



Using heirlooms, memorabilia and ephemera
to tell our stories

Glasgow & West of Scotland Family History Society Journal



Honorary President

Sir Thomas Devine Kt OBE FRHistS FRSE FBA

Honorary Vice-Presidents

Mrs Susan Miller, Mr Edward W Nairn, Mr James G Slavin,
Mrs Elizabeth D Smith, Mr John McCreadie

Council

Office Bearers

Scott Fairie	Chair
Jean Mackenzie	Vice Chair
Annette McGarill	Secretary
Elizabeth Anderson	Treasurer

Ex-Officio Members

Elizabeth D Smith	Membership Sec
Vacant	Publications Sec
Karen Hunter	Editor

Ordinary Members

Murray Archer	Minutes Sec
Sheila Cuthbertson	New Members' Co-ordinator

Edward W Nairn	
James Oakes	IT Support
John Urie	
Linda Emery	Librarian

Co-opted member

Lina Goldberg

Administrative Assistants

Robert Stewart	Members' Interests
Jean Mackenzie	Facebook
Diana Burns	Coordinators

The Journal

is published three times a year in March, June and October.

Articles are copyright of the Society and the authors and may not be reproduced without written permission of the Society. The Editor welcomes articles from members on condition that they are not submitted elsewhere.

Guidelines for contributors can be found on the website or by request from the Editor. Contributions should be emailed to editor@gwsfhs.org.uk

The Society does not accept responsibility for the views expressed by contributors. The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions.

Data Protection Act

The information we hold on members is for the purposes of membership as outlined in our Privacy Notice and Data Retention Policy. This can be found on the website in the members' area under governance.

We do not hold personal financial details on our website. Payments made via Stripe are maintained by third parties.

Welcome to Journal 129

This edition's theme of *Using heirlooms, memorabilia and ephemera to tell our stories*, has certainly generated some interesting articles. Members have written about samplers, building bricks, a diary, letters, statues, a portrait and a mourning brooch among other items, all of which have some special meaning for their owners. For some they bring back memories, or tell a wider story about their ancestors. Some have helped to resolve some previously unanswered questions, and some have taken the author down a rabbit hole of discovery.

If reading these articles leads you to wonder about one of the treasures hidden away among your family history boxes perhaps you might write an article about it for a future edition.

We also feature articles about some of the newer resources that can be accessed via the website, together with work being done by some of our volunteers to make information more readily available to our members.

And finally you will find details of our AGM which is to be held online on Monday 15 April and will be followed by our talk for the month, *Women in the Air Force*. There are vacancies on Council so if you are interested in becoming a Trustee or want to know more about what is involved please contact Annette McGarill, our Secretary at secretary@gwsfhs.org.uk.

Karen Hunter, Editor

Contents

Welcome to Journal 129	3
Contents	3
Chair's Blog	4
What got me interested in tracing my Family History?	5
Janet Anderson - sewing teacher	6
Isa's Little Red Book	8
A Portrait and a Brooch	13
The Letter	15
Highland Mary	20
Can anyone help?	21
A Sewing Box	22
Letters from Australia	23
My Auchinlea Bricks	25
McBroom - a One Name Study	27
Ephemera resources in the Library and on our web pages	30
Book Review	32
Letters and Queries	33
Themes for Future Journals	33
From the Editor	34
Obituary	34
Monumental Inscriptions	35
Indexing of Glasgow Parish Minutes, 1899-1902	39
Photo Collection	40
Exchange Journals	41
Annual General Meeting	42
Programme of Meetings	47

Chair's Blog

When you read this we will be well into the New Year, I hope you have all had success making progress with researches last year, and you have a healthy and successful 2024. Things are getting back to a bit more normality after all our lockdowns, we find the research centre is more active with visitors and special interest meetings, like our DNA group which meets in person every second Thursday at the Centre. Trying to run this as a hybrid meeting with people joining on Zoom has not proved very successful so far; maybe we will be able to extend from in-person meeting in the future. Global warming seems to have given us quite a mild winter so far, so we hope to see many of our members and visitors at the research centre, since weather is not an excuse. Whether it is to volunteer or dig into our records for your own research, we will be pleased to see you.

Our Family Search affiliate status which we were granted last year has opened up many new worldwide record sets to us. We are still discovering what information is hidden away in the scanned document sets, and learning their slightly idiosyncratic indexes. It is not only important for access to scans of all OPRs, Census and 1855-1875 certificates, but miscellaneous records from all over the world which are a mine of information. If you have experience with the FamilySearch site, or find, unusual or useful datasets, why not write a short help note as a finding aid to educate others.

Thanks to Murray Archer members will have seen additions to the Dataset tab

in the members' area. So far, we have uploaded approximately a quarter of our transcriptions and photographs of the Monumental Inscriptions for Tollcross Cemetery, Shettleston. We will upload the rest of them over the coming weeks as we index the names on the stones. This is the first of a series of datasets of Monumental Inscriptions that previously sold on CD or DVD. To learn more about this project see the article on Monumental Inscriptions on page 35.

Users who use the 'Search' on the website will have appreciated the work of Murray and Jean in coordinating the improvement in the speed of the search, particularly where the surname or place field is used. When specifying a date range you may notice unexpected returns, this occurs because many of our records have no start date.

For many years, the Society has exchanged journals with other societies around the world; these printed journals have been available to read at the research centre, now we have agreements to upload them so that all members around the world can view them online. There is more information about this on page 41 of this Journal.

I hope you enjoy another Journal packed full of articles expertly collated by our Editor Karen Hunter. Remember that she can only give you such a great offering when you share your knowledge and experiences by sending her articles, she will be pleased to receive submissions large or small, and illustrations are always nice to see.

Scott Fairie, Chair, 30

What got me interested in tracing my Family History?

First was a letter from Canada to my Uncle in Glasgow asking if they were related? He never replied. My father sent a letter back and one was received back. They were not related.

Lying in the open in our house when I was growing up was a Sgt Archibald URIE's dead man's penny and a Distinguished Conduct Medal. My father claimed the ANZAC medal (once I found out about it) as it had not been claimed and my dad also had the original scroll. As my Great Uncle Archibald URIE was listed as missing in the Australian Army the Australian Red Cross sent letters/enquiries to find out what happened to him. All the records are now on the Australian Red Cross web site. Lots and lots of papers. If you want to know more about him Google Sgt Archibald Urie ANZAC.

So those are some family heirlooms but not the one this story is about.

About 20 years ago just as the internet was starting I was heavily into genealogy and started a couple of URIE forums with Roots web. One day a message appeared and it said there was a URIE family tree sewing sampler for sale on an auction site. Well that set me going and after a lot of head scratching and searching I found a site named eBay and for sale was indeed a URIE Family Tree Sewing Sampler, with a picture of the sampler.

Fortunately I was sitting at my Amiga (before PC) as there at the top of the sampler was my ggg grandparents with

date of their marriage and below them all their children with dates of birth. Not all the children appear in the OPRs although I had found them in census previously. Below the names are two panels, one with a psalm and the other mentioned Mary URIE who sewed the sampler in 1832 and Mrs Hendry who helped her.



Who was Mrs Hendry you ask. That was a question I asked for many years and by chance I found a Mrs Hendry mentioned as running Rutherglen Post Office which is where the URIEs stayed.

The seller of the sampler was in USA and was a collector selling her items as her children did not want them. She had no family link with the sampler. The auction finished at 3am and yes I was awake and continually refreshing the page to ensure I was the highest bidder. Although it would

have taken someone a lot of money to out bid me which would not have happened.

Eventually the sampler arrived in the post well wrapped, which was good as it was still in its frame with a glass front. The postman rang our door and my wife answered and he asked for about £200 for tax etc before handing the parcel over. I was phoned at work and said 'just pay the man'. The customs declaration did not say it was an antique but a quick call to customs and giving them the web site they returned most of my money.

It is a bit faded, although the turkey red is still bright. I thought it's survived 200 years I would like it to survive a bit longer as it looked a bit grubby and fragile so I took the sampler to Hopetoun House to be conserved.

The conserved sampler is now hanging in my office where I see it every day.

John Urie

Janet Anderson - sewing teacher

Readers who subscribe to eNews will have seen a couple of items following some sampler coincidences. I had identified a free download of a book, Remember Now Thy Creator : Scottish Girls Samplers 1700-1872 by Naomi E.A. Tarrant at <http://bit.ly/OAE-books>, and used my own family sampler as an example. Some of the samplers illustrated were a similar style and also mentioned Janet Anderson as teacher. One of our members, Val Bindon, contacted me with an image of her own sampler: she had also noticed Mrs Anderson as teacher. Both of the sewers were twelve year old Glasgow

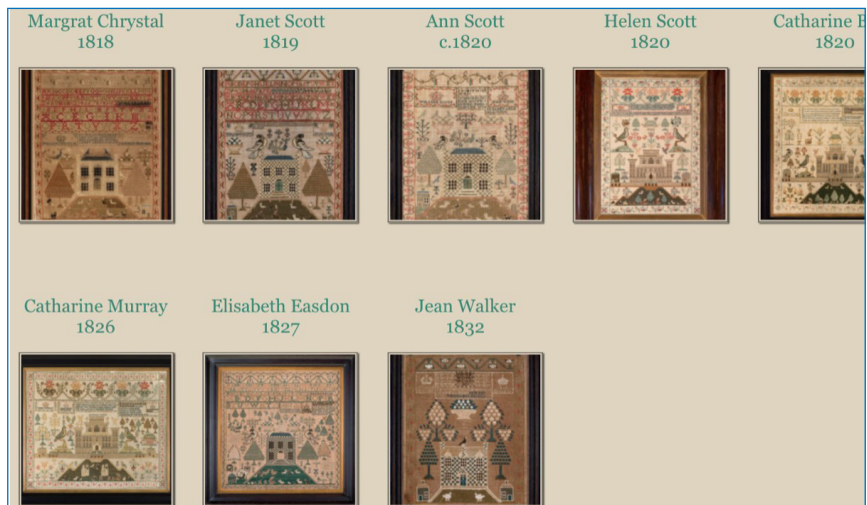
residents, who lived in Anderston/Barony/Glasgow, but neither of us can tie down addresses in the period.



Fairie Family Sampler © ScottFairie



Bindon Family Sampler © Val Bindon



Captured image from Antique Samplers website: <https://antiquesamplers.org>

While Googling, I identified a super website offering a collection of about 700 Sampler images worldwide at <https://antiquesamplers.org>. It requires free registration then offers options to select by sewer, teacher, geography. In the Scottish group I found eight more samplers in a group 'As taught by Janet Anderson'. [See a clip of the site above, all are similar in style to the previous.]

My sampler has eight pairs of initials for relatives, I can identify all but one of the grandmothers. Janet was obviously keen to have all her pupils record their relatives. Val's sampler, along with parents, records 15 pairs of initials – that's a great genealogical resource, even though only initials, it could confirm researched names.

I noticed that Janet is the teacher on early dated samplers, but by 1829 on our examples she is referred to as Mrs Anderson; there is only one Janet Anderson married in Glasgow 1827-29 to Robert Wright at 6/9/1829. I checked 20 possible Janet Anderson and Janet

Wright deaths, ruling out most of the Wright entries, but no female death entries show occupation, so this was an unprovable hypothesis! In the supporting notes on antiquesamplers for Janet Anderson, it mentions an 1825 directory reference to an Academy run by Janet – however I have not been able to identify this or where the school was located. If any reader spots any other connections I would be pleased to hear.

J. Scott Fairie (30)

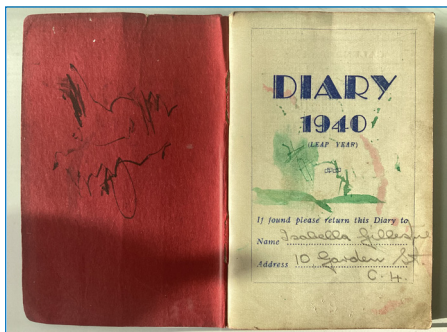
Editor: I wonder how many of our members have family samplers hanging on their walls, or hidden away in the attic? They can clearly be a great means of helping in our family history research efforts.

Co-incidentally, as I was collating these articles for the Journal an email popped up from How-to History that I am subscribed to, highlighting a blog all about Samplers. To read it just follow this link: <https://howtohistory.substack.com/>

Isa's Little Red Book

A Young Woman's Wartime Diary

We will all have our own ideas what a diary written in 1940 will contain. You would probably assume that the Second World War would be included, and is, in this diary. However, other aspects of working class life are also an interesting part of its contents. As well as a picture of Glasgow during the Second World War, Isa's diary is a fascinating snapshot of working class life in the city - family life, politics, holidays 'doon the water' and time spent at the family hut in Carbeth, love life, cinema, the effect of the war on one family - it's all there in a wee 5 inch week to week diary.



