



THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

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The Scottish Genealogy Society

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EDITORIAL

After editing the Journal for several years, Caroline Gerrard has retired and Jan Rea asked if I would consider taking on the task. My husband and I have been members of the society for twenty years, so, having had editorial training with D.C. Thomson, I agreed. We want to ensure that the Journal reaches out to all members in a varied, interesting manner while still recognising its significant cost to the Society.

Articles for possible publication are welcome, with a maximum word count of 1750.

Ellen Ellis

Editor

GENERAL INFORMATION

WHAT DO WE DO?

The Society is established to promote research into Scottish Family History and to undertake the collection, exchange and publication of information and material relating to Scottish genealogy. We assist members with modest enquiries but cannot carry out professional research.

MEETINGS

These are held from mid month September to April in the Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, at 7.30pm. The programme is advertised in the Syllabus and the regular Newsletters sent by email.

MEMBERSHIP

Single UK membership: £20; Family, Overseas and Institutional: £25. The Society has charitable status and members who pay UK income tax are encouraged to use the Gift Aid Scheme. Details of the scheme are available from the Membership Secretary.

Information about publications and back numbers of The Journal can be obtained from the Sales Secretary,

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THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

Articles (maximum 1750 words including references) are welcomed by the Hon Editor, using MS word via email. Illustrations should be in JPEG format. Members' queries are welcome for inclusion in the magazine, space permitting.

Email: editor@scotsgenealogy.com

SOCIETY WEBSITE

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RURAL REMINISCENCES

Ken A. Nisbet

Written by John Wilson (tertius), for many years the Master of Glebe School, Greenock, son of John and Helen Wilson, Riccarton, Linlithgow¹

Thomas Wilson, Farmer at Crichton-Dean was born in 1706 and married to Elizabeth Brockie, born in 1713. They had a son, Robert, who was a mason, and lived at Mellerstain near Kelso, with his wife Bettie Yellowlees, and their family Bettie, Robert, George, John, William, Thomas (and) Janet. Besides working as a mason, he kept a few cows on a croft. He removed to Dalkeith and built the bridge across the Esk. After his death in 1780, the business was continued by his son, his grandson and his great-grandson, all named Robert. The business died out with the last some years after.

The above-named John learned to be a Smith. He served his apprenticeship with a country smith at Soutra-Hill. He wrought as a journeyman in Edinburgh and Currie and in 1801 he settled at Riccarton near Linlithgow and married to Helen Denholm, daughter of George Denholm, Joiner, Currie.

Janet, his sister, married to Samuel Smiles, Haddington. The famous Samuel Smiles was their son. The Rev. Charles (now Dr.) Jerden is a grandson, his mother being Janet Smiles²

The family of John Wilson and Helen Denholm,

Robert, born 27th March 1802 married to Elisabeth Orrock
Mary, born 3rd Sept 1803 married John Bennie, Farmer, Parkley
Elizabeth, born 17th February 1805 married James Anderson, Kinneil Estate
Helen, born 4th February 1807 married William Allen,
George, born 4th July 1809 married Helen Bennie
Agnes, born 27th January 1811 married Christopher Binnie
John, born 23rd January 1813 married Helen Fleming
Janet, born 19th December 1814 married William Miller
Margaret, born 6th January 1817 married Thomas Fleming
Thomas, born 16th July 1831 married Jeanie Philips

The "smiddie" at Riccarton belonged to the farmers who told him the prices: 1 1/2d. to drive a horse-shoe and 4d. to make it and put it on, the iron being their own. He was paying three shillings for one peck of (oat) meal, and was not long married when he was drawn for the militia. John paid £20 for a man to go in his place. Men were forced by the "Press-Gang" on board a man-o'-war.

One man left a wife and two children to the mercies of the world. Other two were never in their own houses for six months for fear of the press-gang. If there was a ship at Leith and they wanted men they just came and took them. David West was a joiner at Riccarton, I have heard him tell he was pressed and fought at the battle of Trafalgar, After the battle was over, in the Doctor's room, he was walking to the shoe-mouths in blood.

My father told me when he was at his apprenticeship at Soutra Hill, the eight-horse wagon with goods from Edinburgh to London was beaten with frost and 16 horses were sharpened to let it be started. He came to Edinburgh to work as journeyman. His master asked him to take a walk with him. As they walked he told him he was going to steal a Geranium, and he wanted my father to help him up to the window, He said "I will either have good company or none," and left him.

Riccarton, since I mind, was a country village of about twenty cottar's houses and two farms held by James Scott and Christopher Meikle³. The cot-houses were covered with flail and thatch. Most of them had three sets of couples in them, no plaster and some were covered with basses and others nothing; you could look up the "Lum and count the stars." Men, called "lantern" men were employed in the winter time threshing with the flail. They threshed by the "boll" for which they were paid 10d and they counted on making twenty hence a day and dinner. The victual was cleaned with the wind between the barn doors. I have heard Mrs Scott telling that her father got a pair of fanners, they were called "the devil's wind."

