

GSQ e-NEWS



Issue 168

October 2020

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October 2020

From the President

BREAKING NEWS: The Management Committee submitted an application through the Gaming Commission Grant for funding to purchase new computer equipment for GSQ. On 25 September we were advised that our application has been successful and that GSQ is to receive \$32 697.00 for this purpose. What a wonderful piece of news this is for each and every GSQ member!!

2020 Annual General Meeting: The 2020 Annual General Meeting of the Genealogical Society of Queensland will be held at 10.00am on Saturday 10 October at the Upper Mt Gravatt Progress Hall, 1873 Logan Road, Upper Mt Gravatt. (Please note the change in address – the AGM is being held away from our premises, because of its reduced capacity under COVID restrictions.) We would like all of those attending the AGM to register ahead of time – this will reduce the amount of time spent queueing at the door recording names, email addresses and phone numbers. To register, please go to the website, follow the link to AGM and record your details. The Agenda for the meeting will also be available on the website. Members are urged not to attend if feeling unwell on the day. Nominations for positions on the Management Committee for 2020-2021 closed on 25 September, 2020. The following nominations have been received:

President: Helen Veivers

Vice President: Jan Bimrose

Honorary Secretary: Claire Rodwell

Treasurer: David Barnes

Assistant Treasurer: Sue Grant

Committee Member: Bob Dean

Committee Member: Graeme Moulton

Committee Member: Kerry Beeton

These nominations indicate that there will be 3 vacancies on the Management Committee - nominations will be accepted from the floor to fill these positions on the day of the Annual General Meeting.

Donation Drive: The Donation Drive has now been finalised with a magnificent \$10 892 being donated. Thank you all for this support!

Helen Vievers, President



There is a mega raffle happening. The prizes will be drawn at the Exploring Irish Ancestry seminar on Saturday 24th October. You do not have to be present to win except for the Lucky Door Prize however the seminar will be a great opportunity to find out more about your Irish family.

Purchase tickets at:

<https://www.gsq.org.au/event/annual-seminar-irish-ancestry/> or at GSQ. Remember you have to be in it to win!



OPEN

Monday • Closed

Tuesday • 10am - 2pm

Wednesday • Closed

Thursday • 10am - 2pm

Friday • Closed

Saturday • 12noon - 4pm

Sunday • Interest Groups

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Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc. Annual General Meeting Saturday 10 October 2020 at 10am sharp

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc. will be held on Saturday, 10 October 2020 commencing at 10:00am sharp. Because our premises are not large enough to accommodate the meeting under present COVID Safe conditions, the meeting will be conducted at the Mt Gravatt Progress Hall, 1873 Logan Road, Upper Mt Gravatt.

Proxies

A member who is entitled to attend and vote at the general meeting, may appoint a person to attend and vote at the meeting as the member's proxy.

A proxy may be appointed by returning a completed Proxy Form to the Secretary at the Society's registered office, 24 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting, i.e. by 10:00 am Friday 9 October 2020.

Proxy forms may be obtained from Claire Rodwell, Hon. Secretary - secretary@gsq.org.au

Inquiries

All inquiries should be directed to the Hon. Secretary, Ms Claire Rodwell Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc., either by post to PO Box 1467 Carindale QLD 4152 OR, 25 Stackpole St, Wishart QLD 4122.

Phone: 07 3349 6072

Email: secretary@gsq.org.au

Claire Rodwell, Secretary

[by authority of the GSQ Management Committee]

Additional information

A number of other positions are available which do not require membership of the Management Committee. Why not take up the challenge and put your name forward for one of these positions?

- Education Coordinator
- Membership Officer
- Projects Officer
- Minutes Secretary
- Bookshop Coordinator
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Events Organiser
- Publicity Officer
- Webmaster



FREE Family History Webinars from Legacy Family Tree

What is the cost: There is no charge to register and view the live webinar. **However**, the recording is available to view for the next 7 days - for **free!** Watch it as many times as you would like, pausing and taking notes, during the free viewing period.

