



Moray & Nairn Family History Society

NEWSLETTER

Edition 43

October 2022

Welcome to the latest edition of the Moray & Nairn FHS Newsletter.

MNFHS Chairman's Report

I do hope that this finds you a member of the Moray & Nairn FHS well.

Finally got time to finish books, I am amazed that people still add stones or family information in the Victorian section of Nairn Cemetery. Our other new book is the Register of the Poor for the Parish of Grange, Banffshire. Forthcoming publications are on Nairn Militia records and for Burghead, Moray.

On the subject of the newsletter, comments have been received all supporting this new style. Its easier to produce and hopefully easier for all to read no matter how you view it.

On our web page there is a diary of a Morrison family from Cawdor and their trip to Australia in the 1850's – a very enjoyable read.

To all take care, Stuart Farrell Chairman

The next Newsletter will be published in February 2023. Will members please submit articles to the Editor: newsletter@morayandnairnfhs.co.uk

MNFHS Publications

SEE THE BOOKSHOP ON THE WEBSITE FOR ALL TITLES AVAILABLE

New Books!

Grange, Banffshire Poor Register 1847-1929 - £8.

&

Nairn Cemetery (Victorian Section) Monumental Inscriptions.
516 inscriptions plus plan - £7.

Postage and Packing extra.

Robert Anderson of Lochdhu

The following obituary is from the *Nairnshire Telegraph* of 31 October 1900: The Late Mr Anderson of Lochdhu. The late Mr Robert Anderson of Lochdhu, whose death took place on Tuesday night last at Lochdhue, was for more than sixty years one of the most prominent and notable men in the North of Scotland. His death was not unexpected. He had reached his ninety-second year, and for the last five or six years he had withdrawn entirely from public life, the infirmities and weakness of old age having at last overtaken him.

Mr Robert Anderson began his busy life just at the time agriculture was making its first start in the path of improvement. Old methods and ways still held the field, but new ideas were beginning to be taken up, and Mr Anderson was one of the foremost in their adoption. He and a few others of a kindred spirit practically revolutionised farming in this district. Lochdhu, as he came latterly to be familiarly called, had the advantage of a practical knowledge of agriculture, having been brought up on the farm of Cooperhill under his father. All the details of farming were familiar to him from boyhood, but he showed when quite a young man that he was possessed of great natural sagacity and shrewdness, keenly alive to the advantages of the more scientific and thorough methods of farming. He had indomitable pluck, a strong will, sound judgement, and great physical endurance, and he threw himself into business with an ardour and force that was irresistible. While still carrying on farming at Cooperhill, he broke fresh ground by going into the grain trade himself, and became a familiar figure at all the northern grain markets and gatherings between Elgin and Inverness. During the time of the potato famine in 1846, Lochdhu had some singular experiences, but he came out of it all right, as he usually did. However alarming and difficult the situation, Lochdhu's buoyant spirits carried him through. His first considerable venture in farming was his taking the farm of Meikle Kildrummie, in the vicinity of Nairn. It was let to him on an improving lease, and he speedily showed that he was not afraid of putting the new theories of land cultivation into practice. At enormous expense he drained and trenched a large portion of the Kildrummie Moss, transforming it from a waster to broad field of arable land. By the time his tack was out he had added 380 acres to the arable extent of the farm. So great were the difficulties of the work, any ordinary man would have abandoned the undertaking after a few years' experience, but Lochdhu was made of sterner stuff, and failure was a word the meaning of which he did not know. His other enterprises also brought him in a good return, and in the year 1861 he purchased the property of Lochdhu from General Gordon, built a fine new house upon it, and laid out the grounds with taste and skill. As opportunity offered he acquired the adjacent lands of Grieshop, Broadley, and Moss-side, making a very nice compact estate, which he cultivated along with the farm of Balblair, held on lease from Cantray.

