



# SAFHS BULLETIN

April 2017

[www.safhs.org.uk](http://www.safhs.org.uk)

**Executive Committee** - Chairman: Janet M Bishop; Deputy Chairman: Stephen Benson; Secretary: Ken Nisbet; Treasurer: Bruce B Bishop; Bulletin Editor: Ian Leith; Acting Publications: Bruce B Bishop; Member: Lorna Kinnaird

## The 28<sup>th</sup> SAFHS Annual Conference *"Building Bridges; Making Connections"*



The SAFHS Conference 2017 will be held in Kinghorn, Fife, hosted by **ASGRA**  
(the Association of Scottish Genealogists & Researchers in Archives).

*There will also be a Family History Fair, with additional talks, bookable on the day*

*All the major Family History Societies will be there, as well as educational and commercial standholders, including ScotlandsPeople and FindMyPast*

*An Advice Stand manned by accredited professional genealogists, all members of ASGRA, AGRA and AGI, to answer all your genealogical queries in Scotland, England and Ireland.*

The date is **Saturday 22 April 2017**, and you can find all the details of the event on the association's website: <http://www.asgra.co.uk> & the SAFHS website: <http://www.safhs.org.uk>

**Contacts: Please contact via the SAFHS website [www.safhs.org.uk](http://www.safhs.org.uk)**

**Chairman: Janet M Bishop**  
**Deputy Chairman: Stephen Benson**  
**Secretary: Kenneth Nisbet**  
**Treasurer: Bruce B Bishop**  
**Publications: Bruce B Bishop**  
**Webmaster: Doug Stewart**  
**Bulletin Editor: Ian Leith**

**The next SAFHS Council Meeting** will take place on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017, at 12.45 pm** in **Studio 2, Glasgow Club Kelvin Hall, 1445 Argyle Street, Glasgow G3 8AW. The meeting will be over by approx. 3.00 p.m.**

Please note that the Council Meeting is open to **designated SAFHS Council Representatives only**. An agenda will be circulated to the designated SAFHS Council reps prior to the meeting. If any rep has not received an agenda 7 days before the meeting, please contact the Chairman.

### **OTHER SAFHS NEWS**

#### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee has met quarterly since October, in Edinburgh, and edited minutes have been sent to member societies.

#### **Website**

Items for the website should be submitted to Doug Stewart direct, including changes to your **website contact details** only.

#### **Bulletin Editor**

Ian Leith is now Editor and with immediate effect all items for the Bulletin should be sent to him by email – as usual, the deadline for items is the day of the Council Meeting. Please send in your items in plain Word format, with no boxes, etc, otherwise the editor will need to retype everything.

#### **Contacts List**

The Chairman maintains the official contacts list. If you have changes between council meetings, please send them to Janet by email.

#### **ScotlandsPeople Vouchers**

ScotlandsPeople vouchers are still useable on the new ScotlandsPeople website. The scheme has now ended, however, and no further vouchers are available.

#### **National Committee on Carved Stones in Scotland**

Bruce Bishop represents SAFHS on this committee.

#### **Visit Scotland Ancestral Tourism Group**

Bruce Bishop represents SAFHS on this group.

#### **SAFHS Archive**

Following discussions at the last Council Meeting, it has been decided to begin and maintain an online SAFHS archive. Member societies are asked to consider submitting material that can help build a history of SAFHS. Photographs, posters etc. will be welcomed and in the first instance material should be submitted to Murray Nicoll at [tvfhs@tayvalleyfhs.org.uk](mailto:tvfhs@tayvalleyfhs.org.uk)

## News from Member Societies

### **Aberdeen & NE Scotland FHS**

Our team of volunteers who staff the Research Centre continue to provide an excellent support service to new and experienced researchers and develop the resources available.

We recently changed our web site and now have a member's area, which is being added to all the time. We also moved away from subscriptions starting in January and ending in December. If you join 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017 your membership will expire 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018. So you get a full year no matter when you join.

The meetings of the Society in Aberdeen, Elgin, Glasgow and Edinburgh continue to be well attended. Our Aberdeen meetings are held in the Unitarian Church Hall. Our Glasgow branch meetings are held in St Stephens Church Centre. Renfield St. The Edinburgh branch is held in Royal Scots Club, Abercromby Place, and our Moray Branch has meetings in Elgin Library.

Full details including speakers can be found via our website.

The society's latest titles:

- *From Elgin to the Far East - John Cumming 1805-1856*, by Duncan Cumming (£9.00) (*Latest winner of our Bruce Henderson Award*)
- MIs for The Kirkyard of Oldmeldrum (1891 extension) (£7.50)
- MIs for The Kirkyard of Fetteresso (£7.50)
- The multi volume work on MIs for the Cemetery at Nellfield, Aberdeen was distributed by Standing Order and subscription. There are a very few copies left (£15.00). Please check on availability before payment for this item ([publications@anesfhs.org.uk](mailto:publications@anesfhs.org.uk)) (Postage and packing extra)

Our Research Centre is at 158-164 King St. Aberdeen. AB24 5BD

The opening hours are:

Monday - Friday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Saturday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

**Contact:** Chairman, Aberdeen and NE Scotland FHS, 158-164 King Street, Aberdeen AB24 5BD.

**Tel:** 01224 646323;

**E-mail:** [enquiries@anesfhs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@anesfhs.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.anesfhs.org.uk](http://www.anesfhs.org.uk)

### **Anglo Scottish FHS**

Attendance at our meetings through last summer has been variable with numbers unfortunately, down. This was due, to some extent, to the closure for maintenance work of the metro station adjacent to the Library.