There's an entry for every day of the year and that's something most of us never achieve. My own experiences of aiming, on the 1st January, to write a diary is that the enthusiasm wanes after a few weeks, and the optimism that I would achieve this goal just evaporates. So, thank you Isa for giving us such an insight in to your life.

It was when my mother, Mamie, passed away in December 1996 and my sister

Belle and I were clearing our mother's house in Cumbernauld that we came across this little red diary. My mother often spoke fondly about her younger sister, but we still had a lot to learn about Isa and that's just what the diary achieved. Initially we thought it would just be about family matters, but we soon realised it was going to be QUITE special. At that point we stopped clearing the house and sat down to read it. It did mention day to day life but also so many other interesting things.

Isa was diagnosed with cancer in 1940 and sadly passed away in December 1941, two months after my sister was born, which is why we didn't know all that much about her. Unfortunately my mother never said she had this diary. Maybe she never recovered from losing Isa and would have found it difficult to talk about.

We were aware that Isa had died young which, obviously, had its impact on us reading it. While Belle and I were reading bits of the diary to each other there was a lot of "you'll need to listen to this" or "Oh no, she's fallen out with Charlie again" Everyone who read the diary was caught up in this on/off romance. Even while my husband, Geoff, was reading the diary he kept stopping to ask if they did finally get together. Isa mentions small things like staying in to wash her hair. No hair dryers or central heating in those days. We could laugh and relate to it. That ritual carried on into our youth.

When we found the diary there was also a newspaper cutting which was an obituary in memory of Isa. She was a Communist from a very early age and this obituary was printed by the Daily Worker

OBITUARY 29 December 1941

*Heroine of "Daily Worker"
Distribution*

Last week our Party lost a young comrade whose name will always be remembered for her devotion and service to the "Scottish Daily Worker" in the untimely passing of Isa Gillespie, 23 year old young Communist from Townhead. Isa was buried at Lambhill Cemetery on the last day of the year.

She joined the Movement as a young lass of 13 years, entering the then Children's organisation - the Pioneers. She kept a close interest in the YCL and Party for ten years but her pride and joy was the "Scottish Daily Worker". From August, 1940, she worked on the paper as a distributor taking over the place of her brother George, who had been called to the Army. In the diary Isa left behind many references can be found to the Scottish Edition. On Monday, November 11 1940, the entry reads "First out this morning at 3.30am". On the day the paper was banned Isa turned up with the other agents, took a supply of the protest leaflets hurriedly run off during the night. Later that day she went to the Infirmary where they discovered that she was suffering from an internal malignant disease. She never recovered from the illness. With her usual cheerfulness and quiet modesty she had carried out the distribution of the paper during the long winter of 1940 without a complaint although she must have been suffering badly. Her parents

and family have lost a grand daughter and sister. The Movement has lost a young and splendid comrade. Bob McIlhone extended the condolences of the Party and the staff of the "Daily Worker" to the family at the graveside.

The entry in the diary for 11 November actually reads: *The first Scottish edition of the DW was printed today in Glasgow*

There is no mention in the diary about going to the Infirmary or the diagnosis. If we didn't have this obituary we would not have been aware she was ill.

I still find this obituary very moving.

I'll return to her involvement in the Party shortly.

In 1940 Isa lived in a tenement at 10 Garden Street, Townhead, Glasgow. The area was demolished around the late 1960s and is now the University of Strathclyde campus. Taylor Street, which was just around the corner, is still there in name only. My parents moved in to the house sometime in 1941 perhaps because Isa was ill and their mother also needed support. Belle and I were brought up in that house and, recently, it dawned on me that all the time I lived there Isa's diary would have been in a drawer or cupboard in the house. Thankfully it didn't get lost when my parents moved to Springburn then to Cumbernauld.

When I mentioned this diary to a friend some time ago she thought it would be really interesting to see what a 21 year old found to do in 1940 - a challenging time. So, what did Isabella Gillespie find to do in 1940? For a start she found the time and inclination to have an entry in pencil in her diary every day of the

year. It's impossible to write something profound every day but, when you read the whole diary, it gives a fascinating snapshot of Britain in 1940.



Thanks to the obituary by the Daily Worker we discovered a lot about Isa's long time involvement with the Party. A quote by a friend who read the obituary recently:

Isa sounds like a remarkable young woman. I can't think of many 13-year-olds who would have the self-awareness to join a political party and be so dedicated to it.

She loved spending time at the family's hut (built by her brother Alex) in Carbeth but she mentions leaving there early to go back to Glasgow to sell Daily Workers or attend a meeting.

An example of her involvement was the first week in May. Mentioning the traditional May Day marches then information about the end of the phoney war and the start of the real conflict.

Wednesday 1 May: May Day demo. Marched to St Andrews Halls. Gallacher spoke. (Willie Gallacher, a founding member of the Communist Party of Great Britain).

Sunday 5: May Day. Marched to the Green (Glasgow Green). We went to a concert at night

Thursday 9 May: A proclamation was made today calling up men from 19-36

Friday 10 May: Germany invaded Holland and Belgium today. Fighting has started on the Western Front

Quite a week.

She first mentions the war in early January

A proclamation was made on Sunday calling up all men between the ages of 20-28. This will affect George.

The war isn't mentioned again till 9 April :

At last the war seems to have started. Hitler invaded Norway & Denmark.

Her dedication went so far as staying in for several nights in December to finish knitting a jumper for the Daily Worker's Christmas bazaar.

She does mention in the diary on 11 January that she joined the Party. I presume that was because she was now 21 and an adult.

Throughout the year she often writes quite concernedly about what is happening in the war and, in particular, London and Europe. Later in the year she writes about the Coventry Blitz in November and, by then, the bombing of Glasgow.

W/e 22 June: Italy has now declared war on Britain and France. All Italians interned.

W/e 29 June: France has capitulated to the enemy. Britain fights alone.

17th August - London was bombed. Also civilians were machine-gunned from the air

14th Nov: Coventry heavily bombed. Round about 2,000 casualties

By September Glasgow was being bombed and air raid alarms even going off in the cinema.

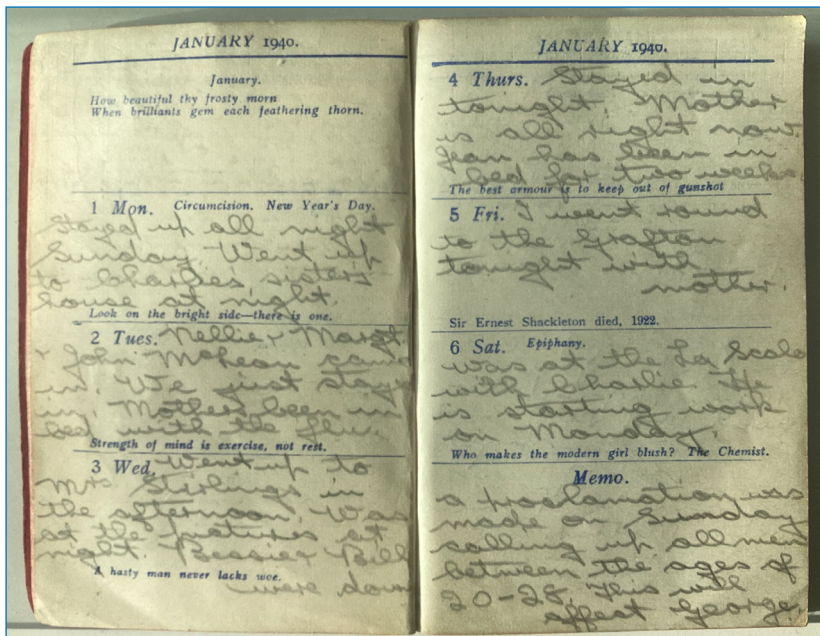
She said

People starting to get the 'jitters'.

20 Dec: - The bombers were over Glasgow tonight and dropped their load on Carntyne and Dennistoun.

Even with all this going on Isa still managed to go to the cinema two or

three times a week. She usually went with her sisters, cousins or with Charlie. Townhead was very handy for lots of cinemas. three or four in Townhead, and others a short tram ride to Springburn or Dennistoun. The major cinemas in the centre of Glasgow were only a short walk from the house. So, the Gillespie family took advantage of the choice of cinemas. The cinemas Isa went to were the Princes in Springburn, the Argyle and the La Scala. She went to see the films of all the popular film stars of the time. John Garfield, Deanna Durbin, Paul Muni, Bette Davis, Joan Crawford, Alice Faye and Don Ameche. A special mention must be made of the memorable night of 13 November when she went with her mother to the Parade in Dennistoun. 'We saw 'Rebecca'. Laurence Olivier is my new hero'. Wartime, or not, the heart-throbs of the silver screen and, some great films, could still help people switch



off from the harsh reality of life in 1940 for a short time.

If Isa wasn't at the cinema, going to the hut, attending Party meetings, visiting friends and family or writing the diary she would be off to the dancing at Drymen, usually with Charlie.

Reading the diary for the first time was like reading a book/seeing a film and getting wrapped up in the characters so much you don't want it to end. In this case the principal character – Isa Gillespie.

In some ways this article reads like the start of a film or novel. Find a diary you didn't know existed, written by an aunt you never knew, learn so much about her and, by the end of the diary are proud of her and sorry that you never did know her. The Daily Worker's obituary spoke highly of Isa – her cheerfulness and quiet modesty. Anyone who read the diary warmed to Isa. She had her serious political views but was also full of fun and a lot of entries in the diary that made me laugh. For instance, she started work in February at the St Enoch's Tearooms as a shop assistant. In June she was told not to take her half-day. She took it.

Next day went down to the shop and she gave me my books.

Isa's reaction? Not sorry that she'd lost her job but

Hurrah, I'll get to Ayr now

The family had booked a house in Ayr for a few weeks and she'd have missed it. She does seem quite a carefree person and mentions that, at Carbeth, she was climbing trees and

I can go the bike down the hills.

Good for her!

I couldn't help but warm to her when she wrote

28 June: Bessie and Bill down. We played at Banker and I skint the school

29 June: Took Mamie and Bessie to the Princes with last night's winnings.

How could you not warm to such a funny and kind soul.

It is really sad that my sister and I, our cousins and our families didn't know Isa. She wrote a diary not realising that it would, one day, let her nieces and nephews find out what a lovely person she was. What would she have been like if she was 21 now? Probably out leading climate change demos and other causes she thought were worth fighting for.

My parents got engaged in October 1940 and were married on Hogmanay and that's where the diary finishes. A Hollywood ending. Entry for Isa's diary on 31 December:

Mamie was married today. I was best maid. We had a swell party at night.

MoirA Aherne, 11339

Editor: What an amazing heirloom to treasure, which tells a very personal story and gives a very direct insight into Isa's life during 1940.

MoirA has advised me that facsimile copies of the diary are being lodged with North Lanarkshire Archives, the Caledonian University Communist Party Archives and The Mitchell Library if you are interested in reading it in more detail and can get to one of these places.

A Portrait and a Brooch

When I was little, in late 40s Scotstoun, a gloomy old oil painting of a stern woman in black haunted a dark recess under the stairs of my Great-aunt's house. I was terrified of the portrait. When I had to go to the toilet, located upstairs on the landing, the painted woman would scowl at me out of the gloom.

When my Great-aunt passed away, I was devastated – partly because this frightening painting arrived in our family home. I would avoid looking at her. My Dad gave her the title 'Granny Grey Hips'. She was commented on by visitors and my children over the years.

Whilst I started life in Glasgow, due to 80s economics, I relocated with my own family to Hitchin, Hertfordshire. In the 90s, my own mother passed away. Eventually, my father relocated to be nearer to us. His move and the downsizing of his accommodation resulted in my being gifted various ephemera and family heirlooms.

My maternal Grandmother had died in childbirth (1919). As a result, my mother grew up with her Victorian Grandmother and much older cousins. With the disruption of war, little knowledge of the family was passed on. Melancholic, my mother kept family photographs in a special marquetry box. From time to time, she would sit me next to her and show them to me. I was so young that I only half remember who they were – coupled with the terrifying portrait, the box represented a morbid collection

of dead people. Also as a child, I recall being dressed in kilts bearing the colours of clans – MacIntyre, Stewart and Robertson. I never understood this. Those clan names were unrecognisable. No one in my immediate family carried those names, including myself.

