

Retour

ISSUE No. 31
SPRING 2019

The Newsletter of
The Scottish Records
Association

ISSN 1479-9634

Katrine Aqueduct Photographs Discovered

A forgotten treasure trove of Victorian photographs showing the construction of parts of one of Scotland's most important pieces of infrastructure has been unearthed.



Katrine tunnelling 1892, courtesy of Scottish Water.

The Katrine Aqueduct, which takes water to treatment works that supply 1.3 million people in Glasgow and west central Scotland, was built in the Victorian era to help transform the health of citizens, and continues in full use to this day. The recently-discovered photographs provide a fascinating insight into the mega-structure which was officially opened by Queen Victoria almost 160 years ago in October 1859. They include remarkable images of pioneers boring through rocky mountainsides with drills during the construction of the 23.5 mile-long second aqueduct. Work began on this in 1885 and it was completed in 1901 to increase capacity and meet demand as the population of Glasgow burgeoned to more than one million.

(continued on page 2)

Also in this issue:
News (pages 1-14)
Feature articles (pages 15-17)
Publications and Exhibitions (pages 18-22)
Palaeography (pages 23-24)
Association news (pages 25-28)

News

The aqueduct scheme, comprising the two aqueducts, takes water by gravity from Loch Katrine to the Milngavie and Balmore water treatment works before it is distributed to customers across a large swathe of Glasgow and west central Scotland. The first aqueduct includes tunnels through mountainous terrain in the shadow of Ben Lomond and bridges over the valleys. The second aqueduct was constructed to accommodate the rapid expansion of Glasgow in the late 19th century. The two are as much as six miles apart on some stretches.

Steven Walker (pictured below, courtesy of Scottish Water), a leakage field technician with Scottish Water who discovered the photographs with a colleague, said: "I found these fragile glass slides from the construction of mainly the second aqueduct in a skip when we were moving to new offices. They were in two boxes or cases among all sorts of items that were to be thrown out. I suspected they were of interest but their true historical value was only confirmed when a colleague who works for us in the Loch Katrine area analysed them. The pictures give a fascinating insight into the construction of the second aqueduct and some of the methods used which might appear archaic, and even dangerous, to us now but were the 'new technology' of the day at that time.



"I like to think that the heart of Glasgow is not George Square or somewhere else in the city centre but 8.5 miles to the north in Milngavie where the two aqueducts end.

"The boom in shipbuilding that helped Glasgow 'flourish' was able to happen only because of the two amazing aqueducts that bring water from Loch Katrine to the two reservoirs at

Milngavie and the water treatment works there.

"It's remarkable to think that the first aqueduct was so successful, and Glasgow grew so quickly, that within 30 years they had to repeat the process and build a second aqueduct to double the output. These pictures are an important part of that story and I'm delighted we were able to save them."

The photographs are now in secure storage and Scottish Water is considering how they might be stored and protected in the future and whether they could be exhibited for staff and the public.

A Scottish Water video about this story can be viewed on Dropbox at: www.dropbox.com/s/pnds2ene80vezc6/. A selection of the Victorian images, shots of Steven Walker, and general views of Loch Katrine, can be viewed at: www.dropbox.com/sh/i30ivhyvmuol3os/AACMgvXGBSDU0auuGoHs0rWda?dl=0.

News

New Developments at the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre

The Scottish Jewish Archives Centre (SJAC) is currently in the delivery phase of the creation of an exciting partnership project with Garnethill Synagogue Preservation Trust. With grant aid from the Heritage Lottery Fund, The Association of Jewish Refugees, The Federal Republic of Germany, The Wolfson Family Charitable Trust and other funders, work is now progressing to create a Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre in Garnethill Synagogue in Glasgow - Scotland's oldest synagogue, opened in 1879 and the home of the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre.



A key element of the project is the establishment of a Scottish Holocaust-era Study Centre. This is being designed to provide, for the first time, access to SJAC Holocaust-era Collections with resources for school pupils, students and researchers interested in SJAC's collections on Jewish refugees who came to Scotland in the 1930s and 1940s.

Many Jews fled here from Nazi Europe, including children who came on the Kindertransport, adult women with domestic service visas, physicians, scientists, musicians, political refugees, Polish soldiers, businessmen who rebuilt their businesses in Scotland, artists, clergy and concentration camp survivors.

The project also seeks to document the response of the Jewish and non-Jewish community in Scotland to this wave of refugees and to highlight the contribution made by the refugees to Scottish society, the economy, education, science, medicine, arts and culture.

Significant collections of refugee papers and memorabilia are being gathered by SJAC and will provide a rich treasure trove for researchers of this period. These include the Dorrit M Sim (née Oppenheim) Collection, which charts the experiences of Dorrit as a child refugee in 1939, the story of her life in Scotland, and the history of her family going back to the 18th century in Germany. This extensive collection includes documents, correspondence, military memorabilia, domestic artefacts and Kindertransport papers.

The Hilda Goldwag Collection includes educational qualifications, immigration papers, family photographs, and student artworks from Vienna and textile and graphic design samples from work in Scotland. It illustrates how this young artist and designer from Vienna escaped to Scotland on a domestic service visa.



The Friedlander Family Collection includes family and business papers, press cuttings, photographs and textile samples relating to the owners of a textile firm in Vienna, which traded internationally in silk and fabrics. The Friedlanders fled Vienna in 1938 and were offered refuge in the UK. They set up a thriving factory in Hillington, Glasgow, at one time employing over 200 people. **Walter and Robert Friedlander are pictured here outside the factory (copyright Scottish Jewish Archives Centre).**

To visit the Archives Centre or to learn more about this project, access the SJAC website at www.sjac.org.uk, or email info@sjac.org.uk.

News

Points of Arrival: five films about Scottish Jews

Points of Arrival is a series of short films produced as part of *Jewish Lives, Scottish Spaces*, a joint research project between the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow which draws on the collections of the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre (SJAC), the Mitchell Library in Glasgow, Edinburgh City Archives, Glasgow City Archives, the National Library of Scotland and the National Records of Scotland.

The films chart the lives of Jewish people who have come to Scotland since the late 19th century, and focus on where they came from, when and how they arrived, and their subsequent new life in Scotland. All of their stories are told by contemporary narrators, whose own lives are connected to the theme of migration. The people profiled are Isaac Hirshow, Annie Lindey, Hilda Goldwag, Dorrit Sim and Henry Wuga.

Isaac Hirshow (1883-1956) studied and worked in Warsaw, before emigrating with his wife and son to the Gorbals in 1922 to take up the position of cantor at the Chevra Kadisha synagogue. In 1925 he became cantor at Glasgow's prestigious Garnethill synagogue, where he remained for the rest of his life. Isaac wrote new music for Garnethill services and became an influential and much-loved figure in the Jewish community. A restless and creative artist, in 1938 aged 45 he also became the University of Glasgow's first ever graduate in Music. The Cantata that Isaac produced as part of this degree is an important, although little-known, contribution to Jewish art music. Syrian-Kurdish musician Adnan Shamdin tells Isaac's story, along with some powerful parallels to his own journey.