The long walk to our venue has deterred some members. However, that is now behind us and the numbers have since improved. We continue with our help desk on the mornings of our meetings, attendance is slowly increasing.



We have now completed the upgrading of our Scottish Marriage Index webpage. Those searching are now presented with a much more friendly presentation of results. For contributors there is a new page where data can be input, to be approved by an administrator before inclusion in the database.

Whilst we would encourage contributors to use this method, data can still be sent to [smi@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:smi@mlfhs.org.uk). You can access the Index at <http://www.anglo-scots.mlfhs.org.uk/smi/smi.php>.

We all enjoyed the talk by Dr. Morrow. Other meetings for the winter season covered military research, the use of maps in family history as well as our social gathering in January with members talking about their family heirlooms.

Future meetings will cover the Border Reivers and **The National Covenant and the Scottish People** of 1638, examining its significance in understanding Scottish political identity.

A recent addition is the publishing of a monthly newsletter. This is not restricted to our members but available to anyone. Past editions can be viewed at <http://www.anglo-scots.mlfhs.org.uk/scotia/scotia.php> where you can also subscribe to receive future editions.

Meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month, starting at 2.00pm, except August and December. Non-members of the Society are always welcome. The help desk is open from 10.30am until 1.00pm.

There will not be a meeting in April as WDYTYA Family History Fair at Birmingham, Easter, the SAFHS conference and then the spring bank holiday take all available weekends.

**Contact:** Michael J Couper, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Manchester Central Library, St Peter's Square, Manchester, M2 5PD  
**E-mail:** [angloscots@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:angloscots@mlfhs.org.uk)  
**Website:** [www.anglo-scots.mlfhs.org.uk](http://www.anglo-scots.mlfhs.org.uk)

### **ASGRA**

ASGRA, as the leading professional genealogical association in Scotland, continues to go from strength to strength.

In September, we marked the new formal alliance with our Irish counterparts, the Accredited Genealogists Ireland, with a joint two-day event in Belfast.

Based at PRONI in the Titanic Quarter, delegates had the opportunity to visit other repositories such as the Linen Hall Library and the Presbyterian Historical Society archives.

At the AGM in February, Janet Bishop was elected as Chairman for her 8<sup>th</sup> successive year. John McGee was reappointed Treasurer, Val Wilson and Kirsty Wilkinson as ordinary members of council together with a new appointment of Ian Marson.

In the wake of the continuing review of systems and procedures, new posts of Vice-chairman and Immediate Past Chairman have been introduced and Fellowship grade instituted for those who have made a long term and substantial commitment to the association.

As the only association of accredited professional genealogists in Scotland ASGRA has also updated its personal data policy, complaints procedure and code of practice in line with best practice. Our alliance with colleagues in the Accredited Genealogist Ireland goes from strength to strength and we hope to undertake some form of joint continuing professional development later in the year. And finally, work proceeds unabated on preparations for the SAFHS conference in Fife and we are looking forward very much to hosting the event.

**Contact:** Janet M Bishop, Chairman  
**Email:** [info@asgra.co.uk](mailto:info@asgra.co.uk)  
**Website:** [www.asgra.co.uk](http://www.asgra.co.uk)

### **Borders FHS**

Archive & Research Centre opening hours until November 2017 - Monday 6pm to 8pm, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10am to 4pm.

If you are unable to visit, we offer a Research Service. Contact us via our website, email, Facebook or by post.

We can help you break down those brick walls and source information on your ancestors and their families.

The Society gratefully appreciates the many members who keep the Society running and welcome visitors to our Archive & Research Room.

Our new bigger, brighter research room will be opening in April following stage 2 of the refurbishment of our premises at 52 Overhaugh Street, Galashiels.

Monumental Inscriptions for the parish of Edrom have now been published.



In addition to transcriptions and photographs of the 650 gravestones and memorials at Edrom churchyard, the publication includes individuals listed in the 1694 Hearth Tax, Pollable Persons of 1695, Militia List of 1801, Militia Families Vouchers of 1809, 1812, 1813.

The parish War Memorial and Roll of Honour are also included with the Edrom School Admission Register 1868-1901 which lists 918 individuals. Available at £9.00 plus p&p from our Sales Convenor.

'Full of Egotism, Diary of Rev John Hastie' Minister of the Parish from 1797 to 1822 is an interesting read. No fewer than 774 individuals are mentioned, not always in favourable terms, providing additional details on the lives of those he met in his daily life. Available at £6.50 plus p & p from our Sales Convenor.

The Society continues to record and photograph the burial places throughout the Borders and if not yet published, draft transcriptions are available for researchers.

### Programme of talks and events:

- Sunday 26 Mar 2017 - Mulling Over Melrose with ScotlandsPlaces by Kim Beasley
- Saturday 8 April 2017 - Monumental Inscription recording at Chirnside Churchyard
- Sunday 30 Apr 2017 - Farm Servants of South -east Scotland 1750 -1914 by David McLean
- Sunday 28 May 2017- AGM followed by a talk to be confirmed
- September 2017 - Borders FHS will be participating in the Borders Heritage Festival.

All Borders FHS talks start at 2.30pm and will be held in the Corn Exchange & Ormiston Institute, Market Square, Melrose, TD6 9PN.

Our Police & Criminal project now has over 17,000 individual arrests from 1854 to 1918.

