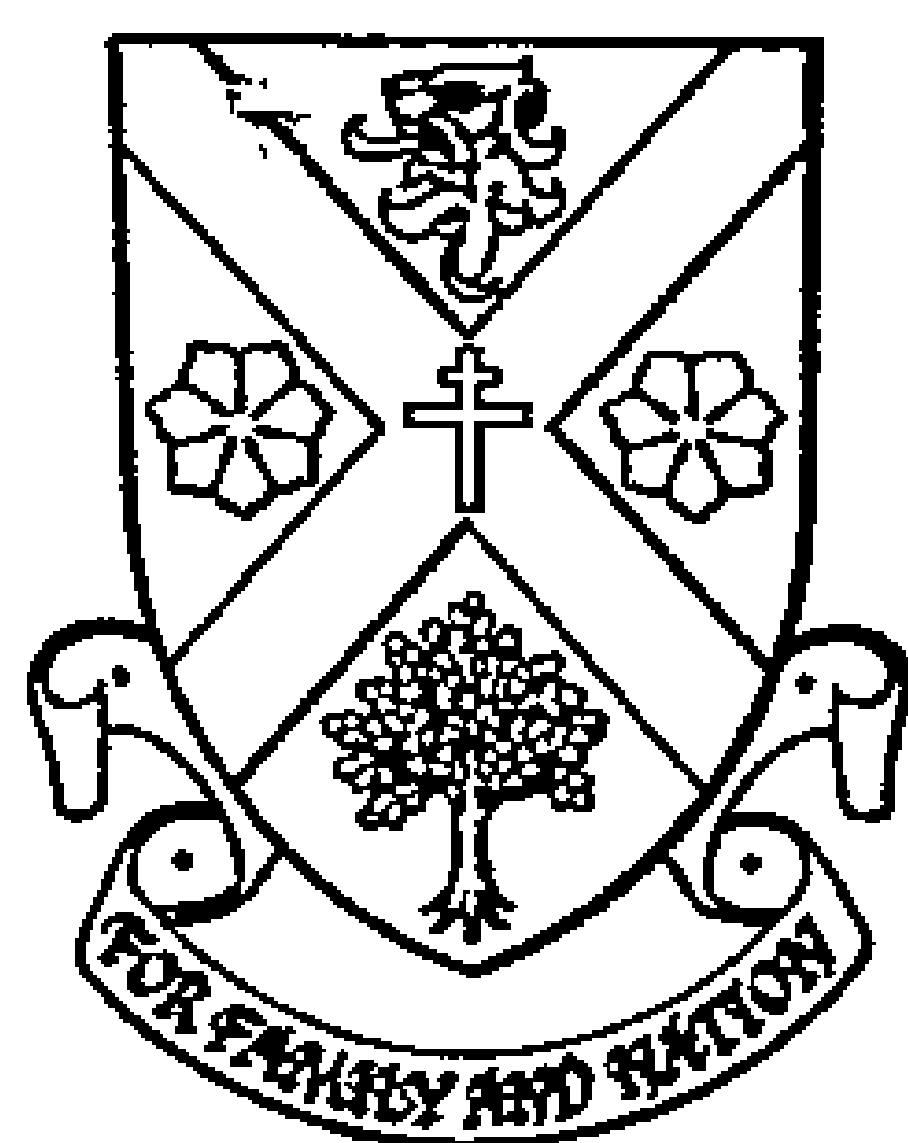


THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY



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The Society is an academic and consultative body. It does not carry out professional record searching, but will supply members, on request, with a list of professional searchers who are also members of the Society.

Meetings

Monthly meetings of the Society are held from September to April in the Royal College of Physicians, 9 Queen Street, Edinburgh, at 7.30p.m. around the 15th of the month. In the event of the 15th falling on a Saturday or Sunday, the meeting is held on the following Monday.

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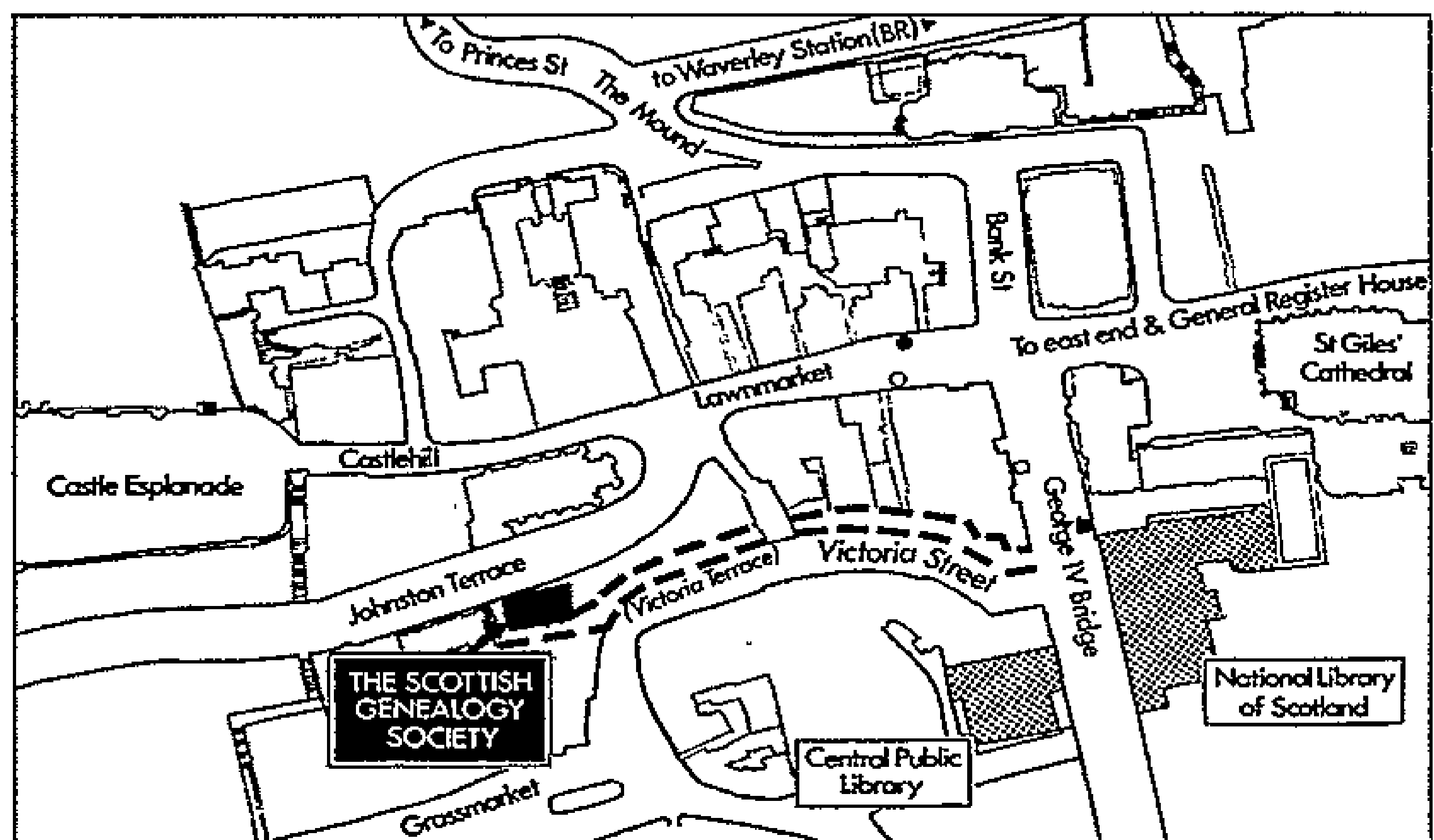
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THE FORRESTERS of LEUCHARS

by Stan Forrester

Additional Research by Lynne Forrester

Over the years I have collected various bits of paper with notes of our ancestry. There was no order in most of them. Some were brief comments on grandparents, great uncles, cousins and the like.

There was one formal record, a *Family Register* on a form printed by W. McPhun, bookseller and publisher to H. R. H. Prince Albert. It started with the marriage of my great grandparents in 1856 but the last entry was made in 1901. Many searchers start with a great deal less.

It was not until I retired that I got down to piecing the bits together. By that time the last of the older generation was gone. I could not start, as recommended, by recording what all the old folk could remember. However, I did have notes from many of them. What I did have was perhaps something much more valuable. *Genealogy of the Forresters*, taken down from Mrs. Barbara Forrester and Miss Forrester, Leuchars, by D. M. Forrester, Edinburgh, December 24th 1881.

I met the Reverend David Marshall Forrester, a cousin of my grandfather, in Broughton, Peebleshire in 1947. As a young man, I knew nothing of his background, and did not know of this record he made sixty six years earlier. It was years later, reading his obituary in *The Scotsman*, that I learned who my cousin had been. He was very much a moving spirit in the United Free Church. His allegiance was so strong that he was not party to the union with the Church of Scotland in 1929, remaining with "The United Free Church Continuing" and still ministering to his congregation in Broughton until his death in his ninety third year.

Coming back to my great great grandmother Barbara (Grant) Forrester, there were some gems among the details noted by her twenty two year old grandson.

One of the Robertsons of Struan. One of these Robertsons, who married Marion Butler, killed one of the Scotch (?) Royal Family: fled to Fife; changed his name to Stirk (latterly Stark). Hence the Starks of Balindean and Teasses, from whom Mrs. Stark Christy (of Balindean).

This was referring to one of the ancestral lines which was claimed to go back to George Heriot, Jingling Geordie, goldsmith to James the VI and founder of Heriot's Hospital, later George Heriot's Boys School. Unfortunately, when I looked into this I found that there were not enough generations to take this line back to about 1580, when the connection to George Heriot must have been. There is a period of about a hundred years missing. Another of the papers I found, included a connection back to the same George Heriot. This connection found another generation but still left about sixty years not accounted for.

There are some skeletons which might have been better left in their cupboards.

Robt was sent on board a man-of-war for stealing a flower for the decorations on Geo. Heriot's Day. Afterwards he settled in

*Greenock and latterly was an inmate of Gillespie's Hospital,
Edinburgh.*

Or again,

Studied for the Church but went wrong in his mind.

We all knew there was insanity in the family somewhere!

Where did we come from originally? Most of the family were around in Fife.
"Grandma" Barbara again.

*John Forrester came from England and was shoemaker in
Drumeldrie.*

Unfortunately we have found something wrong here. Before I became involved, a cousin had been working back from "Grandma" Barbara's story. The John Forrester to whom she was referring, or to whom the Reverend David thought she was referring, was born in Fife. But John's grandfather was also John, also a shoemaker in Drumeldrie. He married Agnes Scot of Ceres in Fife in 1714. That is the earliest record we can trace. Did this John Forrester come from England? We have found no record of his place or date of birth, details are sometimes recorded in marriage or death records. We have no record of the names of his parents. If we find a record of the birth of a John Forrester about 1690 somewhere in England, how are we to know that this is our John? Our Forrester origins must just be left in the mists of antiquity.

The Forrester line was easily traced as far as we could take it before it reached a dead stop. There is another line which has led to some very intriguing speculations.

"Grandma" Barbara was a Grant, daughter of a John Grant from Dornoch and Marion Wilson. That seems straightforward until one looks at the details in our Reverend Cousin's paper. John Grant was a sergeant in the 94th Regiment (Scotch Brigade). The couple were married in Gibraltar. Their first child Barbara was born in Tain, Ross-shire.

It was getting a bit fishy. When we found that Marion Wilson was daughter of a wheelwright in Edinburgh, we began to question things. How did the daughter of an artisan get out to Gibraltar to marry John Grant? What brought her back to Tain? That was neither near her parents nor her in-laws. We could certainly understand a sergeant in the army being in Gibraltar but the rest was a mystery.

We checked out the Scotch Brigade. There had been a Scots Brigade since the sixteenth century, a unit of the British Army, fighting on the continent for the Dutch. In 1782 the Dutch Government determined to terminate the connection of the Scots Brigade with Great Britain, and many officers resigned in opposition to the steps taken. These were the nucleus of the 94th Regiment (Scotch Brigade), formed in 1793 as part of the measures to counter the threat from the French. Battalions were raised in Dunfermline, Linlithgow, Irvine and Dalkeith. The Brigade headquarters was Edinburgh Castle. They moved south, then to Gibraltar, on to South Africa and finally to fight the French in India until 1807.

We had research carried out in the records in Kew. Yes, there was a John Grant who joined the 2nd Battalion in Dunfermline. But, hold hard, another joined the 3rd Battalion in Linlithgow. Both became sergeants. The Battalions

were gradually amalgamated into one. Which was our John Grant? John Grant 1? John Grant 2? One of them went on to South Africa and then to India. We know that Marion Wilson - after the first child, Barbara, was born in Tain - had children in Edinburgh, and, later in Leuchars. Our John Grant must be the one who "served a broken period to 26th April 1799".

Our researcher could not find any indication of a marriage in the military records - in Gibraltar, or anywhere else. In our own research we could find no record of a marriage in Edinburgh. Then we had a suggestion put to us. Try writing to the Church of Scotland minister in Gibraltar. It took some time. We had given up hope. Then, bingo! We had a photocopy of the entry in the register of the military chapel in Gibraltar. John Grant and Mary Willison were married on the 14th of March 1796. Just a minute! Mary Willison? The register does not bear her signature, just her mark. She could not write. She certainly would not know how her family spelled her name and they were thousands of miles away.

Also solved too, was the question of the delay. Our letter had reached Gibraltar just as the minister retired. It followed him back to Britain. It had to go back out again. Perhaps, too, the new incumbent was not yet in post. The amazing coincidence was that the day the minister's letter arrived with the record, was the day we spotted in *The Scotsman*, the report of his appointment to his new post!

By this time, a great niece had started school - in Heriots. Girls at Heriots! What next? However, she was interested in the Heriot connection. I provided what I could - the two versions of the story. Her mother became interested. She started checking the OPRs in the Edinburgh City Library. Sure enough, Marion Wilson's mother was Barbara Robertson, granddaughter of a Dr. Anderson, who married a Ketren Heriot. This all agreed closely with the notes recorded in 1881. Then the picture became muddled. Ketren's father was a Patrick Heriot, who had married a Margaret Heriot in 1668. One of the family stories makes the connection to Patrick Heriot, George's brother; the other, to Marion Heriot, George's sister. Perhaps they both had truth on their side. Ketren's parents being second or third cousins, both descended from our Jingling Geordie.

