descent. cf. Barclay, A *Question of Kinship: the de London family of England, Wales and Scotland* (forthcoming).
- ¹⁷ RRS, I, no.292; *Melr. Lib.*, I, no.39; RRS, II, nos.34, 39, 84.
- ¹⁸ William Farrer, ed., *Early Yorkshire Charters*, I (Edinburgh: printed for the editor, 1914), p.457; *Pipe Roll, 1 Ric I*, p.243; *Melr. Lib.*, I, no.92.
- ¹⁹ TKOTS, p.292 n.79; James Balfour Paul and John Maitland Thomson, eds., *Registrum Magni Sigilli Regum Scotorum*, III (Edinburgh: printed for H. M. General Register House, 1883), no.732. In terms of ancient extent, the barony of Inverkeilor was a £20 AE land for which Walter owed one knight's service [Thomas Thomson, ed., *Inquisitionum ad Capellam Domini Regis Retornatarum, quae in publicis archivis Scotiae adhuc servantur, Abbreviatio (Retours), Volume I* (London: Record Commission, 1811), *Inquisitiones Speciales*, Forfar, no.352; RRS, II, no.185]. Chamberlain Newton included at least 20 marks AE of land of which Walter held half a knight's fee [*Retours, Volume II*, *Inquisitiones Speciales*, Roxburgh, no.212; William Fraser, *The Douglas Book*, III (Edinburgh, 1885), no.1; RRS, II, no.171]. The barony of Urr as held by the Balliols was a 100 mark AE land, while the lands of Corswadda, in Lochrutton parish, were subinfeft by Walter de Berkeley for half a knight's service [*Retours, Volume II*, *Inquisitiones Speciales*, Kirkcudbright, no.425; James Anderson, ed., *Selectus Diplomatum and Numismatum Scotiae Thesaurus*, (Edinburgh: Thomas and Walter Ruddiman, 1739) no.77]. The barony of Kirkgunzeon as held by Holm Cultram was a 60 mark land, and though Walter only held a portion of this, if the income due from each portion of Kirkgunzeon as granted by Uhtred to Holm Cultram and eventually making up that barony may be used as a guide, Walter held 22½ marks AE of land there [(*Retours, Volume II*, *Inquisitiones Speciales*, Kirkcudbright, no.425; Francis Grainger and W G Collingwood, *The Register and Records of Holm Cultram (H.C. Reg.)* (Kendal: T Wilson & Son for the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, Record Series Vol. 7, 1929), nos.120, 120a, 121]. In all then Walter's entire lordship of Urr included lands extending to at least 135 marks AE while the total of all his lands and lordships in Scotland exceeded 180 marks AE. This equates to six knights' fees and had a late 12th century value of about £50 [Frederick W. Ragg, "Five Strathclyde and Galloway charters", *Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society*, 2nd series, xvii (1917), pp.218-19; NRS, GD 241/254/6].
- ²⁰ Joseph Stevenson, ed., *Illustrations of Scottish History, From the Twelfth to the Sixteenth Century* (Glasgow: The Maitland Club, 1834), no.8; William Fraser, *The Lennox, Volume II: Muniments* (Edinburgh: 1874), no.1.

- ²¹ Keith Stringer, "Acts of lordship: the records of the lords of Galloway to 1234". In T. Brotherstone, & D. Ditchburn, eds., *Freedom and authority: Scotland, c. 1050-c. 1650: historical and historiographical essays presented to Grant G. Simpson* (East Linton: Tuckwell Press, 2000), pp.232-3.
- ²² J Fullarton, ed., *Cunningham Topographized, by Timothy Pont* (Glasgow: The Maitland Club, 1858), p.11.
- ²³ George Crawford and William Semple, *The History of the Shire of Renfrew from the earliest accounts to the year MDCCX, by Mr. George Crawford: and continued to the present period by William Semple* (Paisley: printed for the author, 1782), p.88.
- ²⁴ RRS, II, no.423. Theobald was probably the son of Humphrey de Albini of Addeville, in the commune of St. Côme-du-Mont, canton Carenton, arr. St Lô, dép. Manche [Charles Johnson and H. A. Cronne, eds., *Regesta Regum Anglo-Normannorum (RRAN)*, II (Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1906), nos.1683-4; Léopold Delisle and Élie Berger, eds., *Recueil des actes de Henri II, roi d'Angleterre et duc de Normandie, concernant les provinces françaises et les affaires de France*, II (Paris: Imprimerie Nationale, 1916), p.203].
- ²⁵ RRS, II, 6, nos.205, 344 & n.; TKOTS, p.293.
- ²⁶ Apart from the onomastic evidence afforded by the appearance of a Roland as the brother of Eve, as she was married around the same time Walter de Berkeley received the valuable (and thus not lightly disposed of) lordship of Urr in Desnes loan from Uhtred of Galloway, and the Balliols of Urr later confirmed various grants to Holm Cultram Abbey as the heirs of Uhtred and Walter, Eve was almost certainly the daughter of Uhtred and sister of Roland of Galloway [*Melr. Lib.*, I, no.49; *H.C. Reg.*, nos.124, 125, 147; *Liber Cartarum Sancte Crucis Munimenta Ecclesie Sancte Crucis De Edwinesburg (Holy. Lib.)* (Edinburgh: printed for the Bannatyne Club, 1840), no.81].
- ²⁷ Keith Stringer, "Walter of Berkeley", *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, V, 392.
- ²⁸ RRS, II, no.344.
- ²⁹ RRS, II, no.345.
- ³⁰ RRS, II, nos.346, 533; *Liber S. Thome de Aberbrothoc (Arb. Lib.)*, I (Edinburgh: printed for the Bannatyne Club, 1848), no.271.
- ³¹ *Galloway*, p.199; *H.C. Reg.*, no.269.
- ³² Brian Hope-Taylor, "Excavations at Mote of Urr. Interim report: 1951 season", *Transactions and Journal of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History Antiquarian Society*, 3rd series, vol. 29 (1950-1), pp.169-72; Brian Hope-Taylor, "Mote of Urr", *Council for British Archaeology Scottish Group 8th Report* (1953), Discovery and Excavation in Scotland, pp.10-11.
- ³³ *Melr. Lib.*, I, no.97.
- ³⁴ Norman F. Shead, ed., *Scottish Episcopal Acta Volume I* (Scottish History Society, 2016), nos.237, 255.
- ³⁵ RRS, II, no.422; *Melr. Lib.*, I, no.49. Presumably also following John de Berkeley's death between August 1198 and December 1199, King William evidently granted Plenmeller to Robert de Ros, married in 1191 to William's daughter, Isobel, widow of Robert de Brus [Joseph Stevenson, ed., *Chronica de Mailros: E Codice Unico in Biblioteca Cottoniana Servato, Nunc Iterum in Lucem Edita. Notulis Indiceque Aucta* (1835), p.99; RRS II, nos.365, 574; Joseph Bain, ed., *Calendar of Documents Relating to Scotland (CDS)*, III (Edinburgh: H. M. General Register House, 1887), no.236].
- ³⁶ *Holy. Lib.*, no.70; RRS, III, no.141; *H.C. Reg.*, no.124; *Arb. Lib.*, I, no.58. Probably soon after succeeding his father, Ingram's eldest son, Eustace de Balliol, confirmed to the church of Inverkeilor the gifts of his ancestors, namely Walter de Berkeley his *avus* and Ingram de Balliol his *patris* (BL, Add. MS. 33245, fols. 143v-144r).
- ³⁷ *Registrum Episcopatus Glasguensis*, I (Edinburgh: printed for the Bannatyne Club, 1848), no.90. Hugh's son and heir, John, fined £150 for his relief in April 1229 [*Excerpta E Rotulis Finium in Turri Londinensi Asservatis, Henry III*, Volume I (London: Record Commission, 1835), p.183].

