(Volume 1 No. 3, 2018)

### IRISH GENEALOGY MATTERS

The newsletter of www.rootsireland.ie and the Irish Family History Foundation



Research your Irish Ancestry at

## www.rootsireland.ie



Welcome everyone to our third and final newsletter for 2018 in which we aim to keep you informed of the activities of the Irish Family History Foundation (IFHF) and our centres, as well as new features and updates on our website, www.rootsireland.ie.

### NEW RECORDS! • NEW RECORDS! • NEW RECORDS!

Since our last newsletter the following records have been uploaded to www.rootsireland.ie

- 6000 records of various types (census substitutes and baptisms) for Co. Laois and Co. Offaly:
- 1000 gravestone inscriptions from St Colmcille's, Swords and St Columba's, Swords (Co. Dublin);
- 38,000 records for East Galway, including RC baptisms for Ballygar (1804–1897), Kilmacduagh (1848–1872), Leitrim (1815–1918), Portumna (1830–1917), Tynagh (1816–1917).
- Almost 6500 civil records from Ballymote, Co. Sligo.

These join other the other records uploaded to our website thus far this year, including:

- Over 9,000 records from Co. Westmeath, including baptism, marriage and burial registers;
- Almost 13,000 RC and CI birth and marriage records from Co. Waterford;
- 36,000 records from County Clare, including RC and Cl marriage, death and baptism registers and civil death records from Ennis;
- 59,000 records from County Limerick, including tithe applotment books, RC baptismal, marriage and death/burial records, civil marriage records and much more;
- Over 11,000 RC baptisms, deaths and marriages from Monageer, Rathangan and Piercestown parishes, Co. Wexford;
- Over 11,000 baptisms and marriages for the RC parish of Moyne/Templetuohy, Co. Tipperary (north).

Almost 190,000 records have been uploaded this year so far, with many more expected shortly, so keep your eyes open for more updates! We will notify those on our mailing list when these records are uploaded and available, so make sure to register to our mailing list to keep abreast with new additions to www.rootsireland.ie!



www.rootsireland.ie enquiries@rootsireland.ie

### EYE ON COUNTY CENTRES



#### NEW BOOK FROM DERRY GENEALOGY

A new book by Brian Mitchell of Derry Genealogy, Foyle Maritime Memories; Photographs from the Bigger and McDonald Collection 1927–1939 has been published by Colourpoint Books, http://www.colourpointbooks.co.uk/more\_details.php?id=1985

Brian Mitchell has researched a selection of 110 photographs, intended for publication in the *Derry Standard* newspaper, focusing specifically on the maritime history of the city from 1927–1939. Images include the activity on the quays, loading and unloading of ships, tug-tenders plying between Derry and Moville, transatlantic liners, the Scotch Boat and emigrants and passengers on board the tenders, liners and cross-channel steamers.

One of the fascinating photographs includes the following:

Destination New York. A young boy and girl, holding the US flag, wait at a railway station for a train to take them to Derry to connect with a transatlantic liner. The rail network that converged on Derry drew emigrants from the northern half of Ireland. Hence, the passenger manifests of transatlantic liners departing Derry, listed, not only passengers from the



city's traditional catchment areas of Counties Derry, Donegal and Tyrone, but also emigrants from the other six counties of Ulster and from the northern counties of Connacht and Leinster.

### HOLLYWOOD COMES TO DÚN NA SÍ IN WESTMEATH



Dún na Sí Amenity & Heritage Park was delighted to welcome actor Patrick Bergin and Singer Simon Casey to film a music video coinciding with the release of Simon's new song 'Tipperary Waltz'.

Bergin composed the 'Tipperary Waltz', a beautiful song which commemorates the centenary of the end of World War I. His Greatuncle Hugh fought in the Battle of the Somme.

While Patrick was in Dún na Sí, members of the Westmeath Genealogy team learned of his Westmeath connections. The village of Milltownpass in Westmeath is home to some of Patrick's ancestors.

## GRANTS PROGRAMME FOR TYRONE LOCAL HISTORY GROUPS

Is your local history or cultural society planning a publication or series of talks? If so, there may be assistance available from our Tyrone and Fermanagh Centre, Irish World Ltd. As a registered charity promoting genealogy and local history, Irish World aims to assist

local groups to publish their work and improve knowledge of local history and wider cultural studies throughout Tyrone and farther afield.