As usual in an exercise such as this, we were tracing different lines at various times. We have tried, but failed to account for Marion Wilson's being in Gibraltar, to marry John Grant. One possibility was that she was a camp follower, perhaps believed to be John Grant's wife when he went out. It certainly was not a case that they had to get married - the wedding was in March 1796, the first child was born in May 1797. But there is still the mystery of how the young wife got back to Tain for the birth. There is another intriguing possibility. There was a Captain James Munro gazetted in the Scotch Brigade in Gibraltar. Had Marion been employed as a servant when in Edinburgh, perhaps as a nanny to the Captain's children? Did the Captain, or his wife, bring the young pregnant wife home when the regiment went on to South Africa? Tain, in Easter Ross, is Munro country. The history of the Munros does not refer to a Captain James Munro! At least for the time being, we are left with conjecture.

The story of the Grants too has been particularly troublesome.

We do know that John Grant had a brother in Fife. This leads us to suppose that it was our John Grant who joined the Scotch Brigade in Dunfermline. "Grandma" Barbara says he came from Dornoch, the son of James Grant, of The Brae and Marion Campbell. Census records and the record of his death, put John Grant's birth about 1767. The Dornoch records are missing for this period, which would also cover his parents' marriage. We did find the record of the baptism, in 1785 of a Jean Grant, daughter to James Grant of Brae of Dalnamain and his wife Margaret Campbell. Our Reverend Cousin recorded in 1881 that John had a younger sister, Jane. We can allow that we have found documentary confirmation of the family story, even if the names vary a bit - Jane and Jean, with her mother being Margaret or Marion. There are Dornoch records for an earlier period, in the 1740s but without the names of the parents of James Grant and Margaret Campbell, nor their ages at the time of their marriage, we cannot identify their baptisms among a number of similar names.

In the 1881 paper, there are some figures which appear to refer to the ages of the individuals at the time of their death. Marion Campbell (Grant) may have lived to be one hundred and two years old. That would be about 1850. Local newspapers were being published by then. So far, we have found no reference to our centenarian ancestor.

We have still much to do - and these are only three lines of my thirty two great, great, great great grandparents.

AFFLECK, AUCHENLECK and the BACK of an ENVELOPE

by David K. Affleck

Like most first time visitors to the Library at 15 Victoria Terrace, I was given the tour and introduced to the filing cabinets with family trees donated over the years for possible use by future visitors and members. Out of curiosity, and having a surname with the letter "A", the first envelope caught my eye. Inside was a smaller envelope with a name, David Affleck and a question mark beside a year and the town of Elie in Fife.

Someone had clearly been there before me but was this all the family name merited, especially with Ben Affleck, actor of "Armageddon" and other films, still currently attracting acclaim, or the Field Marshall, Claude Auchinleck of World War II?

The name of Affleck or Auchinleck is described as having its origins in the west of Scotland and in Angus. It is the east coast connection that I will now explore where the "castell and fortalice" of Auchinleck lies between Broughty Ferry and Arbroath. According to Jervise,¹ John of Aghelek who did homage to King Edward I for lands in the County of Forfar on the 15th March 1306 is the first record of the Affleck family of that name but in 1296 Matheu le Naper, of Aghelek, in the County of Forfar also swore fealty to the same King. W. Douglas Simpson, in his published notes on the history to Affleck Castle in Angus, advises that it is not known whether this was an ancestor of the family later appearing as de Auchinlek.² He advises that in 1471 James III confirmed a deed signed at Auchinlek, 16th March 1466 by David, Earl of Crawford and that in this deed, the Earl recites that his grandsire had promised to "renew and declare the auld merchis and

landmaris of Auchinlek" but that failure to carry out this pledge had exposed the lands of Auchinleck to "grete hurtis and harmis". The Auchinleck family are said to have possessed this estate from very early times and in the reign of James I, they are designated as "Auchinlecks of that Ilk". Jervise continues "Except for the occasional appearance of the Afflecks as witnesses to local charters there is no trace of them although it is said that they held property until about the middle of the seventeenth century and were vassals and hereditary armour bearers to the Earls of Crawford, or de Crauford". He also records that several of the name were respected burghesses in Dundee and that some of the old tombstones in the Howff bear armorial bearings with quaint mottoes.

The records of the City of Dundee have yet to be explored in more detail but two of the burghesses Jervise probably referred to were a James Affleck of Woodhill, Provost in 1592/93 and his eldest son William, who represented the City at the Convention of the Estates in 1617.³ He may also have noted a James and William Auchinleck listed as witnesses to a document recording the name of a solicitor appointed for the son of the Provost of St. Andrews in 1519.⁴ In the record of Monumental Inscriptions for The Howff in Dundee, there is a reference to a John Auchinleck, described as a Parson of Largo who died in 1702 and this search now takes us into the Kingdom across the Tay. The Rev. Walter Wood, in his book "The East Neuk of Fife"⁵ refers to the land of Inch as "part of the lands of the priory (of Pittenweem) which was, in 1558, granted to John Affleck, chamberlain of the palace and sold in 1586 by John, his son and heir, to Alexander Young of Eastfield. On the same theme, David Cook in his "Annals of Pittenweem"⁶ refers to the Charter of 1588 which gifted part of the Abbey grounds of Pittenweem to the Bailies and Council and mentions "the close of the house sometime belonging to the Umkle John Auchinleck and Isobel Wood respective on the west". Wood also notes that "John Affleck of Inch married an Isobel Wood, a relation of Andrew Wood of Largo, who seems to have been afterwards married to Andrew Strang". This reference to the subsequent marriage appears in the second edition published in 1887 and study of the Index to the Sasine Register for Fife for 1616-1660 confirms that she was spouse to Andrew Strang, burghess of Pittenweem. There was also an Isobel Authelik married to a Stevyn Merteyn of La Rochelle on the 18th December 1586 as recorded in the O. P. R. for Anstruther Wester but this must have been a daughter. John, son of John and Isobel appears to have been the John Auchinleck who graduated at St. Andrew's in 1582, became Minister there in 1589 and was presented by Andrew Wood at Kirkton of Largo in 1592 where he died in 1619. The family details are then listed for the next two generations in "Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae"⁷ with special attention to the edition in West Register House and its additional written entries. What then emerges is a family tree that produced a direct line of three generations of ministers who all held office at Kirkton of Largo but who maintained a link with Dundee. John, born 1565, Minister at St. Andrews 1589, Largo 1592, died 1619. Had three children, eldest being Andrew. Andrew, born 1595, Minister at Largo 1620. Minister at St. Mary's, Dundee from 1642. Married four times and had twelve children. Imprisoned in the

Tower of London 1651 to 1653, died 1663 and described in Lamont's diary as interred at Dundee.⁸

John, eldest son of Andrew, born 1628, Minister at Inchtute 1663, Newburn 1663 and then Largo from 1665. He had seven children, died 1702. Alexander, second son of Andrew, graduated M. A. in 1660, admitted to Dunbog parish in 1666. Married the heiress of Cunnochie and had one son, died 1711.

The compilers of the ministers of the Church of Scotland register classified their entries by Parishes. If the classification is changed to surname, it is possible to compile the following network of ministers with the name of Auchinleck for the period under review.

Alexander, referred to in Haws (1972) as probably a student at St. Andrews between 1516 and 1517, then Minister at Dumfries in 1563 and Kirriemuir in 1567 to 1569, died 1571.

John, was a Friar at Haddington and also Reader at Athelstaneford in 1574, died 1578.⁹ There was also a Reader at Greenlaw in 1569 named John A. who is described as last of the Romish Priests. It is worth noting that the wife of James Affleck of Woodhill was a Kinloch, a name associated with Athelstaneford.

Patrick, student at St. Andrews, 1565-66, Minister at Balmerino 1571. Appointed Minister to the household of Regent James, Earl of Morton in November 1577. Minister at Alves in the Presbytery of Elgin and died 1587. Thomas, reader at Bendochy 1567-68.

Andrew, Minister of Barry 1567, moved to Monifieth 1576-98.

James, M.A. at St. Andrews 1609, elder son of James, skipper and Burgess. Admitted to Kettins in 1618. Called to Auchterhome 30 July 1656 until 1665, had seven children.

Henry, M.A. at St. Andrews 1645, ordained 1652, eldest son of James. Minister at Mains in 1652 and translated to Perth in 1662 until 1668, had five children.

William, son of James, 1634 at Monikie, Trans. to Barry.

Andrew, M. A. at St. Andrews in 1665, admitted to Dunino in 1672 then to Newbattle, died 1696 aged fifty, married April 1675, had four children.

Thomas, brother of James, Merchant in Dundee, M. A. at St. Andrews in 1682, Minister at Anstruther Wester in 1689. Chaplain to Lord Panmure in 1715 and forced to quit in that year, died in Edinburgh in 1745 aged ninety.

John, born 1670, ordained 1700, Chaplain to Margaret, Countess of Rothes and Minister of Auchterderran. Died 22 May 1740 of fever in Edinburgh while attending the Assembly.

Alexander, ordained at Fraserburgh 1707 "after great opposition", had three children, died September 1753.

In 1689, the Privy Council must have noticed this network of Auchinleck ministers when they considered claims that Thomas (Anstruther Wester), John (Largo), Alexander (Dunbog) and Andrew (Newbattle) had all failed to read the proclamation and pray for William and Mary and all four were deprived of their charges.¹⁰ John, Minister at Largo seems to have had a most difficult time and is mentioned in the biography of Robert Blair, Minister of St. Andrews¹¹ who refers to many nonconformed ministers being allowed to remain in their charges in 1668 and that "in Largo Parish, Affleck

the curate complained to Sharp and caused five men including John Lundie and Robert Gourlay to be confined in Canongate Tolbooth" and that four were set at liberty in Martinmas. The record in *Fasti* describes him as "outed by a rabble between 29th May and 2nd June 1689 being obstructed in his duty by a great mob armed with staves and bludgeons, he retired from the charge and was deprived by the Privy Council 29th August that year". The only listed "rebel" for the Jacobite cause with Auchinleck connections in Fife for 1715 and 1745 is an Andrew Auchenleck of Cunnachie in the Parish of Monimail. Shepherd's view¹² that the issue for the nonconforming ministers was about episcopacy and the old established Church of Scotland which existed before 1689 is probably correct.

There is ample evidence for further genealogical research relating to the descendants of a number of those listed, assisted by the details registered in *Fasti*. It is probably difficult to go further back but there are interesting references in the early records for St. Andrews University as follows:

Matriculation Roll		Graduation Roll	
David Afflec	1507	Alexander Afflec	1465 1467
Andrew Affleck	1541	John Afflec	1484
		David Afflec	1509
		John Afflec	1509

So far as John of Largo, born 1628, is concerned, he is listed in the Hearth Tax records for Fife as living at Nether Largo in 1694 where he is assessed as having eight hearths. Information on the household would have been of more value than the number of hearths! Apart from his monumental inscription in Dundee, there is also an interesting deed dated 4 January 1705 signed by a James Smyton of Dundee and relating to 400 merks Scots that he borrowed from John Auchenleck, minister of Largo with an obligation to pay this to John Auchenleck's, heirs.¹⁴

Where then does this link with the David Affleck mentioned on the back of the envelope. The link is difficult to verify partly because of significant gaps in the OPR for Pittenweem parish. However, his paternal grandfather, also a David Auchinleck or Affleck was living in a house he owned at the East end of the High Street of Pittenweem in the late 1700s where he was a Town Councillor from 1796. The Burgh Sasines do not identify when this house was purchased but its location appears to match the property owned by John, Chamberlain of the Priory in the record of David Cook. His ancestral line can be traced back for a previous two generations to 1720 with the use of Christian names such as James, Alexander, John, David and Henry. The occupation of his two ancestors is described "landlabourer", better described as tenant farmers renting plots of land from the Town and Kirk which originally belonged to the priory. The coincidences of living on that site in Pittenweem and being eligible to rent land then restricted to residents of the Burgh, is a strong argument for a long standing period of residence and of a prominent role in the life of Pittenweem Parish in the early 1700s, this is in contrast to what was happening within the Auchinleck network before 1689. It is however known that a John and Henry Auchinleck, midshipmen serving on HMS Dover and HMS Acton, had separate Powers of Attorney submitted to Cupar Sheriff Court on the 20th February 1761 in favour of

Pittenweem. An Alexander Auchenleck is listed in the poll tax records for Pittenweem between 1760 and 1766. It is possible that John and Henry were referring to the same Alexander as the IGI for Fife shows an Alexandre A. and Mary Balfour having children baptised in Kirkcaldy in 1736/7 and St. Andrews in 1746 and 1753.

In conclusion, it is clear Jervise did not make the link with the Auchinleck participation in the post-reformation church as recorded in *Fasti Ecclesiae* although the full extent of the family relationships of those listed has still to be verified. The subsequent dispersal of the descendants of the Auchinleck ministers to Aberdeen, Copenhagen, Perth, Monimail, Edinburgh and probably Pittenweem and Elie has left much material for further genealogical research and could be of relevance to Auchenlecks and Afflecks of today!

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"IT FELL to the FEMALE LINE"

A LOOK at the ORIGINS of JAMES NOBLE the DIARIST

by Edward Sharratt

The diaries of the Skirlingstone-masons, James Noble and his son Alexander, first mentioned in print by J. W. Buchan in 1927,¹ were edited by Meredyth Somerville and published in 1984 by the Biggar Museum Trust.² James's diary, begun in 1783 gives first a summary of his early life from 1762 onwards when he started work, and continues almost until his death in 1810. Alexander's diary takes over then, but in the published edition comes to an abrupt halt in 1827. These diaries provide an annual but not a day to day record of the major events in each year, personal, professional and also political. Mrs. Somerville notes also the existence of a series of day books by another member of the family, John Noble, a grandson of James, which run from 1832 to 1847 with two years missing. These have not been published.

