

**Western Family History Association
List of Speakers**

Date	Event
Wed 9th Nov 2016	Speaker: Leo Finnegan Topic: 19th Century Famines in North Galway
Wed 14th Sept 2016	Speaker: Martin O'Halloran Topic: From Clonbur to Alllenstown, Co. Meath
Wed 11th May 2016	Speaker: Patrick Larkin Topic: Yourself and Your DNA
Wed 9th Mar 2016	Speaker: Michael Martin (WFHA PRO) Topic: 19th Century Emigration to Australia
Wed 20th Jan 2016	Speaker: Frank Kearney Topic: Kearneys of Lackagh
Wed 11th Nov 2015	Speaker: Frances Kelly Madden
Wed 9th Sept 2015	Speaker: Mike Feerick. Topic: Ireland Reaching Out (irelandxo.com)
Sat 29th Aug 2015	Genealogy Workshop at Loughrea Library for Loughrea Medieval Festival, 2:30-5:00pm
Sat 22nd Aug 2015	Second Annual Genealogy Open Day for Heritage Week, 2:00-5:30pm
Wed 8th May 2015	Speaker: William Henry on <i>Galway Families in World War 1</i>
Wed 11th Mar 2015	Speaker: Declan Kelly on <i>Unconsecrated Burial Grounds in south-east Galway.</i>
Wed 21st Jan 2015	Speaker: Michael Martin (WFHA PRO) on <i>The Sinking of the RMS Lusitania - Grief for a Galway Family.</i>
Wed 12th Nov 2014	Speaker: Pat Finnegan. Topic: <i>The Land War in County Galway.</i>
Wed 10th Sep 2014	Speaker: Joe Loughnane. Topic: <i>The Connaught Rangers.</i>
Sat 23rd Aug 2014	Family History Open Day for Heritage Week 2014, entitled <i>A Beginner's Guide to Family History.</i>
Wed 14th May 2014	<i>Tutorial: Online Resources for Family History.</i> Facilitated by Gerard Naughton and Paul Greaney.
Wed 12th Mar 2014	Speaker: Sean Flanagan. Topic: <i>Finding out about my grandfather that I never knew... and more.</i>
Wed 15th Jan 2014	WFHA AGM. Speaker: Finbarr O'Regan, Athenry. Topic: <i>A Sense of Place - Through Townland Names.</i>
Wed 13th Nov 2013	WFHA Public Meeting - Speaker: Pauline Scott (PhD student, NUI Galway). Topic: Agent, Tenant, Advocate and Agitator - Michael Kelly, The Burke & Pollok Estates.
Sat 2nd & Sun 3rd Nov 2013	Memorial Cards Remembered: Members of the association and the public were invited to bring along their memorial cards for scanning.
Wed 11th Sept 2013	WFHA Public Meeting - Talk by Sr. deLourdes Fahy, Gort, an expert on Genealogy, entitled <i>Genealogy Made Easy.</i>
Sat 17th Aug 2013	WFHA Group Visit (as part of Heritage Week) to Strokestown Park House, Roscommon.
Sun 14th Jul 2013	WFHA Group Trip - Aughrim Battlefield as part of the Aughrim Military History Summer School.
Wed 8th May 2013	WFHA Public Meeting - Talk by Dr. David Butler entitled Memorialising the Nineteenth Century Irish.
Wed 13th Mar 2013	WFHA Public Meeting - Talk by Gerry Kearney, entitled <i>The Taylor Family of Ardrahan</i> , based on his book, <i>The Taylor Family of Ardrahan Post Office.</i>
Mon 4th Feb 2013	WFHA Group Visit to the Hardiman Library at NUI Galway - <i>Introduction to the Special Collections</i> by Marie Boran.
Wed 16th Jan 2013	WFHA AGM. Re-launch of the WFHA Library and handover of Aodhagán Ó'Rodaigh's collection of books. Speaker: Michael Kelly, Ardrahan. Michael spoke about his family history research, which led to the discovery of a cousin in the United States.
Wed 14th Nov 2012	WFHA Public Meeting at Claregalway Hotel - Talk by Very Rev. Anthony Previt� entitled <i>Church of Ireland Records and Terminology.</i>
Wed 12th Sept 2012	WFHA Public Meeting at Claregalway Hotel - Talk by WFHA member Anne Greaney (Headford), entitled <i>My Family History.</i>
Sat 25th Aug 2012	Family History Open Day, Lackagh Parish Centre. Memorial Cards Remembered & Pecha Kucha on Family History Sources.
Sat 18th Aug 2012	WFHA Visit to Irish Workhouse Centre, Portumna And Guided tour.