Annie Lindey (1886-1953) came to Edinburgh from Odessa when she was a young girl. Alongside being a successful businesswoman, she worked tirelessly for the Edinburgh Jewish community. Responding to a lack of welfare support for women, Annie founded the Ladies Benevolent Society, an organisation that supported poor families and single mothers in the Jewish community. She was first chair of the Ladies Guild, responsible for looking after synagogue religious items and caring for the sick and elderly.

Hilda Goldwag (1912-2008), is featured in a film narrated by artist and photographer Emma Newcome. Hilda was born into an artistic family in Vienna and graduated from art school. **On the right is an image of her Austrian residency document, 1933 (copyright Scottish Jewish Archives Centre).** In 1939 she fled to Glasgow to escape Nazi persecution. Hilda



News

worked as a fabric designer and book illustrator, and in her sixties became a full-time painter. She wheeled her paints, brushes and easel around industrial Glasgow creating paintings that celebrate the less-represented side of her adopted city: its backstreets, factories and broken fences.



Dorrit Sim, née Oppenheim (1931-2012), arrived in the UK in 1939. **Pictured here on her Kindertransport exit card (copyright Scottish Jewish Archives Centre)**, she was one of 10,000 mostly Jewish children escaping the spread of Nazism, travelling on what became known as the Kindertransport. Dorrit was taken in by an Edinburgh family and after the war she remained in Scotland, raising her own family and becoming an active part of refugee association networks. Dorrit wrote a book about her childhood journey and spoke regularly to school and community groups. Her words, along with illustrator Gerald Fitzgerald's images, give a simple and moving account of the uncertainties and fears that surround the experiences of refugee children.

Henry Wuga (born 1924), speaks regularly at schools and public events in the UK and in Germany. Henry has been an outspoken campaigner for social justice and mutual understanding for most of his life. Arriving in Scotland as a teenage refugee from Nazi Germany, Henry went to school in Glasgow and afterwards began a successful career as a caterer. In telling his story, Henry draws unavoidable parallels with the lives and situation of contemporary refugees.

Lead researcher Dr Hannah Holtschneider, of the University of Edinburgh's School of Divinity, said: "The films offer fresh perspectives on the history of migration to these shores, its impact on individuals, the reception the people received and the contribution immigrants have made in communities."

Jewish Lives, Scottish Spaces is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

Points of Arrival can be viewed on the Jewish Lives, Scottish Spaces website:

<http://jewishmigrationtoscotland.is.ed.ac.uk/index.php/2018/10/23/points-of-arrival-a-series-of-short-films-from-the-jewish-lives-scottish-spaces-project/>.

News

Books and Borrowers at Innerpeffray Library 1747-1855

Innerpeffray Library recently hosted a Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities Applied Research collaboration, with academic support from the Universities of Stirling and Dundee. This resulted in a PhD thesis by Jill Dye (available at <http://hdl.handle.net/1893/28881>) which offers a deeper understanding of the Library and borrowers' habits, and paves the way for further research at Innerpeffray. Lara Haggerty, Keeper of Books at the Library, reports that the research collaboration was a very productive process and highly recommends it to other archives.

Founded about 1680, the Library of Innerpeffray loaned books to local people in rural Perthshire without charge. By 1747 the library was recording who borrowed which books, with information identifying borrowers, such as their addresses, occupations and relationships. For more information see www.innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk.

Perth and Kinross Archive Celebrates Fortieth Anniversary

Perth and Kinross Archive celebrated its fortieth anniversary in November, marked by a civic reception in AK Bell Library on 2nd November, attended by around 140 guests.



The archive team with Lisa Simpson, Head of Legal Services for Perth and Kinross Council; Dennis Melloy, Provost of Perth and Kinross; George Mackenzie, former Keeper of the Records of Scotland; and Charles Kinnoull, Chair of Culture Perth and Kinross, gathered around the anniversary cake, donated by Murrays Bakers, Perth.

A keynote speech by George Mackenzie, traced the history of the archive from its humble beginnings in the basement of the Sandeman Library through to today's modern archive service, which delivers a wide range of services for Perth and Kinross Council, local communities and researchers from far and wide. George's speech also looked at how the service has responded to national archive developments, and especially how it has increased access to the collections with support from volunteers, work placements and the Friends of Perth and Kinross Archive.

News

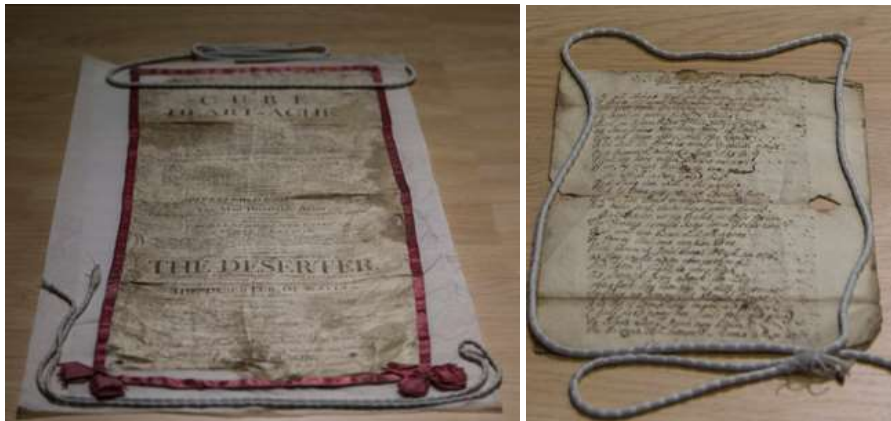
There were three exhibitions for visitors to enjoy: the first was a digital timeline tracing the archive's history, which was illustrated with photographs of significant events, historical records, former staff and volunteers. The archive team was delighted that so many former members of staff attended the evening and seemed to enjoy reminiscing over the photographs.

The second exhibition was a 'Treasures' display highlighting a selection of some of the oldest, most important and unusual documents. This included an early fourteenth century copy of Perth's Burgh Charter by William I declaring generally the privileges and regulations of the Burgh of Perth, from about 1205 to 1210 (B59/23/1) and Perth's 'new' city charter which was awarded in Queen Elizabeth II's diamond jubilee year, 2012 (ACC13/69).



Perth's 'old' and 'new' burgh charters.

Curiosities included a silk handbill advertising 'The celebrated Comedy A Cure for the Heart-ache' which was performed in Perth in 1805 (MS14/186(A)) and 'The Bumbees Assembly', a satirical poem dated 10 May 1729 (B59/41/3), commenting on John Simpson's suspension by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, a year or two prior.



Silk handbill advertising 'A Cure for the Heart-ache', 1805, and satirical poem 'The Bumbees Assembly', 1729.

Last but by no means least, was the 'Favourites' display, where archive staff and volunteers each selected one document which had special significance to them. This resulted in a varied and interesting display which gave a thought-provoking insight into the collections.

Perth and Kinross Archive hopes to find a way of publishing its three anniversary exhibitions on its website so that they can be seen and enjoyed by people who weren't there on the night.