Since her book appeared, and largely because of it, it has become clear that the Noble family had a tradition of diary keeping in more than one line of descent from the first diarist, and that many of these diaries, or copies of

them, have survived, including the later years of Alexander's and also of John's. In at least one line, my own, I am a g-g-g-g-grandson of James, the tradition has continued from the first diarist to the present day.

Such an early and continuous record is quite unusual in a family of tradesmen and is of considerable social and historical interest. It is also, of course, invaluable for the genealogist, and the purpose of the present article is to outline a particular problem of research into the origins of this family. At the start of his work the first diarist deals tantalisingly briefly with his ancestry but his description has to be the starting point for any researcher. James Noble tells us;

"I James Noble was Born in Birgham in the parish of Eccles in the County of Berwick in the year 1746. My Father's name was Alexander Noble a mason to trad and his fathers Name was William Noble a wright to tread they wer in the County of mid Lothan But originall was from Bigger in the County of Lenrock. ther foer fathers had a smal property Called Bous wall But it fell to the famell Line which put it out of the famaly. My mothers name was Janet Lillie her father and 5 brothers wer all Smiths to traed in the County of Berwick. I had one brother and 5 sisters, 3 sisters and my Brother was older and 2 sisters younger. My father went to the County of Berwick a littell after he was maried and we was all Born there".³

The rest of the diary shows that James was a reliable recorder of facts: the accuracy of his statements about his parents' marriage and the births of his siblings has been largely verified in the O.P.R.s of Berwickshire and Peebleshire. What he says about Bous wall and earlier generations, however, comes from hearsay, and such evidence from the oral tradition needs to be examined carefully. It may be that James knew his grandfather but the early information quoted is more likely to be from his father with whom James worked until Alexander's death in 1773. Encouragingly James is not claiming to be connected with the holders of vast lands and so it is reasonable to take his information seriously.

I believe that in this case it is quite sensible to approach the investigation from both sides of the divide even though this is normally genealogical folly. I shall begin therefore by considering what is known about the property in Biggar and the Noble connection with it and then return to James Noble's immediate ancestors.

The name of the small property, which James calls Bous wall, is also shown in documents as Bowes Well, Boeswell, Bowsland or some slight variation of one of these. The property is located towards the north end of Biggar near the police station and the site of the old house or houses of Bowsland, demolished in the 1930s, was the spot now occupied by 225/227 High Street. The lands behind still show clear signs of the ancient rig system.⁴

Plainly the name Bowsland suggests that at one time there was an owner or occupier called Boe or Bowe who must surely have been one of the ancient and well known Biggar family of this name. Yet the earliest record I have been able to consult, a sasine of 1646,⁵ simply takes the name of the property

for granted and does not mention anyone of the name Bowe, although in 1640 there were at least five adult males with that surname in Biggar parish.⁶ This early sasine also shows that by 1646 the property had been divided into two parts, whereas presumably when an early Boe held Bowsland, it must have been one holding. From that date on, the description of the lands in deeds is not enough to differentiate wholly satisfactorily between the two halves of Bowsland and, therefore, the inheritance of the feu has to be the determining factor in deciding which half is involved. In eighteenth century deeds for Bowsland, the description of the half-lands "as the same were divided by decreet of the Justices of the Peace for the Shire of Lanark"⁷ does not refer to the original division of the property but to the ratification of the arbitration about differing claims to rights of feu holders in the Borough Muir and Biggar Common. Part of these processes involved a recognition that the old system of run-rig lands was unsatisfactory and that it was desirable that they should be reorganised.⁸

This then is the property which James Noble says used to belong to his forefathers and it is fortunate for the genealogist that it is possible to trace the history of its ownership from 1646 at least down to the nineteenth century and very likely to the present day, through several sasines in the Scottish Records Office. Three of these do, indeed, attest that one half of the Burrowland of Bowsland belonged to one Alexander Noble and his wife Marion Robb and then passed to their only child Grace Noble; I propose now to trace briefly their connection with this property.

We know from a sasine of 1696 that Alexander acquired rights in Bowsland only as a result of his marriage contract with Marion Robb. So far this marriage contract, dated 7 June 1693, has unfortunately proved elusive.⁹ Because of the way in which Alexander acquired the property there is perhaps no need for delving further back, though the sasine shows that Marion Robb, daughter of John Robb and Mariota Matheson, inherited the property from her mother, who in turn inherited it from her parents John Mathesone and Margaret Rennie.¹⁰

Alexander Noble is surely the man of that name to be found in the 1694 Poll Tax List for Biggar. In his sasine with Marion Robb there is also mention of a Margaret Noble whose relationship with Alexander is not known. The next stage in the story concerns Alexander and Marion's daughter Grace Noble who inherited Bowsland from her mother in 1722.¹¹ I shall come back to this because Grace was still a minor at this time and there is much to be learned from this fact. For the moment I wish to concentrate on what happened to her property and the answer is provided by a further sasine, of 1753, in which she disposes of it to Thomas Carmichael.¹²

We know, from another series of sasines, enough of the history of the other half of Bowsland, to be able to say that it did not belong to the Noble family. I have been able to trace its history back to 1726, at which time John West, or West, was granted sasine as the eldest son of the deceased James West, portioner of Biggar.¹³ In the same year John West transferred his property to Alexander Cossar though Alexander remained uninfert in the sasine. However, after the death of Alexander in 1753, his son Archibald was granted sasine as a consequence of the West/Cossar disposition.¹⁴ In 1796

John Robertson acquired the lands from Archibald Cossar and almost immediately Robertson sold to Dr. James Bowe, who in turn sold to John Robertson. It is not clear if this is the same man as in the sasine of 1796; in any case John Robertson did not have his sasine registered until 1821.¹⁵ Dr. Bowe's ownership of this half of Bowsland at the end of the eighteenth century is of no help in sorting out the seventeenth century history of the property but it is quite likely that he was acquiring lands once held by his ancestors.

From what I have just said about this half of Bowsland we see that during the period in question the Nobles had no connection with it, and so we can be confident that Grace was the person referred to by James Noble, the first diarist, when he tells us that the property fell to the female line which put it out of the family. Unfortunately, without knowing the degree of kinship between Grace and James, it is not possible to know the precise meaning of James's words. For example the phrase "which put it out of the family" may refer to the disposing of the property by Grace to a non relative, or it may mean that the inheritance by Grace put it out of James's line. However, for it to have any worthwhile meaning, we must assume that James and Grace shared a common ancestor and that the link did not lie in the dim and distant past. It is not possible to know whether or not James was claiming that his line should have inherited the feu, but, if this was his meaning, his claim can be dismissed because we know that Grace was the only lawful child of Alexander Noble and Marion Robb.¹⁶ Of course if Alexander had been married previously, or if he was the father of an illegitimate son, then he could be the direct ancestor of the first diarist but this would still not give the diarist any realistic claim to Bowsland. The Noble half of Bowsland had been inherited by a female in three different generations and this fact alone may have led to many a garbled version of facts being broadcast or even to a sense of injustice, whether real or imaginary, amongst male relatives. Nonetheless, however many injustices may have been inherent in the system of feu-holding, the principles of inheritance were abundantly clear and can be seen in proper operation in relation to Bowsland.

It is now time to return to Grace Noble and the fact that she was a minor in 1722 when she inherited the property, because this fact has enabled us to find out something more about the early Nobles. In her sasine of that date a William Noble acted as procurator and attorney for her. William was described therein as the son of Mr. James Noble the Minister of Eckford in Roxburghshire. I shall say more about him in a moment, but further corroboration between Grace Noble is to be found in a document in the Burgh Court Records of Biggar which is worth quoting at some length:

"Court of the lands and Barronrie of Biggar holden in the tolbooth thereof upon the twentieth day of October 1721.

The which day in the action of Curatorie pursued be Grace Noble cauld daughter to the deceased Alexander Noble and Marion Rb, portioners in Biggar her father and mother agt Mr. James Noble, Minister of the Gospell at Eckford and William Noble his son, nearest of kin curators to the minor on the father's side, and John Rob Mert. in Biggar, naerest of kin

to the minor on the mother's side. In generall and specials and all others having or pretending to have interest in the sd action of curatorie to have compeared this day and place to have objected and alleged why curators might not be given to the minor iam ad litus quam adnegotia.

The sd nearest of kin to the minor being called be the officer at the bar in speciall and by three several Oyes if there was any other person chosen or pretending to have interest in the sd matter to compear and give in their reasons and objections[...] Whereupon the sd Grace Noble nominated elicited and choiced the sd William Noble to be her curator during her minority and ay while she attain to the age of twenty one years compleat. And for that effect compeared the sd William Noble and accepted and received in and upon him the sd action of curatory and gave his oath de fideli administratione..." ¹⁷

The curatorship was applied for so that Grace could be granted sasine of her inheritance and also so that monies owed to Grace, or owed by her, could be settled. It is important that the curatorship was not challenged but this does not necessarily mean that there were no others bearing the same degree of kinship to Grace as the Rev. Mr. Noble and his son. Although the relationship between Grace's father and the minister is unknown, it is likely to have been very close, and, whatever the degree, seems to provide the obvious way forward for those attempting to establish exactly the connection between the Noble diarists and Bowsland.

The Rev. Mr. James Noble was the minister of Eckford for forty five years, 1694-1739, ¹⁸ after his first appointment to Branton in Northumberland, then to Yetholm, 1690-1694, also in Roxburghshire. He and his wife Grace Hutton had at least seven children, the first three in Yetholm - William 1690; Gabriel 1692 and Grace 1693 and the rest in Eckford - Agnes 1695 and Elizabeth 1697, from O.P.R., and also Edward and James, from *Fasti*. A couple of the names of the children are not "Noble" names; Edward is presumably named after a member of the Hutton family and Gabriel is certainly named after Rev. Mr. Gabriel Semple who baptised the child. ¹⁹ The Nobles of the diaries followed many generations and, even though a Minister might be less likely to stick to this tradition, it is reasonable to suggest that the Minister's eldest son William was probably called after the Minister's father. Now when he acted for Grace Noble of Bowsland William was acknowledged, with his father James, as her nearest relative, as we have seen, and therefore serious consideration has to be given to the possibility that this William was the grandfather of the first diarist. In chronological terms there is nothing to stop the hypothesis being accepted as fact but circumstantially it is likely to be a false lead. For example the Minister's son would probably not be a wright and I would expect more of the names of the Eckford family to be seen continuing in the diarist's line; perhaps more crucially it would be very strange if the first diarist's father had not mentioned to him that his grandfather was the long time minister of Eckford. It is also known that the minister was involved in dealing with lands a lot more significant than Bowsland ²⁰, which in a curious way adds

weight to the diarist's claim to be associated with the less affluent and less important Bowsland Nobles.

I now come to the second part of my argument, seeking the father and grandfather of James the diarist and working backwards from the few clues he gives us. We must now return to the passage I have already quoted from the beginning of the diary and examine what he says about them:

"My Fathers name was Alexander Noble a mason to trad and his fathers name was William Noble a wright to tread. they wer in the county of mid Lothan But originall was from Bigger in the County of Lenrock".

He goes on to say that his father moved to Berwickshire shortly after his marriage and that that was where he himself was born. The time spent in Berwickshire is confirmed by the entries for the children's baptisms between 1738 and 1754, in the O.P.R. of Eccles, where the family lived for some years at Mersington Mill. The eldest child, Isobel, however, was most likely in fact, born in the parish of Newlands in Peebleshire in 1735. It is known that the parents, Alexander Noble and Janet Lillie, moved to Eccles from Newlands parish, probably in early 1736. Now it is true that Eccles was where Janet came from originally but I wonder if the move from Peebleshire did not also owe something to the presence of Rev. James Noble at Eckford a few miles away. Alexander and Janet had been proclaimed in Newlands on 22 November 1734 and whilst their marriage is not recorded there, it was not common for a marriage to follow uncontested proclamation without being recorded in the register. Moreover the birth of their first child in Newlands in 1735 is recorded in the register without comment and this presupposes that the marriage had taken place. At the time of his marriage Alexander was living at Coldcote, now Macbiehill, in Newlands parish but probably had been there only for a short time.²¹

The diaries tell us that previous to this, the family had been in "mid Lothan" and an exhaustive search of the relevant records, O.P.R.s and Kirk Session Records for the county, reveals only one Alexander Noble who was a mason, with a father William who was a wright. Overwhelming circumstantial evidence makes it clear that the Alexander Noble we seek, the father of James the first diarist, was born in 1704 in the parish of Lasswade, Midlothian, the son of William Noble and Christian Dobie.

William and Christian had a large family: William 1698; Christian 1700; Helen 1702; Alexander, of whom I treat, baptised 26 November 1704, husband of Janet Lillie; Agnes 1706; John 1708; Patrick 1712; Margaret 1714; Mary 1715? and Thomas 1716. During these years the family lived, firstly at Gourlaw on the estate of Preston of Gorton and then, from 1710, near Howgate. Both of these places are nearer to Penicuik than to Lasswade but they were both in the parish of Lasswade and it is in the Lasswade register that the baptisms are to be found.

In 1710 William, who was then styled "wright" in Gourlaw, leased a property belonging to Robert Preston of Gorton but held as security by Sir John Ramsay of Whitehill, one of Gorton's creditors.²² Before William took the property it was known as Wadieshall, presumably after the previous tenant James Wadie, but from this time on it was usually known

as Noblehall and this is how it appears in the records, though it is sometimes called the Gats or Cleikhim In.²³ The property was at that time attached to Pomathorn on the Uttershill estate but later was considered to be part of Fallhills. In 1717 Sir John Clerk of Penicuik bought the Uttershill estate, including Noblehall, from Preston's creditors but since William Noble had security of tenure he stayed at Noblehall until his lease expired in 1722. There are records of William Noble, wright in Howgate, after this date but unknown if he stayed there for the rest of his life. His wife, Christian Dobie, died in 1748 and was buried in Penicuik churchyard, O.P.R. It is likely that William was alive at this time because the burial records refer to Christian as the spouse of William Noble and not as his widow or relict.

