



June 2021

Summer is trying to start here in Scotland, and the end of our lockdown in sight, but we will still be very cautious for some time to come. It does not look like the premises will be able to open during the summer, but keep your eyes peeled for news in the autumn e-News editions. Though our meetings have finished, there are still lots of our recordings, and YouTube videos from elsewhere to learn from, if summer evenings in the garden don't come up to expectations.



Society News

- **Meetings** - watch the website and the August e-news for notice of our next meeting. The programme for next year should soon be posted on the website. I hope everyone managed to catch the talk by our new Honorary President, Sir Tom Devine, his inaugural address to us; if not, a recording is available to members under 'Meetings & Presentations' on the website.
- **Opening Hours**
Sadly we can't predict when it will be possible to open the premises to members. Consequently we have limited news to report on new library and database additions.
- **Journal**
Look out for the next journal, coming to your letterbox soon. We have to thank Jean Mackenzie, our webmaster for co-ordinating the production of the latest journal. Since Sheila Duffy our last Editor retired we are still looking for VOLUNTEERS to contribute to production of future journals, any offers gratefully received; drop a note to editor@gwsfhs.org.uk.
- **Datasets**
Another great addition to the datasets - **Govan Burials Index 1817-1855** is ready to be uploaded. Members check the Datasets tab on the Website - it may be there as you read this, arrival will be notified on the home page of the website. The dataset list is alphabetical, so scroll down.



News from elsewhere

- Christine Woodcock's Canadian, Scottish Special Interest Group has arranged a series of Zoom talks, and she kindly includes our members, who can register for the next talk at 3pm UK time on June 15th
Stories from the Asylum presented by Lorna Steele of the Highland Archive Services
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84461212701>

- Findmypast (FMP)
Over the past month FMP have added a growing database of Scottish Birth, Marriages and Deaths (BMDs), duplicating Scotlands People indexes (see below). In excess of 600,000 Catholic records have been added mainly B & M's, there are many new additions for Glasgow and Renfrewshire. There is a list defining coverage :
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/articles/scotland-roman-catholic-parish-list> .
- Scottish Indexes
The 11th conference by Zoom of their excellent and informative series of talks is scheduled for Saturday 10 July, visit <https://www.scottishindexes.com> to see the list of speakers, and register. More than 100,000 Criminal Records have been added to their datasets, - always worth a look, if you are lucky one of your ancestors may have had a brush with the law. See <https://www.scottishindexes.com/coveragescd.aspx> for coverage.
- 'Old Scottish' Genealogy and Family History is a website at <https://www.oldschottish.com>
Beware - this site may not be active since there is no activity on the Blog since 2018, however it has an important index of Poor Law Appeals for various parishes - a vital partial substitute for Edinburgh where the original applications were destroyed (see below).
- Chris Paton's blogspot <https://scottishgenes.blogspot.com/p/links.html> as always is up to date with lots of news for Scottish and Irish resources.
- Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk> is a service offering 100's of free and paid webinars on all sorts of subjects. Looking through their offerings there are a scattering of interesting historic subject talks.



Ramblings

Once again some random jottings on things to look at on the internet when you have spare moment, which is sure to expand into an hour as you get sidetracked, and a few hints on ways to get a bit more out of the indexes of BMD's.

- Glossary
Where would you get definitions for 'kaichpeller, ky or kinkhoast'? Well, you have Google, it's amazing what you can find there, but that's not focussed on Scotland . Go to <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/glossary> to find 'Tennis-court keeper, Cow, and Whooping cough'!! This link is not obvious from SP home page. You can narrow down the phrase or abbreviation you have found in old document, by Agricultural/Legal/Medical.. terms, by default all are selected, and sometimes the results are not strictly alphabetical within each letter.
- Old Scottish <https://www.oldschottish.com>
As noted above this site has a unique dataset of 'Poorlaw Appeals' indexed from a collection of the Board of Supervision in series HH23-27 at the National Archives of Scotland. Selecting 'Poor Law' from the OldScottish homepage gives a good overview of the content, and then following the link in first line, through county at the bottom of the page, and parish, takes you to all the available indexes. These may be particularly valuable for Edinburgh where the Poor Law applications were destroyed. The coverage does not appear to be complete for Glasgow as only

Barony Parish is listed. Even if the site is not active and you may not be able to order a full copy, there is enough information to see the original if you travel to Edinburgh! When site status is clear, it will be reported in future e-News. Any information please tell enews@gwsfhs.org.uk.

