



SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION of FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

BULLETIN

APRIL 2013

Executive Committee - Chairman: Bruce B Bishop; Deputy Chairman: Stephen Benson; Secretary: Ken Nisbet; Treasurer: John W Irvine; Editor: Janet M Bishop

2013 SAFHS Conference

"Comings and Goings - Migration and Scotland"

Saturday 11 May 2013, Scottish Borders Campus, Nether Road, Galashiels, TD1 3HE, 10-4

FUTURE CONFERENCES

- 2014 SAFHS Homecoming Conference, Dunfermline, 26 April 2014, Carnegie Conference Centre
A Matter of Life and Death
- 2015 Central Scotland FHS, Stirling, April 2015

The programme and online booking for the conference is available at

www.bordersfhs.org.uk/BFHSConference.asp

Please support the event. We look forward to seeing you there.

OTHER SAFHS NEWS

Executive Committee

The Executive committee has met twice since October, in Edinburgh, and minutes of the meetings have been sent to member societies.

Post of Deputy Chairman

We are pleased to announce that Stephen Benson (Fed FHSs) has been co-opted onto the Executive Committee as Deputy Chairman. His position will be ratified at the 2014 AGM.

Website

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

Contacts List

The official contacts list is maintained by the Editor, then circulated to members of the Executive. If there are changes to office bearers, reps, email addresses, mailing addresses, phone numbers, etc, between Council Meeting update forms, please send there direct to **Janet Bishop**.

ScotlandsPeople Voucher Orders

Orders for vouchers should be sent to **John Irvine**, accompanied by a cheque, and should include postage, as per the current agreement:
Minimum order 20 vouchers

SAFHS CONTACTS

Chairman

Bruce B Bishop:

Deputy Chairman

Stephen Benson:

Secretary

Ken Nisbet:

Treasurer

John W Irvine:

Editor

Janet M Bishop:

Webmaster

Doug Stewart:

The next meeting of SAFHS is on Saturday, 12 October 2013, at 1pm, in the Boardroom, Edinburgh Youth Hostel, Haddington Place, Leith Walk, Edinburgh.

Agendas will be circulated prior to the meeting. If you have not received an agenda 7 days before the meeting, please contact the Chairman or Editor.

Postage:

21-50 vouchers - £6

51-100 vouchers - £7.20

101-175 vouchers - £8.50

176-250 vouchers - £10.50

More than 250 vouchers by arrangement

ScotlandsPeople User Group

Bruce Bishop represents SAFHS on this group. Ken Nisbet and Janet Bishop also attend, representing the amateur and professional genealogists respectively.

The Scottish Council on Archives

Bruce Bishop represents SAFHS on this council.

National Committee on Carved Stones in Scotland

Bruce Bishop represents SAFHS on this committee.

Visit Scotland Ancestral Tourism Steering Group

Bruce Bishop represents SAFHS on this group.

News from Member Societies

Aberdeen & NE Scotland FHS

The meetings of the Society in Aberdeen, Glasgow and Edinburgh continue to be well-attended, and a new organizer has now been appointed for the Moray/Banff branch.

The Aberdeen meeting in September was a talk by Professor Peter Reid entitled 'Genealogy – the Census and Social History. He spoke firstly about what we know about the census as tool to track our ancestors, and then the second part of his talk was about the use of the census in Social History research. He then went on to consider four examples of research into his own family.

The October meeting was a talk by Chris Croly, Historian with Aberdeen City Council Museum and galleries, in which he chose 7 people, and 4 Aberdeen streets, as being of special interest. He then told the audience how they could nominate specific individuals, now dead, as

being candidates to have a plaque erected in their memory.

November saw a talk by Alison Cameron of Cameron Archaeology, an Aberdeen-based company. She gave a fascinating and informative talk on the results so far of the research on the human remains found during the 2006 excavation at the East Kirk of St Nicholas. She discussed the information which could be found by such research, including details of the lifestyle and the health of the people of the time. The total of 10,114 teeth from the bodies revealed evidence of tooth decay, which became worse after the 15th century due to changes in diet, and the availability of sugar.

The speaker at the Glasgow meeting in November was Sandy Duncanson, who gave a brief history of the Latter Day Saints beliefs and genealogy. He also explained the new Family Search website. In February Danny Cordiner presented his new and updated talk on 'Computers, the Internet and DNA Genealogy'.

The Edinburgh meeting in November saw a talk by Richard Torrance on the Old Photographs of Edinburgh and Aberdeenshire, in which he showed examples of the various types of early photography, and the way that fashions can be used to date these early photographs. He also discussed the various uses of these early photographs, and lamented the lack of names on the reverse, especially of group photographs.

The January meeting was a presentation by Bruce Bishop about pre-1855 BMD's, 'Why are my ancestors not in the records'. He discussed the various non-Established churches, and suggested many other sources of records which may be useful for family history research at this time.

Membership continues to be strong, although the number of new members is very slightly down when compared with last year.

The Society has a very full calendar of events during 2013, in Aberdeen, Glasgow, Edinburgh

and in Elgin. A full list of these can be found on the ANESFHS website.

