



# e-Scotia



## Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

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**Welcome:** to the December issue of the Newsletter. With no Branch meeting this month the Newsletter is going to focus upon general news and more sources for you to try to see if they are any good in moving your research on or just interesting in themselves. At the end of the newsletter I attach a resource that I have had for some years and thought I might share with you. It is a frivolity and is about how to discover the specific day that a date fell upon in the 250 year period between 1800 and 2050. How to use the guide is detailed at the bottom of that page. Enjoy. Editor.

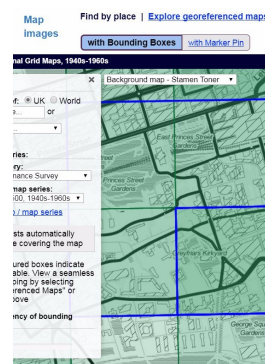
**WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS  
AND EVERY BEST WISH FOR 2018**



**National Library of Scotland:** staying with the theme of searching as indicated by the Nativity scene above, the NLS have given notification that they have updated and improved their excellent map viewer. If you get their newsletter you will be aware of this, but in case you don't then they say;

*"We have recently upgraded the software used in our online map viewers, allowing maps to display faster and with more seamless pan and zoom, as well as work better with mobile devices."*

I have had a go at this and it does seem much more user friendly on the computer but a bit fiddly on my i-pad. Perhaps a bit more practice will improve things. Anyway they do ask for feed-back as to how it works out so the option is there. If you want to explore it, it is the "Find by Place" section ([click here](#)).



**Memories are made of this:** if you want to ponder something during the Christmas period, have a look at this. I could hardly believe the memories that flooded back when sent this web site.



([Click here](#)) Afraid I can't make the image on the right any better as it becomes blurred, but, yes, it is the **Scottish Leaving Certificate Examination Paper** for 1961—the year I sat it. The site gives options for other years from 1889 to 1963 just in case there are any of you out there who fall into that earlier period!!!! Well worth a look and to have a go at answering the questions. A look at the contents page will demonstrate the breadth of education within the Scottish system at that time, although, of course, not all courses were taught. Certainly I don't recall ever being taught "*agriculture*" at my Dundee school, although my elder



brothers and sisters remember going off "tattie picking" during school time in the Autumn, organised by the school, so perhaps that was the "agriculture" practical!!!! For those of you not familiar with the Scottish exam system, "Lowers" were the equivalent of "O' levels" taken at 15/16yrs and "Highers" were, not quite, the equivalent of "A' levels" sat at 17/18yrs.

Being interested in history I was struck by one of the history questions in the "lower grade" paper:

*"Give an account of the feudal system, **either** in England in the reign of William the Conqueror **or** in Scotland in the reign of David 1st"*

Heady stuff for 15/16 year olds. Would they do it today? Could they? Would they know who William the Conqueror was or David 1st?

Then again, (for the benefit of our antipodean readers), a question from the "English" exam in 1889 (I presume they didn't have a geography course then.)

*"Draw an outline map of Australia, showing thereon the different British colonies, and marking their chief towns."*

Ah! Those were the days!!!!

Finally, and not to ruin your perusal of the papers, I note, that heading all the papers, is this warning in bold script;

**"Marks will be deducted for bad spelling and bad punctuation and for writing that is difficult to read"**

Would they be left with many marks today—even amongst our journalists and commentators? Enough; enough. Too much ranting going on here. I told you it got me going!!!! Anyway, enjoy.



**The National Covenant of Scotland:** you may recall that at the October Branch meeting we had a talk given by Dr Laura Stewart about the National Covenant of Scotland. I was in the research section of Manchester Central Library the other day and discovered that the library has a facsimile of the National Covenant of Scotland. I only wish that I had discovered this earlier as it would have been very useful to have on display during Dr Stewart's talk. Should anyone within visiting distance of Manchester like to have a look at it, the facsimile is shelved on the 4th Floor Reference Book Section under History/Scotland, ref; 941.06.

**Miniature coffins found on Arthur's Seat:** the National Museum of Scotland reports on an exhibition it is holding on a curious find made on "Arthur's Seat" just outside Edinburgh by three boys out "rabbiting" in 1836. The Museum tells us that: "*the tiny coffins were arranged under slates in three tiers: two tiers of eight and one solitary coffin on the top. Each coffin, only 95mm in length, contained a little wooden figure, expertly carved and dressed in custom-made clothes that had been stitched and glued around them.*" A whole article exploring the purpose and meaning of these coffins, together with other exhibition items at the museum can be found on their website. There is also a video to watch. What's not to like ([click here](#))

