



July 2021

Greetings to all our members and friends, hopefully vaccination is going to hold back the current onslaught of cases in UK. Doubtful if archives will open everything, regardless of relaxations in some nations, - keep wearing a mask!! It's 'summer' in the northern hemisphere, so hopefully everyone is getting fresh air - between the showers of rain.



## Society News

- **Meetings** - Schedule for 2021-22 is now available, summary below, check with the website a week or so before the date to register. We will continue with Zoom meetings for the foreseeable future, which is great for distant members.

### 2021

20 Sep – *Sharing your Family History Online* – Chris Paton  
18 Oct – *Find my Past Update* – Myko Clelland  
15 Nov – *Ghost Signs of Glasgow* – Merryn Kerrigan  
13 Dec – *Early Scottish Settlers in Ontario* – Christine Woodcock

### 2022

17 Jan – *Huts in Scotland – our modest missing paradise* – Lesley Riddoch  
21 Feb – *Titanic Love Story* – Sean and Sheila Mae Szmalc  
21 Mar – *Digging deeper into our ancestry with Y-DNA testing* – Chris Menzie  
11 Apr – Annual General Meeting  
25 Apr – *Glasgow High Kirk Burying Ground* – Scott Fairie  
16 May – *The Rebirth of the Dear Green Place: Parks and Wellbeing in nineteenth-century Glasgow* – Clare Willsdon

- **Opening Hours**

Sadly we can't predict when we will be able to open the premises to members. Hopefully there may be some limited volunteer groups soon; this will allow more enquiries to be researched.

- **Journal**

The June Journal 121 has been somewhat delayed, it has gone to the printers, and is scheduled to be posted out at the end of this week, so you should be seeing it soon.

- **Library**

We have mentioned this book before in the Journal, as it has been written by member James D. Allen of La Grange, Kentucky, **Genealogical Memoirs of the ALLEN family in America**. The author has kindly donated a copy of the second edition to the GWSFHS, which is extraordinarily generous since only fifty copies were printed. It is a vast tome and there is a lovely dedication to the late Alexander Wallace Inglis, 1932 -2018, researcher with the GWSFHS, member 3228, who helped Jim with the Scottish research, verifying records and contributing details about the Allan

family in Glasgow. A new chapter in the second edition Descendants of Alexander Allan is dedicated to the memory of Alex. in appreciation of his expertise and support. The Allan branch mainly had connections with Thornliebank, Barrhead and Greenock. But there is also extensive detail about the author's Armstrong ancestors - Francis Armstrong, born circa 1695 in Enniskillen (but originally the Armstrongs were from Liddesdale, Roxburgh) arrived in the USA in 1723. Library of Congress number is 20009941563. [JDAllen2@twc.com](mailto:JDAllen2@twc.com)  
*Sheila Duffy member 219*

## ● Website

This is the place to watch for latest news. Remember to check the Articles tab to see the instructive photo sleuthing which Diana does to identify anonymous photos and albums.



## News from elsewhere

- **Scotlands People** - Release of the 1921 census on Scotlands People will be delayed until 2022, but no date is yet confirmed on the website.

- **Ancestry**

### **Scotland and N.Ireland, Death Index, 1989-2020**

this says it is a 'compiled' index with about 45% coverage (does not include General Reg Office reference). Entry includes birth and death date, town and first half of post code (needs international subscription). <https://www.ancestry.co.uk/search/collections/60631/>

*If anyone knows what source this is compiled from, maybe they could write a short note for inclusion in next e-News.*

### **Postal Service Appointment Books 1737-1969**

found by Search\CardCatalog with Title "Postal". It is truly UK! Submitting a keyword with no name gives many results from all over, 8,711 names for Dublin, 1,309 for Ayr, 60 for Kirkintilloch and 36,973 names for Glasgow!!! Results seem to be mainly 1850s - 1950s, so looks fairly certain that you could confirm start of service for anyone employed at the post office. International access is required to see an image, but all that is added to basic index is the abbreviation for the post they were appointed to :- postman/typist/cleaner/technician/C.A. etc.

- **Findmypast**

### **Dumfries and Galloway Census & Population Lists 1792-1821**

This includes surviving parts of 1801, 11 and 21 Census for Annan. The link on their blog is broken, but you can find it from 'Search', then 'All Record Sets' on the right, and type in the title.

- **ScottishIndexes**

If you missed the 11<sup>th</sup> Zoom conference, you can see the notes at 'PDF handout' and 'past conferences', half way down the home page at [www.scottishindexes.com](http://www.scottishindexes.com).

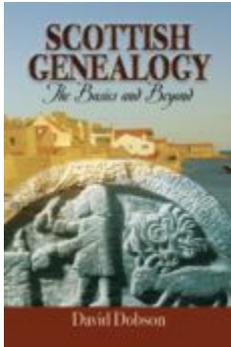
**Added** - more than 100,000 records have been added to their Criminal records. Details of coverage can be seen through the Learning Zone page.