A woman in the village called Peggie Thomson wanted a hand - it was said she was born without it. She kept a school and taught us to read or write till we were able to go to another school. Tea and sugar were very little used. Two ounces of tea, one pound of sugar and a two penny loaf was a shilling, we got a cup of tea when father and mother were done.

A great calamity came over the country in the year 1816 and 1817 caused by wet summers and late harvests⁴. Frost came and in October the corn was not ripe. I heard my brother Robert and sister Helen say they were shearing at Broomiekowes at Christmas. I would be about four years old and I mind of the bad meal full of grit. Many of the farmers were ruined at that time. Two young farmers made a song about it. One of them was getting married. I will put in here what I mind of it.'

"I'm sure you've heard tell o'the year -17,
When the frost in October set in very keen,
The frost in October set in very keen,
we were ruined by the cauld in the mornin'

In the midst o' last summer it was understood
We would have plenty of good wholesome food
For man and for beast and all to do good,
But the frost spoiled it a'in the mornin'.

Amidst these complaints a plan I had laid
It was to wed a blooming young maid
But the frost it has backit it fairly.

And now since my crop it is a' in the yaird,
An' still for the lassie I has a regaird,
I think I will wed her an' no pay the laird,
Let him ken there was frost in the mornin'

If he gets surly an'tak's it by strife,
"I'm sure you've heard tell o'the year -17,
When the frost in October set in very keen,
The frost in October set in very keen,
we were ruined by the cauld in the mornin'

In the midst o' last summer it was understood
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But the frost it has backit it fairly.
And now since my crop it is a' in the yaird,
An' still for the lassie I has a regaird,
I think I will wed her an' no pay the laird,
Let him ken there was frost in the mornin'
If he gets surly an'tak's it by strife,
he may weel tak' my stock but he daurna tak' my wife,
he may wee' tak' my stock but I'll aye hae my wife
To lie by my side in the morning.

1 will go back to Riccarton again. It is stated at the outset that there were ten of us. The lasses all went to Gillespie's of Hillend by rotation to keep the children and to learn housework. She was a clever woman and trained them well and they stayed with her till they were women, Margaret went when she was ten and stayed till she was twenty, she had to come home when our mother died. Robert learned the trade, George succeeded him and I learned farm work, Thomas also learned the trade and carried it on till his death,

Elizabeth's youngest son, William D. Anderson is in Dumbarton at this day and has two sons ministers⁵. He is head master in a large school there.

We all came to Riccarton on the Sabbath Day. I have seen eight men and women going to the church. The family meeting at "Auld Hansel Monday" (Note: traditionally the first Monday after the old New Year of January 12th) was always looked forward to; and after we were married I have seen 24 grandchildren present then. Our Mother died about the year 1842, about 60 years of age⁶.

My father survived her for the long space of twenty seven years. He was born September 1777 and died in 1869 being nearly 93 years of age. At his death he had 48 grandchildren

They had two cows; and plenty of milk and meal. They killed a mart and we never were ill-off. Meal (then) was 3 shillings the peck. They called it "the time of the dearth." The cows got part of their food in the summer time on the road sides. The road from Linlithgow to Ochiltree had one track in the middle. If a cart was into it, it could not get out of it. All carts went with two horses; and when they went to Rumford or Redding for coals, trace horses went to meet them at Linlithgow. I have seen 9 horses in 3 carts going to West Binny. Mr Meikle was in it then, he was famed for breeding horses. They went under the name of the "Binny Trick."

This fascinating look at rural life in days gone by will be continued in the next edition of "The Scottish Genealogist".

NOTES

- ¹ Falkirk Herald 9th October 1869 carried an obituary on the late Mr John Wilson
- ² The most famous descendant of this branch of the family known to modern readers is the Chief Scout and TV personality Bear Grylls
- ³ farm house known as Riccarton, the whole being the property of the Earl of Selkirk and tenanted by Mr John Wilson
- ⁴ 1816 was sometimes called "the year without summer" it was partially caused by the explosion of Mt. Tambora (Volcano) and led to widespread famine in Western Europe and the period between 1816-19 saw large outbreaks of Typhus in Ireland and Britain
- ⁵ William Duncan Anderson Headmaster of Bridgend Academy Dumbarton 12 June 1845 - 21st November 1918 was the father of the Rev James Wilson Anderson 1873-1957 and the Rev Robert Proudfoot Roy Anderson 1875-1957
- ⁶ Helen Denholm died 25th January 1842 at Riccarton and is buried in Linlithgow Churchyard along with her husband.

