

## Current Committee

**Officers:** Chairman: Joseph McCoy; Vice Chairman: Denvir Boyd; Secretary: Ian Elliott; Treasurer: Bridie Bradley, **Committee:** Johnny Dooher; Aine NíDuibhne, Elizabeth Hoy. Florence Chambers; **Administrator:** Patsy McShane

Details of the work of the committee can be found on our webpage [www.FULS.org.uk](http://www.FULS.org.uk)

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## Spring/Summer Seminar

**Advance Notice:** The annual Federation Seminar has been reinstated after a three year absence due to the pandemic. This year's seminar will take place on Saturday 3rd June in Draperstown (Workspace Community Hub, 50 High Street) The main speakers will be Professor Brian Walker (QUB) on 'The decade of centenaries 1912-22: Commemoration, Controversy and Conciliation—a look back' and Mr. Edward Montgomery (The Honorable the Irish Society) on A History of the Honorable the Irish Society and the Livery Companies in the city of London and in County of Londonderry. A tour of Draperstown is included which includes lands by both the Drapers and Skinners Companies. The cost is £10.00 and includes tea/coffee on arrival and lunch. Separate invite to issue soon.



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## Membership and Insurance

You should have received recently an invoice for both membership and insurance. As a result of a motion passed at the last AGM of the Federation (November 2022) we have brought the membership and insurance renewal dates together. This should result in less confusion with one payment to cover everything. The membership subscription for 2023/2024 is £50.00 whilst the insurance costs are a flat £25.00. If you haven't received an invoice please let me know by emailing me at [patsymcshane@icloud.com](mailto:patsymcshane@icloud.com), It is extremely important that societies are covered by public liability insurance and to avail of the Federation's group policy you must be a member.

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## Due North.

The latest Issue of Due North is still available from Johnny Dooher - editor, Due North, the journal of the Federation for Ulster Local Studies at: [johnndooher@btinternet.com](mailto:johnndooher@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:

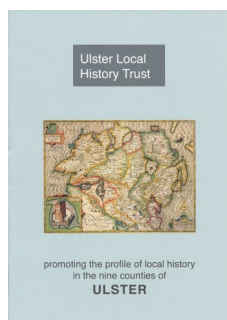
Family Names in the Glens of Antrim by Brian S Turner, Ulster Historical Foundation  
Geordie by Graham Mawhinney, Ballinascreen Historical Society  
Lough Neagh  
More about Inver et al by Helen Meehan

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**Note from the Chair:** *As chair of the federation I would like to explore the opportunity for our membership to widen and contribute to our yearly journal Due North. The importance of this work cannot be underestimated as an educational and enjoyable perusal for the membership that is enjoyed here at home and throughout the world. We would also ask if any societies would like to help with the Journal itself working on the subcommittee, you would be very welcome. Joseph McCoy, Chair FULS*

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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](http://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 [pat-symcshane@icloud.com](mailto:pat-symcshane@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.

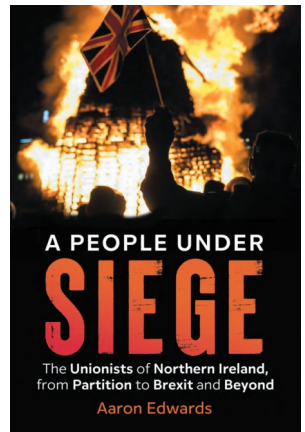
[https://companieshouse.blog.gov.uk/2022/12/12/companies-house-reform-identity-verification/?utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_name=&utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_term=](https://companieshouse.blog.gov.uk/2022/12/12/companies-house-reform-identity-verification/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=)

