



THE NORTH OF IRELAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Activity Handbook 2020~2021

Updated - 12th September 2020

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GOVERNANCE OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, number NIC106071, and since 1990 it has had registered charitable status with HMRC, number XR22524, with the consequent financial advantages of exemption from rates and entitlement to reclaim Gift Aid.

The governing document of the Society consists of two parts: the **Society Constitution** and the **Branch Constitution**, which are on the website and to which all Branches must adhere.

The main legal guideline for the Society and Branches is that they act in accordance with the Charities Acts (Northern Ireland) 2008 & 2013, the Society Constitution and the Branch Constitution.

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

To promote and encourage the public and personal study of world-wide family history, genealogy, heraldry and local history with particular reference to the North of Ireland.

In furtherance of the above Objects the Society shall have the following aims:

- (a) to hold lectures and discussions and to organise research visits for Society members and members of the public;
- (b) to receive, hold and maintain a library of printed works and other materials for use by Society members and members of the public;
- (c) to receive, preserve, transcribe or publish source materials, including documents and monumental inscriptions, such materials to remain the property of the Society except where otherwise agreed in writing;
- (d) to work in conjunction with similar societies and supportive bodies such as churches, libraries, record offices and educational establishments;
- (e) to publish the Journal "*North Irish Roots*".

The income and property of the Society shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Objects.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

The Objects of the Society indicate the very wide range of activities that might be undertaken by a Branch.

Suggestions are listed here for lectures, visits, projects, workshops and providing advice and assistance.

A balanced programme should include something for the beginner (how to get started, parish records, census records and so on and where to find them) and something for those who are no longer beginners (more obscure records, local history, heraldry, DNA, ...).

It is important to remember that many Members are not actively engaged in researching their family trees but attend the meetings out of interest in the topics covered and for social reasons - the cup of tea or coffee or glass of juice (remember that members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints drink neither tea nor coffee) can be as important as the talk as it gives Members the opportunity to chat, to ask, to learn. The Branch summer outing or Christmas party fulfils the same function.

LECTURES

The mainstay of a Branch's programme is a series of lectures. It can be difficult for Committee members who are unfamiliar with local experts to know what expertise is available and so the following list of many of the topics that have appeared in Branch programmes in recent years can help. Search copies of *North Irish Roots* to find in which

Branch a lecture was delivered and contact the Branch Secretary for comment on how well the talk was received and for contact details for the speaker. The search can be done using JSTOR unless the talk was delivered within the last three years, in which case you will have to thumb through recent copies of the journal; indeed the following list does not contain the most recent talks.

If short of ideas look at last autumn's journal to see what other Branches have done and contact their Secretaries for comments and contact details. The Federation for Ulster Local Studies (FULS) maintains a register of speakers and their topics at fuls.org.uk/register-of-speakers/speakers/. It is always worth having a reserve programme up your sleeve in case a speaker is unable to come at the last minute.

William Roulston	17 th Century Sources for Genealogical Research in Ireland
Ernie Cromie	502 Ulster Squadron
Diana Kirkpatrick	A Coleraine Man's War 1939-1945
David Hadden	A Field of Flax
Terence Bowman	A Search for James M ^c Kinney
Ian Clare	Along the Lagan of Yesteryear
Jim M ^c Kinty	Alternative Census Records
John Thompson	Amelia Earhart
Philip Orr	Archibald Rowan Hamilton – A Man of the Enlightenment
Lindy Reid	Ballyclare May Fair
Stewart M ^c Fetridge	Belfast Mountain Playground
Ivan Strahan	Belfast's Fallen Women
Pamela M ^c Ilveen	Belfast's Jewish Community: A short history and guide to sources for Jewish family history research
Frank M ^c Corry	Bluestone
Barbara Wimble	Bound for Botany Bay 1788? – The First Fleet to Australia
Joe O'Loughlin	Child Migrants to Commonwealth Countries after World War II
Zena M ^c Allister	Childhood Recollections of Killyleagh
Susan Hood	Church of Ireland Representative Church Body Library
Alistair Butler	Civil Registration Records Online
Jonathan Bell	Co. Down Farming Families
Brian O'Hara	Col. Charles J. O'Hara
Dorothy Arthur	Compiling a Graveyard Book
Sean Beattie	Congested Districts Board
Roddy Hegarty	Cooking the Goose – Myths and Traditions of Christmas
Linda M ^c Kenna	Crime and Punishment in Co Down
Alister Bell	Days Gone by Through Postcards
Brian Donovan	Digitising Irish Records
Patrick Fitzgerald	DIPPAM (Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration)
George Gordon	DNA in Family History Research
Tyrone Bowes	DNA Research as an Aid to Family History
Robert Gardiner	Downpatrick and Co Down Railway
Jason Diamond	Dukes of Manchester and Tandragee Castle
Jim Chesnutt	Earls of Enniskillen and Florence Court House
Arnold Sleator	Edenderry and the Railway
Mickey M ^c Guinness	Emigration to Canada
Catherine Scott	Enniskillen Portrait Photographers – Exploring the Fermanagh County Museum Photographic Archive
Sandra Millsopp	Estate Records
John Potter	Experience of the Belfast Blitz
Frank M ^c Hugh	Exploring Fermanagh Gold Records
Boyd Gray	Exploring your Family History in West Ulster
Catherine Morrow	Family History Resources in Belfast Central Library
David Hume	Family History Through Newspapers
Seamas MacAnnaidh	Fermanagh Genealogies
Walter Love	Fifty Years of Broadcasting
Jim Fitzsimons	Fitzsimons - A Lecale Family
Doreen M ^c Bride	Folklore and Folk Cures
Dessie Blackadder	From Ballymena to Battle
Gillian Topping	From Flax to Fabric
Sarah M ^c Hugh	Genealogy Resources in the Fermanagh County Museum Collection

