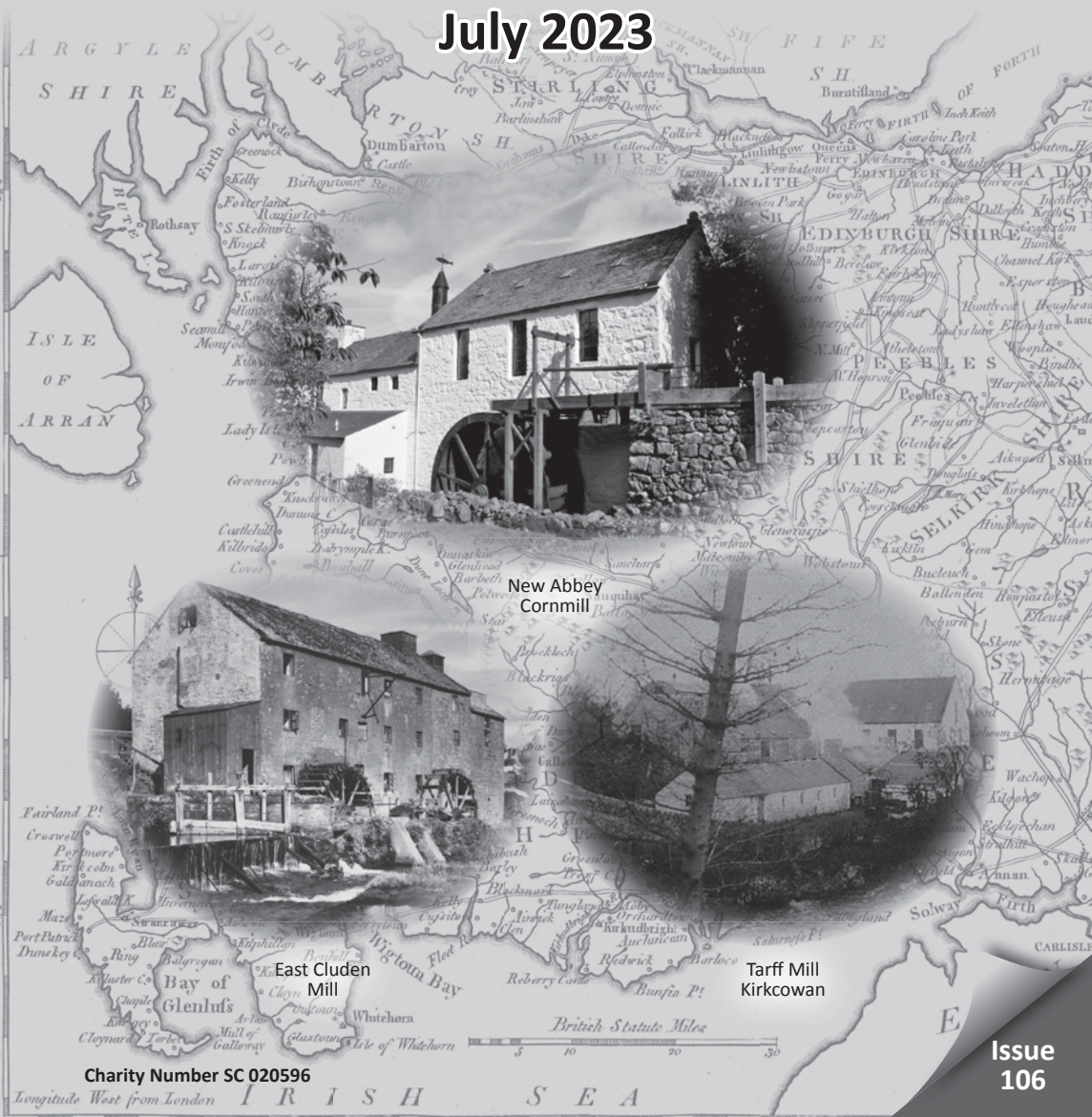


# Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society Newsletter

July 2023



New Abbey  
Cornmill

East Cluden  
Mill

Tarf Mill  
Kirkcowan

Charity Number SC 020596

Issue  
106



## **DUMFRIES and GALLOWAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

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### **DISCLAIMER**

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## WALTER SCOTT OF WALLALONG & ESKDALE, MAITLAND DISTRICT, NSW, AUSTRALIA

In the late summer of 2016 while working in the “Welcome to Langholm” tourist office I encountered a couple of visitors from Surrey, Michael and Robina West. It quickly became clear the Mrs West was originally from Australia. She explained that she had Westerkirk (one of the local parishes) connections and that one of her relatives, Walter Scott, had been memorialised on one of the gravestones in the Old Westerkirk Churchyard. I duly consulted the relevant copy of Memorial Inscription booklets and sure enough there was the evidence.

Mrs West was so impressed with the booklet she bought three copies! I later took the couple on a tour of the graveyard and we tracked down her relatives’ stone.

In course of conversation Robina mentioned she had been in contact with Lorraine Leucher, from Westerkirk and that she possessed a book that had been written about her relative. Intrigued, I contacted Lorraine and she lent me her copy, it was entitled “In the Capacity of a Surgeon” - what an interesting read it proved. It was the biography of Surgeon Walter Scott, first medical man and free settler in Queensland.

Walter’s father had been an antimony miner in the Louisa Mine, situated in the upper reaches of the Meggat Valley. The mine was established in 1792 by Sir James Johnstone of Westerkirk, a major land owner in the area. Subsequently, he created the hamlet of Jamestown, which consisted of 40 miners cottages and a tiny school at Glendinning, which served the miners children and those

of estate workers. The author of the biography was John Hemsley Pearn, a Paediatric Consultant at the Royal Children’s Hospital, Brisbane.

I had a strong connection to Brisbane having lived there between 1999 and 2009. Fascinated by the Westerkirk/Langholm connection and anxious to acquire my own copy of the book I wrote to the Hospital’s Archive department to enquire if they still had any copies. It had originally been published in 1988 and I assumed that Professor Pearn would be long retired. As I was due to return to Australia in the Autumn of 2017, I gave the hospital my contact details for my stay. To my amazement a week or so later I received an email from the author suggesting that we met up while I was staying in the city. Far from being retired, at 78, he was still working, travelling and writing! In 2002 he was elected to the Fellowship of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies. It was not until the last week of my five week trip that we managed to catch up.

To the subject, Walter Scott; he was born in 1787 to James and Margaret (Peggy) Scott, the youngest of five children born to the couple, only an older brother William (1780) survived. This was not an uncommon occurrence, there was a high incidence of miscarriages and still births amongst lead and antimony miners wives, put down to the toxicity of both ores. James died at 43 just four years after Walter’s birth. However, the family were supported by the community and the parish and while they had a subsistence level existence they

“managed”. Sir James proved something of a philanthropist providing support particularly for youngsters who showed promise. Think of Thomas Telford, also from Glendinning, though some thirty years older than Walter and who with similar patronage went on to become the foremost engineer of his generation and whose works are venerated to this day.

The little family survived and in time William went to work for Sir James at Westerhall House and in due course Walter became an apprentice surgeon to a local doctor, not an uncommon practice at the time.

At the age of 32, in 1819, Walter moved to Edinburgh to improve his surgical skills, he enrolled on a two year course at the university, even though, at that point, it was not necessary to possess a licence or diploma to practice. It is assumed he would have been a surgical student in the wards of the Surgeon’s Hospital and that part of his course would have been devoted to dissection and pathology. At the time it was accepted that whereas physicians were inclined to be conservative stay at homes, surgeons tended to be adventurers and travellers! By 1822 when he was formally titled, Mr Surgeon Walter Scott, he had decided to leave Scotland, indeed the UK. He set his sights on Australia. However, always a diligent man, before leaving Edinburgh, he appointed a solicitor to act as his agent in Scotland.

It is assumed that he had managed to accumulate a little capital before deciding to emigrate.

He also carried letters of recommendation from his old patron Sir James, along with the advice that if he

survived the voyage he should petition the Governor, Sir Thomas Brisbane, for a grant of land.

Scott boarded the ship Regalia on the 7th of August 1822, sailing from either Deptford or Millwall, fellow passengers were potential settlers and 130 male convicts and a party of troops from the 40th Regiment of Foot, who acted as the prisoners warders for the voyage. Six and a half months later in February 1823 Walter landed in Sydney. After seeking board and lodging he did as advised and presented his credentials to the authorities. It is thought that between landing in February and May that year, he undertook a reconnaissance trip by packet boat to Newcastle, north of Sydney, and from there travelled further up the Hunter and Paterson rivers in a smaller vessel. As a result he selected a block of land measuring a square mile and bordering the Paterson river.

When he returned to Sydney he wrote to the Governor lodging his claim (a copy of this is preserved in the Archive Office of NSW). His application was approved and thus began the story of Wallalong. His initial grant was for 600 acres which some eight years later was extended by another 600 acres, this time bordering the Williams river, a tributary of the Hunter and this was the property he named Eskdale. It took some years to clear the land, on both properties, albeit with the assistance of convict labour.

Meantime he had to earn a living, hence in August 1823 he joined the Commissariat Service as an Assistant Storekeeper. This may have provided him with a more secure income stream than medical services. The Commissariat were responsible for distributing essential stores to the growing number of settlements up and down the coast, as



well as being responsible for the wages of the troops employed to keep good order amongst free settlers and convicts. They were also the supply base for the Colonial Office throughout the world.

