Craigton Cemetery Heritage Trail
Craigton Cemetery Heritage Trail Introduction

On behalf of Glasgow City Council, welcome to Craigton Cemetery. Please enjoy your visit. For your own safety please follow the route marked on this leaflet. The proposed route should take approximately one and a half hours, but one can easily become absorbed and spend much longer on this trail. Please remember at all times that Craigton Cemetery is hallowed ground and as such the deceased should be treated respectfully at all times.

There are two entrances to Craigton Cemetery, the main entrance on Paisley Road West at Halfway and an entrance on Berryknowes Road, south of Cardonald Station. To the right of the cemetery gates is the gabled lodge house with Gothic porch and just inside the main entrance is the Cross of Sacrifice, designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield (1856-1942). The cross represents the faith of the majority, the sword the military character of the cemetery. Crosses of Sacrifice are, in general, found in cemeteries with over 40 war graves. In all there are 251 commonwealth war graves in Craigton of which 167 represent the fallen of the First World War and 85 the Second World War, there is one Vietnam War grave and others which represent earlier conflicts. The Berryknowes Road entrance leads to Craigton Crematoria which was designed by Paisley architect James Maitland Steel (1887-1982) and was opened in 1957 and it is run by the Co-operative.

The cemetery is laid out into compartments, the earliest being the Victorian section on a rise of ground to the south west of the main entrance behind Moss Heights. These compartments arranged alphabetically from east to west contain some exquisite Victorian monuments. There is also a small Jewish section to the north-east of the main gates at the old entrance leading to Crosslee Street. There is a strong connection between Craigton Cemetery and the nearby Ibrox Stadium with a former manager, directors and players of Rangers Football Club all having been interred in Craigton.

Parts of the trail are often irregular due to the site layout, but this provides a greater opportunity to explore other headstones and discover more of the rich historical and architectural heritage that Craigton Cemetery has to offer.

The Craigton Cemetery Company

The Craigton Cemetery Company was established in 1871 with the intention of providing adequate cemetery accommodation for the City of Glasgow and neighbourhood but more specifically for the districts of Govan and Partick. In October 1871 the Cemetery Company’s directors acquired the Land of Wester Craigton and a small part of the Lands of Merynlands which amounted to 30 acres of land, for payment of a feu duty, from the trustees of Robert Urquhart.

A number of the shares in the new company were purchased by the directors of whom Thomas Reid (1831-1900) of Alexander Reid & Sons, Turkey Red Dyers, Govan Dye Works was the first chairman. His fellow directors were Morris Pollok (1831-1899) of Morris Pollok & Sons, silk manufacturer, Govan; William McOnie of, W & A McOnie, Scotland Street Engine Works, Glasgow; James Wilson of James Wilson & Sons, West India merchant, 30 John Street, Glasgow; John Hinshelwood of Ibrox; James MacGregor, timber merchant, Stobcross Wharf, Glasgow and Alexander Smith of A & W Smith & Co., Eglinton Engine Works, 57 Cook Street, Glasgow.

It was their intention to create a first class garden cemetery the equal of any in the city. Lairholders were to be offered an irrevocable title and were assured that pit burials would be strictly prohibited. Lairs were priced at £2 2s to £7 7s each with a vault measuring 7 feet by 6 feet costing £30. The first interment to take place at Craigton Cemetery was that of seven year old Isabella Barclay Guthrie of 93 Waterloo Street on 2nd June 1873. Since then over 150,000 interments have taken place at Craigton among them many of the individuals who helped Glasgow become one of the richest and most powerful cities of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In 1892 Craigton Cemetery Company became a limited company and remained in private ownership until it was acquired by Glasgow City Council on 30th June 2006.

Craigton Cemetery Heritage Trail

1. Ella Osbourne (1884-1915)
(Died when the Lusitania was sunk by enemy U-boats)

On the afternoon of 7th May 1915 the Cunard liner Lusitania was eleven miles south of the Old Head of Kinsale on the south coast of Ireland on her return trip from New York when without warning she was struck by two torpedoes from the German U-Boat U-20. On board were 1900 people, 1200 of whom were passengers and the unexpectedness of the attack left the crew little or no time to launch life boats. The ship sank below the waves in eighteen minutes with a total of 1198 lives lost with many prominent figures of the day among them. One of the victims was Ella Osbourne who arrived in New York from Glasgow on the 2nd March 1915 on board the Cameronia and whose husband Thomas Osbourne had this monument erected as a memorial. The RMS Lusitania was built at John Brown & Co., Clydebank and launched on 7th June 1906 and was the largest ship of its day. The sinking of the Lusitania turned public opinion in many countries against Germany and was a major contribution to America’s entry into the war.

2. John Izett (1859-1933)
(Prospector, Businessman, Glasgow Councillor and Bailie)
John Izett was born on 24th January 1859 at Limekilns, Dunfermline to ships carpenter George Izett and Elizabeth Black. The family moved to Liverpool where his father had secured employment with shipbuilders Thomas B Royden & Co. Tragically for the family George Izett fell into the hold of the ship he was working on and died of his injuries at the Northern Hospital on 5th September 1861. On the 5th November 1862 his mother brought the family to Glasgow where the young John was educated at Milton Parish School and then Garnethill School. On leaving school he became apprenticed to a Draper and gained further experience in the trade working in the Cowcaddens area. In 1883 he was appointed general stores manager for the Rio Tinto Mining Co., in the province of Huelva in Southern Spain.

He returned to Glasgow in 1896 and started his own business in Springburn but left some years later for British East Africa where towards the end of his sojourn through the region he took up prospecting. In 1904 he once again returned to Glasgow and settled at 6 Fielden Drive, Partick. In 1905 he set himself up in business as a draper and hosier at 507 and 511 Dumbarton Road, Partick. In 1912 he was elected to Glasgow Town Council as the representative for Partick Central and in 1922 he was appointed as a senior bailie. Two years later in 1924 he was appointed as a Justice of the Peace for the County and City of Glasgow.

Colin Sinclair was born on 3rd April 1879 at 47 McLean Street, Govan to shipwright John Sinclair and Annie McGregor. He was educated at Bellahouston Academy and when he left school in 1892 he became an apprentice to H & D Barclay. When he completed his apprenticeship in 1897 he stayed on as an assistant. During that period he attended the University of Glasgow and studied at the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College and Glasgow School of Art under Professor Charles Gourlay (1865-1926) and William James Anderson (1863-1900). In 1907 he became an assistant to Gourlay at the Royal Technical College but remained a part-time senior assistant with H & D Barclay. He became a junior partner in 1911 and inherited the firm when David Barclay (1846-1917) died on 3rd July 1917 and continued under the company name until going into partnership with John Begg Campbell (born 1882) in c1919.

The partnership with John Begg Campbell ended in 1940 and Sinclair continued to practise on his own although most of his time was taken up by scholarly pursuits which resulted in the publication of 'Celtic Art in Architecture' for which he was awarded a PhD and in 1953 he published 'The Thatched Houses of the Old Highlands'. Apart from his talent for writing he was said to be a talented painter and composer. In 1900/01 he was an assistant to H & D Barclay on the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College and in 1903 architect on the addition of a swimming pool and gymnasium hall at Bellahouston Academy.

3. Colin Sinclair (1879-1957)
   (Architect, UNESCO delegate. Responsible for the Highland Villages at both the 1911 Kelvingrove and 1938 Bellahouston Exhibitions.)
In 1911 he designed the Highland Village (an clachan) at the Scottish Exhibition of National History, Art and Industry at Kelvingrove Park. He repeated the feat of a Highland Village at the Glasgow International Exhibition of 1938. In 1930 he designed the memorial cairn to Gaelic Poet Ewan McColl at Kenmure in Argyll.

Colin Sinclair was a Scottish Delegate to UNESCO from 1947 and died aged 78 on 26th October 1957 at 50 Ralston Avenue, Crookston.

4. Archibald Stewart (1839-1895)
(Businessman, Councillor and Member of Trades House)

Archibald Stewart was the son of farmer James Stewart and Margaret Somerville. He was born at Renfrew in 1839 and brought up at Mid Craig Farm, Campbelltown. He moved to Glasgow at an early age and found employment with Mann, Byars & Co., retail and wholesale warehousemen, 12 Argyle Street and 12, 16 Virginia Street. In 1870 after many years learning his trade working in various city businesses he founded Archibald Stewart & Co., cabinetmakers, upholsterers and carpet warehousemen, 28 Union Street before moving into larger premises at 42-48 Union Street with works at 40 Union Street, Glasgow. The company were largely employed in furnishing and upholstering many of the large steamships built in Glasgow. He was a former Town Councillor and member of the Trade’s House. An active churchman with a keen interest in Sunday Schools and mission work, he died on 12th July 1895 at Innellan, Dunoon.

5. Lieutenant Robert Anderson McBryde A.M. (1883-1918)
(Royal Navy, awarded the prestigious Albert Medal (A.M.) for conspicuous bravery)

Robert Anderson McBryde was born on 28th November 1883 at 63 Albert Road, Pollokshields, Glasgow to brass founder Peter McBryde and Jessie Thomson Anderson. He joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve and was commissioned on 5th April 1917 and served on board the HMS President V. He was awarded the Albert Medal on 7th September 1917 for his action in assisting in the rescue of a comrade in Russia. The following record of his action appears in the London Gazette ‘On the 26th January 1917, a series of fires and explosions occurred at Economia, port of Archangel. When Captain Twidle arrived on the scene his ship was burning fiercely. On being informed that the Chief Engineer was alive, Captain Twidle climbed on board but found that he was dead. He then examined the other rooms and found a Chinese sailor in a dazed condition. With the assistance of Mr. Martin and Mr. McBryde this man was got over the ship’s side across the ice, and eventually to the Red Cross station. About four minutes after the seaman had been removed the vessel blew up.’

Robert Anderson McBryde died age 34 on 6th July 1918 at 41 Kerr Street, Glasgow.

6. James Nicholson (1822-1897)
(Tailor, Writer, Poet and Botanist.)

James Nicholson was born the son of a tailor in Edinburgh on 21st October 1822. In 1828 the family moved to Paisley and found themselves in extreme poverty and at the age of 7 with one week’s
schooling behind him he was sent to work in a tobacco factory where he earned one shilling a week. He learned to read by studying sign boards and handbills and the books on view in the stationer's window. When the family moved to Strathaven he found employment as a herd boy which provided him with the leisure time to read all the books he could borrow.

He returned to Edinburgh and became an apprentice tailor to his grandfather who also taught him the alphabet and through hard work and determination he taught himself how to write. His first verse appeared in the *Christian Journal* when he was 19 years old. He married in 1843 and returned to Strathaven where he set up in business with his brother-in-law and began to study botany. His sojourn into business wasn't successful and in 1853 he secured the post of foreman tailor at the Govan Workhouse in Eglinton Street.

He remained in the employment of the Govan Parochial Board for 44 years. James Nicholson contributed verse to periodicals such as *The Working Man’s Friend* and wrote many temperance songs and poems which resulted in him being called ‘The Temperance Poet’. He also contributed a series of botanical papers to *The Temperance Journal* published under the title *Father Fernie the Botanist*. He also contributed a series of papers on astronomy to the *People's Friend* in 1880 collected under the title of *Nightly wanderings in the garden sky*. He published several volumes of verse which include *Weeds and Wildflowers* (1850), *Kilwuddie and other Poems* (1859), *Willie Waugh, or the Angel o’ Hame* (1861), *Idylls o’ Hame and Other Poems* (1870), *Wee Tibbies Garland and other Poems* (1873) and *Rest for the weary, or Mary’s wa-gaun* (1875).

In 1895 he was presented with an address in the Cockburn Hotel, Glasgow, by friends and admirers and in the same year Govan (Millport Boating Disaster 15th June 1907)

On the afternoon of the 15th June 1907 William Barclay, joiner, 19 Kelvindale Gardens, Glasgow and a family party of six took to the water off Greater Cumbrae in a lug-sail boat named the Rover, hired for the afternoon from local boat hirer Charles Wallace. The sea was rather rough with a south-westerly wind but William Barclay was considered a skilled sailor and familiar with the local waters and the boat, and so their prolonged absence didn’t cause alarm. In the evening news reached local Police Sergeant Macrae that a boat had sunk off the north-west coast of the island and after making enquiries as to what boats were out immediately rushed to the scene where he and the subsequent search found no evidence of an accident having occurred. It wasn’t until later in the evening that the bodies of William Barclay, his grandson William Waterston (4), his son John Barclay and his fiancée Jeannie Blair washed ashore. An eye-witness reported that the boat was labouring heavily when a rain squall suddenly sprang up from a westerly direction and that the boat suddenly keeled over and sank with no visible sign of life. Others who lost their life that fateful day were William Barclay’s daughter Agnes Waterston and her daughter Agnes (2). On Thursday 20th June 1907 the bodies of William Barclay and his grandson William Waterston were met at Glasgow Central Station by a large number of mourners to attend the funeral service held in the Central Station Hotel. Afterwards the hearse and a large number of carriages made its way to Craighton Cemetery.

8. Rev David McRae (1837-1907)

(8 Rev David McCrae headstone)

Rev David McRae was born on 9th August 1837 in Lathones, Fife to Rev David McRae and Margaret Falconer. His father became minister of Lathones United Presbyterian Church on 6th March 1827 and then transferred to Oban on 25th April 1838. It was in Oban that the young David spent his childhood and then Glasgow when his father became minister of Gorbals United Presbyterian Church in 1853. He was educated at Glasgow University on High Street where he studied Natural Philosophy and Hebrew. He devoted much of his time to literature and journalism and in 1858 he enrolled in Professor William Edmondstoune Aytoun's (1813-1865) *Belles Lettres* class at Edinburgh University.