If you cannot make the live event, downloads of the recording are just \$9.95 each or yearly memberships give you access to everything.

Some October offerings:

- October 6 - *Advanced DNA Techniques: Deductive Chromosome Mapping* by Blaine Bettinger, Ph.D., J.D
- October 7 - *Wringing Every Drop out of Y DNA* by Roberta Estes
- October 8 - *From Generation to Generation: An Updated Look at Kinship Determination* by Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL
- October 14 - *Dealing with endogamy* by Paul Woodbury
- October 20 - *Using DNA Test Results to Confirm a Pedigree* by Angela Packer McGhie, CG

There are more coming up in October & the rest of the year. The Legacy Webinar website with more information is available [HERE](#).

Exploring Irish Ancestry



Saturday October 24th 2020

9:30am - 4:30pm AEST

Q & A live with John Grenham & Chris Paton 5:30pm

Virtual Event via Zoom

Program

- Past and furious: Ireland and its shaping of family history — *Jennifer Harrison*
- Accessing Republic of Ireland archives & online collections — *Pauleen Cass*
- Irish land records, valuations and online collections — *John Grenham pre-recorded*
- Northern Ireland archives: PRONI and online collections — *Chris Paton pre-recorded*
- Workhouses and poor law in Ireland — *Cathie Sherwood*
- Irish Migration to Australia — *Helen Smith*

Drawing of raffles, lucky door prizes

Live Q&A with John Grenham & Chris Paton



Pauleen Cass



Dr Jennifer Harrison



Cathie Sherwood



John Grenham



Chris Paton



Helen Smith

Booking & Payment

Cost:

GSQ/QFHS Members \$60 / Non-Members \$75

Payment may be made by:

- Credit card (online, by phoning GSQ or at GSQ)
- Cash (at GSQ)
- Bank transfer (note details at time of ordering) OR
- Cheque by post: GSQ, PO Box 1467, Carindale, QLD 4152

Book online at: www.gsq.org.au/event/annual-seminar-irish-ancestry/

Exciting Raffle and Lucky Door Prizes

Subject to the restrictions regarding the Covid-19 situation, some interest groups will be holding their meetings at GSQ. There is a limit of 20 people attending the groups. Some groups are conducting virtual meetings through the use of the Zoom platform.

Family Tree Maker Users' Group

The next meeting of the FTM User Group will not be until **Sunday 8 November** 2020 at 10.30 am. The library will be open from approximately 9.00 am.

Our group is a networking group that can help beginners and assist both Mac & Windows users and hopefully overcome any FTM problems they may face. GSQ members and researchers contemplating purchasing a family history programme, are welcome to attend our future meetings.

People with laptops should bring them along so the participants can help solve your particular problem(s). Advance notice to the convenor on lesmcfadzen@outlook.com of your problem(s) will assist in setting the meeting Agenda.

Writing Group

The final meeting of the Writing Group for 2020 will be held on Sunday 18 October. This will be a Zoom meeting commencing at 10am and finishing no later than 12 noon.

An agenda for the meeting will be circulated closer to the date. Anyone requiring further information can contact Pauline on pstirland@hotmail.com.

German Interest Group

The next meeting of the German Interest Group will be on **Sunday 29 November** @ 10:15 AM - 2:30 PM. Further details will be included in November eNews.

Bring out your news!

Have some great genealogy tips or news to share? We would love to include it in eNews! Just email enews@gsq.org.au by the 24th of the month.

English/Irish Interest Group

The English/Irish group will meet in person at GSQ on **Sunday 4 October**. All members of GSQ are invited to attend for a variety of interesting conversations and discussions about all things English and Irish, with perhaps some Welsh thrown in for good measure.

To comply with GSQ's Covid19 Plan, please email me on janicewellard1@gmail.com, to let me know if you will be attending, as there is a limit on the number of attendees.

