



THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

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The Scottish Genealogy Society

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EDITORIAL

Volunteers play a vital role within the Society – it literally could not function without them! We are more than grateful for the tremendous work done by people willing to give up some time and we know how their helpful interest is appreciated by the many people who visit us from all parts of the world.

Contributions for possible publication are most welcome, but please remember the maximum word count of 1750, including references, and it is not possible to guarantee when they will appear in print! Please submit items by email only.

***Do note that the deadline for the December issue is 17th November 2023**

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 emailed Newsletters.

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

Can be accessed on www.scotsgenealogy.com

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VACANCY

HONORARY SECRETARY

The Society is looking for a volunteer able to spare a few hours each week and interested in helping it to function.

The Honorary Secretary is a vital role within the organisation, part of a committed but friendly team. Your function would include being the first point of contact, organising Council meetings, minute taking and generally being involved in the running of the organisation.

Please do give it serious consideration – we'll be delighted to hear from you soon!

For more details contact:

chair@scotsgenealog.com or enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com

RURAL REMINISCENCES - PART 3

Ken A. Nisbet

Concluding John Wilson's "Rural Reminiscences"

1826 was a memorable year, It was known as the "drouthie year," The barley never got a shower from the sowing to the shearing; Wheat was a great crop. The horses got wheat straw to eat all winter and I used to hear the men say they did as well as with the corn straw. It was like a birthday to me for I went to David Scott at Hillhouse in August. The harvest was early. There were neither Highland nor Irish sheerers. They hadn't the way of sending for them then as now. There was not an old wife in Linlithgowshire that could hold a "heuk" but was at the harvest. They got three shillings a day. I was hired to sort cows all winter. The whole household, John and David Scott, Wattie and Nannie Samuel the master and mistress, and two servant women all sat at one table at the kitchen fire. I have seen three spinning wheels going on a winter night. We all wore harn shirts, (note Harn shirts - coarse unbleached linen).

We ploughed a part every winter with four horses. I used to drive the plough for Wattie Samuel. One day I was driving, he was holding and as I went whistling down the rig the plough caught a stone and threw him a full rig-breadth across and took away the beam of the plough. I still whistled away and he "flit" on me for not stopping. I said I was not going to lose a turn of my whistle for him and his auld plough. I stayed there till I could go with a pair of horses. Fodder was very scarce that winter. It came a blast of snow about the middle of April and there were only three bunches of straw in the barn, but the snow did not lie. The summer of 1827 was good. It was about half-harvest at the second tryst (Falkirk Cattle Market. There were three in the year, August, September and October).

A thunderstorm broke over the tryst, the first I was at. Weeks of dull weather came afterwards but not much rain. Much of the victual was shorn damp and it grew and heated. I mind they sifted all the wheat at the Mills. The Scotts were all kind folk, and I was counted one of themselves. One, the old woman, was a cleanly, kind body, and used to give me a present of a pair of stockings at times. She died in August 1832 and was buried in Muiravonside Churchyard. For six weeks the old man watched the churchyard himself. He went away on the pony at bed-time and came back at rising-time.

The mother of the present Mrs Wilson of Parkley Craigs was the servant maid. She was very kind to me. I slept in the loft, she let me see to my bed and told me to mind my prayers. I said the Lord's Prayer every night. The Scotts afterwards went to Australia except David, after running three tacks in Hillhouse farm. After David retired they came to Linlithgow. I was in a farm of my own then and I gave them a cart of peats as they needed them.

After leaving Hillhouse I went to Mr Colston of Powflats, near Broxburn, and then to Mr Glen, Bangour. There were twelve of us all in the kitchen. It was a rough house at nights, some whistling and some singing. If we got wet we just had to keep our clothes till it came a dry day and they dried on our backs. Work was no trouble to us then but we were always cheery. The coaches were a great trade on the roads. There were ten East and ten West every day. The Glens were good masters.

From there I went to Mr Inglis, Easter Bangour. He was a great horse and cattle dealer, with 300 acres of grass, all stocked with cattle, sheep and horses. There were no cattle sales, business was all done by fairs held through the country. I have seen Mr Inglis away at 4 o'clock in the morning on horseback as everyone bought and sold his own cattle. I mind once he bought 100 cattle in one market, sold them in another and won £100. In the harvest of 1835 the weather broke about the 20th of September We were all cut but had none in. It was two weeks of dull weather and cleared up on a Friday. We started on Monday morning but could only work in the dark of the night. A harvest man got 10/- week and his meat. Two men, two women and a stout (one who set up the sheaves on the field) got £22 for the six months. On leaving Mr Inglis I went to Parkley Craigs, my wages were £7 in the half-year and we wrought sair for our money, There was a water mill and the victual was all threshed by candle-light.