News

The reception was attended by a wide range of people, including researchers, archivists, conservators, staff and volunteers (both past and present). Many old friendships were rekindled which made for a very pleasant atmosphere and a truly enjoyable evening. The Archive Friends group and volunteers did a super job invigilating exhibitions, promoting the Friends stall and helping out wherever it was needed. Tours of the archive strong-room also took place. Fifty-five people took up the offer, keeping staff busy all evening. The archive team thanks everyone for supporting the celebrations, it was very much appreciated. Here's to the next forty years!

Giving a voice to a First World War soldier at Perth and Kinross Archive

In October 2018 Perth and Kinross Archive undertook a small project to give voice to some letters from a First World War soldier. Five young people from local schools and theatre groups were invited along to lend their voices to the project and in a very intensive four hour period they were able to record 15 letters. This project formed a small part of a larger project to produce a First World War education resource which invites schools to engage with archival collections through original documents, group discussion and performance.



Douglas, Charlie, Craig, Katie and Emily (courtesy of Perth and Kinross Archive)

The letters came from the collection of John Alexander Veitch (MS323) a young lad from Pitlochry who left the Perthshire town to attend University in Glasgow and then moved to London to work for the Inland Revenue before enlisting in 1917. From 1914 to 1917, during his time away for school, work and active service, John Alex wrote 201 letters home to his parents and sisters in Pitlochry. These are all held at the archive alongside other memorabilia and family papers.

John Alex enlisted with the London Scottish Rifles in February 1917. He was sent to basic training at Hazeley Down camp in Winchester before being deployed to France in July of the same year. During active service he was stationed in both France and Belgium. Many of his letters detail life in the camps and trenches and include constant assurances to his

News

family that he is 'safe and well'. John Alex died of wounds received during the Battle of Cambrai on 25th November 1917, he was twenty years old.



Service photograph of John Alex, June 1917, MS323/3/3 and letter written to his mother, October 1916, MS323/1/65. Images courtesy of Perth and Kinross Archive.

The recordings focused on correspondence sent during his time at basic training, on active service and the final letter from his mother, written on the day he died.



Craig and Emily perform the letters from the perspective of John Alex writing them in the trenches and his mother reading them back home in Pitlochry. Image courtesy of Perth and Kinross Archive.

The final outcome was a 30 minute film that paired images of the Veitch collection and the young actors alongside the vocalisation of the letters. This was debuted as part of a War themed film screening to close Perth and Kinross Archive's Explore Your Archive celebrations in November 2018. The opportunity to record more of these letters will be offered to any schools using the education resource in the future.

News

This project was made possible through the help of Scottish Council for Archives' Education Officer Douglas Roberts. Perth and Kinross Archive would like to thank him, and Craig, Katie, Emily, Doug and Charlie for lending their voices and for showing such enthusiasm.

Royal Troon Golf Club Archive

Troon Golf Club was formed on 16th March 1878, following a meeting of interested parties in the Portland Arms Hotel in Troon. The old course was formed out of the lands of Craigend Farm largely due to the enthusiasm of local golfers who persuaded the 6th Duke of Portland and his factor Fred J Turner to grant permission for the formation of a golf club. Later foundations were Portland Golf Club and the Ladies Golf Club. For more information see <https://www.royaltroon.co.uk/club-history>.

Past members of Troon Golf Club included Sir Alexander Walker of Johnnie Walker whisky fame, William Robertson of Robertson and Baxter, and George Morton of Lochgreen House. Current honorary members include HRH Prince Andrew the Duke of York, and Colin Montgomerie whose father was club secretary.

The archive collection consists of approximately 9 linear metres of records mostly stored in two fire proof safes located in the specially dedicated Archives Room. In April 2017 cataloguing began on the collection, and is now almost complete. Although there had been previous attempts to create a catalogue, this was the first time that the club had agreed to the appointment of a professionally qualified archivist albeit on a consultancy basis. The project was also to encompass the listing of the prints and paintings belonging to the club and its collection of objects.

The collection has been arranged in the following sections with sub sections and is catalogued down to item level in accordance with ISADg as follows: (1) administrative records, (2) membership records, (3) financial records, (4) legal records, (5) British Open Golf Championships, (6) scrap books, (7) maps and plans, (8) photographs, (9) printed material and (10) miscellaneous.

Most of the material exists in hard copy although there are some digital images of various items, including the digitised copies of the minute books and scrap books which are particularly interesting. They were initially begun by Harold Ross Coubrough who was the secretary, from 1909 until the 1920s, of the then Troon Golf Club (it was granted the title Royal in 1978). The materials he collected relate not only to the development of the club and golf in general but also to the growth of Troon itself.

The substantial prints collection illustrative of the history of golf was created largely due to the antiquarian interests of several of the former captains. These prints include the early Dutch masters in the 17th century illustrating the early practice of playing golf or kolf on frozen canals.

There are also photographs relating to the course and clubhouse, and to the British Open Golf Championships which first graced the old course at Troon in 1923. The most recent Open held at Troon was that of 2016.

Presently, access to the collection is by appointment only. The archivist can be contacted by email: archivist@royaltroon.com or by mail: Archives, Royal Troon Golf Club, 2 Craigend Road, Troon, Ayrshire KA10 6EP

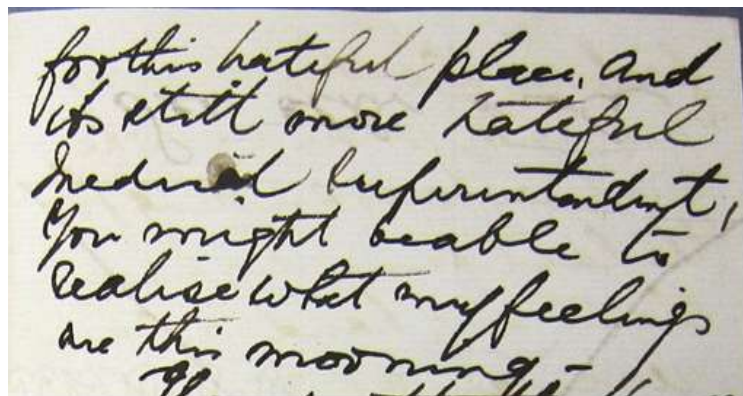
News

John Home's collection of letters at Lothian Health Services Archive

A recent internship at the Lothian Health Services Archive has focused on the cataloguing, rehousing and transcription of a collection of letters written by John Home, a Writer to the Signet who was a patient at the Royal Edinburgh Asylum in Morningside (now Royal Edinburgh Hospital) from 1886 to 1887. The collection contains around 175 letters to a wide variety of recipients, including barmaids, the Lord Advocate, family members and Members of Parliament.

Under the 1866 Lunacy (Scotland) Act, medical personnel were allowed to open correspondence from patients and hold back those which they felt were unsuitable, which explains why such a large number of Home's letters are still retained within the Royal Edinburgh Hospital's collection. However it is clear from some of the references that a number of his letters were also posted, so he was clearly a very prolific correspondent! The writings provide a unique insight into one patient's life within the asylum and his perspective on the conditions, including his views on areas for improvement.

The rehousing of the letters has now been completed, with the collection stored in acid free folders and boxes and it is hoped that the catalogue entries and associated transcriptions will shortly be published in order to give access to this rare collection to a wider audience.



