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highland family
history society

HIGHLAND
FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY



Comunn
Sloinntearachd
na
Gaidhealtachd

JOURNAL

ISSN 0262-6659

Published by
The Highland Family History Society
Comunn Sloinntearachd na Gaidhealtach

Vol. 23 No. 1

November 2004

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EDITORIAL

This time last year, I was suggesting to myself in this column different ways of how I could usefully spend my new found additional weekend time. Well, last week, for the first time since I made these musings, I finally achieved one of them by making a two day visit to the National Library in Edinburgh to research through the Sutherland Estate Papers.

I am not entirely sure when, but probably within the last couple of decades, the Sutherland Estate made an indefinite loan of their estate papers and records to the National Library. There is so much in the collection that I calculate it would probably take a lifetime to go through it all properly. The Library itself has made indexes to some of the collection, but the remainder is subject to ongoing work, which indicates in some way the scale of the problem.

Naturally, it is the Sutherland Estate Papers which is of most interest to me; however, I would imagine that many other estates in Scotland have done likewise and loaned their collection to the Library or may have kept them in their own estate offices. Either way, they provide a tremendous non-statutory resource which will, undoubtedly, have many hidden gems just tantalisingly awaiting discovery.

So, notebook and pencil (no pens allowed in the research rooms) in hand, I ordered my first six bundles of papers which I had targeted from the index. Some of the papers which arrived were very fragile and I felt a mixture of being extremely privileged to be able to access them and also being very concerned that, in handling them, I may be doing them some damage. It is a strange experience in these days of the 'DON'T TOUCH' and 'KEEP OFF THE GRASS' culture to be allowed to access delicate, original documents written and signed by people who have become household names to me, including such names as Patrick Sellar and James Loch well-known to the majority.

Many of my fellow researchers in the room had dispensed with their pencils and notebooks in favour of laptops or palmtops with mini keyboards. Presumably, these people, rattling away on their machines transcribing information, had the luxury of more time to spend than I, probably living fairly locally. My tactics were to search, identify and order copies of things which interested me, in a more direct, 'Alpine' style raid on the records, given that my time was in limited supply. The Library then copies the selected records and posts them on.

This proved to be the most successful approach from my point of view as, over the two days, I was able to search through many bundles; however, it was probably not the cheapest! At 32p per A4 copy (and only 36p per A3), I am awaiting with a certain amount of trepidation the bill, which may amount to over £100! If I am not completely embarrassed by the total and also remember, I may tell you the amount next time. Do you think there is an organisation for me out there - "My name is Nick Lindsay and I'm a researchaholic"!

During my time in Edinburgh, I also visited the Map Library (always fascinating) and the National Archives. My advice to anyone who has not been to any of these great institutions (including the Library) is to plan ahead. I'm sure someone in the dim and distant past gave me some great advice in the words "Time spent planning is never wasted", to which I must pretend that each and every one of you is a Granny of mine who, for some inexplicable reason, does not know how to suck eggs and pass on this invaluable guidance. Imagine!

The staff in general are very helpful and, if you get the right person, you will get valuable assistance and information that may save you hours. It is probably best to phone in advance, so that you know you can access what you are looking for and to know exactly where to go. And then, off you go, and the world (or the research room), as they say, is your oyster!

JONATHAN WELLS & INVERNESS IRON FOUNDRY

by Alexander Wells

Mr. Wells, who was a member of our Society, was the speaker at the first of our winter series of monthly meetings held on 28th September 2004. At the end of the meeting he very kindly donated a copy of the notes he had used in his talk so that we could print the contents in one of our journals. This would allow the fascinating story of his ancestor, who contributed so much to the early 19th Century industrial revolution in Inverness, to be read by a much wider audience.

A week or two after giving the talk Mr. Wells, who was suffering from a terminal disease, went into hospital and passed away not long after. Following a discussion at a committee meeting held last week it was agreed that we should go ahead and print the article as intended. It was felt that this would be a suitable memorial to the work undertaken by Mr. Wells in researching such an interesting story. The first instalment appears below and the second instalment will be printed in the next journal due out in February 2005.

The Chapel Yard Cemetery in Inverness contains the mortal remains of the great and good citizens of the town. Generations of families have their last resting-places there and almost hidden beneath two large elm trees, there is a tombstone with a warning! It states:

*"You passengers as you pass by
As you are now so once was I
As I am now so you will be
Prepare yourself to follow me"*

The principal name on the stone is Jonathan Wells, Ironfounder, Inverness. He died on 28th September 1826 at the age of 56. Jonathan Wells was a successful businessman and entrepreneur. He was also a major contributor to the bringing of the industrial revolution to Inverness in the early nineteenth century. When he died he left a large estate valued at almost £6000 – a fortune at that time.