I will go back to Riccarton again. David West was a great plough maker. They were all wooden ploughs then and my father and he made great improvements on them. The other ploughs in these days were just the same as the chilled ploughs they have now. Iron ploughs were just coming in.

My brother George tried one I got him to hold at Parkley Craigs. Mr Wilson said to me "Broomieknowes is getting a day's ploughing and I have a £1 wagered on your plough." I said that I did not care for the prize but for John Robertson's men. And so I did.

George made some very good ploughs. William Shields, a farmer at Bathgate had one that always took the prize wherever he went.

I heard him say in Bathgate Market that he wanted to go once more and do honour to George Wilson and he did. He retired from farming but would not sell his plough. The neighbours wore her down at ploughing matches and he kept her standing before his door as long as he lived. The price of an iron plough then was £3. Now it is £5 and some are more.

In 1837 the harvest was late. Snow came on the first Friday of November while I was at the last stack at Parkley Craigs. Our beans were all in, but a great many farmers lost theirs. James Scott in Riccarton farm lost about £300 with his beans. I got married that year and went to Mr Wilson at Gateside, I was one year there and then went to Mr Cochrane, Kirkland. The Cochranes

were good masters. Soon after I got the chance of Easter Mains to be first man. I sold all the victual and did all the market business. The grain was all taken to the Edinburgh and Bathgate markets. I have seen hundreds of carts in Edinburgh market. The Bakers bought all their own wheat and sent it to the mill where it was mixed with foreign wheat.

When I went to Mr Wilkie, I got £18 a year - £2 more than the other men. We got 6 1/2 boles of oat-meal and 4 holes of potatoes. That was about 1841.

In October 1842 the Queen drove from the Duke of Argyll's to Edinburgh. William Sutherland, a Blackbraes collier, wagered that when they changed horses at Mr Forbes of Callender House he would shake hands with the Queen. There were soldiers on every side of the carriage but he went up to the carriage and told what he wanted. The soldiers were coming down on him. When she gave the sign she smiled and shook hands with him. There were four soldiers with her.

The Stirlingshire farmers brought her to Callender and on to Linlithgow Bridge. Then the Linlithgowshire men guarded her to the Boathouse Bridge and handed her over to the Edinburgh ones. They changed horses at Kirkliston. We were all through with the harvest and I said to Mr, Wilkie that the men wanted to go Kirkliston to see the Queen. He said "Take a cart and take the wives with you too. So we all went to see her. Some saw her and some did not. I saw her but I never saw her since.

The Wilkies were good masters. They paid wages at the rate of the country and they did not kill their men neither with hours, weather nor sore work, I think it was the happiest two years of my life, I did a good deal of his business and he was always pleased.

Mr Wilkie's tack was done with Easter Mains and he went to farm his brother's estate at Ormiston Hall. I went to Bonnieton Head to look after the garden and the game but I did not like it and I went to Mr Gray, Southfield, near Portobello. He was a good master. I thought I would try something for myself. I came to Linlithgow and took a Grocer and Victualler's shop. There was no trade in the shop when I got it. I bought corn and made meal and as I was a general dealer we soon made a trade. I kept the shop nine years.

When I was a servant I never got a bad master. I always tried to do: what was right and I may say I never got a bad word from master or mistress.

We made some money and I thought I would like a farm. I got one at Blackbraes, Craigmad. It was very poor and foul. The first year I sowed 12 bolls of oats, I had 20 of them. I had a good deal of work with the steading. I drained all the farm, putting 200,000 tiles into it and about 100 carts of dung every year. The first year the farmers in the neighbourhood of Linlithgow gave me a day's ploughing to the number of 32 ploughs. It was a hard fight for a time, I said to Rob Waddle after I was recovering that I never lost heart. He

said that it had been gye strong when I started. I was many a time obliged to Rob and was the better of being well-neighboured. Mrs. Wilson, my wife was a clever, careful body and Mrs Waddle was a good neighbour to her as well as Rob was to me.

