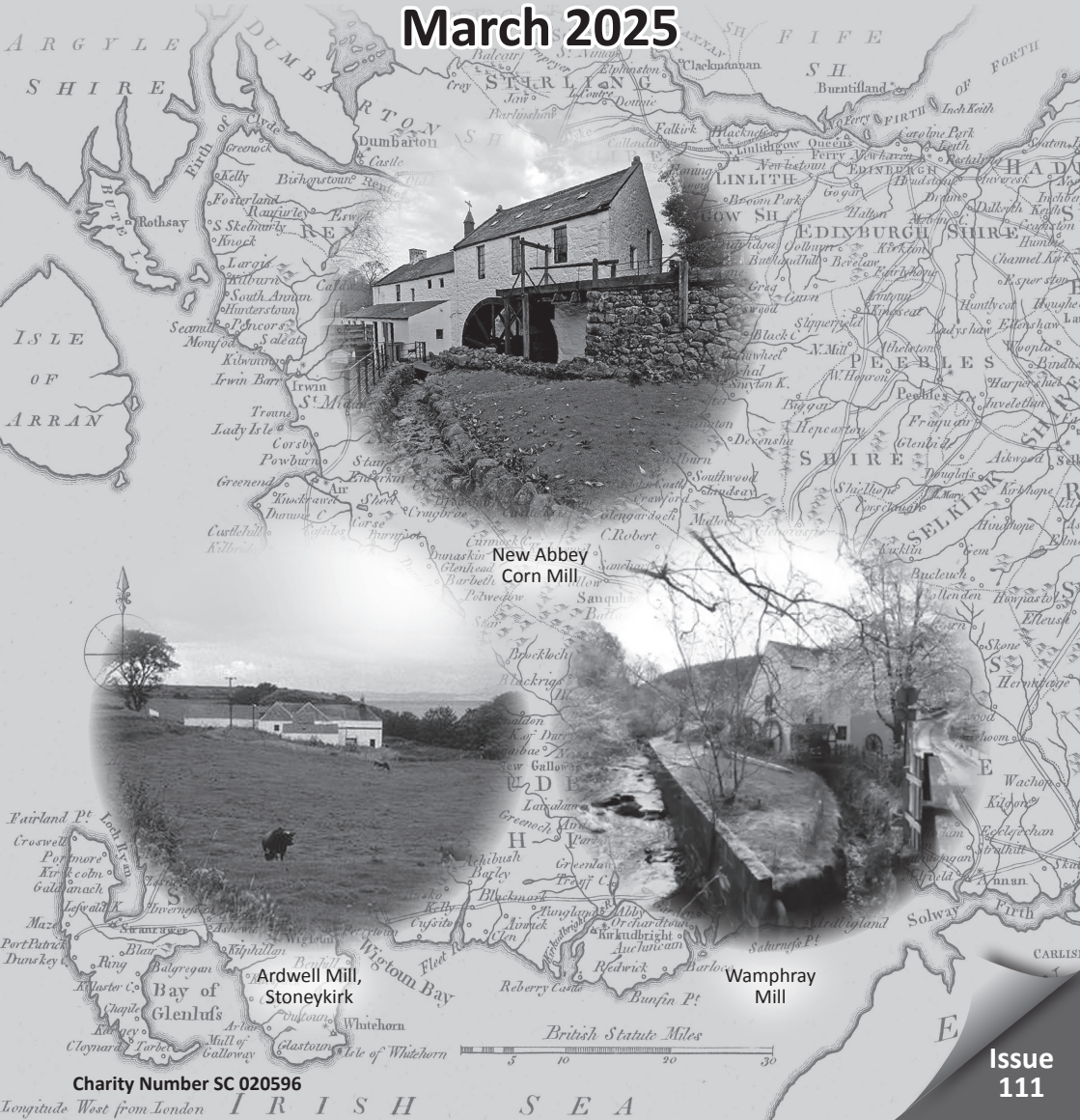
Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society Newsletter

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the AGM of the Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society will be held via Zoom on Wednesday 16 April at 7.30pm. The Secretary shall receive nominations for Office Bearers and Council members not less than 21 days prior to the AGM. Likewise anyone wishing to include items for the Agenda should contact the Secretary not less than 21 days prior to the AGM.

WILLIAM HENDERSON (1746-1803), MILLER AT DUMFRIES TOWN MILL

My 4 x great-grandfather, William Henderson, ended his career as the principal grain miller at Dumfries Town Mill but he travelled a long road to get there.

William started life in Dunbar parish where he was baptised on 19th January 1746. His parents were William Henderson and Christian Nielson. In 1771, when William junior was 25 years old, he married Jean Briggs, the daughter of John Briggs, a grain miller. Although she was living in the neighbouring parish of Whitekirk at that time she had been born in Dunbar parish where the families may have known each other. Milling usually ran in families, with men either following their fathers into the trade or else marrying the daughter of a miller, as was the case with William Henderson.

William's own father was a farm servant so in opting for a new career path William may have realised that the changes occurring as a result of the Agriculture Revolution such as land enclosure, the loss of common land and the introduction of more efficient farm machinery were reducing the demand for farm labour. In the First Statistical Account of the 1790s, the minister at Dunbar remarked on the decreasing population and the emigration which such changes were bringing about. For whatever the reason, the younger William was able to better his prospects by becoming a grain miller, thanks to marrying into the Briggs family.

William was probably taken on by his future father-in-law to learn the business side of the mill as well as the technical process of milling. Practical experience was seen as the best qualification and training for becoming a miller. On marrying, a young miller would usually need to move, both to find a cottage to live in and to find a mill of his own to work.

This is what William and Jean did. They moved to the mill at Eyemouth in Berwickshire soon after their marriage and their first son, also William Henderson, was baptised there on 20th February 1772, nine months after their wedding. It is not known how William heard about the job in Eyemouth. However, millers moved frequently which suggests they had an effective grapevine when it came to hearing about opportunities in another mill.

Millers were often treated with suspicion by local inhabitants. They were usually incomers who were liable to move when their lease expired, the mill was frequently located outside the village as it was at Eyemouth and the system of thirlage made the miller a target for local resentment. At estate owned mills those living on the estate were thirled to the mill. This meant they were compelled to use the estate mill for grinding their oats, leading to resentment towards the miller. To compound local

dissatisfaction, the miller was responsible for collecting estate taxes in the form of 'multure' payments which meant he retained a proportion of the ground grain to pass on to the estate owner as well as keeping some as payment for his work and that of any under-miller. The fact that it was difficult to know whether the ground meal equated to the amount of grain provided by those using the mill fuelled suspicion that they might be cheated by the miller.

Millers such as William Henderson were accustomed to keeping records for estate taxes, undertaking calculations and being technically practical. This meant they had to be literate and numerate, and so they tended to be more prosperous than their less skilled neighbours who were usually agricultural labourers.

William was still living in Eyemouth in April 1777 when his fourth child was born. At some time before 1781, the family moved to the Dumfries area. Their fifth child was born that year when the family was living in Bridgend, just across the River Nith from Dumfries and close to the Town Mill on the Kirkcudbrightshire side of the river.

The first Town Mill at Dumfries was commissioned to be built on that site on 2nd March 1705. Land across the river from Dumfries was purchased by the Burgh Council because the flow of the river meant there was no suitable site for a mill of that size on the town side of the Nith. This led to the Dumfries burgh boundary being extended across the river to include the Town Mill.

The present mill was known as the Oat and Malt Mill or Miln and dates largely from about 1781, following the destruction by fire of the previous structure in 1780. The new mill was built by the engineer and millwright, Andrew Meikle. The mill, unusually, had three water wheels for grinding corn. Its position across the river from the town, at the time William Henderson was the miller there in the 1790s, is shown on a model which is in the former mill building.

Why William and his family moved from Eyemouth Mill to Dumfries Mill is not known for certain, but it was not unusual for grain millers to move. When their lease expired, they might be outbid by a competing miller in the rent they offered or they might decide it was time to try somewhere new. William made two relatively long moves in his career, first from the Dunbar area to Eyemouth and then on to Dumfries. The latter was a long, challenging and expensive move. Communications between Eyemouth and Dumfries must have been very poor so it is unclear how he would have heard about a job in Dumfries. In addition, travel between the two mills would have been across-country and not easy.

This suggests that the prospects in Dumfries Mill must have been very attractive. Towards the end of the 18th century many old mills were in a poor state of repair so William may have been attracted to Dumfries by the opportunity to work in a newly built, state-of-the-art mill. It also had a more favourable location for markets, being part of a larger burgh.

When Dumfries Mill was rebuilt, an improved kiln and larger storage facilities would have been introduced. Oats, especially, needed careful drying to make the crop millable. Drying began to be done at the mill rather than at the farm once thirlage started to die out towards the end of the 18th century and was finally abolished by the Thirlage Act of 1799. Farmers did not want to spend time and money on drying grain and this allowed millers to attract more work. It also gave the miller greater control over the quality of the grain which was milled. With the ending of thirlage, millers no longer had a guaranteed supply of grain and to attract custom they needed to provide a more competitive, friendly and trustworthy service. The image of the miller began to change from that of the 'thieving miller' to one of the 'jolly miller'.

Drying of oats meant storage and sack handling facilities were needed at the mill because the kiln was only lit when there was enough corn to make it worthwhile. A second storey was often added to the mill when a kiln was constructed and a third storey where resources allowed sack handling hoists to be put in the loft. The six-storey granary at Dumfries Mill can be seen on the left in the photo. The cottage-like buildings to the left of it in the photo were kilns. The millers would have lived in houses close by the mill.



The latter half of the 18th century, and up until the end of the Napoleonic War, was a period of relative prosperity for millers. The quality and quantity of the grain produced locally improved and mills such as the one at Dumfries, close to an expanding town, enjoyed a growing local market. Town mills tended to be larger than rural mills and rents were invariably higher. The mill at Dumfries mainly ground oats and barley.

The rent from the town mill provided a source of income for Dumfries burgh but the mill had to be let and maintained. This was done by selling the lease to a tacksman, who either managed the mill himself or who sub-let the lease. It seems that, initially, William either rented the mill from a tacksman or he was the under-miller because his name did not appear in the Town Council Minute Book until December 1788. At that time, he is named, along with a David Clark, as jointly paying a half-yearly rent of £77 on the oat and malt mills. Prior to that, only David Clark's name is shown.

William and Jean had their seventh daughter and eighth and last child baptised on 16th December 1790 in Troqueer parish. Three of the children died in infancy and are buried with their parents in the churchyard at Troqueer.

In 1791, whilst William was the miller at the Town Mill, the poet, Robert Burns, his wife Jean and his children moved from Ellisland Farm, a few miles to the north-west, into Dumfries where he worked as an Excise Officer until his death on 21st July 1796.

