## Strategies for FindMyPast

Richard Reid Friends of Irish Research

## Welcome to FindMyPast.com



## FindMyPast.com

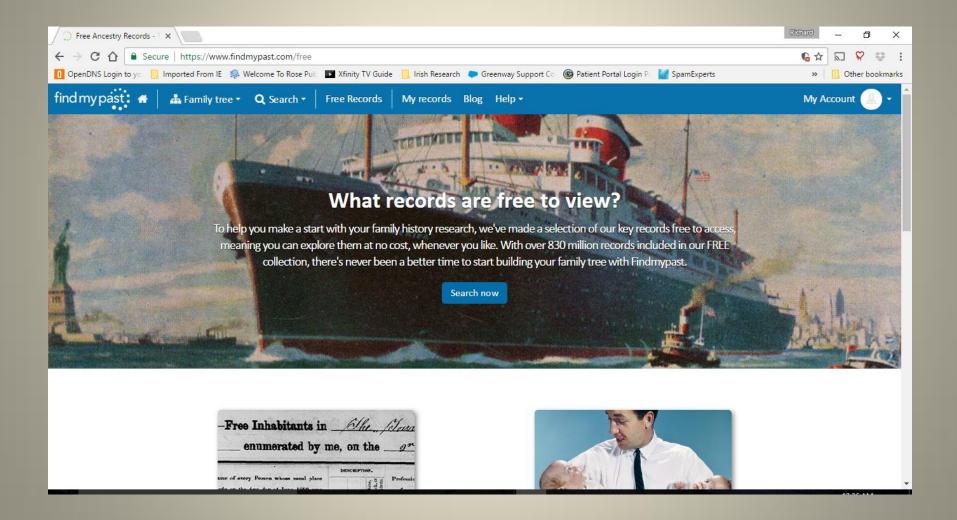
- Fastest growing repository
- Millions of new records every week
- Find My Past Fridays



#### Recent Additions

- New Norfolk records, Royal Navy Allotments,
  Victoria births and British Newspapers
- Australian Electoral, early immigration records to North America & Barbados and passenger lists from Britain to Africa.
- Victoria Petty Sessions, Queensland passengers lists, Irish newspapers and new additions to the Periodical Source Index

#### Free Records



#### Free for All to Search

#### US Censuses

Census records are the best resource to use when beginning to build your family tree, and Findmypast is the only place online that you can get FREE access to full US census records (1790-1940)

#### Free for All to Search

 US & Canada: Public Records of Birth, Marriage and Death

Birth, marriage and death (BMD) records form the foundations of your family history research and provide a great basis to build your family tree. Discover dates and places of when and where your ancestors were born, married and died. Notable inclusions in our free BMD collections are Texas divorce records, New Jersey death records and British Columbia birth records.

#### Free for All to Search

#### Irish Catholic Parish Registers

If you're one of the 40 million Americans with Irish heritage, there's a very good chance you'll find your ancestors in our 10 million Catholic Parish Registers. Published online in partnership with the National Library of Ireland, the collection contains birth, marriage, burial and confirmation records from more than 1,000 parishes, covering 98% of the Catholic population in Ireland.

#### Free for All to Use

#### Build your own family tree

Our free, feature-filled family tree builder gives you everything you need to create an amazing family tree and store all of your discoveries safely online. Attach records, images and even voice recordings, preserving your research for future generations.