We have little information of his early life and the following is based on information gleaned through family history research. He was born in the village of Hlobeach, Lincolnshire in 1769, a small rural parish on the fenlands of England. There is no industry in this area although we speculate that he may have come from a family of blacksmiths. We know nothing of his educational background or how or why he migrated north to become involved in the iron making business. However, by the time he was 36 years old (in 1806) he had a wide knowledge of the science and practice of metallurgy as foreman at the Perth Foundry 2 and when he died, there is a reference in his will to a large book collection.

Jonathan married Mary Muir on 24th November 1790 in the parish of Larbert, Stirling³ and it was in this same parish that Mary was baptised on 15th September 1769, daughter of John Muir and Janet Smith. This area was also the home of the Carron Iron Works in Falkirk where the famous iron cannon used in the Napoleonic Wars were cast. It was also here that blast furnaces using coke to improve the quality of iron were developed in the late 18th century. There is evidence in one of the Stenhouse Accounts for Scotland that the Carron

Iron Works recruited from the industrial heartland of England so it can be assumed that Jonathan was one of the recruits and had a background in iron before completing his craft at the Falkirk Foundries.

In 1798 a daughter, Mary, was born in Sunderland, Co. Durham.⁴ It was in this year, that the first iron bridge over the River Tyne was completed. Another child, Margaret, was born in Sunderland in 1800⁵ so we can again assume that Jonathan was involved in the construction of the bridge. It is probable that the family stayed in Sunderland for some time and two other children were born in this area before his son James was born in Perth. Given the inscription on his tombstone, and the location of the baptism of his daughter Mary at the Robinson Lane Chapel (a split congregation of 'Protestant Dissenters') in Sunderland, Jonathan was a God-fearing man, and the great ironfounders in England were Non-conformists.

No other evidence of the stay in Perth has so far been found other than James' birth. We next find Jonathan and his family in Inverness. When he actually moved is not known, but he was certainly instrumental in establishing the first foundry in the town, sometime before 1807. One reference in the "Inverness Field Club" records⁶ states that in 1803 "an iron foundry was set a working in the town".

The first written evidence of Jonathan's involvement in the Inverness Foundry appears in the *Inverness Journal* of 15th April 1808 in the form of the following advertisement.

INVERNESS IRON-FOUNDRY COMPANY

The public are respectfully informed that the Inverness Iron-Foundry Company have now got the greatest part of their Works completed, and are daily manufacturing a great variety of articles adapted to the general use of the Country, as well as for shop-keepers, which they sell on the most reasonable terms. Their Smith Work is already so complete that there is nothing wanted in that line but that they can manufacture, and that in a style so far superior to anything ever made in this quarter that it has astonished those who have visited the works. Shop-keepers who retail these articles, and Gentlemen furnishing houses, will find it to their advantage to apply at the Inverness Iron Foundry, where they can readily be supplied with Register and other Stove Grates; also, Kitchen Grates on an improved principle, in the greatest variety, and equal to any made in London.

The Inverness Iron-Foundry Company have on hand an elegant assortment of Ballusters for Stairs and Garden Rails; also, plough metal of all the newest and most approved patterns. Mill Castings made on the shortest notice, and all orders addressed as above attended to with care and dispatch.

*Weights made and adjusted to the proper standard.
NB. The highest price allowed for old metal or Iron*

He was not alone in this enterprise and his association with others was short lived for the *Inverness Journal* of 15th August 1808 carries the following notice:

Copartnership Dissolved

Some time ago, JAMES LYON, Merchant in Inverness and JONATHAN WELLS, began and carried on within the Burgh of Inverness, the business of Iron Founders. Thereafter upon the 1st day of August 1807 years, they affirmed additional partners into the concern, and have since that time carried on the business under the firm of The Inverness Iron Foundry Company, till the 1st day of July last, when the said Jonathan Wells was removed from the copartnership. Intimation is thereby made of the change and removal of the said Jonathan Wells from the said Company; and that, henceforth, any acts or deeds of his will not be binding upon them.

James Lyon, Partner in the Inverness Iron Foundry, and Manager Jon. Wells Inverness, Aug 1st 1808.

