Scottish Genealogy

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Synopsis

Authoritative, entertaining, and informative, this reader-friendly reference explains how to get beyond the standard births, marriages, deaths, and census search and dig deeper into genealogy. A comprehensive guide to tracing Scottish family history, this book is designed to exploit the rich resources that the country with possibly the most complete and best-kept set of records and other documents in the world has to offer. Using worked examples and addressing the questions of DNA, palaeography, and the often confusing issues of clans, families, and tartans, Bruce Durie covers both physical and electronic sources, reminding the reader that there are more routes to follow than just the internet, and that not everything written down is correct. Comparisons are made with records elsewhere, and all of the 28 million people throughout the world who claim Scottish ancestry will find something here to help, challenge, and stimulate. Complete with templates and methods which will enable family historians everywhere to exploit the resources available, this is the definitive reader-friendly guide to genealogy and family history in Scotland.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a great book, chock full of nuggets of genealogy gold. I borrowed it from the library, renewed it three times, and still did not want to take it back.....I realized even borrowing it for another couple months wouldn’t have made any difference, this was a reference book, the kind you keep around and refer to again and again. I needed to get my own copy. I have several good books on Scottish genealogy, but this one has a lot of information in it that is not in any of my other similar books.
This is by far the best reference manual for Scottish family history research I have seen and/or own. It is well written, organized, and extremely helpful, whether you are just starting out in family history or you have lots of experience but want suggestions for new tools. Real examples are provided, along with instructions for how to obtain the records from various sources, and there is an entire section dedicated to reading old handwriting. I’m glad I bought it.

I will be honest, I have spent a fair amount on Genealogy books. Some books are less than what I expected and others have been what I had hoped to see. I consider almost all my books as decent or better references. This book however has raised the standard against which all others will be judged. To say I am impressed is an understatement.

My only problem is one possibly common to many of us genealogists--the font is too small. I have got very used to my Kindle where I can make it the easiest size for me. Other than that, I find the book is very informative.

I like this book. It gives the history in context and provides marker info. Easy to read.I hoped there would be more M dna marker info.If you are interested in family history and DNA, this is a good addition to your library.

I have only so far flipped through and read certain things...I am interested in the DNA portion and this book does a pretty good job of explaining it...The first part of the book starts with the 19th century but it does go back further in some parts. The book got here very fast and I think when I have time to read the whole thing it will be great...

I had the pleasure of meeting the author while he was doing research at St. Andrews University in North Carolina and found both him and his book to very informative. This book goes into much more detail than someone in the U.S. needs, but it does seem to cover all the bases. But, a word of warning: genealogy research in the UK is more difficult than in the US and online research through the websites ScotslandsPeople.uk.gov and ScotslandsPlaces.uk.gov is both time-consuming and expensive.

This book is good for those beginning the search for their ancestors. I was a bit further along and I already knew most of the techniques shown, so it wasn’t as valuable a resource as I had hoped.