

THE SALT OF THE EARTH

Part 1

By Keith Sharp 2016

THE SEA

In the early years of the nineteenth century, a traveller by coaster from Berwick, by way of Leith, Dundee, Aberdeen and Peterhead to Inverness, remarked of the coast of north-east Scotland that “except here and there a strip of sandy beach, the coast generally consists of bold rocks, always picturesque, and often curious in their forms ... The villages consisting of a few thatched cottages, seen sometimes among the sand-hills, sometimes in a steep seaward glen, and sometimes surmounting lofty sea-lashed rocks,” are home to the fisherfolk. Most of the parishes lying along the coast had two or three such places that would provide safe mooring for a few boats and support a fishing community.

Between the Tay and the Moray Firth the Grampian mountains lie to the west, but separated from the coast by a wide fertile plain, so that the coastal parishes had, for the most part, both fishing and agricultural communities. The two communities did not mix, not because of any antipathy between them but because, in a fisherman’s household everyone had a job to do, and a fisherman needed to choose for a wife a lass who knew what was expected of her. But this exclusiveness did inevitably lead to a social divide.

The resulting inbreeding meant that in most fishing villages there were only some three or four surnames and barely more Christian names in use, so everyone was known by their ‘tee-names’, names like *Buckie*, *Biglugs*, *Smack*, *Toothie*, *Coffee*. So to trace a family back it is helpful to know a person’s tee-name or to have personal information which will positively identify them. On the other hand, although a woman legally acquired her husband’s surname, by common custom she retained her maiden name making it easier to identify the couple. Legal documents recorded both surnames.

Such a parish was Nigg. The name Nigg was said to be from the Celtic meaning a peninsula, as it is the north-east extremity of the county of Kincardine (now part of Aberdeen) and bounded on the north by the river Dee and Aberdeen Bay, and on the east by the sea, the point between ending in a craggy promontory called Girdleness. To the west and south it is bounded by the parish of Banchory-Devenick. It is also the spot where the outlying hills of the Grampians approach nearest the sea.

So Nigg had not only the two communities, the fisherfolk and the agricultural community, a legacy from the Grampians was its granite quarries which supplied cobbles which were shipped to pave the streets of London, and later in the 19th century a large coastguard station was built there. It has to be said that smuggling was not unknown, nor was salvaging cargo from the not infrequent wrecks. The quarry workers and the coastguards, fewer in number than the other two communities, were largely incomers but kept the peace with the indigenous population.

A mile from the southern boundary of the parish of Nigg there is a small natural harbour called the Cove, fit for boats, well protected from north-easterly winds, and which gives its name to the fishing village on top of the cliffs. Three-quarters of a mile farther north is another natural harbour, though less safe, called Burnbank which supported a small fishing community, and well protected in Aberdeen Bay was the fishing village of Torry.

Which having been said, our story does not begin in Nigg but in neighbouring Banchory-Devenick where **JOHN WOOD** the son of **JOHN WOOD** was baptised on 15 December 1765. And that is all that is known of him except that at about the age of twenty, he married **ISOBEL BROWN**.

Isobel was from Nigg. Her parents, **JAMES BROWN** and **ELSPET DONALD**, were married there on 28 October 1760 and had at least four children, but all baptised in Banchory-Devenick:

WILLIAM BROWN, baptized 11 July 1761
MARGARET BROWN, baptized 7 Nov 1762
ISOBEL BROWN, baptized 30 October 1764
ALEXANDER BROWN, baptized 24 Dec 1768

Three other children of a couple named James Brown and Elspet Donald, but all baptised in the parish of St Nicholas, Aberdeen, may possibly belong to the same family:

John Broun, baptized 25 March 1773
Janet Broun, baptized 17 July 1775
George Brown, baptized 4 February 1778

JOHN WOOD married **ISOBEL BROWN** on 7 August 1785. Little is known about them but, in view of the family's later history, it may be supposed that they belonged to the fishing community. They had four known children, all baptised in Banchory-Devenick:

JEAN WOOD, baptized 20 June 1787
ANDREW WOOD, baptized 12 October 1790
MARGARET WOOD, baptized 6 June 1794
JOHN WOOD, baptized 27 November 1801

ANDREW WOOD, born 1790, was a whitefisher, and he married **MARGARET ALLEN**. She was the youngest of the eight children of **GEORGE ALLEN** and **ANN DUNCAN** who were married in Nigg on 19 December 1776. Ann Duncan was baptised on 15 July 1753 at Torry, the daughter of **JOHN DUNCAN** and **JANET FORBES** who were married at Torry on 2 June 1742. George Allen and Ann Duncan's family were all baptised at Cove:

MARJORIE ALLEN, baptized 28 January 1778
JOHN ALLEN, baptized 14 February 1779
WILLIAM ALLEN, baptized 18 April 1781
ALEXANDER ALLEN, baptized 1 July 1783
AGNES ALLEN, baptized 22 May 1785
GEORGE ALLEN, baptized 5 August 1787
JANET ALLEN, baptized 24 February 1790
MARGARET ALLEN, baptized 14 March 1792

