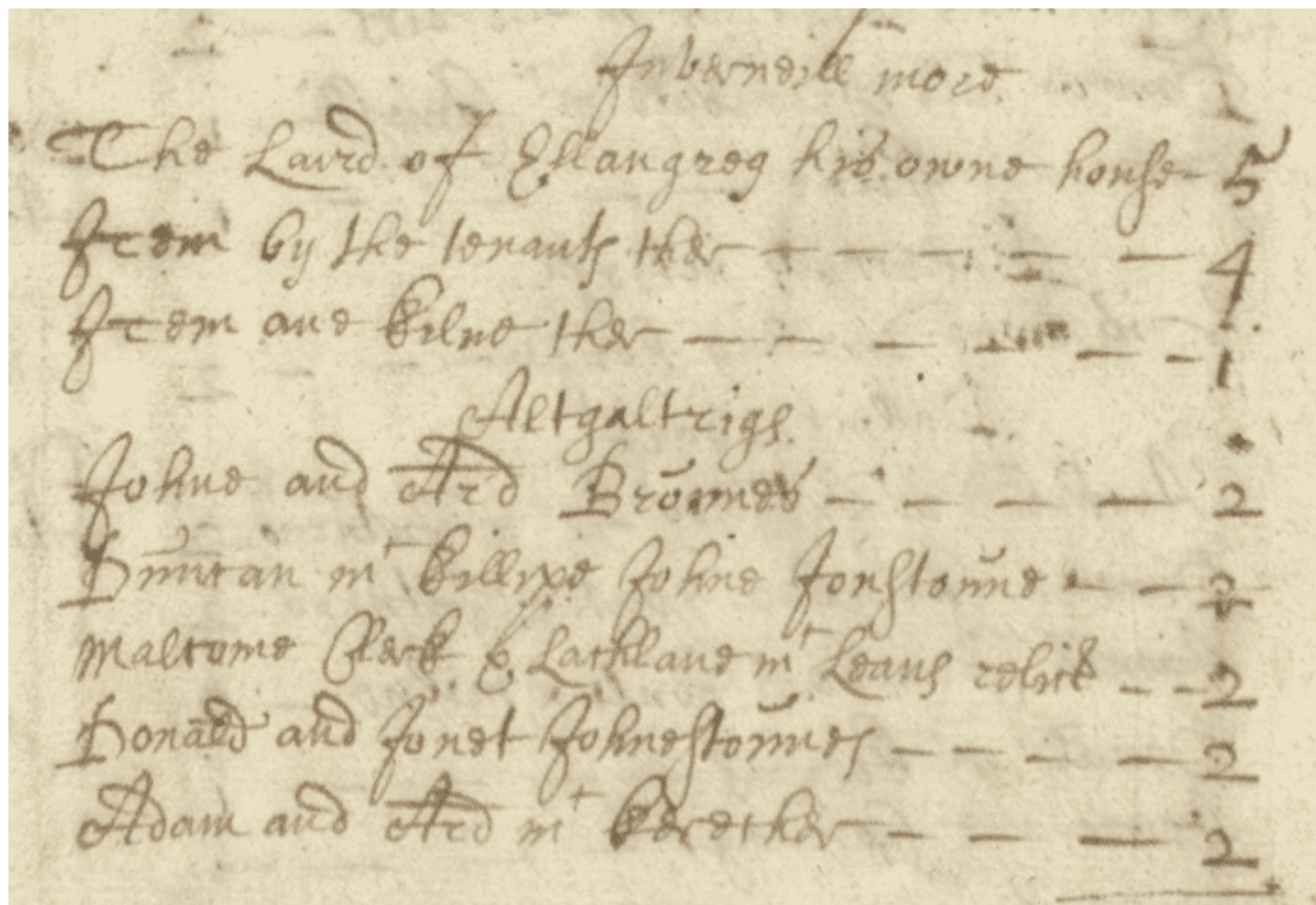


Poser 375 – Hearth Tax for Argyll and Bute, 1694

This week's poser is taken from the Hearth Tax records for Argyll and Bute, and dates from 1694. (National Records of Scotland, E69/3/1 page 10). The hearth tax was raised between 1691 and 1695 and was payable by both landowners and tenants based on the number of hearths in their homes.

This is a good example of late 17th/early 18th century handwriting, and the secretary hand *c*, *e*, and *k* are all quite typical. There are places where a run of minims together can make it difficult to determine individual letters, and also a couple of instances of a contracted name to look out for too. The writer uses large looping flourishes on many of his letters which can interfere with text on the same line, but helpfully indicates his letter *u* with a tittle mark above it (although not always directly above it!).



This week's question: How many women are listed in the extract and what are their names?

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Answer: Two women are listed: Lachlane McLean's widow (relict) and Jonet Johnestoune

Transcription:

Inverneill more
The Laird of Ellangreg his owne house 5
Item by the tenants ther[e] 4
Item ane kilne ther[e] 1

Altgaltrigs
Johne and Ar[chibal]d Brounes 2
Duncan McKillipe Johne Jonstoune 2
Malcome Clerk & Lachlane McLeans relict 2
Donald and Jonet Johnestounes 2
Adam and Ar[chibal]d McKerecher 2

If you would like to contribute palaeography posers to the website contact us (onlineresources@nas.gov.uk).