Between 1824 and 1826 Walter was assigned as civilian surgeon/storekeeper, attached to the 40th Regiment of Foot whose task was to establish a new penal colony at Moreton Bay, Queensland. Initially, the site selected was at Redcliff Point, north of present day Brisbane. This proved problematical; access to the settlement by land was non-existent, the land was swampy and mosquito infested and settlers, soldiers and convicts were constantly plagued by ill health. The bay was shallow and access to the supply ship, the brig Amity, was poor. The episode resulted in Walter suffering from chronic conjunctivitis which was to plague him for the rest of his life. After eight months of frustration at Redcliff, the Commandant in charge of the party decided to move the settlement to the north bank of the Town Reach of the Brisbane river. Despite his health issues,

Walter fulfilled his administrative and distribution duties very creditably, as well as ministering to the medical needs of the settlers, soldiers and convicts. Having completed his two year contract he returned to Sydney in October 1826, subsequently, gained a promotion and moved to Newcastle. Within months of his new posting he was appointed a juror, then a Justice of the Peace and subsequently a Magistrate.

Around 1830 Walter earned a further promotion which saw him being returned to the Commissariat HQ in Sydney, at this point, he decided to resign from the Service stating his poor health as a major factor. He faced the choice of returning to Scotland or extending his land holding and becoming a full time pastoralist/farmer. At the age of 38 he chose the latter course. Demonstrating the regard in which he was held, his superiors in the Commissariat Service backed his decision and supplied him with letters, recommending his bid to extend his land holding.



By late 1830 a crude slab dwelling had been erected at Wallalong and the land was being cleared and farmed by two convict servants Henry Winchester and Patrick Weylan. It was also proving fertile, though transport was limited to river boat as there were no roads in the vicinity and there was only one horse on the property. However, only a few years later census returns indicate that Walter's innovative approach and drive were proving key factors leading to his success as a farmer and businessman. The slab hut disappeared and a beautiful new house was built on the site in 1841 and remains to this day. It is one of the rare listed properties in the Maitland District.

Over the next thirty years Wallalong produced wheat, maize, millet and grapes. Orchards produced oranges and peaches, they even trialled tobacco growing. Timber from the estate was cut and milled on site, a brickworks established, as well as a small ship building enterprise, on the banks of the Paterson river.

When the house was built the estate was carrying 25 adults and two children and was one of the most significant properties in the lower Hunter Valley. Added to which was the property he named Eskdale, which he acquired when he left the Commissariat Service in 1830 and which he extended in 1836 and again in 1840. By the time he was 48 years old Walter Scott owned 2,520 acres of one of the most fertile areas of Australia, a very far cry from the subsistence level existence of his boyhood years in the remote Meggat Valley in the Scottish Borders.

Dr Scott, as he became known, was joined in 1843 by his nephew, also called Walter, and they worked in partnership

for a number of years before Walter Jnr. took over fully. While Dr Walter never married his nephew eventually did, but not until he was in his fifties. His descendants continued to live in Wallalong House until 1985 when it was sold for the first time.

Walter Scott Snr. had a highly developed social conscience and was very active in promoting emigration to Australia. He gave his support to a public movement to extend the distribution of Crown Land to new settlers. As a magistrate he was active in trying to remove the stigma of convict history from the colony. When, in 1846, the British Government proposed returning to penal transportation in order to resolve the labour problem on farms he was one of the most vocal opponents of the suggestion. Some of his statements in this regard were carried in the "Maitland Mercury" of the day. He also joined in a petition on this issue which was sent to Queen Victoria.

His standing in the community was reflected in his obituary, which spoke glowingly of his contributions to agricultural advancement and his attention/concern for the needs of his tenants and work people – he was regarded as a "benign influence" and an example.

It is thought that Walter may have returned to Scotland at some point in the late 1830s, updating his affairs with his agent/solicitor, George Millar, in Edinburgh. By the time he left Australia for the last time in 1854 his health, which had fluctuated following his Moreton Bay experience, had deteriorated substantially. It is thought that in returning to the UK, he was seeking a resolution to some of these problems. It has also been speculated

that he may have been suffering from Parkinson's Disease. Having found lodgings in London he died there on the 12th October 1854, aged 67. This coincided with a cholera outbreak in the area where he was living. He was buried in Tower Hamlets Cemetery, sadly nowadays, a much damaged and neglected graveyard.

I was privileged to return to Australia in October 2017 and determined to visit Wallalong and Eskdale. Accompanied by three Australian friends we met up with migrant Scot and Langholmite, Ian Innes, who I had discovered, lived in Ashtonfield, in the Maitland District. Ian had taken his textile experience and talents to Australia along with his love of pipe music. He frequently plays for weddings and events in the area. It was not until I came along with my request for information about Wallalong House that he made the connection

with the wedding venue where he regularly played and its unsuspected connection to "back home". Eskdale was a little trickier to find but find it we did – it too is Heritage listed. It still functions as a farm though with a much reduced acreage. Today it is owned by a young woman, though unfortunately she was away on "muster" the day we called. However, her brother who runs a butchery from the property, kindly produced a plaque from the house attesting to its history and construction.

Thus ended a wonderful adventure and to the uncovering a previously unsung hero of Westerkirk. I am most grateful to Mrs West, Lorraine Leucher and Professor Pearn, for alerting me to this true gentleman, who in an unassuming way made a huge contribution to the lives of so many people in the area in which he chose to settle.

Margaret E. Pool

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## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR AGM 12 APRIL 2023

It gives me much pleasure to present my report for 2022.

We were delighted to reopen the Research Centre in April after being closed for 2 years.

Our volunteers felt there was a need for a refresher course on the computers and scanners. John Mills ran courses which were much appreciated by all who attended them. My thanks to John for his time, patience, his smile and encouragement went a long way.

We are open two full days Tuesday and Thursday from 10.00am – 4.00pm which is working well. Should we have visitors from a distance wishing to visit on a day when we're not open, we will endeavour

to open, provided sufficient notice is given, and volunteers are available.

We welcomed visitors from home and abroad throughout the summer. Our membership remains steady. I wish to thank all members of D & G Family History Society, those present, those locally and abroad for their continuing support by renewing subscriptions, attending meetings, giving freely of their time volunteering in the Centre and elsewhere, and making contributions to the Newsletter.

Thank you to our overseas agents who distribute the newsletters and deal with other business.

Council continues to use Zoom for our

meetings which works well. Our monthly talks have proved most successful with interesting speakers. Thank you to Terry Brown for hosting these meetings via Zoom and sending out reminders.

New publications were introduced during the year and are selling well. Our MIs continue to be updated. Hopefully we will have Dalry Churchyard published by the summer. My thanks to Terry Brown for publishing and updating these booklets.

The Photographic Project and Transcription Project is ongoing. Terry will update you on the new publication and this project.

Our Fair team attended D & G Scottish Archaeology Fair in Castle Douglas Town Hall on Sunday 4 September. This was an interesting and well organised event.

We find more and more visitors asking if we have a card machine and this was very apparent at the Fair in Castle Douglas. We have since purchased one for use in the Centre, which will also be useful to take to the Fairs.

Our volunteer's "Thank You" Lunch was held in the Edenbank Hotel in Dumfries which was enjoyed by all.

I would like to extend my thanks to Kirsty Coltart our webmaster and Terry Brown assistant webmaster who keep our website up to date. Kirsty circulates the Mailing List, if you are not already on the list and wish to be, please check the website for details. Thank you to John Mills who keeps our computers and printers in good working order in the Centre.

I would like to express my thanks to all the volunteers who work tirelessly. Lilly Stevenson, our treasurer who keeps the finances meticulously in order. Dougal Coltart, who looks after the maintenance of the property. Our Membership Secretaries' Beverley Thom UK, and Hazel McMillan OS. Pedigree Charts

Officer Betty MacKenzie. Mailing Officer Elizabeth Hogg. Online Shop and Syllabus Terry Brown. Editorial Team Elizabeth Hogg, Lynda Mackie and Frances Dunse. Members please keep the articles coming, without your contribution there would be no Newsletter. Thank you to Dougal Coltart and Lynda Mackie for looking after the library. Window Dressers Marion Matthews and Janet Heal for their excellent and eye catching displays. We were awarded second place in the Guid Nychburris window dressing competition. Lynda Mackie gives talks to various groups and is much sought after.

Thank you to Eva Adamson and Lynda Mackie our research volunteers who answer enquiries and help many people getting started with their research.

On a sad note we were all saddened to learn that our minute secretary Gwen Smart passed away in October. Gwen was a regular volunteer in the Centre and was always willing to help in any way she could. Alex Scott passed away in December. He was a longstanding member of the Society who served on various committees. He was a helpful adviser and solicitor who advised us on matters that needed his expertise.

My sincere thanks to all working in the background on projects who I have never met, or anyone I may have omitted to thank.

Thank you to Liz Brown who has kindly agreed to take the minutes of this meeting in the absence of a minute secretary.

Regretfully Lilly Stevenson our treasurer has moved away from the district and would like to be relieved of the role of treasurer. If you feel you could fill either of these roles please contact the secretary at [dgfh.org.uk](mailto:dgfh.org.uk)

This concludes my report.