It seems likely that William would have known Robert Burns. There are two reasons for thinking this. The first is that William's Cautioner, James McNeil, who guaranteed to underwrite his liability for the rent of the Town Mill, was a drinking companion of Burns and his grave is marked by a blue plaque in St Michael's churchyard. William may well have met Burns through James McNeil. As Cautioner, McNeil would have to know William and trust him to pay the rent. McNeil was both a baker and brewer, making him an important customer for William because he would have taken both malt and oat flour from the mill. William and James McNeil would have developed a close business relationship and, most probably, also a trusting friendship.

A second reason is that Robert Burns would almost certainly have had direct contact with William through his job as an Excise Officer. At that time, Excise Duty was paid at the place of production not, as with VAT, at the place of consumption. Excise duty was levied on a range of products, one of which was malt because it was used in brewing. Although the Town Mill was not in the area covered by Burns when he was an ordinary Excise Officer, he would have had to go to the mill when he was acting on temporary promotion for four months from the middle of December 1794. At that time, he would have visited all the places within the

Dumfries Excise District which paid Excise duty in order to check up on the work of his subordinates. As the mill was the largest producer of malt in the district, during that period Burns would have regularly visited William Henderson at Dumfries Mill. It seems appropriate that the former Town Mill is now the Robert Burns Centre (see photo).

The Town Council Minute Book for a meeting held on 20th November 1797 notes that *"… on the seventh day of November current, the Magistrates set by roup the oat and malt miln, kilns and first floor of the Granaries to William Henderson, Miller, in Bridgend at the rent of one hundred and thirty four pounds for five years after Martinmas next old style; and that James McNeil, Baker, had become bound as his Cautioner."*



The annual rent of £134, £20 less than that paid in 1788, was set by auction (roup) and was to apply for five years from 11th November (Martinmas) 1797 until the same day in 1802. James McNeil, as Cautioner, guaranteed to underwrite any bills which William failed to pay.

Bridgend, where William Henderson was living, is just across the 15th century multi-arched Devorgilla bridge from Dumfries. In 1814, a visitor to Dumfries, Richard Ayton, described the area around Bridgend, not long after William was living there, as: *"a sink of filth, wretchedness and worthlessness, peopled principally by vagrants, noted for their laziness, drunkenness and quarrelsomeness."*

William lived close to the mill and apart from his neighbours in Bridgend. He would have had little in common with such neighbours and appears to have been an upright member of the community. This is evident from the fact that he is listed in the Dumfries Weekly Journal of 17th April 1798 as paying a voluntary contribution of 3 shillings, over and above the assessed taxes paid by the inhabitants of the Parish of Troqueer. This was a payment towards the cost of the long-running war with France. Only those who had sufficient incomes could afford such a contribution. Of the forty-two people on the list, William was ranked 30th in terms of the size of his donation. The two largest donations were each for £40.

The mill seems to have been in regular need of repair, leading to tensions between the Town Council and William Henderson, who was responsible for maintaining the mill's machinery. On 21st June 1799, the Town Council Minutes Book records a payment of £26 7s 2d to the millwright William Henderson, for repairing the corn and malt mills. This William was the son of William Henderson, the miller at the Town Mill, so the repairs benefitted the family financially.

Towards the end of 1800 increasing problems arose, requiring urgent repairs to the mill. This subject was discussed regularly for the next six months by the Town Council. On 10th November Baillie Shaw was authorised to *"procure estimates of the expenses of repairing the water and pit wheels and axle tree of the mill"*.

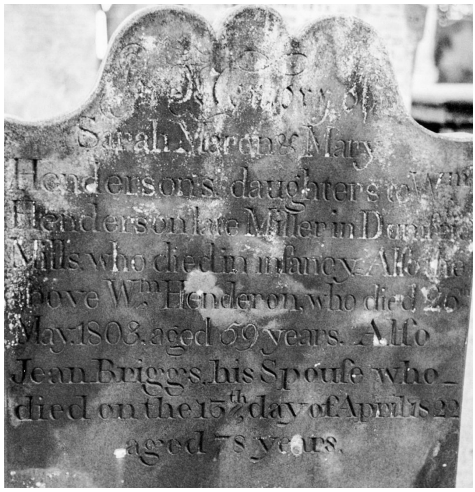
On 23rd December 1800, Baillie Shaw reported to the Town Council that *"the axle tree of the Oat and Malt milns had broken down yesterday….the Council…. resolved that the same should be repaired without delay and, accordingly granted warrant to and appoint the Magistrates….*

to employ tradesmen for that purpose." It was reported that the cost of repairing the Oat and Barley Milns would be £77 3s 4d, the money to be provided by the Town Chamberlain.

At a meeting on 29th December 1800, the Town Council Minutes book notes that William Henderson and his Cautioner, James McNeil, were reminded, that *"by the articles of roup of the present …they are jointly and severally bound to keep up and maintain the whole going gear and appendages of the said Mills all in good order and condition on their own proper charges and expenses and leave them so, at the expiration of the lease, and in particular to require them under form of protest to make payment of the whole expenses which may be incurred in repairing the axle tree of the said Mills lately broken down – and appoint report to be made to the Council."*

On 12th January 1801, the Town Council Minutes record that following concerns expressed at the previous meeting, action had been taken to ensure that William Henderson kept the Town Mill in good repair: *"Mr Maxwell, one of the Clerks, reported an Instrument of Representation Requisition and Protest served upon William Henderson, Miller, in Bridgend, present Tacksman of the oat and malt mills and James McNeil, Baker in Dumfries as his Cautioner on the 31st ult. at the instance of the Town Chamberlain for behalf of the Burgh and in terms of the Order of the last Council of which the Magistrates Council approve."*

It looks as if the Town Council, in their exasperation with William Henderson, decided to expedite repairs to the mill by providing the necessary timber for nothing to the millwright, William Henderson, to repair the mill wheel. On 23rd February 1801 the Town Council Minutes note that *"…the Magistrates and Council agree to give William Henderson, Milnwright, two fir trees for the purpose of repairing the oat miln wheel and these trees are to be pointed out by Bailey Shaw from the town's planting at Castledykes"*



A month later, on 23rd March 1801, the Convenor of the Council was recommended *"to collect the different costs lately incurred in repairing the axle tree of the Oat and Malt Miln, and authorised the Magistrates or any two of them to adjust and settle the same and draw precepts upon the Chamberlain for the amount."*

Problems over repairs to the mill seem to have been a regular concern for the Town Council. However, in the last quarter of 1802 it appears that William Henderson had given up being the miller when his lease expired on 11th November 1802. At that time the mill was surveyed to estimate the cost of restoring it to the condition it was in at the start of the lease. The use of wooden parts, the battering of the mill wheels by fast flowing water and constant movement of the gear wheels and mill stones caused considerable wear and tear on the machinery with a resulting need for constant repairs.

On 6th December 1802, the Town Council Minutes Book notes that on the 1st November *"the Magistrates had got*

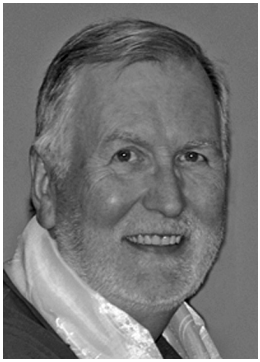
a report from two Tradesmen of the expenses for repairs on the Oat and Malt mills amounting to nine shillings." By this time the Council Convenor had succeeded William as the miller and he *"declared himself satisfied; as also with the offer of the former Tacksman to make these repairs at a convenient time"*. This relatively low figure suggests that William had previously come up with the money to repair the axle tree of the mill.

Perhaps one of the reasons for William's difficulty in maintaining the mill towards the end of his five-year lease was that he was becoming seriously ill. Only six months after the lease ended, William died on 26th May 1803, as recorded on his gravestone in Troqueer churchyard.

The wording on William's gravestone reads: *"Sarah, Marion and Mary Hendersons daughters to William Henderson, late miller in Dumfries Mills, who died in infancy. Also the above William Henderson, who died 26 May 1803 aged 59 years. Also Jean Briggs his spouse, who died on 13th day of April 1822 aged 78 years."* William's age of 59 years, as recorded on his gravestone, seems to be incorrect. He was actually 57 years of age when he died, assuming that he was born in the same year (1746) that he was baptised.

William Henderson #1126

TRIBUTE



It was with great sadness we received the news Terry Brown passed away peacefully on 30th January 2025. Terry has been a member of the Society since 1997. Having moved to England to work, on retiring he moved back to Galloway and then to Edinburgh. He was welcomed with open arms when he arrived in the Centre to offer his services as a volunteer. Terry brought a wealth of Technical Knowledge and Skill. Our webmaster had indicated his wish to retire and we needed somebody to manage our website.

He set up our current website, working closely with our Webmaster to keep it updated and functional. He managed the IT set up in the Society Premises, upgrading the infrastructure to provide a better environment for visitors.

Terry served on Council, using his enthusiasm and his innovative ideas as instigator of many of our projects.

During the Covid lock-down Terry set up the Online Shop which was the salvation of the Society. He felt that it should be possible to create e-book versions of our own publications which we could sell on the Online Shop. People worldwide were able to purchase and download our e-books! This would enable people to continue researching their Family Tree during lockdown. Our sales increased threefold in a short time, which has continued to grow.

He was also responsible for setting up our monthly talks to be held on Zoom, which allowed our worldwide membership to participate in the talks, for the first time.

Terry was very keen on the publication side of the society. He updated and re indexed some of our publications as well

as creating new ones. Much of his work in re-indexing publications allowed the Society to offer our data to the FindmyPast platform, he negotiated with FindmyPast to allow members who hadn't previously subscribed to the service to subscribe with an initial discount, which more than paid for members fees to the Society for the first year. The deal with FindmyPast also attracts ongoing royalties for their subscribers use of our data.

He helped publish a series of books containing an index of 'Deaths from Dumfries and Galloway Newspapers', these records had been taken from published newspapers and indexed by Sheila Shannon from the Ewart Library in Dumfries, many volunteers transcribed over 42,000 records, Terry then creating the 11 books that make up the series.

Just prior to lock down Terry launched a Graveyard Photographic Project with the aim to photograph **every** headstone in **every** graveyard (243) throughout Dumfries and Galloway. Terry realised it would be a valuable addition to our Monumental Inscription publications to have the information augmented with any missing and new information. He appealed for volunteers through local newspapers and created a group of 50 people who were willing to help to varying degrees. No sooner was it launched but we were in lockdown. However, some volunteers live close to graveyards and decided what better place to social distance and get some exercise than by taking photos in a graveyard.

Terry and his wife Liz spent many hours in graveyards with their cameras. The next stage, which he was busy with before his illness, was to transcribe the information from the photographs of headstones and monuments and update our publications with this latest information. Many Publications had not been updated since their original surveys. He also intended to offer the high quality photos to be available for purchase from the website. It is testament to his tenacity and organisational skills that the project has got as far as it has.