While attending to the requirements of his own agricultural and commercial undertakings, his services were always at the disposal of his friends, and his assistance and advice were sought for alike by proprietors and tenants all over the North. He never refused a request to be judge at a sale or an arbiter in a valuation if he could comply with it. The obligation under which he had placed his wide circle of friends by his valuable services was widely felt, and in 1869, a proposal was made to recognise in some way what the agricultural community owed to him. A testimonial was proposed, and in a very short time a sum of £709 was subscribed – then the largest personal testimonial subscribed in the North. Lochdhu was entertained in a grand dinner in the Marine Hotel, and presented with a massive silver salver with the following inscription:- “This salver, with a purse of upwards of 600 sovereigns, is presented to Robert Anderson, Esq. of Lochdhu, by a number of his friends in the Northern Counties and throughout the kingdom, as an expression of their admiration of his public spirit, enterprise, and skill as an agriculturalist; of their appreciation of the good services which, as an agricultural valuator, he had so long and honourably rendered to rich and poor

alike; and of the esteem in which he is held as a straightforward man of business, a judicious counsellor, a genial companion, and a firm friend." The late Mr Ross, banker, Dingwall, occupied the chair on the occasion, and gave expression to the feelings of admiration of the capacity, experience, and honourable conduct by which Mr Anderson had earned the appreciation and confidence of his fellows. For many years after, Lochdhu continued to render similar service, public and private. He was the recognised head of the Nairnshire Farming Society, and took an active part in connection with similar Societies at Inverness and other neighbouring towns. The members of the Nairnshire Farming Society originated a proposal for presenting Lochdhu with his portrait, and a very fine life-sized painting was produced by Mr Morrison, artist, Elgin, and presented to him along with a silver salver.

Although his business connections were mainly connected with the County, Lochdhu took a warm interest in the Burgh of Nairn, and for many years was a Town Councillor, attending its meetings with praiseworthy regularity, often at the end of a hard day's work in other parts of the country. The astonishing thing always was how Lochdhu found time to fulfil his many engagements at County meetings, parish boards, farmers' gatherings, sales and markets, and all other social duties that fell to him. But whoever was late or absent, Lochdhu never failed to be present.

Lochdhu took a prominent part in the Parliamentary election of 1874, when Viscount Macduff (now the Duke of Fife) successfully contested the Counties of Moray and Nairn. Lochdhu, like many other of his agricultural friends, was a Liberal in those days, but became a Unionist when the Irish Home Rule Bill was introduced. It was a curious circumstance, and sometimes led to awkward predicaments, that Lochdhu retained the most supreme admiration for Mr Gladstone, and woe betide the person who in his presence, ventured a disparaging remark of his old leader. He forgot for the moment he had become a Unionist, and was now in different company! Lochdhu continued his active support when Sir George Macpherson Grant represented the Combined counties, and in the Burgh of Nairn frequently acted as Sir Findlay's chairman. The late Sir Thomas Brodie's letter of introduction of the latter – a somewhat famous document at the time – was, it will be remembered, addressed to his friend Lochdhu. One of the last public meetings Lochdhu attended was a meeting of Sir Robert Findlay with his constituents, and no one rejoiced more than he over the success his friend Sir Robert had achieved. Lochdhu at all times was a staunch friend of those with whom he associated.

Mr Anderson took an interest in the improvement of stock generally, but he himself was very partial to the pure Highland breed, and along with his brother-in-law, the late Mr John Stewart of Ensay, was a frequent exhibitor and prize-taker both at northern shows and at the Highland Societies.

Mr Anderson married the widow of the Rev. Mr Mackintosh of Craignish, daughter of Mr Donald Stewart of Glen Nevis, and sister of the late Mr John Stewart of Ensay.

Lochdhu was predeceased by his only son, who died in South Africa. Mrs Anderson passed away a few years ago. He is survived by his only daughter who is married to Mr D. A. Stewart, second son of the late Mr John Stewart of Ensay.

The funeral took place on Saturday and was very largely attended. It was one of the largest and most representative funeral seen in Nairn. The pall-bearers were:- Mr D. A. Stewart, son-in-law; Mr A. R. Mackintosh, Mr D. Stewart Mackintosh, Mr Leslie, Muirkirk; Mr George R. Mackessack of Argye, Mr John Mackessack of Kinloss, Sir Felix c. Mackenzie, Forres; Dr Cruickshank, Nairn.

The deceased gentleman was a J.P. of the County of Nairn. He was a warm supporter of the United Presbyterian Church.