ANDREW WOOD and **MARGARET ALLEN** were married on 9 May 1821 in Nigg, and they settled in Cove. They had seven known children:

MARGARET WOOD, born ca. 1824, died 26 May 1875
ANDREW WOOD, born ca. 1827
ISOBEL WOOD, baptized 1 July 1828
GEORGE WOOD, born 29 December 1830, baptized 5 January 1831, and was buried on 9 April 1831¹
JOHN WOOD, baptized 8 November 1832
ROBERT WOOD, baptized 9 August 1835
GEORGE WOOD, baptized 13 July 1838

Andrew was pre-deceased by his wife and two of his children and he erected a family memorial stone in St Fittick's kirkyard, which reads:

Erected by Andrew Wood in memory of his children
George died 12 Feb 1831 aged 15 months
John Wood died 8 December 1845 aged 14 years ¹
His wife Margaret Allan died 1 September 1846 aged 54 years
The said Andrew Wood died 12 July 1865 aged 77 years
also Margaret Wood wife of William Machray died 26 May 1875 aged 52 years

Cove was an archetypical fishing village where almost all the fishing families were named Wood, Caie, Morrice, Cowie or Leiper. In the early 1790s it supported four boats, by 1838 this had increased to nine. Each deckless boat had a crew of six and income from the catch was divided by seven, an equal share for each of the crew and one for the boat.

The 'white-fishing' varied throughout the year. In January the herring had roe and were in good condition. From February to April small flat fish, plaice, and flounder, formerly called salt fluke, were near sandy bottom, and in May the herring returned. In November cod came in to rocky bottom. All these were caught with the small line and not more than two or three miles from shore. The small line had 720 hooks (36 score) spaced a yard apart. Bait was in short supply, limpets gathered by small boys were used, and lug worms, and unsold offal from the butcher's, but these were insufficient and the fishermen sailed to Montrose two or three times a season to buy mussels which were placed in rock pools and would take hold if the sea state allowed. Dog fish with their voracious appetites were a nuisance taking fish from off the hooks and frequently breaking the line. But the dog fish were themselves caught using the dog-line, stouter than the small line and with 480 larger hooks spaced a quarter of a yard apart. Twenty dog fish would yield a pint of liver oil, while the fish were sold to poorer country folk.

In the summer came the fishing with the great line, a line of considerable strength having 60 hooks hanging on snoods of one fathom (1.8 m), and 4½ fathoms (8.25 m) apart to catch ling, halibut, turbot, skate and large cod called keilling at distances up to 20 miles from shore.

To supplement the family income, old men and boys went out in yawls using rod and line or short fixed lines. And in the 1780s creels to catch crab and lobster were introduced to the Cove and each fisherman had his share of creels. The men, when not at sea, kept the boats in repair and mended the lines.

Fish from Torry were taken straight to Aberdeen market, but in Cove the fish were smoked. The fishermen's cottages had low walls and thatched roofs and had two rooms, a 'but and a ben'. The main room, the but, had a fire-place in a corner, the hole in the thatch above lined with a wooden lum (chimney-piece). The cottages had earthen floors which had to be sanded to stop them becoming slippery. The women's job was to gut, clean, split and salt the fish and hang them along the walls outside or on the thatch to dry, and then to hang them by the turf or peat fire to be smoked. Haddock treated this way were sold in Aberdeen as Finnan haddies, relished as a great delicacy and considered every bit as good as those from Finnan.

The turf and peat came from Redmoss and Groundless Myres within the parish of Nigg and were carried by the women in the creels. And after carrying the smoked fish to Aberdeen in the creels, they might return with a load of saw-dust from the saw mills to mix in with the peat. In fact the women did all of the carrying, bringing fresh water from the burn and even carrying their men folk from the shore to the boat so that they could set out to sea dry shod. In times of storm when the boats could not put out to sea, they went to Aberdeen to buy fish which they brought back to smoke. Being so dependant on the women the fisherfolk created a matriarchal society and the woman of the house, who was based at home, kept the purse and her word was law.

Until the end of the nineteenth century marriages were not celebrated in church. The kirk viewed a betrothal as a binding contract, so much so that it is the proclamation of marriages (equivalent to banns) which are recorded in Scottish parish registers, not the marriages themselves, which were relatively informal ceremonies performed in the home of one of the parties, or sometimes at the manse. It was only after the turn of the century, when people became a little better off, that a marriage was treated as a social occasion and was frequently celebrated in a hired hall with simple hospitality following. Only much later did it become customary for a wedding to be celebrated in church, the hospitality following after in another venue.

