



# e-Scotia

## Newsletter of the Anglo-Scottish FHS

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Anglo Scottish Family History Society

**Welcome:** To our June edition of *e-Scotia*. This edition is coming to you rather sooner and somewhat shorter than usual because during the latter part of the month when the newsletter is normally sent out, I shall be on holiday in the Dordogne, France, sampling the offerings of the local wineries and food halls. Don't feel sorry for me please. It also means that there is no information for you regarding the June Branch meeting to be held on the 15th of the month which I shall miss. Perhaps we can report on this in the July edition. In the meantime the newsletter continues to offer tips on research and information that has come our way that may help you. Enjoy.

Editor.



### An Ancestral Survey

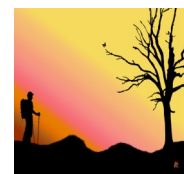
Whilst doing some research for a couple of talks I gave in Bolton about Scottish Family History Research, I was intrigued by the number of individuals in the census who gave their place of birth as Scotland. In Lancashire alone for example, in the 1841 census, 21,369 persons identify Scotland as their place of birth. For the whole of England, the number is given as 105,536. Proportionately of course there were more English in Scotland per head of population than there were Scots in England. A short article in the Stirling Advertiser of 1844 reflecting on this says; *"...it could not have been believed on any but statistical evidence that fifteen per thousand of the inhabitants of Scotland are English while only six per thousand of the population of England are from Scotland."* Evidently therefore there was much to-ing and fro-ing in both directions in the mid 1800's. Who were these people? Where did they come from? What did they do? Where did they settle?

Whatever else, each of these was an immigrant. Given that we are an AngloScottish Branch, each of us is either directly an immigrant or the descendant of immigrants and I would like to explore that a little by reference to our own family stories. I am always impressed and intrigued by what prompted individuals and families to up sticks and move to a new country. It takes much courage. My own story involves a move from England to Scotland. A great-grandfather on my mother's side, Bernard Smith, was born in London and, via Leicester and Newcastle, moved to Dundee and married there in 1877. Like his father and two brothers, he was employed in the shoemaking trade, but always defined himself as a "slipper-maker". He settled in Dundee and the rest, as they say, is (family) history.

There are 155 people who subscribe to and receive this newsletter. All of us have a family story involving a member somewhere who decided to emigrate perhaps even further afield than England given that some of our readers are in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the US. I would like to invite you to share the simple facts of that story and ask that you give short answers to the following seven simple questions;

**1. Name (optional but a surname would help) 2. Where in Scotland they came from. 3. The year they left. 4. Their age 5. Alone or as a family member. 6. Where they moved to in England/Australia/Canada etc. 7. Their occupation.**

If you could put the answers on an email and send it to us at [angloscots@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:angloscots@mlfhs.org.uk) I would be grateful. **Please do not include any information that you would not want others to know**, but it is an opportunity for us, as a Branch, to share what defines us, namely, that one or other of our ancestors made that move between Scotland and elsewhere. I hope to share the results of this little survey with you in a newsletter later this year, but it needs you to respond, so please let us know about your ancestor.



**Bits'n'Pieces:** just a few references that have come to our attention that you may find useful in your research.

**Dumfries Kirk Session and Presbytery Minutes:** this information was brought to our attention via the Society Forum from a member in Tasmania!! These have been indexed and are freely available on the Dumfries and Galloway Council website at: [<https://info.dumgal.gov.uk/HistoricalIndexes/>](https://info.dumgal.gov.uk/HistoricalIndexes/) We are grateful for the reference. When I looked at it, the site contains a great deal more information that you might find helpful if you have any connections with the Border area.

**Oban's Rockfield Centre:** our reader in Fort William, Martin Briscoe, drew attention to Society Forum users of this development in Oban, It refers to the redevelopment of an old school building into a community resource, to include a local and family history pod. Perhaps some of you have associations with the Oban and Argyle area and would be interested to visit this resource once it is up and running. Martin sent a [useful link](#) that tells the story.

**The Generation Frame:** Martin Briscoe also informed us of this programme produced by the BBC and being shown in Scotland. As Martin rightly says however, it is available to the rest of us outside Scotland on BBC iPlayer and can be found [here](#). Essentially it is a "Who do you think you are" with a Scottish focus and directed at quite ordinary people instead of the stars of WDYTIA. The result I think is a more useful story of research and it interested me particularly since one of the researches is about Dundee. I shall be watching more of it..



