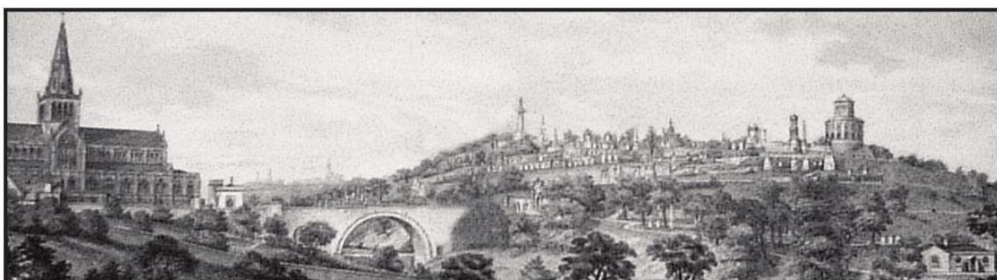


THE FRIENDS OF GLASGOW NECROPOLIS



c/o St Mungo Museum, 2 Castle Street, Glasgow G4 0RH.
website : www.glasgowneropolis.org Registered Scottish Charity - No SC037918

Grave Matters

Number 8

Summer 2019

I am pleased to say that two more indexers have joined us – Donna and Dorothy. Continuing the practice started in the last issue the figures of records indexed in the last three months are as follows –

April 2019	319 records
May 2019	290 records
June 2019	296 records

This brings our database of persons buried or commemorated in the Necropolis to 28607 entries at the end of June.

Medical Matters

As a follow up to the short piece on Glasgow asylums and hospitals in *Grave Matters 7*, the June 2019 edition of *GALLUS, the Journal of the Glasgow & West of Scotland Family History Society* contains a detailed report of a talk given to members on “Gartnavel Royal”.

Another local asylum which has not been mentioned yet is **Gartloch Hospital** to the east of Glasgow. It was built for the Glasgow District Lunacy Board and accepted its first patients in 1896. At present the earliest reference to Gartloch in the Necropolis burial registers is in 1924 when Dr William Arnot Parker, medical superintendent of Gartloch, was buried in the family lair in Petra.

Subsequently in 1971 an unknown Medical Superintendent of Gartloch Hospital is recorded as purchasing two lairs in compartment Quartus – Q716 on 28 Apr 1971 and Q714 on 27 Jul 1971. Both lairs were purchased for patients of Gartloch; Louisa Bremner D Green aged 86 died at Gartloch Hospital on 20 Apr and was buried in Q716 on 29 Apr from Gartloch. The lair cost £10 50p, the titles to the lair cost 25p and interment fees were £8.

Similarly on the 29 Jul, Grace Charyza aged 78 who died on 25 Jul was buried in Q714

also for a total cost of £18 75p. In both cases there is only one burial in the lair and no stone.

On further investigation the practice seems to have started in 1968 (after the Necropolis passed to Glasgow City Council control) and continued to at least 1974.

The spectacular silhouette of Gartloch Hospital will be familiar to anyone who watched the recent rerun of the marvellous 'Takin over the Asylum' on BBC TV.



Still on a medical theme, indexers have found the burials of two members of staff of the **Town's Hospital**. In December 1847 Dr James Short Thomson, physician to the hospital was buried on the 2nd of the month, aged 28, followed on the 4th by Miss Alison Lumsden, the hospital's matron, aged 30. Dr Thomson died from fever which was present in the city at the time and Miss Lumsden from exhaustion. They are the only two burials placed in Eta 92 and it seems likely that the lair was bought specifically for their interments.

An unidentified fever had been killing Glaswegians since the spring of 1847 including William Thomson, inspector of city poor for the Town's Hospital, who died of fever at the end of May, aged 64.

Strangers in the Necropolis

On 16 March 1847 the body of **Domingos Ribeiro da Cunha** aged 32 was placed in the Egyptian Vaults. The fact that his body was put there implies that this was a temporary measure until a permanent grave could be prepared. Unfortunately, in this case, there is no note against the entry recording the location of the permanent grave and as no grave stone survives the location of his grave is lost.