Come the 1990s, with family heirlooms now displayed properly around my new house – the objects presented as unexplained clues to forgotten ancestors. I honoured Granny Grey Hips by displaying her in the 'front room' of our Victorian terrace, ready to terrify my own children and guests. At the time, I was teaching in a local Primary School. I used family heirlooms as visual aids for teaching history. The pupils and I would join re-enactment days at the British Schools Museum. I often wore a Victorian brooch, which my mother said had belonged to her Great Grand Mother. A brass frame surrounding a beautifully curled lock of brown hair set tightly into a glass mount. I came to realise that it was a mourning brooch containing the hair of a deceased loved-one.



One day, I was standing in front of Granny Grey Hips. The portrait is oval with a subtle ornate wooden frame touched with gold. Delicate agapanthus leaves

edge the frame. The subject is dressed in black wearing a Granny Mutch bonnet dotted with violets. With her pursed lips, she stares uncompromisingly out on the world. At her collar is painted a gold brooch containing a swirl of brown. I was astounded. The brooch in my hand which I'd been wearing, matched the brooch in the portrait. Thereafter, the brooch sat as a treasure in a bijoux table under the portrait – carefully reuniting the two objects. The archivist for the British Schools Museum spent time in our school premises. I sent her photograph of the portrait. She suggested contacting the National Portrait Gallery (NPG) in London. After some communications, the NPG dated the painting to circa 1860.



Post-millennium, I retired from teaching. I keenly wanted to know Granny Grey Hips' actual name and the origin of the lock of hair in the brooch. All I knew was that all the men on my mother's side were called William Cane. Once I had time to

start researching, I got to work through Ancestry and Kew to find her husband.

The Ephemera – the portrait and brooch – have led to years of research, archive visiting, graveyard exploring, interesting conversations and coincidences. I came to learn that the portrait shows Christina (varied) MacIntyre. Her first husband Private William R Cane served in the 12th Foot 2nd Battalion. When the troops were based in Aldershot, William and Christina married in Farnham in 1860 before being repositioned in Plymouth. There, my Great-grandfather, William Ruben Cane II was born near the Barbican in Castle Street. Later, following health issues, likely as a result of poor military conditions, Christina's husband became unfit for duty. They requested to be sent to Glasgow where he sadly passed away in 1864. Their timeline fits with the feedback from the National Portrait Gallery. I believe the mourning portrait and lock of hair is linked to William R Cane I – Christina's first husband.

The economics of her era forced Mrs Cane (née MacIntyre) to re-marry. During a few years of her widowhood, she seems to have been the laundress at 6 Park Terrace, Glasgow. In 1872 Christina became Mrs Robertson. I was delighted to discover, Granny Robertson, Granny Grey Hips and mentions of Great-grandmothers were all the same person. I understood why I was made to wear MacIntyre, Stewart and Robertson kilts as a little girl. I am connected to all through my maternal line.

The woman in black now has her proper name.

Christina MacIntyre may have grown up speaking Gaelic because, according to

her census in later years, she gave Appin, Argyle as her birthplace. She could not sign her name at her first wedding. She probably lived in Appin during the famine years. With her father dying before 1860, she may have been put into service. The mystery remains however as to how she met her soldier of the 12th Foot. He was based at Fort George for a few months in the winter of 1858/59. She was in Appin. They were both born around 1841. A small item in a newspaper mentions the poor of Campbeltown, missing the 12th when they left for Glasgow, Ayr, then Plymouth. Was she in Campbeltown as one of the poor or did the 12th visit other areas during this time?

Whilst sadly I cannot share this with my own mother, my children have since embraced the family story. The scary, mourning portrait and its associated morbid brooch are now beloved. Christina MacIntyre, is a family icon, proudly representing the strength and resilience of our Scottish ancestry.

Joyce Campbell, 10419

Editor: To me this article illustrates how important the stories behind the heirlooms and ephemera that we sometime accumulate is so important. It helps us make sense of them; it sets the items in context and can sometimes give them a real value such that we want to share them with others, rather than be put off by the image.

I wonder how many of us have portraits of our ancestors, either hanging on the wall or perhaps tucked away in boxes, which we could use to further enhance the stories of those individuals. I know I have some which I need to dig out and do some more research on.

The Letter

I had to review a letter written in 1984 from Aunt Irene, my Dad's sister, which led me to ask more questions than the letter answered. This is a small portion of what she wrote:

"...As for my ancestors, I know little more than your Dad. My mother and Grandfather never talked about them. My Grandmother did on rare occasions. Our mother and father were only children, having no brothers and sisters. So Bob and I have no cousins.

My Grandmother said my father's father owned a General store and was well off. He disowned my father when they (her mother and father) got divorced. She never said where he was from or anything..."

I will stop and give you the back story to the above letter. I am one of four daughters of William Robert Edward Macara. William was born in Chicago, Illinois, USA, in 1922, the son of William Findlay Morrison Macara and Lena Edward Macara, both from Scotland. They immigrated to the United States in 1920 on separate dates. Lena later came with her newborn daughter Irene Macara. Life together for William and Lena was not meant to be; they divorced when my father was two.

Eight years later, in 1932, Lena remarried and left Chicago for Pittsburgh, taking her two children. Lena died young in 1936, just two weeks before her father, Robert Edward, died. William and Irene went to live with a guardian, Irene's co-worker. My father lost contact with his father (William F.M. Macara) and grandmother

(Elizabeth Ford Edward). Or so I thought, until my Dad received a letter from his father's family stating his father had passed in 1965. To my surprise, we had another grandfather.



Photograph found in William Findlay Morrison Macara's collection: standing left to right back row Robert Edward, Elizabeth (Ford) Edward, middle William Robert Edward Macara, Irene Macara; sitting Unknown, William Findlay Morrison Macara, Lena (Edward) Macara, Unknown, and Unknown. Chicago abt 1924.

This sparked my interest in genealogy, but I never took the time to research my father's family until later in life. My Dad always said,

"To live for the future. Don't look back. You will find only horse thieves."

I want to look back to find the stories that were never told.

In 2011, I began my journey in genealogy research, finding a transcript for the 1901 Census for William Finlay (Findlay) Morrison Macara (Sr), my great-grandfather. He lives in the same home listed on William F. M. Macara Jr's WWI military papers, 81 Gloucester, Glasgow, Scotland. The head of the household was William Macara (my 2nd great grandfather), William (Sr) was the son, and William was the grandson. What caught my attention was that Annie Macara was listed as granddaughter. Was

Annie the child of a brother of William Sr? After all, Irene said, *"William Jr was an only child."* [Ref: 1901 Macara, Annie (Census 644/13 24/ 3) page 3 of 31©Crown copyright, National Records of Scotland.]

Another page in Aunt Irene's letter states the following about her father, William Findlay Morrison Macara, Jr.:

"My father all I know about him was he was an accountant. He was a captain in the British Army; he belonged to the 18th Highland Light Infantry, and he was quite heroic. Twice recommended for Britain's highest honor. My grandmother said to receive it, you had to be recommended three times. You are right about his name only it is Morrison, not Morris. I assume they were his family names."

In 2013, William's military records were found with the aid of Fourteeneighteen/Research. [<https://www.fourteeneighteen.co.uk/>] These records are now available online at the nationalarchives.gov.uk. While on leave from serving his county, in February 1919, he married Lena Ford Edward in Glasgow. William Jr embarked for the United States soon after WWI.

Researching further, I did find one more document with William Jr listed on a 1919 Electoral registry for the burgh of Glasgow. He was listed as absent (military service), and Annie was listed with an E letter, which means she was limited to which elections she could participate in at age 26. Jeanie, his Aunt, and William, his Dad, were also listed under the address of 81 Gloucester. [Ref: William Macara, 1919 Electoral Register 1857-1962 burgh of Glasgow, www.ancestry.com]

He was not listed on any more documents from Scotland. What are the chances of finding William Jr listed in William Sr's will when his Dad, according to Aunt Irene's letter, 'disowned him'?

Within the last five years, I had time to do more research. I could purchase credits from scotlandspeople.gov.uk to obtain the current digitized documents allowed by the National Records of Scotland. The first document I found was the 1911 Census for William Macara. This time, Annie is listed as age 17, daughter, and a "Clerkess" for an umbrella manufacturer. Daughter? Sister? Possible Cousins! [Ref: 1911 Macara, William F (Census 644/ 17 49/ 11) page 11 of 30 National Records of Scotland]

While searching records for William and Rebecca Macara, I found a 1910 Testament for Rebecca Macara. Rebecca's testament directs her daughter Jeanie Macara as her "Nominee and Executor". And Rebecca goes on to state the following:

"Whereof these presents are subscribed by me at Glasgow on the fourth day of October Nineteen hundred and ten before these witnesses William Findlay Macara, Law Apprentice, and Annie Macara, Clerk, both residing at Eighty-one Gloucester Street, Glasgow."

[Ref: 1910 MacAra, Rebecca (Wills and testaments Reference SC36/51/153, Glasgow Sheriff Court Wills) page 783. National Records of Scotland]

The document was signed by Rebecca Macara, William F. Macara, Witness, and Annie Macara, Witness. William and Annie were Rebecca's grandchildren.

As my search continued for William Findlay Morrison Macara Sr, my great-grandfather, I went back to ScotlandsPeople and did another search for William with his birth date. A death record appeared. What a find, it read:

William Finlay Morrison Macara, ledger clerk (retired) widow of Elizabeth Gray, he died 1952 February twenty-seventh at 7th h 15 m PM, male, age 80 years, father William Macara, commercial Traveller (deceased), mother Rebecca Macara M.S. (maiden name) Morrison (deceased) cause of death:

Gastric Carcinoma, Arteriosclerosis, and myocarditis, informant Annie McIntyre, daughter, 24 Gordon Drive, Netherlee, Renfrewshire. Daughter!

[Ref: 1952 Macara, William Finlay (Statutory registers Deaths 644//18 255) National Records of Scotland]

My thoughts drifted to Elizabeth Hay Gray Macara, my great-grandmother, listed as William Jr's mother on his birth certificate. Why could I not find Annie's birth certificate? What happens to his or their mother? In previous online search results, I found the following documentation for Elizabeth's family:

1. Scotland Marriages 1561-1910, familysearch.org film number 6035516 batch number 11501-1 **William Gray and Ann Irvine, marriage 03 May 1870**, location Old Kilpatrick Dunbarton Scotland

2. Scotland Births 1564- 1950, familysearch.org, film no. 6035516, **Mary Thomson Gray, daughter, born 06 Dec 1871**, Old Kilpatrick Dunbarton

Scotland, father William Gray and mother, Ann Irvine.

3. Scotland Births 1564- 1950, familysearch.org, film no. 6035516, **Elizabeth Hay Gray, daughter born 19 Feb 1873**, Bridgeton, Glasgow, Lanark Scotland, father William Gray, mother Ann Irvine.

4. 1881 Scotland Census, National Records of Scotland, scotlandspeople.uk.gov 646/1 21/ 40 page 40 of 50, **William Gray listing his wife Ann, William son, Mary and Elizabeth daughters and Mary Irvine mother in law, widow.**

5. 1891 Statutory Registers Marriages 636/1 77, National Records of Scotland, scotlandspeople.gov.uk **William F. M. Macara and Elizabeth H. Gray married on 28 August 1891.**

[Ref: 1891 Macara, William F M (Statutory registers Marriages 646/ 1 77) National Records of Scotland]

The Marriage Register lists William Sr.'s parents as William Macara and Rebecca Macara, M.S. Morrison. Elizabeth's parents are William Gray, Engineer Clerk, and Ann Gray, M.S. Irvine. Everything matches so far.

On ScotlandsPeople, I typed in Elizabeth's parents, and her first name only, and her death record was found, read as:

Elizabeth Macara married William Macara, Mercantile Clerk, died May 29, 1898, in Dundas Street, Glasgow, female, age 25 years, parents William Gray, Ironwork timekeeper, and Annie Gray, M.S. Irvine.

Her cause of death was Spinal Caries; the informant is William Macara, widower.

[Ref: 1898 Macara, Elizabeth (Statutory registers Deaths 644/13 188) National Records of Scotland]

Wow, why did she die so young, and what is Spinal Caries?

Back to finding Annie Irvine Macara in ScotlandsPeople. I found a marriage record for Annie S. Macara and Archibald McIntyre in 1919. The problem is that as soon as you hit the view button for the document, you lose your credits, whether you have the right person or not. I held my breath and hit the view button. Wow, success. Annie S. Macara was Annie I. Macara. Her parents are William Findlay Macara, a mercantile clerk, and Elizabeth Hay Macara, M.S. Gray (deceased). She was married to Archibald McIntyre on 20 Nov 1919. Annie was 26 years old and living at 81 Gloucester Street, Glasgow, the same address as her brother and Dad.

[Ref: 1919 McIntyre, Archibald (Statutory registers Marriages 644/10/ 3281) National Records of Scotland]

I may have been looking at the wrong birth year; as per ancestry.com records, she was born in 1894, but according to this record, I should try 1893.