#### Search All Records

Search all records
 Any record at your fingertips

Birth, marriage & death (parish registers)

⚠ Churches & religion

★ Education & work

Institutes & organizations

Newspapers & periodicals

1939 Register Advanced search options

■ A-Z of record sets

Discover our records from around the world

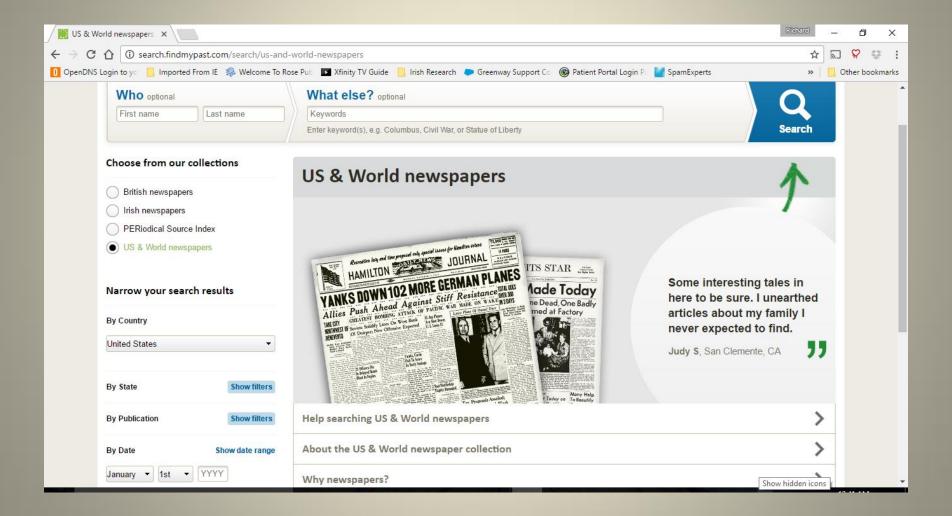
☆ Census, land & substitutes

Directories & social history

Immigration & travel

Military service & conflict

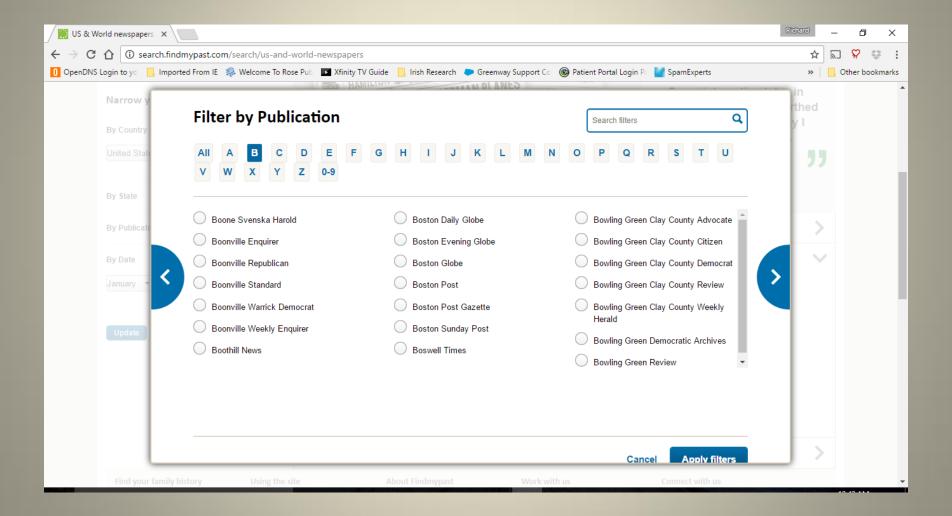
## Newspaper Research



# About the US & World Newspaper Collections

- Our US & World newspaper collections provide access to nearly 120 million pages from newspapers published in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Panama, and the Virgin Islands. Titles include a variety of local papers, as well as national publications, including the New York Times and the Washington Post.
- Global historical newspapers from China,
  Denmark, France, Germany, Jamaica, and South
  Africa are also searchable within the collection