Grants of up to £500 stg are available for publications dealing

with local history and culture in the widest sense. Examples of topics include family-history, archaeology, place-names, parish or club history and local poetry or prose, past and present. Publications can encompass numerous formats, such as hard-copy book, DVD, CD-Rom



or E-journal. In addition, grants of up to £200 are available for history societies to help fund speakers and presentations.

When considering applications, Irish World will need to be satisfied that all sources of projected funding are in place, and that any grant provided by them will be complementary. All applications will be assessed on how well they set out the aims and objectives of the proposed publication or talk, and how it will celebrate local culture and contribute to local knowledge.

The grants-programme is open throughout the year, and applications will be assessed on an ongoing basis. For an application-form and information-pack, please

contact Irish World at the following addresses:

Irish World Ltd.
Coalisland Enterprise Centre
51 Dungannon Road
COALISLAND
BT71 4HP
Tel. 028-87-746065
E-mail info@irish-world.com



# RESTORATION OF STELLA'S COTTAGE, CO. MEATH



An information plaque at Stella's Cottage, associated with the renowned author Jonathan Swift, was unveiled by Mr Michael Hughes, chairperson of Trim Tourism Network on 3 November 2018. Also present at the event were family members of the Murray family as Tommy Murray wrote a book on the cottage entitled *Stella's Cottage*. Noel French of Meath Genealogy recalled his memories of Tommy and his great contribution to Trim's history and heritage. Noel also paid tribute to Trim Tourism Network for cleaning up the ruins of the building and erecting the plaque, saying that 'It is an important site for Swift scholars and it is great that it is now visible again and has an information plaque'.

Nearby Laracor parish was where Jonathan Swift, author of *Gulliver's Travels*, was rector from 1700 until 1745. For forty years Esther Johnson, (Stella), was 'the bright particular star' of Jonathan's Swift's life. Stella and her companion, Mrs. Dingley, certainly lived in St Mary's Abbey in Trim and her name is associated with this cottage for more than two hundred years.

In 1949 the cottage was abandoned and fell into dereliction. In 1991, the overgrown site was cleared by Upper Boyne Tourism volunteers and in 2018, the Trim Tourism Network carried out a similar clearing of the site.

# THE MELLON CENTRE FOR MIGRATION STUDIES ANNUAL LECTURE

The Mellon Centre for Migration Studies at the Ulster American Folk Park in Omagh, Co. Tyrone, is delighted to invite you to attend their annual lecture, 'Objects on the move: everyday life in Gaelic Ulster', given by Peter McElhinney, on Saturday 26 January 2019. This subject will be of interest to anyone who wondered about how objects can tell the fascinating story everyday life in late Medieval Ulster.

While relatively few rural Gaelic settlements have been excavated in Ulster, a body of objects recovered during turf cutting activities in this region, and now part of national and regional museum collections in Ireland, north and south, may tell us more about the day to day lives of the mobile labouring classes.

The research reveals some surprising material connections between the objects included in the study, and folk objects made and used in Ulster in the 19th and 20th centuries. The fee for the event is £12 with £10 concession for students, unwaged and senior citizens including registration, morning coffee, lecture and finger buffet lunch.

#### Booking is advisable

For further information: T: 028 8225 6315

E: mcms@librariesni.org.uk

W: qub.ac.uk/cms







#### IRISH FAMILY HISTORY EXPERIENCE: INTRODUCTION TO IRISH GENEALOGY

Running from 10–15 June 2019, *Irish Family History Experience: Introduction to Irish Family History* offers a new programme which will appeal to the budding family history researcher wishing to make the first step towards research success as well as the dedicated family historian wishing to break down those genealogical brick walls.

In just six days this programme will give you the skills and experience to further explore your family history and help you find your Irish and Scots-Irish ancestors.

This **brand-new programme** will offer you the opportunity to spend three days learning from the experts in the classroom and researching in the Public Record Office Northern Ireland (PRONI) followed by the option of three days of tours to sites such as Kilmainham Gaol and the Giant's Causeway or assisted research in PRONI.

Register now for only £729.99 stg per person (or with a deposit of £350 per person).