CANADIAN CONNECTIONS

David Macadam

A while ago now, over twenty years or so, I wrote the first of two separate articles on two different people whose ancestry was from Caithness, the most northerly mainland county in Scotland.

My first, on Anstruther Davidson, was about a farmer's boy from Caithness who became a medical doctor and left Scotland to set up practice in Hollywood as a skin specialist, but was far better known as a famous American botanist and scientist and an early conservationist who worked with John Muir and formed The Sierra Club.¹ The photo shows Anstruther Davidson with John Muir and Andrew Carnegie at the opening of the Mount Wilson telescope in Los Angeles. He wrote numerous articles on Californian flora, published two standard textbooks on the subject and is mentioned in America's Dictionary of National Biography.



The second was on Arthur St Clair who was born in Thurso, the son of a wealthy local merchant who went to Edinburgh to become a doctor but chose instead to go to America to join the colonial army. I suspect he changed the spelling of the surname at this time to advance socially. He settled in America where he became an American General in the American War of Independence, and later was elected ninth President of the Continental Congress and thus became 9th President of the United States (In Congress Assembled)². After this he was Governor of the North West Territories. He married well to Phoebe Baynard, whose brother was the Colonial Governor of Massachusetts but following a disastrous battle at Wabash and thereafter losing his position as Governor he died at his daughter's home in poverty. I was privileged to have these pieces published in the Journal of the Scottish Genealogy Society.

My continuing investigations into these families since then, has now shown that not only are they themselves interconnected which would be interesting enough, but both are further connected to the present Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau.

Justin Trudeau is the son of Pierre Trudeau, a former Prime Minister of Canada. Pierre Trudeau married Margaret Sinclair, the daughter of James Sinclair one time Minister of Fisheries. Justin's parents were very much the "IT" couple of their day courting much controversy with their progressive views and apparently colourful sex lives, providing endless copy for newspaper columns and scandalous gossip. Margaret was the subject of rumoured affairs with Mick Jagger and Fidel Castro.

Their link to each other, and of course so many in Caithness and beyond, is through the extraordinary gothic horror story of one John Sinclair, "The Master of Caithness" 1543-1576, the son of the Fourth Earl of Caithness, whose appallingly sadistic murder still has the power to shock and still feels like a scene from "A Game of Thrones".

The Sinclair Earls of Caithness derived their positions from a grant from James II of Scotland in 1454 to William the 3rd Earl of Orkney and the grandson of Prince Henry Sinclair, of the Earldom. The Sinclairs were already an ancient family of nobles in Scotland. Descended from a family that held lands in Normandy they had taken land in Lothian as far back as the reign of David I when William St Clair built the chapel at Roslin.

They then derive descent down through William 2nd Earl Caithness, John Sinclair 3rd Earl until we arrive at George IV Sinclair, the Justiciar of Caithness and peer at the trial of Bothwell, a memorably cruel and difficult man.

Situated a few miles north of Wick, on the far northern coast of mainland Britain is an old castle straight out of fantasy romances and with as dark a story attached. Following the advent of the NC500, our very own Route 66, more visitors have discovered these romantic old ruins. Here was the seat of the Sinclair family and here it was where a family feud brought about the death of the son and heir. Castles Sinclair and Girnigoe loom bare, gaunt, cold and miserable, like broken teeth, crumbling right off the cliff edge at the Noss Head near Wick. Famously dangerous in my youth, when ancient doorways would open into empty space or issue into courtyards with no floors, just stone chutes to the churning sea below, the castle shedding loose stones and bits of pavements to every winter storm and where you could never trust any handhold it was as scary as one can imagine. Not the place then to take children, it has however since been lovingly restored and made much safer to visit.

It's most famous, undoubtedly the best remembered resident, was John "The Master of Caithness" Sinclair. Master because he was the heir of his father, the Fourth Earl. His story was gloriously gothic in the extreme, sounding like a plot from central casting. Imprisoned in the castle's bottle dungeon, an oubliette sunk down deep into the base of the castle at sea level, cold, damp, black and constantly roaring with the noise of the tides by his father for the impious crime of seeking peace between warring families he was first starved for days, and then fed a diet of salted beef and denied water. He died mad and raving.

John "Master of Caithness" had married Jean Hepburn (1513-1599) the daughter of Patrick Hepburn 3rd Earl of Bothwell whose family were long established in the Borders. They had five children, George the Fifth Earl, Sir James, Sir John, Bessie and Marie, and the descents we are interested in here flow through John and James. Her brother James Hepburn had married Mary Queen of Scots. John the Master was her second marriage.

So, here are the descents **John to Arthur St Clair**, John "Master of Caithness" Sinclair – James Sinclair first of Murkle – John Sinclair first of Assery – James Sinclair Second of Assery – James Sinclair, Merchant in Thurso – William Sinclair, Merchant in Thurso – General Arthur St Clair, 9th President (ICA) United States of America.

