

Scottish Indexes Conference



Learn how to trace your Scottish
family history 

www.scottishindexes.com



Quick Links

["The Scotch Colony" of New Kincardineshire \(From Kincardineshire to New Kincardineshire 1873\) by genealogist Lorraine Stewart](#)

["School Records for the Family Historian" by Dr. Irene O'Brien, archivist in Glasgow City Archives](#)

["Cracking the Code: deciphering old Scottish handwriting" by Margaret Fox, Archivist at Traquair House](#)

["Secrets of the 1921 Scottish Census" by Tessa Spencer, Head of Outreach and Learning at the National Records of Scotland](#)

["The Real Brigadoon Villages" by Andrew Armstrong, genealogist at relativelyscottish.com](#)

["One-Name Studies And Your Genealogy" by M. Diane Rogers](#)

[Genealogy Q & A hosted by Graham and Emma Maxwell \(including extensive reading list\)](#)

[SAFHS 2023](#)

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Scottish Indexes Conference XIX

14 January 2023

Thank you for joining us at the January Scottish Indexes Conference. Once again you put us to work with your excellent questions. I have done my best to compile all the excellent information which was shared as well as links to presenters' websites.

Thank you to everyone who joined us yesterday, we hope you can join us again in April. Emma has started work on a new presentation looking at the history of Scottish prisons and punishment in Scotland.

We'll announce more presenters soon but make sure to subscribe to our newsletter so you don't miss any big news. [You can subscribe here on Hubspot.](#)

Graham & Emma Maxwell

Genealogists at www.scottishindexes.com



Free
online
Event



Scottish Indexes
Conference

SATURDAY 14 JANUARY 2023



Learn how to trace your
Scottish family tree

**“The Scotch Colony” of
New Kincardineshire by
genealogist Lorraine Stewart**

www.scottishindexes.com

“The Scotch Colony” of New Kincardineshire (From Kincardineshire to New Kincardineshire 1873)

by Lorraine Stewart

Website: <https://www.kincardineshireancestors.co.uk>

Email: enquiries@kincardineshireancestors.co.uk

Lorraine has kindly prepared a handout which can be downloaded [here](#). An attendee asked to see the final slide again where Lorraine acknowledges the assistance she’s had from various people. Here is the final slide and a reminder that it’s nearly 150 years since those first intrepid immigrants arrived.



18

18 AUG 2023 AT 16:00 – 20 AUG 2023 AT 18:00 UTC+01

Scotch Colony 150 Celebration
Burns Hall, Kincardine Rd, Perth, NB E7H, Canada

**Thanks to: Jean Duncan, Kris Headley
Blair Morton, Chris Young & Dianne Morrison**

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'School Records for the Family Historian'
by Dr. Irene O'Brien

'School Records for the Family Historian'

by Dr. Irene O'Brien

Website: <https://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/libraries/city-archives>

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

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

There was a question regarding when married women began teaching. We still don't have a conclusive answer to this but we have found that the [Education \(Scotland\) Act 1945](#) stated: 'No woman shall be disqualified for employment as a teacher in any school, junior college or other educational establishment under the management of an education authority or be dismissed from such employment by reason only of marriage.'

It seems however that prior to the [Education \(Scotland\) Act 1945](#) married women were teaching. HANSARD ([HL Deb 06 June 1945 vol 136 cc435-44](#)) quotes the Secretary of State for Scotland as saying; "During the war, the schools have been able to carry on, in spite of depleted staffs, because teachers who in normal circumstances would have retired have been willing to continue at their posts, and a substantial number of married women teachers have returned to the schools. With the end of the war in Europe, many of these teachers will no doubt be thinking of giving up their wartime work, and their desire to do so must be accepted with full sympathy and understanding. I sincerely trust, however, that many will feel able to remain in the schools for a little longer so as to tide us over the period until teachers who are serving in the Forces are able to return, and until the flow of new entrants begins to reach the schools."

It would certainly be an interesting subject to research further and if anyone is able to do so please do let us know. Further reading of HANSARD and searching JSTOR may illuminate the subject.

