



## "NEWS 45"



### CONGRATULATIONS!

*And THANKS to our Webmaster Caryl Sibbett*

Our website was awarded second place in the UK Large Societies class in the Federation of Family History Societies Best Website Award 2009.

[www.nifhs.org](http://www.nifhs.org)

### SEE US AT THE SHOW!



Many months ago Council members decided to exhibit at 'WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? Live'. So after much planning six council officers will man a table advertising the Society and advising on Irish research. The event takes place at the Olympia National Hall from 26th to 28th February 2010. We will be delighted to see any of you who will be at the show and can drop by to say Hello!

### PRONI CLOSURE

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland has announced that it will be closing in September 2010, for a period of about nine months. This is to facilitate relocation to the new premises in the Titanic Quarter. PRONI plans to re-open in May 2011.

Keep up to date at: [www.proni.gov.uk](http://www.proni.gov.uk)

### The McIlrath Letters

Killyleagh Branch has published this book of letters that were written to family between 1860 and 1915 by two brothers who emigrated from Killinchy, Co. Down to New Zealand. The letters record family events and give news and greetings of other emigrants from the local area. For full details of this fascinating book see 'Publications' at [www.nifhs.org](http://www.nifhs.org)

### Co. Antrim Family History Festival

'The Route Back Home 2010' is a family history festival focusing on the genealogy of Ballymoney and district; the region traditionally known as "the Route". It is based in Ballymoney Town Hall with the main events taking place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2010. In addition, a coach trip to local church graveyards and other historical sites is scheduled for Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> September.



General advice will also be available and there will be an opportunity to discuss research techniques with local genealogists who have many years of experience studying family history in this region.

The event programme and full details can be found at: [www.visitballymoney.com/the\\_route\\_back\\_home\\_2010.aspx](http://www.visitballymoney.com/the_route_back_home_2010.aspx)



## The Northern Ireland Place-Name Project



The Northern Ireland Place-Name Project, established in 1987, researches the origin and meaning of the place-names of Northern Ireland. It is the only centre for the study of Gaelic place-names in the United Kingdom. The Northern Ireland Place-Name Project grew out of the work of the voluntary Ulster Place-Name Society established in 1952, and supports the aim of the Scottish Place-Name Society to achieve a similar centre for the study of place-names in Scotland.

The searchable index of place-names in Northern Ireland includes those of 6 counties, 60-plus barony and district names, 269 parishes, 9,600 townlands and at least 20,000 other names, in the languages of Irish Gaelic, English and Scots, with a few names in Latin or Old Norse.

The index lists the townland name, a Place Name ID, the 1851 Parish and the 1961 Parish (usually they are the same), the name of the Catholic Parish (which is sometimes, but not always different), the Barony and finally the County. Clicking on the Place Name will take you to more information including a map.

The map search facility enables searching for names using a simple keyword or fragment or by browsing through a selection of maps for places of interest.

Find out more at: [www.placenamesni.org](http://www.placenamesni.org)

### LDS Library, Hollywood Road, Belfast

The L.D.S. library has reopened.

Opening times:

Wednesday 10.00 am-3.00 pm

Thursday 10.00 am-3.00 pm

Saturday 10.00 am-1.00 pm

Tel. 02890 769839

### No. 45

Our Research Centre at 45 Park Ave. Hollywood Road, Belfast is open on Wednesday mornings from 10.30am until 12.30pm. Access at other times is by prior arrangement. See the website for contact details. [www.nifhs.org](http://www.nifhs.org)

### "The Fid"

A monument has been erected at Moville, Co. Donegal in commemoration of the thousands of folk who left the shores of Ireland for a new life in New Brunswick, Canada.

The artist Locky Morris was inspired by a fid, which is a tool used by fishermen for splicing ropes. The piece stands over 30 feet high and over 3 feet wide at its base.

It is situated on the Old Pier, near to where the Anchor Line ticket Office for the emigration boats was located.

See a photo here:

<http://www.donegalpublicart.ie/54-publicart.htm>

### Cemetery Records

Interment.net is a free online library of cemetery records from thousands of cemeteries across the world. It is funded by advertising revenue, and the records are submitted by staff and contributors. The site is searchable by name or place, and many of the records from the U. S. have the birthplace in Ireland listed.

Below is the list of cemeteries in Co. Cavan, which have been fully or partially transcribed.

- Ballinacree RC Churchyard
- Church of Ireland Churchyard
- Derver Graveyard
- Drumlumman Graveyard
- Maghera Cemetery
- Raffony Graveyard
- Saint Killian Churchyard
- Teampall Cheallaigh Cemetery
- The Old Cemetery (Virginia)

<http://www.interment.net/Default.htm>



## Major Release of Personal Data from UK 'War Time' National Register



The National Health Service Information Centre has announced the launch of a new fee-paying service giving access to data held on deceased individuals recorded on the 'National Register for England and Wales'. This data is similar to census data in that it is arranged by household and includes basic details about the population of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland as it stood in 1939.

The National Register, often referred to as the '1939 Schedule', was created under [The National Registration Act 1939](#) (NRA) and was an emergency measure which took a snap-shot of the entire UK population on 29th September 1939. The data recorded was used to issue identity cards and for the 'calling up' of men and women to the Armed Forces for the war effort.

Accessing the National Register for England & Wales will cost £42 per enquiry and for this the enquirer will be provided with the full details about each individual at the same address as recorded in September 1939. In Scotland the cost will be only £13 and more information can be found on the website of the Scottish General Register Office. However, at this time it is not clear how access will be managed for the Northern Ireland part of the National Register as the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) recently admitted that the collection, which comprises many hundreds of volumes, "*is extremely large, is completely uncatalogued and is stored in our offsite storage facility.*"! PRONI can be contacted through their website.

Information on Identity Cards available here: <http://www.1911census.org.uk/1939.htm>

### The Royal Irish Constabulary Forum

This forum exists to help relatives or interested persons in research relating to old Irish police forces which existed prior to 1922. Its primary theme revolves around the Royal Irish Constabulary, in which many thousands of Irishmen served.

They do not do lookups but aim to provide you with the tools and advice to undertake your own research. Photographs, family reminiscences and discussions are welcomed.

<http://irishconstabulary.com/>

### "News 45" and "North Irish Roots"

The editorial team is always pleased to receive contributions to the journal and suggestions for the newsletter. We hope to have previous editions of the newsletter available soon on the website.

Journal: [nroots@nifhs.org](mailto:nroots@nifhs.org)

Newsletter: [nifhsnews@btinternet.com](mailto:nifhsnews@btinternet.com)

### Remember!

Members can request a "look up" from resources held at "No. 45" Check the website for the latest indexes added to the list.

[www.nifhs.org](http://www.nifhs.org)



### Palace Barracks Memorial Garden

Palace Barracks Memorial Garden was created to commemorate those Servicemen and Women who have lost their lives in conflicts around the world. The foundations for the one-and-half-acre site of the memorial garden in Palace Barracks were laid in 1994 and the memorial stones themselves are all made from South Africa granite. The garden and the website are maintained on a voluntary basis and the custodian and webmaster are both former soldiers.

The Roll of Honour on the website includes photographs and obituaries from the families and friends of those killed, listed by regiment or branch of the services. Information about visiting the Gardens is also on the website.

[www.palacebarracksmemorialgarden.co.uk](http://www.palacebarracksmemorialgarden.co.uk)