



ILMO®

(Investigating Local Members Origins)

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NEWS LETTER OF THE DEVONPORT BRANCH OF THE T.F.H.S. Inc. © 2005

The Secretary

P O Box 587, Devonport 7310

www.tfhdev.com

Our major theme for this issue focuses on researching your ancestors in Ireland. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Irish research often seems daunting and can in fact be difficult for family historians used to researching records in Australia or the United Kingdom. The main reason for this is that few Irish statutory records from the 19th century or beyond have survived. There are a myriad of reasons why these records are no longer in existence, including civil and global wars, fires and politics.

Civil registration in Ireland was quite late in implementation, it wasn't until April Fools Day in 1845 that civil registration of Protestant and Jewish marriages began. However the government didn't really get serious about compulsory registration until January 1864 when registration of all births, deaths and marriages began. Following the Government of Ireland Act in 1920, 26 of Ireland's 32 counties left the United Kingdom and formed the Irish Free State. In 1949 this became the Republic of Ireland. The remaining 6 counties became Northern Ireland. It is important to understand how the countries are administrated before beginning research.

Census records from the 19th century were almost totally destroyed, either by order of the British Government, pulped during the paper shortage of WWI, or in the fire which destroyed the Four Courts building in Dublin during the civil war of 1922. Since there are virtually no census records available, we have to look to Griffiths Valuation & Tithe Applotment books.

Church records (parish registers) are an important source of information for the period before compulsory government registration was introduced. Archives, libraries, heritage centres and societies both in Ireland and Australia have a wealth of information both online and in print that will assist in locating information.



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Do you have something to say?

Listed below are the mechanisms which allow you to raise a matter or a concern with the Branch committee or with the State Executive.

- 1. Write a letter to the Branch Secretary*
- 2. Write a letter to the State Secretary*
- 3. Email either of the above (addresses are in your journal)*
- 4. Approach any Committee member and ask them to raise your concern at the next Committee meeting.*
- 5. Ask a General meeting to resolve that the Committee consider or reconsider a proposal or matter.*
- 6. Write your suggestion in the Suggestion Book at the Branch Library*

Do you have ancestors from the Northern Counties ???

An article in the August 2005 edition of Family Tree Monthly (available in the Branch Library now) discusses how you may use the “Rent Rolls in the City of Londonderry”. They identify occupiers of buildings within the walled city from the present day back to 1619 when the walls were built.



Catholic “Bogside” Derry City

Try looking at *The Honourable Irish Society* website for an excellent resource on Co.Derry.

<http://irishsociety.infm.ulst.ac.uk>

Ulster Covenant Signatories of 1912

is a list of almost ½ million men and women who pledged themselves to use “all means which may be found necessary to defeat the present conspiracy to set up Home Rule parliament in Ireland.” A searchable database at www.proni.gov.uk will yield names, addresses and townlands.

Looking for history to add content to your family names and dates??

The BBC web pages are always a useful historical source.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/timelines/ni> Links from here will take you to “The Plantation of Ulster” or “The

Siege of Derry 1688-1689” and many more.

Top six free resources for research in Ireland

GenUKI webpages

<http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/irl>

Here you will find information on all 32 counties (Republic and Northern Ireland)

Rootsweb Fianna Guide to Irish Genealogy

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~rwguide/le/sson21.htm>

Family History Research in the National Library of Ireland

http://www.nli.ie/new_what_res.htm

National Archives of Ireland

<http://www.nationalarchives.ie/genealogy/begin.htm>

Public Record Office Northern Ireland

PRONI <http://www.proni.gov.uk/>

Cyndi’s List for Ireland & Northern Ireland

<http://www.cyndislist.com/ireland.htm>



Protestant “Shankill Rd” Belfast

Schools register

1860 – 1880 names date of birth address and occupations of parents,

religion, attendance and academic results. PRONI holds 1500 of these www.Proni.gov.uk

Mailing Lists: how to contact others who are researching your names.

Rootsweb have over 28,000 mailing lists that you can subscribe to. You will find the Irish ones listed under the International heading. Each mailing list has a searchable archive. For more information about mailing lists go to www.tasgenes.com and select the Learning/Genealogy heading.

Old Age Pension claim forms, contain extracts from 1841 and 1851 censuses (which were destroyed by fire). The pension was introduced on Jan 1st 1909, for people over 70 years of age. To prove their age, the applicants had to pay for searches of the censuses. This was because if they were born pre 1866 there were no civil registration records available. Held at National Archives in Dublin and PRONI in Northern Ireland, these records are referred to as “green forms”. These records are not available online, but it may be worth searching personally if you are lucky enough to visit, or hire a professional researcher.

Passenger lists online

Over 45,000 names, occupations, nationality, age, marital status for emigrants leaving Londonderry, Galway and Queenstown (Cork) from 1890 at www.originsnetwork.com

Pay-per-view websites

As with most hobbies there are times in genealogy when you will need to spend some money to get the proof you

need. There are now sites where you can search online and for a cost, download the results to your computer.