The GSQ Research Centre will open at 10 :00am on 4th October, with the meeting starting at 10.30 am. GSQ will remain open until 1:00pm for members to do their own research. See you there!

Legacy Users' Group

As emailed to all members of the SIG earlier please make contact if you have any questions. Remember that at this time you can watch Legacy webinars that are on each week and available free for the 7 days after showing.

Monday Morning Natters

October Monday Morning Natters - Monday 5 October 10am -12 noon has been converted to a Zoom meeting. Yes it is a public holiday but Zoom will be available again.

Topic for this meeting: *Which ancestor holds the most interest for you?*

Convict Connections Group

Our discussion topic for the **Sunday 11 October** meeting will be based on using first hand accounts to assist with your family history research.

Explorers and surveyors in colonial times kept written accounts of their journeys. Logs from shipping records can reveal interesting information. Diaries from all walks of life during the colonial era have been published – from convicts, settlers, preachers, judges, landed gentry to governors. Have you used such accounts to broaden your knowledge of the era?

The centre will be open from 9am – 3pm so there is ample time to do research.

Scottish Interest Group

Bill Cunningham gave an interesting talk on Moray research at our September meeting. Copies are available in the library or by request from the Convenor.

Our next meeting will be held on **Sunday 1 November** at 10:00 am. At this meeting, Marg Thomas will do a county presentation on Midlothian (Edinburgh), which will be of interest to many members.

Scottish Indexes will be hosting another of their series of free on-line Family History Conferences on 10 October. See their web site www.scottishindexes.com for details of this session.

In addition to their virtual British Institute, the *International Society for British Genealogy and Family History* will be hosting a free Scottish webinar in October: *Scottish Wills and Testaments* will be presented by Margaret Fox on 10 October, (1:00 am AEST!), and registration is available at:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3593190112673235979>

For those missing a trip to Scotland this year, a series of free heritage videos has been made available on You Tube by Carney Heritage Productions. They are accessed at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLXwn9GRubrx8IH_JUclorQ/videos

DNA Interest Group

September DNA meeting was held on Sunday 20 September and attended by 39 members. Our next meeting is to be held on **Sunday 25 October** from 9:30am - 1:30pm or so.

During this meeting Gary Lambrides is doing a presentation on *DNA Painter* and Cheryl De Venish will be presenting on "*Secrets of the Family Tree*". Additionally, Helen will also present the *DNA Update*.

Following that will be the Mentoring sessions when we cover help on DNA Painter, DNA general, Y-DNA and Clusters. Members are asked to get their questions ready and advise us beforehand, if possible.

The Facebook GSQDNASIG continues to be popular with members with more joining the page through the month.

Scandinavian Interest Group

We had a great Scandinavian Group meeting at GSQ last weekend. It seems the DNA group are doing online meetings, but we have been using GSQ premises for all our meetings.

An interesting point brought up at the meeting, was that the Danish Archives has made an agreement with Ancestry to enter records from Danish Census and Church Books. So Ancestry will do that now, and the Danish volunteers who have been doing this for years, have stopped their work. In return, Ancestry have promised that these Danish records will be available free, and will also be sent back to the Danish Archives.

We had a few apologies for our meeting, but the most unusual one, was from Malin who said she was stuck in Sweden. She hopes to find a plane back to Australia before our next meeting. The next meeting will be on **Sunday 15 November** @ 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Regards, Steinar



Upcoming GSQ Education Events

These education events will be at your place via ZOOM unless otherwise notified.



New Zealand Research

October 17 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Cost: \$25 – \$40

Presenter: Ailsa Corlett

Have you come across Ancestors who went to New Zealand, but not sure how to find out more about them?

