EZITREE Plus

Family History Software

Port Macquarie Users Group
May 2014 - Newsletter #43

Welcome to the third Port Macquarie Ezitree Users Group Meeting for 2014. Thanks to everyone for coming along to these User Group sessions. It is most gratifying that so many of you give up your Saturday afternoon to be here as friends wanting to know more and share their experiences. Please note that this is the last meeting until after winter with the final three meetings of 2014 being 27th September, 25th October and 22nd November.

There are a lot of new Irish records out this month and we have managed to include them under 'Recent News'. We would love to hear from anyone who uses these resources and finds something of value in their family history. This month's Quick Tutorial is more about trying to help you understand the role of dates in events. Please read this section and take a look at the examples shown. It is important you understand this information and we will be giving a demonstration once the meeting gets under way.

Backing Up Your Data

Please make sure you back up the data on your computer, especially your Ezitree data. We know it sounds like a broken record but in the past few months we have been made aware of several persons who were not making proper backups. This resulted in some concern in which data was lost or a lot of time, money and effort was expended in getting the data back.

Recent News:

Irish Burial Records - archives.limerick.ie/index.php/Register/Search/Index

Burial records from a Limerick cemetery – 70,000 of them in total – are now available to search online. The records are for people buried at Mount St Lawrence Cemetery between 1855 and 2008, and they include the name, age, address and in many cases, the cause of death of those buried in the 164 year-old cemetery. Mount St Lawrence graveyard has been the primary place of burial in Limerick City since 1849 and is one of the country's largest cemeteries. The searchable database of the records of tens of thousands of people buried there is nearing completion, after the old handwritten records were manually transcribed.

Mount Saint Lawrence Burial Register

Please use the fields below to search through the approximately 70,000 records in the Burial Register.

Forename:		Surname:	toomey	Burial Year:	
Institution:		Address:			
Longitude:		Latitude:		START SEARCH	

You searched for **Surname: toomey**

101 Results Found

Surname	Forename	Marital Status	Burial Date	Institution	Age at Death	Address	Longitude	Latitude	
Toomey		Unknown	May 8 1856			Clare Street	Rc	109	See More
Toomey		Unknown	October 29 1964	Bedford Row Hospital			Hb	65	See More
Toomey		Unknown	September 19 1938		1 days	Wolfe Tone Street	HB	65	See More
toomey	A	Single	January 11 1966	LCH	85 years		K	127	See More
Toomey	Agnes	Unknown	November 25 1883		65 years	Walshs Lane	Z	83	See More

Irish Census Records – FindMyPast
FindMyPast has recently added thousands of Irish census documents to its website for the first time, many dating back to the early 19th Century. Although the vast majority of pre-1922 records were destroyed by fire in the Irish Civil War at the Public Records Office, some documents survived the fire and others which were held elsewhere, have now been collated and put online. These include partial census records from 1821 to 1851 plus a substantial amount from counties now in Northern Ireland. In total, the newly available documentation relates to more than 600,000 individuals on the island of Ireland.

Ireland – www.rootsireland.ie/
This is a wonderful website for doing primary Irish research. They have an extensive collection of records now entered into a searchable database and are continuing to add more records every month. Unfortunately, they do not have many records from the southern portion of Munster which mainly covers the counties of Cork and Kerry.

Recently, they added another 54,000 Church of Ireland baptismal records for the twelve churches in County Down and County Antrim. Some of these records go back as far as 1720 which is quite remarkable considering the loss of so many Irish records in the past. The records can be searched by a combination of first name, last name and year.

The website is run by the Irish Family History Foundation, which is a not-for-profit organization. You can perform 100 free searches if you register.

Records Available

List of databases

Baptismal/Birth Records	9,148,104
Marriage Records	4,494,057
Burial/Death Records	1,675,320
Census Records	2,812,787
Gravestone Inscriptions	288,807
Griffith's Valuation	1,140,619
Passenger Lists	227,589
Census Substitutes	514,281

Over 20 Million Irish records

More >

United Kingdom - FindMyPast
On 15th May 2014, FindMyPast announced the release of Thousands of new World War 1 records for the United Kingdom. This involved the re-indexing of nearly 4.2 million service records and pension records. This has revealed close to 600,000 new names that were not previously captured because many of the new names were tucked away in the details of individual service records.

United Kingdom – British Newspaper Archive
The following announcement was written by the folks at The British Newspaper Archive: You can now explore 8 million newspaper pages at The British Newspaper Archive (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk) after the website recently reached a major milestone. While adding editions of the Sheffield Daily Telegraph, Cheshire Observer and The Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer, the counter on the homepage ticked over to display 8,000,000 pages. The amount online has doubled since the website launched with 4 million pages in November 2011. The time period covered now stretches from 1710 to 1954, much broader than at launch.

NSW Government Gazettes 1853-1899 – Ancestry.com
About a week ago, a new entry in the Ancestry 'Card Catalogue' caught our eye: 'New South Wales, Australia, Government Gazettes, 1853-1899'. The NSW Government Gazettes provided an official communication channel for regulations, legislation, and other official information to be shared with government officials and employees, as well as the public at large.