- **Scottish Catholic registers**

At <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/blog/new/scottish-catholic-parish-records> there is an interesting 50 minute presentation, or you can link straight to search page and, when logged in with a subscription, you can see the full transcript and image.

- **Census Address Search**

This is another new feature on FMP, at <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/search-address>, on search pulldown, you can enter for example, 'Kelvingrove' and Glasgow to get a list as below showing streets/houses etc, and with subscription expand to all entries for each street.

Street	Parish	Registration District	County	Country	Census	
Kelvingrove Street	Barony	Anderston	Lanarkshire	Scotland	1861	38 households
Kelvingrove Street	Barony	Anderston	Lanarkshire	Scotland	1871	53 households
Kelvingrove Gardners House	Barony	Blythswood	Lanarkshire	Scotland	1851	1 household
Kelvingrove House	Barony	Blythswood	Lanarkshire	Scotland	1851	1 household
Kelvingrove Place	Barony	Blythswood	Lanarkshire	Scotland	1851	5 households

Useful for finding street names at different periods.

- **Searching BMDs**

Well, you are obviously going to go the source of all knowledge at Scotlands People (SP), and with correct name, year and place you should find your target Birth – but, what if there is more than one matching John Smith, after 1855, do you buy certificates for each to check for parents names, or spend a day at Edinburgh, or other SP centres in Scotland? There could be help from 'Modern & Civil Births' at Find my Past. They are creating parallel indexes, which include parents names at :- <https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-records/scotland-modern-and-civil-births-1855-2019>. It seems to work for 1855-1880's, and appears to be licensed from FamilySearch which has parents up to 1874 plus some 1881 and 1891. It is work in progress, but there is a chance of ruling out many of the SP hits in that period by checking parents; for marriages the full spouse name is included; deaths have no additional information. Where you were searching pre-1855 Old Parish Registers (OPRs) you would automatically get parents in SP index, which will help to confirm that you have the correct birth. The pre-1855 OPR search will also let you enter surname with no forename, and parents names to get all children of the family listed.

- **Cairn of Lochwinnoch (and West of Scotland) Matters 1827-54**

Now for something completely different for anyone interested in early Renfrewshire families. A Victorian antiquarian named Andro Crawford collected random family histories, nature notes clippings and gossip in 45 handwritten manuscript volumes with an incomplete index in volume 46. 'Cairn' is a Scottish term for a collection. This resides at the Paisley Heritage Centre and has been filmed by the LDS <https://www.familysearch.org>, hidden among online files containing some millions of scanned images of records which have not been indexed – some are free to

view, but many can only be viewed at LDS libraries. Opening their site and selecting Search\Catalog leads you to many treasures, click 'Online' and enter 'Renfrew' to get list of available scans for Renfrewshire. Half way down the list, 'Genealogy Sources (1)' takes you to the files of the Cairn manuscript - clicking on the little camera after the volume description, opens up the scanned images. There are lots of interesting documents and books in the list, but frustratingly most of them have a little key above the camera icon which means that they are only available to view at LDS libraries.

Starting with the index in the last volume you have a chance of finding genealogies of 100's of Renfrewshire families, some information copied from printed sources but many comments collected from local sources. For example, from the index Vol 46:

Blair of that Ilk	8	248
Blasting Salve or Saw	36	236
Blair Writs	24	275
Black Letter day	24	333
Black year 1740	25	271
Blairs of the Ladymuir	25	258
Plantyge Lord	35	187
	36	549

The Blair family of Ladymuir, from Vol 35 starting at p187 (pdf image 98), are described over further 22 pages till estate is sold about 1820.

Ladymuir Blairs; made up
in or about 1826 and renewed in 1843. 187

Transferred from bairn I. p. 174.