Frances Dunse # 1774



**Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society**

**Receipts and Payments Account (all unrestricted funds)**  
**for the year ended 31st December 2022**

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>				
Subscriptions	7,939		8,156	
Donations	338		75	
Gift aid reclaimed	291		341	
Find my Past	1,012		1,184	
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>				
Sale of goods and services	7,876		6,332	
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>17,456</b>		<b>16,088</b>
<b><u>Payments</u></b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Cost of goods and services	1,880		435	
Members' newsletters	3,284		3,679	
Meetings	144		144	
Insurance	827		743	
Computer bureau costs	1,560		187	
Light and heat	1,072		463	
Repairs and maintenance	681		315	
Office supplies	1,468		1,133	
Telephone	748		796	
Website costs	119		399	
General expenses	1,086		49	
	<b>12,869</b>		<b>8,343</b>	
<b>Governance Costs</b>				
Independent examiner's fee	756		750	
Telephone	50		50	
Office supplies	100		100	
	<b>906</b>		<b>900</b>	
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>13,775</b>		<b>9,243</b>
<b>Net surplus for the year</b>		<b>3,681</b>		<b>6,845</b>

**Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society**

**Statement of Balances**  
**as at 31st December 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>Bank and cash</b>		
Opening balance	44,889	38,044
Surplus for the year	3,681	6,845
<b>Closing balance</b>	<u>48,570</u>	<u>44,889</u>
<b>Reserves</b>		
General unrestricted funds:-		
Bank of Scotland	48,550	44,889
Cash on hand	20	-
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>48,570</u>	<u>44,889</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Stock	Unrestricted 10,470	5,596
Land & Buildings - NBV	Unrestricted 26,560	27,390
Office Equipment - NBV	Unrestricted 3,458	4,322
Library - NBV	Unrestricted 1,460	1,622
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Independent examiner's fee	Unrestricted 750	750
Subscriptions in advance	Unrestricted 2,653	2,481
Scottish hydro - electricity	Unrestricted 139	-

Approved by the Council Members on 27th March 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

*Mrs Frances Dunse*

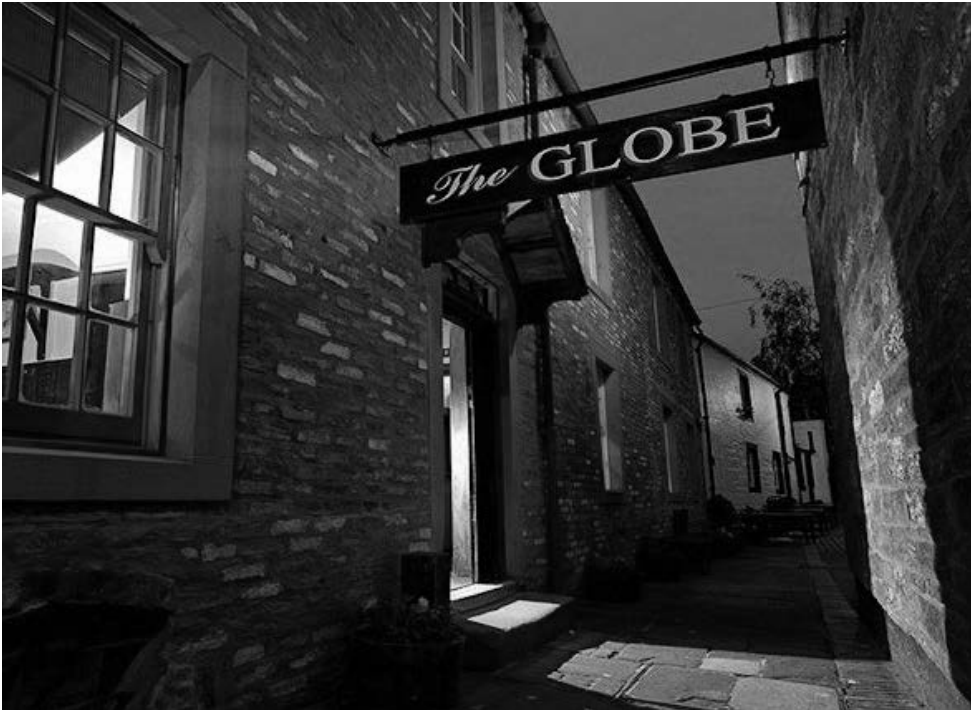
**Mrs Frances Dunse, Chair**

## TREASURER

After a number of years of dedicated service to the Society our treasurer has moved away from the area. The Society requires a member to volunteer to take over this role. The outgoing treasurer is willing to brief any member interested in filling this position.

Expressions of interest please reply to [secretary@dghfs.co.uk](mailto:secretary@dghfs.co.uk)

## LANDLORDS OF THE GLOBE INN DUMFRIES



The Globe Inn dates from 1610 but became famous as the regular howff of the poet Robert Burns. At the time when Robert Burns frequented The Globe Inn the proprietors were William Hyslop and his wife Meg. Although his Christian name was William he was known as Jock Hyslop. On one occasion when Robert Burns forgot to order dinner for himself and his guests at the Globe, Meg Hyslop gave Burns and his two friends their own dinner of a tup or sheep's heid. Burns wrote a grace when the meal was finished,

“Oh Lord, since we have feasted thus,  
Which we so little merit,  
Let Meg now take away the flesh,  
And Jock bring in the spirit, Amen”

Helen Ann Park, known as Anna Park, had a brief liaison with Robert Burns when she was a barmaid at The Gobe Inn. She was the niece of Meg Hyslop. Her illegitimate daughter, Elizabeth Park or Burns, known as Betty Burns, was brought up by Jean Armour with the rest of Robert Burns' children.

The next proprietors of The Globe Inn were Adam Graham and his wife Mary Carruthers. They had three daughters. Mary Graham married William Watson, a cattle dealer and hay merchant. He had been born in Irongray Parish, the son of a cattle dealer and his sister ran the grocers shop in the village of Shawhead. Mary Graham was already pregnant when the couple married and for this misdemeanour the couple are

recorded in the records of Laurieknowe Church being chastised for their behaviour. At this time they were lodging in the house in Laurieknowe next door to the hairdressers shop which stands there today. They moved after 1841 to Maryholm where two of their children died. After Mary Graham senior died in The Globe, William Watson and Mary Graham moved to Auchencairn where they became proprietors of the inn there. They took with them the daughter of Mary Graham's sister, Jane Graham, who had married Alexander Crocket who was a blacksmith. Mary Crocket went to Auchencairn and Janet Crocket, her sister, moved in with her unmarried aunt, Elizabeth Graham who had taken over from her parents as proprietor of The Globe Inn. Elizabeth Graham died in The Globe in 1870.

By 1870 Janet Crocket had moved away from Dumfries and the Globe had a new landlady. Janet Murray had been born in Sorbie Wigtownshire in 1809. Her maiden name was Cummings and she had married Alexander Murray, a farmer's son from Glasserton in Wigtownshire. The Murrays were on the farm of Drummoddie. Alexander Murray's father, William Murray, took on the farm of Skate in Mochrum Parish and although Alexander was the eldest son he did not take over from his father. It was his brother William Murray who ran the farm with his father. Their father, William Murray, who had been born at Glasserton in 1776 died in 1867 at the age of 90.

At first Alexander Murray and his wife Janet Cummings lived at Glasserton where all their children were born. By 1841 they were living at Old Bridge Street Maxwelltown and Alexander

Murray was working as a carter. By 1858 they had taken over the Coach and Horses Inn Dumfries. Their son Alexander Murray junior, who had been born in Glasserton in 1848, died at The Coach and Horses in 1858. Alexander Murray senior died at The Coach and Horses on 28/3/1866 from sclerosis of the liver.

Janet Murray already had experience of running an inn when she took over The Globe after the death of Elizabeth Graham. She was assisted by her family, William, Peter, Jane, Agnes and Isabella. Her daughter, Jane Murray, married John Smith, a blacksmith who had been born in Maxwelltown. By 1881 Janet Murray was living in The Globe with her daughter Jane Smith and her two grandsons, Alexander Murray born 1860 and William Murray born 1861.

When Janet Murray died in The Globe on 31/1/1886 her daughter Jane Smith took over and continued as landlady until her own death in 1928.

After the death of Jane Smith The Globe was run by William David Mill who had been born in Fife in 1880. He was the son of Thomas Mill who came to Dumfries from Perthshire. Father and son were both hoteliers. At first Thomas Mill worked as a coachman at Nunfield before becoming proprietor of The Swan Hotel at 69 Queensberry Street Dumfries. His son William David Mill was an Innkeeper and Posting Master in Thornhil before taking over at The Globe from Jane Smith in 1928. He remained as proprietor of The Globe until Matthew McKerrow took over in 1940. He retired to live in Springholm where he died in 1960.

The McKerrow family were proprietors

of The Globe until recent times. They employed Mrs Elizabeth Brown and her husband John as landlords. The room off the Globe kitchen remains much as it would have been in the time of Burns. Visitors can sit in the poet's chair and view the words of two well known poems, etched by the poet into

the windows. Although The Globe now operates as a high end restaurant the interior has remained much as it was at the time of Burns.

Lynda Mackie # 4741

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## MY SCOTTISH ANCESTRY

### Dumfries and Galloway

My name is Eric Fowler. My wife and I are currently visiting Scotland from the U.S. for 12 months. We're staying in a place between Glasgow and Edinburgh. Her father, born in 1910, was from Glasgow, so she has relatives in the country: Alloway, Edinburgh, Oban, and others. We have visited Scotland several times, in small doses. Once we retired, we planned to visit long enough to really explore and immerse ourselves in the Scottish culture.