For further information contact: *Hon Secretary, Aberdeen and NE Scotland FHS, 158-164 King Street, Aberdeen AB24 5BD. Tel 01224 646323; Fax 01224 639096*

Email: enquiries@anesfhs.org.uk

Website: www.anesfhs.org.uk

Alloway and Southern Ayrshire FHS

Members gathered in the Burns Birthplace Museum in December to enjoy a Social Evening which included an excellent Festive meal and musical entertainment. It made for an enjoyable end of year celebration.

The Society continues to hold meetings on the third Tuesday of the month in the Alloway Church Halls from September to May.

In January, Edwin Lawrence spoke about his fairground ancestors in a talk entitled "All the Fun of the Fair". He evoked many happy memories of traditional fairs and nostalgia for what we seem to have lost in this area. He also gave a fascinating description of how Fairs changed over the centuries as new technology came along causing rides and stalls to be modified or new ones brought in. For example, the horse-drawn carriages on rides were replaced with motorbikes and cars as these became more common.

In February, Gordon Thomson talked on "Ayrshire's Railway Heritage". It was interesting to hear about the many different types of train which operated in and around Ayrshire including some which were actually made in Kilmarnock, including the unusual "Fireless" engine made by Andrew Barclay & Sons. This was in demand for environments where sparks could be dangerous such as munitions factories, paper mills and fuel depots. To bring us up to date it was noted that there is still a railway works in Kilmarnock today. The tremendous changes which took place over the 20th century were described with the move from steam to diesel to electric followed by the closure of many smaller stations and lines

during the Beeching era. Members were encouraged to go along to the special steam days at the Scottish Industrial Railway Centre at the Dunaskin Heritage Centre. See the Ayrshire Railways Preservation Group <http://arpg.org.uk/wp/category/news/> for more information.

On 14 March 2013 we will be joining East Ayrshire FHS when they host the Joint Ayrshire FHSs members' meeting at 7.30 pm in The Gateway, Kilmarnock where Margo Graham will give a talk entitled "100 years of lace.

Tuesday 19 March 2013 will be our Workshop Evening for members and the Committee will be on hand to provide assistance for members.

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday 23rd April 2013. This will be followed by a members-only questions and discussion session.

On Saturday 11 May we are working with other Family History Societies in Ayrshire to arrange a "combined outing" to the SAFHS Conference hosted by Borders FHS in Galashiels.

On Tuesday 21 May 2013 we are travelling to the South of the County and the meeting will be held in The McKechnie Institute in Girvan. The Speaker will be Professor Ian Arbon and he will talk about "History of St. John's Episcopal Church, Girvan from 1847."

Our project to transcribe the early Parish Records of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Ayr continues with almost all of the baptism scans now being complete, ready for transcription – but that still leaves a lot of marriages and deaths to work on between 1839 and 1862!

A full report of our talks can be viewed on our website: www.asafhs.co.uk

For further information, contact:

The Secretary, Alloway & Southern Ayrshire FHS, c/o Alloway Public Library, Doonholm Road, Ayr, KA7 4QQ

Email: secretary@asafhs.co.uk

Website: www.asafhs.co.uk

Anglo-Scottish FHS

Maintaining a trend set last year, for the greater part of this year our presentations have again been member lead. These included presentations on the development of steam in Britain's 19th century maritime trade, on researching military ancestors, looking beyond the usual discharge papers and medal cards and on using new websites, such as the photographic site 'Britain from above' to illustrate ones own history. As well as our popular workshop meetings and discussions on member's heirlooms we had an interesting session when members demonstrated their favourite genealogical programmes. Our meeting this month will look at new sites on the internet to assist those searching for Scottish ancestors. 2013 opened in the usual way with our annual quiz and social meeting and we continue to add to our Scottish Marriage Index, for which new entries are always welcome.

We attended various Fairs promoting Family History, a session on Scottish Research in the series of classes run by the MLFHS, a short introductory class for new researchers and manning a Help Desk at the Local Studies Library.

Meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month at our Research Resource Centre in Piccadilly, Manchester, starting at 2.00pm., except August and December and non-members of the Society are always welcome.

As the first step towards moving to new premises please note we now have a new box number address, PO BOX 5447, Manchester M61 0JT

Michael J Couper

Email: office@mlfhs.org.uk

Website: www.anglo-scots.mlfhs.org.uk

Central Scotland FHS

Attendances at meetings are as ever very good but we have lost some of our overseas and wider UK members. Most lapsed subscriptions tend to be short term members who join for a

reason and then do not renew but sadly several have been long standing members who have passed away.

Our syllabus has been excellent but we did have two speakers who had to withdraw for different reasons but we were able to find a substitute, not an easy task if it is short notice.

We were successful recently in obtaining an Awards for All grant to replace our aged laptop so we will have no more technical problems with the format of some speakers' memory sticks. This was a problem as we did not know of until the speaker arrived so on one occasion it involved a phone call to a local historian who brought along his laptop. It is good to have friends.

One of the most interesting talks was from members of the Scottish War Graves Project who are expanding their coverage to include all kinds of war memorials along with good quality photographs of the memorial or gravestone at no cost to the enquirer.