For all those taking part in Introduction to Irish Family History the following is included:

- Research assistance by professional genealogists in PRONI
- Comprehensive lecture programme

- Access to Ulster Historical Foundation printed and electronic resources
- Irish Family History guidance materials
- Three evening meals
- Six morning tea/coffee
- Six lunches
- Transport to the attractions during the programme
- Entrance fees to the attractions during the programme

For more information visit: www.ancestryireland.com/family-history-conference/summer/



Dr William Roulston, Research Director (UHF), assisting a client with their research

# LAUNCH OF THE 2019 NORTH MAYO HERITAGE CENTRE CULTURAL PROGRAMME

On Saturday 17 November, Sean Lysaght, author and poet, officially launched the 2019 Cultural Programme for The North Mayo Heritage Centre. Commenting on the programme Sean said, 'I was delighted to see how the energy and diversity of this programme was put together, it's great to see an estate such as Enniscoe and a centre like the North Mayo Heritage Centre developing a series of events and exhibitions which sit so well together and cater for visitors both near and far'.

By the end of this year the North Mayo Heritage Centre will have recorded 20,000 visitors – up from just 7,500 in 2016. Hugh Trayer, manager of the centre, noted 'The North Mayo Heritage Centre is dedicated to preserving and promoting the rich heritage of the region. By constantly delivering quality events and exhibitions, visitor numbers have increased. The centre is now a proven economic driver within this rural and regional community'.



Exhibitions planned for the year include 'Another Place ... a Celebration of Mayo Writers' and 'Enniscoe People'. For further information please contact Hugh Trayer, Manager, North Mayo Heritage Centre, Enniscoe, Crossmolina, Co. Mayo on 00 353 96 31809 or nmhmanager@gmail.com.



# RESEARCHING SCOTS-IRISH ANCESTORS: THE ESSENTIAL GENEALOGICAL GUIDE TO EARLY MODERN ULSTER, 1600–1800 (SECOND EDITION)

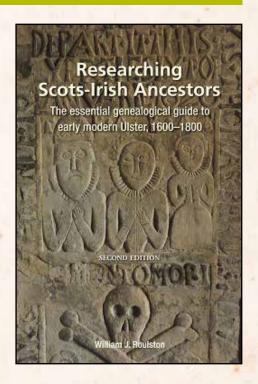
Ulster Historical Foundation is pleased to announce that the second edition of Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors is now available.

Priced at just £19.99 (plus P&P), this new edition is a massively expanded version of the first volume running to more than 600 pages – more than double the length of the original.

More detailed information is included on the importance of church and land records and new chapters explore the value of records relating to charitable bodies, fraternal organisations and businesses. There is also a discussion of potential sources of information on emigration. A set of parish maps for each county in Ulster has been included and along with a listing of more than 600 places in the province giving the parish location.

Whether your ancestors are of English, Scottish or Gaelic Irish background, whether their religious affiliation was Episcopalian, Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic or other, whether they were farmers, merchants or labourers, this volume will be of enormous value to anyone wishing to find out more about their Ulster roots.

For more information visit: https://bit.ly/2Pah2y2



#### DID YOU KNOW?

We have recently increased on our website, www.rootsireland.ie, the number of records that you can save in 'My Records' from 100 to 150! This will make it easier for our clients to keep track of their research. We have also increased record views on daily and monthly subscriptions from 400 to 500 and 1200 to 1300 respectively.

The 'My Records' page on www.rootsireland.ie





### **FOCUS ON A SOURCE**

#### **GRIFFITH'S VALUATIONS**

Between 1847 and 1864, Richard Griffith conducted a valuation of tenements now known to us as 'Griffith's Valuation', which aimed to provide a guide to land values throughout Ireland. The aim of the valuation was to produce a uniform guide to the relative value of land throughout the whole country. Each entry includes the following information:

- The location of each site;
- The name of the occupier (head of household only);
- The name of the landlord or property agent;
- Description of the property;
- The acreage of the site, provided land was included;
- Valuation of land and buildings (where applicable).

Griffith's Valuations are searchable on www.rootsireland.ie

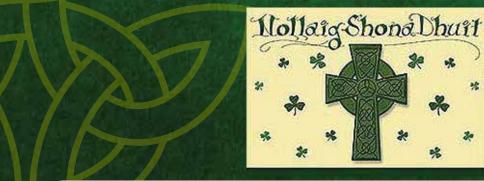
94	VALUATION OF TENEMENTS,
	PARISH OF WONAGHAN

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#### **GIFT VOUCHERS**

Gift vouchers to the value of ₹25, ₹25, ₹0 and ₹5 can be bought for use on www.rootsireland.ie at the following link: https://rootsireland.ie/ ifhf/gift-voucher.php. They make an excellent gift for the genealogist in your life, especially during the festive season!







Research your Irish Ancestry at

www.rootsireland.ie

