



e-Scotia

Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

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Anglo Scottish Family History Society

Welcome: to our February edition of the Newsletter. I notice from the national news that some of you in the UK have had a troublesome winter so far, but not so here in Manchester. Cold, but no snow to speak of. Our commiserations to our American and Canadian readers if you have been caught up in that dreadful icy sweep from the Antarctic. To our Australian and New Zealand readers, enjoy that baking sun. Enough of the weather, our main feature this month is a talk on Irish research. I know we are an Anglo Scottish group but we know that many of our ancestors came from Ireland as well and there was also a lot of toing and froing between Scotland and Ireland. As usual we include some references that you might find helpful in your Anglo Scottish research.

Enjoy. Editor.

Irish Family History Research: our speaker on this topic was Jill Williams. Born in Cork Jill had the good sense to marry a Scotsman. Both now live in Edinburgh from where Jill was good enough to trek down to speak to us. Jill is very well versed in Irish family history and is a member of the Irish Genealogical Research Society and manages their facebook site. ([Access their site here](#))



As usual the Branch had its helpdesk facility open in the morning and Jill made herself available to lead those who attended through some of the Irish websites available to aid research. This was much appreciated by those who attended as they were able to pose their own personal brick walls for resolution .

The meeting in the afternoon was very well attended with the maximum number permitted. Numbers were boosted with, as might be expected, a big influx of Society members with a specific Irish family history interest. Jill was good enough to forward to us a four-page document identifying the various web site resources for family history and if any reader would like a copy of this please email us and we shall email you back a copy.



A more in-depth version of Jill's presentation will appear in the Society "The Manchester Genealogist" prepared by our editor, Hilary. However, to give a flavour of the talk I offer the following. Jill began by advising us to consider all records within the context in which they were prepared. In light of this she gave a short input on Irish geography, with the origins and

History of Ireland's Counties and their subsequent development. Important when determining where records might be found and that prior to 1922 records pertained to Ireland as a whole without reference to a North/South divide. This was followed by a brief history of Ireland culminating in the Easter Rising and its aftermath that gave rise to the belief that Irish records were all destroyed in the fire at the Four Courts in June 1922, where the National Archives were stored. This is not correct. The records stored there were the records of the Established Church of Ireland together with Wills and Testaments and some Court records. This was and is tragic for those effected by this, but for the majority of people in Ireland, there was little loss. No Roman Catholic Records were stored there and so all Roman Catholic baptism, marriage and death records remain. Reference was made to Jill's extensive handout as a way of accessing these records.



The burning of the National Archives aside, vital records were indeed lost/destroyed, but for very different reasons. Census' in Ireland had been taken every ten years since 1821 and were much more informative. Whilst some of the early Census' are available, most between 1821 and 1891 were pulped by the authorities. Jill's view was that the civil servants in Dublin had heard that the civil servants in London were pulping the England and Wales Census' and decided to follow suit. What they did not realise was that in England, while the actual Census forms were indeed pulped, the information contained in them had been transcribed onto enumerators forms and retained. This was not the system in Ireland that had only the original Census forms. When these were destroyed, all the information in them was also lost.

Having learned about what was lost, the meeting was informed about the extensive amount of information that is still available and how to access this, and how to understand the information in them. Again, more details about this will be given in Hilary's more fulsome report of the meeting in "The Genealogist" so look out for this. At the end of the meeting Jill's presentation, and overall input at the day, was greatly appreciated by all attendees many of whom took the opportunity to "bend and ear" at the conclusion. A great day for all.



New Record Release

Scotland's People: In their latest newsletter, Scotland's People make the following announcement:

"For our annual release of statutory register entries, ScotlandsPeople has made available online images of almost 200,000 births, deaths and marriages. The newly-available records consist of 98,554 Scottish births in 1918, 38,271 marriages in 1943 and 63,311 deaths in 1968. You can now search for, view and save these records on the ScotlandsPeople website."

This is of course the annual inputting of birth, marriages and death records in line with the 100 year, 75 year and 50 year rule imposed on the respective records.

Find My Past: have also announced the release of several more Scottish records that might be of interest.

- Jacobite Rebellions 1715 and 1745 - prisoners, trials, etc.
- Scotland Roman Catholic Parish Congregational Records
- Scotland, Glasgow Smallpox Vaccination Registers 1801-1854
- Scotland, Glasgow & Lanarkshire Death & Burial Index 1642-1855
- Scotland Roman Catholic Parish Registers
- Scotland, Glasgow Anderson's College Anatomy Students 1860-1874



Access of course if via the Find My Past web site that also clarifies what the records contain. Worth a look.

SAFHS has redesigned its web site: the Scottish Association of Family History Societies has informed us that they have redesigned their web page. For many it years it was managed by their web master, Doug Stewart, who has retired. Many thanks to him for his faithful work. The task has now been farmed out to an external company and they have designed, and will manage, the new site. Have a look at it. My own view is that it is much clearer and easier to navigate. <https://www.safhs.org.uk> It includes a list of all the Scottish family history societies and their contact details. Very useful should you want some local information.