Origins Network

<http://www.originsnetwork.com>

From here you can select Irish Origins and search Griffiths Valuation, wills, military and shipping records.



In 1990 family history resource centres were set up in all counties as part of the Irish Genealogical Project (IGP). These are known as **Heritage Centres**, their main objective is to concentrate on providing access to local resources through their indexed databases. Their content, range of services provided and levels of assistance vary from one county to another. Details on the centres can be found at <http://www.irishroots.net>

And to complete our Irish theme

Irish genealogist Tony McCarthy on new technology in genealogical research says “New technology is marvellous, but genealogical research without a little bit of travel and socialisation is not a very attractive pastime. The battery hen genealogist, pecking at a keyboard all day long, will never experience the same satisfaction as the free range genealogist scratching around graveyards.”

Devonport Branch News

Annual Christmas Hamper Raffle

Enclosed with this news letter is a book of fifteen raffle tickets. These sell for three for one dollar thus making the book of tickets a maximum of five dollars.

As this is usually our major fundraiser for the year we are asking for your support for this. We have purchased during the year a reasonable amount of new research material and hope to continue on in the near future with more purchases as funds permit. If you do not wish to sell these tickets or purchase them yourself could you please return them to the Branch Library or post them back to the postal address on the front cover of this newsletter. Could all tickets be returned by Friday the 2nd December.

Devonport & Launceston Microfiche Roster

22/8/05-18/11/05 Devonport set 1
21/11/05-17/2/06 Devonport set 2
20/2/06-19/5/06 Devonport Set 1
Launceston will have the Alternate set to Devonport at the above dates

Set 1 GRO BDMs 1943-1946

Set 2 GRO BDMs 1947-1950

Please note : As from 22/8/05 these microfiche will be rotated with Launceston Branch at the same time as the State owned microfiche rotate i.e. at three monthly intervals.

FOR SALE

A member has for sale a black trolley suitcase, sturdy wheels and used only once. Perfect condition \$65.00.
Contact Sue on 64282288.

End of year Christmas Dinner

The end of year Christmas dinner is to be held at the Bass & Flinders Restaurant Ulverstone on Friday the 9th of December at 6.30pm. The Christmas hamper will be drawn on that night. If you are intending going then a list will be on the notice board at the Library or you can contact Sue McCreghan on 64282288. Numbers will have to be in by the 1st December. A reminder will be placed in the next newsletter due out in the last week of November.

More Obscure occupations

From Richard Gould

CARMAN,CHARMAN, CARTMAN,
CARRIER- The driver of a horse drawn cart, often employed by railway companies to pick up and deliver goods locally.

CORDWAINER, CORDINER,
CORVINER,
CORVISOR –A shoe maker.
Originally it referred to a leather worker using high quality cordovan leather to make such items as harness, riding boots and gloves. The name derives from Cordova in Spain, once famed for its leather industry. By the mid nineteenth century, the occupation had become synonymous with shoemaker.

CURRIER One who tanned leather by incorporating oil or grease.

HAMMERMAN A person who hammered metal in a blacksmith shop or forge.

IRON TURNER One who turned items from iron on a lathe.

LANDSMANN The German name for an agricultural labourer.

LUMPER A person who loaded and unloaded ship's cargo; synonymous with docker, stevedore and wharf labourer.

MANTUA MAKER A dressmaker. Mantuas were originally loose cloaks worn by women in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

PLATE MAKER The British name for a fettler, one who worked in a gang responsible for the maintenance of a section of railway track.

POINTSMAN One who changed the points in a railway goods yard to alter the track direction of trains.

POTMAN One who cleared away and washed pots in a public house or tavern.

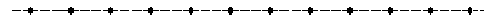
WAGGONER The driver of a wagon or cart drawn by bullocks or horses.

SPLITTER A person who worked a machine splitting stone or timber. In Australia, it is usually referred to one who split round timber into slabs and shingles by hand.

WHARFINGER One who owned a private wharf and collected wharfage dues from ships using it.

WHITESMITH A worker in white metals, usually tin. A blacksmith works with ferrous metals.

Does any one know what the duties of a Billiard Marker and a Bench Clerk were ?. These occupations were from the 1870's in Tasmania.



How to write a nonboring family history with Melbourne writer Hazel Edwards. Workshop sponsored by the National Book Council. Saturday 29th October 10.30 -4.30 at Queen Victoria Art Gallery Launceston Cost: \$50 NBC members, \$60 non-members Includes lunch and reference material

Register now:

To register, please send your name, address, telephone number along with a cheque payable to National Book Council Tasmania to:

Writing a Non-boring Family History workshop,
PO Box 138 Launceston 7250

Registration closes: 12 October

For further information contact
Jennifer Lyons 6327 4233

