



A.N.D.F.H.G. Inc. News Sheet

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From the Committee

We hope you all had a Great Christmas and New Year Celebrations.

We are all back for 2020 with things starting to get back to normal this next month. The Legacy Group resumes on the 3rd and Family Tree Maker Group on the 15th. Our friends at the Dublin History Group are visiting us on Saturday 22nd, and by this time we will have had two committee meetings. By then all our plans for 2020 should be well in hand.

We have visited the Dublin History Group and run family history workshops for a number of years. We have them visiting us this time round, so we can hear their story, and while we are at it we can have a pleasant get together and take the opportunity to Network as a group. We are planning to visit them again this year in family history month on August 23rd.

Just before we closed off our 2019 year, we were approached by the Gawler History Team to share links to them on our Websites and vice versa. We are currently working thought this with them and we have extended this offer elsewhere. Since we no longer have access to any of the family tree software, it is proposed the products page on our site will be replaced.

Hope you all soon.

Regards ANDFHG

Disclaimer

The Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group Inc. does not accept any responsibility for the opinions or the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter

It is Now Official: Say Goodbye To Your Windows PC As You Know It

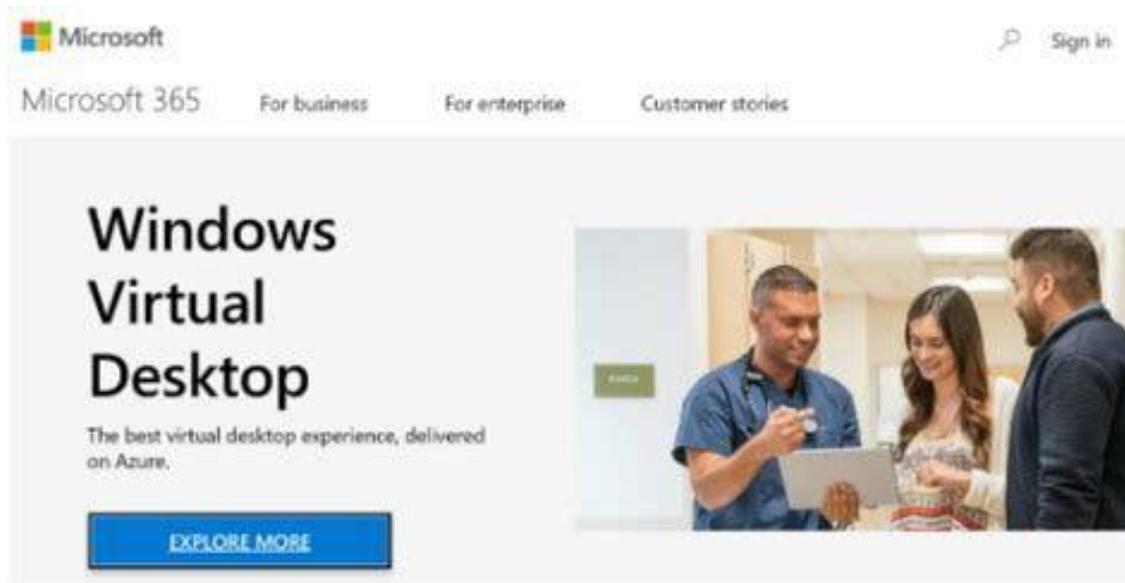
NOTE: *This article is not about genealogy, but I suspect many Windows users will be interested in it. If you are looking for true genealogy-related articles, I suggest you skip this one.*

In the July 30, 2018, edition of Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter, I predicted:

“Huge changes are coming from Microsoft. A new rumour is going around that claims Microsoft is switching from **SELLING** Windows to **RENTING** it instead. Some users think it will be an improvement while others believe it will be a major step backwards to computing in the way it was done in the 1970s when very expensive mainframes did all the computing and all data input and output by humans was done by using remote ‘dumb terminals.’

“Microsoft is getting ready to replace Windows 10 with the Microsoft Managed Desktop. This will be a “desktop-as-a-service” (DaaS) offering. Instead of owning your own copy of Windows, you’ll “rent” Windows by the month.”

Microsoft made my prediction come true this week. Microsoft has now rolled out Windows Virtual Desktop (**WVD**). If you have a fast internet connection, you can run your desktop off WVD today.

The image is a screenshot of the Microsoft Windows Virtual Desktop (WVD) landing page. At the top left is the Microsoft logo. To its right are navigation links for "Microsoft 365", "For business", "For enterprise", and "Customer stories". In the top right corner, there is a search icon and a "Sign in" button. The main content area features the heading "Windows Virtual Desktop" in large, bold, black text. Below this heading is the tagline "The best virtual desktop experience, delivered on Azure." and a blue button with the text "EXPLORE MORE". To the right of the text is a photograph of three people (two men and one woman) in a professional setting, looking at a tablet together.

