

Current Committee

At the recent AGM the following officers were elected

Officers: Chairman: Joseph McCoy; Vice Chairman: Denvir Boyd; Secretary: Ian Treasurer: Bridie Bradley,
Executive Committee: Johnny Dooher; Aine NíDuibhne Liz Foy. **Administrator:** Patsy McShane

Details of the work of the committee can be found on our webpage www.FULS.org.uk

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Due North.

The latest Issue of Due North was launched at the Annual General Meeting in the Cardinal Thomás ÓFiaich Library, Armagh and has been issued to member societies. Additional Copies are available from Johnny Dooher, For further information contact Johnny Dooher - editor, Due North, the journal of the Federation for Ulster Local Studies at: johndooher@btinternet.com . Price £4.00/4.50

Articles include:

Charles Macklin—an early Donegal-born dramatist by Dr. Sean Beattie
Marriage Infidelity in Ulster, the case of Lady Marianne Brooke by Keith Hanes
Gleanings from the Conyngham Papers by Helen Meehan
The Ulster Local History Trust by Jack Johnston and Evelyn Cardwell
Captain Harry Hassan—A Co Down Mariner who vanished without trace 1917 by James Scannell
Educating the Natives—Language, Scholars and Religion in pre-famine Ulster by Johnny Dooher

Book Reviews include:

Family Names in the Glens of Antrim by Brian S Turner, Ulster Historical Foundation
Geordie by Graham Mawhinney, Ballinascreen Historical Society
Lough Neagh
More about Inver et al by Helen Meehan

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Society News

ABC Family History Association (ABCFHA) Based in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council area, ABCFHA organises talks and visits, delivers courses and workshops, offers one to one support in family history research and runs projects each year. Members live in many parts of the world and may be online members or full members.

In 2022 our project was 'Our Family Stories' where members had the opportunity to write stories about some of their ancestors, culminating in a 200 page book being published in both hardback and softback formats.

This year's project is 'Emigration and Our Families'. We have visited the Mellon Centre for Emigration

Studies and Ulster American Folk Park, with further visits planned to the EPIC centre in Dublin and the Linen Hall Library in Belfast. We have also had some excellent talks from Dr David Hume and Dr William Roulston to give a context for our project. Members will then write emigration stories of their ancestors, and a book will be published in the Autumn of this year. Next year, we plan to carry out a project on 'Our Families in Wartime'.

Our DNA Project runs alongside the annual project and is based around Ancestry autosomal DNA testing, teaching members how to analyse their DNA results. This includes learning how to use GEDmatch, My Heritage and Family Tree DNA as resources and utilising the excellent resource of DNA Painter. We now intend to move on to learn about Y-DNA and its analysis. The DNA project has to date had some excellent outcomes, with 'brick walls' broken down and new 'cousins' found. Connections discovered between many of our members are fascinating!

New members are always welcome – visit www.abcfha.com for more information about the association and its projects.

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New Publications

Lough Neagh, An Atlas of the Natural Built and Cultural Heritage by Dr. Liam Campbell, Dr. William Burke and Dr. Wiliam Roulston

This is Lough Neagh, the largest lake in these islands. It is the scale and geography that makes Lough Neagh such a unique heritage feature. This cascades downwards to incorporate the natural environment, archaeology, historical structures and communities. For millennia people have lived by the lough and earned a livelihood along its shoreline and on its waters. The enigmatic beauty and effervescence of the lough has inspired poets and authors, singers and songwriters.

Bringing together archaeologists, geographers, historians, scientists and other experts in their field, many with a strong connection to Lough Neagh, this beautifully illustrated volume includes 50 essays which explore the diversity of interactions between the people of the lough and the natural, cultural and built environment from the earliest times to the present day.

More About Inver et al - by Helen Meehan is a sequel to her 728 page "Inver Parish in History" published in 2005. This 304 page book places Inver in the Donegal Bay area in the wider context of the history of Co Donegal and the country. The forward is by Dr William Roulston of the Ulster Historical Foundation. Selling price 30euro Can be got from author Helen Meehan , Coolum House , Mountcharles, Co Donegal or in shops in the county.

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Federation of Local History Societies

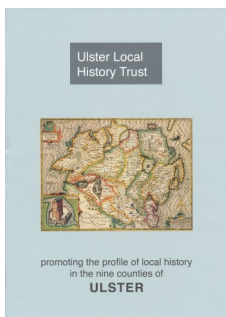
Below is some information from our sister organisation in the Republic of Ireland that may be of interest:

2023 Trip—Change of Date

The FLHS UK trip for 2023 will now be from Sunday 14th—Thursday 18th May 2023. and will be based in Oban and tour that area. Details will be posted on www.localhistory.ie when they become available.

FLHS are also exploring the possibility of a trip to Rome in 2023 as well. Details of the above trips will be circulated as soon as they are available.

