

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



Research your Irish Ancestry at
www.rootsireland.ie



Welcome everyone to our first newsletter for 2020, also the first of a new decade, 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 to our website, www.rootsireland.ie.

NEW RECORDS! • NEW RECORDS! • NEW RECORDS!

Since our last newsletter, the following records have added to our database on www.rootsireland.ie:

- 30,000 new Kilkenny records;
- 75,000 new Clare records.

This is along with the records which had already uploaded in 2019:

- 18,000 records of various types (census substitutes and baptisms) for Counties Laois and Offaly;
- East Galway records including Cappataggle & Kilreekil RC baptisms, 1766-1915; Woodford RC baptisms, 1909-1917; Civil records updated and extended; Roman Catholic marriages extended to 1917;
- 18,500 civil marriage records for County Waterford, 1864-1912;
- 38,000 Church of Ireland Waterford baptisms;
- 9000 Armagh confirmations;
- 3200 RC baptisms and marriages for Adamstown, Co. Wexford;
- 1295 Cork marriage records – Donerail, Killavullen, Cloyne & Kilshannig Civil records;
- 1398 RC baptismal, marriage and deaths records for Camolin, Co. Wexford.

This means that over 200,000 records were uploaded in 2019. Many more records are expected in 2020 from Limerick, Offaly, Cavan, Westmeath and Wexford, so keep your eyes open for more updates, including some very exciting news which we can't wait to share with everybody about a new set of records! We will notify those on our mailing list when all of 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!!



Patrick Street, Kilkenny

EYE ON COUNTY CENTRES



Will Williams doing a mushroom cooking demonstration at the North Mayo Heritage Centre following a foraging workshop at the NMHC BioDiversity 2019 event

ANOTHER RECORD YEAR FOR VISITORS TO THE NORTH MAYO HERITAGE CENTRE

2019 was a record-breaking year for visitors to the North Mayo Heritage Centre with 23,987 recorded visitors during the year which represents an 18% increase on the previous year. This is all the more remarkable given that in 2016 there were only 7,500 recorded visitors to The North Mayo Heritage Centre. Visitors have been recorded from all over the world as they engage with the centre to undertake research into their family's genealogy. The centre currently holds 1.2 million records for people from North Mayo. Visitors were also keen to explore the looped walks around the Enniscoe Estate and The Secret Garden Cafe. The Cafe received a number of reviews in *The Irish Times* Weekend section during the year which brought many new visitors to the centre. If you would like to enquire further about a tour party visiting the North Mayo Heritage Centre and Enniscoe House please email nmhmanager@gmail.com or call 096 31809.

CAVAN CALLING

Cavan County Council, including Cavan Genealogy Centre, have organised a homecoming festival for the Cavan diaspora and their friends from 20-23 August 2020. Cavan Calling is an exciting opportunity for Cavan people, those with ancestors from the Breffni County, or those with an affinity for Cavan, to come home for a weekend celebration of Cavan, its people, its Diaspora, its culture, heritage, music, and landscape. A packed programme of events has been lined up for 'Cavan Calling' with street concerts, An American Wake, colourful street performances and parade, a bumper fireworks extravaganza, a spectacular military tattoo, theatre, exhibitions, talks, genealogy clinics, a gala ball and much, much more. To join in, visit www.cavancalling.com, email info@cavandiaspora.com or follow @cavancalling on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.



BEGINNERS GUIDE TO TRACING YOUR FAMILY TREE BEING HELD AT DÚN NA SÍ, COUNTY WESTMEATH

Date: Monday 17 February 2020
Time: 7-8.30 p.m.

It is a natural thing for people to want to find out about their ancestral past. Some take up the quest, while others never get around to it. For those who do start out tracing their family history it can begin what transpires to be a life-long search for their family roots.

This workshop is a beginners' guide for people starting to trace their family tree. You will learn which genealogy sources to consult in the beginning, where to find them and how to access them. The aim of the workshop is you leave knowing how and where to get started with your genealogy research to achieve the best results.



Our resident genealogist Bernie Norris, who has worked as a professional genealogist for over eight years, will facilitate the workshop.

