

# CLISH-CLASH



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## LOCAL HISTORY FROM HOME

This special issue of Clish-Clash has been published early because of social distancing or self-isolation which people are undertaking. SLHF thought you might welcome some distraction, so have put together this introduction to local history online. There is a wealth of sources which will allow you to do some research at home - many are free. There are also blogs, periodicals, online exhibitions and podcasts for you to enjoy items by others.

Some of you will be educating children at home, and at the end of this issue we have included some sites which offer learning and teaching information and projects.

Most local historians focus on their own area (the clue is in the name!), but we can learn from, or be inspired by, local history in many different parts of the country, so do have a look at some items from around Scotland. Thanks to everyone who has contributed information. Do let us know if this has been useful.

The amount of material available online is vast so the sites highlighted here are only a taster, and have concentrated on national sites, and major libraries. **Local societies and enthusiastic individuals have produced lots of interesting material, and the July issue of Clish-Clash will focus on these sites – with your help.** Perhaps your society produces a blog or online displays – please let us know. It is easy and free to create a listing. Go to: <https://www.slhf.org/node/add/directory-organisation> Or if you've found something interesting elsewhere, share your suggestions on the new Facebook page or email: <http://slhf.org/contact-slhf>-Contribute.

**Society secretaries: please circulate this issue to your members**

Email <http://slhf.org/contact-slhf>

'Clish-clash' means repeated gossip, so do email your local history news & information (Word attachment or link to your website) to **Contribute**.

Members only: To receive notification of the newsletter by email or to be removed from the mailing list, choose **Sign up for our newsletter** on the website contacts page.

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## FORUM ON FACEBOOK

The Forum has launched a Facebook page. If you have a FB account (especially if you are a local history society or other member organisation) please visit our FB page

<https://www.facebook.com/scottishlocalhistoryforum> and "like" and ideally "follow" to spread the word and raise the profile of your Forum. We expect to post a maximum of 3 things a week so it will not bombard your FB account!!

## MAKING HISTORY

We should record this extraordinary time (how often have we heard 'unprecedented'?) for future historians, by collecting ephemera about these events, or by keeping a diary.

Jennifer Giles, of the National Library of Scotland and a member of SLHF Advisory Committee writes:

*The legal deposit libraries are actively collecting websites, public-facing Twitter and Facebook pages that cover coronavirus or Covid-19. We are ensuring that they are archived permanently in the UK Web Archive <https://www.webarchive.org.uk/en/ukwa/index> They will be tagged so that they will be retrievable as a Covid-19 special collection.*

*The National Library is focussing on Scottish sites. We are taking a very broad approach so that the developing story and all its angles can be captured, via news, government, local authority and third sector sites. However we are also seeking information on content from across society to capture the community response, eg. churches, women's support services, homeless and all sorts of charities, sports groups and community groups, many of whom are responding actively in many different ways.*

*I would be delighted to hear about any new local sites created in response to Covid-19, or of any dedicated pages created on existing websites. We don't need any information about local authority or government websites, nor very local notices, say from individual shops or businesses, that are just for information about closure. What we need is information regarding new Covid-19 initiatives from up to ten selected websites that cover a town, region or similar, rather than just a few streets. If we could do it, we would archive it all, but we do need to prioritise to be sure we can cover the whole of Scotland.*

*Please email [j.giles@nls.uk](mailto:j.giles@nls.uk) with a note of the name and the url. Thanks in anticipation, we really appreciate your help.*

Another possibility would be to contribute to **Mass Observation**. The origins of this archive of 'everyday life' go back to George VI Coronation Day, 12 May 1937, when participants were asked to keep a detailed diary for the day. Collecting information at regular intervals continued until the 1950s and 60s, and is an invaluable source for social historians. In 1970 the Archive transferred to the University of Sussex, and in 1981 the regular collection of information was revived. A couple of times a year a 'directive' is sent to participants, with questionnaires on 3 specific topics. Sign up to become an Observer at <http://www.massobs.org.uk/write-for-us/become-a-mass-observer>

In addition **Diary Day** on 12 May 2020 is open to anyone to send a report of their day.

<http://www.massobs.org.uk/write-for-us/12th-may>

Or you may be interested in what previous contributions reveal about attitudes and issues in Britain over 80 decades.

<http://www.massobs.org.uk/the-archive/online-resources>

■ We understand that Scottish archivists are also planning to collect information, but do not have details yet.

## SLHF NEWS

■ The **Walk & Talk** to Linlithgow has been cancelled. We hope to run it sometime in future.

■ **Scottish Local History issue** 106 has been printed and mailed. Orders for more than four back issues, and foreign orders, may be delayed.