During the presentation, Irene mentioned the 'Virtual Mitchell' website which gives free access to photographs featuring Glasgow's buildings and streets as well as people going about their daily lives. It's a great place to look for photographs of schools. Although you are unlikely to find a photo of your ancestor you may see a group of children at school.

Here are a few which caught my eye:

[Camlachie Primary School](#) (1878)

[Abbotsford Public School](#): interior (domestic science) 1916.

[London Rd Public School](#): interior (general teaching) 1916.

[Art class, 1955](#)

[North Kelvinside Public School](#) 1916

[Sacred Heart School, class photograph](#), Bridgeton, 1909

[Kay Public School](#) for handicapped children, horse-drawn van lifting pupils, Cowcaddens, 1911

[No 2 Committee of Glasgow Juvenile Delinquency Board](#) at Green St Industrial School; a board official presenting a mother and 3 children to other officials (named), Green St, 1886.

If you are looking for School records outwith Glasgow you may find the Scottish Archive Network's online catalogue a good place to start. This project aimed to revolutionise access to Scotland's archives by providing a single electronic catalogue to the holdings of more than 50 Scottish archives. Work is online to replace the catalogue but it is still a good place to start: <https://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/scancatalogue/welcome.aspx>. Do be aware, however, that not all archives are included and not all entities have a high level of detail. If you don't find anything, contact the archive that now covers the area where your ancestors lived. As Irene explained, there have been a lot of changes, but archivists will point you in the right direction.

If you are going to visit Glasgow City Archives, start planning as early as possible; in fact, this is true of any archive. Before you visit you want to have all your research in order and know what you want to consult. You need to book to visit some archives and many need time to retrieve records from off-site. By giving yourself and the archive as much time as possible you will have more success in tracing those elusive ancestors.

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Cracking the Code: deciphering old Scottish handwriting' by Margaret Fox

www.scottishindexes.com

'Cracking the Code: deciphering old Scottish handwriting'

by Margaret Fox

Twitter: [@mf6060](https://twitter.com/mf6060)

Email: mf6060@gmail.com

Margaret is the archivist at Traquair House, Scotland's oldest inhabited house.

Once again Margaret prepared an excellent and informative presentation. As genealogists, we need to 'crack the code' and read historical records. From Kirk session records, wills and a vast multitude of other records we need to sharpen our skills.

Margaret has kindly prepared a handout which you can access [here](#). This includes the sample secretary hand alphabet as well as a list of resources that can help you develop your skills.

Margaret highlights the excellent Scottish Handwriting website www.scottishhandwriting.com. I think this is particularly helpful for beginners. There are free tutorials and a series of posers so that you can test your skills.

Another suggestion was to practice! Older Kirk Session records are great for this as the contain pages and pages of old Scottish handwriting. You can access these for free on ScotlandsPeople.

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'Secrets of the 1921 Scottish Census' by Tessa Spencer

www.scottishindexes.com

'Secrets of the 1921 Scottish Census'

by Tessa Spencer

Website: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk>

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

As you probably know already, you can now search the Scottish 1921 census on www.scotlandspople.gov.uk. Tessa has kindly prepared a handout which you can download [here](#).

Tessa has also kindly agreed that we can make the presentation available on our website. When I get a chance I will update our Census in Scotland Learning Zone and [add the presentation video to this page](#) as well as to our '[past conferences](#)' page.

You may also find the [1921 Census research guide](#) on the NRS website very helpful; as they say, if all else fails read the instructions!

There was also a question about the 1939 register: why can't we access it as we can in England and Wales? [Here on the NRS website](#), they explain the link between the 1939 register and the National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR). It is possible to order an extract from the 1939 register but the NRS say, "it is only possible to provide limited information on the named individual; namely their address in 1939, marital status, age and occupation." Here is a link to the page on the NRS website that explains [how to order an extract](#).

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'The Real Brigadoon Villages'
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www.scottishindexes.com

'The Real Brigadoon Villages'

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Website: relativelyscottish.com

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

Andrew took his lifelong hobby of genealogy to the next level with a Postgraduate Diploma in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies from the University of Strathclyde in 2012. He has been running Relatively Scottish, a genealogy business based in the Scottish Borders, since 2015. He specialises in the south of Scotland – Dumfries, Galloway and the Borders. His own ancestry includes the infamous Border Reivers of the 16th century.