Advance registration is required due to limited places.
Admission: €10
Please contact Dún Na Sí on 090 6481183 to book a place.

SLIGO HERITAGE & GENEALOGY CENTRE

Welcoming the new decade - while keeping an eye on the past!

County Sligo Heritage & Genealogy Centre staff spent much of 2019 assisting descendants of Sligo emigrants from all over the globe re-connect with their Sligo ancestral past. The centre was a hub of activity, welcoming guests from the United States of America, Canada, England, Scotland, Wales, South Africa, France, Australia, New Zealand. Our picture shows the wonderful Murphy Family from Boston, who visited our Centre in September 2019.

We also engaged with several local community groups, both young and old, and helped them to better understand the history and times of their ancestors and assist them in starting their own family research projects.

Throughout the year we released several short videos on various topics connected to Sligo family history and genealogy, and in 2020 will continue with our video series, '60 Second Sligo Surnames', and launch

a new series called 'Cemetery Stories'. Each of these videos will be available to view on our Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram pages and are both informative and entertaining!

Our new 'Teespring' online shop has some great items that may be of interest to those with Sligo Roots. We will be hosting new events and adding a number of exciting products to our line up in 2020 - so keep an eye on www.sligoroots.com for regular updates on all of our activities.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

Ulster American Heritage Symposium 17–20 June 2020 Mellon Centre for Migration Studies at the Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh

The Ulster American Heritage Symposium takes place at the Mellon Centre for Migration Studies at the Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh, County Tyrone from 17–20 June 2020. The aim of the Symposium is to encourage study and public awareness of the historical connections between Ulster and North America including what is commonly called the Scotch-Irish or Ulster-Scots heritage. The Symposium has as its general theme the process of transatlantic emigration and settlement, and links between England, Scotland, Ireland and North America. Its approach is interdisciplinary, encouraging dialogue between those working in different fields including history, language and literature, geography, archaeology, anthropology, folklife, religion and music.

The theme of this symposium is '**Continuity and Change: Ulster–American migration over the last three centuries**'. A striking feature of trans-Atlantic emigration from Ulster since 1700 has been persistence with remarkably few, and generally brief, interruptions to the movement of migrants from the province to the continent of North America. A popular narrative shaped by the pervasive demands of often binary Unionist/Nationalist identities, combined with the effects of periodization, have tended to fashion a history which has generally stressed specific, discrete phases of emigration. The Symposium offers an opportunity to reflect on the phenomenon and reconsider the chronology of migration between Ulster and North America, from 1700 to the present. Over the same timespan we can see the evolution of the two-way diasporic relationship operating across the Atlantic and would welcome papers which explore this influence in both Ulster and North America.

As always, offers of papers related to the broad theme of the Symposium are welcome. Particular themes for consideration might include:

- Periodization and particular landmark or milestone dates
- The role of commemoration and memorialization
- How the historiography shaped the current popular perspective?
- The evolution of diasporic relationships from 1700
- The factors encouraging or interrupting trans-Atlantic migration flows
- How disciplines other than history might challenge the traditional chronology
- How factors such as changing technology, communication systems and logistics altered migration patterns

To date, we have received few papers relating to the study of family history and migration and would encourage readers of the Newsletter to consider participating in the Symposium. Please submit your offer of a paper including title plus abstract (of not more than 250 words) and brief CV (not more than 50 words) by email to:

catherine.mccullough@librariesni.org.uk and
patrick.fitzgerald@librariesni.org.uk

The deadline for the receipt of papers is 12 noon on 1 MARCH 2020 and a response from the organisers should be received by mid-March. The Conference hotel is the Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh (<https://www.silverbirchhotel.com>) and details of Registration to participate in the Symposium are available on our website at www.mellonmigrationcentre.com.



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MIGRATION STUDIES**
exploring the migrant in everyone



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Limerick Genealogy is delighted to announce the launch of our new website www.limerickgenealogy.com offering a range of genealogical services including One to One Consultations, Commissioned Research and Event Speaking.