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Wed 9th May 2012	WFHA Public Meeting - Talk by Bernard O'Hara entitled <i>Michael Davitt, the Land League and the Land Acts</i> .
Wed 14th March 2012	WFHA Public Meeting - Talk by Larry Brennan of the Clare Roots Society.
Sat 11th February 2012	WFHA tour of Galway County Library, Island House, Nun's Island, Galway.
Wed 18th January 2012	WFHA AGM & Members Night. New Association Constitution voted and accepted. New Committee elected. Talks by: Eamon Leonard on <i>The Nursing Profession and the Crimean War</i> , and Bríd Higgins on <i>Folklore Collections</i> .
Wed 9th November 2011	WFHA Public Meeting - Talk by Richard Kirwan, former Director of the Ordnance Survey Office of Ireland, entitled <i>If Maps Could Speak - A History of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland</i> . Richard's book, <i>If Maps Could Speak</i> , was published in 2010 and is an engaging combination of memoir, history and stories about people and places during the long history of Ordnance Survey in Ireland.
Wed 14th Sept 2011	WFHA Public Meeting - Talk by Michael Carroll on his experience researching his 2 recently published family/local/school history books <i>Of Beauty Rarest</i> and <i>Valley of The Milk</i> .
Wednesday 24th Aug 2011	The Western Family History Association and Galway County Council hosted a Family History Workshop during Heritage Week. The event entitled Investigating your Family History - A Practical Approach, included the launch of the Western Family History Association's website by the Deputy Mayor of County Galway.
Wed. 11th May 2011	WFHA Public Meeting - Talk by Diarmuid Ó Cearbhaill entitled <i>Aesóp i gConamara</i> about the life and works of his father, Domhnall Ó Cearbhaill, teacher, writer, radio presenter.
Wed. 9th March 2011	WFHA Public Meeting - Talk by Patria McWalter (Galway county archivist) entitled <i>Rural Archives</i> about a number of rural archives including workhouse and landlord archive material.
Wed. 9th February 2011	WFHA AGM & Members Meeting - Talk by WFHA member Joe Murphy entitled <i>Landlordism</i> about the perceptions and images held by various people about Landlords, particularly the Reddingtons.
Oct 2010 - Dec 2010	WFHA Genealogy Seminar and Training Course - held over 8 weeks, including 8 talks by various genealogy/history experts, including:
	Gabriel O'Connor on <i>Census Records</i> ,
	Paul Gosling on <i>Maps and Map Reading</i> ,
	Siobhan McGuinness on <i>Church and Civil Records</i> ,
	Gerard Moran on <i>Emigration</i> ,
	Rob Goodbody on <i>Griffith's Valuation</i> ,
	Christy Cunniffe on <i>Graveyard Records and Mapping</i> ,
	Tom Cuffe on <i>How to Build a Family Tree</i> ,
Marie Boran and Brigid Clesham on <i>Landed Estates</i> .	
	The course also included a trip to the National Archives and Glasnevin Cemetery/Museum.
Sep-10	Genealogy Seminar entitled <i>The State of Irish Genealogy in 2010</i> , with speakers Joan Sharkey (Irish Family History Society), Paddy Waldron (Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations), and Nora Keohane Hickey (Clans of Ireland).
Sep-10	WFHA Meeting. Speaker: Brendan Smith (Digital Enterprise Research Institute, NUI Galway) on <i>Collecting Old Photos</i> .
May-10	WFHA Meeting. Speaker: Marie Coyne on <i>Inishbofin and St. Colman's Cemetery</i> .
Mar-10	WFHA Meeting. Speaker: Áine Kelly on <i>Frank Fahy, Ceann Comhairle, 1932-1953</i>
Jan-10	WFHA AGM. Speaker: Kieran Andrews on <i>His Ancestors back to 1700 Scotland, Ulster and Galway</i> .
Nov-09	WFHA Members Meeting. Speakers: Pat Finn on <i>Finn and Kearney Family Tree</i> and Helen Spellman on <i>The Nagle Family back to 1170</i> .
Oct-09	WFHA Meeting. Speaker: John Foran on <i>Queensland Australia Archives</i> .
Sep-09	WFHA Meeting. Speaker: Gerry Cloherty on <i>The Hurling Families of Galway</i> .
May-09	WFHA Meeting. Speaker: Bridget Hogan O'Higgins on her own Ancestry to 1700.
Mar-09	WFHA Meeting. Speaker: Patrick Larkin on <i>DNA</i>
Jan-09	WFHA AGM. Speaker: Bríd Higgins on her own Research.