The descent from **John to Justin Trudeau**, John "Master of Caithness" Sinclair – James Sinclair first of Murkle c1567-1604 – David Broynach Sinclair 1638-1715 – Donald "The Sailor" Sinclair d 1768 – Francis Sinclair b1751 – James George Sinclair b1776 – Francis Sinclair 1811-1893 – James Sinclair 1834-1904 – James George Sinclair 1879-1962 – James Sinclair, Canadian Min of Fishing 1908-1984 – Margaret Sinclair b 1948 – Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada b 1971.

The descent from **John to Anstruther Davidson**, John "Master of Caithness" Sinclair – John Sinclair first of Assery 1563-1627 – James "of Raester" Sinclair 1597-1634 – William Sinclair 1618-1663 – Anne Sinclair 1660 – Anne Sinclair abt 1679 – abt 1762 – William Sutherland 1690-1764 – Helen Sutherland 1714-1780 – William Sutherland Gunn 1738-1823 – Jean Gunn 1782-1852 – Ann Macadam 1818-1912 – Anstruther Davidson 1860-1932.

So even from this rough and limited exploration we can see how many people today will be linked back to John Sinclair. But of what use is John to us? Well, the answer to this may be that for those families who have been associated with Caithness for more than say a hundred years or so it is difficult not to be connected to the Sinclairs² in one way or another, and for a huge number of families in the Far North of Scotland and beyond, John the Master

of Caithness, will prove a “gateway ancestor” if they but knew it. Through him, for those interested in royal genealogies or long runs back to the far past, they may gain access to those extended trees back into medieval aristocratic families and royal lineages. For many researchers and genealogists these gateways are a holy grail.

But beware! They are not just gateways to the sunlit uplands of genealogy - all heraldry, tabards, painted shields, trumpets, romance and lovely sounding appellations- they also issue like the doorways at Sinclair and Girnigoe of my childhood, into chutes rushing one down into the locked wards and oubliettes of genealogical madness.

(Endnotes)

- ¹ Dr Anstruther Davidson, *The Scottish Genealogist* Vol XLVII No 3, September 2000 pgs. 84 to 87
- ² Arthur St Clair – Unknown President, *The Scottish Genealogist* Vol LVI No.3 September 2008 pgs. 117-120



PENNY WEDDINGS

Moir Stevenson

Each of the guests contributed a penny towards the costs of the food and drink and anything leftover went to help the couple set up house. Penny weddings were common across rural Scotland and could continue for several days despite the disapproval of the Kirk. They could be of any size from family and close friends to two or three hundred people. They were the subject of paintings by Alexander Carse ‘The Penny Wedding’ in the National Gallery of Scotland and by David Wilkie ‘The Penny Wedding’ in Royal Collection Trust which was painted for King George IV in 1818.

Marriage 3 May 1709

Parish of Drainie, Moray of James Lessly and Margt Paton

Ref No: 130 10/173 Old Parish Registers

April 9th 1709

Then also, James Lessly in Kinr & Margt Paton in Balormy were matrimonially conracted and consigned of pledges a Crown & a 40p piece, consenting to ye forfeiting yrof if they had a penny wedding, fidling, dancing, drunkenness, pleys or any Irregularity yrat contrare to Acts of Parliaments & Assemblys. They were married May 3d & forfeited their pledges, by having a penny-Wedding, and yrat a greater Number of persons than ye Acts of Parliament do allow, besides other Irregularitys.

Marriage 15 February 1723

Parish of Wemyss, Fife of James Lessels and Euphaim Brown
Old Parish Registers 459 50/256

James Lessels and Euphaim Brown in Methilhill declared their mutual purpose of Marriage on Saturday the 19 January 1723 and in testimony of their banns matrimonial consigned two Crowns before these witnesses James Wemyss and James Philp cautioners that there shall be no abuse at their wedding and being thrice orderly proclaimed and no objection were married on Friday the 15 of February 1723 witnesses forsd

Moira did comment "I know which one I would go to!"



A Lost Headstone

I have been working with my family history for many years and used lots of resources to find information, mainly at the Scottish Genealogy Society. Now post pandemic and everyone is getting back to some order of living, I decided to get more involved with the society. I had recorded monumental inscriptions at the Eastern Cemetery, Edinburgh and thought I could do more of the same locally. I looked at Corstorphine parish and found that there was a file of unpublished material for Corstorphine Old Parish Churchyard, nothing for Corstorphine Hill Cemetery and nothing for Gogar Churchyard all which fell within the parish of Corstorphine. Okay I thought, let's get started..... I read through the file of information and at the back of the file I came across an item about a lost headstone. Headed Corstorphine Churchyard, Francis Joseph Trelss a native of Hungary, a lost headstone. This was written by A.S. Cowper in 1978 and given to the Society. The story is reproduced here.

