



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

# Newsletter

Nov/Dec -2006

Editor: Jim McNamara

## GENERAL MEETINGS:

**This Month:** Sunday Nov 26th, 1:00 to 3:00 PM  
*BIFHS-USA - General meeting*

### **Sharing Your Family History Experiences**

See page 6 for details.

The film *The National Trust Classic Cornwall* will be shown at 3:30 PM  
It is a tour through the National Trust properties of Cornwall where Janet Thomas' third great-grandfather (Samuel Witham) was the gardener at Trelassick.

-----

**Next Month:** Saturday, December 9, 2006, 5:30-8:00PM

### **ANNUAL BIFHS-USA HOLIDAY POTLUCK PARTY**

Join us for the Society's holiday potluck party, held in lieu of a regular meeting in the month of December. Ham, turkey, and beverages will be provided. To round out the meal, we ask each member to bring a starter (appetizer), salad, side dish, or dessert to feed eight. "Ethnic" British and Irish delicacies are especially welcome. Please identify your contribution with a card giving both the name of the dish and your name.

We'll be setting up and putting out the food between 5:00 and 6:00, so please try to arrive during that hour if you can (or come earlier to do research and stay for the party!). Appetizers will be served at 5:30, with dinner beginning at 6:00.

After the meal, we'll split into teams for a game that will test your knowledge of English, Irish, Scottish, and Welsh trivia.

-----

#### **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:** I had set aside the weekend of Oct 27<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup> to attend the Medjugorje Peace Conference at UCI. A few days before the conference, I received word from Nancy of her father's passing. I finally figured out how to attend both and on Saturday morning I left the peace conference to head for the West Anaheim United Methodist Church. I arrived with no time to spare and sat in the pew just behind a few OCCGS people. It is a beautiful church and just across the street from the Catholic church I attend. I am in for a few surprises; the words trespass and trespases in the Lord's Prayer are replaced with debts and debtors in the Methodist version. We have songs in common, some are identical, some have slightly different verses. The songs are mostly sung by the congregation, some by a soloist, but all is amazingly perfect.

The pastor is Reverend Mike Eggleston, a very personable man. His service is so well choreographed, and it is obvious he has done this before. At the end of the service we hear from the good Reverend. He speaks about Bob (Robert Eugene Carlberg); it is clear he knew Bob a long time and saw him often. After the eulogy Rev. Mike welcomes his congregation to say a few words. We learn that Bob was a WWII Pearl Harbor survivor, a school teacher, a librarian, a truancy officer, an optimist, an author, etc. One remark was made by his co-author, that their joint book was edited by Bob, and their publisher remarked that no other text book had ever been submitted with so few mistakes. Bob was best friend to many; he cared deeply for them. Bob was very active with the Muscular Dystrophy Association having lost his only son to that terrible disease. One person talks about how quickly Bob befriended him, how he took his son who had Muscular Dystrophy to spell him and his wife on weekends from the care. We all file past the Carlberg family and offer condolences. We are directed to a room for a luncheon meal. Everything is good, we chat with lots of folks and then I am off to rejoin the conference.

I personally met Bob only a handful of times. He was always happy even immediately following open heart surgery. Bob even spent time to help put the address labels on this newsletter for the past four plus years. I never had a chance to thank him. He would have smiled and waved it off. Something to keep him busy I bet he would have said. Eighty-four years and still such a short time when you are having so much fun.

There are important lessons here. God, family, friends, community, work, and all that with devotion. That's what was important to Bob. Everyone was important, happiness was automatic. Some of us love family history, some live it. May you rest in peace Robert Eugene Carlberg. 21 July 1922 to 16 Oct 2006.