The records have provided a unique insight into the soldiers who were stationed at Stobs Camp prior to WWI and while the site was used as a Prisoner of War camp. The project is currently focussing on the Criminal Registers for Hawick, Roxburghshire and Berwickshire

**Address:** 52 Overhaugh Street, Galashiels, TD1 1DP

**E-mail:** [info@bordersfhs.org.uk](mailto:info@bordersfhs.org.uk)

**Research:** [research@bordersfhs.org.uk](mailto:research@bordersfhs.org.uk):

**Website:** [www.bordersfhs.org.uk](http://www.bordersfhs.org.uk)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/BordersFHS>

**Twitter:** @bordersfhs

### Caithness FHS

Members of Caithness Family History Society are delighted that The Caithness Archive has successfully relocated its entire collection, dating back to the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, to the new 'Nucleus' facility in Wick, where archives are preserved in ideal controlled conditions.

Archive staff continue to create a welcoming atmosphere in which they share their expert knowledge with members of the public researching family history.

Representatives from CFHS look forward to attending the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual SAFHS Conference "Building Bridges: Making Connections at Kinghorn. If you are attending the Conference please make connections with us at the CFHS table.

At our AGM in October 2016 all members of the committee were returned to serve another year. We are delighted to see that we are continuing to attract new members from all over the world.

In November we were extremely pleased to have a visit from Bruce and Janet Bishop who travelled to the far north to meet us. Bruce talked about Kirk Session Minutes: the lives, loves and sins of a parish. This most interesting talk promoted great interest and discussion amongst our members.

In December Muriel Murray delivered a very interesting talk: The Australian Connection - about men from Caithness who made their way to New South Wales in Australia in the early nineteenth century. Her meticulous research identified the names, social background and skills associated with these men. However, she highlighted one man, namely James Malcolm whose identity had proved a challenge to trace. By the end of the meeting all members of the audience felt inspired to assist in her research.

In January 2017 Florence Allan delivered a talk about her family who recently celebrated 100 years of living and working at the farm of Cairnfield, Weydale, Caithness. Florence not only talked of the family history, which gave an insight to farming life in Caithness but she brought many artefacts, which stimulated excellent discussion.

In February there was a Presentation by Ken

McElroy and Iain MacLean from the "Caithness Broch Project". There was an excellent attendance at Caithness Horizons where Ken and Iain endeavoured to map out the ambitious plans for the Caithness Broch Project.

Their enthusiasm was evident as they explained that there are more broch sites in Caithness than anywhere else in Scotland, yet to date little has been done to promote them. The Caithness Broch Project aims to rebuild a Broch, using the same techniques as the original builders, to provide an insight into how Iron Age people lived their lives in Caithness.

In March Lord Lieutenant of Caithness, Anne Dunnett intrigued listeners with her talk on Coincidences?!

Forthcoming Events:

- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm in Caithness Horizons, Thurso, Alan McIvor will give a talk on the 'Old St Peters Church, Thurso.'
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in Caithness Horizons, Thurso there will be a presentation delivered by Dunbeath Preservation Trust on 'Changes at Dunbeath Heritage Museum.'

**Website:** [www.caithnessfhs.org.uk](http://www.caithnessfhs.org.uk)

### **Central FHS**

We meet, usually on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, from October to May in the Lecture Theatre of the Smith Art Gallery and Museum, 40 Albert Place, Stirling at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to listen to the informative talks and to stay and have a cuppa and a chat with other members at the end of the meeting. Visitors pay £2 per visit.

Already this year we have had talks on what has become available online recently, Aberdeen and the North-East resources, the

Victoria Cross, Tracing your Naval Ancestors and Convicts and Transportation.

We also had a very successful Christmas social evening where the highlight was a talk on the Court of the Lord Lyon given by SAFHS patron, Dr Joseph Morrow.

Our syllabus for the rest of the year is as follows:

- 12 April 2017 - "Memories and Memory" by Anne Reid, Director of Speaking Lives
- 3 May 2017 - "The Life and Times of a Bairn from Bainsford" by Dr Sinclair, preceded by our AGM

**Contact:** Hon. Secretary, CSFHS, 4 Fir Lane, Larbert, FK5 3LW

**Website:** [www.csfhs.org.uk](http://www.csfhs.org.uk)

### **East Ayrshire FHS**

**Meetings:** Evening meetings are held at 7 pm in The Johnnie Walker Bond, Strand Street, Kilmarnock, on the second Thursday of the months September to May. Visitors are welcome. Workshops are held in New Farm Loch Community Centre, Kilmarnock from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm on most other Thursday afternoons throughout the year.

At the evening meeting in February, Simon Houison Craufurd gave a fascinating talk about his ancestral home, Craufurdland Castle, Kilmarnock. He related historical stories, and some legends, about members of the Craufurd family and showed slides of the modern interior of the Castle.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to two **special events**, which East Ayrshire FHS is hosting in March. Firstly, the joint meeting of the family history societies in Ayrshire is being held on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The speaker is Dr Irene O'Brien of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow and her topic is Heritage Along the Clyde. Then, on March 18<sup>th</sup>, EAFHS is hosting a Local and Family History Fair in the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock, in celebration of

our twentieth anniversary. We are delighted that five other family history societies from Ayrshire and neighbouring counties are taking part in this event along with eight local heritage groups and four other organisations, including Family Search and Carn Publishing.

The speaker at the April meeting is local author Dane Love and in May the AGM will be followed by a talk by Daniel Ross about collecting postcards.

**Other events:** EAFHS will have a stand at the SAFHS Conference on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April in the Bay Hotel, Pettycur, Kinghorn and at the South Ayrshire Local History and Family History Fair on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June in the Walker Halls, Troon. If you are attending either of these events, do come and meet us.

