



NIFHS News 29 - January 2021

HAPPY 2021 TO ONE AND ALL

I cannot think of anyone I know who regrets the passing of 2020. It was a most unusual year, to put it mildly, but we are not quite finished with it just yet. More about that later. For the present let us look forward to 2021. This first Newsletter of the new year is packed with news of things for you to do, courses and talks to attend, new records made available, an opportunity to win a prize and ways to support your Society.

The Council, Officers and Branch Committees are all continuing their work on your behalf, finding new ways to deliver the service and making connections with other organisations. For example, many of you will have attended courses run by the Society in the past and you will know how successful they have been. These courses have not been available to our associate members until now but that has all changed. From this spring **Courses on Zoom** will be available online. Read on for full details and how to book. Back in November the Society took part in the **FHF Really Useful Show** and it is being repeated in April with NIFHS taking part again. Early Bird booking discounts are available. **Rootstech Connect** is happening in February and looks to be an event you might not want to miss. Our public library service in Northern Ireland, Libraries NI, is running a series of free online talks entitled **Heritage from Home**. The talks cover a range of subjects from DNA to Language and Lore of the Irish Landscape. Also, don't forget your membership entitles you to attend all Branch events, keep checking the website- www.nifhs.org - for updates to the Branch programmes and details of how to attend. None of our members need to be bored at home.

If all that isn't enough, the transcribers have been carrying on their work and there are more church records available for 'look-ups'. There is a new, easier method of accessing JSTOR, details of an affiliate link to Findmypast and news from the NIFHS Research Library.

Phew! Let's waste no more time, there are brick walls waiting to be demolished,

Evelyn

B2513



CHRONICLES OF 2020

When I said we were not quite finished with 2020, what I meant was that we need to record it, of course.

As is only fitting, NIFHS has an archive charting the history of the Society. 2020 has been a year like no other that any of us have known, so we would like to have your thoughts and experiences of the past year to add to the archive. How did things change for you? What did you do that was new? What did you miss? Were you happy spending more time at home or did you find it tedious? Did you reflect on the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918/1919 and how your predecessors coped? Did you spend more time working on your family history or did you lack the concentration? Did you have that big break through you have been wanting for ages?

If you feel you could contribute to our Chronicles of 2020, please send your article/poem/photograph to:-
Newsletter@nifhs.org.

We might publish some of your work or make it available to others as part of our archive, so please state if you are happy to share it.



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NIFHS COURSES ON ZOOM - SPRING 2021 PROGRAMME

Please note that there is a variety of times to facilitate members living in different time zones. You can find further details about the courses to be delivered on Zoom and how to book and pay on the NIFHS website -

www.nifhs.org/courses

- Using WikiTree
Wednesday 17 February 2021 (2pm-3pm) Anne Johnston
- Family Tree Maker: Basics and Benefits
Friday 19 February 2021 (2pm-3pm) Imelda McVeigh
- The Advantages of Y-DNA
Saturday 20 February 2021 (2pm-3pm) Martin McDowell
- 5 Top Tips for analysing your DNA
Wednesday 3 March 2021 (7pm-8pm) Anne Johnston
- The Advantages of MT-DNA
Saturday 6 March 2021 (11am-noon) Martin McDowell
- The DNA Family Matching Tool
Monday 8 March 2021 (11am-1pm) Martin McDowell
- Researching Military Ancestors
Thursday 11 March 2021 (7pm-8pm) Alan Rosborough
- Emigration to Australia and New Zealand
Tuesday 16 March 2021 (2pm-3pm) Mike McKeag
- Registry of Deeds
Friday 19 March 2021 (7pm-8pm) Matthew Gilbert
- Understanding Heraldry
Tuesday 23 March 2021 (11am-noon) Mike McKeag
- Using x matches in your DNA research
Saturday 27 March 2021 (11am-noon) Anton Rea
- From Family Tree to Family History
Tuesday 13 April 2021 (2pm-3pm) Mike McKeag

We greatly appreciate the commitment of the Course Tutors for their preparation work and the "conversion" to Zoom for these online course presentations.



HERITAGE FROM HOME
Libraries NI

Monday 1 February - Friday 19 March 2021

Find out about your Heritage from the comfort of your own home this spring. Starting 1 February, and throughout February and March, Libraries NI will be running a series of online talks, events and workshops on four topics:

Ancient Ireland: history & myth,

The environment: nature and landscape

Your family, your history

Partition: how it affected us

All these events will be delivered on Zoom
and can be followed on PC, laptop, iPad and on most smartphones.

It is essential to book, so if you would like to attend an event,
please email: heritage.talks@librariesni.org.uk
and we will reply with a link and basic instructions on how to connect.

The programme will be updated weekly, so keep checking the website -
www.librariesni.org.uk/news/heritage-from-home/
and follow [Libraries NI Facebook](#) page for notifications.

