



# SAFHS BULLETIN

March 2019  
[www.safhs.org.uk](http://www.safhs.org.uk)

**Executive Committee** – Acting 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 30<sup>th</sup> SAFHS Annual Conference***



### ***“Northern Roots”***

The SAFHS 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Delegate Conference

27<sup>th</sup> April 2019

in

The Pulteney Centre  
Huddart Street, Wick  
KW1 5BA

### **Programme**

***“Wick Voices: Oral History meets Family History”***

***by Doreen Leith, Wick Society***

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***“Clan Davidson Family History Projects in  
Caithness and Beyond”*** by Nick Hide, Clan

***Davidson***

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***“From Caithness to China”*** by Neil Fraser, HES

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***Visit to ‘Nucleus: The Nuclear & Caithness  
Archive’***

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

**Acting Chairman: Janet M Bishop**

**Deputy Chairman: Stephen Benson**

**Secretary: Kenneth Nisbet**

**Treasurer: Bruce B Bishop**

**Publications: Bruce B Bishop**

**Bulletin Editor: Ian Leith**

**Webmaster: Janet M Bishop**

**The next SAFHS Council Meeting** will take place on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in The Sanctuary, Augustine Church, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh at 1.00.p.m. 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, seven days before the meeting, please contact the Chairman.

## **OTHER SAFHS NEWS**

### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee meets quarterly. Edited minutes are sent to member societies.

### **Website**

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

### **Bulletin Editor**

The Editor thanks those who have contributed and welcomes interesting items and PICTURES.

### **Contacts List**

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

### **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.

### **Editorial Board, Statistical Accounts of Scotland Online**

Ian Leith represents SAFHS on this group

## The SAFHS WEBSITE

<https://www.safhs.org.uk>

**Doug Stewart, Elgin, after several years as SAFHS webmaster, stepped down from the post at the end of 2018. Our thanks go to Doug for a splendid job.**

The new website is commercially-hosted, and although there are not many obvious differences, a couple of features have been dispensed with, e.g. the News Page and the rolling news banner on the home page.

The Scottish Association of Family History Societies promotes and encourages the study of Scottish family history and provides a forum for the exchange of information among members. Click [here](#) to get our latest Members' Handbook.

Our membership includes all established family history societies in Scotland, as well as several national and regional bodies throughout the world. The [Federation of Family History Societies](#) has over 160 member societies, all helping their own members to research their ancestors in England, Wales and Ireland. The Federation strongly advises you to join the societies covering the areas of your research. For full list of members with contact information please visit the Federation's [Contacting Members](#) page.

There is a Facebook feed on the website, and we hope to make more use of this feature. <https://www.facebook.com/safhs2014/>

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The Federation of Family History Societies has launched a report about the types of DNA tests available and how they may help family history research. Written from the view point of the researcher, the report suggests questions to ask before deciding whether to purchase one of the products available. You can read and download your own free copy of the report from [www.ffhs.org.uk/CanDNATestsHelpYou.pdf](http://www.ffhs.org.uk/CanDNATestsHelpYou.pdf)

### ***The Statistical Accounts of Scotland Online, revamped service***

SAFHS members who have not had reason to visit the Statistical Accounts of Scotland Online service for a year or two may like to explore its new and improved website, launched in November 2016 it is well worth investigating, at <http://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/home>. It is a wonderful resource both for local history and thematic research.

The site uniquely hosts a complete digital collection of the late eighteenth - and early nineteenth-century Statistical Accounts of Scotland – rich and detailed parish reports for every parish in Scotland, offering a fascinating picture of local life at key points in Scottish history. Topics covered include agriculture, local history, education, trades, religion, folklore and social customs.

Along with a more attractive user interface, the front page now exhibits new feature articles on Sir John Sinclair; The *Old Statistical Account* 1791-99; the *New Statistical Account* 1834-45; Maps, Boundaries and the Historical Parishes; and the wider context of the Accounts. There is also a blog discussing topics connected with the accounts and their context, and how people use them in their research - <http://statacc.blogs.edina.ac.uk/>

Most significantly, the new search engine at the heart of the service makes available a range of new or improved features to subscribers. These features include:

- Enhanced search capacities across the Old (OSA) and New Statistical Accounts (NSA) and material such as appendices, images, and scholarly material
- The ability to limit a search to the OSA or NSA, and the ability to search by geographical area (N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, NW)
- Better display of search results which includes the context of each result
- New dedicated pages for each county and each parish
- New illustrations
- New, interactive, high resolution maps courtesy of the National Library of Scotland. The Thomson Map of Scotland (1832) has been incorporated into the site with all the parishes identified
- Improved quality of transcripts, available for most pages of the Statistical Accounts
- The ability to save, tag, annotate and share searches, in a personal user space
- A responsive user interface which works across desktop computers, laptops, tablets and phones.