In 1860 he started a Divinity course at Edinburgh University and began writing leaders for the Glasgow Herald. In 1861 he published *The Social Hydra* an exposure of the evils of pawnbroking and in 1863 he published a novel called *George Harrington*. In 1865 *Dunvarlich* a £100 prize tale was published and in November 1865 a satire on the proceedings of the Glasgow Presbytery called *Diogenes among the D.D.'s*, the first part of which *The Trial of Norman Macleod for the murder of Moses Law* was published in The Scotsman. Others entitled *The Courtship of Widow Freekirk and Mr. Hugh Peabody* was published in the Glasgow Herald.

7. Barclay/Waterston Families

(Barclay/Waterston Families (Millport Boating Disaster 15th June 1907))

On the afternoon of the 15th June 1907 William Barclay, joiner, 19 Kelvindale Gardens, Glasgow and a family party of six took to the water off Greater Cumbrae in a lug-sail boat named the Rover, hired for the afternoon from local boat hirer Charles Wallace. The sea was rather rough with a south-westerly wind but William Barclay was considered a skilled sailor and familiar with the local waters and the boat, and so their prolonged absence didn’t cause alarm. In the evening news reached local Police Sergeant Macrae that a boat had sunk off the north-west coast of the island and after making enquiries as to what boats were out immediately rushed to the scene where he and the subsequent search found no evidence of an accident having occurred. It wasn’t until later in the evening that the bodies of William Barclay, his grandson William Waterston (4), his son John Barclay and his fiancée Jeannie Blair washed ashore. An eye-witness reported that the boat was labouring heavily when a rain squall suddenly sprang up from a westerly direction and that the boat suddenly keeled over and sank with no visible sign of life. Others who lost their life that fateful day were William Barclay’s daughter Agnes Waterston and her daughter Agnes (2). On Thursday 20th June 1907 the bodies of William
In 1872 he was ordained minister of Gourock United Presbyterian Church but it wasn’t long before his liberal views, particularly on the question of eternal punishment brought him into conflict with the church. In 1876 he tabled a motion in the Paisley and Greenock Presbytery in favour of a revision of the Confession of Faith and then supported it in a speech which aroused fierce opposition. In 1879 the United Presbyterian Church Synod passed a Declaratory Act which relaxed the strictness of adherence to church law, such as belief in the creation myth, but David McRae demanded further relaxation including the freedom to dissent from the dogma of everlasting torment. The Church Synod refused and in July 1879 he was expelled from church.

In October 1879 he replaced the deceased Rev George Gilfillan of Dundee at the Gilfillan Memorial Church, Dundee. In 1884 he began his public defence of the national rights of Scotland and as Convener of the Committee on School Books on Dundee School Board he carried a resolution condemning the practice of substituting the words Britain and British with England and English in school history books. He published a pamphlet called Britain not England and his protests were endorsed at large public meetings.

In 1887 he played a prominent role in promoting the memorial presented to Queen Victoria on the misuse of national names in official speeches and treaties. 1887 was the year he retired from the ministry and returned to Glasgow where he became the chief organiser behind the raising of the Wallace Monument at Robroyston which was unveiled in August 1900. He took part in protests and demonstrations against the adoption of the title Edward VII by King Edward and founded the Scottish Patriotic Association in response. In June 1901 he held a formal protest at Bannockburn where he declared the adoption of the title as an insult to Scotland and an outrage on historic truth. The signatures of the protesters are held in five large volumes at the Kelvingrove Art Galleries.

In 1906 a bust of David McRae by Archibald McFarlane Shannon (1850-1913) was presented to the Kelvingrove Art Galleries. David McRae died age 69 on 16th May 1907 at Morag, 2 Maxwell Park Gardens, Pollokshields.

9. James Lauder (1848-1913)
(Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, Secretary and Manager of the Glasgow Athenaeum for over forty years.)

James Lauder was born in 1848 in Abbotsford to farmer James Lauder and Agnes Thomson. He was educated at public schools and at Watt Institution (now Heriot Watt College). He received his early training as an employee of Oliver and Boyd, publishers, printers and book binders, Tweeddale Court, 16 High Street, Edinburgh who among other things were publishers of the Edinburgh Almanac and National Repository. In 1870 he was appointed Secretary of the Glasgow Athenaeum in succession to Henry Johnston and began to oversee the re-organisation which had begun under Johnston. Under Lauder’s tenure the Athenaeum grew to include a School of Music, a Civil Service and Professional Department, a Reading Room which was second only to the Royal Exchange and a large circulating library, recreational rooms and restaurant.

As a result the Athenaeum in 1909 fulfilled the wishes of its first founders by becoming a great commercial college. In 1892 he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and was for some time a member of its council. To celebrate the 50th jubilee of the Athenaeum in 1897 the directors requested that he write a history of the institution called ‘The Glasgow Athenaeum, a Sketch of the First Fifty Year’s Work’, which was published by the St Mungo Press that same year. Following the publication he was given the post of manager.

He died age 64 on 11th April 1913 at Hillpark, Drumchapel. He had served the Athenaeum as both secretary and manager for 43 years.

(Soldier, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Awarded the Military Cross and Distinguished Service Order. Also received French gallantry awards Chevalier Legion D’Honneur and the Croix de Guerre with Palm)

Gavin Laurie Wilson was born on 13th October 1894 at Tillicoultry School House to School Master John Wilson and Margaret Thomson. He enlisted in the 11th Battalion of Princess Louise’s (Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders) at the outbreak of war. The 11th (Service) Battalion Princess Louise’s (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) was formed at Stirling in September 1914 before moving to Aldershot where it was assigned to 45th Brigade, 15th Division and then moved to Bramshott in November 1914.

In February 1915 it was moved to Basingstoke and then to Chisleford and landed at Boulogne on the 9th July 1915. By June of 1918 it was reduced to a training cadre sending surplus personnel to 1/8th Battalion. The cadre moved to 118th Brigade, 39th Division and became X Corps Reinforcement Battalion in late July. It was disbanded on the 26th of August, 1918.
Gavin Laurie Wilson took part in all the major battles his battalion were involved in and was awarded the Military Cross and Distinguished Service Order (1917).

The London Gazette of 7th March 1918 recorded that he was awarded the DSO for ‘conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of his battalion. The officers having become casualties and his men held up by machine-gun fire during an advance, he at once set out from headquarters and personally reorganised his front during a critical time as the enemy were taking the offensive.’ In November 1918 he was awarded France’s highest military honour Chevalier Legion D’Honneur and the Croix de Guerre with Palm.

Gavin Laurie Wilson died age 24 on 16th February 1919 of Pneumonia at 20th General Hospital Dannes Camiers. He is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery.

John Galt died on 22nd November 1964 at Hairmyres Hospital, East Kilbride.

11. John Galt (1878-1964)  
(Prominent Glasgow Architect.)

John Galt was born on 28th October 1878 at 24 Langlands Road, Govan to master builder John Galt and Elizabeth Kyle. While apprenticed to H & D Barclay in 1896 he attended the Glasgow School of Art and the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College. He stayed on at Hugh and David Barclay’s after completing his apprenticeship and was admitted LRIBA in 1910 with David Barclay one of his proposers stating that he was ‘one of my leading assistants’ and ‘a draughtsman and architect of much ability’.

John Galt is best remembered as being the architect who executed Karl Bernardt’s design for the North British Diesel Engine Works, 739 South Street, Glasgow in 1913. In 1924 he went into partnership with George Simpson Barr however the partnership lasted for just over a decade. While assistant to H & D Barclay he worked on Hillhead High School, the warehouse and offices for St George’s Co-operative Society Ltd (1897), Gartmore House, Perthshire (1901), Govan High School (1901 and 1907), Old Monklands School Board Higher Grade School (1908) and Battlefield East Church (1911). Later on either in partnership or on his own he worked on The Glen, Helensburgh (1929), Rivet, Bolt and Nut Co., Premises, Helen Street, Govan (1947 and 1952).

John Galt died on 22nd November 1964 at Haimyres Hospital, East Kilbride.

12. William Struth (1876-1956)  
(Athlete, Physiotherapist, Legendary Manager of Rangers Football Club)

William Struth was born at 20 Balfour Street, Leith on 16th June 1876 to stonemason William Struth and Isabella Cunningham. In 1891 the family having left Edinburgh were living at 21 Hill Street, Milnathort, Kinross by which time William had finished his education and was very much following in his father’s footsteps by finding employment as an apprentice mason. In 1898 the family were back in Edinburgh living at 3 Glen Street and on the 4th February 1898 the 21 year old William married Catherine Forbes at the Glen Moat Hall, Glen Street. In 1901 William and Catherine were living at 8 Wheatfield Street, Edinburgh and he was employed as a stone dresser. His love of sport, especially athletics, led to him becoming a renowned middle distance runner who entered athletic meetings throughout Britain. It was through his love of athletics that he came to the attention of Hearts who offered him the position of trainer. His brief but successful spell at Hearts brought him to the attention of other clubs and in 1908 he made the switch to Glasgow by accepting the position of trainer at Clyde.

During his time at Clyde the club would reach two Scottish Cup Finals losing both. His success at Clyde brought him to the attention of Rangers manager William Walton (1865-1920) and in 1914 after several abortive attempts he made the switch to Rangers were he would work closely with the Rangers manager. William Struth made an immediate impact at Rangers but the outbreak of war in 1914 put the brakes on his fledgling career at Ibrox. At 38 years old William Struth was too old for active service and his profession as a stonemason, athlete, and football trainer were not considered essential war work. Determined to play his part in the war effort he volunteered his services alongside William Walton at the Bellahouston Military Hospital where he served as a porter and then a masseuse.

In 1920 William Struth succeeded William Walton as manager when Walton tragically lost his life in a boating accident off Gourock. He became only the second man to manage Rangers and his appointment heralded in an unprecedented level of success as he guided Rangers to eighteen Scottish League titles which included a remarkable fourteen in nineteen years prior to the Second World War and the clubs first league and cup double in 1928. He also guided the Ibrox club to ten Scottish Cup triumphs, 2 League Cups, 19 Glasgow Cups and 17 Glasgow Charity Cups including 7 seven war time Championships. In 1948 he became the first Scottish manager to lead his side to the domestic treble. William Struth was a renowned disciplinarian and insisted that his players wear a collar and tie to training. In 1946 he was appointed a director of the club and when he retired in 1954 he was
appointed vice chairman. William Struth died aged 80 on 21st September 1956 at 27 Dalkeith Avenue, Dumbreck. In 2005 the then Rangers chairman Sir David Murray unveiled a bronze bust of William Struth in Ibrox’s main stand after it was renamed the Bill Struth Main Stand in memory of the legendary manager.

In 1888 he became the originator and co-founder behind the reconstitution of the Clan Mackay Society in which he served as honorary secretary and at a banquet held in Glasgow in 1890 he was rewarded with a handsome testimonial and a gold badge by Lord Reay, Clan Chief in appreciation of his services. He was best known as the editor of the Celtic Monthly which first appeared in October 1892 and became the most popular and successful highland monthly of the time. He married Annie MacLean Sharp on the 25th September 1896 and together they worked on the production of the Celtic Monthly until John Mackay’s death aged 44 on 6th November 1909 at 10 Bute Mansions, Glasgow.

The Clan Mackay Society erected a memorial to his memory at Craigton Cemetery on the 5th November 1910.

14. Joseph Buchanan (1864-1932)
(Baker, Govan Councillor, Director and Chairman of Rangers Football Club)

Joseph Buchanan was born on 28th January 1864 at 17 Barclay Street, Paisley to baker Joseph Buchanan and Margaret McFarlane. His father owned a bakers shop at 152 George Street which was just around the corner from the family home. Joseph followed in his father’s footsteps and opened his own bakery at 10 Broomloan Road, Govan in 1897 while a resident at 3 Tulliallan Place, Paisley Road West. In 1900 he moved his family to Clareinch, 481 Paisley Road West.

He took a great interest in local affairs and in 1901 he was elected to serve as a commissioner of Govan Burgh Council and in 1903 was elected to serve as a councillor for the sixth ward of Govan Burgh Council and remained in office until Govan amalgamated with Glasgow in 1912. In 1903 he was appointed as a magistrate and held that position until 1909 while he also served as a Police Judge on the Govan Burgh Police Board.

A keen footballer he became associated with Rangers Football Club in 1894 and was elected as a director in 1914. In 1923 he
was elected as chairman a position that he held until shortly before his death on 9th November 1932 aged 67. He was also a keen golfer and was a member of the Port Bannatyne Golf Club.

15. Charles Mackay (1850-1919)
(Co-Founder of Whyte and Mackay Whisky firm)

Charles Mackay and James Whyte

Charles Mackay was born in 1850 to coal merchant John Mackay and Janet Cumming. In 1882 he was manager of Allan & Poynter, bonded and free warehouse keepers and customs’ and general forwarding agents, 71, 73 Robertson Street, Glasgow with an excise warehouse at 35 Ann Street. Allan & Poynter had been founded in November 1843 by John Poynter and William Allan.