- ³⁸ Robert de Inverkeilor was witness to Humphrey de Addeville's grant of Balfieth between August and October 1198, was steward of Inverkeilor before 1210 and was sheriff of the Mearns by November 1221 [*Arb. Lib.*, I, nos.72, 74, 89; *Registrum Episcopatus Brechinensis*, II (Edinburgh: printed for the Bannatyne Club, 1856), no 1; *TKOTS*, p.66 no.2]. Given his later royal service and King William's redistribution of Walter de Berkeley's lands in Lessudden, Plenmeller and Chamberlain Newton in and after c.1199, Robert was possibly already acting as steward of Inverkeilor in October 1198, suggesting John de Berkeley may have died before this time.
- ³⁹ Ingram's daughter, Ellen, was married about 1233, died about November 1281, and her third son, William de Percy, was aged 26 in 1262 [*Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem and Other Analogous Documents, I Henry III* (London: His Majesty's Stationary Office, 1904), no.506)], suggesting she was born between about 1212 and 1219. Ingram's son, Eustace de Balliol, does not appear in Scottish records before Ingram's death around 1244, but had married his sister's step-daughter, Agnes de Percy, during his father's lifetime. Almost certainly though this did not take place until after the marriage of his eldest cousin, John de Balliol, to Dervoguilla of Galloway, grand-niece of Eve of Galloway, in mid-1233 [*Chronica de Mailros* (Edinburgh: printed for the Bannatyne Club, 1835), p.143].
- ⁴⁰ Walter de Berkeley died in or after 1193, possibly as late as 1195 (*RRS*, II, nos.300, 365), and assuming Ingram's wife was married around the typical age for an heiress, she was probably very young at her father's death. Her continued minority through the early 1200s explains the redistribution of Walter's lands at Lessudden and Plenmeller and the position of Robert as steward of Inverkeilor before her marriage.
- ⁴¹ *Liber S. Marie de Calchou* (Edinburgh: printed for the Bannatyne Club, 1846), no.284; *RRS*, II, no.262.
- ⁴² *Arb. Lib.*, I, no.89; *TKOTS*, p.66 no.2. Humphrey's grant provided sufficient resources for 100 livestock, suggesting Balfeith was at least one davoch in extent.
- ⁴³ *Arb. Lib.*, I, no.93; *RRS*, II, no.458.
- ⁴⁴ *Arb. Lib.*, I, no.94.
- ⁴⁵ *TKOTS*, p.66 no.1.
- ⁴⁶ *Arb. Lib.*, I, no.74(bis). Robert son of Robert fitz Warnebold was of age by 1189 (*RRS*, II, no.260) and it is possible he and Richenda were married around this time.
- ⁴⁷ BL, Add. MS. 33245, fo.146r-v; *Arb. Lib.*, I, no.261.
- ⁴⁸ BL, Add. MS. 33245, fo.152r. It is of some interest neither John de Addeville nor the abbot of Arbroath appear to have been interested in any demesne farming in Fordoun. Their final accord did not reduce John's ability to profit by subinfeftment but could require him to deal with up to several tenant fermors either personally or via a factor, whereas previously this task was that of the abbot.
- ⁴⁹ BL, Add. MS. 33245, fo.146r-v.
- ⁵⁰ BL, Add. MS. 33245, fo.147r-v.
- ⁵¹ *TKOTS*, p.66 no.2; *RRS*, III, nos.55, 76.
- ⁵² BL, Add. MS. 33245, fos.146v-147r, 151r-v.
- ⁵³ BL, Add. MS. 33245, fo.152r-v. Hugh's father, Waltheof fitz Edmund, held Newby in Yorkshire of William III de Lancaster before 1166, and subsequently of William's daughter, Avice, and her husband, Richard de Moreville, who married shortly before 1170. Following this, and before 1177, Hugh, his brother Richard and Hugh's son, Gilbert, witnessed a charter by Avice confirming his father's grant of Newby to Furness Abbey, and Gilbert, Hugh, Richard and also their brother William witnessed another charter by Avice and Richard's son, William de Moreville, confirming his parents' charters to Furness between 1189 and 1194 [John Brownbill, ed., *The Coucher Book of Furness Abbey, Volume II Part II* (Manchester: printed for the Chetham Society, 1916), pp.310-11, 336-7]. This provides a reasonable context for Hugh's arrival in the Mearns as a tenant of the de Berkeleys, who held Ardrossan under the Morevilles.

- ⁵⁴ *Liber Cartarum Prioratus Sancti Andree in Scotia (St. A. Lib.)* (Edinburgh: printed for the Bannatnyne Club, 1841), p.279; *Arb. Lib.*, I, no.272; *RRS*, III, no.311.
- ⁵⁵ BL, Add. MS. 33245, fo.145r-v.
- ⁵⁶ *St A. Lib.*, pp.279, 285-6.
- ⁵⁷ *St. A. Lib.*, pp.286-7, 335.
- ⁵⁸ *RRS*, II, no.423.
- ⁵⁹ *Arb. Lib.*, I, nos.247, 311.
- ⁶⁰ BL, Add. MS. 33245, fo.153v.
- ⁶¹ Earlier accounts of the first family of Berkeley have been based on numerous dubious records. For a full discussion and analysis cf. Timothy Barclay, "The Earlier House of Berkeley: A Revised History", *Foundations Volume 9* (June 2017), pp.47-70.
- ⁶² K. R. Potter, ed., *Gesta Stephani (Gesta)* (Oxford: The Clarendon Press (1976), pp.190-1; TNA, BCM/A/1/43/62 (SC 4); John Smyth, *The Berkeley Manuscripts*, III, ed. John Maclean (Gloucester: printed for the Bristol and Gloucester Archaeological Society, 1885), pp.325-6.
- ⁶³ William Henry Hart, ed., *Historia et Cartularium Monasterii Sancti Petri Gloucestriae*, I (London: Longman, Green, Longman, Roberts, and Green, 1863), p.101; *Pipe Roll 31 Hen I*, p.133.
- ⁶⁴ *Gesta*, pp.214-219.
- ⁶⁵ Walter de Berkeley's brother-in-law and superior at Urr, Roland of Galloway, married Helen, daughter of Richard de Moreville, superior of the lord of Ardrossan, in the early 1180s.
- ⁶⁶ Reginald R. Darlington, ed., *The Vita Wulfstani of William of Malmesbury to which are added the Extant Abridgements of this work and the Miracles and the Translation of St. Wulfstan* (London: Office of the Society, 1928), pp.43, 91; John T. Gilbert, *Calendar of the Ancient Records of Dublin, Volume I*, (Dublin & London: published on the authority of the Municipal Council, 1889), pp.1-2. Roger I de Berkeley had a house and fishery at Gloucester in 1086 (*Domesday Book*, Folio 162: Gloucestershire) and the burgesses of Gloucester were trading with Ireland in 1130 (*Pipe Roll, 31 Henry I*, p.77), presumably via the Severn River and port at Bristol.
- ⁶⁷ Thomas Stapleton, "Observations on the History of Adeliza, Sister of William the Conqueror", *Archaeologia Vol. 26* (1836), pp.358-60; William Dugdale, John Caley, Henry Ellis and Bulkeley Bandinal, *Monasticon Anglicanum Volume V* (London: Longman & Co., Harding & Co., and Joseph Harding, 1825), *sive* Kingswood, no.IV.
- ⁶⁸ *RRS*, I, p.30; *RRAN*, II, p.xiii.
- ⁶⁹ *Pipe Roll, 31 Henry I*, p.131.
- ⁷⁰ The conclusion Agatha was Richard's daughter is further supported by onomastic evidence, for while Agatha was also the grand-niece of Racendis, wife of Roger II de Berkeley, she was born twenty years or more after her great-aunt's death, making this is an unlikely reason for her daughter to have been named Richenda. Interestingly, though Robert and Walter married into native Scottish families, Agatha was married to a Norman, a pattern supporting the chronological evidence that she was the only child of their father to be born after his arrival in Scotland and was not their uterine sister.

