

'ALL IRELAND SOURCES' NEWSLETTER

A Monthly Newsletter: Editor: Terry Eakin, 334 Burns Bay Road, LANE COVE, NSW 2066

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Introduction: 'All Ireland Sources' is a monthly newsletter distributed free by E-mail to Family History Societies and interested researchers near the end of each month. Distribution by Australia Post each three months (three issues) costs \$6.00 annually within Australia. The aim is to bring items of interest regarding Irish record sources to the Australian genealogist. The editor would appreciate being made aware of records relating to the Irish, particularly those held in Australia or new in the LDS Family History Library. Back copies available free for downloading from www.sag.org.au Note new email address.

USING CD-ROM's TO RESEARCH YOUR FAMILY HISTORY:

I've felt the need to present an article such as this to help readers research their family history in their local library, local family history library, local genealogical society's library or even at home. These are presented in no set order of importance (all are important) or order of preference but Grenham's **Irish RecordFinder** is presented and demonstrated first as it covers general research sources for all 32 counties of Ireland and its cities and towns. All CDs are listed in end notes following this article, with its title and ISBN if available. These end notes have been arranged to appear at the foot of each newsletter and not at the conclusion of this article in the March 2007 issue. I am available as a voluntary library assistant at the Society of Australian Genealogists on the first Tuesday each month and am available by arrangement on other Tuesdays except the third Tuesday.

[1] **Grenham's Irish RecordFinder**ⁱ Version 4.5: This program is installed on the hard disk of the Society of Australian Genealogists computers, Level 2, 379 Kent Street, Sydney. Just click on the icon and the auto query page is displayed. Go to file, browse and click. The browse page has eight headings across the upper screen, namely, Census, Graves, Estates, History, Directories, Wills, Surnames, Passengers. Below these are Placenames (on the left) and Church Records (on the right). Below these on the right are buttons labelled Journals, Irish Abroad, Deeds, Newspapers, Libraries, Lewis, GRO, Overseas and Jobs. Here briefly is what each of these search functions can do for you.

1.1 **Census:** Click 'Census' and a dialog box appears. "Show all census records for < county > and the civil parish of < civil parish >". Fill in Antrim from the dropdown list available and once any county is selected, there is a dropdown list of civil parishes for that county. Let's choose Ahoghill and see what happens. This gives a list of 23 records which may be printed.

1.2 **Graves:** Click 'Graves' and a dialog box appears. "Show all graveyards in the County of < county name > and in the civil parish of < civil parish >" selected from the dropdown list available. Select Antrim from the dropdown list and then Ahoghill from the dropdown list. This gives 22 records which may be printed.

1.3 **Estates:** Click 'Estates' and a dialog box appears similar in style to the above two. Select the county and the civil parish, Antrim and Ahoghill. A list appears (remember this may be no records selected or a nil result) showing two records for Antrim and Ahoghill being a Rent Roll 1779-1781 for all tenants on the Earl of Antrim's estate, PRONI ref. M/524 and Rentals from 1603-1900, PRONI ref. D/2977.

1.4 **Local History:** Click 'History' and a dialog box appears. Select county and civil parish, Antrim and Ahoghill. The first listing is about school records, print and close. There is a second list of 13 other records relating to the civil parish of Ahoghill.

1.5 **Directories:** Click 'Directories' and a dialog box appears. Select County and then choose a town from the dropdown list available. We choose Antrim and then Ballymena (nearest town to Ahoghill). Eight results. These directories and many others are available on the shelves at the SAG library, L2, 379 Kent Street, Sydney.

1.6 **Wills:** Click 'Wills' and the dialog box is displayed with four fields:

- Surname
- City or County of Death
- Place of Death

- Year of Death (approx.). The available sources of wills are displayed.

1.7 Surname: Uses the Householders' Index of Surnames prepared by the National Library of Ireland (NLI) in the 1960s based on the Griffith's Valuation 1848-64. The dialog box just has a single line: SURNAME but with various options such as 'Exact spelling only' or 'all variants/related names'. Tick exact spelling option when you first use this program.

This version 4.5 plus has the two surname option for find the same two surnames in a single parish [similar to a lite version of Grenham's Irish Surnames.]

For example, type in the surname McClory. This gives a map of all 32 counties with the number of heads of households with the surname McClory. 59 in Co. Down, 3 Co. Armagh, 1 Co. Monaghan, 1 Co. Derry (Londonderry), and one in Belfast City. Total 65.

Click on any county with the name, e.g. Co. Down, and all are displayed on the page including a civil parish map with each parish numbered in alphabetical order.

