

Scottish Indexes Conference



Learn how to trace your Scottish
family history 

www.scottishindexes.com



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Scottish Indexes Conference XIII

23 October 2021

I hope you had as much fun on Saturday as we did! There were some great questions that really got us thinking! Hopefully you have been inspired by the day.

I have done my best to compile everything we discussed. We also have three additional handouts available on our website. Remember that handouts from past conferences are available, along with the most recent ones, [on our 'conferences' page](#).

We hope you can join us again for our next conference on Sunday 5 December. [Here is the link to register on Zoom](#). Please feel free to share this handout with others, and of course tell them about our next conference.

See you in December!

Graham & Emma Maxwell

Genealogists at www.scottishindexes.com



‘Hidden in Plain Site’

by Amelia Bennett



Website: www.miagenealogy.com

Twitter: [@MiaB2012](https://twitter.com/MiaB2012)

Mia Bennett has followed in her ancestors’ footsteps as an engineer for her ‘paid’ job but loves using her analysis skills to investigate the fascinating world of her relatives. She has been researching her family history for 25 years and has

been a trustee of the Society of Genealogists for six years. She has run brickwall workshops, provided advice and volunteered in the SoG library. Mia carries out family history research and DNA analysis for clients and is an Associate of AGRA. She gives talks on traditional genealogy and DNA including at the SoG, RootsTech Connect, Family Tree Live and on an Unlock the Past cruise. She is an alumni of the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and a current student of the Higher Certificate at the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies. More information about Mia can be found at her website www.miagenealogy.com.

Mia’s presentation was ‘Hidden in Plain Site - A journey through where to find genealogical records that are often not known about or forgotten in preference for the more commonly used websites’. Mia identified free websites and explained how to search within them to enhance research. A range of record types were covered, including BMD records, parish registers, name rich sources and probate as well as a wealth of other more unusual sources.

Mia’s handout is available from www.scottishindexes.com.

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SATURDAY 23 OCTOBER 2021

FAMILY

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'Using the NLS maps website
for family history research' by
Chris Fleet

Using the NLS maps website for family history research

by Chris Fleet

Website: maps.nls.uk

Chris Fleet has worked at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, and the National Library of Wales before joining the National Library of Scotland in 1994. His main responsibilities at NLS relate to modern and historical digital mapping, and he has overseen the development of the Library's maps website over the last two decades. He has researched, written and spoken widely on these subjects, and is a co-author of several popular books on Scottish mapping, including *Scotland: Mapping the Nation* (2011), *Edinburgh: Mapping the City* (2014), *Scotland: Mapping the Islands* (2016), and *Scotland: Defending the Nation* (2018).

The National Library of Scotland have been working hard to not only add more wonderful maps to their website, but they have also been updating their guides. You can subscribe to the Cairt newsletter which provides a twice-yearly update of map news and recent research.

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“Tracing Welsh
Family History”
by Eilir Ann Daniels

Your Welsh Ancestors

by Eilir Daniels

Website: www.yourwelshancestors.com

Eilir has over 30 years' experience of family history research, and 12 years ago set up the 'Your Welsh Ancestors' research service.

In addition to her day-to-day hands-on research work, she runs courses and provides one-to-one consultations via her [training platform](#). She also carries out research for TV and radio programmes, including the BBC's Who Do You Think You Are?

Eilir is a Full Member of AGRA (the Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives), and is a Pharos Tutors instructor. She is a native Welsh speaker, and her academic background – her degree focused on the development of Welsh and UK society after the Industrial Revolution – provides the basis for her genealogical work today.

The talk looked at the following:

1. A background to Wales and Welsh history, setting out information on the old Welsh counties, parishes and place names.
2. The basic sources used in Welsh research: a look at birth, marriage and death records in Wales and related civil registration districts; Welsh censuses and parish registers.
3. How Welsh research is different from English: surnames, patronymics, nonconformist (chapel) records, and the Welsh language.

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**'Tracing Family History
Through Health'**
by Dr Louise Williams

Tracing family history through health

by Dr Louise Williams

Website: www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk

Facebook: [@lhsa.edinburgh](https://www.facebook.com/lhsa.edinburgh)

Twitter: [@lhsaeul](https://twitter.com/lhsaeul)

Louise Williams has been the Archivist at Lothian Health Services Archive (LHSA) since 2014, and worked inside the service since 2012. LHSA is NHS Lothian's archive based inside the University of Edinburgh, and collects records from NHS hospitals and their predecessors, along with more general records about healthcare in Edinburgh and the Lothians. The archive is open to all researchers and offers a remote enquiries service. As well as being the largest medical archive in the UK, LHSA has a particular strength in records from psychiatric institutions, with diverse collections from seven different local hospitals. Louise uses these records on an almost-daily basis to answer genealogy queries, in academic teaching, and in community talks and workshops.