The company changed hands and was purchased by William Scott who recruited James Whyte and Charles Mackay as bonded warehousemen. When William Scott died his widow sold the company to James Whyte and Charles Mackay on the condition that they were not to use the name Allan & Poynter. The company was renamed Whyte & Mackay and both partners knew that to capitalise upon their venture then they had to find suitable premises to equip as a whisky blending plant. In 1884 they opened for business as bonded store proprietors, customs and forwarding agents, blenders and export bottlers, 26 and 28 Robertson Lane, Glasgow.

As soon they purchased their first consignment of grain and malt whiskies they began blending to customers’ orders. To take advantage of the export trade they quickly launched a new blended whisky of their own the Whyte & Mackay Special. As soon as they took this decision the sales of whisky collapsed. They managed to weather this crisis and even expanded their export sales. Charles Mackay died age 69 on 5th September 1919 at Bellevue, Dumbreck Avenue, Glasgow that same year Whyte & Mackay became a limited company.

(Businessman, Provost of Govan)

Sir John Anthony headstone

Sir John Anthony was born in Kirkford, Stewarton on 9th February 1862 to shoemaker Andrew Anthony and Agnes McCrae. He was educated at Stewarton Public School till the age of 13 and was then employed as a message boy at Stewarton Station on the Glasgow-Barrhead and Kilmarnock Joint Railway. He progressed from messenger to booking clerk and was later appointed goods clerk. He was transferred to Pollokshaws where he was cashier before being transferred to Govan where he remained for seven years. At 27 he resigned from the railway to become a partner in Cockburn Bros, boiler makers and patent tubular barrows and truck manufacturers, St. James’ Ironworks, Helen Street, Govan. When his partner David Cockburn died in 1897 he became the sole proprietor, the business prospered and after the Boer War (1899-1902) he opened a branch in South Africa.

He was actively involved in local politics and was elected to the Govan Town Council in 1893. In 1897 he was appointed as magistrate for Govan and in 1904 was elected Provost, a position which he held until 1908. He was actively involved with the temperance movement and social welfare organisations in Govan. He was chairman of the Govan Y.M.C.A Temperance Association and chairman of the advisory board which was responsible for the setting up of the Govan Pals Association. During the war of 1914-1918 he was chairman of the Recruiting Advisory Committee for Govan Ward of Lanarkshire. His years of public service were recognised on 3rd June 1916 when he received a knighthood in the King’s birthday honours. He was a member of the Liberal Party and chairman of the Govan Liberal Association and also chairman of the Scottish Liberal Federation for nine years until his retirement in 1933.

Sir John Anthony had a keen interest in football and became a member of Rangers Football Club when it moved to Ibrox Park in 1887. He was also president of Linthouse F.C. and a supporter of Queen's Park F.C.. He was a member of the Govan Weavers Society. Sir John Anthony died aged 73 on 10th April 1935 at Dalmeny House, 13 Torridon Avenue, Dumbreck.
Robert Wallace Forsyth (1843-1937)  
(Founder of Forsyth’s Department Store Chain)

Robert Wallace Forsyth (The Bailie)

Robert Wallace Forsyth was born in 1843 in Inveresk to general merchant Alexander Forsyth and Mary Wallace. He began his commercial life in Edinburgh at aged fifteen and four years later in 1862 he moved to Glasgow and found employment with John McIntyre & Co., warehousemen, 95, 99 Argyle Street. He left John McIntyre & Co., and subsequently secured employment with McIntosh & Fleming, clothiers and outfitters, 104 Argyle Street; William Stewart & Co., woollen drapers, 114 Argyle Street and Robert Sinclair & Co., manufacturers, 99 Mitchell Street, Glasgow.

The experience he gained in warehouse management and administration was put to use when he returned to Edinburgh to enter into a short lived partnership with his brother before returning to Glasgow where he resided at 324 Scotland Street. In 1872 he set up as a hosier, glover and shirt-maker (maker of the Acme shirt), 19 Renfield Street, second shop below St. Vincent Street and was also agent for his brother J. S. Forsyth, clothier, Edinburgh.

His business grew rapidly and by 1877 he had purchased most of the properties on the north-west side of Renfield Street and Gordon Street. In 1889 he purchased the whole block at the corner of Renfield Street and Gordon Street and he employed the architect Sir J J Burnet (1857-1938) to redesign the premises on the site at a cost of £25,000 which opened in 1897. In 1907 he opened a branch of his department store on Princes Street, Edinburgh and in 1936 he realised a long term ambition by opening a branch at Vigo House, Regent Street, London.

In 1913 he again employed Sir J J Burnet to design a building for the Wallace-Scott Tailoring Institute at 43 Spean Street, Cathcart.

Robert Wallace Forsyth died age 93 on 31st January 1937 at 61 St Andrews Drive, Glasgow.

Robert Wallace Forsyth headstone

17b. Major Maxwell Hanton Forsyth (1892-1918) D.S.O., M.C.  
(Soldier in the Gordon Highlanders)

Interred alongside R W Forsyth is his youngest son Major Maxwell Hanton Forsyth (1892-1918) D.S.O., M.C. who was born on 26th July 1892 at Eastbank, Lenzie. He was educated at Glasgow High School and Merchiston Castle, Edinburgh. He was gazetted to the Gordon Highlanders in September 1914 and was sent to the front in May 1915.

He was awarded the Military Cross after an engagement at Loos and the D.S.O. in 1917 for ‘conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a strong raiding party. He trained the party and carried out the raid successfully, personally controlling it from the enemy’s front line. The party entered the enemy’s third line capturing 43 prisoners, two machine guns and a trench mortar.’ He was mentioned in the dispatches of General Haig in May 1917. In March 1918 he personally organised and led a raid on the German trenches in which he was mortally wounded.

He died of his wounds age 25 on 11th March 1918 at Montsecour, France.

(Businessman, Councillor, Provost of Govan)

John Marr headstone

John Marr was born on 7th June 1835 in Mauchline, Ayrshire to handloom weaver Mungo Marr and Helen McAlpine. He was educated locally and moved to Glasgow in 1852 aged 17 where he found employment with William McLaren & Sons, manufacturers and warehousemen, 63 Candleriggs, Glasgow. He returned to Ayrshire after failing to settle in Glasgow and found a position as a
reporter with the Ayrshire Express newspaper. In 1872 he returned to Glasgow and found employment as a clerk with his cousin Hamilton Marr of Hamilton Marr & Co., wrights and builders, Govan Saw Mills, Robert Street, Govan while taking up residence at 12 Helen Street, Govan.

In 1876 he went into business for himself as a property valuator, house factor and insurance agent with premises at 41 Helen Street. In 1885 he was elected to serve as councilor for the 2nd ward of Govan – a position he held for almost twenty years. He took a deep interest in all important burgh improvements and was prominent in everything affecting the well-being of the burgh. He served as provost of the Burgh of Govan from 1901-04 and in recognition of his services his bust, along with his predecessor as Provost James Kirkwood (1848-1922), adorns the front of Govan Town Hall which was built between 1897 and 1901 and was designed by Thomson & Sandilands.

John Marr died aged 81 on 17th July 1916 at Dunjarg Villa, Paisley Road West, Glasgow.

19. James Kirkwood (1848-1922)
(Businessman, Provost of Govan, Deacon Convenor of Glasgow Trades House.)

James Kirkwood was born in Ayrshire in 1848 to merchant John Kirkwood and Janet Wilson Kirkwood. After he finished his education he moved to Glasgow to train as a clerk and by 1870 he was living at 244 Buchanan Street and working in the stockbroker’s office of Robert Strang, 83 St George’s Place, Glasgow. In 1872 he went into partnership with Robert Strang as Strang & Kirkwood. The next year they moved offices to 7 Royal Bank Place, Glasgow. On 1st September 1874 the partnership was dissolved by the retirement of Robert Strang and James Kirkwood continued to practice on his own. In 1896 his sons James and John became partners and the firm became known as James Kirkwood & Sons, stock and share brokers, 62 Buchanan Street, Glasgow. He was elected as Provost of Govan in November 1892 and re-elected in November 1898. During his time as provost he tried to advance his liberal beliefs and ideas and his tenure is remembered for the building of Govan Police Station, Govan Town Hall and the Public Baths and when Govan amalgamated with Glasgow in 1912 he became a member of Glasgow Town Council.

He held high office in the Masonic Institutions of Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire and was a council member of the Royal Glasgow Institute of Fine Arts and from 1905-06 Deacon Convener of the Glasgow Trades House as well as being a former Deacon of the Institute of Coopers. He was an elder of Bellahouston Established Church and joint founder and president of Bellahouston Tennis Club and vice president of Bellahouston Bowling Club. He died at Cluny Gardens, Edinburgh on 8th February 1922 aged 74.

20. Daniel Miller (1825-1888)
(Civil Engineer with an international reputation. Inventor, Responsible for the Great Western Road Bridge and the Albert Bridge in Glasgow.)

Daniel Miller was born on 9th January 1825 in Glasgow to coppersmith and brassfounder Stephen Miller and Isabella Paul. He was a civil engineer by trade and served his apprenticeship under Lewis Dunbar Brodie Gordon and Laurence Hill. It was while serving his apprenticeship with Gordon & Hill that he met Robert Bruce Bell (c1823-1883) with whom he entered into partnership in 1850 to form Miller & Bell, civil and mechanical engineers, 32 St Vincent Place, Glasgow.

The first major work undertaken by the firm was for a slip dock for Robert Black (1792-1879) of Kelvinhaugh which included the use of hydraulic purchase machinery invented and patented by Daniel Miller in 1849. Other work soon followed in Williamstown, Melbourne, Cronstadt, Alexandria and Riga. They designed and laid out the first graving dock in Glasgow for Tod & Macgregor at Meadowside Shipyard, Partick. Bell & Miller were the engineers for Greenock Harbour Trust where they built the Albert Dock, the Esplanade and Prince’s Pier. They were also the engineers for the Clyde Navigation Trust for whom they designed the Govan Graving Dock No.1.

The company were engineers for the Glasgow Bridges Trust and also designed the Great Western Road Bridge and the Albert Bridge. Daniel Miller died aged 62 on 28th September 1888 at Craigburn, Albert Road, Gourock.
21. Thomas Cochrane Guthrie (1849-1899)
(Businessman, Baillie, Member of Clyde Trust, Served on Executive Committee of the Kelvingrove Exhibition of 1901)

Thomas Cochrane Guthrie was born at Thornhill, Dumfriesshire on 26th August 1849 to railway clerk Charles Guthrie and Margaret Cochrane. He came to Glasgow as a youth and found employment as a clerk with Macdonald, Hood, & Co., ship and insurance brokers, 62 Buchanan Street and 2 West Quay, Greenock.

The company began in 1864 as MacDonald, Dhanis & Hood but when Joseph Dhanis departed in 1867 the two remaining partners continued as MacDonald, Hood & Co. Patrick Robertson MacDonald died on 23rd October 1869 leaving A.B Hood as the sole surviving partner. Thomas Cochrane Guthrie became a partner in 1886 with the Times on the 5th January 1886 reporting that the company would in future be known as Guthrie, MacDonald, Hood & Co with his brother Robert Angus Guthrie also joining the company.

Thomas Cochrane Guthrie had a keen interest in local politics and in 1884 he became a member of the Govan Police Commission and became the first convener of the Elder Park Committee. In 1886 he was elected as one of the ratepayers’ representative’s to the Clyde Trust, a position he had to resign from when elected to the town council the following year. His interest in the work of the Clyde Trust never wavered and he became convener of the Committee on Ferries and Harbour Steamers. He became a Baillie in 1891 and in 1896 he was again elected to the town council to represent the new ward of Broomielaw. From 1891 to 1895 he was a city magistrate and in 1898 he was elected to the honorary office of the Master of Works and was sub-convener of the Water Committee.

Guthrie became a Justice of the Peace in 1894 and was active member of the Executive Committee of the Glasgow International Exhibition Committee 1901. He was a former chairman of the Clyde Sailing Shipowners’ Association – he had his own sailing ship built by Robert Duncan & Co, in 1883 – and represented the West of Scotland on Lloyd’s Committee. He was a patron of Hutcheson’s Hospital. He had always suffered from poor health and had travelled to both India and Australia in pursuit of health. He died aged 49 on 16th April 1899 at Altair, Bellahouston Villas, Govan.

22. John Lye (c1827-1889)
(Businessman, Co-Founder of Copeland and Lye chain of department stores)

John Lye was born in c1827 to draper Robert Lye and Mary Lye. He followed his father into the drapery trade and in 1873 he co-founded the well-known department store of Copland & Lye with William Copland at Caledonian House, 110-112 Cowcaddens Street, Glasgow.

In 1878 they moved to a large Italianate building designed by Glasgow architect James Boucher (1826-1906) at 165 and 167 Sauchiehall Street and in 1888 the store expanded when the architectural partnership of Bruce & Hay designed the Bath Street section. Caledonian House was famous for its numerous departments that sold a wide range of clothing and for its Christmas fancy fairs and bazaars.

In the second decade of the 20th century architect Launcelot Hugh Ross (1885-1956) was commissioned to design a café and restaurant. William Copland died in 1883 and John Lye became the sole partner in the company. He was a man of great energy and tact and in 1888 became a director of the Scottish Alliance Insurance Company Ltd. John Lye died after a short illness on 27th August 1889 at his home Hawkhead House, Paisley.
23. Lady Ure Primrose (1869-1913)
(Philanthropist, Benefactor of the Poor)

Lady Ure Primrose was born Joanna Wylie on 10th May 1869 at 3 Tulliallan Place, Paisley Road, Glasgow to commercial traveller Alexander Spence Wylie and Helen Laing McLennan. She married town councillor John Ure Primrose (1847-1924) on 21st December 1897 at the Cockburn Hotel, Bath Street, Glasgow.