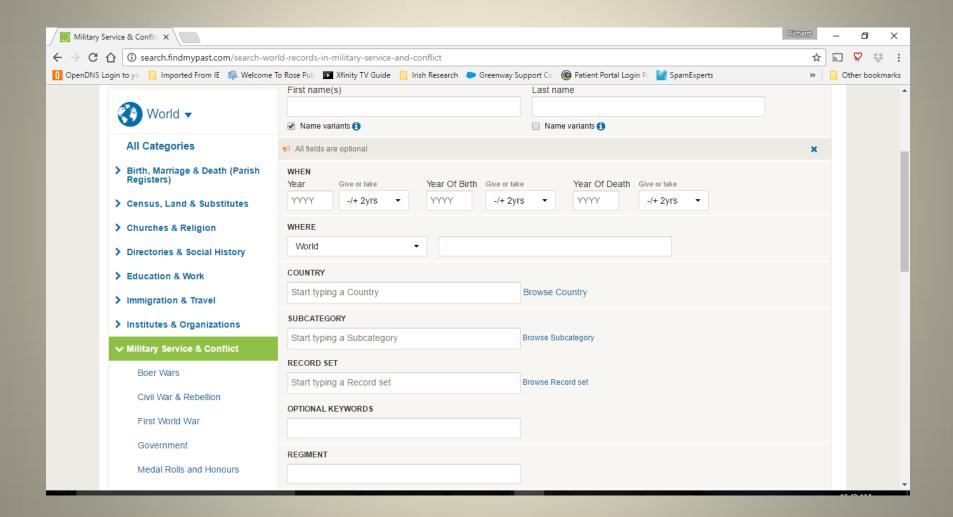
## Filter by Publication



## Military Service & Conflict

 Findmypast has over 60 million military and conflict records, which contain reliable, accurate, and revealing information about your ancestor's service history in conflicts that often impacted millions around the world. The records cover both world wars as well as a range of other national and international conflicts dating from 1760 to the 20th century.

## Military Record Search



## Institutes & Organizations

 Discover the black sheep in your family tree with these fascinating legal, criminal and institutional records. If your ancestor crossed the law, were incarcerated in prison, spent time in workhouses or had government dealings, here is the best place to find them. The crime records often include details of the victims as well as the criminals, and occasionally police photographs of your wayward relatives.

#### **Education & Work**

 Discover more about your ancestors' professions and studies in a variety of education, apprenticeship and work records dating as far back as the 1500s. Educational and professional records can be an invaluable source of information about when (and where) your relatives went to college, and how they made the family fortune.

## Churches & Religion

 Religious and church records can be useful sources of information, not only if you're looking for your ancestors of a specific religious denomination, but when searching for your ecclesiastical ancestors too. Church directories, as well as communicant and confirmation rolls are commonly found in this category, and these may help you to decide where to seek further information.

## **Immigration & Travel**

 Moving around the world was just as common in the time of your ancestors as it is today.
 Between 1836 and 1914 millions of Europeans migrated to the United States in search of jobs and a better life. Trace the whereabouts of your emigrant ancestors in our migration records and passenger lists.

## **Directories & Social History**

 Postal and telephone directories, family histories and almanacs are fantastic resources that paint a picture of what life was like in the cities, towns, and villages your ancestors lived in at any given point in time. Some of the records provide information on specific trades and professions, while others reveal the titles and land holdings of your wealthier ancestors.