<https://www.slhf.org/journal-back-issues>



The **SCOTTISH LOCAL HISTORY DIRECTORY** lists resources and the organisations which provide them <https://www.slhf.org/scottish-local-history-directory>

Is your organisation already listed? If not, do contribute to the Directory, or augment your resources lists.

<https://www.slhf.org/contribute-directory>

Join the  
**Scottish Local History Forum,**  
the umbrella organisation for local  
history in Scotland

<https://www.slhf.org/why-join-slhf>

## LOCAL HISTORY FROM HOME

### CONTENTS

<b>National Organisations &amp; Libraries, Archives &amp; Museums</b>	page 2-3
<b>Find out about Places:</b>	
<b>maps, gazetteers directories</b>	page 4-5
<b>Find Books Online</b>	page 5
<b>Newspapers</b>	page 5
<b>Find out about People</b>	page 6-7
<b>Societies' publications</b>	page 7
<b>Transcriptions of original documents</b>	page 7
<b>Non-textual sources</b>	page 8
<b>Podcasts</b>	page 8
<b>Diaspora</b>	page 8
<b>Learn Palaeography</b>	page 9
<b>Educational projects</b>	page 9

*Key sources have a surrounding box*

## LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS & ARCHIVES

### ■ NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

To see the range of digital material available from NLS, visit <https://www.nls.uk/digital-resources>

#### ●Digital Gallery

NLS has been digitising items from its own collections for 25 years and many Scottish books, maps and manuscripts are now available free of charge online in the **digital gallery**. Library membership is not required.

<https://digital.nls.uk/gallery/>

#### ●e-Resources

NLS also subscribes to resources produced by others, and although some are available only in NLS buildings, many can be accessed at home for registered readers (some are limited to residents of Scotland). The bottom line of each resource description indicates the access arrangements (whether it is available to registered readers at home, or only in reading rooms).

<https://auth.nls.uk/eresources/>

Subject search

<https://auth.nls.uk/eresources/browse/subject>

**To become a registered reader, join the National Library of Scotland at:** <https://auth.nls.uk/join/>

### ■ NATIONAL RECORDS OF SCOTLAND

Official and government records are maintained by NRS. Research guides:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/a-z>

Most of their digital records are available as a subscription service via **ScotlandsPeople**.

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides>

Over 2000 photographic images are available at :

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/image-library>

### ■ HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/learn/learning-resources/>

Canmore: information about buildings:

<https://canmore.org.uk/>

<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/learn/learning-resources/canmore/>

## ■ NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF SCOTLAND

Discover more about the collections through stories, films, games and resources

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/>

Search digital images at:

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/search-our-collections/>

Blogs on various subjects:

<https://blog.nms.ac.uk/>

## ■ NATIONAL WAR MUSEUM

Online exhibitions:

### ● *First World War*

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/stories/scottish-history-and-archaeology/first-world-war/>

### ● *The thin red line*

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/stories/scottish-history-and-archaeology/the-thin-red-line/>

### ● *Objects linked to Waterloo*

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/stories/scottish-history-and-archaeology/objects-linked-to-waterloo/>

## ■ MUSEUM OF FLIGHT

History of East Fortune airfield

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/national-museum-of-flight/things-to-see-and-do/history-of-east-fortune/>

## ■ NATIONAL MUSEUM OF RURAL LIFE

### ● *Prisoners of War at East Kilbride.*

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/stories/scottish-history-and-archaeology/wester-kittochside/wester-kittochside/prisoners-of-war-at-east-kilbride/>

## ■ STATISTICAL ACCOUNTS OF SCOTLAND

This key source for local history contains information about individual parishes.

### ● *Old Statistical Account 1791-1799*

### ● *New Statistical Account 1834-1845*

The site includes the background to the compilation of the work, and an exhibition on *Maps, boundaries and the history of parishes in Scotland.*

<https://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/exhibition/maps-boundaries-history-parishes>

At present the whole site, including all features such as word searches and downloading text, is available free of charge.

<https://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/home>

■ **SCRAN** (Scottish Cultural Resources Access Network). Basic access is free, but for full access a subscription is payable. Many libraries, colleges and universities subscribe, so if you are a member you will be able to use the full site. See the subscribing institutions here:

<https://www.scran.ac.uk/>

For example, All library card holders in Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Angus, Argyll & Bute, Dundee, East Dunbartonshire, East Lothian, Edinburgh, Highland, Midlothian, Moray, North Ayrshire, Orkney, Perth &

Kinross, Scottish Borders, Shetland, South Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire, Stirling, West Dunbartonshire enjoy full free access to Scran from their home 24 hours a day.

<https://www.scran.ac.uk/user/librarycard.php>

## PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Most public libraries have images from their collections available free on their websites. Some also have a few e-Resources available remotely for their registered readers. Do check your local library site to see what they can offer.