GD16/2/6/1/111, extract from letter from John Home to Dr Joseph Bell, 24 March 1887: *for this hateful place, and its still more hateful medical superintendent, you might be able to realise what my feelings are this morning -*

Negligence or Misconduct? Accidents in the First World War Pensions Appeal Tribunal Records

Since December 2018, staff at the National Records of Scotland (NRS) have been working on a Wellcome Trust-funded project to catalogue and preserve Scotland's First World War Pensions Appeal Tribunal records. These are fascinating documents which until now have remained an untapped resource for researchers interested in the First World War.

Pensions Appeal Tribunals were established under the War Pensions Act 1920 to enable ex-servicemen and their dependents to challenge decisions relating to their war pensions. Dating from 1919 to 1932, the PT6 series contains case files for around 30,000 Scottish ex-servicemen. The records include medical information, service histories and employment details from before, during and after the War.

News

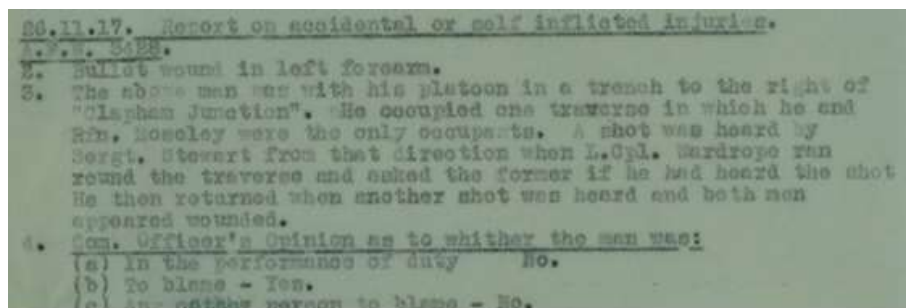
Claimants had to be able to prove to the Tribunal that their ill-health was a result of war service. Whilst many servicemen were wounded by gas and gunshot, or suffered from chronic illnesses, the records also include those who were injured as a result of accidents. Many of these cases contain details of courts martial or Fatal Accident Inquiries, making them particularly rich resources for researchers. The case file for Private George Wardrope, Cameronians, for example, includes a transcript of his 1918 court martial for shooting himself in the forearm. Although he was acquitted due to a lack of witnesses, the evidence against him was strong enough to deny him a pension.

In order to receive a pension, claimants had to demonstrate their injuries were not due to negligence or misconduct, something George had been unable to do. Other men were more fortunate. Corporal Alexander Dykes, Royal Defence Corps, dislocated his shoulder when he slipped on soup which had been thrown at his commanding officer during what he described as a 'bit of a melee' in the mess hall. With witnesses to support his statement, Alexander won his appeal.

Claimants also had to show their accidents happened during service, and injuries men received before the war could harm their chances of a successful appeal. Private James Nairn suffered from epilepsy and neurasthenia, which he claimed was a result of his experiences in the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. However, he had fractured his skull when he was fourteen and working for Bostock Circus. He had been 'tossed by an elephant and came down on one of his tusks'. This meant he was unable to definitively prove his epilepsy was caused by service.

War wounds could also result in post-war accidents. Sapper David Grant received shrapnel wounds in 1917 which resulted in the amputation of his left leg. Three years later he was with his sweetheart on the stairs of the Alyth YMCA when he slipped and fell over the balustrade. He died as a result of a fractured skull. In his mother's application for a pension there is a letter, signed by fellow amputees, which states that David had been following the correct procedure for descending the stairs by taking off his prosthetic leg and hopping down. Nevertheless, his mother was denied a pension.

Each record offers a unique glimpse into a man's war experience. The project provides researchers with the opportunity to explore how these experiences continued to affect ex-servicemen and their families for many years. The PT6 collection is closed for the duration of the cataloguing project. When this is completed, the catalogue database will be available on ScotlandsPeople.



PT6/15/1/189/3, extract from George Wardrope's case file, National Records of Scotland:
26.11.17. Report on accidental or self-inflicted injuries . . . The above man [Wardrope] was with his platoon in a trench to the right of "Clapham Junction". He occupied one traverse in which he and [Rifleman] Moseley were the only occupants. A shot was heard by [Sergeant] Stewart from that direction when [Lance Corporal] Wardrope ran round the traverse and asked the former if he had heard the shot. He then returned when another shot was heard and both men appeared wounded.

News

Lloyds Banking Group's Virtual Roll of Honour

11th November 2018 marked 100 years since the end of the First World War. To commemorate the occasion Lloyds Banking Group launched its virtual roll of honour. Hosted on the Group's website, it records the near 1,000 staff who lost their lives in the conflict. It includes individuals from its various Scottish constituents such as Bank of Scotland, British Linen Bank and the Union Bank of Scotland, as well as Lloyds Bank, Halifax and Clerical Medical.

Archive staff spent more than a year pulling information together for the project. Details such as name, branch and bank worked at, were collated from various sources in the archive. Where photographs survived, these were also added. In total, some 700 images were scanned, resized and uploaded to the website. Most came from the Lloyds Bank memorial book, compiled in the aftermath of the war, but others were found in contemporary sources such as staff magazines. The archive staff were also fortunate to have the assistance of a member of the Scottish Military Research Group, who helped collate dates of death.

The roll of honour was well received by colleagues within the Group, and has also proved a valuable resource for researchers, both family and general historians. It can be searched by name for specific individuals, or by place. Data can also be arranged alphabetically by name or location, or numerically by date of death. Further information on how the War impacted Lloyds Banking Group, and the roll of honour can be viewed at: <https://www.lloydsbankinggroup.com/our-group/our-heritage/first-world-war/>.



Screen shot of Lloyds Banking Group website.

News

Dr Tristram Clarke Retires from National Records of Scotland

A familiar figure in Scottish archives, and to members of the Scottish Records Association, Dr Tristram Clarke, has retired after 34 years of service for the National Records of Scotland (NRS) and its precursors. Tristram (**pictured below, image Crown copyright, National Records of Scotland**) joined the former Scottish Record Office in 1984 and served under six permanent Keepers of the Records of Scotland.

Tristram's face and name have been well-known to owners, users and curators of records for decades, even if some had trouble spelling the latter! Many owners of private records will know him from his work for the National Register of Archives for Scotland. Many researchers will have received expert advice from him in the Historical Search Room of the NRS, or will have attended lectures and presentations he delivered to historical bodies and at conferences and other events. Thousands more will know his name from publications he edited, including the best-selling *Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors: the official guide*, or will have benefitted from his knowledge and talents, without knowing his name, via his cataloguing work (especially on court and legal records) and the exhibitions he curated. At the point he retired, he was Head of Outreach at the NRS.

He served as Secretary to the Scottish Records Association from 1989 to 1999, and was a member of the editorial committee of the Association's journal, *Scottish Archives*, when it was first issued in 1995. Typically, he does not plan to be idle in his retirement, as he continues several long-term research projects. The Association wishes him well.



