



e-Scotia

Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

Website: www.angloscots.mlfhs.org.uk

E-mail: angloscots@mlfhs.org.uk

Newsletter: scotia@mlfhs.org.uk



Anglo Scottish Family History Society



Welcome: to the May edition of the newsletter and to the month of blossom. Our main speaker this month was to have been Audrey Collins, records specialist at the National Archives in London.

Sadly, at the last minute, Audrey was indisposed and not able to join us. However, as is so often the case, in stepped our intrepid committee member, Hilary Hartigan, who managed to find a previous presentation by Audrey and extract a information for us, a summary of which, with highlights, is our primary offering this month. We can only apologise to the 18 or so members who attended but it was something that was out of our control. However the situation offered the opportunity for a supplementary sharing of heirlooms by Hilary Hartigan and Michael Couper followed by sharing and discussion. To quote Plato "our need will be the real creator" and so it proved so thanks to all. As usual we include in the newsletter some information that we hope will inform your research into your Anglo Scottish family history. Now and then we all come across some source that progresses our research so if you have any offerings from which you think other members would benefit, please send them to us and we will pass them on.

Generally, in this neck of the woods, we seem to be emerging from the constrictions of Covid and we hope this is the case where you are. However we still miss some of our regular attenders at Branch meetings who do not yet feel confident enough to join us. Please do continue to take care.

Editor.

Tracing your Scottish Ancestors through National Archive Records.

When we consider our Anglo Scottish narrative we tend to consider our resources are to be found in the Scottish Record Office. Whilst this is generally true, we do of course have access to the census' of England & Wales that point us in the direction of people from "Scotland" as well as Parish and other records, some of which we have on our Scottish Records database on the Society web site. At this meeting we were considering what is available in the way of Scottish records at the sister records centre, The National Archives, at Kew in London. Whilst not the first place that you might consider approaching for Scottish records there are some records that are exclusive the "The National Archives".



An important date to remember when considering the availability of Scottish records at TNA is May 1st, 1707, the day of the Act of Union of the two Parliaments. On this date it was determined what Scotland would relinquish and what it would retain. The two main elements it retained was the Legal System and the Established Church, hence, for example, birth, marriage and death records are lodged in Edinburgh. Other elements were relinquished however, amongst these, Customs and Excise and military and the records pertaining to these are "British" records rather than records for individual countries. This means that many tax and military records in TNA also pertain to Scotland. As an example we were shown the Apprenticeship Tax records. These are now available on Ancestry and whilst you do have to pay to see the actual record, an index of information is available for free.

We were reminded too that after 1707 many Scots joined the "British" army and navy, which is worth remembering when having difficulty in tracing an ancestor who may have, in fact, "disappeared" into the British forces. As has been said, the military records at TNA also include Scots so, worth a look.

Scottish Records in TNA (cont.)

I have to admit to not finding a search of the TNA database an easy task but there are some basic pointers. When the home page is accessed you are faced with three options, “*Help with your Research*”; “*Search the Catalogue*”, and “*Find on-line Collections*”.

“*Help with your Research*” presents a whole series of research guides covering all aspects of the record collection held at TNA, including one on Family History. All are excellent and worth taking the time to read through.

“*Search the Catalogue*” is the route into what is available through TNA but not necessarily what is available to view. However it does include the resource “Discovery” that responds to an enquiry and informs as to what resources are available at TNA and also at various venues throughout the country. I always test these things out by reference to something I know, so, (are you surprised!!) I researched Dundee by putting this into the search box. A great deal of miscellaneous stuff appears but some little gems of sources amongst it so it takes some ploughing through.

“*Find on-line Collections*”. At first glance this would appear to be the first place to start any research but the heading is rather misleading. It does not refer to the on-line collections at TNA, which you would think you could view, but is in fact a reference to collections held by other agencies like Find My Past, Ancestry and The Genealogist, all of which require subscriptions. However the advantage of the source is that it lets you know if information in which you are interested is available, and if so, where.

Generally then a useful run-through of what TNA has to offer in terms of Scottish resources and how to go about searching for them. For me the main lesson was the date 1707 and remembering that after that date many of the official records became “British” and so included references to things Scottish as well as anywhere else in the UK.

Are Australia and New Zealand moving to join us?