Starting now, you no longer need to own a PC with Microsoft Windows installed. Instead, you can “run” Windows 10 on a Macintosh, Chromebook, Linux, iPad, or Android tablet.

OK, you don’t really “run” windows on the other systems as much as you **ACCESS** Windows from almost any computer. That is a critical difference. All you need on these other systems is a web browser, such as Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Edge, or probably any of the other web browsers.

Microsoft has been testing Windows Virtual Desktop (or WVD) for some time and now has released the application to everyone. Windows Virtual Desktop is a perfect example of a cloud-based application: the primary program (Windows 10) actually runs in multiple data centres located anywhere in the world. Not only is the operating system running in remote servers but the default operation runs all your programs (Word, Excel, email, games, and much more) in the same servers. Optionally, your files also can be stored either in the cloud or in your own local computing device, whether that local computer is a Macintosh, Chromebook, Linux, iPad, Android, or some other computer.

With WVD (Windows Virtual Desktop), you type on your local computer's keyboard, use the local mouse, and view all the activity on your local computer's screen. However, the local screen simply serves as a "window" into the software running on remote servers in the cloud.

As Brad Anderson, corporate vice president of Microsoft 365, said, "Companies want to move this to the cloud. And WVD is really the only way to run real Windows 10 clients, multiuser, in the public cloud."

I have heard many Windows users claim, "Oh, I could never use a [Mac, Linux desktop, Chromebook or whatever] because it doesn't run my favorite Windows-only program." That argument has disappeared. Now almost any computer can access Windows programs. Using WVD, you can run your Windows apps on ChromeOS, Linux, macOS, Android, or an iPad.

As you might expect, there are advantages and disadvantages to this cloud-based operation. Here are a few things I can think of:

Advantages:

Lower costs – Instead of purchasing a high-powered and expensive PC to perform heavy-duty computing, you simply rent time on some very powerful servers located elsewhere and access them by using Microsoft's WVD in your local computer, even if it is a non-Microsoft computer. The amount of savings will vary widely, depending upon your needs. For instance, if you need to use an engineering CAD/CAM program (computer-aided design & computer-aided manufacturing) only occasionally, it seems senseless to spend \$2,000 or more for a high-powered Windows workstation that is only used occasionally. Instead, use a low-powered and inexpensive Chromebook or iPad or some similar computing device in your home or office with WVD to access high-powered servers in the cloud and only pay for the number of hours used. The results will be the same except for significant money savings.

Use almost any computer to access Windows 10 – The WVD client app is available for Windows as well as Macintosh, Android, Apple iOS (iPad), Chromebook, and any other web browser capable of running an HTML 5 web browser. All modern web browsers are HTML 5 capable. This means you can "run" Windows via most of the popular desktop browsers.

Automatic software updates – There will be no need to install Windows software updates. Support personnel in the various cloud-based data centres will install all Windows operating system updates for you as well as updates for Microsoft products (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook, OneNote, and many more applications). In most cases, the end user will still be responsible for updates to applications written by other companies, however.

Reduced risk of viruses – The operating system is maintained by Microsoft's experts, reducing your risk of viruses and similar problems. The risk is not entirely eliminated, however, especially for programs installed by you, the user.

Essentially infinite disk space – Since everything can run in the cloud, you can store as many files as you wish. Disk space should never be a problem in the cloud. It also will be far more convenient than installing disk drives into your local computer. You obviously will need to pay for the rental of that disk space; but, in most cases, that will be cheaper than purchasing your own disk drive(s). Using WVD probably will also be much more convenient and cheaper than replacing your own local disk drive(s) after a hardware failure.

Backups are automatic – Files stored in the cloud are also backed up automatically all the time. Even if the cloud-based service suffers hardware failures, your files can be restored quickly by the system support experts employed by the cloud service. In most cases, the end user will never know there was a hardware failure; he or she simply accesses everything in the same manner as always.

NOTE: Storage of files in the cloud will be optional: you also can store files in your local computer, should you wish to do so. Should you elect to store files locally, you will be responsible for making your own backups of those files.

Disadvantages:

An “always on” internet connection will be required – This won't be much of a problem in most homes and offices, but it may be an impediment when traveling. Not all airplanes, commuter trains, hotels, coffee shops, parks, or open spaces have wi-fi or cost-effective cellular or satellite connections available today. That certainly is changing, but wireless connections will not be available everywhere for a few more years. By the time all Windows users are forced to move to WVD, wireless access will probably be commonly available in 99% of the homes, offices, and other locations.

Speed – A fast Internet connection will be necessary in order to enjoy a “smooth operation.” A slow connection will result in slow performance and “jerkiness” as delays are encountered.