The religious services at the house and at the Cemetery was conducted by Rev. James Bonallo, Auldearn, and Rev. W. R. Pirie.

Robert Anderson was the youngest son of Alexander Anderson (c1758 – 3 October 1832) and Isabella Hardie or Hardy (c1775 – 9 November 1857) and was born on the 23 October and baptised in Forres Parish Church on 25 October 1812. His parents had married in 1794 (Recorded 29 November at Forres and 2 December 1794 at Elgin). His father was a son of Alexander Anderson (c1722 – 30 December 1800) and of Elizabeth Watson (c1736 – 1 December 1798) who had married 29 August 1754 at Rafford. His father died in October 1832 and his buried at Rafford Churchyard, with inscription on a flat stone as follows: 'This stone is placed here by Alexander Anderson, Farmer in Boggs in memory of his father Alexander Anderson, some time Farmer in Cragetown who died 30 Decr 1800 aged 78 years. And his spouse Elizabeth Watson who died 1 Decr 1798 aged 63 years. Here lyes the body of Alex. Anderson late Farmer in Cooper Hill who died Octbr 3d 1832 aged 74 years. Also his spouse Isabella Hardie died 9th Novr 1857 aged 82 years. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.'

1841 Census – Cowperhill, Edinkillie

Isabella	Anderson	Female	67
Robert	Anderson	Male	25
Alexander	Calder	Male	13
Isabella	Leslie	Female	4
Jane	Hendra	Female	19
Jane	Hossick	Female	32
Donald	Fraser	Male	25
John	Luck	Male	22
Thomas	Manson	Male	18
William	Brown	Male	14

1851 Census – Cooperhill, Edinkillie

Isabella	Anderson	Head	Widow	Female	74	Farmer of 80 Ac (4 Labourers)	Elgin, Morayshire
Jane	Anderson	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	32		Forres, Elgin or Moray
Robert	Anderson	Son	Unmarried	Male	34		Forres, Elgin or Moray
Robert	Leslie	Grand Son	-	Male	6	Scholar	Scotland
David	Campbell	Servant	Unmarried	Male	33	Agricultural Labourer	Inverness, Inverness-shire,
Alexander McIntosh		Servant	Unmarried	Male	18	Agricultural Labourer	Campbeltown, Inverness-shire,
Hector	McDonald	Servant	Unmarried	Male	18	Agricultural Labourer	Inverness, Inverness-shire,
Ann	Elder	Servant	Unmarried	Female	19	House Servant	Croy, Inverness-shire,

1861 Census – Kildrummie Nairn

Robert	Anderson	Head	Unmarried	Male	42	Farmer 500 to 600 Acres Employing 13 Men And 8 Women	Forres, Morayshire,
Duff	Allendie	Domestic Servant	Unmarried	Female	33	Servant In House	Rhynie, Aberdeenshire,
Mary	Manson	Servant	Unmarried	Female	20	Servant In House	Fordyce,

Margaret McDonald Servant Unmarried Female 21 Out Door Work Banffshire,
Nairn,
Married Mary Stewart on 4 June 1861 at the Fort House, Fort William, Parish of Kilmallie. Mary Stewart was the daughter of David and Isabella Stewart nee McRae of Luskintyre, Harris. Mary was the widow of the Rev. Alexander Mackintosh of Kirkmichael (bp 2 April 1801 – 4 November 1857) who had married on the 20 March 1849 and had the following children: Archibald Robert Donald Mackintosh (6 November 1849 – 2 March 1920) and Duncan Stewart Mackintosh (6 September 1852 – 12 December 1914).