Eileen Ferguson

Francis Joseph Trelss

When Francis Groome compiled his Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland (1881 with later editions) he thought it worth while to note under Corstorphine that there was in the churchyard a headstone to

Francis Joseph Trelss, a native of Hungary, and

Late tenant at Saughton Hall 1796

Today no visible trace remains of this stone. The greatest disturbance in the area of Corstorphine churchyard after 1881 was during the extensive church renovations of 1904-5 which involved building work such as the closure of the doorways that Burn, the architect, in 1828 had opened beneath the window in the east end and on the west of the south transept, and the opening of the priest's doorway in the south wall of the Chancel and the original doorway in the west gable of the porch. If the Trelss stone was close to any of these external alterations, it could have disappeared.

Information about Trelss is scant. He is mentioned by Andrew Wight in his celebrated survey of Scottish agriculture – Present State of Husbandry in Scotland 1778-84:

“I cannot pass by a farm occupied by one Francis Feals a Hungarian. His wheat, beans and barley are good. He has a fine soil; but I wish it may be able to bear the high rent it gives, no less than five firlots of wheat, five of barley and 20s for each acre.”

As tenant in Saughton Hall Francis would be farming on the estate of the Baird family.

By the mid 18th century the Bairds had given up living in the mansion house which was let to tenants: in the 19th century it became a private lunatic asylum and by the opening of the 20th century the City of Edinburgh had started to purchase the estate. The mansion survived till the nineteen fifties when its condition forced the authorities to demolish it by setting it on fire. The grounds today form Saughton Park and the adjoining sports fields. The Bairds had an aisle in Corstorphine Kirk so that the burial of a Saughton Hall farmer at Corstorphine is not unexpected. In 1789 George Stoddart, a smith at Saughton Hall Bridgend, made over to Francis Trelss a tack, letting the smithy, a dwelling house, and a garden for £2 sterling yearly. The original bridge across the Water of Leith into the estate was at the present Ford's Road. The bridge at the junction of Gorgie Road and Balgreen Road was built for the Exhibition held there in 1908. The witness to the tack was William Trelss but his relationship is not given. William's name appears in transactions, such as paying Joseph Smith, 20 June 1799, for cleaning in 1798 his share of the great drain of Corstorphine (the Stank) 87 roods at 3d totalling £1 1s 10½d. and also for paying Sir James Baird rent at Candlemas and Lammas 1799 for the farm at Saughton Hall £289 12s 5d.

Mrs Trelss presumably the wife of Francis, in August 17899 had her barley mill valued by Alexander Skirving at £10 but a month later James Rutherford, millwright in Dalkeith, valued it at £25. Francis Trelss was certainly a progressive agriculturist; to him is credited the erection about 1786 of the first threshing mill in Midlothian. An account exists, unfortunately undated, for mill repairs at Saughton Hall: a "new coge while" for the "corn mill" (£13 10s), a "new mettle while" for the barley mill (£1 9s), and "pleatiern" for covering the kiln (£17).

In October 1790 Mr Robert Nimmo, writer, in the parish of St Andrew, Edinburgh, married Miss Frances Trelss daughter of Mr Francis Trelss farmer in Saughton Hall.

How did Frances Joseph come to leave his native Hungary in the second half of the 18th century?

Hungary at that period, as part of the Hapsburg empire under Maria Theresa (1717-1780) and her son Joseph II (co-regent from 1765), was still a feudal state controlled by nobles who ran their estates with serf labour (in 1819 there were 1,427,000 male serfs and the feudal system was not abolished till 1849). Why did Trelss come to be a tenant farmer at Saughton Hall? Early in the 18th century the Baird family had ceased to live at Saughton Hall: in 1781-

82 it was occupied by Lady Maxwell, a keen supporter of new ways in religion and closely associated with Lady Glenorchy and her chapels. John Wesley stayed with Lady Maxwell at Saughton Hall and preached to the people on the estate when he visited Scotland.

What made Trelss interested in new, mechanical methods of threshing? As late as 1815 in Hungary wheat was threshed by simply driving cattle over it.

Are there any descendants of the marriage of Frances Trelss to Robert Nimmo? Was Frances an only child or was William a brother? Is the Trelss headstone still in Corstorphine Churchyard, perhaps lying inscription downwards on some path or below grass level? Hopefully time and further research will produce some answers to these historical questions.

Francis Trelss from Hungary who knew Marie Theresa as his Queen was destined to sleep the moors among in Corstorphine where the Blaikie family are also buried. Thomas Blaikie who spent his boyhood on the slopes of Corstorphine Hill at Pinkhill when Frances Trelss lived in Hungary, was destined to witness in Paris the French revolutionaries bringing back to ultimate execution Marie Antionette, Queen of France, and daughter of Marie Theresa of Hungary.

