



## NIFHS News 27 - November 2020

### **"Now it is November Trees are nearly bare"**

Thanks to Margaret Morgan for those words from her poem, *November*. I hope, unlike those November trees, your family trees are blossoming. There can be no excuses. Our branches are in full swing or should that be full Zoom? Check on the website for further additions to branch programmes and you can be sure of a warm welcome at any of the meetings. I congratulate the antipodean Associate member who stays up to 2.30am to Zoom in.

This month's Newsletter is a mixed bag. There is some very sad news, some sources you may not have thought of using, information about new publications and church records, and some requests for help, so enjoy catching up.

On a personal note, can I thank those who sent me kind comments and good wishes after October's edition was circulated? Your comments were much appreciated. I am always happy to hear your news. Contact the Newsletter through - [Newsletter@nifhs.org](mailto:Newsletter@nifhs.org)

*Evelyn* B2513  
Newsletter Team



### **David Honneyman, 1918-2020**

It is with great sadness that we record the death on 10th November 2020 of Dr. D. J. Honneyman at the age of 102. David was a founder and the first President of the North of Ireland Family History Society.

Following a series of lectures by Mrs Kathleen Neill, a Family History Group was formed in Bangor in 1979. Following the deaths in quick succession of the first two Chairmen, David Honneyman was elected to the post.

Under his leadership, a number of local Branches were formed in Lisburn, Killyleagh, Belfast, and elsewhere and, for the benefit of overseas members, the category of Associate Membership was created and the journal *North Irish Roots* was started in 1984.

As the Group grew from a single Branch to a Society of several Branches, it became apparent that an overarching organisation was called for and so the Council was formed, with a President and other officers. David Honneyman was the natural choice as the first President of the Society, a post he held from 1982 to 1983 and again from 1992 to 1994. Until his death, he continued to take an interest in the progress of the Society.

A fuller appreciation of his life will appear in the next issue of *North Irish Roots*.

## How were your family employed, where did they live?

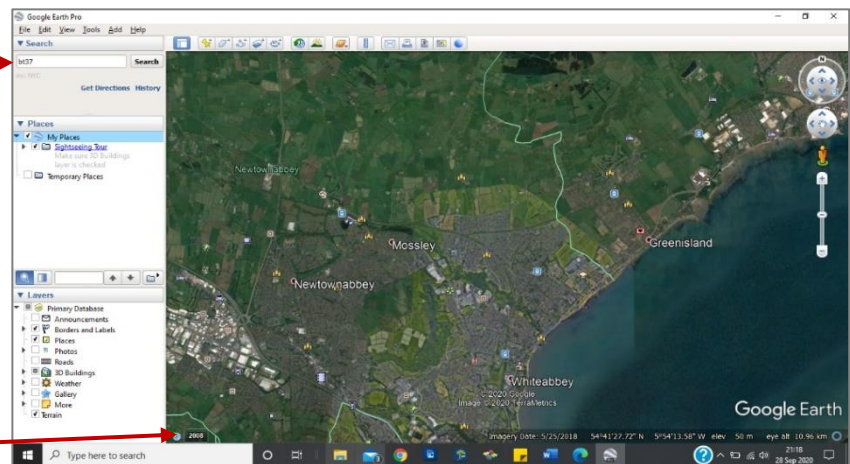
**Google Earth Pro** is a very useful resource to map the movements of your family. You may be lucky enough to find one of their homes still in existence. Business and employment records can provide a valuable glimpse into the lives of your ancestors and their neighbours. Following is some more information into how you might use both.



## GOOGLE EARTH PRO

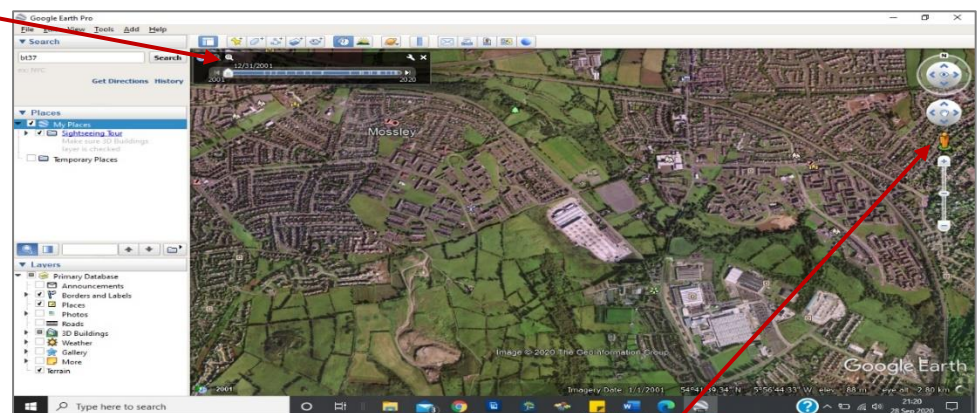
**Google Earth** is a wonderful tool for looking at our neighbours' gardens or a road layout, and most people probably look at their own house! But what happens to all those pictures when the images are updated in a particular area? The good news is that they are now available to anyone through Google Earth Pro. The program is free to download from Google and works just like Google Earth. [www.google.co.uk/earth/download/gep/agree.html](http://www.google.co.uk/earth/download/gep/agree.html).