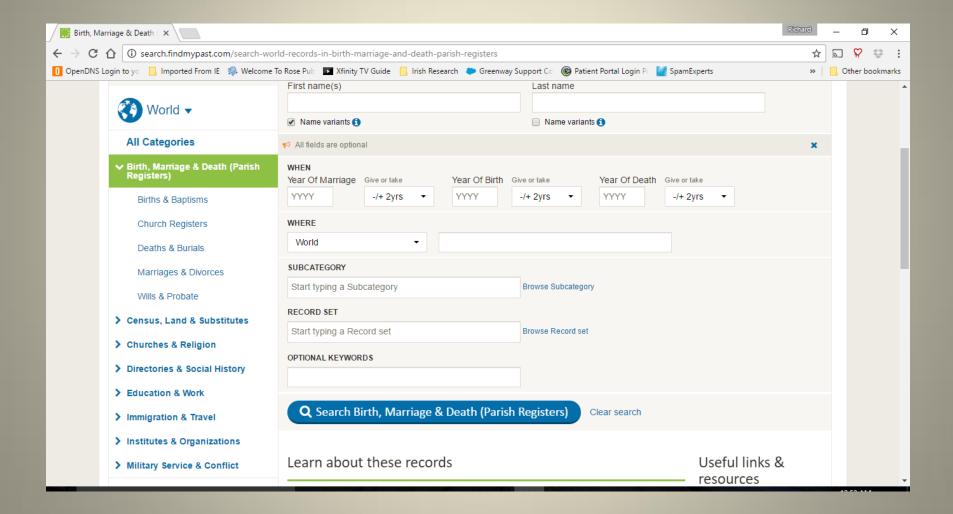
#### Census, Land & Substitutes

 Censuses are taken by governments to establish the numbers and characteristics of a population. Census and land records allow you to trace your ancestors through each generation of a family tree. You may be able to follow where a relative lived through each decade, or discover when they moved house or started a new job, and how their family evolved through births, deaths, and marriages. Furthermore, your ancestors' households will often reveal the names of their siblings, which would be difficult to trace using the birth indexes alone.

# Birth, Marriage & Death (Parish Registers)

 Baptism, banns, marriage, and burial records are the building blocks for every family tree. Our extensive resources will help you to learn more about the most important events in your ancestors' lives. Prior to civil registration, parish registers kept a record of these events, and these can provide details of the significant milestones in your relatives' lives.