1871 Census – Lochdhu, Nairn

Robert	Anderson	Head	Married	Male	51	Land Owner Agricultural Land & Wood Land 560 Acres Of Which	Dyke
Mary	Anderson	Wife	Married	Female	38		Harris, Inverness-shire,
Donald S	McIntosh	Step Son	Unmarried	Male	17	Apprentice In Lawyers Office	Argyllshire,
Donald A	Stewart	Nephew	-	Male	14	Scholar	Kilmuir, Inverness-shire,
Alister A	Anderson	Son	-	Male	9	Scholar	Kilmonivaig, Inverness-shire,
Isabell M S	Anderson	Daughter	-	Female	7	Scholar	Nairn, Nairnshire,
Helen	Sinclair	Servant	Unmarried	Female	26	Maid (Domestic Servant)	Argyllshire,
Jane	McKenzie	Servant	Unmarried	Female	20	House Maid (Domestic Servant)	Ross & Cromarty,
Elizabeth	McMillan	Servant	Unmarried	Female	24	Cook (Domestic Servant)	Inverness-shire,
Ann	Elder	Servant	Unmarried	Female	30	Dairy Maid (Domestic Servant)	Avoch, Ross & Cromarty,
Peter	Stewart	Servant	Unmarried	Male	22	Coachman (Domestic Servant)	North Uist, Inverness-shire,
Alexander McDonald	Servant	Unmarried	Male	19	Shepherd	Kilmuir, Inverness-shire,	

1881 Census – Lochdhu, Nairn

Robert	Anderson	Head	Married	Male	62	Proprietor & Farmer of 650 Acres of Which 600 are Arable Employing 9 Men 4 Women	Forres, Morayshire,
Mary	Anderson	Wife	Married	Female	50		Harris, Inverness-shire,
Isabella	Anderson	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	16		Nairnshire,
Helen G	Branker	Visitor	Married	Female	52	Wife Of W H Branker London	Harris, Inverness-shire,
Ann	Stewart	Visitor	Unmarried	Female	56		Harris, Inverness-shire,
Juliet	MacDonald	Visitor	Unmarried	Female	30		Lochs, R & C

Helen	Sinclair	Servant	Unmarried Female	35	Housekeeper	Argyllshire,
Ann	Logan	Servant	Unmarried Female	31	Cook	Sutherland,
Mary	McPherson	Servant	Unmarried Female	28	House Maid	Morayshire,
Ann	McDougal	Servant	Unmarried Female	20	Dairy Maid	Inverness- shire,
Donald	Macrae	Servant	Unmarried Male	26	Coachman	Harris, Inverness- shire

1891 Census – Lochdhu, Nairn

Robert	Anderson	Head	Married	Male	73	Farmer	Forres, Morayshire,
Mary	Anderson	Wife	Married	Female	60	Farmers Wife	Harris, Inverness- shire,
Isabel	Anderson	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	26		Nairn, Nairnshire,
Christina	Alexander	Sister	Widow	Female	80		Morayshire,
Isabel M	Mackintosh	Step Grand Daughter	Unmarried	Female	5		Greenock, Renfrewshire,
Ellen	Sinclair	Servant	Unmarried	Female	45	General Serv (Domestic)	Argyllshire,
Isabella	Sinclair	Servant	Unmarried	Female	27	Ladys Maid	Nairnshire,
Mary	Sinclair	Servant	Unmarried	Female	19	Nurse	Nairnshire,
Jane	Macandrew	Servant	Unmarried	Female	18	Housemaid	Creich, Sutherland,
John	Noble	Servant	Unmarried	Male	19	Coachman (Domestic)	Forres, Morayshire,
Johan	Macdonald	Servant	Unmarried	Female	27	Dairymaid	Gairloch, Ross & Cromarty,
Fanny	Fraser	Servant	Unmarried	Female	22	Cook	-

Children:

Alistair Alexander Stewart Anderson (14 February 1862 – 6 February 1898). Death Notice in *The Nairn County Press and Advertiser* of 12th March 1898: Anderson – At Salisbury, South Africa, on the 6th of February Alistair Alexander Stewart, only son of Robert Anderson of Lochdhu, Nairn.

Isabella Mary Anderson (8 August 1864 – 24 April 1924) married Donald Alexander Stewart on 5 April 1894.

Robert Anderson died 23 October 1900, cause stated as Senile Debility & Cerebral Congestion. Certificate signed by D A Stewart, Son-in-law of Lochdhu and Scorrybreck, Portree.