I was intrigued by an article in “The Guardian” newspaper recently that mentioned that Australia (and I imagine New Zealand given that they are both on the same continental shelf) is moving north east at 68mm a year (that’s 2.67 inches for those of us used to dealing in old money!!) representing one of the fastest continental drifts on the planet. Doing a rough calculation that means that in the next 100 years both countries will be about 8 yards closer to us. Now whilst it might not mean a lot in terms of air fares, etc., it is something worth keeping in mind as a bit of information to pass down to any descendants who may well benefit !! I just pass it on.



Transportation to Australia: on the subject of Australia I came across this web site recently that I had not seen before [The Digital Panopticon](#) that, according to its publicity, “ is a website that:

“...allows you to search millions of records from around fifty datasets, relating to the lives of 90,000 convicts from the Old Bailey. Use (the) site to search individual convict life archives, explore and visualise data, and learn more about crime and criminal justice in the past.

Many of you may know of this site already but I share it for those who, like me, have never seen it previously. Apart from another source to explore for possible ancestors who were transported, it is also a very interesting site linking as it does with the Old Bailey Court records.

National Library of Scotland: I trust that by now our readers will have registered with the NLS to receive their monthly newsletter. On the off chance that some have not this is to let you know that the NLS have further developed and expanded their map section. In the May newsletter they inform us of an additional 41 new English town plans. For a list of all the towns covered ([click here](#)) I have used these maps before and given that they focus on a smaller area, they are much more detailed. Exploring the whole site I notice that they have also developed maps of Glasgow and Edinburgh as well as trench maps from WW1. Always a great and rewarding site.



Came across this quote on Facebook the other day and thought it worth sharing;

"I couldn't afford an Ancestry DNA kit so I announced I had won the Lottery and soon found out who all my relatives were."



Celebrating Scapa Flow, 2022: I am grateful to one of our readers in Fort William for sending information on this event to be held in Orkney from the 20th—21st May, 2022. Now, unless you are fortunate enough to be in the area just now, or indeed, live within travel distance to be able to nip over to Orkney, this announcement will be interesting at best. However it seems that some of it is available on the Orkney International Science Festival You Tube site ([click here](#)) so some access after all. The announcement did prompt me to have a look at the web site and interesting things there are to explore. Lots of video presentations that are, for obvious reasons, linked to the role of Orkney and Scapa Flow during the World Wars.

British Association for Local History Local History Day 2022. Saturday, 11th June.



From one end of the country to the other. Not Scottish, but then we are an Anglo Scottish Branch. So, to let you know that we have been notified by the BALH Association of their Local History Day in London in June with an invitation to attend. You can have a look at the itinerary [here](#) and a fulsome day it looks.

For those of our readers in the London area, this looks like an interesting day to think about. For those of us outside the immediate area there is the opportunity to attend "virtually".

Worth noting though that whilst the presentations look interesting, there is, unlike the generous MLFHS, a charge, even for members of the BALH. It is £10 for non-members and £5 for members.

I notice though that if you scroll down to the bottom of the page advertising the day there are a few short video presentations on quite interesting topics, one on the use of the Irish language in the Midlands.



Anglo Scots Branch Meeting Saturday, 4th June 2022, 2.00 p.m.

"Online via Zoom!!"



"Finding Scots in Canada" with Christine Woodcock

Christine Woodcock is speaking to us from her home in Canada and so, of necessity, our presentation this month is online via Zoom. This is a medium with which we have become all too familiar over recent months and so should pose little difficulty. It also gives us a further opportunity to welcome our members in other parts of the world.

Christine's profile tells us that she is a genealogy educator in Canada with an expertise in the Scottish records. She is therefore well placed and experienced, to tell us how best to find and track out Scots ancestors and ancestral cousins in Canada. We know that many Scots emigrated to Canada in the 19th century, many more before that and subsequently, and some of us have probably already discovered how detailed and useful Canadian records can be, so it will be invaluable to discover exactly what is available in the various States of Canada, how access may differ from one place to another, or whether research is actually easier than we may think! This promises to be a popular event addressing an area of research that many will have a personal interest in.

As usual, reserving a place at this gathering is via [Eventbrite booking](#) that can be done here. The meeting is free for members and a token £3 for non-members. Whether a member or no, if you want to attend it is important that you register via Eventbrite as it enables our co-ordinator to send you the Zoom link.



Date Reference Guide: I have offered this guide to readers previously but since some new readers have joined us since then I attach it again. In many ways it is a curio, but should you ever wish to discover the particular day of the week from 1800 onward, then this is the tool. An explanation as to how to use it is given.

250 Year Day - Date Reference Guide

For ascertaining any day of the week for any given time from 1800 to the year 2050.