All the best, Jim McNamara

Any and all comments are always welcome – [JPMTCC@yahoo.com](mailto:JPMTCC@yahoo.com)

### **JOURNAL COMING SOON Call for Articles for 2007**

This year's second issue of the journal is close to completion and should reach members before the end of the year. Thanks so much to BIFHS members who contributed articles — LOIS IRBY, JILL KIRBY, ANNIE LLOYD, JIM McNAMARA, LYN NUNN (a brand new member who lives in Australia), and BETH UYEHARA. Thanks also to SUE WILSON (and all who submitted surnames) for the Surname Register entries. Now it's time to start working on the material for 2007. Please start thinking about what you can contribute, and send your articles as email attachments to [bifhsjournal@socal.rr.com](mailto:bifhsjournal@socal.rr.com) — the sooner the better, but no later than **Friday, February 16th**, please. — Gail Said Johnson, Journal Editor

### **RECENT EXCHANGE JOURNALS UPDATES**

[www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa/journal/exchange](http://www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa/journal/exchange)

The Tables of Contents of recent journals from the following societies were added to the BIFHS-USA website in October: Australian IGS, Bedfordshire FHS, BIFHS-Greater Ontario FHS, Cheshire FHS, Clwyd FHS, Cornwall FHS, Derbyshire FHS, Glamorgan FHS, Gwent FHS, Herefordshire FHS, Huddersfield FHS, Irish Genealogical Society International, London Westminster & Middlesex FHS, Orkney FHS, Oxfordshire FHS, Shropshire FHS, Somerset & Dorset FHS, and Wiltshire FHS. The journals themselves are housed at the L.A. Regional Family History Center. Thanks to Terry Brown for scanning the tables of contents and to Gail Said Johnson for creating and publishing the web pages.

## President's Message

The approaching holiday season signals the time of year when we turn the focus of our activities to YOU, the members. In **November**, you're the stars of the show at our annual "Show and Tell" meeting. Please think about what you might bring or what you might tell us that illustrates your own fascination with family history. In **December**, a party replaces the usual meeting and gives us a chance to get to know each other better. A team game of "trivial pursuit" based on British and Irish genealogy and history should be both entertaining and educational. I hope to see you at both meetings — the more the merrier!

The November meeting is also our annual business meeting when we **elect members to the Board of Directors**. The ballot to elect three Members-at-Large is included with this issue of the newsletter. Please exercise your right to vote. Thanks again to the nominating committee (DOLORES ANDERSON, ANNABELLE FARAGO, and JIM McNAMARA), and to the nominees (NANCY BIER, JILL KIRBY, and JOAN SEMPER) for their willingness to serve if elected.

Thanks also to members who serve in appointed positions. In particular, I'd like to thank DON HIRST for accepting the position of English Study Group Leader and JILL KIRBY for volunteering to serve as Scottish Study Group Leader in 2007.

As you'll see on the ballot, there are still several positions that need to be filled if we are to have a viable society. In particular we are looking for members to serve in the following positions which will soon become vacant: **Treasurer, Hospitality Chair, and Book Sales Chair**. We also need volunteers to serve on the **2008 Seminar Committee**. Work must begin soon if we are to offer a two- or three-day seminar in 2008 (our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year). Please think about how you might contribute. The Society needs your help.

**Ivan C. Johnson**

icj@socal.rr.com

## Condolences

British Isles Family History Society sends our condolences to our family members who have recently lost loved ones.

- Dear husband to Kay Devonshire, John W. Devonshire, died peacefully the morning of July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006 at St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica after enduring numerous illnesses. May he rest in peace. **Editor's note:** I remember John's talk at our February 2003 meeting, everyone present was completely enthralled, you could have heard a pin drop. It was fascinating to us Americans to hear that accent and to hear about the lives of John's ancestors.

- Beloved father to Janet Thomas, Mr. Sudgen, has recently passed away. May he rest in peace.

- Beloved father to Nancy Carlberg, Robert Eugene Carlberg, born 21 July 1922, died 16 Oct 2006. Bob is preceded in death by his son, Andrew Eugene Carlberg. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn; by his daughters Nancy Ellen Carlberg, Amy Durrant, and Kathy Concidine; by son-in-laws Kevin Durrant, and Steve Concidine, and by grandchildren Michael and Will Concidine and Mike's wife Christina. May he rest in peace.