- **Chris Paton's blogspot** <https://scottishgenes.blogspot.com/p/links.html> useful as always.



## Reviews

A book review just missed the Journal publication date, and will probably be repeated in the next one for members who do not take e-News.



**Scottish genealogy: the basics and beyond** by David Dobson. Published by Genealogical Publishing Company, 2021. £18.64 (Waterstones)  
ISBN 978 0 8063 2113 4

Many of you may be familiar with David Dobson, an established author on Scottish history and genealogy, who has carried out extensive research in archives in Scotland and America and has published over 200 books. (We have 41 in the Society Library). While the main resources for Scottish family history are well covered, the real value of this book is in the bibliographies for each topic. Each section provides historical context and encompasses publications, records in libraries and in archives and importantly, the specific

archive reference for locating the item.

As an example, the Military section has a Militia subsection where the author provides background information on the Militia followed by a description of militia records in various archives.

*Dundee Militia Lists of 1801 identify hundreds of men between sixteen and forty years old, with their occupations and addresses, who were eligible to serve in the local militia to oppose an anticipated French invasion during the Napoleonic Wars (NRS.SC47.72.3).*

*Glasgow City Archives has a militia list for Glasgow, but covering the period 1810-1831, as well as lists for Angus, Lanarkshire, Argyll, Stirling, Caithness, and Perthshire, giving name of soldier, parish, wife and children. (GCA.D-TC12)*

Next there are publications on the Militia ranging from the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the 21<sup>st</sup>. The author does sometimes give his own review and description of the item.

*Territorial Soldiering in the North East of Scotland during 1759 to 1814 (John Malcolm Bulloch, Aberdeen, 1914) is highly recommended. It contains a muster roll of 101 Black Watch soldiers from 1790 to 1791, 80 Fraser's Highlanders from 1775 to 1793, 940 recruits for the Gordon Highlanders in 1794, a muster roll of 295 men of the Northern Fencibles from 1778 to 1783, and much more. For example, according to a muster roll of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Regiment (The Gordon Highlanders) at Castlehill Barracks in 1794-which includes name, age, height, birthplace, trade, career, and attested date-"Norman Buchanan, 22, 5 foot, 10 inches, Skye, labourer, died of his wounds on 3 February 1800, 15 May."*

There is a useful name index at the end of the book which, as family historians, is something we all like!

This book is more than an introduction to Scottish family history. It will appeal, not only to those starting out on their genealogy journey, but also to those who are ready to take their research to the next level by exploring what is available in archives and libraries and what has been published in books and journals. It is compact with 157 pages covering the period 1550 - 1850 and therefore it is not a comprehensive guide to Scottish genealogy. However, David Dobson does pack a lot into his book. On a personal basis I found it a really interesting read and I have discovered many new avenues to explore for my own family research.

Note: this book will be available in the Society Library, when we are able to reopen.

*Linda Emery member 8216, our Librarian.*



## Ramblings

Recently hearing of some brick walls with no records, and finding a couple of unexpected baptisms in Glasgow United Free records, prompted the following long story about Church records.

### ● Which Church?

Did you look for an event on Scotlands People (SP) before 1855 and could't find it?

Please select church

Church of Scotland (old parish registers)

Roman Catholic Church

Other churches

?

Did you search 3 times :-

Which 'Other Churches'?

A bit of background.

If you check Wikipedia for Church of Scotland you will get a short history, and see a chart showing the complicated path of breaks and mergers of various sects. Simplified as follows. After the Reformation forming the Presbyterian Church of Scotland in 1560 the Roman Catholic Church did not re-surface until the Relief Act of 1791. In 1689 the Episcopal and Reformed Presbyterian Churches broke away, and there were smaller secessions in the 1700s. In 1843 there was a major disruption when about 40% broke away, to form the Free Church of Scotland. Unless you are an ecclesiastical historian, I think you would have had to be there, to hear the arguments, to understand reasons for all the disruptions! Along with migration of people to towns, and the Church disarrangement, it perhaps explains why there are very often cases of missing baptisms and marriage records on Scotlands People, particularly from 1840s, to 1855 when statutory registration started. In the 1900s many sects re-joined the Established Church.

By the act of 1855, all the BMD registers of the Established Church up to 1820 had to be sent to New Register House for safe keeping, and later those to 1855 were deposited, some parishes continued to keep taking their own records after 1855. All the Parishes were numbered north to south, from 1 for Bressay in Shetland, to 901 Wigtown in the south. OPR number and date coverage was mentioned in April e-News, shown in the catalogue of registers collected in by 1872 at <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//research/list-of-oprs/detailed-list-of-old-parochial-registers-of-scotland.pdf>

At a later date the Scottish Record Office, now the National Records of Scotland (NRS), collected in all other Established Church records (principally Kirk Session and Presbytery) they are catalogued in series CH2, numbering them as they were received - so Kirk Session numbers do not match OPR numbers. Now these have mostly been made available on Scotlands People in their Virtual Volumes section.