Do check it out and contact the team if you have comments on the service – they are keen to hear feedback on their work. Subscriptions are offered to individuals and both UK-based and overseas organisations, such as universities, local authorities and family history groups. Individuals can subscribe here:

<http://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/support/subscription>

Costs for groups vary depending on size. Contact EDINA to find out the cost for your organisation: [edina@ed.ac.uk](mailto:edina@ed.ac.uk) or (+44)131 650 3302.

## ***"Northern Roots"***

### **The Programme**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

#### **Welcome**

Delegates and representatives of the various Family History Societies are invited to join members of the Caithness Family History Society for an evening reception from 8.00 p.m. on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April in the Pulteney Centre.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

### **Welcome and Introduction by Viscount Thurso**

#### **Master of Ceremonies – Harry Gray**

#### **Wick Voices: Oral History meets Family History by Doreen Leith**



Our recollections enrich the lives of those around us. They help the next generation to share our sense of belonging.

Wick Voices is Wick Society's Oral History Section and our aim is to collect stories from across the east of Caithness – although we have been known to stray beyond this area.

The Wick Voices project was launched in 2016 with the aim of preserving local voices for posterity.

The small team of volunteers, led by Doreen Leith, conducts audio interviews, with people from all walks of life talking about their memories and stories.

The recordings are edited and uploaded to the Wick Heritage website [www.wickheritage.org](http://www.wickheritage.org) allowing existing and future generations to hear about many aspects of local life, past and present, as told by those who have experienced it.

Subjects covered have ranged from schooldays to workplaces and from wartime experiences to sport and leisure.

As part of the Wick Society's outreach programme, Wick Voices delivers a range of talks and presentations throughout the County of Caithness and beyond, giving a flavour of the stories associated with different villages, farms and schools. During these presentations, different areas of Caithness are explored through playing audio clips, extracted from Wick Voices interviews and supported by photographs, mainly from the Johnston Photographic Collection.

## **Clan Davidson Family History Projects in Caithness and Beyond by Nick Hide**

Nick Hide is one of the researchers for the Clan Davidson Association who is actively interested in researching all aspects of the Davidson family history. His own personal connection is with the Davidson of Tulloch family, a line that can be traced back to c1650 (so far). The family originally purchased Tulloch Castle, Dingwall from their cousins the Baine Family in c1760.



Nick's personal connection with Caithness comes from his ancestor William Davidson, a Notary in Cromarty who married in 1719 Jean Baine of Carsgoe, a farm just south of Thurso.

The Clan Davidson Association hold extensive genealogical archive records for many different Davidson families from different parts of Scotland, England and Ireland

The records of the Davidson families found in Caithness form an important part of our wide-ranging archive collection.

One of these families, whom we call the Davidson family of Buckies, is perhaps the oldest known family we have on file.

## **From Caithness to China by Neil Fraser**

Neil Fraser intends his presentation to draw on digital material from within the archives of Historic Environment Scotland. They are particularly keen that researchers can access and use this material for both their own research and their enjoyment.



For example:

- Luftwaffe aerial reconnaissance images of the area.
- Engravings and plans of historic Caithness buildings.
- Aerial imagery charting the changes in Caithness communities over time.
- Historic mapping of the area through to the modern layering tools available through Canmore.
- Highlight local archaeology records on Canmore.
- Fantastic range of local social history material on Scran including lots of fishing relating records.
- Share the fantastic worldwide aerial image resources available from the National Collection of Aerial Photography – including China!
- ScotlandPlaces material relating to Caithness

Neil joined SCRAN in 2001 as part of their programme to help customers, both at home and abroad. In 2008 SCRAN became part of RCAHMS and there his role widened to engage with users of the likes of Canmore, ScotlandsPlaces and Britain from Above.

## **Nucleus: The Nuclear and Caithness Archive**



Nucleus: The Nuclear and Caithness Archives are home to the archives of the UK civil nuclear industry and the historical archives of the county of Caithness.

### **UK Civil Nuclear Industry Records**

The records of the nuclear industry date back over seventy years and include plans, drawings, photographs, film, microfiche and documents. These have previously been held at various sites across the UK including Dounreay in Caithness, Harwell in Oxfordshire, Trawsfynydd in Snowdonia, and Sellafield in Cumbria. The relocation to Wick will take several years to complete.

### **County of Caithness Archives**

The archives of the county of Caithness date from 1589 to the present day and consist of documents in different formats including charters, minute books, correspondence, maps, photographs and plans. The records have previously been looked after at the Caithness Archive Centre, a service provided by High Life Highland on behalf of the Highland Council. These historic collections are now housed in Nucleus where they are available to members of the public for family and local history research.