## From Hospitality Chair Aileen Harral

Our thanks to Julie, Jill and Del for manning the desk at the September meeting. My thanks for taking care of the desk in October goes to Lydia Jeffery and Gerriane Williams. We appreciate your help. Since we have the privilege of using the library for our British Isles meeting, we need our members to help at the desk. Please sign up for the days you have available. I know everyone will be stuffed this Thanksgiving, but we will still need snacks at our November Meeting.

See you there,

Aileen [Delailen@aol.com](mailto:Delailen@aol.com)

## Thanks to Annie Lloyd For the following Family Tree Magazine Articles:

From the Family Tree Magazine newsletter

### You Can Take That to the Bank

GenealogyBank, the long-awaited online database of historical newspapers at <http://www.genealogybank.com>, has opened its doors to subscribers with:

- 500,000 issues of more than 1,300 old US newspapers dating as far back as 1690 (click Title List next to the Historical Newspapers heading to see if the collection covers your ancestral stomping grounds)
- More than 17,000 books, pamphlets and printed items including genealogies, biographies, funeral sermons, local histories, cards, charts and more, published in the States prior to 1900
- 81,000 documents such as military records, casualty lists, Revolutionary and Civil War pension requests, widow's claims, orphan petitions, land grants and the American State Papers dating from 1789 to 1930

The newspapers and documents are text-searchable by first, middle and last name; an advanced search lets you add a date and include or exclude keywords. That last feature is particularly handy: The search works with optical character recognition software, and occasionally the software misreads words, for example, my search on *haddad* returned articles containing *handed*. Of course, you might miss an article if the excluded word appears in the same article as your search term.

Your list of matches shows the article title and a small section; click the title to see the whole thing, with the first occurrence of your search term highlighted—a nice touch. Individual GenealogyBank subscriptions cost \$19.95 per month. Libraries can subscribe to a similar product called America's Genealogy Bank.

Look for our GenealogyBank review in the February 2007 *Family Tree Magazine*.

### More DNA Developments

Genetic genealogy companies continue racing to put out new products. Two of the latest tests provide women with more genetic-genealogy opportunities:

- [DNA Consulting's](#) DNA Fingerprint test analyzes 16 autosomal genetic markers and compares to a public database containing DNA profiles of people from 180 populations. (The San Diego Police Department developed the database, called OmniPop, with DNA from volunteers.) You'll get a list of the top 10 populations where your genetic profile has a high occurrence. "Your results might be, for example, 'Portuguese, likely Sephardic Jewish, with American Indian admixture,'" says company owner Donald Yates.
- "In the past, if a woman wanted to test her father's line, her father or a brother or uncle had to be available," Yates adds. Since the DNA Fingerprint test uses autosomal, rather than mitochondrial, DNA, it can provide both sexes with information about the ethnic makeup of more-recent ancestors. DNA Fingerprint prices range from \$95 to \$250; log on to <http://www.dnaconsultants.com> for more information.
- [Family Tree DNA's](#) new X-chromosome test analyzes linked "haplotype blocks" called X-STRs, which are passed down intact over several generations. Both sexes have X-STRs, so women can use the test to learn about their maternal ancestry. It's also a good option if, say, you're adopted and want to see if you're sibling to a genealogy mailing list buddy, but your (or his) dad isn't around to contribute DNA. The test is available to current Family Tree DNA customers for \$48 to \$62 (spokesperson Max Blankfeld says it'll be available for everyone soon). Watch <http://www.familytreedna.com/> for more details.