One remarkable feature of all the families mentioned above is that all the children were born in wedlock. It was more usual than not for the eldest child to be born or conceived before the marriage of the parents, and though the minister might occasionally write 'base born' in his baptismal register, it was entirely acceptable within the society of these villages. As, also, was a couple cohabiting, although it was expected that they would ultimately get married. More often the minister would make no comment at all and the event would be regarded as quite ordinary. This family trait was not to last. Under Scottish law children born out of wedlock were legitimated by the subsequent marriage of their parents. It was possible to get a birth certificate amended to show this fact although very few are so amended because very few people needed to

produce their birth certificate during their lifetime.

Returning to the family of **ANDREW WOOD** and **MARGARET ALLEN**, all their six surviving children were living at home on 6 June 1841, the date of the census. By the 1851 census taken on 30 March, Margaret Allen had died leaving Andrew, aged 60, a widower. Their eldest daughter, Margaret, had married **WILLIAM MACHRAY**; John cannot be found. The other three children still lived with their father; Andrew now aged 23 and, like his father, a whitefisher, Isobel or Isabella aged 22 a 'house servant', and Robert aged 16 a whitefisher. Also in the household was **ELSPET MORRICE**, aged 19, described as a 'servant' but by whom Andrew junior had had a child, also named Andrew and then aged one. Three generations of Andrew Woods in the house!

ANDREW WOOD and **ELSPET MORRICE** did get married on 25 September 1853 and their family consisted of:

ANDREW, born ca. 1850
MARY, born ca. 1853
ROBERT, born 27 January 1856
ANN, born 28 September 1858

And the family of **MARGARET WOOD** and **WILLIAM MACHRAY** were:

WILLIAM MACHRAY, baptized 31 December 1845
ANDREW MACHRAY, baptized 16 September 1848
MARGARET ALLAN MACHRAY, baptized 13 October 1850
MARY MACHRAY, born 22 March 1853
ISABELLA MACHRAY, born 28 September 1855
WILLIAM MACHRAY, 17 January 1859
GEORGE MACHRAY, born 15 October 1861
ELIZABETH MACHRAY, born 24 October 1864
BARBARA MACHRAY, born 24 August 1867

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Elspit Morrice's father, **ANDREW MORRICE**, was another whitefisher living in Cove; he married **JEAN CAIE** on 27 April 1811 and they had eleven children:

GEORGE, baptized 30 January 1812
ELIZABETH, baptized 15 August 1814
ELSPIT, born 2 November 1816, baptized 5 November, died 7 November 1816 aged 5 days
MARGARET, baptized 21 November 1817
JEAN, baptized 13 June 1820
ALEXANDER, baptized 25 January 1823
WILLIAM CAIE, baptized 11 June 1825
ELSPIT, baptized 31 August 1828
JOHN CAIE, born 18 March, baptized 19 March 1831
MARY DYCE, born 22 November, baptized 30 November 1833
ANNE, baptized 6 February 1839

The two families were not only united by the marriage of Andrew Wood and Elspit Morrice, Andrew's younger brother **ROBERT WOOD** married Elspit's younger sister **MARY DYCE MORRICE**, but because of the confusion of names in these fishing villages, very little else is known of the Morrice family.

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ROBERT WOOD and **MARY DYCE MORRICE** were married on 22 May 1858; Robert was a whitefisher, Mary was a domestic servant. Neither could write; Andrew Wood, probably Robert's elder brother, and John Scroggie were witnesses to them making their marks in lieu of signature, and to the marriage. The couple set up home in a cottage in Balmoral Place, sometimes simply called Balmoral, Cove, where they had seven children, all of whom grew up to have large families.

During the mid-nineteenth century things were changing. Wooden sailing boats were giving way to metal-hulled and steam-powered vessels, and hand line fishing was giving way to trawling. And families were on the move, nearer to Aberdeen and the quays where the larger vessels moored. And as the families grew up, some remained very close in their relationships while others drifted apart.

For the moment, though, Robert and Mary lived at 6 Balmoral Cottages, Cove and that is where the children were born and grew up.

ELIZABETH born 17 June 1858

JEAN (or Jane) born 9 February 1861 (Although of different derivation the names Jean and Jane are interchangeable in Scotland.)

ANN born 16 August 1863

GEORGE FORBES born 13 February 1866

ANDREW born 26 June 1868

JOHN WEBSTER born 10 June 1871

HELEN CORMACK born 8 July 1875

Mary Wood MS Morrice died on 8 November 1885 of “phthisis pulmonaris” the old term for tuberculosis of the lungs, aged 53, and after her death Robert moved with his family to 16 Ferry Road, Torry where he died on 28 August 1894 of “pernicious anaemia” aged 59.

There seems to be in every family someone, usually an unmarried lady, who keeps in touch with all her relatives and is a mine of information concerning members of the family. In the case of the Woods it has been Elsie Main, daughter of Ann Wood and her husband James Main. Elsie’s list of the names of these families, written from memory, has proved to be remarkably accurate and in most cases the information provided by Elsie has been verified and is included below without comment. In the few cases where it has not been possible to verify individuals the source of information is given as ‘Elsie’.