The transcription of the Camelon lairs is almost complete but there is still a fair amount of checking to be done before the final CD will be available.

Last June we started a once a month drop in Session at St Ninians Library staffed by a member of the Society and a member of the Library/Archive service. This has proved popular with some regulars and others on a first time visit. Most come with info trawled from the net so it is often a case of showing them how to fill in the gaps or how to solve a perceived problem.

We are hosting the 2015 Conference in Stirling

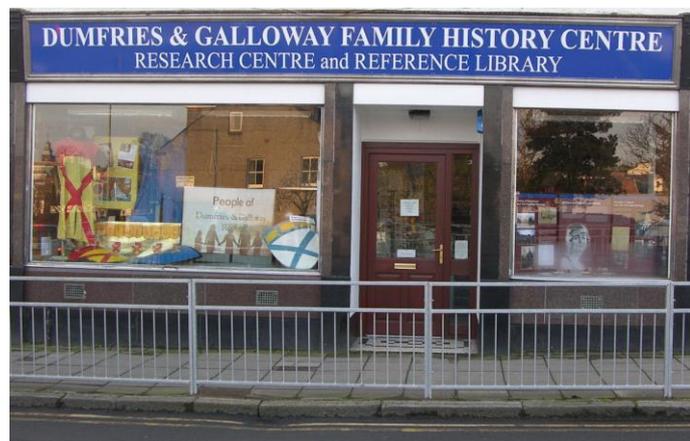
and we are already quite organised. Hopefully we will get a good turnout of member Societies and the general public.

Dumfries & Galloway FHS

We have had a successful if fairly uneventful winter. Our membership finished slightly up on the previous year. We are now embarking on our new syllabus and have found a new venue in Castle Douglas that is highly satisfactory. Our first speaker was Chris Paton and his talk on "The Godly Commonwealth" was considered excellent by those present and we would recommend it to other societies.

The cold and damp weather last year put paid to much of our usual graveyard recording with the result that we have no new publications other than a new edition of the Portpatrick MIs in Wigtownshire. However much work has gone on behind the scenes and we are confident that we will have at least one new MI book ready for the SAFHS conference with hopefully more to follow in the autumn. We have finally made a start to the big Dumfries Burgh cemeteries-St Michaels, High and Troqueer, although they will not be published before next year at the earliest.

The renovations to our premises including a new sign and painting the façade have left us looking very spruce. We have also been upgrading our hardware in the Centre and are considering purchasing a Scanpro machine to make much of our microfilm and fiche material easily accessible on computer.



Dumfries Archives are putting in a bid for Heritage Lottery funding for a new Archive and Local History Centre in the town. These are early days but we have been in on the consultations and will keep you informed as plans progress.

East Ayrshire FHS

Meetings: Evening meetings are held at 7.30pm in the Gateway Centre, Foregate Square, Kilmarnock on the second Thursday of the month (except June, July and August). Visitors are welcome. Workshops are held in The Cabin, Witch Road, Kilmarnock from 1.45 pm to 3.45 pm on most other Thursday afternoons throughout the year.

At the February meeting short presentations were given by members on a variety of topics including Poor House Records, Sources for Military History and Using ScotlandsPeople. At the time of writing the March meeting is yet to be held, when East Ayrshire FHS will this year host the annual joint meeting of the four family history societies in Ayrshire. Margo Graham will give a talk entitled "100 years of Lace". The **Lace Industry** was introduced to Newmilns in the Irvine Valley in 1876 and the population of the town grew significantly. At one time there were numerous lace firms in the 'Valley Towns' of Darvel, Newmilns and Galston.

In April Irene Hopkins will speak about **WW1 Belgian Refugees**. Following the AGM in May there will be a presentation about **John Finnie Street, Kilmarnock**. This was one of several streets formed in the 19th century and is named after a coal owner born in the town, who contributed substantially to the development costs. Many fine buildings, predominantly of red sandstone, were erected along the street in the 1870s. Heritage funding awarded in recent years has allowed a continuing programme of restoration and regeneration to be carried out.

Projects and Publications: Angela Cawdron and several committee members have been working for over a year on a second transcription project relating to the **Old High**

Kirk, Kilmarnock. The project was to photograph all the accessible gravestones and transcribe the memorial inscriptions. Notes have been added giving further information about some of the people interred in the churchyard. It is hoped to have the resulting book and DVD ready for publication in the summer. Information about some of the publications available for sale can be found on the website. For a full publication list, please contact the Society.

For further information please contact: *Secretary, East Ayrshire FHS, c/o Dick Institute, Elmbank Avenue, Kilmarnock, KA1 3BU*

Email: enquiries@eastayrshirefhs.co.uk

Website: www.eastayrshirefhs.co.uk

Fife FHS

The Fife Family History Society is coming into the 21st century. We now have a Facebook page, and we are upgrading our website to include a secure shopping cart to make it easier for members (especially overseas) to pay/renew their membership subscriptions and also to purchase our publications. Please help us by sending any new or updated email addresses to our Membership Secretary.