### ■ ABERDEEN CITY LIBRARIES

● *The Silver City Vault* : online images of Aberdeen Local Studies collection.

Treasures from the collections

<http://www.silvercityvault.org.uk/>

### ■ DUNDEE CITY LIBRARIES

#### ● *The Lamb Collection*

<http://www.leisureandculturedundee.com/lamb-collection>

#### ● *Entertainment in the 19<sup>th</sup> century*

<http://www.leisureandculturedundee.com/entertainment-19th-century-0>

#### ● *Cholera in the 19<sup>th</sup> century*

<http://www.leisureandculturedundee.com/cholera-19th-century-0>

#### ● *Crime and punishment in the 19<sup>th</sup> century*

<http://www.leisureandculturedundee.com/crime-and-punishment-19th-century-0>

### ■ EDINBURGH CITY LIBRARIES & MUSEUMS

● *Capital Collections* : images from the collections:

<https://www.capitalcollections.org.uk/home?WINID=1585731567544>

● *Our town stories*:

<http://www.ourtownstories.co.uk/>

● *EdinPhoto*: Peter Stubbs has compiled this website of photographs and images of Edinburgh:

<http://www.edinphoto.org.uk/>

### ■ GLASGOW MITCHELL LIBRARY

● *Virtual Mitchell*: images of Glasgow from collections in Glasgow Libraries and Museums.

<http://www.mitchelllibrary.org/virtualmitchell/>

Some *e-Resources* are available remotely for registered readers, although many are accessible only in libraries:

<https://libcat.csglasgow.org/web/arena/eresources>

## STOP PRESS.

■ The **National Library of Scotland** has a new blog about e-Resources:

<https://blog.nls.uk/eresources-at-the-national-library-of-scotland/>

■ According to the Times (3 April) **The National Archives** at Kew have announced that access to their pay-to view websites will be free of charge during the crisis, although this is not yet on their website.

<https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

Let us hope that the National Records of Scotland & ScotlandsPeople follow suit.

## FIND OUT ABOUT PLACES:

### Maps, Gazetteers, Directories, etc

#### ■ SCOTLANDSPACES

<https://scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/>

Combines items from three national bodies in a single site, but the searching is a blunt tool – probably better to search the sites separately, but it does give an overview, and displays some less well-known sources. [Historic Environment Scotland](#) (HES) creates and manages records relating to Scotland's architecture and archaeology.

[National Records of Scotland](#) (NRS) produces information about Scotland's people and history.

[National Library of Scotland](#) (NLS) is Scotland's legal deposit library. A hub for Scotland's knowledge, history and culture. What is available?

- Maps, Surveys and Plans
- Photographs
- Archaeological Records
- Drawings
- Tax Rolls
- Ordnance Survey Name Books
- <https://scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/digital-volumes/ordnance-survey-name-books>
- Publications

## MAPS

■ **National Library of Scotland** maps and related items available online are listed at: <https://digital.nls.uk/gallery/category/maps-and-mapping>

■ **Map images:** <https://maps.nls.uk/>

Few local historians will be unaware of NLS's map images website, where map images are zoomable so that small details can be inspected. Although the initial focus was on digitising maps of **Scotland** (16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries), an increasing number of maps of the **UK** have been added, as well as a small sample of **worldwide** maps.

NLS's collection is mostly of **printed maps**, but recent collaboration with local collections has enabled the display of some **manuscript** estate plans.

Many of the maps have been geo-referenced which allows easier comparison of maps on split screens or by overlaying.

Copyright law limits the online display of Ordnance Survey items to maps over 50 years old; mapping published by other publishers may be available after 70 years.

■ The **British Library** has some Scottish maps online: <https://www.bl.uk/subjects/maps#>

However the images are in separate themed displays, and the indexing and search tool are clumsy: browsing through thousands of map images takes time – but it is fascinating what can turn up.

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/viewall/index.html>

• **King's Topographic Collection:** views and maps. <http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/kinggeorge/index.html>

• **The unveiling of Britain:** The earliest maps of Britain from 800-1600: <http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/unvbrit/>

• **Maps of the UK:** a sample of 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> century maps: <http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/maps/uk/index.html>

• **Fire insurance maps and plans: Scotland**

<http://gallery.bl.uk/viewall/default.aspx?e=Fire%20insurance%20maps%20and%20plans%20Scotland&ga=2.100392669.235787097.1585734347-845715120.1585734347>

■ **Dumfries Archival Mapping Project (DAMP)**

<https://www.facebook.com/Dumfries-Archival-Mapping-Project-571182229681530/>

## GAZETTEERS

Chris Fleet of NLS Maps has provided this list of online gazetteers from different periods:

■ **The Gazetteer for Scotland**

<http://www.scottish-places.info/>

■ **Ainmean Àite** (Gazetteer of Gaelic place names)

<https://www.ainmean-aite.scot/>

• **GB1900.** This project by online volunteers was completed in June 2018, having gathered all 2.5 million names from the OS six-inch to the mile mapping of England, Scotland and Wales around 1900.

