

Hyde family in Scotland

My Hyde ancestors are well documented as far back as my Great-Great-Grandparents, James Hyde (1814-1861) & Agnes Clark (1821-1889). Until a few years ago, the only clue we had about James' family was something that Aunt Isobel Hyde Reckitt told my sister, Laurie, in 1977: Isobel mentioned that James' father's name was *Robert Hyde*. Searching through Scottish records with this information, though, did not produce any meaningful results.

In the spring of 2010, Jamie Hyde (son of Eric Hyde; grandson of Walter Court Hyde) sent me some intriguing information about a possible connection to the Hyde family in Scotland. The story began with a man called John Hyde Christie (1836-1926) who was well known in Scotland as the General Manager of a company called *The United Turkey Red Co. Ltd*. In his time, it was the largest firm engaged in the business of bleaching, finishing, dyeing, and printing in Scotland.

John Hyde Christie was a son of William Henry McLean Christie and his wife, *Helen Hyde* (born ~1810). J.H. Christie was married to Jessie Fulton (1842-) and they had five children: Henry William Christie (1874-), Jane Christie (1875-), John Fulton Christie (1878-), George James Hyde Christie (1879-) and Helen Hyde Christie (II) (1883-). Although no records have been found to connect Helen Hyde to James Hyde's family, Jamie noted that his father (Eric J.W. Hyde) and grandfather (Walter Court Hyde) had visited George J. H. Christie's home, "Ross Priory" in Dunbartonshire, Scotland, during the Second World War (George was a decorated First World War veteran – he had been awarded the *Distinguished Service Order* (DSO), for bravery). Jamie also has a 1960 Christmas card from "George & Jane" with the Ross Priory address on it. Eric Hyde recalled his visit to Ross Priory and confirmed that there was a family connection to the Christies, but he did not know the details.

So, we are left with the understanding that there is a connection between the Christie and Hyde families, but the question of course, is what exactly is the connection? We can only speculate that Helen could have been a sister of James Hyde. She was born in Glasgow in 1810, which is close to James' birth in 1814.

Some further investigation revealed that according to the 1861 Scotland census, a woman called Rachel Hyde was living with the family of Helen (Hyde) Christie, in Glasgow. At that time she was 74

years old, and was identified as “Grandmother”. In 1861, Helen would have been 51 years old, so it’s reasonable to infer that Rachel was Helen’s mother. If so, and if the speculation above were correct, then Rachel would be James’ mother.

Further research indicated that Rachel had been born in Ireland, and had been married to Richard Hyde on the 7th June 1807 in Barony, Renfrewshire, Scotland (Everything I have found seems to confirm that Rachel’s maiden name was also *Hyde*).

Now, if Rachel was James’ mother, then this information about her husband Richard conflicts with the information that Aunt Isobel left us with: Isobel mentioned in her 1977 interview with Laurie, that James’ father was *Robert Hyde*... Was Isobel mistaken? That would seem unlikely because she had a remarkable memory for facts. Nevertheless, it does seem significant to me that James named his first son Richard: As Isobel said herself, it was customary at that time to name sons and daughters after their parents and grandparents. James did not give the name *Robert* to any of his own children – – nor did Helen (John gave the name *Robert* to his second son, and James’ eldest son, Richard, named his youngest son *Robert John Manly*). James and Helen both gave the name *Helen* to one of their own daughters, and Helen and John each gave the name *Rachel* to one of their own daughters. Further research into the Hyde & Christie families in Scotland has revealed other information that is worth noting here:

1. We begin with this reference – <http://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/2971157> – which relates to Christie Park, and includes this reference to John Hyde Christie’s obituary: “***John Hyde Christie was first employed by his cousin’s firm, Hay & Hyde at Port Dundas***”.
2. According to the *Glasgow Post Office Directory 1853-54*, ‘Hay & Hyde’ was a firm of ‘Silk Throwsters and Patent Silk Spinners, Sawmillfield, Port Dundas’. The same directory also has a listing for “John Hyde of Hay & Hyde, 275 St. Georges Road”. In 1853-54, John Hyde Christie would have been about 18, and likely at his first job. This indicates to me that John Hyde (of Hay & Hyde) is very likely the “cousin” referred to above, and he must have been related via John Hyde Christie’s mother, Helen Hyde. (At this point we should also take note of another fact in the same Post Office Directory: a “Mrs. Hyde, Grocer”, was living and/or working next door, at 277 St.

