

Fact Sheet: John McGuire

Pensioner Details
<i>Pensioner name:</i> John McGuire
<i>Person ID:</i> IR1010
<i>Your name:</i> Anonymous
<i>U3A group:</i> Northern Ireland
Part One: Birth and Family
1: When and where was your pensioner born?
<p>John McGuire was born in Belfast on 28 May 1848. He was baptised on 18 June 1848 in Trinity Church Belfast.</p>
2: Who were your pensioners' parents? Record any details you can find out about them here (e.g. occupation, religious affiliation, whether they could read or write)
<p>John's father was William McGuire. He could both read and write. William was a Chandler.</p> <p>He lived to the age of 94 and died in 1880 in Meeting House Lane, Limavady. John was present at his death which was from "General debility 2 weeks certified." He was of the protestant faith.</p> <p>John's mother was Margaret (nee Earl), who married William on 23 April 1846 in Londonderry. She was his second wife, his first having presumably died as no record of the first marriage was found.</p> <p>Margaret's father, Andrew Earl was a mason and William's father, John, was a farmer. Margaret could both read and write and were also of the protestant faith.</p> <p>John's mother Margaret, died on 20 January 1886, aged 74, in the workhouse in Limavady of "General debility 1 year and 6 months". John Meekan occupier of the workhouse was the informant.</p>

3: Did your pensioner have any siblings? What were their names, and how old were they in relation to your pensioner? Use this space to record anything else you have found out about them (e.g. occupation)

No records of any siblings were found. It is possible that he had siblings or even half siblings born before the introduction of civil registration of births in 1864. No records of baptisms were found either.

Part Two: Marriage and children/boarders

1: Did your pensioner marry? What was their spouse's name, and when and where did they marry them? Use this space to record any extra details you can find out about their spouse (e.g. when/where they were born, their occupation). **Note:** *You can also use this space to record any details about people your pensioner boarded with.*

John McGuire married **Lucy Wilson** on 10 August 1872 in the Registrars' Office in Newtown Limavady. His occupation was recorded as that of letter carrier whilst her occupation was listed as that of servant. Lucy's father was recorded as being a carpenter. John's father a chandler. She was born in Co. Tyrone but no record of her birth was found.

In 1901 census John and Lucinda were living in Irish Green Street in Limavady. His occupation was now listed as postman whilst her occupation was a Housekeeper. They could both read and write and their religion was recorded as Brethren.

Lucy McGuire, John's wife, died on 12 August 1901 of "an overdose of alcohol". An inquest was held on 13 August to determine her death. Her place of death was listed as Flemings Court, Limavady.

In 1911 census, John was now boarding in Excise Street, Belfast Co. Antrim.

His occupation was that of an ex- postman and his religion was Presbyterian. He was boarding with a widow, Margaret Haslett and her five children. Jam Haslett aged 22. John Haslett, 19 and Marcus, 12, Annie, 8 and Alfred, 4. The Hasletts were all Presbyterian.

Interestingly, on Alfred's birth registration, his father John Haslett's occupation was listed as that of postman.

I identified two potential **death certificates** for Postal Pensioner John McGuire and am not convinced that either is correct.

In **Death Certificate 1**, that John McGuire died in 1916 in Union Hospital Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, of "Chronic Nephritis- 1 year". It also states that he was a bachelor aged 66 years. At the time of his death, his occupation was listed as that of a 'shoemaker'. Postal Pensioner, John McGuire, was a widower since 1901. However on his daughter Margaret Jane's birth certificate, his occupation was listed as a 'bootmaker'.

In **Death Certificate 2**, John McGuire died in 1925, was a widower aged 75 years and his occupation was that of a labourer. A Mrs Stewart was present at his death in Westport, Ballyshannon.

Cause of death "General Debility".

The last known address that I found for Postal Pensioner John McGuire was in 1911 Census when he was boarding in Excise Street, St Anne's Ward, Belfast.

The ages for both these people would correspond to the age of Postal Pensioner John McGuire if he died in 1916 or 1925.

2: Did your pensioner have any children? What were their names, and when they were born? Use this space to record any extra details you can find out about them (e.g. occupation, where they lived later in life)

John McGuire had seven children all born in Meeting House Lane, Limavady.

1. **James Wilson McGuire** born 12 March 1874.

He married Catherine and they had four children:

- Lucy b 1905 in Australia
- Ivy b 1906 in Australia
- Violet b 1909 in Washington
- Gordon b 1911 in Washington.

In USA 1920 census they were living in King Washington USA and James's occupation was that of a painter.

