



British Isles Family History Society-U.S.A.

Newsletter

Jan/Feb-2005

Editor: Jim McNamara

GENERAL MEETINGS:

This Month – Sunday, 23 Jan 2005, 1:00 PM to ~ 4:00 PM

Part 1 -The Poor Laws
Part 2 - The Parish Chest

By Nancy Bier
(See Page 4 for details)

No Study Group

Next Month – Sunday, 27 February 2005, 1:00-3:00 PM

Panel workshop on record keeping

The panel will be Nancy Bier, Jim McNamara, Janet Thomas, and one other person TBA.
The panelists will present various record-keeping strategies that work for them.
The membership is also encouraged to bring examples of their records
and to be prepared to offer opinions of what works and what doesn't.

Irish Study Group by Nancy Bier

Subject TBA

3:30-5:00 PM

Notice:

All classes and monthly meetings are free. There is plenty of free parking. Everyone is welcome. You are welcome to do your own research at any time. Unless otherwise stated, all events are held at:

Los Angeles Family History Center (310) 474-9990
10741 Santa Monica Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Please contact a board member if you have any other questions.

Visit BIFHS-USA Website at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa>

Editor's Note:

These are the days of miracle and wonder
This is a long distance call
The way the camera follows us in slo-mo
The way we look to us all
The way we look to a distant constellation
That's dying in a corner of the sky...

- Paul Simon/*Graceland*; 'The Boy in the Bubble' © 1986 Paul Simon BMI, © 1986 Warner Bros. Records, Inc.

It is amazing how applicable this song's theme still is, nearly 19 years later. Mankind has the greatest technologies ever, and still the Tsunami comes, 155,000+ are likely already dead. Such a depressing way to begin a New Year, and yet there is hope. Many nations have come together to help those left, whatever the motivation. So many priorities need to be addressed, restore the infrastructure, medicine, food, water, shelter, survival, newly orphaned children to care for. It is hard to document who was lost, and where. Some of the genealogists of the future will have a few more brick walls to contend with.

As of this writing, the following casualties have been reported:

- Australia – 11 dead, 107 missing
- Austria – 5 dead, more than 100 missing
- Bangladesh – 2 killed
- Belgium – dead reported but numbers not known
- Britain – 40 dead
- Canada – 4 dead, 13 missing, 74 unaccounted
- China – dead reported but number not known
- Indonesia, mostly Sumatra – 94,081 dead
- India – 9,067 dead, nearly 4,00 missing
- Japan – 8 dead
- Keyna – 1 dead
- Malaysia – 68 people killed
- Maldives – 80 killed
- Myanmar – 90 killed
- New Zealand – 1 dead, 64 missing
- Portugal – 8 missing
- Russia – 10 injured, some deaths reported but not confirmed
- Sri Lanka – 28,729 dead, 5,000 still missing
- Somalia – 200 killed
- South Africa – dead reported but numbers not known
- South Korea – dead reported but numbers not known
- Singapore – 3 dead
- Spain – 11 missing
- Taiwan – dead reported but numbers not known
- Tanzania – 10 killed
- Thailand – 5,046 reported dead, of these 2,230 are known to be foreigners
- United States – At least 37 dead, with many still missing, estimated at 2,100

Please honor the dead by supporting the survivors. Give to the charity of your choice.

Jim McNamara

Any and all comments are always welcome. JPMTCC@aol.com

President's Message:

Hi everybody, Welcome to 2005. My goal of getting my genealogy in order by this January didn't work, so I'll be trying again this year. Better luck to all of you.

Thanks to all of those who attended our Holiday Party. Next year's is already scheduled for the **second Saturday** (not Friday) in December, the 10th. So get it on your calendar now, along with all of our meetings so you don't forget. Remember we are meeting the fourth Sunday of every month but March and December this year. In March the fourth Sunday falls on Easter, so we are going to ask for ideas from everyone, to help our new Vice Presidents of Programs, Janet Thomas and Evelyn Wallace. Would a field trip to the Los Angeles Public Library (on the 19th) be of interest to anyone? We'll be discussing it at the meeting, or you can send in e-mails to me.

Special thanks to: Joan Semper for bringing in the books in November, and Dorothy Losee and Terry Brown for helping sell them. A special thanks to Dorothy Losee for helping out opening and closing the building while I was in Salt Lake City. It made for a long day for her. Thank you to Glen Knoblock who is moving from being VP Programs to being a member of the Board of Directors. Two years of finding programs for us is a lot of work and we appreciate it. And thank you to Bob Hatch who prepared the turkey for us and Mary McKinnon who prepared the ham for our holiday party. We also wish to thank all of those who brought food, it was delicious.

