

Family History Newsletter



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The Family History group supports members in researching their family history research. Members have ancestors from around the globe.

They meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Maple Ridge Library.

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Searching Irish Vital Records at Irishgenealogy.ie

by Annette Fulford

Select Irish Vital Records went online on at Irish Genealogy.ie, www.irishgenealogy.ie/en, on September 8, 2016. I was very excited by this news because I've had difficulty researching my Gibson family in Portadown, County Armagh, Northern Ireland based on the lack of records available for Irish genealogy in general. Although I've made use of the Irish Vitals through the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on microfilm, I am so pleased they have posted them online where they can be accessed for free at this time.

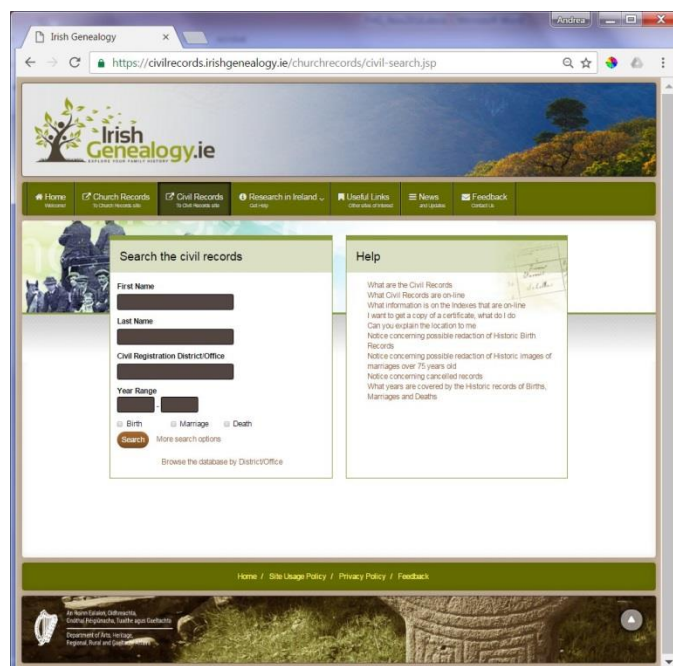
Before you can view the records you must prove you're not a robot by answering a question based on a selection of pictures. Then you must provide them with your full name in the box provided in order to search the records based on Section 61 of the *Irish Civil Registration Act* of 2004. You will periodically be asked to do this again if you do numerous searches.

The records available to search at this time are: births from 1864–1915, marriages 1882–1940 and deaths 1891–1965. Eventually they will add records for marriages back to 1845 and deaths back to 1864.

My first search was to find the birth of Stewart Gibson, my grandmother's uncle, in 1866. I knew from previous research on the family that they registration district I needed for Portadown was Lurgan. The

record for Stewart Gibson that is available at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on microfilm had a piece of paper across his entry so I was unable to read it. I had info on when he was born in my grandmother's birthday book but I wanted proof of this date for my files. The version online was much clearer than the one I got from microfilm.

The information I gathered from the 1911 Census stated that Martha Gibson, the mother of Stewart Gibson, had 8 children with only 5 who were still living. I've only ever been able to locate 7 of those 8 children. One by one I searched for and located the birth entries for each child that I knew about. The entry for one son, Arthur born in 1870, contained a blank record for his birth. I will submit a request for his birth and see if I can get a copy of the original entry. And when they update the site with additional records I will go back online and search the deaths for the children who died young.



Online Resources

General Register Office launches new indexes

www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/

The General Register Office has launched new online indexes of births and deaths for England & Wales. It makes ordering of certificates easier and provides additional information that will make it easier to find the right entries.

Scotland's People

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Search results and the Scotland 1881 census are now free.

ScotlandsPlaces

www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk

ScotlandsPlaces is now completely free once again!

Stirling Council Archives

www.stirlingarchives.scot/

Stirling Council Archives have uploaded free PDF indexes to the Poor Relief records it holds for 14 parishes: Aberfoyle, Balfron, Balquhiddier, Buchanan, Callander, Drymen, Fintry, Gargunnoch, Killearn, Kippen, Logie, St. Ninians, Stirling, and Strathblane.

Bridgewater Historical Society

www.bridgewaterhistory.org

The town of Bridgewater is located in Windsor County, Vermont. The Bridgewater Historical Society's website provides keyword-searchable databases for ten of the twelve cemeteries in Bridgewater.

UK, Military Deserters

www.fold3.com

This collection is comprised of lists of deserters from Her Majesty's Service, published in the UK Police Gazette between 1812 and 1927.

Trade Union Ancestors

www.unionancestors.co.uk

An A to Z index of unions plus union family trees.

New at Ancestry

www.ancestry.ca

Ancestry.ca has added Peterborough, Ontario, Jail Registers, 1876–1896 to their collection of criminal records.

Minnesota Newspapers

www.mnhs.org/newspapers

The Minnesota Historical Society holds the largest single collection of Minnesota newspapers, with publication dates ranging from 1849 to the present day.

Family History Events

Abbotsford Genealogical Society

<http://abbygs.ca/index.html>

- **Organizing your Records** with Eunice Robinson, Thursday Nov 17, 2016, General Meeting at 1:30 pm in Studio 2 The Reach (doors open at 1:00 pm)

British Columbia Genealogical Society

www.bcgsg.ca

- **BCGS Christmas Social** – merriment and holiday treats, paperback book sale and first ever BCGS Silent Auction! Meet the BCGS's Most Improved Genealogist for 2017! December 14, 7:30 pm.

Cloverdale Library

www.surreylibraries.ca

- **Family History Show & Tell**, Saturday, Nov 26, 2016, 10:30 am–12:30 pm. Fee: free.
- **Orientations**, Saturdays, 10:00–10:50 am, Dec 3, Pre-registration recommended. Fee: free.
- **Fun Family History Fridays**, Dec 2, 2:30 pm, Drop in. Join us to share and explore different topics in family history. Fee: Free.
- **Start Searching Your Family History** with Brenda L. Smith, Saturdays, Jan 14, & 28, Feb 11 & 25, Mar 18 2017, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Fee: \$100 for the series of five 3-hour classes.
- **Start Writing your Family History** with Brenda L. Smith, Saturdays, Jan 14, & 28, Feb 11 & 25, Mar 18 2017, 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Fee: \$100 for the series of five 3-hour classes.

West Vancouver Memorial Library

<https://westvanlibrary.ca/>

- **Genealogy Fair** presented in partnership with the British Columbia Genealogical Society, the Jewish Genealogical Society of British Columbia and Klahanie Research Ltd. Friday, Nov 18 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, main hall.

Maple Ridge Family History Group, Wednesday, December 7, 2016, 7pm at the Maple Ridge Library.

Do you have an ancestor in your tree born on Christmas or New Year's Day? Bring the information to share.