View the names at <https://geo.nls.uk/maps/gb1900/>  
Download them from:

<https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/data/#tabgb1900>.

There is more about GB1900 at:

<https://data.nls.uk/data/map-spatial-data/gb1900/>

There is huge potential for people to do further work on GB1900, qualifying place names or investigating distributions of features from abbreviations, etc., and Chris Fleet has written a couple of brief case studies which may be useful in illustrating this:

Using GB1900 to locate *Lost Footpaths*, and *Quarries and Collieries* in the NLS Data Foundry:

<https://data.nls.uk/projects/finding-lost-footpaths-using-gb1900/>

<https://data.nls.uk/projects/mapping-quarries-and-colleries/>

■ **Berwickshire Placenames** resource:

<https://berwickshire-placenames.glasgow.ac.uk/>

■ **Pont maps of Scotland gazetteer** 16<sup>th</sup> century names on Pont's manuscript maps:

<https://maps.nls.uk/pont/placenames/a-d.html>

■ **Blaeu maps of Scotland gazetteer:** names on Scottish maps in Blaeu's 1654 atlas:

<https://maps.nls.uk/atlas/blaeu/gazetteer/browse/a-d.html>

### ■ **Gazetteers of Scotland 1803-1901**

Browse and search older published Scottish gazetteers

<https://digital.nls.uk/gazetteers-of-scotland-1803-1901/archive/97491608>

## DIRECTORIES

### ■ **Scottish Post Office Directories**

Over 700 directories.

<https://digital.nls.uk/directories/>

### ■ **Historical directories of England & Wales**

<https://www2.le.ac.uk/library/find/specialcollections/az/historical-directories>

## FIND BOOKS ONLINE

There are several worldwide projects to digitise out-of-copyright books (copyright lasts for 70 years after the death of the author), for example:

● **Internet archive** <https://archive.org/index.php>

● **Project Gutenberg**: mostly literary:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/>

● **GoogleBooks** <https://books.google.com/>

GoogleBooks sometimes provides sample chapters in modern books. All allow word searching in the text.

For example the Internet Archive has some versions of the *General view of agriculture...* publications: <https://archive.org/details/generalviewagri02agrigoog/page/n3/mode/2up>

Finding a book or searching for a subject can be overwhelming but these two sites help to trace online books:

### ■ **The Online Books Page**

Based in the University of Pennsylvania Library, the catalogue (2 million records so far) uses Library of Congress subject indexing.

<https://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/aboutolbp.html>

<http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/>

■ **Open Library** is a project of the non-profit **Internet Archive**, part funded by California State Library, and aims to have a catalogue record for every book ever published. 20 million records have been produced by volunteers (like Wikipedia). Not all records are for digital books.

<https://openlibrary.org/about>

Paul Bishop writes: *An excellent resource is [openlibrary.org](https://openlibrary.org) with millions of items in digital form, including many historical documents related to Scotland. Searching on 'Scotland' returns more than 2,500 'hits' with each hit generally having hundreds or thousands of items (try it). Many of these (and apparently all the historical ones) are in digital form. The entry for Glasgow Royal Asylum for Lunatics, for example, has 32 works comprising scanned annual reports from the 19th century, etc. Google Books also has many historical documents scanned and available as does [archive.org](https://archive.org) (e.g., Francis Home's 1756 'Experiments on Bleaching', which I am currently working through).*

■ **Europeana** provides access to millions of books, music, artworks and more from thousands of European archives, libraries and museums to share cultural heritage for enjoyment, education and research.

<https://www.europeana.eu/en>

■ Annie Tindley has passed on information about **current publications** as many publishers are making them available online during this crisis:

**Cambridge University Press:**

<https://www.cambridge.org/about-us/covid-19/>

**Oxford University Press:**

<https://global.oup.com/news-items/homepage/access?cc=gb&WT.ac=access>

**Routledge/Taylor & Francis:**

[https://taylorandfrancis.com/coronavirus/?utm\\_source=website&utm\\_medium=banner&utm\\_campaign=B003164\\_mr2\\_2cx\\_6dp\\_d656\\_coronavirus](https://taylorandfrancis.com/coronavirus/?utm_source=website&utm_medium=banner&utm_campaign=B003164_mr2_2cx_6dp_d656_coronavirus)

## NEWSPAPERS

■ The **British Newspaper Archive**, compiled by the British Library, is invaluable for local historians, but the site is pay-to-view, although usually it is available free in many libraries as they have taken out subscriptions. A personal monthly fee is £12.95, but an annual subscription brings the cost per month down to £6.67 a month. Many local newspapers have been added, but the coverage may not be complete - with the funding available a representative sample from places across Britain has been the priority. A few continue beyond 1911, but for many this is the cut-off date. A free brief search gives you a list of what is available, but the search tool is prone to errors and google-de-gook. None-the-less this is an essential site.