David Beck	Griffiths Valuation & Maps also Tithe Applotment Records
Bill Macafee	Griffiths Valuation and Online Revision Books
Roddy Heggarty	Halloween Traditions
Michael M ^c Keag	Heraldry
John Thompson	Hidden History on our Doorstep (various little-known pieces of local history)
Roy Hamilton	Hiring Fairs
Roy Hamilton	History of the Shirt Factories
Clive Scoular	How the Londonderrys Influenced the New Northern Ireland State
Ronald Moffett	Hunting for Edith
Philip Orr	Impact of the Great War on Ireland
Frank Collins	In Depth Family History Research
Michael M ^c Keag	In Praise of Browsing
Brian Mitchell	Irish Migration
Patrick Fitzgerald	Irish Migration in Family History
Brian Lambkin	Irish Migration Ships
Kevin O'Hagan	Jackson Dunlop, "The Bard of Ballycloughan"
Brian O'Hara	John Hamilton "O'Hara", Bigamist or Not!
Paddy & Julie Mackie	Kathleen Mackie, Artist
Kelly Wilson	Kelly Family History
Wesley Geddis	Killyleagh from the Plantation
Pat Reilly	Kilmore Parish
Alister M ^c Reynolds	Kith & Kin – The Scots Irish in America
Aidan Campbell	Knock District of Belfast
David Snook	Larne Merchant Seamen from the Great War
Linda Hooke	Life in Ballyrickardbeg 1830-1900 – Through the Eyes of my Ancestors
Wesley Bonar	Lilian Bland (First Female Aviator to Build and Fly her own Aircraft)
John Killen	Linenhall Library
Elizabeth M ^c Aleer	Local Studies and Family History
Bernadette Kennedy	Local Studies Resources at Coleraine Library
Vivienne Pollock	Looking at Old Photographs
Pat Reilly	Loughgall
Keith Cochrane	Masonic Records
Joan Cartwright	Memories of Bygone Days
Robin Roddie	Methodist Records
Brian Lambkin	Migration in Irish History
John Lynch	Migration in Irish History
Richard Doherty	Military Records and their Use in Genealogy
Richard Scott	Milling in Omagh from 1850
Brian O'Hara	Murder at Crebilly
Heather Baird	My Eight Great Grandparents
Bill Longmore	My Uncle Bill
Bill Macafee	North Derry & North Antrim Families and Records
Mary Bradley	Northern Ireland Digital Film Archive
Jim M ^c Kinty	Old Church Records
Bernadette Walsh	Old documents from Derry City Council's Archives
Rosemary Sibbett	On the Shining Bann: Records of an Ulster Manor
Bill Shaw	Organising a Reunion
Richard Kirwan	OS Mapping of Ireland
Charlotte Murtagh	Parish Records
Oonagh Morrison	Patchwork and Family History
Ann Johnston	Pioneer Among the Gum Trees – the Nicholson Letters from Australia
Robyn Atcheson	Poverty in Victorian Belfast
John Dooher	Pre-Famine Ulster
Ken M ^c Cormick	Prehen House, including unseen photos taken by the Knoxes.
Valerie Adams	Presbyterian Historical Society Records
Harry Hunter	Preserving Photos & Documents
David Deane	Publishing Your Family History
Vivienne Pollock	R. J. Welch, photographer
Ernie Cromie	R.A.F. Long Kesh