He died on 11 July 1932 in Seattle, King, Washington. His cause of death was "Extradural hemorrhage and concussion of brain caused in a fight". His daughter Lucille was the informant.

2. **William McGuire (1)** born 21 July 1875. He died 27 March 1877 in the presence of his father John McGuire. Cause of death "Diphtheria two months. Exhaustion one month certified."

3. **Mary McGuire** born 27 February 1877.

In 1901 Census, Mary was the only child living with her parents in Irish Green Street. She could read and write and her occupation was that of a seamstress.

Mary married **Robert Barrett** on 24 July 1909 in St Andrew's Church Belfast. Her address was listed as Union Infirmary Belfast and Robert's address 16 Teutonic Street Belfast. Her occupation was listed as a stitcher and Robert a labourer.

In 1911 Census, Robert and Mary were living in 20 Teutonic Street. Mary was not working but Robert was now a Hackle Settler. They had a four month old baby Kathline. Their religion was protestant Church of Ireland.

4. **John Darby McGuire** born 31 August 1878.

5. **Margaret Jane McGuire** born 27 July 1880.

At the time of Margaret's birth it was noted that her father's occupation was that of 'boot maker.'

In 1901 Census, Margaret was boarding in 46 Hillview Street, Belfast. Her brother William Thomas was with her. Her occupation is listed as a cloth-picker in a factory.

Margaret married **John Cunningham**, a labourer, in St. Anne's Parish Church Belfast on 23 October 1904. She had no occupation listed. At the time of her marriage she was living in 90 Louisa Street, Belfast.

The marriage was witnessed by her sister, Lucy Eva McGuire and a Richard Cunningham.

In 1911 Census Margaret and John were living in 65 Chatham Street, Belfast. They had three children.

- Albert: 6 years old, born 2 January 1905 in Belfast.
- Lucy Eva: 4 years old, born 13 June 1906 Co. Dublin.
- Mary: 2 years old, born in Belfast.

John's occupation was listed as a plasterer and Mary as a linen weaver. They were Methodist and both could read and write.

6. **Lucy Eva McGuire** born 22 August 1882.

In 1901 census, Lucy McGuire, 18, was working as a Domestic Servant in Union Street, Coleraine with the **Gween** Family. Her religion was listed as Church of Ireland and she could read and write.

Lucy married **Robert Green** in Belfast at St. Anne's Parish Church on 21 February 1908. At the time of her marriage she was living in 57 Jersey Street Belfast and Robert 13 Park Mount Street, Belfast.

She did not appear to be working at that time. Her marriage was witnessed by her sister Mary and Mary's future husband, Robert. Her father John's occupation is listed as Post Office Pensioner.

In 1911 Census, Lucy was not working and she was living with her in-laws in Mount Collyer Avenue, Belfast, whilst her husband was boarding in 21 Walton Street and working as a factory labourer. Lucy's religion was listed Church of Ireland and she could read and write.

7. **William (2) Thomas** born 21 July 1885.

In **1901** census, William Thomas was boarding in 46 Hillview Street, Belfast with his sister. His occupation was listed as a Factory Boy.

Part Three: Work

1: What occupation was your pensioner recorded as doing in census and/or other years? Please make sure to state clearly which year you are referring to

In **1872** at the time of his marriage, John's occupation was that of Letter Carrier.

In **1877** at the time of his daughter Mary's birth, he was recorded as being a Postman.

In **1878**, at the time of his son John's birth he was also recorded as being a Postman.

In **1880**, at the time of Margaret Jane's birth, his occupation was recorded as that of a Boot maker.

In **1901** Census, his occupation was a Postman.

In **1908**, at the time of Lucy Eva's marriage his occupation is that of a Post Office Pensioner.

In **1911 Census**, his occupation was now listed as being that of Ex- postman.

2: What occupations were people living with your pensioner (e.g. spouse, children, boarders) doing in the census and/or other years? Please make sure to state clearly which year you are referring to

In **1872** at the time of John's marriage, his wife Lucy was a Servant.

In **1901** Census, his wife was not working and his daughter, Mary, was a Seamstress.

In **1901** Census, his daughter Lucy was working as a Domestic Servant.

In **1901** Census, his daughter Margaret was working as a Cloth picker in a factory.

In **1901** Census, his son William Thomas was working as a factory boy.

In **1911** Census, his daughter Margaret was now a Linen Weaver.

In **1911** Census, John is boarding with the **Haslett** family in 1 Excise Street, St. Anne's Ward, Co. Antrim.