-----

**For a free Q & A service  
from the National Library of Wales**  
<http://www.askcymru.org.uk/askcymru/en/index>

**Thanks to Gail Said Johnson  
for the following submission:**

For those with **Revolutionary War** ancestors, an article at Newsday.com entitled "**The Wretched Prison Ships**" may be of interest. According to the lead sentence, "More Americans died in British prison ships in New York Harbor than in all the battles of the Revolutionary War." The web page includes links to "Memorials to the Dead" and "Inside New York City's 'Loathsome Dungeons' [British prisons]." Links in the left sidebar go to pages about Long Island history (Chapter 4 is about the Revolution). See:

<http://www.newsday.com/community/guide/lihistory/ny-history-hs425a,0,6698945.story>

From Family Tree Newsletter :

**Rewriting History**

[eHistory](#), the Web site on lots of people's go-to lists for details on their ancestors' times, has gotten a makeover for a new, more-polished look, minus the banner ads.

But the site's more than just a pretty interface: eHistory, originally developed by former VisiCom Laboratories vice president Scott Laidig, is being moved to a new server at The Ohio State University (Laidig's alma mater). The school's history department will keep adding to eHistory's more than 130,000 Web pages, 5,300 timeline events, 800 battle outlines, 350 biographies, and thousands of images and maps.

If you're a history buff, you can become a member to contribute content to the site. Current members can go to <http://ehistory.osu.edu/about.cfm> for information on logging in.

**ENECLANN**

Eneclann Publications, the largest Irish publisher of CD, DVD and online titles for the history and genealogy of Ireland has two publishing imprints:

- **Eneclann** - Publishes new and rare historical and genealogical records on CD-ROM and Data DVD.
- **Archive CD Books Ireland** - Publishes rare and essential reference books on CD-ROM, working in partnership with Trinity College Dublin Library.

See: [www.eneclann.ie](http://www.eneclann.ie)

**Thanks to Membership Chair Terry Brown  
for providing a list of new members:**

Irene Britz  
California  
Interests SCT, CAN, USA  
Joined 9/26/2006

Wayne & Debra Grantham  
Sherman Oaks, California  
Joined 10/5/2006

Beth Bland  
Wisconsin  
Interests: Yorkshire, Somerset  
Joined 10/23/2006

**Editor's note:** Please send your new email addresses to Terry Brown. We are having some difficulties with bouncing mails and we are unable to send out renewal addresses when need be. Please send new emails to:

[terry.brown@acm.org](mailto:terry.brown@acm.org)

**From the September 2006  
Family History News and Digest:**

The East Riding Archives for Yorkshire in Beverley will be moving to the new Treasure House Building on Champney Road during Autumn 2006. It is hoped to reopen for normal service at the new address early in 2007.

**Units of length, measure,  
and conversion factors:**

[www.gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/units/length.htm](http://www.gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/units/length.htm)

**Thanks to Annie Lloyd for the following:**

New data has now gone on to [www.theoriginalrecord.com](http://www.theoriginalrecord.com)  
CECIL MANUSCRIPTS 1540-1599  
LETTERS AND PAPERS OF JAMES FIRST DUKE OF ORMOND, LORD DEPUTY OF IRELAND 1632-1683  
STATE PAPERS DOMESTIC 1651-1684

Go on to [www.theoriginalrecord.com](http://www.theoriginalrecord.com) and have a look. Hope you find what you are looking for, if not just enter your name of interest on our WISH LIST and we will email you when we have some records for you.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

**IRISH TRIP 2007**

Because of health reasons, Nancy Bier had cancelled her September trip. She plans to lead a trip to Ireland in the late spring. This will be the last research trip Nancy Bier will be leading into Ireland. Come along for a good chance to make progress in your research, walk in your ancestors' footsteps, and have a good time.

It will be a great opportunity to study Irish culture and meet the people. For details: Nancy Bier at 940-612-2033 (yes that is Texas) or email at [nbierirish@aol.com](mailto:nbierirish@aol.com)

If you contact Nancy Bier in advance, you should have no trouble to arrange visiting your ancestral sites.

