

FindMyPast's Irish Family History Day delivers new records

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[FindMyPast](#)'s annual celebration of Irish Heritage – Irish Family History Day – delivered an interesting package of gifts for genealogists. Here are the highlights:

Irish Poverty Loan Records, 1821-1874

This collection of some 700,000 entries comes from the National Archives in Kew, London, and relates to the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund, a privately funded credit scheme set up in 1824 to provide small loans to the 'industrious poor' ie those most affected by poverty and famine.

These are often the only official records of people who died during the Famine or who emigrated during those awful years.

The collection is a gem for those with ancestors from some of the poorest parts of the island (see map right) and it's the first time it's been available in full online.



Clare Electoral Registers

These 311,080 records are also making their debut online. The collection shows who owned or leased property worth at least £10 between 1860 and 1910. Male owners or leaseholders of property worth at least £12 a year were entitled to vote in parliamentary elections, while female property holders of the same value could vote in local elections. Both are found in this set.

Irish Census 1911

The 1911 census is now available at FindMyPast; it's free, just as it at the National Archives of Ireland's Genealogy website. However, the FindMyPast site has an advantage. Its search engine allows researchers to search for more than one family member at the same time, helping to narrow down results, and by birth year and by spelling variations of a name.

These options are not available at the NAI site and will make some searches a lot easier.

County Carlow makes its first appearance on RootsIreland.ie

After being marked up as 'Coming Soon' for what seemed an eternity, County Carlow records have been added to the [RootsIreland.ie](#) database. Transcriptions of some 217,401 Roman Catholic baptism and marriage registers have been uploaded.

While most of the registers date from the first or second decades of the 19th century, some are a little earlier. Tullow has the earliest registers with baptisms recorded from 1739 and marriages from 1748.

Records for all the parishes end with 1899. The full breakdown of the dates of each register can be found on [Carlow Genealogy](#)'s Genealogical Sources page.

If you know someone who might like to join the IGRS, please feel free to pass on this e-bulletin and direct them to the membership application form on the last page.

Your Family History: a 10-week lecture series at PRONI

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland is to run a 10-week lunchtime lecture series called *Your Family History*, which will explore some of the key archival sources used in family history.

The lectures can be booked individually to suit personal research needs and interests, or they can all be booked in one go.

The lectures will take place on Wednesdays at 1pm and will be held at PRONI, Titanic Boulevard, Belfast, as follows:

11 March: *Getting Started*, with Janet Hancock

18 March: *Using Street Directories*, with Des McCabe

25 March: *Church Records*, with Valerie Adams

1 April: *World War One Ancestors*, with Ian Montgomery

8 April: *Education Records*, with Valerie Adams

15 April: *Board of Guardian Records*, with Janet Hancock

22 April: *Valuation Records*, with William McAfee

29 April: *Landed Estate Records*, with Stephen Scarth

6 May: *Courts, Prisons and Coroners records*, with Wesley Geddis

13 May: *GRONI*, with Emma Elliott.

Booking essential:

Email proni@dcalni.gov.uk or call 028 90 534800.

Surgeons Roll, 1828-1920, online

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland has added more downloadable (pdf) scans of its [Roll of Licentiates](#) (signed by all graduates of the College) to its online Heritage Collection, which is free to view.

Scans of the Roll from 1828 to 1890 were already on the site, but the latest upload extends the coverage to 1920.

The remaining decades, up to 1950, will be added shortly.

Irish News Archives cuts prices

The [Irish Newspaper Archive](#) has made its Christmas promotion of half-price reductions permanent. This means the annual subscription fee is €178 and the monthly fee is €30.

No doubt the site will be updated in due course to reflect the permanent change in costs.

In addition, the *Leinster Express* and *Wicklow Newsletter* have joined the line-up of titles available in the database.

The *Leinster Express* editions now searchable date from 1950 to 2007, while the *Wicklow Newsletter* can be searched from 1900 to 1926.



Ancestry adds unusual collection of recent Northern Irish and Scottish deaths

Ancestry has uploaded a new database called [Scotland & Northern Ireland Death Indexes, 1989-2013](#), which may be of use to genealogists searching for clues to recent family events.

The source information from Ancestry is not exactly fulsome, but it appears the material for this collection comes from GreyPower Deceased Data and is compiled by Wilmington Millennium, a UK business that facilitates the prevention/detection of deceased identity fraud and the suppression of marketing mail to deceased persons.

The Index now available at Ancestry has been compiled primarily from funeral directors' records and obituary notices and is estimated to include some 45% of deaths during the 25-year period.

It provides transcribed death details for people who died in Scotland and Northern Ireland, including their name and title, town and postcode of last place of residence, date of birth or age at death, and date of death.

A similar collection – [England & Wales Death Indexes, 2007-2013](#) – was published on the same day.