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## **The Diary**

*All Family History Societies welcome members from other societies – check below for ideas*

- 13 March     **Central Scotland FHS** 'Maps for Family History' by Laragh Quinney, Map Reading Room Manager, National Library of Scotland
- 31 March     **Borders FHS** 'Smallpox Epidemics' by Isabel Gordon Bsc - St Peters Church, Abbotsford Road, Galashiels at 2:30pm
- 2 April       **West Lothian FHS** 'Gies' a haun' night' at 7.00 pm at the Lanthorn Centre, Kenilworth Rise, Dedridge, Livingston EH54 6JL.
- 10 April     **Lothians FHS** 'NLS Family History Sources' by Elaine Brown at 7 pm in the Library of the Lasswade Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg.

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- 10 April **Central FHS** 'Stirling Women at Work 1560 to 1750' by John Harrison in Lecture Theatre of the Stirling Smith Art Gallery & Museum, 40 Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RQ at 7.30pm.
- 11 April **East Ayrshire FHS** 'Kilmarnock Calico Industry' by Stuart Wilson at 7 pm in Johnnie Walker Bond, Kilmarnock, KA1 1HU.
- 13 April **ANEFHS** – Members Day – Workshop on recording, arranging, storing and conserving your family history information/materials at 2.00p.m Royal Scots Club, 29 Abercromby Place Edinburgh.
- 15 April **Glasgow & West of Scotland FHS** AGM & 'What's New in Irish Genealogy' by Chris Paton in the Gilchrist Theatre at Kelvinside Academy, 33 Kirklee Road, Glasgow, G12 0SW at 7.30 p.m.
- 20 April **ANESFHS** Aberdeen Group meeting. 'The crew of the Rubislaw' by Marjory Mellis. 2.30 p.m. Unitarian Church, Skene Terrace.
- 27 April **Caithness FHS** hosts the 2019 SAFHS 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Family History Fair from 9.45 a.m. in Pulteney Centre, Wick.
- 28 April **Borders FHS** 'Archaeologist on The First World War and P.O.W. Camp' by Andy Jepson - St Peters Church, Abbotsford Road, Galashiels at 2:30pm
- 1 May **Central FHS** A.G.M. followed by 'A Little Gem' by Lloyd Pitcairn in Lecture Theatre of the Stirling Smith Art Gallery & Museum, 40 Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RQ at 7.30pm.
- 4 May **ANESFHS** Moray/Banff Group meeting. 'The Elgin Closes' by Mary Byatt, Elgin Library, Cooper Park. Elgin
- 7 May **West Lothian FHS** - Regular meeting, Guest Speaker [to be confirmed] 7.00 pm at the Lanthorn Centre, Kenilworth Rise, Dedridge, Livingston EH54 6JL.
- 8 May **Lothians FHS** 'Aberlady – a one place study' by Lorna Kinnaird at 7 pm in the Library of the Lasswade Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg.
- 9 May **East Ayrshire FHS** AGM plus talk to be arranged at 7 pm in Johnnie Walker Bond, Kilmarnock, KA1 1HU.
- 18 May **ANESFHS** Aberdeen Group meeting. TBA. 2.30 p.m. Unitarian Church, Skene Terrace.
- 18 May **ANESFHS** Glasgow Group meeting. Members Day. 2.00 p.m. Renfield Saint Stephen's Church Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow
- 20 May **Glasgow & West of Scotland FHS** 'Using North Lanarkshire Archives for Family History' by Wiebke McGhee in the Gilchrist Theatre at Kelvinside Academy, 33 Kirklee Road, Glasgow, G12 0SW at 7.30 p.m.
- 28 May **Borders FHS** 'The Hawick Hub – It's Growing Collection and Relevance to Family History' by Hannah Bell, Archivist - St Peters Church, Abbotsford Road, Galashiels at 2:30pm
- 1 June **ANESFHS** Aberdeen Group meeting, Graveyard outing TBA at 2.30 p.m.
- 1 June **ANESFHS** Moray/Banff Group meeting. 'Making the most of the censuses' Elgin Library, Cooper Park, Elgin at 2.00 p.m.
- 4 June **West Lothian FHS** AGM at 7.00 pm at the Lanthorn Centre, Kenilworth Rise, Dedridge, Livingston EH54 6JL.
- 12 June **Lothians FHS** AGM at 7 pm in the Library of the Lasswade Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg.
- 7 Sept **ANESFHS** Moray/Banff Group meeting. Bring along a brick wall. Elgin Library, Cooper Park, Elgin at 2.00 p.m.
- 14 Sept **ANESFHS** Edinburgh Group meeting. 'Using DNA to solve family tree mysteries' by Michelle Leonard. 2.00p.m Royal Scots Club, 29 Abercromby Place Edinburgh.
- 5 October **ANEFHS** Glasgow Group 'Church Records' by Chris Paton
- 5 October **ANEFHS** Moray/Banff Group 'Making the Most of the Internet' Elgin Library, Cooper Park, Elgin at 2.00 p.m.
- 12 Sept **East Ayrshire FHS** Enrolment and opening meeting of the new session at 7 pm in Johnnie Walker Bond, Kilmarnock, KA1 1HU.
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## **Society News**

### ***from around the Family History Societies***

#### **Aberdeen and NE Scotland FHS**

Our Society is now 40 years old!- and still developing the range of facilities and services to beginners and experienced family history researchers.

