



e-Scotia

Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

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Welcome: to the June edition of our Newsletter. Apologies for a late and much reduced newsletter. It is getting into holiday time and I have just returned from a few weeks touring France which is why **e-Scotia** is a bit later than usual. Our main topic this month is the sharing of research that occurred between Branch members. There is also an important announcement about the Society and Branch response to the General Data Protection Legislation.

Anglo Scots Branch Meeting June 2018: again because of the holiday period being upon us it was a rather exclusive gathering with 11 members attending. I am indebted to my co-committee member, Hilary Hartigan, for this summary of events. The meeting began with a very topical discussion of votes for women and the difference between a suffragist (peaceful) and a suffragette (deeds, not words). While much of the focus of the suffragettes was in London their influence and activity was of course all over, including Scotland. Indeed Winston Churchill had a rough time in my home town of Dundee when he was trying to get a parliamentary seat there. Dundee "wifies" are a formidable bunch in any event. Goodness knows what they were like with a cause behind them.



The Branch meeting then focused upon the difficulties members experience when trying to trace Scottish births in the 18th century. The dearth of appropriate records for a variety of reasons; political, religious, economic, was the common experience. The importance of Kirk Session records was noted and we are aware that ScotlandsPeople are currently working to have these digitised and available later this year.

The sources available for research were raised with the perennial problem associated with transcription coming to the fore. One person recounted that, many years ago and before digitisation, they had found an entry whilst leafing through the census pages. However this entry was "lost" in the transcribing phase. As is so familiar to family history researchers, the key is to make use of all the sources available and not focus on the one. Whilst the digitising of records is appreciated for all the obvious reasons, in particular ease of research and the availability of information to more people. Some members missed the possibility of handling the original documents as was possible prior to digitisation since this was the only way to extract the information.

Again, an altogether useful discussion and sharing with members able to pick up even the tiniest hint of how to move on in their research.

Scottish School Exam Website: In the December issue 2017 I referred interested readers to a resource offered by the National Library of Scotland where they had digitised all the Scottish Exam Papers from 1889 until 1963.

Well in their latest newsletter, the NLS announce a whole new website devoted to the subject and it is well worth a look. ([Scottish Exam systems](#)) They have obviously done a lot of work expanding the site as it includes many other topics related to the development of education in Scotland. There is also an interesting little video explaining the virtues of the exam system. As I said last time, I had a look at the last paper I ever sat and the memories flooded back. Have a look.



National Library of Scotland: staying with the National Library, and again, for the benefit of those of you who do not receive their newsletter, they announce:

New 1940's—1960's Maps of Scotland go online

This month we have uploaded almost 6,000 Ordnance Survey maps. These maps are from the OS 1:2500 series, covering large areas of the Central Belt, the Borders and parts of north-east Scotland, dating from 1945-1967. This was the most detailed post-War mapping to cover these areas, and it shows excellent detail of man-made structures as well as the rural landscape. These were the earliest OS maps to comprehensively show house numbers and they also show parcel numbers (a unique reference of land parcels or areas) and their related acreages, as well as all administrative boundaries.



[Go to 1940s – 1960s OS Grid Maps homepage](#)

[View the OS 1940s – 1960s National Grid Maps](#)

GDPR: (General Data Protection Registration): over recent weeks we have all been inundated with notifications from the various web sites that we are logged into asking that we re-register in view of the changes in the law with regard to personal information held. We were no different and at the beginning of this month sent out our own notification to you. I feel I want to apologise for intruding in this way, but as it was the law, then we had no choice. At the time we had 251 readers to whom we sent notifications asking that, if you wished to continue receiving this **e-Scotia Newsletter**, that you be good enough to re-register with us. I am pleased to say that 97 of you did and so. To you I say welcome back and thank you for your support. It is of course disappointing that so many chose not to do so and I am sure that there are many and various reasons for this. Nevertheless we continue on in the hope that the content of the newsletter will be such that old and new friends with Scottish interests will be attracted to register in the future. We do promote the newsletter at all gatherings and exhibitions connected with Family History but if you know of anyone with a Scottish interest then let them know about the newsletter and we will be happy to include them.



AngloScots Branch Meeting 21st July 2018

Visit to Elizabeth Gaskell House

As is usual at our July meeting we are planning a Branch visit to a place of interest. On this occasion it is a visit to the former home of Elizabeth Gaskell on Plymouth Grove, Manchester. Elizabeth Gaskell was of course a prolific author whose works include *Mary Barton*, *Cranford*, *North and South*, *Ruth* and *Wives and Daughters*. The visit includes a tour of the house with a guide followed by refreshments. The cost of the tour is £10 but members are being charged £5, with the Branch meeting the rest of the cost. It promises to be an interesting and informative day. The numbers are limited to 20 persons, so book quickly via Eventbrite on the Society web page, to avoid disappointment. More details will be sent to you soon.



The helpdesk will be available as usual at the Central Library from 10.30 on the 21st July for anyone seeking help/advice on their Scottish research.