I wrought on in the farm for thirty years. The lasses got married, Helen to William Martin, Easter Jaw¹ Their tack was run out and he got a farm in the Carse of Bothkennar (Auchentyre). Elizabeth was married to Aleck Martin. They went to America 12 years since and are doing well. After the girls married. I was advised to give up the farm. I got a very good sale, and went to live at Auchentyre in 1887. In 1888 Helen took a paralytic shock. She was not well and died about four years afterwards. Their mother was getting not so able to work herself and John and Mrs Wilson thought it would be better to have us near them. We came to Greenock in 1893. 'Their mother improved a good bit after she moved, but she took a severe turn of bronchitis and died on February 13th 1895 in her 78th year. I thought of taking her to Linlithgow seeing I had ground there, but after thinking it over we took ground here and put up a stone. I can see the place when I wish. She was a fine body; I have said many a time that I never saw her angry and she was always careful and industrious.

John died aged 94 on 26th December 1906 at 27 Newton Street Greenock and is buried in Greenock Cemetery.

HONOURS OF SCOTLAND

People from all walks of life were among those represented during the Presentation of the Honours of Scotland to King Charles and Queen Camilla, when tradition, ceremony, pageantry and ancient title combined at the National Service of Thanksgiving in St Giles' Cathedral on Wednesday 5th July.



The Honours of Scotland
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Our President, Dr Joseph Morrow, Lord Lyon King of Arms, was the lead ceremonial planner for the Service which began with a People's Procession from Edinburgh Castle to the Cathedral. The Procession included a show of Trades Houses from the bonnet makers and dyers to the shoemakers and weavers, followed by Scotland's Crown Jewels. The hereditary crown, made for James V in the early 16th century, was used in the coronations of Mary, Queen of Scots, Charles I and II, and was carried by the Duke of Hamilton, escorted by Ailsa Russell, head girl of Clydevew Academy, Gourrock and Lochlan Sweatton, head boy of Balwearie High School, Kirkcaldy.

Dr Morrow said, “The purpose of this for me is to bring together the traditions of monarchy in Scotland with a modern society and reflect them together for the next generation. It is also about celebrating the new monarchy and welcoming the King. Hospitality is, of course, renowned in Scotland and the creation of that hospitality for our Monarch is even more significant as expressed within this ceremony. It is a warm welcome”. He added, “None of this can be done on your own and that ‘Team Scotland’, which consisted of everybody involved, from the military down to volunteers, were absolutely wonderful at pulling together and refining the process to bring this together”.

The oldest Crown Jewels in the United Kingdom, the Honours of Scotland – Crown, Sceptre and Sword – were taken to Dunnotar Castle, near Stonehaven before being hidden in nearby Kinneff Church, to save them from the ravages of Cromwell’s forces. It was said that it was preferable for the Honours to be thrown into the sea, rather than to fall into English hands! Nine years later they were returned to Edinburgh Castle, and locked in a chest following the Act of Union in 1707, until they were rediscovered by Sir Walter Scott in 1818.

The Honours of Scotland now include the newly commissioned Elizabeth Sword, forged at Powderhall Bronze Foundry in Edinburgh which replaced, for the occasion, the now fragile Sword of State presented to James IV in 1507 by Pope Julius II. The Elizabeth Sword was presented to His Majesty by Dame Katherine Grainger, Chancellor of the University of Glasgow and an Olympic Gold Medallist rower. The Sceptre, a gift in 1494 from Pope Alexander IV to James IV as a mark of papal support for Scotland as a special daughter of the Holy See, was presented by Lady Dorian, Lord Justice Clerk. Dr Morrow said “Katherine Grainger represents excellence in Scotland and university life. Lady Dorian was picked to reflect the diverse nature of Scotland and the Duke of Hamilton takes us into that tradition and heritage. There is a link from the old to the new. As well as modernising the ceremony, I think it is important to keep that link to the old.”

As Hereditary Crown Bearer, the 16th Duke of Hamilton placed the Crown on Queen Elizabeth’s coffin at the Service of Remembrance in St Giles’ in September 2022.

Of the Head Boy and Head Girl who escorted the Duke of Hamilton, Dr Morrow added “they were chosen because Balwearie is my old secondary school, which I left 50 years ago. Clydeview petitioned for a set of arms for its new tartan to mark its tenth anniversary and I was very impressed with the talent I found in the School.”

