



e-Scotia

Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

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Anglo Scottish Family History Society

Welcome: to the April and Easter edition of the newsletter a little earlier than usual. Well, in this very curious time of self-isolation I trust that all our readers are managing and making great use of the time to get all those family history tasks done that were at the back of the cupboard for so long. It is good to see so many people, and indeed organisations coming together in isolation to suggest how we might make positive use of our time. Whilst I personally do not mind more time to read, listen to music, watch films on tv and waken up in the morning knowing that I have nothing in particular to do, still, it is also good to spend time on the family history I have so far ignored. Some of the suggestions put forward by others I have brought together with some of my own. This includes a crossword that I have devised to test your knowledge - and pass the time. I had fun creating it. I hope you have fun doing it. To complete it you shall have to print it off. Answers next month. Hope you find it all useful, informative and entertaining. Enjoy. Editor.



Flowers behind bars for Coronavirus

I was sent this picture from an artist friend who saw in it our struggle in dealing with the consequences of the coronavirus epidemic and entitled it, as above;

"Flowers behind bars for Corona Virus"

I never cease to be amazed at what the eyes of an artist can see then, thankfully, share with the rest of us.

Just thought you would like to see it.

Take care all.

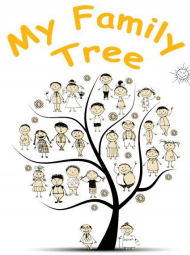
Books Galore - and Free!!!: given our current situation, what could be more attractive than this. The site was referred to me by a reader who was good enough to disturb his reading and imbibing to respond to my plea for sites that other readers might find useful. The site is <http://www.gutenberg.org> and is the Gutenberg Project. I had never heard of this resource but it refers to itself as follows;

".....a library of over 60,000 free eBooks. Choose among free epub and Kindle eBooks, download them or read them online. You will find the world's great literature here, with focus on older works for which U.S. copyright has expired. Thousands of volunteers digitized and diligently proofread the eBooks, for enjoyment and education. "



The site is very clear on how to get the most out of it and full of advice on how to use the site on mobile devices. I have just downloaded the site onto my iPad and am going through the massive index of books. Have a look.

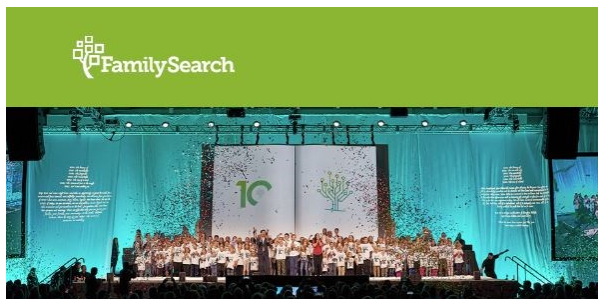
Family History Federation: the MLFHS, and hence, our Branch, is a member of the Family History Federation and in regular receipt of their newsletter. You can access their web page ([here](#)). As with many other organisations the FHF is promoting activities that you can engage in during this period.



Amongst the suggestions is promoting the commencement of a Family History Tree and to this end they offer access to their Family History Tree Booklet. Now I am aware that most of our members will be well beyond this level of research and probably have devised their own method of recording research. However, in case there are some who have not done so, this booklet is a great starting point. So have a look at it ([here](#)) and see what you think.

The also offer a list of free web site resources ([here](#)) most of which we will be very familiar with, but some less so, for me at least, particularly the Old Bailey records from 1674 until 1913. Please do have a look at the whole web site. I am sure that you will find something in there.

Family Search: in their latest newsletter Family Search are offering access to a number of free videos.

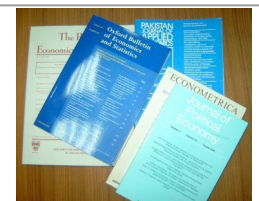


Free Videos Now Available: DNA, RootsTech Keynotes, and More!

As you spend more time at home working on your family history, we've collected a lot of new resources and tips to extend your family tree from the recent RootsTech conference. Discover the latest from industry leaders surrounding DNA, plus outstanding keynote speeches and more.

Access to the site can be had ([here](#))

Exchange Journals: every now and then we make mention of the many resources that are available for members on the MLFHS web site. For those of our readers who are not members of the Branch I am afraid this item is not for you - unless of course you choose to become members. ([join here](#)) When you log into the MLFHS web site with your membership number and password you will be directed to the member's page of the site. Amongst the items on the tool bar you will see one titled "Exchange". This is the entry point for all the journals that we exchange with other Family History Societies throughout the UK and abroad. Most produce a journal every quarter. To illustrate the value of keeping an eye on these journals I extract a few subjects from the latest submissions:



Glasgow & West of Scotland FHS: the latest edition of their journal "Gallus" is full of interesting sources for local research if you have links with that area. No journal appears to have produced for this year so far, but an item in the editorial of the October 2019 journal took my eye. It concerned a note of thanks to GWSFHS staff from a researcher



for help given in seeking ancestors buried in the Glasgow Necropolis. It appears that it is possible to view Necropolis records via the *FamilySearch* web site. I did not know this and although I have no need to search the Necropolis, the means given of searching the records opens doors to searching many other records throughout Scotland. I therefore share this with you.

