

Notes of the Search Room User Group meeting held on 27 March 2018 in meeting room 1, New Register House at 13:30 Hours

Attendees

Dee Williams (DW, NRS), Antony Slack (AS, NRS), Val Wilson, (ASGRA & Genealogist), Bruce Bishop, (BB, SAFHS, Iain Ferguson (NRS).

Apologies: Lloyd Pitcairn, Ken Nisbet, Janet Bishop, genealogists; Emma Williamson, NSS; Alison Lindsay, NRS.

1. Previous minutes of 12th December 2017

1.1 The notes of the last meeting were accepted.

2. Centre software

2.1 Stability of the website had now improved in the search rooms following changes made to the system.

2.2 Images were now being updated either monthly or real time. Index updates were now taking place monthly.

Dn. Divorce records have not been received by NRS from the Scottish Courts since 2016 following the introduction of new software by Scottish Courts.

2.3 The drop down filter for districts/parishes was now working correctly.

2.4 The season ticket holders asked that they be informed if any updates are made to the ScotlandsPeople system. NRS noted this request.

2.5 There were some issues with links to the Registers of Corrected Entries (RCEs) and this was being addressed by NRS. Also, where Church Registers did not have a full date included then the system was currently not finding those with blanks inserted for date and month. Changes were being made such that the system would find Church Registers indexed under just a year.

Dn. This work now complete.

2.6 The internet version of ScotlandsPeople was planned to be released in local family history centres from the early part of April 2018.

Dn. This release is now complete.

3. Search room issues

3.1 There had been problems on the 9th March 2018, which had resulted in connection problems in the ScotlandsPeople Centre that day.

3.2 There was a planned closure for the search rooms on Thursday 29th March for essential maintenance. BB explained that JB was not attending the meeting following the NRS decision to close the search rooms that day because she needed to make up time that week around the planned closure. VW asked that it be noted that the midweek closure was a great inconvenience to season ticket holders and asked why weekend working had not be undertaken to prevent the

closure midweek? NRS confirmed that the date could not be changed and noted the complaint. Refunds would be given for the full day closure.

4. Records

4.1 Around 2,500 maps and plans were scheduled to be release mid April 2018.
Dn. Actual release date was 13th June 2018

4.2 NRS was still working on the Kirk Session, Highlands and Islands Emigration and Prison Register type records for release on ScotlandsPeople.

4.3 NRS did not have a date when the death/burial records for Mount Vernon cemetery would be released by the Scottish Catholic Archives.

5. Any Other Business

5.1 None

6. Date of Next Meeting

6.1 The date of the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st August 2018 at 13:30 in meeting room 1, New Register House.

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19 June 2018