

# Carswell Connection

## Carswell DNA Testing

Hello,

Has any Carswell taken part in a genealogical DNA TEST ? I am interested in any findings as I am considering taking a test. My ancestors are from Neilston Parish Renfrewshire.

Regards,

John Carswell NSW Australia.

PS.I understand the benefits of taking a test are :-

- Determine if two people are related
- Find out if others with your surname are related
- Determine if two people descended from the same ancestor
- Provide an approximate time frame for the common ancestor
- Confirm your family tree
- Find others to whom you are related

- Determine a possible point of origin for your surname
- Prove or disprove a research theory
- Determine if other surnames are variants of your surname
- For surnames with multiple points of origin, determine the possible points
- Provide clues or solve brick walls
- Identify a location for further research
- Verify ancestors migration
- Verify Native American or Cohanin ancestry
- Provide clues about ethnic origin .

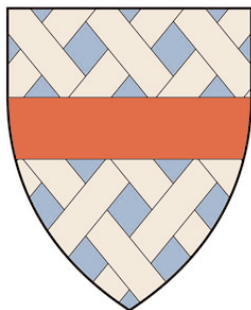
For more information contact John Carswell at [jccarswell@clearmail.com.au](mailto:jccarswell@clearmail.com.au)

## A Carswell Connection

Built between 1565 and 1572 on the site of an older building, Carnasserie Castle is on a ridge above the Kilmartin valley. It was built by John Carswell who became Bishop of Argyll and the Isles in the reign of Mary Queen of Scots. Carswell held the lands and the castle on behalf of Archibald Campbell, the 5th Earl of Argyll. A motto above a doorway reads " God be with O Duibhne" - the archaic name for the chiefs of the Campbells of Argyll.

The castle was badly damaged by the MacLeans and MacLachlans when the 9th Earl of Argyll took part in the Monmouth Rising, a rebellion against King James VII in 1685. Nevertheless, there are still fine stone carvings and a magnificent fireplace to be seen.





## The Carswell Crest

Aside from the crest on the masthead of the Newsletter, shown here is another version of the Carswell crest . Both versions were provide by Burkes Peerage. We would be interested in seeing any other variations of the Carswell crest that anyone may have come across.

## OPR Marriages

Paisley Parish Abbey Marriages

|                   |  |                   |   |
|-------------------|--|-------------------|---|
|                   |  | November 17, 1733 | Alan Carswell<br>married<br>Margaret Lochhead         |
| May 17, 1711      | Robert Carswell, weaver<br>married<br>Janet Finlayson Carswell | February 20, 1759 | John Carswell<br>married<br>Florence (Noegow)         |
| June 13, 1713     | Gavine Carswell<br>married<br>Margaret Orr                     | January 6, 1760   | Allan Carswell<br>married<br>Elizabeth Minforth       |
| November 21, 1713 | John Carswell<br>married<br>Elizabeth Craig                    | June 4, 1763      | Robert Carswell<br>married<br>Elizabeth YoungNovember |
| May 14, 1714      | Robert Carswell<br>married<br>Janet Carswell                   | 15, 1766          | Robert Carswell<br>married<br>Elizabeth Kettle        |
| October 25, 1722  | John Carswell<br>married<br>Janet Lochhead                     | June 25, 1768     | James Carswell<br>married<br>Jannet Carswell          |
| January 10, 1723  | James Nevine<br>married<br>Jean Carswell                       | June 29, 1776     | Alexander Carswell<br>married<br>Ann Orr              |
| May 9, 1723       | Robert Carswell<br>married<br>Margaret Carswell                | November 15, 1766 | Robert Carswell<br>married<br>Elizabeth Kettle        |
| November 9, 1723  | Laurence Crawford<br>married<br>Jean Carswell                  | June 25, 1768     | James Carswell<br>married<br>Jannet Carswell          |
| February 6, 1724  | Archibald Carswell<br>married<br>Jean Watt                     | June 29, 1776     | Alexander Carswell<br>married<br>Ann Orr              |
| May 20, 1725      | David Roger<br>married<br>Agnes Carswell                       |                   |   |

# Looking for information on Mary Carswell

Jennifer Clark from new Zealand is searching for a Mary Carswell and provides the following information:

I have been searching for the birth entry/parents/siblings of my great grandmother Mary Carswell for about 25 years but have hit a brick wall. Mary was born 15 October 1837 Glasgow. (Date of birth from her application for an old age pension). Her marriage certificate says:

On the eighth day of October 1858 at Regent Terrace, Glasgow, Marriage (after banns) was solemnized between us according to the forms of the Presbyterians. Sgd William Brown 26, of 101 Green St, Calton, Glasgow, flesher, bachelor, son of George Brown, carter deceased and Elisabeth Brown, maiden name Blair, and Mary Carswell, 21, of 97 Green St, Calton, Glasgow, Spinster, daughter of James Carswell, engineer & Mary Carswell, maiden name Mercer. Sgd John Graham, Minister of Barrack Street Church, Glasgow. Sgd John Pendlebury, witness & Walter Arthur, witness"

Family stories say that Mary's parents died in an epidemic and she was brought up by an aunt and uncle, who was a sea captain. It was also said she had no trace of a Scottish accent and was educated to be a governess. The information below confirms Mary was brought up by her maternal aunt and her husband.