I had another successful find on ScotlandsPeople:

Annie Irvine Macara, born 16 September 1893, 48 Dundas Street, Tradeston, Glasgow, Scotland. The parents are William Findlay Morrison Macara, Tube work clerk, and Elizabeth Hay Macara, M.S. Gray.

[Ref: 1893 Macara, Annie Irvine (Statutory registers Births 644/ 13 655) National Records of Scotland]

The record also listed William and Elizabeth's marriage as 28 August 1891, a match to the marriage record found earlier. The father, William F. M. Macara, was the informant. Another hint I have the right parents for Elizabeth is their daughter Annie was named after her grandmother Annie Irvine, as shown in the 1891 census. The name Annie is spelled "Anne" or "Ann", in her grandmother's documents.



Unknown photo, found in William F M Macara Jr. 1919 album, possibly his father, William F M Macara Sr.

Did Archibald and Annie (Macara) McIntyre have children? Annie was alive in 1952 when her father passed. However, online documents become scarce for newer records as privacy becomes an issue.

Since Aunt Irene and my Dad did not know they had an Aunt, maybe they had cousins.

ScotlandsPeople announced the release of the 1921 census this year, but my research has not given me the expected result for some unknown reason. I will keep trying. A trip to Glasgow is on the to-do list.

By the way, to date, I have not found the family horse thief!

Diane George, 11336

Editor: For those wondering what Spinal Caries are, as Diane did, she researched this topic and has provided me with a detailed document covering her findings. It is too long to include here in full but the following excerpt may help.

Tuberculosis can manifest in the skeletal system when spinal involvement occurs; it is known as Spinal Caries or Pott's disease. This form of tuberculosis affects the spine by attacking the spaces between the individual vertebrae and leading to the collapse of the spinal column, causing an angular curvature of the spine and calcified abscesses of soft tissue. The compression of the spine can cause paraplegia or neurological disorders depending on the location of the vertebrae and the number involved. Early signs included tiredness, weight loss, indigestion, back pain radiating down both legs, usually worse at night and with activity, lumbar spinal tenderness, and elevated white count.

Sourced by Diane from Tuberculosis Early Discovery, Early Recovery, World Tuberculosis Day 2016 by Northumberland Archives, <https://www.northumberlandarchives.com/tag/potts-disease/> accessed 2020.

Given the rates of tuberculosis in the UK at the time of Elizabeth Macara's death in 1898 this was likely to be a common cause of death but it is now rare in this country [incidence rate of 8.4 per 100,000 population] but in other parts of the world it represents about 50% of musculoskeletal TB. [Ref: <https://patient.info/doctor/spinal-tuberculosis#ref-4>]

Highland Mary

In 1948, my mother, Edith, a single woman, emigrated to New Zealand.

When she left her employment in Aberdeenshire, her employer gave her two parian ware statues. Each statue is just under 40cm tall. Unable to take the statues on her journey to New Zealand, Edith gave them to a favourite aunt, Elsie. Actually, Elsie was a great-aunt, but that is another story!

Edith never returned to Scotland, not even to visit. She told me that it would be too distressing for her to say goodbye to her family, knowing that it was probably the last time that she would be with them. When she emigrated, Edith told them that she would stay in New Zealand for two years, the minimum stay required by the New Zealand Government for assisted emigrants.

In 1996, I decided to take a mid-career break, enrolling for a Masters degree at the University of Edinburgh. One of my mother's cousins, Beatrice, and her husband were kind enough to allow me to use their home in Aberdeen as my base in Scotland. One day, when I visited them, they told me that they had something that belonged to me – the statues! Elsie insisted that she was looking after the statues for my mother, and so I had inherited them.

I have the statues on display in my house. They remind me that Edith had part of her life here in Scotland before emigration and years before I was born. Her continuous correspondence with her aunts and cousins here, and her instructions to me to “*write to your cousin in Scotland*” when it was a boring wet

weekend, ensured that I was accepted into the family.



Years ago, I took the statues to the experts at an episode of the television programme *Flog it!*, being filmed in the Merchant Square in Glasgow, not intending to sell the statues, but asking the experts to describe them. They told me that they were parian ware statues, popular in the Victorian era. They were able to identify the statue embossed *Art Union of Great Britain* as a reproduction of a marble statue of Highland Mary. Highland Mary was Mary Campbell, possibly once betrothed to Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns. They were unable to identify the other parian ware statue.

Other statues of Highland Mary

An original marble version of Highland Mary by Benjamin Edward Spence (1822-1866) is at the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool. Their catalogue estimates that it was carved in about 1852.

Another version is in Sefton Park, Mersyside. The caption states that Mary Campbell died in childbirth shortly after

her betrothal to Robert Burns, which is disputed. It is more likely that she died of typhus contracted when she was nursing her sick brother. The catalogue estimates that this statue was carved in about 1854. It is attributed to Benjamin Edward Spence (1822-1866) and it is Grade II* listed.



Highland Mary by Benjamin Edward Spence (1822-1866), photo credit: Walker Art Gallery, licensed under CC BY-NC.

See <https://artuk.org/discover/artworks/highland-mary-288015>



Highland Mary, photo credit: Martin Henderson / Art UK, licensed under CC BY-NC.

See <https://artuk.org/discover/artworks/highland-mary-315324>

Murray Archer, 4316

Can anyone help?

We have been contacted by a History teacher at a secondary school in Vught, a town in the south of the Netherlands who is seeking information and a photograph of a soldier killed in the town during WW2. He tells us:

On 26 October 1944, Vilmo Savelli was killed in Vught, probably as a driver of a jeep he was hit by a German bullet. He was a soldier of the 7th Black Watch, 51st Highland Division, 14273036, and is now buried next to three other British soldiers who fell at Vught.

In Vught there are four CWGC graves of British soldiers, including Vilmo Savelli. I have already traced a photo of two of the soldiers. They were two school friends from Bamford who died together with another British soldier when their Sherman tank was disabled. With my students I want to adopt the four graves to commemorate them every year on the 26 October.

As for Vilmo, I found some details about him on the ScotlandsPeople website. He was born in December 1921 in the Govan area of Glasgow to Vittorio and Vittoria Savelli, who had emigrated from Italy in 1914. There were other siblings too, including a sister Iolanda/Yolanda.

If you know anything about this family or perhaps know someone who might, please contact Dirk Paagman directly on D.Paagman@maurickcollege.nl

A Sewing Box



Sewing Box - © 2024 Jean McKenzie

This marquetry sewing box belonged to my great-grandmother Janet Tod DAVIS who was working as a maid in Wilton Crescent, Kelvinbridge by 1881. It belonged originally to her employer Mrs Pettigrew who gave this expensive item to Jessie when she married blacksmith Angus BEAN in 1894. They named their first child Annie Pettigrew Bean after her employer's daughter.



Janet Tod DAVIS Bean 1860-1946 - about 1910 © 2024: Jean McKenzie

According to family stories, Mrs Pettigrew taught Jessie to read and write, which is a sad reflection on the Davis family in Ardrossan where the father Alexander was a ship's carpenter. Jessie was the third of 11 surviving children and two of her sisters had illegitimate children. Her parents died of 'excess of alcohol' and liver cancer which may indicate other problems too.

Before becoming a maid, Jessie had worked at home as a sewer and continued to make lace items all her life; a few examples can be seen in the image below.



Examples of lace made by Janet Tod BEAN © 2024: Jean McKenzie

Jean Mackenzie, 6966

Editor: What Jean hasn't told us is if she has inherited a talent for lacemaking and/or dressmaking from her great-grandmother! Such skills would almost certainly have been passed down from mother to daughter, particularly when more people were engaged in trades of tailoring and dressmaking or were making their own clothes. However, far fewer of us are doing that now so the chances are those skills are being lost, unless perhaps you have been bitten by the 'Great British Sewing Bee' bug!

Letters from Australia

Riffling through a section of memorabilia and ephemera inside an old, battered leather suitcase embossed with the family name (Hunter) I found two handwritten letters which had been sent from Australia. You might think this is nothing too significant, but the letter writer was John Knox, the adoptive father of my husband's great grandfather, James Davis Knox. Our understanding before we discovered these letters was that John Knox and his two adopted sons, James as mentioned and James Albert Knox, were glaziers in Glasgow, and had been from some time. So why, in 1889 and 1890, was John writing letters from Australia to his son. And so our attempt to work out the puzzle began.

The letters themselves were relatively easy to read and the first thing I did was transcribe them. Then we had the task of working through them in an attempt to see what we could glean.

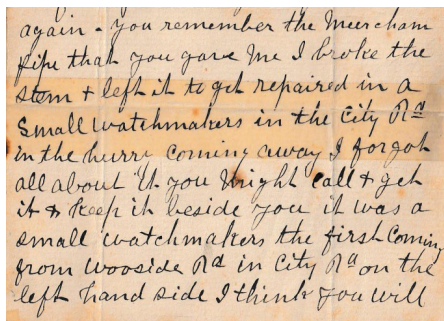
Overall they were 'newsy' letters, describing what he was doing, enquiring about life in Glasgow, including the business, the family and asking after others who he knew. He also mentioned a number of people who he had met up with in Australia who had also made their way out from Glasgow.

However, trying to work out when he made the trip was our first priority and, if possible, why. The first letter which references his trip, is dated 9 September 1889, with an address in Brisbane, but unfortunately, although he gave detail

of the crossing he never mentioned the name of the ship!

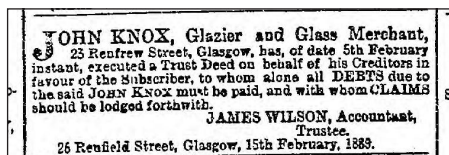
We arrived all right after a passage of seventeen weeks we had a very severe storm about a week before we arrived here which lasted for five days we were battened down below all the time as the ship was taking in so much water that we could not get on deck. She shipped one sea of five hundred tons weight + we all thought it was our last as she went down about three feet if she had taken another sea in she would never have come up but thanks be to God we got safely through it all right.

However there was a bit of a clue in that he wrote about a pipe that he had taken in to be repaired, asking James to call in and collect it!



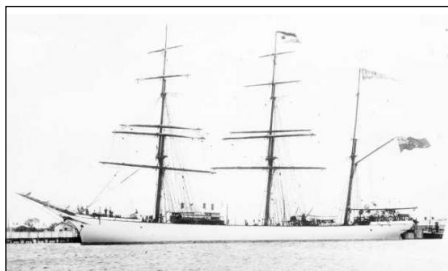
You remember the Murcham pipe that you gave me I broke the stem + left it to get repaired in a small watchmakers in the City Rd in the hurry coming away I forgot all about it. You might call + get it + keep it beside you if was a small watchmakers the first coming from Wooside Rd in City Rd on the left hand side I think you will know it is near a hayshed I think you can give him the date the 6th March

Perhaps the most telling part of this is the comment about the 'hurry coming away'. This set me off to check out any newspaper reports and there, on the front page of The Glasgow Herald of 16 February 1889 I found:



This rather suggests John Knox had a reason for disappearing! Given he took the pipe in for repair on 6 March and was writing from Brisbane on 9 September in 1889 we now had a window within which he must have embarked on the voyage to Australia, giving us something to work on as to when his ship must have sailed.

That took a bit of detective work but luckily a FH friend in Australia pointed me in the direction of a website about Passenger Ships Arriving in Australian Ports [<https://www.perthdps.com/shipping/mig-qld4.htm#qld4>] where he had identified a ship docking in Brisbane after a journey from Glasgow within the timeframe we were working on.



Trois-mâts_barque_- _Aboukir_bay Public Domain via Wikipedia Commons

This ship was the *Aboukir Bay* which sailed from Glasgow on 6 March and arrived in Moreton Bay, Brisbane on 1 July 1889. Sadly, to date we have not been able

to locate the passenger list to confirm that John Knox was aboard. However, Shipping reports in The Glasgow Herald 11 March 1889 and The Brisbane Courier confirmed its departure on 6 March and its arrival on 1 July. Interestingly it was carrying a cargo *including shipments of Usher's whisky and Tennent's beer in pints, the latter having been out of the market for some time*, as reported in the Brisbane Courier, 2 July 1889.

If he is correct in the date of handing in his pipe for repair, he must have sprinted from the shop to board the ship!

Having arrived he seemed to be able to find work, although not in his area of glazing expertise as he explained:

I assume in his hasty departure he may not have prepared his wife very well, as suggested by a comment in the letter:

I hope that you are visiting your mother + assisting + comforting her at this time + not keeping back from her as she will require all you can give her. I wrote to her the week after we landed + I expect soon to have some word from home as I am very anxious to know how you are all keeping.