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'Stories from the School
Log Books'
by Lorna Steele

Stories from the School Log Books

by Lorna Steele

Website: www.highlifehighland.com

Facebook: [@highlandarchives](https://www.facebook.com/highlandarchives)

YouTube: [High Life Highland](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Lorna Steele is the Community Engagement Officer for the Highland Archive Service, whose four archive centres contain historic documents, covering a third of Scotland's landmass and dating from the 1200s to the present day. Her role involves connecting a diverse range of audiences, from school pupils to prison inmates, with these fascinating documents.

Lorna became an Archive Assistant in 2014 and was appointed Community Engagement Officer for the wider Highland Archive Service in 2017. Lorna's background prior to this was in retail and hospitality. Working with archives allows her to indulge her love of language and history, and regularly draws on knowledge she gained while doing an English Language MA (Hons) at the University of Edinburgh. Lorna is passionate about the documents the Highland Archive Service cares for and connecting people to the Highlands' past.

Lorna hosts the weekly 'Learn with Lorna' service which features a wide variety of the archive's holdings. You can watch these on Facebook or YouTube.

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'Tracing the Irish in
Scotland' by Chris Paton

Tracing the Irish in Scotland

by Chris Paton

Website: www.scotlandsgreateststory.co.uk

Twitter: [@GenesBlog](https://twitter.com/GenesBlog)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheGENESBlog>

Northern Irish born Chris Paton lives today in Ayrshire, Scotland, where he works as a genealogist through his [Scotland's Greatest Story](http://www.scotlandsgreateststory.co.uk) service. A holder of a Postgraduate Diploma in Genealogical Studies from the University of Strathclyde, Chris is author of 'Sharing Your Family History Online', 'Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry Through Church and State Records', 'Tracing Your Scottish Family History on the Internet' and 'Tracing Your Irish Family History on the Internet (2nd edition)'. His most recent book, 'Tracing Your Irish Ancestors Through Land Records', was published a few weeks ago. Chris currently has eight books available through [Pen & Sword](http://www.penandsword.co.uk).

Chris also writes a daily genealogy blog, [Scottish GENES](http://www.scottishgenes.com), as well as regularly lecturing on Scottish and Irish subjects, Chris also runs courses for [Pharos Teaching and Tutoring Ltd.](http://www.pharos.co.uk)

Chris' next course, '[Scotland 1750-1850: Beyond the Old Parish Registers](http://www.scottishindexes.com/courses/scotland-1750-1850-beyond-the-old-parish-registers)', starts on 1 November 2021.



New Features and Records on Scottish Indexes

by Emma Maxwell

Website: www.scottishindexes.com

Twitter: [@scottishindexes](https://twitter.com/scottishindexes)

Facebook: [@scottish.indexes](https://www.facebook.com/scottish.indexes)

For 20 years Graham and Emma Maxwell have been indexing and publishing indexes to records. Scotland's Criminal Database now contains records from the High Court Criminal Records, Sheriff Court Criminal Records, Crown Counsel Procedure Books and Prison Registers.

A common 'brick wall' we come across is when an ancestor was illegitimate. There are several sources that can help, one is the Sheriff Court records when the mother of an illegitimate child took the father of the child to court. Find out more about these amazing records in our [Learning Zone](#).

We have recently updated our search facility so that you can [cross-reference two surnames](#). Although we hope that this will be helpful, do remember that less is often more when it comes to narrowing down searches; be careful not to exclude the record you're looking for.

Our [Mental Health Records index](#) has also been updated to include more approximate years of birth. When you find an entry, remember to use the feature 'Click here to search for any other records for this patient'. That will group all admissions for that patient together.

We regularly add to and update our [Learning Zone](#) with new articles and new video tutorials.