National Records of Scotland: Main Entrance to General Register House Closed for Work on the Adam Dome

The main entrance to General Register House (GRH) is closed until further notice, while specialist consultants carry out investigation work on the Adam Dome. Search room facilities will remain open and all visitors to the Reid, Historical and Legal Search Rooms should report to the relevant room via the Garden entrance. Signage will be in place. All other visitors should go to reception at New Register House, adjacent to GRH. Please see the NRS website for the latest information: www.nrscotland.gov.uk.

Feature articles

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland



Since its foundation in 1780 (Royal Charter 1783) the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland has provided an independent forum for the study, conservation, enjoyment and promotion of Scotland's past.

The antiquities that Society Fellows, like Sir Walter Scott and Alexander Henry Rhind originally collected and left to the Society, now form the basis of the internationally important collections at the National Museums Scotland, transferred to the nation by the Society in the mid-19th century. **(On the right is the Antiquaries window in the Bute Room in the National Museum of Scotland on Chambers Street, copyright Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.)**

Today, nearly 240 years since it was founded, the Society is an independent charity registered in Scotland, with about 2,700 members (called Fellows) worldwide. It is governed by a voluntary Board of Trustees and is run by a small team of staff based in Edinburgh.

The Society's main activities include helping to translate Scotland's rich heritage and history for wider contemporary audiences, highlighting its relevance today and the importance of past and new research. It does this by publishing high quality books and peer-reviewed papers, by running free public lectures and conference programmes featuring leading experts, by supporting early career researchers and independent research by administering and awarding grants, and by being home to two sector-leading programmes: Dig It! and Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF).

The Society has been an active publisher of Scotland's history and archaeology since the first appearance of its transactions, *Archaeologia Scotica*, in 1792. In 1851 the Society began publishing the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* (PSAS), which quickly became the primary journal dealing with Scotland's past in its wider British and European context. Today it also publishes high-quality books covering all aspects of Scottish history and archaeology.



Feature articles

In December 2018 it proudly launched its Open Access platform, part of the Society's Open Access project to make all the Society's publications easy to find, access, navigate, use and read online, free at point of use for anyone, anywhere. As a sector-leading organisation, the Society was one of, if not the first, learned organisation in Scotland to scan and digitise (in PDF format) its entire Proceedings in the 1990s. This created a fantastic free resource for the public, including researchers investigating Scotland's past. Open Access is the next critical development in academic research and public access.

The Society's monthly lectures are professionally recorded and uploaded to the Society's website and to YouTube. This enables more people to watch the free-to-view online lectures across the world. Simply visit the 'Resources' section of the website, tick the 'videos' option in the search facility list on the right hand side of the web page, press 'search' and choose from the list of recorded lectures.

Looking ahead, the next annual Event Programme (autumn 2019 - summer 2020) promises an exciting range of topics and expert speakers and will be available to book in September. With 2020 being a notable anniversary year for the Society (240 years since it was founded) there are some special, celebratory events in store. For more information go to www.socantscot.org.

The Ballast Trust: celebrating thirty years of understanding technical records

The Ballast Trust is a charitable foundation established by businessman and industrial historian Dr William Lind in 1988. Bill set up the Ballast Trust to provide a rescue, sorting and cataloguing service for business and industrial records with a special focus on improving the understanding and importance of technical records (plans, drawings and photographs).

In 2018, the Ballast Trust celebrated its 30th anniversary with a series of events and activities that culminated in the publication, in November, of *The Business Archives: a labour of love*, commissioned by the Trustees. It describes William Lind's personal commitment to industrial and technical business records and explains the wider significance of technical records to Scotland's history. There are chapters on aspects of the Trust's methods of working, reflections on the changing landscape of business archives in Scotland and the future prospects for the Ballast Trust, and it is illustrated throughout with images from collections processed by the Trust and held by archives across Scotland. It also includes appendices that record those individuals who have worked with the Trust, provides a complete listing of the collections the Trust has processed since 1988, and a copy of its technical records processing guidance.

Feature articles

At the end of 2018, *The Business of Archives: a labour of love* was circulated to key stakeholders, Trust partners and client archives, with a wider distribution planned this spring to archives and business history-related organisations. Individual copies can be ordered at <http://www.ballasttrust.org.uk>.

The 30th anniversary events included a seminar in June 2018 at the National Railway Museum in York, in which the Ballast Trust worked in partnership with the Section for Business Records of the Archives and Records Association (ARA). This seminar explored the theme of technical records, focusing on the plans and drawings held in business archive collections and the different approaches that have been used to reveal the potential of these records. In August the Trust's archivist delivered a '30 minute makeover' session for technical records at the ARA conference in Glasgow. A social media campaign was delivered all year via twitter @BallastTrust under the hashtag #Ballast30.



Professor Anthony Slaven, Director of the Ballast Trust and Kiara King, Archivist, at the Trust's premises in Johnstone. Photograph by Greg Smith, July 2018.

After thirty years, the Ballast Trust has developed from a specialised processing service to becoming a leading agency advocating the significance and importance of technical business archives, and the home of expertise and training in appraisal and cataloguing of technical business records. Bill's original objectives are unchanged, a testament to his insight for the need for a specialist technical archive service. This is a service that the Ballast Trust continues to provide to the archive community and it looks forward to continuing its work in the future.

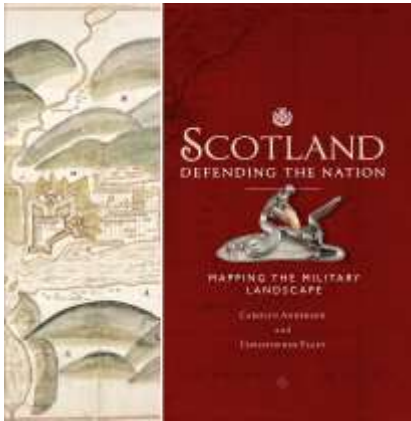
Publications and Exhibitions

Publications, exhibitions and displays by (or associated with) institutional and individual members of the Scottish Records Association. Contributions should be sent to retoureditor@outlook.com.

Publications

Scotland: defending the nation

Carolyn Anderson and Christopher Fleet



This is a collaborative publication between Birlinn and the National Library of Scotland, with maps drawn principally from the Library's rich collections. It explores Scotland's unique and fascinating military history, using six centuries of military maps of Scotland, beginning in the 1450s. The central purpose of the book is to illustrate the military history of Scotland from the perspective of maps and mapmaking. Warfare has been a primary driving force behind mapping for centuries; military needs were responsible for the creation of many important maps of Scotland. This book celebrates the achievements of military forces, engineers and personnel in

Scotland, whilst also considering the damage caused by warfare, such as loss of life, appropriation of land for military use, prisoners of war, and wrecks at sea. It also looks at practical subjects such as water supply for garrisons, the planning and construction of barracks, and dealing with bomb damage for rebuilding purposes. ISBN 9781780274935 <https://geo.nls.uk/maps/defending/>.