OR get in touch with our travel guide Ginger Aarons at 877-787-7807 toll free and fax or [www.timetraveltours.com](http://www.timetraveltours.com)

**November 19, 2006**

Questing Heirs Genealogical Society of Long Beach, CA will have its November meeting on Sunday, Nov 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 PM in the Parish Hall of the Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1900 East Carson Street (one block west of Cherry Avenue) in Long Beach. The topic for November's meeting will be Buttons and Your Family History, presented by Ann Larkin. There will also be a presentation by the Long Beach Historical Society.

For more information call Jeannette Jones at (562) 421-5610 or visit [www.qhgs.info](http://www.qhgs.info)

**November 26, 2006**

**BIFHS-USA** General meeting. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
**Sharing Your Family History Experiences**

Traditionally, this program has been one of the best of the year. Come prepared to share keepsakes, successes and other uplifting experiences in your family history and in your research. In the past, we have seen wonderful family photos, documents, quilts, and many other items. Perhaps you have recent research success story to share with the group. Start thinking about what you would like to present now. Everyone has something to share.

The film *The National Trust Classic Cornwall* will be shown at 3:30 PM.

**December 9, 2006**

**BIFHS-USA** Holiday Party, see front cover for details.

**January 8 - 12, 2007**

The Utah Genealogical Society presents the Institute of Genealogy. For more information, see the following website: [www.infouga.org](http://www.infouga.org)

**February 24, 2007 – Whittier Area Genealogy Society**

Curt B. Witcher, manager of the Historical Genealogy Department of Allen County Public Library and former president of both the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the National Genealogical Society will be the featured speaker for the WAGS annual day long seminar. For further information please contact Barbara Wilks (seminar director) (562) 696-5915 [barbwilks@earthlink.net](mailto:barbwilks@earthlink.net) or John Hergesheimer (WAGS President) (562) 941-3184 [hergwerk@earthlink.net](mailto:hergwerk@earthlink.net)

The subjects of Curt's talks will be: *Back to Basics: A Research Plan, Using Government Documents, Germans to Midwest, and Doing History Eliminates the Mystery.*

Advance registration is \$30 and registration on the day of the event is \$35. See <http://www.cagenweb.com.kr/wags> WAGS Seminar will be held at the Masonic Lodge located at: 7604 Greenleaf Avenue, Whittier, CA

There will be sales and display tables with many books, WAGS members' pedigree charts, genealogical items, memory books, etc. It is not permissible to tape the lectures.

**March 17, 2007**

Nancy Ellen Carlberg will speak on *Beginning Irish Research and Overcoming Dead Ends* at Conejo Valley Genealogical Society's all day seminar at Brimhall Library in Thousand Oaks. Ted Gostin will be speaking on *Passenger and Arrival Records*. Watch for details: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~cacvgs/>

**June 8, 9 & 10, 2007 – Jamboree dates have been set.**

Brian Trainor, Research Director and Fintan Mullan, Executive Director of the Ulster Historical Society in Belfast, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland will follow the following tour schedule this year. For further information, contact [fintan@uhf.org.uk](mailto:fintan@uhf.org.uk)

10 June 2006 Pittsburgh, PA  
12 June 2006 Cleveland, Ohio  
17 June 2006 Long Island, NY  
20 June 2006 Portland, Oregon  
22 June 2006 Pullman, WA  
24 June 2006 Boise, Idaho

### Submitted by Miriam Fitch

A new book in William Wayne Giffin's *Peopling Indiana Series* may be of interest to researchers whose Irish ancestors settled in Indiana. *The Irish*, published by the Indiana Historical Society Press, "tells about the first Irish immigrants to arrive in Indiana along with the fur traders in the mid-1700s, then chronicles the development of Irish culture within the state in the 1800s when they struggled through hardships while building Indiana's early canals, roads and railroads". Giffin "notes how they found their way into all facets of society in the 1900s including business, medicine, law and politics, and relates how they still celebrate their Celtic past in the 2000s".