In 2017 the Society launched the Granite Roots Appeal to upgrade premises and services at King St.; and the first stage of refurbishment was completed in time for the 2018 Christmas Social actually to be held in King St. instead of in our usual venue. Barney Crockett, Lord Provost, attended and was impressed with what had been achieved to date. This included upgraded kitchen area, disabled toilet, lowered wall in the Shop area, new carpets, LED lights and computer points, repainting throughout and new blinds for the windows. We now have a lighter and more spacious area much appreciated by visitors and volunteers. Work will continue on the lighting system in the Library downstairs and back office, improving the disabled facilities and upgrade – in due course – of our computer system. Many thanks to all who contributed to our Appeal enabling this and future work to be done.

Members meetings continue to be well attended at Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Elgin with full details of talks appearing on our website. Arrangements are in hand to attend several fairs and conferences this year, the first being the SAFHS Conference at Wick – shortly followed by events in Ayr, York and Motherwell beyond the north east and several Highland Games, Book Publishers Fairs and the odd monthly market in the local area.

These also are listed on our website.

Latest publications are

- Fogue with St Margaret's Episcopal Church MIs £ 7.50
- Vets in Uniform 1841-1941: Aberdeenshire's Veterinary Surgeons in the Armed Forces. £6.00

Please see the website for a list of all titles available and how to order.

**Contact** – Hon Secretary, Aberdeen & NE Scotland FHS, 158-164 King St., Aberdeen AB2 45BD

**E-mail** - [enquiries@anesfhs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@anesfhs.org.uk) (**Tel:** 01224 646323)

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

#### **Anglo – Scottish FHS**

Our winter programme included a presentation by Larysa Bolton, the Manchester Libraries Heritage Collections Officer. Although we have been based at Manchester Central Library since 2014 it was very enlightening to see 'behind the scenes' and to handling of some of the Library's archive material and to appreciate the vast amount of material held in the secure and atmospherically controlled storage. The presentation by Jill Williams, entitled 'Irish Records, they all went up in smoke, or did they' was very well received. The brief details of the history and geography of the island gave a greater understanding of the issues involved and of how to approach Irish research.

We are looking forward to our May meeting when Iain Ferguson and Tessa Spencer are visiting to talk about how to get the most from ScotlandsPeople and how the material available in the National Library of Scotland can help in our research.

This meeting is open to others, so any members of SAFHS Societies who can easily reach Manchester would be welcome.

Booking for the event begins on 4<sup>th</sup> April at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mlfhs-anglo-scottish-branch-meeting-tickets-55151712256>.

We continue to receive contributions to our Scottish Marriage Index. Information can now be entered electronically by contributors and whilst we would encourage contributors to use this method, data may still be sent to [smi@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:smi@mlfhs.org.uk). You can access the Index at [www.angloscots.mlfhs.org.uk](http://www.angloscots.mlfhs.org.uk).

Distribution of our newsletter continues to grow. This is not restricted to our members but available to anyone.

Past editions can be viewed at <http://www.angloscots.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 2.00 pm., except August and December and non-members of the Society are always welcome. The help desk is open from 10.30am until 1.00pm. on our meeting dates.

*Michael J Couper*  
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Email: [angloscots@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:angloscots@mlfhs.org.uk)  
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## ASGRA



### Association of Scottish Genealogists & Researchers in Archives (ASGRA)

Alan MacLeod, former long-serving member of ASGRA and Secretary of SAFHS, was given the honour of Fellowship of ASGRA, at an informal lunch to celebrate his 30 years of service to the association, as well as his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, which was

on 30 November 2018. We wish Alan a long and happy retirement. Fellowship of ASGRA is for life, and we look forward to seeing Alan at our events. The photo shows ASGRA Chairman and Fellow, Janet Bishop, presenting Alan A J L MacLeod, FSGRA, with his Fellowship certificate, joined by: back l to r, Hazel Weir, Diane Baptie, Bruce Bishop, Ian Marson (ASGRA Secretary), Lorna Kinnaird, and front l to r, John McGee (ASGRA Treasurer), and Val Wilson.



Membership of the association is buoyant, and we are looking to recruit further members this year, including probationers, for whom we will be offering an enhanced mentoring scheme. In this age of qualifications in genealogy, we should not forget that our most noted and prominent genealogists in Scotland have gained their reputation through years of experience and investment in their profession, prior to the advent of university diploma courses. We acknowledge the need to return in some respects to the old ways.

Before recognised genealogy courses existed, would-be genealogists were taken under the wing of a professional, who mentored and tutored in the skills of the profession and running a practice. This "apprenticeship" way of doing things ultimately brought about the foundation of ASGRA, which was and still is the only association of accredited genealogists in Scotland. Accreditation is much sought after, and we are pleased to have many genealogy diploma holders within our membership. ASGRA will be holding a recruitment day in September in Edinburgh, details to be published later.

