



e-Scotia

Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

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Anglo Scottish Family History Society

Welcome: to the New Year edition of our newsletter. Well, we made it through 2020 despite all obstacles. Let us hope that **2021** allows us to break away from this current situation and get back, not only to our research, but to meeting one another and sharing. Our first feature this month is of course the Branch Christmas celebration!!! There are also our continued attempts to point you in the direction of some resources that you might want to use in your Scottish research as well as some announcements relating to forthcoming events throughout the Society - and beyond. Editor.



Branch Christmas Celebration: well, ok, the "celebration" this year was somewhat muted with us having to gather via Zoom but still, it was great to meet up with 16 of our fellow Branch members and the limits of Zoom did not hinder or inhibit the flow of chat and sharing. Some of us even enhanced the celebratory atmosphere by imbibing the odd glass of vino during proceedings.



The main feature of the gathering was of course the annual quiz set by our intrepid quiz aficionados, Ina and Yvonne, who never cease to amaze us with the deviousness of their questions. Yvonne started the proceedings with questions about Scotland and Scottish history. Given the "supposed" structure of the Branch and the interests indicated, you would think this would be a walk in the park. Not so. Each year it seems to emphasise only our level of ignorance. Anyway, out of modesty I won't tell you who won, but he is typing this newsletter!! 🏆

Ina followed with questions of general knowledge. To spice up the proceedings, and with the assistance of Hilary Hartigan, Ina highlighted her computer expertise by offering the quiz by way of a PowerPoint presentation. Now how current and trendy can you get? Sadly, this modern approach to asking the questions did not make it any easier in answering them. Of the 14 questions asked, the winner (what a swot!!!) only answered eight which gives some indication of how the rest of us did. 🤔

Anyway, it was all great fun and enjoyed by all. As is usual, I have attached the quizzes at the end of this newsletter with the answers in case you want to test your own mettle against ours. Good luck.

SAFHS Conference 2021

You will recall that the Anglo Scottish Branch are founder members of the SAFHSs and we participate fully in their programme of event and meetings. The 2020 Conference had to be abandoned, but they have just announced details of the digital Conference for this year. More information can be found here. [\(Click\)](#)

The Scottish Association of Family History Societies



Free event
Six presentations
Genealogy Q&A

safhs.org.uk

Scottish Charity Number SC029006



Forthcoming Events:

As we have mentioned previously, whilst this pandemic has disrupted our normal lives, one good thing that has emerged is the number of events that are available to us through livestreaming to inform our family history research. Here are a few that are coming up in the next few weeks and which you might like to explore:

Scottish Indexes: the Maxwell's who operate this site have graciously set up a series of family history conferences with high-profile speakers sharing their expertise. They are whole-day, international, events and you can tap into them as and when you wish given that the presentations, once given live, then go on to a loop so that those in different time zones can tune in. The next **Conference is on Saturday, 30th January**. Details about speakers and how to register for the Conference can be found here. [\(Click\)](#) The conferences are free but there is the option to make a donation to cover the running costs.

Family History Show: this is the FH Show organised by the "Discover Your Ancestors" magazine and which, under normal circumstances, tours the country. However, during lockdown they have set up this "online" event. It is scheduled to take place on **Saturday, 20th February 10.00 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.** Details of the whole event, including speakers can be found here. [\(Click\)](#) Tickets on the day cost £8 but can be bought for £6 if you book early. *(Branch members will be aware that this date clashes with our own Branch Zoom meeting when we have Chris Paton as a speaker (details at the end of this newsletter) so many of us will not be at this event, or most of it anyway).*

National Library of Scotland: by the time this newsletter goes out many of the events organised by the NLS for January have passed. However on this site [\(Click\)](#) you will find dates and details of all the NLS digital events listed for February. Attendance at the events is free.

Whilst skipping through the last NLS newsletter I came across this site [\(Click\)](#) which is entitled, "**Scotland on Screen**". I think I have referred to this site before, but I do so unashamedly again. When you hit the "Browse our Film Collection" button you are presented with an alphabetical list of over 300 film clips covering varied places, areas and topics in Scotland. Well worth a look.

Maps: I know, I am always on about maps, but I feel obliged to let you know of the latest additions to the NLS map series. [\(Click here\)](#) Enough said! Well almost. One of our readers in Scotland was good enough to let us know of another recent addition to the NLS map series relating to Parish maps. You can find these here. [\(Click\)](#)

Scotlands People: thanks to a reader who brought to our attention that Scotlands People have, this month, released the Births for 1920, the Marriages for 1945 and the Deaths for 1970. A helpful reminder. Thank you.

Society and Branch Events:

Whilst it is useful to know about all the events going on throughout the country, let us not forget the events that are organised and offered by our own Society and Branches.

