

## Researching Our Elliot Genealogy

Our connection to the Elliot clan is through Jane Elliot (1861-1936) who married Andrew James Williams (1859-1927) in Paisley, 17 November 1882. Andrew and Jane are the 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandparents to our children. The Elliot name has been carried on though every generation of the Williams family as a middle name to the present day, although it has evolved a bit, picking up an extra 't' at some point. As this was the author's middle name, Elliot(t) research was a high priority.

In researching the Elliot family, the best source of information was the web site ScotlandsPeople, a site belonging to the General Registrar of Scotland. The first revealing information came from Andrew and Jane's marriage registration. They were married at the home of her parent's, John and Catherine (Heaslet) Elliot, which was 21 Newton St. in Paisley.

498	1882,	(Signed)		24	Robert Williams
	on the seventeenth	A. Williams	24	Abbey	Reviser's Holder see
	day of November	Iron Worker		Street,	
	at 21 Newton Street	(Journeyman)		Paisley	Martha Williams
	Paisley	Bachelor			M. S. Badcock
	After Publication				
	according to the	(Signed)		21	John Elliot
	forms of the	J. Elliot	21	Newton	Carter
	Free Church of			Street,	
	Scotland	Threadmill Worker		Paisley	Catherine Elliot
		Spinster			M. S. Hazlett

This made it easy to find Jane's family in the 1881 census, from which we learned that John Elliot was born in 1841 at Paisley, Renfrew, Scotland, a carter by trade and Catherine was also born in Paisley in 1844. There were only six children listed in the 1881 census. Ten years later, the 1891 census found Catherine a widow, still at 21 Newton St. with four of her children, the youngest being James at 9 years.

Searches of ScotlandsPeople for birth records revealed a total of 8 children. The most difficult to find was Jane because her birth registration had her name as Jeannie. It took about a year of searching to discover this subtle name difference. Mary who was born in 1865 must have died fairly young and her parents used the name again in 1876. You see this quite often in the church records. The youngest child, Robert, died shortly after his first birthday therefore did not show up on any of the census data.

Children of John and Catherine Elliot;

1. JEANNIE (JANE) ELLIOT,
  - b. Jun 13, 1861, 22 School Wynd, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland;
  - d. Jan 03, 1936, Lurgan , Antrim, N. Ireland.
2. JOHN ELLIOT,
  - b. Aug 23, 1863, 4 Storie St., Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.
3. MARY ELLIOTT

b. 25 DEC 1865 Greenock, Renfrew  
d. 1867 ?

4. MARGARET (MAGGIE) ELLIOT,  
b. Apr 08, 1868, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.
5. ELIZABETH ELLIOT,  
b. Sep 20, 1870, 33 Castle St., Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland;  
d. Apr 18, 1888, 21 Newton St., Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.
6. CATHERINE ELLIOT,  
b. Feb 08, 1874, 16 Castle St., Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.
7. MARY ELLIOT,  
b. Oct 17, 1876, 5 Cross St., Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.
8. JAMES HEASLET ELLIOT,  
b. May 31, 1882, 21 Newton St., Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.
9. ROBERT ELLIOT,  
b. May 03, 1885, 21 Newton St., Paisley, Renfrew, Scotland.  
d. 26 Jun 1866, Paisley.

The photograph below, taken about 1918, shows four generations of 'Elliot' ladies.



Left to right - Jane Williams (nee Elliot) , Kate (or Catherine) Heaslet (nee Williams, Jane's Daughter),  
Jean Heaslet (Kate's daughter) and Catherine Elliot (nee Heaslet, Jane's Mother).

From the marriage registration of John Elliot and Catherine Heaslet we get the names of the groom's parents, Robert Elliot and Elizabeth Montgomery, and the names of the parents of the bride, James Heaslet and Mary McCracken. According to the registration, Robert was a carter and James was a brick maker. John Elliot's mother however was actually Elizabeth Stutt as shown in John's death registration. One theory is that the error in the registration was caused by someone confused about Elizabeth's maiden name. Elizabeth Stutt's mother was Jeanie Montgomery.

38	On the 26th day of May 1860	signed John Elliot	22 School Wynd Paisley	Coal Carter	Robert Elliot Carter
	of the Parish of St. George's Marriage of the same was solemnized before us according to the forms of the Free Church of Scotland	signed Catherine Heaslet	21 School Wynd Paisley	Mill Worker (Operator)	Elizabeth Elliot Miss Elizabeth Montgomery James Heaslet Brick Worker Mary Heaslet Name of McCracken (dec.)
The above Marriage was Registered by me at Paisley, on the 26th day of May, 1860. John					

821	John Elliot	1890, July	M	46	Robert Elliot Carter (dec.)
	Carter	twenty ninth 0 h. 20 m. pm 21			Elizabeth Elliot Mrs. J. Stutt
Married to Catherine Heaslet Newton Street Paisley					

Another fact that points to Elizabeth Stutt is the birth of her daughter Elizabeth at 22 School Wynd, the same address where John lived before his marriage and where John and Catherine were shown to be living in the 1861 census.

A significant amount of information has been found on the Heaslets through a family contribution to the LDS site. This is the subject of a separate article. A search for something on Robert Elliot's family was performed by extracting all of the relevant census, birth and marriage data from the ScotlandsPeople and Latter-Day Saints site.

Finding more about Robert and Elizabeth was a bit difficult. There were two Robert and Elizabeth Elliots in the 1861 census reports that had Irish roots and had recently come to the Paisley area. There was a great deal of emigration from Ireland as a result of the Great Famine in 1849-50. Elizabeth Stutt was the wife in the first couple, living at 75 High St., Paisley. The children's names and birth dates in

the census reports and church records aligned so we knew which Elizabeth this was. Originally it was believed that this was not the family that we were looking for because we only had John's marriage registration and we were looking for Montgomery. The second family had a very high correlation in their data with known facts about the family. The Robert Elliot, shown at 3 Millarston Lane was employed as a labourer in the brickfield. The only brickyard near Millarston is the Ferguslie Fireclay works where James Heaslet (Catherine's father) worked. Robert and Elizabeth were both born in Ireland and an examination of the birth dates of the various children in the home suggests that they moved to Scotland late in 1850 or early 1851. Robert's daughter Mary, 14, worked in the thread mills, probably the Ferguslie Threadworks where many of the Heaslet ladies worked.

Robert Elliot and Elizabeth Stutt are found in the 1851 census with four children, Thomas, John, Ebenezer and Margaret. All of the children were born in Ireland. Thomas, 14 at the time, is possibly found in the 1861 census married to Jane Houston. Is it a coincidence that the Houston name pops up as a middle name for one of the Williams children? Their marriage registration shows Robert Elliot as Thomas' father but the mother's name seems to be Margaret Henderson? Both Thomas and Jane lived on Millarston Lane. An interesting item on the registration is that Jane Houston's mother was a Hyslop which is often seen as an alternate spelling of Heaslet.

More research is required to fully sort out the various Elliots of the mid 1800's. One would suspect that some of the families that came from Ireland to Paisley in that period may be related but researching the Irish records will be difficult. It certainly seems