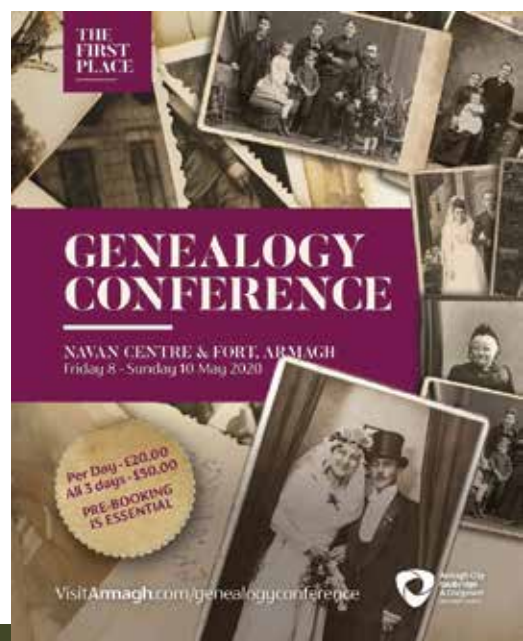
We are always working to improve and expand the services we offer to those with ancestry in Limerick city and county. For further information about our services, please enjoy our new website or email us at research@limerickgenealogy.com.

2020 GENEALOGY CONFERENCE IN ARMAGH

Armagh Ancestry will be hosting their 2020 Genealogy Conference on Friday 8th, Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th May 2020 at the Navan Centre & Fort, 81 Killylea Road, Armagh, BT60 4LD.

Following the hugely successful 2019 Conference, the 2020 event will cater for many aspects of Irish Genealogy and already several keynote speakers have been confirmed to deliver talks. Experts in their fields of Irish Genealogy, the speakers include Tom Quinlan (National Archives of Ireland), Dr William Roulston (Ulster Historical Foundation), Brian Mitchell (Derry Genealogy), Dr Brendan Scott (Irish Family History Foundation) and Feargal O'Donnell (Armagh Ancestry).

Further information can be obtained from researcher@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk



IRISH GENEALOGY MATTERS



2020 GENEALOGY CONFERENCE IN ARMAGH



Friday 8 May		
1.00pm - 2.00pm	Early Registration	
2.00pm - 3.15pm	Tracing your Irish Ancestors - Church, Civil & Census records	Feargal O'Donnell
3.25pm - 4.25pm	Family, Community and Migration History	Paddy Fitzgerald
4.30pm - 4.50pm	Sources in the Irish Studies Library, Armagh	Catherine Gartland
4.55pm - 5.45pm	Using IFHF Centres - the benefits.	Feargal O'Donnell
5.45pm - 6.15pm // Tea/coffee & sandwich @ £3.00 (pre-booked only)		
6.15pm - 7.00pm	Unique records held by the North of Ireland Family History Society	NIFHS
7.00pm - 8.00pm	PRONI Records and Ulster Genealogy	Desmond McCabe
8.00pm - 9.00pm	Formal Launch (Cheese & cold meats) and Q&A	
Saturday 9 May		
9.00am - 9.20am	Registration	
9.30am - 10.15am	Irish surnames and their problems	Feargal O'Donnell
10.15am - 11.15am	Irish Placenames and their importance in tracing family history	Brian Mitchell
11.15am - 11.45am	Tea/coffee	
11.45am - 12.45pm	Researching your ancestors in the 1600s	Dr William Roulston
12:45pm - 2.15pm // Lunch @ £6.00 (pre-booked only)		
2.15pm - 3.15pm	National Archives Talk	Tom Quinlan
3.30pm - 4.30pm	Q&A Session with Panel	
5.00pm - 6.00pm	Open mic session for attendees to share experiences & knowledge	
Sunday 10 May		
9.30am - 10.15am	1922 Fire - was everything destroyed?	Feargal O'Donnell
10.15am - 11.00am	Using the 'Rootsireland.ie' database - a unique National asset	Dr Brendan Scott
11.00am - 11.30pm	Tea/coffee	
11.30am - 12.30pm	A Beginner's Guide to DNA	Martin McDowell
12.30pm - 1.15pm	What did it mean to a be a Gael in Ulster in the 1500s?	Martin Mellon, Cineal Eoghain
1.15pm - 2.30pm // Lunch @ £6.00 (pre-booked only)		
2.30pm - 3.15pm	History from Headstones	Feargal O'Donnell
3.30pm - 5.00pm	Walking Tour of Local Graveyard	Feargal O'Donnell

