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Title

The UK Gazettes - A Treasure Trove of Information for Family History

Summary

The London, Edinburgh, Belfast and Dublin Gazettes have been the official newspapers of record since 1665. They are mostly consulted for details of military appointments and honours, but there is a variety of other information available in these gazettes, relating not only to the UK but also to the Colonies.

Abstract

The presentation will give a brief history of the Gazettes, and then show some of the valuable information available in them. This varies from very early gazettes which contained overseas news, shipping movements and absconded servants, through the reports of the Great Fire of London, up until the 19th Century when it contained more "official" information, such as bankruptcies and insolvencies, intestate estate details, civil and military honours and awards, military promotions, notification of patents, dissolution of business partnerships, naturalisations, changes of name, civil service recruitment and examinations (including Post Office employees) and imprisoned debtors. After illustrating the types of information available, the presentation will go on to illustrate how to access these Gazettes.

Audience

Intermediate