1. Search by place name or postcode



2. Click on the year at the bottom of the map to open the timeline.

3. The timeline appears at the top left of the map and allows you to choose a year from 2000 to the present. Every year is not available, and some of the older images are not so clear, but there is still lots to see.



4. Click on the little yellow person icon at the right to go to **Street View**.

Redevelopment of an area can be tracked, and your ancestor's farmhouse may now be surrounded by dense housing.

Sandra Ardis, Projects Co-ordinator, NIFHS

## Extra Pants, £1 10s. 0d. by Chris Hill A3284

My grandfather, **Andrew Hill**, started a tailoring business in Glengormley village. His second son, my uncle Alec, is recalled by many locals as a part-time tailor and postman. In their house I found instructive remnants:



and the rear of the large tailor's cabinet was plastered with illustrations c. 1915-1916 and cards <sup>[1]</sup>:



<sup>[1]</sup> Alec's duties took him often to Carnmoney post office, run by the longstanding Abernethy family. He is remembered by Israel Abernethy sr. and by his son Israel jr. who regularly posts on the Glengormley As It Was group on Facebook.





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An accounts book in Alec's hand from 1938-39 has many colleagues from the village and from nearby Carnmoney townlands, with others mostly from Ballyclare, Belfast and Cullybackey. Below are some persons of interest:

Mr McQuitty was a retired schoolmaster. After bad burns at his house (*Larne Times* of 13 Feb 1947) he did not live long. William Hill, another of my uncles, was injured during the rescue.

Another neighbour was Robert Sibbett - journalist, Orange Order historian, Carnmoney and Glengormley Presbyterian veteran, and grandfather of our Society stalwart, Rosemary Sibbett. He (or possibly his son Robert, more commonly "Bert") had received a £5 5s. suit in December 1938, but now there was an important sequel:

Sibbett Robert Mackie of Lislea Glengormley county Antrim journalist died 23 October 1941 Probate Belfast 4 February to Alexander Hill tailor William Hill fitter and Robert McQuitty retired school teacher. Effects £1835 16s. 10d.

The *Weekly Telegraph* for 9 Jan 1926 describes a "well-varied and much-appreciated programme" to celebrate Mr Ferguson's promotion as railway station master from Ballyclare Junction to Greenisland. Andrew Hill and Charles Corr were on the organising committee. "Atlantic" is Atlantic Avenue, where "Ferguson, D., station master" is in the 1939 Belfast Directory at number 67.

Corr Charles of Ballyhenry Carnmoney county Antrim spirit merchant died 29 August 1948 Administration Belfast 12 May to John Corr spirit merchant. Effects £2183 12s. 8d.

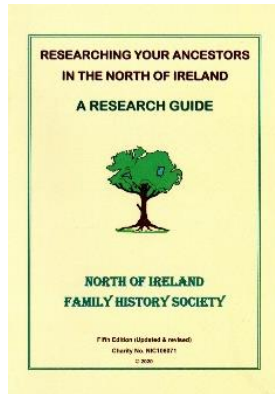
The brothers John [Jack] and Charles Corr were repeat tailoring customers. Before his recent death I was warmly welcomed at Kiln Road by John Corr and his wife Mairead; John's family acquired what is now "Corr's Corner" in 1919, more than 20 years after the farm, public house and quarry were sold by my great-grandfather.<sup>[2]</sup>

<sup>[2]</sup> C Hill, *Some Publicans of Carnmoney* (*North Irish Roots*, vol. 28, no. 2, 2017). A companion article has more detail of the 1897 sale to the Nelsons and the consequent behaviour of Thomas Nelson (apparently a bankrupt, absconder and wife-deserter). Too long for the Newsletter or for *North Irish Roots*, it is available from NIFHS or from [chrishill197@googlemail.com](mailto:chrishill197@googlemail.com) if readers ask nicely and offer scones.



