

REFERENCES - DFHS- WORKSHOP, 11th APRIL 2019 – “USING CHURCH RECORDS and OPRs”

1. **Introduction of Statutory Records** – for which Certificates should exist:
 - a. Scotland - BMDs 1855; Census 1841;
 - b. England and Wales – BMDs 1837; Census 1841;

2. **First Registers:**
 - a. Scotland – earliest surviving is 1553;
 - b. England and Wales – 1538;
 - c. Ireland – very few out-with 18th and 19th Cs.

3. **Pre-1855** – information recorded varied widely in quantity and accuracy; the earlier it is the poorer it becomes thereby begging other sources of research (wills, newspapers etc).

4. **Scottish Church Timeline:**
 - a. 1560: Catholicism abolished; Reformation begins;
 - b. 1584 – 1690: control of church bounces between Episcopalians and Presbyterians;
 - c. 1690 – Presbyterian Church becomes Established Church of Scotland; Episcopalians form their own Episcopal Church of Scotland.
 - d. 1707 – Act of Union;
 - e. 1712 – Patronage Act = land-owner can choose minister, no congregational approval!
 - f. 1743 – 1847: various alternative churches formed:
 - i. 1743 Reformed Presbyterian;
 - ii. 1761 Relief Church;
 - iii. 1843 Free Church
 - iv. 1847 United Presbyterian Church

5. **Nonconformists** – Seceders (Presbyterian); Dissenters (Episcopal, Methodist, Catholic etc)

6. **OPRs** - can be accessed on line at Scotland’s-People website (www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/)
 - a. Baptismal Registers;
 - b. Proclamations and Marriage Registers;
 - c. Burial and Mort-Cloth Dues Registers.

7. **Scottish Parish Maps** - county list at www.scotlandsfamily.com/parish-maps.htm . Parishes listed in Bloxham’s “*Key to the Old Parochial Registers of Scotland*”; and mapped at various points in time in “*The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers*” by C R Humphrey-Smith.

8. **Statistical Accounts of Scotland** – based upon information provided by each parish minister:
 - a. Two editions published - **First Account 1790** and, **Second Account 1830**; describe contemporary life of the time in each of almost 930 parishes.
 - b. More recent descriptions of parishes can be found at
 - i. www.genuki.org.uk/big/sct/
 - ii. www.visionofbritain.org.uk/
 - iii. www.scotlandsfamily.com/parish-maps.htm

9. **General Reference** via Family Search contains a wide variety of training tutorials. [www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Scotland Church Records](http://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Scotland_Church_Records)