His wife was Margaret Ross Douglas, who as well as being James Davis Knox's adoptive mother, was his aunt and had been present at his birth! This came to light when I accessed James's birth certificate on ScotlandsPeople. Nothing like some complexity in the family.

The second letter I found was dated 24 November 1890, and written from Killarney which he describes as being about 200 miles from Brisbane, having gone there about a year previously as he had been unable to find more work

in Brisbane. The work in this new area consists mainly of working with the farmers on a contract basis.

He also writes of a great flood in Queensland that has done thousands of pounds worth of damage and a good many have lost their lives through being carried away by it. A search of newspapers in the area through TROVE certainly illustrates the problems they experienced over a number of months.

Regrettably we do not have the replies sent to him by any of the family members in Glasgow nor are there any more from John to indicate what happened next.



His wife Margaret (image above) died in Glasgow in October 1896 and her death certificate indicates she was a widow, so had he died in Australia or was it an assumption and they'd heard no more from him after the letters in 1889/1890?

Recently, with help from the CEO of the Society of Australian Genealogists I have a death certificate for a John Knox, a Scot, who died on 1 November 1899 in the Woogaroo Asylum in the district of Oxley in Queensland (an area of Brisbane). The age given wasn't correct however, the death was recorded by the manager of a workhouse so it could have been a guess! He is buried in the Asylum Cemetery.

I doubt we will never know quite what happened to John Knox after he made a dash for Australia but at least these two letters have helped to answer some of the questions.

[Karen Hunter, 10206](#)

My Auchinlea Bricks

I have two unusual if not unique mementoes connected with my family history. They are two bricks manufactured by the brick and tile company owned by my great great grandfather at Auchinlea, Shotts, Cleland.

Auchinlea Tileworks

In previous stories, I have quoted from William Grossart's book *"Historic Notices and a Domestic History of the Parish of Shotts"* (1880). In one chapter of the book, Grossart states *"Besides coal and ironworks, there are several other industries within the parish, employing many hands - there is a drain tile work belonging to Mr Alexander Lochhead"*. Auchinlea Tileworks was owned by my great great grandfather Alexander Lochhead from 1859 till his death in 1897.



Auchinlea and Fernieshaw

I do not belong to the Shotts area, and I had no idea where Auchinlea or Fernieshaw Farm were situated, until I was driving down to Wishaw one day. Just before the Bellside railway bridge, two signs on the left-hand side of the road, gave me a new insight into the close proximity of the two addresses and the resulting interconnection between my Lochhead and Ferguson families.

The first sign was for the Auchinlea Recycling Centre and the second was for Fernieshaw Road. My other great great grandfather, Archibald Ferguson was at one time the farmer of Fernieshaw Farm. When he died at the age of forty-nine, in 1857, his oldest son John (my great grandfather) inherited the farm. It may have been for health reasons, but my great grandfather did not continue in farming and Fernieshaw passed to his younger brother, James. Two marriages then strengthened the link between the families, firstly between Jean Ferguson and Alexander Lochhead Jnr. and then between Mary Young Lochhead and

John Ferguson (my great grandparents). Resulting from that marriage, my grandfather and father were both named Alexander Lochhead Ferguson. Another two marriages between the families followed in later years.

On the website for "Scotland's Brick and Tile Manufacturing Industry", under Auchinlea Tileworks, Cleland, North Lanarkshire, I found an extract from the Wishaw Press for 19 February 1887

Golden Wedding. There was a large gathering at Auchinlea Tileworks, at the residence of Mr Alexander Lochhead, to celebrate their "Golden Wedding" on the evening of Tuesday the 15th. Mr and Mrs Lochhead are natives of Shotts Parish and have lived there all their lives, and have occupied their present dwelling for 28 years. Seven surviving sons and daughters and 21 grandchildren were present, besides other relatives and friends, including Mr Thomas Lochhead, of Wishaw, and Mrs Smith, Newmains, who acted as best man and bridesmaid at their wedding. Thos Gibb Esq. was one of the guests along with James Ferguson Esq. Fernieshaw Farm." (Ferguson may have been Lochhead's business partner).

Lochhead and Ferguson

James Ferguson was my great uncle and was Alexander Lochhead's business partner. On the Brick and Tile Industry website I also found a copy of an invoice from 1896, headed Lochhead and Ferguson Tile Makers. Land records from 1940 show that James Ferguson's son Archibald was then the proprietor of the house, farm, minerals and colliery ground

at Fernieshaw. The Fergusons must have supplied the raw material for the tile and brick making business, supplying firms such as Taylor and King and Thomas Gibb and Sons. In his book about the Parish of Shotts, William Grossart states:

Fine clay and composition bricks are made at Auchinlea by Mr Gibb where he also works an excellent freestone quarry.

Although Alexander Lochhead died in his 90th year, in 1897, there are records from 1912-13, to show the firm continued with brickmaking, carried on by Alexander Lochhead Jnr and James Ferguson. The brickworks finally closed, under different management, in 1977.

Auchinlea Bricks

I occasionally visit Kirk o'Shotts churchyard where many of my ancestors are buried and I decided to look there for some Auchinlea bricks to keep as a memento of the family business. Many loose bricks were lying around the graveyard and I eventually found a brick manufactured by Taylor and King Auchinlea and another made by Gibb and Sons Auchinlee. My ambition is to find an older brick made by Thomas Gibb, as he was a guest at my great great grandparents' Golden Wedding celebrations.

Christine Ferguson 10832

Editor: As Christine suggests her bricks are perhaps unusual items to have in a family history collection, but important all the same.

Perhaps others can let us know of even more unusual items, that tell a story of ancestors and their lives.

McBroom – a One Name Study

White, Black and Pink

The White

I discovered that I had two 3rd great-grandmothers both with the surname McBROOM. I had never heard of the name and reckoned that they would almost certainly be related, both being born in Ayrshire.

I proceeded to investigate further, got back a further generation for one of them and then hit a brick wall for the pair of them. Thinking, because the name was unusual I decided to research the name with the intention of recording every BMD with that surname and finding their relationship. After ten years it is still a brick wall in my tree, although I have managed to get back a little further.

As far as documenting the BMDs, this proved to initially be quite successful, as I discovered that a Henry Letham McBroom had made a study of the name and had recorded most (99% up to around 1980) of the ones born in Scotland.

There have only been just over 500 McBroom births in Great Britain over the last 500 years (most in Scotland), or one per year. A few (no more than four families) emigrated to the United States, and there are in excess of 7,000 alive there today!

They have been a fascinating lot – heroes, villains, slave traders, film stars, millionaires and more!

Going back to the Scottish records the first records found so far are of three brothers named David, Andro, and Bartholomew,

and their sister, Janet born circa 1540, probably all in Kirkcudbright.

This family had some mixed misfortune.

They are mentioned in the records of Kirkcudbright and Dumfries Scotland.

Andro McBroom never married but, was burgess (mayor) of Kirkcudbright and a member of the town council; however, in the year 1576 he was charged with dealing with pirates.

Bartholomew married and had two children, but neither lived to adulthood.

Janet McBroom, the sister, was banished from Kirkcudbright in 1588 for what the town council called "*bad behaviour*." She was scourged and burned with a brand on her shoulder and ordered banished from the community forever. As was a common procedure in the sixteenth century she was tethered to a ring attached to the outside wall of the Tollbooth (gaol) and the actual ring is still in place (there are two rings and I cannot establish which one she was locked to).

Further research took the family to Northern Ireland due to religious persecution.

David McBroom died in 1580 in Kirkcudbright. His great-grandson, John, graduated from Glasgow University in 1655. Between 1660 and 1662 he was the minister of the Presbyterian Church in the sea coast town of Portpatrick. At this time the English were trying to force the Presbyterian Scots to adopt the "papist" Church of England practices. The Presbyterian minister, John McBroom, was ordered to leave Scotland. He and his family fled Scotland for the north of Ireland. From 1662 to 1682 he served as

pastor of the Anahilt Presbyterian Church in County Down, Ireland.

A couple of generations later, John's grandson, James, left Ireland to look for more favourable economic conditions in America. James, his wife Mary (nee Jackson), and their children arrived in the United States sometime in the 1720's. Mary Jackson was the grand-aunt of President Andrew Jackson. Also emigrating with them were neighbouring friends, the CARSONs whose grandson was the famous pioneering scout Christopher 'Kit' Carson.

Because James, Mary and their children, James II, Thomas, Margaret, Janett, Elizabeth, and Mary, came as a family, it is assumed they came as fare-paying passengers, not as indentured servants as were many Irish immigrants. By 1730, they had an established land improvement in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

The CARSONs grandson Christopher 'Kit' was a close friend of John McBROOM and often stayed with him in McBROOM's log cabin. The pair did a lot of scouting together.

The Black

The McBROOMs made their way South settling in the "slave owning" states and became owners and slave traders. This resulted in some of the slaves, after being given their freedom, adopting the surname McBROOM. Like most 'Afro-Americans' progressing up the ranks of society was difficult and required sacrifice and dedication.

One such 'Afro-American' was Marcus McBROOM the son of a preacher born in North Carolina. The Rev. Leo George A. McBROOM and his wife Elizabeth

(nee Chandler) had a family of fourteen children. Marcus' parents must have seen something special in Marcus as he was the first and only member of his family to go to college. He received his education at Wilberforce University and later served at Tuskegee Army Air Hospital School. He was a graduate of Columbia University and received his Doctor of Education degree at the University of California at Los Angeles.

A notable leader in civic and community activities, Dr. Marcus S W McBroom was also a practising psychotherapist, marriage counselor, lecturer and writer, with offices ranging from South Central Los Angeles to Beverly Hills. Charlton Heston and Gregory Peck being a couple of his clients. This was still in the days when blacks could not sit on seats if a white person wanted it!

Dr. McBroom was a newspaperman and had been an outstanding champion of civil rights for all Americans, particularly as a public speaker. He was always politically active and astute. Eleanor Roosevelt, with whom he corresponded, frequently invited him, as a member of a small group of African American Wilberforce University students, to the White House. He went on to become a Special Assistant to President Franklin D. Roosevelt on problems of discrimination in the U.S. Air Force.

Dr. McBroom befriended and worked with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He also participated in numerous debates, one of which included Malcolm X as a participant on the L.A. based Joe Pine radio show. Dr. McBroom also served as a speechwriter and colleague of the late Senator Robert Kennedy.

The Pink

Two of Marcus' daughters, Pamela Carol (stage name 'Durga') and Lorelei, were backing vocalists with Pink Floyd.

Durga went on to have a long stint with them, being the only backing vocalist to appear consistently on all of their shows starting from the November 1987 concert at Omni Arena of *A Momentary Lapse of Reason* Tour up to the final concert of *The Division Bell* Tour in October 1994. She also performed on their appearance at the 1990 Knebworth Festival and has provided vocals for the Pink Floyd live albums *Delicate Sound of Thunder*, and *Pulse*, and the Pink Floyd studio albums *The Division Bell*, and *The Endless River*, as well as David Gilmour's 2001 solo tour.

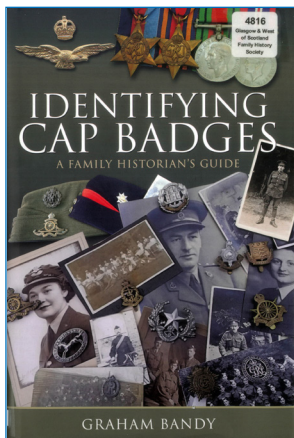
As fate would have it, Pink Floyd (the Godfathers of Psychedelia) gave Lorelei her first exposure to the road on their *Momentary Lapse of Reason* and *Delicate Sound of Thunder* tours. She followed that by touring with the Rolling Stones. Both The Stones and The Floyd gave her the chance to be both operatic and bluesy, featuring her in duets with Mick Jagger on *Gimmie Shelter* and *Great Gig In The Sky* respectively.

Leslie Williamson, 11062

Editor: From this article it is clear that one-name studies can take us down all sorts of rabbit holes in our research. If considering such a study I would imagine it is probably easier with a less common surname than perhaps Smith, Jones, Knox, Campbell or even Hunter!