At first sight, it appears that Jonathan is out of the business on his own. However, the following year he is back in business and controlling the Foundry! The following advertisement appears in the *Inverness Journal* on the 4th August 1809:

*"Flattered by the patronage and support afforded to their undertaking and freed from the annoyance of an obstinate and narrow minded operative manager they have been induced to enlarge their works to a considerable extent: having engaged an additional number of steady and experienced workmen for every department of their manufactory".*⁸

This advertisement is also headed "Inverness Iron Foundry Co" which suggests that despite the dispute between Jonathan and James Lyons, he acquired the original foundry site for himself, (as the land transaction between him and Thomas Davies is dated 3rd March 1809.)⁹ Davies was one of the main contractors involved in the construction of the Caledonian Canal and Davies Square, close to Wells Street, was named after him. The advert lists many items for sale, household, agricultural and industrial.

There is also a footnote to the advert, which suggests that Jonathan continued to run the foundry after the partnership was dissolved:

"Those indebted to the Company for goods, furnished in 1807 and 1808, are entreated to pay their accounts as soon as convenient, it being impossible to carry on any undertaking, all the raw materials of which must be purchased with ready money, and the workmen paid weekly, unless accounts are settled every six months".

How he managed to raise the capital for such a venture is not known. No records of partners in this new foundry have been found. His will shows he was the sole owner of the factory, which he left to his son John. He therefore must have accumulated a considerable sum of money to invest in his business, as there would have been a substantial capital sum needed for such an enterprise.

By this time, the process of iron founding had progressed and the industry was one of the first to use steam power in the shaping of iron, for example, by using steam-powered hammers in the shaping of nails. Two types of iron were in common use - wrought iron, which was forged and shaped whilst hot, and cast iron (or pig iron or blast furnace metal).

From the advertisements of goods manufactured in the Wells Foundry, both processes were used. Jonathan as well as bringing with him the skills to supervise the processes, was probably able to provide the specifications required for setting up the foundry.

The foundry consisted of several buildings and sheds. There was the foundry where the metal was cast, a smaller smithy with a fitting shop, a design shop for the millwright and a shop and stores for finished goods. The buildings would have been connected by a series of tracks, (like a small railway) to move raw and finished goods and were probably manufactured on site. There was also a large area for coal storage and a small stable close to where his house was eventually built.

He also owned a Whitesmith's business in Church Street along with the foundry as advertised in the "Inverness Courier" of 14th April 1815. (Whitesmith's worked in tin, the same as Tinsmiths). He must have given up or sold this part of his business before his death as it is not referred to in his will.

Work had begun on the Caledonian Canal in 1803 and soon after Jonathan had opened the foundry, he was supplying goods for its construction⁹ to the Canal Commissioners and in one year was paid £886-7s-9d in connection with supplying goods. Thomas Telford had specified that the sea lock gates were to be constructed from oak and iron and wood for the fresh water locks. The two swing bridges at Muirton and Tomnahurich were also constructed from cast iron. Much of the ironwork was imported from the south but the Wells Foundry was a major local beneficiary from this project, and during his lifetime in Inverness, Jonathan made very close acquaintances with the engineers and keepers on the Canal. George May, one of Thomas Telford's assistants who became chief engineer to the Canal and was responsible for the reconstruction of the Canal in the 1830's, was one of the executors of Jonathan's will. Another executor was Thomas Jones, a lock keeper and carpenter on the Canal at Muirton. The lock gate specifications made by Telford would have meant a close relationship between these men.

The foundry was located in what was known as the Meikle Green on the West Bank of the River Ness and is shown on John Wood's map of 1821 and is the only foundry in the town at that time. This map also shows Mr Wells as the owner of houses on Anderson Street and is referred to in his will as No's 1-3 Anderson Street.¹⁰ Another house, "Lincoln Villa" was situated at the corner of Friar's Place and Abban Street and became the main family home during his lifetime. The name of the house confirms Jonathan's origins and it was demolished in the early 1980s to make way for the approach road to the Friar's Bridge. The house was built on land acquired from "Donald Munro, senior taylor in the Green of Muirton" and according to his will another house (which was only partly built when he acquired it) and not named or located, was bought from John Rose, farmer, Balnastral. It is mentioned here, as the same John Rose married Jonathan's daughter, Margaret on 13th July 1820 when she was 19 and he was 42. They had nine children.