If you have researched your Fife family history, the Society would appreciate a copy for our new Family History Room. These should be sent to our Secretary, Frances Black. The Society is moving its room in Methil Library to the top room of Cupar Library in April 2013. Further details will be found on our website, www.fifefhs.org

The Society welcomed its biggest audience for our talks on 12 February when Andrew Arbuckle gave a most interesting talk on "Farming from the 1900s to the Present Day," which included his own memories of growing up in the family farm of Logie in North East Fife.

Our next talk will be on 12 March, when Chantal Knowles of the National Museums of Scotland will tell the fascinating story of Princess Titaua Marama of Tahiti and her connection with Anstruther.

She was born TETUANUI-REIA-ITERAI-ATEA (which translates to the Great God whose power extends to the heaven of heavens), Princess Titaua Marama of Tahiti, Chieftess of Haapiti, at Papatoai, Moorea, Society Islands, on 3rd Nov 1842, the daughter of Alexander Salmon, an English trader, and Ariitaimai Salmon, nee TERIIRERE-IOTU-RAI-MA-TOARAI-ARIIOCHAN-TAOROARII-ARIITAIMAIMAI, Princess of Tahiti. She was the cousin of Queen Pomaare IV, and her sister was the Queen Consort of Pomare V. She has been described as "one of the most beautiful women" in Tahiti, the word Ariiochan in her name meaning "Princess of Peace."

In 1856, at the age of 14, the Princess Titaua Marama married her first husband, John Brander, an English trader described as "the founder of the greatest commercial house in the South Seas." He died in 1877, leaving the 35-year old Princess a widow, with 9 children.

In 1878 she married her second husband, George Darsie (20 Sep 1841 – 5 April 1919) of Anstruther Wester. He was the manager of John Brander`s trading depot.

The two continued in the Society Islands, and had two sons and a daughter born to them. In 1892 George Darsie decided to retire from business, and the whole family returned to his home town of Anstruther and the family home at Johnston Lodge. There the Princess became well known and well loved for her many kindnesses. Sadly, she died at the age of 55 on 25 September 1898.

Our meetings are held in the Volunteer House (formerly VONEF) at 69 Crossgate, Cupar, KY15 5AS, and commence at 7.30 pm. Non members of the Fife FHS are very welcome to attend for a nominal charge of £2 to cover refreshments. Entry for members of Fife FHS remains free.

Website: www.fifefhs.org

Glasgow & West of Scotland FHS

IMPORTANT all meetings (unless otherwise stated) are now held at Kelvinside Academy, 33

Kirklee Road Glasgow, G12 0SW and entry is via Kirklee Road.

The meetings start at 7:30pm prompt and for the remaining part of the 2012/13 session these are on

Monday 18th March, "The Glasgow Story in Four Chapters" by Neil Baxter.

Monday 15th April, Question and Answer and AGM.

Monday 20th May, "Lettering on Gravemarkers" by George Thomson

December's meeting was the Christmas Social and Film night. We were treated to two sets of three short films from the Panamint Cinemas DVD Catalogue, with an interlude for sandwiches, wine/fruit juice and conversation. This was an excellent evening in the Kelvinside Academy, our new home for meetings from now on.

January's talk was given by Janice Miller, entitled "Using East Dunbartonshire Archives in Family History" and Janice gave a very good talk on the types of records held by the Council and how to use them. Pete Wadley gave February's talk, entitled "Top 20 pre 1855 sources at National Records of Scotland".

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.

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

The Society announced the release of the Glasgow Necropolis DVD last year. John McCreadie, project coordinator and John Mills, e-news editor met up with Russell Leadbetter from the Glasgow Evening Times. Russell

subsequently wrote an article that was published in the newspaper on the 31st October to coincide with Halloween. The article can be viewed at

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/features/secret-stories-in-glasgows-stones-105754n.19255044>

The DVD contains over 7000 photographs of over 4600 Monuments that were found, with each stone having been transcribed. The DVD contains a searchable program, developed in-house by John Howarth, and designed to run on Windows. The production of the DVD was made possible with the support and hard work of over 26 volunteers from the society. The DVD costs £20.00 and can be purchased from our website (Cat. No. G0047).

It is possible to search for a family name for either a compartment or the Necropolis as a whole. For each record found, the transcription and photo of the stone is returned. If required a full sized photo can be purchased via the society's website at a cost of £2.00. The whole cemetery can be browsed by not putting a name in the search box. There are also a set of maps, including an overview map, and maps for each section showing a general outline of the stones to enable a monument to be located if visiting the cemetery.

Our website has a video of a short walking tour through the cemetery by historian Ronnie Scott.

The Society is also pleased to announce a further two publications

- Dunbartonshire, Kilmarnock Parish MIs - Includes: history of the parish; Kilmarnock churchyard & Buchanan burial ground MIs, plan & surname index; transcriptions of plaques in Kilmarnock & Gartocharn churches, by Fraser Hamilton and Robert Carson, price £4.00 & Cat No. G0048
- Passport Applications 1858-1889 & 1907-1914 at the Glasgow Passport Office by John McCreadie, price £6.00 & Cat. No. G0050

There are still microfiches for sale at the

bargain basement price of £1.00 (yes ONE POUND) for each set plus postage. On the publications page of the web site the "Sale Items" table contains details of the fiches that are available at this price. Some normally retail at £13.50 so this really is the sale of the century.