New Zealand has been the First in the World for many Global Events – did you know that in 1893 NZ Women were the first in the World to be granted Voting rights, and you can see on the Women Suffrage Petition Roll, the Signatures of the Ladies who signed it – and All for Free. Now isn't this a Great idea to get a copy of Great Aunt Mary's Signature to add to your Family History!

Come along and learn just what resources are available to help solve your New Zealand puzzles. Click [HERE](#) to book.

Using Facebook for Family History Research

November 7 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Cost: \$25 – \$40

Presenter: Ailsa Corlett

Social Media contact in the way of Facebook now plays a very large part in our genealogical research. You can: join so many groups that may assist you in helping to break down that brick wall you have; find photographs of the country towns of yesterday year when our ancestors were living there; ask for help with spelling or knowing just where that place is today, especially if you cannot find it on today's maps; set up your own special private family group, so that you can easily share copies of photos and documents just between your own family members; search for other records that other genealogists might have put up and stay in touch with family members.

Click [HERE](#) to book.



Brick Wall Workshop

November 14 @ 9:00 AM - 12 NOON

Cost: \$35 members \$50 non-members

Presenters: Cathie Sherwood, Christine Meehan and Janice Wellard

These Workshops are always very popular. If, during COVID isolation, you've come face to face with a Brick Wall in your research, this could be the solution for you.

Limited to 10 participants only.

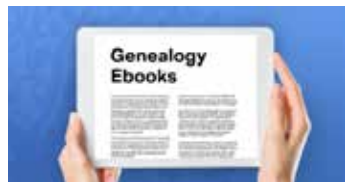
Information concerning your Brick Wall will be required by the Presenters by the end of October.

Click [HERE](#) to book.



IRISH SEMINAR RAFFLE & DOOR PRIZES

GSQ thanks the organisations listed below



ANCESTRY

- 1 x year subscription to Ancestry World
- 1 x year subscription to UK Heritage Plus

ALBOX ARCHIVAL SUPPLIES

- 1 x Stand up Mat
- 1 x Welcome Door Mat
- 2 x 40mm Albox Archival Albums

ARCHIVAL SURVIVAL

Voucher for \$50 to spend on their supplies

FAMILY TREE MAKER PROGRAM

- 1 x 2019 Family Tree Maker Program

FINDMYPAST

- 1 x year top level subscription to FindMyPast

GOULD GENEALOGY

- 2 x \$50 ebook vouchers
- \$50 discount voucher off FHDU 2021 extras (which will include workshops, recordings, dinner)

IRISH NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES

- 6 x 1 year subscriptions to irishnewspaperarchives.com

LEGACY FAMILY TREE

- 1 x Legacy Family Tree Program
- 1 x one year subscription to Legacy Tree Webinars

LUCKY DOOR PRIZE

Book *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* 5th Edition by John Grenham

MOMENTO PHOTO BOOKS

- 1 x \$100 voucher

MYHERITAGE

- 2 x Full My Heritage subscriptions

ULSTER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

- 1 x *Researching Presbyterian Ancestors* book



momento

PREVIEW
PREVIEWINDUSTRIES.COM.AU



PREVIEW PLASTICS
PREVIEW.COM.AU

PREVIEW MATS
MATSUPPLIES.COM.AU



PREVIEW ARCHIVAL
ALBOX.COM.AU

PREVIEW HOSPITALITY
MENUCOVERS.COM.AU



Find my past



GSQ Notices

Did you know that GSQ has an active & informative Facebook page?



Did you know GSQ has a Facebook Page? To find it type 'Genealogical Society of Queensland - GSQ' into the Facebook search field and hit enter. Once the GSQ Page comes up, if you tick the 'Like' button you will have the new page items feed into your Facebook page. This is a good idea so you won't miss out on anything.

The page co-ordinator (Bobbie Edes) is always on the lookout for new genealogy related pages or news, and would love to get an email advising of this. Please email Facebook-Twitter@gsq.org.au with your discovered links, so we can share with our members.