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ELIZABETH WOOD, eldest daughter of Robert and Mary, was living at home in 1871, then aged 14, and is listed in the census as a ‘domestic servant’. She was still at home ten years later but was simply described as a ‘fisherman’s daughter’. She married ANDREW LEIPER, son of Andrew Leiper and Elspet Main, whitefisher who lived at Burnbanks, Nigg, on 1 November 1884 at the Manse, Nigg, by the minister of Trinity Parish, Aberdeen. She is again described as a domestic servant. Andrew Leiper was 25, Elizabeth 26. They had, so far as is known, eleven children, four of whom were born before they were married but they were acknowledged by their father and were legitimated by the subsequent marriage of their parents.

ELSPET born 12 March 1879 in Cove

ANDREW born 19 July 1880 in Cove

ROBERT born 24 December 1881 in Cove

MARY-ANN born 2 December 1883 in Cove

WILLIAM born 24 October 1885 in Burnbanks, his father’s home

JOHN born 18 April 1887 in Torry

ELIZABETH born 18 April 1887 in Torry

JAMES MAIN born 5 September 1895 in Torry

HELEN WOOD born 13 March 1898 in Torry

JANE CAIE CRAIG born 10 April 1900 in Torry

MARGARET (Peggy) born 27 January 1902 in Torry

ELSPET LEIPER, born 12 March 1879 was living with her maternal grandparents in 1881. She moved in with her parents after they were married, living first at Burnbanks, possibly with her father’s family, before her parents set up home at 12 Ferry Road, Torry, where in 1891 she is described as a scholar. In 1901 she was still living at home (in fact the whole family were still living at home in 1901), now at 112 Sinclair Street, Torry, when she is described as a fishworker. Nothing more is known of her.

ANDREW LEIPER born 19 July 1880 also lived with his maternal grandparents in 1881 but moved in with his parents when they set up home. Like his elder sister he is described as a scholar in 1891 and as a fishworker in 1901. In 1911 he still lived with the family at 52 Walker Road, Torry and is described as a cook on a trawler. Nothing more is known.

ROBERT LEIPER born 24 December 1881 was not listed with the family in 1891 (which may be an enumerator's error) but was with them in 1901 also described as a fishworker. Again, nothing more is known.

MARY-ANN LEIPER born 2 December 1883 was also a scholar in 1891 and a fishworker in 1901, but in 1911 she was still living at home and doing domestic work in the home, which may suggest that their mother, who has no occupation listed, was ailing. Nothing is known of her life. She died at 176 Crown Street, Aberdeen on 10 October 1963.

WILLIAM LEIPER born 24 October 1885 was also a scholar in 1891 and he seems to be the first to break with the fishing tradition; in 1901, then aged 15, he is described as a boxmaker and in 1911 aged 25 he is still living at home and working as a boxmaker in a factory. Nothing more is known.

JOHN LEIPER born 18 April 1887 was too young to be at school in 1891 but in 1901, aged 13 he is listed as a scholar, a thing that would not have been possible twenty years earlier when a thirteen year old would have had to be out working. Nothing more is known.

ELIZABETH LEIPER born 18 April 1887 was also a scholar in 1901 and in 1911 was a 'net braider' working in a 'trawl store'. She married WILLIAM BEATTIE on 13 August 1915 by declaration before witnesses. Scotland by ancient law had a system of civil marriages by three methods - declaration before witnesses, cohabitation and repute, and betrothal followed by intercourse. The declaration before witnesses was the basis of the well-known Gretna marriages which were taken advantage of not only by eloping couples but also by local Scots. There were similar marriage houses at other border crossings, Lamberton Toll, Halidon Hill, and Coldstream. William Beattie was the son of WILLIAM BEATTIE, a fisherman, and ISABELLA MS PATON. He was a grocer by trade but during the first world war was a private in the 1st Highland Field Ambulance RAMC. There is no doubt that he was on a short leave and the couple chose this method of getting married quickly (the Sheriff's warrant, the marriage ceremony and the registration were all achieved on the same day) to take advantage of it. Elizabeth was described as a lace braider. They were living at 6 Crown Street, Aberdeen, as were their two witnesses, Elizabeth's brother William and sister Mary-Ann.

William and Elizabeth Beattie had one son, JOHN (JACK) BEATTIE born 22 March 1921, who was killed during the Second World War; a sergeant, he served as an air gunner with 99 Squadron, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. He died on 11 June 1941 aged 20. He is buried in the Commonwealth War Graves cemetery at Uden, Netherlands.

William Beattie went back to the grocery trade after the first world war. He died of cancer on 8 May 1962 aged 74. Elizabeth lived for almost another 20 years, she died on 15 November 1981 at 176 Crown Street, Aberdeen, aged 94.

JAMES MAIN LEIPER was a scholar in 1901, and in 1911 he was living at home and working at printing in a box factory, but nothing further is known of him.