Regular additions are made to the library and we buy books and electronic media relating to family history research in Scotland. The library catalogue can be searched and viewed on the Society's web pages.

The Glasgow Cathedral Burial Project is still ongoing with completion hopefully later this year. The Society is also working on other indexing projects in conjunction with Glasgow City Archives.

Finally thanks must go to all the many members who help keep the Society running and help with the operation of the Research Centre in Mansfield Street. The Centre's opening hours are:

TUESDAY from 2 pm until 4.30 pm
 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 further information contact:

G&WSFHS, Unit 13, 32 Mansfield Street, Glasgow G11 5QP
 Tel: 0141-339 8303
 Website: www.gwsfhs.org.uk

Guild of One-Name Studies

Each of the over 8,300 surnames and variants listed in the online Register of One-Name Studies is currently registered by a member of the Guild as the subject of a one-name study. The member is therefore collecting all occurrences of the surname on a world-wide basis. The Register is updated frequently. You can search the Register for a surname registered with the Guild, the surname of a member or their membership number. Alternatively, selecting any of the letters of the alphabet will display a list of registered

surnames beginning with that letter.

The Guild Journal is published four times a year: January, April, July and October. On the website it is possible to see a list of the contents of an issue of the Journal under 3 headings of Main Articles, Guild Reports – News – Events and Regulars. A note by one of our original members and President records that it is just sixty years ago, on 25 April 1953, that a paper was published about *deoxyribonucleic acid* DNA. Articles about Y-DNA [male chromosome] studies are frequent in the Journal but the latest one is about an Autosomal DNA study which added information to a study. This new test only became available in 2010 and is expensive but it allowed John A Creer to add a further 100 years of history to his own family

On 26 and 27 October 2012 the Guild had its first Australian Seminar. The first day was spent in the NSW State Archives at Kingswood researching and touring the archives. The second day was a series of speakers

The forthcoming seminars organised by the Guild are:

- 18 May 2013 – Trade Union Records – University of Warwick, Coventry
- 10 August 2013 – The Art of One-Name Studies – Amersham, Buckinghamshire
- 16 November 2013 – Colonial Sources – the National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey

The Guild 34th Guild Conference and AGM will be 5th-7th April 2013 in Cardiff with the conference title "Around England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales in 8,000 names".

For further information contact: *Secretary, Jan Cooper, Guild of One-Name Studies, Box G, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA*
E-mail: secretary@one-name.org
Website: www.one-name.org

Lanarkshire FHS

In September 2012 we moved to our new premises at 122 - 124 Merry Street Motherwell

ML1 1NA. The new Centre is proving to be a good move with more members using the facilities. We have also noticed an increase in the numbers of public visiting the Centre.

Since the October 2012 SAFHS Bulletin we have continued with a varied range of topics at our monthly meetings including:- Karen Carruthers gave an interesting talk on the Missionary "David Livingstone", Bruce Durie on "Retours" and Stephen Mullen "Glasgow's Involvement in the Slavery". Our December meeting was a Christmas Social evening consisting of a successful Family and Local History Quiz followed by excellent singing by Gordon Watson, a lead singer with Hamilton Operatic and Dramatic Club. As a change from the normal speaker evening in January we held a "Mini Family History Fair" with WLFHS and Shotts History Group attending with their Bookstalls. The evening was enjoyed by the members and the many visitors, we are planning to organise a similar event next year.

Thursday 11th April the Speakers will be society member Campbell Thomson and Agnes Dougan. **"Death was My Bedmate"** They will be giving a presentation on the Lanarkshire Yeomanry Regiment's time as Japanese Prisoners of War during Second World War. The evening will also see the local launch of their new book **"Death was My Bedmate"** which is being published by Pen and Sword and launched in April.

Thursday 9th May will be our AGM and on Thursday 13th June the Speaker will be Robert Wilson "The History of Passports"

We will be attending the following events during the summer.

Victorian Day - Summerlee Museum, Coatbridge on Monday 6th May

2013 - SAFHS Conference. Saturday 11th May at the Scottish Borders Campus in Nether Road, Galashiels, TD1 3HE.

Events being organised by the society over the summer months includes:-

"Military and Family History Day" at the David Livingstone Centre, Blantyre on Saturday 6th July. 10:30 – 4:00pm

We will return to the David Livingstone Centre in Blantyre on Saturday 21st September 10:30 – 4:00pm for our **"Industrial and Family History Day"**.

"Celebrating Lanarkshire 2013"
Local and Family History Conference and Fair

Saturday 24th August. Motherwell Concert Hall and Theatre.

In the Theatre:- 5 Speakers:- *DNA.

*David Livingstone.

***Union of the Parliament 1707**

***Hamilton Palace.** *William Wallace.

In the Concert Hall:-

- Family History Societies.
- Local History Groups.
- Commercial Stalls.
- School Displays on selected topics by North and South Lanarkshire Schools.
- Child friendly activities i.e. *Face Painting, *Hair Braiding, *Butter Churning, *Hands on Weaving, *Story Telling plus more.

