



Lisburn Branch Newsletter



March 2019

Newsletter compiled by Louise and Elizabeth

History is the story of people and in researching our family history we are all microhistorians (some smaller than others). With thanks to John Grenham's blog for the concept.

Beware Transcription Errors

While searching for James McKinley (Missing Person no.1) I came across a transcription in Family Search of a James McKinley, English, Hebrew, on a ship arriving in New York. As this was unlikely, I looked at the image to find that several Jewish passengers were listed immediately above James McKinley and the transcriber had made an error. Another error that appeared on the GRONI site is a marriage of a 'Grace' to an Elizabeth in the 1870s. I was looking for a marriage of 'George' which was fortunately correct on www.irishgenealogy.ie

Free Canadian website - www.canadiana.ca

This website removed the pay wall at the beginning of the year. It gives access to searchable newspapers, periodicals and government publications. The heritage collection includes genealogical records such as land records, parish records from Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia etc. The Early Canadiana collection has a Genealogy and Local History section.

New York State Marriage Index 1881-1965

A non profit group has published this index on the web at bit.ly/ny-marriages. The records list the names of brides and grooms, the dates and places of marriage. Unfortunately they exclude New York City, Buffalo, Yonkers and Albany before 1914/1915.

Irishgenealogy.ie Short cut search of Births (and more transcription errors).

When looking for a birth on this site you can use the father's and mother's surname to bring up matches. In the surname box type in the Father's surname, then a space, then the Mother's surname. This will only work if the mother's surname has been transcribed. While testing to look for my father's birth, I discovered many transcription errors from 1900-1910.

Blackwood Papers

The Blackwood Pedigree Collection at the Linen Hall Library consists of a collection of over 1000 manuscript family trees bound in 125 volumes with a separate index. They are available on microfilm in the library and at PRONI - MIC315. As well as pedigrees of notable families, the collection contains the rental for the Ker estate of Ballynahinch, Downpatrick and Clough.

Recording Your Family History

At January's meeting, Marlene showed us a family history scrapbook put together for her brother's 80th birthday. We also saw a comic book which Louise's son had prepared telling the story of her family's link with the Lusitania. A recently published book (2018) which uses both the scrapbook and comic formats is '**Heimat: A German Family Album**' by Nora Krug. It deals with the author's investigation of the lives of her family members under the Nazi regime. It is very interesting from an historical viewpoint and fascinating as a way of presenting family history. Available at Lisburn library Catalogue No. 943.087.092

Name variants <https://archive.org/details/varietiessynony00math/page/n3>

Are you struggling with multiple ways of spelling your ancestors' names? You need to consult '**Surnames and Christian Names in Ireland** for the Guidance of Registration Officers and the Public in searching the Indexes of Births, Deaths and Marriages'. This catchy title was published in 1901 by Robert E Matheson. Price 1 shilling.

Irish Genealogy www.irish-genealogy.com **Registry of Deeds**



A novel website which opens with 'welcome to my Irish Ancestral kitchen'. Clicking on MENU is the easiest way to find what's on offer. It was on this website that I found a link to an interesting talk given by Ros McCutcheon in 2016 on the **Registry of Deeds**. She stressed that it was not only the 'well to do' that registered documents such as leases, marriage settlements etc.

Ros suggested taking 'two strong nephews' with you when visiting the Registry of Deeds in Henrietta Street in Dublin, to avoid injury due to the weight of the books. LDS have photographed all of the books from 1709-1929. Search the Townland index at <https://irishdeedsindex.net/townland/index.php> to find names, volume and memorial numbers. Images are then viewable at www.familysearch.org under Transcripts of memorials of deeds, conveyances and wills.

Loyal Inhabitants of the town of Newry April 1848. PRONI - T2961/1

Sometimes PRONI will transcribe a complete document and put it on the e-catalogue. This is a long list of men living in Newry and district who were opposed to any attempts to repeal the Act of Union of 1800. Names, occupations and addresses are listed, (but not alphabetically).

What's on in March.

PRONI Wreck and Rescue series on Wednesdays at 1pm FREE but book on the website. **6th** The story of Ulster's lifeboats: **13th** 19th century Irish Coastguards; **20th** 1846 Wreck and Rescue of the SS Great Britain in Dundrum Bay **27th** Lighthouse Optics: Invention and Rivalry

BOOK LAUNCH - Balmoral Cemetery new book by TOM HARTLEY launch on **Thursday 14th March** at 6.30 for 7pm. College Hall, St. Mary's University College, 191 Falls Road, Belfast. If you would like to attend contact Jacky Hawkes 9182 0525 or jacky@colourpoint.co.uk