HELEN WOOD LEIPER was just three years old in 1901, and in 1911 aged 13 she was at school. On 26 December 1933 she married WALTER ALEXANDER DONALD, born 28 September 1897, son of Robert Donald a cab driver and Charlotte Mathieson. Walter was 36 and described as a motor mechanic, Helen was 35 and described as a glove worker. They had one daughter, ELMA LEIPER DONALD, born 14 September 1935. Walter Donald died on 26 July 1968 at the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary at which time he was described as a retired construction engineer. Helen lived another seventeen years; she died on 22 September 1985 at Kingseat Hospital, New Machar.

Elma became a teacher but her particular love is Scottish Country Dancing and she has represented Scotland at International level. She is a member of the The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society and at its Annual General Meeting at Perth in 2004 she was awarded the Society's Scroll of Honour, an award given to only a limited number of people who have given outstanding service to Scottish Country Dancing. The full citation is recorded in Appendix 1.

It was through her dancing that she met Cecil Barker McCausland and they were married on 26 December 1964 at South Ferryhill, North Church, Aberdeen, and after her marriage she lived in Bangor, Northern Ireland. Cecil was from Ulster, born on 15 March 1930, the son of Joseph Ernest McCausland, a warrant officer in the Royal Ulster Rifles, and Annie Maria ms Barker. He became a photo-journalist and was very highly regarded by his peers especially for his work during the "troubles". He and Elma had two children, Fiona and Andrew. Cecil died on 13 April 2011 and an obituary by his daughter Fiona is reproduced, also in Appendix 1.

Jane Caie Craig Leiper, born 10 April 1900, died at the age of 14 in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary on 10 December 1914. Although previously healthy she developed chorea and died three weeks later.

Margaret (Peggy) Leiper, born 27 January 1902. In 1911 she was at school; she later worked as grocery assistant, enjoyed a lengthy retirement living to the age of 91, and died of pneumonia on 12 October 1991.

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Jean (or Jane) Wood, second daughter of Robert and Mary, was living with her parents in 1871 described as a scholar, but in 1881 aged 19 she was a domestic servant living in the household of George and Margaret Morrice (no relation) at Jessie Milne Cottages, Nigg. On 8 October 1887 she married James Wood (no relation) at Balmoral Cottage, Torry (not to be confused with Balmoral, Cove) the home of her husband-to-be, by the minister of Greyfriars Park church, Aberdeen. Jean is again described as a domestic servant, James as a whitefisher. In 1891 they lived at Seaview House, Torry East, and in 1901 at 90 Abbey Road, Torry. James is not at home at the time of the 1901 census, Jane was in charge of the household. But Jane died of 'cerebral softening' on 11 May 1909 and on her death certificate James is described as a 'Master of a Steam Trawler'. They had, so far as is known, six children.

- Jessie, born 5 December 1887
- James, born 16 September 1889
- Elizabeth Thomson, born 7 May 1894
- Alexander, born ca. 1896-97
- Margaret (Maggie), born ca. 1898-99
- Annie Walker, born 4 April 1902

This seems to be one family group that lost touch with the others and nothing at all is known of them.

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Ann Wood, third daughter of Robert and Mary, was living with her father in 1891 when the census described her as a general servant, but later that year, on 3 October 1891 she was married to **James Main**, a whitefisher, at her home by the minister of Nigg. At the time of the 1901 census James and Ann were living just a few doors away from Ann's parents at 26 Ferry Road, Torry. They had six children,

- Mary Ann, born 23 October 1888
- Helen, born 14 October 1891
- Elizabeth Wood, born 24 September 1894
- James, born 28 January 1897
- John Alexander, born 2 January 1901
- Elspe (Elsie) Mary Leiper, born 4 September 1903

Mary Ann Main lived with her mother and grandfather before her mother's marriage although she bore her father's name. She was married on 27 October 1911 to **Peter Stephen**, son of Peter Stephen and Mary

Jane Cardiner, at Kings Rooms, King Street, Aberdeen by the minister of Ferryhill church; she was described as a fishworker and Peter Stephen as a journeyman shipwright. Peter Stephen senior had been foreman shipwright in the Point Law repair yard of John Lewis and Sons and Peter junior served his apprenticeship there. In 1940 Peter Stephen junior became foreman of outside repair work and a year later became assistant to the shipyard manager. In 1968 he became training and accounts manager from which position he retired after 47 years service. They had three children,

ROBERT MACHIE STEPHEN, born 19 January 1912.

ELIZABETH (BETTY) STEPHEN, born 23 February 1916

JAMES (JIMMY) STEPHEN, born 20 January 1922.

