

# Genealogy.ie Magazine

## WW I and 1916 Rebellion Graves in Deansgrange Cemetery

IN  
MEMORY  
OF THOSE  
WHO ARE  
BURIED  
IN THIS  
CEMETERY

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seo

**Read about**  
A History of Woodside



**Also in this issue:**

meet Jillian van Turnhout,  
founder of Genealogy.ie

# Welcome



to the first edition of the **Genealogy.ie Magazine**. It is not a 'normal' genealogy magazine, like the ones that you can buy in the newsagent. This magazine is published by **Genealogy.ie, Ireland's Genealogy and Local History Specialists**. It tells you something about us, about research we have done, has an interesting main article (we think so anyway) and has lots of pictures.

Best of all, it is completely free. So, feel free to share it with your friends, family, fellow family history buffs, your local history society, etc.

This issue's main article talks about war graves in Ireland, specifically the victims of WW I and the 1916 Rebellion that are buried in Deansgrange Cemetery.

Apart from that we have an introduction of Jillian van Turnhout, founder of Genealogy.ie and an article about the history of a house and its occupants

We hope you enjoy it and are looking forward to your feedback.

*Michael van Turnhout*

PS: if you are interested in our Genealogy and Local History titbits, please follow us on Facebook and/or Twitter and you will get all of them.

## Contact Us

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Get help finding your Irish ancestors from the specialists at Genealogy.ie

**About us:** we have over 10 years' experience in tracing Irish family histories and in Irish local history research. We are therefore expertly placed to help you with your Irish family history search. Thanks to our ready access to local sources we can search Irish ancestry throughout Ireland and are often able to uncover family members and/or facts that you cannot from abroad, or don't have the time for. Why not drop us an email to see what we can do for you?

# Irish WW I and 1916 Rebellion war graves



Two brothers were war victims. No, not Chrissie, but Joseph and Walter. Both died of the results of gas poisoning, in the case of Walter many years after the war.



This Corporal is said to have had a Military Cross – normally only given to officers. Possibly he was temporarily promoted while at the front. He did not die of war wounds but from the Spanish Flu, AFTER the war had ended.



The British War Grave Commission will ensure a headstone is placed on every grave of one of their war victims. And if it becomes illegible, they will replace it.



Catholics often did not mention that their loved ones had fought in the British army. The protestants were quite often very specific in which regiment their son, brother or father had served.



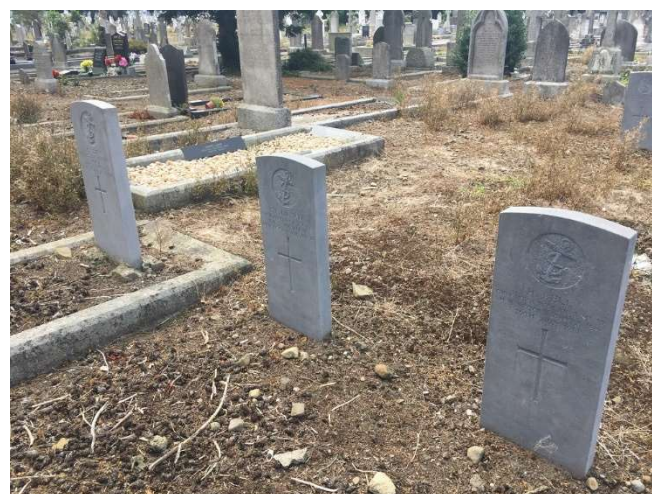
Not killed during the war, but still of interest: James Alton, Provost of Trinity College, held off the 1916 rebels and kept Trinity in British hands. This then allowed them to use it as a lookout, thus being able to tell their gunners where their cannon fire fell, so they could improve their aim.