Autumn Talks

On 16 October, Dr Anthony Lewis will describe "The Builders of Edinburgh's New Town", coinciding with the 250th anniversary of the New Town. These entrepreneurs left their influences not only on the appearance of buildings but in several street-names.

On 20 November Mary Contini will recount the tale of "Scottish Italians – Immigrant Families in the 20th Century", people who added more threads to the tapestry of Scottish diversity and who added to our shared culture.

Mary Stuart Huntly. later known as Señora Spencer, 1871-1940

Peter Huntly

Mary Stuart Huntly, who was my 2nd cousin twice removed, was born on 15th May 1871 at 10am at Tarvit Street, Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland.¹ Her parents were Robert Huntly, described as a Commercial Traveller Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Isabella Elizabeth Waddell Aitchison. Robert and Isabella were unmarried at the time and acted as joint informants of the birth signing as mother and father. They married later the same year on 28th September after banns according to the forms of the Established Church of Scotland in Isabella's home parish of Abbey St Bathans, Berwickshire, at her father's farm named Shannabank.



Señora Spencer

Robert was described as a bachelor (Occupation Engineer) of 10 Brougham Street, Edinburgh, and Isabella was described as a spinster of Shannabank, Abbey St Bathans.²

Not a great deal is known about Mary's early life apart from the fact that the 1881 Census taken on 3rd April shows Mary as a scholar aged 9 living with her mother and father at Wallsend, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northumberland, England.³ Her father, Robert is listed as a Marine Engineer (Seaman). I have been unable to find the family in the 1891 census in the UK. They are recorded on the 1901 census of Canada living in Vancouver, entering that country in 1895.⁴ For some reason Mary's birth year has been changed to 1877 although the other details are correct (this seems to be a pattern repeated throughout her life!) Both the dates of birth for her parents are correct. Robert is listed as a Hotel Keeper and in fact other records confirm that he ran the Arlington Hotel in West Cordova Street in Vancouver's historic Gastown District. This building still exists but is no longer a hotel. It is recorded on the Register of Canada's Historic Places.

An advertisement appeared in The Independent in Vancouver on 26th May 1900:-

Arlington Hotel, Cordova St. West,
Headquarters for the engineering trade in Vancouver.
Choicest Liquors and Cigars.
First-class rooms from 50 cents up.
ROBT. HUNTLY, - PROP.⁵

It appears that Mary met her future husband Spencer Cosens in Canada. Spencer was recorded in the 1901 Census of Canada at a place named Camp McKinney. (Camp McKinney is now a ghost town in the Boundary Country region of British Columbia, Canada located southeast of Baldy Mountain, northeast of Osoyoos.) At this time he was running a Provisions Store with his brothers Sydney and Arthur in this gold mining area. It is recorded in the census that Spencer arrived in Canada in 1893. Their father (Cornelius Cosens) was a farmer who arrived in Canada in the 1890s and Cosens Bay in Kalamalka Lake Provincial Park near Vernon, British Columbia is named after him as an early pioneer in that area.

The next record we find of Mary is travelling with her mother, father and Spencer Cosens to Australia arriving in Sydney from Vancouver on 18th August 1902 on board the SS Moana.⁶ The following year on the 14th February 1903 Mary and Spencer married at St John's Church, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. The register states –

Marriage By Licence

Groom - Spencer Cosens, Bachelor born Sussex, England, Traveller aged 30.

Bride - Mary Stuart Huntly, Spinsterborn Edinburgh, Scotland, Lady aged 26⁷

Both gave their present address as Gladstone House, Victoria Street, North Melbourne but Spencer gave his usual address as 69 Frankly Street, Adelaide (research suggests this is an error and it should be Franklin Street). Note Mary's age has been understated by 5 years!

After this it appears that Spencer and Mary started up their moving picture business and the earliest reports of Mary as "Señora Spencer – The only Lady Operator or Projectionist in the World", including a photograph of her operating her equipment, feature in the Australian press from mid- 1905.⁸ For business purposes Spencer changed his name to Cosens Spencer but it is not clear why Mary became known as Señora Spencer. In Spencer's will dated 19th June 1923 made in Vancouver, British Columbia he refers to himself as Spencer Cosens (commonly known as Cosens Spencer) of the Chilco Ranch, Hanceville in the Province of British Columbia.⁹

Much is written elsewhere about the various film enterprises in which Mary and her husband were involved. Suffice it to say they ran a very successful and lucrative enterprise and Mary, together with her husband, is credited for making cinema-going attractive to the Australian public through the introduction of films with popular musical scores and ambitious special effects. In 1918, Mary found herself involved in a court case in which her capacity to conduct business independently of her husband was challenged in the courts. At the time, Cosens Spencer was the proprietor of a string of successful motion picture theatres located in Brisbane, Toowoomba and Newcastle. The basis of this case dated from 1911 when Cosens Spencer placed the various film businesses he ran in the hands of a public company, Spencer's Pictures, in which he became a director

and shareholder. In 1912 while he was overseas, the board of directors voted to merge the company into what became known after further mergers in 1913 as the Combine (Australasian Films/ Union Theatres). In selling his goodwill and creating a public company in 1911, Spencer had made a legal undertaking that he would not, at any time within ten years from the date of the agreement "either solely or jointly with or as manager or agent for any other person or company permit his name to be used in connection with any picture show business in the Commonwealth". After just two days of proceedings, the parties settled and Mary and Spencer agreed to give up all direct or indirect interest in the moving-picture business in Australia for at least seven years. More importantly, Señora Spencer's theatre leases and other properties were taken over by Union Theatres



Photograph of Señora Spencer, Unley Museum Collection P96 219,
reproduced with the Museum's kind permission www.unley.sa.gov.au/museum

for the same term. It proved to be an inauspicious end to a promising enterprise and the Spencers left shortly afterwards for Canada. According to the 1921 Canadian Census they are recorded living at Coquitlam, British Columbia, having arrived in Canada in 1918, and Spencer is listed as the owner of the property (Minnehada Farm purchased by Spencer in 1921) with his occupation recorded as a farmer.¹⁰ Mary's mother Isabella is living with them her father Robert having died in Wellington, New Zealand, in 1905.¹¹ Two years later, in 1923, Spencer Cosens sold Minnehada and bought the Chilco Ranch in the Cariboo Region of British Columbia.

Tragically on 10th September 1930, after an apparent mental breakdown, Spencer fatally shot his storeman and wounded his ranch manager. He ran off into the bush towards the Chilcotin River. His body was discovered about a month later and the subsequent inquest determined the cause of death as drowning. His estate was sworn for probate in Canada at \$346,059 and Mary was the sole beneficiary.¹²

Mary married the Chilco Ranch carpenter Christopher Michael Vick at the Vancouver Hotel, Vancouver on 8th October 1932.¹³ Christopher gives his occupation as Ranch Manager and Mary described herself as a widow and a Rancher residing at the Chilco Ranch, Hanceville, British Columbia. She gave her age as 57 but she was actually 61!