A great family day out.

We e-mailed details to all SAFHS members, to date 7 societies have booked tables. Tables are still available, any society wishing further information please E-mail:- secretary-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk

We will shortly be issuing delegate booking details for the Theatre Lectures.

Other news

Local Historian and society member Joe O'Raw has over the last 35 years produced many books on the "Fallen of Lanarkshire" during WW1 and WW11. He is now working with other members of our Military team to get the books ready for reprinting before 2014.

Our "Irish Interest" and "Military Matters" groups continue to meet each month. Members pass on their knowledge and are also able to answer member's questions and attempt to

resolve problems.

2 new Publications completed over the winter:-
Street Directory for Airdrie 1896.
Street Directory for Motherwell 1896.

Correspondence Address:-

Lanarkshire Family History Society
c/o North Lanarkshire Heritage Centre,
Local History Room, High Road,
MOTHERWELL. ML1 3HU.

Research Centre Address:

** No mail should be sent to this address*

**Lanarkshire Family History Society,
122-124 Merry Street, Motherwell. ML1 1NA**

Above "Hara Hill and Wason" Insurance Services

**** Enter the Centre from rear Car park ****

E-mail: secretary-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.lanarkshirefhs.org.uk

Moray & Nairn FHS

At the end of January we held our AGM and at that time our Chairman Bruce Bishop stood down from the Committee after 4 years, as did his wife Janet Bishop, our former Secretary. The new chairman would like to give them both thanks and hopes they will continue to help where possible with Moray & Nairn FHS. The new chairman, Stuart Farrell, has been on the MNFHS Committee since it was formed in 2009.

Photo – Bruce Bishop with our new Chairman Stuart Farrell with our publication of Auldearn



Churchyard.

The society has completed two new

publications:

Auldearn Churchyard Monumental Inscriptions - Finally completed and newly returned from the Printers. Included are the inscriptions from around the church, Victorian cemetery and later 1970's extensions. With plans noting location of each individual stone. 122 Pages, indexed. £7. ISBN 978-0-9561750-7-6.

Nairn Congregational Church - Births & Baptisms 1847-1872, Marriages 1859 – 1872 and membership lists 1847-1891 (the latter includes some dates of death and when they removed from Nairn with dates and location). 45 Pages, indexed. £4. ISBN 978-0-9561750-3-3.

For further information see the Bookshop on the website:

www.morayandnairnfhs.co.uk

Moray Burial Ground Research Group

Where we are recording

During the summer months of 2012 the group focused work on Mortlach, Cullen Old Kirk, Elgin Cemetery (East Section) and Kirkmichael. The group are aiming to continue with recording these sites during 2013. Both Cullen and Mortlach have proved fascinating sites to work on both in the churchyards and the churches themselves which and are full of history.

Recent Publications

In November the monumental inscriptions book for Dyke was published. Work on Dyke started in 2010 on recording the MIs at Dyke. The book contain some 318 visible stones and 1579 individuals. There are 16 colour photographs, 13 illustrations, 3 pages of plans of the churchyard, surname index, 4 pages of introduction and history as well as the War Memorial names. Copies of the book can be obtained by contacting Helen or Keith Mitchell on 01343 546620 or via the MBGRG website www.mbgrg.org at a cost of £7.50 excluding

postage.

Future publications: Knockando is in the process of being readied for publication, while Rathven should be published later in the year, with Aberlour following in time for Christmas or early in the New Year.

Our recent publications have also helped push the searchable names index on the MBGRG website to a figure in excess of 52,000!

The straight and narrow

On Sunday 16th September, while cleaning and recording tombstone inscriptions and investigating potential buried tombstones in the historic churchyard of Mortlach, Dufftown, members uncovered a very unusual buried memorial. The stone found was extremely narrow measuring only 8" by 5 1/2", yet contained a full inscription. This reads:

Here lies the body of William Kelman Farmer in Lessmurdie Who died Aprile 26 1793 Aged 80 & Helen McBarnat his Spouse who died 1st Decr 1785 aged 75.



There are traces of a previous inscription underneath the complete one. Is this one of the narrowest tombstones in Moray or indeed Scotland? If anyone knows of a narrower tombstone please let us know the details for the purposes of comparison and future reference.

Doors Open Day

The MBGRG as part of Moray Heritage Connections, took part in the 2012 Doors Open Days event, opening up both the Michael Kirk at Gordonstoun, as well as St. Peter's at Duffus. Over 80 people visited these sites which were manned by group members, who were on hand to answer



questions and provide some history about the sites, as well as promoting the work of the group to the public. The photo features volunteers Derek, Stephen, Ruth and Penny who looked after St. Peter's at Duffus.

AGM

The MBGRG AGM took place on Sunday 24th March in the Gallery, Elgin Library. This year we had the pleasure of welcoming Vice-Chairman of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Sir Alistair Irwin to the meeting, who presented a talk entitled 'The History and Work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission'

Now we are 10



MBGRG held its 10th anniversary dinner party in October, with an enjoyable evening at the Laichmoray Hotel in Elgin. After an initial speech by group Chairman Keith Mitchell welcoming people, everyone enjoyed a delicious meal.