Commemorated on following headstones in Nairn Cemetery:

- Robert Anderson of Lochdhu died 23rd October 1900 aged 90.
- In most loving memory of Mary Stewart wife of Robert Anderson, of Lochdhu who fell asleep 5th December 1898. And of their son Alistair, who died in Africa, 6th February 1898. *“The Lord has chastened me sore but he him that someth unto me I will in”*
- Donald Alexander Stewart of Lochdhu died 20th December 1935 also his wife Isabel Mary Anderson died 24th April 1924. *The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Rom.8.23.*

Nairnshire Miscellany

Elgin Courant, and Morayshire Advertiser – Tuesday 21 November 1876

A VISIT TO THE CHURCHYARD OF ARDCLACH. ...

To the east and north of the church the stones are planted more thickly. Many of the older ones, through neglect and the ravages of time, are fast becoming undecipherable. Pity this. We notice two or three of the more easily read ones. To the east of the church is a large flat stone bearing date 1748, with a border of floral design interwoven with darts, &c, and in the centre is the following inscription, in deep, well cut characters – we modernize the spelling a little:

This stone is erected in memory of Donald McAndrew, some time living at Drumlochan, who departed this life 19th day of June, 1748, aged 33 years. His spouse, Martha Every, died the 45 year of her age. Alexr. McAndrew, their son, died the 11 year of his age. Life how short. Eternity how long.

To the left of this is another old flat stone, inscribed as follows: -

The remains of Alexr. Leslie, Tack-man of Drumlochan, who departed this life the 24th day of December 1796, aged 57 years, after a lingering illness, which he bore with Christian fortitude, lie beneath this stone, erected to his memory by Margaret Key, his spouse.

Doubtless this was a worthy ancestor of the present tenant of Drumlochan. Passing to the south of the church we come to the burying-ground of the Murdochs, represented in the parish by the respected family of Lynemore. Two large flat stones mark the spot. On each of these are inscriptions, one bearing date 1816, and the other 1827. Across from this is a plain upright stone bearing the following epitaph: -

In memory of John Gordon, merchant, Forres, lawful son of Alexr. Gordon, Farmer in Duffus, who lost his life in a tempest near Dulcie Bridge, Jany 2nd 1800, aged 37 years. Erected by his disconsolate widow, Isobel Grant, in duty to an affectionate husband.

There are others equally interesting, but our time is limited. At the south end of the church is the spot set apart for the interment of the pastor of the parish. On a raised oblong tablet, on the top of an enclosed tomb, is the following: -

Erected by the parishioners of Ardclach, in testimony of esteem for the Rev. Donald Mitchell, their pastor, who died beloved and lamented, on the 22nd June, 1811, in the 62nd year of his age, and 38th of his ministry. Here also are interred the remains of Mrs Christina Gordon, his spouse, who died at Nairn on the 3rd of October, 1821, aged 66.

Upon a flat stone by the side of this, fast disappearing in the grass and mould, we read: -

In memory of John Mitchell, father to the Rev. D. Mitchell, minister of Ardclach, who died 3rd of May, 1801, aged 84 years.

Contributed by Member Ross Napier via Robert Rose, Toronto

Ancestral Parishes or Scottish to the Core

Having spent some time making use of the National Library of Scotland map site (<https://maps.nls.uk>) it crossed my mind I might want to investigate – or, at any rate summarise – the areas of the country in which my ancestors were born.

After much dithering, I decided the best method I could employ to determine this was to look at one generation in the far distant past.

My first thought was to consider my great, great-grandparents – what I call the Generation of 16 – but I decided this gave me too small a sample; the other difficulty was, I thought the people in this part of my ancestor chart would be more likely to have moved around the country than would have their parents, or grandparents.

I decided, in the end, to go back two further generations, to the Generation of 64, and my 4 x great-grandparents, compiling a list of the parishes in which – to the best of my knowledge – they were born.

Of course, there was one significant problem with going back this far – my lack of knowledge; there were four lines where I had yet to get past the Generation of 32, and one line which stubbornly stopped at the Generation of 16.

For these lines, I had no choice but to use the details of the last known ancestor in the chain leading backwards, which is why, although hoping to work with a list of 64 people, I had no choice but to use a list of 58 people for my analysis – a list of 58 parishes and counties, with dates ranging throughout the whole of the eighteenth century.