The Chilco Ranch was sold in 1937. It was reported in the Ottawa Journal on 7th August 1937 that the largest privately owned cattle ranch in British Columbia was sold for \$250,000.¹⁴

Mary and Christopher came to live in Vancouver. Mary died suddenly at her home at 1695 Angus Drive on 19th April 1940. The death certificate said she had only been at this address for a couple of months.¹⁵ Mary is buried with her second husband at Ocean View Burial Park, Burnaby, Vancouver and the inscription on her gravestone reads:-

Vick, Mary Stuart Died April 19 1940 aged 59 years
Christopher Michael 1885-1957
At Rest

She was actually 68 years old!

As part of my research into Mary's life, my wife Maureen and I stayed in Williams Lake, British Columbia, in August 2014 and we drove to the Chilco Ranch, which is near Hanceville, and were made most welcome by the present owners. We also visited a lady named Veera Bonner who lived at nearby Fletcher Lake. Veera was in her 90's but remembers visiting the "Big House" at Chilco Ranch in the 1930s with her mother to have afternoon tea with Mary. Veera is in the British Columbia Cowboy Hall of Fame and wrote a book jointly with her two sisters entitled "Chilcotin: Preserving Pioneer Memories."¹⁶ We followed the trail to Mary's grave at the Ocean View Burial Park. Spencer Cosens is buried in a nearby grave as is Mary's mother Isabella Huntly who died at the Chilco Ranch in 1929. Spencer's parents and other family members are also buried nearby. We also visited the Arlington Hotel in the Gastown area of Vancouver. The name "The Arlington - 1886" is still above the door but the building is now used for other purposes. When we visited Australia in January 2015 we visited Gladstone House in Victoria Street, North Melbourne, where Mary and Spencer were residing when they married on 14th February 1903. This was a Coffee Palace run by proprietress M E Tozer. Later it was a boarding house and dining room inhabited by mostly migrant workers employed at nearby Victoria Market. It is now an apartment building.¹⁷

It has been a fascinating journey researching Mary Stuart Huntly's life and visiting places in Scotland, Canada and Australia connected with her story.

The following chart shows my relationship to Mary Stuart Huntly.

William Huntly (1778-1854)

William Huntly (1817-1887)

Robert Huntly (1853-1905)

Mary Stuart Huntly (1871-1940)

No issue Robert Fullerton Huntly (1919-2011)

Peter Allan Huntly (b.1949)

George Andrew Huntly (1822-1879) (Siblings)

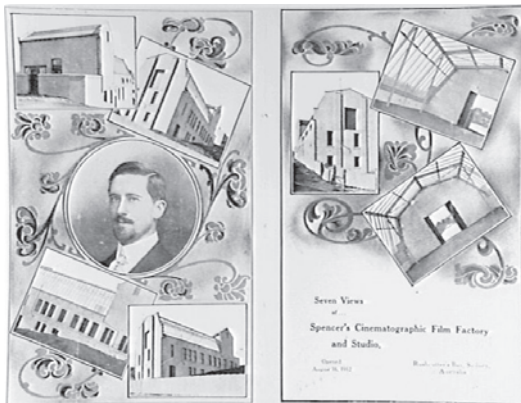
James Huntly (1856-1923) (1st Cousins)

John Fullerton Huntly (1883-1967) (**2nd Cousins**)

William Huntly (1778-1854) is Mary's great grandfather and my great great great grandfather.

Sources

- ¹ Birth Registration of Mary Stuart Huntly in the District of St Giles, Edinburgh, Scotland. Scotlands People website at <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>
- ² Marriage Registration of Robert Huntly and Isabella Elizabeth Waddell Aitchison in the Parish of Abbey St Bathans, Berwickshire, Scotland. Scotlands People website at <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>
- ³ 1881 England Census. www.ancestry.com
- ⁴ 1901 Census of Canada. www.ancestry.com
- ⁵ The Independent, Vancouver published Saturday 26th May 1900 Page 2. British Columbia Historical Newspapers Collection via The University of British Columbia Website at open.library.ubc.ca
- ⁶ New South Wales, Australia, Unassisted Immigrant Passenger Lists, 1826-1922 at www.ancestry.com
- ⁷ Marriage Registration (No.281) obtained by Births Deaths and Marriages Victoria online at www.bdm.vic.gov.au
- ⁸ National Library of Australia Newspapers Online at trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper
- ⁹ British Columbia Wills, 1861-1981 Online at www.familysearch.org
- ¹⁰ 1921 Census of Canada. www.ancestry.com
- ¹¹ Death Certificate via New Zealand Birth, Death and Marriage Historical Records at www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz
- ¹² Spencer, Cosens (1874-1930). Australian Dictionary of Biography Online at adb.anu.edu.au
- ¹³ British Columbia Marriage Registrations, 1859-1932 at www.familysearch.org
- ¹⁴ The Ottawa Journal – Saturday 7th August 1937 Page 4. www.ancestry.com
- ¹⁵ British Columbia Death Registrations, 1872-1986 at www.familysearch.org
- ¹⁶ Chilcotin: Preserving Pioneer Memories - Heritage House Publishing Co, 1995
- ¹⁷ See Picture Victoria website at www.picturevictoria.vic.gov.au for a photograph taken in 1900 (Image held by Melbourne Library Service).



The Family of Murray of Ochertyre, Perthshire

Bruce B Bishop FSA Scot, ASGRA

In the National Records of Scotland, the document catalogued as GD68/1/195 in the Murray of Lintrose papers contains a notebook entitled **“The Inscriptions upon the Burial Stones pertaining to the Familie of Ochertyre in the Church of Monivaird taken by Mr Mungo Murray, Minister at Logirate [Logierait] in July 1704, and Genealogical Notes on the Murray of Ochertyre and Murray of Lintrose families”**. This notebook contains a family record of the Murrays of Ochertyre from 1430 until about 1806.

It has been reproduced here as near as possible to the original, with the older spellings and lack of punctuation. It starts with four Monumental Inscriptions:

“Hic jacet Patricius Moray de Dullarie Filius Davidis Moray de Tullibaird obit 1476 Katharina Balfour ejus uxor obiit 1480 et et [sic] David filius corum obit 1508 et Margareta Pitcairn hujus uxor obiit 1520.

On the Second ston[e]

Patrick Murray killed at Flowdon [*Flodden*] 1513. Elizabeth Charters his spous died 1535. David his son killed at Pinkie 1547. Agnes Hay his spouse died 1603 being one hundred and one year[s] of age.

On the Third Stone

Patricus Moray de Ochertyre obiit 7 Decembris 1589. Nicolas Graham ejus uxor obiit Menso Aprill 1760[?]. Gulielmus Moray obiit decimo Octobris 1647 aetatis 89. Bethia Moray ejus uxor obiit Ult Novembr 1647 aetatis 81. Patricus Moray obiit 2 Feby 1677 aetatis 86. Maria Moray ejus uxor obiit 29 July 1667 aetatis 80.

In the Church of Fowles Easter [*Fowlis Easter*] lyes interred the bodie of Sir William Murray of Ochertyre who died 18 February 1681 in the 66th year of his age. Dam[e] Isobel Oliphant his Lady who died 6 Aprill 1683 years.