## **NIFHS Publications and Records**

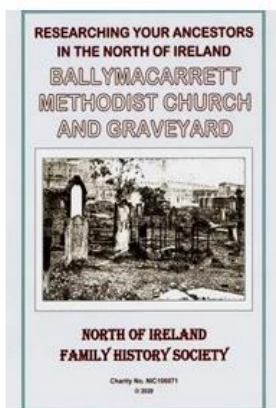
Some new Publications and Records available through the NIFHS website



### **Researching Your Ancestors in the North of Ireland - A Research Guide**

Our introductory booklet, *A Research Guide*, was first published in February 2010 and ten years later the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition has just been published. The booklet has been revised, updated and enlarged and contains information on land division, record repositories, the range of records available and where they may be found.

It is available from our website shop [www.nifhs.org/shop](http://www.nifhs.org/shop) and costs £2.50 plus p&p.



### **Researching Your Ancestors in the North of Ireland - Ballymacarrett Methodist Church and Graveyard**

This booklet gives a short history of Ballymacarrett Methodist Church and Graveyard, where many local families and founding fathers of the Methodist Church in Ireland were buried.

Published October 2020.

It is available from our website shop [www.nifhs.org/shop](http://www.nifhs.org/shop) and costs £6.00 plus p&p.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Portglenone Presbyterian Church**

We have transcribed baptism registers from 4 September 1826-4 August 1846 and 18 October 1852-14 March 1907. Records listed in the PRONI Guide to Church Records also have the gap between 1846 and 1852.

The records from 1826-1846 (there are only 2 baptisms in 1845/46) and 1852-1859 are detailed, and in addition to the child's name, and the father's name, for the most part include mothers' maiden names, places of residence, and some witnesses. The child's place in the family is also recorded.

The records from 1859-1907 are from a register with a different format. They record the child's name, father's name, mother's forenames and surnames, birth dates (with a few exceptions) and baptism dates, but there are no places of residence recorded. Just over 2,200 baptisms are recorded.

There are some interesting comments e.g. the baptism of Matthew Dripps in 1852 has the note "3<sup>rd</sup> son by 2<sup>nd</sup> wife, on which date also his brother was born (remarkable)" and his brother David born in 1854 has the note "3<sup>rd</sup> child to 2<sup>nd</sup> wife and 7<sup>th</sup> in all."

These are not on the NIFHS Library List yet but are available for members to request a look up.

Check the request format required at [www.nifhs.org/resources/look-up-service/](http://www.nifhs.org/resources/look-up-service/).



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### And now over to you ...

Some help is requested, so thinking caps on, please.

### "Not in Privilege"

Can anyone help with the meaning of this phrase which appears in some Presbyterian baptism records beside the father's name? If you can help please let us know by email to [Projects@nifhs.org](mailto:Projects@nifhs.org).

### NIFHS Smile & Shop

Do you shop on Amazon UK? If so, next time use the website [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) instead of [www.amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk).

Amazon will then, at no cost to you, pay 0.5%\* of your purchase price (less VAT, etc.) to a charity of your choice. (\* a seemingly small percentage but "every little helps" adds up when done a lot of times.)

One of the charities now available is **The North of Ireland Family History Society**.

Use this full name (as registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland) in the Charitable Organisations search box and when displayed in the search results list **Select** this charity name.

Remember this costs you nothing and brings in vital revenue (nearly £200 last year, £300 this year to date) helping to keep the subscriptions lower than they might otherwise be.

**Share this NIFHS Smile & Shop news with your family and friends.**

### Transcriptions

On the previous page you will have seen a new addition to the transcriptions list available through the NIFHS Look-up Service. Have you ever wondered how this happens? It happens because NIFHS members volunteer to transcribe original records. These transcriptions are checked and made available to you as an NIFHS member.

Would you have some time on your hands to help out? You would be transcribing from the comfort of your own home. No need to mask up and worry about social distancing. If you think you could help out with this valuable work please email Sandra at [Projects@nifhs.org](mailto:Projects@nifhs.org).

### The Last Word

Have you attended an online family history event that you found particularly useful? Do you know of any coming up in your area? Let us all know. Have you attended any of the branch meetings by Zoom? We would love to have your feedback. Can we do it better? Is there something you would really like to see? Can you offer a presentation or talk?

As ever the contact mailbox is - [Newsletter@nifhs.org](mailto:Newsletter@nifhs.org).

Stay well and keep in touch.

*Evelyn*