Nancy Bier and I went on our scouting trip to Salt Lake and can now tell you where things are in the library. We both managed to get sick while we were there. Nancy B's doctor thinks we are allergic to Salt Lake City! Something about the sulfate level in the air in November. But we will forge bravely on and plan to be back there again in February. This will be the last group trip with research help (unless someone else volunteers to lead it). So if you have wanted to go with us, this is your last chance. We will be going back to the convention in September, but no research help on that trip, just working in the booth. The FGS Convention will be the 7th through the 10th of September and if you plan to go, could you spend an hour or two in the booth with us?

Don't forget that January is our "giveaway" meeting. If you have anything to give away of interest to genealogists, bring it and spread it out on the back tables, **freebies only** at this meeting. I will also have two boxes there - one for books, etc., you would like to donate to the library and one for books and pamphlets we can sell at Jamboree (in May this year). So clean out those closets, bookcases, and boxes at home. It's supposed to be good luck to have your house clean by Chinese New Year's (the 9th of February). We can help here.

So don't forget - mark your calendars now with our meeting dates. Plan to go to Salt Lake with us. And I'll see you at the January meeting.

Nancy Ellen Carlberg n_carlberg@hotmail.com

Our Best to Megan Evans and Gloria Scoles...

British Isles Family History Society sends our best wishes to Megan Evans and Gloria Scoles who are both ill with cancer.

BIFHS-USA March Meeting:

This year, the March meeting falls on Easter Sunday. Please email comments or remember to voice your opinion at the January meeting about whether or not we should replace the March meeting with a field trip to the Los Angeles Public Library on another day in March. Email to Nancy Carlberg, n_carlberg@hotmail.com, please use 'BIFHS March meeting' for the subject line.

BIFHS-USA Journal:

Please send any articles to Gail Said Johnson at: bifhsjournal@socal.rr.com
Or, mail to the society's address: 2531 Sawtelle Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124
Please use 'BIFHS-USA Journal Article' as the email subject line, or the C/O line on mail envelope.

SLC Trip, Feb. 13th through Feb. 20th:

Its time to reorganize those files, and see which records you still need, time to research the FHLC to find a few more sources to check out.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Jan-2005

- 23 BIFHS-USA Meeting. Program by Nancy Bier. PART I, "Poor Laws", a brief description of history of poor laws in England with comments on Ireland and Scotland. Part II, "The Parish Chest - Its Wonders and Gifts", items that can be found in the parish chest vary greatly from location to location. This is a good example of the myriad of things to be found in some places. An explanation of the items, how to use the information, how to find the materials in the LDS catalogue or elsewhere and wonderful examples of some of the items will be covered. Nancy will also note those items that can be found in Ireland and Scotland that are similar to these records. It will be a long session but Nancy hopes it will be of help to everyone.
- 26 Wednesday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, BIGRA Irish SIG, '*Ordnance Survey Maps: Explanation of the many sizes and where to buy them*', presented by Mary Russell. Mary has samples of all types of maps and the complete sets of the Discovery Series and the ½ inch to 1-mile Series, which she will bring to class. Location: Meeting Room, SDFHC, 4195 Camino del Rio South Contact: maryrussell29@aol.com

Feb-2005

- 13 The South London Family History Fair at Crawley, 10 AM to 5 PM
See www.genuki.org.uk for additional info.
- 13-20 **BIFHS-USA** Research trip to Salt Lake City, UT Sign up soon to get as much help as possible prior to trip. Cost is \$450 (shared double room) \$725 (single room).
- 19-20 Scottish Festival and Games at the Queen Mary 8 AM to 6 PM.
- 26 **Whittier Area Genealogical Society Presents: 22nd ANNUAL SEMINAR**
Speaker: Dr. Gary Shumway
Saturday, February 26, 2005
Masonic Lodge, Whittier, California
7604 Greenleaf Ave. at Mar Vista in Whittier
- 27 **BIFHS-USA Meeting**
- 28 **California Medieval History Seminar**, 9:30AM to 4:00 PM at the Huntington Library in San Marino. Advance registration required.
Phone: 310 825-1880
Email: cmrs@humnet.ucla.edu

Mar-2005

- 4-5 Renaissance Conference of Southern California CMRS co-sponsors the RSCS's annual interdisciplinary conference at the Huntington Library, which this year will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the South Central

- Renaissance Conference (SCRC). For more information visit: www.r sca.org
- 12-13 Irish Fair and Music Festival at the Lost Angeles County Fairgrounds, on Fairplex, Pomona, CA 10 AM to 6 PM
- 21 Family History Fair in Virginia, co-sponsored by BIFHS-USA & Family History Center in McLean, Virginia. Speakers will include Nancy Bier, Linda Jonas, Nancy Carlberg, Brian Trainor, and Fintan Mullan, as well as outstanding speakers from the Washington DC and Virginia areas. The one-day seminar is free, but there is also an eight-day trip to Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington DC.