Such is the romance of destiny that lingers about the graves in the old Churchyard of Corstorphine.

A. S. Cowper 1978

CAN YOU HELP?

Do you like meeting people?

One or two more volunteers would be really welcome to join our group to help people looking for guidance in researching their family history.

You don't need to be an expert in genealogy, training and help are readily available and you will enjoy being part of the team.

Why not contact enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com? They'll be delighted to hear from you!

AGM REPORT

THE LYON AND THE UNICORN

The lively buzz transformed into respectful silence as Lord Lyon, King of Arms aka the SGS' President, called the AGM to order.

From the platform of the Augustine United Church between the Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, he quickly and effectively moved between items on the agenda.

There was lively debate over several points but the commanding tones of Lord Lyon mellowed the mood.

With the serious business dealt with, Lord Lyon led the audience into a tale of sadness, pomp and a touch of irreverence surrounding the late Queen's funeral.

As her passing was on Scottish soil, long established protocols swung into action and Operation Unicorn began.

This sad duty became Lord Lyon's responsibility ten years previously.

Age-old traditions needed to be adhered to as Lord Lyon travelled to London to take part in the Accession Council meeting in St James's Palace to formally proclaim the accession of Charles to the throne. Space being at a premium, Lord Lyon shared space on a radiator with the ex N.I. First Minister

With duty done, the race back to Edinburgh began as the Proclamation was to be read the next day at the Mercat Cross and Edinburgh Castle. From heraldic highs to a landslide delayed train, persuading LNER to make an unscheduled stop at Berwick that delighted other passengers. Lord Lyon was bemused that the Police Scotland car sent to meet him would also be delayed as it needed to be cleaned due to officers' detritus!

What to do to prevent drone interference over the funeral cortege from Holyrood House to St Giles? Lord Lyon suggested using trained eagles as they do abroad, musing at the idea of Lord Lyon Eagle Squadron.

The young Scottish coffin bearers kept their role secret. Lord Lyon knew some of their mums and he got some light-hearted teasing for not telling them.

Many Scots had key organisational roles. Lord Lyon and his Officers had been so expertly drilled they led the funeral procession.

Thanks to a practice run the Lyon and his Officers were able to walk the 6 mile funeral route. Not easy wearing 16 pounds of gilt and being told that they had to squelch through horse droppings and no side steps!

Fortified by water and glucose tablets. Lord Lyon continued without his Officers at Arms to Windsor. It was needed, seeing the upward slope of the Long Drive in daylight rather than the dark of the previous evening.

The way the late Queen was referred to changed when the regalia were removed from the coffin and it struck Lord Lyon that death is truly an equalizer.

The taxi driver taking him back to his London hotel refused his fare, explaining that this was his way of being part of the ceremony.

Life goes on and Lord Lyon is brushing down his new white tights for the Coronation of King Charles III on 6th May 2023!

A delighted audience broke for tea and a chat with the evening reluctantly closing at 9.30 pm.

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## **DEADLINE DATE**

Please remember that the deadline for the next issue is:

**20th May.**

Contributions with a maximum of 1750 words  
(including any notes) are welcome in Word and  
photographs should be in jpeg.

Submit to: **[editor@scotsgenealogy.com](mailto:editor@scotsgenealogy.com)**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

After several years of decline, we are pleased to report that membership is increasing. This is reflected in our membership income which increased to £13,760 (2021 £13,057). Although currently standing at just over 600, to encourage new members, we have launched a new website, which will be followed by a revamped online shop and a members' only area. Membership fees will continue at the current rates but we anticipate increasing them at the next AGM.

The library was fully open during the year and with more people visiting, our income from donations rose to £1,380. A claim for Gift Aid from HMRC, covering the past 4 years, yielded another £3,257 in donations. Our total donations for the year were £4,637 (2021 £25).

There were no classes in 2021/22 but they are starting again in March. Our total sales from publications, printing, fees, courses were £4,940 (2021 £5,245). Our income from Findmypast increased dramatically due to a new contract which increased our royalty income to £21,283 (2021 £3,995).

We received a bequest from the estate of Dr Kenneth Wilkie of £2,000 which the council agreed to use for new signage. There is a new hanging sign outside the library and more new signage will follow shortly.

The annual cost of running the library in Victoria Terrace was £11,184 (2021 £7,946). Insurance costs increased to £2,808 (2021 £1,973). The costs for the telephones, stationery and photocopier also rose, totalling £3,836 (2021 £2,280). We upgraded our photocopier and the new contract will reduce our printing costs. Expenditure for postage increased to £3,395 (2021 £2,511). We are pleased to report that we continue to qualify for and claim an exemption for water rates.

Computer costs increased to £6,671 (£2,251), due to IT Support being outsourced. We also spent £13,402 from our Upgrade and Refurbishment fund on new computers for the library.