Andrew took a look at a number of Scottish villages which just disappeared. What happened to the often close-knit communities within? How can these be researched? There are examples all over Scotland - these include mining villages, villages which succumbed to the weather, and even villages which were spoiling the look of the local landowner's estate. And these lost places have left a surprising human legacy far beyond their modest sizes.

Andrew has kindly prepared a handout which can be downloaded [here](#).

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www.scottishindexes.com

'One-Name Studies And Your Genealogy'
by M. Diane Rogers

"One-Name Studies And Your Genealogy"

by M. Diane Rogers

Website: <https://canadagenealogy.blogspot.com/>

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

Sometimes, by accident, we end up doing a one-name study. It can help us unravel a tangle in our family tree.

Diane has kindly prepared a handout which you can download [here](#).

Q&A and Submitted Links

Websites suggested in the chat:

Original Industrial School for Boys (Dr Guthrie's), Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland

<http://www.childrenshomes.org.uk/EdinburghLibertonIS/>

Hutcheson's Grammar School in Glasgow was founded in 1641, see

<https://www.hutchesons.org/our-school/our-history/>

Sasines - Scottish Property Records

<https://www.scottishindexes.com/learningsasines.aspx>

Scottish Handwriting 2: 1500-1700

<https://www.course-bookings.lifelong.ed.ac.uk/courses/HS/history/HS191/scottish-handwriting-2-1500-1700/>

HISTPOP - <http://www.histpop.org/ohpr/servlet/>

Belvidere Hospital Records

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/archivespecialcollections/nhsgreaterglasgowandclyde/collections/hospitalsandclinics/belviderehospitalglasgow/>

Douglas G Lockhart researched planned villages. Article for NE Scotland

<https://www.bahs.org.uk/AGHR/ARTICLES/49n1a2.pdf>

Palaeography: reading old handwriting 1500 - 1800

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography/>

Notes on Scottish Coinage from JSTOR. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/42680120>

Coal Strike context <https://www.historytoday.com/archive/black-friday-1921>

Gazette (free) <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/>

Naturalisation, registration and British citizenship

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/naturalisation-british-citizenship/>

Reading list:

Steel, Donald John., Steel, A. E. F., and Society of Genealogists. National Index of Parish Registers. Vol. 12, Sources for Scottish Genealogy and Family History. London: Phillimore for the Society of Genealogists, 1970. [Details on NLS](#).

Bigwood, Rosemary. The Scottish Family Tree Detective : Tracing Your Ancestors in Scotland. Manchester: Manchester UP, 2006. [Details on NLS](#).

Hamilton-Edwards, Gerald Kenneth Savery. In Search of Scottish Ancestry. 2nd ed. Chichester: Phillimore, 1983. [Details on NLS](#).

Clarke, Clarke, T. N., and National Records of Scotland. Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors : A Guide to Ancestry Research in the National Records of Scotland and ScotlandsPeople. 6th Ed. / Edited by Tristram Clarke. ed. Edinburgh: Birlinn : National Records of Scotland, 2011. [Details on NLS](#). (Note, there is now a 7th edition available. You will also find the [free guides on the NRS website](#) have a lot (but not all) of the information. However, the hard copy is useful as we can make notes like Jane.

Gouldesbrough, Peter; Gordon, Donaldson, and Stair Society. Formulary of Old Scots Legal Documents. Edinburgh: Stair Society, 1985. Print. Publications Stair Society v. 36. [Details on NLS](#). This is not for beginners but it's really useful if you are working with old Scottish legal documents.

O'Rourke, Stephen R., and Andrew Dewar Gibb. Glossary of Legal Terms. Sixth ed. 2014. Print. LawBasics. [Details on NLS](#). Note, for genealogy the 1st edition may be helpful as it includes terms that are no longer used.

Durie, Bruce. Scottish Genealogy. Fourth Edition, Fully Revised and Updated. ed. 2017.. [Details on NLS](#).

