ANCESTRAL RESOURCES: SOUTH

Below is a regional list of genealogy and ancestral support services to help you direct any ancestral tourism enquiries.

LOCAL ARCHIVES

Dumfries and Galloway Local Archive
Ewart Library
Catherine Street
Dumfries, DG1 1JB
Records cover over 600 years of Dumfries and Galloway’s history. Staff can help with basic family history research.
Tues, Thurs & Fri: 10am-1pm; 2pm-5pm;
Wed: 10am-1pm; 2pm-6.30pm;
Sat: 10am-3pm (first in every month)
T: 01387 260285
E: libarchive@dumgal.gov.uk
W: www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15308/local-archives

Edinburgh City Archives
Level 1, City Chambers
253 High Street
Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ
Records of the City of Edinburgh Council and its previous authorities, and businesses, societies/clubs & individuals.
Tues - Thurs: 9am-1pm; 2pm-4.30pm
Contact in advance of visit
T: 0131 5294616
E: archives@edinburgh.gov.uk
W: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cityarchives

Edinburgh and Scottish Collection
George IV Bridge
Edinburgh, EH1 1EG
The place to find out about Scotland and its capital. Fantastic heritage collections cover history, maps, literature, local and family history.
Mon - Wed: 10am-8pm; Thurs - Sat: 10am-5pm
T: 0131 2428070
E: central.edsc.library@edinburgh.gov.uk
W: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/directory_record/20694/edinburgh_and_scottish_collection

Heart of Hawick – Heritage Hub
Kirkstile
Hawick, TD9 0AE
The key source for 800 years of archives covering local and family history in the Scottish Borders.
Mon, Wed & Fri: 9.30am-12.45pm; 1.15pm-4.45pm
Tues & Thurs: 9.30am-12.45pm; 1.15pm-7pm
Sat: 10am-2pm
Book Tues & Thurs evening access in advance
T: 01450 360699
E: archives@liveborders1.org.uk
W: www.heartofhawick.co.uk/g_heart/info/19/heritage_hub

John Gray Centre
15 Lodge Street
Haddington, EH41 3DX
Access to East Lothian’s archives supported by genealogical and reference materials and resources.
Opening times:
www.johngraycentre.org/visit/opening-hours
T: 01620 820695
E: history@eastlothian.gov.uk
W: www.johngraycentre.org

Lothian Health Services Archive
Centre for Research Collections
University of Edinburgh Main Library (6th floor)
George Square
Edinburgh, EH8 9LJ
If your ancestor was a patient, nurse, doctor, or other hospital employee, we have a wide variety of records which may help you to find out more.
Visit by appointment only
T: 0131 6503392
E: lhsa@ed.ac.uk
W: www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk

VISITSCOTLAND.COM
Midlothian Local Studies and Archives
Library HQ
2 Clerk Street
Loanhead, EH20 9DR
Archives include Council records, local business
records, and information on local families and
individuals.
*Mon - Thurs: 2pm-5pm; Fri: 10am-1pm*
Contact in advance if using research facilities
T: 0131 2713976
E: local.studies@midlothian.gov.uk
W: www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/458/local_and_family
history/391/local_studies

National Records of Scotland
General Register House
2 Princes Street
Edinburgh, EH1 3YY
Scottish public records and extensive collection of
private archives: registers of sasines (property
ownership), deeds, records of civil and criminal
courts, government files, estate records, and maps
and plans. Accessing the Historical Search Room
requires proof of ID and two photographs.
*Mon – Fri: 9am – 4.30pm*
T: 0131 535 1334
E: historical.enquiries@nrscotland.gov.uk
W: www.nrscotland.gov.uk

Scottish Genealogy Society
15 Victoria Terrace
Edinburgh, EH1 2JL
Large collection of monumental (gravestone)
inscriptions, family histories and research notes,
journals of the Scottish family history societies,
microfilm copies of original records, and
subscriptions to some online genealogy services.
Offers friendly advice on Scottish family history.
T: 0131 220 3677
E: enquiries@scotsgenealogy.com
W: www.scotsgenealogy.com

Stow Parish Archive
Stow Town Hall
Stow, TD1 2QS
Collects photographs, stories and memorabilia of
local interest.
Contact in advance to confirm opening times
T: 01578 730655
E: stowparisharchive@gmail.com
W: www.visitscotland.com/info/see-do/stow-parish-
archive-p1222891

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

Borders Family History Society
52 Overhaugh Street
Galashiels, TD1 1DP
Help people with their family history in the Borders
counties (Berwickshire, Peeblesshire, Roxburghshire
and Selkirkshire).
*Archive and Research Room*
Mon: 6pm-8pm; Tues, Thurs & Fri: 10am-4pm
T: 01896 750387
E: Online enquiry form –
www.bordersfhs.org.uk/BFHSContacts.asp
W: www.bordersfhs.org.uk

Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society
9 Glasgow Street
Dumfries, DG2 9AF
The society acts as facilitators for researchers visiting
the counties of South West Scotland.
*April - October*
Tues & Thurs: 10am-4pm; Wed: 12.30pm-3.30pm;
Fri & Sat: 10am-1pm
*November - March*
Tues, Wed & Thurs: 12.30pm-3.30pm;
Fri & Sat: 10am-1pm
T: 01387 248093
E: secretary@dghs.org.uk
W: www.dghs.org.uk

West Lothian Family History Society
The society aims to assist those researching their
family history and genealogy throughout the county
of West Lothian.
W: www.wlfhs.org.uk (Email various members of the
Society on the ‘Contact Us’ page)

LOCAL LIBRARIES

National Library of Scotland
George IV Bridge
Edinburgh, EH1 1EW
The library holds family and clan histories, memoirs,
street directories, newspapers, and private family
archives.
Opening times:
www.nls.uk/using-the-library/opening-hours
T: 0131 623 3700
E: enquiries@nls.uk
W: www.nls.uk
West Lothian Local History Library
89 High Street
Linlithgow, EH49 7ED
Find out about the rich heritage of West Lothian. The library holds a huge range of books, maps and images about West Lothian’s places and people.
*Tues – Fri: 10am-5pm; First Sat of the month: 9am-1pm*
T: 01506 282491
E: localhistory@westlothian.gov.uk
W: www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/2055/Local-History-Library

**LOCAL MUSEUMS AND ATTRACTIONS**

Bennie Museum
9-11 Mansfield Street
Bathgate, EH48 4HU
A museum of Bathgate's history and life.
*April – September*
Mon - Sun: 11am-4pm
*October – March*
Mon - Sun: 11am-3.30pm
T: 01506 634944
E: Online enquiry form – www.benniemuseum.org.uk/contentw/contact-us-2
W: www.benniemuseum.org.uk

Carsphairn Heritage Centre
Carsphairn
Castle Douglas, DG7 3TQ
Annual exhibition focusing on varied aspects of local history. Assistance offered to those researching their family history.
*May – September*
Mon, Tues, Thurs - Sat: 10.30am-5pm; Sun: 2pm-5pm
T: 01644 460653
E: info@carsphairnheritage.org
W: www.carsphairnheritage.org

Creetown Heritage Museum
91 St John Street
Creetown
Newton Stewart, DG8 7JE
Insight into over 150 years of Creetown’s history through photographs, artefacts and hands-on activities.
*Check website for opening times*
T: 01671 820471
E: peterhowie1@outlook.com
W: www.creetown-heritage-museum.com

Dryburgh Abbey
Dryburgh
St Boswells, TD6 6RQ
The ruins of Dryburgh Abbey are remarkably complete. First established in 1150, it became the premier house in Scotland of the Premonstratensian order.
*April – September*
Mon – Sun: 9.30am-5.30pm
*October – March*
Mon – Sun: 10am-4pm
T: 01835 822381
E: customer@hes.scot
W: www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/dryburgh-abbey

Dumfries Museum
The Observatory
Rothwell Road
Dumfries, DG2 7SW
Offers a fascinating journey of discovery through the region's history, from prehistoric times.
*April - September*
Mon - Sat: 10am-1pm; 2pm-5pm
*October - March*
Tues - Sat: 10am-1pm; 2pm-5pm
T: 01387 253374
E: dumfriessmuseum@dumgal.gov.uk

Eyemouth Museum
Auld Kirk
Manse Road
Eyemouth, TD14 5JE
Traces the area's fishing and social heritage. Family history research assistance available.
*Contact in advance to confirm opening times*
T: 01980 751701
E: enquiries@eyemouthmuseum.co.uk
W: www.eyemouthmuseum.org

Halliwell’s House Museum
Market Place
Selkirk, TD7 4BL
Tells the story of Halliwell Close, once the home of businesses including ironmongers, weavers and shoemakers, and the wider Selkirk history.
*April – October*
Mon - Sat: 11am-4pm; Sun: 12pm-3pm
T: 01750 726456
E: museums@scotborders.gov.uk
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/10703/halliwell_house_museum

VISITSCOTLAND.COM
Hawick Museum & Scott Art Gallery
Wilton Lodge Park
Hawick, TD9 7JL
Discover local history and learn about the fascinating lives of the town’s people.
April - September
Mon - Fri: 10am-12pm; 1pm-5pm; Sat & Sun: 2pm-5pm
October - March
Mon - Fri: 12pm-3pm; Sun: 1pm-3pm
T: 01450 373457
E: museums@scotborders.gov.uk
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/10704/hawick_museum