Surnames & Parishes

In case the surnames and places are of interest, and to give an idea of the variety of surnames and places to which I have a direct link, before analysing the data, an A-Z list follows:

Surname	Parish	Surname	Parish
Anderson	King Edward, Aberdeen	McLean	Boharm, Moray
Barclay	Keith, Banff	McNeil	Tranent, East Lothian
Borthwick	Carrington, Midlothian	McPherson	Ardersier, Inverness
Bremner	Knockando, Moray	Menzies	Weem, Perth
Brown	Inveresk, East Lothian	Milne	Knockando, Moray
Bryson	Tranent, East Lothian	Nicholson	Logierait, Perth
Carmichael	Weem, Perth	Raeburn	Gladsmuir, East Lothian
Chalmers	Knockando, Moray	Robertson	Alves, Moray
Cruickshank	Aberlour, Moray	Ross	Edinkillie, Moray
Cruickshank	Inveravon, Banff	Russell	Boharm, Moray
Cruickshank	Knockando, Moray	Rutherford	Tranent, East Lothian
Cumming	Edinkillie, Moray	Scott	Little Dunkeld, Perth
Cumming	Knockando, Moray	Scott	Gladsmuir, East Lothian

Davidson	Ardersier, Inverness	Shand	Drainie, Moray
Denoon	Keith, Banff	Smith	Elgin, Moray
Gerard	Turriff, Aberdeen	Spence	Keith, Banff
Grant	Aberlour, Moray	Stewart	Boharm, Moray
Grant	Cromdale, Moray	Stewart	Little Dunkeld, Perth
Henry	Auchertgaven, Perth	Stronach	St Andrews, Moray
Hossack	Resolis, Ross & Cromarty	Sutherland	Gamrie, Banff
MacKenzie	Knockbain, Ross &	Sutor	Edinkillie, Moray
Main	Ârdersier, Inverness	Tolmie	Ardersier, Inverness
McAndrew	Drainie, Moray	Unknown	Alvah, Banff
McDonald	Cromdale, Moray	Wilson	Inveresk, East Lothian
McDonald	Knockando, Moray	Wilson	King Edward, Aberdeen
McFarlane	Auchertgaven, Perth	Wood	Alvah, Banff
McKay	Knockando, Moray	Young	Drainie, Moray

That the above table does not have the expected number surname and parish combinations is because I just happen to have double – and separate – links to the same surname in three parishes:

Cruickshank, Knockando, Moray;
Main, Ardersier, Inverness
and, Tolmie, Ardersier, Inverness

The ‘unknown’ link to Alvah, Banff is for no other reason than I have no clue as to the surname of Alexander Wood’s spouse, only suspecting she was also from the parish of Alvah in the county of Banff.

Numerical Analysis

Counties	
Moray	23
Perth	8
Banff	8
East Lothian	7
Inverness	6
Aberdeen	3
Ross & Cromarty	2
Midlothian	1

The summary by county revealed a distinct leaning towards parishes within the old county of Moray, and its neighbour, Banffshire – with more than half the entries falling within the boundaries of one or the other.

It also showed two links to the south: a cluster in the northern part of Perthshire; and, a combination of East Lothian and next door Midlothian.

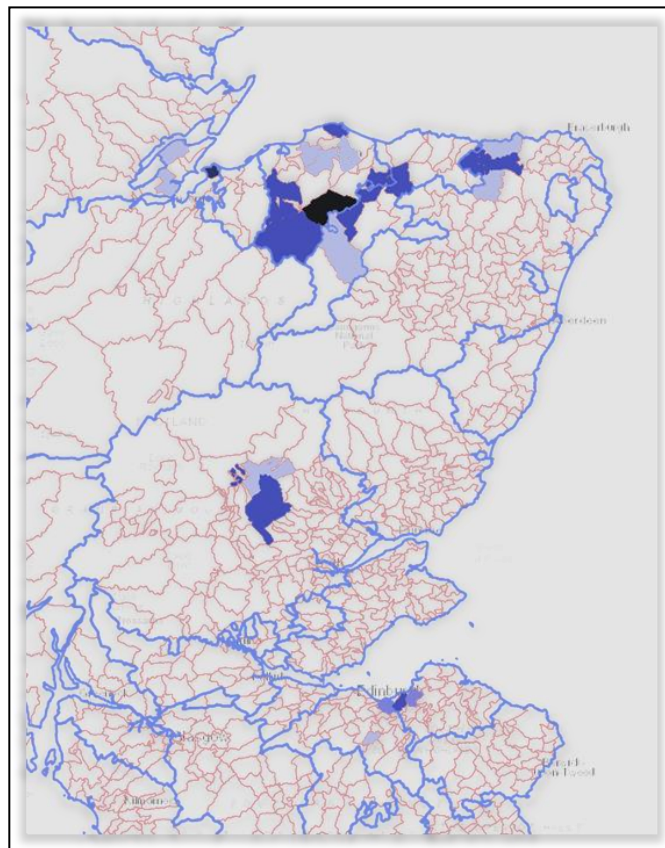
The parish analysis, however, came up with a somewhat surprising suggestion of a cluster of ancestors living in Ardersier, Inverness – which might be explained by my more recent fishing family links though Hopeman in the parish of Duffus leading in 1806 – as almost every link to that village - to this unexpected source parish.