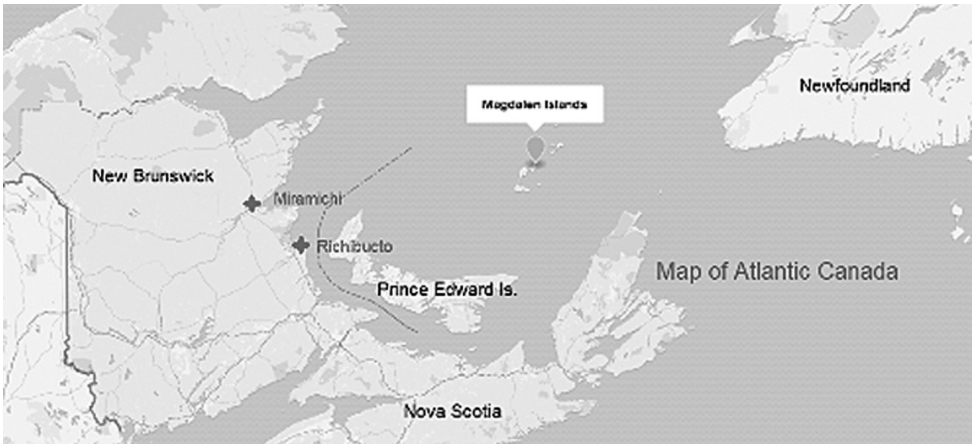
On behalf of us all at DGFHS and the many members who knew Terry, we extend our deepest sympathy to Liz his wife, family and friends, he will be sorely missed.

Frances Dunse Chairperson

FROM CREETOWN TO CANADA 1826 SHIPWRECKED!

Jeannie/Jane Johnstone and her father left Scotland in 1826 aboard a lumber ship bound for Richibucto, New Brunswick, Canada. James was never to see this new land as the ship struck ice off the coast of the Magdalen Islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, well within an easy reach of what would later become known as Canada.

The story of the shipwreck is best told by Jeannie's son-in-law, Howard Trueman, in his book, *The First Settlers of the Chignecto Isthmus* published in 1902 and available online, compliments of Project Gutenberg. In the words of Howard Trueman: "In the spring of 1826 a lumber vessel bound for Richibucto, N. B. carried a number of passengers for that port. When off the Magdalen Islands the vessel was stove in with the ice, and the crew and passengers had to take to the boats. There was no time to secure provisions, and a little package of potato starch that a lady passenger had been using at the time of the accident, and



carried with her, was the only thing eatable in the boats. Among the passengers was James Johnstone of Dumfries, Scotland, and his daughter Jean, sixteen years old. For three days and nights the boats drifted. Mr. Johnstone, who was an old man, died from the cold and exposure, and at the time of his death his daughter was lying apparently unconscious in the bottom of one of the boats. On the morning of the fourth day a vessel bound for Miramichi discovered them and took all on board. After landing safely in Miramichi they took passage for Richibucto. Miss Johnstone married John Main of Richibucto, and was the mother of a large family. Mrs. Main was never able to overcome her dread of the sea after this dreadful experience.

As the passage states, Jeannie lived and eventually was the mother of many children. Her fourth daughter, Mary Jean Main (1840 – 1932), was my great grandmother. Mary Jean was good at keeping records and duly recorded information in the family bible and in scrapbooks. However, she did not record her maternal grandmother's name. Who was Jeannie Johnstone's mother? Many have searched high and low but to date no reliable data has been found.

From June to September of 1885 two of Jeannie's daughters, sisters of Mary Jean Main, spent two months in the Greenock/Glasgow area. Their names were Nina (Main), Renwick Andrews and Jessie McKinnoul Main. Nina was the wife of Captain Fred Andrews from St. Andrews, New Brunswick. Captain Andrews was waiting for his ship, *Timandra*, to be built in Scotland and his wife and her sister accompanied him at that time. Jessie kept a diary and in it several hints are given as to the origins of Jeannie's mother.

Jeannie was born on 1 November, 1809 in Creetown, Kirkcudbrightshire. Jessie and Nina visited her old home in Creetown, which in 1885 was a "public house". It had a big garden. They stayed at Clanery/Clanary Farm just outside of Creetown with Cousin Alex Stroyan. They also "saw our Cousin William Stroyan's grave. It was a nice old place with a lot of tombstones. It was now near dark, too late to go much farther so did not get to see the old burying ground where our grandmother was buried." Their grandmother is the mystery woman of this article. Was she buried in the Old Kirkmabreck Cemetery and Wm buried in the newer cemetery in the village of Creetown? William and Alex Stroyan also had a sister Agnes (1818 - 1909) whose husband, Thomas Girvan, was from Newton Stewart. Who was the Stroyan sibling's mother? Was she the sister of Jeannie's mother? How were these three people cousins of Jeannie?

The research I have done does not focus on James Johnstone. There are so many! One tidbit from the diary states: "…we went to see Mrs. Burmi(sic) an old friend of our mother's from there we went to a place that used to belong to Grandfather but sold by him when he left Scotland. It is a pretty place, large garden with fruit trees & roses growing up the wall of the cottage."

We do know three Johnstone brothers, George Murray, Thomas and David, emigrated from Scotland to New Brunswick early in the 1800s. Family lore says the offspring of George Murray Johnstone were cousins of Jeannie Johnstone. Some research suggests that the father of these three men was also called James but that has not been verified. Jeannie settled quite a distance from the three brothers, and we do not know that close contact was maintained.

Genealogical searches are so very engaging. They require a certain kind of person who does not give up easily. Most people at one time or another hit a brick wall, and this is mine. If anyone has any suggestions to help with a solution, I would appreciate hearing from you.

So many people came to New Brunswick from the areas served by the "Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society" that your area surnames are well represented amongst our peoples. The small cemetery in West Galloway, New Brunswick, where Jeannie Johnstone Main is buried, is comprised almost exclusively of people from Dumfriesshire and Kirkcudbrightshire. If I can help anyone with their searches on this side of the Atlantic, please do not hesitate to ask. Genie Coates gggrandaughter of Jeannie Johnstone. gcoates@nbnet.nb.ca New Brunswick, Canada; John Sadler jsadler@uwo.ca.

Genie Coates 7352

'P.V.', KIRKCONNEL

'P.V.' Kirkconnel published at least two pamphlets of poetry in the first quarter of the 20th Century. The first was entitled *'Poems'* and was published by Thos Hunter, Watson & Co Ltd of Dumfries, and is undated. The second pamphlet is entitled *'Patriotic Verses'* which was written for the benefit of Drumlanrig Auxiliary Military Hospital and printed in 1915 by J Maxwell & Son, Printers and Stationers, Dumfries. The booklet is dedicated to Mrs McConnel of Eliock, Sanquhar: Eliock House was also converted into an Auxiliary Hospital during the war.

There is no clue in these booklets as to the identity of the poet and there is no 'P.V.' on any of the relevant censuses for either Kirkconnel or Sanquhar. This means that the author had probably assumed an alias and to find out who he was would have been an impossible task without further help. However, in 1984 a local historian from Kirkconnel – Alex Patterson - identified 'P.V.' as two brothers in his book *'Kirkconnel Folk'*, explaining that the nom-de-plume 'P.V.' was chosen because one of the poets lived in Polveoch Terrace at Kirkconnel. The two brothers were George and Alexander (or Sandy) Morrison.[1]

Family History

Great Grandparents	James Morrison and Agnes Brown
Grandparents	James Morrison and Helen Sharp(e)
Parents	George Morrison and Jan(n)et Kirk
Poets	George Morrison and Alexander Morrison

[1] Patterson, Alex. *Kirkconnel Folk*, 1984. New Broom Private Press

Although documentation is patchy in the late 18th Century / early 19th Century, there are birth records for four children born between 1795 and 1805 to James Morrison and Agnes Brown at Penpont – the poets' great grandparents. One of their children was James Morrison who was born on 14 July 1805 and died at the age of 70 on 8 January 1875. James was the poets' grandfather and lived all his life at Penpont and for 32 years conducted the psalmody in Penpont Parish Church. His wife, Helen Sharp, was born around 1814 and died at the age of 79 on 30 March 1893 aged 79.[2]

James and Helen had at least eight children, born between 1828 and 1840. The father of the poets was George (now referred to as **George senior**), who was born on 1 March 1837 at Brierbush, Penpont. As a 15 year old **George (senior)** worked as an errand boy living with Thomas Hiddleston - a prosperous farmer of 82 acres employing four labourers as well as **George (senior)**[3]. In due course **George (senior)** then working as an agricultural labourer, married Jannet Kirk at Durisdeer on 9 July 1858[4] and between 1860 and 1881 the couple had at least 11 children, two of whom were the poets: **George** (born on 31 March 1871 at Pringleton, Penpont) and **Alexander**, (born on 22 November 1879 at Kirkconnel). Sometime between 1877 and 1879 **George (senior)** moved his family to Kirkconnel to take advantage of the employment offered at the colliery; and indeed on the 1911 Census, he was still working as a Haulage Engineman at the colliery at the age of 74.

The Poet: George

On 1 June 1900 at the age of 29, **George**, working as a coal miner and then living at Back Row, Kirkconnel, married Rerrick-born Margaret (or Maggie) Ann McVinnie, aged 26 and working as a domestic servant at Haugh-Cleugh Side [sic] (presumably Hawcleughside or Hawkcleuchside), a farmhouse at Sanquhar[5].By the time of the 1911 census, **George** and his family had moved to 5 Polveoch Terrace, Kirkconnel where he lived until his death. Almost exactly a year after the census was taken, George suffered an accident at the new Elise pit at Kirkconnel on 12 April 1912. The local newspaper optimistically reported that George's injuries were attended to by Dr Dunlop and that his condition was not considered dangerous. The accident itself was reported in detail: [George] "had just descended the shaft, and was in the act of pushing an empty hutch from the shaft foot to the coal face where he was working. As he was proceeding along the main draw road a large stone slipped from the side near the roof. Fortunately it struck the empty hutch first, and this broke the force of its fall. Morrison, however, did not escape injury, being caught by the tail end of the stone. He received severe scalp wounds and also had his hip severely bruised. With considerable difficulty he was extricated from his perilous position and was conveyed home … The estimated weight of the stone was three tons. The hutch on which it fell was seriously damaged."[6] However, the reporter's optimism was misplaced; George in fact suffered traumatic paralysis of the lower limbs and bladder from which he did not recover, being virtually housebound until his death eleven years later.[7] As a result of the accident Alexander visited George nearly every day and the brothers started to compose poetry to pass the time: the two booklets of poetry thus contain verses by both brothers – and it also explains why they went to such lengths to preserve their anonymity.[8]

On the 1911 Census **George** and his wife Maggie were at 5 Polveoch Terrace,

[2] Penpont MI 23b
[3] 1851 Census
[4] Wedding certificate
[5] Information about Hawkcleuchside is given in the OS Name Book (Dumfriesshire) No. 44 Sanquhar Parish (OS1/10/44/371) https://scotlandsplaces.gov.uk
[6] Dumfries and Galloway Standard and Advertiser, 17 April 1912
[7] Information from death certificate
[8] Patterson, 1984

Kirkconnel. At that time the couple had been married for just over ten years and had 5 children below the age of 10.