ASGRA welcomes membership applications from all backgrounds and ages, however, and at all levels of skill and expertise, whether qualified or not - each application is assessed on its own merits, although some credit and exemption will be given to applicants holding an approved qualification. We are particularly interested in attracting new probationers, and direct all those interested to the Join Us section of our website [www.asgra.co.uk](http://www.asgra.co.uk)

ASGRA members will be attending the SAFHS Conference in Wick in April, and are looking forward to the trip. Caithness FHS has asked us to organise Ask the Experts for the event. At the event, we will also announce our involvement in the 2020 SAFHS Conference. As a member of SAFHS almost since its beginning, ASGRA has always been closely linked with the association, and we hope that will continue for many years to come.

[www.asgra.co.uk](http://www.asgra.co.uk)

[genealogyscotland@gmail.com](mailto:genealogyscotland@gmail.com)

### Borders FHS

The Archive and Research Center will return to its Spring and Summer opening times as of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019

Tuesday – Friday 10:00am to 4:00pm. Monday Evenings will continue to be by appointment only.

Membership of the Society continues to grow with approx. 30% under 60 years of age.

The part played by the Society in the 'Stobs Project' is gradually drawing to an end with all data being digitised and maintained both by the Society and the Archive Service at Hawick Hub.

The Society's Library continues to grow with a collection of over 2000 books with 21 new titles being added since the last bulletin. While some titles are kept as strictly reference works there are many titles available for members to borrow. Included with the library are the large collection of Monumental Inscriptions, police arrest records, poor law etc.

The Archive and Research Center has now been open for nearly 5 years and during opening ours we continue to work closely with members and non-members assisting in the tracking down of Border ancestors. During the period Oct 2018 to February 2019 we have welcomed 217 visitors; 182 locals, 22 from around the UK and 13 from overseas.

The Society will hold its AGM on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at St Peters Church, Galashiels when new officers of the society will be elected. Following on shortly after the AGM the society will have reached a milestone when we publish the 100<sup>th</sup> edition of the Society Magazine. (First published in 1985).

### Caithness FHS

Caithness Family History Society is honoured to be the hosts of the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Scottish Association of Family History Societies Conference. The Conference aims to bring together talks and experiences that will highlight the range and extent to which Caithness people have contributed to both our own ancestral heritage and where and how Caithness men and women have built families across the world.

The Conference will be officially opened by Viscount Thurso, Lord - Lieutenant of Caithness, himself the current head of the Sinclairs of Ulbster. The Sinclair Baronetcy of Ulbster was created in 1786 for Sir John Sinclair, politician, writer and instigator of the Statistical Accounts.

We are delighted to work with the Pulteney Centre in holding this event. Thanks go to their staff in making all of the Centre's wonderful facilities available. The Pulteney Centre was established as part of the Pulteneytown People's Project in 2003 with the aim of creating an environment that would offer opportunities to improve life chances and well-being for the citizens of Pulteneytown. Today the Pulteney Centre is a thriving community centre offering a range of activities and facilities.

Pulteneytown was laid out by Thomas Telford for the British Fisheries Society to provide housing and work in support of the developing herring fishing. Today, many of the original buildings can still be seen and a walk around the area will include references to Robert Louis Stevenson, James Bremner and the famous Old Pulteney Whisky Distillery

#### PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS

**Address:** C/O Thurso Library, Davidson's Lane Thurso, KW14 7AF

**Email:** Secretary - [nems623@btinternet.com](mailto:nems623@btinternet.com)

**Website:** <http://caithnessfhs.org.uk> **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/caithnessfamilyhistorysociety/>

### East Ayrshire FHS

**Meetings:** Evening meetings are held at 7 pm in The Johnnie Walker Bond, Strand Street, Kilmarnock, KA1 1HU on the second Thursday of the months September to May. Visitors are welcome. On most other Thursdays we meet in the afternoon for workshops.

These are usually held from 1.30 to 3.30 pm in the Community Centre, New Farm Loch, Kilmarnock. If you are travelling from a distance to visit us, please email [enquiries@eastayrshirefhs.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastayrshirefhs.co.uk) in advance to check arrangements.

At the evening meeting in January three members talked about recent research. In February, Barbara Graham spoke about the life, caring work and sad death of Edith Cavell.

The speaker in March is author Frances Wright. Her book *The Shawl* uses a mix of fact and fiction to tell the story of her ancestors, spanning a hundred years up to the end of the first World War. We are also looking forward to the joint meeting of the family history societies in Ayrshire on 4<sup>th</sup> April, which this year is being hosted by Troon @ Ayrshire FHS. The speaker is Ken Nisbet and his presentation is entitled *Going Beyond Names, Dates and Places*. At the EAFHS meeting the following week Stuart Wilson will give a talk about the *Kilmarnock Calico Industry*.