Apr-2005

- 17 South Wales Family History Fair at Llantrisant Leisure Centre, Southgate Park, Llantrisant, Rhondda.
See www.genuki.org.uk for additional info.

May-2005

- 13 Merseyside & Cheshire Family History Fair at Hulme Hall, Bolton Road, Port Sunlight Village, Bebington, Wirrel, Merseyside, England
See www.genuki.org.uk for additional info.
- 13-14 SCGS & Family Research Library present the 36th Annual Genealogical Jamboree and Resource Expo at Burbank Airport Hilton and Convention Center, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank, CA Info: 818 843-7247 email: sgs@earthlink.net Website: www.scgsgenealogy.com
- 21 The McLean Family History Center in McLean Virginia presents: a day long seminar. It is completely FREE and features a number of lectures on the SCOTCH IRISH in Ireland and Scotland and the U.S. Lecturers will be Linda Jonas, Nancy Bier and Nancy Carlberg. It will also feature a number of sessions on DIGITIZING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY. This will present several ways of using the latest technology to enhance your very own stories of your ancestors' lives. In addition, a trip down THE GREAT WAGON ROAD will begin the night before the conference, and continue for about two weeks. Included will be the memorials and monuments of Wash. D. C. at night, sightseeing, the CONFERENCE, research at LOC and DAR libraries and then down the great road of migration of the early Scotch-Irish. Details are now being finalized for the trip so contact Nancy Bier for more information.
- 22 New Lanark 2005 Family History Fair
See www.genuki.org.uk for additional info.
- 27-29 USS Highland Games at Los Angels Fairplex

Sep-2005

- 7-10 FGS Convention at the Salt Lake Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah

Thanks to my good friend Jean Rice for the following two submissions on Irish publishers and medical personnel in South America. These articles contain information about people with surnames - MULHALL, SCULLY, DILLON, DINEEN, RICHARDS, O'NEILL, BULFIN, O'REILLY, MacDAVITT, FOLEY, MOORE, MURPHY, O'GORMAN, LEPPER, FAHY, OUGHAN, DOLAN, LYNCH, GUEVARA.

Irish Publishers in South America

SNIPPET: In Argentina, the three MULHALL brothers from Dublin were pioneers in both journalism and book publishing. It was Edward and Michael MULHALL who founded "The Buenos Aires Standard," Argentina's first English-language newspaper, in 1861. A story is told of how Michael, who was obviously an Arts graduate, excitedly told his brother, "Thomas, we can become famous with this project." "To hell with fame, replied the business graduate Thomas, "we will become rich instead." As it turned out, the MULHALLs became both rich and famous with their publishing empire. "The Standard," originally published as a daily in English and French, remained for a century one of the primary newspapers of the English-speaking community. The MULHALLs could also claim credit for the first English-language book in Argentina. Their popular "Handbook of the River Plate," originally published in 1861, went through numerous editions, and was supplemented in 1878 by Michael's "The English in South America."

In Brazil, the MULHALLs had an Irish-born counterpart in William SCULLY, an enterprising editor and writer based in Rio de Janeiro. Little is known about his background. In 1865, he founded a weekly English-language newspaper, "The Anglo-Brazilian Times, which continued to publish until 1884. Also in 1865, SCULLY published his own guide book, titled "Cities and Provinces of Brazil." Scully's active involvement in the promotion of Irish immigration suggest that the archives of "The Anglo-Brazilian Times," available on microfilm at the National Library in Rio de Janeiro, may contain valuable background on failed Irish colonies, in particular the 1868 Irish settlement at 'Principe Dom Pedro,' in Santa Catarina State.