The Honours of Scotland were placed on the Honours Table before the King and Queen, both wearing the Robes of the Order of the Thistle, arrived from the Palace of Holyroodhouse with the Duke and Duchess of Rothesay. The

Stone of Destiny, the most ancient symbol of Scottish monarchy, was also in place.

Dr Morrow said the essence of the service – “a celebration of Scottish music and talent” – mirrored that of 1953. Highlights of the programme included Nicola Benedetti and the Honours of Scotland Ensemble performing Farewell to Stromness composed by Peter Maxwell Davis.

As published in The Scotsman, and used with their kind permission.



THE AUCHINLECKS OF PENNYLAND

David Affleck

In August 2006, I gave a paper to the XXVII International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences held in St Andrews. The title was *Myth, Propaganda and Errors: The Auchinleck/ Douglas Family Network of the 16th Century*. I had also published two articles in 2006 and 2007 in The Scottish Genealogist with the titles, *Genealogical Facts and Scottish History*. In 2021, I finally published my research in *A Saga of The Early Auchinlecks and Afflecks*. The publications reviewed the events that led to the Auchinlecks of Auchinleck losing their estates in Ayrshire and Glenbervie after the death of James Auchinleck, son and heir of Sir John Auchinleck of Auchinleck in September 1492. The paper of August 2006 identified three genealogy challenges and the errors of Sir William Fraser in his four volume *Douglas Book* while the later articles in the Society Journal unravelled other errors in trying to establish the identity of Auchinlecks linked to the era of the Regent Morton. Other errors were to follow. Perhaps the most significant was the failure of researchers linked to the University of St Andrews to identify the existence and significance of a Sir John Auchinleck who was appointed as a chaplain at the Parish Church of Holy Trinity in St Andrews in 1526. He was active as a Notary, became Granitor at St. Andrews Priory and the first Chaplain to the Castilians who entered the Cardinal's quarters at the castle on 29th May 1546. He is not mentioned in the publication, *Medieval St Andrews Church, Cult, City*.

The Baronial family of the Auchinlecks of Auchinleck eventually died out by the end of the 16th century but there was a branch of Auchinleck clergy and

Notaries who had moved north to Inverness by 1500. Three generations are listed in a Charter relating to the grant of the estate of Pennyland in Ayrshire to an Andrew Auchinleck by his father, William, and to his later sale of this ancestral home in August 1511. The subsequent significance of Andrew is detailed in the Saga but the book was published before the location of Pennyland could be validated. (NRS/GD32/12/16. NRE/GD/21/17.

It has now been possible to locate two maps held by the National Library of Scotland. Pennyland appears on the first edition 25" map published in 1858 (Ayrshire, XXXV.6), which is available on the NLS web site: <https://maps.nls.uk/view/74951201>. The map shows the Pennyland house approached from the east/west Barony Road via an Avenues of trees between refs 396 and 397 as well as other landmark features such as Pennyland Wood and Pennyland Mount. The second map, has a Pennyland named on the OS 1:2500 map of this area published in 1961 and available on the National Library of Scotland's map website: <https://maps.nls.uk/view/130201350>. It is at the end of The Avenue, on the left-hand side of the sheet. By a strange coincidence, I believe this is the route I took on my visit of 12th September, 2021 to access Dumfries House Visitor Centre. However, when I looked at the estate map on the Dumfries House web site, I was unable to locate the house and other references to Pennyland as shown on the map for 1961. I suspect there have been major changes to the estate and some of the adjacent roads. I did not have this information on the day of my visit. Subsequent discussion with the Chair of Cumnock Local History Society has confirmed that only one structure remains on the site described as the Temple.

While there are other descendants of the early Auchinlecks after the baronial family died out, this line descended from the notaries and Church officers was significant. Descendants of the children of Andrew Auchinleck 's second marriage are believed to include the heirs of the Rev James Auchinleck, 1646-1685 who married a Margaret Keith and from that marriage, Field Marshall Sir Claude Auchinleck 1835-1892 has been identified. There is much more to uncover, including the five sons of Andrew's first marriage as detailed in the Saga. Promotion of the book and its availability for purchase can be found on the website: <https://dkaffleck.co.uk>

Other opportunities for family history research involving the three generations of Auchinleck Ministers who held office at Largo Kirk in Fife is possible despite some not being entered in the Old Parish Records. In addition, there are references on the Web page for Landed families in Britain and Ireland. **[Landedfamilies.blogspot.com](https://landedfamilies.blogspot.com)** Page 251 relates to a later line of Auchinlecks while page 50 lists a later line of Afflecks. I believe the book, by focusing on the early Auchinlecks and Afflecks, now offers opportunities for later generations to look at their Auchinleck and Affleck ancestry.