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Ulster Local History Trust

The Ulster Local History Trust was established by the Federation for Ulster Local Studies in 1981 to help raise the standard of local historical work, particularly among voluntary groups. The Trust offers grants to support the publication of local and regional studies and research and provides advice to authors on good practice. Particular emphasis will be paid to innovation in demonstrating the value of local history to our shared communities.

For details of support available including financial see their web page—www.ulht.org.uk

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Register of Speakers and Tour Guides

The Federation has compiled, with the help of members, a list of speakers who are available to give talks on a wide variety of local study topics. Event organisers can sometimes struggle to find speakers on a particular topic requested by the membership or to find a speaker at the last moment in an emergency. Also Societies can spend considerable time consulting others about ideas for speakers and topics. The Directory is therefore of considerable value to member societies. The Federation plans to update this list in the Spring of 2023 and would welcome names and details of speakers to add to the Directory, also if anyone feels that they are no longer in a position to remain on the Directory please let us know by emailing patsymcshane@icloud.com.

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Companies House-identity verification

The attached Blog from Companies House announces a radically different approach to personal identification. This will affect not only the FULS directors but also those Societies who are Registered Charities.

https://companieshouse.blog.gov.uk/2022/12/12/companies-house-reform-identity-verification/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

Obituary -A tribute to Eamon Phoenix, 1953 - 2022

The members of the West Belfast Historical Society were greatly saddened to hear of the death in November of Dr Eamon Phoenix. Eamon was a good friend to the West Belfast Historical Society which he joined as a member after it was founded in 1974. His wife Alice, was the Secretary in the early years.

Eamon was always available to provide help and advice on any historical matters and once held the position of Chairman of the Society

In 2001 Eamon became the honorary president of the Society, a role which he was honoured to accept. For many years he was the guest speaker at our January meeting and his talk was concerned with the cabinet papers which he revealed each year before Christmas. Visitors from other societies attended the talk and all enjoyed talking to Eamon during the buffet supper. He was always delighted to renew old friendships and meet new people.

Eamon and Alice also joined our annual outings when they had no other commitments .

Eamon will be greatly missed by all who knew him and we extend our sympathy to Alice and the family circle.



Bridie Bradley – West Belfast Historical Society

Articles & Notices for the Newsletter

Articles and notices for publication from member societies are very welcome. The next issue of this newsletter will be available in April 2023. Articles and notices for the newsletter will need to be forwarded to patsymcshane@icloud.com by Monday 3rd April 2023

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Various Events 2022

A number of Societies are up and running again for the 2022/2023 season. Programmes we have been notified of include:

East Belfast Historical Society

9 February 2023 Samuel Davidson & His Amazing Sirocco Fans - Eric Woods
9 March 2023 East Belfast: Insights from the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
Lorraine Bourke (PRONI)
13 April 2023 Behind the Facade: A History of the Bank Buildings - Richard Graham

Venue: Belmont Bowling Club, Belmont Park, Belfast BT4 3DW at 7.30pm

Ballinascreen Historical Society

Tuesday 7th February 2023: 8.00pm "Bygone Days through local postcards" - David Lennox
Tuesday 7th March 2023: 8.00pm "A kick down memory lane" - Draperstown Celtic F. C.
Tuesday 4th April 2023: 8.00pm "John McShain—The man who built Washington" - Pat Dawson

Venue: Workspace Community Hub, 50 High Street, Draperstown BT45 7AD

Tuesday 2nd May 2023: 8.00pm Social Evening - The Shepherds Rest, Sixtowns, Draperstown

Carrickfergus Historical Society Wednesday 19th March 2023, 7.00pm: East Antrim Historical Society
Annual Quiz and Supper

Wednesday 29th March 2023, 7.30pm: "John de Courcy" - Steve Flanders
Wednesday 26th April 2023, 7.30pm: Feeding Medieval Carrickfergus - Judith Findlater

Venue: Carrickfergus Town Hall, 2b Joymount, Carrickfergus, BT38 7DN at 7.30pm

South Belfast Historical Society

Thursday 26th January 2023, 7.45pm: The entries of Anne Street, a talk by Norman Weatherall
Thursday 23rd February 2023, 7.45pm: A life in amateur drama and musicals, a talk by Wylfie Piper
Thursday 30th March 2023, 7.45pm: Harry Ferguson: Ulster's inventor, a talk by Jim O'Hagan
Thursday 27th April 2023, 7.30pm: Scoops of my photographic career, a talk by Stanley Matchett,
(Also the Annual General Meeting)

Venue – Newtownbreda (St John's) Presbyterian Church, 374 – 378 Ormeau Road, Belfast BT37 3HX

ABC Family History Association

The ABC Family History Association Programme from January 2023 to June 2023 is detailed on the next page. The locations for the events are included and the programme includes some virtual talks and activities

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Please let us know what your Society is planning so that it can be included in the next News-letter. Please email information to the Administrator—Patsymcshane@icloud.com.