Janet	b 1901 (d 1969 at the Royal Infirmary, Dumfries aged 68 though her usual address was 5 Polveoch Terrace, Kirkconnel)
George	b 1903 (d 1965 at Dumfries aged 62 though his usual address was 5 Polveoch Terrace, Kirkconnel)
Mary	b 1905 (d 1997 at Kirkconnel aged 91)
Ellen	b 1907 (d 1983 at Dumfries aged 75)
James	b 1909 (d 1983 at Kirkconnel aged 74)

The relevant entry on the 1921 census is of significance as it is the first official record following **George's** accident that indicates the extent of his disability. In this he is recorded as a disabled miner late of the Sanquhar and Kirkconnel Colliery Co Ltd, but rather surprisingly there is no entry in the "National Health Insurance" column: a new question for this census which asked whether individuals were eligible for benefit under the National Insurance Act 1911. On that census, **George** was living at 5 Polveoch Terrace, Kirkconnel, aged 50 with his wife and three dependant children aged 11, 14 and 15. These are James, Nellie (known as Ellen on the 1911 Census) and Mary. His wife, Margaret is aged 47 and 3 months. She is recorded as undertaking "home duties" in the occupation column. Their son George is recorded as 18 years and 3 months and is working as a Mine Haulageman at the Sanquhar and Kirkconnel Colliery Company Ltd. Mary (at age 15) is working as a Shop Assistant at James Harkness Grocers, Kirkconnel.

George died at the age of 52 on 23 July 1923. The cause of death was recorded as traumatic paralysis affecting his lower limbs of 11 years' duration.[9]

The Poet: Alexander

In 1919, **Alexander** married 43 year old Janet McCann (nee Bathgate). Janet was an illegitimate child, born on 6 October 1873 at Penston, a colliery village in Gladsmuir parish, Haddington. Her father (Simon Bathgate) was a coal miner and her mother was Euphemia Fairgrieve, an outfield worker.[10] Janet had been twice widowed: she had first married John Campbell (b 1863) on 30 December 1893 at Rigside, a coal mining community, in the parish of Douglas in Lanarkshire.[11] The couple had at least eight children between 1894 and 1910.

1. Euphemia Bathgate Campbell (b & d Cambusnethan 1894)
2. Jane Finlay Campbell (b Cambusnethan 1896 – d ?)
3. Simon Bathgate Campbell (b Cambusnethan 1898 – d Kirkconnel 1938 aged 39)
4. Martha Thomson [John's mother's maiden surname] Campbell (b Cambusnethan 1900 – d Cambusnethan 1902 aged 2)
5. Euphemia Fairgrieve [Janet's mother's maiden name] Campbell (b Cambusnethan 1902 – d ?)
6. James Bathgate Campbell (b Cambuslang 1905 – d Kirkconnel 1974 aged 69)
7. John Campbell (b Auchterderran 1908 – d Kirkconnel 1930 aged 22)
8. Janet Campbell (b & d Lochore 1910)

It is clear from these birth records that the Campbell family moved between the various coal mining communities in Lanarkshire, Fife and Dumfriesshire for employment purposes.

Following the death of her first husband, Janet married Hugh McCann on 31 December 1917 in Kirkconnel. At that time

[9] Death certificate
[10] Birth certificate
[11] Wedding certificate

Hugh was a widower aged 50 and worked as a general labourer, while Janet worked as a housekeeper: both are recorded as living at 23 Nithside Terrace, Kirkconnel. Hugh was already seriously ill when he married – he had been suffering from chronic broncho-pneumonia for at least five years, associated with his work as a miner: indeed the marriage lasted for only 17 days as Hugh died on 17 January 1918.[12] Interestingly, Janet's oldest son, Simon Bathgate Campbell, was a witness to his step-father's death; it was duly recorded that he was a step-son but that his name was Simon McCann, rather than Simon Campbell.

Eighteen months later, on 15 July 1919 Janet married **Alexander** Morrison. There is a discrepancy in the ages given on the two marriage certificates for Janet – she is stated as being 44 when she married Hugh McCann in 1917 and 43 when she married Alexander Morrison in 1919. Janet was still living at 23 Nithside Terrace, Kirkconnel, while **Alexander** is recorded as living at 6 Back Row, Kirkconnel. Janet's son, Simon Bathgate Campbell, appears as a witness to their marriage, this time his name was recorded as Simon McCann Campbell.[13]

The last information available from statutory records is given on the 1921 Census when **Alexander** and Janet are recorded as living at 23 Nithside Terrace, Kirkconnel, aged 41 and 46 respectively with Janet's two sons, James (aged 15 and already working as a colliery labourer) and John (aged 13, a scholar). Both James and John have the correct surname: Campbell. There do not appear to be any children from the marriage between **Alexander** and Janet.

Alexander died at the age of 78 at Kirkconnel on 28th December 1957.[14]

Accidents (others)

Apart from **George's** serious accident in 1912, the newspapers record two other accidents in which the Morrisons feature. The first is an accident to Maggie McVinnie a year before she married **George** when she was working as a dairymaid at Rigg, Kirkconnel. The newspaper reports that on 1 July 1899 she was 'alighting from a spring-cart in Kirkconnel Village, when her skirts caught in the wheel, and the horse moved forward at the time. She was thrown on to the ground, the near wheel passing over her body. She was carried into a house close at hand, and Dr Corbet, Sanquhar, found that one of her ribs had been broken.'[15]

The second accident was reported in the newspaper on 25 August 1897 when Archibald Wilson, a fireman, was fatally injured at the Gateside coal pit when there was a roof-fall. Both **Alexander** and his father **George (senior)** were on hand to help but could not save his life.[16]

Poetry

On 12 July 1913, the Kirkconnel Minister Reverend Charles Forbes Charles wrote 'An Open Letter to "P.V.", Kirkconnel'.[17] This letter was then reprinted in the pamphlet of poetry *'Poems'*, as a preface although it is incorrectly dated in the booklet as June, rather than July. He wrote "I am probably not unknown to you, and if you are unknown to me, I think I may safely say that I have shaken hands with you and looked into your eyes." He would certainly have shaken hands and looked both poets in the eye prior to writing these words: he performed the marriage ceremony of **George** and Maggie-Ann in 1900; later he married **Alexander** and Janet in 1919. He would also have ministered at **George's** funeral in 1923. One wonders whether **George** and **Alexander** ever let him into their confidence?

During 1913 and 1914, 'P.V.' had already sent several poems to the Dumfries and Galloway Standard: eleven poems were

[12] Death certificate
[13] Wedding certificate
[14] Death certificate
[15] Dumfries and Galloway Saturday Standard, 1 July 1899
[16] Dumfries and Galloway Standard & Advertiser, 25 August 1897
[17] Dumfries and Galloway Saturday Standard, 12 July 1913

printed from 15 February 1913 to 5 November 1913, with a gap until the last poem: 18 November 1914. These appeared at a rate of roughly one per month.

Only two poems appear in both pamphlets and in the newspapers. They are: 'Rest' and 'Rondeau', and are given here as they would appear to be favourites of the poets:

Rondeau

Mary loves me, and her sweet
Modesty is my undoing.
Tender blushes when we meet
Speed me in my ardent wooing.
Heedless of all Fortune's frown,
How she buffets, trips, or shoves me.
I shall rise should I go down –
Mary loves me.

Rest

I linger while the sun's last ray
To twilight leaves the purple scene,
And think of all the past, dear May –
What was, and is, and might have been.

Thine was a grievous lot, but He
Who rules the universe must know
His purpose best. 'Tis not for me
To sigh and ask, "Why is it so?"

Night grieves the coming of the day
And leaves her tears on every lawn;
But are the drops not jewels, say,
That gather radiance in the dawn?

Thus may not sorrows, nobly borne,
Rest softly on life's mournful sod,
And in the everlasting morn
Shine sweetly in the eyes of God?

Farewell, dear heart, God knoweth best
Life, joy, and sorrow have an end
Oh, may the portals of the blest
Open and find you still my friend.

Conclusion

A photocopy of all the poetry in the newspapers, together with photocopies of the two pamphlets of poetry are lodged with the Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society in the Kirkconnel box file.

Margaret Kennedy
Member No: 6467

VACANCIES

AN APPEAL!

With the retiral of Marion and Janet as our window dressers if any members or friends feel they could change the displays in the windows two or three time a year we welcome you with open arms! I'm sure Marion and Janet would offer advice and guidance. We do have a lot of window dressing material inhouse for different seasons.

Please think about it!! Responses please to secretry@dgfhs.org.uk

UK MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Beverley Thom our current membership secretary is retiring from the post. We are looking for someone who has a few hours to spare to take on this post. Training and support will be given.

If you are interested please respond to secretary@dgfhs.org.uk

APPENDIX 5
LIST OF THOSE FROM THE GLENKENS WHO TOOK THE TEST BEFORE THE JUSTICES

Edinburgh 16th December 1683 (Extracted from the Register of the Privy Council of Scotland, Vol. 8, 1683-84, p. 639-42)

It is interesting to find a number of names of those who had taken part in the Pentland Rising and in the Battle of Bothwell Bridge on the list of those who took the Test. Clearly they had found the personal cost to them of continued support for the Covenanting cause too heavy to bear.