In 1902 her husband became Lord Provost of Glasgow and in May of 1903 she welcomed King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra to Glasgow. It was on this visit that her husband was created a Baronet. As the wife of the Lord Provost she undertook many official engagements and was associated with many charities and benevolent causes in particular that of the Samaritan Hospital Bazaar and alongside the Duchess of Montrose the Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Families Association. She was the first president of the Ladies’ Auxiliary of the Bellefield Sanatorium and a staunch supporter and worker on behalf of the Scottish Children’s League of Pity.

Some other good causes that she was associated with were the Elder Cottage Hospital and Nurses Training Home in Govan, the Crookston Home for Children, the Day Nurseries, the Union of Women Workers and the Scotch Girls’ Friendly Society. Lady Ure Primrose died on 13th May 1913 aged 44 at Redholme, Dumbreck. In 1914 a drinking fountain made by J & G Mossman was erected to her memory in Bellahouston Park, Glasgow.

(Lawyer, historian, Town Clerk in both Edinburgh and Glasgow.)

Robert Renwick was born on 4th March 1841 at Torbank, Peeblesshire to dairyman Robert Renwick and Janet Alexander. He was educated at the local school in Peebles and began his apprenticeship as a writer with Stuart & Blackwood, writers of Peebles. In 1865 he was introduced to James David Marwick (1826-1908), town clerk of Edinburgh who offered him a position in the town clerk’s office. It would be the beginning of a working relationship that would last for almost forty years.

In 1873 James Marwick became town clerk of Glasgow and was accompanied by Robert Renwick who took charge of the city’s conveyancing department and city monuments. In 1874 Renwick
graduated a Notary Public from Edinburgh University. James Marwick had begun his historical researches while in Edinburgh and after the formation of the Scottish Burgh Records Society in 1868 he was ably assisted by Robert Renwick.

In 1876 Marwick, as editor, paid tribute to the assistance of Robert Renwick in his preface to *Extracts from the Records of the Burgh of Glasgow, A.D. 1573-1642*. Further volumes would be published with Renwick making up transcripts, collating proofsheets and preparing indexes for Marwick whose name stood alone as editor on the title page. It wouldn't be until 1906 that Robert Renwick's name stood alongside that of Marwick's on the title page. Robert Renwick was the author of many books on his native Peebles and in 1897 the town council of Peebles awarded him the freedom of the burgh.

In 1915 he was awarded an honorary doctorate from Glasgow University in recognition of his services to historical research in Scotland. Robert Renwick died aged 78 on 11th January 1920 at 104 Queen's Drive, Glasgow.

25. John McPherson (1868-1926)
(Scottish International Footballer, played with Kilmarnock and Rangers. Director of Rangers Football Club)

John McPherson was born on 19th June 1868 at 51 Grange Street, Kilmarnock to blacksmith James McPherson and Christina Adam. He was a time served engine fitter who became one of the first superstars of Scottish football. He started his career with hometown club Kilmarnock, where he won his first international cap for Scotland, before moving to Cowfairs in 1888 where he won a further two international caps.

He signed for Rangers in 1890 and made his first appearance in a friendly match against Everton on 19th April 1890. He played in Rangers' first ever league match against Hearts on 16th August 1890 and scored the first ever hat trick in the Scottish Football League in a victory over Cambuslang on 23rd August 1890. He scored fifteen goals in the inaugural Scottish League season as Rangers finished joint champions with Dumbarton. John McPherson's favourite position was as an inside forward but he was an accomplished player who could play in any position, even in goal. During his career at Rangers John Kitey McPherson played in 218 matches and scored 121 goals, winning five league championships and three Scottish Cups. He scored six times in nine international appearances for Scotland.

John McPherson maintained a close relationship with Rangers and became a director of the club in 1907. It was a position he would retain until his untimely death from a heart attack while watching the Clyde Sports event at Shawfield Stadium on 31st July 1926 aged 58.

(Renowned Ship and Ferry Designer. Provost of Renfrew)

Andrew Brown was born in October 1825 in the Gorbals to quarry master William Brown and Janet Doig. In 1839 aged 14 he became an apprentice mechanical engineer with John Neilson, engineer and iron boat builder, Oakbank Foundry, Cowcaddens. In 1844 aged 19 he became assistant mechanical draughtsman and foreman patternmaker to William Craig & Co., machine makers, engineers, and founders, Govan Street, Gorbals. In 1846 he found employment with Tod & McGregor, engineers and shipbuilders, Clyde Foundry, Anderston Quay and Meadowside building yard, Partick.

He gained valuable experience with Tod & McGregor designing engines for steamship companies but in 1848 he joined the Caledonian Railway Co., where he gained experience in locomotive work. In 1850 he was appointed engineering manager at A & J Inglis, engineers and boiler-makers, Whitehall Foundry, 60 Warroch Street, Glasgow. He remained at A & J Inglis for ten years where he was responsible for the design and completion of a large number of marine engines of various types. In 1850-51 he designed the arrangements used in the steam tug *Clyde* which consisted of a pair of disconnected, independent engines driving the paddles allowing each engine to work independently of each other and in opposite directions.

In 1860 he went into partnership with William Simons of William Simons & Co., engineers, founders and shipbuilders, Clyde Foundry, Anderston Quay and Meadowside building yard, Partick.
he built the first passenger and vehicular steam ferry to cross the Clyde at Govan but more notably his design and construction of the four-screw, double-ended, elevating deck ferry steamers were a prominent feature of Glasgow's cross river transport and communication for many years. In 1880 William Simons retired from business and Andrew Brown enlisted his sons William and Walter as partners.

Andrew Brown was actively involved in the public affairs of Renfrew serving the Town Council of the Royal Burgh for thirty five years which included fifteen years as Provost. In 1907 in recognition of his distinguished position in engineering and shipbuilding and his service to the Burgh of Renfrew the Town Council conferred upon him the freedom of the burgh. Andrew Brown died age 81 on 7th May 1907 at Castlehill, Renfrew.

Andrew Brown was a member of the 3rd Lanarkshire Rifle Volunteers and was promoted through the ranks from sub-lieutenant to captain 10th March 1875 to major on 7th January 1885. Andrew Hillcoat died suddenly on the 29th December 1888 while on a visit to Liverpool. He was given a military funeral with 500 men from the Lanarkshire Volunteer regiments accompanying his funeral cortege from his home at 49 Prince's Square, Strathbungo, his helmet and sword were placed on the coffin and his horse with his riding boots reversed in the stirrups was led behind, to Craigton Cemetery where a party of 120 riflemen fired 3 volleys over his grave.

27. Major Andrew Hillcoat (1849-1888)
(Businessman and soldier)

Andrew Hillcoat was born at 34 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow on 14th July 1849 to spirit dealer Robert Hillcoat and Jean Martin. Robert Hillcoat (1819-1875) was a well-known Glasgow Licensee who in 1844 opened premises at 34 Port Dundas Road and at the time of his death on 15th November 1875 had public houses at 29 & 31 Stockwell Street, 1 New Wynd, 62 Parliamentary Road, 26 Broomielaw and 1 Regent Place and a wholesale wine and spirit outlet at 39 Stockwell Street. In 1874 Andrew Hillcoat became an agent for his father's wholesale wine and spirit store at 39 Stockwell Street and when his father died in 1875 he was joined by his brother William, who was an agent for the Burton Brewery Co. Ltd, Burton-on-Trent, the business then became Robert Hillcoat & Sons.

Andrew Hillcoat was a member of the 3rd Lanarkshire Rifle Volunteers and was promoted through the ranks from sub-lieutenant to captain 10th March 1875 to major on 7th January 1885. Andrew Hillcoat died suddenly on the 29th December 1888 while on a visit to Liverpool. He was given a military funeral with 500 men from the Lanarkshire Volunteer regiments accompanying his funeral cortege from his home at 49 Prince's Square, Strathbungo, his helmet and sword were placed on the coffin and his horse with his riding boots reversed in the stirrups was led behind, to Craigton Cemetery where a party of 120 riflemen fired 3 volleys over his grave.

28. Rev George Gladstone (1843-1910)
(Minister, Govan School Board and the Missions.)

The Reverend George Gladstone was born in 1843 in the borders village of Yetholm to writer Archibald Gladstone and Christian Scott. He attended Edinburgh University and studied for the Ministry at the Evangelical Union Theological Hall. He was ordained in 1865 aged twenty two and was inducted to Sanquhar Evangelical Union Church where he remained until 1871 before accepting a call to minister at Govan. At Govan he became interested in education and served as a member on the first Govan School Board.

One of his colleagues on the board was shipbuilder Alexander Stephen (1832-1899). He remained at Govan until the middle of 1876 when he accepted a call from Dundas Street Church, Glasgow to become colleague and successor to Principal James Morison (1816-1893), the founder of the Evangelical Union. He was married to Principal Morison's only daughter Marjory Shirreff on 13th October 1869 at the home of Principal Morison, Florentine Bank House, Hillhead. George Gladstone became sole pastor of Dundas Street congregation when Principal Morison announced his retirement on 8th January 1884. In 1874 he was elected
president of the Evangelical Union and was secretary when it amalgamated with the Congregationalists in 1897.

He was a past chairman and director of the National Bible Society of Scotland and chairman of the London Missionary Society in 1906. He was also the chairman of directors of the Scottish Temperance League from 1895 till his death on 16th May 1910 at his home St Marnock’s, 38 Newark Drive, Pollokshields. He was a frequent contributor to various church magazines and journals and was the author of a well-respected book entitled ‘Problems of Christianity’.

29. Dr Robert Cleghorn (1755-1821)
(Surgeon and Lecturer, memorial stone by ‘Greek’ Thomson)

Dr Robert Cleghorn

Robert Cleghorn was born c1755 and graduated from Edinburgh University in 1783. In 1786 he became a member of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow and was also appointed physician to the Town Hospital. The period 1788-1791 saw him become president of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons and later its librarian and also lecturer in Materia Medica at Glasgow University. From 1791-1818 he lectured in Chemistry at Glasgow University and became one of the first two visiting physicians at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary and was subsequently one of the first men elected to the Royal Infirmary’s Board of Management.

In 1790 he was elected to the post of secretary of the newly founded Glasgow Humane Society serving alongside his friend David Dale (1739-1806). He was appointed as the first physician to the Glasgow Asylum for Lunatics when it opened at Parliamentary Road in 1814, a post he held until 1819. Robert Cleghorn had a reputation as an inspirational lecturer and skilful physician and published many articles on various medical subjects in a variety of medical journals. He also wrote memoirs of his medical contemporaries.

In 1787 he was residing in Spreull’s Land on the north side of Trongate and then at lodgings at 18 College Street. In 1800, he purchased a part of the estate of Shawfield, near Rutherglen, on which he built Shawfield House. Robert Cleghorn died age 66 on 19th June 1821 at Shawfield House and was originally interred in Blackfriars Churchyard on High Street but in 1875 the land was sold to Glasgow and South Western Railway Company and the remains of individuals and families were re-interred at Craigton Cemetery and the Necropolis.

A permanent memorial of Dr. Cleghorn exists in the form of a portrait by Sir Henry Raeburn. George G. Thomson of Cleghorn Villa, Pollokshields commissioned A & G Thomson and Turnbull to design a monument for the remains of his family re-interred from the Blackfriars Churchyard. It was executed by J. & G. Mossman.

30. William Crichton (1792-1872)
(Commander Royal Navy, Shotts Iron Company, Superintendent of the Forth and Clyde Navigation Co)

William Crichton was born on 4th March 1792 at Gayfield House, Leith Walk, Edinburgh to coach maker Alexander Crichton (1721-1808) of Newington and Elizabeth Wood of Woodhouselee. His brother was Sir Alexander Crichton (1763-1856) physician to Czar Alexander I (1777-1825). On 8th March 1805, aged just 13, he joined the Royal Navy serving on-board the ships Immortalite and Clyde, which came into constant contact with the French Naval Fleet until May 1807. From May 1807 onwards he served on-board the Malabar and Camel in South America and the Cape of Good Hope. In 1808 he rejoined the Clyde and on 3rd September 1808 he was promoted to Midshipman.

In 1809 he returned to the Cape of Good Hope on-board the Clorinde serving alternately on-board the Nereide, Charwell, Sapphire, Phoebe, Minerva and Boadicea. On 21st March 1812 after serving on-board the Laurestinus in South America he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. On 19th May 1813 he was appointed to the Creole off the coast of Africa where on the 23rd January 1814 he saw action against the French ship Sultane. The battle saw ten British sailors killed and twenty six wounded while the French losses were twenty killed and thirty wounded. On 14th November 1814 he transferred to the Merlai in North America where he remained until retiring from the Navy on half pay in January 1817.
In 1821 he became an agent for the London, Leith, Edinburgh and Glasgow Shipping Co., with an office at 28 Queen Street, Glasgow. In 1837 he moved office to 17 Virginia Street while resident at 69 Sauchiehall Street. In 1844 he became superintendent of the Forth and Clyde Navigation, Canal House, Port-Dundas, Glasgow. He retired from the Forth and Clyde Navigation in March 1853 and began to take an active part in the management of the Shotts Iron Company of which he had long been connected serving as chairman of the Board of Directors until his death. He was a director of the National Bible Society, the Glasgow Boys House of Refuge and boys and girls reformatory.