Michael Collins	Railways
William Roulston	Records of Emigrants and Emigration
Rosemary Sibbett	Reminiscences of a Belfast City Registrar
Sandra Milsopp	Researching the Hamilton Bible
Brian O'Hara	Researching the Registry of Deeds
Richard Clarke	Researching Ulster Doctors of the Past
Keith Beattie	Resources at Ballymoney Museum
Roger Whittaker	Resources at L.D.S.
James Davidson	Royal Schools
David Evans	Running a One-Name Study
Valerie Adams	School Records
David Riley	Seagoe Parish
Charlotte Murtagh	Searching the Dublin Archives
Pat Devlin	Setting Up Family History Websites
William Roulston	Sources for Exploring a Family Community in North Tyrone 1700 - 1900
Hazel Philson	St. Augustine's Church & Graveyard, Derry
John Moore	Starting your Family History including using the Griffiths Valuation Maps
Ronald Buchanan	Strangford Lough, Past and Present
Marion Maxwell	Surnames of County Fermanagh
William Roulston	The Importance of Townlands
Linde Lunney	The 1718 Migration
Clive Scoular	The Andrews Family of Comber
Katy Lumsden	The Art of the Herald Painter
Jim Chesnutt	The Belmore Estate and Castlecoole
Kevin O'Hagan	The Benn Family of Glenravel
Jason Diamond	The Blacker Family
Alfie Montgomery	The Cavehill Ring
Anne Johnston	The Church Database Project
John Lynch	The Community that built the Titanic
David Hume	The Covenant
Jack Scoltock	The Discovery, History and Recovery of 'La Trinidad Valencera', the Spanish Armada ship which sank in Kinnagoe Bay in 1588
Rob Davison	The Dublin Repositories
Jason Diamond	The Earls of Hillsborough
Ken McCormack	The Eccentric Earl Bishop - Frederick Hervey
George Elliott	The Families of Devenish and Boho Parish
A. Cheevers	The Family Tree and Two World Wars
Richard Doherty	The First World War and its Impact in West Ulster
Mark Thompson	The Forgotten Colony - Sir Thomas Smith's Forgotten English Colony of Ards and North Down
Tony Brown	The Gilpins of Gilpinstown
David Gourley	The Great War including the Battle of the Somme
Mervyn Hall	The Halls and Hazletts of Fermanagh and the Clogher Valley
Derek Woods	The History and Customs of the Moravians
Edward Montgomery	The Honourable the Irish Society
Jim Hunniford	The Hunniford family from Ballintaggart
Helen Grimes	The Irish and Local Studies Library, Armagh
Linda Ervine	The Irish Language
Philippa Robinson	The Jewish Communities in Derry (which was part of a much wider European history)
Pamela Linden	The Jewish Community
Sandy Smith	The Life and Times of C. S. Lewis
Douglas Mowbray	The Lynas Family and Lynastown
Anne Casement	The Management of the Londonderry Estates in Down, Derry, Donegal and Antrim during the Great Famine
Wesley Bonner	The M ^c Kinney Family of Sentry Hill and their Records
Mary Delargy	The Meaning of Place Names
Jack Scoltock	The Meltin' Pot, an American B-17 Flying Fortress, which crashed in Lough Foyle in 1942.
Allison Murphy	The Men Who Built the Olympic Class Ships
Frank M ^c Corry	The Montiaghs of North Armagh 1609-2009
Jim Williamson	The Muslims