At the time Jonathan took over and established the company, he had a virtual monopoly in Inverness. By 1818 the first sign of rivals appeared with the establishment of Fraser & Smith in Church Street and who, in 1828, moved to Rose Street to lay the foundations of what became the Rose Street Foundry. In the *Inverness Courier* of 12th February 1818, with a headline "Cheap Goods" Jonathan is advertising:

Jonathan Wells, Ironfounder, Smith and Brass Founder, Ironmonger & Etc. his advert reads:

"Grateful for the degree of public patronage he has hitherto experienced, begs respectfully to acknowledge it, and in return his most sincere thanks to a generous public, who have supported and assisted him through many difficulties; and by their aid, some time established as and without opposition, to merit a continuance of their favour, he has reduced most of his articles which he manufactures, about twenty percent"

Annexed are a few leading articles with their ready money prices. It then goes on to give a comprehensive price list and concludes with the comment: "*a further reduction of 5% on purchases above 20/-*".

So it was not all plain sailing for Jonathan's business but the foundry continued. As well as developing the foundry business, Jonathan was involved in other ventures. He had in the early years begun a close working relationship with the Canal Company and was the main supplier of rails and cast the capstans for opening the lock gates. By 1820, the income from the Canal alone amounted to £100 a month.

He had shares in two ships, the "*John Alexander*" and the "*Jane Mackenzie*". Both were sloops trading mainly between Leith and Inverness. These ships were similar in size and construction and were capable of carrying cargo of up to 90 tons. It is perhaps no surprise that Jonathan should be in partnership with others in the sea transport business as all trade at this time was by sea and Inverness was an important port trading not only along the east coast of Britain but also with Europe and Russia.

The "*John Alexander*" was built in the yard of William Geddes of Speymouth, one of the most productive yards in the Moray Firth area.¹¹ He owned eight shares in the ship when it was first registered in Inverness, and this was later increased to sixteen shares on the 8th July 1826. In the *Inverness Journal* of 18th October 1826 the "*John Alexander*" is listed as sailing to/from Hull with general cargo.

The "*Jane Mackenzie*" was built in Leith in 1820 and purchased by Jonathan in August 1826. For registration purposes, ships are registered in sixty-fourths. When Jonathan purchased the "*Jane Mackenzie*", he is shown as having 64 shares! He was obviously acting as an agent for his other partners as a few days later the records show the shares being sold to others.¹² The shareholders were merchants in various commodities and included a distiller and corn merchant.¹³

The most notable of the partners in the "*Jane Mackenzie*" were Charles Lamont Robertson Esq., and his brother Alexander Inglis Robertson. Charles, otherwise known as "Dandy Charlie" or the Beau Brummel of Inverness, was a well-known character in Inverness society. He was a noted wit and had a reputation of being an avid gossip who kept notes of "the ladies" birthdays and would greet them appropriately when he met them on the streets of the town.¹⁴ It is interesting to note that the transactions regarding the share sales were as late as August 1826, for Jonathan died only weeks later on the 28th September. This suggests that his death was sudden and unexpected.

Like the "*John Alexander*", the "*Jane Mackenzie*" was used for general cargo and for exporting timber from Inverness. John Fraser's book refers to the Leith sloop "*Jane*

Mackenzie", but his reminiscences tend to be a little inaccurate. Given the value of the shares listed in Jonathan's will, the values of the ships were £1200 for the "*John Alexander*" and £1360 for the "*Jane Mackenzie*".

Also in his will he left shares in the Inverness Gas Company. Although this did not come on stream until after his death, it is natural that he would have such an interest because of the use of coke in the founding process which, before the opening of the Gas Works, would all have to be imported from the south. He would have used coal mainly for the furnaces after it was "cooked" into a form of cinder, as it was only in 1798 that William Murdoch perfected the method of producing gas from coal, leaving coke as the byproduct.

Jonathan's estate was considerable for the early eighteenth century in Inverness. The total cash value was £5911-15s-4d. In addition to this there were three houses in Anderson Street, six houses in what is now Wells Street, (named after Jonathan as it had previously been called Fraser Street) and the house he purchased from John Rose which was in the vicinity of Wells Street, Abban Street and Huntly Place. To give an idea of Jonathan's estate, blacksmiths were paid 15/- a week (75p), labourers 10/- (50p) and masons between 15/- and 18/- in 1826.