He was treasurer of the Association of Jewish Females, the Ladies Association for the Religious Improvement of the Remote Highlands and Islands to which he gave a large proportion of his income. In 1854 the Royal Navy appointed him to the rank of Commander. William Crichton died aged 79 on 12th January 1872 at 17 India Street, Glasgow.

Robert Jeffrey was born on 4th March 1827 at West Preston Street, Edinburgh to manufacturer Robert Jeffrey and Margaret (Agnes) Jack. In 1832 his father moved the family to Glasgow and set up his manufacturing business at 37 St Andrew Street while resident at 16 St Andrew's Square. In 1837 his father's stripe, check and linen manufacturing business was still at 37 St Andrew Street but the family home had moved to 49 St Andrew's Square. According to the Post office Directories for this period the family moved house several times around St Andrew's Square but by 1841 the family had settled at Wyndford near Maryhill.

In 1845 his father's business moved premises to 110 Brunswick Street and by 1847 had opened a branch of his cotton and linen power-loom manufacturing business in Rose Street, Kircaldy. Robert Jeffrey Jnr brought up and educated in Glasgow joined the family business and in 1848 was working out of 110 Brunswick Street. The next year (1849) works were erected next to the family home at Wyndford. In 1858 he married Margaret Reid of Govan and the next year his business had moved to 118 Brunswick Street and the newly married couple were resident at 17 Buckingham Terrace, Great Western Road, Glasgow and in 1861 moved to 224 Great Western Road.

In 1865 Robert Jeffrey & Sons opened works at Balfron but Robert Jnr retired from the business three years later in 1868. He began travelling across Europe and visited America but his retirement fed another interest – that of bibliomania – and he began to build up an extensive library. He purchased books that were 'Works of permanent value, in the best editions, and handsomely and appropriately bound.' Francis Thornton Barrett, first librarian of the Mitchell Library, helped Robert Jeffrey in the selection of books for his private library and said that the collection grew out of Jeffrey's own interests. Robert Jeffrey died age 75 on the 18th August 1902 at Cosslee House, Crosslee, Renfrewshire.

He bequeathed his entire library including the book cases to Glasgow Town Council for the Mitchell Library. His one request was that it be housed in its own accommodation and kept separate from other collections and it is called the Jeffrey Reference Library.

Thomas Reid was born on the 25th May 1831 in Govan to drysalter Alexander Reid and Mary Veitch. He began his career as an accountant training in the offices of McEwan & Auld, accountants and stockbrokers, 28 St Vincent Place, Glasgow. In 1848 aged 17 he joined his father's Turkey-red dyeing business, Alexander Reid & Sons, situated at Govan and which was founded on the banks of the Clyde in 1829.

In 1864 he became a partner along with his youngest brother James and when their father Alexander died in 1873 they continued to run the business. In 1879 the brothers renounced their lease at Govan due in part to the increasingly polluted state of the Clyde which made its waters unsuitable for dyeing and scouring. They took over the works of Alexander Ross & Sons at Burnbrae, Milingavie. Thomas Reid consolidated his link with the county by purchasing the estate and mansion house of Kilmardinny, New Kilpatrick formerly occupied by Robert Dalgleish M.P. (1808-1880) of calico printers Robert Dalgleish, Falconer & Co.
In 1884 he became chairman of Nobel Explosives Co. Ltd, and in 1886 became chairman of the Nobel Dynamite Trust Co. Ltd, the first company of its kind to be formed in the Britain. In 1894 he became actively involved with the Steel Company of Scotland founded in 1871 by Sir Charles Tennant (1823-1906) and a consortium of businessmen from the chemical and engineering industries. Thomas Reid also had substantial shipping and shipbuilding interests in Govan. He was active in local government in Govan until his move to Kilmardinny, New Kilpatrick in 1880.

He was appointed Commissioner of Govan in 1864 and was elected as Provost 1869-1872. Following his move to Dumbarton he served as Provost of that county and for the County and City of Glasgow. He was also involved in his trade incorporation serving as a Deacon of the Incorporation of Dyers in 1867. He was appointed as collector of the Trade Houses in 1878-79 and Deacon Convenor in 1881. He clearly moved in influential circles and was on the periphery of the charmed circle of businessmen who surrounded Charles Tennant and was also in contact with the generous Lord Overtoun (1843-1908).

His position in the Nobel Dynamite Trust brought him into contact with some of Europe’s leading businessmen and as a Turkey-red dyer he had mixed with some of the wealthiest textile magnates of the day. He was also chairman of the London and Glasgow Engineering Co., and the Glasgow Cotton Spinning Co., and director of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., the Birmingham Metal and Munitions Co., and the Steel Company of Scotland. Thomas Reid died aged 69 on 5th July 1900 at Kilmardinny, New Kilpatrick. Following a funeral service at his Kilmardinny home Thomas Reid was buried at the Craigton Cemetery, a company in which he was a substantial shareholder.

Alexander Smith was the son of engineer Alexander Smith (1817-1891) and Margaret Peacock. He was a senior partner in the engineering company A & W Smith & Co., Eglinton Engine Works, Cook Street, Glasgow. The company was founded by his father Alexander and his uncle William in 1837 in their home town of Paisley where they advertised themselves as millrights and machine engineers.

In 1856 the brothers moved to Glasgow and founded the Eglinton Engine Works where they specialised in the manufacture of sugar machinery. By 1869 they had graduated to the manufacture of railway wagons and weighbridges and produced their first tank locomotive for Robson Maynard and Co, coalmasters, Middlesborough. Alexander Smith was the first Captain and founding member of Bearsden Golf Club. He served as honorary president until his death on 7th December 1893 at his home The Hewan, Bearsden.

Alexander Smith died two years to the day his father died. His father who is interred alongside him was born on 12th March 1817 and died aged 75 on 7th December 1891 at Auchentcroig, Buchlyvie. He was well known in engineering circles and was a Justice of the Peace for Argyllshire. He was also a director of the Craigton Cemetery Company.

Thomas Robertson Morris was the former Harbour Master of Glasgow having taken up the position on 4th June 1912. He born on 15th December 1859 at 77 King Street, Glasgow to coachman John Matthew Morris and Agnes Robertson and after being educated locally he decided on a nautical career on board the City of Lucknow which was engaged in the India trade. He progressed through the ranks to become chief officer on board the Jason and was in the middle of the sea close to the island of Krakatoa when that island blew itself apart in 1883 engulfing almost 30,000 people.
He eventually returned to Glasgow and in 1894 secured the position of Pilot Master of the City becoming Assistant Harbour Master in 1901. In 1912 he was appointed Harbour Master, a position he held until his retirement in 1930. He was awarded the O.B.E. on the 4th June 1918. Thomas Robertson Morris died age 72 on 24th October 1932 at 60 Mitre Road, Glasgow.

Under the Rev William Sprott’s charge Queen’s Park Church became the largest congregation on the south side but by 1875 rumours were rife that he was about to replace Dr John McFarlane of Clapham Road, London who had died on 7th February 1875 and it was to this end that he had supposedly travelled to London in March 1875. On his return home on 12th March 1875 the Rev William Sprott was involved in a train crash at Bedford when John Perkins, the driver of the 7:15 London and North Western Railway passenger train failed to spot the danger signals at Bedford level crossing and collided with a Midland passenger train coming from Hitchin. The driver of the other train was prevented from seeing the London and North Western train by a nearby railway bridge and crashed into two of its carriages smashing them to smithereens.

The Rev Sprott was rushed to Bedford Infirmary suffering from shock and wounds to his head, his face and an injury to his back. He never regained consciousness and died at 8 am the next morning, he was aged 48. His body was returned by train and taken to Queen’s Park Church where it remained until his burial in Craigton Cemetery on 18th March 1875. At the official inquest into the accident the driver John Perkins was found guilty of manslaughter but an appeal for mercy was granted and he was convicted to serve one day’s imprisonment and a fine of £20. In 1876 the congregation of Queen’s Park Church erected a memorial to Rev Sprott at a cost of £251. It was designed by A & G Thomson & Turnbull and executed by J & G Mossman.

Sir Thomas Mason was born on 16th October 1844 at Airdrie to builder John Mason and Marion Hamilton. He was educated at Anderson’s University, Glasgow and became an apprentice mason starting as a journeyman mason at age 17 in Edinburgh where he was mainly involved with railway works as both mason and sub-contractor. In 1867 he was employed by contractor James Brand as foreman mason in charge of the construction of Ayr Viaduct for the Glasgow and South Western Railway.

He spent the next five years in charge of Brand’s tramway contracts which included the first let by Glasgow Corporation in
1870. In 1875 he left Brand to manage his first major contract for the No.1 dock at Stobcross Docks (Queen’s docks) in Glasgow. In 1876 having gained experience and some financial security he joined the firm of John Morrison (1836-1919) & Co., as a junior partner. In 1879 the company name was changed to that of Morrison & Mason and ten years later it became a public limited company with both partners holding the majority shareholding. In the 1880s the company took on railway work and were responsible for building the Cathcart Circle (1884-86), the Paisley Canal branch line of the Glasgow and South Western Railway and the Citadel Station at Carlisle. They also branched out into waterworks building the Craigmaddie Reservoir and tunnels for Glasgow Waterworks and the Thirlmere Reservoir for Manchester Corporation, working alongside fellow shareholder William Arrol (1839–1913) on Thirlmere’s 26 mile stretch of aqueducts. They also successfully tendered for public buildings contracts such as Clyde Navigation Trust (1883-86) and Glasgow City Chambers (1883-88). In the 1890’s they began to build bridges such as the Great Western Bridge (1890), the Glasgow Bridge (1895) and the Rutherglen Bridge (1896). Morrison & Mason Ltd grew to become one of the most successful contracting businesses in Scotland.

Sir Thomas Mason gave much of his time to public service and in 1889 was elected Deacon Convener of the Trades’ House and in 1891 was elected to serve on Glasgow Town Council. He was the first to represent both the Trades’ House and Merchants’ House on the town council. He became chairman of the Clyde Navigation Trust in 1908 and chairman of the Glasgow Liberal Club in 1909. That same year he was knighted for his commitment to public service. He was the owner of a small stable of race horses but also found time for charitable work. He was president of the Incorporated Glasgow Old Men’s Friend Society and Old Women’s Home to which he left a bequest of £500. Sir Thomas Mason died aged 79 at Craigie Hall, 6 Rowan Road, Dumbreck on 26th April 1924.

Richard Barnwell was born in Canterbury on 13th October 1849 to wholesale provision merchant Richard Barnwell and Sarah Anne Barnwell. He underwent his early commercial training with the Union Bank of London Ltd and joined John Elder & Co., Fairfield Works, Govan in 1880 which by that time was under the control of Sir William Pearce (1833-1888).

Richard Barnwell was a partner in 1885 and was appointed managing director when it became Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Co. Ltd in 1886. In addition to his position at Fairfields he was chairman of the Herne Bay Pier Co., managing partner of the Northern Pacific Steam Ship Co., director of the Isle of Man Steam Packet Co., director of the Liverpool and North Wales Steam Ship Co., director of the Scottish Oriental Steam Ship Co., and a member of the local board of the Royal Insurance Co.

Richard Barnwell died on the 7th March 1898 at his home Elcho House, Balfron, he was aged 48.

James Whitton was born at The Gardens, Methven Castle, Perthshire where his father Peter Whitton had been head gardener for 50 years. He began his training in 1865 at Thirlestane Castle, Lauder and was afterwards employed as foreman for 6 years by the Earl of Strathmore at Glamis Castle. He left in 1876 to become head gardener for James Houldsworth of Coltness, Wishaw where his father Peter Whitton had been head gardener for 50 years. He began his training in 1865 at Thirlestane Castle, Lauder and was afterwards employed as foreman for 6 years by the Earl of Strathmore at Glamis Castle. He left in 1876 to become head gardener for James Houldsworth of Coltness, Wishaw where he spent 11 years until in 1887 he returned to Glamis Castle as head gardener. He was appointed superintendent of Glasgow Parks on 2nd February 1893.

He was responsible for the laying out of new parks on the recently acquired ground of Maryhill 5½ acres, Ruchill 53 acres, Camphill 58 acres, Richmond 44 acres and Tollcross 84 acres and of restoring Glasgow Green and Kelvingrove Park after railway
excavations and returning the grounds of Kelvingrove to their original order after the Exhibition of 1901. He provided annual meteorological reports to the Natural History Society of Glasgow upon his observations of the previous year’s weather and its effects upon vegetation and gardening outdoors. It was as a result of his observations that led him to developing the display of gardening under glass with a conservatory and hothouse constructed at Camphill in 1895.

The success of this project led to further glass houses being erected with the winter garden at the People’s Palace on Glasgow Green being officially opened by Lord Roseberry in 1898. This was followed by the construction of glass houses at Tollcross and Springburn the latter gifted by a donation of £10,000 from the Reid family of Hydepark Locomotive Works. In 1901 James Whitton undertook the management of the Botanic Garden which includes the oldest conservatories in the city and the famous Kibble Palace which meant by the turn of the century he was responsible for the management of 31 public parks covering 1536 acres and numerous playgrounds, golf courses and open spaces.

In 1912 the Royal Horticultural Society awarded him the Victoria Medal of Honour in Horticulture. He acted as judge at many floral exhibitions and was recognised both at home and on the continent as an authority on horticulture. He was a former vice-president of the Royal Scottish Arboricultural Society, a position from which he retired in 1924. James Whitton retired from his post of superintendent of Glasgow Parks in May 1923 at the age of 72 and passed away at his home Bellahouston House, Ibrox on 30th October 1925 aged 74.