## New Publications

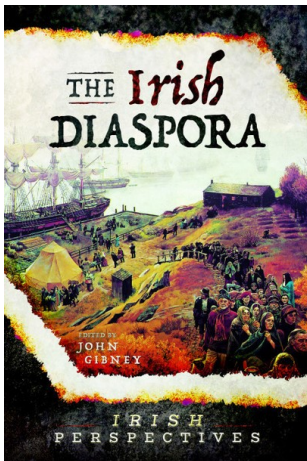
**A People Under Siege** The Unionists of Northern Ireland, from Partition to Brexit and beyond by Arron Edwards

Since the Brexit referendum of 2016, extraordinary uncertainty has hung over the future of the Union between Great Britain and Northern Ireland, creating a crisis for the unionist community. A referendum that began on the question of sovereignty quickly degenerated into cries of betrayal over a redrawn border in the Irish Sea, and has led to unionists becoming more insular again, resurrecting ethnic and nationalist notions of what constitutes the Union. In *A People Under Siege*,

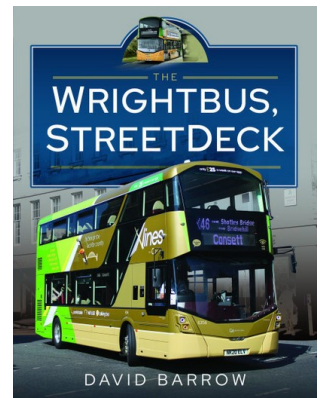
Published by Merrion Press :<https://www.irishacademicpress.ie/>



**The Irish Diaspora, Edited by John Gibney:** Ireland is known worldwide as a country that produce emigrants. The existence of the Irish 'diaspora' is the subject of this fifth instalment of the 'Irish perspectives' collaboration between Pen and Sword and History Ireland. From the early Christian era Irish missionaries travelled across Europe, from the early modern period Irish soldiers served across the world in various European armies and empires, and in the modern era, Ireland's position on the edge of the Atlantic made Irish emigrants amongst the most visible migrants in an era of mass migration. Ranging from Europe to Africa to the Americas and Australia, this anthology explores the lives and experiences of Irish educators, missionaries, soldiers, insurgents, from those who simply sought a better life overseas to those with little choice in the matter, and who established an Irish presence across the globe as they did so. **Publisher Pen & Sword, <https://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/>**

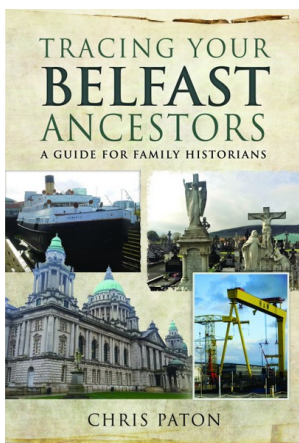


**The Wrightbus Streetdeck by David Barrow:** The origins of Wrightbus can be traced back to just after the Second World War in 1946 when the company was founded as Robert Wright & Son Coachbuilders in Ballymena Northern Ireland. Robert was joined by daughter Muriel, and son William. Robert Wright died in 1972. In 2017 William was awarded a Knighthood in the Queen's New Year's Honours Manufactured from the end of 2014, the integral constructed StreetDeck is built in both single and double-deck variations, the vast majority in the latter. In 2021 70% of production was diesel powered, but in 2022 only 30% will be diesel, with the other 70% zero emissions. **Publisher Pen & Sword, <https://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/>**



**Tracing Your Belfast Ancestors A Guide for Family Historians by Chris Paton:**

Straddling parts of Counties Antrim and Down, the city of Belfast has seen its fair share of history across the centuries. From its humble beginnings as a ford based settlement between two tributaries of the River Lagan, it grew following its grant of a charter in 1613 to become a corporation town, and expanded dramatically when later made a city in 1888. Along the way it has experienced the darkest of times, including the Belfast Blitz and the recent Troubles, to some of the most enlightened developments across Ireland and the UK. In *Tracing Your Belfast Ancestors*, genealogist and best-selling author Chris Paton returns home to provide a research gateway for those wishing to trace their ancestors from the Northern Irish capital. With a concise summary of the city's history, a tour of some of the city's most amazing archives, libraries and museums, and a detailed overview of the records generated by those who came before, he expertly steers the reader towards centuries of ancestral exploration, both through online resources and within the city of Belfast itself – and with a wee bit of craic along the way! **Publisher Pen & Sword, <https://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/>**