Firstly, if you have not already done so create a free account at *FamilySearch.org*. Log in and proceed clicking through the following;

Click **Search** then **Catalogue**. Under **Place** enter *Scotland, Lanark, Glasgow* and under **Availability** choose **Online**. A drop-down menu appears listing all 52 resources available relating to Glasgow. For the Necropolis choose **Cemeteries**. A further list of various cemetery topics comes up. Click on **Eastern Necropolis Cemetery** and various records associated with the Necropolis are given. Any with a camera icon can be viewed. Now having been made

aware of how to access this resource I tried it out with my own interests. The point of “re-entry” if you will is once you enter the **Catalogue** section. In the **Place** box you can enter any place that you wish or you can search by way of subject, title or key-word. To test it out I entered Dundee in **Place**, followed by **Online** and was offered a number of sources. However, it is only the cited sources that have a camera icon that can be inspected online. Unfortunately for me my chosen entries had a camera icon but with a small key above, which meant that to view the records I would have to attend a *FamilySearch* Family History library. Living in Manchester this is no hardship as we have two or three close by but it might frustrate some. What the catalogue does let us know is what records for our particular area of interest are available. Some of you may be very familiar with this *FamilySearch* resource already but for any who, like me, were not so familiar, have a look.



Apart from this detail, a look at the Glasgow FHS web site ([click here](#)) will also prove fruitful if your research takes in that area. They have, for example, a detailed list of all the parishes that the Society covers. ([click here](#)) Worth knowing if you want to contact them and seek some help or advice.



Continuing with the information in the Exchange Journals the **British Columbia Genealogical Society** newsletter for January 2020 has an interesting article on page 24 about “Digitising your Family History”. It is only a couple of pages but it is full of tips and ideas about how to go about digitising all of that “stuff” that we all have stashed away and which, unless we do something about, will likely follow us to the grave. What I found particularly useful was a practical tip on how to go about digitising some old film and slides that I have come across without incurring great expense. Have a look and see what you think.

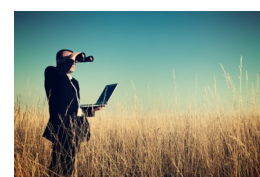
Highland FHS: I was somewhat confused by an item in the Highland FHS January 2020 newsletter that was headed “Free Church Records for Sale”. How can something that is free be for sale? Only when I looked into it did I realise that it was not the records that were free but the Church. They are records of the “Free Church” in the Highland region. If you have ancestors from the Highland region - which is vast - it might be worth a look at these since all the local Free Churches appear to be listed.



In the same edition there is an interesting article that clearly transcribes the Kirk Session record for the poor of the Parish of Kiltarn. It lists by name 30 of those who applied for assistance with their condition detailed along with the names of 120 others who were granted some financial assistance. Obviously a gem if you had any association with this parish, but also of general interest as it gives an idea of the content of the Kirk Session record.

That is a flavour of some of the content of the Journals that other family history societies send to us. Please do have a look at the site. The Journals come from a wide range of societies and you are sure to find something in there to aid your own research.

Find My Past: have announced that they have uploaded a whole new set of records, this time for the Ayrshire and Kilmarnock area. It is the rate payers books, voters lists and valuation rolls and they can be accessed here. ([click](#)) This is not an area familiar to me but FMP do have a vast resource of Scottish Records. If you log in and go to their A-Z of Record Search and enter Scotland, then you get five pages of resources. To benefit from them you do of course have to be a member of FMP, but you can use their indexes for free. A tip that I saw recently was that if you make use of the A-Z Record Search facility and choose the particular area you are interested in from this rather than entering details in the usual search page, then you get more information about the individual. Try it. It does work.

