

Frae A' the Airts

Well known names around the village:-

TWEEDIE, MICHIE, KEDSLIE, CRABB, DEA, CORSE, MAXWELL, MUTTER, BRYCE, MORE.

Everyone assumes that these families have been in Juniper Green/Currie forever but on closer examination you find out differently!!

I am sure as you read through this you will find many people you know or have known!

Jim & I have been living in Juniper Green for 28 years and 4 years before that in Baberton Mains. When we moved from Baberton Mains to Juniper Green our neighbours assured us that we would not like it. "If you are not born & bred in Juniper Green you will not be accepted", is what we were told! Fortunately the reverse was the truth. The old people of the village were really welcoming and they were the ones who always spoke. The younger people were the ones that were a bit more difficult to get to know.

Over the years we have become friendly with many of the older folk in the village and as Jim & I are keen genealogists in our spare time, we decided to research the family lines of several families as a little treat for them!

One village worthy, **Tommy More**, who had lived in Juniper Green all his life and then living in Woodhall Drive told us the history of our home. He even went to the trouble to get us information from **John Tweedie**, the well known local historian, on the fact that a bronze age burial cairn was found in the ground when they were building our house. We have been to the museum and although the urn was not on display they gave us photocopies of the articles written about the find. For more on the **More** family see later in this article.

The reason that I started to look more closely at the village families was because I had discovered on my own paternal family line (Fairley) that one of my distant cousins, **Margaret Fairley** born 1834 in Biggar, had married **James Mathew** the Juniper Green Free Church school teacher in 1873. James was a widower. His first wife, **Mary Kedslie**, was a daughter of **Alexander Kedslie** the village baker and Mary had died in childbirth. Alexander was born in Lauder and his wife **Janet Tait** in Galashiels. They came to Juniper Green after their marriage in Edinburgh in 1819. Alexander & Janet had 8 children.

(1) **Jane** who married **Robert Stuart** (a mason) in 1846 and had 4 children, **Jane Stuart, John Stuart, Alexander Keslie Stuart** and **Isabella Stuart**. John Stuart later married **Jessie Maxwell** (sister of **Charlotte Maxwell** who married **William Dea**, and sister of **Margaret Maxwell** wife of **James T. Kedslie**, John's uncle!!!)

- (2) Alison Kedslie,
- (3) Elizabeth Kedslie,
- (4) John Kedslie (a baker),
- (5) Thomas Kedslie (a baker),
- (6) Alexander Tod Kedslie (a baker),
- (7) James Tod Kedslie (a baker) married Margaret Maxwell and they had 6 children.
- (8) Mary Kedslie mentioned above.

Flora Gilchrist, nee Kedslie, still living in Woodhall Drive (in 2007) is a gt granddaughter of James Tod Kedslie.

David Michie married **Marion Brown** in 1893. David Michie, yet another incomer came to Juniper Green from Dysart in Fife to work in the Paper Mill. David & Marion Michie's son, **James Michie** married **Cecelia Tweedie** in 1906. They had one son, **David Michie** and one daughter **Jane Tweedie**. Their son **David Michie**, also a Paper maker, married **Sophia (Fia) Donnett Sked**. Fia is still alive aged 92 and after spending all her married life in Juniper Green is now a resident in Livingston Nursing Home, Murison, Livingston. Cecelia's husband David died in WW1 and she remarried about 1928 to **William Ellis** (Station Master) and they had a daughter **Irene Ellis** and a son **Douglas Ellis**. Irene married **Henry Byers** and she lived all her life in Juniper Green and is now a resident in the Pentland Hills Nursing Home.

Cecelia Tweedie was one of 11 children born to **William Tweedie**, another incomer, and **Jane Henderson**. William was born in 1841 in West Calder, one of 12 children born to **John Tweedie & Barbara Young**. John Tweedie & Barbara and their family moved to Currie between 1857-1860. John & Barbara are buried in Currie Kirkyard.

William Tweedie & Jane Henderson's son **William Tweedie** was born in 1886 and married **Esther Henderson Crabb** in 1925. They had three sons, William, Ian, and Thomas. (Tom is still living (in 2007) in Blinkbonny)

Esther Crabb was the daughter of **George Crabb & Esther Henderson** who came from Cockpen to work in Juniper Green in the paper industry. George Crabb was one of 7 children born to **John Crabb** (coal miner) and Sarah Wilkie in Cockpen.
The Crabb family are still well known in the district. (Plumbers)

I discovered a personal link between the Tweedies and one of my own lines.

John Tweedie & Barbara Young's son John Tweedie married **Christina Whiteford Dickson** and their son **George Dickson Tweedie**, born about 1888 married **Rachel Williamson Melrose**, daughter of **George Melrose**, Station master, born in Berwick upon Tweed, and **Rachel Williamson**. **Rachel Williamson** was the sister of **Eliza Findlay Williamson** who was the grandmother of my uncle, **Archibald Mackenzie**. My uncle remembered coming to Juniper Green to visit his Aunt Rachel!