## **1841 census Liverpool, Lancashire, Rushton Street**

John Hill, 35, seaman, b. Scotland

Euphemia Hill, 38, b. Scotland

Mary Carswell, 5, b. Scotland

OPR Parish of Glasgow, Lanark. Page 380: HILL John Hill, seaman and Euphemia **Mercer**, residing in Glasgow married 20th December 1825 by Mr Alexander C Beattie Burgher Minister in Glasgow.

**1851 census** The Asylum, High Road, All Hallows, Tottenham, London  
"Mary Carswell, pupil, age 14, born Scotland, Glasgow"

**1861 census** St John, Glasgow, 25 Moore St

William Brown, head, mar, 28, flesher journeyman, b.Dun. Kirkintilloch

Mary Brown, wife, mar, 24, b. Lanarkshire, Glasgow

Mary Brown, daug, 1, b. Lanarkshire, Glasgow



*Mary Carswell*

In 1864 Mary's baby daughter died in Glasgow. The informant was Catherine Gallacher, her X mark, Aunt, present. I have researched Catherine Gallacher but I cannot see how she is an aunt.

Mary and William arrived in New Zealand on the "Viola" 1865.

Family stories say Mary may have had two brothers who emigrated to the States but this is not confirmed. Her marriage certificate & death certificate say her father is "James Carswell", whilst her golden wedding newspaper report says her father is "Robert Carswell". Her parents are not down as deceased on her marriage certificate but their death entries have not been found. It would appear they died before civil registration.

Scrap of paper found in 2000, thought to have been written in the early 1900s. "Captain Hill, Kirkintilloch. Edinburgh. Grandma Jan 45 Jamaica St, Glasgow. Taylor". ?a family connection or of no relevance.

I have checked out the James Carswell, engineer born 1833 and found he is not the son of James Carswell and Mary Mercer.

If you have any additional information, please contact Jennifer at - [farmcove@xtra.co.nz](mailto:farmcove@xtra.co.nz)

# Scotlandspeople

Recently Scotlandspeople announced new features available online at [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk).

Old Parish Register (OPR) records are now publicly available - the records of births & baptisms and banns & marriages kept by individual parishes can be accessed. The earliest records available date from 1553.

If anyone has accessed the site we would be interested in hearing from you about your experience and if you were able to find everything you wanted to find. Plus what are the costs for the various documents.

## A Heron Connection

Archie Heron from New Zealand is searching for a connection with Carswell and has provided the following information:

George Herron and Margaret Carswell, also George's second family and his marriage to Lillias McGeachan.

As you can see there are two letters R in Herron which I thought they had dropped by about 1808/9, but have since found that they were still using both into the 1860's as I found William the son in the 1861 census as William Herron.

I still have not found what happened to Margaret who disappeared after giving birth to Gilbert on the 6 Jan. 1815. I can only assume that the poor girl died from childbirth, I shall keep on trying to find out what happened to her. Gilbert Herron and Ann MacKie, were married

on the 12 December 1771, at Stewarton, Ayr, Scotland.

Margaret Carswell, I assume met George Herron, in Kilwinning and they got too friendly, and when she found that she was pregnant, she went back home to her parents, Robert Carswell (b29 June 1760) and Mary Eastdale (b1 April 1756). Robert and Mary were married 17 June 1780 and 3 July 1780. George and Margaret's son, was born William Herron, in Dalry c 1800, I found his Christening 13 November 1803, in the old parish records, as an Antenuptial Child, along with his sister Jean on the same day. Robert Carswell's father was a Robert and his mother was Janet Stevenson.

Mary Eastdale is the daughter of James Eastdale and Margaret Thomson.

Please contact Archie at - [acheron@actrix.gen.nz](mailto:acheron@actrix.gen.nz) if you have any additional information.

## Queries corner

### Carswell/Heron connection.

Jack Carswell is trying to find the connection between Carswells and Herons some-time in the late 1700s. Also researching the names - McCracken, Brown, Findlay, Jarvie, McCreadie, Wilson, and Taylor.

Please contact Jack at [jackc1@telus.net](mailto:jackc1@telus.net) if you have any information.

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