Finally, our Journal printing and distribution costs increased to £7,961 (£4,899).

We will continue to use Greaves West and Ayre as our Independent Auditor for the following financial year.

**Mirren McLeod**  
**Hon. Treasurer**

# THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

## DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

|                                                      | 2022    | 2021    |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| £                                                    | £       | £       |
| <b>Donations and legacies</b>                        |         |         |
| Donations and gift aid                               | 4,637   | 25      |
| Legacies                                             | 2,000   | 2,000   |
| Members' subscriptions                               | 13,760  | 13,057  |
|                                                      | <hr/>   | <hr/>   |
|                                                      | 20,397  | 15,082  |
| <b>Investment income</b>                             |         |         |
| Investment income                                    | 80      | 4       |
| Investment income - Designated fund                  | 3,181   | 3,376   |
|                                                      | <hr/>   | <hr/>   |
|                                                      | 3,261   | 3,380   |
| <b>Incoming resources from charitable activities</b> |         |         |
| Sales - publications                                 | 4,940   | 5,245   |
| Sales - royalties                                    | 21,283  | 3,995   |
|                                                      | <hr/>   | <hr/>   |
|                                                      | 26,223  | 9,240   |
| <b>Other incoming resources</b>                      |         |         |
| Other income                                         | -       | 421     |
|                                                      | <hr/>   | <hr/>   |
| <b>Total incoming resources</b>                      | 49,881  | 28,123  |
| <b><u>Resources expended</u></b>                     |         |         |
| <b>Costs of generating funds</b>                     |         |         |
| <b>Costs of generating donations and legacies</b>    |         |         |
| Conference and lecture expenses                      | 923     | -       |
| Cost of publications                                 | 1,463   | 3,303   |
|                                                      | <hr/>   | <hr/>   |
|                                                      | (2,386) | (3,303) |
| <b>Balance Carried Forward</b>                       | 47,495  | 24,820  |

# THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

## DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

|                                       | 2022                | 2021                |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| £                                     | £                   | £                   |
| <b>Balance Brought Forward</b>        | 47,495              | 24,820              |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>          |                     |                     |
| <b>Direct charitable expenditure</b>  |                     |                     |
| Journal (printing and distribution)   | 7,961               | 4,899               |
| Library running costs                 | 11,184              | 7,946               |
| Advertising                           | -                   | 240                 |
| Insurance                             | 2,808               | 1,973               |
| Computer expenses                     | 6,671               | 2,251               |
| Postage                               | 3,395               | 2,511               |
| Telephone, stationery and photocopier | 3,836               | 2,280               |
| Bank/credit card charges              | 1,236               | 1,231               |
| Sundry expenditure                    | 159                 | 196                 |
| Accountancy                           | 1,890               | 1,800               |
| Depreciation on computer equipment    | 3,547               | 261                 |
| Depreciation on equipment             | 141                 | 52                  |
| Books - Restricted                    | 69                  | -                   |
|                                       | <u>(42,897)</u>     | <u>(25,640)</u>     |
| <b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b> | <b><u>4,598</u></b> | <b><u>(820)</u></b> |

## RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

| ID    | TITLE                                                                                                                                                   | AUTHOR              |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 13462 | Genealogy Of The Clan Maclean                                                                                                                           | Collins, Ronald W   |
| 13463 | Saga Of The Early Auchinlecks And Afflecks:<br>A Hidden History Revealed                                                                                | Affleck, David Keir |
| 13464 | Fife Parish: Dalgety In The 17th Century                                                                                                                | Arnott, Robin G K   |
| 13465 | Statistical Account Of Sutherlandshire      Ministers Of The Respective Parishes                                                                        |                     |
| 13466 | Third Statistical Account Of Scotland: City Of Edinburgh                                                                                                | Keir, David, Ed     |
| 13467 | Incorporation Of Candlemakers Of Edinburgh                                                                                                              | Torrance, D Richard |
| 13468 | Greek Secrets Revealed: Hidden Scottish History Uncovered:<br>Greek Inscriptions In Scotland With A Translation Into English                            | Mchaffie, Ian       |
| 13469 | Monumental Inscriptions (Pre And Post 1855)<br>Of The Old High Kirk, Kilmarnock<br>[Cd In Pocket Inside Back Cover]                                     |                     |
| 13471 | Parishes Of Moray:<br>Poor Register For The Parish Of Grange 1847-1929                                                                                  | Farrell, Stuart     |
| 13470 | Parishes Of Nairnshire Monumental Inscriptions:<br>Nairn Cemetery (Victorian Section)<br>[1864 Plan Of Cemetery In Pocket In Inside Back Cover]         | Farrell, Stuart     |
| 13472 | Garvald, East Lothian. Monumental Inscriptions                                                                                                          | Dodd, Joy           |
| 13473 | Ross-Shire Man: Alexander Mackenzie, Millbank                                                                                                           | Ballantyne, John H  |
| 13474 | New Statistical Account Of Sutherlandshire                                                                                                              |                     |
| 13475 | Notes Forming A Nominal Index<br>Of The 16th (Service Battalion) Royal Scots [McCrae's Battalion].<br>Section 1: Introduction And Officers Surnames A-Z | Flint, Edward S     |
| 13476 | Notes Forming A Nominal Index<br>Of The 16th (Service Battalion) Royal Scots [McCrae's Battalion].<br>Section 2: Other Ranks A-H                        | Flint, Edward S     |
| 13477 | Notes Forming A Nominal Index<br>Of The 16th (Service Battalion) Royal Scots [McCrae's Battalion].<br>Section 2: Other Ranks I-N                        | Flint, Edward S     |
| 13478 | Notes Forming A Nominal Index<br>Of The 16th (Service Battalion) Royal Scots [McCrae's Battalion].<br>Section 2: Other Ranks O-Z                        | Flint, Edward S     |