Francis Jones	The N.I. Digital Film Archive
Joan Crooks	The National Collection of Northern Ireland Publications
Joan Magee	The Northern Ireland Digital Film Archive
Eva Gremmert Doherty	The O'Dohertys
Adrian Boyce	The Ordnance Survey Maps
Michael M ^c Keag	The Ordnance Survey Memoirs - Life in the 1830s
Mary Delargy	The Origins of Local Surnames
Roddy Hegarty	The Plantation of 1609
Arthur Chapman	The Quakers of Ulster
Aiden M ^c Michael	The Real Robert Welch (Belfast photographer)
Angela Beggs	The Restoration of Castle Gardens
George Busby	The Secret Listeners of Gilnahirk
Peter Stark	The Sharman Crawford Family
Tony Crowe	The Siege of Derry - Genealogy of the Siege Families
Chris Wilson	The U.S. Forces in N.I. in WW2
Ashley Forbes	The Ulster Covenant
Gordon Lucy	The Ulster Covenant
Richard Edgar	The Ulster Covenant
William Roulston	The Ulster Historical Foundation
Ryan Lusby	The Walled City Built Heritage
Barry Niblock	The War Dead of North Down and Ards
David Weir	The War Memorial
Valerie Wilson	The Way we Wore
Patsy Durnin	The Workhouse in the Waterside, particularly in relation to the Famine
Bill Canning	The Inniskilling Regiment - the First World War
Sandra Ardis	Through the Lens of a 1930s Press Photographer
John Martin	Titanic at 101: the Assistant Surgeon's Story
Stephen Cameron	Titanic: Belfast's Own
Susie Millar	Tommy Millar and the Two Pennies on the Titanic
William Roulston	Tour through Ulster's Graveyards
Kay Muhr	Townlands
Linda Hooke	Townlands
Joe De Ornellas	Tracing My Portuguese Family Name
Patrick M ^c Kay	Ulster Place Names
William Roulston	Ulster Scots Connections
Maynard Hanna	Ulster Scots. Who are We?
Richard Clarke	Ulster Scottish Medical Connections
Brian Mitchell	Understanding Shipping Records
Maurice J. Gleeson	Using DNA to Help Research your Northern Irish Family Tree
Frankie Roofe	Using Griffiths Valuation as a Tool for Family History Research
Mervyn Hazlett Hall	Using the Ulster Covenant as a research tool for finding your family
Ashley Forbes	Wartime Postcard Collection
Michael Parkinson	What Newspapers Printed from/about my Family
Valerie Adams	Where There's a Will There's a Way
Norman Weatherall	Where We Used to Shop – the Old Department Stores of Belfast
Robert Foy	William Kelly, a 19 th Century Clipper Ship Captain from Belfast
Ian Montgomery	World War 1
Tom Hartley	Written in Stone – the History of Belfast City Cemetery
Isabel Apsley	WW2 Prisoners of War
Mary Bradley	Your Local Studies Library - 'What's in it for you?'

VISITS

Branches can organise visits to record repositories such as the Public Record Office and General Register Office of Northern Ireland and the various record offices in Dublin, such as the General Register Office, the National Library of Ireland and the National Archives. There are also a number of more specialised archives such as Regimental Museums, some of which are briefly mentioned below.

Check the websites of the places you want to visit for up to date details and for information about the records they hold. If a large group is going, contact the place in advance. Some of the places require you to bring or obtain a reader's card, which generally requires some personal identification such as a passport or driver's licence and may need a passport size photograph. Generally record offices do not allow the use of pens but provide pencils. Some places require bags to be left in a locker and only notebooks or laptops to be taken into a search room.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND [PRONI]



2 Titanic Boulevard, Belfast, BT3 9HQ

028 9053 4800;

www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni

Monday to Friday 9 a.m. – 4.45 p.m. except for Thursday 10 a.m. – 8.45 p.m.

Closed on public holidays. Documents are not available during the second week of December. The website has information about driving, parking and public transport.

Only a notebook and pencil and laptop or tablet computer are allowed in the Search and Reading Rooms and other belongings must be left in a locker. There is a free wireless internet service and digital cameras may be used under supervision. Personal research is free but there are charges for making copies of documents and other services supplied by the staff.

To register as a reader you need to complete a registration form (available on the PRONI website) and bring photographic identification such as a passport or driving licence and you will be issued with a Visitor Pass. Each time you visit PRONI bring your Visitor Pass as it is used at the reception desk for recording your arrival and is needed for access to the Search Room and Reading Room.

The staff in the Search Room can show you how to use the catalogues, guides, indexes and leaflets and how to order documents. The number on the Visitor Pass is used for ordering documents via the computers in the Search Room. When you order a document you will be allocated a seat in the Reading Room. Having ordered documents, you then go to the Reading Room, where an overhead monitor will show when the documents for your seat are ready for collection at the issue desk.

See www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/your-family-tree-series and www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/public-record-office-northern-ireland-proni/search-archives-online to study the information leaflets and the guides and indexes and make use of the catalogue. The main genealogical sources are church records, valuation books and maps, tithe applotment books, national school records, poor law records, wills, landed estate records, muster records, et cetera. To make the best use of your visit, study the online catalogue first to decide which documents to order.

Colby House, Stranmillis Court, Belfast, BT9 5RR
0300 200 7890 (+44 300 200 7890 if outside the UK)

www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/family-history-heritage-and-museums/research-family-history-general

Monday – Friday 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. except that on the first Tuesday of the month it opens at 10 a.m.