Back in Buenos Aires, the MULHALLs loaned their printing presses and the editorial skills of the third brother, Frank, when Rev. Patricio Jose (P. J.) DILLON founded "The Southern Cross" in 1875. In

contrast to the more staid establishment viewpoint of "The Standard," the new weekly quickly identified itself as a Catholic and Irish Nationalist organ. Now appearing as a monthly, primarily in Spanish, "The Southern Cross" is (as of 1998) the oldest, continuously published Irish newspaper outside Ireland. Its archives, clearly a genealogical resource of great value, have recently been microfilmed. The films, covering the dates Jan 1875-Dec 1995, were available (1998) at the paper's offices in Buenos Aires; copies of the films and an index soon to be made available to libraries and universities.

"The Southern Cross" has benefited from a long line of distinguished editors, from the scholarly 19th century Corkman, Michael DINEEN, down to the recently-deceased Fr. Federico RICHARDS and his successor Fr. Kevin O'NEILL. The most famous editor of "The Southern Cross" was William BULFIN of County Offaly (King's Co.), who introduced hurling to Argentina and went on to write the 1907 travel classic, "Rambles in Eirinn," and "Tales of the Pampas," a collection of humorous and revealing stories about the Irish in Argentina. Originally published in 1900, this rare collection was republished in 1997 through the efforts of Susan WILKINSON, an Irish-Canadian novelist with ancestral Co. Kildare links to Argentina.

[-- From a lecture by authority Brian MCGINN, as appeared in a series of articles called 'The South American Irish,' published in Cork's "Irish Roots" magazine. J.R.]

Irish Medical Presence in Argentina

SNIPPET: During the Wars of Independence, an estimated 200 doctors from the British Isles - most of them men of Irish birth - served with the forces of Simon BOLIVAR. Although most of their names are unrecorded, we know that many of them succumbed to the tropical fevers they were treating among the troops. Among the casualties were Dr. Michael O'REILLY from Dublin and Dr. Stephen MacDAVITT, both of whom died in 1822. Among those who survived the war, were BOLIVAR's chief medical officer Dr. Thomas FOLEY from Killarney; Dr. Charles MOORE, who served for a time as BOLIVAR's personal physician; and BOLIVAR's chief surgeon Dr. Richard MURPHY from Sligo. After the war, Dr. MURPHY was one of those who stayed behind to serve the medical needs of the poor in Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, where a monument to Dr.

MURPHY's memory was erected in the hospital grounds.

In Argentina, the Irish medical presence extends back to the 18th century colonial period, when Dr. Michael O'GORMAN, from Ennis, was appointed chief of medicine to the Spanish Viceroy. The Clare man, who trained in France, later went on to establish a medical institution that in 1799 became Buenos Aires' first School of Medicine. Later Irish-born doctors practising in Buenos Aires were Dr. James LEPPER from County Tyrone, who worked with the chaplain of the Irish community, Fr. Anthony FAHY from Galway, to establish the infirmary that eventually became Buenos Aires' Irish Hospital, and Dr. John OUGHAN, who was recruited in the United States in 1817 and initially tended to San Martin's independence forces in northern Argentina. Among the doctors who continued the Irish medical tradition in 20th century Argentina were two 1950s graduates who went on to use their training in very different fields. One was Dr. Mario DOLAN, still practicing in New York (in 1998), a renowned specialist in addiction medicine and also President of the Irish Argentine Society of New York. His classmate and opponent on the rugby field was Dr. Ernesto GUEVARA, who went on to win fame and notoriety as leader of the Cuban revolution. Che GUEVARA's remains were recently located in Bolivia, where they had been secretly buried after his execution there in 1967, and returned to Cuba, where his late father Ernesto Guevara LYNCH kept alive the family's Irish traditions till his death in 1987.

[-- From Brian MCGINN, "Irish Roots" magazine pub. Cork (1998) J.R.]

BOOKSHELF Contributions **J. McNamara**

A few books I recently acquired both by David Dobson: *Directory of Scottish Settlers in North America, 1625-1825*, ISN 0-8063-1397-8, and *Irish Emigrants in North America, Part One, Part Two, and Part Three*, ISBN: 0-8063-4684-1, both published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., in Baltimore.

The Directory of Scottish Settlers in North America, 1625-1825, is Volume VII of the series and is more than 100 pages of surnames sorted alphabetically, with short blurbs about each person. There are about 15 to 18 names per page, and more than 1500

names in this book. Here are a few samples from this book.

Sample 1:

'RONALDSON, RICHARD, son of William Ronaldson, (1738-1817), baxter burgess of Edinburgh, and Marion Cleghorn, (1734-1825), jeweller in Edinburgh, emigrated to Philadelphia pre 1823, typefounder in Philadelphia. (OEC.28.45)'

[Editor's note: OEC – Book of Old Edinburgh Club, series; for each entry a reference is quoted, the reference abbreviations are at the start of book.]