Registry of Deeds Index moves home

The Registry of Deeds Index Project has received its first update of 2015. The Index, which is managed by Canberra-based Nick Reddan, a Fellow of the Society and webmaster of [IrishAncestors.ie](#), now holds 167,089 entries from 19,722 memorials of deeds.

The Index is free to search and the project is always on the lookout for more volunteers.

Nick has moved the database to a brand-new host and custom url. The new address is: <http://irishdeedsindex.net/index.html>.



Church of Ireland updates register list

The Representative Church Body Library has updated its *Table of Parochial Registers Throughout Ireland*. This downloadable pdf document lists all historical Church of Ireland parish registers (and copies of them) – whether the originals survive or not – from both the Republic and Northern Ireland. It also provides details of where the surviving registers can be accessed either on microfilm, by hard copy or via local custodian arrangements.

The 98-page Table is accessible via the Library's [Archive of the Month archive](#).

UCD launches Army Barracks of 18th-century Ireland

Explore the Archives: PRONI workshops

Such was the demand for PRONI's January and 18 February *Explore the Archives* workshops, a further two dates have been added:

**Wednesday 11 March and
Wednesday 22 April**

Each workshop runs to the same programme:

- Explore Archives Online, 2pm
- Using the Documents (searching for, ordering and viewing original documents), 3pm
- Behind-the-scenes tour, 4pm to 4:30pm.

Both dates coincide with lunchtime lectures (at 1pm) in the *Your Family Tree* series (see left hand column on page 2 of this bulletin) so you might want to book a talk and a workshop for the same day. Either way, be sure to book quickly because spaces are limited.

Booking essential:

Email proni@dcalni.gov.uk or call 028 90 534800.

Women and the Great Hunger

A "Women and the Great Hunger in Ireland" conference will take place at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut, 3–6 June.

[Details.](#)

University College Dublin (UCD) has launched a free website, [Army Barracks of 18th-Century Ireland](#), that will be of interest to military, social and family historians

It is still in development, but has launched with an interactive map of all 142 army barracks active on the island between 1690 and 1815 (click the image, right, to view), as well as a more detailed look at the barracks in County Armagh.

The latter provides a map of the county's eight army barracks, together with dates of operation, photos, history and list of sources of information.

Ultimately, the project aims to investigate the social, cultural, economic, environmental and political impact of these barracks and their occupants on 18th-century society.

The Barracks site is one of four current projects collectively called *Mapping State and Society in Eighteenth-Century Ireland*.

This project aims to provide a free electronic platform for research projects that are using spatial and other data in order to create online maps and further data relating to state and society in eighteenth-century Ireland.

The online resource will create a unique and essential electronic research tool for understanding this period of Irish history. In addition to the army barracks research, UCD is currently working on mapping boroughs and revenue collection ports and districts. A further component on Law and Order is also in gestation at Queens University Belfast.



Clare County Library adds interesting selection of new records

Clare County Library continues to upload donated material useful to family historians. This month, the additions, all free to access, are:

[Roman Catholic Baptism Records for Kilmaley Parish](#): Transcribed from an LDS microfilm of the register pages and donated by Beryl Meehan, these records date from September 1828 to March 1882. The record set is not complete ie it doesn't include every entry in the register. Nonetheless, the transcription includes about 650 records.

[Miltown Malbary National School Roll Books](#): The roll books for girl pupils dates from 1895 to 1925, while the book for boys dates from 1896 to 1925. Both are searchable by surname and date. The records were transcribed by Brian Doyle and Peter Beirne from the Library's Local Studies Centre.

[Lissycasey Graveyard](#): These 801 records, gathered and donated by Anne Hayes, includes inscriptions and locations of all the headstones in Lissycasey Graveyard as at 1 January 2015. They date from 1862 to 2014.

[Claremen who served in the American Civil War, 1861-1865](#). The collection has been donated by Sharon Carberry who has transcribed data on 381 individual soldiers recorded in obituaries, pension records, official muster rolls, biographies etc. Some of the entries are quite detailed, including personal descriptions, occupation, place and date of enlistment (and, often, age at that date), as well as date and method of discharge.

Eleven more Irish titles join BNA

Eleven more Irish titles have been added to the [British Newspaper Archive](#) this month: They are:

- *Dublin Courier*
- *Dublin Evening Post*
- *Dublin Morning Register*
- *Dublin Observer*
- *Dublin Weekly Herald*
- *Galway Patriot*
- *Roscommon Journal and Western Impartial Reporter*
- *Skibbereen & West Carbery Eagle/South Western Advertiser*
- *Vindicator*
- *Waterford News*
- *Weekly Vindicator*

Many of the existing titles in the database have also been updated with additional coverage.

The latest additions brings the total number of Irish newspapers in the BNA collection to an impressive 61, with a combined total of just under 210,000 editions.

As with all uploads to the BNA database, the new titles have also joined the [FindMyPast](#) Irish newspaper collection, available via the Ireland and World package.