HERITORS WHO TOOK THE TEST

Balmaclellan

Robert Corbie of Balmaclell (Balmaclellan)
Robert McClellan of Barscobb (Barscobe)
William Gordon, elder, of Shilmers (Shirmers)
Robert Gordon, younger, thereof
James Cannon of Killochie (Killochy)
William Gordon of Crogo
James Cairnes of Mounebuy (Monybuie)
Edward Golore (Goldie) of Craigmowie (Craigmuie)

Carsphairn

James Herriot, portioner of Bridgend
David McIllnae of Lochhead
Robert Cannon of Mondroggat (Muirdrochwood)
John McDowall of Glen
John McMillan of Brackloch (Brockloch)

Dalry

George Rowan in Stranpatrick (Stroanpatrick)
John McRaith of McGilstoune (Mackilston)
James McGill of Cleuch
John McNaught of Overtoune (Overtoun) (adjacent to Midtown)

Kells

William Gordon, chamberlain to the Viscount of Kenmuir
William McClameroch of Neather Craigbae (Nether Craigenbay)
James Chalmers of Watersyde (Waterside)
David Kennedy of Knocknalien (Knocknalling)
William Kennedy of Knocknalien (Knocknalling)
John McCurtie, baillie in the Newtoune of Galloway
Alexander Forrester of Knockshynie (Knocksheen)
Alexander Cairnes of Glenliemilne (Glenlee mill)

Balmaghie

Alexander McGhie of Balmaghie
Thomas McGhie of Slochgerie (Slogarie)
Crossmichael
Andrew Herron of Kilmochtrie (Kilnotrie)
Robert Gordon of Kilnotrie
Thomas Maxwell of Crofts

Parton

Robert Gordon, younger, of Airds

COMMONS WHO TOOK THE TEST

Balmaclellan

James Chalmers at the kirk of Balmaclellan
Robert Gordon in Park
Andrew Chambers in Arloish (Ironlosh)
George Sidlingtoun in Blackmark
Alexander Creichtoun in Drummanister
John McMillan in Halfmark
John Hunter in Barmark
Robert McNaught in Blairenne (Blairinie)
Hugh Smith in Craig
John McDowall, sometime tenant in Peebles, now in Craig
John Barbour, sometime in Barmarroure (Barrmurrie), now in Eight Shilling land
Andrew Dempster in Corsinbey (Cassenvey)

Carsphairn
John Thomson at the Bridge of Deuch
John Grier, elder, in Bank
William Allan in Bardonoch (Bardennoch)
John Wallett, elder, in Glenhead
John Grier, younger, in Bank

Dalry
Robert Johnstoun in Fingland
John Gourley in Gordonstoun miln
John McMillan, shoemaker in Clachan of Dalry
William McGilvain in Old Clachan
Robert McKewan in Milnmark
John McMurdie ther
John Gellie in Underhill
Alexander McMillan in Glenholmr in Dalry paroch (?Glenhoul)
John Crichtoun in Cornharrowe (Cornharrow)
George Crichtoun, his son
Robert Gordon in Garstoban (Garstubban)
William Gibson in Lurgfoot (Lorgfoot)

Kells
William Gellie, smith in the Newtoun of Galloway (New Galloway)
Alexander Reid ther
William Rae ther
Edward Millar ther
Robert Davidson ther
James Grier in Hannastoun (Hannaston)
James McGuffock in Over Garrochs
William Corson ther
Andrew McMillan in Clatteranshawe (Clatteringshaws)
Andrew McClamruch in Drumbuie
John McCall in Burntoun
James Edgar in Fintilloch (Fintloch)
Robert Tod in Fintilloch (Fintloch)
Thomas McCall in Garroch
James Gordon in Burnfoot
James Scott in Knocknalien (Knocknalling)

Balmaghie
Thomas Neilson in Maynes of Balmaghie

Crossmichael
James McNaughton in Auchindalie Auchendolly)
William Rae in Chapmantoun (Chapmanton)

APPENDIX 6 – FUGITIVES' ROLL

On May 5th 1684 the Privy Council published the fugitive rolls, with a proclamation requiring all subjects not only not to comfort or harbour the said persons, but furthermore to do their utmost to apprehend them and to inform against them. According to Wodrow, there are many mistakes in the rolls, "but they contain a list of very good people persecuted for conscience sake".

Below are the names of those on the Fugitives Roll from the Glenkens and neighbouring parishes:

STEWARTRY OF KIRKCUDBRIGHT

Balmaclellan parish
William Dempster in Armancande (Ironmaccanie)
Alexander Mein in Armancande (Ironmaccanie)
Thomas Murdoch in Barnsalloch (Barnshalloch)
James Hook in Holm
James Halliday in Fell
John Tait, tailor in Balmaclellan
Preacher – Mr Thomas Vernor

Carsphairn parish
David Canon in Firmaston
John Gordon, elder, in Garyhorn
John Campbell in Marbrack
James Clark in Marbrack
David McKile in Dalshangan
Gilbert McAdam in Craigingilton (Craigengillan)

James Currie in the Glen
John Gourlay in Mondrogat (Muirdrochwood)
William Macmillan in Bredenoch
Gilbert McEwen in Carsferry (?Carsphairn)

Dalry parish

John McCall, weaver, in Craigincar (Craigencorr)
John Macmillan, sometime servitor to James Ferguson in Trostan
Fergus Grier in Brigmoor (Bridgemark)
Robert Gordon in Kilmair (Kilnair)
Daniel Macmitchel (McMichael) in Lurg-foot (Lorgfoot)
-- Crichton, son to Robert Crichton in Auchinshinnoch
-- Macmillan in Greenan (Grennan)
William Grier, servitor to Marian Welsh in Glenhill (?Glenhoul)

Kells parish

James Macmillan in Glenlie (Glenlee)
John Macmillan in Strangassie (Stroangassel)
James Gordon in Largmore
Henry Gordon in Lochspray (Lochspraig)
Andrew Macmillan, servant to New Galloway
John Crawford, apothecary, there
William McMillan in Areshalloch (?Darsalloch))
George Campbell in Areshalloc (?Darsalloch)
Roger McNaught in Newton of Galloway
Alexander Corson in Newton of Kells
John Macmillan in Dunveoch
-- Macmillan son to John Macmillan in Glenlie (Glenlee)
-- Gibson, son to Robert Gibson in Overstrangashel (Over Stroangassel)

Balmaghie

Alexander Campbell weaver, sometime in Uroch (Urioch)
Alexander Campbell miller, sometime in Uroch
Livingstone of Quintinespy (Quintinespie)
James Durham in Edgarton
John Rae in Slachgarrie (Slogarie)
Robert Cadjow in Craig

Crossmichael

James Edgar in Drumakelly (Drumskelly)
William Stuart, Patrick Macjore, both in Crofts
James Garmarie in the parish of Corsmichael
John Graham in Chapelearn (Chapelerne)
Thomas and Robert Grahams in Ernefilian (Ernfillan) SE of Crossmichael
John Gelly in Iron-crogo (Erncrogo)
Robert Hillow in Hillowton

Parton

Neilson, younger, of Corsock

FUGITIVES FOR RESET AND HARBOUR

Those seen as guilty of providing shelter and protection to those on the main Fugitive List:

Balmaclellan

John Hook in Holm
Andrew Wilson in Black-craig
John Geddes in Bartagart (Bartaggart)
James Mulliken in Knocknoon (Knocknon)
John Mulliken in Barscob
Samuel Cannon in Barnsalloch (Barnshalloch)
Mr William Macmillan of Caldow
Robert Gaa in Knocklie (Knocklae)
James Garmorie in Armanady (?Armanillie)
John Herron sometime in Earlston, now in Hardland

Carsphairn

William McCall in Holm of Daltanachan (Holm of Daltallochan)
John Welsh in Drumjowan (Drumjohn)
Gilbert Welsh in Bank
Gilbert McEwen in Carsfeiry (Carsphairn)

Dalry

John Barber elder in Over-Barley (Over Barlae)

John Barber younger there
John Barber in Nether-Barley (Nether Barlae)
James Girran in Clachan (village of Dalry)
James Macadam there
James Macmichael in Clachan
George Douglas there
Robert Gordon in Clachan
Alexander Gordon there
William McCall in Clachan
James Chapman there
Robery Gaa, smith, in Clachan
Margaret Tod in Clachan
Bessie Gordon there
Alexander Gourley in Greenan-mill (Grennan mill)
Robert Crichton in Auchenshinnoch
Edward Ferguson there
John Corsan there
Robert Grier in Reglen (Regland) (later an elder in Dalry Church)
William Edgar of Gordonston
George Macmichael in Carskep (he is recorded as living at Holmhead of Castlemaddy in 1686, at Gordonston in 1689 (as a tenant of William Edgar of Gordonston) and at Stroanfreggan in 1695. Latterly he served as a deacon in Dalry Church and died in 1740 aged 82.)
John Macmillan of Iron-daroch (Arndarroch)
Robert Macmichael in Craiglour
Henry Gordon in Dundeuch (Dundeugh)
John Grier of Blackmark
Rebecca Macmichael at the Black-craig, in Dalry parish
Marian Welsh in Glenhill (?Glenhoul)

Kells parish

James Macnaught in Newton of Galloway
(John) Gordon of Garrary
Alexander Macmillan in Glenrie (Clenrie)
John Brown in Nether-strangassel
John Macmillan in Glenlie (Glenlee) (or possibly Glenlee in Carsphairn parish)
Roger Macnaught in Newtown of Kells
Alexander Corson in Newtown of Kells
-- Gordon, widow in Glenlie (Glenlee)

Balmaghie

Robert Mackartnie in Quintinespy (Quintinespie)

Crossmichael

Andrew Crock in Iron-crogo
William Raffil (Raphael) in Iron-ambrie (Ernambrie)
James Edgar in Drumakelly (Drumskelly)
John Garmorie in Trouden (?Trowdale)
Mary Chalmers, liferentrix of Clairbrand (Clarebrand)

Parton

William Houston in Blareny (Blairinie) (or possibly Blairinie in Balmaclellan parish)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear all at DGFHS,

My family and I visited Dumfriesshire this summer and visited several family locations. Unfortunately, our time did not allow for a visit to the Dumfries Shop but I will definitely make time on our next trip to say hello. I want to say how much I enjoy the Zoom Meetings and Newsletter and have also been grateful for the resources.

We visited Durisdeer Cemetery to visit the grave of my Great Grandparents and saw that their Headstone really needed renovation. I was fortunate to contact a Monumental Sculptor who was able to renovate the stone. The work looks really good.

Philip Henderson Member No. 6869

WINDOW DRESSERS RETIRAL

Marion Matthews and Janet Heal have been our window dressers for many years. They indicated that they wished to stand down from this post at the end of December.

They have graced the windows with some magnificent themes and displays. Passersby regularly come into the Research Centre to compliment the display. A huge amount of effort has gone into researching material.

In July it was the 750th Anniversary of King Robert the Bruce. The Society were invited to take part in this Anniversary. Marion and Janet decorated both windows and were awarded first prize in the Guid Nychburris window dressing competition. A great award to receive.

We in the Society would like to thank Marion and Janet for their sterling service over the years, and to thank them for all the research, hard work and time which they have given.

A BIG "THANK YOU BOTH"

DR. THOMAS RAE

The town of Colac can be thankful for the tireless work of many of its early doctors. One of these men was Dr Thomas Rae, a newly qualified young Scottish doctor, who relocated to Colac in late 1859, and went on to diligently serve this community in senior positions for the next nineteen years. Noted for his kind benevolence, leadership and dedication to duty, Thomas Rae was held in high regard by the town's population.