Sample 2:

'MAXWELL, PATRICK, former Colonel of the 7th Dragoon Guards, residing at 12 Great King Street, Edinburgh, applied to settle in Canada 16.2.1819. (PRO.CO384.5.27)'

Sample 3:

'SWAN, THOMAS, Covenanter, transported from Leith to the Plantations on the Crown of London, master Thomas Teddico, in November 1679, shipwrecked off Orkney in December 1679, later transported to Jamaica. (CEC.212/5)'

According to David Dobson, *Irish Emigrants in North America, Part One, Part Two, and Part Three*, focuses on the Irish emigrants of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, many of whom are former soldiers encouraged by the British Government to settle Canada after the Napoleonic Wars. David Dobson also notes that these military personnel should be documented in the military records of the Public Record Office or in the Regimental Museums. A sample from each part is included below:

Sample from Part 1:

'MCNAUGHTON, JOHN, emigrated from Belfast to Philadelphia on the brigantine Agnes, master Robert Ewing. Arrived in Newcastle on the Delaware River 30.6.1773. [BNL]'

Sample from Part 2:

'SULLIVAN, JOHN, jr., an Irish farmer, with family of 2, settled in Ennismore Township, Canada, before 1826. [BPP.2.419]'

Samples from Part 3:

'SARGENT, JOHN, sr., an Irish farmer, with family of 11, settled Otonabee Township, Canada, before 1826. [BPP.2.420]'

'SARGENT, JOHN, jr., an Irish farmer settled in Otonabee Township, Canada, before 1826. [BPP.2.420]'

Thanks to Ms. Barbara Stenberg for the following information on Godfrey Memorial Library.

In their own words, "A public library specializing in American biography, American genealogy, and American History". The following excerpts summarize the goals and resources of Godfrey Memorial Library.

Excerpted from the Godfrey Newsletter:

"In the past few months we have added:

- More than 5,000 records per month to our online card catalog
- Thousands of new genealogies, city directories, church histories to the shelves
- PERSI Index, more than 1.6 million article citations from 6,500 + journals
- Over 400 newspapers, every word searchable
- Chicago Tribune 1892-1950 (soon to be expanded to 1849-1984)
- 1920 Census Indexes
- Who's Who on the Web Indexes and full citations
- We add more than 2 Million pages of newsprint per month
- We add a new database every week

And we are very pleased to offer this year the first Godfrey Library Research Retreat at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City from November 15th to 20th.

We continue to add even more services every month."

Please see the library's site at: <http://www.godfrey.org>

Nancy Bier, thanks for sharing this great story:

Linky Bier, an American Airlines flight attendant took her job of flying soldiers in and out of Germany seriously.

In her talks with them she learned many of our armed forces have never received a package nor a letter or card from anyone at home. For various reasons these people have no personal support system. So Linky and her new partner, Janet, a flight attendant who lost her son in the service have a goal... of those of us here at home adopting a military person for the duration of his/her service.

A person who wishes to be adopted can enter their

name and APO address into the website and Linky and Janet will find one of us to "adopt" them and promise to send letters, cards and care packages to them. Linky recently made a presentation to a woman's club here in Redondo Beach and every one of the 100 soldiers, marines, sailors etc. that she had to be adopted was taken. Commitments were made to each member of the military chosen. Regardless of politics or beliefs these people need to know someone personally cares.

If you are interested please check the website and the links at www.adoptasoldiericare.com

Yes, she is related to me and I am proud of Linky's compassion and caring.

- Nancy Bier

Thanks to Larry Heffner of Lewisberg, West Virginia for these URLs:

"I have added about 120 new Marriage Bonds recently discovered by the Greenbrier Historical Society to the website for the Greenbrier Historical Society."

- Larry Heffner

"Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark. Professionals built the Titanic."

- Home page: www.greenbierhistorical.org

- URL to view just the most recent marriage bonds: <http://www.greenbierhistorical.org/marriage%20bonds%20new.html>

- URL to view the Master List of Marriage Bonds: <http://www.greenbierhistorical.org/marriage%20bonds.html>

THE CHURCHILL MUSEUM

[From Burkes Peerage and Gentry Today Newsletter, January 2005]

The Churchill Museum will be the first major museum in the world that is solely dedicated to the life, achievements and legacy of Sir Winston Churchill. The museum is an integral part of the Cabinet War Rooms. It will comprise of over 9000 square feet of displays of artefacts, photographs, documents and film, including material never seen by the public before, interspersed with numerous interactive exhibits.

