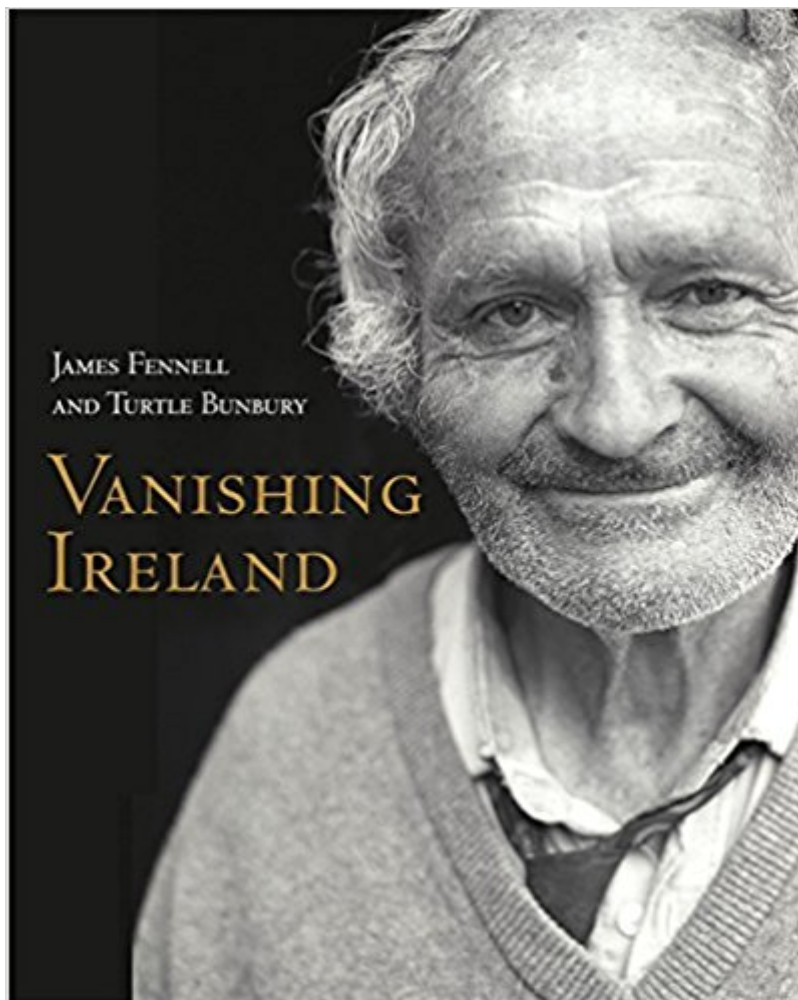


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# Vanishing Ireland



## Synopsis

Short-listed for the Eason's Irish Published Book of the Year Award 2007, *Vanishing Ireland* is a unique collection of portrait interviews looking at the dying ways and traditions of Irish life and taking us back to an Ireland virtually unrecognisable today. Illustrated with over a hundred evocative and stunning photographs, we meet the people and customs that shaped the cultural identity of the Irish nation. Through their own words and memories, sixty-four men and women transport us back to a time when people lived off the land and the sea, when music and storytelling were essential parts of life, when a person was defined by their trade. Divided into five parts -- Children of the Field, Children of the Music, Children of the Horse, Children of the Trade and Children of the Water -- *Vanishing Ireland* brings together the stories of those who lived through Ireland's formative years. We hear of children harassed by the Black and Tans, of ceilis in kitchens, and the rigours of working in the fields, of the wonder of electricity and the devastation of emigration. From coalminers to saddlers, farmers to fishermen, along with horse dealers, publicans, housemaids and musicians -- these remarkably poignant interviews and photographs, in their simplicity and honesty, will make you laugh and cry but, above all, will provide a valuable chronicle that connects twenty-first century Ireland to a rapidly disappearing world.

## Book Information

Series: *Vanishing Ireland*

Hardcover: 192 pages

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Best Sellers Rank: #311,434 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > Irish](#) #323 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Portraits](#) #507 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Travel](#)

## Customer Reviews

Warm, funny, touching, sometimes desperately sad. A genuine treasure, this social history of the Irish character in his (or her) twilight years is full of stunning photographs and fascinating profiles.

--The Dubliner Written with sympathy, understanding and gentle humour ... containing photographs brimful of character. --Sunday Independent - Charles Lysaght One of the most outstanding books to be published in 2006 - we cannot recommend it highly enough.Â Essential reading for young and old alike and the importance and value of this book will undoubtedly increase in years to come.

--The Western People A book of the year - any year - a timeless masterpiece by two skilful professionals. One word of advice, buy it, read it but do not lend this book to anyone for you will never get it back. --The Carlow Nationalist By turns, beautiful, humorous and moving, Vanishing Ireland depicts life in contemporary rural Ireland in finer and fuller detail than any statistical analysis, opinion poll or economic survey ever could. --The Mayo Advertiser A dignified tribute to the older generation who grew up, so it seems, in another world.â •The Irish Examiner A wonderful bookâ •Metro

JAMES FENNELLÂ 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)Â TURTLE BUNBURYÂ 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. Â 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)BUNBURY & FENNELL'SÂ 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 too 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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