Later in the notebook we find **“The line of the House and Familie of Ochertyre from the House and family of Tullibardine. Viz”**

David Murray Laird of Tullibardine had seventeen sons with one lady all of them were married and had families the youngest of which was called Patrick of whom the Family of Ochertyre descended which was in the Year of God One thousand four hundred and thirtie:-

- 1 Patrick Murray was married to Katharin Balfour of the House and family of Hannie in Fyfe, and they first possessed Dollary and shortly after Ochertyre, the said Patrick Murray died in the year 1476 his wife died in the year 1480.
- 2 David Murray his son married Margaret Pitcairn daughter [sic] to the Laird of Forfure in fiffe, and by her had thrie sons viz Patrick Anthony and Mitchell. Anthony gott the lands of Dollary and was the first of that family. Mitchell gott

- the lands of Coige the said David died in the year 1508 his wife died in the year 1520.
- 3 Patrick the eldest son married Elizabeth Charters dawghter to the Laird of Kinfawnes he was killed at Flowdown [*Flodden*] in the year 1513 his wife died in the year 1520.
 - 4 David Murray his son married Agnes Hay dawghter to the Laird of Megginch he was killed at Pinkie 1547 his wife lived 101 years died in the year 1603.
 - 5 Patrick Murray his son married Niclas Grahame dawghter of the Laird of Inchbreckie he died Decr 7th 1589 his wife died in April 1560.
 - 6 Mr William Murray ther [*sic*] son married Bethia Murray dawghter to the Laird of Letterbannochie in August 1582 she had five sons: Patrick upon 1 March 1591, John, David, Mungo, James. Mr William died in the 89th year of his age in the year 1647 his lady died on 30 Novr 1643 having lived 81 years.
 - 7 Mr Patrick Murray ther son married Mary Moray dawghter to Sr William Moray of Abercairdeny [*Abercairny*] upon the 9th Feby 1614. Ther children ware;
 - Agnes born at Abercairdeny 20th Novr 1614
 - William born at Ochertyre 30th Oct 1615
 - James born at Ochertyre 30th Octr 1616
 - Patrick born at Ochertyre 28 of March 1618
 - Bathia born at Coig the 1 of March 1620
 - David born at Coig 20th January 1623
 - Katharine born at Coig 5 Aprill 1624
 - Anniball born at Ochertyre 7th of September 1625
 - John & Robert twines born at Coig 29 Janry 1627
 - Mungo born at Coig 16 of Jannury 1631
 - Mr Patrick died himself upon the 2nd of Feby 1637 being 86 years old his lady died 29 July 1661 in the 80 year of hir age.
 - 8 Sir William Murray eldest son of Mr Patrick married Iosbel [*sic*] Oliphant dawghter to John Oliphant of Bachiltown the 7th of June 1649 ther child ware viz;
 - Elizabeth born at Pitthewles 23 Aprill 1650
 - Mary born in the dry isle at Ochertyre 13 Sepr 1652
 - William born in the dry isle ditto 21 July 1653
 - Two dead females born also in ditto 20 August 1654
 - Patrick born at Dollary 24 January 1656
 - Ann born at Logie 6 of Aprill 1657
 - John born at Logie 6 Aprill 1658
 - George born at Logie 10 August 1659
 - David born at Logie 14 June 1661
 - Mungo born at ... 15 July 1662. He married firstly to Jannet Arnot dawghter to the Laird of Mugdrum. Mr Mungo Murray died at Dundie 2nd October 1719 Iyes buried in the Half [*Howff*] there and his wife died at Dundie March 1737 Iyes buried in the same grave ther with hir husband also ther youngest son Alexr who died in 1762 is buried in the same grave.

A man child dead born

Isabel born at Logie 13 of June 1665

Sir William died himself 18 of February 1668 in the 66 year of his age and lyes interred in the Church of Fowlis Easter his Lady died 6 of April 1683 and is buried also ther.

Sir Patrick Murray of Ochtertyre being the ninth in the line married Margaret Halden eldest dawghter to Glenegles [*Gleneagles*] upon the 15th day of Febr 1681 at Glenegles ther children are viz;

William born at Fowles 22 Febr 1682

Isobel born at Ochtertyre 19 of June 1683

She was married to Alexr Duncan of Lundie 30 April 1702 ther eldest son Alexr born 1 Febr 1733

Mary born at Fowles 22nd Octr 1684

She was married to Sir John Murray of Glendoick afterwards of Balmanno 5 July 1703 his son Patrick was born 2 Novr 1706 he married Ann Hay dawghter to Drumelie Patrick born at Fowls 23 June 1685 second son to Sir Patrick Murray of Ochtertyre and ninth in the line married Ann Duncan dawghter to the Laird of Lundie upon 16th of Septr 1709 ther children are viz;

Patrick, Patrick, Margaret all born at Fowles. Isobel born at Fowles 24 Octr 1714 she was married to David Graham of Meicklewood 17 Octr 1737.

Margaret died young. Alexr born at Fowles 18 June 1718. He was married to Martha Williamson dawghter to Mr Joseph Williamson, Advocate, 26 August 1748.

Anne born at Fowls the 16th August 1720

Ann born at Fowls the 8 July 1727 she was married to John Simson of Bruntown and left him 3 dawghters

John born at Fowls died young

George born at Fowls 15 July 1688 he married 15 Novr 1715 Maren Clayhills eldest dawghter and Heris [*Heiress*] of Invergowrie who had 4 dawghters the eldest Margrat born 29 May 1716. She was married to James Manzies of Woodend on ...

Mungo born at Fowls 8 of Octr 1689 he died young

James born at Fowles 13 Novr 1691 he died young

John born at Fowlis 1 Novr 1692 he married Jean Stark who had a dawghter to him who married Archbald Campbell Colector of the Customes at Prestinpanns

Mungo born at Fowls 12 August 1696 he died young

Margaret born at Fowles 24 May 1700 she died young

The said Sir Patrick died at Ochtertyre 25 Decr 1735 in the 80th year of his age and was buried in the Church of Monivard.

Sir William Murray eldest son to Sir Patrick Murray and is the tenth in the line. He married The Honourable Mrs Katharine Fraser third dawghter to My Lord Lovet at Perth 25 July 1706 ther children are viz;

Patrick born at Monivaird 21 August 1707

Aemilia born at Monivaird 20 March 1709

Margaret born at Monivaird 3 May 1710

Katharin born at Monivaird 7 June 1711 she was married to Sir Thomas Moncreiffe of that ilk 2 June 1730 and had two sons William & Patrick to him. She died at Fowls 20 June 1735.

William born at Monievard 13 June 1712 died young

John born at Monievard 30 of sept 1713 died young

Ann born at Monievard 18 of Octr 1714

Margrat born at Edinburgh 9 of Febr 1716 was married to Robert Graham of Fintrie and hath numeres offspring

Heugh born at Monievard 22 Novr 1717 was a Capt in the army died in the West Indies Novr 1745

George born at Monievard 15 Aprill 1719 died young

Mark born at Monievard 29 Octr 1720 died young

Abigall born at Monievard 14 Janury 1722 died young

Mary born at Monievard 26 Octr 1723 died young

Abigael born at Monievard 3 March 1724 died young

James born at Monievard 20 June 1726 died in Febr 1731

Anthony born at Monevard 11 Octr 1727 died young

Jean born at Monievard 3rd Decr 1728 died 17 June 1745

Edward born at Fowles 20th April

Susan born at Dundie 3 July 1732 died at Dundie young

The above Sir William died at Edinburgh in the 57 year of his age upon the 20th Octr 1739 and was buried in the Duke of Montrose burial place in the High Church Edinburgh. Ladey Murray his wife died in March 1771 and is buried in the Church of Fowlis Easter.