BOOKSHELF Contribution

BY Annie Lloyd

The Cousins' Wars by Kevin Phillips, published by Basic Books, 1999. This book relates to the religion, politics and the triumph of Anglo-America. It deals with the differences between the British Civil War and the American Revolutionary War and the American Civil War.

When the British Civil War was over, the people went back to having a King. When the American Revolutionary War was over, we were a separate country. This book discusses the reasons why it was this way.

There are lots of good maps, and other information contained within the book's 700+ pages. It's a good read about British/American history.

Obscure Gen. Definition - 'Message'

By Annie Lloyd

What is a message? It is a dwelling house with its appurtenances which means the outbuildings, garden and sometimes land.

What is a tenement? Not what you think. It is a holding consisting of a house and land.

You will find both terms used a great deal in wills where there is land ownership. If the person has Gentleman, Esq, freeholder or yeoman behind his name, he will own land. If he says the land is in freehold, that means he owns the land. Copyhold means he doesn't. If he mentions a landlord, he definitely doesn't own the land.

NEW NAME, SAME RESTRICTIONS

Forwarded by Annie Lloyd

Genealogists spent last week e-mailing their senators about a national security bill called S2845, one variation of which contained birth-record access restrictions that had been part of HR10, an anti-terrorism bill the House of Representatives approved in September. The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004—a version of S2845 minus the most-genealogically-worrisome language—passed the Senate on Dec. 8 and is on its way to the White

House. President Bush has indicated he'll sign it.

The version of S2845 that passed requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to "establish requirements for proof and verification of identity as a condition of issuance of a birth certificate, with additional security measures for the issuance of a birth certificate for a person who is not the applicant." States must demonstrate their compliance with the secretary's requirements. (To read the bill, go to <http://thomas.loc.gov> and type in S2845 as the bill number, then choose option four in the search results.)

The version of S2845 that didn't pass contained language (which was identical to the restrictions in HR10) that would have required you to provide the name on the certificate, the date and location of the person's birth, and the mother's maiden name in order to see a birth record. You also would have had to show "substantial proof" of your own identity. (To read this version, search for S2845 on Thomas.gov and choose option three, then see Section 3063—Minimum Standards for Federal Recognition.)

According to Sen. Mike DeWine's (R-OH) office, that unvoted-on legislation will likely die when the 108th Congressional Session closes at the end of the year.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies' Record Preservation and Access Committee chairman, David Rencher, requested last fall that HR10's sponsor, House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert (R-IL), add provisions to protect your access to noncertified copies of birth certificates and to records older than 100 years. (See the full letter at <http://www.fgs.org/rpa/formalactions.htm>) The provisions weren't incorporated.

A report in the Dec. 8 RootsWeb Review, the newsletter of the free genealogy Web site RootsWeb (<http://www.rootsweb.com>), suggests that genealogists write their representatives and ask that any homeland security legislation clarify that access restrictions apply only to the birth certificates of living people. You can find contact information for your senators at <http://www.senate.gov> and your congressmen at <http://www.house.gov>

A Thesis on the term 'Black Irish' can be read at: <http://www.darkfiber.com/blackirish>

Websites

By Annie Lloyd

- Two websites for Wiltshire, England:

For those interested, this is a great site for photos, etc of locations in Wiltshire, England:

<http://www.oodwooc.f9.co.uk/>

This site is also wonderful and has tons of links to all sorts of Wiltshire info:

<http://www.moonrakers.org.uk/>

- If you have Brecon ancestry:

WALES. BRECKNOCKSHIRE Marriage Index, 1754-1812. This index covers all of the surnames of the grooms found in the marriages in Brecknockshire 1754-1812 inclusive:

<http://mysite.freemove.com/BreconSurnames/>

- ENGLAND. LONDON MERCHANTS - A collection of merchants living in and about London, England in 1677:

<http://freepages.history.rootsweb.com/~frpayments/LM1677/>

- Census finder for Ireland:

<http://www.censusfinder.com/ireland.htm>

This is an absolutely great web site, usually referred to as a portal. In other words there was little actual information on the site, but it contains a vast amount of links to external information. This is one of the best types of portals, one that is very specific, but has a good coverage. The site contains links to census information and other lists for Ireland. It would take forever to list them all but there are a lot of them! Some of the stranger ones included lists of Huguenot regiments, Irish Revenue Commissioners and a 1659 census for names in Armagh. The font is quite small, and not the easiest to read, and I found initially the design a little off putting, but it is definitely worth persevering as there is a lot more here than initially it seems. A great web site, vital for people with Irish ancestors, and I suspect one that will end up on many people's favorites list.