ROBERT MACKIE STEPHEN, born 19 January 1912, was married on 1 July 1939 at Ferryhill North Church, Aberdeen to HELEN MALCOLM LIVESTON, known as Ellie. She was the daughter of John Liveston, chairmaker, and Jane Calder MS Gorman. Robert was described as a shipwright (journeyman) and Ellie a hairdresser's assistant. Robert died on 8 January 1978 aged just short of 66 after which Ellie obtained a post with the National Trust for Scotland as an assistant at Drum Castle and had a flat on the premises. She did not seem to want to keep in touch with the family and little is known of her after that. She died in Aberdeen in 2007 aged 91.

ELIZABETH STEPHEN, born 23 February 1916, always known as Betty. She was married on 17 July 1943 to CHARLES FORBES and they had one son, James Main Forbes. James was married in 1968 to Dorothy Mae Shirreffs. James and Dorothy had two known children, Stephen born 1971, and Carol born 1972. Little is known of them; after Charles Forbes died the family moved to Inverness.

JAMES MAIN STEPHEN, who was always called Jimmy, was born on 20 January 1922. He married JULIA MARGUERITE ROWENA GEER on 26 February 1945 at Ferryhill South Church, Aberdeen. Julia was the daughter of Stanley Geer, squadron leader, RAF, and Margaret MS Fernally. Jimmy was described as a post office engineer (pilot Fleet Air Arm), and Julia as an aircraftswoman, Women's Auxiliary Air Force, of 58 Madiera Avenue, Worthing. They had one daughter :

JULIA ANNE M STEPHEN, born Worthing during the last quarter of 1946, always known as JULIE-ANNE. She was deaf and dumb and learned to lip read, but after a few years her parents decided that better care for her special needs was available in Canada and the family emigrated. She married Robert Ernest Rockwood on 28 August 1971 at Westmount, Canada. They were later divorced and Julie-Anne married again, but very little is known of her after that.

HELEN MAIN, born 14 October 1891, died in Nigg on 23 July 1892 aged nine months.

ELIZABETH WOOD MAIN, born 24 Sept 1894, died on 24 April 1948. Nothing is known about her.

JAMES MAIN, born 28 January 1897. He married on 2 March 1925 ROSALINE MARY BURNETT NAPIER who was born on 14 July 1901 at 13 Nellfield Place, Aberdeen, the daughter of John Napier, journeyman tinsmith and Mary Taylor Napier MS Burnett (who were married on 26 January 1894). Jim and Rosie, as they were always known, had two or possibly three boys:

JOHN NAPIER MAIN, born about 1927, married Jean Stephen Douglas in 1956. John died about 5 December 2005 aged 78

JAMES MAIN, married Norma Scott Miller on 4 August 1956

PETER (?)

JOHN ALEXANDER MAIN born 2 January 1901. He married MAGGIE AGNES DAVIE, always known as Peggy, on 26 February 1927. They had one known daughter, Anne Wood Main born 21 March 1927.

ANNE WOOD MAIN married JOHN WHYTE (who was born 16 Dec 1923) on 2 October 1948. John Whyte died on 6 February 1999 aged 75. They had three children

PEGGY MAIN WHYTE, born 1949. She was baptized Peggy, it is not a diminutive, married (1) James P. Hubbard in Warwick in 1968; they had two boys, James Richard Hubbard born 14 Sept 1969, and Andrew John Hubbard born Rochford, Essex on 21 Sept 1971, and (2) Paul N. Garner in Coventry in

April 1985; they had Stephen Thomas Garner born 21 May 1986 in Coventry, and a boy born 1988.
BARBARA ANN WHYTE, born 1954, married Charles Watson Mathieson in Aberdeen in 1972.
They had two girls, Jill born 29 June 1974, and Laura born 6 Nov 1978.
JOHN WHYTE

ELSPET MARY LEIPER MAIN born 4 Sept 1903 in Nigg was always known as Elsie. Elsie never married and lived with her elder sister Mary and brother-in-law Peter Stephen. She worked for an engineering company becoming office manager, was well liked and respected and was called back from retirement more than once to help with problems. She died on 10 December 1985 aged 82.

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GEORGE FORBES WOOD, eldest son and fourth child of Robert Wood and Mary Morrice, married MARY LEIPER, second of the six children of William Leiper, whitefisher, and Ann Wood. (Mary was not related to her father-in-law, Andrew Leiper, nor is any link known between her mother, Ann Wood, and her husband's family) George Forbes Wood and Mary Leiper were married on 1 November 1890 at Craiginches Cottage, Nigg by the minister of Nigg. George Wood was described as a whitefisher and Mary Leiper as a domestic servant. George remained a fisherman being described on his death certificate as "fisherman (retired)". A tombstone marks their grave in Nigg churchyard with the following inscription:

ERECTED BY
GEORGE WOOD
IN LOVING MEMORY OF HIS WIFE
MARY LEIPER
DIED 3RD NOV 1938 AGED 75 YEARS
ALSO THE ABOVE GEORGE WOOD
DIED 13TH JUNE 1940 AGED 74 YEARS

They had, so far as is known, eight children,

JANE WOOD, born 18 April 1887

MARGARET RICHIE WOOD, born 21 January 1890. She was married on 29 October 1926 at St Fittick's Church, Torry to GEORGE FOWLER, a fisherman, son of ROBERT FOWLER, fisherman (deceased) and ELIZABETH ANDERSON MS MURRAY. Margaret was described as a fishworker

MARY LEIPER WOOD, born 29 July 1891. In the 1911 census, aged 19, she is described as a fishworker.