Twenty years ago, I knew next to nothing about my family's history. My father (deceased-1999) had made some efforts but with no Internet, had very little luck. One of his great aunts had written down in a notebook family tree information of various family names that she had copied out of her grandfather's bible. He passed away in 1859 in New Jersey. I had never seen this notebook until it was handed down to me as my parents passed on. I became curious about the information and, being retired, began to delve into it. I saw family names such as Kirkpatrick, Kerr, Gaston, Johnston, Linn, McEowen, VanArsdale (Phillip 1734-1776), etc. Who were these people? I knew a

little about the name Wallace on my mother's side. She read books as a child and knew all about the Scottish Chiefs (Jane Porter's book on the shelf) and Sir Walter Scott.

Then, came the Internet!

I finally got past lots of brick walls once I discovered Ancestry, Family Tree Maker, and Findagrave.com. as well as many other websites.

So, down the rabbit holes I went! Many, many hours! (Retirement is great for these kinds of projects.)

I have since discovered the Kirkpatrick family history and Closeburn Castle in Dumfries Galloway. It's one of the first places we toured. All this led me to Garrel (Garvald) Churchyard at the now ruins of tiny Garvald Church. With dwindling membership between it and another church, it was abandoned, so its stones were used to build up the other church. The membership was then consolidated.

Once in the churchyard, I found the grave of Robert Kirkpatrick, the unlucky son of William Kirkpatrick. At the conclusion of Culloden, Robert was



taken to Edinburgh and summarily executed (beheaded October 12, 1746). His brother, George, buried in 1738, and their father, William, buried in 1686, are in my ancestry line. Those two are buried next to Robert. I still haven't found their stone—lots of moss. I plan to return once the weather improves.

I also had done some research on a place name, Watties Neach, listed as where some ancestors\* came from before arriving in America. Apparently, it is synonymous with Wallace's House, an outcrop area very near Garvald Churchyard. Supposedly, it was a place where Wallace hid out (possibly an alternative to Ettrick Forest?) when the English army was in the area. I climbed up what Google Maps showed. It followed a very old, overgrown, stonewalled storm drain about a meter deep and a meter wide uphill to a clearing. Someone long ago certainly put in a lot of effort to install this feature that may be not quite a quarter-mile long to go nowhere? The view from the clearing, however, provided a great observation of the valley, which Wallace would have needed.

Soon to return, I plan to tour, among other things, Greyfriars Church, where another ancestor, Roger Kirkpatrick, on February 10, 1306, made himself famous with his immortal words: "I Mak Siccar" (I make sure), in his assistance to

Robert the Bruce, who, upon his rapid departure from the church, hid out on Kirkpatrick land.

I wish to thank the staff at the Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society for their contributions in steering me in the right direction in my searches. I'd be lost without it. You provide a tremendous service to the community and to stray visitors such as me.

Places of birth:

\* Watties Neach, Dumfries:

- Alexander James Kirkpatrick 1697-1758
- Elizabeth Coursen 1680-1775
- Andrew Kirkpatrick 1703-1778
- Andrew Kirkpatrick 1710-1777

\* Kirkmichael, Dumfries:

- Alexander III 1540-1622
- Margaret 1575-

\* Closeburn, Dumfries

- Roger 1277-1322
- Roger 1310-1358
- Roger 1380-1450
- Stephen 1246-1320
- Winfred 1358-1380

Eric Fowler # 6988

## ARTICLES REQUIRED

Following our request for the Newsletter. We would like to thank those members who have responded to this request, we have enjoyed reading the interesting articles submitted. Keep up the good work, please keep sending anything you are researching.

*Editorial Team*

## ELIZA 'ISLA' STEWART (1855-1910)

Isla Stewart spent most of her working life at St. Bartholomew's Hospital London where she was regarded with respect and esteem for her efforts to introduce a more efficient nurse programme based on education and the advancement of nursing as a profession.

### Family

Isla was born 21 August 1855, her abode given as Slodahill near Lockerbie. Her name recorded as Eliza and her birth registered by her Uncle, James Stewart. This may have been as a result of her father serving as an officer in the Irregular Cavalry, receiving postings in Britain and South Africa. She was the third child of John Hope Johnstone Stewart (1824-1881) of Gillesbie in the Parish of Applegarth and Jessie Borthwick Murray (1820-1873) Georgefield in the Parish of Westerkirk. Siblings of Isla were Janet Margaret (1852-1947) James Hope (1854-1920) Helen Ann (1857-1898) and Sarah Grundy (1858-1909). Isla described herself as a 'Stewart of Appin'. Her father was a farmer, had contributed to a book about his ancestors "The Stewart of Appin", where the heavy losses they suffered at Culloden (Drumossie) are mentioned. He also wrote articles for the North British Agriculturist so he was sometimes described as a Journalist.

Isla's Great Grandfather Mathew Murray Stewart worked for the East India Company and was a Lieutenant Colonel in the army. He married Contity in 1784, she was born in India in

1765 and died in 1798. After her death Mathew Stewart returned to Scotland and married Sarah Esplin (1786-1859) they lived at Georgefield.

John Stewart (1792-1837), Isla's Grandfather was born in Tellicherry, Kerala India, was Mathew and Contity's second child. He married Elizabeth Little (1791-1872) and Isla's mother, Jessie Borthwick Murray (1820-1893) was their eldest child.

Isla was educated at home in her early life. According to the 1861 census she was living with her widowed Grandmother Elizabeth Murray (Little) at Well Close, Langholm with her siblings, except for Janet Margaret who was residing with her Uncle Christopher Johnstone in Edinburgh. By 1871 Isla is recorded as being at Bridge House, High Street, Langholm, the home of her Aunt Eliza Hay Murray (1828-1891) and her husband William Johnstone Carlyle, MD (1820-1894), while her brother was a pupil at Hutton Hall School Farm, Caerlaverock. Helen and Sarah are recorded as being with their parents at Slodahill near Lockerbie.

In 1878 the records of Gartnavel Royal Hospital, an Asylum in Glasgow, show that her Aunt Eliza, who Isla had been living with in 1871, was a patient from 5 June to 15 August 1878. It isn't stated what she was suffering from, but Eliza had in May of that year eloped, according to the many newspapers of the time, with the Minister of the free church of Langholm, the Rev David Sievwright Smith (1852-1878), going

to live with him in Belfast only to be found and brought back by her family. At the Edinburgh Court of Session Dr Carlyle sought damages and a divorce which was granted in January 1879. Dr Carlyle remained in Langholm as the GP while Eliza was living in Glasgow. She does not appear to have returned to Langholm; the Rev Smith having already emigrated to the United States. It is not known if this had any bearing on Isla's decision to pursue a nursing career, or if it was the changing attitudes to nursing as an acceptable occupation for women as the 1880's approached that made her make the move to London to nurse.

### Nursing Career

On 29 September 1879 she started as a probationer at St Thomas's Hospital London. The Nursing School had been established by Florence Nightingale in 1860 with the aim of improving training and the quality of care. Quite soon after Isla was in charge of Alexandra Ward. Her father died at Slodahill 31 July 1881 and was buried at Dryfesdale Cemetery, Lockerbie.

Outbreaks of smallpox in London meant that the hospitals were unable to accommodate the increased numbers with the disease. Some were sent to hospital ships and Darenth Temporary Camp Hospital near Dartford Kent. Isla left St Thomas's Hospital in 1885 for an appointment at this Smallpox Hospital and the following year, when it closed due to the reduced numbers of patients, she moved to the Homerton Fever Hospital.

Ethel Gordon Manson (1857-1947) who was born in Morayshire, Scotland, was the Matron at St. Bartholmew's London in 1887 and became a friend of Isla. When Ethel married Dr Bedford Fenwick she resigned from her post. Isla succeeded in her application to become the Matron and Superintendent of Nursing after her.

Isla went on to be involved in many other organisations, among them The Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Society, President of the Matron's Council of Great Britain and Ireland and a member of the Society

Register of Patients					
No.	Admitted	NAME OF PATIENT.	Dismissed.	Board paid to.	
664	1878 May 27	Frederick Mesblech	Aug 17	Jul 1	Aug 5
665	" " 28	Robert Lang	June 21	Jul 1	Aug 28
666	" " "	Charles Brown		Jul 1	Oct 1 Jan 1
667	" " 29	Richard Docherty		Jul 1	Oct 1 Jan 1
668	" " 30	Sanct Martin		Jul 1	Oct 1 Jan 1
669	" " 31	Rose Ann M. Gregor or Hodge		Jul 1	Oct 1 Jan 1
670	June 5	Izzie Kay Carlyle <small>(admitted on 27)</small>	Aug 15	Jul 1	Sep 2
671	" " 7	William Dickson		Jul 1	Oct 1 Jan 1
672	" " 10	Magaret M. ...			

for the Registration of Trained Nurses. She was a founding member of the International Nursing Council for Nurses, as well as being a member of the German Nurses Association and the American Federation of Nurses. The Assistance Publique of Paris recognised her services to nursing with a special medal in 1908. Isla had facilitated the training of French nurses in 1907. She first published Practical Nursing with Dr H E Cuff in 1899, which set out how nurses should work and the reasons for treatments; subsequent editions followed.