38b. Captain Peter Isles Whitton (1877-1915)
(Civil Engineer, Captain in the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), died at Gallipoli.)

Interred alongside James Whitton is his only son Captain Peter Isles Whitton (1877-1915) of 7th Battalion Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) who was killed in action on 28th June 1915 near Krithia, Gallipoli during the Dardanelles Campaign.

He had been associated with the Volunteer and Territorial Regiments prior to the outbreak of hostilities having joined the 3rd Lanarkshire Rifles. In civilian life he was a civil engineer and was married to Margaret Forrest and lived at 27 Lochlea Road, Newlands. A monument to the beloved Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) stands proudly in Kelvingrove Park.

39. Francis John Charles Lilley (1883-1939)
(Founder of Lilley Construction Company)

Francis John Charles Lilley was born c1883 to bricklayer Patrick Lilley and Ellen Thatcher. He was the founder of F J C Lilley, public works contractors, who first appear in the Post Office Directory for 1920-21. His premises where at 548 Govan Road and he was residing at 8 West Ibrox Terrace. In 1924 his company moved premises to 271, 273 Broomloan Road, Govan and in 1926 he moved his family residence to 2 Bellahouston Terrace. Frank Lilley died aged 55 on 3rd February 1939 at 16 Larch Road, Dumbreck.

40. Robert Murray Laird (1938-1972)
(Soldier, United States Army, died in the Vietnam War)

Robert Murray Laird was born on 12th April 1938 and was a Sergeant in the United States Army attached to the MACV Advisory Unit, team 15, in the Quang Nam province of South Vietnam, a tour of duty which had begun on 2nd May 1971. On 13th February 1972 he was a passenger on board U.S. Army helicopter UH-1H tail number 67-17524 stationed in Da Nang, South Vietnam when it flew into ground fog. The pilot attempted a 180 degree left turn fifty feet above the surface of the sea but impacted with the water before the turn was fully completed. Robert Murray Laird and three others lost their lives as a result of the pilot not following proper procedures. In official US military records Robert Murray Laird’s home is given as Kings, New York but in 1963 he married Beatrice Marjory Thomson in Tradeston, Glasgow and was probably interred in the family lair at her request.

41a. John Leiper Gemmill (1857-1934)
(Lawyer, Burns Historian and Church of Scotland Elder)

John Leiper Gemmill was born on 11th February 1857 at Muirside, Ayrshire to farmer Cuthbert Gemmill and Jean Leiper. His early life was spent on a farm in the vicinity of Mossgill close to Mossgill Farm, which Robert Burns rented from his friend Gavin Hamilton in March 1784, which instilled in him a love of Robert Burns which remained with him throughout his life. He was educated at Mauchline Public School and Kilmarnock Academy and Glasgow
University where he studied Law. In 1884 he started business as a partner in Mair, Gemmill & Hislop, writers, 162 St Vincent Street, Glasgow which in 1893 became Brown, Mair, Gemmill & Hislop. He founded the Glasgow Mauchline Society under whose auspices in 1896 the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes were erected on a site between Hillhead, his father’s farm and Mossgiel.

The building of the National Burns Memorial was begun in 1896 with John Leiper Gemmill cutting the first sod of turf and also presiding at the laying of the foundation stone on 24th July 1896. John Leiper Gemmill was for many years a director of the Glasgow Ayrshire Society and was elected president in 1905. He was also president of the Glasgow Kilmarnock Benevolent Society. He was an elder for almost forty years at Bellahouston Parish Church and as a member of the kirk session he represented the congregation at the Glasgow Presbytery and the General Assembly for thirty five years. He gave much of his time to the Assembly and Administrative Committees of the Church of Scotland and was secretary of the Glasgow Churches Extension Association for many years. John Leiper Gemmill died age 77 on 22nd November 1934 at Parklea, 16 Dargarvel Avenue, Dumbreck.

41b. Lieutenant John Adshead Gemmill (1890-1916)
(Soldier of the 16th Battalion Highland Light Infantry)

Interred alongside John Leiper Gemmill is his son 2nd Lieutenant John Adshead Gemmill of the 16th Battalion Highland Light Infantry. John Adshead Gemmill was born on 21st September 1890 at 247 Bath Street, Glasgow. He joined the 16th Battalion Highland Light Infantry and was wounded in September 1914 and again by a shell fragment in January 1916 but sadly lost his life gallantly leading his men into action at the Battle of Theipval on 1st July 1916 during the first great drive on the Somme.

On 5th July 1916 John Leiper Gemmill received a letter from his son’s commanding officer saying: Dear Mr. Gemmill, We have come through very hard fighting in what the French call the Battle of Picardie. I fancy it will be known by the same name, although sometimes I hear it referred to as the Battle of the Somme. Our Battalion had assigned to it a most important role in the leading attack and naturally suffered a good deal, as we were up against Germany’s best troops. Your boy, Second Lieut. John A. Gemmill, was last seen urging on his platoon when those in front had fallen. It was a situation which might have unnerved any one as the fire was terrific, but with one hand in his trouser pocket and with a switch in the other, he was seen urging on his men to close with the enemy. His last words, I understand, were: 'Come on the good old 16th. Come on the good old H. L. I.' He then fell mortally wounded. No better soldier ever wore His Majesty’s uniform. Had he been my own son I could not have loved him more. Quiet, unassuming, thorough, adored by his men and beloved by his superiors, he made the great sacrifice for his King and Country without flinching, and has shed a halo around his name which cannot perish. I cannot express myself in words. I would rather congratulate you on being the father of such a boy. If God had given me such a son I would have been the proudest man living.

John Leiper Gemmill had two other sons who fought in the First World War, Cuthbert Gemmill of the 1st Battalion Gordon Highlander and Neil Adshead Gemmill.

42. Sir William Pearce Memorial

Sir William Pearce (The Bailie)

The Sir William Pearce Memorial which stood on a 50 feet plot in a central location in Craigton Cemetery was erected by Lady Pearce as a token of appreciation of the esteem in which the people of Govan held her husband. Lady Pearce purchased the plot of land for £350 and commissioned the Glasgow architectural practice of John Honeyman (1831-1914) and John Keppie (1862-1945) to design, execute and supervise the project. The granite work was done by Glasgow based McGilvray & Ferris and the bronze sculpture work by London based sculptor Albert Toft (1869-1949).

The monument was Italian Renaissance in style and made from Creeton granite and Craigleith stone with figures and tablets in bronze. It was square in shape with Corinthian pilasters at each corner and detached Corinthian columns of Peterhead granite with bronze capitals and was surmounted by a dome with a ship in full sail. Above the Corinthian columns were four bronze figures of boys, three feet in height, representing Labour, Design, Engineering and Navigation. The bronze bust of Sir William Pearce
was placed in a niche facing the entrance to the cemetery. The bronze inscriptions were placed on the three other sides in a similar position to the bust of Sir William Pearce.

Under the bust and inscriptions were four panels representing Shipbuilding and Engineering and the launching of one of the many ships built by Sir William Pearce, the last panel contained a number of portraits. According to Dr Gilbert Bell a party of workmen turned up one day in 1970 with the intention of restoring the memorial unfortunately it was a ruse and instead they butchered the monument and carried of its architectural bronzes either to be sold off privately or to be melted down for their scrap value. The monument was demolished some six years later by the Craigton Cemetery Company after years of further neglect and vandalism.

A statue of Sir William Pearce, designed by Edward Onslow Ford (1852-1901), stands at Govan Cross opposite the Pearce Institute and was unveiled on 6th October 1894 by the Right Honourable Lord Kelvin of Largs. It is known locally as the Black Man because of the discolouration of the bronze.

Sir William Pearce was born on 8th January 1833 at Brompton near Chatham, Kent to Joseph George Pearce. He trained as a shipwright and naval architect at the Chatham Dockyard and in 1861 was chosen to oversee the construction of HMS Achilles, the first iron-clad ship built in the naval dockyards. In 1863 his experience in the new construction methods brought him the position of Lloyd's surveyor on Clydeside. Within a year he was appointed manager of Robert Napier & Sons, where he made an immediate impact, designing fast transatlantic liners for the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

When John Elder of Randolph, Elder & Co., died on 17th first iron-clad ship built in the naval dockyards. In 1863 his 1861 was chosen to oversee the construction of HMS Achilles, the shipwright and naval architect at the Chatham Dockyard and in Chatham, Kent to Joseph George Pearce. He trained as a shareholder in the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the Steam Navigation Company. William Pearce was a major shareholder in the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the New Zealand Shipping Company and was also chairman of the Guion Steamship Company and of the Scottish Oriental Steamship Company.

In 1885 he was elected as the first MP to represent the newly created Govan Division of Lanarkshire. In 1886 John Elder & Co., became a limited company taking the name of the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company of which he was chairman. In 1887 on Queen Victoria's jubilee he was created a baronet. He was Deputy Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace for Lanarkshire. In 1885 he was elected as the first MP to represent the newly created Govan Division of Lanarkshire. In 1886 John Elder & Co., became a limited company taking the name of the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company of which he was chairman. In 1887 on Queen Victoria's jubilee he was created a baronet. He was Deputy Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace for Lanarkshire. Sir William Pearce died age 55 on 18th December 1888 and was interred in the family lair at Gillingham, Kent.

Sir William Pearce Memorial (c1975)

In 1874 William Pearce encouraged Alexander Carnegie Kirk (1830-1892) in his development of the triple expansion engine which became the workhorse of the world's merchant fleets. He developed a new market strategy which saw the company design ships for the transatlantic route and established the shipyard as a naval builder.

In 1878 his partners John Ure and J L K Jamieson retired leaving him as sole partner in charge of a shipyard occupying 70 acres and employing 5000 workers. They built ships for the world's largest shipping lines including the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, the New Zealand Shipping Company and the British and Africa Steam Navigation Company. William Pearce was a major shareholder in the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the New Zealand Shipping Company and was also chairman of the Compan

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1911 a series of meetings at the Moody Church, Chicago proved so successful that on his return to Britain in January 1912 he immediately made arrangements to return. John Harper, his daughter and niece Jessie Leitch were booked as second class passengers on board the Titanic’s maiden voyage departing from Southampton to New York on 10th April 1912.

Sinking of the Titanic
As news of the collision with an iceberg began to spread through the ship John Harper collected his daughter and niece and took them up on deck and safely placed them onto a lifeboat. As the situation on board became worse panic spread throughout the ship and people began to jump into the freezing waters. While some were trying to buy their way onto lifeboats John Harper plunged into the dark waters below and was seen swimming from one passenger to another offering them salvation, he even threw off his own life jacket and gave it to another, survivors reported that John Harper was preaching salvation to anyone who would listen. John Harper continued to comfort the weak and the frightened until he himself was consumed by the dark icy waters.

News of John Harper’s heroism has resonated throughout the decades since that fateful night on 14th April 1912 and has resulted in the publication of a book called ‘The Titanic’s Last Hero; story of John Harper.’ by Moody Adams.

As a tribute to John Harper the church in Plantation Street was renamed the Harper Memorial Baptist Church. In 1913 plans for a new church building were drawn up with the site on the corner of Plantation Road and Craigiehall Street. Construction of the new church was delayed due to the First World War but the new Harper Memorial Baptist Church was officially opened by John Harper’s daughter Nan Harper on 10th December 1921.

Thomas Gracie was born on 12th June 1889 at 40 Edmund Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow to flesher Robert Gracie and Harriet Bell. When he finished school he studied bookkeeping and found employment as a meat salesman while at the same time playing football for Shawfield Juniors before moving to Strathclyde FC. In 1907 he was given the opportunity to break into the professional ranks when he was offered a contract with Airdrieonians. He left Airdrieonians in 1909 and after short spells with Hamilton Academical and Artuthie he joined Morton where he played from 1909-11. In 1911 he was an un-played reserve in the Scotland team that played England at Goddison Park. It would be his only foray into international football but it would prove worthwhile for at the end of the match he was signed by Everton. At the end of season 1911-12 he was part of the exchange deal that would take Harold Uren (1885-1955) from Liverpool to Everton with himself and Bill Lacey (born 1889) moving in the opposite direction. He would spend two and a half seasons at Liverpool making 34 appearances and scoring 5 goals before returning to Scotland to sign for Hearts.

Hearts started season 1914-15 with eight straight victories and were emerging as early front runners and title favourites but a public storm was brewing. The outbreak of war had ignited a public debate on the morality of continuing professional football while soldiers were dying at the front. To the forefront of the campaign was Airdrieonians chairman Thomas Forsyth who found playing football repugnant while men were fighting. He placed a motion before the SFA to postpone the season but although it was defeated Frederick Charrington (1850-1936), an east London philanthropist, was orchestrating a public campaign to have football in Britain suspended. Charrington’s tactics to shame footballers into action through public and private denigration was gaining support and Gracie as top scorer in Scotland became a prime target for the anti-football crusaders.

