



# Federation

## News-Letter

No 29

March 2014

### *Public Liability Insurance - Renewal*

The current period of insurance expires on 31 March and Members Societies should arrange to renew their cover before that date.

A renewal form is attached to this News-Letter and further copies can be printed directly from the Federation's website at <http://www.fuls.org.uk/Insuranceform.pdf>

### *New Charity Commission NI*

The new Charity Commission is starting the process of registering all charities. This will eventually include all the local historical societies. There are legal responsibilities attached to registered charities with regard to Trustees, which includes Executive Committees, the filing of accounts and trustees reports, not all of which will be introduced straight away. Members are advised to check out the impact of the new arrangements. More information is available on the Commission's web site where you can download a comprehensive set of notes and guidance. Web site is at <https://www.charitycommissionni.org.uk/>

### *Speakers' Register*

The response to the Federation's Questionnaire indicated a broadly positive view of the Speaker's Register on the web site. However, some responses suggested an update and possible increase in the number of speakers and the range of the topics covered.

The Executive Committee will be contacting all those on the register to confirm their continuing availability and topic range as well as actively seeking additional speakers.

It would be helpful, if societies know of speakers, not on the Register, who might usefully be added, to pass on the details; name and phone number etc to John Hulme at [leslie.hulme@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:leslie.hulme@mypostoffice.co.uk)

### *Due North*

Copies of the journal were sent to all members some weeks ago. The Executive Committee would urge Societies to circulate information about it to their members as we believe that it merits support. We will be exploring ways to increase its sales over the coming months and it would be of great benefit if the member societies themselves made more effort to promote it. The articles are written by members and demonstrate the commitment to local research and its value in recording interesting information about our past. We believe that if more people get a chance to read it, it just might stimulate them to get involved in local research and begin to produce interesting articles that could be published in *Due North*, particularly where there may be no local outlet for this.

Copies of the current issue are available for purchase, at a lower unit cost to Societies, for resale to members at the quoted price. Order form is on the Federation's website at -

<http://www.fuls.org.uk/duenorthorderform.pdf>

### *Hidden Gems and Forgotten People*

The number of entries on the Hidden Gems website, [www.hidden-gems.eu](http://www.hidden-gems.eu) stands at 292. Twenty three of the 32 Counties, plus Belfast, are now represented. Slowly but surely we are increasing the number and geographical spread of the gems and people. There are wonderful stories still to be told, like the *Hare and Greyhound* cobble picture in Comber County Down, or the inspiring story of *Wee Geordie Barnett* from near Draperstown in Co. Derry/L'Derry, or *The Four Alters at Cregane*, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon, below.



For one Lancaster lady the Hidden Gems website has solved a family mystery involving an ancestor who drowned in a mysterious boating accident on Strangford Lough in April 1895. After searching for years to find the memorial there it was, *Memorial Cross near Mount Stewart*. She plans to visit it this summer. Well done Chris Spurr, the author.

### *Joint Federation Trips to Scotland – June 2014,*

The joint trip to Scotland will be from 2nd to 6th June 2014. The number of FULS participants will be limited to 23 out of 53. The full itinerary will be issued on or just after 31 March and applications must be received by 22 April. The all-inclusive cost is £352 per person sharing - £427 for a single room.

### *FULS Questionnaire - Feedback*

Some twenty-six questionnaires out of a total membership, including individual members, of around 107, were returned. Despite the relatively small number of returns a lot of useful information emerged.

We plan to publish the results more fully later in the year but already we have taken action to update the Register of Speakers and Tour Guides. Also your comments have spurred us to make our Annual General Meeting more interesting and enjoyable. The returns indicate that some Societies, despite best efforts, are struggling to keep going and this is a shared concern; each Society is vital.



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**PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE**  
**2014-2015**  
**Application/Renewal Form**

**Yearly** cover from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015\_\_\_\_\_

**Half yearly** cover from 1 April 2014 to 30 September 2014\_\_

**Half yearly** cover from 1 October 2014 to 31 March 2015\_\_\_

- Please note that yearly cover can only be provided for the 12 months beginning 1 April 2014. No retrospective cover can be given at any time.

Name of Society\_\_\_\_\_

Name of contact person\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No\_\_\_\_\_Email\_\_\_\_\_

No of persons requiring cover\_\_\_\_\_ @ £1.40 each

£\_\_\_\_\_  
(full year cover)

or

No of persons requiring cover\_\_\_\_\_ @ 80p each

£\_\_\_\_\_  
(half year cover)

**Please make cheques payable to:** *The Federation for Ulster Local Studies*,  
and return the completed form, with cheque to:

The Treasurer, The Federation for Ulster Local Studies, 14 Corby Way, Belfast  
BT11 8HY