Isla Stewart returned to Dumfriesshire giving lectures on nursing on at least two occasions; at Moffat in 1888 and at Easton Hall, Lockerbie in September 1890. The Annandale Herald and Moffat News describes her appearance at Easton Hall, after which a meeting was held to consider the appointment of a qualified nurse for the sick, poor of the area. She probably also returned on other occasions to visit her family, her mother and sisters Janet and Sarah were living at Queensberry Terrace, Moffat. Her brother had by now emigrated to Australia and married Catherine Henderson Smith at Bathurst in 1890. Their only son John went on to serve in the Australian Infantry and died at Broodseinde, Flanders on 21st October 1917. Isla's younger sister, Helen Ann, was also living away from Moffat, the 1891 census describes her as a Nursing Sister at the Medway Naval Hospital, Chatham, Kent. Sadly Helen died the 28 March 1898 at St. Bartholomew's Hospital aged 40.

Along with others Isla Stewart was at the forefront of the aim to establish

nursing as a professional movement where there was a uniform system of training, certification and ultimately registration. In the meantime the British Nursing Association introduced its own register in 1889 while continuing to campaign for reforms.

In 1895 Isla read a paper at a meeting of the Matrons Council on the need for a uniform curriculum of education for nurses:

*To say that the profession of nursing needs organising is to state a self-evident fact. To realise it one has only to consider the want of uniformity in the matter and conditions of nurses' training. They are, indeed, trained in all sorts of hospitals, in all sorts of ways, carefully trained in some, carelessly in others ; some hospitals have a preliminary training, some think: it worse than useless; in some the nurses are examined, in some they are not ; in some they receive a certificate, and in some they do not ; some nurses are trained for three years, some for two, others, again, are considered efficient after one year's training. It seems hardly fair that all that miscellaneous crowd should be sent out into the world branded " trained," and that those Nurses who have only one year's training and no experience should work under the same conditions, and earn the same money, as those who have given three years' hard work to acquire their profession. No thoughtful matron but must feel this an evil that requires contending with, and must ask themselves what can be done to protect these nurses from this growing and pressing evil. Everyone who is really a nurse, or understands what is expected*

*from nurses, will agree that it requires much patient study, and years of intelligent experience, to make a nurse of any value ; and yet the public, to its own discomfort, will employ, without enquiry or consideration, a nurse who only calls herself such because she wears a bonnet with a long veil and cloak.*

British Journal of Nursing 2 Nov 1895  
Volume 15 page 311 rncarchive

The first Bill for the Registration of Nurses was put before Parliament by Isla Stewart and the Fenwicks in 1902. Florence Nightingale was one of those opponents of this proposal from the beginning feeling it would exclude the “working class” who had little formal education, although she was not opposed to a register. She maintained nursing was a vocation.

It took until 1919 for the Nursing Registration Act to be passed, creating a register of nurses; which distinguished the different fields of nursing, and

included a register for male nurses. The General Nursing Council was set up to maintain the register. Isla Stewart did not see this come to fruition. Her health worsening, she died in Chilworth, Surrey 6 March 1910 aged 54, the same year that saw the death of Florence Nightingale. Her abilities as a teacher and administrator were recognized. She was the instigator of many reforms in nursing education, a result of her initiatives and willingness to listen to the ideas of others. This was to negotiate and to reach an agreement. The Territorial Force Nurses Service badge that Isla was due to receive was forwarded to her surviving sister Janet Margaret along with a letter of sympathy from Queen Alexandra. A memorial service was held at the Church of St Bartholomew’s the Great, while her funeral took place at Moffat, bringing together many from the nursing and medical field, as well as her family. So numerous were the wreaths that two lorries were needed to carry them.

In 1921 Ethel Gordon Fenwick became





the first on the Nurses Register. She died in March 1947 and a month later on the 19 April Isla's sister Janet Margaret died in Edinburgh

The burial register for Moffat shows that Isla, her mother and sisters are buried in Annan New Cemetery. Helen's burial was recorded as Nellie Stewart. They are memorialised by three modest stones. Isla's reads;

***In memory of Isla Stewart for twenty three years Matron of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London***

***they rest from their labours and their works do follow them***

Sources:

Wigton Advertiser 24 April 1875.

Wigton Advertiser 1905 Glasgow Herald 11 May 1898.

Margaret Dean # 4721

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## THE FISH CROSS



Elizabeth Hogg wrote a nice little article about the fountain in Dumfries (DGFHS Newsletter March 2023) It reminded me of something I uncovered just recently whilst transcribing a Trust Disposition & Settlement (TDS) for a DGFHS member. This was the will of Thomas Reid, a cabinetmaker in Dumfries who died in 1827.

Note: a TDS is essentially a will but prior to 1868 Scottish Wills only dealt with moveable goods. Land and property were dealt with in other ways. Large landowners principally used a deed of Tailzie, similar to the English Deed of Entail. The other way was a TDS, where a trust was set up to administer the estate

according to the deceased's wishes and power was given to the trustees to sell and sometimes even buy land. The deed of Thomas Reid described some property he owned in Lochmabengate (now known as English Street) as being near where the old fish cross stood, and which subjects so disposed are bounded by the Kings Arms tavern. This description suggested the site of the fish cross to be the same site as the fountain.

McDowalls History of Dumfries, written 1867, mentions the Fish Cross twice without actually informing us where it stood. The TDS of Thomas Reid, registered in 1828, used the past tense when describing the fish cross. Edgar's history written in 1767 does confirm it stood near, or possibly on the same site. The cross is first mentioned in surviving records in 1566 and finally removed in 1793. It is also clear that Queensberry Street, known locally as the back street, continued from the plainstones right along to Lochmabengate.

Ian A McClumpha # 806

## SCOTTISH IMMIGRANTS AND EMIGRANTS

The story starts in 1804 when **Thomas Rowan** was baptised at Newton Stewart, son of **Alexander Rowan** and his wife **Jean Shepherd**.

In later life Thomas lived with his older sister Elizabeth who gave her place of birth as County Down in Ireland in 1895. There was another brother John born 1792 in Ireland so Alexander and Jean would have arrived in Scotland with 2 small children. Their second son, Alexander, was baptised in Sorbie in 1798 and then a sister Agnes was baptised in Penninghame in 1801. I therefore have to assume that the family moved to Scotland about 1798, settling first in Sorbie before moving to Newton Stewart.

Thomas' father **Alexander Rowan** is recorded in Newton Stewart on the 1841 census as a shoe maker age 70. Unfortunately, I have not found any record of his death or that of his wife Jean Shepherd and have not been able to trace the family in Ireland. There are no burial records for Penninghame for that period and records in Ireland are also very difficult to find.

Thomas' wife **Margaret (Shields)** died about 1847 and again there are no burial records which would have given her parents' names.

Thomas and Margaret had 7 children including my 2x gr grandmother Elizabeth.

1841 family living in the Gorbals, Newton Stewart

Thomas 37, Margaret 30, Jess 11, Grace 9, Elizabeth 7, William 2, Agnes 2 months 1851 living in the Gorbals, Newton Stewart

Thomas 48 (shoemaker), Elizabeth 17, Agnes 9, Alexander 7 (youngest daughter Margaret is living with her aunt)

1861 Main Street, Newton Stewart  
Thomas 56 (shoemaker) Elizabeth Murray (sister) Margaret 14

1871 Arthur Street, Back house

Thomas 67, Elizabeth Murray 76

1881 Thomas was living with his daughter Agnes

Thomas lived until 1889 and he is buried in Penninghame with his 3 young granddaughters.

**Jess Rowan** was born in 1830 and in 1850 she married Francis Weir. Shortly after their marriage they set sail for America. Initially they were in Pennsylvania, where their first 3 children were born: Samuel 1851, Thomas 1853 and Jessie 1854, before settling in Ticonderoga, Essex, New York state where they farmed. They had 3 further children Francis 1858, William 1860 and Mary 1864. Jess died in 1892 age 62 and is buried in Ticonderoga.

**Grace Rowan** was born in 1831 and in 1858 she also travelled to America where she married Andrew D Fleming. She appeared to travel on her own but could have been with other families she knew. She settled in Brooklyn, New York and in 1862 she married Andrew Fleming who was a book binder. They stayed in Brooklyn and had 6 children: Agnes 1860; Elizabeth 1861; Andrew 1866; William 1868; Margaret 1870 and Grace 1873. Grace died in 1914 and is buried in Brooklyn.

**William Rowan** was born in 1839. He travelled to America in 1864 and initially stayed with Jess in Ticonderoga. In 1868 he married Agnes Melbourne in Brooklyn. They lived in Ticonderoga until about 1885 when they moved to Keya Paha in Nebraska. They also had 6 children: Thomas 1868; John 1870; Mary 1872; William 1873; Violet 1876 and Andrew in 1879.

Keya Paha is an area in north Nebraska. The population grew in the 1870's so William would have been one of the early settlers in the area. It must have been a very long journey from Ticonderoga to Keya Paha particularly with 6 small children. William died in 1919 and is buried at Keya Paha.

**Agnes Rowan** born 1841, married Joseph Wilson, who was a game keeper and later a grocer and remained in Newton Stewart while their younger brother **Alexander** died age 16 from bronchitis. The youngest daughter **Margaret** born 1847, possibly at the time of her mother's

death, also stayed in Newton Stewart and married David Nimmo a labourer.