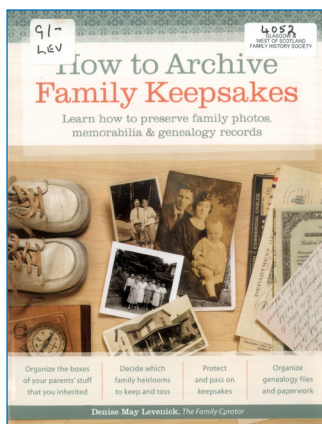
For information, The Guild of One-Name Studies has a website: <https://one-name.org/>

Ephemera resources in the Library and on our web pages



Bandy, Graham. *Identifying Cap Badges: a Family Historian's Guide.*
Pen & Sword, 2022.
Shelf Loc: G/-/BAN
ISBN: 9781526775979

Levenick, Denise May. *How to archive family keepsakes.*
Family Tree Books, 2012.
Shelf Loc: G/-/LEV
ISBN: 9781440322235



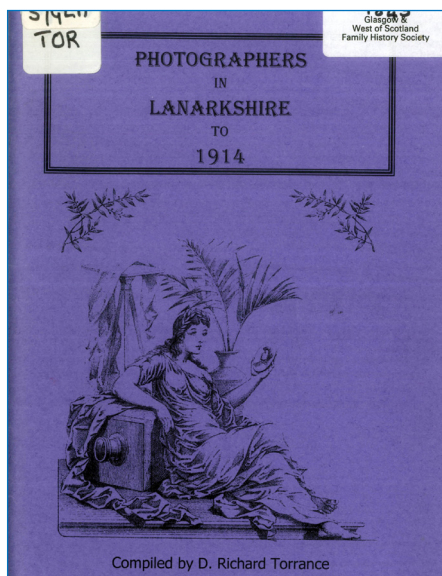
Foy, Karen. *Family History for Beginners*
[Chapter 14, Preserve and protect, considers the importance of diaries, letters and photos in family history.]
The History Press, 2011.
Shelf Loc: G/-/FOY
ISBN: 9780752458380

Pols, Robert. *Dating Old Photographs 1840-1950.*
The Family History Partnership, 2016.
Shelf Loc: G/-/POLS
ISBN #: 9781906280543

Torrance, D Richard.
Series of booklets published by the
Scottish Genealogy Society.

Photographers in Central Scotland to 1914. 2001
Shelf Loc: S/FIF/TOR
ISBN: 1904060102

Photographers in Lanarkshire to 1914. 2002.
Shelf Loc: S/GLA/TOR
ISBN: 1904060056



Photographers in North-Eastern Scotland to 1914. 2000

Shelf Loc: S/ABD/TOR

ISBN: 1904060099

Photographers in Northern Scotland. 2001

Shelf Loc: S/INV/TOR

ISBN: 1904060080

Photographers in Western Scotland to 1914. 2002

Shelf Loc: S/AYR/TOR

ISBN: 1904060064

Photographers in Edinburgh and the Lothians to 1914. 2001

Shelf Loc: S/EDI/TOR

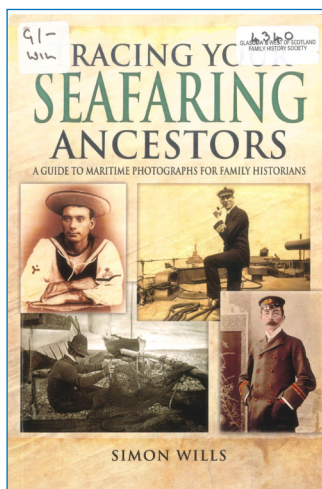
ISBN: 1904060013

Wills, Simon. *Tracing Your Seafaring Ancestors: A Guide to Maritime Photographs for Family Historians.*

Pen & Sword, 2016.

Shelf Loc: G/-/WIL

ISBN: 9781473828575



Linda Emery, Librarian

librarian@gwsfhs.org.uk

Photo-Sleuthing

The GWSFHS website has a fascinating series of articles by Diana Burns on photo-sleuthing where she uses her research skills to identify the people in long forgotten photo albums. To read these articles, go to the Articles search box and put “photo-sleuthing” into the search box.

Search

Free-form Search (all words)

photo - sleuthing

Search Articles



Photo sleuthing - The Walston album

Posted on: 8 December 2020 by Diana Burns | Regions: Biggar, Britain & Ireland, Peeblesshire, Scotland | Surnames: Frame, Greenshields, Lindsay, Steel, Thorburn, Weir | Tags: fashion, fruit farming

Articles in the Society Journal

All issues of the Journal are available to members on the Society website and these are two articles which have been published in earlier editions which link with the theme of heirlooms and ephemera which you may find of interest.

Allen, Maggie. *Pass on valuable memorabilia.* Issue 98, October 2013, pp 31-32.

Burns, Diana. *A family affair: identifying rites of passage in old photos.* Issue 125, October 2022, pp 28-31.

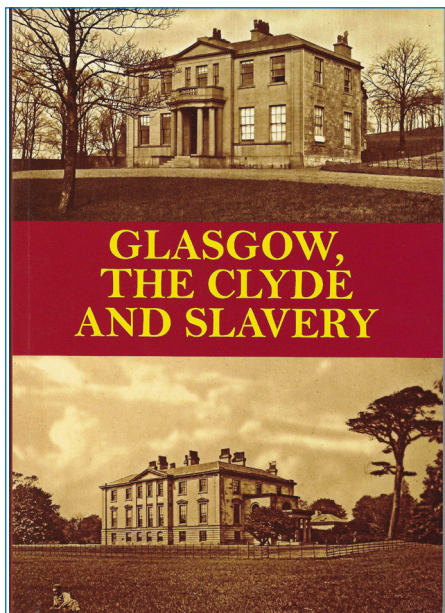
Book Review

PETTIGREW, David. *Glasgow, The Clyde and Slavery*

Stenlake Publishing Ltd., 2023

ISBN: 978-1-84033-960-4

Shelf Loc: TBA



The introduction gives us an overview of the participation of merchants, shipowners and plantation owners from Glasgow and the Clyde in the industries that relied on enforced slave labour; particularly the production of the raw material commodities cotton, tobacco and sugar. Although relatively few slave voyages left Scottish ports, Scots were heavily involved in the slave trade and many Scots owned plantations and slaves in the Americas and Caribbean.

The book is in three sections; Glasgow (and surrounding counties), the south bank of the Clyde and the north bank of the Clyde. Within each section, streets

and estates are listed in alphabetical order of their name. The origins of the street names are given. The estates are described with a history of their ownership and their owners' connections to the slave economy. There are 66 historic or current photographs of the big houses on these estates along with sketches, engravings or photographs of the related industries, maps or street scenes.

The successful plantation owners and merchants spent their wealth on the purchase of large estates and the erection of mansion houses. Many of their families were connected by marriage as well as by business partnerships. Most of these families retained their wealth for generations after the formal end of slavery.

Where known, we are told the names of the plantations abroad, the number of slaves recorded on those plantations and the compensation paid to the slave owners after abolition of slavery in the British colonies and possessions in 1834. Some merchants and owners continued to benefit from slave labour in the southern states of the US and elsewhere after 1834.

There are source references throughout the book and a chapter of further reading.

See also <https://stenlake.co.uk/books/glasgow-the-clyde-and-slavery/1332>

Murray Archer, 4316

Editor: If anyone has a good book related to family or local social history they would like to recommend please send in a review along with a photograph of the front cover and we can look to include it in a future edition of the Journal.

Letters and Queries

The Editor welcomes letters and queries from members for inclusion in the Journal. They can be emailed to editor@gwsfhs.org.uk or sent by post to the address on the back page.

Access to Scottish census returns at FamilySearch

Jeremy Wilkes, 10714 has emailed to say:

A point not mentioned in the extract (Did you know?) from Chris Paton's newsletter published in Issue 128 is that images of nineteenth-century Scottish census returns can be seen at Family Search centres and its affiliate libraries. They are mostly not indexed by personal name on that website, though.

Editor: These are not accessible through their online site but, just to remind you that if you are in Glasgow you could drop by at our Research Centre and take a look as we are an Affiliate Library.

War Brides in Canada

I'd like to add one small point to the fascinating article Canadian War Brides in issue 128 of the Journal. My Aunt Grace, my mother's youngest sister, met and married a Canadian serviceman in 1945. She was then 18. She lived with her parents quite close to Maryhill Barracks and it may be that her husband was stationed there. Grace travelled to Halifax, Nova Scotia, on one of the redeployed troop ships and, from there, travelled west by rail to Saskatchewan. Her arrival was not a happy event - as the ship docked it was met by a protest demonstration of Canadian women

demanding that the brides return home. I don't know if this was a one-off event or a regular occurrence.

If any readers are in Halifax, Nova Scotia, they might wish to visit the excellent Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21; if that is not possible the website provides extensive information and includes a research request facility.

George MacBride, 11100

Themes for Future Journals

J130: June 2024

The Scots in India

Did any of your ancestors go out to India or other countries in the Far East? Have you any hints or tips for undertaking family history research related to that part of the world? If so please send in your articles for the June edition.

Closing date for submitting articles: 8 April 2024

J131: October 2024

The impact of war on our families

All of us will have family members whose lives were impacted by war - be it as members of the armed services across the ages, or as the families at home living through the privations of war. Again, we are looking for those family stories and/or resources which can help in developing our understanding of what happened.

Closing date for submitting articles: 12 August 2024

From the Editor

Just occasionally I find myself in something of a dilemma about within which edition I should publish a particular article. *Isa's Little Red Book* on page 8 fits like a glove with the theme this time round but would also have worked well with that planned for J131 when the theme is about the impact of war on our families - its inclusion this time round provides the answer as to my decision!

If you are particularly observant you may have noticed that our editorial team has shrunk since our last Journal was published. Diane Burns and Christine Woodcock have stepped down from their roles in the team, although they are still involved in supporting the Society. My thanks to both for all the help and support they have given me and the team since I took over as Editor.

If there are any members who would like to know more about the work of the Editorial team and/or are interested in joining us please get in touch. You might be interested in writing articles, seeking out authors, writing book reviews, or perhaps you would like to be involved in the more practical task of putting the Journal together. Whatever area you think you might be able to help with, please get in touch and we can have a chat. You do not need to be local to Glasgow, and we will consider all offers of help.

Karen Hunter, Editor, 10206

Obituary

Sheila Sinclair Duffy, 219



It was with great sadness we were informed that Sheila had died on 3 November 2023.

Sheila was born on 6 August 1946 in Sillitoe, Wigton, Cumbria and was educated at St Joseph's, Nicosia, Cyprus; Boroughmuir Senior Secondary School, Edinburgh; and Edinburgh University where she obtained a Master of Arts (MA) degree in Psychology and Sociology.

She married the actor Paul Young and they celebrated their Golden Wedding in 2020.

Sheila was the Women's Editor on Radio Clyde from January 1974 to December 1998, she was also a journalist and contributor to the Weekly News, Scottish Field and Evening Times.

She had a lifelong interest in genealogy and was a valued member of the Society as a Volunteer at the Research Centre assisting Members; Editor of our Journal and Member of Council for 25 years.

Her enthusiasm for family history will be truly missed, we send our condolences to her husband Paul, daughters Hannah and Katie and to wider members of her family and friends.

Edward Nairn, 195

Monumental Inscriptions

While name indexing and loading the monumental inscription transcriptions and photographs for Tollcross Cemetery into a new data set in our website, it got me thinking about the role of family history societies in the capture and publication of these inscriptions.

Most of us regard the date of our ancestor's death to be one of the vital events we want to record for each individual. It helps me to distinguish between my James Anderson and your James Anderson, his first cousin born in the same year in the same parish. His lifespan and his cause of death, if known, helps me to imagine his quality of life and death. It tells me also if his children were still minors when he died and perhaps what they experienced in their young lives.

Fortunately, the statutory registers of deaths in Scotland, starting in 1855, were well kept and the registrations record many details about the deceased, including the names of both of their parents, maiden and married names for married women and the name of their spouse. The accuracy and completeness of these details varies depending upon the knowledge of the informant, who might have been an unrelated person or just too distressed to remember them.

Often when I could not easily find a statutory death registration, it was due to an error in the index. Sometimes, I could find the registration of a married woman using one of her surnames, but the other surname was incorrectly transcribed. I

have seen many errors in the mother's maiden name field. If I purchase the image, or I am researching on-site in a ScotlandsPeople centre, I report the error to ScotlandsPeople.

However, if I am unable to find the statutory registration of a death in Scotland, I then wonder if the deceased died in another jurisdiction. Many Scots went "*down South*" for work or family reasons and their deaths were registered by the General Register Office for England and Wales. They might have gone to work in the shipyards in Belfast. Other Scots emigrated to colonies and countries around the world. Perhaps they are mentioned on a monument in Scotland?

Records in Scotland for burials before 1855 are sparse and often lack details necessary to unambiguously identify the deceased person. Often, they were merely an accounting record of the fees received for the hire of a mortcloth. Sometimes they were kept by the sexton to record the location of lairs and the burials in those lairs.

Family history societies in Scotland published transcriptions of the burial records from the Old Parish Registers of the Church of Scotland. An example of this is our Govan Burials Index, available for members to view on our website and licenced to *FindMyPast* [<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/>].