Georges Road – – *Remember that, as we noted in the 1861 Scotland census, Rachel Hyde was described as a “Retired Grocer”*).

3. According to the 1851 Scotland Census, Mary Hyde, 33 years old, lived at 275 *St. Georges Road* (John Hyde’s location in the 1853 GPO directory, above) with her children Mary (aged 11), Robert (8), Rachel (6) and John (3). She is listed as “Wife”. There is no mention of John Hyde, but Mary is not listed as a widow (It could well be that Census-takers only recorded who was home when they called, to prevent double-counting).
4. According to the 1861 Scotland Census (ten years later), John Hyde, 53 years old and Mary Hyde 43 years old, live at 29 Scotia Street with their children Mary W. (aged 21), James (aged 30 – a typo, I’m sure this should have been 20), Robert M. (18), Rachel N. (16), Melville (9), William W. (7) and John G.B. (2). John’s occupation is listed as “Silk Garn Agent”. Mary’s birthplace is listed as “Cupar, fife-shire” in both 1851 & 1861 censuses. Other info is consistent as well, including the names and ages of children Mary, Robert and Rachel (it seems likely that young John (born 1848) died between 1851 and 1861). I can’t explain why the son James was not listed in the 1851 Census (he would have been 10), but the rest of the information is very consistent. Robert M. and James are described as Post Office Clerks.
5. In the 1871 **England** Census James W. Hyde (aged 30) and Robert M. Hyde (aged 28), who were both born in Paisley, Scotland, are lodgers at an address in London, and are described as *clerks at the General Post Office in London*. The significance of this information about James & Robert will become apparent in the following paragraphs. This brings us to the next major development in this story: My cousin, Heather Adair Shaw recalled to me that her Grandmother (Alison Jean (Hyde) Kyle) had an ongoing correspondence with a relative back in Scotland (Alison was the daughter of George Hyde; Granddaughter of James & Agnes). Heather did not know this relative’s name, but she knew that he had a close connection to the Duke of York (later, King George VI) through a camp for boys that had been sponsored by the Duke of York. She also mentioned that this man was prominent enough to have been invited to the wedding of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Phillip, in 1947. A short time after Heather told me this story, I stumbled upon information about a man called *Sir Robert Robertson Hyde* (1878-1967), a clergyman who had been the founder and director of a British organization called the *Industrial Welfare Society*. Furthermore, it was Sir Robert who had established the *Duke of York’s Holiday Camps for Boys*. In 1950, the king had made him KBE

(Knight Commander of the British Empire). It quickly became clear to both Heather and me that this must have been her Grandmother's correspondent. Even more more interesting was the fact that Sir Robert had written an Autobiography called "*Industry was My Parish*", and I soon obtained a copy hoping that it might contain much information about his family, that might help me make a connection to our Scottish ancestors. Regrettably, that was not to be, but the book still contained some interesting facts about his family: His father was Robert Mettam Hyde (1843-1888), and his Hyde Grandfather was a 'Silk Manufacturer from Paisley'. He mentions that his father had worked in the Post Office (see the 1861 and 1871 census information above), and later worked as an engineer installing sub-marine cables in Brazil. I have no doubt that Robert Mettam Hyde is the Robert M. Hyde whose father was John Hyde, of *Hay & Hyde*, also referenced above. So, the significance of this is that Alison Jean Hyde had an ongoing overseas correspondence with the Grandson of John Hyde – the same John Hyde who we think was a brother of our James.