My 2x great grandmother **Elizabeth Rowan** was born in 1836 and moved to Workington in Cumbria following her marriage to John McMath

One of their daughters, Margaret, married Joseph Beattie Phillips and in about 1890 they travelled to America with their 3 small sons. There was a baby born and died in 1888 in Montclair and then their 4th son Sidney Monclare Phillips was born in 1892 at Flat Bush, Montclair, New York but by 1894 the family were back in Workington presumably deciding that life in America was not for them.

I was aware of our Scottish connections but had no idea I had Irish ancestry.

Joan Hicks # 7057

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## ANNAN THE HISTORY TOWN GROUP

This group was set up a few years ago after a local factory was closed down as an attempt to regenerate the town centre. We aimed to organise various events around the town related to the rich and unique history of the town.

My wife and I joined the group with interests in Family History, transcribing old documents and doing research projects. As relative incomers, we thought by looking into the historic aspects of the town we would learn about our chosen home town and meet like-minded people.

We started by researching the History of

High Street Shops going back to at least 1900. We used census material, Trade Directories, Valuation Rolls, old newspapers and ANNAN RIDING of MARCHES magazines. Then along came Covid. This gave us plenty of free time in which to do more than we originally planned. The results of our labours can be found at [annanhighstreet.blogspot.com](http://annanhighstreet.blogspot.com) where we have added photos, old adverts for each shop.

As folk started to get out again, we produced, with the help of ANNAN the HISTORY TOWN (ATHT), stickers for shops with a QR code so the history would come up on smart phones.

The group were then able to start planning a summer festival with exhibitions, story telling, music and fun events which have now grown in reputation.

Topics have included:- Haaf Net Fishing, Railways of Annan, State Management in Annan and Memories of the Annan High Street. However, each topic still took us back to researching families who had been directly involved. Railway families, including Station Masters, personal memories of drinking regulations in the town and the many local grocers/shopkeepers some of whom are still trading. Some locals started bringing in their own artifacts, newspaper articles and sharing memories.

Some folk asked about researching their house histories and we managed to help with a few of these. Again linking to the families who had inhabited the properties.

Now we have started getting requests from various people and organisations wanting help with their own projects. We have been asked to research topics for the annual Riding of the Marches magazine and more recently the history of the Annan & District Anglers Club. Which returned us to State Management because the club was set up to get round drinking regulations and a private club was allowed to serve alcohol more freely. The original location was

above shops near Fish Cross but in 1970s as the government sold off the pubs and wine shop the Anglers club bought the wine shop to convert to club rooms. This building had originally been a licensed grocers (and Post Office!) run by the Pool family. George Pool is listed in old trade directories as the town postmaster and licenced grocer. The Pool family had a few interests in the town and Pools Close was named after one of the brothers.

Rumour has it that Annan had over 40 pubs and numerous licenced grocers which was the cause of much drunkenness which didn't mix well with the munition factories which employed so many. The research on this topic is the basis for the Annan Riding of Marches magazine article for 2023.

We have had a hand in producing material for Annan the History Town's website ([annanthehistorytown.org](http://annanthehistorytown.org)) which not only features ancient history of Romans, Burns, Bruce, etc but also the families and industries which have built the town.

Having started a 'Friends' scheme we are now getting contacts from around the world with links to Annan and will often recommend DGFHS as an important point of contact for all things related to relations!!

Peter Russell

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## MABIE PART 1

Mabie House Reference 294950, 570795 lies 3.5 miles from Dumfries on the A710 between Dumfries and New Abbey. The mansion house is presently operating as a hotel and the grounds are owned by The Forestry Commission and provide recreational activities for the general public. There are five walking trails through the forest ranging in length from 0.5 mile

to 5 miles. There are also 3 mountain bike trails ranging in length and difficulty from 5. miles to 11.75 miles. In addition, there is a children's playground, a wildlife hide, barbeque facilities and ample parking. The grounds are well used by the local population and visitors alike.

We can trace references to The Lands of



Mabie House  
Present Day

Mabie in the records of The Monks of Holm Cultram who held the land until it was taken from them by David 2 of Scotland, 1324-1371, and given to his supporter Walter Durrand. The Estate of Mabie included the farms of Mabie Mains, Halhead, Marthrown, Butterhole, Burnside, Townfoot, Midtown

of Carruchan, Nethertown, Mossie, Craighill and the small farm of Lochaber. On the lands of Butterhole there once existed an extensive iron smelting site.

Robert, son of Herbert Herries of Terregles had charter of half the lands of Mabie in 18/6/1468 and Mabie remained in the possession of the Herries family until 30/10/1632 when the daughter of John Herries married Herbert Maxwell of Kirkconnell and the Kirkconnell family took possession of Mabie.

The Herries and Kirkconnell families were staunch Roman Catholics and due to their steadfast support of The Catholic cause in the early 18th century had their lands seized by The Crown.

In 16/1/1708, following The Union of The Parliaments, Colonel John Stewart of Stewartfield had sasine of the lands of Mabie. He was a professional soldier who joined The British Army after The Glorious Revolution and served in 1708 with The Duke of Marlborough. He was a burges of Edinburgh and Glasgow and became Commissioner of Supply for The Stewartry of Kirkcudbright. Since he held lands in Stewartfield in Jedburgh as well as Mabie in Kirkcudbrightshire he was eligible to vote in elections for both Roxburgh and Kirkcudbrightshire. He became MP for Kirkcudbrightshire in the Parliament of 1708 in a contest where his opponent was the Pro Jacobite Maxwell of Kirkconnell.



1795 Estate Map



He was captured in 1710 by French pirates but released on parole and re-elected to Parliament in 1715. When he attended a by-election dinner in Roxburgh he became involved in an argument with Sir Gilbert Elliot, who was annoyed that Colonel Stewart had not voted for him. John Stewart threw a glass of wine in Gilbert Elliot's face and Elliot ran him through with his sword. He did not survive this encounter and died in 1726. Elliot was declared an outlaw but was later pardoned as he had friends in high places.

After 1726, when the clamour surrounding the 1715 Jacobite Rebellion had subsided, the Lands of Mabie once more were in the hands of The Maxwells of Kirkconnell. The seat of The Maxwells of Kirkconnell lies between Mabie and New Abbey and was originally a fortified tower house.

James Maxwell of Kirkconnell held the lands of Mabie until he unwisely once more sided with The Jacobites and followed Bonnie Prince Charlie in 1745. He escaped the country after Culloden and followed The Prince to France. His estates, including Mabie, were seized by The Crown. Whilst in France he wrote an account of The 45 and it remains a reference document for scholars today. He returned to Kirkconnell House in 1755 and when he inherited Carruchan Estate from his uncle he sold it and used the money to acquire Mabie once more. He spent a deal of money extending Kirkconnell House and employed French brick makers to create the bricks on his land for this purpose. By 1799 The Maxwells had to sell Mabie but retained the farm of Nethertoun.

The purchaser of Mabie was Richard Howat 1750-1834. He was the son of a wheelwright and had been brought up in Maxwelltown where his father and grandfather owned land and property in what was known as The Brig End of Dumfries. His father, Robert Howat, in 1803 made over the few

acres of land he owned between The Brig End Maxwelltown and Cargenbridge in Troqueer Parish to his son Richard since he and his wife had only two children who survived into adulthood, Richard and his sister Mary Howat.

Richard was a carpenter and set off for India in 1781 where he is shown as a carpenter in Calcutta in 1792. He was not employed by The Honourable East India Company but his banker was John Palmer & Co who were regarded at the time as the most prominent Agency House in India. Richard's house and business premises in Calcutta were in close proximity to the impressive building from which John Palmer conducted his business. In the late 18th century in Calcutta it was difficult to obtain furniture and many mansion houses built at the time by East India Company Officials and merchants had enormous rooms with little in the way of fine furniture. There was also a great demand for wheeled carriages. Richard Howat as a carpenter and with knowledge of carriage construction from his father was in the right place at the right time to make a serious amount of money. He was a friend as well as conducting business with Palmer & Co and left instructions for payment of £30 a month to be paid to a woman whom he describes as, "An old woman of 67 years," for the rest of her life. Like so many European merchants in China, The West Indies and India at the time, he obviously had a local woman to take care of all his needs in residence in his house in Calcutta.

He returned to Dumfries and after purchasing Mabie in 1799 married, in 1803, Helen Clark 1786-1855, the daughter of Samuel Clark, who had been the Commissary Clerk for Dumfries. The mansion house on the property dates from this time but was extended in the late 19th century. The Mabie Estate Map from 1799 shows only a small cluster of farm buildings where the mansion house stands today. By 1850 the OS map shows extensive

upgrading of the house and gardens.

Richard Howat and his wife lived at Mabie in some style. As well as the mansion house there was a lodge, outbuildings with a carriage house and stables, with cottages for a gardener and foresters. They had no children and the entire estate of Mabie, together with over £50,000 in investments, Richard left to his nephew, Robert Kirkpatrick 1788-1863, on condition he changed his name to Howat, or forfeit the estate. For this reason, the family thereafter had the surname Kirkpatrick-Howat. Before Richard Howat died John Palmer & Co went bankrupt but just before this Richard Howat had moved his business to Cockerell's Agency in Calcutta. Palmer sent letters to his most prominent business contacts and friends including Richard Howat asking them to help him out and avoid bankruptcy but his entreaties to Richard Howat fell on deaf ears since Richard's main concern in correspondence with John Palmer was that the £30 a month continue to be paid to his "Old woman," in Calcutta.