They include notices about government appointments, convicts, land transactions (including crown land leases), missing persons, bankruptcies and insolvencies, next of kin, military deserters, wills, probates, estates, court proceedings, police auctions, unclaimed and impounded letters, licenses, some government contracts, trademarks and copyrights, lost or stolen property, qualified medical practitioners, cattle brands, etc.

New South Wales published its first official gazette in March 1832. Whilst Ancestry states this database includes 149 issues of the gazette published between 1853 and 1899 in fact the period covered is only between 1895 and 1899 with hopefully more on the way. Interestingly this five year period contains references to over 630,000 persons. Imagine how many entries will finally appear once the full run of volumes has been digitised - we would expect over four million! As an aside, around a year ago Trove indicated they would also be digitising the NSW Government Gazettes for their website however we have seen or heard nothing about this title from them since then.

Quick Tutorial – Event Dates and Sequences

Ezitree uses dates for keeping events in chronological order which is quite logical. In addition, the program makes sure that the birth event always appears first, whether or not it has a date. Finally, a 'Post Death' flag on certain events was used in the past to ensure that events which occurred after the death of a person appeared at the end of the events. Because some events may occur both before and after the death of a person, the 'Post Death' flag is now obsolete and has been removed. Therefore, it is now more important than ever that all events (especially the death event) have at least the year of the event entered.

Event	DoW	Date	Place
Birth	Sun	13May1855	Maitland NSW AUS
Marriage	Thu	31Aug1882	Maitland NSW AUS
Death	Fri	29Jan1937	Sydney NSW AUS

In this example, a typical event sequence of birth, marriage and death is shown with all dates having been entered.

Event	DoW	Date	Place
Birth	Sun	13May1855	Maitland NSW AUS
Marriage	Thu	31Aug1882	Maitland NSW AUS
Death	Fri	29Jan1937	Sydney NSW AUS
Funeral			

In this example, a funeral event has been entered without a date and it has been sorted into the correct sequence of the death followed by the funeral. This is how it should be expected to appear.

Event	DoW	Date	Place
Birth	Sun	13May1855	Maitland NSW AUS
Marriage	Thu	31Aug1882	Maitland NSW AUS
Death			Sydney NSW AUS
Funeral			

In this example, there are no dates for either the death or funeral events and the events are still sorted into the correct sequence of the death followed by the funeral. This is also how it should be expected to appear.

Event	DoW	Date	Place
Birth	Sun	13May1855	Maitland NSW AUS
Marriage	Thu	31Aug1882	Maitland NSW AUS
Funeral	Sat	2Sep1882	
Death			Sydney NSW AUS

In this example, there is no death date but the funeral event has a date and the events are sorted out of sequence with the funeral appearing before the death. This is definitely **not** how it should appear.
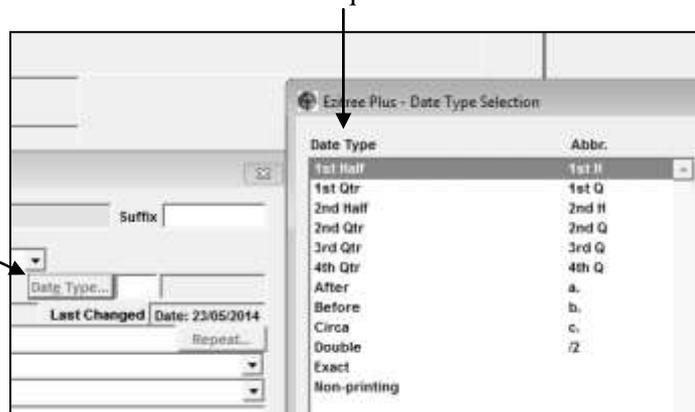
Event	DoW	Date	Place
Birth	Sun	13May1855	Maitland NSW AUS
Marriage	Thu	31Aug1882	Maitland NSW AUS
Death	Sat	c.2Sep1882	Sydney NSW AUS
Funeral	Sat	2Sep1882	

The only solution to missing dates is to enter an approximate date. In this example, the funeral date has been used for the death event with a Date Type of 'c.' meaning 'circa' which results in the death event returning to the correct sequence in the event list.

The Date Type is very useful in these types of situations and there are others which may also be useful such as the 'before' code of 'b.' or even the 'non-printing' code of 'n'. The 'n' code allows a date to be entered to ensure the event is displayed in the correct sequence but the date itself will never appear on any chart or report.

Date Type	Abbr.
1st Half	1st H
1st Qtr	1st Q
2nd Half	2nd H
2nd Qtr	2nd Q
3rd Qtr	3rd Q
4th Qtr	4th Q
After	a.
Before	b.
Circa	c.
Double	/2
Exact	
Non-printing	

Summary

The one important factor to remember is that an event with no date (other than a birth event) will always be sorted to the bottom of the list of events. It is therefore paramount that a date be entered for every event, even if the exact date is unknown. The 'c.', 'b.', 'a.' and 'n.' codes are provided to indicate a date may not be correct. As a noted Australian family historian once wrote 'dates are never absolute' even today when there are calendars everywhere. The classic example is the dates on grave monuments which appear to be very prone to date errors!

Regards...Rex & Yvonne Toomey