## 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 June 2023. Articles and notices for the newsletter will need to be forwarded to [patsymcshane@icloud.com](mailto:patsymcshane@icloud.com) by Monday 3rd June 2023

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## Various Events 2023

### Ballinascreen Historical Society

Saturday 24 June 2023 - Trip to the Antrim Coast led by David Hume

- Short history of Carrickfergus Castle and town
- Visit to the Jackson Centre. The story of the 7th American President, Andrew Jackson
- Visit to the historic Templecorran Cemetery
- Visit to Whitehead Railway Museum
- Visit to Larne Museum
- Travel through Ballygarry, Glenarm and Carnlough on the Antrim Coast
- Return through Feystown and the Sallagh Braes to Larne Promenade
- Evening meal in the Curran Court Hotel

Interested please contact Graham Mawhinney at [ballinascreenhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:ballinascreenhistoricalsociety@gmail.com)

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### North of Ireland Family History Society

All welcome. See NIFHS website for booking information & updates

Branch Meetings					
Day	Date	Branch	Location	Format	Event
Mon	17 April	Larne	Larne + online	Hybrid	Larne in the Northern Ireland Screen Archives. NI Screen
Tues	18 April	Lisburn	Lisburn	In-Person	The Role of The Land Agent In 19th Century Ulster. Anne Casement
Tues	25 April	Belfast	Belfast + online	Hybrid	WikiTree. Anne Johnston. (TBC)
Tues	25 April	Causeway C&G	Coleraine + online	Hybrid	Genealogy of Rathlin Island, Ballycastle & the Glens. Dr Nic Wright
Thurs	27 April	Ballymena	Ballymena + online	Hybrid	Emigration to Australia & New Zealand. Mike McKeag
Mon	1 May	Killyleagh	Killyleagh	In-Person	AGM. Speaker TBC.
Tues	9 May	Lisburn	Lisburn	In-Person	AGM. The Londonderry Militia (1793-1816). Al Bodkin
Mon	15 May	Newtownabbey	Whiteabbey + online	Hybrid	AGM. Written in Stone. Tom Hartley
Mon	15 May	Foyle	L/Derry + online	Hybrid	Hope & History. Paul McFadden
Mon	15 May	Larne	Larne + online	Hybrid	AGM. Update on the Ballycarry & Islandmagee DNA Projects. Martin McDowell & Anne Johnston
Weds	17 May	Ballymena	Ballymena + online	Hybrid	AGM. Researching your WW1 Ancestors. Alan Rosborough
Tues	23 May	Belfast	Belfast + online	Hybrid	AGM. Short talks by three members
Tues	30 May	Causeway C&G	Coleraine + online	Hybrid	The Workhouse System in Ireland. Dr Robyn Atcheson
Mon	19 May	Larne	Larne + online	Hybrid	Malone House. Alun Evans

Find more information on the NIFHS website:

- Improve your family history
- Meet others
- Local knowledge reaching around the globe

[www.nifhs.org/events](http://www.nifhs.org/events)



Registered charity: NIC106071

## ABC Family History Association Programme from May 2023 to June 2023

Day	Date	UK Time	Event	Speaker /Organiser	Location of Event	Format
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)		Brownlow Community Hub	Workshop Get Together
Thu r	11 May	tbc	The Linen Hall Library – travel by train or own car. Talk and research.	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	tbc	Visit to Royal Hillsborough (Coronation event)	Joy Smith	Royal Hillsborough	Visit

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### Reminder—Save The Date

Federation for Ulster Local Studies—Spring/Summer Seminar—Draperstown Saturday 3rd June 2023

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