Our GSQ bloggers and guest bloggers continue to supply us with great content each week. We don't have a system to automatically email the blogs to you each week, but you have a few options to catch them.

- Google 'GSQ blog' and it should take you to the webpage <https://gsq-blog.gsq.org.au/>
- Go to GSQ's Home page and down the bottom you can click on the 'GSQ Blog' at the bottom of the Blog box
- Go to our Genealogical Society of Queensland GSQ Facebook page and Like the page. You should then get all posts by GSQ and our Blogs are published on Monday each week.

To all those inspiring writers out there, this is an invitation to send your 1,000 word story to our GSQ Blog Co-ordinator, Bobbie. We've had a fabulous line up of stories this year and dates are now filling on our 2021 blog calendar. Please submit your story for consideration via facebook-twitter@gsq.org.au now. It should be a Word document with single line spacing and images attached separately.



book of the Month

Glorious! Exploring Tasmania in 1914 by Margaret Deacon

Glorious is the story woven around the diary of Margaret's grandmother; Lizzie wrote during her holiday to Tasmania in 1914 with friends and her mother. It provides a charming insight into a gentler era when trains, steamboats and horse-drawn vehicles governed the life of the patient traveller. Detailed research expanded on Lizzie's journey which took her to the peak of Mt Wellington, the Mount Lyell mines and Port Arthur Convict Settlement (Carnarvon).

There are only **four** copies in stock at the special price of \$14.40 (to get this price the order must be placed between 1st and 31st October.)



GSQ ZOOM Meetings

**Research Support and Chat
for GSQ Members Only**
Put it in your Diaries
Monday 2 -3pm – Weekly



**Research Support & Chat
for GSQ Members Only**
Put it in your Diaries
Thursday 11 - 1pm – Weekly

Monday afternoon Zoom meetings are still proving to be very informative, with a large number of GSQ members joining in to share and chat about their Genealogical Journey.

Newspapers and Trove are still a great resource to use, and despite a learning curve on using the new site, Trove is still producing great results for assisting in your research.

Up coming events are discussed so that everyone is well prepared to join into these presentations.

The group is growing and staying strong, and will continue to be held each Monday afternoon from 2 – 3pm. Email Ailsa Corlett of tag@gsq.org.au to be added to the invitation which is emailed out each week.

The Thursday Zoom group which is between 11 am – 1pm is also still going well at this stage. Many have returned to GSQ to do research there as the Library is open that day between 10am – 2pm. But we still have a large number keen to join in and discuss their research problems, joys and generally see if we can help each other with our family history.

Please send to Ailsa at tag@gsq.org.au your email and questions so that you be added to the list regarding the Zoom invitations

Wednesday Nights at GSQ via Zoom **7 - 9 pm - 2nd & 4th Wednesday**

These meetings have been organised by Ailsa Corlett, particularly for those who are in the workforce and so unable to attend the very popular Monday Zoom meetings. They are however open to all GSQ members. There will be opportunities to discuss research problems with other attendees and to provide information and ideas you have discovered.

Dates for these meetings are as follows:

Wednesday, 14 October

Wednesday, 28 October

If anyone wishes to join this meeting please contact Ailsa Corlett on tag@gsq.org.au, so that your name and details can be recorded and links sent to you prior to the meeting.

Research Tip from Jacqui Brock – Wed night Zoom member

When using Google to find details about an ancestor who comes from a country that speaks a language other than English – type their Italian/ Polish/ German etc name in inverted commas “ ” then if you know their occupation – eg. Ivory Turner/ Painter/ Coachman/ etc put that occupation in using the language of the country.

Eg. “ Carlos Schiavi” marinaio (Mariner)

You might be amazed at what comes up in that language. You can then use Google Translate to help you translate it back into English.