Smout, T. C. A History of the Scottish People : 1560-1830. London: Fontana, 1985. [Details on NLS](#).

Smout, T. C. A Century of the Scottish People, 1830-1950. London: Fontana, 1987. [Details on NLS](#).

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

Simpson, Grant G. Scottish Handwriting, 1150-1650 : An Introduction to the Reading of Documents. New ed. East Linton: Tuckwell, 1998. [Details on NLS](#).

Young, Alex F. The Encyclopaedia of Scottish Executions, 1750 to 1963. Orpington: Eric Dobby, 1998. [Details on the NLS](#).

Hamilton, David. The Healers ; a History of Medicine in Scotland. Edinburgh: Mercatpress, 2003. [Details on the NLS](#).

Fenton, Alexander. Scottish Country Life. New Rev. ed. East Linton: Tuckwell, 1999. [Details on the NLS](#).

Carter, Ian. Farm Life in Northeast Scotland 1840-1914 : The Poor Man's Country. Edinburgh: John Donald, 1997. [Details on the NLS](#).

Roulston, William J., and Ulster Historical Foundation. Researching Presbyterian Ancestors in Ireland. 2020. [Details on NLS](#).

Brown, Callum G. Religion and Society in Scotland since 1707. Rev. and Updated New Ed.]. ed. Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, 1997. [Details on NLS](#).

Scottish Genealogy Society. The Scottish Genealogist. (1954). [Details on NLS](#). Note, as this is a long run of journals, scroll down on the NLS website to see the full run. You can download these for just £1 each from the Scottish Genealogy Society's website [here](#). The society also has a free index (1953-2005) [here](#) which means you can identify a specific issue of interest.

Scottish Indexes Conference Virtual Family History Fair

SAFHS 2023

'Haste Ye Back' is the theme of the SAFHS 33rd annual one-day conference, which will take place as an online event on Saturday 22 April 2023.

Planning is well advanced for the conference with seven speakers and topics confirmed:

- Prof Marjory Harper (University of Aberdeen) – Emigration, emigrants and returners
- Dr Jackson Armstrong (University of Aberdeen) – Digitising Aberdeen's mediaeval city records
- Dr Tom McKean (University of Aberdeen) – Family history interfacing with recorded history
- Nicholas Le Bigre (University of Aberdeen) – New family traditions in the north east
- Alasdair Macdonald (University of Strathclyde) - Using DNA in Family History Research
- Ken Nisbet - (SAFHS/SGS) – War Brides
- Alison Spring - Where Did My Scots Ancestors Go?

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.

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.

Ardchattan Parish Archive

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

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

Email: ardchattan@gmail.com

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. 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

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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:

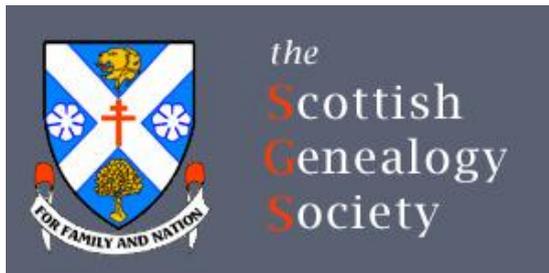
Journal 3 times per year

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:

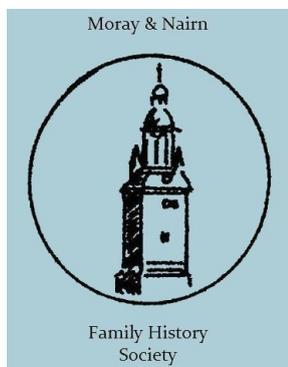
research-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk

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.

Meetings are held monthly on the 2nd Wednesday from October to May. For the 2022 – 2023 session, we are trying out a mix of meetings - four in-person afternoon meetings and four evening meetings on Zoom from December to March.

There is a monthly “drop-in” Session at St Ninian’s Library in Stirling, when we introduce the fascination of genealogy to new researchers starting out on their journey, and offer advice to anyone suffering from ‘brick wall’ syndrome.

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, many of which are now available as pdf downloads – see our website for details of price and ordering.