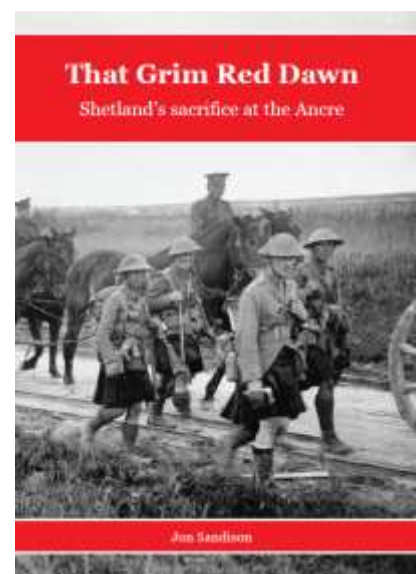
That Grim Red Dawn:

Shetland's sacrifice at the Ancre

Jon Sandison

More than 1,600 men with Shetland connections served in the army during the First World War. Casualties were constant during four years of conflict. The worst concentrated loss occurred on 13th November 1916 in the final phase of the Battle of the Somme, when 22 Shetland men lost their lives. This is the story of that day and the devastating impact it had on a community. Published by Shetland Library, ISBN 9780905924632. Copies can be bought at: <https://shop.shetlandtimes.co.uk/>.

Further information about the 'Shetland's War' project which published this book is at www.shetland-library.gov.uk/ShetlandsWar.asp.



Publications and Exhibitions

A History of Catholic Education and Schooling in Scotland: new perspectives

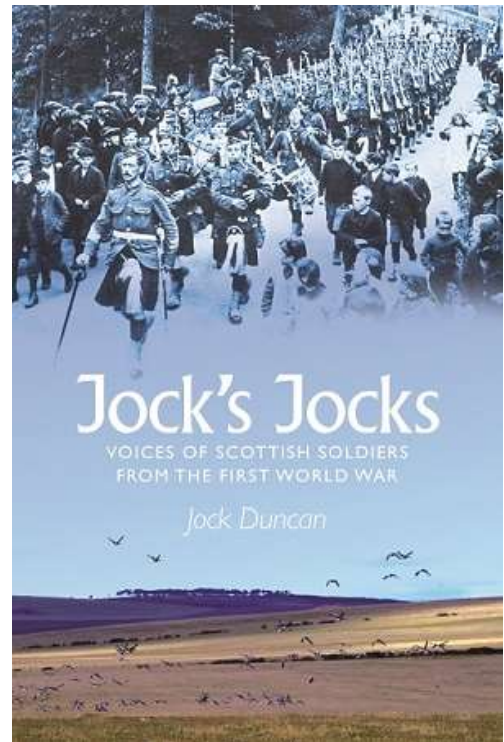
**Stephen J. McKinney and Raymond McCluskey (editors), with contributions by
Geraldine Vaughan, Karly Kehoe, Tom O'Donoghue, Jane McDermid and Mary McHugh**

A collection of essays, this book is a scholarly re-examination of the historical context and development of Catholic education that preceded and post-dated the Education (Scotland) Act of 1918. Key issues that are explored include the role of the male and female religious, lay female teachers, the construction of a Scottish Catholic school system and the slow and, at times, challenging process of negotiation that eventually led to state funding for Catholic schools. Archive collections consulted include Glasgow Archdiocese Archives, the Scottish Catholic Archive, the National Records of Scotland and the National Library of Scotland. Published by Palgrave Macmillan UK, ISBN 9781137513694, available from 24 June 2019, <https://www.palgrave.com>.

Jock's Jocks: voices of Scottish soldiers from the First World War

Jock Duncan. Edited by Gary West.

Between the 1930s and 1980s, folk singer Jock Duncan interviewed around 60 First World War veterans from 14 regiments from Aberdeenshire, Angus and Perthshire. He transcribed his interviews in the rich variations of Scots dialect in which they were spoken (with some in standard English). The result is a unique and illuminating collection of first-hand witness testimony to the horror, and humour, of the Great War. An introduction explains the background to the interview-collecting and includes a detailed timeline of key battles and events. There is also a glossary of Scots words and phrases. Co-published by National Museums Scotland Enterprises Limited – Publishing, and the European Ethnological Research Centre, ISBN 9781910682333. Available from <http://shop.nms.ac.uk>.



Publications and Exhibitions

Exhibitions

The Scottish Widow at Museum on the Mound

Lloyds Banking Group Archives report that the Scottish Widow has arrived at Museum on the Mound. As part of an ongoing programme of redevelopment, the area looking at the history of the Group's insurance business was recently revamped to include more focus on its Scottish side. Scottish Widows, the oldest life assurance company in Scotland, began business in 1815. It rapidly expanded to become a nationwide institution, and by the 1860s was advertising itself as the largest mutual life assurance company in the world. Famous customers included Sir Walter Scott, who took out a life policy in 1824. The policy, which insured Scott's life for £3,000, is now on display at the Museum, alongside further iconic items from the Scottish Widows collections. This includes the cloak **(shown on the right, courtesy of Lloyds Banking Group)** worn by the original 'Scottish Widow', Deborah Moore. Deborah, daughter of the actor Roger Moore, first appeared as 'the Widow' in a TV advert broadcast in 1988. There have been three further 'Widows' since: Amanda Lamb, Hayley Hunt and Amber Martinez. Outfits worn by all three survive in the collections, and the intention is that they will be put on display in rotation over the coming years. There will also be a very unusual cloak on display over the summer. For further information on the Scottish Widows archive and heritage collections, please contact staff at Lloyds Banking Group Archives (archives@lloydsbanking.com). Find out more about Museum on the Mound at: <https://museumonthemound.com/>.



Conscience Matters

A new exhibition at the National War Museum at Edinburgh Castle explores the story of British conscientious objectors in the Second World War, through paintings, poems, letters, music, speeches and personal memorabilia. It is a collaboration with Tobias Kelly, Professor of Political and Legal Anthropology at the University of Edinburgh, as part of a broader European Research Council-funded research project into freedom of conscience.

Although there were almost four times as many conscientious objectors in the Second World War as in the First World War, their stories tend to have been forgotten, possibly in part because they were relatively well treated in comparison to those of the previous generation. Unlike the citizens of any other country involved in the Second World War, those in the United Kingdom could exercise their legal right to register as conscientious objectors. Once

Publications and Exhibitions

registered, they had to justify their objection before a legal tribunal. Reasons could include religious beliefs and political views, as well as moral grounds. They also had to face the scrutiny of family and society.



Conscience Matters exhibition at the National War Museum, photograph by Dorothy Kidd.

Several archival resources have been used to help visitors understand the sorts of choices that conscientious objectors faced. Papers kept by a tribunal judge and now preserved in the University of Aberdeen Special Collections Centre are used in an interactive presentation to explain the different reasons that conscientious objectors might put forward to explain their positions. The interactive presentation also encourages visitors to consider each case and to come to their own decision, to act as 'judge', before they find out what the real outcome was.

Oral history is used in a short film that explores the personal and artistic expressions through which conscientious objectors demonstrated their convictions. In the late 1980s Ian MacDougall undertook an oral history project to record the voices of about twenty Scottish conscientious objectors of the Second World War. This culminated in the BBC Radio Scotland programme, *I Wasn't Going to Kill Anyone*, broadcast in 1990. The experiences of the conscientious objectors, including the late poet Norman MacCaig, are brought to life in excerpts from these interviews. MacDougall's original interviews are preserved in the School of Scottish Studies Archives, University of Edinburgh and his papers in the National Library of Scotland.