Sir Patrick Murray eldest son to Sir William Murray the Eleventh in line was married to Helen eldest dawghter to John Hamilton Writter to the Signet at Edinb[urg]h 18 Febr 1741 ther children are viz;

Helen born at Nellfild May 10th 1742 and she was married to Anthony Murray Crise 4 Febr 1765 ther children are viz;

Katherin born at Ochertyre August 3rd 1744 she died 1754

William born at Ochertyre 23 Octr 1746 Old Stile [*Old Style Calendar*]

Johanna born at Edinburgh 21 July 1751

The said Sir Patrick died at Ochertyre 9th Sepr 1764

Sir William Murray eldest son to Sir Patrick Murray and the 12 in the twelfth of the line [*sic*] was married one Tuesday the Sixth of March 1770 Sir William Murray of Ochertyre Bart at Edinburgh to Lady Augusta Mackenzie dawghter of the late Earl of Cromarty.

The record continues through until 1806, but becomes very difficult to understand after page 9. It would however provide a valuable source of study for a researcher specifically researching this family line.

George Hay Forbes: defying the odds

M J Brown

No-one could guess from reading the achievements of George Hay Forbes that he had been paralysed all his life. In an age when “cripples” led secluded, dependent lives, George took on the world in everything he set out to do. His ability in mastering languages and his zeal for the Episcopalian ministry dominated his life. The latter was to cause much conflict throughout his career, but always he persevered, seeming to relish each setback as yet another challenge.

His grandfather was Sir William Forbes who married Elizabeth Hay in 1770, and their second son, John Hay Forbes, born in 1776, married Louisa Cumming Gordon in 1802. Over the years they produced 7 daughters and 3 sons, the youngest of whom, George, was born in Edinburgh in 1821.

While travelling abroad George contracted polio. Much of his childhood subsequently was spent in a carriage wheeled around Ainslie Gardens in Edinburgh. During two years in France, an orthopaedist tried to cure his paralysis without success, but George learnt much about French culture. He returned to Edinburgh dependent on crutches for the rest of his life.

His brother Alexander entered the ministry (eventually becoming Bishop of Brechin) and George was keen to follow suit. He studied at home and



George Hay Forbes

became an expert on liturgy. On his return from India, Alexander found his brother about to embark on the same career and both men met leading Tractarians of the Oxford Movement. At first George was persuaded against entering the ministry, and he channelled his energies into studying the roots of Christianity, travelling all over Europe to investigate primary sources. For the fit and healthy,

travel in those days must have been uncomfortable, exhausting and sometimes risky, but for someone who was paralysed it must have been a great ordeal. As he extended his journeys, more languages were added to his repertoire until finally he had a working knowledge of 24, including Greek, Latin, Hebrew, French, German, Italian and Gaelic.

On his return from Europe he made another attempt to enter the ministry and was finally ordained a Deacon in 1848. In October of that year he opened his first Mission in Burntisland and conducted his first service, well aware of the antagonism of the Presbyterian community. The Town Hall was booked for Sunday services and many locals attended out of curiosity, to see the Minister who walked with crutches. As time went by, numbers dwindled, but, nothing daunted, George started to plan a day school. This was opened on Easter Monday 1849, with one teacher and thirteen children. At first held in a private home, as numbers grew it had to move to a cottage behind Forbes's house in Langholm Crescent. A car park behind the Inchview Hotel now covers the site of the cottage. Subjects taught included Holy Scriptures, reading, spelling, parsing, writing from dictation, arithmetic, sewing and knitting. Later the school had a master and two mistresses and the curriculum extended to Greek, Latin, French and mathematics – 6d a quarter for each, coals 4d!

At Whitsun George was ordained by his brother, by then an Archbishop, and with this achieved, he set out to establish a weekly Eucharist. Predictably, this provoked much opposition, but he persevered and even won round some of his opponents.

In the midst of all this activity he still kept up his work on liturgy but this also ran into trouble. He was suspected of trying to weaken links with the Church of England, and eventually he had to go to law – costly in time, energy and money – but his proposals have been more or less accepted since. Those who are ahead their times have always had a rough ride. Adversity was part of his life and seemed to spur him on to greater efforts, but those close to him must have also been buffeted by events and opponents.

Several books came out of his study of liturgy, but as he found it increasingly difficult to get them published, he decided to set up his own printing press. In 1852 he hired a man to teach him the art of printing and then trained some of the older girls in his school. An early book published by the Pitsligo Press was one by John Henry Newman while still an Anglican. A monthly magazine was issued in early 1853 containing sermons, poetry, church and economic topics. George was in favour of social reform, so his magazine was unpopular in some quarters.

Shortly after his publishing activities started, he married Eleanor Wemyss, whose father had taken part in the charge of the Scots Greys at Waterloo, immortalised by Lady Butler's "Scotland for Ever!" Eleanor was to prove a devoted helper in all his enterprises. She was the great-great-great-great-great-grand-daughter of Robert Stewart, Earl of Orkney and half-brother of Mary Stuart. Through her

paternal grandfather she inherited Norse blood. Robert Stewart was friendly with Darnley and was present when David Riccio was murdered.

As the church school was proving successful, George Forbes decided to build a church, parsonage and school combined. A leading architect from London was employed and an estimate of £10,000 accepted. Not only was there opposition to the purchase of the site on Leven Street, but his father was critical of his rashness in embarking on such an ambitious project. The latter was won round by Eleanor, and George managed to calm local fears.

By mid 1854 the house was, he felt, ready for occupation, as a home for his wife and for his printing press, though it seems that parts of the building were never properly finished and for some years there was no wallpaper, carpet or curtains in any of the rooms. George's study faced south, overlooking the Forth, and the printing press was located in the basement. The steps up to the front door meant that he sometimes had to be carried up and down, though on good days he could manage with the aid of his crutches.

His efforts then turned to the building of a church. His emphasis on high church worship yet again caused offence in the town. It almost appears as if his activities were deliberately designed to provoke criticism and hostility. At one time no stonemason would work for him, so he cut a few stones every day and a manservant would set them in mortar. The builder died and a foreman was taken on to work on a weekly basis – if funds ran out, George let part of the house for a while and with the rent paid for more building work. Sad to say, only the baptistery was ever completed, an octagonal building with three lancet windows. If he had not spread his energies on so many different projects, he might have achieved more, but his fertile mind, his stubborn refusal to give up in the face of obstacles, and his devoted wife and helpers all combined to force the pace. Life could not have been easy or comfortable. Proofreading at the press was done by George himself and he was meticulous. His wife and her sister became expert printers.

As if all these exertions were not enough, George decided, before publishing some Spanish liturgies, to visit the country of origin. Another work on an early Christian saints, the result of 10 years of hard work, correspondence with and visiting many libraries, had the Latin text on one page and the Greek on the other – its dedicatee W.E. Gladstone, with whose family Burntisland had a long-standing connection.

Further trips followed to Rome, Grenoble and Toledo, resulting in works on church subjects, but also referring to contemporary thinkers such as J.S. Mill and Darwin. He drew on the ancient sources, which he had studied, but tried to assimilate them into modern thinking.

Family controversy reared its head when George and Eleanor decided to adopt a French girl, Marie Freix, who changed her name to Marie Forbes. The family

were deeply opposed to this move but in fact she brought great happiness into their household. She trained the choir, acted as Secretary to George and generally helped them both in all the many projects undertaken. Marie's sister, Angele, seems to have joined her at one stage and surviving correspondence reveals the existence of a French admirer. Marie was the sole executor of the widowed Eleanor. Having married a French Count twice her age in an R.C. Chapel in Edinburgh in 1869, Marie then disappeared from view, presumably returning to her homeland.

