

International Society for British Genealogy and Family History
British Institute
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<https://www.isbgfh.com/BRITISH-INSTITUTE>

“Scottish Family History Research: Where and How to Find the Real Records”
Dr Bruce Durie

On each of five consecutive days, there will four Topics, each one covered by a “handout” consisting of a PDF of every PowerPoint slide I will show, plus (in some cases) other materials. This will avoid you having to take copious notes. You can print these, or have them on a laptop, tablet etc.

There may also be associated documents to download and print. They will be indicated in the pages following this.

You are recommended to get the book “*Scottish Genealogy*” by Bruce Durie (4th Edition, The History Press, 2017, ISBN-10: 0750984228, ISBN-13: 978-0750984225). Make sure you get the Fourth Edition. It is available on Amazon.com, Amazon.co.uk and elsewhere for \$15 to \$20. There is also a Kindle version. This book covers, in more detail, much of the information delivered at the Scottish Institute.

You may also enjoy “*Your Scottish-American Ancestry*”, also by Bruce Durie, which covers some of the same ground in less details, but also has a wealth of information about Scotland for those of Scottish ancestry. See <http://www.bruce-durie.co.uk/books.html>

It is important to realize that Scottish genealogy researchers cannot rely on FamilySearch.org, Ancestry.com, or most commercial providers. The simple reason is that Scotland has its own databases and download sites containing a great deal of material and records not made available to the genealogy companies – www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk, www.scotlandspplaces.gov.uk, and others. Some of this is free to access, but some is pay-to-view or subscription. You will have to be prepared to use a credit card to access this information.

I hope you are looking forward to this as much as I am, and to meeting everyone in the Group.

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Instructions for downloads of class materials etc. are given elsewhere

The Syllabus

<p>Day 1 “What’s where?” – Sources and methods</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1 – Introduction – Who are the Scots? • 1.2 – Introduction to Scottish Records • 1.3 – Finding people • 1.4 – Surnames 	<p>The files you will need are: Day1-1-Intro-Who-Are-The-Scots.pdf Day1-2-Intro-to-Scottish-Records.pdf Day1-3-Finding-people.pdf Day1-4-Surnames.pdf PLUS FamilyGroupSheet.pdf Pedigree-Chart.pdf</p>
<p>Day 2 “What’s on Scotland’s People?” – a guide to Censuses 1841-1911, BMD post-1855, Baptism, Marriage and Burial 1560s-1854, Catholic BMD etc. records and more. Plus – When is Martinmas, why is January 1 New Year, what is a forpēt and how much was a Scottish dollar?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.1 – Censuses (from 1841) • 2.2 – Marriage in Scotland • 2.3 – Old Parish Records (1500s to 1854) • 2.4 – Statutory-BMDs (from 1855) & Kirk Session • 2.5 – Numbers, Dates and Calendars 	<p>The files you will need are: Day2-1-Censuses.pdf Day2-2-Marriage-in-Scotland.pdf Day2-3-OPRs.pdf Day2-4-Statutory-BMDs-Kirk-Session.pdf Day2-5-Numbers-Dates-Calendars.pdf</p>
<p>Day 3 “What’s on Scotland’s Places?” More than just places. People too. And Free! Tax rolls, geographical data and more. Plus an intro to where to get maps of Scotland from the 1500s to the present day.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.1 – Finding-places • 3.2 – Sasines • 3.3 – Maps • 3.4 – Money and Measure 	<p>The files you will need are: Day3-1-Finding-places.pdf Day3-2-Sasines.pdf Day3-3-Maps.pdf Day3-4-Measure.pdf Day3-4-Money.pdf PLUS Money-worth-1603-2011.xls (spreadsheet)</p>
<p>Day 4 “When is a will not a will, what is a testament, and where did the house and land go?” Plus, DNA</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4.1 – Finding-inheritance • 4.2 – Retours of Services of Heirs • 4.3 – Why is Scottish DNA so complicated? • 4.4 – Why the Scots are NOT Celts (or “Scythians”) 	<p>The files you will need are: Day4-1-Finding-inheritance.pdf Day4-2-Retours.pdf Day4-3-Scottish DNA.pdf Day4-4-Scots-are-NOT-Celts.pdf</p>
<p>Day 5 “Clans, Tartans and Heraldry” – mediaeval mumbo-jumbo, or vital resources for Genealogists? Plus, Emigration (intro)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-1 – Clans and Tartans • 5-2 – Nobility • 5-3 – Heraldry • 5-4 – Emigration 	<p>The files you will need are: Day5-1-Clans-and-Tartans.pdf Day5-2-Nobility_etc.ppt Day5-3-Heraldry.pdf Day5-4-Emigration.pdf PLUS An_Ordinary_of_Arms-Balfour-Paul-1893.pdf</p>