The last person I want to talk about is John Hyde's son, James who has been referenced above as a post office clerk in the 1851, 1861 and 1871 censuses: In the 1881 Scotland census, James W. Hyde (aged 41), born in Paisley, Scotland, is described as Superintendent at the Edinburgh Post Office. This same information is consistent in the 1891 and 1901 Scotland censuses where James W. Hyde is described as the *Controller of the Edinburgh Post Office*: At that time, the Controller of the Edinburgh post office was **James Wilson Hyde**: I know this for several reasons, including the fact that he was the author of several books about the history of the Royal Mail, including: "*The Royal Mail, it's Curiosities & Romance*" and "*A Hundred Years by Post*". It is clear to me that James Wilson Hyde was the son of John Hyde, and his wife **Mary Wilson**. It is worth noting here that our James Hyde and Agnes Clark named their second daughter *Mary Wilson Hyde*. (James Wilson Hyde's brother, Robert Mettam Hyde, also named a daughter Mary Wilson Hyde).

To summarize, here are all of the indicators of a Hyde family connection to Scotland:

1. Walter Court Hyde and his son Eric John Walter Hyde had some reason to visit George James Hyde Christie in Dumbartonshire, Scotland during the Second World War. George was the son of John Hyde Christie, who's mother was Helen Hyde, born ~1810, a daughter of Richard & Rachel Hyde.

2. Alison Jean (Elsie) Hyde had some reason to carry-on an overseas correspondence with Robert Robertson Hyde, who was the son of Robert Mettam Hyde, Grandson of John Hyde, and Great-Grandson of Richard & Rachel Hyde.
3. Our James Hyde & Agnes Clark gave names to their own children, as follows:
 - They named their oldest son *Richard Hyde* (after James' father?)
 - They named their second daughter *Mary Wilson Hyde* (after his brother John's wife, Mary Wilson?)
 - They named their fourth son William Hyde (after James' brother? (who was identified in the 1841 Scottish census))
 - They named their fifth son John Hyde (after James' brother?)
 - They named their fourth daughter Helen Rennie Hyde (after James' sister?).
 - Finally, it would seem that our James was named after his mother's father.

Even though these are all good indicators (especially when taken together) of a connection between the families of John Hyde, Helen Hyde, and our James, none of them demonstrate conclusively what the connection is. Until the right documentation is discovered, the relationships remain to be determined.

What follows is a list of descendants of Richard and Rachel Hyde -- whose children *may* have included *our James*:

HYDE FAMILY REGISTER (SCOTTISH ANCESTORS ONLY)

1. **Richard Hyde** (1780?- 1840?) Born in Scotland, probably about 1780. He married Rachel Hyde (apparently *Hyde* was her maiden name) in Barony, Lanarkshire, Scotland on June 7, 1807. He probably died sometime before the 1841 Scottish Census was conducted.
1. **Rachel Hyde** (1784-1868) Born in Ireland ~1784. According to the 1861 Scottish Census, she was a Grocer in Glasgow. According to her death record, her father's name was *James Hyde*, and he was also a Grocer. She died at 17 George Street, Glasgow on Oct. 17, 1868, aged ~84 years.
 1. John Hyde (1808-1867)
 2. Helen Hyde (1810-)
 3. Elizabeth Hyde (1812-)
 4. ***James Hyde?? (1814-1861)*** *Our speculation is that James was born into this family. The descendants of James Hyde are not included in this register. For details of his family, please see my 'Hyde Family Chronicle'.*

