



e-Scotia

Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

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WELCOME: to the December edition of the Newsletter. We had no Anglo Scots Branch meeting this month and so this edition of **e-Scotia** focuses upon some advice and sites to assist you in your research. Some of the sites are well-established and well-known but since many add new information to their sites, then it is always useful to have another look. We are also in need of volunteers to assist with various projects. Have a look at the article and see if you can spare some time to help out.

WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS AND EVERY BEST WISH FOR 2017.



And continuing the Christmas Theme:

an article in the Lost Cousins website ([click here](#)) is entitled:

Glad tidings of great joy: finding new cousins for Christmas

and I quote from it;

"We family historians spend much of our time investigating long-dead ancestors, so wouldn't it be great to find some new living cousins - especially cousins who are as interested in family history as we are?"

I discovered recently that many regular readers have forgotten that *LostCousins* isn't just a newsletter - there's a website where you can connect with living cousins around the world (just click on the *LostCousins* logo at the top of any newsletter

to be taken to the home page). Everyone who receives an email telling them about these newsletters is already a member of *LostCousins* - the emails only go out to members - so if you haven't logged-in recently you're definitely missing out.

If you have British or mostly British ancestry then a simple calculation shows that over 200 fellow *LostCousins* members are your 6th cousins (or closer). You might think a 6th cousin sounds distant but, believe me, when you get back 7 generations and you've got 128 ancestral lines to investigate, you'll need all the help you can get, especially if you're using DNA to supplement traditional sources of information.

About one-third of you reading this have yet to enter any data on your *My Ancestors* page - the page that acts as a permanent search form, and yet it is so easy. (see the "Getting

Started" guide on the [Help & Advice](#) page for an illustrated step-by-step tutorial). When you enter a deceased relative on your *My Ancestors* page you can search for living cousins by clicking the *Search* button - and you can repeat the search as often as you wish (new members join LostCousins every day). Of course, the more relatives you enter on your *My Ancestors* page the more cousins you're likely to find - ideally you would want to enter all the relatives you can find on the 1881 Censuses, as they're the ones your cousins are most likely to have used. Almost everyone reading this could enter more relatives from 1881 - especially now that the GRO's new online indexes are revealing new twigs on our family tree.

Christmas is a special holiday - it's a time for family to come together, but it's also a time when we remember those who can no longer be with us. Wouldn't it wonderful to find some new cousins in time for Christmas?



ScotlandsPlaces: We have referred you earlier to this site but it has been drawn to our attention that *"The GENES Blog"* site (www.scotlandsplaces.genesblog) is now free to access. The "GENES" of "GENES Blog" is an acronym for "GEnalogy News and EventS" and as the word "blog" suggests is the forum for *"Top stories concerning ancestral research in Britain, Ireland, and their diasporas, from Irish born Scottish based professional family historian, author and tutor Chris Paton"* to quote from the site. Thanks again to our colleague in Fort William, Martin Briscoe, for bringing this to our attention.

Volunteers Required:

You will be aware that the Branch only operates through the voluntary efforts of its members. Well, we are looking for volunteers to help operate the Branch and its resources. Could you help?

Branch Secretary: we are looking for a woman or man (despite the cartoon character opposite) to act as Branch Secretary. This is a twofold task: **firstly** it will involve attending the Branch Committee meetings which are held for an hour prior to the beginning of the Saturday Branch meetings each month, 10 months of the year. The task includes taking minutes of the meeting then, after writing them up, distributing them to committee members for approval. **Secondly** we would like the Branch secretary to make contact with and organise speakers for the monthly Branch meetings. There is a budget for this and much advice and help will be given with this task by committee members. If agreeable, the branch secretary will become a member of the Committee. These two tasks can be separated, so if you would like to consider one of them then let us know.



Journal Co-Ordinator: The Anglo Scots Branch also has a section of the quarterly *"The Manchester Genealogist"* for the input of articles of particular interest to Anglo Scots matters. We are looking for someone to encourage and monitor contributions made to the Anglo Scots section of the *"The Manchester Genealogist"* and to pass these on to the Journal editor. The task is not an onerous one but does involve, when appropriate, liaising with contributors to ensure that **they** have ensured copyright issues have been observed.

Please give some thought as to whether you can offer some of your time to perform one or other of these tasks. If you would like to know more about the roles before committing yourself then please have a word with David Muil, our projects co-ordinator and member of the Anglo Scots committee. You can e-mail him at davidmuil1943@fsmail.net



Family Search have sent us a copy of their most recent Newsletter. This can be accessed at (www.familysearch newsletter) It has a number of really interesting articles including what's new in *Family Search* and tips on how to leave a photo legacy to descendants. The main article is about DNA testing which seems to be the flavour of the month these days. In fact we hope to have a speaker at one of our Branch meetings next year to talk with us about this whole issue.



Don't forget the Branch Christmas Party on Saturday 21st January 2017.

It is our chance to socialise together and to catch up with events. It will take the usual form of a social and quiz, the latter provided by our intrepid quiz masters, (or should that be mistresses) Ina and Yvonne. It is also a shared table event, so, if you can, bring along some kind of goodie that you think will add to the festivity. It starts at 2.00 pm.

This Genealogy web site was created back in 1996 by Cyndi Howells and by the end of that year had some 10,000 links to various other websites that would be of great interest to the budding genealogist. The site has grown since then and today there are over 300,000 links in more than 200 categories. Just about every corner of the Globe is covered, including Scotland which has a wealth of information, some of which you would never have come across before.

You can access Scotland's section directly by using the following details

Cyndislist.com/uk/sct

There are 36 categories and 8 related categories. Some links take you to well known pay sites such as Ancestry and FMP but also to specific datasets, within those sites. There are lots of FREE sites, of which many will be of great interest. Here are just a few examples.

Directories:- Nathaniel Jones the first Directory of Glasgow 1787.

Cemeteries:- Highland Memorial Inscriptions covering quite a few places.

How To:- There are plenty of guides explaining all types of Scottish research.

Maps and Geography:- Clan map of Scotland.

Military:- Great War Dundee

Newspapers:- Scottish Newspapers on the Internet.

Occupations:- The Steam Engine Makers Society.

Photographs and Memories:- View Dumfries and Galloway.

Schools:- Glasgow Guardian Digital Archive.

There are tabs to view the latest additions to the site, to add a new link you may come across and to report a broken link you find.



BRANCH CALENDAR 2017

Whilst we will issue reminders each month as to the forthcoming events, here is the calendar of events for 2017. All meetings are on Saturday and begin at 2.00 pm but don't forget the Anglo Scots help desk that begins at 10.30 am.

January 21st 2017

Quiz and Social

February 18th 2017

Maps and Family History

Speaker—Paul Hindle

March 18th 2017

Annual Meeting followed by Members heirlooms

April 15th 2016

No Meeting (This year it is too close to Easter and to the WDTTA Conference)

May 20th 2017

The Reivers Survival—Terror and Politics 1286-1610

Speaker—Andrew Lowes

June 17th 2017

Ancestry workshop—questions and answers

July 15th 2017

Visit to Portico Library, Manchester

August 2017

No Meeting

September 16th 2017

Scotland's People—using the new website

Speaker—Ina Penneyston

October 21st 2017

Ancestral Breakthroughs

November 18th 2017

To be arranged but we hope to have a speaker from York University to talk about an aspect of Scottish history.

December 2017

No Meeting