Select the civil parish list you want to explore and when it is highlighted, **right click** it over the field you want to explore [choose from Church, Census, Graveyards, Estates, Local Histories, Lewis] or Export list which sends the print of the page to your printer. Briefly hover over the field you want and on Church there will be a listing of religions, Roman Catholic, Church of Ireland, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Congregational, Moravian, Quaker; select Roman Catholic, left click it and the results will be displayed. Remember these are sources available with references but not the actual indexes (records). Print what you require or copy it down.

Similarly with each of the other records but there is no sub-list as in church records. Here is a quick demo of the method and the results for the surname **McClory** in **Aghaderg** civil parish in county Down.

1.8 Passengers: (I find this feature of limited use).

1.9 Journals: These can be listed by county when the county is selected. The list can also be displayed in alphabetical order by clicking on the 'ALL' button. There is a good range of journals in the SAG library at 379 Kent Street, Sydney and these are being reviewed each year.

1.10 The Irish Abroad: In the dialog box, select Australia, Australia and Unspecified and you will find gems like '*Seanchas Ardmhacha*' Volume 16, No. 1, 1994, pages 100-102 where the index is "*Armagh Convicts in Australia 1800-1806*".

1.11 Deeds: This gives a table listing where deeds can be located, with Indexes available and if Memorials are available. e.g.

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| • Registry of Deeds | Indexes: | 1708-1995 | Memorials: | 1708-1995 |
| • NLI | Indexes | 1708-1929 | | |
| • FHL LDS | Indexes | 1708-1929 | Memorials: | 1708-1929 |
| • PRONI | Indexes: | 1708-1929 | Memorials: | 1708-1929. |

1.12 Newspapers: This listing is not all newspapers as the researcher would likely presume, but is a listing of Newspapers indexed and the years indexed for and where you can locate these indexes. Some are printed and some are on the Internet. There are 52 indexes to newspapers listed.

1.13 Libraries: Libraries or Record Repositories giving the name, postal address, and particulars but not the opening hours.

1.14 Lewis: This is the '*Lewis Topographical Dictionary 1837*' included in the database. Click Lewis and the dialog box includes County or City and select from a drop down list and then further select the civil parish. This will bring up all occurrences and records for that county and civil parish. The alternative is to select all for a county or City. This feature is quite useful for researching

features, churches, schools, etc in 1837. The county maps are included (just click on maps) in the background as you explore a country or civil parish.

1.15 G.R.O.: This just gives the locations of birth, death and marriages indexes in Dublin and Belfast.

1.16 Overseas: This provides an option to a brief introduction to research records available in Australia, Canada, Ireland or the United States of America. Just select the country from the drop down list.

1.17 Jobs: Click on ‘Jobs’ and then the drop down list and scroll through this list to find your ancestor’s occupation or trade. The results may list a single reference or source but other trades may give six or seven or more references. A very useful guide for available publications or sources for finding your missing ancestors. Keep these pages for your guide to using Grenham’s Irish RecordFinder which I’m sure you’ll enjoy.

[2]. **Griffith’s Valuation of Ireland**ⁱⁱ: In order to produce the accurate information necessary for local taxation the “Tenement Act of 1842” provided for a uniform valuation of all property in Ireland, to be based on the productive capacity of land and the potential rent of buildings. The man appointed Commissioner of Valuation was Richard Griffith, a Dublin geologist, and the results of his great survey, the Primary Valuation of Ireland, were published between 1848 and 1864. The Valuation is arranged by county, barony, poor law union, civil parish and townland, and lists every landholder and every householder in Ireland. Other information included the immediate lessor, a description of the property, acreage and valuation.

An index is available on CD. It is searched by Family Archive Viewer 7.0 and can be used in many ways to locate your ancestors but I always use “Search Expert”. Click on Search Expert, then select ‘Search for someone not on your family file’ and click.

The dialog box is then displayed. What you enter defines your search which may be very broad or very restricted. I usually seek broader results and then select more restrictive results depending on how many records were displayed. If the name had many spellings and I know the townland or civil parish, I restrict the search to target the results I am looking for. This is learned from experience using the records.