<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/account/subscribe>

■ The **National Library of Scotland** e-Resources section provides free access to several newspaper sites for registered readers, for example

**The Scotsman** digital archive 1817-1950.

**The Times** (London) digital archive 1785-1910.

An earlier version of British Library newspapers is available from NLS *19th Century British Library Newspapers, Parts 1 & 2* also known as *Gale Primary Sources: British Library Newspapers*

## BROADSIDES

News, scandal, ballads, entertainment, for the general public.

■ **The Word on the Street**, 1650-1910.

<https://digital.nls.uk/broadsides/>

■ **Broadsides from the Crawford Collection**

Over 2000 broadsides from 1501 to 1897.

<https://digital.nls.uk/broadsides-from-the-crawford-collection/archive/144782273>

■ **Jacobite prints and broadsides**

<https://digital.nls.uk/jacobite-prints-and-broadsides/archive/74466725?mode=gallery>

## FIND OUT ABOUT PEOPLE: Biographies & Family History

Family history is big business so many of the most useful sites are pay-to view or by subscription.

*Douglas Lockhart has contributed the remarks in italics about using these records:*

■ **ScotlandsPeople** is the only site which gives access to the following original documents, and is the official source for:

● **Census records** 1841-1911 (this is the only site for the 1911 census)

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/census-returns>

● **Statutory registers** (births, deaths and marriages from 1855 (recent records are not available online because of data protection)

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/statutory-registers>

● **Old Parochial Registers** (church records of births deaths and marriages before 1855)

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/church-registers#oprs>

● **Legal records** such as wills.

Register for ScotlandsPeople at:

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>

There is one free source, for the 1881 census, on ScotlandsPeople: **LDS1881**. Volunteers from the Church of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) transcribed these census records some years ago and the transcriptions are available free of charge. Although the transcriptions are not error-free, they do give more information than the indexes.

DL remarks: *Searching the ScotlandsPeople indexes is free which for the Census provides details of name, age and location, but it is necessary to buy credits to access original documents online. Purchasing credits and working from home is very expensive and any mistakes result in a loss of credits. There is no discount for those who buy a larger number of credits.*

*However the free to search index is very useful for checking the age details of any individuals found on **Ancestry** or **Findmypast** about whom you have doubts, while marriage information for both partners can confirm that you have found the 'correct' person.*

*ScotlandsPeople have been extending their range of sources to include a sample of Valuation Rolls from 1855 to 1940. In normal times it is possible to access every year from 1855 to around 1957 in the computers in the Historical Search Room which is currently closed. Later years on hard copy need to be pre-ordered.*

*ScotlandsPeople undoubtedly provides the definitive records for past generations of Scots. When restrictions end, a day pass in Edinburgh or at one of the Registrar services (for example on floor 5 of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow) should give ample time for research. However, in the present crisis working from home is a very expensive option.*

SLHF has lobbied for the whole ScotlandsPeople online service to be free during this crisis.

■ **Findmypast** and **Ancestry** both offer access by subscription to:

● **Census** (Scotland 1841-1901; England and Wales 1841-1911)

● **Births, deaths and marriages**

● **Probate indexes (England)**

● **Calendar of Confirmations (Scotland)**

● **1939 Register** which provides information on most adults (a few entries have been redacted)

● **Voters' rolls**

● **Miscellaneous records.**

<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/> There are different subscription levels offering full or limited access, and whether 3-month or annual subscriptions are bought. There is a 14-day free trial.

<https://www.ancestry.co.uk/> also offer a 14-day free trial but are rather coy about subscriptions costs. See the gift membership costs:

<https://www.ancestry.co.uk/cs/gift-selection?experience=mli>

DL remarks: *While images of the original paper records can be downloaded for many categories of record including English and Welsh censuses, this is **not** the case in Scotland. The 1911 Census is not available and earlier Census records are transcriptions of the original Census Enumerators' Schedules. This can lead to numerous inconsistencies and Ancestry in particular is prone to these. Examples include misspelling of occupations: carter often appears as caster; ages such as 38 become 88 and errors with surnames can mean no result when you know a person is living there. In fairness Ancestry does sometimes include corrections to names but not the other problems.*

**Ancestry** includes details of the enumeration district and page number so when libraries re-open it would be possible to check details against the Census microfilm.