Monday 1 February 2021, 2.30-3.30pm

Family History and DNA

Martin McDowell

Wednesday 3 February, 1-2pm

Language and Lore of the Irish Landscape

Manchán Magan

Thursday 4 February, 2.30-3.30pm

Partition - Birth of the Border

Dr Cormac Moore

Monday 8 February, 2.30-3.30pm

Family History - The Ballycarry DNA Project

Martin McDowell

Wednesday 10 February, 2.30-3.30pm

Exploring the Elder Family of East Donegal

Dr William Roulston

Monday 15 February, 2-3pm

Games of two halves; Sport and Partition in Ulster, 1921-39

Dr Dónal McAnallen



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Wednesday 17 February, 2:30-3:30pm

Unapproved routes

Dr Peter Leary

Thursday 18 February, 1-2pm

Starting research on Irish records

John Grenham

Monday 22 February, 1-2 pm

The archaeological dig at Cathedral Hill, Downpatrick

Brian Sloan

Wednesday 24 February, 2:30-3:30pm

Women and partition TBC

Prof Linda Connolly

Friday 26 February, 1-2pm

Why can't you find your Irish ancestors?

John Grenham

The list of talks for March will be published in next month's Newsletter or check the Libraries NI website:-

www.librariesni.org.uk/news/heritage-from-home/



JUST A QUICK REMINDER Saturday 30 January 2021

Scottish Indexes
Conference
SATURDAY 30 JANUARY 2021

FAMILY

Learn how to trace your Scottish
family history

www.scottishindexes.com

It's Free. Supported by Donations.
See the Registration Instructions, Schedules, etc.



SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO



£7.50 EARLY BIRD PRICE
offer definitely ends on **SUNDAY 31st January**

NIFHS was represented at the November event and those members taking part really enjoyed themselves. We will be involved again in April, now is the time to book your tickets at the Early Bird rate.

Buy your **£7.50 EARLY BIRD TICKET NOW** at
www.fhf-reallyuseful.com

ANNOUNCING ROOTSTECH CONNECT: ALL-NEW VIRTUAL EVENT EXPERIENCE Thursday 25 - Saturday 27 February 2021

RootsTech 2021, which was scheduled to be held at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, will now be an entirely virtual conference! This will be a completely free event. Registration is required. Everything that you've come to love about RootsTech events will be available at your fingertips with this virtual conference, including:

- Celebrity keynote speakers
- Dozens of classes to choose from taught by presenters all over the world and in multiple languages
- An interactive expo hall with companies from all over the globe
- Fun cultural activities/demonstrations geared to celebrate traditions from around the world

More information about the event - how to register and subscribe to the RootsTech Newsletter -

www.rootstech.org/blog/rootstech-is-coming-to-you?lang=eng



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

CULLYBACKEY CHURCHES

Two new sets of records are available for "lookup." Our transcribers around the world, with local members checking, have continued their work through lockdown, shielding, isolating and tiers! And there may have been some tears shed over the writing!

Cullybackey Reformed Presbyterian Church Baptisms from 1836-1901 are ready for researchers. In these records only one parent is recorded, usually the father, and in most cases the townland of residence is shown.

Baptisms from Cullybackey Presbyterian Church for the period 1818-1843 are also complete. The church became Cuninghame Memorial in honour of the Misses Cuninghame who provided the funds to build a new church on the site of the old one. The new church opened in 1881. With few exceptions the records include the maiden surname of the mother and the townland of residence.

Sandra Ardis
Projects Coordinator



ACCESSING JSTOR IRELAND COLLECTION

To get access to the JSTOR Ireland Collection - Go to our password-protected access page
www.nifhs.org/membership/jstor-access/
and use the Username and Password supplied in your welcome letter
or your latest renewal acknowledgement.

Don't forget to take a look at
www.nifhs.org/membership/benefits-of-membership/
to see how to submit a Profile Form, a Record of Ancestor chart or a copy of your family tree.

Also check out our many Facebook pages and Groups where much helpful advice is offered by the members
www.nifhs.org/branches/nifhs-branches-on-social-media/.

FINDMYPAST AFFILIATE LINK

We now have an affiliate link with Findmypast which means that if you are buying a subscription of any type, or even taking out a free trial, then the Society will benefit. Just click on the Findmypast logo on nifhs.org homepage -
www.nifhs.org



NIFHS LIBRARY NEWS

Although closed to all but a very few NIFHS officers at present, the work of the research library is ongoing. Ann Robinson, our Librarian, continues to manage and update the resources when current travel restrictions permit.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, it has not yet been possible to produce an updated Library List for 2019/2020. However, you can view the 2019 list and the list of New Additions under resources on the NIFHS homepage. The Librarian will be pleased to answer enquiries about the Library holdings and the potential for the donation of books and other material, e-mail - Librarian@nifhs.org.

The Street Directories from 1890 - 1947, held in the NIFHS library, have been digitized by Findmypast and are now live to search on their website after registration or subscription. Currently there is a link to the *Ireland, Belfast & Ulster Directories* website on the NIFHS homepage. The directories were published annually and provided a comprehensive list of the names, addresses and occupations of a significant proportion of the residents of a region and are a valuable resource when researching your family history.

This has been a significant collaboration between NIFHS and Findmypast.



MAY 2021 ESSAY COMPETITION

The Society has promoted a biennial competition for its Members since 2006. Organised by the Belfast Branch for all Members of the Society, it attracts entries from Members around the world. The purpose of the competition is to encourage people to write up at least part of their family history rather than just construct a family tree. Many of the articles have subsequently been published in the Society's journal, *North Irish Roots*. The theme of this year's competition is - '**Family Memories**'.

The competition is open to all NIFHS Members. Full details of how to enter in next month's Newsletter so plenty of time to get those thinking caps on.

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