Jedburgh Abbey
4/5 Abbey Bridgend
Jedburgh, TD8 6JQ
Founded by David I in around 1138 for Augustinian canons, explore the fascinating Jedburgh Abbey and visitor centre.
April – September
Mon – Sun: 9.30am-5.30pm
October – March
Mon – Sun: 10am-4pm
T: 01835 863925
E: customer@hes.scot
W: www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/jedburgh-abbey

Moffat Museum
Harthope House
Churchgate
Moffat, DG10 9EG
Gives a flavour of the town’s history, from prehistory to the modern era.
Check website for opening times
T: 01683 220868; 01683 220100
E: secretary@moffatmuseum.co.uk
W: www.moffatmuseum.co.uk

The People’s Story Museum
Canongate
Royal Mile
Edinburgh, EH8 8BN
Through oral history and written sources, tells the story of the lives and work of the people of Edinburgh since the late 18th century.
Opening times:
www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/Venues/The-People-s-Story/VisitorInformation
T: 0131 5294057
E: museumsandgalleries@edinburgh.gov.uk
W: www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/Venues/The-People-s-Story

Royal Scots Regimental Museum
Edinburgh Castle
Edinburgh, EH1 2YT
Tells the story of the Regiment through paintings, artefacts, silver and medals.
Summer
Mon - Sun: 9.30am-4.45pm
Winter
Mon - Sun: 9.30am-3.45pm
T: 0131 3105014
W: www.theroyalscots.co.uk

Stranraer Museum
55 George Street
Stranraer, DG9 7JP
Discover Wigtownshire's past, with displays on archaeology, local history and farming.
Mon - Fri: 10am-5pm; Sat: 10am - 1pm; 1.30pm-4.30pm
T: 01776 705088
E: stranraermuseum@dumgal.gov.uk
W: www.dumfriesmuseum.demon.co.uk/stranmuse.htm

Tweeddale Museum and Gallery
Chambers Institute
High Street
Peebles, EH45 8AG
Learn about the fascinating history of Peebles and the surrounding area.
Mon - Fri: 10.30am-12.30pm; 1pm-4pm;
Sat: 9.30am-12.30pm
T: 01721 724820
E: museums@scotborders.gov.uk
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/10711/tweeddale_museum_and_gallery

Coldstream Registration Office
Coldstream Town Hall
73 High Street
Coldstream, TD12 4AE
Family history research service available.
Wed: 10am-3.30pm
Visit by appointment only
T: 01890 883156
E: Online enquiry form –
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/12795/coldstream
Duns Registration Office
49 Newtown Street
Duns, TD11 3AU
Family history research service available.
Mon, Wed & Fri: 10am-12.30pm
Visit by appointment only
T: 01361 886102
E: Online enquiry form –
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/12796/duns

Eyemouth Registration Office
Community Centre
Albert Road
Eyemouth, TD14 5DE
Family history research service available.
Mon & Fri: 2pm-4.30pm; Tues: 1pm-4.30pm;
Wed: 2pm-5.30pm
Visit by appointment only
T: 01890 750690
E: Online enquiry form –
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/12797/eyemouth

Galashiels and Selkirk Registration Office
Paton Street
Galashiels, TD1 3AS
Family history research service available.
Mon, Tues & Thurs: 9am-1pm; 1.20pm-4.30pm;
Fri: 9am-12pm; 1pm-3.30pm
Visit by appointment only
T: 01896 662708
E: Online enquiry form –
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/12798/galashiels_and_selkirk

Hawick and Jedburgh Registration Office
High Street
Hawick, TD9 9EF
Family history research service available.
Tues & Thurs: 9am-1pm; 2pm-4.45pm;
Fri: 9am-12pm; 1pm-3.30pm
Visit by appointment only
T: 01450 364710
E: Online enquiry form –
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/12799/hawick_and_jedburgh

Kelso Registration Office
The Town House
The Square
Kelso, TD5 7HF
Family history research service available.
Mon, Wed & Fri – visit by appointment only
T: 01573 225659
E: Online enquiry form –
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/12801/kelso

Melrose and Lauder Registration Office
Market Square
Melrose, TD6 9PG
Family history research service available.
Mon, Wed & Fri: 10am-1pm; Tues: 2pm-4pm
Visit by appointment only
T: 01896 823114
E: Online enquiry form –
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/12803/melrose_and_lauder

Newcastleton Registration Office
Liddesdale Family History Museum
South Hermitage Street
Newcastleton, TD9 0QD
Family history research service available.
Mon & Thurs: 9.30am - 10.30am
Visit by appointment only
T: 01387 375942
E: Online enquiry form –
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/12804/newcastleton