THE GLASSELLS

David Robertson

In my home village of Longniddry, in East Lothian, there is an extensive 20th century housing development known as “Glassel Park” named after a late 18th century local landowner John Glassell. John is an interesting character, as is his daughter Joan, and his brother Andrew founded an American dynasty whose descendants can now be found from coast to coast across the USA.

The records show that there had been Glassells in Dumfriesshire in the south-west of Scotland since at least the late 16th century. Some of their American 19th century descendants apparently believed the name was French in origin, and that the first Scottish Glassell had arrived with Mary Queen of Scots when she returned home after the death of her husband Francis. It is perhaps rather more likely that the name stems from the Gaelic *glas allt*, grey stream, as much of Dumfries and Galloway was Gaelic-speaking in mediaeval times.

The Glassells dealt with in this paper are descended from a family living in the Dumfriesshire parish of Torthorwald. In Torthorwald churchyard stands an impressive memorial stone inscribed, “Sacred to the memory of Robert Glassell late tenant in the Howgate, Roucan, who died 2d January 1763 aged 61 years. And Mary Kelton his spouse who died 7th March 1742 aged 37. Here are also deposited many of his forebears who during some hundred years did successively inhabit the same house.” An epitaph follows, and the statement, “As a testimony of filial gratitude this monument was erected by their son John Glassell, Merchant in Fredericksburg VIRGINEA.”

John, the “VIRGINEA” merchant, was born in 1736. Around the middle of the century he was sent to Virginia, then a British colony, to begin a career in commerce. Dumfries was a busy port with lucrative links to the American colonies, and was importing vast amounts of tobacco. Presumably a relative or friend of young John’s father was involved in the business, and arranged an opening for him. It is impossible now to trace young John’s early career in Virginia, but a letter he sent to his younger brother Andrew in 1765 shows that he had prospered. He speaks of “the large business I am engaged in” and thinks he is likely to remain in Virginia. “I am”, he says, “every day sinking a property in the Country and it requires all my attention”. He suggests that Andrew should join him. “I could soon settle you on a good tract of land, and with your money purchase negroes to labour for you.” Andrew took his brother’s advice, and became a wealthy plantation owner and the ancestor of possibly thousands of present-day Americans.

On the eve of the American War of Independence John Glassell was a wealthy merchant living in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where his house “The Chimneys” can still be seen. Andrew was the manager of the brothers’ tobacco plantation

in Madison County, Virginia, named “Torthorwald” after their native Dumfriesshire parish. The brothers agreed that John would return to Scotland, presumably taking much of their wealth with him, and Andrew would remain on their estate in Virginia. Thus, whoever won the War of Independence, the brothers could not lose.



Joan Glassell

Not long after John’s arrival in Scotland the Seton-Winton estates came on the market. These had been forfeited by the Jacobite Earl of Winton after the 1715 Rebellion, and run since then by the now bankrupt York Buildings Company. John Glassell bought Lot 1 of the Barony of Longniddry and registered his ownership on 2nd March 1779. He then took up residence in what was to become his “Manor Place of Longniddry”. Longniddry was then a long straggling village with its surrounding land still mostly “lying runrig”, that is cultivated by many tenants in unenclosed strips. By the end of the century almost all the houses had been cleared away and the land enclosed into the neat rectangular fields of a single farm. Like all other

East Lothian landowners of the time, Glassell was an “improving” laird. In 1780 Glassell married Helen Buchan, daughter of the laird of Letham near Haddington. They had only one surviving child, a daughter Joan, born in 1796.

Joan’s father died just before her tenth birthday, and until she came of age her life was supervised by a committee of respectable trustees. In her mid-teens she was sent to live in Edinburgh under the care of Mrs Anne Grant of Laggan, a lady who was on familiar terms with all the literati and the great and good of Edinburgh in its Golden Age. Joan grew into an insightful and intelligent young woman whose letters and journals can be found in the National Library of Scotland’s Campbell Papers. Through her mentor Mrs Grant’s wide network of friends and acquaintances she met Lord John Campbell, brother and heir of the Duke of Argyll. They married on 17th April 1820 and took up residence in Ardencaule Castle on the Gare Loch near Helensburgh.