The connection with Noblehall, Howgate, does not end in 1722 because in 1731, William and Christian's two eldest sons, William and Alexander, took out a tack, dated 1732, to run for five hundred years for a small part of the property, just over an acre in extent.²⁴ Both William junior and Alexander, father of James the diarist, were there described as masons. William, as the elder brother, may have been more interested in the tack but, whatever the arrangement between the brothers and whether or not Alexander formally renounced his rights to the lease, after a few years William was regarded as the sole lessee. This may well correspond to the fact that Alexander went to Newlands at least as early as 1733 and shortly afterwards to Eccles. His brother William married Agnes Black, or Blake, in 1739 and they had at least four children: Christian 1740; James 1743; Marion 1745 and Elizabeth 1749. William seems to have become ill in 1764 and died in 1766 and his widow gave up Noblehall shortly afterwards. Alexander's return to Midlothian from Berwickshire around this time may well have been connected with his brother's last illness and death.

I have so far in this article taken the story of the Nobles of Bowsland as far forward as the known facts permit. I have suggested that what the diarist says about his origins is in fact true, it does not have the ring of myth or legend, although he may have been told a garbled version of the facts or he may have misinterpreted them, and he was middle aged when starting his diary. However it would be astonishing if his claim did not relate to Grace Noble of Bowsland and her father Alexander. I have also traced the Nobles of Eccles back to Newlands and then further back to the parish of Lasswade. William Noble, the wright, was married in Lasswade in 1696, the same year as Alexander Noble took the sasine of his property in Biggar. However, I am aware that although I have established a clear link between the writer of the diary and Alexander of Bowsland, I am not able to say yet what the family relationship was between Alexander Noble of Biggar and William Noble of Lasswade.

When William married Christian Dobie in Lasswade, he was obliged to provide the customary "testificate" or testimonial of good conduct from his own parish. Fortunately this testimonial exists and it shows that he had been in the parish of Temple, also in Midlothian, for four years previously, from May 1692 to May 1696. A curious record in the Kirk Session Accounts of Temple parish, dated 24 July 1692, shows that a William Noble in distress was given £1-04-0 on the recommendation of Mr. William Traill, the

Minister of Borthwick, Midlothian, who says that William had been a parishioner of his in Ireland, at Lifford, County Donegal. This may not be the William who married Christian Dobie but it does seem very likely. Since he seems to have lived until at least 1748 he must have been a young man in 1692 and it is therefore probable that he left his childhood home, wherever it was, no more than a few years before 1692.

If William was the son of Alexander Noble of Bowsland, this would mean either that Marion Robb was Alexander's second wife or that William was illegitimate. Either of these circumstances could of course have been true but neither could give William any claim to Bowsland unless this was specifically catered for in Alexander and Marion's marriage contract. Although this contract has not yet been found it will have dealt with the succession to Bowsland. The fact that William left his home area not long before Alexander and Marion married could lend some plausibility to the notion that the intended re-marriage, if such was indeed the case, was the cause of William's departure.

Here, however, we are leaving the realm of attested fact and entering the world of speculation; it is time to draw this article to a close and to test these and other working hypotheses against whatever further documents the records can provide.

References

- ¹ J. W. Buchanan and Rev. H. Paton, *The History of Peeblesshire 1925-7*, Vol. 3, pp. 194-5. I wish to acknowledge the close collaboration of my brother Peter Sharratt and providing source material from the S.R.O.
- ² *The Diary of James and Alexander Noble 1762-1827*, Biggar, 1984.
- ³ I quote from the original manuscript of the published diaries. The current holder of these, Mr. Thomas Noble of West Linton, another g-g-g-g- grandson of James, kindly allowed the diaries to be examined.
- ⁴ I am grateful to Mr. Brian Lambie of Biggar for providing the exact location of Bowsland.
- ⁵ Sasine 1646 John Matheson to Margaret Rennie, S.R.O. GD1/397/7.
- ⁶ William Hunter, *Biggar and the House of Fleming*, Wm. Paterson, Edinburgh, 2nd ed., 1867, Appendix 1 "The names of the abill men in the parochin of Biggar 1640".
- ⁷ For example, Sasine John Robertson, 8 November 1796, SRO, RS 42/47/147r-148r.
- ⁸ William Hunter, *op.cit.*, p. 334. The division of Borough Muir was made in 1729; claims to the common led to litigation between the feuars and their Superior in 1739:
- ⁹ Sasine Alexander Noble, 1696, RS 42/10/300r-v.
- ¹⁰ Sasine John Matheson to Margaret Rennie 1646, already quoted. In this John is conveying half-lands to his wife Margaret Rennie in fulfilment of one of the terms of their marriage contract dated 21 April 1641, part of the sasine is obliterated and other parts are difficult to decipher but either it, or the 1641 contract, also unseen, may cover the original division of Bowsland. See also sasine Marion Robb, 6 October 1676, RS 3/37/470v-472v.
- ¹¹ Sasine Grace Noble RS 42/13, Pt.1, 187v. We can infer that it covered the inheritance of Bowsland, Grace is an "heir of provision" in the sasine. Grace married Philip Scott, the schoolmaster of Lamington near Biggar, they had a son Alexander Scott.
- ¹² Sasine Thomas Carmichael, RS 42/16/167r; see also RS 42/28/117, sasine, 2 May 1798, of Margaret Carmichael, relict of Dr. Bryden, minister at Dalton, on disposition by her father Thomas Carmichael, Writer in Biggar, 4 July 1795.

- ¹³ Sasine John Wast, RS 42/13/2/427v-428v.
- ¹⁴ Sasine Archibald Cossar, RS 42/16/105r.
- ¹⁵ Sasine John Robertson, RS 42/27/147r-148r; sasine Dr. James Bowe, RS 42/47/148v-150v; sasine John Robertson, RS 42/70/A/151r-153r.
- ¹⁶ Sasine Grace Noble already quoted.
- ¹⁷ Extract from the Biggar Burgh Records kindly provided by Mr. Brian Lambie.
- ¹⁸ *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae* - the dates given there cannot be reconciled but the general information is presumed to be correct. There is a stone in Eckford churchyard for the Minister and his family but it is too worn to be useful.
- ¹⁹ Rev. Gabriel Semple was the Minister of the nearby parish of Jedburgh. In his earlier years he was a noted covenanter - some credit him with starting field meetings - and in 1679 it was declared to be treason to harbour or correspond with him. Semple was imprisoned in Edinburgh in July 1681 on the same day that Donald Cargill was taken out for execution. Reference to Semple can be found in many books; the information given here is from *The Covenanters of Teviotdale* by Duncan Stewart of the U. F. Church, Hawick, 1908, pp.77-93.
- ²⁰ RS 19/7/230.
- ²¹ The Kirk Session Records for Newlands parish show that Alexander Noble appeared before the Session in 1733 accused of an irregular marriage with Barbary Leishman. He eventually produced marriage lines dated after the meeting at which he was cited to appear. Moreover these lines were signed by a notorious marriage broker, Ro. Strange, and most telling of all, no witnesses names were shown. The implementation of the Church rules about marriage was not clear cut, for example, some parishes declared co-habitees to be married whether the parties wished this or not, but the absence of witnesses meant that it was impossible for the Session to regard this as a marriage without regarding all co-habitees as married. This was not the position in Newlands parish at that time and this can only be regarded as a non-marriage. The Session records do show however that Alexander stated that he was not going to be living in Newlands "and that he would answer in his own paroch". This indication that he regarded himself as being from another parish is of some importance.
- ²² Tack Sir John Ramsay and Robert Preston to William Noble, SRO, GD 18/894.
- ²³ There is another Noblehall only a few miles away in Peeblesshire in the parish of Newlands. This seems to get its name from a John Noble of Romano who was the occupier of it in the first half of the eighteenth century. So far I have not made any connection between the occupiers of the two Noblehalls. Strangely enough the Clerks of Penicuik held a short term interest in Noblehall in Newlands before they acquired Noblehall in Howgate.
- ²⁴ SRO, GD18/741/127.

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The Society requires nine volunteers to assist in manning the Library, to cover for holidays etc. if you think you can help, contact the Hon. Librarian; others are required for proof reading and computer data entering on a PC, if you can assist with this please contact the Hon. Editor.

SCOTTISH POOR LAW RECORDS:
An Invaluable Aid to the Genealogist
by Kerry Farmer and David W Webster

Introduction

This article aims to introduce the reader, to the very valuable genealogical information increasingly available, via computerised indexes, of the Scottish Poor Relief records. By means of a brief description of the records themselves, including information on the geographic coverage, but primarily by means of case studies based on actual research.

The 1845 Poor Law Amendment (Scotland) Act set up a system of Parochial Boards in Scotland for the administration of Poor Relief in Scotland, taking over this function from the Established Church of Scotland. Increasing computerisation of extant Scottish Poor Relief records with searchable surname indexes provides a rich source of information for genealogists. Very often a greater degree of genealogical information can be obtained from this source than from statutory or census records. It is not the purpose of this article to describe in full detail the legislation, its administration, etc. This has already been excellently done in Andrew Jackson's article *Glasgow Poor Law Records as a Source for Migration*.¹

The Influence Of Personal Computers

It is surely unarguable that the pace of both technical and commercial developments in personal computers has been among the fastest in our modern technological era. Only 12 years ago a top of the range PC, had 64k RAM, and operated from 360k 5.25" floppy discs. Speed of operation was only a few Mhz. Today a so-called "entry standard" computer to the PC world is likely to have 16Mb minimum of RAM, a 1Gb hard disk, operate at 200Mhz or higher, with a speed of operation several thousand times faster than a 1986 PC, and have features not even available in 1986 such as high speed CDROM drive, multimedia, high speed modem, InterNet connection.

One consequence of this is the possibility of building easily searchable indexes of nonstatutory genealogically valuable material such as the extant Poor Relief records. Whereas it was feasible and commercially sensible for the General Record Office (Scotland) to build indexes of their birth, death, and marriage records on a large mainframe computer, the use of such facilities for other records would not have been practical even today.

Only the advent of modern PC's has made it feasible to computerise and make available to a wider audience the records of sources such as the Scottish Poor Relief Records.

The Poor Law Amendment Act Of 1845

Prior to 1845 administration of poor relief was a parish based matter handled by the Established Church of Scotland. Records of those granted relief can be often found in the extant Kirk Session records at Scottish Record Office and various local archives throughout Scotland.

The information provided in these Kirk Session records, is most often just a name and date, with, perhaps, an age and description of condition and cause of death; e.g. pauper or widow or, at best, "relict of John Smith" (i.e. widow of John Smith). But most often with little further information of value to the genealogical researcher.

In 1845 the Poor Law Amendment (Scotland) Act was passed. This followed the breakdown of the traditional church administered system due to the industrial revolution and its effect in large cities where trade cycles could lead to thousands becoming unemployed. Such conditions resulted from a prolonged depression in 1840-1843.

In addition, in 1843, the Established Church of Scotland suffered its worst schism - "The Disruption" - that led to around one-third of its ministers and congregations leaving the Church of Scotland to form the Free Church of Scotland. This in itself produced major problems in terms of administration of the existing poor relief system. This situation led to the reform of the poor relief system through the new act, giving responsibility for the administration of Poor Relief to local Poor Relief Boards set up on a parish. These new Parochial Boards were normally set up and in operation ca.1850. In some areas a number of parishes combined to set up a "combination" poorhouse, the records of which, if extant, can also be of value. The information recorded by these poor relief authorities for every application was extensive, and can often be of great value to the genealogist.

Extent Of Surviving Poor Law Records

In the West of Scotland the Poor Relief records are extant for the Glasgow parishes of City, Barony and Govan, with over 300,000 entries indexed for the period ca.1850 to 1900. It should be noted that this figure is inflated by around 30% due to double entries for married women.

These records comprise both the original application records as well as original indexes of these. The age and birthplace are always given where known. All dependents are listed together with details of the applicant's marital history, as well as previous addresses, sometime stretching back over a period of years. Married women had their maiden name shown as a middle name, e.g. Jane Ross Webster means Mrs Jane Webster, maiden name Ross.

There is a 75 year closure period for these records, with no indexing having taken place for records after 1900. Glasgow City Archives have a computer based searchable index of these records. In Ayrshire Poor Law application records survive, and have been indexed, for Ardrossan (known as "little Dublin" in the 19th century), and Kilmarnock. Again these indexes can be consulted in a computer-based system, at Ayrshire Archives, Craigie, Ayr. The method of indexing these two sets of records has been to list every name mentioned in the original application, not just the applicant but also persons such as Ministers, parents, grandparents, inlaws, employers, etc. These databases consist of the first name and surname plus maiden name where relevant, whether Pauper or otherwise, age at the time of the application, and place of birth, together, of course, with the Poor Relief reference number.

Elsewhere in Ayrshire there are 19th century Poor Relief Records for Maybole Poorhouse (minute books), West Kilbride, Largs, Kilwinning, Kilburnie, Irvine, Girvan, Dundonald and Beith. For the parishes these records are mostly Registers of the Poor and Records of Applications, not always for the full period. The parish records for Mauchline, Sorn and Muirkirk have only recently been discovered and saved. As yet it is not clear

what Poor Relief Records are involved.

Elsewhere in the West of Scotland records survive for Paisley, Clydebank, and for a few Lanarkshire parishes including Dalziel, which includes Motherwell and Cambusnethan. The latter have been indexed by local volunteers; a copy of the index for the whole of Lanarkshire is also held by Glasgow City Archives; as may also be the case with the Paisley records, held at Paisley Central Library and Museum. For extant records distinction must be made between indexes and full application records. It is the latter that are likely to supply information of value to the genealogical researcher, with the former of doubtful value.

The extant records for Dunbartonshire are currently being indexed in a volunteer project with the support of Glasgow City Archives.

In the rest of Scotland the survival is patchy. For the cities of Edinburgh, Dundee and Aberdeen there is unfortunately nothing equivalent to the almost complete series of applications or general registers such as survive in Glasgow.

Elsewhere little appears to be widely known about extant poor relief records. Who knows, it may be the case that there is a pleasant surprise awaiting genealogists in the form of forgotten volumes lying in the basement of a local authority somewhere.

For areas not covered above the best first points of contact are the local family history societies and the archivist at the local libraries or local authorities.