Closed on public holidays.

The registers held include all registered non-Roman Catholic marriages from 1st April 1845 and all births, marriages and deaths registered in what is now Northern Ireland from 1st January 1864. There are also all registered adoptions in Northern Ireland from 1st January 1931 and civil partnerships registered in Northern Ireland from 5th December 2005. Also held are the World War II death indexes from 1939 onwards.

These may be searched online from home at geni.nidirect.gov.uk but to see births within the last 100 years, marriages within the last 75 years and deaths within the last 50 years you need to visit the GRO or PRONI, which also has online access to all these records from four terminals in its Search Room.

You need to register at www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/register-groni-account and purchase 50p credits. Be aware that some of the searches and certificates may be freely available at www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/.

Held, but not accessible online, are births, marriages and deaths from the following sources: Service Department registers, Marine register of births, Marine register of deaths, Consular returns of births, Consular returns of deaths, Foreign marriages, High Commissioner's returns and Consular returns of marriages.

On arrival you will be asked to show some photographic identification. It is advisable to book an appointment in advance.

L.D.S. FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE

403 Holywood Road, Belfast, BT4 2GU
028 9076 9839

1st Wednesday 7 – 9 p.m.; 2nd & 4th Wednesday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 1st & 3rd Friday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Other times by arrangement. For up to date information see www.familysearch.org/help/fhcenters/locations/.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has extensive records. Free access to some websites that normally charge. Free but donation welcome.

Almost all these records are now freely available online at www.familysearch.org.

METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Edgehill College, 9 Lennoxvale, Belfast, BT9 5BY
028 9068 6934
Wednesday & Thursday 9.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Groups by arrangement.
methodisthistoryireland.org

The Honorary Archivist is the Rev. Robin Roddie, Robin@Roddie.plus.com.
Free but donation welcome.



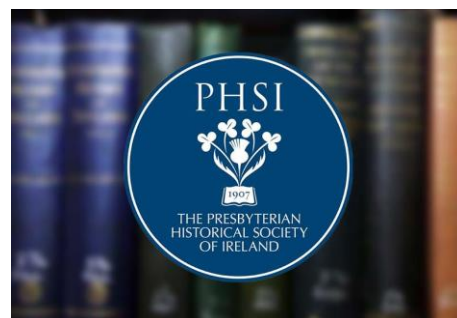
PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Assembly Buildings, Fisherwick Place, Belfast, BT1 6DW
028 9041 7299

www.presbyterianhistoryireland.com

Tuesday & Wednesday 9.30 a.m. – 13:00 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Thursday 9.30 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.

The Librarian & Archivist is Valerie Adams, phsilibrarian@pcinet.org. Free but donation welcome. The Society's considerable genealogical correspondence is now in the NIFHS Research Library, fully indexed.



LINEN HALL LIBRARY

17 Donegall Square North, Belfast, BT1 5GB
028 9032 1707

www.linenhall.com

Monday – Friday 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. during April to September, inclusive.

Among its 250,000 volumes it has a highly regarded Irish and Local Studies Collection with an excellent Genealogy Collection on the 4th floor. Free but donation welcome. If taking a group contact the Library first.



BELFAST CENTRAL LIBRARY

Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1EA
028 9050 9150

www.librariesni.org.uk/Libraries/Pages/Belfast-Central-Library.aspx

Monday & Thursday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.,
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.,
Saturday 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Heritage Services are on the second floor. Free.

There also LibrariesNI Heritage Collections in the following main libraries:
Armagh, Ballymena, 'Derry, Downpatrick, Enniskillen, Newry, Omagh and the Mellon Centre for Migration Studies.



BELFAST NEWSPAPER LIBRARY

Ground Floor, Library Street
028 9050 9156

www.librariesni.org.uk/Services/Heritage/Pages/Newspaper-Library.aspx

Part of Belfast Central Library but with its own entrance. It has the largest collection of local newspapers in Northern Ireland. Ranging in date from the 18th century to the present day the newspaper collection includes almost complete runs of the Belfast newspaper titles, most notably the *Belfast Newsletter* from 1759, as well as a large range of provincial newspaper titles from every county in Northern Ireland and some from the Republic of Ireland. Rare and unique holdings include the *Northern Star*, the paper of the United Irishmen, and the *Londonderry Journal* for the years 1796-1801.



There are many other archives in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland and elsewhere and they are listed at discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/find-an-archive. 29 are listed in Northern Ireland, including several military museums in Ulster, and 88 in the Republic of Ireland and many in Great Britain and abroad:

The Inniskillings Museum, Enniskillen - covers the Fermanagh Light Infantry, the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (27th Foot) and the Royal Tyrone Militia.