Q&A and Submitted links

Regional Health Board Archives in Scotland

NHS Lothian - [LHSA \(University of Edinburgh\)](#)

NHS Tayside - [University of Dundee](#)

NHS Forth Valley - [University of Stirling](#)

NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde - [University of Glasgow](#)

NHS Grampian - [University of Aberdeen](#)

NHS Dumfries and Galloway - [Dumfries and Galloway Archives](#)

NHS Highland - [Highlife Highland](#)

NHS Lanarkshire - [North Lanarkshire Archives](#)

NHS Fife - [Fife Council Archives](#)

From the Chat & Email Suggestions

Archived PowerPoint on the 'Cataloguing of WW1 Pensions Appeal Tribunal Records National Records of Scotland' -

<https://www.scottisharchives.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/WW1-Pensions.pdf>

Wellcome Collection - A free museum and library exploring health and human experience

<https://wellcomecollection.org/>

1939 National Identity Register and How to Order an Official Extract - [NRS](#)

The [Scottish Genealogy Society Shop](#) - The paper version of the Monumental Inscriptions may have a map showing the location of each grave.

Chartist Ancestors - <https://www.chartistancestors.co.uk/>

Myko Clelland of Findmypast has videos on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/findmypast>

For Jewish records, suggest start with Jewish Communities and Records - United Kingdom,

<https://www.jewishgen.org/jcr-uk/>

The Aberdeen Cornhill Records are held in the Grampian NHS Archives at The University of Aberdeen. <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections/nhs-grampian-archives-72.php>

Highland Archive Service online catalogue - <https://www.highlifehighland.com/archives-service/online-catalogue/>

Historic OS maps for Ireland at <https://osi.ie/> and <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/search-archives-online/proni-historical-maps-viewer>

A list of Glasgow street names which were subject to change prior to the 1940s - <http://www.glasgowguide.co.uk/info-streetschanged1.html>

A list of Aberdeen children homes - <http://www.childrenshomes.org.uk/list/Aberdeenshire.shtml>

For Canada check Olive Tree Genealogy for research guides and clues in obscure record sets. <http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/index.shtml>

The Scottish Educational System 1840-1940 by W. W. Knox https://www.scran.ac.uk/scotland/pdf/SP2_1Education.pdf

The Edinburgh History of Education in Scotland - <https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.3366/j.ctt1g09w9t>

Dalry Burns Club - <http://www.dalryburnsclub.org.uk/>

Meta-search engine for 247 Australian indexes - <https://glam-workbench.net/name-search/>

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Scottish Indexes Conference Virtual Family History Fair



SHARING SHETLAND

Free Virtual Conference
27 November 2021

Shetland Family History Society presents:
'Sharing Shetland'
Four presentations
Live Q&A with our expert panel
4 pm to 9 pm UK time
www.shetland-fhs.org.uk

Photo Courtesy of Shetland Museum and Archives

Scottish Charity Number SC020018

We are delighted to be helping our friends at the Shetland Family History Society host their first online conference in November. This is a free event and registration is open; [click here to register](#) and find out more about the event or visit their website www.shetland-fhs.org.uk.

Caithness Family Society



Website: www.caithnessfhs.org.uk

Email: <https://caithnessfhs.org.uk/contacts/>

Facebook: [@caithnessfamilyhistorysociety](https://www.facebook.com/caithnessfamilyhistorysociety)

Caithness Family History Society was formed in September 1999 by a small group of enthusiasts and has already grown to around 250 members worldwide. Our aim is to promote an interest in genealogy and, wherever we can, to help others trace their roots – especially families originating from Caithness.



View - Lady Margaret's Tower to Glen Creran

Ardchattan Parish Archive

Ardchattan Parish Archive - researching and sharing the built, family, natural and social history of the Parish of Ardchattan from Big Bang to Present day. The area between Loch Etive and Loch Creran : Barcaldine, Benderloch, Connel, Bonawe

Website: <http://ardchattan.wikidot.com>

Facebook: [@ardchattan](#)

Email: ardchattan@gmail.com

Enquiries welcome, we are always interested to connect with descendants and anyone interested in our heritage.



Anglo-Scottish Family History Society

Website - angloscots.mlfhs.org.uk

The Anglo-Scottish FHS was formed in 1982 by members of the Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society (M&LFHS) to assist in tracing their links back to Scottish origins. We have details of baptisms and communion rolls from Presbyterian churches in Manchester from 1802 to 1970 in our members area. More images are included in the DVD from our online shop. We also have a Scottish Marriage index, giving details of Scots who married overseas. This index is freely available to search. We would also welcome any new information that researchers would care to contribute to the index.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Family History Society

Website: <https://www.gwsfhs.org.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gwsfhs>

Membership: £15

Membership of the Society includes:

Journal 3 times per year

Use of the Society's Research Centre & Library in Glasgow

Access to unique data sets

Expert research assistance

Scottish Genealogy Society



The Scottish Genealogy Society is based in Edinburgh but can help you with your research all over Scotland. Many of these resources are available to members and non-members but membership also comes with a lot of benefits.