On 26th November 1914 Tom Gracie and 10 of his Hearts teammates joined Sir George McCrae’s (1860-1928) Edinburgh Volunteer Battalion. On 10th December 1914 the Scotsman reported that the Army Council had decided that the new battalion should be called the 16th (Service) Battalion the Royal Scots (Second Edinburgh). It would become better known by its sobriquet the Footballer’s Battalion. Military training became part of the players training regime and although it didn’t have an immediate effect on the team’s form – they went on a run of 20 matches unbeaten between October and February – the exhaustion of night time marches began to take their toll and led to a drop in form with several enlisted players – Gracie included - missing important games. Tom Gracie finished the season as joint top scorer in Scotland as Hearts lost out on the league title to Celtic but his greatest battle was on the horizon.
In March 1915 he was diagnosed with leukaemia but against medical advice he continued to play for Hearts and train with his battalion. In June 1915 his battalion were sent to Ripon, Harrogate, North Yorkshire for further military training but within a few weeks his health began to deteriorate as he succumbed to fatigue and was hospitalised in Leeds. He was transferred to Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow where he died age 26 on 23rd October 1915.

A memorial to the Heart of Midlothian players who gave their lives in service of their country was unveiled at Haymarket on 9th April 1922. It was designed by architect Henry Snell Gamley (1865-1928) and was built by John Angus & Sons, Edinburgh.

**45. Jean Armour (1828-1916)**

Jean Armour's link to Robert Burns is through her marriage to Burns' grand-nephew Adam Armour. She was born Jane Irving in 1828 to slater and plasterer Newell Irving and Margaret Lees. She married Adam Armour on 13th May 1848 in Old Church, St Pancras, London.

Adam Armour was born on 22nd March 1824 in Mauchline, Ayrshire to Robert Armour (1799-1849) and Jean Wallace. They had two children Jane Armour (1854-1936) and Robert Newell Armour (1856-1926). She was living with her son and his wife at 1 Lindel Place, Ibrox when she died on the 8th March 1916. Her son Robert Newell Armour and his wife Janet Hutcheson are interred alongside her.

**46. Jemima Morris (1866-1889)**

(Weaver, died during the Templeton Factory Disaster)

Jemima Morris was born on the 30th October 1866 at 272 Buchanan Street, Glasgow to coal merchant John Morris and Ann McLeish. She lived with her family at 346 Rutherglen Road, Glasgow and was employed as a power loom weaver at John & James Templeton's carpet factory in William Street, Bridgeton. The weaving sheds where she worked were a 160ft long single storey building arranged in four bays with two lines of looms occupying each bay. There were 140 looms each tended by one woman and were in full operation on the 1st November 1889.

John & James Templeton had employed architect William Leiper (1839-1916) to design a new western extension to their factory which had been in the process of construction since September 1888 with the work being carried out by G & A Harvey, engineers, millwrights, tool manufacturers and factory architects, Albion Works, Woodville Street, Govan. The 185ft long four storey and attic building was near completion with only the addition of the roof remaining when at 5:15 pm on 1st November 1889 three sudden and successive gusts of high wind weakened the supports of both the front and back walls causing the large middle section of the extension to collapse into the adjacent weaving sheds immediately covering half its length in six foot of rubble. The men working on the construction of the building had finished their work just 15 minutes prior to the accident.

Jemima Morris aged 23 was one of 29 women who died in the Templeton Factory Disaster her sister Helen Morris who was also involved in the disaster was injured but later recovered at home.

**47. Daphne Disaster (3rd July 1883)**
On 3rd July 1883 the SS Daphne a 449 ton steamer being built by Alexander Stephen & Sons, Linthouse, Govan for the Glasgow & Londonderry Steam Packet Co. (Laird Line) was being prepared for launch with 200 men on board preparing to finish the internal fittings and fixtures of the ship as soon as she was properly afloat.

The operation of launching a ship was the same operation used at all Clyde shipbuilding yards whereby two anchors were attached to each side of the ship which were themselves attached to cable chains, which were attached by heavy weights to the ground, to allow for sufficient slack and to provide drag to check the stability of the ship as she entered the water. On this occasion however the checking apparatus failed and the starboard anchor moved six or seven yards while the port anchor had dragged for some sixty yards failing to stop the ships forward momentum.

It was just before noon when the Daphne slipped quietly in the Clyde with the aid of the drag chains to the cheering of the large crowd who had come to witness the event. Suddenly and without warning their cheering turned to horror as the ship after coming to rest suddenly lurched to port then paused slightly, as if trying to right herself, and then toppled over again to be submerged beneath the deep waters and rising tide and with her, her crew of joiners, shipwrights, engineers, plumbers, painters, ironworkers and riggers.

Many of the men were on deck and as the disaster unfolded they jumped ship and swam for shore or clung on to the starboard side but the majority who were below deck went down with the ship. Small boats went to the rescue of those floating in the water and clinging to debris while boats from Barclay, Curle & Co. came to the assistance of others but despite the best efforts of the rescuers a total of 124 men and boys lost their lives.

A public inquiry was launched and Alexander Stephen & Sons were exonerated of any blame, leading to claims of a cover up. There was no fault found with the launch arrangements at the Linthouse Yard and the cause of the disaster was reported to be little initial stability combined with excessive loose gear and personnel aboard.

| Grand Charity Football Match, Under the distinguished patronage of the Lord Provost and Magistrates of the City of Glasgow, IN AID OF THE “DAPHNE” DISASTER FUND, BETWEEN DUMBARTON (Holders of Scottish Challenge Cup) and RANGERS, AT KINNING PARK, On TUESDAY EVENING, 31st inst. Further particulars next week. |
| Charity Match Ticket (The Gallant Pioneers) |

One of the outcomes of the disaster was the limiting of personnel aboard to only those necessary for mooring the ship after the launch. The ship was raised and repaired at Govan Dry Docks and emerged as the Rose. The tragedy was known as the Linthouse Disaster after the area in Govan where Alexander Stephen & Sons yard was located. An Appeal Fund was launched on 25th July 1883 in an attempt to raise £40,000 for the 60 widows and 150 dependent children. It included a benefit football match between Glasgow Rangers and Dumbarton Football Club at Kinning Park. In the event £30,000 was raised. Walter Wilson, the proprietor of the Coliseum warehouse on Jamaica Street, gave a widow’s bonnet, free of charge, to ‘each of the widows of the unfortunate workmen who lost their lives in this accident’.

The Daphne Memorial was erected in 1885 by the Associated Shipwrights in the memory of the members of their association who lost their lives in the Daphne Disaster. It was designed by William Robin (1828-1888). There are around fifty victims of the disaster interred in the lairs and compartments around this memorial.

48. Rev Sergious (1816-1881) (Russian Orthodox Priest. Died on board the ‘Peter the Great’ ship while berthed at Fairfields)
Sergious who died age 65 on 15th October 1881 on board the Peter the Great in Fairfield dock, Glasgow. Theodore Lishaffa age 24 on 13th August 1881 at the Royal Infirmary and Jacob Grigorieff age 24 on 13th December 1881 also on board ship and who are commemorated on the small stone with missing cross to the left. Four more of the ship’s crew died while berthed at Greenock and are interred in Greenock Cemetery. The Peter the Great was the largest most powerful ship in the Russian Navy and remained berthed at Govan until 21st January 1882 before sailing to Greenock to undergo trials of its new engines.

Alexander Marshall was born in c1857 to night watchman Patrick Marshall and Catherine Marshall. Alexander Marshall was a founder member of the Clydesdale Harriers and played for Rangers from 1876 till 1880 and during his time at the club he played in fifteen matches and scored ten goals. He was a member of the 1877 Scottish Cup Final squad and played in the two replays against Vale of Leven. Alexander was a compositor by trade and died age 26 on 17th August 1883 at 123 Hospital Street, Gorbals.

John Simpson Crowther was born on 4th May 1845 at Peterhead to master mariner John Crowther and Margaret Simpson. John Simpson Crowther was born on 4th May 1845 at Peterhead to master mariner John Crowther and Margaret Simpson. He was first mate on board the Eira during Benjamin Leigh Smith’s (1828-1913) Arctic expedition to Franz Josef Land in 1880 where Smith named Cape Crowther after him. In November 1881 he was first mate again on the Eira as Smith set out on another expedition to Franz Josef Land. In 1894 he returned to the Arctic region for a fourth time as Ice Master on board The Winward during Jackson-Harmsworth Arctic Expedition (1894-97). John Simpson Crowther died aged 69 on 26th May 1914 at 21 Doune Terrace, Glasgow.

Samuel Ricketts (1857-1911)
(Law Cashier, Footballer. Played in Rangers 1877 Cup final team)

Samuel Ricketts was born on 16th May 1857 at 16 Wellington Street South to engine fitter Joseph Ricketts and Elizabeth Cooper. Samuel Ricketts played for Rangers from 1875-1882 making 46 appearances and scoring one goal. He made his debut on 21st October 1876 against Towerhill. In 1883 he was living with his parents at 15 Camden Street, Gorbals and was employed as a law cashier with Carruthers & Gemmill, writers, 150 Hope Street, Glasgow. He married Agnes Dunbar on 6th October 1897 in Girvan and was resident at 293 New City Road, Gorbals. In 1891 he was resident at 393 New City Road, Cowcaddens and by 1897 he had moved to 10 Dryburgh Gardens, Kelvinside. Samuel Ricketts died age 54 on 8th December 1911 at the Merchants Cycling Club, 210 Renfrew Street, Glasgow. He resided at 66 Wilton Street.

William Reith (1832-1898)
(Soldier, Royal Scots, fought and decorated in campaigns in South Africa and at the Crimea. Later fought and wounded with Confederate army in American Civil War)
next theatre of war was the Crimea (1853-1856) where he saw action at the Battle of Alma (20th September 1854) for which he was awarded the South Africa Medal. His next saw action at the Battle of Balaklava (25th October 1854) where a Russian Cavalry advance was repulsed by the 93rd Highlanders, commanded by Major-General Sir Colin Campbell (1792-1863), in an action that became known as the Thin Red Line. The Battle of Balaklava was also the scene of the famous Charge of the Light Brigade.

Next up for William Reith was the Battle of Inkerman (5th November 1854) where a surprise Russian attack in foggy conditions resulted in hand to hand combat that raged all day with the British Army finally holding their positions through the belated arrival of French re-enforcements. This action became known as The Soldiers Battle.

The Siege of Sevastopol (September 1854 to September 1855) by allied forces began on 8th October 1854 and despite attempts by the Russians to break the siege which resulted in the battles of Balaklava and Inkerman they eventually evacuated Sevastopol on 8th September 1855 allowing the allies to enter and occupy the city the next day. The loss of Sevastopol led Russia to concede the peace in 1856. In 1856 William Reith was awarded the Crimea Medal with four clasps representing the battles of Alma, Balaklava, Inkerman and Sevastopol. On his return home on 8th July 1856 his regiment was welcomed and reviewed by Queen Victoria.

William was discharged from the British Army in October 1856 and he disappears from the records until 1860 when he emigrated to the United States. He re-appears in Richmond, Virginia in 1861 where a reporter from the Richmond Whig newspaper commented that a salesman named Reith working for Kent, Paine & Co., Richmond, Virginia, who had fought for the British Army in both Africa and the Crimea, had invented a tent-knapsack which was being used by the Virginia Regiments. On 2nd July 1861 another reporter from the same newspaper comments that the Richmond Zouaves were using the ‘Reith Knapsack’. There is no record of William Reith ever having patented his tent-knapsack but it would have been one of many knapsack used by both sides in the conflict.

He was conscripted into the 1st Virginia Regiment on 7th March 1862 and saw action at the Battle of the Seven Days (26th June – 2nd July 1862) where he was wounded and taken prisoner by the Federal Army. He was transported to Fort Columbus at New York Harbour. The records for this period are incomplete but it is known that Fort Columbus was emptied of all its prisoners on 10th July 1862 and that the prisoners were transferred to Fort Delaware. He was probably one of the many prisoners exchanged at Aitken’s Landing, Virginia on the 5th August 1862. The Civil War ended on 9th April 1865 when General Lee met with General Grant at Appomattox Courthouse to sign and agree the terms of surrender.

William Reith returned to Scotland where he found employment as a mercantile clerk living at 3 West Hewington, Edinburgh. On 27th February 1866 he married Agnes Morris Murdoch at 4 St James Street, Kingston, Glasgow. According to the 1867-68 Edinburgh & Leith Post Office Directory he had set himself up as a grocer and wine and spirit merchant with premises at 3 Rosehill Place while resident at 2 Gardner’s Crescent. In 1871 he moved premises to 24 Tobago Street near to his home at 2 Gardner’s Crescent and in 1872 he moved house to 20 Gardner’s Crescent. In 1876 he became a house and property agent with premises at 27 Tobago Street and 1 Tobago Place but still resident at 20 Gardner’s Crescent and in 1878 his premises although still at 27 Tobago Street now included a cooking depot at 124 Duke Street next to his new home.

From 1879 onwards he disappears from the Edinburgh & Leith Post Office Directory but re-appears in the 1881 census living at the Old Flax Works, Kilmarnock and employed as a house proprietor and poultry farmer. He must have left Kilmarnock around the mid 1880’s because in 1887 and 1888 he is living at 7 Rutland Crescent, Kinning Park, Glasgow, and in 1889 he moves to 5 Rutland Crescent where he remains until 1893. In the 1891 census he’s described as a retired licensed grocer and heritable proprietor. In 1893 he makes one final move to 13 Rutland Place where he remains until his death aged 65 on 24th January 1898.

53. James McBlane Watt (c1859-1898)
(Businessman, Goalkeeper with Rangers. Played in 1877 Cup final team. President and Honorary Treasurer of Rangers Football Club)
James McBlane Watt (The Gallant Pioneers)

James McBlane Watt was a former president of Rangers Football Club. He was born c1859 to produce merchant James McBlane and Jane Watt. He adopted his mother’s maiden name as his own surname at an early age. He joined Rangers in 1876 as a goalkeeper and was a member of the 1877 Scottish Cup Final team and club President from 1876-1877 as well as Honorary Treasurer from 1878-1880.