The Royal Ulster Rifles Regimental Museum and Library, Belfast - covers the Royal Ulster Rifles, the Royal Irish Rifles, the 83rd (County of Dublin) Regiment of Foot, the 83rd Regiment of Foot (Fitch's Grenadiers), the 86th (Royal County Down) Regiment of Foot, the 86th Regiment of Foot (Cuyler's Shropshire Volunteers). Period 1793 to 1968. Later modern stakeholders are the Royal Irish Rangers 1968-1992 and the Royal Irish Regiment 1992 onward.

The Royal Irish Fusiliers Regimental Museum, Armagh - covers the Co. Cavan Militia and the Co. Armagh Militia.

DUBLIN ARCHIVES

Of the 88 archives listed in the Republic of Ireland, some of those of particular interest to genealogists are in Dublin, including the following:

General Register Office of Ireland

www.welfare.ie/en/Pages/GRO_Research.aspx

National Archives

www.nationalarchives.ie

Dublin City Archives

www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-recreation-culture-dublin-city-public-libraries-and-archive/heritage-and-history

National Library of Ireland

www.nli.ie

Garda Museum & Archives

<https://www.garda.ie/en/About-Us/Our-History/The-Garda-Museum-at-Dublin-Castle/Garda-Museum-at-Dublin-Castle.html>

Mercer Library of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland

www.rcsi.ie/library

Irish Railway Record Society Library

irishrailarchives.ie

Land Registry

www.prai.ie/land-registry-services

Registry of Deeds

www.prai.ie/registry-of-deeds-services

Valuation Office

www.valoff.ie/en/archive-research/genealogy/

Representative Church Body Library of the Church of Ireland

www.ireland.anglican.org/about/rcb-library

People over 65, resident in Ireland, qualify for a Senior Citizen SmartPass for free travel by train to Dublin; otherwise check the Translink website www.translink.co.uk for special offers for cheap travel. This generally has to be booked online at least three days in advance. Remember to take Euro although it can be cheaper to get money from a hole in the wall in Dublin - and your free EHIC card in case you need medical treatment.

OTHER PLACES TO VISIT

Other places that Branches have visited in recent years include the following ...

Apprentice Boys' Museum

Museum of Free Derry

Gracehill Moravian Village

Police Museum

Kilwaughter Castle and

Graveyard

Prehen House

Ranfurly Centre, Dungannon

Centre for Migration Studies,

Omagh

Belfast Somme Centre

Clifton Street Graveyard

Magee University Library

Ulster Historical Foundation

Crumlin Road Gaol

Ulster Museum

Derry City Council Archives,

Pennyburn

... and, of course the Society's Research Centre at Newtownabbey - contact Bookings@NIFHS.org.

Do you know that in C4 ...

- * There are a lot of surplus detailed Ordnance Survey maps going for £1 or 50p - first come, first served?
- * The Society sells Alan Godfrey's excellent scaled down reproductions of Ordnance Survey maps, circa 1900, for £3 each?
- * There are a lot of surplus books going for a song - again, first come, first served?
- * There are a lot of back numbers of *North Irish Roots* to fill gaps in your collection?
- * There is a whole bookcase of volumes devoted to individual families or surnames?
- * There is a large collection of Family Trees, all indexed by name?
- * There is a large collection of Members' Ancestor Charts, all indexed by name?
- * There is a large collection of Presbyterian Historical Society genealogical correspondence, all indexed by name?
- * There are various short courses on matters genealogical, many of which are quickly booked up as they are so popular?
- * And, of course, there are the obvious - and considerable - collections in ...

