



e-Scotia



Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

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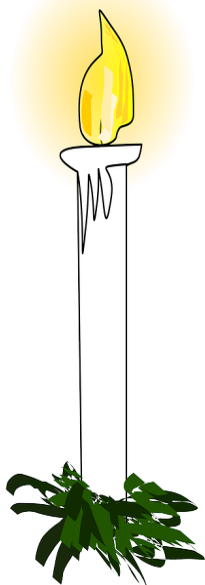
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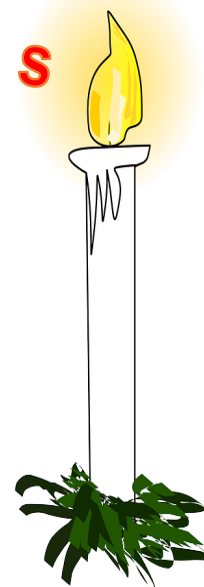
Anglo Scottish Family History Society

Welcome: to the December edition of the newsletter. We begin by wishing all our members and readers a very happy and peaceful Christmas and every good wish for the new year, 2022. The Christmas scene chosen this year is an image that I picked up whilst on a trip to India. It was done by a local artist who paints various scenes on leaves. Well, we have survived another year of Covid and made the most of the opportunities that have been presented to us. We look forward with hope to the opportunities of 2022. December is a quiet month for resources but we offer some that have come our way. Enjoy and stay safe. Editor.

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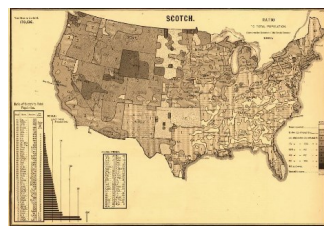
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For 2022

Scottish Population in USA 1880: I am grateful to Peter Calver for highlighting this source in the latest edition of his newsletter, "*Lost Cousins*". I have referred to this publication previously and encourage readers to sign up for it ([click here](#)) It is a great regular source for information and reviews freely offered.

The topic that might be of interest to us is contained in the US Library of Congress ([click here](#)), and in particular their digital downloads ([click here](#)). There is loads here to entertain and inform but the publication of relevance is entitled "Scribner's statistical analysis of the United States". ([click here](#)) The book produces statistical analysis of the social, political, industrial and commercial situation in the United States based upon the US 1880 census. Of particular interest is the section with a series of plates detailing the population distribution within the United States of the various nationalities. If you browse through this you will see one relating to the distribution of Scots in the U.S in 1880. It gives the stated Scottish population in the US at this time as just over 170,000, a figure that is dwarfed by all other nationalities, in particular the Irish with a given population in excess of 1.5 million. Interesting also is the fact that the Scots appear to be concentrated in the western States, in particular the States of Wyoming and Utah. Of course we know that most Scottish migration was to Canada and I am sure if a similar survey was carried out there the figures would reflect this but did they enter these western States having traversed Canada? Perhaps one of our Canadian or US readers can enlighten us.



National Library of Scotland: for those of you signed up to the newsletter of the NLS you will already be aware of this topic but for those of you who are not..... It continues the map theme and announces the availability of old maps of English and Welsh towns. Well we are an AngloScots Branch so it is appropriate to highlight this feature as well as things Scottish. Their announcement goes thus;

Explore English and Welsh towns in incredible detail

We've recently added a series of 19th-century English and Welsh town plans to our maps website. More than 380 towns (all those with more than 4,000 people) were mapped at the highly detailed scale of 1:500. These maps are of unrivalled importance for viewing the urban landscape. Features include industries, public buildings, pubs, churches, infirmaries, docks, houses, trees, and parks. We are georeferencing these maps so they can be easily [compared to the present day](#), or to other historical dates (for example [Leeds in 1840s compared to the 1880s](#)).



Browse a [list of all the towns](#) with links to view maps

Browse a [clickable map of England and Wales](#)

[OS Town Plans of England and Wales home page](#)

Now some of these features have been around on the NLS map site for some time but I am not sure that I have been able to explore so many towns and cities in such detail. I tested it out with a look at the Manchester and Salford maps and found that some of the maps were so detailed that it took some time to orientate and clarify what I was looking at. Once done however, and there is a very useful "overlay" map option to assist, it was helpful so do have a go. If you are not listed for their newsletter, if you [click here](#) you can access all the back numbers.

The National Archives: we are in the grip of 1921 Census fever and the National Archives have two events on offer to whet the appetite. Both events are on Saturday, 8th January;

The first is at 10.00 hours when there is a presentation entitled: "Introducing the 1921 Census of England & Wales". As the title suggests this is a general introduction to the 1921 Census, its context and contents and how to get the most out of it

The second is at 11:30 hours with a presentation entitled "Census surgery: behind the 1921 census" This focuses on the process of the digitising of the Census. I have seen this one previously and it is very interesting.

Both presentations are free but you have to book. You can do that by [clicking here](#).

Events to look forward to in '22: Despite the uncertainty that surrounds us all the Society continues to plan and proceed in hope and there is much for us to tap into and enjoy in the month of January.

1921 Census for England and Wales: from the amount of publicity surrounding this event we are all very aware that this census is to be released on the 6th January 2022. Digitised by Find My Past it will be available on their web site but at a price. Free access to the census is available at the National Archives in London and at two hubs, one in Cardiff and the other in Manchester. For those close to Manchester free access to the census can be had at the Central Library from the 6th January and the Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society is co-opted by Central Library to assist and advise visitors on how to access the census and how to get the most out of it. Our help desk teams will be available every day from 10.30 until 3.30. Find out more information about this on the Society web site [MLFHS 1921 Census event](#)



Bolton FHS: on Wednesday 5th January the Bolton Branch have a presentation to further explore marriage registration. Entitled "*The Hidden Secrets of Marriage Registration*" the speaker is Antony Marr and it begins at 19:30 hours.