- Margaret Haslett, the head of the house was a widow and not working.

- Jam Haslett, her daughter, was a Tobacco Spinner.
- John Haslett, her son, was a Box Maker.
- The other three children were scholars.

In 1920 USA census, James McGuire was listed a painter and at the time of his death in 1932, he was still a painter.

Part Four: Anything Else

Please use this space to record anything else you have found out about your pensioner. For example, what do we know about their life after they retired?

John McGuire was born in Belfast but lived all his working life in Limavady. He started work about the age of 16 and retired at 53 of ill health. His father had to sign a British Civil Service Evidence of Age in 1866 to say when and where John was born and baptised. He began working for the Post Office in February 1866 and his route as a Letter Carrier would have been from Limavady to Drumsurn, a distance of 8 kilometres.

Sometime between the census of 1901 and 1911, John moved to Belfast and was boarding with the Haslett family. His daughters Lucy, Margaret and Mary were all living in Belfast at this time but John did not live with any of them.

If the John McGuire in Death Certificate 1 is correct for Postal Pensioner John, then after 1911 he moved to Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh and started working as a shoemaker. If however, the John McGuire in Death Certificate 2 is the correct one, then he moved right across country to Westport and worked as a labourer.

No records for his son John Darby were found after his birth, possibly because he emigrated. This is also true for his son William Thomas as no records were found for him after 1901.

Part Five: Sources

Please use this space to record the sources you have used

William McGuire (father of postal pensioner)

Marriage 1846

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1846/09312/5372049.pdf

Death 1880

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1880/06462/4858194.pdf

Margaret (nee Earl) McGuire (mother of postal pensioner)

Death 1886

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1886/06264/4794216.pdf

John McGuire (postal pensioner)

Birth and Baptism 1848. Also record of proof of age.

<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBOR%2FCSEOA%2F00038310>

Appointed to Post Office 1866

British Postal Museum and Archive; Series: POST 58; Reference Number : 85

Married 1872

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1872/11314/8151755.pdf

Death certificate (1) 1916

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1916/05230/4448133.pdf

Death certificate (2) 1925

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1925/05020/4371782.pdf

1901 Census

http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Londonderry/Limavaddy/Irish_Green_Street/1525985/

1911 census

[http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Antrim/St_Anne_s_Ward/Excise Street/182474/](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Antrim/St_Anne_s_Ward/Excise_Street/182474/)

Lucy (nee Wilson) McGuire (wife of postal pensioner)

Death

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1901/05722/4614648.pdf

James Wilson McGuire (son of postal pensioner)

Birth

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1874/03165/2161304.pdf

USA Census 1910

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MGJ9-TGK>

USA census 1920

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MHF1-BKG>

Death

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NQMB-2XD>

William McGuire (son of postal pensioner)

Birth 1875

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1875/03094/2134771.pdf

Death 1877

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1877/020551/7211794.pdf

Mary McGuire (daughter of postal pensioner)

Birth 1877

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1877/03027/2109383.pdf

Marriage 1909

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1909/10023/5645644.pdf

1911 Census

[http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Antrim/St_George_s/Teutonic Street/156663/](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Antrim/St_George_s/Teutonic_Street/156663/)

John Darby McGuire (son of postal pensioner)

Birth 1878

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1878/02957/2083278.pdf

Margaret Jane McGuire (daughter of postal pensioner)

Birth 1880

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1880/02866/2050035.pdf

1901 Census

<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Antrim/Clifton/Hillview Street/961875/>

Marriage 1904

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1904/10211/5717073.pdf

Census 1911

<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Antrim/Clifton/Chatham Street/183705/>

Albert Cunningham (son of Margaret and grandson of postal pensioner)

Birth 1905

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1905/01798/1705133.pdf

Lucy Eva Cunningham (daughter of Margaret and granddaughter of postal pensioner)

Birth 1906

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1906/01731/1684143.pdf

Lucy Eva McGuire (daughter of postal pensioner)

Birth

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1882/02775/2018762.pdf

1901 Census

<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Londonderry/Coleraine/Union Street/1519075/>

Marriage 1908

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1908/10040/5652203.pdf

1911Census

http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Antrim/Duncairn/Mountcollyer_Avenue/141852/

Robert Green (husband of Lucy McGuire)

1911 census

http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Antrim/Clifton/Walton_Street/175741/

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William (2) Thomas McGuire (son of postal pensioner)

Birth

https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1885/02639/1973100.pdf

1901 Census

http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Antrim/Clifton/Hillview_Street/961875/

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