Joan died at the tragically young age of 32 and was laid to rest in the Argyll mausoleum at Kilmun at the head of the Holy Loch. Her considerable fortune and the Longniddry estate were delivered into the hands of her husband Lord John, who in 1839 inherited the Dukedom of Argyll. He was succeeded as Duke by George, his son by Joan Glassell. Longniddry was sold to the Earl of Wemyss who already owned much of the surrounding countryside.

When John Glassell returned to Scotland in 1775 he left his brother Andrew

in charge of the Glassell tobacco plantation of Torthorwald in Madison County, Virginia. When peace came after the American War of Independence, Andrew paid John the full value of the property and became its sole proprietor. He married Elizabeth Taylor of Orange County Va. who was 17 years her husband's junior, and they went on to have nine children. Andrew died in 1827 at the age of 89, and is probably buried in the now neglected and overgrown family cemetery at Torthorwald. He had been a greatly respected local figure, and an elder of the Presbyterian Church in Fredericksburg.

Of course, being the proprietor of a tobacco plantation, Andrew was also a slave owner. His will carefully lists all his possessions from tracts of land to tools and furniture, and includes 17 "negroes", ranging from 21-year-old Edmond, valued at \$350, to 90-year-old Nancy, valued at zero.

It is obvious that a man who fathered nine children before dying in 1827, will have many descendants, most of whom have faded into oblivion. A few, however, have left their mark. Prominent among these is another Andrew Glassell, grandson of Andrew the Torthorwald tobacco planter. This Andrew was born in 1827. His father acquired an estate in Alabama in the mid-1830s. Young Andrew studied law, and moved to California, the USA's newly acquired land of opportunity. As his career developed, Andrew began dealing in land. After the American Civil War, he sent for his elderly father, his brother William, and his sister Susan, and settled them all in California. Andrew was by now a very wealthy man. He acquired and developed the land which became the City of Orange. He also fathered nine children and died in 1901. An impressive obelisk marks his grave in Rosedale cemetery, Los Angeles.

Lieutenant William Glassell was the younger brother of Andrew the wealthy Californian. He embarked on a career in the US Navy. On the outbreak of the Civil War, William, who was of course a Southerner, refused to swear allegiance to the Union, and was briefly imprisoned. On his release he joined the Confederate Navy. He became involved in the development of a primitive torpedo boat, a small iron-plated cigar-shaped craft, powered by a steam engine, and carrying an explosive harge on a boom projecting from the bows. It was named the "David", and first saw action on the night of 5th October 1863. It carried a crew of three under Lieut. Glassell's command, in an attack on the Union warships blockading Charleston. The "David" successfully attacked and disabled the Union warship "New Ironsides", but developed engine trouble. Glassell gave the order to abandon ship, jumped overboard, and was captured after an hour in the water. He spent a year as a prisoner of war before eventually settling in California to assist his brother Andrew in the development of the City of Orange.

General George Patton is perhaps the most famous Glassell descendant. He was the grandson of Susan, the sister of Andrew and William. At the time of the USA's entry into World War II, Patton commanded the US 2nd Armored

Division. He played an important part in the Allies' successful invasion of Sicily from North Africa, but was removed from his command after abusing and assaulting two hospitalised American soldiers whom he accused of cowardice. Later, Patton took part in the invasion of Normandy in command of the American 3rd Army, eventually pushing on into Germany. A few months after the end of the war he was seriously injured in a rather mysterious car accident, and died in hospital in Heidelberg.

I began by mentioning Glassel Park in my home village in Scotland. There is also a Glassell Park in the City of Orange, now part of the vast Los Angeles conurbation in California. This is no coincidence. Both bear witness to the achievements of the same remarkable family.

LIBRARY VISIT

We were very pleased to host a visit from the 'American Ancestors and New England Historic Genealogical Society' recently. They were delighted with the resources they found in the library - one comment was

"I found SGS to be a gold mine. The staff are amazing, so much information crammed into that small space."

Part of the pleasure of being involved with the Society is the variety of people who come in with so many different enquiries. The American group typified this and left everyone feeling satisfaction and delight at being able to help them.

If you would like to arrange a group visit please get in touch at:

enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com

It can also be possible to host a visit outside our normal opening hours.