Website - <https://www.scotsgenealogy.com/>

Membership - from £20

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/ScottishGenealogySociety>

Borders Family History Society



Based in Galashiels, Borders Family History Society is run by volunteers who have researched their own family histories. We are here to help you discover your family stories in the Border counties of Berwickshire, Peeblesshire, Roxburghshire and Selkirkshire in southern Scotland. Our main project is recording the Monumental Inscriptions for Borders burial places. In partnership with the Scottish Borders Archive, we are indexing Police and Criminal records and Poor Law records. Our research room is at 52 Overhaugh St, Galashiels, Scotland, TD1 1DP.

Website: www.bordersfhs.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BordersFHS>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BordersFHS>

Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society



The Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society covers the three counties of South West Scotland – Dumfriesshire, Kirkcudbrightshire and Wigtownshire. We were joined at the conference by Terence Brown, volunteer and council member at the Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society, at our August conference. If you missed it you [can watch it here](#).

Website - www.dgfhs.org.uk

Membership - from £7.50

Orkney Family History Society

Orkney Family History Society was formed in 1997 and is run by a committee of volunteers. They have an office (currently closed) adjacent to the archives department in the Orkney Library in Kirkwall. Their volunteers are working from home currently and are happy to assist with any enquiries by email. They have a membership of around 1,700 from all over the world. For an annual subscription (starting at £10) members are given access to a wealth of transcribed records on the society's website www.orkneyfhs.co.uk.

Volunteers have transcribed all census records for Orkney from 1841-1911, most gravestone inscriptions as well as a growing number of birth, marriage and death registrations. These are all indexed and searchable on the website.

Email: secretary2013@orkneyfhs.co.uk



East Ayrshire Family History Society

East Ayrshire Family History Society

Scottish Charity number SC029629

Website: www.eastayrshirefhs.co.uk

Email: enquiries@eastayrshirefhs.co.uk

Lanarkshire Family History Society

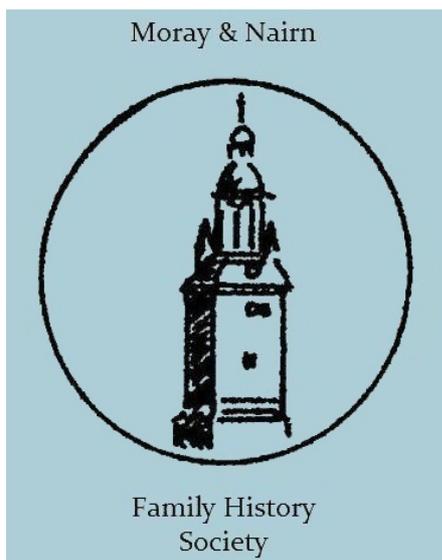


Our Research Centre in Motherwell is currently closed because of Covid 19, we will open again when the situation improves. In the meantime we can still assist you with your Scottish and Irish questions and any 'brickwalls' you have at present. Our Research Coordinator, John Kennedy and his 'team' of researchers can be contacted by E-mail at: research-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk

For questions of a military nature you can contact David Anderson by email at: - military-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk

One of our members, Clare Wilson, has produced a short Video tour of our Centre and the many facilities we have in the Centre. Including over 1,800 books (Family, Local and Military History) in our Reference Library. The Video can be viewed on YouTube, here is the link: - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hMQC1kir9LQ&t=0s>

Moray & Nairn Family History Society



Moray & Nairn Family History Society was established in February 2009, for people researching their ancestry in these old counties.

Website - www.morayandnairnfhs.co.uk

Contact can be made through the website, or by email to: enquiries@morayandnairnfhs.co.uk

Aberdeen & North-East Scotland Family History Society



Website: www.anesfhs.org.uk

Facebook: [@anesfhs](https://www.facebook.com/anesfhs)

Twitter: [@anesfhs](https://twitter.com/anesfhs)

Aberdeen & North-East Scotland Family History Society (ANESFHS) covers the old counties of Aberdeenshire, Kincardineshire, Banffshire and Moray in Scotland's North-East corner. We also hold records for all of Scotland and wherever else Scots and their descendants can be found.

The Society's research premises in Aberdeen has reopened, containing a huge range of resources, including subscriptions to paid websites, plus journals from other family-history societies worldwide. We stock many publications for sale.