After a raffle organized by our Secretary Ruth McIntosh, there was the cutting of the anniversary cake decorated by Stephen Leitch in quite fitting style for the group. The edible gravestones on the cake featured inscriptions inspired by regular comments made by some of the group members over the years. Commemorative mugs were also produced for group members as a memento of the anniversary.



Scotslot

Scotslot has met regularly during the latter half of 2012 with talks on searching for family records in South Africa, Scots emigration to North America, and 'Scottish Music and Mountains' by David Dewar, illustrated with slides and music, but restrained in keeping with our Methodist meeting place!

Julie Isard-Brown talked about ancestors employed in the medical profession which led to a discussion on causes of death. Marion Donaldson led a discussion on Listed and other interesting buildings with a family connection.

Our first meeting in 2013 was the AGM followed by a presentation on ancestors who were shopkeepers by June Wiggins, which led to interesting contribution from the members present.

This year, we have had several members who are not renewing their Scotslot membership and the group has reached the position where, although we will be able to continue during 2013, whether finances will allow us to function beyond that is uncertain. It is likely that we will have to find a smaller – and cheaper – meeting place. We are a small group with Scottish interests and meet in Harpenden, Hertfordshire: anyone interested in attending a meeting should contact:

Scotslot, 16 Bloomfield Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 4DB

Scottish Genealogy Society

The Scottish Genealogy Society will pass another milestone in June 2013 – its 60th anniversary. To celebrate this event, a one-day conference is planned for Saturday 5th October at the Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EHL. The theme is ***Scots on the move: finding your family in North America, Australasia, Ireland and England.*** There will be a number of lectures on these topics, plus lunch-time "surgeries". Full details will be published in the June issue of *The Scottish Genealogist* and on our website www.scotsgenealogy.com.

The SGS is continuing to offer Saturday morning classes on a variety of subjects, which are proving to be popular. Details on our website. Our Publicity Officer, Liz Watson, has been developing liaisons with a local newspaper, and notices have brought attendees to these classes and also to our evening talks.

Our Annual Outing on 18th May will be to the National Mining Museum at Lady Victoria Colliery, Newtongrange, with the option of access to archives. This is open to other SAFHS members (as are our talks and evening visits to New Register House), but advance booking is essential. Please see our website for the full details and the description of the museum.

New publications have included: *Spott MIs; Innerwick burial & mortcloth records; Newbattle Testimonials 1657 – 1671.*

At our AGM in February, Joy Dodd stood down as Chair, after 4 years in the position, and is succeeded by David Kennedy. Joy was then elected to be an Hon Vice-President.

Society of Genealogists

The Who Do You Think You Are? Live! show 2013, was again a great success, with a 9% increase in attendance over last year's show.

Our Scottish experts were out in force this year, and many kindly volunteered time to give advice in the 'Ask the Experts' area of the show, fielding the many Scottish family history queries we received. Thanks to all!

For those SAFHS members living in the London area, mark your calendars for our half-day course on Saturday, 18 May (10:30-13:00), 'My Ancestor was Scottish', with Alan Stewart (cost £17.50), to be held at the Society of Genealogists premises. Alan is also the author of our society's book, 'My Ancestor was Scottish' (£8.99 + p/p, published 2012) which is available in our bookshop. Both tickets to the course and the book can be purchased online: www.sog.org.uk/shop

For further information on any SOG event, contact:

Lori Weinstein, events co-ordinator

Tel: 020 7553 3290 or

Email: events@sog.org.uk

Website: www.sog.org.uk

Tay Valley FHS

TVFHS membership numbers, as well as visitors to the centre, are slightly down on 2011 - 2012. The number of requests for help from the Research Team has dropped as well, also by a slight amount. The same decrease also applies to the bookshop sales. We believe that these drops are due mainly to the amount of information, whether correct or not, that is available on the net.

As the main part of the IT equipment in use at the TV centre is about 14 years old, the TV is investing in a programme of renewal of the IT equipment that is in use in the centre. This will involve the shutting down of the IT for 2 or 3 days, but the centre will still be functional, by using the information in hard copy. It is planned for this work to be carried out during April.

A notice has been placed on the web as well as the society journal. This will serve as a warning to any intending visitors to the centre, to phone in advance to find out if the IT will be available on the particular day they plan to visit so that alterations in their schedule may be made.

Beginners Courses are still popular. These courses are run with approximately 15 "students" on each. The fees charged include a year's membership of the TV. They are run for 6 weeks, on an evening that the TV is normally closed, so there is no disruption to any visitors or members.

Dundee University runs a course for beginners as well, and as part of this course, the students visit the centre for use of the equipment and library contents.

There are conferences in the pipeline, including the SAFHS Conference in the Borders, exhibitions and other meetings, where the TV has taken a table for promotional displays and of course book sales.

One of the historians for the Great Western Railway has been in contact, and asked for assistance. She is compiling a book on railway disasters in the UK, **including the Tay Rail Bridge Disaster of 1879**. As she has not visited the area, TV members are giving advice on local names and spelling, photos, geographical knowledge and other bits and pieces.