The **Dea** family originates from the Ratho/Uphall area. **John Dea**, a mason, married **Janet Kay** in 1801 in Uphall (Strathbrock)

John and Janet had 8 children the first 5 born in Edinburgh and the last 3 born in Juniper Green. They came to live in Juniper Green between 1808 and 1812.

Son **John Dea**, born 1802 in Slateford (a papermaker) married **Helen Gorrie** but had no children. They lived in Juniper Green until their deaths in 1867 and 1880 respectively.

Son **Thomas Dea**, born 1808 in Edinburgh (a papermaker) married **Janet McEwan** and lived in Penicuik and Woodhouslee, Glencorse with their 7 children.

Son **William Dea**, born 1812 (a slater) in Juniper Green married **Helen Wilson** in 1839 in Currie. They had 7 children.

Son **Leonard Homer Dea**, born 1818 in Juniper Green (a Cordwainer) married Julia Foster Pattison in 1840 in Newcastle upon Tyne. They had 12 children and lived in England, coming to live in Juniper Green around 1844 and then returning to Bishopwearmouth, Durham between 1871 -1881. Two sons were Iron Ship Drillers in Sunderland and another was a Paper Maker in Westmoreland.

William Dea & Helen Wilson's daughter **Elizabeth**, born 1840 in Juniper Green married **Thomas Graham**, a baker in the village and they had 9 children. Elizabeth became the Village post mistress after her husband's death in 1879. Thomas's father **John Graham** (from Kennoway, Fife) had the Grocer's shop in Juniper Green from 1851 until his death in 1871 and his wife, Janet then took over and then her daughter in law Elizabeth took over in 1879.

Their son **William Dea**, born 1850 in Juniper Green (a slater) married **Charlotte Maxwell**, born 1847 in Colinton. **Charlotte Maxwell** was the daughter of **Peter Maxwell** (victual dealer & grocer) and **Janet Adams**. **Charlotte Maxwell's** sister **Margaret Maxwell** married **James Tod Kedslie** (the village baker) son of Alexander Kedslie.

William Dea & Charlotte Maxwell had 9 children.

William died in WW1 in Lieper, Belgium alongside his uncle **James Tod Kedslie Dea**.

Their eldest son **William Dea** married **Jane Hogarth Mutter Reid** in 1912 and their eldest son was **Willie Dea** who lived all his life in the village with his wife Peggie (a Geordie).

Their daughter **Jean Reid Maxwell Dea** died aged 2 years in 1917.

Their daughter **Charlotte Dea** is still alive (in 2007) and is a resident in St Margaret's Court, Lanark Road.

Jane Hogarth Mutter Reid was born about 1885, daughter of **William Reid** (a housepainter) and **Jane Mutter**. Jane was the daughter of **William Mutter** (a corn meal miller from Dalkeith) and **Jane Hogarth**.

William Mutter and his brother **Thomas Mutter** were both Corn Meal Millers at East Mill, Currie. Their father **Robert Mutter** was a Meal Miller who was born in Lasswade. I believe they lived in the cottage on the banks of the Water of Leith at the foot of the hill on the road leading to Blinkbonny and the bridge is known as Mutter's Bridge.

I am sure lots of people will know **Annie Corse** (nee Rodgers). Annie's husband's family came to Juniper Green between 1870 and 1876

John Corse, born 1836 in Burness, Sanday, Orkney, was a Railway Surfaceman and his wife was **Margaret Goar**. They came with their 9 children and another was born in Juniper Green.

They came to Edinburgh with John's brother, **David Corse**, a widower, and his family, but he chose to live in North Leith.

John Corse & Margaret Goar's son **James Corse** (a Papermill Worker) married **Margaret Bryce** in 1889 and they had three sons, **John Corse**, born in 1891, **Robert Bryce Corse**, born about 1899 and **James Goar Corse**, born in 1905.

John Corse born 1891 (Grocer's Assistant) married Mary Arthur in 1914 in Juniper Green and they had 3 sons and 1 daughter.

Their son **James Corse** married **Annie Drysdale Rodger** in 1940 and they had 1 son, **John James Corse** who emigrated to Canada. The twist in this one is that **Annie Drysdale Rodger** is a cousin of **Sophia Donnet Michie** (nee Sked)!!!