Not everyone died at the front. As a matter of fact, at first only the rich could afford to bring the bodies of their sons home and give them a burial. The others were buried in France and Belgium. When this led to an outcry, ALL were buried there. So, if you see any graves of war dead with later dates, they did not die at the front but at home. This man suffered from shell shock and was brought home. His father got him released from the asylum where he was kept. He committed suicide shortly afterwards.



Lee was an entrepreneur who treated his staff well and opposed the 1913 lockout. He would later lose two family members in the war, one of which was his son. He put out the word that the person who would find his son Robert's body (who was lost at sea) would be richly rewarded. When the body was found and brought to him he gave the man a job for life.



Several graves of seamen who died on board of a ship where there was an outbreak of the Spanish Flu – they were not allowed to disembark!



Side by side, two British Army victims of the Irish rebellion. One was from troops stationed here (Dublin Fusiliers), the other from a regiment that was hastily brought in (Staffordshire).



Only man in cemetery awarded a Victoria Cross. After his officers were killed, he single handedly took German soldiers prisoner and got his hands on one of their deadly machine guns. And then did the same thing a second time! He died in 1962 when - as an elderly man - he fell and hit his head against a heater.



Three gravestones of victims of the rebellion. Lang is "believed to be in the cemetery" because another victim's family repatriated their son's body – but cemetery administrators believe they took the wrong man and took Lang's body instead.



Mulhern was a 40-year old barber who joined up because the army needed barbers. Not everyone was a fighter. When the rebellion broke out he decided to have a peek around the corner .. and was shot.

# Jillian van Turnhout, Founder Genealogy.ie

## A Portrait



*Jillian van Turnhout*

JILLIAN VAN TURNHOUT NÉE HASSETT is a respected children's and human rights expert and former Senator in the upper house of the Irish Parliament. Throughout Jillian's career, in both the private and public sector, her achievements have been recognised including winning the Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award and Politician of the Year Award. Most recently, her work has been recognised by the President of France who awarded her the Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite, the second highest national Order of France.

Parallel to this work, Jillian has been developing her skills as a genealogist and has researched her own and clients' family history throughout Ireland, the UK, USA and Canada. Jillian is passionate about family history and understands the richness and fulfilment that goes with finding out about your ancestors and their lives. She joins with other genealogists campaigning for the publication of the 1926 Census of Ireland.

Despite the current laws in Ireland presenting a number of roadblocks, Jillian has broken through barriers and assisted former adoptees in tracing their roots. During her time in the Irish Senate, Jillian championed the right of adoptees to have their right to identity firmly established in law.

Through her extensive voluntary and professional career, Jillian has developed an extensive network of contacts throughout Ireland. In 2010, Jillian was awarded the 'Freedom of Killarney', County Kerry.

Jillian has attended genealogy conferences and seminars in Ireland, the UK and USA, including Roots Tech in Salt Lake City, the largest family history event in the world.



*Jillian in her younger years: at her Christening*

In the words of Roots author Alex Haley "In all of us there is a hunger, marrow-deep, to know our heritage – to know who we are and where we have come from." Jillian has decided to dedicate herself full time to bringing the richness of your Irish family history to life for you.

*"After a considerable amount of very frustrating and disappointing time trying to find my Irish ancestors, I contacted Genealogy.ie. Their performance exceeded all my expectations, in both quality and time. Jillian came up with a wealth of information. I will not hesitate to recommend Genealogy.ie to my friends"*

**Jim, Stratford, Canada**

# Woodside House



## Woodside House

If you travel from Dublin to Enniskerry, gateway to the beautiful County Wicklow, you can take the new-ish motorway. But you can also take an alternative route that brings you through Dundrum, Stepside and Kiltarnan. If you do so, you will pass old and stately mansions (quite often hidden from view), old schools, churches, etc. One of these is Woodside House. This article explores its history.