Regular meetings, covering many topics of interest to family historians, are held in Aberdeen, Elgin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, London, Brisbane, Melbourne and Southern Ontario. Meetings currently take place online, and anyone is welcome to request an invitation.

Fife Family History Society



Website: www.fifefhs.org

Facebook: [@FifeFamilyHistorySociety](https://www.facebook.com/FifeFamilyHistorySociety)

Twitter: [@fifefhs](https://twitter.com/fifefhs)

Fife FHS was established in 1989 and is a charity registered in Scotland. Our members are from all over the World. In normal times we have an Archive Room based in Cupar Library, Fife, where our team of volunteers are available to help people with their Fife family history three days a week.

We have recently revamped our website www.fifefhs.org and as well as an extensive members area including a Record Archive, Journal Archive, Members Forum and free access to the Pre 1855 Fife

Death Index (over 250,000 deaths) we have an online shop www.fifefhs.org/shop/ There are 25 digital publications available to purchase as downloads. These include pre 1855 Baptisms from non establishment churches, Monumental Inscriptions and our Fife Shopkeepers and Traders Directory 1820-1870.

Central Scotland Family History Society



Website: www.csfhs.org.uk

The Central Scotland Family History Society covers the old counties of Clackmannanshire, Stirlingshire and West Perthshire, plus the parishes of Bo'ness and Carriden in West Lothian.

We organise monthly meetings from October to May, held in the Smith Museum in Stirling. Due to Covid-19 we had to postpone our AGM. This will now be held as a virtual meeting in September. As our meeting venue is not opening its lecture theatre until at least 2021, next year's programme of talks has also been suspended.

We produce a Journal twice a year, and since lockdown the committee has introduced a monthly newsletter, 'Share your Story', to keep members feeling connected to the Society. We have a full list of our own publications – see our website for details of price and ordering.

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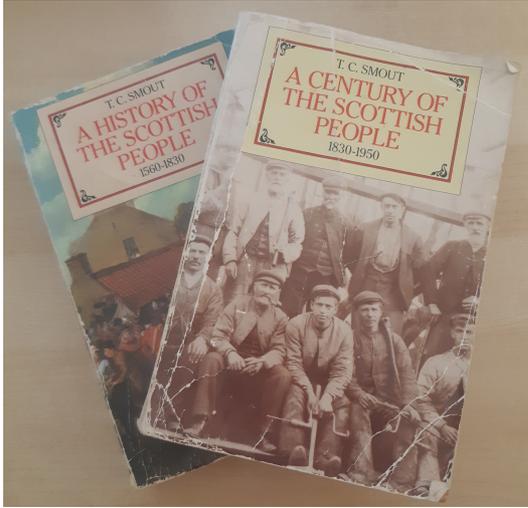
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www.scottishindexes.com



[Book here on Zoom](https://www.scottishindexes.com)

Scottish Family History Reading List



An attendee suggested a reading list which we thought was a great idea. Thanks to our presenters and attendees for suggesting these books. I should add that none of these are sponsored; these are genuine recommendations from fellow researchers. It is also not an extensive list, I am sure we will add more as time goes on.

Paton, Chris (2019) Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors Through Church and State Records: [Pen & Sword](#)

Paton, Chris (2020) Tracing Your Scottish Family History on the Internet: [Pen & Sword](#)

National Records of Scotland (2020) Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors: [Birlinn](#)

Simpson, Grant G (1998) Scottish Handwriting 1150-1650. Tuckwell Press.

Wilkinson, Kirsty F. (2020) Finding Your Scottish Ancestors, Techniques for Solving Genealogy Problems: [Crowood Press](#)

Bigwood, Rosemary (2006) The Scottish Family Tree Detective. Manchester: Manchester University Press

Brown, Callum G. (1997) Religion and Society in Scotland since 1707. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Gibb, Andrew Dewar (1946) Student's Glossary of Scottish Legal Terms. Edinburgh: W. Green & Son Ltd (Various later editions also)

Smout, T. C. (1998) A History of the Scottish People 1560-1830. London: Fontana Press

Smout, T. C. (1997) A Century of the Scottish People 1830-1950. London: Fontana Press

Steel, D. J. (1970) National Index of Parish Registers Volume XII: Sources for Scottish Genealogy and Family History. Chichester: Phillimore and Co. Ltd.

Wightman, Andy (2013) The Poor Had No Lawyers – Who Owns Scotland (And How They Got It), New Ed. Edinburgh: Birlinn Ltd.