In 1889, while resident at 4 Radnor Terrace, James McBlane Watt went into partnership with George Dimmack to form the company Dimmack & Watt, new and second hand plant and machinery, iron and steel merchants with an office at 75 Buchanan Street. This business venture lasted less than a year with both parting company in 1890. George Dimmack went on to set up in business on his own and in 1891 James Watt followed suit and set himself up as James M Watt & Co, plant, machinery, iron and steel merchants and agents, Central Chambers, 109 Hope Street, Glasgow. His business lasted until 1894 when it disappears from the Post Office Directories. James McBlane Watt died aged 38 on 22nd March 1898 at 4 Radnor Terrace, Glasgow.

54. Roderick Evin Morrison (1879-1915)
(Soldier. Ex 5th Battalion Highland Light Infantry. Killed at Gollipoli, while serving with the Australian Army)

Roderick Evin Morrison was born on 9th February 1879 at Highfield, Laurel Bank, Partick to spirit merchant Roderick Morrison and Jane Anderson. He was educated at the Glasgow High School and trained as an accountant before working with his father at his public house at 350 Dumbarton Road until 1906 when he opened his own public house at 1256-60 Argyle Street while resident at the family home of Ardoch, Partickhill. He had been a volunteer for five years with the 5th Battalion Highland Light Infantry and was said to have been an excellent shot.

He gave up his career as a publican in 1913 and emigrated to Australia to become a sheep farmer. He was working as a stockman when war broke out in 1914 and he enlisted on 16th November 1914 as a private in the 15th Battalion, 1st Reinforcements, Australian Imperial Force. His unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on board H.M.A.T. A35 Berrima on 22nd December 1914 bound for Gallipoli, Turkey where he was killed in action age 36 on 8th August 1915. He is remembered on the Lone Pine Memorial, Lone Pine Cemetery, Turkey and the Glasgow High School Roll of Honour.

Peter McNeil (The Gallant Pioneers)

Peter McNeil was one of the founding fathers of Rangers Football Club. He was born c1857 at Belmore, Rhu, Dunbartonshire to John McNeil and Jane Loudon Bain. His father John was employed as a gardener by John McDonald (d.1891) of Belmore House, which now forms part of the Faslane Naval Base. In his early teens he moved to Glasgow with members of his family and in 1871 was living with his elder brothers James, Henry and William and his sister Elizabeth at 17 Cleveland Street, Anderston and was employed as a Clerk.

Peter was a keen sportsman with an interest in the relatively new sport of Football and it was while walking through West End Park (Kelvingrove Park) one day with his brother Moses McNeil, Peter Campbell and William McBeath that they hit upon the idea of starting their own club. The name for their club would be Rangers, inspired by a Swindon based Rugby Club they had read about in the English Rugby Football Annual. The new clubs first match, a no score draw with Callander, was played at Flesher’s Haugh on Glasgow Green in May 1872. Peter McNeil was one Rangers first captain’s and played regularly at left back until 1876. It was off the field of play however that Peter McNeil made his greatest contribution to Rangers were he held the post of match secretary, in effect the manager of Rangers.
At the end of his playing career Peter McNeil was appointed honorary secretary a position he held from 1876-1883. During this period he also served as treasurer of the Scottish Football Association and was appointed vice president of Rangers from 1886-1888.

Peter McNeil's retirement from football coincided with him going into partnership with his brother Henry as H & P McNeil, hosiers and gloves, 105 Union Street. In 1877 Peter was resident at 169 Berkeley Street, Glasgow. William was still resident at 169 Berkeley Street when he married Mary Ferrier on 26th September 1883 at Hutchesontown Registry Office, 313 Crown Street, Gorbals. In 1884 he went into business with John McNeil as florists and seedsman with premises at 105 Union Street but by 1885 was the sole proprietor of the business and 1885 marks the last mention of William and his business in the Post Office Directory.

William McNeil died aged 53 on 16th August 1908 at 133 London Street, Glasgow.

56a. Thomas McMillan CBE (1864-1920)
(Businessman, Councillor, Magistrate and City Treasurer)

Thomas McMillan was born at Orchard Street, Galston on 27th September 1863 to coal miner James McMillan and Mary Hutchison. He was educated at Galston Public School but by 1883 had moved to Glasgow where in 1886 he set up in business as a grocer and tea merchant at 365 Gallowgate while resident at 450 Gallowgate. In 1888 he moved residence to 85 Evelyn Street, Dennistoun and then in 1890 to 10 Walmer Terrace, Paisley Road West, Kinning Park while his business at 365 Gallowgate was now solely as a tea merchant.

In 1891 he opened a second store at 107 Paisley Road West and in 1892 his premises in Gallowgate moved from no. 365 to no. 460. In 1893 he opened a third store at 85 West Scotland Street and in 1894 sold his premises at 460 Gallowgate.

In 1895 he was elected as a member to the first ward of Kinning Park burgh and in 1897 became a magistrate and served as a commissioner from 1897-1899. He was also elected Convener of the Finance Committee. In 1902 he was elected Provost of Kinning Park, a position he held until annexation to Glasgow in 1905. He was politically opposed to annexation but the ratepayers of Kinning Park were in favour of it and as such he brought a motion before the Commission Board to approach Glasgow Town Council and determine the terms of annexation.

The terms were put before the ratepayers of Kinning Park who voted in favour of annexation to Glasgow. In 1905 after annexation he was elected to represent the Kinning Park ward on Glasgow Town Council and was also elected a Justice of the Peace. Thomas McMillan served Glasgow Town Council as a magistrate from 1910-1913 and as treasurer from 1914-1917.

He became a Bailie in 1911. During the First World War Thomas McMillan played a prominent role in war savings campaigns and served on the War Savings Committee and it was at his suggestion, while City Treasurer, that the council decided to invest £2 million in the War Loan. He also became closely identified with the raising of battalions for the war. On 9th January 1919 in recognition of his services to the war effort he was awarded the C.B.E. Thomas McMillan died aged 56 on 15th July 1920 at 5 Dalkeith Avenue, Dumbreck.
b. Sarah Jane Cameron M.B.E. (1874-1951)

(Councillor and Justice of the Peace)

Buried alongside Thomas McMillan is his second wife Sarah Jane Cameron (1874-1951). Sarah Jane Cameron was born on 6th September 1874 at 31 Dean Street, Kilmarnock to tea merchant William Cameron and Sarah Thomson. She married Thomas McMillan on 23rd March 1915 at the Grand Hotel, 560 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. During the First World War she was Convener of the Ladies’ Committee which conducted work in assisting Belgian and other refugees who fled to Glasgow during the war. She was also treasurer on the Glasgow Committee that sent comforts to Prisoners of War and was especially active in sending comforts to the Glasgow Battalion 16th Highland Light Infantry. Her services to the war effort were recognised by the Government when she and three other committee ladies were awarded the M.B.E. in 1920. She went on to become a Glasgow Councillor and Justice of the Peace and died age 76 on 7th March 1951.

57. George Lindsay (1828-1890)
(Businessman, Magistrate, Provost of Kinning Park)

George Lindsay was born on 24th October 1828 in the Gorbals to provision merchant David Lindsay and Mary Denholm. He served his apprenticeship in a Cowcaddens provision merchants shop before going into business on his own as a grocer and spirit merchant opening his first premises at his home address of 34 Bedford Street. In 1852 he was residing at 40 Warwick Street with his business premises still at 34 Bedford Street, his business prospered and the following year he opened further premises at 73 Crown Street. In 1854 he opened a new shop at 133 Eglinton Street and moved house to 2 Edwin Place, Surrey Street, Gorbals.

By 1860 only the Eglinton Street premises were recorded in the Post Office Directory. He was well known in Kinning Park for many years and played a prominent role in the formation of the burgh in 1871. He was elected to represent the 4th ward of the burgh on the Police Commission and was also appointed to the role of magistrate. Also in 1871 The National Bank opened a branch in Kinning Park and selected George Lindsay as their agent. In 1883 he was elected as Provost of Kinning Park, a position he held for seven years. He was a director of the Victoria Infirmary and the Craigton Cemetery Co., he was also a member of the Govan Combination Hospital Board and a Justice of the Peace for the County of Renfrew. He died age 61 on 10th March 1890 at Denholm Villa, 5 Leslie Road, Pollokshields.

Ibrox Disaster (5th April 1902)

On Saturday 5th April 1902, Scotland and England met for an international football match at Ibrox Park in Glasgow. It was the thirty first meeting between the two countries and nearly 70,000 spectators had squeezed into the stadium expecting to see the greatest match yet between the two old adversaries who were fielding professional players for the first time. Rangers had spent £20,000 in 1899 building the stadium which was made from a lattice of steel and wooden beams. Within twenty minutes of the kick-off a twenty yard square section of the West Tribune Stand (Broomloan Stand) collapsed opening up a gaping hole through which 25 people plunged 40 feet to their death with a further 517 injured.

The West Tribune Stand was built to hold 35,913 spectators but was so overcrowded that it was packed with a seething crowd of humanity. Just prior to the collapse the crowd was stamping and swaying and then surged towards the edge of the field before being asked to move back by police which it did but this put extra strain on the part of the terracing that collapsed. Although there were four stewards at every entrance who held up boards telling spectators that the terracing was full there was no way to determine the number of spectators. Examination of the terracing after the disaster found that seventeen joints had given way. A public inquiry was launched which fully exonerated the contractor of any blame.

A disaster relief fund was set up with donations and messages of sympathy coming from as far afield as Cape Town. The English Football Association donated £1000 and the English County Association and clubs donated £3000. Benefit matches were
played throughout the UK with the proceeds going to the fund. Concerts and sports events were held across the country to support the relief of the injured. The re-arranged international fixture was held on 3rd May 1902 at Villa Park, Birmingham with the proceeds going towards the relief fund.

Four victims of the Ibrox Disaster are interred at Craigton Cemetery: William McNair (Lair CC1783), Alexander Bowie (Lair CC1643), John Brown (Lair R745) and James Herdman (Lair N249). On 16th September 1961 George Nelson age 22 was one of two people who died in an accident on Stairway 13 and is interred alongside his parents in Craigton Cemetery. Almost ten years later on the 2nd January 1971, 66 people lost their lives and a further 145 were injured in an accident on the same Stairway 13. None of the victims of this tragedy are interred at Craigton.

The House of Life (Bet Chaim)

Jewish immigration into Glasgow began towards the end of the 18th century when traders and merchants attracted by the rapidly growing economic situation began to set down roots in the city. The first synagogue in Glasgow was established in 1823 in the first floor flat of Rabbi Moses Henry Lisenheim at 43 High Street. In 1830 the Glasgow Jewish community purchased a small burial plot in the newly opened Necropolis whereas before this date they used a cemetery in Edinburgh. The Garnethill Synagogue was opened in 1879 at a time when the city’s Jewish population was less than 1000. The early traders and merchants who had arrived from Germany and Holland were by the late 19th century onward being joined by immigrants from Eastern Europe. Most of the new immigrants to Glasgow settled in the Gorbals area outside the city centre alongside immigrants from the Highlands, Italy and Ireland.

The new arrivals began to open their own Synagogue’s and institutions and pretty soon an area recognisable to most European Jews developed in the Gorbals where all manner of Jewish business, industry and community were present.

The first Gorbals prayer house opened in 1880 at 2 Commerce Street and was known as the Chevra Torah. In late 1880 the Chevra Torah purchased some lairs at Craigton Cemetery and euphemistically called their burial ground Bet Chaim (House of Life). The earliest recorded Jewish interment at Craigton Cemetery was of Sophia Jacobs on 15th March 1881. By the early 1890’s the problem of burial provision was causing concern in the Gorbals Jewry.

In January 1890 Garnethill Synagogue also decided to purchase some further ground at Craigton. Interments continued at Craigton until the final interment took place in October 1908 when 69 year old Marcus Cohen of 18 Monteith Row, Glasgow was laid to rest.

Re-interments from the College or Blackfriars Churchyard

When the Union Railway Company transferred its recently acquired Glasgow University property to The Glasgow and South Western Railway Company in 1874 it did so on the understanding that the remains in the College Churchyard would be re-interred to the Necropolis. This was carried out but a plan to remove the monuments and place them within the railings of the new burial site was never done. The other remains were interred at Craigton Cemetery between September 1876 and June 1877. The records belonging to the Craigton Cemetery Company provide scant detail of the individuals and families re-interred by the Glasgow and South Western Railway Company. However the details of the individuals and families re-interred at their relatives expense is much greater.

The Craigton records provide a box number which refers to the original lair at the College Churchyard unfortunately however they name only one individual along with other remains. Many of those re-interred by their own families include famous names such as Dr Robert Cleghorn (1755-1821), who was one of the first physicians appointed to the Royal Infirmary in Glasgow and the first physician to be appointed to the Glasgow Lunatic Asylum when it opened at Parliamentary Road in 1814. In 1876 papermaker Edward Collins (1848-1900) also re-interred members of his family from the Blackfriars Churchyard.
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This Craigton Cemetery Trail and some 24 other heritage trails around Glasgow can be accessed on www.glasgow.gov.uk/heritagetrails/

All colour pictures of headstones taken by Joyce O’Connor.

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