JOHN WOOD, born ca. 1894. He was with the family at the time of the 1901 census but no longer in 1911. He was the informant noted on his father's death certificate in 1940.

ELIZABETH WOOD, born ca. 1896. In the 1911 census, aged 15, she is described as a provisions worker.

WILLIAMINA WOOD, born 13 July 1900

REBECCA COOPER WOOD, born 3 March 1904. She was married on 25 September at John Knox Church (Church of Scotland) to WILLIAM DAVIE FALCONER, a heating engineer's assistant, the son of DAVID FALCONER, "drill instructor" (deceased) and JANE ANN MS DAVIE. Rebecca was described as a dairy shop assistant.

This seems to be another family group to have lost touch and nothing more is known of them.

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ANDREW WOOD, second son and fifth child of Robert and Mary married, first, MARY MAIN daughter of Robert Main and Mary Main (no relation to James Main, husband of Andrew's sister, Ann Wood) on 26 September 1891 at 16 Ferry Road, Torry by the minister of Nigg. Andrew Wood is described as a whitefisher and Mary as a domestic servant. They had, so far as is known, four children,

JOHN WOOD [information from Elsie]

MARY WOOD [information from Elsie]

ANDREW WOOD [information from Elsie]

DOROTHY WOOD [information from Elsie]

Andrew senior married, secondly, JESSIE MCGHEE MS Strachan daughter of Jane Strachan in Peterculter on 4 May 1912 at Andrew's home, 196 Victoria Road Torry, by the minister of the Torry United Free Church of Scotland. Andrew is now described as a fisherman on steam liner, Jessie as a net weaver. They had, so far as is known, one daughter,

RUTH WOOD [information from Elsie]

This seems to be another family group to have lost touch with everyone but Elsie, and no more is known of them.

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JOHN WEBSTER WOOD, third son and sixth child of Robert and Mary, lived with his sister Ann and brother-in-law James Main at 16 Ferry Road, Torry after their parents had died. He, too, was a fisherman, and he became attracted to the work of the Salvation Army in Aberdeen. He joined the local 'corps', later deciding that their work was to be his life's calling. In 1896 he travelled to London to become a Salvation Army Officer - but more of him in Part 3.

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HELEN CORMACK WOOD, the youngest child of Robert and Mary, was a scholar in 1881 and in 1891, still living with her parents at 16 Ferry Road, Torry, she is described as a general servant. She married **JOSEPH ADDISON** a widower on 30 June 1900 at Nigg. Joseph Addison was born on Heligoland in about 1862, the eldest of three children of **GEORGE ADDISON** and **CATHERINE DENKER** who were married there on 22 May 1861. Heligoland had been Danish, occasionally coming under the control of the Duchy of Schleswig, until it was captured by the British in 1807 during the Napoleonic Wars. It remained under British control until the Heligoland-Zanzibar Treaty of 1890 when it was ceded to Germany. It was while it was British that the Addisons were there.

JOSEPH, a cooper, was with his family in Aberdeen in 1881. He married **AGNES FREELAND** on 6 March 1891 at St Nicholas, Aberdeen. Agnes Freeland, born 19 December 1865, was the eldest of the six children of **JOHN FREELAND**, whitefisher, and **JANE WOOD** (no known relation) who were married at Nigg on 13 August 1864. Joseph Addison and Jane MS Wood had two children:

GEORGE, born early 1891, probably at Nigg

TINA, born 21 August 1893 at Branderburgh, Moray (near Lossiemouth)

Agnes died on 23 December 1894 aged 29 at their home, 9 Victoria Road, Torry of pneumonia following pleurisy.

JOSEPH ADDISON and **HELEN CORMACK WOOD** were married, as mentioned above, on 30 June 1900 at Nigg, Joseph described as a journeyman cooper and Helen as a fishworker. George was now aged 9 and Tina aged 7, and Joseph and Helen went on to have six more children:

MARY AGNES ADDISON, born 26 August 1900 at Nigg

JANE FREELAND ADDISON, born 19 July 1902

JOHN WOOD ADDISON, born 2 October 1903

ANDREW LEIPER ADDISON, born 11 February 1905

HELEN WOOD ADDISON, born 21 January 1908

CHARLES ADDISON, born 1 February 1915

They were all born at Torry, Nigg, although Nigg was then a burgh of Aberdeen and no longer an isolated parish in Kincardineshire. Joseph again became a widower with a young family when Helen died on 26 March 1918 at City Hospital, Aberdeen, age 42 of pulmonary thrombosis. Nothing more is known about any of the family.

