

## Alexander Stewart Simpson 1880 – 1968

Alexander Simpson was the eldest in the Simpson family of Earlsferry. He was born in 1853 and whilst along with his siblings was a good golfer it was only later in life that he turned his hand to making golf clubs. Initially he was trained as a ship's carpenter and lived in Leith – presumably servicing ships in Leith. However it was not until 1893 at the age of 40 that he joined his brother Jack (John) six years his junior in setting up a golf club making business in Edinburgh. The business was in Morningside Road. Currently the address is a shop unit but it is likely that in 1893 it would have been a workshop of sorts.

He married twice. His first wife Helen died quite early on in the marriage and he remarried Jessie Christie. He had four children – Alexander by his first wife and Robert, David, Jessie and May. For some reason Alexander did not live with his father after his mother's death but with his great grandfather James Simpson in Falkland.

	1885.	W. 31 years.	Robert Scott, Edinburgh	Hydrocephalus	1885.
273	Helen Simpson September 1853 Edinburgh		(Reputed Father, deceased)	No Cert. by P. R. Murray M.D. Leith	Robert Simpson September 1853 North Leith
	Married to Alexander Simpson, Shipwright, 13, Morningside Street, Leith.		Catherine Christie, M. D. Simpson		Jessie Christie, Registrar.

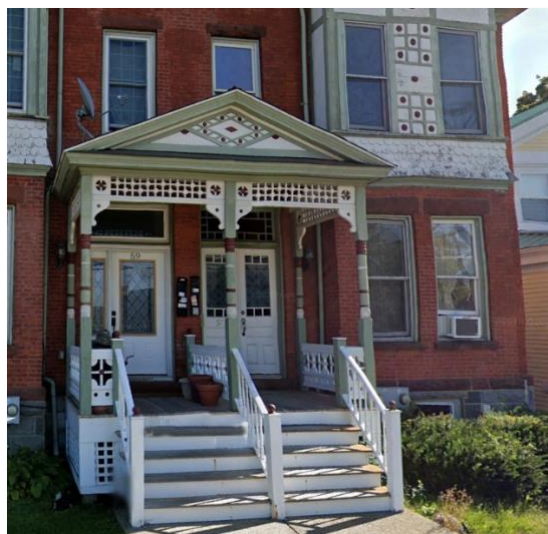
In 1901 he was living in 4 Belhaven Terrace which is about 200 yds from the premises at Morningside Road. His brother Jack (q.v.) went to become professional at Mortonhall Golf club about a mile up the road from Morningside and presumably Alexander continued making the clubs. He died in 1927 and was living at 12 Morningside Drive in Edinburgh.



6 Belhaven Terrace

Name:	Alexander Simpson
Age:	47
Estimated birth year:	abt 1854
Relationship:	Head
Spouse's name :	Jessie Simpson
Gender:	Male
Where born:	Earlsferry, Fifeshire
Registration Number:	685/5
Registration district:	Newington
Civil Parish:	Edinburgh Morningside
County:	Midlothian
Address:	No 4 Belhaven Terr
Occupation:	Golf Cleib Maker
ED:	126
Household schedule number:	29
Line:	13
Roll:	CSSCT1901_390
Household Members:	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>
Alexander Simpson	47
Jessie Simpson	41
Robert Simpson	9
David Simpson	7
Jessie Simpson	3
May Simpson	2mo

His son, also Alexander, was born in 1880 and probably also worked in the workshop in Morningside as he is shown as living at 1 Maxwell Street in Morningside – again close to the workshop. But he went off to America and is shown in 1912 census as living in Brooklyn. He had married Nell in 1907 and he became a golf teacher. They settled in Poughkeepsie, but it is not possible to find out which golf course he worked at. However, he became a naturalised American citizen in 1922 and his wife Nell followed fairly quickly to be an adopted American – he died in 1968 and Nell in 1962. He is also shown in one census as a golf professional working in a Department Store but it is not clear what exactly was meant by this. Their address in Poughkeepsie was 57 Garden Street (see image right).



*Memorial Tablet Poughkeepsie cemetery, for some reason his birth year is wrong.*

**Researched and compiled by  
Graham Johnston.**