Robert Kirkpatrick-Howat was the son of Richard Howat's sister Mary, who had married Thomas Kirkpatrick, who was a baker to trade. Terms of Richard Howat's will also demanded, that in the absence of a male heir, any female heir could only inherit if they married a man with the surname Howat. Terms of the will also demanded that land should be purchased from the capital that had been left to Robert Kirkpatrick-Howat. Following the death of Richard Howat in 1834, his trustees cast their net far and wide in search of suitable land. They eventually purchased land at Auchenreoch and Barncaillie in Kirkpatrick Durham. There were also instructions in the will regarding the preservation of the orchard behind the mansion house and stipulation that the land in front of the house had to remain in grass, which continues to the present day, with a large lawn to the front of the house.

In 1834 the description of the estate was as follows.

£5 land of Meikle and Little Mabie  
The 6 Merk land of Dullang  
The 20 shilling land of Dalshinnie  
Lands of Mossie, Butterhole, Hillhead, Marthron, Lochaber & Holecroft.  
The 20 shilling land of Craigbill of old extent with the mansion house of Mabie and offices and biggins, Yeads, orchards, woods and fishings.

The mansion House, under terms of Richard Howat's will, could not be let, nor could any land be sold. Should the Kirkpatrick-Howats be concerned in any criminal activity, they would forfeit the estate. Should the heir have any personal debts, these could not be paid from the estate and the property would pass to the next in line to inherit, unless debts were paid within five years. Should an heir pay off a predecessor's debts in less than five years they could inherit, even if not in direct line to do so.

In 1834 Mabie was a well furnished opulent house. The cellar contained a serious stock of wines.

A half pipe of port wine valued at £30, 14 dozen bottles of claret £28, 5 dozen bottles of sherry £12.10, 8 dozen bottles of madeira, 9 dozen bottles of port wine, 7 dozen other bottles of port £8, 2 dozen bottles of madeira valued at £1.10, 4 dozen bottles of whisky £2.8.0, 2 and half dozen bottles of brandy at £7.10, 8 bottles of rum 16 shillings and 10 dozen bottles of porter at £3.

On the ground floor of the house there was a dining room, parlour, pantry, cleaning room, china closet, two servants' bedrooms, a kitchen and a servant's room next to it with two tables and seven chairs. There was also a laundry and a drawing room. Upstairs there was The Crimson Bedroom with closet and store, Scarlet Bedroom with

a closet and store room and an additional four bedrooms named The Front Bedroom, White Bedroom, Chinz Bedroom, Drab Bedroom with a further store room and closet and an upstairs drawing room.

There was a stable with horses and a harness room and coach house with a small phaeton and a coach. For 32 years Adam Duff served as coachman for Richard Howat. When Robert Kirkpatrick-Howat took over from his uncle he demanded that the gardener, forester and Adam Duff the coachman, sign a document saying they would vacate their cottages by Whitsun of 1835. The widow of Richard Howat, Helen Clark, was appalled by this and sent a letter to Robert asking that Adam Duff remain as coachman and he remained living beside the coaches until

he died in his daughter's house in College Street Maxwelltown in 1872 aged 94. Helen Howat also requested that the gardener, James Farquharson, be kept in his post, but by 1841 James Aitken born 1798 Dumfries was gardener. Peter Nugent who had been born in Ireland in 1792 and was employed as a sawyer had moved to Colvend by 1851 and there was only one forester employed at Mabie.

Helen Howat had been allowed to remain in Mabie House for one year after the death of her husband. She opted to move into Dumfries to a house her husband had purchased for her in Castle Street where she remained until she died.

Lynda Mackie # 4741

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## UK NEW MEMBERS INTERESTS

**7052** Sue **Winter**, [susanawinter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:susanawinter@hotmail.co.uk) **Johnstone**

**7055** Isla **Scott**, [islascott13@outlook.com](mailto:islascott13@outlook.com)  
**Irving, Rome/Roome, Hamilton, Anderson, Kirkpatrick, Caldwell/ Caldwell, Coulthard, Purdie, Steele:** Buittle, Colvend, Troqueer, Applegarth & Sibbalddie, Hutton & Corrie, Dryfesdale, Dalton, Ruthwell, Cummertrees, Annan, Canonbie

**7057** Joan **Hicks**, [joan.hicks@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:joan.hicks@hotmail.co.uk) **Isabella Gourlay** b.1810 Kells; **John McMath** b.1833 Carsphairn; **Agnes McMath** b.1836 Balmaclellan: m **David Kirk**, Carsphairn; **Alexander Malcolmson** b.1841 Balmaclellan: m **Janet Carson**, Penpont; **Susanna Malcolmson** b.1845 Balmaclellan: m **David Carson**, Penpont; **James McKeand** b.1847 Balmaclellan: m **Jane Walker McKinnel**, Urr; **Thomas Rowan**, Newton Stewart:

m **Margaret Shields** in Newton Stewart 1828; **Elizabeth Rowan** b.1834 Newton Stewart

**7058** Josh **Grace**, [joshgrace.au@gmail.com](mailto:joshgrace.au@gmail.com)  
My grandfather (**John Grace**) served in the Australian RAF in WW2 and first met my Scottish grandmother (**Patricia Dawson**) whilst on leave in the Thornhill area. Grandmother was in the Land Army and was severely injured in a tractor/trailer accident in July, 1944; two workmates were killed, she was severely injured, admitted to the Dumfries hospital.

**7060** Christine **Wilson**, [scwilson1907@gmail.com](mailto:scwilson1907@gmail.com) Photographer 121 High Street Dumfries  
1860's Robert Wilson 1832-1881, wife Jane Dargarval 1843-? Closeburn,  
Continued the business after Roberts death. Do you have any of his photographs?  
Henrietta Glover 1793-1865

- Glencairn, James Wilson 1795-1864  
Glencairn.  
Thomas Wilson, Ann Henderson,  
Jane Douglas 1810 Keir-1861  
Closeburn  
Robert Dargarvel 1811  
Carsphairn-1873 Closeburn, John  
Douglas 1787  
Closeburn - 1837 Glencairn. Mary  
Coltart 1786 Dumfries d 1820'  
James Dargarvel  
1779-1852 Keir.
- 7061** Rachel **Alexander**,  
[rachel.alexander@btinternet.com](mailto:rachel.alexander@btinternet.com)  
Several generations in and  
around the Dumfries area.  
Particularly **Agnes Robison**,  
b.1867,Dumfries,  
**Robert Robison** b.1832, Dumfries,  
**Jane Beck**, b.1836, Torthorwald,  
**Agnes McVan**,  
b.circa 1809, Lochmaben?
- 7063** Fionna **Balfour**, [fbalfour@gmail.com](mailto:fbalfour@gmail.com)  
[com](mailto:fbalfour@gmail.com) My 4xGG **William Wallace**  
(c1794-1845) married **Martha  
Morrin/Morrine** (c1819-1902).  
Their son **John Wallace** (1846-1898)  
was baptised in Dunscore Free  
Church. Her Parents: **Andrew Morin**  
(c1768-1848) of Moorhall/Muirhall  
& **Mary Edgar** (c1785-1861) of  
Irongray.
- 7064** Ann **Laker**, [alaker4622@aol.com](mailto:alaker4622@aol.com)  
**Bee/Bie Thomson**, My maternal  
3xgt grandmother, **Margaret Bee**, b  
Colvend and died in Carronbridge,  
Dumfries 1872. Daug of **James Bee**  
& **Isabella Thompson**, married  
**Hugh Workman** employed on  
Buccleugh estate, died 1824.
- 7065** Ronald **Goodman**,  
[ronniegoodman@me.com](mailto:ronniegoodman@me.com)  
**Goodman, Gardiner** in Dumfries  
and Galloway
- 7069** Louise **O'Connor**, [louiseandjerry@btinternet.com](mailto:louiseandjerry@btinternet.com) My 3xgt  
grandmother, **Elizabeth Hood**,  
b.1820 Whithorn. Dau of **William  
Hood & Mary Ann Duff**. She  
married **James Kenyon (Keenan/  
Kennon)** b.1802 County Down, N  
Ireland & d.1879 in Scotland. Their  
dau, **Christina Kenyon** b.1846  
Whithorn & d.1886 Workington,  
Cumberland. She had a son **James  
Kenyon** b.1872 Back Street,  
Gatehouse. Married **James Brown**  
in Cockermouth, Cumberland 1873.  
Son-**James Kenyon Brown**.
- 7070** Jess **Graham**, [jessgraham5@gmail.com](mailto:jessgraham5@gmail.com)  
**James McLellan & Mary**  
(possibly **Courtney**) both born  
around 1820. Their son, **Samuel  
McLellan**, ploughman & **Mary  
Kirk**, dairymaid m. 15 Apr 1862,  
usual address: Greenmorse Farm,  
Troqueer. Samuel & Mary's twins  
**Henrietta & Catherine McLellan**  
b. 17 April 1869, Market Street,  
Maxwelltown.
- 7072** John **McCormick**, [JSTC.mccormick@btinternet.com](mailto:JSTC.mccormick@btinternet.com) **Blandford**, Corsock  
& Kirkpatrick Durham
- 7073** Mark **Whittle**, [mwhittle100@gmail.com](mailto:mwhittle100@gmail.com)  
[com](mailto:mwhittle100@gmail.com) **Richardson**, Langholm; **Scott**,  
Canonbie & **Harris** ???.
- 7074** Richard **Smith**, [rmansonsmith@gmail.com](mailto:rmansonsmith@gmail.com) Historic graveyards in  
the region especially monuments  
relating to principal families (also  
C18<sup>th</sup> symbol carvings in general)
- 7075** Mark **Donald**, [mark@dumfriestours.co.uk](mailto:mark@dumfriestours.co.uk) **Bell** (border reivers),  
**Johnstone/Johnston** – Annandale  
Waters or Watter - Dumfries area.