Unfortunately, there was some duplication of effort; the Lanarkshire FHS also transcribed the Govan burials and they also licenced their transcription to FindMyPast. Church of Jesus Christ and Latter Day Saints volunteers transcribed some OPR burials; these are published

at their FamilySearch website [<https://www.familysearch.org/>] and licensed also to various commercial websites.

Some of the earliest transcriptions of monumental inscriptions were written by gentlemen antiquarians in the Victorian era. They selected monuments to “worthy” or “notable” men (usually men). Although not comprehensive, often they recorded monuments that are no longer legible or extant. Our Chair, Scott Fairie kindly supplied several examples:

The History of Glasgow JFS Gordon

1873 containing *Glasghu Facies*, John McUre. <https://archive.org/details/glasghufaciesav00murgoo/page/8/mode/2up> Vol 1 has College/Blackfriars at p 328. Vol 2 has extracts Cathedral and Burial Ground inscriptions at p702, but I can’t find an online pdf for Vol 2.

Collection of Epitaphs and Monumental Inscriptions chiefly in Scotland, 1834, Editor? - including, *An Theater of Mortality*, 1704, Monteith

<https://www.electricscotland.com/books/pdf/collectionofepit00ment.pdf> p171, has some Glasgow entries.

There is a Necropolis book from 1857 - *Biographic and Descriptive Sketches of Glasgow Necropolis*, George Blair at:

https://www.tradeshouselibrary.org/uploads/4/7/7/2/47723681/biographic_and_descriptive_sketches_of_glasgow_necropolis_-_1857.pdf

Transcriptions of monumental inscriptions were often published in family histories. We hold some family histories; the Scottish Genealogy Society holds over 2,700 published and unpublished family histories; see <https://www.scotsgenealogy.com/family-histories>

Over decades, volunteers have recorded, mapped, transcribed and sometimes photographed monumental inscriptions. Sometimes these volunteers worked independently; sometimes they co-ordinated their efforts through the Scottish Genealogy Society or the regional family history societies, such as ours. Sometimes they published their transcriptions; often they are unfinished and unpublished.

How do you find these unpublished transcriptions? The Scottish Genealogy Society publishes *The Black Book* on their website at <https://www.scotsgenealogy.com/downloads/the-black-book>. The *Black Book* contains details of all the Scottish Genealogy Society’s holdings relating to Scottish deaths and Scottish burials. It is published in the form of a PDF document for each of the historic counties. At the time of writing, the PDF for Glasgow needs to be updated.

The Scottish Association of Family History Societies maintains a database of over 3,500 burial grounds in Scotland at <https://www.safhs.org.uk/burialgrounds.php>. This database provides useful information about the location of a burial ground and the dates when it opened and closed. It has incomplete or out-of-date information about the status of the transcription of memorial inscriptions. We need to send an update to the SAFHS. It incorrectly locates many Glasgow Barony parish burial grounds in the Gorbals parish.

The Mitchell Library holdings - <https://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/media/h01hjasq/monumental-inscriptions-updated-version-2011.xls> which lists about 1,995 cemeteries with published

transcripts, which they hold – not updated since 2011.

The Scottish Genealogy Society published a series of books of transcriptions of pre-1855 monumental inscriptions. They did not include Glasgow, but they did include many parishes in counties around Glasgow and the west of Scotland:

Mitchell, John Fowler and Sheila

- *Pre 1855 Inscriptions and maps from the burial grounds throughout East and West Dunbartonshire.*
- *Pre 1855 Inscriptions and maps – Renfrewshire Volumes 1 and 2,* Edinburgh 1969.
- *Monumental inscriptions (pre-1855) in West Stirlingshire,* Edinburgh 1973; revised edition published in 2003.

Scott, Sheila Alexandria

- *Pre 1855 Inscriptions and maps from the burial grounds of the Upper (southern) Ward of Lanarkshire,* Edinburgh 1977.

Mitchell, A,

- *Pre 1855 Inscriptions and maps from burial grounds in Bute; Rothesay, Kingarth & Cumbrae, and in Arran; Kilbride & Kilmory.*

Cargill, David C. et al.

- *Argyllshire monumental inscriptions. Vol. 1, Appin and Lismore,* Edinburgh 2002.

Cessford, G. A. et al.

- *Argyllshire monumental inscriptions, (pre 1855). Vol. 2, Islands of Mull & Ulva,* Edinburgh 2004.

The pre-1855 rule: If any stone indicates a birth, marriage or death pre-1855 then the stone was recorded in its entirety. If a stone indicates no birth, marriage or death pre-1855, then it was not recorded.

See also: Mitchell, Angus, *Burial Grounds in Scotland: An Index of Unpublished Monumental Inscriptions.* Scottish Genealogy Society 1991.

The family history societies published transcriptions of monumental inscriptions for burial grounds in their own areas. They drew plans of the burial grounds showing features such as walls, paths, buildings and lairs. Their volunteers worked hard to make the transcriptions as accurate and comprehensive as possible. Often, this attention to detail delayed publication by years.

A few small firms saw an opportunity to provide transcriptions and photographs as a commercial product. Scottish Monumental Inscriptions sold CDs of transcriptions and photographs of monuments in many burial grounds in Scotland, including some in the west of Scotland. They no longer sell CDs but they do sell transcriptions as downloadable PDFs. They also licence transcriptions and photographs to some of the commercial websites, such as Findmypast. See <https://www.scottish-monumental-inscriptions.com/>

Memento Mori ran a blog site with photographs and monumental inscriptions from burial grounds, cemeteries and churchyards in central Scotland. The blog site is defunct and so is the firm, as far as we know. In the Mitchell Library there is a print of a *Memento Mori* index to the Southern Necropolis also with transcripts of about 170 stones, from about 2012. Partial transcriptions of 40 out of approximately 100 burial grounds are available from their website in the Google Archives 'wayback machine'. We would like to re-

publish their indexes and transcriptions on our website. We attempted to contact suspected copyright holders but we had no reply.

We note that many photographs and transcriptions of monuments in cemeteries and burial grounds in the west of Scotland are now available at Ancestry's *Find a Grave* [<https://www.findagrave.com/>] or at *BillionGraves* [<https://billiongraves.com/search>].

Volunteers photograph and transcribe inscriptions for these sites. These photographs and transcriptions are freely available without subscription (although *BillionGraves* offers enhanced services for subscribers). *Find a Grave* allows volunteers to upload biographies, obituaries, images from lair registers, photographs and so on, whereas *BillionGraves* volunteers use an application on their smartphone to photograph the monument. The application automatically georeferences the monument using GPS.

Clearly, the modern technology used by *BillionGraves* is more efficient than our manual methods. However, we know from experience that inscriptions can be hard to read, even on-site in person. Although it is possible to transcribe many inscriptions from a photograph, many others are too difficult. So, will *Find a Grave* and *BillionGraves* make our transcriptions obsolete? I don't believe so because we have a large set of comprehensive transcriptions. However, we do compete with these commercial websites for volunteers.

We published our transcriptions as paper booklets, then some larger ones were published on CD or DVD (some

with photographs). Now, few new computers have a CD or DVD drive. We withdrew our CD and DVD products from sale because the volunteers who created these products are no longer available to support us or our customers. Unfortunately, for some burial grounds, our transcriptions are now available only on our computers in our premises.

Council decided to publish our monumental inscription photographs and transcriptions in several formats; paper booklets, downloadable PDF booklets, data sets in the member only section of our website and licenced to *Findmypast*. We believe that different customers prefer different formats for the same transcription, and they should be able to choose the one they prefer. We want to make our transcriptions widely available, and we hope to maximise our income and raise the profile of our society.

Our members, many of whom do not subscribe to *Findmypast*, are able to access our data at our website as a membership benefit. Most *Findmypast* customers who access our data there are not members of our society; however, they will see the source of the data and they might contact us directly.

Our task now is to republish our CD and DVD data in these other formats. We have some challenges because of the data encryption used by the published discs; sometimes we no longer hold the original high resolution photographs only the lower resolution images published on the discs. We are dealing with a digital legacy from a previous generation of volunteers.

Researchers on *Findmypast* or our own website search for individuals by name;

our published transcriptions are indexed by surnames for each monument. We need to fully name index the forenames and surnames of each individual mentioned in the transcriptions. This index should include their age and year of death. *Findmypast* requested that we index each married woman by both her maiden and married surnames. This a big task.

Other family history societies are working on the same re-indexing of their own transcriptions. We are not unique, although sometimes we forget that others share our challenges. The purpose of our Society is to promote the study of family history. Although income from the sale or licencing of data helps us to fund our activities, that is not the primary reason for publication.

The opinions expressed in this article are my own and not necessarily those of other members of Council.

Murray Archer, 4316

Indexing of Glasgow Parish Minutes, 1899-1902

The Society library holds three volumes of Parish of Glasgow minutes covering 1899-1902, part of a larger series held at the Mitchell Library. These volumes hold minutes of the Council Meetings and the following Committee Meetings: Barnhill Poorhouse, City Poorhouse, Relief Appeal, Childrens, Medical, Law, Finance, Contracts, Hospital and Adjustments. The minutes are a rich source of social history and personal

data on individuals, and the Society has started the process of indexing the three volumes held. The Committees had responsibility for multiple areas affecting everyday life in Glasgow, including Poorlaw, Welfare, Medical and Asylum matters. The aim of the indexing is to document each individual mentioned within the minutes. To date, the volume for 1899-1900 has been completed, with almost 1000 individual entries recorded.

Each of the documented cases adds family history detail that may not otherwise be discoverable. For example, the Children's Committee monitored the progress of children boarded out to the country from Glasgow and details of the childrens' names, ages, educational achievement and any medical conditions are all recorded, along with the names and addresses of guardians. Inspectors travelled the length and breadth of the country, reporting on the standard of care provided for Glasgow's boarded-out children and, on the health, education and progress of each child. Many children thrived in their new environment, where the importance of fresh air and cleanliness was recognised. Some children were subsequently adopted by their guardians. Others were less fortunate, with some accommodation reported as overcrowded or unsatisfactory, leading to recommendations that children were removed and placed elsewhere, or guardians instructed to improve standards.

Additionally, the Law Committee for Glasgow City Council, reported on approximately 10-12 Desertion and Apprehension cases per month in 1899-1900. Women, deserted by their husbands, were often admitted to the

Poorhouse or chargeable as 'Outdoor Poor'. As the City then became financially liable for these women and their children, the husbands who had failed to maintain, or had deserted their wives and children, were tracked down, apprehended by the police, and taken before the Sheriff. Sentencing could be harsh, with 30 to 60 days in prison not uncommon and often with hard labour. An array of occupations is listed, from pugilists, hawkers and scavengers to shoemakers, spindle makers, iron dressers, brass finishers and gilders. Men were tracked down and apprehended. Some were found locally in Glasgow, in Model Lodging Houses or at their place of work, others were located in Edinburgh, in Ireland, and in a few cases, onboard ships set to sail from Greenock or Southampton, to North or South America. Many personal details are present in the cases; instances of husbands denying paternity of their wife's forthcoming child, accusing their wife or mother-in-law of being addicted

to drink, or found cohabiting with other women.

Along with the above, there is reporting on asylum patients, records documenting the prosecution of parents of unvaccinated children and extensive reporting on the running of the City and Barnhill Poorhouses. The Poorhouse records detail the names, grades, salaries and provision of accommodation for the various staff, from medical and nursing, to estates and catering staff, and record the events in the course of working life, including appointments, promotion or retirement as well as the departure of staff due to ill health or the offer of a better position elsewhere.

Ultimately, the aim is to provide a searchable database of the Glasgow Parish Minutes, providing additional information for researchers on the individual cases documented within. Work will continue in 2024 on the remaining two volumes.

Moira Aherne, 11339

Photo Collection

We are delighted to announce a new feature on the Society's website - a collection of 19th and early 20th century photographs and albums, donated to us over the years. It can be found in the website menu under Services, and subjects include Arran, the Holy Land, Australia and India, and the Scots families who travelled to and lived there. The collection is available for members to view at <https://www.gwsfhs.org.uk/2023/12/31/the-gwsfhs-photo-collections/>

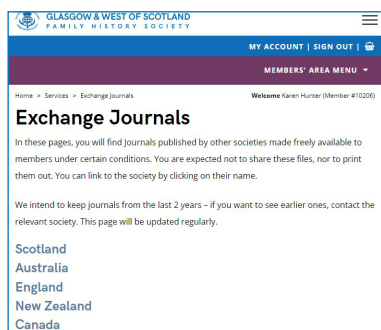


If you have an old photo collection, either in digital format or as an album, which you would be interested in donating to the Society, please contact diana.burns@gwsfhs.org.uk. **Diana Burns, 7039**

Exchange Journals

Thanks to the hard work of Linda Emery and James Oakes we have been able to make more journals from other societies available to members on the website.