Despite his restricted mobility George tried to live as normal a life as possible. In the summer a servant would drive him down to the seashore in a cart, and by means of a rope he would lower himself into the sea. The horse would then walk slowly on, and George, grasping the rope, would keep himself afloat. He designed a vehicle, part bath-chair and part bike, which a local blacksmith made for him, and by this means propelled himself along the street, talking to friends and acquaintances. A different picture indeed from the 1850s when, during frosty weather, his crutches slipped and not a hand was offered to pull him up from the ground.

Local affairs were not ignored by George Forbes, despite the welter of other activities. He was elected to the Town Council in 1869 and later became Provost. He fought, with others, for the building of a new dock against opposition from local coal-masters and railway directors, even travelling to London to obtain advice. He resigned as Provost, but the dock was finally built. His interest in the welfare of the poor was shown in the establishment of a co-operative shop selling sugar, coffee, spices, cheddars, nutmeg, soap, almonds, canary seed, hempseed, jujubes, senna and caraway seeds. There were two shopmen and supplies were obtained from a firm in Leith, but the sums received (£30 a week, approximately) were small, and the shop closed after a few years.

Like many Victorian clergymen, George Forbes took a keen interest in natural history and related topics. During his many journeys he made notes in tiny writing, observing and measuring natural phenomena (plants, minerals, insects, etc) and worked out how to make sea-water fit for use in washing, how to make paper with stalks of potatoes and how to preserve eggs in lime water. He noted the experience of an optical illusion: while at sea he observed what looked like land in the distance, but in fact it was a bank of fog. There seems to have been no limit to his interests and enthusiasm, even if his physical activities were severely restricted.

If travel provided variety and a host of opportunities for observation, life at home at the Parsonage was Spartan indeed. George rose at 5am, worked until 7am, when the household gathered for prayers. Correspondence followed, then attending to printing matters. After lunch he would be out visiting, returning for tea at 5pm, followed by more work. Evening prayers rounded off the day.

After the Franco-Prussian War of 1870, he was anxious to see how much

destruction had taken place, but although his wife or Marie usually accompanied him, on this occasion he travelled alone. In June 1871 he passed through areas where fighting had taken place and sent many letters to *The Scotsman* describing what he saw. He also took advantage of the National Library in Paris for his usual research, before returning home a month later. Only a year passed before he was back in France and while there had a bad fall, when his crutches slipped. As soon as he could summon up the strength he set off home, with a French nurse, but he never fully recovered from this accident. His work continued, nevertheless, and he was gratified to receive a request from *Encyclopaedia Britannica* for some articles on the 9th century.

He and his brother Alexander visited the Island of Inchcolm in September 1875 and when they parted at the end of the trip, it would be for the last time. He did manage to get down to London where he found a particularly rare version of Ecclesiastes, which cheered him, despite his growing weakness, but the news of his brother's death was a great blow and he was desperate to return home. After two weeks he was considered fit to travel and on 3rd November he reached Burntisland, where he conducted his last family prayers. He died four days later.

He was buried next to his parents in Warriston Cemetery, at the request of his family. All the shops in Burntisland were closed on the day of the funeral and following the custom of the time, blinds were drawn in every window in the town – this for a man who all his life had been greeted with suspicion and whose every effort had met with resistance. Now, as the funeral procession made its way to the harbour, those same townsfolk followed the coffin with bowed heads.

In his will George Forbes desired that his widow remain in the family house, but unfortunately the Parsonage had to be sold and the baptistery was demolished. He remembered his adoptive daughter and even her sister, but designated, "...those of my near relations who have been kind to me have no need of my small fortune, I wish to use it to found a position of 'learned leisure' in which a procession of clergymen of the Scotch Episcopal Church may devote themselves to theological study". In stipulating an annual payment of £300 for a librarian, he stipulated he "...shall consider himself bound in conscience and in honour to pray for me and others...". A gentleman in London wrote respectfully declining a Trusteeship and "the business of this intricate and peculiar trust".

Eleanor Forbes died soon afterwards, desolate at the loss of all they had worked so hard for. The Parsonage still stands in the town where all their battles had been fought and his library survives in the Theological College in Edinburgh. Being close to such a remarkable man, combining intellectual and practical abilities, religious faith and good works, must have been both a burden and a privilege. Few of the people who associated with George Forbes would forget his apparently frail physique (judging by surviving pictures) and yet his stubborn determination to fulfil those talents with which he had been born.

Burntisland – Funeral of the Rev. G.H. Forbes

The remains of this esteemed clergyman were consigned to the tomb yesterday amid many manifestations of public and private regard. The Magistrates and Town Council of Burntisland attended the funeral in their corporate capacity. The whole of the shops and offices in the town were closed, and the public bell was tolled while the mournful procession passed through the streets to the Ferry Pier. At 10.45am, the coffin was removed from the parsonage to St Serf's schoolroom adjoining, where service was conducted by the Rev Mr. Parker, Rev. Canon Bell, Lochgilphead; and the Rev. John Erskine, retired Navy chaplain. The coffin was borne by the Coastguardsmen from the school-room to the steam-boat, where it was deposited in a hearse. After crossing the ferry, mourning coaches, carrying the more immediate friends, followed the remains to Warriston Cemetery, where they were laid in the family burying ground of the deceased's father, Lord Medwyn. The pall-bearers, besides Mr Forbes of Medwyn, were the Earl of Mar and Kellie and the Earl of Glasgow, nephews of the deceased; Mr Edward Forbes, Professor Lorimer, Mr John Mackenzie, Mr James S. Tytler of Woodhouselee, and Mr R. Kirke of Greenmount. The Rev. Canon Bell read the Church of England Burial Service at the grave. Our correspondent informs us that there is a probability of the Rev. Walter Bell, Lochgilphead, succeeding Mr Forbes in the incumbency of Burntisland. He was an intimate friend of Mr Forbes, who has bequeathed to him his valuable library, and entrusted to him the carrying on the literary and other works upon which he was engaged. Conditionally, it is believed, on Mr Bell succeeding him, Mr Forbes had set aside legacies for endowing and building a chapel at Burntisland. Many years ago Mr Forbes began to build a stately church adjoining his parsonage, and the proposal is already mooted that funds might be added to Mr Forbes' bequest, and an edifice erected as a memorial to his worth.

The Scotsman, 13 November 1875

The library of George Hay Forbes, over 4,000 items, was indeed donated to The Theological College, now the Scottish Episcopal Institute, but due to space restrictions there it was transferred in 1969 to the Library of St Andrews University.