Notes :

1. There are discrepancies in the dates of George's death, burial and age. The memorial is taken from

transcriptions made by the Aberdeen and North-East Scotland Family History Society and published as Bell, Gavin (Ed), *The Kirkyard of St Fittick's, Nigg*, 2006, the gravestone itself has not been checked. George's birth, baptism and burial dates are from the parish register, the full entry of is burial reads "April 9th 1831. George, son of Andrew Wood whitefisher in Cove, was interred in the churchyard of Nigg. He died of Measles aged 3 months." His age as recorded in the memorial inscription is, therefore, wrong, and possibly also his date of death as there would not have been a two month gap between death and burial.

Appendix 1 - Elma

"Elma McCausland started Scottish Dancing at the Aberdeen Branch children's class, competing at festivals in school and Guide teams. In 1951 she joined the Society and continued dancing in demonstration teams at displays, festivals, television performances and representing Scotland at International level. She became a Society teacher in 1956 and since then has been teaching Scottish Country Dancing at all levels. She also taught ladies step dancing, trained demonstration and festival teams, tutored certificated classes locally, overseas and at St Andrews.

"She has danced at International Folk festivals and taught at day and week-end schools from Elementary to Master class levels in Scotland, England, Ireland, Holland, Germany, France, Japan, Australia, United States and Canada. She has represented Sydney, Australia on the Executive Committee, served as convenor of the former Examination Committee, has been Deputy Director of Summer School and inaugurated the Teaching Skills Courses.

"As an Examiner she has examined at the Summer Schools at St Andrews, and in the USA, Canada, Australia, Japan and the UK. A member of the Education and Training Committee, she is currently co-ordinator of examinations for the Society, She also teaches weekly classes for Primary Schoolchildren in a troubled area of North Belfast, teenagers in West Belfast and an adult class in her home town of Bangor. She has organized classes for the Belfast Education Committee to enable Primary School teachers to run Scottish Dance classes in their schools, and she is running the Train the Teachers Certificate class for the Belfast Branch.

"Elma has served on the Belfast Branch committee for many years, serving as Demonstration secretary and teacher and also served as secretary of the Co-ordinating Committee for Northern Ireland."

Appendix 1 - Cecil

Cecil McCausland, by his daughter, Fiona McCausland

Cecil McCausland was born in Belfast on 15th March 1930. The son of a professional soldier from Beragh, County Tyrone, his early years were spent living in parts of the world such as India, Egypt and Hong King. These early experiences of rich cultural diversity laid the foundations for his future life and his interest in culture history and his talent for a good picture.

On his return to Northern Ireland the family lived in Tyrone before moving to the Shore Road in Belfast. Cecil's involvement in the Scouting movement led to his involvement with the Patricia Mulholland Irish dancing and a passion for dance which was to last throughout his life.

As part of the Belfast Folk Dance Society and Patricia Mulholland's Irish Ballet, he was a leading dancer and took part in international Folk Dancing teams.

His photographic talent was recognised when he started work in the Northern Whig in his twenties. Learning his journalistic craft he joined the Newsletter as a photojournalist but by his late twenties he had become part of the editorial team as a Picture Editor until his retirement in 1995.

This time-frame spanned the period of the Northern Ireland "troubles" which Cecil, supported by his team of

photographers including Bob Hamilton, Randal Mulligan, Eddie Harvey and Trevor Dickson chronicled the story of the conflict through their photographs often risking their lives to bring a story to the public. Cecil was commended for his bravery in driving cars away from the firebombed Newsletter building and was photographed on the roof of the building with a hosepipe trying to put out the fire before the fire brigade arrived.

Cecil also enjoyed opportunities within the Newsletter to seek out stories on the cultural history of Northern Ireland. One of his reminiscences was travelling with a reporter in Fermanagh and discovering the ancient art of Mumming was thriving in the region.

Despite offers of employment from Fleet Street where his talents were widely coveted, he was committed to the Northern Ireland media. His talent and the pivotal role he played within the media was recognised in 1996 by the National Union of Journalists when they bestowed him with an Honorary Life membership.

Throughout his life Cecil balanced his career as a “Newspaperman” with his commitment to looking after his family and his other interests. Cecil met his wife Elma through his love of Scottish Country Dancing and together they began a life partnership.

Following his retirement in 1995 Cecil wasted no time in enjoying his new leisure time travelling across the world to Japan, Australia, America and Canada and through his love of Scottish Dancing, making new friends wherever he went.

His “home” time was committed to his family - his children Fiona and Andrew and his grandchildren Scott, Andrew, Alan, Matthew and Bethany, of whom he was intensely proud.

Cecil was diagnosed in 2010 with leukaemia and despite initially responding well to treatment he died suddenly on 13 April 2011 in the City Hospital, Belfast. The funeral service for Cecil was held at Roselawn Crematorium on Tuesday 19th April 2011.

THE WOOD FAMILY