Poor Law Relief Records - Details

The procedure for the granting of "relief" involved the applicant being interviewed at their home or, if of no fixed abode, then at the Poorhouse. The interviewer recorded the details of this interview. Very similar procedures are still in operation today in relation to the various UK Social Security benefits.

While some might consider it a matter of shame that an ancestor received poor relief, it should be remembered that the great majority of families in the UK since WW2 have received support for their families, particularly children, in the form of various social security benefits, e.g. Child Benefit. While a proportion of 19th century Poor Relief applications were from the truly destitute, many other applications were from those who had large families, of which there were many more than in today's world of the "two point four child family".

In the Glasgow records the largest groups were the sick, as many as two-thirds of the applications, followed by married women with children, often claiming desertion, or women with illegitimate children. Other smaller groups are foundlings and deserted children, and those over 65 years.

The recorded details of the first, and, sometimes, subsequent interviews can form a "minibiography" and can sometimes solve a genealogical link not possible to solve via statutory, census, and other more widely available records. In the case of some record indexes only survive but where the original applications survive, the genealogical "vein" can be rich.

The best way of illustrating this is to look at a couple of case studies.

Scottish Poor Law Relief Records - Case study 1

Kerry Farmer was researching her Scottish great grandmother, Annie (Barbara) McNeill. Her New South Wales marriage certificate gave Annie's parents as David McNeill and Ann McKenzie. The birth of Annie Barbara McNeill was found easily in Saltcoats in 1873, but showing her parents as John McNeill and Ann McKenzie, married in Stevenston in 1861. This marriage certificate was then quickly located, showing Ann's parents, but only John (David) McNeill's mother's name, Jessie McNeill. The inference was that John (David) was illegitimate, and further progress could be difficult on the male line.

Further work in the Stevenston and Ardrossan 1851 censuses produced some intriguing clues, including the presence in the household of Ann McKenzie's parents of a "nephew" John Anderson, and a possible census entry for Jessie where the original entry for the surname of McNail had been scored out and Anderson inserted.

It is possible at that stage that further work in the censuses might have produced a solution to the situation but the Ardrossan Poor Relief records then provided the following entry from an application in 1863. "Jessie Anderson, (m.s. McNeill) Pauper, 45 yrs at date of application. Born Ardrossan, children: Mary 10 yrs, b Stevenston and Jessie 4 yrs b Green St, Saltcoats"

This led to the location of a marriage between Jessie McNeil and William Anderson in 1850, and their children Wilham, Mary and Jessie between 1850 and 1858.

The presumption is that John (David) was a child of Jessie's before she married William Anderson. As John (David) took the surname Anderson, it is possible that William Anderson was his father. But it is equally likely that William Anderson was not his father and that John (David) only adopted the surname Anderson after his mother's marriage, a quite common practice - it may never be possible to prove this one way or another.

Further checks of the Ardrossan and district censuses have produced no other possible solution for the situation other than John (David) McNeill or Anderson being an illegitimate son of Jessie McNeill, "farmed out" to the McKenzie family. Without the information from the Poor Relief Application, however, it might well have been the case that the situation described would never have been discovered. Subsequent research on the McKenzie line produced the following, highly informative Poor Law application record for one Isabella Simpson or McKenzie.

Page 198, item 261 ref Ardrossan Poor Applications C03/21

"1898, August 4th 3.30 P.M.

<i>Date/Hour of Inspector's Visit:</i>	August 6th 12.10 PM
<i>Applicant:</i>	Isabella SIMPSON or MCKENZIE. 5 Princess St, Ardrossan, 2 up "Black" with daughter.
<i>Application made by "self".</i>	
<i>Age:</i>	60 yrs past Feb
<i>Religion:</i>	Protestant
<i>Names of Dependants or</i>	
<i>Children living with Applicant:</i>	Mary (28) b 26.6.70 Ardrossan Rd. Saltcoats. per Regt.

	Wife of Wm. BLACK. Yachtsman. 4 children. Earnings 30/ in summer. Hamilton St. Saltcoats
<i>County of Birth:</i>	Widow married 18 Sept 1860 Dalry
<i>Condition:</i>	Eczema of the Legs
<i>Cause of Disablement:</i>	Partially
<i>Wholly or Partially Destitute:</i>	Daniel SIMPSON (Sailor)
<i>Names of Parents:</i>	Janet MIDDLETON (bo dead)
<i>Detail:</i>	Husband was Gilbert MCKENZIE who was drowned with ship "Kirkconnell" in Penzance Bay, Nov. 1893, aged 58 yrs, h. Hill St., Saltcoats (Stevenston), son of Gilbert MCKENZIE, sailor, and Mary DOBBS, bo dead.
<i>Residence:</i>	Prior to husband's death 31 Manse St, 2 yrs. 6 mos., prior 168 Glasgow St., Ardrossan 1 yr., prior Stevenston 2 mos., prior 30 Clelland St, Glasgow 7 yrs. After husband's death remained 31 Manse St., Saltcoats 6 mos., then 39 Vernon St. Saltcoats 2 yrs, then Harbour Pl. 2 yrs, then present house since May.
<i>How disposed of by Inspector:</i>	Referred
<i>How disposed of by</i>	
<i>Parish Council:</i>	2/6 per week. Admit.
<i>Date:</i>	1898 August 4th, August 9th"

What more could one ask for in terms of background information, and information such as could never be obtained from a statutory certificate! It's just possible, I suppose, that if there are extant records for a range of other sources such as newspapers, shipping records, etc., that a great deal of hard work might produce the equivalent information, but not from a single, easily accessible source.

Poor Law Relief Records - Case study 2

Julia Kenny is researching a number of Glasgow families including that of Andrew Whyte b 17 July 1825 in Glasgow d 22 July 1893 in the City Poorhouse, married Christina Robertson 19 June 1846 in Glasgow, children Robert b 1848, Mary b 1850, John b 1852, Andrew Henry b 1854, Christina b 1856, Elizabeth Ann b 1858, William b 1860, Frederick Whillimina (sic) b 1862, Janet b 1864, James b 1866, and Cecilia b 1868.

A check of the Glasgow Poor Law computer index and reference to the full entry produced the following.

"Application for Relief No. C8,893

<i>Hour and Date of Application:</i>	11.40 am 12th Feby 1879
<i>Name of Applicant:</i>	Andrew WHITE
<i>Residence:</i>	22 Graeme St Graham's
<i>Place of Birth:</i>	37 Rottenrow (17th July 1825)
<i>Hour and Date of Inspector's</i>	
<i>Visit to Applicant's Home:</i>	9 am 13/2/79
<i>Condition:</i>	Widr
<i>Age:</i>	54
<i>Occupation:</i>	Labr
<i>Average Value of Weekly</i>	
<i>Earnings, if any:</i>	blank
<i>Wholly or Partially Disabled:</i>	blank
<i>Religious Denomination:</i>	Prot

<i>Disability:</i>	"Catarrh"				
<i>Names and Ages of Dependants:</i>	Wife: Christina ROBERTSON born Vennel died 9 yrs ago in Kirk St Cton (i.e. Calton)				
<i>Parents:</i>	Robt WHITE, Carpet Weaver & Christina GILMOUR both dead				
<i>Other Information to enable Parochial Board to decide Case Names of Children not Dependants, Earnings, &c.:</i>					
Fredk Wm	17	born the "Glen" Duke St	Single		Res: not known
Elizth	15	do	do	dom sevt	Res: not known
Robert	18	born Drygate	Single		Res: not known
<i>No of Previous Application, if any:</i>	First				
<i>Settlement:</i>	Glasgow if Birth proven				
<i>Remarks:</i>	No relatives or any reference in proof of birth place. Thinks he was baptised in the High Church"				

There then follow just over three densely packed pages of information relating to Andrew White’s fourteen subsequent reapplications for relief up to his death in 1893. With much information concerning his children, their occupations, together with wages and contributions made to the support of Andrew, details of wives and children, addresses, etc. In short, a wealth of information that would take a considerable amount of effort to build up from other sources, if it were ever possible to do so, with some of the information such as wages most unlikely to be found anywhere else.

There is a degree of conflict between some of the information supplied by Andrew White between his various applications, but there is sufficient information overall in all the applications put together that makes it reasonably straightforward to determine the real facts. The extent to which Andrew was suffering from some form of dementia or just dissembling in order to improve his chances of being granted relief is impossible to know. This case may be exceptional in terms of the extra and repeated information, resulting from the large number of times that Andrew applied for and was granted relief. Then leaving the Poorhouse at his own request, and then reapplying a few months later, but it does illustrate the tremendous amount of information that can be found, not only relating to the applicant but also their family.

Conclusions

Where extant the Scottish poor relief records can provide a wealth of information, much of which may not be available elsewhere, and which can allow a “workaround” of dead ends encountered in research in other, more widely used sources. It is, however, unlikely that these records would have become readily accessible without modern PC’s.

Hopefully it will increasingly become the case that poor relief records not yet available on computerised indexes will become so over the next few years. It is also to be hoped that there may still be some pleasant surprises in the future in terms of the discovery of extant records, previously forgotten.

The potential value of the Scottish Poor Law records to genealogists is such that it is surely worthwhile considering a project covering all of Scotland to locate and computer index such records. It is quite possible that valuable records are languishing forgotten in damp cellars, their condition deteriorating. The recent discovery of the Mauchline, Sorn and Muirkirk is

one indication of this. Glasgow City Archives would be interested in co-operating with such a project.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to my co-author Kerry Farmer and to Julia Kenny for permission to quote from their research. Sincere thanks are also due to Andrew Jackson of Glasgow City Archives not only for permission to make use of his article, referred too above, but also his most helpful comments on the draft article. Above all else, great thanks are also due to all the anonymous volunteers in the West of Scotland and elsewhere who have given up their time to carry out the computerisation of the poor law records - in particular, Jim Steel and his fellow volunteers, for their work on the Ardrossan records as well as his personal help with the above research, without which this article would never have been written.

References

- ¹ Glasgow Poor Law Records as a Source for Migration. Andrew Jackson. European Immigration into Scotland: Proceedings of the 4th Annual Conference of the Scottish Association of Family History Societies (SAFHS), Glasgow 1992, pp 41-52. (Reprint available from the Glasgow & West of Scotland Family History Society.)

SOME PASTIMES

by D. R. Torrance, FSA Scot.

Football v. Shooting

The obsession with football is assumed to be a new phenomenon, certainly from the second half of the 19th century but long before that time a dim view had been taken of the excessive amounts of time devoted to football. In the 1430s James I was concerned with the frivolous way his officers and burgesses dressed themselves and ordered that they must desist from wearing furs, and ordinary yeomen were not to wear coloured clothes longer than knee-length, anyone doing so would forfeit their apparel to the King. It was not only the waste of resources on the import of fancy cloth and goods that worried the King but also the profitless use of people's time. About the same time "the King forbiddis that na man play the fut ball" with a penalty of four pence (2p) if they persisted in their games. Instead he sought to improve skills which would be of use to Scotland, so he encouraged "wappinschaws" and decreed that archery butts were to be set up near parish kirks so that on holy days men might "haif usage of archary". "Wappinschaws" continued over the coming years but the emphasis slowly moved towards expertise with guns. In 1587 James IV presented "The Siller Gun" to the burgh of Kirkcudbright which was to be competed for on an annual basis. The small gun is housed in the Stewartry Museum and is still competed for on special occasions.

James I was not quite as successful as he had hoped when it came to banning football. About 1460 James softened his attitude slightly, saying that those over the age of sixty might "use uther honest gammys" but those under sixty were to be encouraged to attend "wappinschaws" and improve their military skills as James had need of well trained men so that he could further Scotland's cause in the event of civil war in England. Football and

golf were to be truly "uttirly cryit doune and nocht usyt". As history shows forbidding the playing of football and golf had little effect.

Horse Racing

Although there must have been many instances of informal horse races, arranged on the spur of the moment, there are few instances of organised annual race meets at an early date. However, there are various accounts of individual races that have survived. In the Treasurer's Accounts of 1504 Dande Doule won twenty eight shillings Scots from the King "on hors rynnning". David Home of Wedderburn, who died in 1574, was another devotee. In an account of his life is the following passage:

He collected a number of the swiftest horses, both from the north of Scotland and from England, by the assistance of one Graeme, recommended to him by his brother-in-law Lochinvar. He generally had eight or more of that kind, so that the prize was seldom won by any but those of his family...He was so great a master of the art of riding, that he would often be beat today, and within eight days lay a double wager on the same horses and come off conqueror...He went frequently from home to his diversion, sometimes to Haddington, and sometimes to Peebles, the one of which is eighteen and the other twenty four miles distant, and sometimes stayed there for several days with numerous attendants, regardless of expense, as being too mean and sordid a care, and below the dignity of one of his rank.

The Haddington races were instituted before 1552, in which year the burgh records state that:

"John Forrois, burgess of Hadingtoun, came cautioner that ane worthy and mychty lord, George, lord Seytoun, sall bring the silver bell that his horse wan upon the X day maij the yeir of God^m V^o fiftie twa yeiris to the said burgh of Hadingtoun... with ane augmentation lyke as the said lord pleases to augment for his honour..."

Races were held at Lanark, where the "Silver Bell of Lanark" was competed for. Tradition has it that the bell was presented to the burgh in 1160 by King William the Lion, however an examination of the hallmarks shows that the piece was made between 1587 and 1597 in Edinburgh. In 1889 there were attached to the bell twenty two silver badges, only one of which possessed any great age, that indicating the winner in 1628 - Sir John Hamilton of Traborun. In 1719 the Town Council appointed "their race for the siller tanker and bell to be run in the usual place upon Thursday, the 4th June next to come, and the magistrates to be judges in the riding", they also added that horse racing "if encouraged will prove beneficial to the burgh". The Town Council provided a piece of silver to the value of £12 to be competed for in 1720 at a race to be held on Lanark Moor.

Horse racing in Dumfries was noted in 1575 when Regent Morton held a criminal court there for the trial of some offending Borderers, to relieve his grave duties he patronised the turf.