Oldham FHS: on Saturday 8th January, under the rather intriguing title of "*Hanging the Pacifist; Margaret Ashton (1856-1937) Manchester's first woman Councillor*" the Oldham Branch invite us to learn more about this interesting woman. The presentation is to be given by Dr. Alison Ronan an historian whose interest is in the history of dissent and resistance in the early twentieth century. The talk begins at 1400 hours and concludes at 15:30.



Manchester FHS: they have two events on offer in January although the latter is the presentation by *Find My Past* on the 1921 census, a presentation that was oversubscribed very quickly so if you are not already booked into that you are dependent upon a repeat presentation in February. However, on Wednesday, 19th January the first offering is entitled "*Irish unmarried mothers in England*" and is to be given by Dr Lorraine Grimes of Maynooth University. The presentation is in the evening, beginning at 19:30 and concluding at 22:30.

As usual all these presentations are via Zoom and to be booked through [Eventbrite](#). Free for members of the Society or £3 for non-members. All details can be found on the various Branch web sites.

Exchange Journals: a little reminder to Society members of the Exchange Journal feature on the Society web site. This can be found by scrolling down on your "Welcome" page after you log in. The various Family History Societies throughout the UK and the rest of the world who are members of the exchange scheme upload their latest newsletters and journals regularly so it is always worth having a look. We have just been informed that the latest offering from Orkney is now uploaded ([click here](#)) This contains a very entertaining article about the goings-on involved in preparing for an Orkney wedding. However it also makes reference to one of the values of these exchange Journals with reference to a contributor to the Journal who was linked to a family member she knew nothing about. Another primary value of course is that the local FH groups are usually more than prepared to help out and advise if you have queries about ancestors from that area. So please do have a look at the site.



Genealogy Sites you may have forgotten! There is a plethora of web sites out there to inform and assist us in our family history research and sometimes it is hard to keep up and even to remember which ones we found most helpful. Here is just a short reference to a couple of the sites we have previously proposed;

Scottish Genes: this is Chris Paton's blog site. It was previously called "The Genes Blog" but Chris discontinued this in 2020 although he indicates that all the information on that previous site will remain archived [here](#). Anyway, Chris's current site is full of useful information and worth exploring.

Cyndi's List: what hasn't been said about this wonderful site chock full of advice, information and indicators to assist digitised research. There is a useful alphabetic index but it is worth remembering that "Scotland" is listed under the "United Kingdom". A great resource though and always worth keeping tabs on.

Scottish Shipwrecks: a web site put together by a couple of divers with a passion for finding wrecks around Scotland. Amongst other things they list all the wrecks that they have found, numbering, amazingly, some 20,000. May be useful if you have the name of the ship that your ancestor signed up to in order to emigrate but then cannot find them. See if the ship is listed here. It also lists Royal Navy shipping so if your ancestor was in the navy there may be some additional information to glean from this



Anglo Scottish Branch Meeting - Saturday, 15th January 2022

Zoom gathering, 1330 hrs for 1400 hrs - Social gathering and quiz



Our first "gathering" in 2022 is a celebration when we just share some time together. It is our traditional gathering and quiz, the latter put together by our two intrepid quiz sleuths, Ina and Yvonne. One quiz focuses on our Scottish knowledge the other takes a more general approach so something for everyone. Under normal circumstances we are able to distribute prizes to the winners of our quizzes, but like last January, - unless someone comes up with a novel alternative, - the winners (brainboxes) will have to be satisfied with our applause and admiration. So switch your brain on, grab that glass and mince pie and let us hope that this is the last year we have to celebrate together in this way. Looking forward to seeing everyone.



Please Remember! That from February 2022 we change our Branch meeting day from the 3rd Saturday of the month to the 1st Saturday. Our February Branch meeting will therefore be on Saturday, 5th. You will see from the programme of speakers listed below that the February meeting continues our exploration of the Kirk Session Records with Emma Maxwell. We are hoping also that this meeting will be our first meeting back at Manchester Central Library, but much depends upon developments so more about this next month.

Perspective!! As we trundle along on our family history journey it is useful sometimes to be brought up with a bit of news that puts in perspective what we ordinarily enjoy. This happened for me whilst looking through the latest edition of "Family Tree" Magazine. I note that they are advertising a "Scottish Family History Month" for February 2022. [\(Click here\)](#) Good news? Well they do have five notable speakers during the month on some interesting topics. However, and here's the rub, the charge is £10 for each talk - although with an offer of £40 to sign up for the whole month. Compare that to what is offered by your Anglo Scottish Branch membership for £15 for a whole year. We get ten gatherings with six speakers together with full membership of MLFHS with access to all its records and Journal and membership of and access to all the talks and resources provided by the various Branches.....



Absolutely bargainous!!!!



A Reminder of our programme for 2022

- Jan 15th Quiz and Social
- Feb 5th Exploring Kirk Sessions Content with Emma Maxwell
- Mar 5th Banking Records in Scotland with Sian Yates
- Apr 2nd AGM and Brick walls
- May 7th Tracing Scottish Ancestors at The National Archives with Audrey Collins
- Jun 4th Finding your Scottish Ancestors in Canada with Christine Woodcock
- July 2nd Visit (To be confirmed)
- Aug 6th No Meeting
- Sept 3rd Palaeography Workshop with Alison Diamond
- Oct 1st The Fromelles Genealogy Project with Michelle Leonard
- Nov 5th Anniversary Event: 40 years of the Anglo-Scots Branch
- Dec 3rd Quiz and Social