**Events:** EAFHS will have a stand at the **SAFHS 2019 Conference and Family History Fair** which is taking place in Wick on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

We plan to be at the **South Ayrshire Fair** which is being held this year in the Carnegie Library, Ayr on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

We also hope to be at the **FOLK Craft Fair** in Galston Community Centre on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August. This event is being hosted by the **Friends of Loudoun Kirk** [FOLK] as part of their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Information about the history of old Loudoun Kirk and the ongoing work of FOLK can be found at

<https://loudounkirk418696562.wordpress.com>

and <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofloudounkirk>

**EAfHS contact details:**

**Postal address:** 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) or find us on **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/eaafhs](http://www.facebook.com/eaafhs)

### Lanarkshire FHS

The date for our **2019 "Local and Family History Show"** is **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October** 9:30am - 4:30pm. It will be held in the Concert Hall, Airbles Road, Motherwell. As usual many of the SAFHS societies will be attending, along with a wide selection of Local History Groups, Philatelic Society, Lanark Archaeological Society, plus much more.

We will also be operating an "Advice Centre" staffed by members of the "Scottish Genealogy Network" and our own researchers, the advice centre will also include Military advice and research, plus some military displays etc., We look forward to meeting you all there. Show Web-site: - **[www.lfhsshow.weebly.com](http://www.lfhsshow.weebly.com)**

Before October we look forward to our trip to the Poultney Centre, Wick for the SAFHS Conference and Fair on 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> April, see you all there.

We received a Grant from the '**Heritage Lottery' Fund** which will allow us to develop a "Master List" which will contain records for all men who fell in the First World War who had a Lanarkshire connection. If you had any ancestors, or know of anyone who had been born, married, died or had worked in Lanarkshire we would like to include them on our Master List.

Currently the list contains around 7, 000 names which have been checked for accuracy on CWGC, SNWM, ScotlandsPeople, Medal Index, FMP, Etc.,. We expect the list to contain over 18,000 names, so a long way to go yet.

Contact our Military Co-ordinator by E-mail at: [military-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:military-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk)

### **New Publications**

Our teams of 'Military' Transcribers continue to keep themselves busy.

The latest books in our **Military Groups WW1** Fallen series is: -

**The Fallen of Douglas Parish WW1** will be released at the SAFHS Conference in April.

Currently work continues on the following books: -

**Fallen of Larkhall.**

**Fallen of East Kilbride.**

**Lanarkshire Men who fell during the "German Spring Offensives" WW1.**

### **Lanarkshire Men who fell during the last 100 Days of WW1.**

**The Graveyard Group**, Janet Smith and her team of graveyarders, have recently completed and published the following: –

#### **Carstairs Churchyard M.I's.**

#### **Carstairs Cemetery M.I's.**

#### **Carstairs Avenue Road Cemetery M.I's.**

Currently they are working on: -

#### **East Kilbride Cemetery.**

#### **Chapelton Cemetery.**

It is thanks to our great team of volunteers that make it possible to carry out so much transcribing and research each year.

We have managed to keep our Membership fee at £10 (receiving 3 E-journals per year, and £12 (UK) and £16 (W.W.) receiving 3 paper Journals per year. All members who have supplied an E-mail address also receive monthly *E-News* Bulletins. Membership starts from the month you join for 12 months.

If you are a member of any SAFHS society you are always very welcome to visit our Research Centre and receive assistance from our volunteers on duty.

Our Research Centre open days and times are as follows:-

Monday, Wednesday & Saturday 12:00 – 3:00pm

Tuesday 7:00 – 9:00pm

Thursday 7:00 – 9:00pm - closed 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month.

#### **Research Centre Address:**

*\* Mail should be sent to the above address*

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

*Across the road from the Woodcutter Pub*

*\*\* Enter the Centre from the rear Car park off Dalzeil Street \*\**

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**

**Meetings:** Evening meetings are held at 7 pm in the Library of the Lasswade Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg every week from September to June. Talks are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month as follows to which all are welcome to attend

This year saw us complete the transcription of Liberton burial Indexes from 1647 to 1819.

All the burial indexes which have been transcribed by Lothians FHS are now available on Findmypast and are also available on CD.

We are currently transcribing West Calder, Ratho and Mid Calder.

*For further information contact: Lothians FHS, the Library, Lasswade Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg, EH19 2LA.*

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

*Website: [www.lothiansfamilyhistorysociety.co.uk](http://www.lothiansfamilyhistorysociety.co.uk) Facebook: [Lothians FHS](https://www.facebook.com/LothiansFHS)*

### North Ayrshire FHS

We began 2019 with a nautical theme, due to an accident, it was necessary to find another speaker at short notice. We were fortunate in knowing of Roy Paterson, who is also a member of the Clyde River Steamer Club

On a dark January night, we were transported out into the Clyde on a variety of steamers by a talk titled 'Clyde Steamers in Focus'. The pictures of these fine vessels delighted the eye and brought back memories of when in their heyday in the 1950s, there were 14 steamers plying between the islands and coastal resorts.