**Dumfriesshire Death & Burial Index:** for those of you who, like me, do not receive the *Find My Past* newsletter they announce in their latest advert the availability for research of these Dumfriesshire records. They declare: "Each record consists of a transcript, many of which will include additional details about your ancestor's life such as their last address, parents' names and birth date." So if you have any links with Dumfriesshire, then it may be worth a look. ([Click here](#))

**Scotland's People Newsletter:** informs us that now available for research are the records relating to; "Emigration to Australia Follow the 5,000 Scots who sailed for Australia between 1852-1857 " These are extracts from the Highland and Island Immigration Society records. ([Read about it here](#))



**National Records of Scotland:** I came across the NRS blog "Open Book" by accident. Clicked on to the "Podcast" section and came across a number of interesting talks, particularly one relating to research being done on [Scottish Pension Appeal Court Tribunals](#) There are other talks there and you might be interested in having a look.

**National Library of Scotland:** in their May newsletter announced the availability of the resource entitled; "Early cinema in Scotland" I have to admit I was attracted to it because it included film showing a train ride over the Tay Bridge in 1897 from Wormit Station on the south side of the Tay to Dundee on the north side. It is part of their ["Moving Images Archive"](#) and an exploration of this site revealed loads of very interesting material. Again being partial to Dundee there is a film about the Jute trade and the process that the jute went through from arrival at the docks from Pakistan to the finished product being exported throughout the world. Sadly there is no sound otherwise the noise of the jute factory would have brought back memories of my going into the jute mill as a young lad with my dad's dinner when he was working late. There are loads of films so have a look and see if you can find something relating to you own family research.



**NLS Film archive:** whilst on the topic of the National Library why not have a look at their library of filmed talks. This can be accessed [here](#). There are six talks listed including the history of the Encyclopaedia Britannica that was first published in Edinburgh; advice on the use of their maps and a talk given on International Women's Day about politically active women in the early United States. It is worth keeping a note of the site as the talks available vary over time. They are always on interesting themes.

"I must admit that I was born at a very young age." Groucho Marx



## Scottish Research Resources Available from the MLFHS Shop:

Sometimes we do not see the resources that are under our noses.

That was the case for me when I was one day “rummaging” around the Society bookshop and came across a number of items relevant to Scottish research that I did not know were there. Probably says more about me than anything else, but perhaps you don't know about them either. These can be bought through the Society shop web page.



I also came across an interesting microfiche of the **Deserters Index 1828—1840** listing deserters born in Scotland. This is an index of soldiers of the British army regiments, Royal Marines and the East India Company's Service who deserted their units and whose names were published in the Police Gazette between the 1st January 1828 and the 31st December 1840. The index gives the name of the soldier, his regiment, his home address, his employment and the date. You can buy this fiche and an explanation of the contents for £2 from the Society shop.

## The Peterloo Event—Manchester Central Library Wednesday 17th July

To remind you of the whole-day event being organised by the Society as part of our contribution to the Manchester City celebration of the event. It promises to be very informative and entertaining. The morning (10.30—12.00) is given over to a talk about the massacre by Chris Makepeace. Chris is a well-known and knowledgeable speaker who conducts tours of Manchester and is very familiar with Manchester's history. We shall no doubt be informed and entertained by his contribution.



During the lunch interval we will be entertained by the **Oakenhoof Friends**, a group of clog dancers from Littleborough. They will enter from St Peter's Square but perform within the Library. Apart from clog dancing, their performance will include poetry and music. What a great opportunity to witness some historical and traditional dancing associated with the Peterloo period.

The afternoon session will be back in the Performance Space and will include a handling session of cotton themed items, items from John Owen's collection and music from the time will be performed by **The Free Radicals**. It is also hoped that sounds from the cotton industry of that era will also be playing. The Society Help Desk will be open for the usual hours for anyone who might want to use the opportunity to explore their family history.

It will be a great day **and it is all free**. What is not to like?

## Anglo Scottish Branch Meeting - Saturday 20th July 2019

### People's History Museum Manchester

This is the annual Branch summer social event and a great opportunity to visit this icon to the People's History of Manchester. It will be a guided tour and will include a tea at the end. The event is for members only and the cost is £3. The Branch is subsidising the rest of the cost.

The tour begins at 2.00 pm and the day concludes at 4.00. For those not sure where the Museum is we suggest that we meet at main door of Central Library at 1.30. It is then just a 10 minute walk to the museum. For those of you who do know where the museum is can you please meet there at 1.50.

**Important:** Places are limited to 20 persons so if you want to attend it is essential that you reserve your place via **Eventbrite** on the Society web page where you can also pay your £3.