Action stations! Our American visitors at work!

SECRETARY

The Society is looking for a Secretary – a vital role within any organisation. Perhaps you have some spare time available and would enjoy the opportunity to be actively involved in an interesting function within the Society. The Secretary provides support to the Council in the day to day management of the Society, being a first point of contact for general correspondence, arranging Council meetings and taking minutes every 2 months, for example. The work is not onerous (only a couple of hours a week) and you would be part of the enthusiastic and friendly team without whose commitment the Society would not exist. Please contact enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com. We look forward to hearing from you.



FAMILY SEARCH

As members of the society may be aware, the Society Library has become one of three Scottish Family History Societies which are Affiliated Libraries to Family Search Free Family Trees and Genealogy Archives • FamilySearch. This gives the Society access to all the material that has been digitised by Family Search and is normally only available to members of the LDS.

The images can only be viewed at the society's library.

They include -

Images of the statutory birth, marriage and death records 1855 to 1875.
Birth images for 1881 and 1891.

Images of the census records 1841 through to 1891

All the parish registers of the Church of Scotland

Wills and Testaments including records up to the mid 1930's which are not available on the ScotlandsPeople website.

Many church records from both the Church of Scotland and the Free and United Free Church which are also not available on the ScotlandsPeople website.

There are also a number of Poor Law Board Records available.

Note: not all the records are indexed at the current date. If you search for an individual on the website and it states 'image unavailable' that means it should be viewable but only at an Affiliated Library such as the library of the Society.

WELL CONNECTED!

An amusing reflection on claims to being “weel connectit”!

Two Highland ghillies were discussing their relatives and family connections. Hamish was adamant that he was related to the local Duke. His pal, Angus, was more than sceptical, but Hamish would not be denied. Finally, Angus, feeling thoroughly weary and very dubious with the protestations, said, “All right, then, Hamish, just tell me how come you, an ordinary ghillie, are related to the Duke.”

Hamish replied, “Well, its like this! The Duke’s keeper’s boy’s dog is my boy’s dog’s father!”



NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY AUGUST 2023

Moir Stevenson

I have added a number of new books to the library including a good addition to the large collection of monumental inscriptions that the SGS holds as well as these particularly interesting ones.

St Andrew’s Immigration Society: assisting migration to Van Diemen’s Land 1854-1862

Lists of immigrants and the ships they travelled in as well as background information.

The Covenanters of Scotland 1638-1690

The latest publication from David Dobson listing the Covenanters and their fate. Many were banished or transported or fled to Holland. He includes a resume of the history of the Covenanters.

The Early National Censuses of Dingwall 1801, 1811, 1821

Following the Population Act of 1800 the first census was in 1801 but the original returns were only kept from 1841 onwards. The detailed enumeration of these early censuses was not intended to be published so were usually destroyed. In Scotland the schoolmaster was selected to make the return and the Dingwall schoolmaster kept the notes for the three censuses he had organized.

The library also has a few other early censuses. Check the list in the Blue Book held in the library.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

TITLE

AUTHOR

Kirkyard of Turriff	Mitchell, Stuart
St. Andrew's Immigration Society: assisting immigration to Van Diemen's Land 1854-1862	Wighton, Gregory
Monumental Inscriptions: Kirkton of Ardersier Cemetery	
Nairn Cemetery (1918 Section) Monumental Inscriptions	Moray & Nairn FHS
Hall Windows: The Life and Times of an Extraordinary Scots Family [Hall family]	Crofts, Lindsay
Congalton Chronicles from 1165	Congleton, Carol
Kirkyard of Nigg	
Lands and People of Moray: Some notes on the history and people etc Part 20:	
Kirktoon of Alves, Easter Alves, Crook, Ardgyle, Newton, Monaughty, Cloves,	
Asleisk and Kilbuyack prior to 1850 forming the south and east of the Parish of Alves	Bishop, Bruce B
Monumental Inscriptions: Invershin Burial Ground, Sutherland	Farrell, Stuart
Monumental Inscriptions: Logie Wester Burial Ground,	
Parish of Urquhart and Logie Wester, Ross-shire	Farrell, Stuart, ed
Monumental Inscriptions: Kiltearn Churchyard, Parish of Kiltearn, Ross-shire	Farrell, Stuart, ed
Monumental Inscriptions: Laggan Churchyard, Parish of Laggan [Inverness-shire]	Farrell, Stuart
Monumental Inscriptions: Corrimony Burial Ground, Parish of Urquhart and Glenmoriston [Inverness-shire]	Farrell, Stuart
Monumental Inscriptions: Glenconvinth Churchyard, Parish of Kiltarlity and Convinth [Inverness-shire]	Farrell, Stuart
Monumental Inscriptions: Ullapool, Parish of Lochbroom	Farrell, Stuart
Marydale Catholic Church, Cannich Strathglass: Births & Marriages.	
Eskadale Congregation Census 1851. Portree U.P. Church: Births & Baptisms,	
Marriages. Altnaharra Free Church Baptisms 1872-1916	Farrell, Stuart, comp.
Early National Censuses of Dingwall 1801, 1811, 1821	McColl, Jonathan, transc.
Old St Paul's remembers the Second World War [Edinburgh]	Brock, Sheila, ed
Old St Paul's remembers the First World War [Edinburgh]	Brock, Sheila, ed
Monumental Inscriptions in S Ronaldsay – North Parish [Orkney]	
Monumental Inscriptions in St Magnus Cathedral Graveyard [Orkney]	
Covenanters of Scotland 1638-1690	Dobson, David