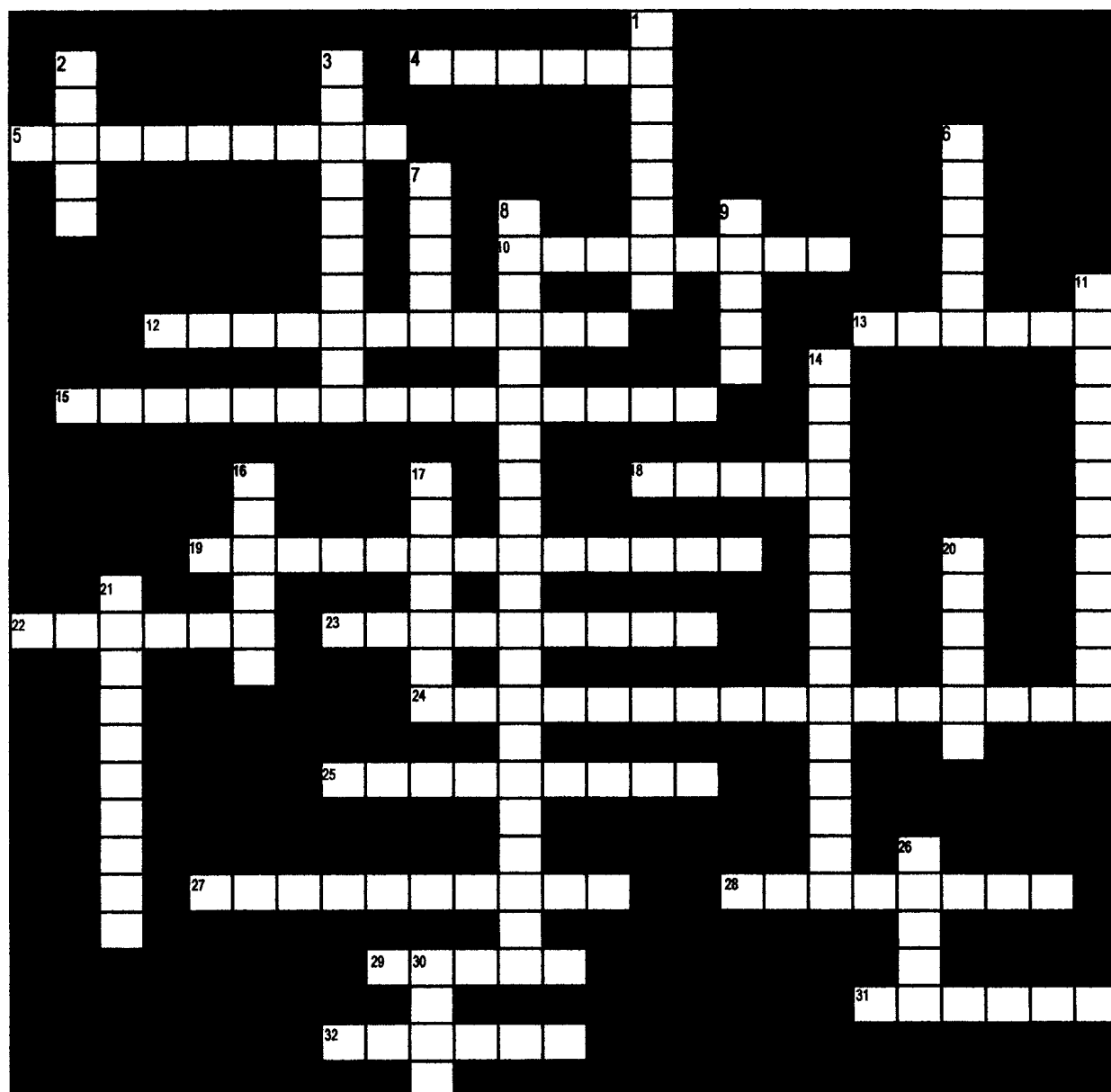


As with many organisation during this time of isolation, FMP are inviting people to access their Facebook page where they are running some free activities and events. ([click here](#)) In their latest newsletter they also invite you to access their section for younger people or people just starting with family history. ([click here](#)) It includes a free family tree template that you can download as well as several articles with hints on how to best go about your research. Worth a look.



The Manchester Genealogist/Anglo Scottish Section: whilst this newsletter is full of short snippets to try and help you with your research, our Anglo Scottish Section in the Manchester Genealogist provides more detailed and in-depth articles about Scottish related research. Our editor for this, Hilary Hartigan, is always on the lookout for articles. So, during this period when we have a bit more time on our hands, why not put pen to paper and start noting down some of your family history stories/research and send them to Hilary. Use the email address heading this newsletter. Two things will flow from this. Hilary will love you forever and you will be published. What is not to like!

Family History Crossword



Across

4. A Branch of MLFHS 6
 5. 22across has this ship docked 9
 10. A Declaration was signed here in 1520. 8
 12. Motto of St Andrew's University 4,2,5
 13 & 31. A well known raider between Scotland & England 6,6
 15. A family history centre in Edinburgh 9,6
 18. Anagram of Northern Ireland record office. 5
 19. Bonnie Dundee was killed at this battle 13
 22. It is the city of jute, jam and journalism. 6
 23. On page 18 of Vol.56 No.1 of 9 Down it is the name of a railway station 9
 24. MLFHS began in this pub. 3,4
 25. These family mementos are often shared at Branch meetings. 9
 27. It is what the L stands for in MLFHS. 10
 28 & 32. An astral phenomenon. 8,6
 29. Scotland's ancient capital 5

Down.

1. A common search engine for family history 8
 2 & 9. We run into them often. 5,5
 3. He gave the Branch talk in October 2019. 5,5.
 6. First name of famous Scottish author 6
 7. She is your brother's wife's daughter. 5
 8. At the British Library its ISSN number is 0143-1331 10,11
 11. The title of Bruce Kieth's talk in September 2019. 12
 14. A popular family tree programme. 6,4,5.
 16. It inspired Robert Bruce. 6
 17. Bonnie Prince Charlie belonged to this clan. 7
 20. A Branch of MLFHS 6
 21. A Branch of MLFHS 10
 26. Colour of the Jacobite cockade. 5
 30. A Scottish island where you can hear the singing sands. 4