Fortnightly Wednesday Morning Zoom Group **11 am - 12:30 pm fortnightly**

A fortnightly Zoom meeting has been convened every second Wednesday morning at 11am; this is on the opposite Wednesday to the night meeting (ie on the alternate week). Each of our friendly meetings run for about 90 minutes or so and has a discussion topic with those present all contributing their thoughts & knowledge on the subject one by one. The meeting is convened by Research Assistant, Bobbie Edes. If you'd like to join Bobbie's meeting then please email facebook-twitter@gsq.org.au with the heading: **Bobbies Fortnightly Wednesday Morning Zoom group** and ask to be added to the Wednesday morning email list for the link.

Bobbie uses GSQ's Zoom portal and there is a new link each meeting.

TAG Report**Giant Zoom Meeting – 31 Aug 2020**

We had attendees coming from throughout Qld, NSW and even NZ. It was a nice number of attendees and was good to hear all the details of what other people had been doing during the time of lockdown. The announcement of the Joan Reese Short Story Competition was done by Helen Veivers, along with a merit prize this year.

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday Zoom Meetings.

Meetings are continuing to attract more and more members, which also consists of many from outside of the Brisbane area. This has been a great boost to many, just knowing that GSQ is acknowledging them, as many find it difficult to get into GSQ at present. Everyone attending has gained much knowledge on where and how to access many of the records for research that they did not know about prior to meeting on Zoom. With everyone swapping ideas and web sites, we have all gained lots of information.

We have also had lots of discussion regarding some of the best Websites to use and explore, programs, bits and pieces we have at home, ideas on how to store and what to copy to make digital, and general assistance and ideas. One day every member was searching on their own computer on the various sites trying to find a particular ship and details of when it arrived in Australia. We have lots of fun learning and helping each other.

Computer 5 at GSQ

This computer is the one closest to the large Printer. This computer runs the older CDs that cannot be installed or run on the current computers. (Many of these are also NOT accessible on Ancestry/ FindmyPast etc etc)

If after checking the "Networked CDs" on the GSQ Start Page of the Computers at GSQ you find a message next to the CD you wish to use, saying – use Computer 5, you will then need to locate the CD on the CD Shelf. Most are in order regarding the Country. e.g. if looking for "NSW Between the Wars CD" it should be housed along with other CDs relating to Australia.

You will then need to look on the Monitor to see if an Icon already exists for that CD. The CD will need to be inserted into the CD Drive on this computer. Give the computer and the CD time to function – remember these are older technology and do not perform as quickly as today's programs do.

Follow the instructions on the CD, especially if it asks for you to install it.

It is amazing if you look at these resources just what you might find. It could be the record you need to help break down that brick wall.

NSW Pre Registration BDMs

Previously to access these records you needed to use the GSQ ScanPro Machine with the many Rolls of Microfilm in the cabinets at the end of the library.

Now thanks to the LDS with their digitization program, these are now available to use online via FamilySearch at GSQ. So you no longer need to use the Films or the ScanPro to obtain the details you require.

You will need to use your FamilySearch login (this is your own personal login details that everyone should have. It is FREE to register.)

Copies of instructions on how to use this set of records are on the computer tables at GSQ; see below to access the indexes from home.

There are Copyright restrictions on these films by the NSW State Archives. Therefore you will find you cannot download or print an image. They do allow the information to be hand copied from the viewing of the film; otherwise you need to apply to get a copy from the NSW BDM Registrar.

Locating the Entries for the NSW Pre 1856 BDMs via FamilySearch

FamilySearch: <https://www.familysearch.org/>

Search – Catalog

Place – type in New South Wales – click on the entry that comes up and press **Search**

You will come to the list for everything in Australia, New South Wales

Find: Australia, New South Wales – Church Records (18), scroll down to find: New South Wales Church Records and click on that.

You will then see a list of Films starting with Vols. 1-2 – up to Vol 123.

Move down until you find the Vol Number that you need. e.g. A Baptism of Edward DEATH/DERTH in 1848 with parents of Edward & Ellen.