ABC Family History Association Programme from January 2023 to June 2023

Day	Date	UK Time	Event	Speaker /Organiser	Location of Event	Format
Sat	14 Jan	10.30 am -12.30 pm	New Year Lite Bite Get-Together – talk on New Year Superstitions and Traditions followed by food (FREE, book a place)	Joy Smith / Audrey Ward	Brownlow Community Hub	Social Event
Sat	21 Jan	3pm	Online Meeting with Cranberry Genealogy Club, Pennsylvania	Joy Smith/Sue Ennis	Zoom	Zoom Meeting
Tue	24 Jan	7.30 pm	DNA Project – DNA Painter Chromosome Maps	Joy Smith/Leisa Byrne	Zoom	Zoom Session
Fri	3 Feb	10.30 am -12.30 pm	‘Coffee/Tea and a Bun’ – for those who want a bit of help, a warm place to chat or to borrow books. Bring your laptop/tablet (Drop in, FREE)	Joy Smith	Brownlow Community Hub	Workshop Get Together
Thu	16 Feb	7.30 pm	‘Posted in the Past’ – true stories behind the postcards	Helen Baggott	Zoom	Zoom Talk
Tue	21 Feb	7.30 pm	DNA Project – ‘FamilyTreeDNA’ Testing	Joy Smith/Leisa Byrne	Zoom	Zoom Session
Tue	28 Feb	7.30 pm	‘Prussian Blue – The Story’ which is about Leona’s journey to find her ancestors with the help of a TV programme	Leona Thomas	Zoom	Zoom Talk
Wed	1 Mar	10.30 am -12.30 pm	‘Coffee/Tea and a Bun’ – for those who want a bit of help, a warm place to chat or to borrow books. Bring your laptop/tablet (Drop in, FREE)	Joy Smith	Brownlow Community Hub	Workshop Get Together
Sat	4 Mar	<i>the</i>	<i>EPIC Dublin and Jeannie Johnston boat trip - Open 10 am – 6.45 pm</i>	Evelyn Gardiner	EPIC Dublin	Visit
Tue	7 Mar	7.30 pm	DNA Project – Y-DNA Testing	Joy Smith/Leisa Byrne	Zoom	Zoom Session
Wed	15 Mar	7.30 pm	‘Ethical Dilemmas in Genealogy’ - discovering secrets, lies, bigamy, enslavement, criminals, unexpected DNA relatives, upsetting findings...	Dr Penny Walters	Zoom	Zoom Talk
Sat	18 Mar	10.30 am -12.30 pm	‘Coffee/Tea and a Bun’ – for those who want a bit of help, a warm place to chat or to borrow books. Bring your laptop/tablet (Drop in, FREE)	Joy Smith	Brownlow Community Hub	Workshop Get Together
Thu	23 Mar	10 am -	Visit to PRONI by train or car, to carry out own research	Audrey Ward	PRONI, Belfast	Visit
Tue	4 Apr	10.30 am -12.30 pm	‘Coffee/Tea and a Bun’ – for those who want a bit of help, a warm place to chat or to borrow books. Bring your laptop/tablet (Drop in, FREE)	Joy Smith	Brownlow Community Hub	Workshop Get Together
Wed	19 Apr	7.30 pm	‘Suffragettes in Ulster’	Myrtle Hill	Zoom	Zoom Talk
Tue	25 Apr	7.30 pm	DNA Project – Other Aspects of DNA Painter	Joy Smith/Leisa Byrne	Zoom	Zoom Session
Wed	3 May	10.30 am -12.30 pm	‘Coffee/Tea and a Bun’ – for those who want a bit of help, a warm place to chat or to borrow books. Bring your laptop/tablet (Drop in, FREE)	Joy Smith	Brownlow Community Hub	Workshop Get Together
Thurs	11 May	<i>the</i>	<i>The Linen Hall Library – travel by train or own car. Talk and research.</i>	Elaine Bleakney	Linen Hall Library	Visit and Talk
Wed	17 May	7.30 pm	‘Secrets and Lies’ – adventures in other people’s family trees	Dr Frances Hurd	Zoom	Zoom Talk
Sat	20 May	10.30 am -12.30 pm	‘Coffee/Tea and a Bun’ – for those who want a bit of help, a warm place to chat or to borrow books. Bring your laptop/tablet (Drop in, FREE)	Joy Smith	Brownlow Community Hub	Workshop Get Together
Tue	23 May	7.30 pm	DNA Project Close – round up of what we’ve learned	Joy Smith/Leisa Byrne	Zoom	Zoom Session
Fri	2 Jun	10.30 am -12.30 pm	‘Coffee/Tea and a Bun’ – for those who want a bit of help, a warm place to chat or to borrow books. Bring your laptop/tablet (Drop in, FREE)	Joy Smith	Brownlow Community Hub	Workshop Get Together
Sat	3 Jun	<i>the</i>	Visit to Royal Hillsborough (Coronation event)	Joy Smith	Royal Hillsborough	Visit