



# e-Scotia

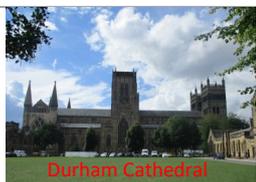
## Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

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**Welcome:** to the August issue of the Newsletter. I draw your attention first to our new logo. Whilst the thistle and rose motif remains we decided that some text, defining who we were, would also be useful. Hope you like it. August is always a quiet month with no Branch meeting. It gives an opportunity for other issues to be brought to the fore. You may recall that last month I made mention of the exhibition in Durham about Scottish soldiers "unearthed" close to the Cathedral and Castle. I visited the exhibition and share my experience of it. As usual, there are also some tips and sites that might aid you Scottish research. Enjoy. Editor.



### **Bodies of Evidence:** or "How science unearthed Durham's dark secret"

This is the story of two mass graves unearthed during building work in 2013 to extend a café between Durham Castle and Durham Cathedral. Scientific analyses identified the remains as that of some of the 1,600 Scottish soldiers who died whilst in captivity in Durham Cathedral in 1650. The exhibition tells their story and that of the 3,900 prisoners marched from Dunbar to Durham.

The soldiers had been part of the Scottish covenanting army that had fought Cromwell at the battle of Dunbar on the 3rd September, 1650. The Scots greatly outnumbered the English but the Kirk authorities, much against the advice of the Scottish generals, would not allow any soldier to fight who had not sworn the Covenant. This left a very inexperienced army, already weakened through hunger and sickness. The Scots were soundly beaten with, according to one statistic given, 3,000 Scottish soldiers killed and less than 20 English casualties. There is evidence that those prisoners too injured or sick were allowed by Cromwell to return to their homes. However about 3,900 prisoners were rounded up and marched south. It is considered that Cromwell did not believe he could allow them to go home as he believed that he would only have to fight them another day.

The journey between Dunbar and Durham is about 115 miles and again, evidence is given in the exhibition about their poor treatment during that journey with little sustenance being given. Using the John Ogilby maps projected onto the floor, the exhibition very cleverly shows the route taken. Of the 3,900 prisoners who left Dunbar, only 3,000 arrived in Durham. They were put into the then empty and ransacked Durham Cathedral where the Parliamentary Army also housed their horses. Apart from the occasional food and water, the prisoners were left to fend for themselves. It is said that they burned furniture and any wood they could lay their hands on for warmth. However sickness in the form of dysentery spread rapidly and within 50 days 1600 men had died.

Until the recent excavation it was never known what had happened to these dead, the burial site being unknown. In the uncovered graves 28 skeletons were identified and scientific and DNA analyses is able to inform us that they were mostly adolescents and young adult men aged between 13yrs and 25yrs. The image attached is the reconstruction of one of the skulls unearthed. Amazingly analysis of the teeth was able to identify the diet of the men, unsurprisingly, consisting largely of oat-based foods, a basic food for Scots.



Whilst many died, many also survived, and the exhibition details some of the outcomes for these men. Some it appears were sent to North Shields to work in the salt pans before being allowed to return to Scotland. Others were sent to work in coal mines. Others were enlisted in the army and went to France. 150 however were sent as indentured slaves to New England in America. They served out their time and became free men establishing their own businesses. Many of these now have descendants in the USA who have formed a group based upon the survivors of the Dunbar battle.

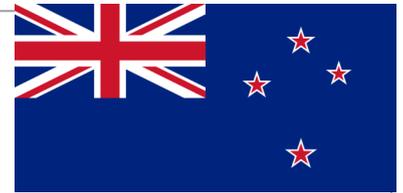
Altogether a wonderful exhibition well worth going to if you are able.



## Scots in New Zealand

I was sent recently the following web site address:

[\(The Scots in New Zealand\)](#)



The information refers to an exhibition held at the Museum of New Zealand in 2007 but despite this the site does speak of the Scottish history and influence in New Zealand that continues to be relevant. Apart from the history of Scottish settlement, there are a variety of audio exhibits to listen to. Worth a look.