Issues with peripherals – While the keyboard, mouse, and screen on your your local computing device should work perfectly, what about scanners or other hardware devices or connections to a tablet computer, smartwatch, Kindle, flash drive, or other devices that usually connect via USB? All of these connections

probably will be easy to use someday, but not as simple while WVD is still in its infancy.

Pricing – Using a cloud-based operating system may be either cheaper or more expensive than purchasing your own hardware and operating system. Pricing for the new Windows Virtual Desktop (WVD) may be found at <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/pricing/details/virtual-desktop/>. The pricing schedule is complicated, but it can be as cheap as \$0.004/hour US (four-tenths of one cent per hour for low-powered and low-usage) as listed at <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/pricing/details/virtual-machines/windows/>. However, many users probably will opt for higher-powered and more expensive services.

Who is in charge? – Using any cloud-based service means that the user is always at the whims and policies of the cloud service provider. While the odds of Microsoft declaring bankruptcy and going out of business are slim, other issues can be a problem. First, Microsoft could raise prices at any time. Next, the U.S. Government can suddenly change its laws and regulations, leaving you out of business.

NOTE: One example is Adobe. The company is shutting down its application service for Venezuelan users to comply with a U.S. executive order that prohibits trade with that country. If you live in Caracas, you soon won't be able to use Acrobat, InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, or Premiere. The same thing could happen if you relied on Microsoft for your desktop.

Summation:

Microsoft will first encourage corporations to move to Windows Virtual Desktop (WVD). Individual consumers will not be rushed into making this change; you probably can continue to use Windows installed in your own computer for several more years. However, there is little doubt that Microsoft wants everyone to eventually rent their computing capabilities, not purchase the hardware. Of course, Microsoft will always encourage renting this amount of power from just one company: MICROSOFT.

As to the Windows PC hardware as a standalone platform, it's on its way out. The change won't happen overnight, but it certainly will happen if Microsoft has its way.

If you don't want to participate in Microsoft's visions for the future, now is the time to start planning on alternatives: Macintosh/Chromebook/Linux/Pad/Android or whatever new hardware and operating systems appear in the future.

Source: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

IrelandXO Insight - Cures & Remedies

Wednesday, 27 November, 2019

Ireland is well known for its folklore, myths and legends and part of this are the recordings of old cures and healing powers attributed to people. In times when a doctor or vet could be ill afforded knowing someone with a cure was invaluable.



Picture: Dog bite? The touch from the hand of a seventh son cures the bite of a mad dog

The Schools' Collection compiled in the 1930s provides a great local history resource for anyone interested in researching myths, legends and history in a very local context. The collection is retained in University College Dublin and is part of the wider archives represented by the National Folklore Collection. What it provides is the embedding of people and place in folklore practice, preserving and reflecting the distinctive perspectives, beliefs and aspirations of communities over time. More and more of the School's Collection is being made available online on a phased basis through the Duchas Website. This information is a valuable source in its own right but equally so when taken together with official trade directory information, maps, census statistics, headstone transcriptions and other sources detailing a parish's history.

Much local folklore came about as a result of what we would today call superstition but also from an intimate knowledge of the weather, animals or basic biology - something that in today's hectic world we are a little removed from. Cures and special remedies could sometimes have an underlying reasoning behind their application that is quite understandable. If you suffered from a cold, for example, a common remedy included various mixtures of honey, butter, sugar and lemon. Some cures though are not so easy to understand. In Ardagh, Omeath, Co. Louth one recorded cure for toothache required a promise by the patient never to shave on Sundays.

As well as being a valuable insight into social and cultural norms and traditions, the exercise books themselves are a tangible connection to our ancestors as children, teachers and parents. As more and more of the collection is being digitized, we can search for mentions of our ancestors amongst them, or find an actual account written by one of them and read the story in their own handwriting.

Baldness, warts, worms ...

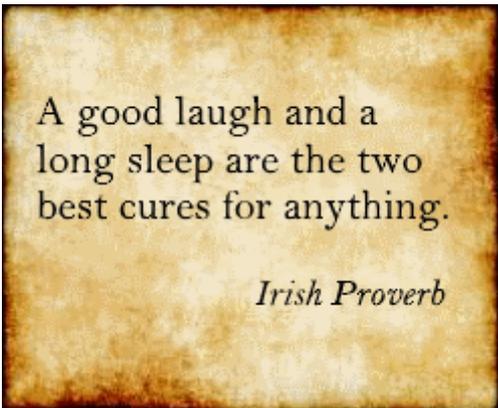
Cures could be found for all sorts of ailments from shingles, baldness, warts, worms, skin conditions and many, many more. Many people were said to be born having the cure for something and this they could sometimes pass down through generations. For some cures the gift passed specifically on either the male or female line. In his book, *Irish County Cures*, Patrick Lohan refers to a family near Tuam, Co. Galway known for five generations as bone setters. Sometimes the bone setters symbol can be found on a headstone, indicating that person's skill in the area and is recognizable as a fist clutching a broken piece of bone.

