



Lisburn Branch Newsletter



May 2019

Newsletter compiled by Louise and Elizabeth

Understanding Legalese <https://archive.org/details/newlawdictionary00jacouoft/page/n6>

The link is to Jacob's Law dictionary published in 1739. It will explain all the archaic terms that you are likely to come across but it is no easy read especially the Latin parts! I learned that an 'indentured deed' was so called because copies of the deed were torn along irregular lines leaving 'indents' and each side of a two person deed of the agreement would hold one half. Matching up the pieces would then prove that they were genuine parties to the deed. A comprehensive explanation of the Registry of Deeds can be found on the Irish Genealogy site. <https://www.irish-genealogy.com/the-registry-of-deeds.html>

One Name Studies

The Guild of One Name Studies <https://one-name.org/> is a registered charity run by volunteers which supports individuals and groups engaged in one-name (surname) studies. It will be of particular interest to those who find an unusual surname on their tree. Over 8000 surnames are registered with the guild. You may find that your surname is already registered or you can register it and begin a study.

Belfast Urban Registration Sub-Districts

If you are looking on GRONI for a birth or death, the search criteria will include registration sub-district. This is not usually a problem except when the registration was in Belfast or Londonderry. In both these cases there are a series of numbered sub-districts instead of names. If, for example, you have some idea of where in Belfast the person might have lived, it is useful, in order not to waste credits, to know which streets the numbers refer to. One source of this information is <http://eddieextracts.com/oextracts/oerbandistricts.html> another from GRONI in 2009 is at <http://www.belfastforum.co.uk/index.php?topic=18663.0> I haven't yet been able to find the same information for Londonderry on the web.

First Name Abbreviations

Interpreting old handwriting can be difficult especially as abbreviations were often used to save space and paper. Church records often abbreviated familiar Christian names. In some jurisdictions, census enumerators would also abbreviate common first names when going door to door to save time. My grandfather signed Jas. N on a document but the transcriber interpreted it as 'Jason'. See link below for a list of common abbreviations of first names. <http://www.genealogyintime.com/dictionaries/list-of-first-name-abbreviations.html>

Historic Maps www.lbrowncollection.com

Leslie Brown has been collecting digital images of historic maps for over 30 years. There is an extensive Irish collection on this site dating from 16th century. Though GPS will get you to your destination (you hope), these maps are things of beauty showing the old names and spellings of townlands. Copies of all the maps are for sale.

Using Newspaper Archives	New Zealand	https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers	
	Australia	https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/	FREE
	Mainly US	https://www.newspapers.com/	£
	UK & Ireland	www.britishnewspaperarchives.co.uk	£

Newspapers provide information on family history which cannot be found elsewhere and they can also be used to find living people. Recently a 'cousin' was tracing people on his family tree who had emigrated to New Zealand. Having searched 'Find a Grave' www.findagrave.com, he came on a grave photo which recorded living relatives just as in an obituary or announcement of death. He used the FREE NZ newspaper site, found that one of the newspapers was still in circulation and emailed the editor. Less than a week later he had an email from a third cousin once removed and a photo of a family clock which had been taken to NZ from Belfast.

WW II Experience Centre (SWWEC) <https://war-experience.org>

The centre is dedicated to preserving and sharing stories of the lives of those affected by the Second World War whether combatants or civilians. I found the website while researching the experiences of prisoners of war. It is worth exploring just for the stories.

Branch Outing in June

The outing this year will be to Saintfield on the evening of **Tuesday 11th June**. At Saintfield there will be a guided historical walk lasting about 1 hour or an alternative slide show and talk at the Rowallane Hub. Afterwards we will head for Rockmount Golf Club for a meal. The cost of the meal will be about £20 a head for two courses and you may bring a friend /spouse / partner. The timetable would be - 5.30 pm approx. arrive in Saintfield; 5.50 to 6.50pm guided walk /slide show: travel to Rockmount for meal at 7.30 pm. **Car sharing** is encouraged.

The group menu choices are - fillet of chicken, fillet of salmon, baked ham, slow roasted beef and a vegetarian option (to be decided) all served with champ, roast potatoes and vegetables. Desserts are - pavlova, cheesecake, chocolate torte or fruit salad. Near to the date I will be emailing out the menu and a map of how to get from Saintfield to Rockmount (distance about 3.5 miles). Before that I need the **names of members who wish to go on the outing**, either one or both parts. Numbers and menu choices have to be confirmed by Monday 3rd June.

What's on in May

Armagh Ancestry Conference 17 - 19 May Navan Centre, Armagh.

Theme *'Emigration - voluntary or forced.'* Cost £20 per day or £30 for Saturday and Sunday. Friday - mayoral welcome and reception is free. Attendance and optional £5 lunch must be pre-booked www.navan.com

PRONI

Symposium on the 'Pursuit and Practice of Local History' 16 May 2019, 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm

Registered Charity Number NIC106071

www.nifhs.org