Peebles and West Linton Registration Office
Chambers Institute
High Street
Peebles, EH45 8AG
Family history research service available.
Mon - Fri: 9.30am-12.30pm; 1pm-4pm
Visit by appointment only
T: 01721 723817
E: Online enquiry form –
W: www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/12805/peebles_and_west_linton
GENEALOGISTS

Fife Rootsearch (Caroline Makein)
Conduct genealogical and family history research in all parts of Scotland, with Fife a specialist area.
Membership of Organisations: Scottish Genealogy Society, Scottish Genealogy Network, Fife Family History Society, Tay Valley Family History Society
T: 01334 476924
E: fifers@talktalk.net
W: www.scottishgenealogyresearch.co.uk

GenealogyScotland (Janet M Bishop)
Professional Genealogist with over 18 years’ experience. Research carried out across Scotland, with particular interest in Moray, Banff, Nairn and Fife.
Professional Qualification: Association of Scottish Genealogists and Researcher in Archives (FSA Scot Chairman)
Membership of Organisation: Scottish Association of Family History Societies (Chairman)
T: 07720 239611
E: jb.bishop@btinternet.com
W: www.genealogyscotland.net

Maxwell Ancestry
Specialise in researching family trees in the south of Scotland.
T: 01461 205730
E: info@maxwellancestry.co.uk
W: www.maxwellancestry.co.uk/ancestry

Scotlands Genealogy (Chris Halliday)
Local and family history research across Scotland, in particular Edinburgh, Dundee, Inverness, Dumfries & Galloway, Scottish Borders and Strathspey.
Professional Qualifications: Association of Scottish Genealogists and Researchers in Archives, Association of Professional Genealogists
Membership of Organisations: Scottish Genealogy Society, Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society
T: 07876 235408
E: info@scotlandsgenealogy.com
W: www.scotlandsgenealogy.com

Stuart Coles Genealogist
Comprehensive genealogical and family history research service, specialising in south-west Scotland.
T: 01387 740608
E: enquiry.scc@gmail.com
W: www.visitscotland.com/info/services/stuart-coles-genealogist-p1221331

Thistle Heritage Services
Ancestral research by an experienced genealogist. Enquiries relating to all parts of Scotland welcome, specialising in west and south west of Scotland.
T: 0141 5857392
E: jack.davis@thistleheritage.co.uk
W: www.thistleheritage.co.uk

TOUR OPERATORS

Borders Journeys
Our tailor-made ancestral tours of Scotland take you on a journey of discovery where you will walk in the footsteps of your ancestors. Specialise in Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders.
Professional Qualification: Association of Professional Genealogists
T: 0131 4507151; 07794 021819
E: ian@bordersjourneys.co.uk
W: www.bordersjourneys.co.uk

Galloway Holidays
Arrange personalised holidays including genealogy and family history tours in Dumfries and Galloway.
T: 01556 502979
E: mail@gallowayholidays.co.uk
W: www.gallowayholidays.co.uk

Mary’s Meanders (Emma Chalmers)
Assistance with ancestral research and work with local genealogists. Create personalised itineraries containing ancestral sites and general places of interest.
Membership of Organisations: Marie Stuart Society; STA; Pride and Passion Linlithgow; Outlander Filming Fife
T: 07818 687066
E: emma@marysmeanders.co.uk
W: www.marysmeanders.co.uk
Scottish Ancestor (Frances Black)
Takes clients visiting Fife on an ancestral tour to “Walk in the Footsteps of their Ancestors”.

Professional Qualification: Association of Professional Genealogists
Membership of Organisations: Scottish Genealogy Network, Cupar and N Fife Tourism Association (Vice Chairman), Fife Family History Society, Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society
T: 01337 840027
E: enquiries@scottishancestor.co.uk
W: www.scottishancestor.co.uk

ANCESTRAL WELCOME SCHEME

Ancestral tourism is an important market for Scotland, with an estimated 50 million people worldwide claiming Scottish ancestry. The Ancestral Welcome Scheme has been created by VisitScotland, in partnership with the Scottish Ancestral Tourism Group, for visitors with an interest in ancestral research. The scheme helps to clearly identify those businesses and individuals who are knowledgeable, passionate and committed to meeting and exceeding the needs of ancestral tourists. Membership is open to frontline tourism businesses, such as accommodation providers, restaurants and visitor attractions, as well as professionals in the industry, and associated businesses, which provide family history or genealogy support, guidance and complementary services. Look out for the logo on visitscotland.com.

Produced by VisitScotland in partnership with the Scottish Ancestral Tourism Group
www.scottishancestralTourism.scot

VisitScotland has taken all reasonable steps to confirm the information contained in this publication is correct at 12/12/16. However, VisitScotland does not warrant or assume any legal liability for the accuracy of any information disclosed and accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions.