

The British Isles



The British Isles Historic Society

Heritage, History, Traditions & Customs

Our British & Irish Heritage



Dear Reader:

Each month in the British Isles Historic Society, "Newsletter" I always included one or two items of trivia. While doing research for the November issue I came across a lot of dates in November where The British, Scottish, Irish or Welsh did something that affected the history of the world. This special issue is dedicated to those that made a historical difference to society.

November in History

November 1st - All Hallows Day, also known as All Saints Day



November 3, 1534 - King Henry VIII became Supreme Head of the Church of England following the passage of the Act of Supremacy

by Parliament.

November 4, 1890 - The first electrified underground railway system was officially opened in London.

November 4, 1942 - During World War II, British troops led by Bernard Montgomery defeated the Germans under Erwin Rommel at El Alamein after a twelve-day battle.



November 5th - Remembered as Guy Fawkes Day in Britain, the failed "Gunpowder Plot" to blow up the Houses of Parliament and King James I in 1605.

November 6, 1429 - Henry VI was crowned King of England at age eight. He had acceded to the throne at the age of nine months following the death of Charles VI.



November 7, 1885 - Canada's first transcontinental railway, the Canadian Pacific, was completed in British Columbia.



November 7, 1990 - Mary Robinson became Ireland's first female president.





The Legend of "Stingy Jack"

A jack-o'-lantern (or jack o'lantern) is a carved pumpkin, turnip, or other root vegetable lantern associated with Halloween. Its name comes from the phenomenon of a strange light flickering over peat bogs, called will-o'-the-wisp or jack-o'-lantern. The name is also tied to the Irish legend of Stingy Jack, a drunkard who bargains with Satan and is doomed to roam the Earth with only a hollowed turnip to light his way.

People have been making jack-o'-lanterns at Halloween for centuries. The practice originated from an Irish myth about a man nicknamed "Stingy Jack." According to the story, Stingy Jack invited the Devil to have a drink with him. True to his name, Stingy Jack didn't want to pay for his drink, so he convinced the Devil to turn himself into a coin that Jack could use to buy their drinks. Once the Devil did so, Jack decided to keep the money and put it into his pocket next to a silver cross, which prevented the Devil from changing back into his original form.

Jack eventually freed the Devil, under the condition that he would not bother Jack for one year and that, should Jack die, he would not claim his soul. The next year, Jack again tricked the Devil into climbing into a tree to pick a piece of fruit. While he was up in the tree, Jack carved a sign of the cross into the tree's bark so that the Devil could not come down until the Devil promised Jack not to bother him for ten more years.

Soon after, Jack died. As the legend goes, God would not allow such an unsavory figure into heaven. The Devil, upset by the trick Jack had played

on him and keeping his word not to claim his soul, would not allow Jack into hell. He sent Jack off into the dark night with only a burning coal to light his way. Jack put the coal into a carved-out turnip and has been roaming the Earth with ever since. The Irish began to refer to this ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern," and then, simply "Jack O'Lantern."

In Ireland and Scotland, people began to make their own versions of Jack's lanterns by carving scary faces into turnips or potatoes and placing them into windows or near doors to frighten away Stingy Jack and other wandering evil spirits. In England, large beets are used. Immigrants from these countries brought the jack-o'-lantern tradition with them when they came to North America where pumpkins became the vegetable of choice.

<https://www.history.com/news/history-of-the-jack-o-lantern-irish-origins>



The origins of Halloween

can be traced back to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. Until 2,000 years ago, the Celts lived across the lands we now know as Britain, Ireland and northern France. Essentially a farming and agricultural people, the Pre-Christian Celtic year was determined by the growing seasons and Samhain marked the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark cold winter. The festival symbolised the boundary between the world of the living and the world of the dead.

The night or evening of Samhain therefore became known as All-hallows-even then Hallow Eve, still later Hallowe'en and then of course Halloween. A special time of the year when many believe that the spirit world can make contact with the physical world, a night when magic is at its most potent.

<https://www.historic-uk.com/CultureUK/Halloween/>

OOPS! I am pleased that some readers read the newsletters and catch my errors, thanks for the emails.

Re: 10-20c Samhain and Traditional foods of Great Britain:

Steve;

What no Toad in the Hole??

Happy Thanksgiving Steve,

John Hickson

Editors note: see attached recipe!

Steve;

We didn't use the term "Thanksgiving" in the chapels in Wales, it was Harvest Festival. There would be long tables placed where the deacons usually sat, the set fawr, and the tables would be piled high with vegetables, potatoes and fruits. There was a specially baked loaf of bread called The Harvest Loaf. There was a glass of water and, in the coal mining valleys, a lump of coal would be given a prominent position on the table.

I thought the term Thanksgiving was an American term first used by the Pilgrims on the Mayflower.

I can remember a couple of the hymns we always sang...."For the beauty of the Earth", "We Plough the fields and Scatter", Now thank we all our God.

Brings back memories

Dr. David Lintern (retired) Brought up in South Wales many years ago.

Hello Steve.

Happy thanksgiving I love reading your newsletter always very interesting .

Thank you for publishing it.

Stay safe

Teresa

Thank you Steve ...

Happy to read this very informative newsletter....hope it's as well received by others too. I will share it with friends and family and contacts too.

I hope you're enjoying a Happy Thanksgiving. We are flying solo this year due to Covid19....and so we had chicken yesterday with Brussels, carrots and roast potatoes. This was followed by a home made French fruit tart....



I purchased Cornish pastie recently and enjoyed it with a nice mixed green salad...of course the English in me wanted to serve it with baked beans and chips ie home made French friesbut the sensible side of me won out! I do love Heinz baked beans on toast with a side of bangers and mash too.

I am working on a piece for you to put in your Christmas newsletter...just have a bit more to add.

Hugs stay safe and well.

Jayne Boyer

Edited from full letter... ..



November 8th. 1656, Birthday - Astronomer and mathematician Edmund Halley (1656-1742) was born in London. He sighted the Great Comet of 1682 (now named Halley's Comet) and foretold its reappearance in 1758. Halley's Comet appears once each generation with the average time between appearances being 76 years. It is expected to be visible again in 2061.

November 8th. 1847 Abraham Stoker, Clontarf, Dublin, Ireland Birthday - Dracula author Bram Stoker (1847-1912) was born in Dublin, Ireland.



November 10, 1925, Birthday - Actor Richard Burton (1925-1984) was born in Pontrhydyfen, South Wales (as Richard Jenkins). The son of a coal miner, he came to be regarded as one of the greatest acting talents of his day, although he never received an Oscar and was never knighted. He led a tempestuous personal life, highlighted by twice marrying actress Elizabeth Taylor. He died at age 58 of a cerebral hemorrhage.

November 11, 1992 - The Church of England voted to allow women to become priests.



November 13, 1850, Birthday - Scottish author Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894) was born in Edinburgh, Scotland. Best known for Treasure Island, Kidnapped and The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

November 14, 1666 - The first experimental blood transfusion took place in Britain, utilizing two dogs.

November 14, 1770 - Scottish explorer James Bruce discovered the source of the Blue Nile on Lake Tana in northwest Ethiopia.



November 14, 1994 - The first paying passengers traveled on the new rail service through the Channel Tunnel linking England and France.



November 17, 1558 - Queen Elizabeth I ascended the throne of England at the age of 25, reigning until 1603 when she was 69. Under her leadership, England became a world power, defeating the Spanish Armada, and witnessed a golden age of literature featuring works by William Shakespeare, Edmund Spenser and others.

British General Bernard L. Montgomery (1887-1976) was born **November 17, 1887**, in St. Mark's Vicarage, Kennington Oval, London. He led the British Eighth Army to a major victory over the Germans at El Alamein in North Africa in 1943. He then led the Eighth Army in the Sicilian and Italian campaigns and commanded all ground forces during D-Day.



19 November 1600 Dunfermline Palace Dunfermline, Scotland. Birth: - Charles I, King of Scotland and England (1600-1649) He ruled from 1625-49. He maintained the Divine Right of Kings to rule and opposed Parliament's challenges to his authoritarian style. This resulted in civil war and his eventual execution, followed by the establishment of a Commonwealth with Oliver Cromwell as Lord Protector.

November 20, 1917 - The first use of tanks in battle occurred at Cambrai, France, during World War I. Over 300 tanks commanded by British General Sir Douglas Haig went into battle against the Germans.



November 20, 1947 - England's Princess Elizabeth married Philip Mountbatten. Elizabeth was the first child of King George VI and became Queen Elizabeth II upon the death of her father in 1952.



The Colony of British Columbia

November 19th.
1858 Douglas was

sworn in as the first governor of the new colony of British Columbia on Nov. 19, 1858 in a ceremony in Fort Langley, just days after a group of Royal Engineers arrived from England, the answer to Douglas's request to the Crown for a police force some six months earlier.

Photograph by: Unknown, Royal BC Museum



New Westminster B.C.

1859 New

Westminster became the

capital of British Columbia. It was founded by Major-General Richard Moody as the capital of the new-born Colony of British Columbia in 1858, and continued in that role until the Mainland and Island Colonies were merged in 1866, and was the Mainland's largest city from that year until it was passed in population by Vancouver during the first decade of the 20th century



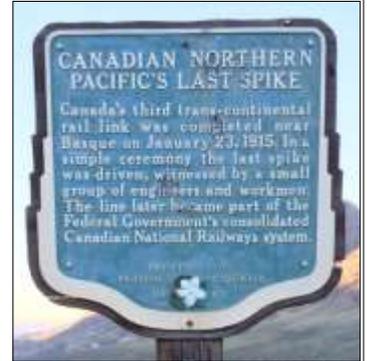
The Last Spike

November 7th.

1885: The Last Spike of the Canadian Pacific Railway was the ceremonial final

spike driven into the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) at Craigellachie, British Columbia at 9:22 am on November 7, 1885. It was driven in by CPR railroad financier Donald Smith,

marking the end of a saga of natural disasters, financial crises, and even rebellion that plagued Canada's first transcontinental railroad from its beginning



Albert "Ginger" Goodwin

Born: May 10, 1887, **Treeton, United Kingdom**, Died: July 27,

1918, Cumberland affectionately named for his bright red hair, was a migrant coal miner who advocated for workers rights

and promoted the proliferation of trade unions in British Columbia, Canada



Robert William Thomson

PRSSA FRSE (1822–1873), from

Stonehaven, Scotland, was the inventor of the fountain pen



and original inventor of the pneumatic tyre



of

What if you are entitled to a British State Pension and didn't know?

If you worked in Britain, even for a short period of time, you may be entitled to a British State Pension and you may be eligible to back pay premiums, thus increasing the pension you receive when you reach pension age.

We will help you determine if you qualify for a state pension and show you how to apply. It's easier than you think!

We provide this valuable information and MORE for only \$25 if you join the Canadian Alliance of British Pensioners

Find out more about our alliance and how to join at our website www.britishpensions.com or call us at 416-253-6402

CANADIAN ALLIANCE OF BRITISH PENSIONERS

Robert William Thomson

PRSSA FRSE (1822–1873), from Stonehaven, Scotland, was the inventor of the fountain pen

and original inventor of the pneumatic tyre



November 22, 1990 - British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher announced she would resign after 11 years in office, the longest term of any British Prime Minister in the 20th century.

November 22, 1913, Lowestoft, United Kingdom Birthday - British composer Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) was born in Lowestoft, Suffolk, England. Best known for his operas including Peter Grimes and his choral works A Ceremony of Carols and War Requiem.



November 23, 1887 Birthday Camberwell, Surrey, England, Horror film actor Boris Karloff (1887-1969) was born in London (as William Henry Pratt). Best known for appearing in the title role in Frankenstein and The Bride of Frankenstein.

November 24, 1998 - Britain's Queen Elizabeth II opened a new session of Parliament by announcing a bill to do away with the centuries-old right of aristocrats to sit in the House of Lords, thereby taking membership and voting rights away from 759 Dukes, Earls and other hereditary nobles with titles dating as far back as the Middle Ages.

November 25, 1783 - At the end of the Revolutionary War, the last British troops left New York City.

November 25, 1974 - Britain outlawed the IRA (Irish Republican Army) following the deaths of 21 persons in a pub bombing in Birmingham.

November 25, 1995 - By a margin of less than one percent, Ireland voted to legalize divorce, the closest vote in the nation's history.



November 25, 1835, Dunfermline, Fife, Scotland Birthday - American financier Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919)

He emigrated to America, made his fortune in steel, then became a major philanthropist. Among his gifts; over 2,500 libraries, Carnegie Hall, Carnegie Foundation, and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He once wrote, "The man who dies rich dies disgraced."



November 26, 1992 - British Prime Minister John Major announced Queen Elizabeth II had agreed to pay taxes on her personal income.

November 26, 1998 - In Dublin, Tony Blair became the first British Prime Minister to appear before the Irish Parliament, which had been created 80 years earlier in defiance of the British government.



November 26, 1607, Southwark, United Kingdom Birthday - Harvard College founder John Harvard (1607-1638) was born in London.

November 28, 1905 - Irish political party Sinn Fein was founded in Dublin by Arthur Griffith.



November 28, 1919 - Lady Nancy Astor was elected as the first female in the British House of Commons. Astor was an American citizen who moved to England at age 26 and married Waldorf Astor. He succeeded to the peerage and entered the House of Lords; she then entered politics and won his former seat in Plymouth in 1919, becoming the first woman to sit as an MP in the House of Commons

November 1628, Elstow, United Kingdom. British cleric John Bunyan (1628-1688) He wrote A Pilgrim's Progress, a religious allegory of the human soul.



November 30, 1782 - A provisional peace treaty was signed between Great Britain and the United States heralding the end of America's War of Independence. The final treaty was signed in Paris on September 3, 1783. It declared the U.S. "...to be free, sovereign and independent states..." and that the British Crown "...relinquishes all claims to the government, propriety and territorial rights of the same, and every part thereof."



November 30, 1874, Blenheim Palace, United Kingdom Birth: Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill, (1874-1965) was born in Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire, England. Before World War II, he held a number of high level political offices in Britain including First Lord of the Admiralty. In May 1940, he became Prime Minister, stating, "I have nothing to offer but blood, tears, toil, and sweat." His inspirational speeches, combined with his political skills and military strategy carried Britain through the war, and helped the Allies overcome the Nazi onslaught and defeat Hitler.

<https://www.historyplace.com/specials/calendar/november.htm>



William Dockwra

In 1680, William Dockwra, an English merchant in London, and his partner Robert Murray established the London Penny Post, a mail system that delivered letters and small parcels inside the city of London for the sum of one penny. Confirmation of paid postage was indicated by the use of a hand stamp to frank the mailed item. Though this 'stamp' was applied to the letter or parcel itself, rather than to a separate piece of paper, it is considered by many historians to be the world's first postage stamp.



Wagon Wheels

were created by Garry Weston, son of W. Garfield Weston. Garry Weston worked for his father's business in Australia before taking over his family's business in England. He placed two Marie biscuits around a marshmallow filling and covered it with chocolate. They were introduced in 1948. The name (originally "Weston Wagon Wheels") relates to the shape of the biscuits and capitalised on the Wild West, which was popular in mass media at the time.

The original factory which produced the biscuit was in Slough but during the early 1980s production was transferred to an updated and modern factory in Llantarnam in South Wales. Weston had been producing biscuits on the Slough site since 1934 and the Llantarnam site since 1938.



Nickel Zinc battery:

The battery was developed by an Irish chemist, **Dr. James J. Drumm** (1897–1974) and installed in four two-car railway sets, between 1932 and 1948, for use on the Dublin-Bray railway line. Today it

is used to power cell phones.

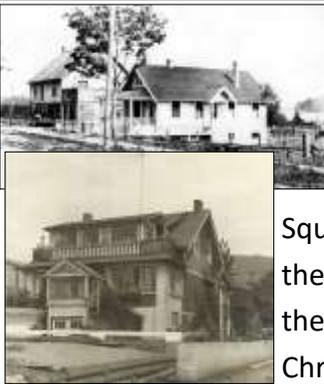
Dr. James J. Drumm has invented "the Drumm Traction Battery" (zinc-nikelalkaline battery) that was successfully employed to power a suburb train in Ireland (1932-1942). Dr. James J. Drumm, inventor of the "Drumm" Traction Battery was born in 1897 at Dundrum, Co. Down.

FOOD FACT:

Toad in the hole used to be made with meats like beef steak, lamb's kidneys or pigeon – not with sausages as we know it today.

The batter-based dish was devised as a way of stretching out meat for poor households.





John "Navy Jack"

Thomas was a Welsh deserter from the Royal Navy who married Rowia, a Squamish Nation woman, in the early 1870s. They raised their four children — Sampson, Christine, Mary, and Emma — in what is now called the Navy Jack House. The house was continually occupied from 1873 to 2017 and is now owned by the municipality.

Depending on the source, the Navy Jack house was built between 1868 and 1873. It was shifted from its original location at 17th in 1921 to allow for the opening of Argyle Avenue. While it's not the oldest house in Metro Vancouver, it's pretty darn close.

Originally from Wales, Navy Jack (John Thomas) came to Canada to seek his fortune in the gold fields. Instead, he operated an unscheduled ferry service in 1866. The following year he bought 32 hectares of waterfront land from 16th to 22nd Street and founded a gravel hauling business on the Capilano River (a sand and gravel mix is named for him).



John Napier

of Merchiston (/ˈneɪpiər/ February 1550 – 4 April 1617), nicknamed Marvellous Merchiston, was a Scottish landowner known as a mathematician, physicist, and astronomer. He was the 8th Laird of Merchiston. His Latinized name was Ioannes Neper.

John Napier is best known as the discoverer of logarithms

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Napier



Scottish Gaelic

(Scottish Gaelic: Gàidhlig ['ka:lɪk'] (listen) or Scots Gaelic, sometimes referred to simply as Gaelic) is a Goidelic language (in the Celtic

branch of the Indo-European language family) native to the Gaels of Scotland. As a Goidelic language, Scottish Gaelic, as well as both Irish and Manx, developed out of Old Irish. It became a distinct spoken language sometime in the 13th century in the Middle Irish period, although a common literary language was shared by Gaels in both Ireland and Scotland down to the 16th century. Most of modern Scotland was once Gaelic-speaking, as evidenced especially by Gaelic-language place names.



Potato Crisps

William Kitchiner

is credited with being the inventor of the most popular snack food in the U.K. and Canada, Potato crisps.

William Kitchiner M.D. (1775–1827) was an English optician, inventor of telescopes, amateur musician and exceptional cook. His name was a household word during the 19th century, and his 1817 cookbook, *The Cook's Oracle*, was a bestseller in England and the United States. In the United Kingdom, the origin of the crisp is attributed to Kitchiner, with *The Cook's Oracle* including the earliest known recipe.

Unlike most food writers of the time he cooked the food himself, washed up afterwards, and performed all the household tasks he wrote about. He travelled around with his portable cabinet of taste, a folding cabinet containing his mustards and sauces. He was also the creator of Wow-Wow sauce.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Kitchiner





Classic British Toad-in-the-hole



Ingredients:

- * 1 1/2 cups flour (all-purpose)
- * 1/2 teaspoon salt (kosher)
- * 1/2 teaspoon seasoning
- * 1/8 teaspoon black pepper (freshly ground)
- * 3 large eggs (beaten)
- * 1 1/2 cups milk
- * 2 tablespoons butter (melted)
- * 1 teaspoon vegetable oil (for the baking dish)
- * 6 British bangers

Directions:

Heat the oven to 425 F (220 C/Gas 7).

In a large mixing bowl, whisk the flour with the salt, seasoning, and a pinch of pepper. Make a well in the center of the dry mixture. Add the eggs, milk, and melted butter to the center well and whisk into the flour mixture until you have a smooth batter. Cover the bowl and set aside while you brown the sausages.

Arrange the sausages in an oiled 2- to 2 1/2-quart shallow baking dish. Bake the sausages in the preheated oven for 12 to 15 minutes, turning to brown both sides.

Carefully remove the baking dish with the sausages and set it on a metal rack. Quickly pour the batter into the hot dish over the sausages. Return the pan to the oven and bake for about 25 to 35 minutes, or until the batter is cooked, puffy, and golden brown. A knife inserted into the center of the batter should come out clean.



John Logie Baird Born: 13

August 1888 **Helensburgh**

Dunbartonshire Scotland, – Died:

14 June 1946) was a Scottish

inventor, electrical engineer, and

innovator, demonstrating the

world's first working television

system on 26th. January 1926. He also invented the first publicly demonstrated colour television system, and the first purely electronic colour television picture tube.

In 1928 Baird sent television pictures from London to New York by short-wave radio. He also demonstrated television in colour and developed a video recording system which he called 'phonovision'.

In 1929 the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) sent out experimental television transmissions. At first Baird had to pay the BBC to transmit his images. In 1930 the Baird company brought out the world's first mass produced television set, called 'The Televisor'.

The BBC began using his system for the first public television service in 1932, before switching in 1937 to the Marconi-EMI version. In July 1937, the Royal Society of Edinburgh awarded Baird an Honorary Fellowship.



Famous Cornish Canadians:

* Truman Smith Baxter (1867-1931), Mayor of Vancouver

* Frederick Buscombe (1862-1938), Mayor of Vancouver

* H. P. P. Crease (1823-1905), member of the British Columbia Supreme Court

* John Teague (1833-1902), architect and Mayor of Victoria



Irish Mist was the first liqueur to be produced in Ireland when commercial production began in 1947 at Tullamore, County Offaly. Tullamore is the hometown of the Williams family who were the original owners of Irish Mist. The company history goes back to 1829 when the Tullamore Distillery was founded to produce Irish whiskey. In the mid-1940s Desmond E. Williams began the search for an alternative yet related product, eventually deciding to produce a liqueur based on the ancient beverage known as heather wine.

Irish Mist is a brown Whiskey Liqueur produced in Dublin, Ireland, by the Irish Mist Liqueur Company Ltd. It is made from aged Irish whiskey, heather and clover honey, aromatic herbs, and other spirits, blended to an ancient recipe claimed to be 1,000 years old.



Taking A Pint in a British or Irish Pub



Unwritten laws in a British / Irish pub:

Order from the bar and not from your table. The pubs do not usually have table service.

When seated with a group, one should get the order of everybody so as not to crowd the bar.

When ordering beer, be specific: ale (dark beer), lager (light beer), bitter (light ale) or stout (very dark beer)

Most pubs only take cash for payment. Be ready as you order, but it is frowned upon to wave your bill to call the bartender's attention.

To give tip to your server, offer him or her a drink. It will be added to your tab. If a tip jar is existent, monetary tips are welcome as well.

If someone buys you or your table a round, it is customary for the next round to be on you.

One bell from the bar means last order. Two means the bar is closed.



Editors note:

The pubs in Canada don't have the same feel, but some I have been in do try.



Six Mile Pub – 1855

Six Mile Pub, the oldest in all of British Columbia. Once a regular hangout spot for British

Soldiers in the late 1800s, The Six Mile Story begins in 1848 with millwright John Fenton, who built a saw-mill on the site owned by the Hudson Bay Company. The first lumber sawn was used in a barn at the North Dairy Farm. It was also from here that the first export of lumber went to California. It consisted of 8,000 board feet and the price was \$80 per 1000 board feet.

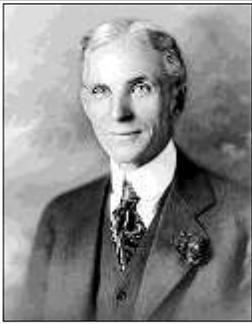
The following year Fenton was lured to California by tales of gold. Bill Parsons, formerly a London Bobby (Parson as he was called) replaced Fenton and he built a bridge over Millstream which in the 1863 gold rush provided access to the Sooke and Leech River areas. <https://sixmilepub.com/>

Queen Elizabeth II



does not hold a passport. Since all British passports are issued in the queen's name, she herself doesn't need one. She just has to say that she is the queen.

The Queen of England still maintains an official "champion" to fight on her behalf in duels.



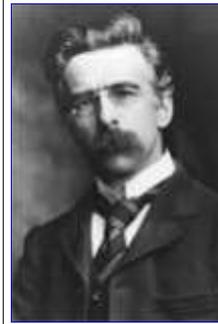
Henry Ford: The Ford family's roots to Ireland - especially Co. Cork - date back to 1926, when Henry Ford's father, William Ford, was born in **Ballinascarthy West Cork, Ireland.** The Ford family was

forced to uproot to America because of the famine, and in 1848, the family finally landed in Dearborn, Michigan. It was there that William met and fell in love with Mary Litogot, his employer's daughter; coincidentally, his employer, Patrick Ahern, was a man from Cork himself. Henry Ford was then born in Dearborn in 1863, the first son to Mary and William.

In 1917, Henry Ford established Henry Ford & Sons Ltd. at 36 South Mall in Co. Cork, which would later become a division of the Ford Motor company.

The company, which was the first Ford office outside of North America, quickly took off. By 1930, over 11% of Cork's inhabitants worked for Ford, and by 1932, the Ford office became an official assembly plant. By 1938, Ford Ireland had produced 73,000 cars, trucks, and tractors.

<https://www.irishcentral.com/roots>



John Joly, Colour

photography, invented by John Joly in 1894

Modern day photographers owe a debt of gratitude to a man from the Irish midlands. John Joly was born 1 November 1857 near the village of Bracknagh in Co. Offaly and was an engineering graduate from Trinity College. In 1894, Joly invented a system of colour photography that was based on taking viewing plates with many narrow lines in three colours. Joly would mark the viewing plate with thin coloured lines and would then place the glass in the camera in front of the picture; the photograph could then be taken. This process was much simpler than anything that had come before. It is now widely accepted that he was responsible for the first practical method of colour photography.

Joly developed a method of extracting radium and using it to treat cancer patients, a method later adopted in hospitals around the world.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Joly

Useless Trivia

The Great Pyramid of Giza was the tallest man-made structure on Earth for 3,871 years until the Lincoln Cathedral in England was finished in 1311.

There is a school named Christ's Hospital in England where they have been wearing the same style uniform for 460 years.

When Edward I, King of England annexed Wales in 1277 AD, he promised them his son, and heir to the throne would be Welsh. This is why the heir apparent in the UK is always titled "Prince of Wales" before taking the throne.

The Tower of London houses six ravens. Charles II's ordered for six ravens to be placed in the Tower of London to protect it. Apparently, six ravens are still kept

in the tower today and they must remain there at all times due to superstitious reasons. For extra measures, each raven has a wing clipped, they even have a spare raven handy in case one flies away.

Over 300 languages are spoken in London. As one of the most diverse cities in the world, London houses over 8 million residents, who collectively speak over 300 languages, including Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi, Gaelic, Cantonese, Mandarin, Hokkien and of course English.

Pádraig (or Patrick, as he is known in English) came from a Roman family. He was born in Britain of Roman-British parents and was kidnapped at the age of 16 by Irish raiders. St. Patrick spent six years in slavery in Ireland before escaping. Later in life, he returned to Ireland as a missionary.



The Battle of Trafalgar

(21 October 1805) was a naval engagement

fought by the British Royal Navy against the combined fleets of the French and Spanish Navies during the War of the Third Coalition (August–December 1805) of the Napoleonic Wars (1803–1815).[3]

As part of an overall French plan to combine all French and allied fleets to take control of the English Channel and thus enable Napoleon's Grande Armée to invade England, French and Spanish fleets under French Admiral Villeneuve sailed from the port of Cádiz in the south of Spain on 18 October 1805. They encountered the British fleet under Admiral Lord Nelson, recently assembled to meet this threat, in the Atlantic Ocean along the southwest coast of Spain, off Cape Trafalgar, near the town of Los Caños de Meca. Villeneuve was uncertain about engaging the British, and the Franco-Spanish fleet failed to organise fully. In contrast, Nelson was decisive, directing the British fleet into two columns sailing straight into the enemy to pierce its wavering lines.



The victory confirmed the naval supremacy Britain had established during the course of the eighteenth century and was achieved in part through Nelson's departure from prevailing naval tactical orthodoxy.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Trafalgar

If you are preparing for Christmas by doing fall cleaning.

Don't throw it away.

Donate to the VGH Thrift Shop.



The funds that your saleable items will bring, will buy equipment that may save the life of a relative or friend.

Vancouver General Hospital Thrift Store

2535 E Hastings St, Vancouver, BC

Phone: (604) 876-3731



The crumpet is a small griddle cake eaten in the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland and Canada having it's origin in Wales.

Crumpets are regionally known as pikelets, a name also applied to a thinner, more pancake-like griddle bread, a type of the latter is referred to as a crumpet in Scotland.

Crumpets originated in the 17th century as thin pancakes made from a flour, milk, and egg base. However, today's version likely developed in the Victorian era, when bakers added yeast and then baking powder to the recipe