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Nov-08	Speakers: Michael John Burke on his Own Research, and Ann Greaney on a synopsis of US Relative Research
Sep-08	Bridget Clesham on <i>Connacht Landed Estates</i> .
May-08	Fr. Kieran Waldron on <i>Callers to Presbyteries Searching Roots</i> .
Mar-08	Paul Mohr on <i>John Bermingham, Kilclooney, Tuam</i> .
Jan-08	Bill Scanlon on <i>Family Life Living in a Lighthouse</i> .
Nov-07	Nora Hanratty on <i>Duffy Family History</i> and Diarmuid O'Cearbhaill on <i>The O'Kellys of Creeraun and Cooloo</i> .
Sep-07	Peadar O'Dowd on <i>The McDonagh Family - In From the West</i> .
May-07	Speakers: Josephine Togher on <i>Barnardos</i> and Tom Cuffe on <i>Use of Computers in Genealogy</i> .
Mar-07	Gerard Naughton on <i>Roots to Leaves</i> .
Jan-07	Marta Gelova on <i>Genealogy Research and Tourism</i> .
Nov-06	Nuala Nolan on <i>The Irish in Stafford in the 19th Century</i> and Jarlath Kemple on <i>Family Research</i> .
Sep-06	Eileen Crehan on <i>Civil Registration</i> .
May-06	John Cunningham on <i>Lord Wallscourt of Ardfry</i> .
Mar-06	Gabriel O'Connor on <i>How to Study a Townland</i> .
Jan-06	Ann Ridge on <i>Wakes and Burials</i> .
Nov-05	Aodhagan O'Rodaigh on <i>The Roddy Roots</i> and John Joe Duggan on <i>The Pitfalls of Researching Family History</i> .
Sep-05	Liam O Mainnin on <i>The Nolans of Ballinderry</i> .
May-05	Michelline Sheehy Skeffington on <i>Hanna and Francis Sheehy Skeffington: Rebel Feminists</i> .
Mar-05	Padraic Faherty on <i>The Blakes of Tully</i> .
Jan-05	John Duggan on <i>Wills and Inheritance</i> .
Nov-04	John Tierney on <i>Genealogy: Past, Present and Future</i> .
Sep-04	Patria McWalter on <i>Rural District Archives of County Galway</i> .
May-04	Joe Clarke on <i>The Bellews of Mountbellew</i> .
Mar-04	Marie Boran on <i>Encumbered Estates of County Galway</i> .
Nov-03	Ann Kelly on <i>O'Malley Clan Association in 1953</i> , Ann Greaney on <i>Her Own Area of Rinnaknock and Surroundings</i> , and Paul O'Donnell on <i>Amusing Incidents in Family History</i> .
Sep-03	James Casserly on <i>The Old Mon School Rolls</i> .
May-03	Pyres O'Connor Nash on <i>O'Connor Don Family</i> .
Mar-03	Dr Siobhan Comer on <i>Gate Lodges of County Galway</i> .
Nov-02	Matt O'Connell on <i>How to Start Researching Your Family</i> , Maura O'Riordan on <i>DNA Testing - Y Chromosomes and Males</i> , and Sr. Teresa Delaney on <i>The Coming of the Sisters of Mercy to Galway, 8th May 1848</i> .
Sep-02	Dr Joe Varley on <i>Family and Community</i> .
May-02	Dr Joe Kelly on <i>Denis Henry Kelly, Castlekelly, Ballygar</i> .
Mar-02	Kieran Hoare, Archivist at the James Hardiman Library, NUI Galway.
Nov-01	Dr Joe Kelly on <i>Clan Ollamh</i> , Sr. Teresa Delaney on <i>The McDonnell Family of Glencoe, Dunmore</i> , and Joan Sharkey on <i>Usser Family, Galway</i> .
Sep-01	Catriona Clear on <i>Women of the House - Oral History</i> .
May-01	Tom Kenny <i>Photographs and Illustrations in Genealogy and Family History</i> .
Apr-01	Michael Carroll on <i>Valley of the Milk: History of the Carroll Family of Luggawannia, Headford</i>
Nov-00	Gregory O'Connor on <i>What is Available in Archives</i> .
Sep-00	Donal Taheny on <i>Old Galway Houses and Who Lived in Them</i> .
May-00	Diarmuid O Cearbhaill on <i>US Congressman Lawrence McCann</i> .
Mar-00	Comdt Victor Laing on <i>Military Archives, Cathal Brugha Barracks</i> .
Nov-99	Joe Murphy on <i>Reddingtons of Clarinbridge</i> .
Sep-99	William Henry on <i>A Historical Overview of Galway</i> .
May-99	Jeff O'Connell on <i>Kilkellys of South Galway</i> .
Mar-99	Dr James Ryan on <i>Church Records as a Source for Family History</i> .

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Nov-98	Dr Hugh Weir on <i>Evolution of Irish Surnames from Earliest Times.</i>
Sep-98	Br Conal Thomas on <i>The United Irish League.</i>
May-98	Eugene Duggan on <i>History of Duggans in Galway Part 2.</i>
Mar-98	Prof. Gearoid McNicholl on <i>Ancient Genealogy and Manuscripts.</i>
Jan-98	Eugene Duggan on <i>History of Duggans in Galway Part 1.</i>