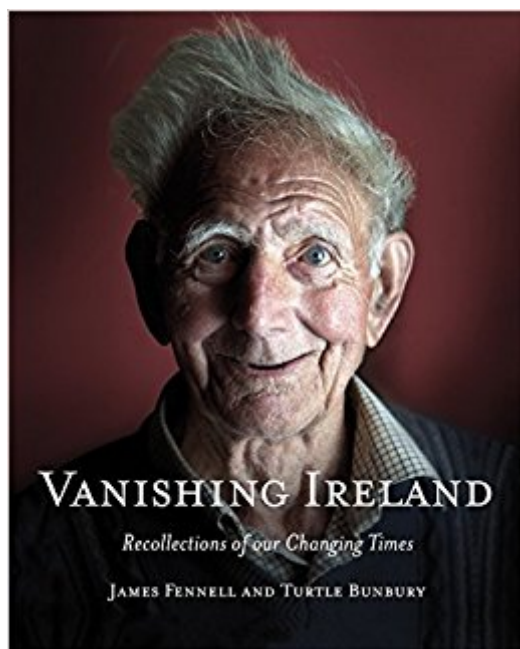


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# Vanishing Ireland: Recollections Of Our Changing Times



## Synopsis

In *Vanishing Ireland: Recollections of our Changing Times*, award-winning photographer James Fennell and bestselling author Turtle Bunbury once again journey the length and breadth of Ireland to bring us an extraordinary, powerful new collection of poignant interviews from ordinary men and women who share with us their memories, providing us with an invaluable link to the past. Through words and stunningly evocative photographs, we meet the people of Ireland who lived through adversity and hardship during the formative decades of independent Ireland, yet whose courage, kindness and humour remains intact. We talk with those who watched friends and family sail for foreign shores, and lose ourselves in a world where life was simpler, yet somehow happier; where storytelling, fiddle-playing, cÃfÆ'Ã Â©ilÃfÆ'Ã Â-s and communal pastimes cemented the deep friendships that became the lifeblood of each community. As stories are shared beside the warmth of a fire in farmhouses in Kerry and Clare; in the turf sheds of Limerick and Tipperary; over cups of tea and glasses of whiskey in the kitchens of Wexford, Sligo and Dublin; in the cobbled yards of Wicklow and Tipperary; in the shadow of the hills of Leitrim and Donegal; on the pavements of Dublin City; and against the sound of crashing waves on the coast of Galway, we meet the people who have lived through times of change as the past comes alive through their words. Blacksmiths, saddlers, harness makers and coal miners, mattress makers, factory workers, bonesetters and cattle drivers, all are gathered here as we are afforded a glimpse of the inimitable spirit of the people of this country. The world continues to change but, gathered within these pages, are stories and to be cherished, to keep the past alive long into the future.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A dignified tribute to the older generation who grew up, so it seems, in another world. [The Irish Examiner](#) One of the best picture books of the year [The Irish Examiner](#) An ideal Christmas present [Sunday Independent](#) An absolutely beautiful book [Pat Kenny, Today with Pat Kenny](#) A wonderful book [Metro](#) A genuine treasure ... full of stunning photographs and fascinating profiles [The Dubliner](#)

JAMES FENNELL is one of Ireland's leading photographers, and his work has been featured in *Vogue Living*, *House & Garden*, *The Financial Times*, and *The Irish Times*.