Irish Lives Remembered: latest issue

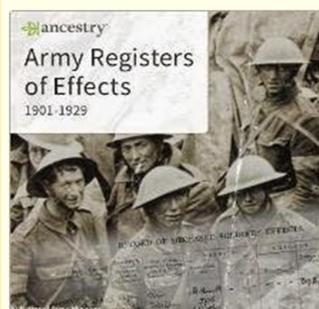
The January-February issue of *Irish Lives Remembered* magazine is available to view or download (just click the image below).

This edition has three main areas of geographical focus: Pennsylvania, New Zealand and County Down. The latter is covered by 17 pages detailing not only the great online collections available to researchers but also some of the offline resources at PRONI, the Newry & Mourne Museum, and the Heritage Collection, which is housed in two of the county's libraries.



Ancestry adds British Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929

Ancestry has added the [British Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929](#), to its military collection.



The new record set, which comes from the National Army Museum and comprises 872,395 entries, details the sums owed to soldiers who died in service in 1901-29 and records who is the next of kin entitled to receive this money. Payments went first to widows, or, if the soldier wasn't married, to a parent or, in equal share, siblings.

It is the inclusion of next of kin that makes these records particularly valuable to family historians; with this information researchers can often take a family back or even forward another generation or distinguish between soldiers with the same name.

Early records in this set also list a soldier's trade before enlistment.

Series Two of the Genealogy Radio Show is underway

The Genealogy Radio Show has returned for its second series on Raidió Corca Baiscinn, a community radio station based in Co. Clare.

The show, presented by Lorna Moloney, is broadcast live at 4pm on Thursdays on 92.5 & 94.8FM or over the Internet at [www.rcb.ie](#).

The day after each broadcast, a recording is uploaded to the Raidió Corca Baiscinn's website so that those who can't listen live can still hear the programme in full.



Events and diary notes for February

Friday 13 February: *Where did they all go? Irish emigration in the 19th century*.
Venue: Edenderry Town Hall, Edenderry, Co Offaly. 7pm-10pm. €10. Book by [email](#).

Wednesday 18 February: *A sort of home-coming: Irish soldiers and the aftermath of the Great War*, with Dr Myles Dungan. Host and Venue: Newry & Mourne Museum, Bagenal's Castle, Castle Street/1A Bank Parade, Newry BT34 2BY. 7:30pm. Light refreshments served. Free. Book on 028 3031 3173.

Wednesday 25 February: *Open Genealogy Consultation*, with Lisa Dougherty. Host: Irish American Heritage Museum. Venue: 370 Broadway, Albany, New York 12207, USA. No booking necessary. Consultations on first come, first served basis, 11am–2pm (EDT). Free.

Workshops at SOG in London

The Society of Genealogists (SOG) in London will host two Saturday morning workshops.

Both run from 10:30am to 1:00pm and will be held at the SOG's offices at 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA. There's a fee of £20 for each workshop.

7 February: *Place of Birth Ireland - How can I Find out More?* with Maggie Loughran. [Details and booking.](#)

28 February: *The Irish in Victorian London*, with Else Churchill and Michael Gandy. [Details and booking.](#)

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Celebrating Irish Ancestry

23–27 February: APCI lectures, Dublin

The Association of Professional Genealogists in Ireland (APGI) will be presenting a series of lectures at the National Library of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin from 23 to 27 February.

Five lunchtime lectures will be held, each starting at 1:05pm, as well as one evening lecture (time tbc). Designed as introductions to Irish family history research, the topics of the lectures will include state and church records, census returns, land records, tracing 20th century military ancestors, and online genealogical records.

The Friday lunchtime lecture will be followed by an open forum session in which attendees can discuss their research with professional genealogists.

No booking is necessary and all are welcome.

IGRS Diary

Saturday 18 April: IGRS Ireland Branch AGM & lecture. Venue: Dublin City Library and Archive, Pearse Street, Dublin 2.

Saturday 9 May: IGRS AGM & Open Day. Venue: 34 Chepstow Villas, Bayswater, London.

Saturday 23 May: IGRS Ireland Branch Open Day. Morning and afternoon lectures, Q&A session, raffle. Venue: Dublin City Library and Archive, Pearse Street. Dublin 2.

Further details of all these events will be posted to IrishAncestors.ie shortly.



IGRS Research Update is emailed only to current members of the [Irish Genealogical Research Society](#). If you do not wish to continue receiving the monthly e-bulletin, you can unsubscribe at any time using the unsubscribe facility in the covering email.

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Where did you hear about the Society? _____

Membership can also be applied for online at www.irishancestors.ie

Annual Subscription:

For Republic of Ireland residents only: €26 (€25 if paying by [standing order](#)).
For all other applicants: £21 sterling (£20 if paying by [standing order](#)).

US\$ cheques are acceptable; the amount sent should be \$35.

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To apply by post, please return this form to :

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