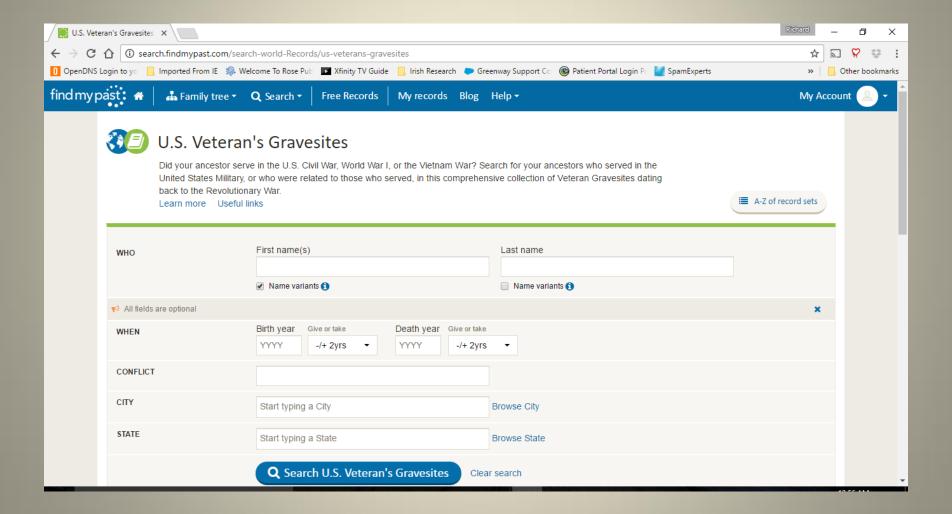
#### Vital Records Search



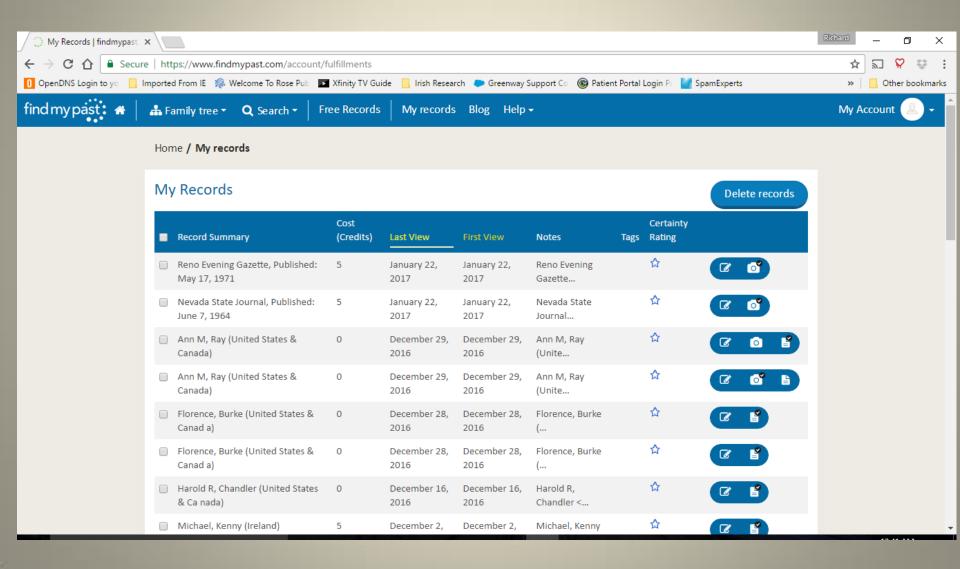
## Specific Sub-Categories

- Social Security Death Index
- U.S. Veteran's Gravesites
- Massachusetts Vital Records to 1850
- Irish Births 1864 1958
- England & Wales births 1837 2006
- Australia, Births & Baptisms, 1792 1981

#### U.S. Veteran's Gravesites



## My Records



## The Catholic Heritage Archive

#### THE CATHOLIC HERITAGE ARCHIVE



Welcome back Richard

Manage your account > A-Z of record sets >

Latest record sets on Findmypast Fridays >

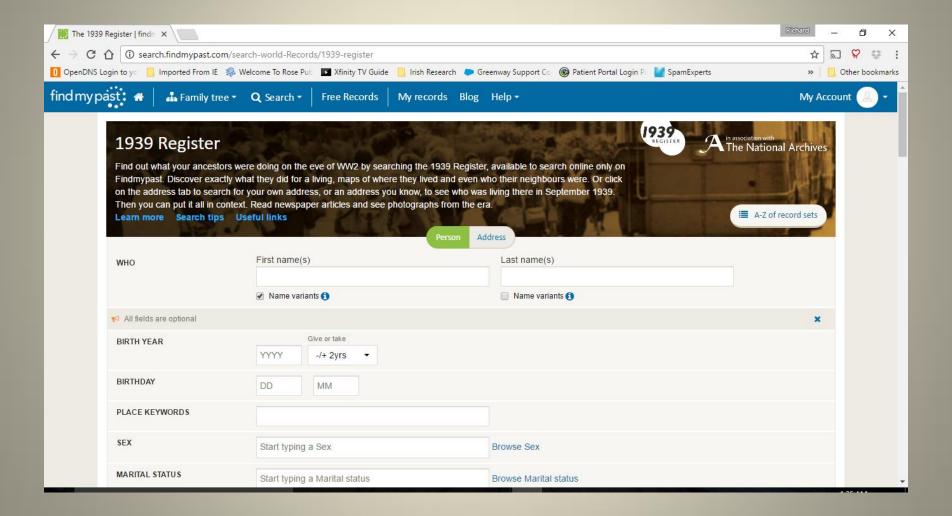
#### Search Your Parish Records

- The Catholic Church has long protected the privacy of its records. Their registers memorialise sacraments like baptism and marriage which are important religious events in a person's life. As a consequence every Priest in every Parish has a canonical duty to preserve these registers and keep them safe. To make matters more difficult, the registers are generally written in Latin, so even when you can get to see them they are difficult to understand.
- Findmypast has launched a ground breaking initiative to digitize the historic records of the Catholic Church. Last year we published the Irish records, and this year we commence publishing all the historic sacramental registers for England, Scotland and the USA. It's a big task, make no mistake! There are over 30 million records just for the Archdioceses of Philadelphia, New York and Baltimore, our first three US Dioceses. There even more for all of Britain. There are hundreds of millions of records for the USA alone.