Had I limited my analysis to the Generation of 16 – or even 32 – I would not have produced a link to Ardersier; most of these six would be linked to the parish of Duffus instead, as can be seen from the following table:

Parishes			Parishes		
Knockando	Moray	8	Cromdale	Moray	2
Ardersier	Inverness	6	Alvah	Banff	2
Edinkillie	Moray	3	King Edward	Aberdeen	2
Drainie	Moray	3	Alves	Moray	1
Keith	Banff	3	Carrington	Midlothian	1
Boharm	Moray	3	Elgin	Moray	1
Little Dunkeld	Perth	3	Inveravon	Moray	1
Tranent	East Lothian	3	Knockbain	Ross & Cromarty	1
Auchtergaven	Perth	2	Logierait	Perth	1
Gladsmuir	East Lothian	2	Resolis	Ross & Cromarty	1
Inveresk	East Lothian	2	St Andrews	Moray	1
Weem	Perth	2	Turriff	Aberdeen	1
Aberlour	Banff	1	Gamrie	Banff	1

Pictorial Analysis

Lists are all very well and good, but a better method of giving an impression of the spread of my Generation of 64 ancestors would be by an illustrative method, by a map (see below) highlighting the various parishes touched:



Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland'

In this instance, the more intense the colour of shading for the parish, the more links I can make at the level of Generation of 64 in my family tree:

Only a very brief glance at the map reveals the greatest number of people in my Generation of 64 centred in the Knockando, Moray, and its nearby Moray & Banff neighbours.

The map also show links are present to the west in Ardersier, Inverness (with a spur in to a couple in Ross & Cromarty parishes); and to the east around the Aberdeenshire parish of King Edward (and neighbours).

The obvious link to slap-bang in the middle of Scotland is to Little Dunkeld (and its nearby parishes) in the northern part of Perthshire, and is the source of my Stewart and Scott families.

And, finally, an outpost can be seen for my Rutherford and (different) Scott connections to the parish of Tranent (and thereabouts) in East Lothian.

The – perhaps – odd thing about is analysis is quite restricted, showing no links outside the boundaries of this country for my Generation of 64.

On the basis of this analysis I'm happy to say I am, "Scottish to the core!"

Contributed by Doug Stewart

Nairnshire Miscellany

Militia Strays

I am in the process of finishing a publication which will be available next year on the Militia of Nairnshire and during my research found the following men who served in the Elgin Militia. The following is from the Abstracts of Allowances to Militia (Highland Archives Ref. D401 – copy of Elgin Library Ref. ZCMM B333-B334).

Ardclach

James Smith, spouse Isabel Leslie – 3 children under 10.
Paid 26 December 1810 to 27 November 1811 4/- per week.

Nairn

James Calder, spouse Janet McIntosh – 2 children under 10.
Paid 1 January 1811 to 13 November 1811 3/- per week.

Contributed by Stuart Farrell

Nairnshire Miscellany

NAIRNSHIRE, THE PEOPLE AND THE LANDS
BRUCE B BISHOP FSA Scot, ASGRA

A series which studies, Parish by Parish, the History and People of the Baronies, Estates and Lands of Nairnshire prior to 1850.

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