Bolton: [\(click here\)](#) have a number of events planned. Their February offering, on the 3rd February, is a talk by Alan Crosby on the subject of "Researching criminals in Bolton". Plenty of material there some might say, but others might be surprised that there were any criminals in Bolton at all!!! Anyway, very promising.

Oldham: [\(click here\)](#) where you will get details of their programme of events. Their February offering, on the 13th February, is a presentation on the suffragette, Annie Kenney. Most of us have heard of Emmeline Pankhurst, but Annie Kenney was a local Oldham lass who also got involved in the suffragette movement. Great topic.

Manchester: [\(click here\)](#) if you are quick you will be able to sign into the "Beginners in Family History" session on the 30th January. However their February offering is an introduction to the new Society web site. Now, as a Branch, we Anglo Scots have already enjoyed this presentation, but it was so useful that it is being repeated for the Society as a whole, so if you want to refresh your knowledge, tune in.

Please note that all of these are Zoom presentations and to be booked through **Eventbrite**. Attendance is free for members (£3 for non-members) and there may also be a limit on numbers, so if you are interested, book early.

Updated Society Web Site Features: whilst on the topic of MLFH Society and Branch events the following updates to the new web site have been brought to my attention and pass on to you.

<https://mlfhs.uk/virtual-help-desk-landing> - a beautiful new page for the Virtual Helpdesk, where volunteers are willing to help with all kinds of genealogical questions - not just Manchester or Anglo Scottish

<https://mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots/events/meetings> - our anglo scots meetings page with an easy-on-the-eye snapshot of our upcoming meetings and, further down the page, more information about the meetings, time, venue (online by Zoom for now) and the speakers.

Now, I didn't know this!! again, skipping through the **National Records of Scotland** site, I came across this gem of information relating to change in calendar dates. ([Click here](#)) Information about the change in dates in the 17th century is not new, but what I did not realise was that for a time there was variation between dates in Scotland and England. (Oh, no, something else to fight over!!!) I will just copy in what the NRS say about it;

James VI proclaimed that Scotland should start the year on 1 January from 1600. Following the Union of the Crowns in 1603 he became James I of England but no such legal change took place south of the Border where the new year began on 25 March until 1752. As a result the same day in January, February or March (up to 24th) can be in different years. A system of double-dating was used in some legal documents, for example, 1 February 1699/1700 where 1699 refers to the year which began on 25 March 1699 and 1700 to the year which began on 1 January 1700.

Now my own research hasn't taken me so far back for this to be an issue, but, apart from being an interesting nugget of information, it is worth keeping in mind if your ancestral search straddles the borders of Scotland and England in this time frame.



Important Announcement MLFHS AGM



As a Society and a Charity, the MLFHS normally holds an Annual General Meeting each year to elect officers and committee members and to inform members of the Society of the financial and current situation of the Society and future plans. Due to the Covid restrictions, no such AGM was able to be held in 2020. It is the intention of the committee that an AGM be held in 2021. The date set is **Wednesday, 21st April 2021.**

As things stand currently it is likely that this will have to be a Zoomed meeting. This announcement is just to alert you who are members of the Society to the fact. More details will be forthcoming over the next weeks



Anglo Scottish Branch Meeting Saturday, 20th February 2021, 2.00 - 4.30 Topic - Tracing the Irish in Scotland A "Zoom" presentation by Chris Paton



This is a topic that has been requested by many members for some time. We are all familiar with the emigration of thousands of Irish from their homeland, not only during the dreadful years of the 1840's, but over many centuries. In this presentation our focus is on the Irish people who chose to go to Scotland and the influence that they had on the country. Many of us at some point in our research will find that we have an Irish ancestor. I know I do. Unless you are fortunate enough to have a Scottish civil registration in 1855 then you are presented with the all too familiar designation of "Ireland" as the only indication as to your ancestors place of origin. Hopefully Chris will be able to throw some light on things and point us in useful and fruitful directions.

This is likely to be a very popular session attracting not only our usual members interested in Scottish ancestry, but also our Irish friends. There will be a limit on numbers so if you are interested in the topic then please reserve a place very soon. The booking system via **Eventbrite** is already open.