**Findmypast** generally does not list page references but errors seem fewer. It is also easier to use if you only know the initial and not the first name of a person as it will list all hits beginning with the initial so: A Cowie would begin with all those with just A then progress to Alexander, Andrew and so on.

Those interested in the Scottish diaspora and emigration/immigration will find US and Canadian Census records; ship passenger lists; border immigration records and US passport application forms.

To conclude, my recommendations are to make use of **Findmypast at NLS** and use **ScotlandsPeople indexes for checking purposes and the 1911 census.**

**Findmypast is available on e-Resources at the National Library** and can be accessed free by registered readers. Please note there is a limit of 10 persons accessing the site at any one time.  
<https://auth.nls.uk/eresources/browse/title/F>  
<https://auth.nls.uk/join/>

## FREE BIOGRAPHICAL RESOURCES

■ **Dictionary of National biography** (older editions are free, otherwise pay for the up-to-date **Oxford Dictionary of National Biography**)

<https://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/webbin/metabook?id=dnb>

■ **Biographical dictionary of eminent Scotsmen**

<https://digital.nls.uk/biographical-dictionary-of-eminent-scotsmen/archive/74458002>

■ **Wikipedia** (with health warnings about accuracy)

<https://www.wikipedia.org/>

■ **NLS family history sources** include:

• **British military lists**

• **Rolls of Honour**

• **Clan and family histories**

• **An Comunn Gàidhealach**

• **Scottish post office directories**

<https://digital.nls.uk/directories/>

<https://digital.nls.uk/gallery/category/family-history>

■ **Monumental Inscriptions**

<https://scottish-monumental-inscriptions.com/>

■ **Find a grave**

<https://www.findagrave.com/>

## SOCIETIES' TRANSACTIONS

Many societies have mounted their journals, periodicals, and monographs online.

■ **Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society** <https://aanhs.org/of-further-interest/>

<https://aanhs.org/ayrshire-notes/>

■ **Transactions of the Banffshire Field Club**

(1880-1939)

<https://banffshirefieldclub.org.uk/transactions.html>

■ **Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society**

(1862-2014)

[http://www.dgnhas.org.uk/tdgnhas\\_online\\_volumes](http://www.dgnhas.org.uk/tdgnhas_online_volumes)

■ **Transactions of the East Lothian Antiquarian and Field Naturalists' Society** (1924-2017)

<https://eastlothianantiquarians.org.uk/transactions-of-the-east-lothian-antiquarian-and-field-naturalists-society/>

<https://eastlothianantiquarians.org.uk/transactions-of-the-east-lothian-antiquarian-and-field-naturalists-society/publications/>

**East Lothian Fourth Statistical Account**

<https://el4.org.uk/>

■ **Forth Naturalist and Historian**

[http://www.fnh.stir.ac.uk/journal/back\\_issues/index.php](http://www.fnh.stir.ac.uk/journal/back_issues/index.php)

An index for the **Transactions of the Stirling Natural History and Archaeological Society** is available online but not the content

<https://www.stirling-lhs.org/blog/transactions-of-the-stirling-natural-history-and-archaeological-society>

■ **Transactions of the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland** (1790-1969)

<https://archive.rhass.org.uk/>

## TRANSCRIPTIONS OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS

■ **Scottish History Society**

SHS volumes contain transcriptions of original manuscripts and rare printed material, a remarkable collection of primary research sources. Containing more than 180 volumes in total, the six series cover all periods from the 12th to the 20th centuries and a very wide range of topics, including: society, economics, law, politics, diplomatic, military and religious history, farming, gardening... and the joys of good housekeeping.

These have been digitised up to series 6, vol.7. *The Highland destitution of 1837* (2012), and are on the NLS website. Internal text searching is available. Free.

<https://digital.nls.uk/scottish-history-society-publications/>

SLHF Directory highlights the time periods covered.

<https://www.slhf.org/directory-resource/nls-%E2%80%98scottish-history-society%E2%80%99-publications>

■ **Scottish Club publications**

In the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century Scottish Clubs transcribed and published original manuscripts and documents. Texts date from 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, including church records, state papers, correspondence, memoirs, diaries and literary texts.

*Abbotsford Club, Bannatyne Club, Grampian Club, Hunterian Club, Spalding Club, Scottish Text Society, Spottiswoode and Wodrow Societies*

<https://digital.nls.uk/publications-by-scottish-clubs/archive/84240604>

■ **Sources in Local History series**, published by the European Ethnological Research Centre, Edinburgh University

Six volumes were published between 1994 and 1997 making available a range of original documents, from the diary of an Orkney farmer, 1766-76, to that of a Dundee millwright, 1864-65. This series was re-launched in 2015 as a digital resource and forms a part of the EERC's Regional Ethnology of Scotland project.