### **Diary Dates** in SAFHS Bulletin April 2017

- 11<sup>th</sup> May EAFHS: AGM & talk on *Postcards* by Daniel Ross, 7 pm, Johnnie Walker Bond, Kilmarnock
- 14<sup>th</sup> September EAFHS: Enrolment & talk, 7 pm, Johnnie Walker Bond, Kilmarnock.

**Contact:** Secretary, East Ayrshire FHS, c/o Dick Institute, Elmbank Avenue, Kilmarnock, KA1 3BU

**Email:** [enquiries@eastayrshirefhs.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastayrshirefhs.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.eastayrshirefhs.co.uk](http://www.eastayrshirefhs.co.uk)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/eafhs](http://www.facebook.com/eafhs)

### **Fife FHS**

Fife Family History Society held its first Family History/Local History Fair on the 8<sup>th</sup> October in the Carnegie Conference Centre in Dunfermline. It was judged to be a great success, with one speaker, Robert Watt, coming all the way from Canada

**Cupar Library.** Our Family History books and manuscripts have now been removed from Methil to Cupar Library, and our Hon Vice-President, Archie Lumsden, officially opened our Research Room there on 20th August.

A huge thanks must go to the Committee Members who assisted in the "flitting" but especially to Alison and Frances for all their hard work in getting our stock moved from Methil to Cupar and set up in its new home.

Our research room will now be manned three times per week by Fife FHS volunteers to offer assistance and guidance to members and non-members with their family histories. The Room will be open on the following days and times: Tuesday; 12 – 7: Wednesday; 10 – 3: Saturday; 10 -3

As well as our own resources, Cupar Library has a really good card index to the local newspapers and also to the Dundee Courier. It also has files of the major Fife newspapers, the Fife Herald, Fife Journal (complete, 1833-1893), and Fife News, all published from Cupar, which covered the whole of Fife, and also of the East of Fife Record (1856-1917) and the East Fife Observer (1914-1967), both published from Anstruther, which covered the East of Fife.

Our microfilms of the Fife OPR and Census returns will remain at Methil Library, so family research will still be able to be undertaken there.

**Hugh Hoffman.** "For men may come and men may go, but I go on forever." These lines are from Alfred, Lord Tennyson's The Brook. We would have wished that Hugh Hoffman could have gone on forever with the Fife Family History Society, but at the end of 2016 he has decided to hang up his magnifying glass, and retire from the Committee. During his long service with the Fife FHS he has held many positions, at one time (when there was a shortage of members on the Committee) he wore three hats at the same time – those of Chairman, Treasurer, and Publications. He regularly attended all the SAFHS and other Fairs, driving to all parts of the country without the aid of a SAT-NAV. His knowledge of the towns of Scotland, gained in his student days when he acted as

a driver, stood him in good stead when he drove to these Fairs, and always amazed his fellow passenger on these journeys, the Editor (who, it might be added, always gets lost in Glenrothes). In recognition of his sterling work to the Fife FHS over the years, the Society has made him an Honorary Vice-President (the second highest honour it can bestow), to sit alongside Archie Lumsden, who was appointed Hon Vice-President when he retired.

We will continue to see Hugh (and his wife, Doris), at various Fairs and events in the future, so he will not be entirely lost to Family History. Mr Andrew Campbell will be Acting Chairman until the AGM

**e-journal** - In order to keep our costs down (especially postage, which is now very expensive, almost prohibitive), we would like to encourage as many members as possible to take out subscription for the electronic Journal. The e-Journal has many advantages over the printed Journal. The illustrations are clearer, they can be reproduced in colour, and the typeface of the text can be adjusted to suit your needs. It is also much cheaper to deliver, doing, as it does, away with postage. Of course, there will always be those who prefer the printed word, and a hard-copy Journal will always continue to be reproduced. We look forward to your help in this matter.

The Fife Family History Society will be hosting the 2018 SAFHS Conference, and we are now busy preparing for this. It will be held on 21 April 2018, and the venue will be the Rothes Halls, Glenrothes. It will have a Convict theme, and we are using the opportunity to launch a Convict CD, The Fife Kalendar of Convicts, 1790-1880. Some 20 years in the making, it is an indexing to many of the Courts in Fife, as well as the High Court records, including the AD14 precognitions and the JC26 Court records.

Next comes Cupar and Dunfermline Sheriff

Courts, and below that the lower courts - Burgh/Police/Magistrates Courts, and the Justice of the Peace Courts.

In addition, searches have been made into Statutory Registration and OPRs (to try and add some Births, Marriages and Deaths to the Convicts), as well as Census Returns.

Information has also been extracted from the Fife newspapers, which begin with the Fife Herald of 1822, and, as well as the Herald, other newspapers consulted include the Fife Journal (Cupar), Fife Advertiser (Kirkcaldy), Fife Free Press (Kirkcaldy), and East of Fife Record (Anstruther). It really has been an enormous task.

### ***Glasgow & West of Scotland FHS***

**IMPORTANT** all meetings (unless otherwise stated) are held in the Gilchrist Theatre at Kelvinside Academy, 33 Kirklee Road, Glasgow, G12 0SW and entry is via the Kirklee Rd entrance.

The meetings start at 7:30pm prompt and the remaining meetings for 2016/17 session are on:

- Monday 20 March 2017 Andrew Nicholl – “Catholic Burial Grounds in Scotland”
- Monday 10 April 2017 AGM and James Slavin – “Communion tokens and Family History”
- Monday 15 May 2017 Stephen Mullen – “Glasgow's Built Heritage: Tobacco, Slavery and Abolition” - NOTE: The venue for the May meeting will be at St. Peter's Parish Hall, Hyndland Street, Partick, G11 5PS.