Jonathan and his wife Mary had a total of nine children for whom confirmed records have been found with the exception of their youngest son William who is mentioned in his will. Mary lived until 1834 and she is buried in the Chapel Yard cemetery beside her husband. One son, also called Jonathan, died in 1819. A death notice in the *Inverness Journal* records it briefly: "Jonathan Wells from the foundry. A young man". Isabella, twin sister of Sarah, was born in Inverness and died sometime before her father, as she is not mentioned in the will.

To be concluded.

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1. LDS Film 538196
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3. LDS Film 102122 – Marriage
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5. *ibid*
6. Inverness Field Club – Inverness Library Ref. 941.175
7. Inverness Journal April 15th 1808
8. Inverness Journal August 4th 1809
9. Archive Accounts Caledonian Canal – The Caledonian Canal, A.D. Cameron
10. John Woods Map 1821
11. Certificate of British Registry – Inverness Custom Records No. 7, 1820
12. Registry Book Inverness Customs – No. 49, August 1826
13. Registry Book Inverness Customs – list of Co-owners No. 49, August 1826
14. See Reminiscences of Inverness – John Fraser, Published by the Author – 15 Union Street, Inverness, 1905

HFHS PROJECTS

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

By John Durham

With the indifferent summer this year and the midges still in the ascendancy in both Old Kilmore and Urquhart, it was decided to complete the small burial ground at Lochend. This has been done and as there were only 129 memorials it has been published in A4 format. The last of the copies of the Old High Church in Inverness was sold and consequently a reprint was required. The new edition includes three stones not visible at the time the original work was done and has been completely renumbered. As it was almost at the limit of the printing process in A5 format, it has been reprinted in A4. Although a little more expensive it is a lot easier to read in the normal print size.

Our new website (see Peter Munro's article for a full description of facilities) has an index to the surnames that appear on the MIs that we have already published. Key in the surname you are interested in to discover how many stones that name appears on in each burial ground. Now that the nights are drawing in I must get back to my database of burial grounds and leave the checking of Old Kilmore and Urquhart to next year.

INDEXES to 1851 CENSUS RETURNS

By John Durham

We have had some unexpected progress on this project. As mentioned last time Angus Bethune was trying to obtain a copy of the transcription of **Gairloch**. This arrived on a CD and as there were 5126 entries it has saved the Society a lot of transcribing work. I was manning a table on behalf of the Society at an open day at Golspie and, during the course of a conversation with a lady from Canada, discovered that she had done a full transcription of the parish of **Farr**. I asked her if she could give us a copy of her work so that we could index it and she agreed. The data we need for our index has been extracted from both transcriptions and it won't be long before the indexes will be ready for publishing. In the meantime Billy and Margaret Mackay have resumed work on **Eddrachillis** and have reached the third enumeration district.

Referring to the website once more a database of the contents of our census index publications can be searched. At this point of time (early November) all of the Caithness parishes are on the index. It is intended that all the 144,000 persons recorded in the 45 census indexes so far published by the Society will be on the database in the not too distant future. Each parish has to be edited to get rid of duplicate entries where the name and age are the same. To use the index on the website simply enter the surname you are interested in to get a full list showing Forename, Age and Parish in which the entry is to be found.

Finally we still need volunteers to work on the many Inverness-shire parishes yet to be indexed. They are not all the same size and it is possible to give out the smaller parishes (in numbers of inhabitants) to new volunteers. Anyone willing to help out should contact me.

SCOTTISH NATIONAL BURIAL INDEX (SNBI)

By Sandra Norton

Would recent members please note that there is a difference between two projects ongoing by our Society namely, transcribing Monumental Inscriptions (M.I.s) from the actual gravestones in churchyards, and the Scottish part of the National Burial Index (SNBI). I have had several e-mails and letters from members who are understandably confused.

The purpose of the SNBI, in our Society's remit, is to record any death or burial entries pre 1855 held in the Old Parish Registers (OPRs) for the Highland area and to prepare them for publication. These are useful additional research tools when a gravestone has not been erected or has disappeared from the relevant churchyard.

The counties we cover in the SNBI are Caithness, Sutherland, Ross and Cromarty, Inverness-shire, Nairn and Argyll. There are, unfortunately, relatively few parishes in each county with death or burial records. I can let any member know which parishes and death / burial dates are available for the parish being researched.

I am still seeking a couple of volunteers to help with the inputting onto the database part of Inverness burgh and two other parishes. There are only six batches of entries to be inputted before the completion of the project.