The exhibition has also relied heavily on the collections and help of archivists from Glasgow University, Stirling University, the Mitchell Library (GlasgowLife), the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain and many more.

Conscience Matters is on at the National War Museum until 26 January 2020. Entry is included with Edinburgh Castle admission. See www.nms.ac.uk/war.

Publications and Exhibitions

Timeline on the History of Robert Gordon's College

To mark the 350th anniversary of the birth of Robert Gordon, a striking new Timeline has been installed along the wall of a corridor in The Craig Centre for Performing Arts at Robert Gordon's College in Aberdeen.



The Timeline (**pictured above, copyright Robert Gordon's College**) shows significant dates in the history of Robert Gordon's College. Starting with the birth of Robert Gordon in August 1668, it chronicles the development of the Auld Hoose from the days it opened as a Hospital, or residential school, for poor boys in 1750; through its gradual expansion and rebirth as a day school in 1881, to the co-educational establishment of today. Divided into periods of 50 years, it illustrates each development with a document or photograph from the Archive collection.

The 1930s section is particularly busy, with the building of the MacRobert Hall and the Swimming Pool, and the introduction of a Founder's Day and a Boarding House among other events. The steady addition of new facilities in the later 20th Century is clear, with the final illustration showing the Princess Royal opening The Wood Foundation Centre for Science and Technology and The Craig Centre for Performing Arts in 2016.

The project was conceived, designed and delivered by the College's archivists, teachers and support staff who make up the Archive Committee.

It is hoped to add future developments to the Timeline to complete the section 2000-2050. But, since this will not happen until 2050, it will definitely be the responsibility of archivists to come!

Palaeography

The Scottish Records Association encourages palaeography (the study of older forms of handwriting), which researchers in Scottish archives find useful when reading records written before the 19th century.

As well as publishing palaeography puzzles in each issue of *Retour*, the Association is the joint publisher (with the National Records of Scotland) of *Scottish Handwriting 1500-1700: a self-help pack*.



Scottish Handwriting 1500-1700: a self-help pack

Editor: Alison Rosie

Publisher: Scottish Records Association and the National Records of Scotland

ISBN: 1 870874 04 8. Pages: 28 plus 13 facsimiles

Cost (including postage) for non-members (at April 2019):
£10 (UK), £15 (overseas)

**Cost (including postage) for SRA members (at April 2019):
£8 (UK), £15 (overseas)**

How to order SRA Scottish Handwriting pack

Order using the special offer form for Association members which accompanies this mailing or contact enquiries@scottishrecordsassociation.org.

Palaeography training events

In a new development, the Association has begun offering classes in palaeography as a benefit to members (including institutional members, who can arrange classes for their staff or for the public). The classes are taken on a voluntary basis by members of the Association who have relevant experience in reading early-modern records and/or teaching palaeography.

A 2-hour class, Palaeography for Beginners, has been run twice already, in conjunction with the Scottish Genealogy Society, and is available for groups of between 5 and 10 people. As the name suggests, it is ideal for researchers who are starting to work on early-modern records and need some tuition on early-modern handwriting styles. It is based around 17th-18th century parish registers and kirk session records.

Classes or day-schools on reading typical estate and family papers and wills and testaments are in development. The SRA has the capacity to offer several classes per year.

Institutional members (or individual members) who are interested in running a class and who can supply a suitable venue can contact the Association to check whether a suitable tutor can be supplied. Individual members who are interested in acting as the tutor should contact enquiries@scottishrecordsassociation.org.

Palaeography

Handwriting Puzzle

During the last SRA conference variant spelling of place-names was discussed. Following that theme, the puzzle for this edition features three well-known place-names but two of them are spelled in an unfamiliar way. The puzzle consists of the opening clauses of three testaments, recorded by the Commissary Court of Edinburgh, which handled the registration of wills and testaments for Scots who died abroad (**images, Crown copyright, National Records of Scotland CC8/8/53, page 164, CC8/8/61, page 43 and CC8/8/75, page 372**). The three testaments were recorded in 1625, 1644 and 1675 respectively.

Question: what are the three European towns and countries mentioned?

1
The testament of James Satumund
Inventar of his good goods, bequeath
honor and liff, pertaining to him
Abraham de la Burges of 2^d Breton in
Norraue to him of sea de la gues

2
The testament of James de la Burges
Inventar of his good goods, bequeath
honor and liff, pertaining to him
Abraham de la Burges of 2^d Breton in
Norraue to him of sea de la gues

3
The testament of James de la Burges
Inventar of his good goods, bequeath
honor and liff, pertaining to him
Abraham de la Burges of 2^d Breton in
Norraue to him of sea de la gues

For the answer and full transcript turn to page 27 (if you are new to palaeography or need to brush up your skills, you might find the Scottish Handwriting website helpful: www.scottishhandwriting.com).

If you would like to contribute a palaeography poser for *Retour*, please contact retoureditor@outlook.com.

Association News

Scottish Records Association Office Bearers and Council Members 2018-2019

The office bearers of the Association are elected at each Annual General Meeting and the ordinary members of council are elected for a term of 3 years.

Office Bearers

Chairman: Professor Chris Whatley	enquiries@scottishrecordsassociation.org
Secretary: Dr Anne Cameron	anne.m.cameron@strath.ac.uk
Treasurer: Mrs Josephine Dixon	enquiries@scottishrecordsassociation.org
Membership Secretary: Dr Kirsteen Mulhern	SRA.membership@outlook.com
Journal Editor: Mrs Carol Parry	editorscottisharchives@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Ms Tracy Smith	retoureditor@outlook.com
Web Editor: Mr Dawid Palgan	enquiries@scottishrecordsassociation.org

Ordinary Members of Council

Dr Amy Blakeway; Lady Coulsfield; Ms Ishbel MacKinnon; Ms Pam McNicol; Dr Jan Merchant; Professor Graeme Morton; Mrs Elizabeth Roads; Ms Veronica Schreuder.

Changes on Council

At the Annual General Meeting on 17 November 2018, Mrs Alison Diamond, who produced *Retour* from November 2005, resigned as Newsletter Editor. We are extremely grateful to Alison for her many years of hard work on behalf of the Association. Our new Newsletter Editor, Ms Tracy Smith, was co-opted by Council on 22 January 2019.

Five Ordinary Members of Council: Mr Keith Adam, Lady Hopetoun, Mrs Ingrid Thomson, Mr Robin Urquhart and Miss Sophie Volker, also stepped down at the Annual General Meeting, having each completed their term of office. Ms Ishbel MacKinnon, Mrs Elizabeth Roads, Ms Veronica Schreuder and Lady Coulsfield have been elected as Ordinary Members.

The Membership Secretary, Dr Kirsteen Mulhern, has indicated her intention to step down during the course of this year. Mrs Elizabeth Roads will assume this role in due course. The Treasurer, Mrs Josephine Dixon, will be stepping down in November 2019. Council is therefore seeking a new Treasurer. Anyone who is interested in standing for election to this position or who would like further information about the responsibilities, please see the advert on page 26.