#### CHA Has Been Launched

- The sorts of records you are likely to find include:
  - Baptisms
  - Marriages
  - Deaths & Burials
  - Census and more
- We are commencing this project with the Registers for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in the USA and the Archdioceses of Birmingham and Westminster in England. The Philadelphia records start back in 1757, while those for Westminster and Birmingham in 1657.

## The 1939 Register



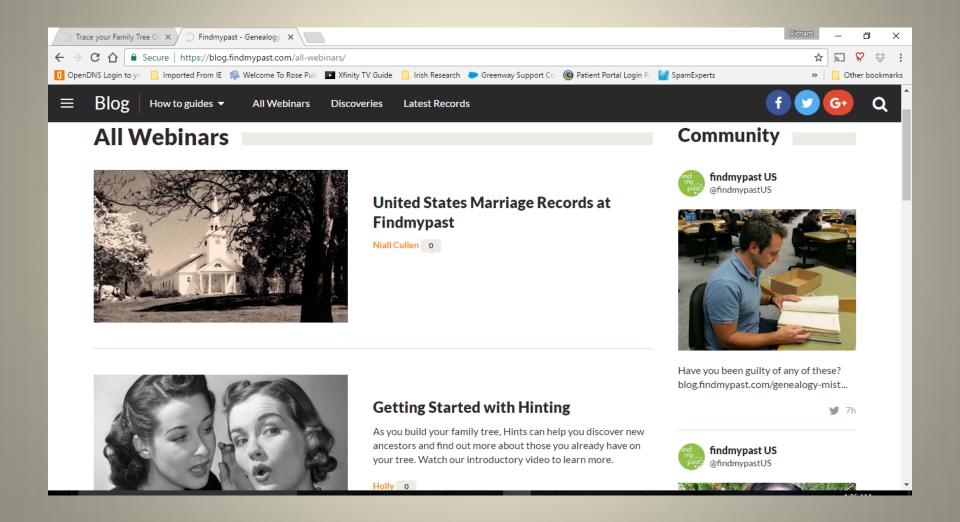
## What is the 1939 Register?

- At the outbreak of World War II, the government urgently needed to know everything it could about the civil population of England and Wales. This information would be key in the issuing of identity cards and ration books as well as organising conscription and, after the war, creating the N.H.S.
- To gather this information, they took a National Register. On September 29<sup>th</sup>, 1939, the personal details including names, dates of birth, occupations, marital statuses of 41 million individuals were recorded.
- This release is the result of over a year's work carried out by a team of hundreds who in association with The National Archives have conserved, scanned, transcribed and digitised over 1.2 million pages from 7,000 volumes, comprising the most significant record release of the decade, and one of the most important documents in modern British history. To put the scale of the work into context, were you to stack the books on top of each other, they would be 227m high, over double the height of St Paul's Cathedral.

## Why is the 1939 Register so significant?

- The 1939 Register is one of the most important documents of modern British history. It captures a world on the eve of war, and is a great resource for anyone wanting to find out about their family at the start of World War II.
- In addition, owing to the fact that the War destroyed the 1931 census and prevented the 1941 census ever being taken, the 1939 Register is the only surviving record of the population of England and Wales between 1921 and 1951. The 1921 Census will not be available for a number of years, so the 1939 Register provides a unique opportunity to expand genealogical research and is a great resource for family, social and local historians.