- 7077 Mick **MacLeod**, [mickmacleod1@outlook.com](mailto:mickmacleod1@outlook.com) Kirkmabreck parish and others including Dumfries.
- 7078 Sandy **Ball**, [cumbrianlass60@gmail.com](mailto:cumbrianlass60@gmail.com) **Johnston** and all variants, **Irving, Glover, Strachan, Harkness, Richardson**, - Kirkpatrick Fleming.
- 7079 Julie **Howieson**, [julie.howieson@btinternet.com](mailto:julie.howieson@btinternet.com) I would like to do more research on my maternal grandfathers' family who were **Craigs'** from Dumfries. There is a family rumour that my 2xgreat grandfather was a town councillor.
- 7080 Mark **Milligan**, [mark.milligan@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mark.milligan@yahoo.co.uk) **James Milligan**, son of James Milligan born around 1812; married **Janet McCall**, in Liverpool, 18 July 1843. **Janet McCall**, daughter of **Alexander and Helen McCall**, census details variously addresses of Fourmerkland, Kirkend Terregles and Irongray, which I can see from a map are all within a small area, marriage certificate shows Alexander McCall and James Milligan were farmers.
- 7081 Carol **Catterall**, [carolcatt@btinternet.com](mailto:carolcatt@btinternet.com) Family name **Chambers**, Wigtownshire Kirkinner
- 7082 June **Edwards**, [juneedwards1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:juneedwards1@hotmail.co.uk) **Muir, Gunion, Carnochan**, Stoneykirk, Kirkineer, Wigtownshire
- 7083 Marietta **O'Toole**, [mariettaotoole@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mariettaotoole@hotmail.co.uk) **Wallace, Caughie, Chalmers, Gibson** all Kirkmaiden Wigtownshire. **O'Toole, Currie** in Dumfries
- 7085 Michael **Grierson**, [mikegrierson@gmail.com](mailto:mikegrierson@gmail.com) **Grierson (Gilbert)** 1728 Mouswald
- 7087 Gayle **Ferguson**, [gaylecreighton@hotmail.com](mailto:gaylecreighton@hotmail.com) **Creighton**, Mouswald Banks, Torthorwald, Roucan, Dalton

## NEW OVERSEAS MEMBERS

- 7033 Rod **Coates**, CAN, [noteablecoates@gmail.com](mailto:noteablecoates@gmail.com) , **Murray, Johnstoun (Johnstone)** – Lochmaben, Torthorwald, Dumfries
- 7034 Michael **Burleigh**, AUS, [mtburleigh@gmail.com](mailto:mtburleigh@gmail.com), **Bell** – Moffat
- 7035 Nicole **Thomson**, AUS, [net4510@gmail.com](mailto:net4510@gmail.com), **Armstrong** – Canonbie, **Bell** – Annan, **Little** – Canonbie, **Elliott** – Dumfries
- 7036 Debby **Bell**, AUS, [dkrahe01@icloud.com](mailto:dkrahe01@icloud.com) , **Bell, McNeil, Blacklock, Irving** – Dalton, Annan
- 7037 James **Walls**, USA, [jim:fourwallsphoto.com](mailto:jim:fourwallsphoto.com), **Walls**
- 7038 William **Jersey**, USA, [wsjersey1@gmail.com](mailto:wsjersey1@gmail.com),
- 7039 James **Spowart**, USA, [jamesspowart2@gmail.com](mailto:jamesspowart2@gmail.com),
- 7040 Bernice **Norrish**, CAN, [bernorr@telus.net](mailto:bernorr@telus.net), **Pettigrew** – Wigtown, Lanarkshire
- 7041 Linda **Welldon**, AUS, [Linda.Welldon@gmail.com](mailto:Linda.Welldon@gmail.com), Border Reivers – **Armstrong, Crozier, Moffit, Johnston**



- 7042 Anthony **Reid**, AUS, [antonreid.endurowest@gmail.com](mailto:antonreid.endurowest@gmail.com) ,**Reid**, James Henry
- 7043 Jim **Beesley**, AUS, [jlbeesley@bigpond.com](mailto:jlbeesley@bigpond.com), **Thompson** – Dumfries area
- 7044 Diana **McGirr**, AUS, [bigpicturewoman@gmail.com](mailto:bigpicturewoman@gmail.com), Wm **McGirr** ( 1835-1900)–born Sanquhar, married Ellen (Helen) in 1858 in Lochmaben. John **McGirr** (1864-1935)– Lochmaben. Also **McGirr** in Hamilton and Blantyre
- 7045 Dale **Little**, USA, [dlittle.phd@gmail.com](mailto:dlittle.phd@gmail.com), **Little**, **Maxwell**
- 7046 Carolyn **Hall**, USA, [cahall@umich.edu](mailto:cahall@umich.edu), **Brown**
- 7047 Mark **Williams**, NZ, [mark.williams@ztra.co.nz](mailto:mark.williams@ztra.co.nz), **Barker** – Sanquhar, Dumfries
- 7048 Douglas **Long**, USA, [douglong3625@gmail.com](mailto:douglong3625@gmail.com), Hugh **Campbell** b appx 1785 Ecclefechan, d 1885 Michigan. Daughters Nancy b 1829 married Wm **Dakin** (possibly from Glasgow) Ellen b1826 married George **Graham**
- 7049 Robyn **Bradley**, AUS, [robynabradley@hotmail.com](mailto:robynabradley@hotmail.com), **Gibson**, **Kennedy** – Dumfries and Ayr
- 7050 Amy **Whitaker**, USA, [amywhitakervol@gmail.com](mailto:amywhitakervol@gmail.com), **Wright** – Dfs
- 7101 Cheryl **Kirkpatrick**, USA, [kickpacket@aol.com](mailto:kickpacket@aol.com), **Kirkpatrick**, **Glending** – Dfs (pre 1750)
- 7102 Robert **Halliday**, USA, [bob\\_halliday@amat.com](mailto:bob_halliday@amat.com), **Halliday**, **Fraser**

## MEMBERS' QUERIES

### JESSIE HANNAY & ST NINIAN'S PLACE, CASTLE DOUGLAS

Seeking information & old photos

St Ninian's Place was a group of buildings & houses (some still standing) along Crossmichael /Abercromby Road on the north edge of Castle Douglas across from the golf course. Builder George Macartney developed St Ninian's Place from the 1860s and he also had his house, office & workshop there. I'd like to compile a more detailed history of St Ninian's Place if anyone has relevant information or old photographs to share.

I'd also like to positively identify HOUSE 21 ST NINIAN'S PLACE from the 1911 census and later valuation rolls. Jessie Hannay, unmarried eldest daughter of Alexander Hannay & Jane Thomson, lived there for more than 45 years. Jessie, born in Urr in 1842, was seemingly raised on Fellend Farm by her grandparents Robert Thomson & Janet Welsh. In 1871 Jessie Hannay was living at St Ninian's Place with her widowed grandmother, a widowed aunt and an adult cousin. Alone by late 1878, Jessie kept boarders in the 1880s and for many years was a dairy cow keeper. What brought Jessie and her grandmother specifically to St Ninian's Place? I'd like

## MEMBERS' QUERIES cont.

to know if there was a family or other connection to George Macartney or to others living on Crossmichael Road. I'd also like to know if Jessie Hannay was related to the post-runner/coal merchant Hannay family of Tarff Bridge. After Jessie Hannay died in 1916, Police Inspector Robert Bell and family moved into HOUSE 21 ST NINIAN'S PLACE. Robert Bell, born in Kirkcudbright in 1858, was the son of joiner Robert Bell & Isabella Laidlaw. Inspector Bell and his wife Mary Jane Johnston lived at HOUSE

21 ST NINIAN'S PLACE until their deaths in 1934 and 1941. I'd like to know if Robert Bell had a family connection to Jessie Hannay and I'd also like to know something about his police career.

Sincere thanks to anyone who can help with clues, information or old photographs.

Keith Antonelli # 6880  
automic@telus.net

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I am trying to trace the parents of my Great-greatgrandfather, James Milligan, who was born about 1811. He married Helen McCall in 1843. I know that his father's name was James and that he was a farmer. The 1851 census lists him as having a sister, Elizabeth. Helen McCall's parents were Alexander McCall and Helen Mein. The 1851 census lists

them as resident at Fourmerkland; he was a farmer also. Any information on any of these people would be gratefully received.

Thanks,

Mark Milligan # 7080

**DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
OFFICE BEARERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS  
2022 / 2023**

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# DUMFRIES and GALLOWAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society Research Centre

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