



e-Scotia

Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

Website: www.anglo-scots.mlfhs.org.uk

E-mail: anglo-scots@mlfhs.org.uk

Newsletter: scotia@mlfhs.org.uk

Welcome: Our main feature this month is the visit by Branch members to the famous John Rylands Library in the centre of Manchester. An interesting and informative experience and worth a visit if you are in the area. Some other interesting bits and pieces to assist you including information about Scottish name patterns. I found this useful in thinking about my own family history. Information also about a couple of free web sites - always a bonus. Thanks again to those of you who have been in touch expressing good things about *e-Scotia*. One contributor commented that with so much information being given about the content of talks it might reduce the inclination to attend meetings. We hope this is not the case but shall continue to give the details precisely for those who might find it difficult to attend.



A Visit to John Rylands Library

On Saturday 18th June a group of about 20 of our members visited the John Rylands Library in Manchester for what was a fascinating tour.

John Rylands (1801-1888) was the owner of the largest textile manufacturing business in the UK which made him a multi millionaire. On his death his wife, Enriqueta Rylands, sponsored the building of the library to her husband's memory. It is a late Victorian neo-gothic building designed by Basil Champneys. The building took some 10 years to complete. The stone came from the Lake District and the oak from Gdansk. At its peak there were some 200 stone masons working on the building which was opened to the public in 1900. The Library was granted Grade 1 status in 1994.

In terms of the importance of its collections the library is listed as third in the UK after the Bodleian Library in Oxford and the British Library in London. Amongst the special collections are a Gutenberg Bible, and a 1st Edition of Shakespeare sonnets, one of only 13 in existence. There is a Papyrus which is believed to be the earliest text from the New Testament.



On the first floor there are a few exhibitions including an Introductory Gallery where you can discover the story behind the Library. There are medieval manuscripts and some of the earliest books ever printed. The original entrance is on Deansgate and leading down from the entrance are the original Victorian toilets, still in full working order. On the 3rd floor is the Historic reading room which is believed to be one of the finest reading rooms in any library. This would have been where people used the library and where the librarians were located. At either end of this long room are statues of John and Enriqueta, and along the sides are smaller statues of famous people. One of these is John Dalton, the great chemist and physicist attached to Manchester University and the father of atomic theory. He also studied colour blindness and apparently left his eyes to the Library.

The Library now holds about 1.4 million books of which 90% are available to view. Anyone can join the library and there is an online catalogue to view what the library holds. These can then be looked at on the 4th floor reading room by giving 24 hours notice for most books.





Generally everyone had a great day and many thanks are due to Ina Pennystone and everyone else involved in organising the day. For anyone who missed the tour, the library is open to visitors daily and is free. Staff are very helpful and always prepared to assist and advise. For more information about the Library consult the webpage at www.library.manchester.ac.uk/rylands.

Traditional Scottish Naming Patterns.

We are grateful to Pat Bower for reminding us of this information relating to the Scottish tradition associated with the naming of children. Knowing this can often help in identifying and confirming ancestors. Did your ancestors follow this pattern in your own family?

First born son:	<i>named after father's father.</i>
Second born son:	<i>named after mother's father</i>
Third born son:	<i>named after father.</i>
Fourth born son:	<i>named after father's oldest brother or father's paternal grandfather.</i>
Fifth born son:	<i>named after mother's oldest brother or mother's paternal grandfather.</i>



First born daughter:	<i>named after mother's mother.</i>
Second born daughter:	<i>named after father's mother.</i>
Third born daughter:	<i>named after mother.</i>
Fourth born daughter:	<i>named after mother's oldest sister or mother's maternal grandmother.</i>
Fifth born daughter:	<i>named after father's oldest sister or father's maternal grandmother.</i>



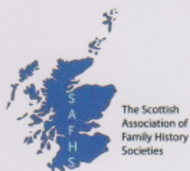
News

Following last issues' article about Scottish Kirk Session Records someone drew to my attention a very informative article written by Paul Milner. The article can be viewed using the following web address: <http://www.milnergenealogy.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Scottish-Kirk-Session-and-Poor-Relief-Records-2013.pdf>

We received information about the availability of **Scottish Monumental Inscriptions** being collected and collated by a company whose website is, believe it or not, scottish-monumental-inscriptions.com. According to the website, scottish-monumental-inscriptions was started by a group of friends/ancestor hunters who wanted to record and preserve information about pre-1855 deaths by visiting graveyards and photographing and otherwise recording the information on gravestones. A noble venture indeed. The information is divided into Scottish counties and is available on CD or as a download pdf although the latter does not include images. Payment is required although the amount seems to vary.

Free Scottish Records hit the web.

We have learned that **Maxwell Ancestry** have put onto their Scottish Indexes website (scottishindexes.com) access to Scottish Mental Health Institutions. The Scottish Indexes site is a good one for information anyway. Although largely directed to the Borders area, some of their indexes do cover the whole of Scotland and this includes this Mental Health Institutions site. It is free to search the index but for any detailed information regarding records a payment is sought. What is great about the site is that you are not only able to search for family members who may have, at some stage been institutionalised, but also to research and pinpoint the Institution itself using the interactive maps of the National Library of Scotland. Well worth a look.



29th Annual SAFHS Conference 2017

*The Association of Scottish Genealogists
& Researchers in Archives (ASGRA) hosts*



Building Bridges: Making Connections

Saturday 22 April 2017

Cairn Queensferry Hotel, North Queensferry, Fife, KY11 1HP

9 am – 4.45 pm



Conference: £35 per Delegate (must be pre-booked) – 4 Speakers; breakfast, morning coffee; lunch; afternoon tea

Family History Fair: £2 (at the door) – around 70 stands; all your favourite FHSs, charities, commercial traders; a choice of 6 talks throughout the day on: Scottish, English & Irish research topics.

For preliminary information on the Conference or to register your interest in having a stand, please email

Conference Secretary, Janet Bishop, on genealogyscotland@gmail.com

SAFHS Conference 2017

For those interested and who like to plan well ahead, here is information about the SAFHS Conference in 2017. It is to be held in North Queensferry in Fife. Perhaps the new Forth Road Bridge will be open by then. That prompted me to Google the bridge site and I see that it is indeed due to open in December 2016. Evidently the theme of the Conference—"Building Bridges: Making Connections" is very apt. Some members from the Anglo Scots Branch of the MLFHS will be attending as usual to represent the Branch but if you plan to be in the area around that time, why not think about attending.

Don't Forget!!



The Help Desk facility is available to all from 10.30 am until 12.30 pm prior to the Anglo Scots Branch meeting on the third Saturday of each month. Expe-

rience members will be there to offer help and advice. Come on, give it a try. We would love to see you.

Reminder

The Branch is in touch with various Family History Societies throughout Scotland and has arranged for those of them who can to forward us pdf versions of their Journals. These can be accessed by going into the MLFHS website and logging into the "members area main menu". The "Download Exchange Journals" tag can be

Next Branch Meeting— Saturday, 16th July.

Looking forward to seeing you there. The topic for the meeting is an Ancestral Workshop. It is an opportunity for you to seek help or to share with us some artefact of research that can assist the rest of us. Perhaps with the Somme anniversary on our minds someone has a family story about a relative who was involved in this particular conflict. We would love to hear about it.