Association News

Vacancy for Treasurer of the SRA

The Scottish Records Association (SRA) is currently seeking a new Honorary Treasurer. As Treasurer, you will be one of seven honorary office bearers on the SRA Council and will make a vital contribution to the smooth running of the Association. As well as contributing to the discussion on wider issues relating to the Association, the Treasurer's specific financial duties include:

- Budgeting and keeping track of income and expenditure (using MS Excel)
- Managing the Association's bank accounts
- Issuing invoices and payments by cheque
- Producing and presenting the Treasurer's report at SRA Council meetings and at the Annual General Meeting
- Preparing and submitting the Association's annual accounts for scrutiny by an independent examiner
- Assisting the Association's Membership Secretary to keep track of payment of membership subscriptions and submitting Gift Aid claims to HMRC

This is an exciting opportunity to take an active role in the Association and to develop experience of managing budgets. The Council is a friendly group who will support and encourage you in this interesting role. The SRA has charitable status and all officials and members of Council are volunteers. Officials are elected annually at the Association's AGM and normally serve for a minimum of three years. The time commitment required varies depending upon Council's activities, but the office holder should expect to devote around 1-2 hours per week on average. The outgoing Treasurer will be pleased to offer support to the new post holder.

For more information or to apply for this role please contact Anne Cameron, SRA Secretary at enquiries@scottishrecordsassociation.org. If you have any questions or would like to find out more, please contact Josephine Dixon at Josephine.Dixon@nrscotland.gov.uk.

Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting 2018

The Association's annual conference, which took place on Saturday 17 November 2018 at the Scottish Storytelling Centre, Edinburgh, was a practical guide to sources for the study of place-names and personal names in Scotland and it was held in conjunction with the Scottish Place-Name Society (SPNS). The conference attracted a good audience of nearly 90, and the presence of more than 30 Association members ensured that the AGM was comfortably quorate. Speakers, who included Dr Meredith Cane, Dr Alice Crook, Chris Fleet and Dr Eila Williamson, covered a diverse range of sources, such as Old Parish Registers, Ordnance Survey Name Books, medieval cartularies, maps and plans, gazetteers, and wills and testaments. Great help and encouragement were received from the SPNS officials, especially Professor Carole Hough and Dr Simon Taylor (both of whom also spoke at the conference). The event also featured the launch of the Berwickshire Place-Names Online Resource, following a 3 year project, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, which can be found at www.gla.ac.uk/reels. A selection of papers from the conference is expected to appear in *Scottish Archives* volume 24.

Association News

SRA Publications



Scottish Archives volume 23 (2017), sent to members in January 2019, has a number of articles on the history of Scottish medicine, health care institutions and sources relating to them; including the Royal College of Nursing, the provision of health care under the Scottish Poor Law, Glasgow's Royal Hospital for Sick Children, the Schaw Convalescent Home in Bearsden, and sources relating to the 1915 Midwives (Scotland) Act. It also contains articles on military rule, protectoral governance and the Scottish Highlands about 1654-60; Venetian glassmakers in the Prestonpans area in the seventeenth century; Glamis Castle Archives; and the Harris Tweed Authority Archive Collection.

Most of the articles in volumes 17-22 of the journal are now available electronically on the SRA website: <https://www.scottishrecordsassociation.org/scottish-archives>.

The following hard copies of the journal are available: volumes 1-10, 14-16 and 18-22.

The cost for SRA members (including postage and packing) is:

- **Volumes 1-10 and 14-16: £5 for UK delivery, £10 for overseas delivery**
- **Volumes 18 -22: £10 for UK delivery, £15 for overseas delivery**

Please use the order form that accompanies this mailing or contact enquiries@scottishrecordsassociation.org.

Handwriting Puzzle Answer and Transcription (see page 24 for the puzzle)

The three places are:

1. Bergen (*Birren*) in Norway (*Norraway*)
2. Gothenberg (*gottinberr*) in Sweden (*Swaden*)
3. Warsaw in Poland (*Kingdoome of Poll*)

*The Testament datiuie and
Inventar of the guid[is] geir sowmes of
money and dett[is] [per]tening to vmq[ui]lle
abrahame dewar burges of Birren in
norraway the tyme of his deceis quha . . .*

*The testa[men]t testa[menta]r and Jnventar of the guid[is] geir
sowmes of money & dettis Pertaining to vmq[ui]lle hew
Charteris mer[chan]d burges of Ed[inbu]r[gh] residentar in gottinberr
in Swaden the tyme of his deceis Quha deceissit vpon . . .*

*The testament dative and Jnventar of the goods
geare soumes of money and debts [per]taining to
vmq[ui]ll James Findlay mer[chan]t in Warsaw within the
Kingdoome of Poll the tyme of his deceas who . . .*

Association News

Annual Conference: *Hidden Histories*

Friday 15 November 2019, University of Dundee Call for Papers

The Scottish Records Association is pleased to partner the Centre for Scottish Culture at the University of Dundee in inviting proposals for papers for its annual conference. This year we are asking researchers and archivists to submit paper proposals related to the use of Scottish archives to uncover stories usually obscured by the records: hidden histories. Speakers from any academic or archival career stage are welcome, and bursaries may be available to support postgraduate students. Individual 20-minute paper proposals, panels of three speakers and pairs of speakers seeking a third panellist are all welcome.

The thrust of the conference remains methodological and archival (we want to know how you found it as well as what you discovered) and within this we are interested in paper proposals addressing the full range of topics in this area, which might include but are not limited to:

- Diverse histories in Scottish archives (gender, race, sexuality, disability and class are our starting points, but we are open to other areas)
- Silences in the archives – how do we cope with accidental or deliberate archival omissions?
- Catalogues for the 21st century – how can finding aids conceal as well as reveal?
- Reading records against the grain – and getting beyond the voice of the record-creator

DEADLINE: 30 June 2019: paper proposals and enquiries should be submitted to the conference organiser Dr Amy Blakeway at sraconference2019@gmail.com.

Summer Visits 2019

Two visits to archive repositories have been arranged for SRA members and their guests this summer. The first of these, to the Trades House of Glasgow Library and Archives and the Kelvin Hall, will take place on Friday 14 June. The second visit, to Glamis Castle Archives, is scheduled for Friday 6 September. For further information and to sign up, please see the booking forms enclosed with *Retour* or contact the Secretary by email (anne.m.cameron@strath.ac.uk).

***Retour* Contributors**

The editor would like to thank the following contributors to this edition of *Retour*: Keith Sinclair, Harvey L. Kaplan, Dr Hannah Holtschneider, Lara Haggerty, Ishbel MacKinnon, Sarah Wilcock, Jane Jamieson, Emma Filshie, and Louise Neilson, Lynn Bruce and Olivia Howarth, Sian Yates, Andrea Kaszewski, Kiara King, Chris Fleet, Jon Sandison, Mary McHugh, Kate Blackadder, Dorothy Kidd, Penny Hartley, Robin Urquhart

Contributions for the Autumn 2019 edition should be sent to retoureditor@outlook.com.