5. Rachel Hyde (1821-)
6. William Hyde (1821-)
7. Mary Hyde (1829-)
2. **John Hyde** (1808-1867) Born in Glasgow in 1808; son of Richard & Rachel Hyde. Married Mary Wilson about 1839. I believe that he was a partner in a firm called *Hay & Hyde*, Silk Throwsters & Patent Silk Spinners, Sawmillfield, Port Dundas (*See Glasgow Post Office Directory 1853-54*). He died in Renfrewshire, Scotland in 1867, aged 59 years (I have a copy of his will, but it doesn't contain anything useful).
 1. **Mary Wilson** (1818-) Born in Cupar, Fifeshire, Scotland about 1818.
 1. Mary Wade Hyde (1840-1928)
 2. James Wilson Hyde (1841-1918)
 3. Robert Mettam Hyde (1843-1888)
 4. Rachel Andersen Hyde (1845-1937)
 5. Melville Hyde (1851-1937)
 6. William Walter Hyde (1854-)
 7. Joseph Bell Hyde (1856-1857)
 8. John Joseph Brown Hyde (1858-1933)
3. **Helen Hyde** (1810-) Born in Glasgow, Scotland about 1810; Daughter of Richard & Rachel Hyde. She married William Henry McLean Christie in Abbey Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland on June 10, 1836.
 1. **William Henry McLean Christie** (1806-) Born in Barrhead, Renfrewshire, Scotland about 1806.
 1. John Hyde Christie (1836-1926)
 2. Rachel Christie (1839-1895)
 3. William Henry McLean Christie (1843-)
 4. Frederick Christie (1850-1861)
4. **Elizabeth Hyde** (1812-) Born in Glasgow, Scotland about 1812; Daughter of Richard & Rachel Hyde. She married John Henry McInnes in Abbey Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland on December 31,
 1. **John Henry McInnes** (1816-) He was a Stationer, Printer and Bookseller in Neilston, Renfrewshire. He was the first employer of John Hyde Christie, before JHC went to work for Richard & Rachel's son John, at *Hay & Hyde*.
 1. Rachel Hyde McInnes (1841-)
 2. Mary Ann McInnes (1846-)
 3. John Taylor McInnes (1850-)
5. James Hyde (1814-1861) Born in Glasgow Scotland on Sept. 15, 1814, *we think he could have been a son of Richard & Rachel Hyde.*

He married Agnes Clark in Paisley on July 1, 1842, and they had twelve children (nine surviving infancy). They emigrated from Scotland to Montreal, Canada in April 1853. He died in Montreal on May 20, 1861, aged 47 years. (Descendants of James & Agnes are not included here). Buried at Mount Royal Cemetery, Montreal.

1. Agnes Clark (1821-1889) Born in Scotland about 1821. Her father was John Clark; he was a surgeon in the Royal Navy (This is according to a notation in daughter Jemima's death notice in the Montreal Gazette, in 1937). Agnes died in Montreal on June 13th 1889, aged ~68 years. Buried at Mount Royal Cemetery, Montreal
 1. Richard Hyde (1843-1926)
 2. Jean Mackenzie Hyde (1944-1929)
 3. George Hyde (1846-1916)
 4. Mary Wilson Hyde (1848-1851)
 5. James Hyde (1850-1850)
 6. William Hyde (1851-1897)
 7. John Hyde (1853-1936)
 8. James Hyde (1855-1857)
 9. Alexander Hyde (1857-1942)
 10. Margaret B. Hyde (1859-1927)
 11. Helen Rennie Hyde (1859-1949)
 12. Jemima Hyde (1861-1938)
6. **William Hyde** (1821-) Born in Scotland about 1821; son of Richard & Rachel Hyde. *Referenced on th 1841 Scottish census; he was living with his sister Helen, and her husband.*
7. **Rachel Hyde** (1821-) Born in Scotland about 1821; daughter of Richard & Rachel Hyde. She married (*I think*) Thomas Stevenson Sheppard in Abbey Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland on July 2, 1844.
 1. **Thomas Stevenson Sheppard** (1820-) Born about 1820.
8. **Mary Hyde** (1829-) Born in Glasgow, Scotland about 1829; daughter of Richard & Rachel Hyde.
9. **Mary Wade Hyde** (1840-1928) Born Paisley, Scotland about 1840; daughter of John Hyde & Mary Wilson. She married Walter James Dalgleish in Blythswood, Glasgow on September 20, 1866. She died about 1928 in Edmonton, Middlesex, England, aged ~88 years.
 1. **Walter James Dalgleish** (1841-1907) Born in Johnstone, Dumfriesshire, Scotland in 1841; he was the son of John Dalgleish and Elizabeth Nichol. He died in Essex, Hertfordshire, England on Sept. 17, 1907, aged 66 years.
 1. Mary Hyde Dalgleish (1867-)