Many gentlemen of England came thither to behald the Regent's

Court, where there was great provocation made for the running of horses. By chance my Lord Hamilton had there a horse sae weel bridled and sae speedy that although he was of meaner stature than other horses that essayit their speed, he overran them all a great way upon Solway Sands, whereby he obtained great praise both of England and Scotland at this time.

Racing was established in Peebles about the same time and attracted great crowds of people from the locality who often resorted to settling feuds, once fortified with the local liquor. Things came to such a head, that in 1608 the Lord of Council issued a proclamation forbidding the race to take place because:

...grit numbers of people of all qualities and ranks intends to repair, betwixt whom there being quarrels, private grudges, and discontentment, it is to be feirit that at their meetings upon fields, some troubles and inconvenients sall fall out amangst them...

Other centres that held races were Paisley, Dunfermline, Cupar, Stirling, St. Andrews and Musselburgh. The Musselburgh arrow bears a medal dated 1603 but has several older, but undated medals, the earliest being in the form of a bell.

A Young Man in India

Alexander Read, a collector in the Canara District of India, at the end of the eighteenth century recorded in his letters to his friend, James Cochrane, various pastimes he indulged in.

"and we had some capital fun here last night at leap frog".

And for a novel means of transport:

"I find it will be useless to keep my camel here longer".

Nowadays we hear stories of young people in fast cars doing silly things in the hopes that they will impress onlookers, but the idea is not new. Alexander spent much money having a bandy constructed in Madras and then transported to the interior. A bandy is a small, light carriage drawn by a single horse.

*"...it must be pulled by coolies, therefore the parts they are likely to touch with their hands dragging it should be wrapped round with straw and the body covered with Gunnies. Send me also a handsome whip that I may soon as my horse is recovered (which will be shortly) astonish the weak nerves of the Natives".
How my Bandy astonished the multitude".*

Young men in the eighteenth century appear to be no different from those of today in other pastimes. Alexander wrote to his friend about the first time he got drunk with the same bravado that could be heard today:

I will only say that I sat till I could hold no more, and going out to do what a much cleverer fellow than you could not so for me, I quite forgot the shape of Graham's house behind (for you must know it has a long sloping bank to it, and a parcel of those large clay flowerpots that you may have seen on the edge of it) so meeting with one of these gentlemen between my legs I bowed to it and launched forward amongst 2 or 3 dozen guglets full

of cold water carrying them all along with me down the bank - as the poor gullets opened their harmless mouth upon me it must have been a sick scene for I felt cold water coming on me in sundry parts & I was found in this situation laughing (as is always my way in those cases) by Iain & a few others who relieved me from my antagonists, and by their assistance I got into Jackson's & was put to bed.

You will hardly credit me when I tell you that I mounted one of Jackson's horses at daylight and rode 10 miles - most people sleep it off, after a nights debauch, but I prefer shaking it off by a ride... which to me is the best method - I don't remember ever having drunk so much before, however it has done me no harm - We had a most jovial party and a number of excellent songs.

Pugilism

Alexander Read's cousin, Fletcher Read, took his pastime much more seriously and managed to lose a fortune and the family estate. His interest was in the bare knuckle fighters of the early nineteenth century. He moved to London to be at the centre of the action, leaving his wife and children in Dundee. In 1802 Fletcher Read backed the boxer Jem Belcher to the tune of 1450 guineas in a fight against a boxer by the name of Bourke. The fight was to be held at Grewelthorpe, near Middleham in Yorkshire to be out of the way of the authorities in London who had obtained assurances from both fighters that they would not enter any more bare knuckle fights. In the event Bourke refused to fight and for once Fletcher Read kept his money but still gave Belcher £55.

Three years later Fletcher Read again backed Jem Belcher to the tune of 500 guineas in a bout against Chicken Pearce. They fought for eighteen rounds at the end of which Belcher was unable to continue and Fletcher saw his money disappear.

Fletcher Read's obituary in the Gentleman's Magazine sums up his standing in the boxing circles of the day and how he lost his fortune.

Fletcher Read Esq., gentleman, well known in the sporting world, particularly among the sporting professors. He had spent the previous evening with some convivial friends and was found dead in his bed the ensuing morning by his servant. In him the professors of the boxing house lost their best patron. For the last three years he had devoted the whole of his study to the fistic diversions; and although he possessed a considerable fortune, his ambition in life was that of keeping company with first rate boxers. He was, notwithstanding this propensity, a man of an amiable disposition and naturally inoffensive to all men; he was consequently an easy prey to the arts of designing men, as was manifest by the expenditure of a handsome fortune in backing, alternately most of the bruisers of the day. He felt many severe losses in the backing against the Gane Chicken, which he has uniformly done; and since the contest between Belcher and Chicken, his finances have been very low. He was a native of Dundee.

References:

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PERSEVERANCE PAYS

by Walter Chalmers Deas

During World War II, our family were living in Downfield, Dundee, Scotland and received "food " parcels from overseas. As a young boy, I didn't really pay much attention other than notice that there was a box of goodies from across the ocean. My mum used to tell us that an uncle in Canada sent to them. The years rolled by, my wife and I emigrated to Australia and it was not until 1985 that I started to research my family's history. Most of the ancestors on my father's side came from Fife and Angus on my mother's side. On one visit back to Scotland my mother gave me a small bundle of old negatives and a couple of sepia tinted photographs. One showed a young fellow named Jack Chalmers, swimming at a place called Bowness Park. She thought it was my uncle.

My father died in 1955 and my mother passed away in 1984 and it was too late to ask questions.

I sent out letters to newspapers in Canada and the *Calgary Herald* published my request for information about the person who shipped us food parcels. There were no replies.

I then made contact in June 1986 with the Provincial Archives of Alberta and the Government Records Archivist, Ms Fay Hutchinson searched the records but was unable to come up with any information. In February 1988, I made contact with Susan M. Kooyman, the Archivist at Glenbow Alberta Institute Archives. After checking she came up with various Chalmers but none seemed to fit the person I was seeking.

I again contacted the provincial Archives of Alberta in February 1988 for another search through the Dominion Lands Index - no luck.

With some additional information and a copy of the photograph mentioned above, the Provincial Archives informed me that Bowness Park was near Calgary and by dating the photograph the person could not have been my uncle!

By now I had traced a Colin Chalmers who might have been the person in Canada.

I again approached Susan M. Kooyman the Archivist at Glenbow in February 1995 with a copy of the photograph. She then placed a notice in the Chinook County Historical Society's newsletter. She replied on the 14th April:

"I received another reply to the notice that was put in the local historical society newsletter about your search for Jack Chalmers and I believe I have found the person you are looking for. Mr. Chalmers came to Glenbow Archives today to read your letter and look at the photo of the child swimming at Bowness. He says he is certain that it is a photograph of

himself. He swam at Bowness often as a child. He also told me that his father sent food parcels to Scotland during World War Two and that he was born in Monifieth in Scotland".

The next day I received a letter from Canada dated April 18th saying:

"I was somewhat surprised when I received a phone call from Susan Kooyman of the Glenbow Museum regarding your search for John (Jack) Chalmers. The name Deas sort of rung a bell with me but I could not tie it to any name.

So I decided to go to the museum to have a look at the picture you sent with the letter. The picture is definitely me in the wading pool at Bowness Park. It must have been taken in 1935 or 1936, Mom and Dad, whose first names were Colin and Margaret, sent parcels overseas during the war and no doubt sent the picture".

A copy of his father's birth certificate was enclosed and this confirmed that his father, Colin Chalmers, was in fact the person for whom I had been searching over the years. But not the person in the photograph!

I have found a long lost cousin, and a list of relatives, who eventually put me in contact with another missing cousin in Newcastle-upon-Tyne in England. My mother and father used to take my sister, brother and I for our holidays to Newcastle during the war and I remember staying in air raid shelters quite a few times at night!

We have now been exchanging family histories and I was amazed to find that Jack was in fact born in the same house as I was - 30 Maule Street, Monifieth in Angus, now an outer suburb of Dundee. It is a small world after all.

Now if anyone out there has information relating to James Deas born c. 1745, Fife, died May 1821 in St. Clairtown, Fife or David Deas born Dysart, Fife, May 12 1857, parents linen weaver, James Deas b. c. 1819, d. Jan 1 1904 at Pathhead, Fife and Margaret Taylor b. c. 1818, d. October 2 1884 at Dysart, Fife, they were married at Dysart November 1 1845 and finally a Charles Baxter Deas who lived at 26 Eastfields Road, Acton, London until around 1955, you could save me years of work!

Due to the continued and rapid growth of the Society Library, it has been decided by the Council to seek larger premises in the central area of Edinburgh. If any of our members know of any suitable property of approximately 4000 square feet, would they please contact the Hon. Secretary.

SOME RECENT ADDITIONS to the LIBRARY

compiled by Marjorie Stewart, Hon. Librarian

The following twenty works have been donated by the students on last year's Distance Learning Course, Stirling University

Sir James Young Simpson	J. M. Horton
Shillinglaw; Edinburgh to Chicago	J. S. Ridley
Three Generations of a Family	R. Philip
Weavers and Corks	J. Convery
Family & Business	E. S. Flint
The Flow and Ebb of the Tide	K. D. Sharp
Drive on, Darling	C. L. Kerr
Three Generations of Thomsons in Perthshire	G. Thomson
The Brown Family in Dundee 1841-1891	
Maggie Taylor - her Kith and Kin	J. Keen
The Murdoch's Move to America	B. A. Murdoch
Glasgow Hutchisons	I. Hutchison
The Durrans of Durran	A. C. W. Norton
A Hundred Years of Carse Fowk 1768-1868	K. M. Holt
Marycutter in the Eighteenth Century	N. D. Nicol
Moving On	M. Sutter
Early Victorian Lightkeepers	I. G. Murdoch
The Curries of Bridgend, Dalkeith	A. M. M. Brignall
James Kerr 1788-1873, Farmer at Bandeath	M. Liddle
Scattered Harvest	V. Dunlop
The Tongs & the Bones - Memoirs of L. Harewood	Lord Harewood
Sween - The Clan of the Battleaxe	R. M. Sweeny
Kinnaird Churchyard M.I.s	
Nevay Kirkyard M.I.s	A. R. Nicholl
Forgan Kirkyard M.I.s	comp. W. Owen
Kinross-shire 1851 Census Name Index, Part 1: A-L	
Kinross-shire 1851 Census Name Index, Part 2: M-Z	
1841 Census Index for Borgue, KKD	
1841 Census Index for Castle Douglas, KKD	
1841 Census Index for Colvend & Southwick, KKD	
1841 Census Index for Dalbeattie, KKD	
1841 Census Index for Irongray, KKD	
1841 Census Index for Kirkcudbright, KKD	
1841 Census Index for Urr, KKD	
The Third Statistical Account, Berwick. Vol. XXIII	ed. J. Herdman
The Third Statistical Account, Roxburgh. Vol. XXVIII	ed. J. Herdman
Argyll & Bute - Sources for Family History	
List of the O. P. R.s, revised 1997 - photocopy	
Just a Minute or Two: Western Medical Club 1845-1902	A. A. Clark
McDougal Genealogy	D. McDougal
Gamrie Kirk Session Minutes & Acc. Index	
1756-1814/5	comp. M. H. Shand
Stewarts in W. Ulster & Antrim	comp. M. S. Kyritsis

History of the Weems Family	D. A. Weems
The Descendants of William & John Johnson	L. V. Johnson
Noble of Ardmore and Ard Kinglas	A. Noble
Scottish Clan & Family Names	R. Martine
Nat. Library of Scotland: Catalogue of MSS. Vol. 1	
Recorded Indentures of Apprenticeship, Fife	comp. A. J. Campbell
1841 Census Records - Parish of New Abbey, KKD	
1841 Census Records - Parish of Balmaclellan, KKD	
1841 Census Records - Parish of Kirkpatrick Durham, KKD	
Aberdeenshire Valuation Roll, 1667	ed. A. & H. Tayler
The Scallop (in Armory)	ed. I. Cox
Stark - Marriages by Surname	W. M. Stark
Tracing Scottish Ancestors on Computer at New Register House	D. W. Webster
1851 Census for Parish of Dalziel, Lands. Ayton, Berwickshire M.I.s	
High Kirk Churchyard of Dundonald & St. Cuthberts	
1841 Police Return within Glasgow	H. Miller
Walking Backwards in Rhynie	R. G. Troup
The Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. Vol. 4, 1921-1940	
Register Of St. Andrews Society, New York 1756-1806	W. M. MacBean
Genealogical Notes of some Ancient Scottish Families	J. B. Brown-Morison
The Baronage of Scotland. Vol. 1, 1798	
History of the Commoners of G. B. & Ireland. Vol. 4	J. Burke
The Laing Manuscripts. Vol. 1	
The Laing Manuscripts. Vol. 2	
Memorials of Angus & the Mearns. Vol. 1	A. Jervise
Memorials of Angus & the Mearns. Vol. 2	A. Jervise
Dr. Patrick Napier - Ancestors & some Descendants	J. H. Napier
History of the Macleods	A. Mackenzie
Lands of Galloway. Vol. 2	P. H. McKerlie
Hunters of Hunterston, Family Papers	ed. by M. S. Shaw
Descendants of Joseph Killgore 1690-1764	R. Killgore
Scots in the West Indies 1707-1857	D. Dobson
Scots in the USA & Canada 1825-1875	D. Dobson
Orkney - An Outline History	J. Hilton
Jacobites of Perthshire 1745	F. McDonnell
Hatches, Matches & Dispatches	
The Crofters	
The Emigrants	
Scottish Banking - A History 1695-1973	S. G. Checkland
Clydesdale Bank	C. W. Munn
The Murrays of Edinburgh	A. R. M. Murray
Military Records for the Genealogical Researcher, USA	D. M. Casamer

Smibert & Associated Families	L. Sexsmith
Clan MacQuarrie - A History	R. W. Munro & A. MacQuarrie
The Dale Family of Berwickshire & E. Lothian	B. Bowyer
The History & Traditions of the MacLennans of Kintail	J. G. MacLennan & J. MacLennan
The Grier & Allied Families Directory 1998	W. M. Grier, Jr.
1851 Census Index - Borthwick, Midlothian	
1851 Census Index - Carrington, Midlothian	
1851 Census Index - Cranston, Midlothian	
Ministers of the Church of Scotland from 1560-1929. Vol. 1 A-D	
An Index to Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae	P. Bell
An Index to Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae. Vol. 2 E-K	P. Bell
My Buchan Heritage	S. F. Robertson
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Deaths. Vol. 4 1870-1897	comp. M. Wilson & S. Smith
Glasgow since 1900	P. Harris
The Rarest Decision Recorded in History, The Battle of the Clans 1396	G. M. Mackenzie
1851 Census Index - Arbirlot, ANS; Fearn, ANS; Glamis, ANS; Glenisla, ANS; Guthrie, ANS; Kingoldrum, ANS; Kinnell, ANS; Kirkden, ANS; Aberdalgie, PER; Arngask, PER; Clunir, PER; Dron, PER; Findogask, PER; Glendevon, PER; Inchtute, PER; Kinfauns, PER; Kinnaird, PER; Kirkmichael, PER; Longforgan, PER; Rhynd, PER; St. Madoes, PER; St. Martin, PER; Tibbermore, PER; Abdie, FIFE; Anstruther E., FIFE; Anstruther W., FIFE; Auchtermuchty, FIFE; Ballingry, FIFE; Balmerino, FIFE; Beath, FIFE; Crail, FIFE; Creich, FIFE; Dunbog, FIFE; Dunino, FIFE; Elie, FIFE; Ferryport-on-Craug, FIFE; Flisk, FIFE; Kemback, FIFE; Kilmany, FIFE; Logie, FIFE; Monimail, FIFE; Moonzie, FIFE; Newburn, FIFE.	