• **The journal of Robert Heron, 1789-1798.**

• **A farm cash book from Buskhead, Glenesk, Angus, 1885-1898.**

• **The pocket books of a Dumfriesshire drover.**

• **A letter from a Kirkcudbright grocer, 1814.**

• **Sir William Burrell's northern tour 1758.**

• **Chronicles of Muckledale, being the memoirs of Thomas Beattie 1736-1827**

• **The minute book of the Lochmaben Curling Society 1823-1863.**

<http://www.dumfriesandgalloway.hss.ed.ac.uk/written-word/>

A current project to gather oral and local history is

• **Dumfries & Galloway: a regional ethnology.**

<http://www.dumfriesandgalloway.hss.ed.ac.uk/>

■ **Who do you think you are? magazine** brings back Transcription Tuesday.

Help to transcribe family history records <http://www.whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com/transcriptiontuesday>

## NON-TEXTUAL SOURCES

■ **Moving image archive** (formerly Scottish Screen Archive) Over 2300 clips and full films to view online.  
<https://movingimage.nls.uk/>

■ **Tobar an dualchais / Kist o' riches**

Oral recordings of almost 50,000 stories, songs, music, poetry and factual information  
<http://www.tobarandualchais.co.uk/en/>

## PODCASTS

James Kennedy contributes more podcast information:

*In these very difficult times many of our usual sources of information are not accessible, especially libraries and archives. Undertaking research and maintaining our mental health are as important as ever so here are some podcasts which might offer you some interesting material as well as a break from the daily news...*

*If you need information on getting up and running on podcasts please read the article in Clish-Clash 35. Subsequent editions have given information on specific podcasts and here are some more.*

■ **In Our Times** is a weekly radio programme on BBC Radio 4 broadcasting just after 09.00am every Thursday morning

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qykl>

*It typically features an expert panel chaired by Melvyn Bragg and runs for 45 minutes. Content does vary across culture, philosophy and history.*

*Scottish history gets a relatively rare appearance but on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 a discussion about **The Covenanters** was the topic under discussion. The panel consisted of Professor Roger Mason from the University of St. Andrews, Professor Laura Stewart at the University of York and Professor Scott Spurlock from the University of Glasgow. The focus of the discussion was the bonds that Scottish Presbyterians made between themselves and their monarchs in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries. One of the advantages of the podcast or version on BBC Sounds is that you are able to listen to a longer version of the programme where the panel reflect on areas that may have not have been discussed in the shorter radio version.*

*The entire archive of nearly 900 episodes is available to listen to including an episode from 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 about **The Highland Clearances** and from 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017 **Mary Queen of Scots**.*

■ Further afield you can also find podcasts with interesting material. An example is from Ireland's **Newstalk Programme Talking History. The life of David Livingstone** is recalled by presenter Patrick Geoghegan and a panel including Natalie Milor, Curator, The David Livingstone Birthplace, Blantyre, Scotland, and Dr Justin Livingstone, Queens University Belfast as well a several other contributors:  
<https://www.newstalk.com/podcasts/highlights-from-talking-history/david-livingstone-life>

*If you feel at ease about exploring and understanding **pandemics** despite our current situation then this might be for you.*

■ **Going Viral: The Mother of all Pandemics**  
<https://goingviralthepod.libsyn.com/>

*This series was recorded in the last few years with the last episode being broadcast on July 12<sup>th</sup> 2019 well before the current Coronavirus Pandemic so should be listened to in that context.*

*The introductory notes offer the following: "Join the 'disease detectives' Mark Honigsbaum and Hannah Mawdsley as they investigate the most devastating pandemic of all time: the 1918 Spanish influenza". Part scientific detective story, part historical inquiry, 'Going Viral' takes listeners to the scene of a viral crime and in the process recovers the experience of the world's deadliest virus, which is 100 years old. If the world were haunted by another devastating pandemic, how would we cope? 'Going Viral' is supported by Wellcome".*

■ **Spotify** which started life as a streaming service has also moved into the world of podcasts. When you've listened to more than four podcasts on Spotify over a 90 day period it starts building up a section it calls "Your Daily Podcast" which it then populates with new episodes of podcasts you have already heard and then, more importantly, other podcasts that it has reason to believe you might like as well. As soon as one finishes it goes on to the next one so you begin to get an experience similar to listening to a radio station. I intend to experiment and report back in a future edition of Clish-Clash so please take this as a very tentative suggestion!