	1. Surname, County, Parish, Townland	2. Surname, County, Parish	3. Surname, County	4. Surname	5. County, Parish, Townland	6. County, Parish
Name	Eakin	Eakin	Eakin	Eakin		
County	Londonderry	Londonderry	Londonderry		Londonderry	Londonderry
Parish	Banagher	Banagher			Banagher	Banagher
Location	Tirglassan				Tirglassan	
Comments						

1. Search to find all Eakin households in Tirglassan townland.
2. Search to find all Eakin households in Banagher civil parish.
3. Search to find all Eakin households in county Londonderry.
4. Search to find all Eakin households in Ireland (32 counties).
5. Search to find all households in Tirglassan townland.
6. Search to find all households in Banagher civil parish.
7. Other searches are possible and cumulative searches are possible, using <edit> to select records, then use <edit> to clear the search, and then to specify another search on the spouses surname, or on a variant spelling of Eakin or using other criteria. This can be repeated several times to include all the spellings of a surname. Surname, given name searches are also quite useful, especially if searching for John Murphy or Mary Ryan for example. Wild card searches are valid too. Remember that some records are missing from this index, e.g. Stranorlar civil parish in county Donegal only has one record instead of circa 1,100 records and the area around Limerick city has some parishes omitted.

(Continued in Volume 9, No. 2 February 2007, page 5) [see Footnotes at bottom of next page]

Book Review:

'The Anglicized words of Irish Placenames' by Thomas Burnell (2006) and published by Nonsuch Publishing, 73 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin 2, Ireland, ISBN 1 845885 05 8, price 14.99 euros plus postage and available from Trinity College Bookshop, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland.

This 416 page book is a goldmine of information about Irish placenames. This book is an anglicised Irish place-name dictionary. It is not a book of Irish place-names *per se*, but is a breakdown of the English forms of Irish wordings used in most Irish place-names. The author has collected all the available place-names in their Anglicised form and split them into their relevant word or words adding the corresponding Irish word or words followed by the English translation. For every complete placename in the book there are 99 that are split into their relevant wordings.

As a rule Anglicised place-names are based on the phonetic version of the Gaelic wording, however there are always exceptions. The modern spelling of some places may differ somewhat since their meaning was recorded. The place-names are included in their entirety especially where they would lose letters if split. Bilingual and foreign wordings of Irish place-names are included (as found) with the translation. Should differing versions (not the author's) of a place-name translation exist, they are included as found. English place-names of Irish locations were not generally included, eg Michaels field or Middle third, unless they were particularly interesting.

Tom (the author) does not offer opinions or translations; what you see is what he has found. However if a spelling might appear to be a typographical mistake, obvious error, a curious Anglicised/Irish variation or a questionable translation, he has placed (sic) beside it. When an Irish version of the place-name has two or more words, the author has adopted the style of P W Joyce and separated the words with dashes. When an Irish translation occurs without an explanation, it has been noted as 'not given' even though it may be obvious to all what that translation is. Almost all of these translations are from various forms of Na-Log-Ainmneacha.

Places beginning with '**Bally**' (*baile* in Irish) can mean a town, village, cluster of houses, townland, place, spot, homestead, enclosure, dwelling, residence, habitation, patrimony, settlement or situation. However another (but not the only) version of *baile* with the same meaning is the Anglicised word '**Ball**' and occurs mostly where family, clan or tribal names follow. Examples are then shown in the Introduction. I'd recommend newcomers to Irish place names, re-read the Introduction several times to get an understanding of how it all comes together. This book would be an invaluable asset to libraries, family history and genealogical society libraries as well as the serious researcher and historian and is recommended as such.

Australian World War I Records Online: The records of Australian World War I servicemen and women who served are preserved in the National Archives of Australia. These include service in the following:

- The First Australian Imperial Forces (1st AIF); Australian Flying Corps;
- Australian Navy and Military Expeditionary Forces;
- Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train; Australian Army Nursing Service;
- Home or Depot units for personnel who served within Australia during World War I.

To view the records, go to www.naa.gov.au For more details print out the page FAMILY HISTORY → Defence Service Records (six A4 pages). Simple to use and free access to the digitised records. You can print a copy of the individual's complete service record. I noted some of mine listed their townland of birth in Ireland and next of kin in Ireland. For examples, see James Leslie Eakin, No. 3055 & Archibald Rosborough, No. 3285.

Articles, suggestions and information for this newsletter are welcome and may be E-mailed to: tea04055@bigpond.net.au or posted to **Terry Eakin, 334 Burns Bay Road, Lane Cove NSW AUSTRALIA 2066**

ⁱ Grenham's Irish RecordFinder, version 4.5, no ISBN, published by John Grenham, Drumcondra, Dublin. The website is <http://indigo.ie/~rfinder> and email is rfinder@indigo.ie Cost about 550 euros.

ⁱⁱ Griffith's Valuation of Ireland, 1848-1864, CD #188, published by Broderbund (Family Tree Maker), ISBN 1-579440-61-4, available from Gould's and the Genealogical Society of Victoria bookshop, \$105.00.