Anglo Scottish Branch Christmas Quizzes

General Knowledge:

1. Which King of England was Crowned on Christmas Day?
2. The Plant Poinsettia is native to which country?
3. Who is credited with introducing the popular Christmas Tradition of sending Christmas Cards in 1843?
4. How many Wisemen/Magi/Kings does the Bible say visited Baby Jesus?
5. Which British Monarch delivered the first ever Christmas Message and in what year?
6. Who was the first Monarch to be addressed as "Your Majesty"?
7. What Colour is the Welsh Poppy?
8. British Troops burnt what famous American Building in 1812?
9. There are 3 Visible rivers that run through Manchester City Centre Two of them are The Medlock and The Irwell? What is the third that disappears under Victoria Station?
10. According to Scottish Law it is Illegal to be Drunk in charge of a cow. Is It True or False?
11. In the British Honours System which award is higher in Ranking. The Victoria Cross or The George Cross?
12. From Which country does Panettone Originate?
13. Arrange these in the right order.
A Knot of Larks
A Bevy of Toads
A Covey of Hens
A Brood of Partridges
14. Find the Missing Word
Glitter ---- Room
Sound ----- Reader
Jelly ---- Pie
Second ----- Trail

Answers:

1. William The Conqueror.
2. Mexico.
3. Sir Henry Cole.
4. The Bible does not say.
5. George V in 1932.
6. Henry VIII.
7. Yellow.
8. The White House.
9. The Ink.
10. True.
11. Victoria Cross.
12. Italy.
13. Knot of Toads: Bevy of Larks: Brood of Hens: Covey of Partridges.
14. Ball: Proof: Fish: Nature

Scottish History

1. If you are driving from Perth to Inverness, which trunk road would you be on?
The A1; the A9 or the A7?
2. In which year was the Forth Road Bridge opened?
1964; 1890 or 2017/
3. If you were to catch a boat from Portree on Sky, which neighbouring island would come first?
Raasay, Lewis or Rum.
4. Which well-known author writes a series of books, set on Shetland, with the lead character, "Jimmy Perez"?
Val McDermid, Ann Cleeves or Donna Leo.
5. Name the ruined castle on the banks of Loch Ness.
Urquhart Castle, Aberdour Castle or Dunnottar Castle.
6. Name the most recent Scottish "Dr Who".
Peter Capaldi, David Tennant or Sylvester McCoy.
7. What is the name of the famous mountain range on Skye?
Campsie Fells, Cairngorms or Cuillins.
8. Who played "Jean Brodie" in the 1969 film; "The Pride of Miss Jean Brodie"?
Helen Mirren, Judy Dench or Maggie Smith.
9. Where is "The Old Course"?
St Andrews, Muirfield or Turnberry.
10. This year's Booker Prize was won by Douglas Stuart for "Shuggie Bain". Where is the story set?
Glasgow, Edinburgh or Aberdeen.
11. Where would you find the Soldier's Leap?
Kelso, Killiecrankie or Kingussie.
12. Who is credited with discovering penicillin?
Alexander Fleming, James Simpson or John Logie Baird.
13. When is St Andrew's Day?
March 1st, April 23rd or November 30th.
14. How many miles would the Proclaimers walk?
500, 100, or 200.
15. What is the capital of Shetland?
Lerwick, Kirkwall or Rothesay.
16. What nationality was the architect of the Scottish Parliament?
French, Portuguese or Spanish.
17. Name the wife of James VI.
Anne of Denmark, Henrietta Maria of France or Catherine of Braganza.
18. Which Scottish artist painted "The Singing Butler"?
Jack Vettriano, Charles Rennie MacIntosh or Henry Raeburn.
19. Who is responsible for creating the character "John Rebus"?
William McIlvanney, Alexander McCall Smith or Ian Rankin.
20. Which instrument does Nicola Benedetti play?
Guitar, violin or drums.

ANSWERS

1b, 2a, 3a, 4b, 5a, 6a, 7c, 8c, 9a, 10a, 11b, 12a, 13c, 14a, 15a, 16c, 17a, 18a, 19c, 20b.

Old Rivals:



A Scotsman was driving through a country lane in France late at night. An Englishman was driving in the opposite direction. Confused by which side of the road to drive on they crash head on into one another.

The Scotsman got out of his car, looked at the extensive damage, and declared that he felt lucky to be alive. The Englishman got out of this car and voiced the view that he couldn't believe he had survived the crash.

The Englishman then went over to the Scotsman and said; "You know, I think this is a sign from God that we should put away our petty differences and live as friends instead of such rivals all the time". The Scotsman thought about this for a bit and then said; "You know, you are absolutely right. We should be friends. Now I'm just going to see what has survived this wreck." So he opens the boot of his car and finds an unopened bottle of Whisky. Taking it out he says to the Englishman; "Look, I have found this and I think we should toast our new found understanding and friendship. What do you say?"

The Englishman says, "You are absolutely right." He takes the bottle and downs almost half of it. He then hands the bottle to the Scotsman and says; "Your turn."

The Scotsman screws the cap back on and says; "Nah, I think I'll just wait for the police to arrive."