#### Webinars



## Blog: How To Guides

Get started

Break down brick walls

Births, marriages & deaths

Census

Parish records

Irish research

1939 Register

Travel & migration

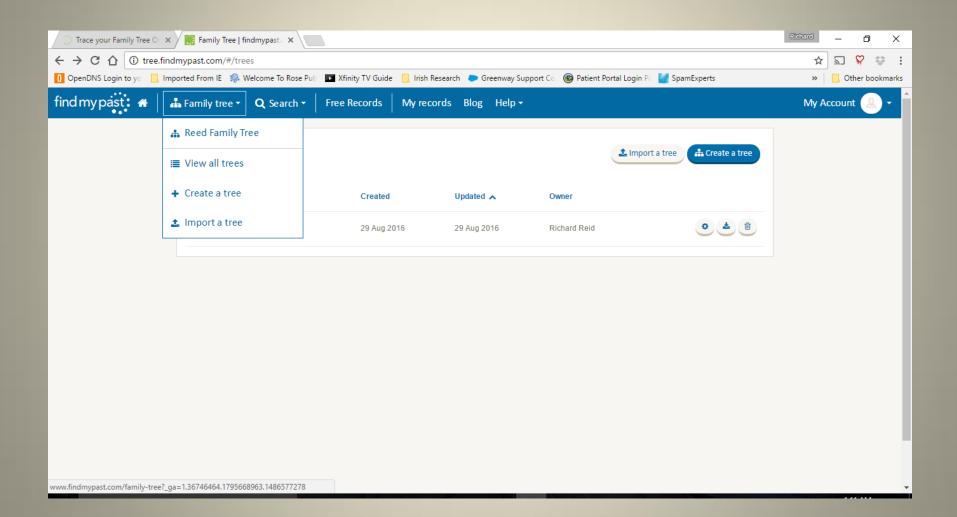
Military

Education & work

Newspapers

Social history

## Family Tree Online



### Import Your Own Work

#### Import a tree





Choose File No file chosen

#### What's a GEDCOM?

Please note we cannot upload any media files referenced in your GEDCOM. We accept files up to 140MB and containing a maximum of 120,000 people. If you wish to load a larger file please email support@findmypast.com.



## Family Tree Hints

- Hints are potential matches in our records to the people on your tree and you will see a link to a hint by an orange circle containing a number which appears next to a person's name on your family tree.
- When you click on the orange number icon, you will be taken to see any Hints that have been suggested for that person. Alternatively, you can click on the orange My Hints tab towards the top right of your Family Tree screen.
- Hints are based on a number of factors, including names, date and place or births, marriages and deaths.

## Searching & Sharing Trees

- Your tree can be shared with other registered users of Findmypast. You can do this when looking at your own tree and by sharing the URL in the address bar of your browser. It can only be viewed by another Findmypast user who is signed into their account.
- Your family tree has privacy controls that you can use to prevent it being shared or made public for other people to see this content if you wish. To ensure the content remains private, go to the "Tree settings" option in your Family Tree and un-tick the "Public tree" box

### Adding Photos to Your Tree

- You can upload a photo to an individual person's profile on your tree by first clicking on their name and then the 'profile' link.
- From here, you click on the 'media' link and then 'add media'.
- Finally, you choose which file / photo you would like to upload from your computer and it will take a few seconds to upload.
- You then have the option to add further information about the photo and to decide if you want it to be the main profile photo for that person in your tree.

#### Maximize Your Results

- Use your research from Ancestry, MyHeritage, or FamilySearch trees
- Test and verify the hints
- Use the different DNA services from Ancestry, MyHeritage, Family Tree DNA, 23 and Me, and GEDMatch to develop leads and hints
- And never forget to document your data with proper source citations.

#### Friends of Irish Research

- The Friends of Irish Research is a collection of friends with over 100 years of experience with a desire to utilize their experience and skills to promote the sharing of genealogical knowledge and to assist others in their family research.
- Fridays (7:30-9:30pm) at 899 N. Main St., Brockton, MA The 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month is held at the ICC Library in Canton, MA
- http://www.friendsofirishresearch.org

#### Friends of Irish Research Partners

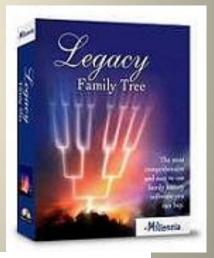
FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

**Linking the Genealogical Community** 











GENEALOGISTS