So what happened to all the churches that broke away? Well, the records of those who re-joined the C of S up to 1929 have been collected in to the NRS in series CH3, these include many parish registers, these are what are called 'Other Churches' on the SP search page. Obviously you must search these, and if you are not absolutely sure about ancestor's religion, it is worth checking the Roman Catholic records. But, which parishes are included in Other and RC churches? To see the lists look at the SP guide

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/church-registers> and scroll down to see all the CH3 registers listed alphabetically, eg :-

## Other church congregations

A list of congregations whose registers are included in the index appears below, with aliases, reference codes in brackets, and the relevant county or city in each case.

- Aberdeen - Bon Accord Free (CH3/874) ABERDEEN CITY
- Aberdeen - Charlotte Street United Presbyterian (CH3/3) ABERDEEN CITY
- Aberdeen - St Paul's Relief, Aberdeen - St Andrew's Street, Aberdeen - St Paul's United Presbyterian (CH3/927) ABERDEEN CITY
- Aberfeldy Free (CH3/453) PERTH

once again their own numbering, nothing to do with OPR number. There is also a list of the RC records included. If you want to know the date coverage of 'Other' records you have to go the NRS search at <http://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/nrsonlinecatalogue/search.aspx> and enter the CH3 reference; for example for the first Aberdeen volume CH3/874 you find

<b>Reference</b>	CH3/874/15
<b>Title</b>	Aberdeen, Bon-Accord Free kirk session: Baptismal register
<b>Dates</b>	1843-1855

among many other church records deposited. So that covers all the churches which returned to the fold, all conveniently indexed on SP, but what about those that stayed independent.?

Look at the NRS guide <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/church-records> and you see that there are many records for Other, Other Churches, like some Free Churches in series CH16, so there may be other places to look but that's a whole new search!! The page references the Scottish Archives Network website (SCAN) as the place to look for records in local archives. There are also Quakers and Mormons and other emerging religious organisations that your family may have had connections to. There is an interesting parliamentary report from 1854 titled *Religious Worship and Education Scotland 1851*, which summarised details of about 85% of places of worship that responded to survey. It can be found on the [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk) site, at Research\Research Guides\A-Z\Census\1851\1851 Census of Religious Worship...', the link takes you to the document on a histpop.org site. The interesting point is that 40 different religions and sects are mentioned :-

Established Church	904 congregations	Episcopal	112
Free Church	824	Roman Catholic	104
United Presbyterian	427	and many other smaller	

The number of members is not exactly in proportion to number of congregations but it does show that there are a large number of people who had strayed from the established church by 1851. I didn't go past the table on page 2 because it is a very slow site.

Looking at marriage certificates after 1855 may give a clue if event took place other than in the C of S, any stray baptism in one of the other secession churches will give you a clue to investigate the history of other churches. Happy hunting.

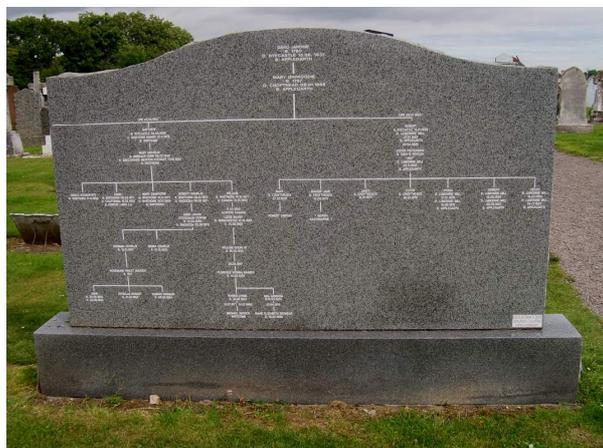
### ● Baptism and Christening.

When abbreviating dates of life events you can use C. for christening to avoid confusion between birth and baptism date. While many traditions use terms interchangeably, it appears from the internet that there is a subtle difference. Baptism is a rite or sacrament of admission to the church; where Christening is only naming of the child, which will be part of Baptism. Normally baptism will be soon after birth, but late baptisms of groups of children and adults often occur, so it is best to record exactly. When using C for baptism approximate dates can also use c. for circa or approximate, here a tilde ~ sign can be used to prevent confusion of Cs.

It is very common to see reference to 'birth certificate' before 1855, where extract from Baptism register is referenced – this may mention birth date, but often only baptism date.

- Facebook

The GWSFHS Facebook site is an active area where many helpful members are contributing and some very speedy responses are seen. Liz Ashmole recently posted a really fun stone spotted at New Abbey Cemetery, next to Sweetheart Abbey in Dumfriesshire, and Pat Bagnall followed up with t'other side. Motto - always look in the sides and back! As someone said 'presumably not all buried there' and 'would you need DNA if your family was set in stone!!'. Thanks to both of them for such a fun find to brighten up my dry text!!



Where anyone has comments or corrections, don't be shy, and send a note to [enews@gwsfhs.org.uk](mailto:enews@gwsfhs.org.uk), thoughts can be included next month. Also let us know of any other suggestions for less obvious resources which may be of use to other members.

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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