*Timetable, schedule and talks subject to change

ACBCBC 2288



Ulster Historical Foundation Irish Genealogy Lecture Tour, 6-22 March 2020

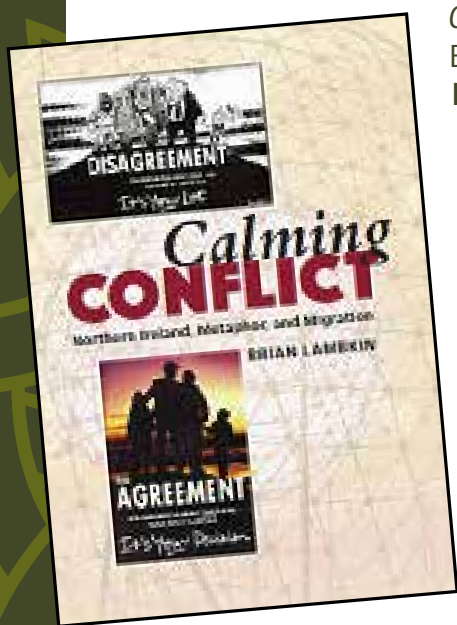
Don't miss Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt from Ulster Historical Foundation during their annual USA lecture tour this March (06-22) to learn how to get the most out of Irish resources and records, gain strategies for breaking down brick walls in your family tree, and grasp important historical context that may help fill in gaps in your research. This year the Foundation will be speaking in:

- Friday, 6 March 2020 - Chicago IL (9:00am-5:00pm)
- Saturday, 7 March 2020 - Madison WI (9:00am-5:00pm)
- Sunday, 8 March 2020 - York PA (1:00pm-5:00pm)
- Monday, 9 March 2020 - Staunton, VA (9:00am to 4:30pm)
- Wednesday, 11 March 2020 - Bloomington, IN (12 noon-7:00pm)
- Friday, 13 March 2020 - Richmond, VA (9:30am - 12:30pm)
- Saturday, 14 March 2020 - Frankfort, KY (full day event)
- Sunday, 15 March 2020 - Philadelphia, PA (full day event)
- Tuesday, 17 March 2020 - Pittsburgh, PA (9:00am-4:30pm)
- Wednesday, 18 March 2020 - Charleston, SC
- Thursday, 19 March 2020 - Chicago, IL
- Friday, 20 March 2020 - St Charles, MO (8:45am-1:00pm)
- Saturday 21 March 2020 - Little Rock, AR (9:00am-3:00pm)
- Sunday, 22 March 2020 - Coeur d'Alene, ID (11:00am-6:00pm-includes 1hr early luncheon)

More information on venues and information on how to register can be found at www.ancestryireland.com/usa-lecture-tour-2020/

Whether you are just beginning your Irish research or have been at it for years, you won't want to miss these workshops.

Ulster Historical Foundation Publish New Book



Calming Conflict: Northern Ireland, Metaphor, and Migration

By Dr Brian Lambkin

PRE-ORDER NOW

The collapse of power-sharing in Northern Ireland in 2017 prompted commentators to ask, why has the peace not bedded in as expected?

This important new book published by the Ulster Historical Foundation explores why more than twenty years on from 'The Agreement' of 1998, there is still 'disagreement'. Crucially, *Calming Conflict* is also about what needs to be done.

Pre-launch offer: £19.99 plus P&P (RRP: £24.99)

Visit www.booksireland.org.uk/store/all-departments/calming-conflict for more information.

This book will also be launched on 30 January 2020 in the Public Record

Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast.

DID YOU KNOW?

The civil records in the General Register Office (GRO) are copies of the originals and can therefore sometimes differ from those held in the local offices around Ireland. The civil records held locally are generally more accurate than those held in the GRO. Many of our centres hold transcripts of the original civil records.

