

Subject: Request for information relating to family history research

FOI reference: 202000101363

Date received: 21 October 2020

Date responded: 3 November 2020

Information requested:

Request for all the details held on a deceased person, particularly their NHS National Registration record and subsequent Central Register records.

NRS Response:

We have carried out a search and can confirm that the following details are held for Margaret Stewart in the NHSCR database:

NHS number:	YNJA 2372041
Surname:	Stewart
Forename:	Margaret
Date of Birth (DOB):	05/12/1923
Sex:	Female
Posting date:	28/06/1990
Posting code/area:	LNS (Lambeth, Southwark & Lewisham)
Posting date:	19/11/1980
Posting code/area:	T (Tayside)

There is no trace of SSTB/3/8 on the NHSCR database, however, we can confirm that the SSTB/3/8 entry in the 1939 enumeration registers relates to Margaret Stewart with a DOB of 15/12/1922.

An official extract of the entry for Margaret Stewart can be obtained from the 1939 National Identity Register using form [Form NR1](#) available through our website. More information on how to order an official extract is available here:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/nhs-central-register/about-the-register/1939-national-identity-register-and-how-to-order-an-official-extract>

Under section 25(1) of FOISA we do not have to provide information if it is already reasonably accessible.

It may helpful to know that the General Register Office for Scotland collected the information for enumeration purposes, but they did not issue identity cards at any time.

We have included some information about how to use our online resources to request a birth certificate and to research family history in the annex of this letter in case this proves helpful.

Family history information available online

Some of our online resources can be used to research family history. Register for free on the ScotlandsPeople website at <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/> . This will allow searches of the indexes for the births, deaths and marriages. Civil registration started in Scotland in 1855. Whilst it is free to search the indexes, credits need to be purchased in order to view our historic records. However, for copies of modern day records, which are births that took place less than 100 years ago, marriages that took place less than 75 years ago and deaths that took place less than 50 years ago then an official certificate needs to be ordered. The only other option to view the modern day certificates would be to visit our ScotlandsPeople search rooms here in Edinburgh or a Local Family History Centre, five of which are located around Scotland. There are also other types of record available on this website and these may be of interest. For more details about the ScotlandsPeople service please click on this link <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/family-history>

Certificates of historic births can usually be ordered through ScotlandsPeople at <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>. An official certificate can also be ordered through the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website at the link below. These certificates cost slightly more than the online certificates that can be ordered through ScotlandsPeople because the staff here carry out the search. If there is any doubt as to whether the index shown on ScotlandsPeople is correct, we recommend ordering through NRS and provide all known information, including the death certificate. Please follow this link to find out how to order a certificate:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/registration/how-to-order-an-official-extract-from-the-registers>

However, in line with advice from the UK and Scottish Government and to delay the spread of Coronavirus we have decided to close our buildings and restrict non-critical services. Please note we have resumed our online certificate ordering service for urgent requests. This service is available from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm Monday to Friday.

If a certificate is required for an urgent legal or official purpose, then searches for and ordering of birth, death, marriage, divorce, civil partnership and dissolution of civil partnership certificates can be done online at www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk. You can find more details on our website:

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/content/certificates-and-copies>

Finally, the NRS archival catalogue can be searched, which is available at: <http://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/nrsonlinecatalogue/welcome.aspx> . This catalogue provides details of our archive collection that is not available through ScotlandsPeople. It is worth checking out our guidance to better understand what information can be obtained from it at:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/researching-online>