The Randal Gill Library -

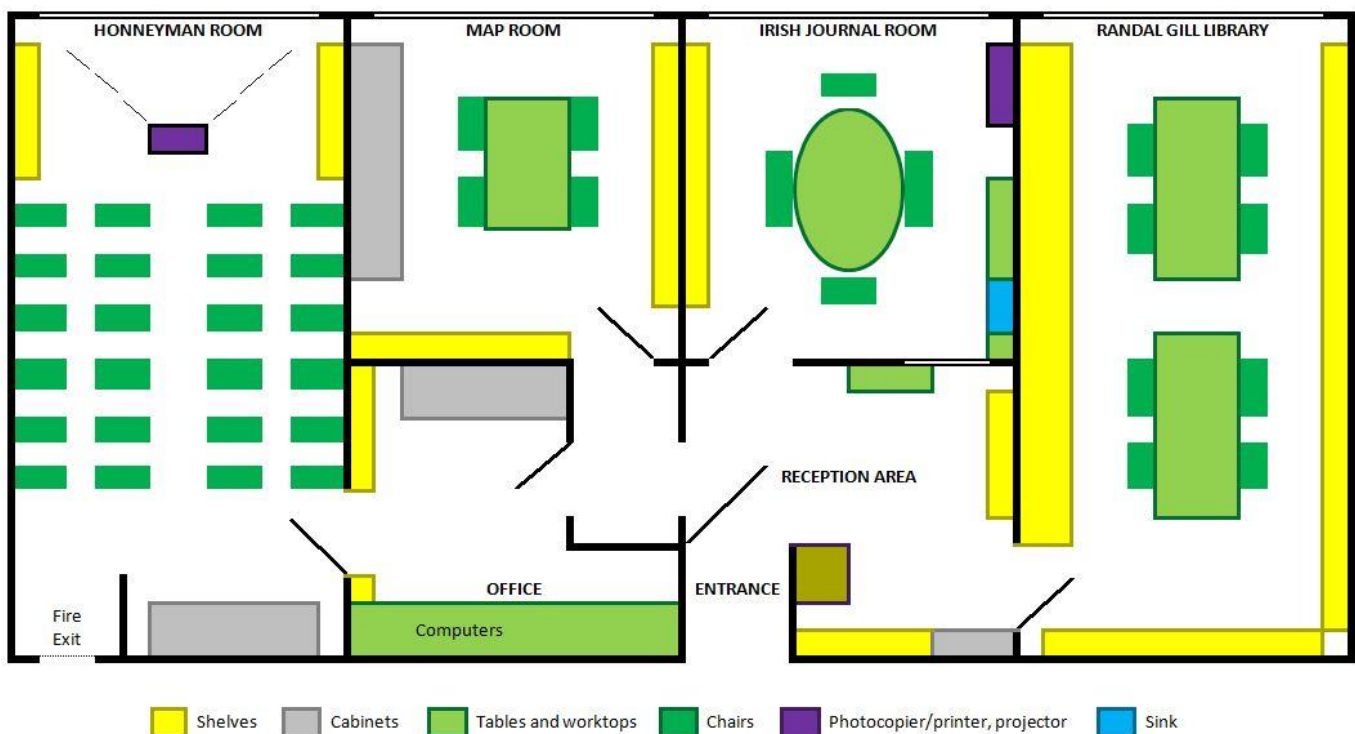
Transcribed and indexed Church Records, Gravestone Records and Newspaper Records
Irish Section Books on Church Histories, Occupations, Places and many other topics
Information books mainly published by the Family History Federation (FHF)

The Irish Journal Room -

Runs of 50 or so Irish Journals
A complete run of *North Irish Roots* and Society and Branch Newsletters
All 40 volumes of the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* plus a comprehensive index of names of people and places

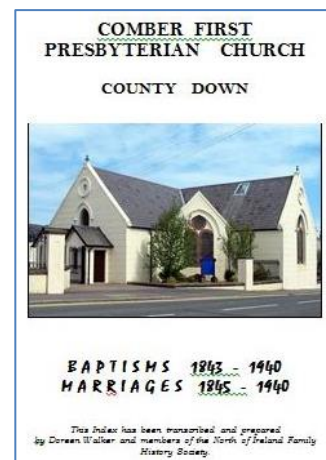
The Map Room -

A wide range of Ordnance Survey maps for Northern Ireland, including almost a complete set of the 6 Inch to 1 Mile series as well as a variety of maps at other scales
Runs of a variety of Irish town and country directories such as Thom's and also year books and runs of biographical directories such as *Who's Who*, the *Dictionary of National Biography* and the *Medical Register*



If a Branch programme consists solely of lectures it can be difficult for new Members to get to know others. A good way to encourage Members to work together and thus get to know one another is for the Branch to set itself a project for the year.

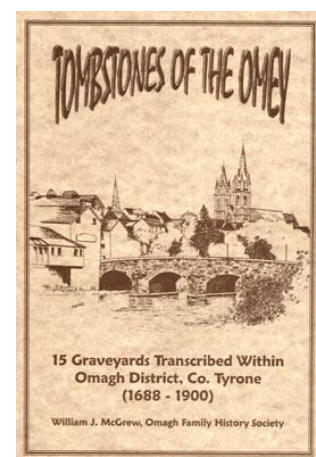
- An obvious - and useful - one is to photograph and record the inscriptions in a local graveyard. Contact the Society's Project Coordinator first to check whether it has already been done or is being done by others.
- Another possibility is to transcribe and index the registers of a local church. Contact the Society's Project Coordinator first to check whether it has already been done or is being done by others.
- Other projects of local interest might be to catalogue or index the historic records of a long established business or solicitor or landlord. Check with PRONI to find whether this has already been done.
- Or Members can jointly develop an article for *North Irish Roots* on specialised records or records local to the area, such as war memorials in the county.