The 127-page book is available from [Amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and [BarnesAndNoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com) as well as from the Indiana Historical Society's Basile History Market (1-800-447-1830). The retail price is \$13.95. — from *The Hoosier Packet* (August 2006), newsletter of the Canal Society of Indiana

Maria Dolman's UK BMD Certificate Project Site at: <http://bmdshare.com>

A database of UK BMD certificate transcriptions, all transcribed by the people who have obtained that certificate. The site contains full certificate information not just indexes and there are extensive free search facilities for both members and non-members to see if the certificate you require has been added. The site is still very new and certificates are being added daily. Anyone can join and submit the information from the certificates they have obtained.

### Thanks to Mary McKinnon for the following article:

"Shallow Roots? -- A fascinating article from the Associated Press regarding the human race's interconnected family tree can be seen on the web at <http://msnbc.msn.com/id/13621729/> "

Irish Convicts to NSW 1791 -1831:  
<http://www.pcug.org.au/~ppmay/convicts.htm>

On GENUKI, Ted Wildy's UK Marriage Witnesses Index for UK & Ireland: [www.genuki.org.uk/mwi/](http://www.genuki.org.uk/mwi/)

From Family Tree Newsletter:

### **PERSI does pertain to UK items**

#### **PERSI Gets an Update:**

The *Periodical Source Index*, affectionately known to genealogists as *PERSI*, has been updated to include nearly 2 million citations (up from 1.6 million in the previous version) from more than 6,500 genealogy and history periodicals published in the United States, Canada and abroad since 1800.

Librarians at Allen County Public Library <http://www.acpl.lib.in.us> in Fort Wayne, IN started PERSI; it's available online through the Heritage Quest Online libraries-only genealogy database service: <http://www.heritagequestonline.com>

You can access an older version of PERSI on CD and through the subscription Web site Ancestry.com: <http://ancestry.com>

Search *PERSI* for surnames, places and how-to advice, then use matching citations to request the full article from your library, borrow the periodical through Interlibrary Loan, or order copies for a fee from the Allen County library: <http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/ArticleFulfillment.pdf>

### **Talking Scot**

<http://www.talkingscot.com>

Interact with other Scottish genealogists, find societies and learn about using censuses and registration districts in Scotland.

### **Genealogy Forum**

<http://www.genealogyforum.org/>

Genealogy Forum provides chat (text format) facilities for on-line lectures and Q & A session. You can also read past genealogy lectures and features on specific ancestors.

### **Troy Irish Genealogy Society site**

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nytigs/>

Right now, on the Albany, NY Rootsweb mailing list. About Troy, Rensselaer County, NY; some members with NY Irish (and there's plenty in that area) may be interested in this website.

## **New Genealogy Centre to Create DNA Library**

By Judith Duffy, Health Correspondent

**ESTABLISHING whether** that stranger on the doorstep really is a long-lost cousin has always been tricky ... but that is now set to change, thanks to a new genealogy centre in Scotland which will offer DNA testing.

Experts at Glasgow Caledonian University are in the process of setting up a unique service which will team up traditional family search services with genetic profiling technology.

The centre, which will be launched next year, will help people from around the world trace their Scottish roots and then offer the option of verifying blood relatives through DNA testing. The team also aims to carry out research which will eventually build up a genetic map of the clans of Scotland, allowing people to look into their Celtic ancestry.

Dr John Gow, director for forensic investigation at Caledonian, said that it was hoped the service would boost Scottish tourism. "It means that people with Scottish ancestors from around the world will be able to come to Scotland and trace their records, and – if they wish – we can make up their DNA profile for them," he said.

"We will be able to tell Mr Campbell from New York if he is related to Mr Campbell in Dunoon. We want to promote Glasgow Caledonian University as a centre for Scottish genealogy worldwide."

Work is under way to build a new forensic suite at the university which will enable all types of DNA genealogy work to be undertaken. The Y-chromosome test is used to define male lineage, while mitochondrial DNA profiling can be used to help trace the maternal line.

The DNA is obtained using a mouth swab, and Gow said that it was likely to cost around £60 per person, depending on the test. In addition to the commercial side, academic research will also be undertaken to try to establish genetic profiles of the clans of Scotland.