"Going for the Cure"

The Schools' Collection gives an insight into life in Ireland before x-rays, chiropractors or midwives were readily available. Often times no money was exchanged as part of the process and sometimes the fulfilling of the remedy involved prayer on the part of the person with the gift or the person receiving it. More often than not the recorded cures had a very practical application, particularly for children. Some examples are provided below and it is interesting to see how the treatment of common ailments like whooping cough, warts, colds and headaches differ from one part of the country to the other and also how similar stories are found in the Collection in Barnaderg below, as well as for the neighbouring parishes of Abbeyknockmoy and Tuam:

"Milk given to a ferret and what it leaves; drink up by child affected afterwards is said to be a cure for the chincough. There is a very old cure for sprains. The person must go before sunrise to some place where three waters meet on three mornings in succession. Then the part affected must be placed in the water. This was thought an infallible sure in olden times."

Cure collected by Martin Reilly from Mary B. Reilly, Barnaderg, Co. Galway



A good laugh and a
long sleep are the two
best cures for anything.

Irish Proverb

Writing a review of a Handbook of Irish Folklore, Francis Shaw stated that 'when truth and beauty and goodness cannot be found in modern civilization, we are forced to seek for these values in other places'. As a source of family

and local history the value of the School's Collection should not be overlooked.

What's your affliction?

Toothache

Put a hot potato to the cheek or fill the mouth with cold water

For a cough

Drink boiled buttermilk and sugar on it or blackberry drinks

Sore throat

Tie a woolen stocking round it

A stie on the eye

Get nine gooseberry thorns and point them at the eye

For a horse with colic

Drench her with hot ale and ground ginger

Taken from Schools' Collection at the National Folklore Archive

Ireland XO

Ireland **xo**
reaching out

How an Irish Airline Will Help You Find Your Ancestors

Aer Lingus has announced a new “**Discover Your Roots**” trip package: a six-night excursion to the Emerald Isle intended to help folks with Irish blood create an Irish connection to their ancestry.



The package includes:

- Round-trip economy class airfare to Dublin (DUB)
- 2 nights in Dublin at the North Star Hotel, or similar
- Admission to EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum
- Admission to the Irish Family History Centre
- 90-minute private consultation with a genealogy expert at The Irish Family History Centre
- Manual, economy-sized car rental for 6 nights – upgrade to automatic or larger car available
- Pick up Dublin City Centre, Drop off Dublin Airport
- 6 nights in your choice of B&Bs throughout Ireland

Is this a good offer or will it be a productive one? I have no idea. However, you can check it out for yourself by starting at: <http://bit.ly/34kl8X7>.

Source: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

Destroyed Identities – the Digital Reconstruction of Auschwitz-Birkenau Victims' Data.

The [Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum](#) is dedicated to the former German Nazi concentration and extermination camp in Oświęcim, Poland. The museum is attempting to identify all the former prisoners who were incarcerated there. According to the museum's web site:

NAME	NAZWISKO	IMIENIA_NAZ	DATA_URO	WIEKOWIEC	DATA_PRZYBYCIA	DATA_ZGONAJ	DOPRABE
Adam	Sandrowicz		1921-03-10	Włocław	1941-10-01		Kinga Andrzej LECHENI
Abraham Isidor	Sandrowicz		1921-03-10	Włocław	1941-10-01	1941-10-01	Lista nowo przybyłych z (LUGAND) - Włocławek

“More than 1,200,000 entries from the post-camp documentation have been created by the Digital Repository of the Memorial Site. So far, more than 60 per cent of the 400,000 prisoners registered in the German Nazi concentration camp have been identified.

“One of the most important goals of the Repository is to collect dispersed documentation of transport lists to Auschwitz-Birkenau. ‘We must remember that about 900,000 Jews deported in mass transports from German-occupied Europe – women, children, and men – were murdered in the gas chambers immediately upon arrival at the camp without registration. There are no post-camp records of them. Transport lists may help us to establish their names,” said the Director of the Museum, Dr. Piotr M. A. Cywiński.

“At the moment, the existing database, which contains information on persons registered in Auschwitz, is being merged with the data from the transport lists. Consequently, as early as in May 2020, the search results at <http://www.auschwitz.org> will be enriched with over 420,000 names from the transport lists of Jews deported to the camp.”

You can read more at: <http://bit.ly/2QmlkJJ>.

Source: Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter

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