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

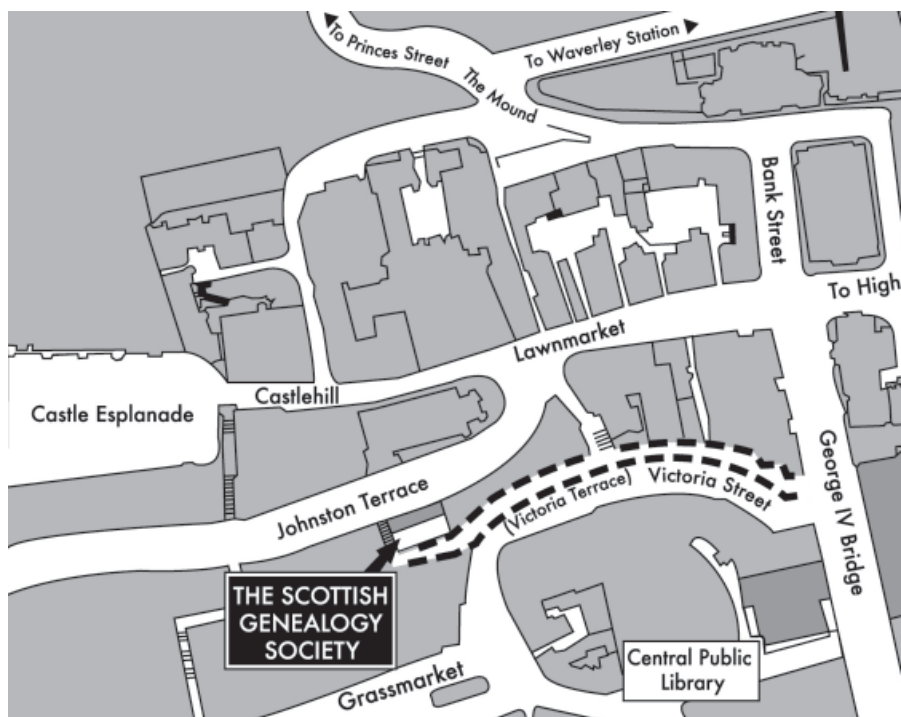
Ordinary meetings take place at 7.30 pm in the Augustine United Church,
41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL

Donations of £4 each from non-members are much appreciated

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|-------------|--|
| 8 September | Bridgescapes – A journey through Scotland's Bridge Building Heritage <i>by L Bruce Keith</i> |
| 16 October | The Highland Peoples' Historian; John Dewar of Arrochar and his informants - <i>by Ronald Black; Author and former lecturer in Celtic in the University of Edinburgh</i> |
| 20 November | Life Below Stairs. Looking at our Servant Ancestors, by Margaret Fox, archivist. Note: The talk by Rosslyn Macphail has been postponed until 2024 |

Some talks may be presented in hybrid format. Please contact
Enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com

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



Library opening Hours

Monday	10.30am to 4pm
Tuesday	10.30am to 4pm
Wednesday	2.30pm to 7pm
Thursday	10.30am to 4pm
Saturday	10.30am to 2pm

Library & Family History Centre

15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL

Telephone: 0131 220 3677