## The Road

If you travelled that road, from Dundrum to Enniskerry, 200 years ago, it would have taken you a different route. You would go through Sandyford and Kilgobbin – a village which no longer exists - to Stepside and then further south along the Enniskerry Road. The road would thus make a loop to the east. This loop took the road around the townland of Woodside which was also the name of an estate centred on Woodside House. The owners of the estate must not have wanted the road to go through their property. In those days, the house was a farmhouse, not the beautiful building we can see now. To get to it, you would have had to follow a road (probably more a path) from Kilgobbin Road, which ran parallel but more to the south of the current Hillcrest Road and continued to the west partly along the current Slate Cabin Lane. There was no Blackglenn Road coming downhill from Lamb Doyle's.

## Estate and Townland

At some stage, the estate probably would have covered most if not all of the townland. The borders of the estate would roughly have been:

To the west: Woodside Road.

To the north: the Glaslower stream. This stream runs down alongside Slate Cabin Lane, curves behind the old Lamb Doyle house opposite the shops at Lamb's Cross, and flows through Sandyford. It is joined by the culverted Kilmacud stream and flows down to Blackrock where it is now known as Carysfort-Maretimo Stream. It is now mostly culverted. The estate stretched all the way into Sandyford Village.

To the east: The old Sandyford Road/Kilgobbin Road.

To the south: the Ballyogan or Kilgobbin Stream. This stream comes down Three Rock Mountain and flows through Belarmine and Ballyogan, where it merges with the Racecourse River and becomes the Carrickmines River. After several other mergers it reaches the sea at Killiney

## Growth and Traffic

In the 19th century Dublin city was growing. With increasing wealth came an increased interest in health (probably because the city had become a very unhealthy place to live in). The areas around Carrickmines and Dundrum were considered healthy because of their higher altitude. This led to

the construction of many country houses for the wealthy in the area and also to health tourism. Enniskerry became an increasingly popular tourist destination. Improvements had to be made to accommodate the increasing traffic, especially carriage traffic. For the latter it was important that the gradient was not too steep and many roads had to be adjusted or newly built for that reason. Up until then traffic had been mostly on foot or on horseback.

### Big Changes

The owners of the estate must have had a change of heart as the Sandyford bypass was constructed over the estate, from the north of Sandyford Village, going alongside Woodside House, to Glencullen. This probably happened in the late 1830s. The dotted road on the map from 1837 shows it to be planned or under construction. A school was built in 1841, where St. Mary's National School is now (the original building was replaced - the current one dates from 1936). Also built in the 19th century were Blackglen Road (outside the estate) and Hillcrest Road (inside the estate). The original Woodside Estate would thus have been cut in three parts by the new roads.

### The Hastings Family

Woodside House is said to date back to the 17th century. Despite the new developments, the estate remained intact. In Griffith's Valuation - carried out between 1848 and 1864 - the owner of Woodside House and estate was a John Hastings. All three of John's children were born in Co. Louth, so presumably the family hailed from there. If this is correct, they moved to Woodside after 1836 but before 1858. So it is possible, but by no means certain, that it was John Hastings who made the construction of the new road possible. John's eldest child, Isabella married Charles Daniel Stuart (who was twice her age) on 4 February 1852 in London; Isabella was apparently living in London at that time. They had four children, but Isabella died between 1871 and 1881. John's elder son William Cranitch Hastings was born on 7 September 1831 and baptised on 28 September in Kilsaran & Gernonstown, Co. Louth. On 14 April 1858 William Cranitch married Emily Dempsey. At that stage the family was living in Woodside House. Their daughter, Mary Harriet, was born around 1865. Emily died in 1871. When his father John died at Woodside in 1872, William inherited the house and estate, but his mother had the use of the house until her death in 1884, after which William took over full control of both house and estate. In 1873 he married Charlotte Wellington - it was William who built the beautiful house so we

could imagine him developing it for his new bride. However, the marriage was not a happy one and they later separated. His daughter Mary Harriet died in September 1896 and his brother John Devereaux (born in 1836) died in 1898. So only his sister-in-law remained as a close relative. In 1901 he was living in Woodside House with just a gardener and a servant. The servant is Annie Stritch, aged 30, of whom more later. Sometime between 1903 and 1908 he sold Woodside House to John Charlton Spinks.