SCOTTISH GENEALOGY WORK in PROGRESS

Co-ordinator: Karl Ian Ransome e-mail Karl.Ransome@dial.pipex.com

Submissions received by February 1999

John B. Brodie of BC, Canada

BRODIE in Morayshire and Nairnshire

Mr. J. C. Grier of Dunfermline, Scotland

GRIER one name study, all periods, worldwide

Adrienne Kiellor-Edwards of Dexheim, Germany

KEILLAR and variants one name study, all periods, worldwide

ACCOUNTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for year ended 30 September 1998

	Notes	1998	1997
INCOME			
Subscriptions		28,033	20,465
Investment Income		1,482	1,288
Covenant Tax Refund		1,729	856
Donations		713	152
Sundries		0	576
Sales		22,756	19,126
Cost of Sales		11,419	11,885
Sales Surplus		11,337	7,241
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		43,294	30,578
		<hr/>	<hr/>
EXPENDITURE			
Journal (Print & Dist.)		8,304	9,500
Lecture Expenses		932	1,345
Library Running Costs		3,002	3,016
Library Ref'b/Maint.		1,864	394
Computer Expenses		534	793
Postage		2,595	2,114
Stationery, Typing etc.		2,143	1,342
Affiliations		149	253
Insurance/Bank Chgs.		798	578
Depreciation	1	6,353	4,765
Sundries		1,298	518
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		27,972	24,618
		<hr/>	<hr/>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		15,322	5,960
		<hr/>	<hr/>

ACCOUNTS

BALANCE SHEET as at 30 September 1998

	Notes	1998	1997
FIXED ASSETS			
Property at Cost	1	53,063	53,063
Equipment (net)	1	14,754	13,925
Books and Microfilms	1	93,696	91,185
Government Stock	2	0	2,838
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		161,513	161,011
		<hr/>	<hr/>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock	3	18,650	6,069
Debtors		1,770	830
Bank		27,874	25,671
Glenfiddich Fund		1,721	1,757
Cash		98	446
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		50,113	34,773
		<hr/>	<hr/>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors and Accruals	4	2,645	7,692
Loan		0	4,802
Prepaid Subscriptions		0	1,096
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		2,645	13,590
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		47,468	21,183
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		208,981	182,195
		<hr/>	<hr/>
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS			
Retained Surplus A/C		175,074	172,724
Increase in Stock		11,864	-3,245
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year		15,322	5,960
Glenfiddich Fund		1,721	1,757
McNaughton Fund		5,000	5,000
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		208,981	182,195
		<hr/>	<hr/>

COMPUTER UPDATE

by Karl Ian Ransome

At the end of March we will be able to make available a second computer for access to genealogical records which include family trees donated by members, various indexes and one name studies, as well as CDs of which we now have approximately seventy five available. These include:

LDS CDs - IGI for British Isles, Continental/SW Europe, Germany, North America, Mexico, South America, Central America, Caribbean, Southwest Pacific, Oceanic Islands, Finland & Iceland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, IGI Addendum; Ancestral File; Australian Vital Records 1788-1905; 1851 Census for Devon, Norfolk, Warwick; Family History Library Catalogue; US Social Security Death Index; US Military Index; Personal Ancestral File Companion:

Other Sources - Biography Database 1680-1830; Family Tree Maker Finder Index, ver. 4; Soldiers Died in the Great War, with the following available soon - British Isles Vital Records Index; North America Vital Records Index.

REVIEW

Berwickshire Monumental Inscription, VI: Ayton.

Edited by Elspeth Ewan. vi + 128pp. Illus. ISBN 1 874232 028. Available from Miss Jean Sanderson, 12 Woodside Park, Kelso, Roxburghshire, TD5 7RE. £7 + 65p postage (UK). Members £1 discount. Air mail £2.80.

This is the largest yet of publications of monumental inscriptions by the Borders Family History Society. Ayton lies in the south east corner of Berwickshire, and one approach is from the fishing village of Burnmouth. The Border town of Berwick-upon-Tweed is only some eight miles to the south east, while Duns is about twelve miles to the south west. The present parish church, dating from only 1865, stands near the ruins of an ancient church, used in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries as an occasional meeting place for the Commissioners of Scotland and England.

As befits such a historic place, Ayton's graveyard has many interesting memorials, including those of the leading families: Mitchell-Innes of Ayton and Whitehall; Dick Lauder, with whom they intermarried and the military family of Fordyce. There will be some unmarked graves and a few lost stones but over one thousand inscriptions have been recorded. The index to these shows the most prolific names to be Anderson (59 names); Aitchison (50); Martin (49); Johnston (40); Kerr (38); Wood (37); Purves (35); Wilson (32); Brown (26) and Cockburn (25). An unusual name to be found is Orkney, from 1695 at least. A more recent name is Ternent, probably a variant (and the East Lothian pronunciation) of Tranent.

There is a useful location map and a brief introduction. Other useful features are the Hearth Tax returns, 1691-93; the Poll Tax returns, 1695 and a Militia List of 1797. There is also a list of local clergymen and the names from the Ayton War Memorial, 1914-18 and 1939-45. The front cover of this attractive publication has a drawing of Ayton Church by Steve Earl.

Donald Whyte

NEWS in BRIEF and EDITOR'S NOTES

Dates for your Diary.

11 March	Thursday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
16 March	Tuesday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
22 March	Monday - Ordinary Meeting, <i>Sir William Wallace: Warrior or Monk?</i> - John McGill.
25 March	Thursday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
06 April	Tuesday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
08 April	Thursday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
12 April	Monday - Ordinary Meeting, <i>Sources for Genealogy at Glasgow University Archives</i> - Simon Bennett.
20 April	Tuesday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
22 April	Thursday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
24 April	Saturday - S.A.F.H.S. 10th Annual Conference to be held in Hamilton Town Hall, for details see below.
24 April	Saturday - A Computers in Family History Conference, to be held at Salford University, for details see below.
04 May	Tuesday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
12 May	Wednesday - Visit to Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historic Monuments of Scotland, 2.30pm, for details see below.
13 May	Thursday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
18 May	Tuesday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
22 May	Saturday - South Ayrshire History Fair, Walker Halls, Troon, full details below.
27 May	Thursday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
01 June	Tuesday - Members visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
15 September	Wednesday - Ordinary Meeting, <i>Poles apart-together again</i> - Mike Jodeluk. The Library will close early at 5.30pm.
18 October	Monday - Ordinary Meeting, <i>Oral History Techniques</i> - Ian MacDougall.
16 November	Tuesday - Ordinary Meeting. <i>Scottish Whaling: a chill reminder</i> - David Henderson.

New Members of Council and Secretaries

Ken Nesbit and Mrs Elizabeth Mortimer have been elected to the Council; Joyce Holt is our new UK Membership Secretary; and Jack Ritchie and John Stevenson are our new Sales Secretaries, to whom any orders should be addressed.

Scottish Association of Family History Societies 10th Annual Conference

The Association's 10th Annual Conference is to be hosted by Lanarkshire Family History Society in the Hamilton Town Hall, Lower Auchingramont Road, Hamilton, on Saturday, 24th April, 1999. The conference will run from 9am until 5pm, costing £8 with lunch a further £9. The programme will consist of four presentations; "New Lanark - People and Cotton" by Lorna Davidson; "Rural Life and Industry" by Gavin Sprott; "Growth of Industry in North Lanarkshire" by Neil Ballantyne and "Working Memories - Archives in Business" by Frank Rankin. There will also be the usual book stalls; for

further details write to:- *Conference Secretary, Mrs. Golda Morrison, Allt-na-Strubbain, 10 Loudon, Valleyfield, East Kilbride, G75 0QT, or telephone 01355 908055.*

Visit to Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historic Monuments of Scotland

This visit by members to the Commission at 16 Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh, on the 12th May, is to be conducted by Rebecca Moloney, the party will be limited to twelve. However if we have more interest, we can arrange for a second group of twelve at the same time. Please make your bookings at the Library as usual.

South Ayrshire History Fair

The Fair is to be held on Saturday 22nd May 1999, in the Walker Hall Troon, from 10am until 4.30pm, The cost is £10.00 for the full day, or £16.50 including lunch. Tickets at £3 can be obtained for individual talks. There will be four talks; "Mills in South Ayrshire" by John Hume, "Horse Racing in Scotland before 1800" by John Burnett, followed by lunch ; then "Ayrshire and New Zealand, the curious tale of the Bard's nephew" by Professor Michael Moss, and lastly "Love Courtship and Marriage" by Karen Lowing. There will be Local and National FH Societies, including the SGS, Historical Groups and a Specialist Scottish Bookshop. Further details can be obtained from *South Ayrshire History Fair, Library HQ, 26 Green Street, Ayr, KA8 8AD, telephone 01292 288820.*

A Computers in Family History Conference

The Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society and the Society of Genealogists are jointly holding "A Computers in Family History Conference" at the University of Salford, on Saturday 24th April 1999. There will be a programme of lectures, demonstrations of genealogy software and workshops on many aspects of genealogical computing, including the Internet. Software, books and equipment will be on sale. The cost, including refreshments and a buffet lunch will be £18.50. For further details and an application form, please send an SAE, 9" x 4" to *The Conference Manager, Manchester & Lancashire FHS, Clayton House, 59 Piccadilly, Manchester, M1 2A, England.*

The Clan MacInnes Society Clan MacInnes or Clann Aonghais

"The Children of Angus" Society has recently been formed, and may be of interest to those with the following surnames; MacInnes, McInnes, MacInnis, MacGinnes, MacGinnis, MacKinnes, MacAnish, MacNeish, MacAngus, Angus, MacMaster, Masterton and variant spellings. For further information contact:- *Colin McInnes, Membership Secretary, Clan MacInnes Society, "Kinlochaline", 2 Knockard Crescent, Pitlochry, Perthshire, PH16 5JG, Scotland.*

Donation to the Library

A donation has recently been received from a member, Mrs Jane Thomson, of a copy of *Scottish Ancestry of the Gorrie - Piggot Family of Australia* compiled by Chris Piggot of Potts Point, NSW, Australia. This compilation will be of interest to members researching, Adam, Anderson and Thomson of Coupar Angus; Spence, especially Robert Spence, Clockmaker, Orrock and Page of Dysart; Gorrie, Murray, McLaren, Stewart and Anderson of Perthshire, and many others.

QUERIES

- 2786 **RAE** Alescander b. 1834 possibly Newhills parish, Aberdeen county. m. Elizabeth Helen Black 1 April 1865 in Kinellar parish, Aberdeen county. Alescander was 31 years old at time of marriage and had a son Alexander William Rae, my g-grandfather. Alescander's parents were James Rae and Janet (Grey) Rae. I am interested in finding any information on this family, especially Alescander's previous marriage. Any information will be greatly appreciated. *Nancy Lechner, 48 Travis Road, Tulia TX 79088, USA.*
- 2787 **GRANT** John b. 1817, d. 1878, lived in Maywar Cottage, Elgin. Children: John A. (Lieutenant); Alexander (physician); William (attorney); Frank (Colonel); Jessie Ross; Jane Irving; Margaret Annie; Mary and Joanne Mackey. His son, Robert, emigrated to USA. Descendants of Robert seeking to renew contact with family members in UK. *William Grant Armstrong, 7229 Kingsbury, St. Louis, Missouri 63130-4141, USA.*
- 2788 **HETHERTON/GILMER** John Hetherton and Elisabeth Gilmer m. c. 1779 Kirkliston, West Lothian. Their children, all b. Kirkliston, were: Janet b. 2 Jan 1780; Alexander b. 30 Sep 1781; Thomas b. 23 Nov 1783; Elisabeth b. 4 Mar 1787; John b. 9 May 1790; Janet b. 19 Oct 1793 and George b. 30 July 1799. Elisabeth m. James Masterton 2 Dec 1808 Kirkliston, West Lothian. John Hetherton's parents are suspected to be Alexander Hetherton and Janet McDougal and Elisabeth's parents are suspected to be Thomas Gilmer and Janet Fleming - both families from Kirkliston, West Lothian. Any information on ancestors or descendants to *Louise Smith, 581 Louise Drive, Burlington, Ontario, Canada L7L 2T8 or e-mail lasmith@skylinc.net.*
- 2789 **O'HARA/BOYD** Enquiring about any family of Charles and Jane O'Hara (nee Boyd). Charles b. c. 1856, died 16 Jan 1922 Rutherglen, Scotland, Jane b. c. 1850, died 28 Oct 1926. Children known: Jenny; Charlie; Sadie; Nellie; Alice b. 1887, died 18 May 1923 Rutherglen, Scotland and Sarah b. 7 May 1893. The parents and Alice are believed to be buried in Rutherglen. Alice m. William McIlhatton 7 June 1907 in Rutherglen, Scotland, he was b. County Antrim, Ireland 1887. William and their six children came to Australia after Alice died. Any information concerning ancestors or descendants of any of the family in Scotland would be appreciated. Contact *Mrs. L. McIlhatton, 23 Bursaria Crescent, Ferndale 6148, Western Australia.*
- 2790 **McCAUL** Seek info on Gilbert McCaul bapt. 31 July 1839 Barony, Glasgow, son of William McCaul, merchant in Glasgow and Lucy Sloane. Gilbert was a mercantile clerk in 1861 Census, Scotia Street, Glasgow. Believed to have left Scotland before 1906. Any information appreciated to *M. B. McCaul, 2776 Cadboro Bay Road, Victoria, B. C., V8R 5J8 Canada.*
- 2791 **McLAUGHLIN/MAIN** Valentine McLaughlin b. c. 1827 Kildaire, Ireland m. Sara Main c. 1848, b. c. 1831 Scotland. Family tradition