From: UK-FAMILYHISTORYNEWS-L@rootsweb.com

<http://www.londonburials.co.uk/>

A truly fantastic web site. This site lists burial grounds in London, and gives information on each one listed. Each entry has maps, and pictures where possible, of the site in the nineteenth century and nowadays. The web site is put together in such a way that it is compulsive, and historical information about the site added to details of famous burials make it an absolute gem. The site is extremely well designed, very fast to download and incredibly informative, this is definitely one of the best web sites I have seen for some time. An absolute boon for local and family historians with an interest in the London area both City and Greater.

<http://worldzone.net/social/wig/>

This is the web site of the Welsh Interest group of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists. A useful little web site, this will have particular interest to those whose Welsh ancestors had migrated overseas. The web site contains information about the Society, and the Welsh Interest Group, but also lists of names from such things as Welsh born immigrants to New South Wales, New Zealand, Clwyd strays, and an awful lot more besides. I did not like the design that much, but the site was easy enough to use. The look of the pages just needed tidying up a little. Otherwise a good little site, and full of useful information.

- NLI, Trustee Report:

<http://www.nli.ie/pdfs/Trusteesreport%202000.pdf>

Trustee report from National Library in Ireland (72 pages long). Includes information about the recently acquired resources, budget, publications, goals, policies, etc.

- Thanks to Sue Wilson for the following URL on the History of Irish Whiskey:

<http://www.classicwhiskey.com/history/georowhis.htm>

EXPERT ADVICE: PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY

From: Family Tree Magazine Website

Scanning may be family historians' favorite way to preserve old photos: You can print a digitized image as many times as you want, e-mail it to relatives far and wide, and squirrel away the original for safekeeping. But some types of photos should be scanned only minimally, and others, not at all. Here's a rundown:

- * Albumen prints such as cartes de visite, created primarily in the 19th century, are light-sensitive. Scan them minimally. Pre-1860s albumen photos, called salt prints or calotypes, are even less tolerant--avoid scanning them altogether. Try taking a digital photo instead.
- * Gelatin-silver prints, the black-and-white photos used until the 1950s, are relatively stable and won't fade from moderate scanning.
- * Metal tintype images aren't predisposed to fading from a reasonable amount of scanning--provided they weren't hand-colored. Don't scan colored tintypes because the watercolors and organic dyes could deteriorate.
- * Avoid scanning ambrotypes (made with glass), daguerreotypes (made on metal) and pannotypes (printed on leather or linen). Fading isn't a big issue, but the scanner's lid can damage the material the photo's printed on.

--Rhonda R. McClure

For more on scanning family photos and how to choose the right scanner for you, see the Family Tree Magazine 2005 Guidebook, available on newsstands and from:

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/mags/display.asp?id=1644>

From Family History News Digest September 2005 edition:

GRO Postal Appeal:

The General Register Office now processes 30,000 certificates a week. Currently many customers send their requests for certificates by mail. Transcribing this information onto GRO application forms is very time consuming and staff would prefer that the customers complete their own application forms. This

would be very beneficial to customers as often important information is not included in their letters. Using the correct application forms will ensure requests are processed swiftly and the all the details are on the forms. For a supply of these application forms and current fees, contact: Certificate Services, General Register Office, P. O. Box 2, Southport, Merseyside, PR8 2JD, England, UK. You can contact them by email as well at:

certificate.services@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Please place a "GQ" in the subject section.

Publications:

The North Wales Directories 1818-1936 is a joint production by Clwyd Family History Society (www.clwydfhs.org.uk) and the Friends of Wrexham Museums, 2004. Available on CD-ROM at 19.95GBP. (Doesn't mention postage for the USA). Contact the society at: chairman@clwydfhs.org.uk for more information.

Maps for Family and Local History: The Records of the Tithe, Valuation office and National Farm Surveys of England and Wales 1836-1943 by Geraldine Beech and Rose Mitchel. Readers' Guide no. 26 from the National Archives, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU England, UK. See: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk 112 pages paperback 15.40GBP for overseas.

Heroes & Villains: Forgotten Irish Stories by Siobhan Mulcahy, Chomsky Publishing, 51 Smith Villas, York Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Rep. of Ireland. This is a collection of 9 biographical stories are about men and women who originated from Ireland or had Irish ancestry. If you are interested in Irish biographies this is the book for you. Contact the publisher for cost.