### End of the Hastings Line

In 1911 William was living in Bray with William John Miller, his adopted son. They had a 16 year old servant girl living with them. William Hastings died on 2 October 1914 in Willmount House, Athenry, Co. Galway. Under the terms of his will his adopted son William received an inheritance worth almost £800 pounds, in trust until he reached the age of 23. William left £10 to his wife who was not living with him and was 'otherwise provided for' and £5 to the widow of his brother John. Surprisingly, he left £25 to Annie Stritch - 'because she had been a faithful servant'. It is not certain however if she benefited from the will - around the same time that William drew up his will in 1912 an Annie Stritch of the right age died in Rathdown. But there was more: he wanted to be buried in Mount Jerome and wished that William John Miller and Annie Stritch would be buried there as well. I have found no record that any of them are actually buried there. It appears he had no one else left.

### The Spinks Family

The next occupier of the house was John Charlton Spinks, a retired Chief Inspector of the English Police. He was born on 10 June 1845 in Cavan. In 1871 he was a constable living with his mother and brother-in-law in Warrington. He married Emma Birch on 7 April 1875 in Manchester and in 1881 he was a Police Inspector in Latchford. In 1901 he was back in Ireland living as a farmer in Downing, Tankard's Town, Carlow. *Thom's Directory* in 1908 lists Spinks as living in Woodside House. In 1911 he was living in the house with his wife Emma and grandson Nugent. Nugent was the son of William Henry Spinks, who was born on 5 January 1876 in England. William Henry married Anna Sophia Murphy in 1903 in Carlow. On 15 May 1904 he arrived in Canada from Liverpool. Anna must have been heavily pregnant as she gave birth to Nugent Watson on 20 June. Sadly she died on 26 June from an infection following childbirth. Probably the grandparents helped with the upbringing of the baby back in Ireland. The family was re-united on 11 August 1911 when all three



arrived in Quebec, on the vessel *Victorian*, headed for Calgary. Emma died in 1929 and John Charlton died on 5 February 1936; they are buried in Ross Bay Cemetery in the City of Victoria. Also of note is John's other son, Charlton Watson Spinks, born around 1878 in Latchford. He pursued a military career: he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Royal Artillery on 17 March 1900, promoted to lieutenant on 3 April 1901 and in March 1902 was seconded for service under the Colonial Office, where he was attached to the Northern Nigeria Regiment. He took part in operations in the Kano-Sokoto Campaign in 1903 and operations against the Okpotos in Bassa Province in 1904. After World War I he became Sirdar of Egypt serving from 1924 to 1937. He was the last British occupant of the Sirdaria, and was better known as El Ferik Spinks Pasha, General Inspector of the Army. He was relieved of this function on 12 January 1937 following the signing of the 1936 Anglo-Egyptian Treaty which dispensed with the services of British officers in the Egyptian army. The ex-Ferik and Lady Spinks together with their three daughters moved into a fourth floor apartment at 'Nile View', No. 18 Saraya al Gezira, Zamalek. Among other honours, he was appointed Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire, Grand Cordon of the Order of the Nile, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order and Grand Officer of the Order of the Crown of Italy

### Robert Edward Lazenby

In 1915 the occupant of Woodside House was Robert Edward Lazenby, born on 20 May 1871. He came from a family of well-to-do dairy farmers/traders from Blackrock. His father was William Lazenby (born 1832, died 1912), and his mother was Ellen Byrne (died before 1901). They had married in 1854. His siblings were William (born 1857), James (born 1858, died 1873), Mary Ellen (born 1865), Matthew (born 1869), and Helena (born 1876). In the 1911 census return, both William and Matthew are recorded in the milk business. I have found no record of Robert in Ireland. Perhaps he returned after his father's death in 1912 and decided to follow his brothers' example. This may have been why he established himself on the Woodside estate. He lived there until his death in 1926.