holds she was a nurse at Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. A son, Thomas McLaughlin b. Scotland c. 1849 The family emigrated from Liverpool to Philadelphia, arriving October 1852 and settled Slatington, Lehigh County, PA. Valentine became a US citizen 27 Sept 1860 Allentown, PA. Other children b. Slatington: John McLaughlin b. c. 1856, m. Alice Backus; Mary McLaughlin b. c. 1860, d. 14 June 1920, m. Charles Bowers; Peter Stuart McLaughlin b. 6 May 1864, m. Ella Agnes Rockel 1 Mar 1882, d. 6 Mar 1937 interred Frankfort, Indiana, USA. Sara A. (Sally) McLaughlin b. c. 1868, m. Harry Thomas, d. 13 Nov 1931. Thomas McLaughlin m. first to Annie Herrity, who died shortly after childbirth, and then Rose McClain. Any information on these families will be appreciated and exchanged for my findings. Valentine and Sara (Main) McLaughlin were my g-grandparents. Contact: *Harry A. Sheridan, 2661 Cypress Ave., Miramar, FL 33025, USA or e-mail Sherry-den@worldnet.att.net*

2792 **FRASER** Like to share information with descendants of Robert Fraser b. Logierait c. 1799, m. Isabella McDonald 1824 in St. George's Parish, Edinburgh. He was firstly a sedan chair operator then a "cowfeeder" (dairyman). Children all b. Edinburgh: Alexander b. 1826; Donald b. 1828; Margaret b. 1829; Grace b. 1830; William b. 1831; Isabella b. 1833; Robert b. 1834; Angus b. 1836; Janet b. 1837 and Catherine b. 1839. Robert (1834) was a sugar merchant in Glasgow and had a son, Robert G., b. 1865, d. 1922, who emigrated to Pennsylvania, USA and was owner of a dairy in Wynneswood. *Robert S. Fraser, 7426-118 A Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 1V5 or e-mail rsfras@planet.eon.net*

2793 **McLEAN** Donald McLean, J. P., factor to the Duke of Sutherland and Deputy Lieutenant of the County, b. c. 1848 Loftus, Cleveland, the son of Alexander McLean and Elizabeth Jackson. He m. Sarah MacRae 1875 at Muirtown, Inverness and had ten children. In 1885 he became a factor on the Sutherland estates and for many years resided at Rhives House, Golspie. His health was not good when he retired in 1912. For a while he resided in Bridge of Allan, then Edinburgh and finally at Hazelbank, 7 Broadstone Park, Inverness. Aged 68. he died 9 July 1915 at his son Donald's house at Drumie, Glenlivet and was buried Tomnahurich Cemetery, Inverness. Photograph sought. *Edward S. Flint, 24 South Beechwood, Edinburgh EH12 5YR, Scotland.*

2794 **CAVERS** I recently started a one name (surname) study of this surname, registered with the Guild of One Name Studies. I am gathering references to the Cavers surname from all over the world, in all time periods. Queries would be very welcome as well as additions to my already extensive collection of references. I would be particularly pleased to hear from anyone with a Cavers ancestor or relative in their family tree, however distant. *Mrs. Vivienne S. Dunstan, 1 Cupar Mills, Cupar, Fife KY15 5EH or e-mail viv.dunstan@one-name.org*

- 2795 **YOUNG/STEWART** Alexander Young, 8 Cowgate, parish of Greyfriars m. 1834 St. Cuthberts, Edinburgh, Rubina Milligan Stewart, Ponton Street (widow of John Stewart of Candlemaker Row), dau. of John Milligan. *Gray's 1833-34 Directory*: W. Young, grocer, 8 Cowgate. In 1841 Census, 8 Cowgate: Marion Young 50, John 18, George 15, Margaret 10, none b. Midlothian. Was W. Young, grocer in 1833, the husband of Marion and father of three children in 1841 census and how was Alexander who m. 1834 related? Need help to sort out these Youngs! According to George Grieve Young's death record, he was b. 13 Feb 1835 to Alexander and Rubina (Milligan) Young. When George was m. 1861 he listed Armadale as residence and his father's occupation as recorder for cemeteries. Where? *Barbara K. Tuck, 28 Ruhlig Court, Saginaw, Michigan 48602-5027.*
- 2796 **CRAIGIE/CAMERON** Rev. James Thomson Craigie m. Catherine Cameron 16 Aug 1859 Kilmarnock. Rev. James was born in Stirling 1825, son of Robert and Isabel Craigie, nee Taylor. James and Catherine had ten children: Mary; Robert; Isabel; James; Alexander 1866-1920; Catherine 1869; Janet 1871; John 1872; Flora 1874-1893 and my grandfather Donald Cameron 1876-1951. Catherine was the daughter of John Ban and Mary Cameron, b. 10 Jan 1834 at Kilmonivaig. Any information on ancestors or descendants to *Cameron Craigie, 27 St. Georges Road, Bury, Lancashire BL9 8JG, England.*
- 2797 **MACINTYRE** I am interested in tracing Donald Macintyre b. Rannoch (Fortingall?) 7 Oct 1845 and John Macintyre b. Rannoch? 1847, sons of Alexander Macintyre, shepherd, and Catherine McDonald. At 1851 Census they were living at Glenelg and at 1861 Census John and his family were living at Dunskey (south side of Loch Eil). In a letter from their brother, my grandfather, to my father in 1918, reference is made to his (my father's) uncles in New Zealand. Did Donald and John emigrate to New Zealand? Do any relations still in New Zealand recognise them? *Alasdair D. Macintyre, Ivy Tree Cottage, Pencaitland, East Lothian EH34 5DN, Scotland.*
- 2798 **SCOT(T)/TAYLOR/BUTTER/NICOLL/KELLY/SIM/McGREGOR** George Scot had a son David Scott b. 1731 in Templehall, Monifieth, Angus. David became a soldier in the 55th Regt. of Foot and m. Jean Taylor. Two children are known b. Lamerton, Monifieth: John b. 1777 and David b. 1778. John became a shoemaker m. Helen Butter and had a dau. Elizabeth Scott b. Shank, Monifieth 1800. Elizabeth m. William Fenton Nicoll, Mains, Dundee, Angus 1830 and had six children: William; John; David b. 1833, m. Catherine Kelly; Barbara 1835-1897 m. John Sim; Walter b. 1839 and Ann Fisher 1844-1922 m. James McGregor. Any information about the marriages and parentage of George Scot, Jean Taylor and Helen Butter plus any other facts about any of the above mentioned would be most gratefully received. *Alec McGregor, Valhalla, Wardhouse, Insch, Aberdeenshire AB52 6YG, Scotland.*
- 2799 **SWORD** John Sword m. Janet Lunn, dau. Walter and Betty m. s. Turnbull, at Ettrick 11 Dec 1801. Their children were Betty b.

- Roberton 1802; Margaret; John; Walter; James; Janet; William and Robert at Ettrick, 1804-1821. John d. at Ettrick House 1852 and Janet at Easter Ale Moor, Roberton in 1862. Information on ancestors/ descendants welcomed. *Robert MacGregor. P. O. Box 205, Yass, N. S. W., Australia 2582.*
- 2800 **ARDBLAIR** Would like information about and a photograph of Ardblair Castle, Blairgowrie, Perth, Scotland. Will gladly reimburse any reasonable expenses for the photograph and postage. *Edward P. Blair, 20 W. College Ave., Brownsburg, IN 46112-1253, USA or e-mail EPBlair@aol.com*
- 2801 **MAC GILLE CHONAILL** In my article "Mac Gille Chonails and the elusive Conall", Vol. XLIV, No. 1, March 1997, p. 28, I commented that "the statement by G. F. Black that the name represents the son of Donald's servant and that the family were patronimically Macruari has not so far been confirmed, either from the source given by Black or indeed from the most likely underpinning manuscript sources". The situation remains as stated above and I wonder if any reader may be able to throw some light on this matter. My attempts to access Black's original manuscript material have proved negative despite a sympathetic response from the New York Public Library where G. F. Black worked and produced his well known book. In "The Scots Peerage" in relation to Reginald son of Somerled it is suggested that at some time he was married to "Macrandel's daughter" who may have been a daughter of Ranulf son of Dunegal of Strathnith. The source for this information is referenced as "Collectanea de Rebus Albanicis, 288". I would be interested to know if any reader knows of further good evidence to either support or negate the occurrence of this marriage. *Dr. D. C. McWhannell, 8 Seaforth Road, Dundee DD5 1QH, Scotland.*
- 2802 **FYFE** Forfar, Angus. Looking for any information on Alexander Fyfe b. c. 1810, d. c. 1900, m. Isabella Milne, b. 23 Oct 1825, Forfar on 29 May 1842, Forfar. They had six children: Andrew Fyfe b. before the 1841 marriage d. c. 1923/4; Mary Ann Black Fyfe b. 21 May 1848 Forfar, Angus; Agnes Fyfe b. 22 Feb 1856; Alison Fyfe b. 2 Feb 1851, Forfar; Margaret Fyfe b. 13 Nov 1858 Forfar and Isabella Fyfe b. 5 Jan 1862 Forfar. Alexander was a general labourer. Isabella m. as Isobel. Andrew Fyfe was my 3 x grandfather. He m. twice, 4 Aug 1865 at 100 West High St., Forfar and 1905 Gorbals. First Madehine Thomson b. c. 1844, d. 2 Jan 1891 Forfar and second Kirsty Ross. Madehine and Andrew had ten children; John Fyfe b. 15 Dec 1865 Forfar; Mary Ann Fyfe b. 30 Oct 1867 Forfar; Alexander Fyfe b. 24 Aug 1869 Glamis, Angus; Catharine Mitchell Fyfe b. 15 Sept 1871 Forfar; Andrew Fyfe b. 16 Dec 1873 Dundee; Margaret Fyfe b. 13 Nov 1858 Forfar; David Fyfe b. 1877 Angus; Thomas Fyfe b. 18 Jan 1881 Forfar d. 9 Apr 1917 and Madahine Fyfe b. 26 Feb 1890 Forfar d. 12 Oct 1971 aged 80. *Mrs. Lorna E. Williams, 43 Church Drive, Mossblown, Ayrshire KA6 5AX, Scotland or e-mail clueless@globalnet.co.uk*

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

1. The objects of the Scottish Genealogy Society are:-
To promote research into Scottish Family History.
To undertake the collection, exchange and publication of information and material relating to Scottish Genealogy, by means of meetings, lectures, etc.
2. The Society consists of all duly elected Members whose subscriptions are fully paid. An Honorary President and up to four Honorary Vice-Presidents (who will be ex officio members of the Council) may be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
3. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council consisting of Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Editor, Honorary Librarian, ex officio Members, and not more than ten ordinary Members. A non-Council Member of the Society shall be appointed annually to examine the accounts.
4. Office Bearers, apart from the Hon. Treasurer shall be elected annually. The latter shall be appointed by the Council. Ordinary Members shall be elected for a period of three years and may be re-elected for a further three years, after which they shall not be re-elected until the lapse of one year. At meetings of the Council a quorum shall consist of not less than six members. The Council may appoint a Deputy Chairman from their members.
5. An Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on a date to be determined by the Council, at which Reports will be submitted. Nominations for new Office Bearers and Members of Council shall be in the hands of the Honorary Secretary at least one calendar month before the meeting, a nomination being signed by the Proposer, Seconder and Nominee.
6. Members shall receive one copy of each issue of The Scottish Genealogist, but these shall not be supplied to those subscribers who are in arrears.
7. Institutions may be elected to affiliate membership of the Society. The subscription payable by such affiliate members shall be fixed from time to time by the Council. Affiliate members shall be entitled to receive two copies of each issue of The Scottish Genealogist and their members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Society. They shall not, however, have any vote at meetings of the Society, nor shall they be eligible for election to membership of the Council.
8. The Council shall have power (in brief) to employ persons to carry on the work of the Society, to publish magazines and pamphlets, to appeal for funds, to hold property and raise money on security of it.
9. **Property**
The title to all property, heritable and moveable, which may be acquired by or on behalf of the Society shall be vested in the names of the Convener, Vice Convener (where appointed), the Secretary and Treasurer for the time being ex officio or in the names of the Trustees of a Trust established for that purpose.
10. No alteration of this Constitution shall be made except at an Annual General Meeting of the Society when a two-thirds majority of members present and voting will be required for an alteration to be passed.
11. **Dissolution**
If the main management of the Committee by a simple majority decide at any time that on the ground of expense or otherwise it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Society, it shall call a special general meeting of the Society, of which meeting not less than 21 days' notice (stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed thereat) shall be given. If such decision shall be confirmed by a two-third majority of those present and entitled to vote and voting at such meeting, the management committee shall have power to dispose of any assets held by or on behalf of the Society. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other charitable organisation or organisations having objects similar to the objects of the Society, as the management committee may determine.

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

Hon. President	Sir Malcolm Innes of Edingight, KCVO, WS Lord Lyon King of Arms
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Hon. Editor	Stuart E Fleming, FSA Scot. "The Learig", Kirkton of Balmerino, Fife DD6 8SA
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