2. John James Dalgleish (1870-1955)
 3. Elizabeth Nicol Dalgleish (1871-1940)
 4. Melville Beatrice Dalgleish (1874-1874)
 5. Walter Edward Dalgleish (1875-1938)
 6. Arthur William Dalgleish (1878-1969)
 7. William Service Dalgleish (1879-1918)
10. **James Wilson Hyde** (1841-1918) Born in Glasgow, Scotland on February 6th Son of John Hyde & Mary Wilson. He married Joanna Stuart Gibb. He had a long career in the Post Office: He, and his brother Robert, began as a clerks in the Post Office in Glasgow (see 1861 Scottish census). Next, he went with his brother Robert Mettam Hyde to London and they both worked in the Post Office there (see 1871 England census). James returned to Scotland , and eventually became Controller of the Edinburgh General Post Office (see 1881, 1891 and 1901 Scotland censuses). He was also the author of several books about the history of the Royal Mail, including: “*The Royal Mail, it’s Curiosities & Romance*” and “*A Hundred Years by Post*“. He died in London, England on Apr. 29, 1918, aged 77 years.
1. **Joanna Stuart Gibb** (1853-) Born in Glasgow, Scotland. Daughter of John Gibb and Martha Stuart. She died before her husband – between 1901 and 1918.
 1. Martha Helena Eveline Hyde (1878-)
11. **Robert Mettam Hyde** (1843-1888) Born in Glasgow, Scotland about 1843; son of John Hyde & Mary Wilson. He married Marjory Robertson on October 7th 1835 in Stirling, Scotland. He was a professional engineer. After a short stint in the London Post Office, he joined the *Western & Brazilian Telegraph Company*, and was responsible for laying the first sub-marine cables in South America. The Emperor of Brazil presented him with a decoration known as the *Order of the Rose*. This was awarded to civilians who had distinguished themselves by loyalty to the Emperor, or by services rendered. He died in West Ham, Essex, England in 1888, aged 45 years. *Most of this biographical information came from the autobiography titled “Industry was my Parish” written by his son, Sir Robert Robertson Hyde.*
1. **Marjory Robertson** (1850-1935) Born in Inverary, Argyllshire, Scotland on April 1st She was the daughter of James Robertson & Jessie Stoddart – she was one of a large family; Highlanders of the Struan Robertson Clan. Her father, James, was Chamberlain to the Duke of Argyle (*The ‘Chamberlain’ was the head of the Duke’s household*). She died in London, England on April 20th 1935, aged

85 years. (See *“Industry was my Parish”* by Sir Robert Robertson Hyde).

1. Alfred Mettam Hyde (1876-1938)
 2. Robert Robertson Hyde (1878-1967)
 3. Marjory Stoddart Hyde (1880-1974)
 4. Mary Wilson Hyde (1882-)
 5. Florence Maude Hyde (1886-)
12. **Rachel Andersen Hyde** (1845-1937) Born in Glasgow, Scotland, about 1845; daughter of John Hyde & Mary Wilson; born in Glasgow, Scotland. She married Dr. James Barras in Glasgow on April 9th 1867, and they had eight children. She died in Ayrshire, Scotland on September 6, 1937, aged 92 years.
1. **James Barras M.D.** (1836-1918) Born in Stanley, Perthshire, Scotland, about 1918. Son of George Barras & Margaret Smith. He died in London, England on November 24, 1918, aged 82 years.
 1. William George Barras (1868-1917)
 2. Mary Margaret Barras (1869-1871)
 3. Rachel Hyde Barras (1871-1876)
 4. Margaret Mary Barras (1873-)
 5. John James Barras (1874-1877)
 6. Florence Helena Barras (1875-)
 7. Alice Smith Barras (1877-1961)
 8. Ada Beatrice Barras (1882-1898)
13. **Melville Hyde** (1852-1937) Born in Glasgow, Scotland on April 28, 1851; daughter of John Hyde & Mary Wilson. She married William Larmour Service in Clapham, England on April 17, 1877, and they had eight children. She died in Uxbridge, Middlesex, England on January 27, 1937, aged 84 years.
1. **William Larmour Service** (1856-1931) Born in Fintry, Stirlingshire, Scotland. Son of Robert and Margaret Service. He died in Merionethshire, Wales on April 30, 1931, aged 75 years.
 1. Robert Larmour Service (1878-)
 2. William Dudley Service (1883-)
 3. Juanita Melville Service (1885-1956)
 4. Daisy Service (1887-)
 5. Olive Muriel Service (1887-1967)
 6. Eleanor Service (1889-)
 7. Thomas Bernard Service (1889-)
 8. Clarence Hyde Service (1891-)
14. **William Walter Hyde** (1854-) Born in Glasgow, Scotland about 1854; son of John Hyde & Mary Wilson. He is referenced as