Where the information is not already in the public domain it is important that a written agreement is made with the owners of the material, stating exactly what forms of publication are acceptable. Thus a very restrictive agreement for the transcription of a Church's marriage registers might state that only three printed copies should exist, one for the Church and one for the Society's Research Centre and one for the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. On the other hand an agreement might specify that the material can be printed, sold and also placed on the World Wide Web, where it can be accessed by subscription - in such a case the agreement should state how the proceeds should be distributed. Experience shows that the fewer restrictions imposed the better.

A copy of the agreement must be filed in the Society's Office in case queries should subsequently arise. Where no such written agreement is filed, the Society's Constitution states that the work is deemed to belong solely to the Society, which has the right to make whatever use of it is agreed by Council. A standard consent form for this purpose is available from the Project Coordinator.

Transcriptions or other material might be published as a book, in which case the Branch may apply to Council for a loan to be repaid from the sale of the books. The Branch has to acquire its own set of International Standard Book Numbers nielsenbook.co.uk/isbn-agency/.



The Branch, or its publisher, must, under the Legal Deposit Libraries Act 2003, deposit one copy with the British Library's Legal Deposit Office www.bl.uk/legal-deposit and, if required, five copies with the Agency for the Legal Deposit Libraries www.legaldeposit.org.uk, which sends them to the Bodleian Library at Oxford University, the Cambridge University Library, the Library of Trinity College, Dublin, the National Library of Wales and the National Library of Scotland.

As there is no legal deposit library in Northern Ireland, those who publish here are asked to deposit a copy with the Northern Ireland Publications Resource [NIPR] www.nibooks.org, which aims to acquire and preserve every book, pamphlet, periodical and report published in Northern Ireland since January 2000 and which can supply a free copy of the booklet *Publishing for Success*.

WORKSHOPS



Some Branches have had very successful workshops. These could take many forms. One such might be for groups of Members to attempt to tackle one another's brick walls, thereby exchanging expertise and experience. Another might be to work together to compile an illustrated history of a townland over the centuries and thus of the families that lived there. Maggie Lyttle's creative craft workshops were the subjects of much enthusiasm - she combined family history with making a memory box or scrapbook or decorated tags.

Sandra Ardis has demonstrated how one can tell the story of a family using a PowerPoint presentation.

PROVIDING ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE

Every charity has a legal requirement to provide a public benefit and not just work for its members. The Society has always done this by welcoming non-members to its meetings, courses and Research Centre but where it does most for the general public is by manning stalls at events great and small and answering people's questions by pointing them towards likely sources of information. Many Members of the Society take part in such events and find it enjoyable and often very busy.

A Branch can decide to open the Research Centre regularly on a morning, afternoon or evening in addition to the present opening hours of Tuesday 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Or it can arrange to have an Open Day at, for example, a local library but this requires considerable publicity both in advance and especially outside the venue on the day. Or it can watch out for forthcoming local events such as agricultural shows and arrange to have a stall. Every Branch needs to maintain recruitment of new members and this is a good way to do it and to spread awareness of the Society and Branch.



OTHER SUGGESTIONS

Consider events other than – or in addition to – a talk every month. All the following have been done:

- Recent events have encouraged the use of online meetings using Zoom; this enables the Branch to use far flung speakers and to include far flung members of the audience.
- Before the main talk have a ten minute talk for beginners and new Members on basic sources of genealogical information – e.g. parish records, census records, Griffith Valuation, tithe applotments, ... – what they contain and where to find them.
- Before the main talk have a ten minute interview with a Member of the Branch – e.g. what names and places are you researching – what have you found particularly useful – what are your brick walls?
- Have an "Ask the Expert" box into which Members can place queries for answers at the next meeting - this can lead to a debate with contributions from the audience.
- Introduce a monthly newsletter listing new books and online sources and forthcoming events. If you do, then deposit copies with the Society's Librarian for the benefit of other Members.
- Start a Special Interest Group on some topic for the Branch or, better still, for the whole Society. The Honneyman Room in the Research Centre is a suitable venue for monthly meetings.