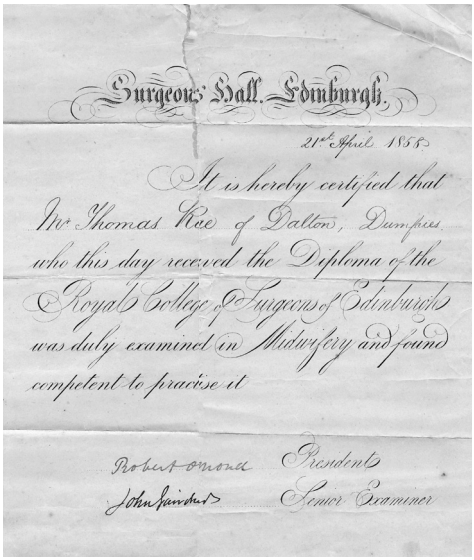
Tragically, over almost two decades this sense of responsibility to his patients, combined with constant work in often harrowing circumstances, took a terrible toll on his life, his family and his friends. In the last seven months of his life, he was forced to take up a new position far from his family, his home and the medical practice he had built in Colac.

Having caught a severe cold, he continued to see patients until he was completely bedridden. During this illness he died suddenly, his body weakened from the years of intemperate habits he could no longer control. He was only forty-four years old.

Already known for his care, kind nature and geniality, a large crowd attended his burial in the Kerang Cemetery the following day. In this relatively new cemetery, where internment records had only begun the year before, it is not surprising that Dr Thomas Rae's grave location was not recorded.

The road to the Kerang Cemetery begins in Dalton, Dumfriesshire, Scotland where Classics Master John Rae lived in the local schoolhouse with his second wife Agnes. Their second son, Thomas, was born in 1835. A gifted and well-educated child, he was, by 1857, training to be a doctor at Edinburgh University when his mother Agnes died, after enduring a long and painful illness. It may have been this that spurred, the almost qualified young man, to decide on a fresh start in the Colony of Victoria, at the end of his degree.

By January 1859, Thomas had arrived in the newly subdivided town of Batesford, 10 kms west of Geelong. Perhaps he came by the mail coach than ran daily between Geelong and Ballarat, where the stop provided a welcome interlude in the journey across the vast, volcanic plains of the Western District. Lying on the eastern bank of the Moorabool



Surgeons' Hall, Edinburgh.

21st April 1858

It is hereby certified that Mr Thomas Rae of Dalton, Dumfries who this day received the Diploma of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh was duly examined in Midwifery and found competent to practise it

Robert Omond President

John Jardine Senior Examiner

River, the little town already boasted four pubs and was a busy, service centre for the townsfolk and surrounding farms. There, the young 24-year-old medico who specialised in both surgery and midwifery advertised that he was now available for consultation.

Seventy miles to the southwest of Batesford, in the larger and more established town of Colac, Dr Edward Nankivell, the town doctor and surgeon, died unexpectedly in August the same year, leaving his pregnant wife and young daughter to mourn his early death. Perhaps seeing an opportunity in the larger town, Dr Thomas Rae applied and was quickly appointed District Vaccinator and then State Coroner at Colac in 1860.

Located on the picturesque southern edge of the largest freshwater lake in Victoria, Colac is the service hub for the town and surrounding agricultural area. Set on rich soils and with abundant resources, the highly productive area would flourish in the years ahead.

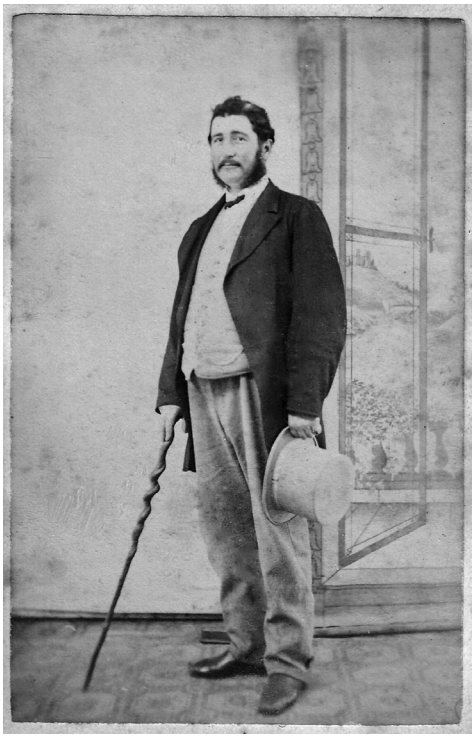
The new doctor quickly became enmeshed in the fabric of the town. Being an educated, professional man, Dr Rae moved in the small social circle of the town's leadership group. Along with the heavy workload of his medical positions, he also took his turn at presiding over the Colac Petty Sessions Court.

In what must have been a constant stream of traumatic events, there were drowning and poisoning cases, suicides and all manner of accidents to attend. Diseases of all kinds, horrific burns and snake bite were treated as best they could be at that time. As well as attending to patients, there were local district inquests to conduct that necessitated hearing multiple depositions. Determinations then needed to be made, on a cause of death in each case.

The death of infants and children was common, sometimes from simply a premature birth, or a failure to thrive as an infant, as well as from accidents, illness and disease. One of the infants he cared for in 1860, was the 5-month-old son of Dr Nankivell, the Colac surgeon he had recently replaced. The child Henry Edward, named after his father, died from pneumonia following a short illness.

Moving in the same social circles, it is perhaps not so surprising that in 1861, Thomas married the widow of the previous surgeon, Mrs Agnes Nankivell (nee Peter). The couple would have another eight children to join the surviving child from Agnes' first marriage, although two of their boys died in infancy in the mid-1860s.

Early in 1862, a steam driven threshing machine exploded in an enormous blast on a farm at Warrion about 12 miles from Colac. Thomas quickly organised medical staff into a horsedrawn convoy to treat the injured, that arrived at the scene two hours after the horrific disaster. Two men soon died, whilst others were scalded and maimed for life, or suffered multiple fractures that required excruciating ongoing care. As the town had no hospital, two men were sent on a long and painful wagon ride



to Geelong Hospital with only brandy to take the edge off their pain.

Thomas conducted two inquests in the following days, taking depositions from the badly injured survivors on their makeshift beds. Another two men died in the weeks following, one following an amputation of a leg in a desperate, but futile bid, to save the patient's life. The pressure on the town's medical staff was sorely tested over the many weeks that followed, with patients requiring expensive, 'around the clock' care.

Dr Thomas Rae also became heavily involved in the town's social causes such as advocating for a badly needed public hospital, in lobbying to keep the telegraph office open, and for extending the railway line from Geelong to Colac and beyond. Other duties required attendance on social committees and local activities such as being a Trustee of the Colac Racecourse Reserve or acting as Steward on Race Day. There were also organising committees for occasions like the highly anticipated Royal Prince's visit in 1867.

In the early 1870s he and Agnes would have another three children, but the relentless work and his renowned 'bonhomie' seemed to be taking a heavy toll on his physical and emotional health. By 1874 he was deeply in debt to his friends and relations and seemed to have no capacity for organising his affairs or for controlling his growing intemperance.

Whereas in the 1860s he had pursued some monies owed to him for medical care in the Colac Courts, this fell away sharply in the early 1870s. His growing reputation of good-natured kindness seemed to extend evermore generously to those who could not afford, or those who avoided, paying for his care. This even included payments due to him from the local Shire Council and the State Coroner's Office in Melbourne. Sometimes accounts were paid, or at least partially settled, or they were not paid at all.

His friends organised a public dinner in his honour at the Colac Temperance Hotel where a purse containing one hundred sovereigns was presented to him as a mark of the respect and appreciation for his charity and benevolence in the town. Unfortunately, Thomas did not use the opportunity to get his affairs in order, and by January 1875 he was to be accompanied by William Robertson, a local wealthy squatter, ostensibly on a 3-month trip to New Zealand, but in a bid by friends to help him regain his health.

Just before leaving Australia, the replacement doctor selected was found to be not properly qualified, and another doctor was quickly organised to take his place. This doctor made it known that he was planning to stay on permanently in the town. There was also a rumour that a wealthy squatter in the area had offered to fund the transfer of

another doctor to the district.

Seeing the possibility that he might soon be replaced, may have determined Thomas Rae's decision to cancel the trip, and again make an attempt at self-control of his addictions. Consequently, Thomas' life, continued in the same round of constant work, deepening debt and indulgence.

As Colac still had no hospital at that time, Thomas who was well-aware of the dire need for one, set up a small Hospitallium, at this own expense. This was a two or three bed ward on his property, where he could treat patients needing ongoing care. This care for people was illustrated yet again when he immediately went to the aid of a woman being beaten by her drunken husband. Thomas was also assaulted before managing to eventually overpower the offender, and take the badly bruised and shaken woman for treatment.

This ever-widening dichotomy of his character and his failing health culminated in a meeting with his creditors in May 1876 where his huge liabilities alongside his relatively small number recoverable debts were set out publicly. Again, he insisted that he had regained his health and was ready to resume the full responsibilities and work required to achieve mastery of his business affairs. He also claimed that he had been offered a job in Echuca for 1000P per annum to replace a recently deceased doctor, but that he chose to stay in Colac with his family and pay off his debts as quickly as possible. His four building allotments were put up for sale and some people were taken to Court for the cost of their treatment. Later that year, Thomas Rae was also taken to Court for the first time, by a Colac business for unpaid goods delivered to his home.

Such an untenable situation could not go on. In 1879, Dr Thomas Rae had to answer a Civil case made against him in the Supreme Court of Victoria made by his brother-in-law, William Edmundson of *Elliminook* at Birregurra. This was most probably to try and recover the enormous debt he owed William and Agnes' sister Eliza. Suddenly, without first resigning his position, Thomas Rae left Colac.

Long-time friends, family and supporters had given Thomas every opportunity to reform his ways but despite his good intentions, he never managed to control his habits. With matters so abruptly and publicly, brought to a head it was likely he was unable to bear the shame he had brought on himself and his family. Far from home and now ousted from his support network, Thomas again took up a position as a Town Vaccinator, in northern Victoria for a sum of 25 pounds per annum.

In Kerang, Dr Rae quickly made friends and impressed with his skill and care but tragically, when he died in December 1879, this deeply flawed man had, in only seven months, amassed even more debt than he could ever repay.

There is no plaque in Colac to mark Dr Thomas Rae's long and dedicated medical service over almost twenty years in the town. However, a short distance from his home with Agnes, is a street named in his honour that leads, rather appropriately to the present Colac Hospital first built at that site in 1934. This building replaced an earlier hospital that had finally opened in 1882.

Like Thomas, Agnes Rae was genial and kind and for twenty-four years was President of the Colac Ladies Benevolent Society, raising funds for those in need.