James Corse married **Maggie Bryce** in 1890. **Maggie** was the daughter of **Robert Bryce** (papermaker) & **Alison Murphy**, who married in 1864 at Curriemuirend. **Robert Bryce** was born in 1845 in Colinton (Juniper Green), one of 12 children born to **Alexander Bryce** (a papermaker) and **Margaret Stobie**. Father Alexander & Margaret moved from Juniper Green to Hedsworth, Monkton & Jarrow in Durham with children **George, Margaret, Isabella, Christina, Margaret and Rebecca**. Their eldest son **John** moved with his wife to manage a papermill in Newton in Macclesfield, Lancashire. Son **Alexander Bryce** stayed in Scotland and married a local lass **Margaret Horsburgh** in 1861 and had 9 children and died in 1930 in Newhills, Aberdeen.

As far as I have been able to trace, there is no connection between this Bryce family and the Bryces who had the Haulage contractors in the village. They are the Bryces who intermarried with the Tweedie family

The furthest back I have been able to trace them is a **James Bryce & Margaret Miller** who married in 1780 in Uphall. They had 5 boys and 1 girl. Their son **James Bryce** (a gardener) married a **Margaret Samuel** in 1809 in Ecclesmachan and had 9 children moving eventually to Ratho. Their son **James Bryce** born in 1815 in Ecclesmachan was a Shoemaker and married **Christina Marshall** from Leith and after marrying in Ratho in 1842 came to live in Currie and had 7 children.

Their son **Marshall Bryce** lived in Currie all his life and was a Printer's Cutter. He died in 1955 aged 91yrs at Carsphairn, Currie.

Their son **John Bryce** (Dairyman) married **Mary Clements** and came to live in Juniper Green.

They had a son **James Bryce** b 1882 (a Carter) who married **Ann Tweedie**, daughter of **James Tweedie & Helen Baird**.

James Bryce and **Ann Tweedie** had 3 sons. **John, James & Thomas**

John Bryce (a Motor Driver) married (1) **Jane Paul** in 1926 and their daughter **Muriel Bryce** married **Peter King Mackie**.

Then late in life he married **Lilias Campbell or Reid** in 1987, the mother in law of our Councillor **Alistair Paisley**.

James Tweedie Bryce (a Garage attendant) married **Helen (Nellie) Henderson Brown**. James died in 1979 and Nellie went to live in St. Margaret's Court.

Thomas W. Bryce (a Chauffeur) married **Elizabeth Margaret Holt Wilson** and lived in Woodhall Avenue until Tom's death in 2005. They had a son **Richard Bryce**.

Now back to the **More** family mentioned at the beginning of this article, one of whom is mentioned several times in the reminiscences sections of the web site.

Andrew More, a joiner, and his wife **Isabella McKinlay** (Granny More) came to the village sometime between 1893 & 1895. Andrew was born and brought up in Dalmeny, South Queensferry where his father was a master Joiner. Isabella was born in Linlithgow the daughter of a farm overseer and was brought up a few doors away from Andrew in Dalmeny. Andrew & Isabella had 7 children.

(1) **Andrew**, (a general labourer) married **Ellen Brown nee Smith** (a widow) and had no children.

(2) **Robert McKinlay More** (was tragically killed by a passenger train while working on the Caledonian railway at Stoneyport. Slateford aged only 18yrs).

(3) **George** (a papermill worker) married **Janet Boag** a local lass from Balerno where they lived and had one daughter **Isabella Boag More**.

(4) **William McKinlay More** (a papermaker) married **Marion Beaton Drysdale** from Haddington and they had two children **Janet & Andrew** (a civil engineer, who

worked for some time in Nairobi). William and his family lived at 15 Woodhall Drive. After Marion's death in 1968 William married a widow Robina Smith Dobson.

(5) **Margaret (known as Peggy) Johnston More** married a **David Bryce** (a clerk to the Faculty of Advocates). Peggy was always quick to mention that they were not related to the other Bryce families in the village! Peggy in later life suffered a severe attack of Shingles in her eyes making her blind. I was privileged to deliver the Church service tapes to Peggy for many years and it was an afternoon to look forward to. She always wanted to know what was happening in the village and she looked forward to her sister Martha's visits from the USA.

Peggy and David had one daughter **Maureen More Bryce** (a school teacher who married **Henry Ireland Hughson**) Maureen, Henry and their 4 children came to live with Peggy at 22, Woodhall Terrace.

(6) **Martha Thomson More** married and lived in the USA and had one son who was in the US Navy.

(7) **Thomas Johnston More** (a milkman) married **Janet Wilson Trench** from West Calder.

They lived in Baberton Avenue and latterly in Woodhall Drive. They had 3 sons. Thomas, William and Kenneth and 1 daughter Catherine who married and now lives in Germany.

I am sure you can see by now, that many of the families were intermarried at some point along the line!!! We hope to have a chart showing the intermingling of the various families at the exhibition during the gala week.

Many people came to Juniper Green “**frae a' the airts**” to work in the paper industry but lots also went out from here “ **to a the airts and pairts**”.taking their talents & skills worldwide.

Muriel Adam