COMMON YEARS, 1800 to 2050										J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
										A	E	A	P	A	U	U	U	E	C	O	E
										N	B	R	R	Y	N	L	G	P	T	V	C
1801	1829	1857	1885	1914	1942	1970	1998	2026													
1807	1835	1863	1891	1925	1953	1981	2009	2037		4	7	7	3	5	1	3	6	2	4	7	2
1818	1846	1874	1903	1931	1959	1987	2015	2043													
1802	1830	1858	1886	1915	1943	1971	1999	2027													
1813	1841	1869	1897	1926	1954	1982	2010	2038		5	1	1	4	6	2	4	7	3	5	1	3
1819	1847	1875	1909	1937	1965	1993	2021	2049													
1803	1831	1859	1887	1921	1949	1977	2005	2033													
1814	1842	1870	1898	1927	1955	1983	2011	2039		6	2	2	5	7	3	5	1	4	6	2	4
1825	1853	1881	1910	1938	1966	1994	2022	2050													
1805	1833	1861	1889	1907	1935	1963	1991	2019	2047												
1811	1839	1867	1895	1918	1946	1974	2002	2030		2	5	5	1	3	6	1	4	7	2	5	7
1822	1850	1878	1901	1929	1957	1985	2013	2041													
1800	1823	1851	1879	1913	1941	1969	1997	2025													
1806	1834	1862	1890	1919	1947	1975	2003	2031		3	6	6	2	4	7	2	5	1	3	6	1
1817	1845	1873	1902	1930	1958	1986	2014	2042													
1809	1837	1865	1893	1911	1939	1967	1995	2023													
1815	1843	1871	1899	1922	1950	1978	2006	2034		7	3	3	6	1	4	6	2	5	7	3	5
1826	1854	1882	1905	1933	1961	1989	2017	2045													
1810	1838	1866	1894	1917	1945	1973	2001	2029													
1821	1849	1877	1900	1923	1951	1979	2007	2035		1	4	4	7	2	5	7	3	6	1	4	6
1827	1855	1883	1906	1934	1962	1990	2018	2046													

LEAP YEAR, 1804 to 2048											29										
1804	1832	1860	1888		1928	1956	1984	2012	2040	7	3	4	7	2	5	7	3	6	1	4	6
1808	1836	1864	1892	1904	1932	1960	1988	2016	2044	5	1	2	5	7	3	5	1	4	6	2	4
1812	1840	1868	1896	1908	1936	1964	1992	2020	2048	3	6	7	3	5	1	3	6	2	4	7	2
1816	1844	1872		1912	1940	1968	1996	2024		1	4	5	1	3	6	1	4	7	2	5	7
1820	1848	1876		1916	1944	1972	2000	2028		6	2	3	6	1	4	6	2	5	7	3	5
1824	1852	1880		1920	1948	1976	2004	2032		4	7	1	4	6	2	4	7	3	5	1	3
1828	1856	1884		1924	1952	1980	2008	2036		2	5	6	2	4	7	2	5	1	3	6	1

	1					2					3					4				
Monday	1	8	15	22	29	7	14	21	28		6	13	20	27		5	12	19	26	
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30	1	8	15	22	29	7	14	21	28		6	13	20	27	
Wednesday	3	10	17	24	31	2	9	16	23	30	1	8	15	22	29	7	14	21	28	
Thursday	4	11	18	25		3	10	17	24	31	2	9	16	23	30	1	8	15	22	29
Friday	5	12	19	26		4	11	18	25		3	10	17	24	31	2	9	16	23	30
Saturday	6	13	20	27		5	12	19	26		4	11	18	25		3	10	17	24	31
Sunday	7	14	21	28		6	13	20	27		5	12	19	26		4	11	18	25	

	5					6					7				
Monday	4	11	18	25		3	10	17	24	31	2	9	16	23	30
Tuesday	5	12	19	26		4	11	18	25		3	10	17	24	31
Wednesday	6	13	20	27		5	12	19	26		4	11	18	25	
Thursday	7	14	21	28		6	13	20	27		5	12	19	26	
Friday	1	8	15	22	29	7	14	21	28		6	13	20	27	
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30	1	8	15	22	29	7	14	21	28	
Sunday	3	10	17	24	31	2	9	16	23	30	1	8	15	22	29

Example: To find on which day of the week July 4, 1918 fell, look in the table of years for 1918, go across to the month column for July and you will find the figure 1. Then go to the calendar table numbered 1 and you will find that July 4 fell on Thursday.