Later in the month, we had the second of our afternoon meetings, when we were once again out on the water, but this time we were sailing around the Western Isles visiting Arran, Colonsay, Tiree, Rhum, Eigg and Skye, sharing the adventures of the speaker, Heather Willmot and friends.

'Ardrossan Castle' and its history was the topic of Dr. Amanda Simpson and her band of enthusiastic volunteers. We learned a lot about the remaining structure, its history and how they are attempting to popularise it, while still preserving what is visible and finding finance to continue future excavations.

At our March meeting, Hugh Watson will be telling us about 'John Finnie and John Finnie Street' in the town of Kilmarnock. Hugh is a resident of Kilmarnock and is very enthusiastic in sharing his knowledge through his talks and tours.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> April, members of North Ayrshire F.H.S. will be joining East Ayrshire F.H.S. in Troon, where Troon F.H.S. will be hosting the Joint Meeting of the Ayrshire Societies.

The speaker will be Ken Nisbet and his topic will be 'Going beyond Names, Dates, and Places.'

The final meeting before our A.G.M. will be 'The Sad Story Behind the Campbell of Fairfield Cemetery.' This sounds quite intriguing and will be given by the owner- David Durie.

Though we are one of the smaller societies; we have 80 members, all of our meetings have been well attended and having one afternoon meeting in each session has encouraged those unwilling to attend in the evenings to participate.

The Society has been successful in being awarded a grant of £1,200; this will allow for roughly 2,500 more fiches to be digitised.

Our '**Find your Ain Folk Workshops**' on the last Thursday of the month from September to November and from January until April at 2-30-4-30pm in the Community Room of Largs Library are well supported. Note the dates may be altered if there is a speaker organised for that Thursday

A visit to Mount Stuart, on the Isle of Bute, is being organised for the 7<sup>th</sup> May, when a tour of the house and a special talk on the history of the family, will be given to the group.

The A.G.M. will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> May.

Contact details: Largs Library, 26, Allanpark Street, Largs KA30 9AG  
Secretary: [ann.clydeview@outlook.com](mailto:ann.clydeview@outlook.com) Web-site [northayrshirefhs.org.com](http://northayrshirefhs.org.com)

## **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. The library is staffed by enthusiastic volunteers who are happy to assist researchers and offer advice. 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 10.30-5.00, 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. 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 'Irish Records', 'Health and History: Using Medical Records in Genealogical Research', 'Napoleonic and Victorian Soldiers' and 'Kirk Session Records'. Please see the website for further details.

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

*Tel: 0131 220 3677*

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

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

## **Shetland FHS**

'Here in Shetland the lighter nights are coming after the long winter and Up Helly Aa. Following on from yet another hugely successful and well received event plans are already advanced on the next Sharing Shetland Surnames project. On June 8-9th we plan to discuss the names Arthur and Arthurson in the Whiteness and Weisdale Hall. Going by the last events it will be a great sharing weekend of stories and family trees.

We also are preparing for a move from our present premises. The Hillhead office has served us well but now is in need of renovation. New accommodation is being explored and we are all keen to find warm and dry premises for the future growth of our society.'



### 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. This is an opportunity 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 beginner 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. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

We also have office space within the Library at the Lanthorn Centre, where we are happy to welcome along new members.

Lanthorn days and times: Mondays 10.00 am till 3.00 pm and Thursdays 11.00 am till 4.00 pm.

As well as the Lanthorn, there will be a volunteer on duty at the Local History Library in Linlithgow offering the same service that we provide at the Lanthorn to society members and interested members of the public.-Linlithgow days and times: Wednesdays and Fridays between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm.

On 5 February 2019 we had an excellent turn-out for Sybil Cavanagh's talk on "The Lost Villages of West Lothian". Sybil's talk was both entertaining and enlightening and thoroughly enjoyed by all as well as generating much discussion about memories of the villages.

We continue to have our monthly visits to New Register House on the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month, 6.30 pm until 9.00 pm. These 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.

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.

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

For the past five years we have been transcribing previously hidden dissenters church baptisms from the Associate Presbytery of Linlithgow from 1738 onwards which were discovered in church premises. Publication in the very near future.

*For further information contact: Secretary, West Lothian Family History Society, c/o 21 Willowpark, Fauldhouse, West Lothian EH47 9HN*

*Email: [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)*

*Facebook page: west Lothian family history society - wlfhs*



## Local Population Studies Society

*Dedicated to the study of local, social, and population history*

The initial impetus for family history research is usually focused narrowly on particular ancestral lines, stimulated perhaps by the discovery of old family archives or photographs, the inquisitive questions from a child to a grandparent, or simply curiosity about personal ancestry. However, it is likely that personal family history research will quite quickly lead to other questions about the places in which people lived, their work and the communities in which they lived their lives, their migration from place to place and the typicality of ancestral experiences. Further investigation of such questions can often reveal that things which initially appeared surprising may be quite typical of the time and place in which they were situated. To answer such questions, it is necessary to move beyond family history and to engage with the local history of the locations and time periods that ancestors inhabited.