### John Montgomery

I know that in 1931 John Montgomery, Esq. lived in the house, but I have not been able to find out anything specific about him – there are simply too many John Montgomerys!

### Daniel Joseph Delaney

Superintendent D.J. Delaney lived in the house in 1933 but it seems unlikely that he was farming the estate. He was the first Bandmaster of the Garda Band which is a public relations branch of the Garda Síochána formed shortly after the foundation of the force. It gave its first public performance on Dún Laoghaire Pier on Easter Monday 1923. Daniel also formed a céilí and pipe band within the Garda Band. He was born on 7 February 1882 in Mountrath, Co. Laois. His father was Joseph and his mother was Mary Bennett. In 1911 he lived with his wife Mary and two year-old daughter Josephine in Aurora, Wicklow; his profession was given as Professor of Music and he was aged 29! I have not been able to find out how this professor ended up as a Superintendent in the new Irish state.

### The Lenehans

Members of the Lenehan family were already mentioned in Griffith's Valuation as land owners in Ballybrack. A James Lenehan was born in 1830 and died in 1898. He had three children, James (born 1867), Lawrence (born 1869) and Julia (born 1873) with his wife Catherine who died on 18 May 1894 aged 60. There might have been another child, Anne, born in 1868. James Jr. was a very successful cattle trader. He married Anne (born 1869) and had a large family: another James (born 1899), Catherine (born 1900), Mary (born 1902), John (born 1903), Patrick (born 1905), Angela/Eliza/Elisabeth (born 1907) and Bridget (born 1908). James died on 30 April 1944. He wanted to leave each of his sons a property and bought Woodside House for John. John died in 1977 and left the house and estate to the current owner Frank.

### End of the Estate but not the House

It is in the modern age that the estate was finally swallowed up by the growing city, 150 years after it was first bisected by the new roads. At different times parts were sold off for housing development. The main one was Aiken's Village which was developed just after the turn of the century, on the site of a pitch and putt course that was started by Frank Lenehan. When Aiken's Village was developed, Frank build a new pitch and putt course, this time around the house. The old house still survives though, and is the headquarters of a transport company.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

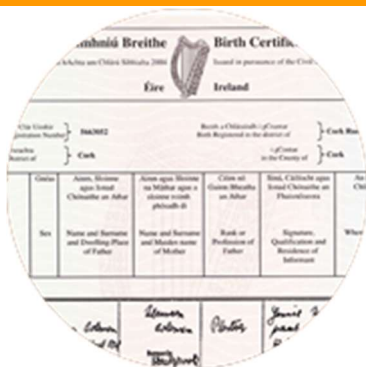
Many thanks to Frank Lenehan for showing me around his house and property.

# Genealogy.ie Services Overview



## Irish Family History Search and Investigation

We are professional genealogists based in Dublin and are THE specialists to research your Irish ancestry for you. We have work for clients based in the USA and Canada, as well as for customers from throughout the UK and Ireland. All our research follows the principles of the Genealogical Proof Standard.



## Order Irish Family History Records

We can provide you with copies of Irish birth, marriage and death certificates that can only be viewed or copied by visiting the archives in Dublin or Belfast. We can get images of valuation books or copies of surviving Irish wills.



## House or Village History

Family history is not just about names and dates of people in your family tree. It is also about the places where they lived and worked, the houses they occupied. We offer Ancestral House and Village History research and investigation.



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Do you know where your ancestor is buried but have not been able to visit it? We can visit it for you and provide beautiful photographs of the grave and cemetery as well as information about the village, cemetery, grave location and inscriptions.



## Family History Booklets, Slideshows and Videos

Do you have a lot of information on your family history you want to show to your family? Let us put your data in a great looking presentation.

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