## DIASPORA

Newspapers and other material are available free of charge at these sites. Find out what happened to Scots who emigrated, or does your town have links abroad?

■ **Australia - Trove:** images of sources, documents, photographs, manuscripts, newspapers etc.  
<https://trove.nla.gov.au/>

■ **New Zealand - Past Papers:** online sources of all kinds.  
<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>

■ **South Africa - Extracts from South African newspapers**  
<https://www.eggssa.org/newspapers/>

■ **USA - Library of Congress digital collections**  
<https://www.loc.gov/collections/>

■ **Canada** – for example, immigration lists & shipping records  
<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/immigration-records/Pages/introduction.aspx>

## PALAEOGRAPHY

Now is the time to tackle Palaeography – studying and reading older styles of handwriting.

■ **Scottish Handwriting.com**, a free tutorial, is available from the National Records of Scotland:  
<https://www.scottishhandwriting.com/>

■ **Scottish handwriting in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries: a concise guide.**  
<http://www.dumfriesandgalloway.hss.ed.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Scottish-Handwriting-A-Concise-Guide.pdf>

■ **Palaeography**: distance learning from the University of Glasgow in association with the National Records of Scotland. The first five courses are free, thereafter there is a fee. It is not known if these are available at present.  
<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/ems-palaeography>

■ For palaeography of English handwriting, see: **Palaeography: reading old handwriting 1500-1800: a practical online tutorial.**  
<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography/>

## ENTERTAINING & EDUCATING CHILDREN AT HOME

(and you might find it interesting too!)

■ **NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND** educational materials: <https://www.nls.uk/learning-zone>  
The Digital Gallery also has some educational projects: <https://digital.nls.uk/gallery/category/learning>

● **Thomas Annan's Glasgow**  
Photographs of Glasgow 1868-71.

<https://digital.nls.uk/learning/thomas-annan-glasgow/thomas-annan/>

<https://digital.nls.uk/learning/thomas-annan-glasgow/learning-activities/>

● **A guid cause: Women's suffrage in Scotland.**

For pupils from Third year to Higher History.

<https://digital.nls.uk/suffragettes/>

● **Iolaire!**

About the sinking of the returning troop ship off Lewis on 1 January 1919 (In Gaelic and English).

<https://digital.nls.uk/learning/iolaire/>

● **You Are Here!**

Map reading activities, suitable for third and fourth year.

<https://digital.nls.uk/learning/you-are-here/>

Not just for school pupils! Your editor found the quiz rather challenging!

<https://digital.nls.uk/learning/you-are-here/quizzes/you-are-where/>

● **Mapping History.**

Compiled by NLS in association with Archaeology Scotland this site aims to develop map literacy skills especially for using maps in the field. Although it claims to be aimed at upper primary and lower secondary pupils, the language used is probably best suited to more able pupils in the younger age groups.

<https://digital.nls.uk/mapping-history/>

● **Lifting the Lid** on Scottish food history  
<https://digital.nls.uk/learning/scottish-food-history/index.html>

■ **NATIONAL RECORDS OF SCOTLAND** educational materials

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/learning/services-for-schools#class>

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/Resource.s.asp>

● **Letters and diaries.**

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/LettersAndDiaries/Index.asp>

● **Natural Scotland.**

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/LettersAndDiaries/Index.asp>

● **The Scottish Wars of Independence.**

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/WarsOfIndependence>

● **King James IV and the Battle of Flodden 1513.**

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/Flodden/FloddenIndex.asp/Index.asp>

● **James VI and the Union of the Crowns 1603.**

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/unionCrowns/Index.asp>

● **Union of the Parliaments of Scotland and England 1707.**

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/union1707/index.asp>

● **Suffragettes.**

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/suffragettes/suffragettesIndex.asp>

● **The Great War in Scotland.**

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/firstWorldWar/Index.asp>

● **A short life in the sky: the story of a First World War pilot.**

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/shortLife/shortLifeIndex.asp>

● The world famous Paisley 'snail in the bottle' case

<https://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org/snailInTheBottle/Index.asp>

■ **SCAN** (Scottish Archive Network) educational materials

● **Using sources.**

● **Coal mining in Scotland.**

● **Public health and housing in Scotland.**

● **Women's suffrage in Scotland.**

<https://www.scan.org.uk/education/index.html>

■ **THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES, KEW**

The National Archives, Kew (TNA) has teaching and learning resources for school pupils.

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/>

This is geared to the English education system, but does offer ideas which could be modified. For example the 1834 Poor Law in England:

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/1834-poor-law/>

Compare with this site on Scottish workhouses and the Poor Law in Scotland:

<http://www.workhouses.org.uk/Scotland/>