Library Volunteers

Over the summer months we had a few occasions when we struggled, mainly due to holidays etc, to maintain the opening times of the library at Victoria Terrace. If any local members would like to come along and give some of their free time to the Society –perhaps even just a half day – they would be more than welcome. There are lots of different duties, but helping with visitors is where we lack manpower the most. In particular there is a vacancy for our late-night openings on Wednesday evenings, from about 4pm to 7.30pm, also Saturdays and some weekdays. If anyone is interested in passing on their knowledge to help visitors to the library (and training in other aspects is supplied), please reply to

scotsgenpublicity@scotsgenealogy.com

librarian@scotsgenealogy.com

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Compiled by Joan Keen & Eileen Elder

The Family and Local History Handbook 13	Robert & Elizabeth Blatchford
Kirkbean Churchyard Monumental Inscriptions	Scottish Monumental Inscriptions
The Kirkyard of Fetteresso	ANESFHS
The Kirkyard of Oldmeldrum (1891 Extension)	ANESFHS
The Book of The Old Edinburgh Club The Journal for Edinburgh History	
New Series Volume 12 2016	R. J. Morris (Ed)
From Scotland To The World: The Genealogy Of The Bain, Morrison, Lorimer, And Murray Families (Ross Shire, Argyllshire, And Banffshire)	Colin M Bain
To Ache, An Fecht, An Fa'; The War Graves Of The First World War In Moray And Nairn	Jill Stewart
Strachan Free Church, Kincardineshire Baptisms 1836-1924	Stuart Farrell (Comp)
Edenkillie Parish Church, Morayshire Baptisms 1855-1917	Stuart Farrell (Comp)
The Parishes Of Moray Lhanbride War Memorial & Lhanbride Poor Register 1845-1905 & Lhanbride Burial Register 1895-1954	Stuart Farrell (Comp)
Wick Free Church Births & Baptisms 1845-1860	Stuart Farrell (Comp)
Wick Free Church Baptisms 1861-1871; Berriedale Free Church Baptisms 1876-1923, Marriages 1877-1923, Burials 1921-1949; Loth Free Church Marriages 1843-1855	Stuart Farrell (Comp)
Monumental Inscriptions Badenscallie Parish Of Coigagh	Stuart Farrell (Comp)
Monumental Inscriptions Parish Of Urray Old Burial Ground And Churchyard	Stuart Farrell (Comp)
Balgeldie United Presbyterian Church Kinross-Shire; Baptisms 1829-1922	Stuart Farrell (Comp)
Transactions Of The East Lothian Antiquarian And Field Naturalists' Society Vol. XXXI 2017	Chris Tabraham (Ed)
Hawick Archaeological Society Transactions 2016	
The Pheon Vol 1	Flora Davidson (Ed)
The Pheon Vol 2	Flora Davidson (Ed)
The Pheon Vol 3	Robert S Davidson
Calendar Of Scottish Supplications To Rome Volume Vi 1471-1492	A Macquarrie, Roland J Tanner, Annie I Dunlop (Eds)
Tynron Parish Graveyard Memorial Inscriptions, OPR Burial Records And Mort Cloth Payments	DGFHS
Old Linlithgow	Bruce Jameson
Fife's Lost Railways	Gordon Stansfield
Old Biggar	Ann Matheson
The Wills Of Our Ancestors A Guide For Family & Local Historians	Stuart A Raymond
Westerkirk Churchyard Memorial Inscriptions	DGFHS
Tracing Your Ancestors In The National Archives	Amanda Bevan
The Genealogical Services Directory	
The Family And Local History Handbook	Robert Blatchford (Ed)
Census; The Expert Guide	Peter Christian & David Annal
Old St Andrews	Helen Cook
Old Colinton	Peter Gray
Bygone Leven	Eric Eunson
Old Kirkcaldy: Central, North & West	Eric Eunson

Old Anstruther
 Old Lochgelly
 Old Banff & Macduff
 Old Grangemouth
 The Archives Of Fife
 Images Of Scotland Airdrie
 Images Of Scotland Linlithgow
 Tracing Your Criminal Ancestors
 Fife The Mining Kingdom
 A Living From The Edinburghshire Countryside
 Images Of Scotland Aberdeen

Eric Eunson
 Rhona Wilson
 Alan Cooper
 James Murphy
 Andrew Campbell (Comp)
 Helen Moir
 William F Hendrie (Comp)
 Stephen Wade
 Guthrie Hutton
 Colin Whittemore
 Alistair Burnett (Comp)

Giving an Account of a Great Fire in Edinburgh in 1700

A letter from Mr Duncan Forbes in Edinburgh to his brother Col Forbes at Culloden dated Edinburgh 6th Feby 1700

Dr Brother

Upon Saturday night, by ten a'clock, a fyre burst out in Mr John Buchan's closet window, towards the Meall Mercate. It continued whill eleven a'clock of the day with the greatest frayor & vehemency that ever I saw fyre do, notwithstanding that I saw London burne.

Ther are burnt, by the easiest computation, betwixt 3 & 400 familys; all the pryde of Eden' is sunk; from the Cowgate to the High Street all is burnt, & hardly one stone set upon another. The Commissioner, President of the Parl', Pres' of the Session, the Bank, most of the Lords, Lawyers & Clerks, were also burnt & many good & great familys. It is said just now by Sr John Cochran & Jordan-hill, that ther is more rent burnt in this fyre than the whole City of Glasgow will amount to. The Parliament House very hardly escapt; all Registers confounded, Clerks Chambers & processes in such confusion, that the Lords & Officers of State are just now mett at Rosse's Tavern, in order to adjourneing of the Session by reason of the disorder. Few people are lost, if any att all; but ther was neither heart nor hand left amongst them for saveing from the fyre, nor a drop of water in the Cisternes; twenty thousand hand flitting ther trash they know not wher, & hardly 20 at work. These babels, of ten & fifteen story high, are down to the Ground & and ther fall's very terrible. Many rueful spectacles, such as Corserig naked, with a child under his Oxter, happing for his lyffe; the Fish Mercate, & all from the Cow Gate to Pett Street's Close, burnt; The Exchange, waults, & Coall Cellars under the Parliament Close are still burning. This epitome of dissolution I send you, without saying any more but that the Lord is angry with us & I see no intercessor

Yr Lo^t bro^{vr} to serve you

D Forbes

Source. Culloden Papers, An Extensive and Interesting Correspondence from the year 1625 to 1748. London 1815. B Bishop own library.

Contributed by Bruce B. Bishop, FSA Scot, ASGRA

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2017

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.

- 18 September "Rich Seams: Mining Kirk Sessions and High Court Records for your Scottish Ancestors." by Margaret Fox, Archivist.
- 16 October "The Builders of Edinburgh's New Town" by Dr. Anthony Lewis, Curator of Scottish History
- 20 November "Scottish Italians – Immigrant Families in the 20th Century" by Mary Contini

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

New Register House Research Evenings 2017

(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.

- September Doors Open Days throughout Scotland
www.doorsopendays.org.uk
- September Archaeology Month
www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk
- 27 October Scottish Local History Forum Conference
Fairs, Fetes and Festivals
Soutar Theatre, A K Bell Library, Perth
www.slhf.org
- 17 – 26 Nov *previously...* Scotland's History Festival
www.historyfest.co.uk

Anglo-Scots

(a branch of the Manchester & Lancashire FHS)

Anglo-Scots meet on Saturdays Manchester Central Library, firstly for a workshop at 10.30am on the 3rd floor at the computer block, at 2pm on the ground floor in Performance Space 1 or 2 for a Talk either by a Speaker or by a member.

Scotslot Meetings 2017

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

SLHF Annual Conference & AGM 2017

FAIRS, FÊTES & FESTIVALS

Friday, 27 October 2017 - 9:45am to 4:30pm

A K Bell Library, York Place, Perth, PH2 8EP

Fairs, Fetes & Festivals How did people in Scotland in the past enjoy their leisure time? How did these traditions start? Why have some of these events continued to the present day and others are long forgotten? We will explore the history of a selection of Scottish bazaars, pageants, fairs and festivals to discover their local origins and the legacies that they have left in Scotland's local communities.

Contact Graham Clark gm.clark@btinternet.com

Conference - £20 members, £25 non-members Lunch - £12 (optional)

www.slhf.org

SAFHS Conference 2018

Was your ancestor a convict?

The 2018 Conference will be hosted by Fife Family History Society at the Rothies Halls, Glenrothes KY7 5NX on 21 April 2018.

**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

Ramsay Tubb at

enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com or 0131-220 3677