Contact Details: *Tay Valley FHS, 179-181 Princes Street, Dundee, DD4 6DQ*

Tel/Fax: 01382 461845

Email: tvfhs@tayvalleyfhs.org.uk

Website: <http://www.tayvalleyfhs.org.uk>

Diary Dates

Sat 27 April	Scotslot: Aspects of Inheritance, Stuart Laing, South Down Methodist Halls, Harpenden, 2.15 pm
Thurs 9 May	AGM, Lanarkshire FHS, GLO Centre, Muir Street, Motherwell, 7 pm
Thurs 9 May	AGM, EAFHS, Talk: History of John Finnie Street, Gateway Centre, Kilmarnock, 7.30 pm
Sat 11 May	SAFHS Conference, "Comings & Goings", Galashiels (Borders FHS)

Sat 18 May	ANESFHS: Wills, Legal Jargon & Tracing Beneficiaries, Neil Allan, Unitarian Church, Skene Terrace, Aberdeen, 2.30 pm
Sat 18 May	SGS: Visit to National Mining Museum, Newtongrange, contact SGS Library
Thurs 13 June	The History of Passports, Robert Wilson, MBE, Lanarkshire FHS, GLO Centre, Muir Street, Motherwell, 7 pm
Sat 15 June	Scotslot: The Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh, Caroline Gerrard, South Down Methodist Halls, Harpenden, 2.15 pm
Sun 14 July	Scotslot: Misleading Census Entries for our Scots Ancestors, Elizabeth Hull, South Down Methodist Halls, Harpenden, 2.15 pm
Sat 7 Sept	Scotslot: Mementos, All Members, South Down Methodist Halls, Harpenden, 2.15 pm
Thurs 12 Sept	The American Civil War, Derek Philips, Lanarkshire FHS, GLO Centre, Muir Street, Motherwell, 7 pm
Thurs 12 Sept	EAFHS, Enrolment, Talk: Kilmarnock – Aspects of Local History, Frank Beattie, Gateway Centre, Gateway Centre, Kilmarnock, 7.30 pm
Sat 14 Sept	ANESFHS, Edinburgh Branch, How to get the most out of the ScotlandsPeople Centre, Dee Williams, Royal Scots Club, 29 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh, 2 pm
Sat 21 Sept	ANESFHS: Aberdeen Cinemas in the Golden Years, Barney Crockett, Unitarian Church, Skene Terrace, Aberdeen, 2.30 pm
Mon 16 Sept	SGS: Old Glencorse Church – History, Gravestones and Heritors, James Waugh, Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, 7.30 pm
Sat 5 Oct	SGS: 60 th Birth Conference, “Finding Your Scottish Ancestors Abroad”, Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, time tbc
Sat 5 Oct	ANESFHS, Glasgow Branch: Why Can't I find that Record?, David W Webster, Renfield St Stephen's Church Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow, 2 pm
Thurs 10 Oct	Extra information on Certificates, Ken Nisbet, Lanarkshire FHS, GLO Centre, Muir Street, Motherwell, 7 pm
Thurs 10 Oct	EAFHS, tbc, Gateway Centre, Kilmarnock, 7.30 pm
Sat 19 Oct	ANESFHS: Bodysnatching in Aberdeen in the 19 th Century, Christopher Croly, Unitarian Church, Skene Terrace, Aberdeen, 2.30 pm
Sun 20 Oct	Scotslot: My Ancestor was a Minister, Iain & Cathy Stewart, South Down Methodist Halls, Harpenden, 2.15 pm
Sat 9 Nov	ANESFHS, Edinburgh Branch: Talk by Chris Fleet of National Library of Scotland Map Library, Royal Scots Club, Abercromby Place, Edinburgh, 2 pm
Mon 18 Nov	SGS: The Chief Secretary and His Diaries, Alexander Falconar of Falcon Hall, Joanne Lamb, Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, 7.30 pm
Sat 7 Dec	Scotslot: Photographic Quiz. Mince Pies. All Members, South Down Methodist Halls, Harpenden, 2.15 pm

SAFHS PUBLICATIONS, April 2013

		Postage £		
		UK	Eur	Rest
Inventory of Scottish Graveyards, 2 nd Edition, CD	£ 12.00	2.20	2.93	3.90
Parish Registers in the Kirk Session Minutes of the Church of Scotland	£ 4.00	2.20	3.62	5.70
The Parishes, Registers and Registrars of Scotland (New Edition)	£ 6.75	2.20	3.62	5.70
Registers of the Secession Churches in Scotland	£ 4.00	2.20	3.62	5.70
Researching Scottish Graveyards	£ 4.50	2.20	2.93	3.90
Scots Abroad, Part 1	£ 4.50	2.20	3.16	4.50
A Scottish Historian's Glossary	£ 4.50	2.20	2.93	3.90
Scottish Trades, Professions, Vital Records and Directories	£ 7.00	2.20	3.62	5.70
Weights and Measures	£ 3.75	2.20	3.16	4.50

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies Inc**, PO Box 339, Blackburn, Victoria, Australia 3130
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
New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc, P.O. Box 14036, Panmure, Auckland 1741, New Zealand
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