For full story see: <http://www.sundayherald.com/58759>

From [dyfed@rootsweb.com](mailto:dyfed@rootsweb.com) - Copyright of US & UK

**On Copyright:** It is worth noting that government copyright does not exist in the USA, but DOES exist in the UK. In the UK it is called CROWN COPYRIGHT, and exists for ALL documentation produced by and on behalf of any government department. As far as census copyright is concerned, the UK government has waived its rights in respect of already published material (which really means all English census returns, but NOT Scottish census returns - it is a complicated business involving whether documents were moved to a public-access depository: Scotland's returns were never moved!). So the government makes loads of money from Scottish census records, and hands it out freely for English ones. The USA situation is that US law regards all government records as public property, and thus not covered by copyright laws. Both countries have Freedom of Information Acts, but the US one permits almost anything to be released on demand, whereas the UK act has many restrictions allowing access to be refused in many cases. I came up against this last year, when asking for police records of the early 20th century, and was initially told by Highland Regional Council that these records were stored under a 100-year embargo. It was only after I quoted the recent Freedom of Information Act that they referred back to the police force and were given permission to release the specific records I wanted to use. So, if you want to publish (in any way) material from a government department, you have to seek permission from the government copyright office; but if you simply want to read government records, you make your demand under the Freedom of Information Act, and hope for the best!

Gordon Johnson. SCOTLAND@ROOTSWEB.COM

### **The Editor wishes to thank the contributors to this Newsletter:**

- Ivan C. Johnson
- Gail Said Johnson
- Aileen Harral
- Mary McKinnon
- Jean Rice
- Miriam Fitch
- Terry Brown
- Annie Lloyd
- Various Internet Lists

**Note:** Due to space limitations it was not possible to give credit to Annie Lloyd for each of her contributions. Many Thanks to Annie.

**Thanks to Internet friend Jean Rice  
for permission to print the following:**

**SNIPPET:** Voices of Irish Tinkers: "This is how I makes a cup if yer want to know how's the thing done. I sits with the anvil like a saddle between me legs. I just pick up my hammer or a stick that says to me it is going to make a right hammer, and I just hit the tin plate just straight between the eyes that's looking back at me in the mirror of me soul, and I just put together the edges of the tin to make me a handle first, and when I have the two edges bent straight in a line I hit the shape into a ladle and leave it aside me. Then I take up me snips and snip out the cup and with a clean tin whistle you could see the snips takin' all of the tin in. Then I cuts me the circle, the brim, and I get me the rivets aside me, and I put it together with rivets or I can solder in the fire if the fire is lazy and the solder is right. It's the cleanest trade is the tin. But cleaner still sweeping, and you can clean the sky of sparrows with my little brushes..."

"I just combed her hair and said there now child go off and play and patted her head with the sides of the comb to make her fine. I always plaited her hair that time in the morning and then she went out playing somewhere, I don't know where; & that morning they found the where, in the long plaited grasses by the river where she was drowned, may God rest her soul, and I never saw the place before because we never went swimming, until we went swimming that day for to get her little body out and I had a pot of stew hanging on the fire waiting ready hot for to give her. I threw it out on the grass rather than give it - my dead, my dear, dead, daughter. My young son came running in and he says to me, She's stuck, she's stuck, God help her! He was so young he didn't know what had happened. He didn't know she was dead. Oh, my poor dear dead daughter, may God rest her! I hurled myself at her grave. I wrecked myself. I drank myself. I threw white paint and ashes at me mouth!

I didn't want to live after and I swore I'd have no more children after. But I got ten children now, God bless them all, but it's not the same as my Bridget, may God rest her!"

-- Excerpts, conversations - "Irish Tinkers," Wiedel & O'Fearadhaigh

**For our Canadian researchers:**

From: [THESHIPSLIST@rootsweb.com](mailto:THESHIPSLIST@rootsweb.com)

Great news !! The scanned images for Canada Passenger Lists for the ports / years indicated below, have just now gone online.