Due to the rather laborious process of accessing the empty database, prepared some years ago by SAFHS, it would be easier for myself and Will Morrison, the data co-ordinator, if previous volunteers from the past 18 months or so would be prepared to assist again. I would be MOST grateful.

SERENDIPITY IN SALT LAKE CITY

By Donna Fraser

This short piece has already been published in the Aberdeen & NE Scotland Journal.

Finding family while researching in Salt Lake City this year was even more interesting than usual. While working on the British research floor at the Family History Library a week ago, I noticed a couple requiring assistance so offered to help. During the course of the brief conversation it was obvious that he had a Scottish accent so I asked him where he was from. "England, but before that, Aberdeen" was the response. My grandmother was born in Aberdeen, so I was interested. He asked me where my family was from and I thought, oh no, which one do I pick and decided on Inverurie (my Norrie line). He replied, "That's not far from my family, in Fyvie". "Fyvie! You don't have a Barbara Reid, do you," I asked. "No", he responded, "but I do have an Agnes Reid". We quickly compared notes and verified that Agnes and Barbara Reid were sisters! We have common 3rd great grandparents.

Norman and Marilyn McRae are on an around-the-world trip, which included three days of family history research in Salt Lake City. It was my last day of research before returning home to Canada. We exchanged e-mail and postal addresses and will exchange family history information when the McRaes return to England.

By Peter Munro

Our new website was launched on 5th September and its address is www.highlandfhs.org.uk

As well as general information about the Society, and the publications we have for sale, and its facilities; visitors can search the indexes of gravestone inscriptions, members' queries, family trees, the 1851 Census Index for Highland counties, and family history interests for surnames in which they are interested.

There is also an up to date index of articles published in the Society's magazines which can be searched by surname, place, or topic, and a page of links to other websites of interest, and visitors are invited to suggest other website links.

This article has been adapted from the Help Page on the site, which under the main heading Site Map provides brief notes about each of the other pages on the site. On the website Help Page itself, you'll find descriptions of each of the pages, as well as a link to get there directly, with the exception that this doesn't work for pages that show search results.

Changes to the Website

While changes are being made to the website, it's likely that some pages, including the searches may not be available. Due to the world-wide locations of people with ancestry in the Scottish Highlands, it's not possible to find a 'quiet' time when no-one will be visiting the site. Changes rarely take more than 15 minutes at the longest, so if the page you want is unavailable, please return after 15 minutes.

Errors

Occasionally, due to factors beyond our control (for example, problems with the computers hosting the site, or problems with the connection to the Internet), visitors encounter unusual errors. If this happens, please try refreshing the page; or on a search results page, repeating the search.

If this does not resolve the problem, please use the form on the Contacts page to send a comment to the Webmaster, and explain which page you were on, and the error message you received. All errors will be investigated, and you'll get a reply as soon as we can.

The first things to note about the site are the index boxes, correlating to categories, near the top of the page; captioned Home, and so on. Clicking any of these will take you to a page with the same title, from which you can get to other pages.

Some pages can be reached via more than one index category - like the Gravestones Index Search-Begin page; all pages (except search results pages) can be reached from the Help page.

Both Norman and I have been members of the Aberdeen & North-East Scotland Family History Society for some time but were unaware that we were researching the same family. I've had some exciting and interesting finds while doing my family history research but nothing to compare to finding a living relative researching my family only five film readers away from me!

GEORGE McBEATH'S GOLD CHAIN

A letter to the editor by Bryan Pannett

My wife and I really appreciate your sending to us a copy of the Highland Family History Society Journal for May (Volume 22, No. 3) which gave us the background to your publishing the article about how George and my wife Christina found they were related. In your article you mention that George was going to bring the gold chain with him when he visited so that he could hand it to Christina. When I read that I decided that it would completely spoil the occasion if Christina knew what was going to happen in advance so she has only been able to read your article after George and she met.

The meeting took place at Taupo Township on the shores of Lake Taupo, the largest lake in the North Island of New Zealand. We had gone there for a week's holiday and George was in Hastings on the East Coast visiting friends he had met on his previous visit to this country. We suggested to him that he come to stay with us at Taupo for a few days so we could show him country he probably would not see otherwise and then we could take him to Rotorua (about an hour and a half away) where he wanted to try and trace the movements of someone who had worked with his Father. Later on George travelled to Wellington to visit us.

Christina was, of course, absolutely delighted to receive the gift of the chain which provided her with a link with her Grandfather who had died in Dunedin before she was born. The photograph below records the event.