Adventurers of Purse and Person, Virginia 1607-1624/1625. Volume One, Families A-F

Edited by John Frederick Dorman
Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.,

1001 No. Calvert St.,
Baltimore, MD 21202-3897

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Editor's Note:

Thanks to Cathy Joynt Labath for her permission to publish this wonderful Ballina Chronicle transcription in the BIFHS-USA Newsletter. Cathy is creator of *Celtic Cousins* and *Ireland Old News* websites. The *Celtic Cousins* website specializes in Cathy's favorite topic, the Irish in Iowa. The *Ireland Old News* site has newspaper transcriptions published in Ireland as well as other places, but focuses on news articles that feature the Irish.

Note: Ireland Old News is looking for volunteer transcribers, to continue expanding this site. If you would like to volunteer, contact Cathy to work out the details: labaths@worldnet.att.net

BALLINA CHRONICLE

Ballina, Mayo, Ireland
Wednesday, January 30, 1850

AN IRISH GENTLEMAN IN THE LAST CENTURY - My father, who was born about the termination of the first third of the eighteenth century, was one of the many Irish Roman Catholics who sought, in foreign countries, for liberty to enjoy those privileges of property and talent from which they were debarred in their native land. Very early in life he settled in France, upon a considerable estate which he purchased at Galville, near Rouen; and there my eldest sisters were born. He was not long, however, in finding out that they did not order things much better in France than in Ireland; and that although nominally equal to his neighbors in religious estate, the church made invidious distinctions in the distributions of her honours among the faithful. My father, probably having previously experienced more substantial annoyances, was finally so nettled at the partiality shown by the cure, in administering the honour of the censor to a neighbouring seigneur, whom he thought to have no right to be fumigated before himself, that he sold his estate and returned to Ireland, where he conformed to Protestantism, and became thereby qualified to hold a territorial stake in the country. So far the French priest's nationality was a fortunate matter for my father and his descendants. He found a good market for his chateau and lands, the ownership of which, fifteen years later, would in all probability have cost him his head; and he made a good investment of the proceeds to his native country. His first possession in Ireland was the estate and borough of Rathcormac, in the county Cork; but this he subsequently sold to the first Lord Riversdale, and bought the estates in Limerick, Kildare, and Dublin, which still remain in the

family. To the active mind of my father, however, neither the duties nor the rights of landed property afforded sufficient occupation, and he accordingly entered, to a large extent to a large extent, and with considerable success, into the banking and woollen trades. He also became a member of the Irish House of Commons, was created a baronet in 1776, and removed to the House of Peers in 1789. This short sketch of my father's career, practical commentary upon the position of the Irish nation during the latter half of the last century. -- Lord Cloncurry's Personal Recollections.

Cathy Joynt Labath
Ireland Old News
<http://www.IrelandOldNews.com/>

Rob Thompson has decided to quit writing his electronic newsletter. In his own words:
Hi Everyone,

I have decided, after running the newsletter for five-years, that I won't continue to run the newsletter next year.

It has been a hard decision to come to, but with an increasing load in my working life I am simply unable any longer to devote the time to it that it needs to keep it going properly. In recent times the amount of news coming to me from Family History Societies and other means has dwindled, meaning that I have had to spend more time than ever putting the news together, and hence it's unreliable timeliness! It has also turned into more commercial news and less general news.

I have been delighted over five years to receive emails from many of you, both suggestions and thank yous, and a big thank you to all of you who have supported the newsletter over five years. It's been a hard decision, but I think the right one.

Again, a big thank you to you all, and I wish you all the very best in your researches. Please, feel free to contact me if you have any queries. I will also be continuing to write 'Webwise' for Family History Monthly, available from all good newsagents & family history suppliers, so you can keep up with web reviews there.

Happy Christmas, and very best wishes for 2005, and THANK YOU!

Rob UK-FAMILYHISTORYNEWS-L@rootsweb.com

From:

British Isles FHS – USA

2531 Sawtelle Blvd., PMB #134

Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124

Jan/Feb – 2005 Newsletter

“First Class”

To:

Please look at mailing label for your membership expiration date. Renew promptly to save the Society money. Individual membership is \$25; family membership is \$30. Thanks, Editor

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2531 Sawtelle Blvd. PMB#134, Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124

ALL MAIL MUST BE ADDRESSED TO: British Isles FHS-USA,

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“The PMB#134” and Zip+4, must be used.

(We use the “#” instead of “Box No” in order to receive UPS Deliveries)

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