In October 2023, the first three countries were published: Scotland, Australia and England; and earlier this year journals from New Zealand and Canada have been added to the website.

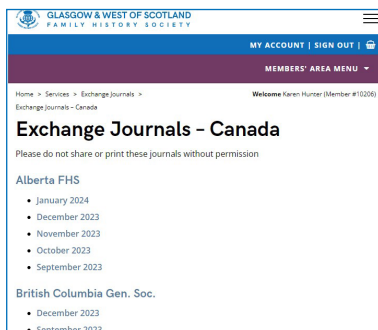


You can find this section on the website by clicking on the Menu item SERVICES and selecting Exchange Journals. This will take you to a page showing the available countries, and when you click on a country you will see the names of the societies exchanging journals with us. Under each name is a list of their journals by date. Click on the date and it will open a pdf file of the journal for you to read.



If you click on the society name, this will take you to that society's own webpage.

This page is a work in progress and if you have any suggestions for additional countries or societies, please contact me at webmaster@gwsfhs.org.uk



Jean Mackenzie, 6966

Editor: This is a bonus for our members as previously the only way to access them was by visiting the Research Centre. Now our members will be able to access them wherever they are in the world, providing they are signed up on the website. There should be plenty of reading to keep you busy and, if you have ancestors from any of the areas covered, you may be lucky enough to find some useful information about them or the places they were living. If you find anything of particular interest/relevance to Scottish family history please let us know and we can then flag it up to others.

Please note the plan is to keep the previous two years of any Society's Journals accessible on the website

**Glasgow & West of Scotland
Family History Society**
A Scottish Charity No. SC010866
Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 47th Annual General Meeting of the members of the Glasgow & West of Scotland Family History Society will be held virtually on Zoom on Monday, 15 April 2024, at 7.30 pm for the following purposes:

- 1 Sederunt and Apologies
- 2 To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17 April 2023
- 3 To accept the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023
- 4 To accept the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023
- 5 To receive confirmation of the Bank Signatories for the year
- 6 To elect the following Office Bearers:
Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
- 7 To appoint the following Ex-Officio members:
Editor, Membership Secretary and Publications Officer
- 8 To confirm in office any Ordinary Members of Council co-opted since the last Annual General Meeting
- 9 To elect Ordinary Members of Council
- 10 To elect any Honorary Members as proposed by Council
- 11 To fix the Subscription Rates for the year to 30 June 2025
- 12 To appoint an Independent Examiner
- 13 Conclusion

By order of the Council
Annette McGarill, Secretary

Nominations are invited from members to serve on Council. If you are interested, want to know more, or wish to nominate someone (with their permission) please contact the Secretary at secretary@gwsfhs.org.uk prior to the AGM. All meetings are held via Zoom and this will continue therefore geography is no restriction. Please see the Constitution (<https://www.gwsfhs.org.uk/constitution/> Sections 46-71) for details of Council and member requirements.

To attend the AGM please register for the ***Women in the Air Force*** talk via the website as the AGM will precede this talk.

Minutes of the Forty-sixth Annual General Meeting held virtually on Zoom on Monday 17 April 2023 at 7.30 pm

1. Sederunt and Apologies

Present: Chair: Scott Fairie.

Eighty-eight members of the society.

Apologies: Edward Nairn, Rodger Gann.

Minutes: Murray Archer

2. Minutes of the 2022 EGM and 2022 AGM

Minutes were published in Journal 126 (March 2023) and on the website.

Proposal: That the minutes of the 2022 EGM and 2022 AGM be approved as accurate.

Proposer: Scott Fairie (member #30)

Seconder: James Oakes (member #7139)

Passed unanimously.

3. Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The Annual Report had been made available on the website. The Chair summarised the Annual Report for the meeting.

4. Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The Income & Expenditure Account was published in Journal 126 (March 2023) and the full accounts have been available on the Society's website or by written request.

The Treasurer, Elizabeth Anderson presented the accounts, which had been examined by the Independent Examiner, Ailsa Mowat, and will be submitted to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

Income:

- The subscriptions were down by £1,200. Membership fluctuates around 1,600 members.
- Gift Aid income was down compared with 2021 (which was exceptional due to a catch-up claim).
- No income from research.
- Publications income increased by about £700.
- Commission is down, Council is in discussion with FindmyPast.

Expenditure:

- The running costs for the Research Centre is approximately £12,000 p.a.
- Electricity costs were lower due to a credit accumulated during lockdown.
- Journal costs increased by approximately £1,100 mostly due to increased postage costs.
- Website and IT costs increased by approximately £700.

- We purchased two new roll-up advertising banners and a SumUp card machine. The Closing Bank Balance at 31 December 2022 was £36,006 an increase of £1,120 from the previous year.

Mrs Ailsa Mowat thanked Elizabeth Anderson for the papers passed to her and she reported a clear independent examination of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The Treasurer invited questions from the attendees. There were no questions.

Proposal: Adoption of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Proposer: Scott Fairie (member #30)

Seconder: Randy Hare (member #8362)

Passed unanimously.

5. Bank signatories

The Secretary advised the meeting that the current bank signatories are: Sheila Cuthbertson (member #4187), Elizabeth Smith (member #248), Elizabeth Anderson (member #4062), and Edward Nairn (member #195).

6. Election of Office Bearers

There being no further nominations, office bearers for the 2023-24 session will be as follows:

- a) Chairperson: Scott Fairie (member #30) was nominated by Edward Nairn and seconded by James Oakes.
- b) Vice Chairperson: Jean Mackenzie (member #6966) was nominated by Elizabeth Anderson and seconded by Sheila Cuthbertson.
- c) Secretary: Annette McGarill (member #7700) was nominated by Elizabeth Smith and seconded by James Oakes.
- d) Treasurer: Elizabeth Anderson (member #4062) was nominated by Sheila Cuthbertson and seconded by Scott Fairie.

7. Editor, Membership Secretary & Publications Secretary

These are ex-officio members of Council. Council is pleased to appoint:

- Elizabeth Smith (member #248) as Membership Secretary
- Karen Hunter (member #10206) as Editor.

The office of Publications Secretary is vacant.

8. Ordinary Members of Council co-opted since the last Annual General Meeting.

None.

9. Election of Ordinary Members of Council

- Linda Emery (member #8216) was nominated by Annette McGarill and seconded by Jean Mackenzie.

There were no further nominations. The Chair declared this Ordinary Member of Council elected.

John Wotherspoon, Christine Woodcock and Randy Hare resigned from Council or did not seek re-election at the end of the 2022-23 Session.

10. Election of Honorary Members as proposed by Council.

None proposed.

11. To fix the Subscription Rates for the year to 30th June 2024.

The Treasurer spoke to this item. Through cost savings and publication sales we have kept our subscription rates unchanged for the past 15 years. Our new website is successful but it has reached maximum capacity for data sets and searches and so we need to invest in an upgrade. Our current income will not pay for this upgrade and therefore Council resolved to propose an increase in subscription rates.

Proposed Subscription Rates for the 2023-24 Session:

Category	UK	Overseas (PDF only)	Overseas (paper Journal)
Ordinary Member	£20	£20	£25
2nd Family Member	£10	£10	N/A

Concession and Associate membership categories are abolished.

Proposed by Christine Woodcock (member #10008).

Seconded by John Wotherspoon (member #8261)

Passed unanimously.

12. Appointment of an Independent Examiner/Auditor

Mrs Ailsa Mowat will retire as Independent Examiner. The Chair thanked her very much for all the years that she has served.

Council has no nominee and will seek to appoint a replacement Independent Examiner.

13. Conclusion

The meeting was concluded by the Chair giving thanks to the Secretary for her organisation of the AGM; the Treasurer for her work preparing the accounts; Jean Mackenzie and James Oakes for the IT support; and the volunteers and assistants for their contributions to the Society over the past year.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the AGM closed.

Editorial Team

Karen Hunter	10206	Murray Archer	4316
James Oakes	7179		

Glasgow & West of Scotland Family History Society

Income & Expenditure Account

Year ended 31 December 2023

<u>Income</u>		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Subscriptions		30,658	25,005
Gift Aid Tax Refund		2,666	2,109
Members Research		155	
Donations		1,996	836
Printing Income		103	69
Publications		2,104	1,342
Commission		3,373	365
Interest Received		66	
Other Income		<u>41</u>	<u>12</u>
		41,162	29,738
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Mansfield St	Rent	7,626	7,404
	Electricity	4,848	3,164
	Insurance	993	902
	Maint & Repairs	<u>152</u>	<u>693</u>
		13,619	12,163
Journal & Postage		9,048	8,776
Meeting Expenses		560	570
Printing & Stationery		480	479
Postage & Telephone		1,475	1,508
Publications		1,595	299
Members Research			
Projects			
Library		418	370
Website & I/T Costs		7,931	2,653
Credit Card Charges		798	700
General		591	389
Advertising			203
Subscriptions		553	408
Equipment purchases		<u>2,074</u>	<u>100</u>
		39,142	<u>28,618</u>
Surplus for year		2,020	1,120
Bank Balance at 1 January 2023 (incl floats)		<u>36,006</u>	<u>34,886</u>
Closing Bank Balance at 31 December 2023 (incl floats)		38,026	36,006
Represented by:-			
	Bank Accounts	37,354	43,794
	Paypal Account	282	922
	Floats held by volunteers	<u>390</u>	<u>290</u>
		38,026	36,006

The full annual accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 will be available on the website. Alternatively on request to the treasurer, treasurer@gwsfhs.org.uk a copy will be emailed to you.

Programme of Meetings

18 March	18th Century Doctors <i>A talk with reference to the 18th century doctors Hunter, brothers from East Kilbride.</i>	Lesley McIlhagger
15 April	Women in the Air Force <i>Join us for an immersive presentation as Clare reveals the captivating timeline of womens contributions to the Royal Air Force. Learn how to navigate record sets by looking at test cases such as the poignant story of the first WAAF who tragically lost her life to enemy fire during World War 2.</i>	Clare Wilson
20 May	A Different Class of Lunatic <i>In this webinar, professional genealogist Catriona Haine will share her research into the pauper patients who were removed from the Glasgow Royal Asylum (Gartnavel) in the late 19th century. Her research included both asylum and poor law history in Scotland and what happened to the pauper patients at Gartnavel, along with case studies on individual patients and how different things turned out for them.</i>	Catriona Haine
17 June	Hoots Man! There's a Moose loose about the hoose! How to Carry out a house history in Scotland <i>In this talk, professional genealogist Lorna Kinnaird will share with us techniques for researching the history of your house.</i>	Lorna Kinnaird
15 July	Using FamilySearch for Scottish Genealogy Research <i>In this webinar, professional genealogist Alison Spring will help us learn about the free resources available on FamilySearch for researching our Scottish Ancestors. This talk is quite timely given that the Society now has official Affiliate Library status with FamilySearch.</i>	Alison Spring

These meetings will be held in the evening, (7.30pm) via Zoom. To register for any of these sessions please see the links on the GWSFHS website.

Please remember if you miss one of the talks when it is first 'broadcast', there is a link to the recordings through our website, providing the presenters give us permission.

Contact Us

By Post

GWSFHS, 32 Mansfield St, Glasgow, G11 5QP, Scotland

Online

Website: gwsfhs.org.uk

Facebook page: facebook.com/gwsfhs

Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/587314851642666

X (formerly Twitter): twitter.com/gwsfhs

Instagram: www.instagram.com/gwsfhs/

Email

Secretary@gwsfhs.org.uk

Editor@gwsfhs.org.uk

enews@gwsfhs.org.uk

ITSupport@gwsfhs.org.uk

Membership@gwsfhs.org.uk

By Phone: +44 (0) 141 339 8303

Please note that the phone will only be answered when the Research Centre is open. If you want to contact us otherwise we suggest using the Contact Form on the Website: <https://www.gwsfhs.org.uk/contact/>

Research Centre

The Research Centre is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 1-4pm. There is no need to book unless you want to ensure access to one of the computers.

e-News – monthly newsletter

The Society sends out an email newsletter open to both members and non-members. To receive it, you have to sign up because the software operates with extra security and permits people to unsubscribe. The sign-up is in the footer of each page on the website.

Previous issues can be seen at: gwsfhs.org.uk/services/e-news-archive/

The e-News editor welcomes contributions - please send them via the email above.

ISSN 2755-7731

Printed by Joshua Horgan Print & Design,
Unit 2, Glenmore Business Centre, Range Rd, Witney OX29 0AA

