

6, Sutherland Dr.,
Giffnock,
Glasgow, G46 6PL.
041 638 2750.
September 4th 1989

Mr. W. Neil,
11, Chequers Road,
Chorlton,
Manchester.

Dear Mr. Neil,

Now that the summer is nearly over, or at least our children are back at school, I have returned to my hobby. First of all I must thank you very much for the wonderful flowers. I managed to keep them for weeks and took great delight in telling all who asked, where they had come from.

Michael was most interested in your explanation about your computer. He has a small Tandy portable at work which he brings home and I use it for keying in 1851 Census details when we cross on the Clyde ferry to see his parents. No rest for the wicked!

Anyway to get down to the more interesting part. I decided that as Thomas Neil and Agnes Fern were probable Roman Catholic, there might be a record of John's birth in the Archdiocese of Glasgow records. I made an appointment and was told that there was no Catholic church in Gorbals in 1837 so children were baptised at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Clyde Street. I searched all through 1837 and then 1838, no luck so I decided to go back to 1836 and I found him. Details enclosed.

No address unfortunately so I suppose I will just have to plough through the whole 1841 and/or 1851 census until I find them. It is annoying me as much as you now! I hope you are not in too much of a hurry as it will probably take me a long time.

I'm not sure if you are at home just now, I think you said you would be back in mid August but you have probably been and gone by now. Michael has been in California recently and is now in South Africa again.

Best Wishes,

Elizabeth D. Smith

Elizabeth D. Smith.

1836

Childs name.

John

legitimacy

lawful

names of Parents

Thomas Neill + Agnes Feran

Born

14th April

Baptised

4th July

Sponsors.

Felix M'Pake + Helen Edmond

Clergyman

Peter Forbes.