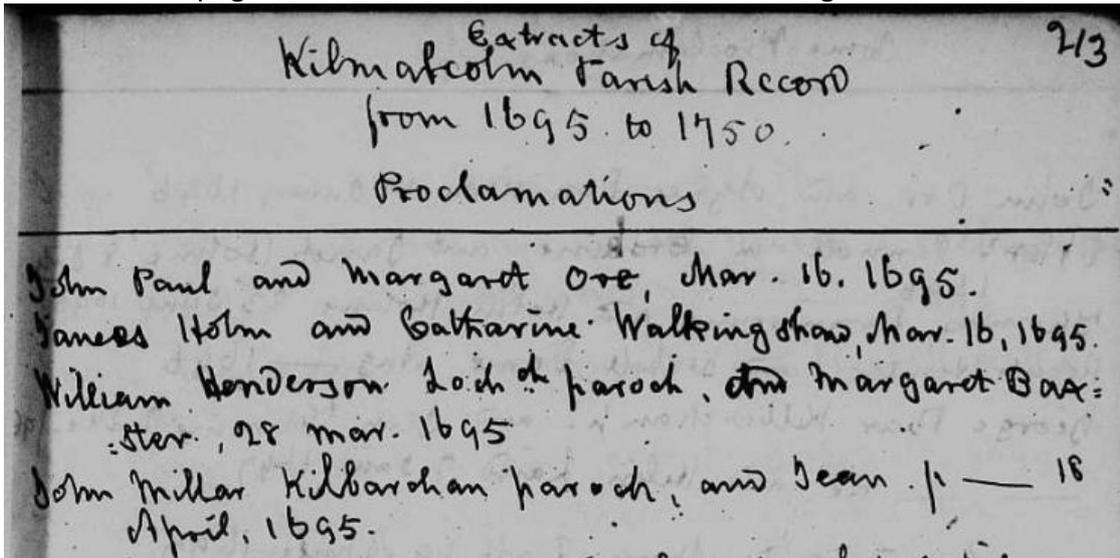
Magister ~~James~~ Blair, citizen of Glasgow,
of the 5 merkis land of Hilmalcolme. Died
before Jan. 23, 1627.
His son,

Followed by a list of 'bargain' book prices on p211

W. R. McPhun, 84 Argyle Street, Glasgow. 211

Boga's Latin Testament 18 mo. 1/6.
Carpenter's Comprehensive Dictionary of English
Synonyms 2/6.
Bouchology (The Hand Book of) containing the Elements
of the Science. Engravings. 1/-.
Evans Sketch of all Religions, 1/6
Illustrations of the Author of Waverley; &c. 1/6
Jacobite Ministry, published at 5/- - 1/6
Maccurtin's Irish Dictionary. published at 20/- and 8/6
Gaelic Dictionary, thick 800, published at 21/- - 10/-

then about 48 pages of extracts from the Kilmaccolm Parish registers



A total jumble of collected random facts, letters, newspaper cuttings, nature notes, lists of Scottish names for animals, birds and anatomical terms.... . The writing can be difficult and the language is rather old fashioned and it is easy to get sidetracked from the families you may be interested in. Worth a look for Renfrewshire connections. Typing up and checking the index would be a nice project for someone. Let us know if you want to tackle it!!

- **Paisley Poor Law**

Since we mentioned the Renfrewshire Heritage centre, you can get to its site from the library page at <https://libcat.renfrewshire.gov.uk> . Select 'Heritage Centre' on the menu bar and in the middle of the page, below their opening hours, is the link to their comprehensive Paisley poor law index 1839-1948. This is a searchable pdf which can be downloaded, the Index provides not only name but parents/husband, age and birthplace. For example :

APPLICANT	DATE	SERIES	STATEMENT NO.	HUSBAND, WIFE OR PARENTS	AGE	BIRTHPLACE	NOTES
BLAIR, George	1938	14/61	24164	David Blair & Elizabeth McCulloch	47	Galston	
BLAIR, George	1939	14/67	25067	Eda Maud Tate ; Thomas Blair & Margaret Blair ; George Tate & Jane Gilpin	30	Co. Armagh, Ireland	
BLAIR, Helen	1933	14/27	19104	David Barr Blair & Jeanie Hamill	14	Renfrew	

Apple's Safari browser chops off the Age and Birthplace, so best to use Chrome which correctly enables landscape mode display.

- **Other Poor Law records**

Back to <https://familysearch.org> , Search\Catalog by 'Scotland, poor law', gives a useful list of all the records they have filmed from archives - mostly images are locked, but, maybe by accident, some have an open camera symbol and originals can be viewed, such as Innerkip and Kilmaccolm in Renfrewshire, and Irvine and Maybole in Ayrshire.

Thanks to Family Search, Find my Past, and Paisley Heritage centre for illustrations

Ideas, opinions and techniques from contributors to e-News, are for information of readers, they do not necessarily reflect the opinions or recommendations of the Society.

To be in contact with others you can go to :



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