**Ancestry and Aberdeenshire:** anyone with an interest in the land of quines and loons (lassies and laddies/girls and boys for the uninitiated!!) will be pleased to hear that Ancestry have uploaded the electoral registers of Aberdeen City and the "Former Counties of Aberdeenshire" from 1832—1976. [\(Click here\)](#) The resource is a combined effort between Ancestry and Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Archives and contains records of 3,219,223 eligible voters searchable by name. I have the Ancestry database but evidently not the one sufficient to allow me access to this new information. Once again I shall have to wait until I am in Manchester Central Library to see if it is accessible on the Library edition. If you are interested and want to search it, it is as well to remember that the names on the early electoral registers list only those who were eligible voters, that is, property owners. This was extended by the Reform Acts of 1884 and again in 1918, so more names will be available from then. Worth a look.



**History of Glasgow:** in the interests of balance, a word about Glasgow. I was given a copy of a magazine called "Local History News", the magazine of the British Association for Local History. In it there was reference to an article by Caroline Barron on "Town maps for local historians" and referred to the **Historic Towns Trust**. A search of their web site indicated a series of historical atlases that they have produced of various towns in the country. Included is one of Glasgow. The site informs that volumes 1—3 of the atlases, being out of print, are now available to be viewed online, and volume 1 includes Glasgow. This is a very convoluted way of saying that it is ok to download this and study it. It contains some really interesting maps of old Glasgow and, if Glasgow is your area of interest, then I can only encourage you to have a look at it. [\(Click here\)](#) While you are at it, why not have a look at the whole [Historic Towns Trust](#) site.

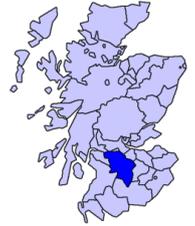
**DNA Research:** for those of you who are including some DNA research in your family history this is to let you know that U3A have organised a conference at the **Palace Hotel in Buxton on Saturday, 15th September**. There are some four main speakers and 13 exhibitors. The cost of the day is £23 and this includes a lunch. If you want to know more then you have to email [taylor.ian9@gmail.com](mailto:taylor.ian9@gmail.com) It is an increasingly developing area of family history research, so if you are interested, have a look.



**CAIRT Newsletter of the Scottish Maps Forum:** The National Library of Scotland have announced that the new detailed OS 1940s-1960s maps of Scotland are now online. *"The latest maps website addition covers large areas of the Central Belt, the Borders and parts of north-east Scotland, dating from 1945-1967, and shows excellent detail of man-made structures such as houses and settlements, as well as roads, railways and industrial works. The rural landscape of fields, woodland, lochs, rivers and streams is clearly depicted too. These are the earliest OS maps to comprehensively show house numbers, and they also show parcel numbers (to uniquely reference all land parcels or areas) and their related acreages. The new maps complement the more detailed 1:1,250 scale maps of larger urban areas, scanned last year. We are now scanning National Grid 1:10,560 scale maps which will provide comprehensive coverage of all areas."*

[Click here](#) to read the latest issue of Cairt and to browse previous issues.

## The latest from FindMyPast: Scotland, Lanarkshire Death & Burial Index 1642-1855



“Discover your ancestors who died and were buried in the Scotland county of Lanarkshire. This index of deaths and burials covers the years of 1642 to 1855. From the index, you may learn your ancestors’ birth, death and burial dates, age at death, burial place, and mortcloth price.”

You can find them [here](#).

### Bolton Family History Society Open Day:

The Bolton FHS is holding an Open Day at:

**The History Centre, Central Library,  
Le Mans Crescent, Bolton on Saturday 3rd November  
10.30am to 3.00pm**

**There will be specialist Help Desks** covering Irish and Scottish research, Internet sites, your Brick Walls & Beginners. To book your free exclusive 30 minute time slot at one of these desks telephone Barbara on 01204 309515

**There will two free lectures** in the basement Library Theatre;

**11.00am Peter Higginbotham** will talk about “*Life in the Workhouse*”. Peter created the famous workhouses website.

**1.00pm Steve Gill**, the popular local speaker on photography history, will be talking about photographs that have been sent in earlier by the audience. (Please see the reference to this talk below.) Be aware that the images will be projected on to the wall of the theatre for all to see.

*Photographs for Steve to consider:*

- *If you have Daguerreotype, Ambrotype or Tintypes email and ask for special instructions.*
- *If you want Steve to talk about your photograph send a jpeg scan of the front and back of the picture [out of its frame or album] together with what you know about the image, and what you want to know about it, to; [boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk)*

*There will be more photographs submitted than Steve can talk about in his time slot so your photograph MAY NOT be selected for the show. You will have to come to the presentation to find out if it is used.*

*Photographs for consideration to be submitted in jpeg format before the end of September 2018.*

These details can also be found on the Bolton FHS website at: <http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/>

There will also be a specialist genealogy book stall and the opportunity to join the Bolton Family History Society.