“William W. Hyde” in the 1861 & 1871 Scottish censuses: Robert Robertson Hyde’s autobiography refers to an “Uncle Walter Hyde” – I feel pretty sure that this is William (Walter) Hyde.

15. **Joseph Bell Hyde** (1856-1857) Born in Glasgow, Scotland on May 14, 1856; son of John Hyde & Mary Wilson; born in Glasgow, Scotland. He died on August 24, 1857, aged fifteen months.
16. **John Joseph Brown Hyde** (1858-1933) Born in Milton, Glasgow, Scotland on November 10th Son of John Hyde & Mary Wilson. Married Florence White in Chigwell, Essex, England on March 14, 1882. He is referenced with the wrong initials in the 1861 and 1871 Scottish censuses, but I feel sure I have his name right: He is mentioned twice (as “Uncle Joe”) in Robert Robertson Hyde’s autobiography, “*Industry was my Parish*”. He died in England on November 8, 1933, aged 75 years.
 1. **Florence White** (1857-) Born Chigwell, Essex, England; Daughter of Thomas & Mary Ann White.
17. **John Hyde Christie** (1836-1926) Born in Glasgow, Scotland on November 9, 1836; son of Helen Hyde & William Henry McLean Christie. His first job was in a the Printing, Stationery & Bookshop of John Henry McInnes, husband of his Aunt Elizabeth Hyde. His second job was with his Uncle John Hyde at the firm of Hay & Hyde, in Port Dundas. Trained as a chemist, he became General Manager of the *United Turkey Red Co. Ltd.* He married Jessie Fulton in Renfrewshire, Scotland on July 30, 1872, and they had five children. He died in Dumbartonshire, Scotland on June 24, 1926, aged 89 years.
 1. **Jessie Fulton** (1842-1924) Born in Kibarchan, Renfrewshire, Scotland. Daughter of John Fulton & Jean Park.
 1. Henry William Mclean Christie (1873-1943)
 2. Jane Park Christie (1874-)
 3. John Fulton Christie (1877-1959)
 4. George James Hyde Christie (1879-)
 5. Helen Hyde Christie (1883-1924)
18. **Rachel Christie** (1839-1895) Born in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland on February 24, 1839; daughter of Helen Hyde & William Henry McLean Christie. She married (*I think*) Andrew John Bain in Bonhill, Dumbarton, Scotland on January 2, 1872 and they had six children. She died in Scotland about 1895, aged ~56 years.
 1. **Andrew John Bain** (1845-1919) Born on May 11, 1845 in Bonhill, Dumbarton, Scotland; Son of Hugh and Anne Bain. He died in Dennistoun, Lanarkshire, Scotland in 1919, aged 74 years.
 1. Walter Hugh Bain (1872-)

2. Henry William Bain (1874-)
3. Andrew J. Bain (1878-1895)
4. Rachel Anne Bain (1879-)
5. Elizabeth Lilian Adam Bain (1881-1908)
6. Johnina Christie Bain (1885-1928)

<https://hydegenealogy.wordpress.com/hyde-family-in-scotland/>