Information on the meetings can be found on the Society's website and reports of the talks are usually given in the Society's Newsletter published three times a year in March, June and October. Please note that any changes to venues will be advertised on the Society Website or the Society Facebook.

The monthly electronic newsletter, E-NEWS, is sent out to all members with an email address. This provides members not just with the Society's news updates but general news as well.

Back issues can be viewed on the members only area of the website that also includes several databases together with information from recent talks.

The Society has a Research Centre at Unit 13, 32 Mansfield Street, Partick, Glasgow. It is situated just off Dumbarton Road and is well served by public transport - Kelvinhall Underground Station is also nearby.

The Centre's opening hours are:

- Tuesday from 2 pm until 4.30 pm  
*(for a trial, the centre will open at 10 am)*
- Thursday from 10 am until 8.30 pm
- Saturday from 2 pm until 4.30 pm  
*(except for Easter Saturday and 3-4 weeks over Christmas & New Year. For exact dates please check the Society's website)*

Non-members can join the Society when they visit and then get immediate access to the collections. Our facilities include photocopier, research computers, microfiche and microfilm viewers, a fiche/film copier and access to the Internet. Guidance is available to members on request.

As well as frequent additions to the Society's library there are also regular additions to the computers in the centre. The library additions include both new publications and out-of-print books and the library catalogue can be searched on the Society's website.

Members have donated many of the books and in addition to the library holdings we hold:

- 1841, 1851 and 1861 census films for our area and indexes for these.

- 1881 census and indexes for the whole of Scotland, England & Wales.
- 1891 census index for the whole of Scotland and the films for our area.
- 1901 census index for the whole of Scotland and the films for our area.

The Society also offers a wide range of publications for sale and details of these can be viewed on the Society's website.

**Contact:** G&WSFHS, Unit 13, 32 Mansfield Street, Glasgow  
G11 5QP: Tel: 0141-339 8303

**Website:** [www.gwsfhs.org.uk](http://www.gwsfhs.org.uk)

**Twitter:** @GWSFHS

### **Lanarkshire FHS**

Our Motherwell Research Centre continues to attract members and visitors to carry out their research. We extend a welcome to the members of all SAFHS societies who have any Lanarkshire research to come and visit us. At this time of year we start to welcome many overseas people on trips to Scotland to further their ancestor's research.

Our military group continue their research into the Lanarkshire men who fell during the First World War. The latest books completed are "The Fallen of Shotts", "The Fallen of Overtown, Waterloo and Castlehill" and "The Fallen of Drumpellier Golf Club, Coatbridge".

We have also released school books titled: - Beckford Street Public School Hamilton - Register 1889 - 1909, Dalsersf Parish School 1886 - 1915, Coalburn Public School 1889 - 1910 and Wiston Public School 1889 - 1921.

The latest 'Monumental Inscription' books are Airdrie Clarkston Churchyard, and Lesmahagow Graveyard.

I look forward to seeing you all at the SAFHS Conference and Fair on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April in the Bay Hotel Kinghorn. Our own 'Local and Family History Show' on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September in the Concert Hall Motherwell is progressing well with many SAFHS member

societies already having booked tables.

**Contact:** North Lanarkshire Heritage Centre, 1 High Road, Motherwell. ML1 3HU.: Research Centre address: 122 - 124 Merry Street, Motherwell. ML1 1NA.

**E-mail:** [secretary-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:secretary-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.lanarkshirefhs.org.uk](http://www.lanarkshirefhs.org.uk)

### **Lothians FHS**

Our team of volunteers continue to provide an excellent support service to new and experienced researchers and have continued our program of transcribing the burial indexes for Midlothian.

We have attended the Fife FHS Fair on 8<sup>th</sup> October and a local event at the Dalkeith Museum on 5<sup>th</sup> November. Our next event will be at the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual SAFHS Conference 2017 at Kinghorn on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

The 2017 program is as follows:

- Mar 8 - 'Mining in the Lothians' by Alan Donaldson
- April 12 - 'Master Masons in Family History' by Rosemary Garrod
- May 10 - 'Photography for Family Historians'

Talks are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the Library, Lasswade Centre, Bonnyrigg. Workshops take place each Wednesday evening from 7 till 9 pm. The Lasswade Centre is a 10 minutes walk from the main bus stops and has a large car park.

**Contact:** Lothians FHS, the Library, Lasswade Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg, EH19 2LA.

**E-mail:** [lothiansfhs@hotmail.com](mailto:lothiansfhs@hotmail.com)

**Website:** [www.lothiansfhs.org.uk](http://www.lothiansfhs.org.uk)

**Facebook:** [Lothians FHS](https://www.facebook.com/LothiansFHS)

### **North Ayrshire FHS**

In November, we joined with the Largs Historical Society, who hosted the annual Joint Meeting, where Dr. S. Morrison gave a very interesting illustrated talk on 'People's Histories: Exploring oral history in the community'. This was followed in December

by the Christmas Social the speaker being Val Reilly, whose talk 'To Honour the Angels: the story of the Christmas Carol', explained the origins of well known Christmas carols. This was followed by an enjoyable supper provided by the committee.

One of our members, John Riddell, began the new session by telling us of his investigations into the life of George Nixon Duck, who was a notable Fairlie resident at the time of the building of the Fairlie Tunnel and whether it had a part in his downfall.

February brought Tom Barclay from the Carnegie Library in Ayr providing details of the beginnings of the Library and its resources. A visit is planned for 27<sup>th</sup> April to allow members to see behind the scenes, and the resources that could be helpful to them.