Mary Queen of Scots: the other day I went to see the new film just released about Mary, Queen of Scots. I wasn't sure what to expect. It is one of those films, like Titanic, where you know the ending, but want to see the process anyway. Without wanting to ruin the plot, let me tell you that the film both begins and ends with her execution which is a bit different I suppose. Her arrival in Scotland looks as though she is being washed up on shore. (Are you beginning to suspect that I wasn't impressed!!) The number of characters, without much introduction or explanation, is a bit mind blowing, and if you are not too familiar with the story of Mary, then all a bit confusing. David Tennant as John Knox is appropriately ranting and Mary seems to do a lot of her discussion with people standing in a glen apparently in the middle of nowhere. All quite spectacular country but hey...!!! The film is evidently focused on the relationship between Mary and Elizabeth 1st and there is such frequent cutting back and forth between them that you wonder who you are looking at, particularly as they both have red hair. It becomes a bit easier when Elizabeth eventually paints her face white!! I was disappointed particularly with the decision taken to portray a meeting between Mary and Elizabeth which in fact never happened but film makers always want it to have done. Generally I was dissatisfied, but I did get in for £4 on a senior's rate, though I don't think that had anything to do with it. Anyway, you will have to make your own mind up if and when you go. When I saw it at an early afternoon showing on a Thursday, there were quite a number of similarly-aged persons present so it must have an attraction. No need to book though I don't think.



The Glasgow Story: for all you Glaswegians out there, or if you have Glaswegian roots, there is a good web site been brought to our attention via our Facebook page guru, Hilary. Having looked at it, it seems to have all that you would ever want to know about Glasgow on it. There are articles about its history and development; its growth as an industrial centre including the impact of Irish immigration. It covers the city during the two world wars and how it has developed since then. A very interesting web site, to be recommended, not only to those from Glasgow, but anyone interested in Scottish history. See it here <https://www.theglasgowstory.com>



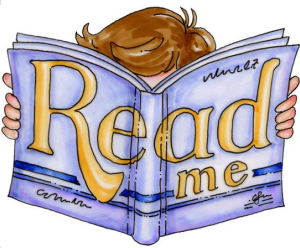
What's in a name? When I received the latest newsletter from Scotland's People I noticed an invitation to visit their podcast series and came across this;

"The annual NRS publication on the most popular baby names in Scotland is always popular. But did you know that the policy and process behind the registration of those names is quite complicated, and different to that used by other countries? In France, for instance, until 1993 parents had to choose from a list of officially sanctioned baby names (and only those names). Since then parents have had a greater degree of choice, but a name can still be banned if a French court decides it is not in the best interest of the child. Recent cases have seen the names 'Strawberry' and 'Nutella' disallowed for baby girls, as the court considered they might be bullied because of them! "

Perhaps there are times when the law is not such an ass!!



Exchange Journals: just a small reminder again of the digitised journals that we receive from family history societies at home and abroad and which are available on the member site of the Society web pages. ([click here](#)) The most recent additions are from the Lothians FHS and the British Columbia FHS. Couldn't be further apart geographically could they? Well yes they could because we also receive regular journals from the family history societies in Australia and New Zealand. I expect most interest for us will be in the Scottish journals sent to us from most of the family history societies north of the border as well as journals sent by the English FHS's. So have a look. You may find something of interest to your own research.



From Edinburgh to Manchester:

Visit by Scotland's People and the National Records of Scotland



Last month we announced to you the visit to Manchester by representatives from Scotland's People and the National Records of Scotland on Thursday, 16th May 2019 at Manchester Central Library. We are now in a position to let you know some of the details that we have arranged. We decided that there would be such interest in this event that we would make a day of it and have called it: **"Scottish Heritage Day"**. Through the great efforts of our "events" guru, Yvonne, we managed to book the services of Ed Glinert, a well known author and travel writer who will speak to us in the morning about the secret history of Edinburgh. The programme for the day looks like this:

- 10.15. Registration and reception
- 10.45. The secrets of the Royal Mile
- 12.00 Lunch
- 1.00 Scotland's People
- 2.00 National Records of Scotland
- 3.30. Close.



We anticipate that the day will be very popular and attract a lot of attention, particularly as we are advertising the event to the family history societies throughout the North West. Booking for the event is essential **but will not open until April 6th**. Please do not try and book before this date, but do mark it in your diaries. As usual booking will be via **Eventbrite** only and this can be accessed on the MLFHS web site. If you anticipate any difficulties with this, please do get in touch with the general office who will advise, or raise it at the next Branch meeting.

Anglo Scottish Branch Meeting - March 16th, 2019



March is the month of the Branch general meeting. Please do make an effort to come along. It is your opportunity to give those of us on the Branch committee feedback on how you think the Branch is doing, and, more importantly, ideas and suggestions for topics for future meetings. We do try and anticipate what members might like to hear about, but it is hard, without feedback, to know if we have got it right.

Following the general meeting we intend, once again, to have the opportunity to share the treasures and heirlooms of our family history research. This has always proved to be a popular topic not only because it gives members a chance to share their nuggets of information but it lets the rest of us learn from it. Most importantly it is the result of "practical" research—always beneficial.