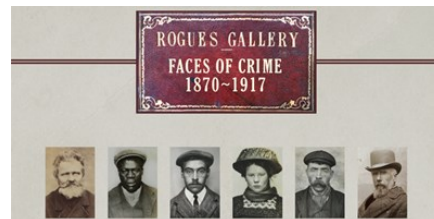


**Votes for women in Scotland:** next year we celebrate the passing of the "Representation of the People's Act 1918" which, amongst other things, gave women the vote for the first time. There will no doubt be many events celebrating this over the coming months but given the Scottish flavour of our newsletter I want to draw your attention to a presentation prepared by SCAN (Scottish Archive Network) about the topic. There is plenty of information given and also a film to watch, narrated by Kirsty Wark. A good introduction and I recommend it. ([click here](#))





**A Rogues Gallery:** I am grateful to my "source" who sends me interesting and relevant items of news to be found on "Youtube" - a forum I have not conquered, nor am I sure I want to. This item however is from the **National Records of Scotland** and is a talk given by archivist, Jenny Duffy, of the NRS, as part of the NRS series of free talks given over the latter part of this year. The talk by Jenny refers to her research into police archives in Edinburgh and can be watched here. [\(Click\)](#) It lasts about 45 minutes and is well worth watching.



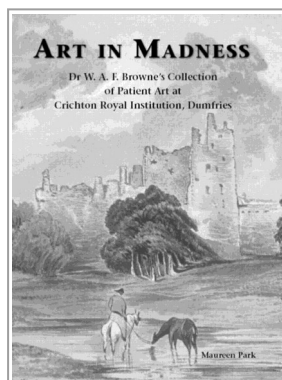
The introduction to the talk refers to all of the free talks listed at the NRS and an article listed on the NRS website details the "Rogues Gallery Exhibition" which is worth a look at. [\(NRS\)](#)

**Lost Cousins Newsletter:** [\(click here\)](#) I have referred you to this newsletter before, but I urge you, if you have not already done so, to register online for it now. It costs nothing and each week offers great advice and news. The reason I urge you even more to do so is that the author of the newsletter, Peter Calver, has provided an extra publication this week of a fantastic resumé and guide to the 1939 Index. Although I have used the 1939 Index frequently, I still found this article

**British Destitute Children sent to Canada:** [\(Click here\)](#) this article may be of interest to some of our readers, especially those in Canada. It is a memorial to the 9,000 children sent via Barnardo's to Canada from the UK and lists those who died there. Whilst there may be some, it is not a specifically Scottish site but it is a very moving memorial and well worth a look.



**Volunteers wanted:** Once again we raise the issue of a request for volunteers. Even those of you as far away as Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the US can offer your services as some of the work involves transcribing via the internet. For those of you close to Manchester there is transcribing of births at Central Library. Full training is given and you join a happy band. For those further away there are various projects that require transcribing. All you need is a computer and internet access. Records will be sent to you and all you have to do is to transcribe them. Again full instructions are given and you are only an e-mail away from help. So why not give some thought to joining the many of us who do some transcribing. Remember that the resources that you make use of online are only there because others have given of their time. Have a think about it and if you consider that you can give a few hours a week then contact John Marsden at [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk) and he will advise you.



**Dumfries Asylum:** and the art of madness. I came across this news story on BBC Scotland and it reports an art collection, produced by patients at the Dumfries Asylum, that has just been digitised. The superintendent of the Asylum, William Browne, was way ahead of his time and considered art therapy for his patients. The Wellcome Trust financed a Dumfries and Galloway Council project carried out by Glasgow University to digitise all the art works. A booklet has been produced by Maureen Park called "Art in Madness". The digitised images can be accessed on various sites, including that of the Wellcome Trust, [but all can be viewed here](#). Thought you might like to see them. Enjoy.



**January Branch Meeting:** is the occasion of our Christmas celebration as a Branch. O.k. we won't have a Christmas tree and we won't have presents but we will have a good time sharing company, food, and fun. As previously, the food will be provided by way of a shared table. So if you do manage to come, and we hope you do, please bring along something to place on the food table, be that liquid or solid!! Ina has agreed once again to provide us with a quiz or two, to test our Scottish knowledge amongst other things. Prizes will be awarded to the cleverest as a reward and to the least clever as a comfort!! If you would like to donate a prize, again that would be most welcome. Give it to Ina on your arrival. The gathering is on **Saturday, January 20th and will begin at 2.00 p.m.** in the Librarians meeting room on the 3rd Floor of Central Library. Take the lift to the 3rd Floor then turn left and walk through the double doors. The helpdesk will function as usual beginning at 10.30. Looking forward to seeing you all.



# 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	O
										A	E	A	P	A	U	U	E	C	O	E	
										N	B	R	R	Y	N	L	C	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.