

YOUR GUIDE TO TRACING 'YOUR IRISH FAMILY HISTORY'

If you decide to embark on your Family Tree Research journey yourself, here are some hints, tips and bits of information to point you in the right direction. Your research begins with you and your immediate family. Ask questions of family members you think might know a little bit more about your family history. Consult old photographs on which names and dates may be noted, newspaper clippings, old letters etc. Try to establish approximate dates for births, marriages, deaths as well as maiden names and related family names. This information will point the way to relevant records.

Word of Warning : You need patience and time. Most of these endeavours fail as people don't have the time to follow through on information presented to them and they get frustrated as the process is taking far too long. They want the end result as soon as possible.

Useful websites;

1. Get organised – buy a new folder, pad etc. Create a new folder on your laptop, tablet and create sub-folders if necessary.
2. Interview family members – document everything they have to say. If possible purchase a recording device as it's difficult to capture everything when you have to listen and write at the same time.
3. Record source and location of all the information you have gathered. This is useful if you want or anyone else wants to double-check an entry or have another conversation with the same person to validate a piece of information.
4. There is a large collection of research information available to you online using fee paying sites such as findmypast and ancestry.com.
5. There is also a large variety of sources available to you online free such as;
 - Census Information

To if you decided to start the process, here is what you need to do;

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4. There is lots of information available to you online