The annual Joint Meeting of the three family history societies in Ayrshire, and hosted by E.A.F.H.S. will be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March, in the Johnnie Walker Bond, in Strand Street, Kilmarnock. The speaker will be Dr. I. O'Brien from the Mitchell Library, Glasgow and her topic will be 'The Heritage of the Clyde'. A treat in store, I am sure.

At our March meeting, J. O Neill will be telling us about the 'Fenwick Weavers'. This will be a topic of interest to members with weavers and particularly Fenwick Weavers in their ancestry. On 11<sup>th</sup> April we shall learn, in a talk given by Dr. I Matheson titled 'The Union of the Parliaments' of the various events that led up to this dramatic event.

On 9<sup>th</sup> May, our year will end with the A.G.M., possibly a quiz and a light supper.

Through some grant aid, the society has had the IGI for 1981 digitised and is now available to all.

It is easy to use and anyone can take away information specific to his or her area of interest to work on at home. It is hoped to extend this in future.

All meetings are held in the evenings on the second Tuesday of the month in the Community Room in Largs Library beginning at 7.30pm., unless otherwise stated.

The **Find your ain Folks** workshops are also held in the Community Room from **2-30-4-30pm.** on the last Thursday of the month, September to April.

**Contact:** Largs Library, 26, Allanpark Street, Largs, KA30 9AG

**E-mail:** [ann.clydeview@outlook.com](mailto:ann.clydeview@outlook.com)

**Website:** [www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

### **Scottish Genealogy Society**

The Scottish Genealogy Society is the longest established family history society in Scotland and our library and research centre are located at 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL, where members and non-members are welcome. Enthusiastic volunteers, who are happy to assist researchers and offer advice, staff the library. UK annual membership is £20 and overseas membership is £25, which includes receipt of 4 journals a year. The library is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10.30-5.30, Wednesday 10.30-7.30 and Saturday 10.00-5.00. The library offers access to both Ancestry and Find My Past, as well as the myriad Internet sites offering free access. The ScotlandsPeople website can also be accessed using the visitor's account.

The society holds all the microfiche and microfilm records of the Old Parish Registers for the whole of Scotland, of which copies can be taken at a charge of 30p. One of the strengths of the society is its collection of Monumental Inscriptions, which are continuously added to and can be viewed free of charge, or purchased as required. The extensive reference library holds many rare and interesting volumes.

Our website offers a wealth of information with numerous links which are helpful to family and local researchers. Monthly meetings are held between September and

April (see website for details).

The society also organises a series of courses on Saturday mornings in the library. Upcoming topics include 'Beginners', 'Irish Records' and 'Kirk Session Records'. Please see the website for further details.

**Contact:** *Scottish Genealogy Society, 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2JL*

**Tel/Fax:** 0131 220 3677

**E-mail:** [enquires@scotsgenealogy.com](mailto:enquires@scotsgenealogy.com)

**Website:** [www.scotsgenealogy.com](http://www.scotsgenealogy.com)

### **Shetland FHS**

The Society celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 with an Open Day at the office on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> and a lunch-time buffet for past and present trustees and volunteers on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>. Our quarterly journal, 'Coontin Kin', number 100, was a special anniversary issue, documenting the history of the society and with a bright Fair Isle pattern cover, which has generated much interest from Shetland descendants and knitters alike.

Our very popular 'Sharing Shetland Surnames' project continues. When we heard that forty-two people of Pearson descent from the U.S. and Canada were preparing to visit Shetland in July 2016, that name had to have priority.

It was exciting to meet everyone at the Vidlin Hall on 28<sup>th</sup> July – ages ranging from 7 months to eighty-five years! The surname Henry had already been chosen and there were also many descendants from that name at events in the Walls Hall in June. The project continues this year with the names chosen for 2017 being Goudie, with events in May and Robertson chosen for September - Robertson being a "patronymic" surname calls for extensive input by the research team.

As most of the society's membership does not live in the Isles, research is free for members, with email requests numbering

about 100 annually. As well as numerous visitors, visits from cruise ships increase every year, always bringing someone to research their roots just for a few hours.

Shetland has a large network of local history groups researching their own area, but most have genealogy interest too, where we all share information with colleagues, so that any request for help does not go unanswered. We are all getting geared up for another busy year, which began in January with visitors from as far away as Australia coming to take part in Lerwick's annual Viking Fire Festival, Up-Helly-Aa!

**Contact:** *Secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth M. Angus, Shetland F.H.S., 6 Hillhead, Lerwick, Shetland, ZE1 0EJ (Premises are open every weekday afternoon from 2-4p.m. and at other times by appointment)*

**E-mail:** [secretary@shetland-fhs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@shetland-fhs.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.shetland-fhs.org.uk](http://www.shetland-fhs.org.uk)

### **West Lothian FHS**

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month from September to June at 7.00 pm at the Lanthorn Centre, Kenilworth Rise, Dedridge, Livingston EH54 6JL. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

- 7 February 2017 - our speaker was Craig Statham of the National Library of Scotland. Our thanks to Craig who gave a very interesting and informative talk on Maps and Local History to around 45 of our members. All enjoyed a very successful evening that.
- 7 March 2017 – members' focus group
- 4 April 2017 - members' focus group
- 2 May 2017 – our speaker will be Margaret Fox. Margaret's talk will be "The deidis latterwills and legacies" - lifting the veil on past lives.
- 6 June 2017 – our Annual General Meeting

The Society continues to grow from strength to strength and we are very fortunate that we continue to have an excellent turnout of members to all of our meetings and talks.