There are many routes to gaining the skills and information that can help to provide context to family history research, but many family historians have found that membership of the Local Population Studies Society (LPSS) provides a valuable point of entry and a useful resource for further enquiries that enable the experiences of ancestors to be located within a wider context. LPSS was founded in 1968, has just celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and has published issue 100 of the *Local Population Studies* Journal. The Society organizes two conferences each year, held in different parts of the country, and every year members receive two issues of *Local Population Studies* and two issues of the LPSS Newsletter.

The Society also provides a forum for discussion of relevant topics and guides to skills and sources for research into local population history.

The aims of the society are to link the interests and enthusiasms of individuals and groups working on the population history of their communities with each other, and with academic historians and demographers who can provide information on sources, skills and wider contexts. We encourage contributions from local historians, family historians and those working in academic institutions at all our conferences and publish papers of all types in both the newsletter and journal. To give a flavour of the topics we cover our Autumn 2018 conference (in Oxford) was on 'Historical sources and their use in local population studies', and our Spring 2019 conference in Sheffield on April 13<sup>th</sup> is on 'Urban mortality and graveyards'. Non-members are welcome to attend our conferences and conference registration for non-members automatically gives membership of the Society for one year, including digital access to the journal. Further information about the activities of LPSS, and information on how to join can be found on our website:

<http://www.localpopulationstudies.org.uk/>.

We are keen to work closely with family historians and currently at least three members of our Committee came to LPSS primarily through a family history route. We look forward to hearing from you and to seeing you at future conferences.

*Colin Pooley*

*Chair, Local Population Studies Society*

## Resource Review

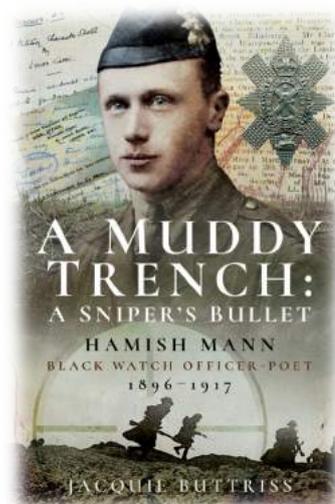
[ new books, relevant websites etc.]

*A Muddy Trench: a sniper's bullet*

By Hamish Mann

Pen & Sword, 2018 ISBN 152674 509 5

The recent discovery of a wooden chest, unopened for 100 years revealed a treasure trove of eloquent trench diaries, letters and poetry. The author was Hamish Mann, a young Black Watch subaltern killed in France in 1917 just five days after his 21st birthday. Thanks to Mann's outstanding literary gifts and prodigious output, this book re-lives his fateful journey from the declaration of war, his voluntary work at a military hospital, his training and commission and, finally, his service with 8th Black Watch on the Somme.



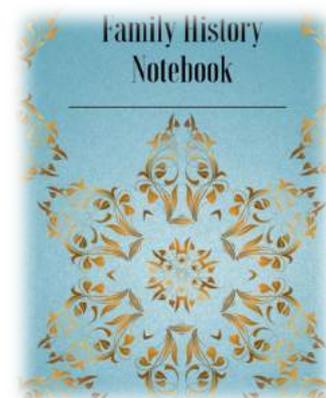
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*Family History Notebook*

By Rose Wood

Independently published, 2018. ISBN 1728881145

Record your family history! This notebook is a must for any family historian. Whether it's tracing your roots as far back as you can go, uncovering the details about a particular ancestor or the facts surrounding a family story, doing a one-name study, or exploring a place or significant event, this journal is your portable workspace. Set your research goals, make notes, record your discoveries, plan your next steps AND keep all your important information in one place.



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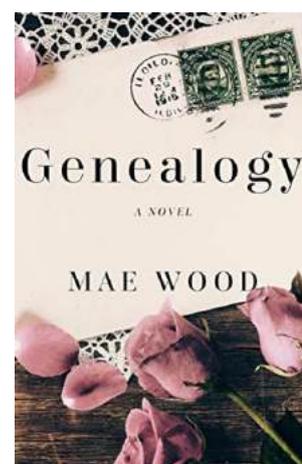
### Something Different!!

*Genealogy: A novel*

By Mae Wood

Independently published, 2108 ISBN 1728673542

My great-grandmother's name is bold across the cream envelope, now golden at the seams with age. I can't remember the last time I've seen graceful, purposeful handwriting with a fountain pen and not the hasty scrawl of ballpoint.



**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.**, PO Box 14036, Panmure, Auckland 1741, New Zealand

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

**Scottish Interest Group**, Ontario Genealogical Society - <http://scottishsig.ogs.on.ca/>

**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

**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

***SAFHS Publications, April 2017***

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