Agnes Rae, lived on at *Mooringarara*, built by Dr Edward Nankivell, for another thirty-four years raising the surviving Nankivell/Rae children. She died in 1914, a greatly esteemed member of the community, highly respected by her large family and many friends.

Meryl Ritchie

GRAVEYARDS OF DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

On 1st of January 1855 the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages for Scotland Act came into effect.

Prior to this, records were kept by the Session Clerks in the Church of Scotland. These were the Old Parish Registers (OPR'S). Sadly many have gone missing over the years but the surviving Registers are available on Scotland's People site. Dumfries and Galloway Family History has published the Dumfries Parishes and they are available in the centre or through our on-line shop.

Scotland was divided into Registration Districts made up of the long standing Parishes and Burghs.

The districts in South West Scotland were made up of three counties or shires: Wigtownshire in the West, the County town being Wigtown and the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright or Kirkcudbrightshire, the County town being Kirkcudbright. Together they make up Galloway. Dumfriesshire in the East, the County town being Dumfries. These three counties contain 88 Parishes or Burghs and have 243 graveyards/cemeteries and extensions across the region.



Maps of the parishes and an extensive list of graveyards etc. can be found on our web-site. The graveyard list also has National Grid references and GPS info to make finding them easier.

In 1857 an act of Parliament banned the re-use of graves and most parishes expanded or made a new graveyard. As this was after the statutory registration of 1855, not all of the newer graveyards or extensions have been transcribed, but DGFHS is working hard at this.



Finding where someone was buried is not always easy; not everyone has a headstone and not everyone was buried in the area in which they lived. Some people would choose to be buried in their native parish. Death certificates give both the district and the parish in which someone died and are available on the Scotland's People website along with much more information such as OPRs, census records, wills and some valuation rolls.

In 1929 graveyards became the responsibility of the local Councils so contacting the local Lair Records Dept via the local Council is an option when trying to locate a grave site.

When doing this it is essential to have full details of the deceased.

Our Memorial Inscription books list the headstones pre 1855, in a few cases some more recent headstones are recorded but not all.

One very useful aspect of Scottish gravestones is that women usually have their maiden surnames on the stone e.g. In Langholm….In memory of Elizabeth Huggan spouse of Andrew Scott…..

Elizabeth Hogg and Ian MacClumpha

ZOOM TALKS

Since the COVID pandemic the society has been hosting talks over Zoom. We have had some superb speakers, many who have been our own members. At the time of writing, (February 2025) we are eagerly waiting on Tom Hughes, Museum Access officer for Dumfries, to tell us about Medieval Pilgrimages in Dumfries & Galloway. He will be followed in March by Professor Cat Stevens from the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh and in April by Pam Mitchell on Jane Haining, a local girl who lost her life in Auschwitz concentration camp during WWII.



We try to alternate our talks from morning to evening in an attempt to accommodate our members 'down under' or on the other side of the pond. We also record each talk and send them to everyone on the zoom list, so no one misses out. We try to have about nine talks each year.

To be on the zoom list, please send an email to zoom@dgfhs.org.uk Note: this is separate from the membership list, so if you want to participate, please register. Equally, if you think you would like to give a talk then please email us. You could speak to us about your own interests, whether it be your own research or something you have encountered during your researches, Send us an email on the above link and we can discuss it. We look forward to hearing from you.

Ian McClumpha, Zoom co-ordinator.

DGFHS RESEARCH CENTRE UPDATE

Our Research Centre in Dumfries has now been awarded Family Search Affiliate Library status. There are only a few hundred affiliate libraries in the country. The designation means researchers who visit the centre will now have greater and more convenient access to the wealth of genealogical resources available through FamilySearch. The popular web service has over 6 billion searchable names and 2 billion images of historical genealogical records—and you get the helpful assistance of DGFHS volunteers.

FamilySearch adds over 300 million free genealogical records and images online yearly from all over the world and manages the famous FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City. It has amassed billions of birth, marriage, death, census, land, and court records from more than 130 countries to help you discover and make family connections.

For us here in Dumfries, affiliate status means we now have access to millions of digital images which are not available to the general public online through www.familysearch.org including Scottish Old Parish records. We have the local OPRs on film, (filmed by FamilySearch about 30 years ago) but old age and new technology means it is time to update.

FamilySearch is the largest genealogy organization in the world. It is a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. FamilySearch and its predecessors have been actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records worldwide for over 100 years.

Ian McClumpha #806

MIGRATION TO AND FROM THE UPLAND LEADMINING COMMUNITY OF WOODHEAD, CARSPHAIRN

In 1838 the tenant at Woodhead farm in the upland parish of Carsphairn in Kirkcudbrightshire discovered large amount of pure lead near the surface of the ground and reported it to the owner Colonel McAdam Cathcart. Within months, shafts had been sunk, houses built for thirty workmen and sixty men were employed.

The New Statistical Account was compiled in 1839 by the Carsphairn parish minister Reverend David Welsh who noted *"A discovery has been made on the estate of the Honourable Colonel M Cathcart of a vein of lead which promises to be productive. The proprietor has now a number of miners employed and there are more labourers employed than ever in this parish, at any former period. In a season when provisions are high it is satisfactory to see labour provided for the industrious poor; and it is earnestly to be wished that the hopes of the proprietor may be realised in their fullest extent."*

In the years between 1840 and 1853 optimism ran high in the hillside community and miners flocked in to take the opportunities of the new venture at Woodhead. The man who was compiling the local notes for the 1848 Ordnance Survey notebook noted its *"houses were all one storey in height, slated and in good repair and …wholly inhabited by miners."* A school was built in 1843 and it was described as *"more ample and commodious than any in the district"* and *"a liberal salary is given by the Hon. Colonel McAdam Cathcart to both the schoolmaster and the female teacher."* By 1851 there were 49 pupils between the ages of 5 and 14. The Library Society was started in 1840 and by 1849 the catalogue listed over 800 volumes. In 1844 a Free Church was built for the miners on a neighbour's land and by 1845 there were 91 miners and a further 18 from the village of Carsphairn on the Communicants roll there. Reverend David Welsh noted *"More money now circulates in one week than was circulated a few years ago, in the course of the year."*

In his 1844 revision Reverend Welsh gave much greater detail into the development and growth of the lead mine at Woodhead. He wrote that *"since operations commenced the population has been nearly doubled."* He commented on the new machinery for crushing, washing and smelting, the huge waterwheel, the furnace, the large village that was built on the sides of the hill and the building of the school and school house. He noted that many of the miners came from Leadhills and Wanlockhead. He concluded that *"The mining operations have changed Carsphairn from being one of the most rural and pastoral parishes in this country into one of this comparative bustle and activity."*

The population of the parish until 1841 was either employed in the cottage industries of the self-sufficient village or as shepherds on the farms. In 1841 the first official census was completed and from then on it took place every ten years and it provides a very useful benchmark for the lifetime of the working lead mine which was relatively short, just 33 years from 1840 to 1873.

In total 6,712 tons of lead were raised with the greatest production being between 1840 and 1853. There was a huge decrease in the amount of ore raised between 1852 and 1853 from 194 tons down to 93 from which there was no recovery and the population declined swiftly. On 14th February 1852 (pay day), according to the notebook of the manager's son, 23 miners, 6 banksmen and 2 labourers were warned to quit at the end of March.

From then on production declined very quickly until 1873 when just 12 tons were extracted. As the work became more difficult miners drifted away to seek

opportunities in the Ayrshire coalfields or abroad particularly to the United States.

Given that so much change happened so quickly one asks the question from where did the miners came? The answer comes from the question in the 1841 census "If born in Scotland whether in county or otherwise." Of the 202 inhabitants of the mines in 1841, 165 were born in a county other than Kirkcudbrightshire probably Wanlockhead in Dumfries-shire or Leadhills in Lanarkshire both big leadmining communities. 30 were born in Kirkcudbrightshire (including 4 babies born at the mines) 5 from England and 2 from Ireland. 64 men were recorded as leadminers, 25 as lead washers and the others working in other trades associated with lead mining. The rest of the population was made up of their families, a tailor and a teacher.

The total population of the parish in 1841, according to the Second Statistical Account, was 701, an increase of 248 since 1831 and this increase would have been entirely attributable to the leadmine. There were other benefits from the increased population. *"More money now circulates in one week than was circulated, a few years ago in the course of a year." There are now two coaches passing daily, one from Ayr to Dumfries and another from Dumfries to Ayr."*

By the 1851 census the questions regarding birthplace were more specific. The question "where born" needed two answers - the county and the parish. That is particularly useful as it gives a more complete picture of the origins of the population.

Population at the mines throughout its working life.

Date	*Number of inhabitants*	*Number of inhabited houses*
1841	202	22
1851	302	50
1861	75	16
1871	109	20
1881	29	5
1891	14	3

Knowing that most of the population of the leadmines came (in the early years from Wanlockhead and Leadhills) is a great help when trying to trace one's roots but where did they move to. It is noticeable that there was a great deal of emigration to America to the coalmines of Pennsylvania. **Alexander Martin** came to Woodhead about 1843 as a labourer and left in 1867 to go to Pittston to join his daughter **Christina** and sons **Harry**, **Alexander** and **Thomas** who had left the leadmine in the early 1850s when production slumped.

Others who went to America were **Alexander Cameron** in 1851, brothers **James and Richard Fisher** with their respective wives and large families in 1853, **Aaron Hastie** and **Thomas Hastie** with his wife **Catherine** and **David Tennant** also in 1853.The Fisher and Hastie families were in the 1841 census at the leadmines so they had lived there for around 12 years so it may have been quite a blow to them to leave a mine where they had lived for some time in new houses with a school built onsite. **James Bone**, a leadwasher in 1841 and a leadminer in 1851 left Woodhead with his wife **Catherine Hastie**, and moved to Dalmellington before emigrating to Pittston in August 1875 with their seven children. **William Weir** and family went to Pittston after 1851.

Peter Wilson, the manager's son who was at the mines from 1841 until after 1851 went to Norway where he married and later moved to Germany.

Alexander Mitchell who was recorded in both the 1841 and 1851 censuses as a leadminer moved back to his birthplace Leadhills with his wife in April 1852 and then to America in 1854. His son William was born at sea off the coast of Newfoundland. **Robert Hamilton**, who had come to the mine before 1841 was a lead smelter left after his son James died there in 1852. Robert was buried in Wisconsin in 1859.