Canadian Passenger Lists, 1865-1922  
<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/passenger/index-e.html>

Passenger lists (RG 76) were the official immigration documents from 1865 to 1935. The lists contain information such as the name, age, country of origin, occupation and destination of each passenger. The lists are organized by port and date of arrival. This database provides access to passenger lists for the ports of Québec (1865-1921), Halifax (1881-1912, to 1922 shortly), to Saint John (1900-1912), North Sydney (1906-1908), Vancouver (1905-1912) and Victoria (1905 to 1912), shortly.

The current version of this database does not include the references for the port of Victoria, New York and Eastern American coast.

**From Web User magazine:  
(and the DYFED Rootsweb List)**

"More than 100 years of UK phone book records are heading online thanks to a partnership between Ancestry.co.uk and BT. The total collection of the British phone books runs from 1880 to 1984 and contains more than 250 million names."

After my recent experience with these announcements I've taken the precaution of checking with the ancestry site, see here:

<http://content.ancestry.co.uk/iexec/?htx=List&dbid=1025&offerid=0%3a7858%3a0>

Sounds a lot of names but I'm not sure what practical research use this will be to us, most of my relatives in South Wales didn't have a telephone in the house until the 1970s or even later as I recall.

BTW, the history of the telephone in the UK can be seen at considerable length here:  
<http://web.ukonline.co.uk/freshwater/histuk.htm>

British Isles Family History Society - USA

From:

**British Isles FHS – USA**

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

Nov/Dec – 2006 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; individual life \$250; family life \$300. Credit card payments okay. Thanks, Editor

---

**BRITISH ISLES FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY – USA**

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

ALL MAIL MUST BE ADDRESSED TO: British Isles FHS-USA,  
attention: person you wish to receive the correspondence.

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

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President:** Ivan C. Johnson, icj@socal.rr.com  
**1<sup>st</sup> VP (Programs):** Annie Lloyd, cardi1@aol.com  
**2<sup>nd</sup> VP (Membership):** Terry Brown, terry.brown@acm.org  
**Recording Secretary:** Fran Smith, fsmith@dslextreme.com  
**Treasurer:** Barry J. Henson, bearzfacts@gmail.com

**Members at Large:**

Nancy Bier, nbierirish@aol.com  
Aileen Harral, Delaileen@aol.com  
Lydia Jeffrey, boallan@aol.com  
Jill Kirby, jkirby1@earthlink.net  
Joan Semper, jsemper@earthlink.net  
Patricia Sorteberg, psorteberg@aol.com

**Ex-Officio Members (Past Presidents):**

Nancy Ellen Carlberg, 1782 Beacon, Anaheim, CA 92804, (714)  
772-2849, n\_carlberg@hotmail.com  
Sharon Ford, denleeford@worldnet.att.net

**Editors:**

Newsletter: Jim McNamara, jpmmtcc@yahoo.com  
Journal: Gail Said Johnson, bifhsjournal@socal.rr.com

**STUDY GROUPS**

**Colonial Connections:** Nancy Carlberg, Group Leader,  
n\_carlberg@hotmail.com  
**English:** Donald L. Hirst, Group Leader,  
endlessshappiness@hotmail.com  
**Irish:** Jim McNamara, Group Leader, jpmmtcc@yahoo.com  
**Scottish:** Jill Kirby, jkirby1@earthlink.net  
**Welsh:** Annie Lloyd, Group Leader, cardi2@aol.com

**COMMITTEES**

**Book Sales:** (vacant)  
**Hospitality:** Aileen Harral, Chair, Delaileen@aol.com  
**Publicity:** Fran Smith, fsmith@dslextreme.com  
**Surname Register:** Sue Wilson, Coordinator,  
105224.356@compuserve.com  
**Web Management:** Bruce Hamilton, Webmaster,  
bhami@pobox.com

To avoid having your email deleted as "junk", please be sure to mention BIFHS-USA in the subject line of all email messages.