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Ordinary meetings take place at 7.30pm in the  
Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL.

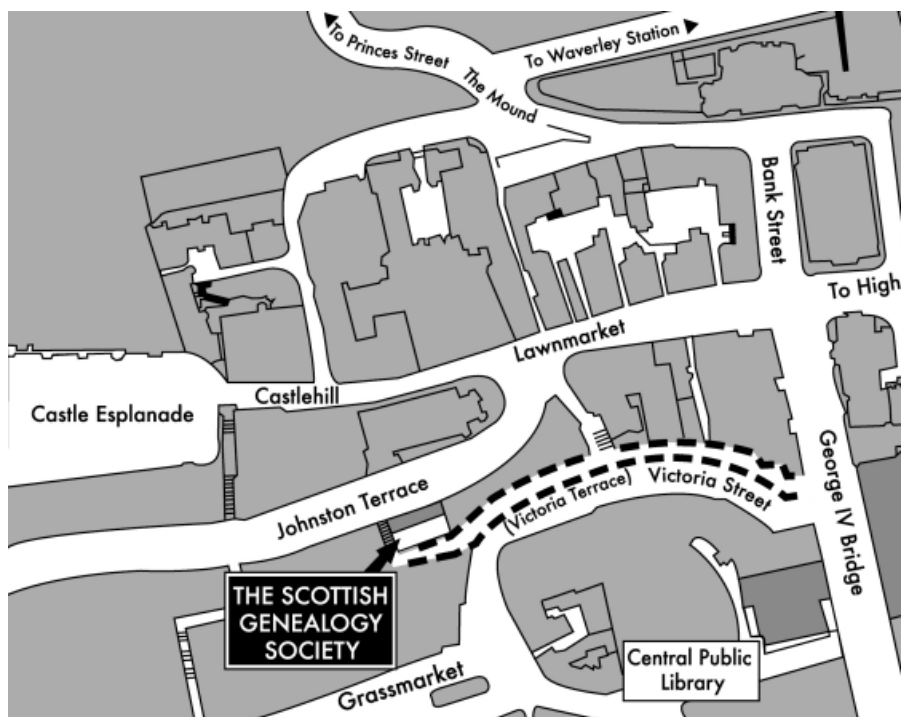
Meetings are open to all and admission is free to members.  
Donations of £4 each from non-members are much appreciated

- |                |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 20 March       | People of Cammo <i>by Ann Kerrigan;</i><br><i>Edinburgh Archeological Field Society.</i>                                                                                                |
| 17 April       | The History of the Union Canal <i>by Graeme Cruikshank,</i><br><i>Historian.</i>                                                                                                        |
| May/June Visit | Archers Hall – Date to be announced. Booking will be<br>required.                                                                                                                       |
| 18 September   | Bridgescapes – A journey through Scotland's Bridge<br>Building Heritage <i>by L Bruce Keith.</i>                                                                                        |
| 16 October     | The Highland Peoples's Historian; John Dewar of<br>Arrochar and his informants – <i>by Ronald Black; Author and</i><br><i>former lecturer in Celtic in the University of Edinburgh.</i> |
| 20 November    | John Orr and the history of the Scottish Naval and Military<br>Academy <i>by Rosslyn MacPhail, researcher and Author.</i>                                                               |

Some talks may be presented in hybrid format.

Please contact: [enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com](mailto:enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com)

**Please check our website before setting out,  
in case of last minute changes**



## **Library opening Hours**

|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| Monday    | 10am to 4pm   |
| Tuesday   | 10am to 4pm   |
| Wednesday | 2.30pm to 7pm |
| Thursday  | 10am to 4pm   |
| Saturday  | 10am to 2pm   |

## **Library & Family History Centre**

**15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL**

**Telephone and Fax: 0131 220 3677**