([jamesfennell.com](http://jamesfennell.com)) TURTLE BUNBURY is a best-selling author and award-winning historical consultant, whose roles include international public speaking and frequent contributions to television, radio and print media. His print & online media credits include *National Geographic Traveler*, *Playboy*, *Vogue Living*, *The World of Interiors*, *The Australian*, *The Financial Times* & *The Irish Times*. ([turtlebunbury.com](http://turtlebunbury.com))  
BUNBURY & FENNELL'S PUBLISHED BOOKS\*  
*Vanishing Ireland, Friendship & Community* (Hachette, 2013)\* *Vanishing Ireland, Recollections of Changing Times* (Hachette, 2011)\* *Sporting Legends of Ireland* (Mainstream, 2010)\* *Vanishing Ireland, Further Chronicles of a Disappearing World* (Hachette, 2009)\* *The Irish Pub* (Thames & Hudson, 2008)\* *Vanishing Ireland* (Hodder Headline, 2006)\* *Living in Sri Lanka* (Thames & Hudson, 2006)  
AWARDS\* *Best Irish Published Book of the Year* (2013, Shortlist)\* *Eason's Irish Published Book of the Year* (2010, Shortlist)\* *William Hill Sports Book of the Year* (2010, Nominee)\* *Eason's Irish Published Book of the Year* (2007, Shortlist)

My bandmates and I travel to Ireland every couple of years. We play Traditional Irish music and love visiting Ireland to soak in the culture and music. Our trips have been wonderful eye opening experiences and meeting people and hearing their stories is high on our list of things to do. There's nothing like visiting a local rural pub to play in a session and sitting down next to a complete stranger and finishing the evening with a new friend, or as is often the case, friends. Our last trip just this last April introduced us to Tomas O'Niallin and his family. They have a home they rent and when we chose the home through an internet site we only knew that it looked like a nice place and the price was reasonable. It turned out to be a hidden gem for us in that Tommy has played the music all his life and knew every musician in the area. He's also featured in the book "Vanishing

Ireland: Recollections of Our Changing Times". He was very pleased to have been interviewed for the book, and proudly showed it to us. I asked if I could read it while we were with them and he kindly allowed me to. I enjoyed it so much that I pulled out my iPad and ordered it from while in Ireland, so I'd have it when I returned. The book is full of interviews with wonderful Irish characters, all older people who grew up in an Ireland quite different from the Ireland of today. The book is separated into four sections; Of Horses and Ponies, Of Music and Craft, Of Farms and Bogs, and Of Industry and Trade. Each section is full of interviews with people who worked in each area covered. The stories are grand, about a way of life that is disappearing with a vanishing generation. Time never allows a way of life to last forever, but having that way of life documented through the memories of those who lived it is better than having it disappear unremembered. I highly recommend this book to anyone who has visited Ireland or anyone who has wondered about the Emerald Isle and its people.

A look back at traditional Ireland and her people who are being overtaken by the passage of time. Lovely book of photographs accompanied by short essays. Nice "coffee table" book for a family or person of Irish lineage.

As I looked through this wonderful collection of memories I was transported back to Sunday afternoons in the front parlor of my Grandparents Bronx home. Gathered together would be a mix of relatives, those who had ventured to these shores years past and then there would be the new arrivals fresh from the fields of Clare & Galway. The stories would flow, reminiscences of the loved ones left behind, tales from 'home'; the smallest details colorfully related and met with rapt attention. All this and more has been captured and bound between the covers of this magical compilation~ tales from home and ways slowly changing. Treat yourself to this journey through these simple lives & acknowledge this history~MAGIC!

I couldn't be more pleased to have this gorgeous book in my family's library!

I love this book. It gives you a sweet glimpse of the old days of Ireland...the good and the bad. It is fascinating reading each one of the stories. Each person tells of a simpler, and yet harder life, punctuated with hard work, laughter and love of family, faith and country. I would recommend this book to anyone who has a bit of the "old sod" coursing through his veins.

Wonderful stories, I've bought several other ones now too!

Finally treated myself to the entire series... Always happy to see a Friend's name on my book shelf. Thank you for the prompt delivery and excellent packaging

I bought this book back when it first came out, and then recently bought another copy for an elderly relative who grew up in Ireland. She was delighted by the book. It's a great look at the ordinary Irish people, with a focus on those men and women of a certain age who have spent their lives in the liminal space between old Ireland and new.

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