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The new season for Branch members is almost upon us and the programme for each branch can be found on our website. Remember that Branch and Associate Members may attend any Branch meeting.

ARMAGH FAMILY HISTORY FAIR

The City Chapter in Armagh hosted a Family History Fair on 8th August. Members of North Armagh Branch were there selling our publications and encouraging visitors to join the Society. Speakers included -

Des McCabe (PRONI) Richard Burns (NIFHS)



Photo with the permission of the Ulster Gazette

ULSTER AVIATION SOCIETY

Members 'manned the stand' and promoted the Society at the Ulster Aviation Society Open Day at The Maze, near Lisburn, on Saturday 24th August.



PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

During the World Police and Fire Games earlier this month PRONI organised a Family History Fair which took place at Titanic Quarter on Sat 3rd and Sun 4th August. There were many local interest groups present and of course our selves! Talks were given over the two days and it was a great opportunity for our members on the stand to meet other exhibitors.



Martin McDowell, Ann Robinson, Eddie Connolly (Eddie's News Extracts), Valerie Adams (Presbyterian Hist. Soc.), Sandra Ardis

IRISH GENEALOGY TOOLKIT

We were delighted to welcome Claire Santry to our Research Centre in early August. Claire runs her website for the benefit of all those who are researching in Ireland; freely providing information and advice. She also runs the Irish Genealogy News blog which this month featured an article about our Open Day on 31st August. www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com



MAGHERA AND DISTRICT GENEALOGY & HISTORY SOCIETY



This is a free website (donations welcomed) aimed at the amateur genealogist with information contributed by volunteers. The website has a wealth of information about the area and has made available records from many churches. The church records include baptisms and marriages, and there are civil marriages from Ballymoney and Magherafelt. Also available are school records from Kilrea and Lislea boys' and girls' schools and 1831 census records for the Parishes of Kilrea, Maghera, Tamlaght O'Crilly and Termoneeny.

<http://www.magheragenealogy.org/index.php/home.html>

WEBSITE ~ MEMBERS' AREA

We have been working hard to make records available in the Members' Area of our website. If you haven't looked recently there are now several files of gravestone inscriptions which have been added within the last couple of months. We are not permitted to use our baptism and marriage indexes on the website but we are working to make available names and years, which would provide information for a 'look up' request.



THE IRISH TOWNLAND DATABASE

The IreAtlas Townland database which was formerly at www.seanruad.com has moved to a new host, and is now at -

<http://www.thecore.com/seanruad/>

The database can be searched using part of the name, allowing for variation in spelling.

For townlands in Northern Ireland see also- www.placenamesni.org where the search options are similar using the Historical Form Search.

Valuation Revision Books

If you have found your ancestor's property in Griffith's Primary Valuation you may be interested in the Valuation Revision Books, which are now available on the PRONI website. Periodically valuers re-visited the properties (until about 1930) and recorded any changes to the property, occupier or immediate lessor, and any differences in the acreage and value. The changes were recorded in notebooks using different colours of ink for each visit, and the alterations were dated, thereby highlighting when events such as death, sale or migration may have taken place.

The Revision Books are searchable by place name only so are best used in conjunction with Griffith's Valuation on the Ask about Ireland website, where the database is searchable by surname.

www.proni.gov.uk/index/search_the_archives/val12b.htm

www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/



CHURCH OF IRELAND RECORDS



The Anglican Record Project is an ongoing endeavour to make the registers of baptism, marriage and burial from Church of Ireland parishes available in a digital format. The work has been undertaken by Mark Williams and the online version is hosted by the Representative Church Body Library, which will periodically introduce new transcripts of parish registers. To date the list includes 3 parishes from Co. Armagh.

<http://ireland.anglican.org/about/151>



The archive of the month on the RCBL website is *The Church of Ireland Gazette* with the 52 editions for 1913 fully searchable online.

<http://ireland.anglican.org/about/128>

KIWICELTS

Although this website is mainly about records in New Zealand, it is also building a collection of maps showing Administrative Districts in Ireland. This 'work in progress' lists and maps Townlands, Parishes, Baronies, Poor Law Unions, Councils and Counties of Ireland. And even if there is no map yet for the area that you are interested in, the listing is very detailed and quick to search.

Search for: kiwicelts.com

ANCESTOR CHARTS

One of our members has been updating the index to the Ancestor Charts which are available for consultation in the Research Centre.

The chart shows an individual's direct ancestry, and is a great way to check whether another member is researching the same family as you.

Have you submitted an Ancestor Chart?

Let's make this collection as comprehensive and up to date as possible, and then we will be able to put the index on the website for all our members to consult.

(A blank chart is available in the Members' Area of the website. Print, write and post)

PROFILE FORM

(Available on the Membership page of the website)

Perhaps you completed a profile form when you joined the Society and your research interests were published in North Irish Roots. If that was years ago why not send another one to us and target all those new members!

Membership of the Society now stands at 1,100 with about half of those in local Branches and the other half in 14 countries around the world.

Surnames listed on the form are also put on the website in the Members' Interests list.

We never put members' contact details on the website. Members' Interests are listed with a Membership number, and a request to make contact with another member is made through the Society using this email address, which is on the website - memint@nifhs.org



WHATS HAPPENING IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS?



Linen Hall Library

As part of The Gathering Ireland 2013 celebrations the Linen Hall Library, Belfast is hosting a Family History Seminar between 12 noon and 5.00pm on 18th September with contributions from The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI), General Register Office, and the Presbyterian Historical Society. Other organizations will be present, including ourselves, promoting the Society, giving advice and selling our Booklets.

Culture Night



Culture Night is taking over Belfast on 20th September between 4-10pm. There will be 250+ events, 100+ venues and over 30,000 people in Cathedral Quarter, Belfast and beyond.

We will be based in The National at 62 High Street, and will be providing a 'Help' desk, giving talks on 'Getting Started,' and 'Sources of Records' as well as providing activities to introduce children to genealogy.

<http://www.culturenightbelfast.com/>

Back to Our Past



Council Officers will be attending this Show dedicated to Irish Genealogy and family/social history at the Industries Hall, RDS Dublin on Friday 18th, Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th October 2013. We will be promoting the Society, providing a help desk and selling our books and maps.

We would be delighted to hear from any of our Associate members who would be available to help at the show. Please contact chair@nifhs.org

Newry City Library

On Thursday 26th October volunteers will take our displays and publications to the Family History Fair in Newry City Library.

The Creative Crafts Show

We attend the Craft Fair at the King's Hall Complex in conjunction with the Federation of Family History Societies, which sponsors the stand. Dates this year are Thursday 14th - Saturday 16th November.



See the **Library Catalogue** for a full list of indexes and books in the Irish Section; all of which are available for 'look up,' but please be specific about what you would like looked up. Our volunteers cannot undertake a general search for a surname.

http://www.nifhs.org/Library_List_2013_alphabetical.pdf

"North Irish Roots"

The editorial team is always pleased to receive contributions to the journal and suggestions for the newsletter.

Journal: nroots@nifhs.org

Newsletter: newtownabbey@nifhs.org