From the NSW BDM WebSite you are given the following information.

1129/1848 V18481129 33A - 1848 = year, 33A = Vol (though no actual A or B really show up, it can indicate on the next film etc), 1129 = is the Entry you need to find.

Click on the Camera to search the index (at GSQ it will not have the KeyLock above it).

Full instructions are available at GSQ beside the computers.



Essential Sites for Researching Your UK Ancestry Part 2

The United Kingdom is truly an amazing place to discover your ancestors. Rich with history, each country's heritage is unique to the land and its people.

Genealogy Sites for Scotland

The sights and sounds of this beautiful country cannot be easily rivaled. Wailing bagpipes, vibrantly-colored tartans, locks of auburn hair, and some of the most stunning landscapes your mind could ever imagine make Scotland a cultural beauty. Once you start to explore your ancestors' records, you'll realize how truly lucky you are to be Scottish.

1. Scotlands People

Scotlands People is an outstanding site. You'll navigate it through three searches: people, places and the image library. The "Search for People" drive introduces you to vital, census, church, valuation and legal records. Many previews are free. "Searching by Place" is a great resource to locate your ancestor's FAN Club (family, associates and neighbors). And let's not downplay the map collection found there – such a wonder! The "Image Library" offers you the unique opportunity to truly visualize Scotland and its people throughout the years.

2. National Records of Scotland

The quick links found here will allow you to easily connect with invaluable research guides. This is the place to order original vital records like births, marriages and deaths. My favorite find here is the Royal Anniversary Messages. If your marriage took place in Scotland, and you are celebrating 60, 65, 70 years or more of wedded bliss, apply for a special message from Her Majesty The Queen. How wonderful is that?

3. National Library of Scotland

The National Library is your one-stop destination for digitized books, newspapers, journals, maps and bibliographies. Here you will find British & Irish Women's Letters & Diaries, British Newspaper Archive, Ebook Central, Forces War Records, Queen Victoria's Journals, and the Scotsman Digital Archive from 1817-1950. This list is quite comprehensive but the digital resources do require registration. For all things Glasgow, my favorite library is The Mitchell. They have a genealogy center on-site but also have a wonderful digital site online.

Genealogy Sites for Welsh Records

Known for its stunning coastline and majestic mountains, Wales is a country of people who are artistic and friendly. Literature, poetry, performance and music are vital to the Welsh. As a bilingual country, Wales embraces its distinct cultural heritage and enjoys sharing it with all visitors to its land.

4. Archives Hub

Welsh archives are primarily located within individual towns. Note that the original town's name is used, not its modern counterpart. Archives Hub is an umbrella for individual archives, plus all repositories throughout the UK. You can search by Archived Collections, Themed Collections or Repositories. It may not lead you directly to a record, but it will most definitely lead you to its repository. Start by clicking "Search" on the right-hand side of the home page. It's well worth your research time.

5. National Library of Wales

The Library of Wales is a must for all serious genealogists. Within, you can find tithe maps, archives and manuscripts, Welsh newspapers, and wills proved in the Ecclesiastical courts before 1858. They offer a vast Digital Gallery with maps, manuscripts and photographs from the country. You can see the earliest printed book, published in 1546. The Lampeter Vestry Book is a pure gem, detailing significant news of its parishioners. Their collections also include "The Cambrian," a magazine for Welsh-Americans from 1880 to 1919. This searchable magazine is a must read for all those who are descendants of emigrants.

6. Archives Wales

This archive includes a searchable catalog that offers records such as wills, photographs, census records, tape recordings, and church registers. Their repository includes collections that have not been cataloged yet, as well. You might have to work a tad harder to locate specific records, but it will be well worth the effort. You can learn a bit of Welsh along the way if you click over to Welsh as the site's language.

Enjoy the search for your UK ancestors!

Bridget M. Sunderlin writing in Family Tree Daily.