According to the Glasgow Post Office directories da Cunha seems to have arrived in Glasgow about 1843 when he is listed as trading as a merchant from 12 Royal Exchange Square before moving to 71 Queen Street from 1844 and 1847. An

inventory of his personal and moveable estate was registered at Glasgow Sheriff Court on 10 August 1847 which also describes him as a merchant in Glasgow and living in Partick. Details within the inventory suggest he also had a commercial relationship with Ure, Crawford & Easton, calenderers and packers, 16 and 28 Montrose St. His personal estate amounted to £1152 4/0 ½ of which roughly half comprised railway shares while he had a small amount of wine in bond valued at £43 7/-.

A couple of economic migrants from England ended their lives in the Necropolis. **William Everette Allenby**, a 56 year old artist, died from typhus fever and was buried in common ground in compartment Iota in May 1847. His forenames suggest he belonged to a Lincolnshire family of Allenbys but he has not been positively identified. His widow Susan and three children can be found in the 1851 census living at 16 Havannah Street, off High Street. Susan was supporting herself and her children by working as a straw bonnet maker. Her occupation and address suggest the family were in poor circumstances and makes one wonder what kind of 'artist' William Everette had been; he has not been found in internet searches. There are faint traces of the children in the following censuses until Ann, the elder daughter, is found in the 1891 and 1901 censuses settled at Findlay Street. She died in Stobhill Hospital in 1923 and her death certificate confirms her father as William Everitt (sic) Allenby.


I have no idea what brought **Josiah Flecknoe** to Glasgow from Northamptonshire. Born in 1825, Josiah was one of three known sons of Henry and Elizabeth Flecknoe of Braunston, Northamptonshire. By 1841 Josiah has been apprenticed to a draper in Daventry four miles from Braunston. At his death in 1847, aged 21, he was working as a draper; John Gilchrist who buried him may have been his employer or possibly his landlord, or maybe just a friend. He was buried in common ground in compartment Iota in October 1847 after dying of fever.

A fourth man who died far away from home does not even have a name, he was called **James** but his surname was unknown. He was a 20 year old seaman on the American barque *Brutus* which was lying in Glasgow harbour when James drowned. A short report on the Glasgow Herald of 21 July 1848 gives the basic details.

On Monday night, while a seaman belonging to the ship Brutus, of New York, at present lying in the harbour, was out on the bow of the vessel, he missed his footing and fell into the water. Being at the time considerably the worse of liquor he was drowned. His body was recovered in the course of the same night, and has been interred at the expense of the captain of the Brutus. The deceased was an American.

The entry in the burial register for 17 July records his age and states quite categorically that he was a native of Stockholm while an advert in the Glasgow Herald of 17 July names the captain of the *Brutus* as Captain Le Crow. All in all quite a lot is known about the unfortunate man but he remains unidentified.

AT GLASGOW—FOR BOSTON, U.S.



THE Barque **CAROLINE**, 324 tons register, Captain **WYMAN**, will sail on *Wednesday*, 19th instant.

The American Barque **BRUTUS**, 549 tons register, Captain **LE CRAW**, will sail on *Tuesday*, 25th instant.

The Barque **ALIEN BROWN**, 330 tons register, Captain **SHAW**, will sail on *Saturday*, 29th instant.

All the above Ships have elegant accommodation for Cabin, Second Cabin, and Steerage Passengers, who will be taken at a moderate rate.

Apply to

JOHN & ROBERT YOUNG.

Brutus's visit to Glasgow was an unlucky one as another accident occurred on board also reported to be caused by too much liquor. A local engineer named William Hay took it into his head to climb the ship's rigging; he fell off, hit his head against the stone quay and killed himself. He is not buried in the Necropolis.

A common complaint (or is it just a grumble?) of the indexers is the quality of the handwriting – either the actual penmanship or the faintness of the ink. One indexer sent in an article about writing with a quill pen which set me wondering when steel nibs were introduced. It seems they were common from the 1820s so I presume that is what our clerks were using but I imagine writing technique must have been similar to that with a quill though with less variation in the results. People of my generation will remember learning to write with a dip pen in the 1950s - not easy for a left hander when the ink well was on the right hand side of the desk.

Secret Scotland

Ruth Johnston, Chair of the Friends, has taken part in filming for an episode of the second series of Susan Calman's *Secret Scotland*. We believe it will be shown winter 2019/20.

Anyone who would like to help indexing the Burial Registers is very welcome to join us by contacting me at morag.fyfe@glasgowcynopolis.org