Others did not travel so far. The coal mines

of East Ayrshire were flourishing and there was a demand for men experienced in working underground. **John Menzies**, **Alan and Aaron Whitefield**, **Thomas Tennant**, **George Shields** and **Robert Shields** went to New Cumnock in 1853 followed by **Robert and Thomas Gracie** in 1854. **Allan Hastie** went for a few months in 1855 to the ironworks at Dunaskin where great numbers were employed. Others, such as **Thomas Harvey** and **William Moffat** returned to Leadhills in 1845 and **Alexander Mitchell** in 1852. **Thomas Callan** and family who were at Woodhead for at least 20 years returned to the Wanlockhead/Leadhills area sometime after 1861 and before 1871. **Robert Dalgleish** moved with his wife from Kells, a nearby parish, to become a labourer in 1871 but by 1881 he was a coal miner in Dalmellington.

The miners mentioned so far were those who mainly came when the mines were started. As time went on most of them left but were replaced by a much smaller number of miners, most of them coming from England or Wales.

Alex and John Cameron and **David Blackwood** came from the mining community at Strontian in Argyll, the **Jeffery** family from Islay and the **O'Connell** family from Ireland. In the 1871 census out of a population of 109, nearly 40 came from England and out of those most came from Cornwall. Only 20 houses were inhabited. **Edward Pascoe** had left the tin mines behind and had come to Scotland with his family in 1866 or 1867 to seek work. Firstly they went to Islay and then came to Carsphairn. They didn't stay long and moved to North Wales before returning to Cornwall in 1880. **William Stephens**, his wife **Mary**, both born in Cornwall came from Yorkshire in 1871. **James and Grace Bennet**, both born in Cornwall came in 1871 came with their five children from Strontian in Argyll. They stayed until 1874. **Ambrose Bullin** aged 21, **Thomas Cayor**, **his wife Mary** and their four daughters, **William Doure** with his mother **Jane** and sister **Mary** all born in Cornwall are on the 1871 census. Another surname in the 1871 census was **Freyustha**, a family whose place of birth is just listed as England who came in 1869. Lead production ended in 1873 when just 12 tons were raised and it is likely that the miners moved shortly after that.

Miners and their families were mobile, many hoping to be successful in a dangerous occupation. After the slump of 1852/53 in lead production many moved on to what they considered to be a better life, some going overseas to an unknown land. Some stayed and there are a few local families nowadays who can connect with the new industry that brought so many to a wild hillside in the early 1840s. I respect their courage, belief in themselves and the drive of the nineteenth century leadminers for a better life.

This article would not have been possible without the help of enthusiastic local historians in Carsphairn during the 1970s and 1980s and some families, from afar in the UK and the US who shared their knowledge of their family history with the Carsphairn Heritage Group at a time when very little was known about the leadmines apart from the ruins on the hillside.

Anna Campbell #191

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

We apologise for not being able to accommodate all the articles submitted for this issue, but will endeavour to include them in Issue 112.

UK NEW MEMBERS INTERESTS

7328 Leslie **Shanks**, *leslie.shanks@hotmail.com* **Shank**, 1600 - 1700, farming family, relocated to Belfast, Co Down most likely part of the Hamilton / Montgomery plantation on the Ards Peninsula. Trying to trace ancestors living in Scotland prior to the move to Belfast, thought to be based in Dumfries & Galloway.

7329 Brian **Wilson**, *a5alexanderbwilson@gmail.com* **Wilsons** of Lorg Farm, St John's Town of Dalry & Carsphairn. **Alexander Wilson** d.1836 aged 55, buried at Dalry.

7330 Denise **Hoban**, *missdmh@icloud.com* **Carlyles** & **McLeans** around Annan area.

7331 Chris **Rushton**, *chris.rushton@sfets.co.uk* My 3xgt grandfather, **Richard Billington** b.C1763 in Staffordshire; d.1824 & buried in Dumfries. He was in China trade & had shop in Dumfries. Any info greatly appreciated.

7332 Janet **Thurston**, *jehthurston@gmail.com* **Scott**, Gretna; **Shannon** & **Comlin** (variants: Comline, Commelin, Comling) in Kirkcudbright, particularly around Auchencairn.

7333 Patricia **Perks**, *triciaperks813@gmail.com* **Hairstanes/Hastings** & variants, **McGeorge**, **Kirkpatrick**, **Edgar**, **Watson**, **Tait**: Keir, Closeburn & Kirkmahoe Parishes.

7334 Wilma **McDermid**, *alderneuk@googlemail.com* **Kerr**, **McKie**: Kirkcudbright/ Wigtownshire.

7335 Norman **Reynolds**, *ngr6947@outlook.com* Family History - Kells & Carsphairn

7336 Barbara **Stewart**, *Barbara_stewart73@yahoo.com* **Cummings & Byers**, Dumfries. My grandmother, **Barbara Byers**, nee **Cummings**, 02.04.1903 – 31.01.1987, lost 2 babies at months old: **William Broadfoot Byers** & **Alfred Cummings Byers**. No idea where they are buried - would be Catholic graveyard. Other children: James, John, Ernest, Anne & Barbara.

7338 Philip **Seyers**, *philseyers@hotmail.com* Gt grandfather, **Andrew Beattie**, d.1905 Lochmaben after falling from his horse; his wife, Gt grandmother, **Barbara Wilson Beattie**, nee Morton, born Closeburn (1870–1938). Gt grandmother, **Jessie Ferguson** b.1886, Kirkcudbright, d.1905 in Glasgow; married **William Wood**, (her parents **Adam Ferguson** & **Janet Gourlay**).

7340 Val **Isaacs**, *val.isaacs@gmail.com* **Wilson**, **Halliday**: Moffat.

7342 Douglas **Robinson**, *52drobinson@gmail.com* Grandparents, **Samuel Gracie** (1887-1965) & **Isabella Anderson** (1892-1960) of Palaceknowe, Beattock, Kirkpatrick Juxta. Previous generations in census records at Johnstone, & Gateside, Kirkmichael.

7343 Catherine **Cunningham**, *c.cunningham222@yahoo.co.uk* Family of **James Kinna** who stayed at "Masonfield", Minnigaff area, Newton Stewart.

7345 Richard **Robinson**, *ric3188@gmail.com* Descendants of **George Anderson Currie**, b.27.05.1857, Collin. Married **Margaret** (ms: **Currie**) at Rockhallhead, Lochmaben: 12.01.1907. Died at Cleator Moor, Cumberland, 01.03.1907.

7346 Beverley **Hyslop**, *beverleyh58@btinternet.com* **Allison**, **Armstrong**, **Beverley**, **Byers**, **Black**, **Dobie**, **Hyslop/Hislop**, **Oliphant** Places - Langholm, Penninghame, Canonbie, Gretna.

7348 Bob **Mundell**, *robertmundell9751@gmail.com* Looking for info on the

Burgess Family, Wicket Thorne, Kirkpatrick-Fleming circa 1800, esp **Jean Hope Burgess** (b.1803). All help appreciated!

7349 Karen **Ward**, *karen_jane_ward@hotmail.com* **Sproat**, **Proudfoot**, **Wilson**, **Burgess**, **Sadler**. Places: Stoneykirk, Old Luce, Whithorn, Kirkpatrick-Juxta, Wamphray, Johnstone.

7350 Diana **McGavin**, *dianamcgavin90@gmail.com* **Stitt** family tree from Penpont parish. Interested in a Stitt connection to HSBC in Hong Kong before and during WW2.

7401 Carole **Doyle-Roberts**, *antinourilake@yahoo.co.uk* First Lieutenant **David Coutts**, died serving in Royal Marines in 1795. His last Will states money left to Mrs **Jane Coutts** & **Jannet Bodden** (spinster). Looking for information on both ladies.

NEW OVERSEAS MEMBERS

7356 Gregg **Chalmers**, CAN, *Gregg_chalmers@outlook.com*, **Chalmers/Chambers**

7357 Patrick **Thomson**, CAN, *pthomson@personainternet.com*, **Thomson** – Lockerbie, Wamphray, Auldgirth

7358 John **Macredie**, NZ, *macrediejn@gmail.com*, Stranraer, Whithorn - William **Macredie** 1791/3 his son Alexander **Macredie** born 1820 died at Challoch, Newton Stewart 1860, Annie Morland born 1829 died 1871 Stranraer, daughters Annie and Catherine, William's father died at High Ersock . Anne Morland Kerr daughter of William Boyd Kerr, merchant, Penang, Malaysia where she was born.

7359 Diane **McMichael**, USA, *diane.mcmichael@gmail.com*, William **McMichael** b. 1796, married Mary **Dickson** 23 June 1826. Son James **McMichael** b. 3 Sept 1828.

7360 Linda **Armstrong**, AUS, *LocarnoLS6@gmail.com*, **Shennan**, **Armstrong** - Dumfries and Kirkcudbright

7361 Leslie **Kenny**, USA, *leskenny17@gmail.com*, Ayre **McCracken** – Wigtown

7362 Tania **Patterson**, AUS, *apatt@iprimus.com.au*, Stephen **Dowling** and Elizabetta **Anderson**, son James **Dowling**, born c 1850

7363 Michelle **Connell**, AUS, *michelleconnell21@gmail.com*, Thomas Arnold **Ireland** born Lockerbie 1907

7364 Joy **Ellington**, USA, *ellingtonjoy@gmail.com*, **Johnstone** – Dumfries

7365 Robert **Doughty**, USA, *doughtybobmail@aol.com*, (**McClachrie** & **Donaldson**) (**Coates** & **Sproat**) (**Turner** & **Morrison**) (**McLeod** & **Turner**) (**McLeod** & **Mitchell**)

7367 Douglas **McGuffog**, AUS, *douglas@mcguffog.com.au*, **McGuffog** - Galloway

7368 Alison F **Gygax**, NZ, *alisongygax@gmail.com*, **Borland**, **Meikle** – farming families

7369 Anthony **Maxwell**, CAN, *tonymaxwell@shaw.ca*, **Maxwell** – Drumore

7370 Barbara **Moore**, USA, *bmoore7586@aol.com*, **McKie** – Minnigaff

7371 Cynthia **McNab**, AUS, *cmcnab50@outlook.com*, Glencairn – **Muirhead**, **Neilson**, **Halliday/Hiliday**, **Stoddart**. Kirkcudbrightshire – **Rankin**, **Agnew**

7372 Lorraine **Schiodtz**, AUS, *pescado@y7mail.com*, **Hutchison**, **Gordon**

7373 Ian **Ireland**, AUS, *ian.ireland@bigpond.com*

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Opening times for the Research Centre.
Tuesday 10.00am – 4.00pm. Thursday 10.00am – 4.00pm depending on availability of volunteers. If you plan to visit please telephone in advance to check if we are open.

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The membership year runs from January to December and subscriptions may be sent to the Membership Secretary, Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society, 9 Glasgow Street, Dumfries, DG2 9AF.

UK members have the option to pay by standing order. Gift Aid can be arranged.

Could all members who pay by standing order please note they need to inform their bank the new subscription rate is £11 for a hard copy of the newsletter and £7.50 for an e-journal.

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