### Research and study resources available on Society web site.

A brief reminder of the many research and study resources available on the Anglo Scots and Society web pages:

**Scottish Marriage Index.** This has been going for some years and continues to be added to from readers around the world as well as at home. As it is so familiar we can forget to make use of it, so have another look. Something may have been added since you last did that you will find useful.

**The Scottish Document Collection.** This has to be accessed by logging on to the MLFHS membership site and can be found on the Member Area main menu. There is a wide range of items listed there from baptism and communion roles and military lists to more substantial reading material. Whilst the reading material might not give us names of possible ancestors, although names are listed, it does broaden our view into understanding the world in which our ancestors lived.

**MLFHS Resource Library Catalogue.** Last but not least a reminder of the searchable catalogue that has recently been put onto the Society web site. Again access to it is via the Members Main Area Menu. You can search by title or author or simply use one of the filter boxes. By putting “Scotland” into the category filter I was presented with a huge list of resources including Parish Register; Monumental Inscriptions; Immigration and Travel and Trades and Professions. If you have not already done so, the site is well worth a look.

## World War 1 Research



*Lest we forget*

As we come to the close of 2018 we come to the conclusion also of the various exhibitions and presentations that have taken place over the past four years to commemorate the events and victims of the 1st World War 100 years ago. To mark this there are a variety of resources and events being made available and we list some of them here. Hopefully some of these are of value to you as you try to research any of your ancestors who were involved in the war.



*Lest we forget*

**Family Search World War 1 Records:** ([click here](#)) Family Search have announced that they have brought together all their World War 1 collection. There are twelve categories, mostly US sources. Whilst this is a boon for our US readers, for those of us in the UK and elsewhere, the US sources can be eliminated to leave only the three relevant to UK research. Unfortunately, whilst it is possible to view the "record", in order to view the "image" of any record they have, you are informed that you have to be a) a member of the LDS Church; b) go to a Family History Centre or c) access the site at a Family History affiliate library. The affiliated libraries are indicated, but it means that the source is not as convenient as might first appear.



## A Presentation about War Memorials:

**Manchester Central Library:** Tuesday 4th September, 10.30 am.

Mention was made of this event in the newsletter last month. The event is being hosted by the Society and the main speaker is Mike Coyle. **Admission is free.** The talk covers the types, and significance, of war memorials to families and communities, and the efforts of communities and individuals to research and preserve them. Mike Coyle is a passionate advocate for war memorials. A volunteer with the War Memorials Trust and a fieldworker with the Imperial War Museum's 'War Memorials Register'.



John Marsden of the Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society will also talk about the Society's database of names taken from over 1000 memorials in Greater Manchester. North West Film Archive will also show a short film about the unveiling of a couple of North West War Memorials.

This event is open to all and given that it is likely to be very popular, booking is essential. **Book via [Eventbrite](#) on the Society web page.**

## Anglo Scottish Branch September Meeting:

**Researching World War 1 - Saturday, 15th September. 2.00 p.m.**

As part of this time of commemoration the Branch committee considered it appropriate for us to have a presentation on the theme of "Researching World War 1" but with a **Scottish element** to it. To this end we are pleased to welcome as our speaker, Ken Nisbet. Ken has been involved in family and military history research for over 40 years. Originally from Aberdeen, he is a regular speaker to Scotland's family history societies. He has held the post of Secretary of SAFHS for over 10 years, and also the post of Secretary of the Scottish Genealogy Society for over 12 years. He represents SAFHS on the [ScotlandsPeople](#) website User Group, and has been a member of the Family History Centre User Group since its inception. With a particular interest in Military Family History research, he has written the Nairnshire Roll of Honour 1914-1921, and a history of the 2nd Battalion 78th Foot 1804-1816. With such a pedigree we are very fortunate to have Ken come down to speak to us and share his enthusiasm and knowledge. We anticipate attendance to be high, so please remember to reserve your place through [Eventbrite](#) on the Society webpage.



**Don't Forget!**



**Scottish Family History Help Desk:** If you are coming to the Branch Meeting:

.....then remember that the help desk is available to you to assist you with your research and perhaps help tackle those brick walls. We shall be on the 3rd floor of Manchester Central Library from 10.30 am. As you come out of the lift look right and we are there on a batch of computers reserved for us until 12.00.