We also have office space within the Library at the Lanthorn Centre, where we are happy to welcome along new members. We aim to provide a similar service to that which we already currently have in place at the Local History Library in Linlithgow, where we provide a "helping hand" to anyone who pops in to the Local History Library

Lanthorn days and times: Mondays 10.00 am till 3.00 pm and Tuesdays and Thursdays 11.00 am till 4.00 pm. Linlithgow days and times: Wednesdays and Fridays between 11.00 am and 3.00 pm.

The Lanthorn is also a place for people to come along and meet us and learn what the Society is all about. With the help of our member volunteers we aim to provide beginners start up sessions as well as giving a helping hand to all members, old and new, to explore various websites to get the best out of them, further their knowledge and to help grow their family trees.

We continue to have our monthly visits to New Register House on the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month. The visits are very well attended by our members and more often than not our 40 places are taken up. New members are welcome to attend and our steadfast members will assist anyone who needs help with their research.

This year, in support of the 2017 year of Scottish History, Heritage and Culture, we are holding a number of family history workshops throughout West Lothian, all from 10.00 am until 12.30 pm.

Our first workshop took place at Linlithgow Library on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February and was

well attended by local people, some of whom came along to our subsequent members' meeting. We are grateful for the positive feedback we received.

Further workshops are planned:

- Armadale Library – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March
- Carmondean Connected – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April
- West Calder Library – Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May
- Simpson Library – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June
- Blackburn Connected – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July
- East Calder Library – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August
- Whitburn Library – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September
- Fauldhouse Library – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October
- Broxburn Library – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November

These workshops will provide an introduction to anyone who wishes to look into their family tree but doesn't know where to start. There will be member volunteers of the Society on hand to assist with on-line searches etc so please come along to see what you could learn about your ancestors.

Our membership remains at £10 for single members, £15 for a couple from the same household and £12.00 for overseas membership.

**Contact:** *Secretary, West Lothian Family History Society, c/o 21 Willowpark, Fauldhouse, West Lothian EH47 9HN*

**E-mail:** [sec@wlfhs.org.uk](mailto:sec@wlfhs.org.uk)

**Membership Enquiries:** [member@wlfhs.org.uk](mailto:member@wlfhs.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.wlfhs.org.uk](http://www.wlfhs.org.uk)



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 The Scottish Association of Family History Societies

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### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

**British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa**, P.O. Box 38026, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 1N0, Canada

**Cumbria Family History Society**, 23 School Fold, Hesketh Bank, West Lancashire, PR4 6RE

**Scottish Group**, Genealogical Society of Queensland, P.O. Box 3070, Stafford DC, Queensland 4053, Australia

**Shoalhaven Family History Society**, P.O. Box 591, Nowra, NSW 2541, Australia

**Scottish Interest Group**, Western Australian Genealogical Society, 6/48 May Street, Bayswater, Western Australia 6053

**South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc**, Box 592, Adelaide 5001, South Australia

**The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc**, GPO Box 585, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia

***Diary Dates 2016-17***

- 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (Monday) **Catholic Burial Grounds in Scotland** by Andrew Nicholl 7.30.p.m. at Gilchrist Theatre at Kelvinside Academy, 33 Kirklee Road, Glasgow, G12 0SW (Glasgow & West of Scotland FHS)
- 26<sup>th</sup> Mar 2017 (Sunday) **Mulling Over Melrose with ScotlandsPlaces** by Kim Beasley 2.30 p.m. at the Corn Exchange & Ormiston Institute, Market Square, Melrose, TD6 9PN. (Borders FHS)
- 8<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (Saturday) **Monumental Inscription recording** at Chirnside Churchyard 2.30.p.m. (Borders FHS)
- 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (Monday) **Communion Tokens and Family History** by James Slavin 7.30 p.m.at Gilchrist Theatre at Kelvinside Academy, 33 Kirklee Road, Glasgow, G12 0SW (Glasgow & West of Scotland FHS)
- 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (Tuesday) **The Union of the Parliaments** by Dr. I Matheson 7.30 at Community Room in Largs Library (North Ayrshire FLS)
- 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (Tuesday) **Brackletter & Cille Choiril** (Lochaber & NAFHG)
- 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (Wednesday) **Old St Peter's Church, Thurso** by Alan McIvor 7.00.p.m. at Caithness Horizons, Thurso (Caithness FHS)
- 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (Wednesday) **Memories and Memory** by Anne Reid, Director of Speaking Lives 7.30 p.m. at the Lecture Theatre of the Smith Art Gallery and Museum, 40 Albert Place, Stirling (Central FHS)
- 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (Wednesday) **Master Masons in Family History** by Rosemary Garrod 7.00.p.m. at Lasswade Centre, Bonnyrigg (Lothians FHS)
- 13 April 2017(Thursday) **Lost Villages of Ayrshire** by Dane Love, 7 pm, Johnnie Walker Bond, Kilmarnock (E Ayrshire FHS)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017 (Saturday) The 28<sup>th</sup> SAFHS Annual Conference- **Building Bridges: Making Connections**
- 30<sup>th</sup> Apr 2017 (Sunday) **Farm Servants of South -east Scotland 1750 -1914** by David McLean 2.30 p.m. at the Corn Exchange & Ormiston Institute, Market Square, Melrose, TD6 9PN. (Borders FHS)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 (Tuesday) **The Deidis Latterwills and Legacies** by Margaret Fox 7.00.p.m. at Lanthorn Centre, Kenilworth Rise, Dedridge, Livingston EH54 6JL (West Lothian FHS)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 (Wednesday) **The Life and Times of a Bairn from Bainsford** by Dr Sinclair, preceded by our AGM 7.30 p.m. at the Lecture Theatre of the Smith Art Gallery and Museum, 40 Albert Place, Stirling (Central FHS)
- 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (Wednesday) **Photography for Family Historians** 7.00.p.m. at The Library, Lasswade Centre, Bonnyrigg (Lothians FHS)
- 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (Wednesday) **Changes at Dunbeath Heritage Museum** by Dunbeath Preservation Trust 7pm in Caithness Horizons, Thurso (Caithness FHS)
- 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (Thursday) **AGM & talk on Postcards** by Daniel Ross, 7 pm, Johnnie Walker Bond, Strand Street, Kilmarnock (East Ayrshire FHS)
- 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (Monday) **Glasgow's Built Heritage: Tobacco, Slavery and Abolition** by Stephen Mullen 7.30.p.m. at St. Peter's Parish Hall, Hyndland Street, Partick, G11 5PS. (Glasgow & West of Scotland FHS)
- 28<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (Sunday) **AGM**, followed by **The Deid's Letterwills and Legacies**: Margaret Fox, 2.30 pm, Corn Exchange & Ormiston Institute, Market Square, Melrose (Borders FHS)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 (Saturday) **South Ayrshire Local History and Family History Fair** at Walker Halls, Troon
- 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017 (Tuesday) **Annual General Meeting** 7.00.p.m. at Lanthorn Centre, Kenilworth Rise, Dedridge, Livingston EH54 6JL (West Lothian FHS)

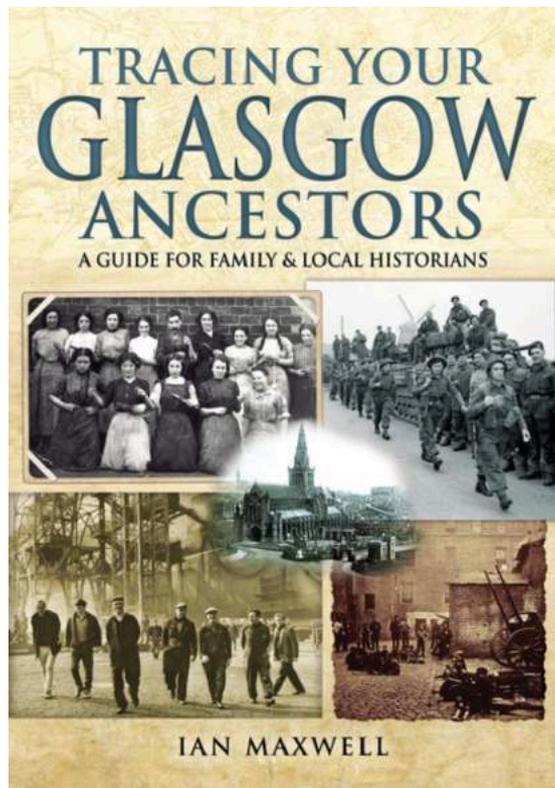
2<sup>nd</sup> Sept. 2017 (Saturday) **Local and Family History Show** at Concert Hall, Motherwell (Lanarkshire FHS)  
 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017 **Enrolment & talk**, 7 pm, Johnnie Walker Bond, Strand Street, Kilmarnock (East Ayrshire FHS)  
 September 2017 Borders FHS will be participating in the **Borders Heritage Festival**.

**SAFHS Publications, April 2017**

|  | £      | UK   | Eur  | Rest |
|--|--------|------|------|------|
| Parish Registers in the Kirk Session Minutes of the Church of Scotland | £ 4.00 | 2.20 | 3.80 | 5.70 |
| The Parishes, Registers and Registrars of Scotland (New Edition)       | £ 6.75 | 2.20 | 3.80 | 5.70 |
| Registers of the Secession Churches in Scotland                        | £ 4.00 | 2.20 | 3.80 | 5.70 |
| Researching Scottish Graveyards  | £ 4.50 | 1.50 | 2.95 | 3.30 |
| Scots Abroad, Part 1   | £ 4.50 | 2.20 | 3.25 | 4.50 |
| A Scottish Historian's Glossary  | £ 4.50 | 1.50 | 2.95 | 3.30 |
| Scottish Trades, Professions, Vital Records and Directories            | £ 7.00 | 2.20 | 3.80 | 5.70 |
| Weights and Measures   | £ 3.75 | 2.20 | 3.25 | 4.50 |

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**Book Review**



**Tracing Your Glasgow Ancestors** is a volume in the series of city ancestral guides designed for readers and researchers who want to find out about life in Glasgow where the key sources for its history can be found. It describes the rise of Glasgow through tobacco, shipping, manufacturing and trade from a minor cathedral town to the cosmopolitan centre of the present day.

Ian Maxwell's book focuses on the lives of the local people both rich and poor and on their experience as Glasgow developed around them. It looks at their living conditions, at health and the ravages of disease, at the influence of religion and migration and education. It is the story of the Irish and Highland migrants, Quakers, Jews, Irish, Italians, and more recently people from the Caribbean, South-Asia and China who have made Glasgow their home. A wealth of information on the city and its people is available, and Glasgow Ancestors is an essential guide for anyone researching its history or the life of an individual ancestor, institutions, clubs, societies and schools.

Pen & Sword Family History (16 Feb. 2017) ISBN

9781473867215 £14.99

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Also – **'How Our Ancestors Earned a Living During the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries'**  
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