

Cumann Geinealais na hÉireann

## Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

*(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")*

Vol. 1 No. 8

www.familyhistory.ie

August : Lúnasa 2006



**GENEALOGY**  
**HERALDRY**  
**VEXILLOLOGY**  
**SOCIAL HISTORY**  
**Heritage Matters**  
**Book Reviews**  
**Open Meetings**  
**News & Queries**

**CONTENTS**

<i>War of Independence Medals</i>	2
<i>Cathaoirleach to Represent Society in Boston</i>	2
<i>Speaker Programme August to December</i>	2
<i>James Scannell Reports...</i>	3
<i>Précis of July Lecture</i>	3
<i>Diary Dates &amp; Queries</i>	4
<i>Imeacht na nIarlaí—Flight of the Earls</i>	4

## The World of Genealogy & Heraldry Assembles in St. Andrew's, Scotland

The **27th International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences** will be held this month in the medieval Scottish university town of St. Andrews—the home of golf. Our Scottish cousins have promised an exciting array of lectures, workshops and other events in and around this famous venue from Monday 21st to Saturday 26th August 2006.

The **Heraldry Society of Scotland** and the **Scottish Genealogy Society** will jointly host the 27th Congress which has attracted expert speakers from all around the world. The theme for the 2006 Congress is *"Myth & Propaganda in Heraldry & Genealogy"* and this has certainly encouraged many to submit papers on a range of topics including, **Mr. Mícheál Ó Comáin**, Consulting Herald at the Office of the Chief Herald of Ireland, who will speak on the *"Confirmation of Irish Arms"*. Another speaker on a distinctively Irish subject is **Mr. Michael F. McCarthy** who will read his paper on *"The Evolution of Diocesan Arms in Ireland"*. Many other lectures and workshops are designed to appeal to those with a greater interest in genealogy than heraldry. Whilst, the organizers

have taken great care to cater for the spouses and partners of attendees who may have just a fleeting interest in the subjects concerned. They have arranged tours to Edinburgh, and to famous historic sites and places of interest.

This Congress was held in Dublin in 2002 in Dublin Castle and the Office of the Chief Herald of Ireland has produced a beautifully hand painted Roll of Arms of the attendees at the Dublin Congress. This **"Dublin Roll"** will be on display at St. Andrews during the Congress and hopefully, in the Heraldic Museum on its return to Dublin.

Besides all the glitz and glamour of these occasions with dignitaries abounding, important research is unveiled and shared in the genealogical and heraldic communities. This is vital for the continuation of academic research in these subjects at many levels throughout the world. Indeed, with the publication in May of the Genealogy & Heraldry Bill, 2006 by **Senator Brendan Ryan**, focus on the Irish heraldic situation is anticipated during a number of debates and Q&A sessions. The establishment of a sound legislative basis for the

State's delivery of heraldic services is essential to ensure the continuation and further development of heraldry in Ireland. Whilst this is generally accepted by all with a genuine interest in Irish heraldry opinions vary as to the extent of legislative control required in an area already top-heavy with traditional rules. No doubt that a lively debate will ensue amongst heraldists on this and many other issues concerning the Bill.

Comparisons between the various heraldic traditions surviving around the world will naturally permeate each debate and workshop. However, the challenge facing heraldry in many countries is the public perception of its stuffy exclusivity and possible irrelevance to many in the 21st century. Besides the widespread use of heraldic symbolism in this country, its significance, history and the science of heraldry generally is not well understood nor appreciated by the general public. Whether fringe discussions on this topic at the Congress will produce some exciting proposals on the popularization of heraldry we will just have to wait and see!! For info:- [www.congress2006.com](http://www.congress2006.com)

## New Venue for Morning Meeting

The Board of the Society has decided to relocate the Morning Open Meeting from The Port View Hotel on Marine Road to **Weir's of Dún Laoghaire** on George's Street Lower (Main Street), Dún Laoghaire. The main reason for the relocation is the pending refurbishment works at the hotel and the possible disruption caused to our meetings by these works. The Society has been

holding its Morning Open Meetings at the hotel from 1993 with a brief period in another local venue in the late 1990's. The hotel management and staff have always been excellent hosts with efficient, helpful and friendly service. The Board, on behalf of all our members, wishes the hotel every success with its upcoming development programme. The new venue has been described as

one of the best designed public houses in Dún Laoghaire with a cuisine to match. The meeting will be held upstairs in the luxuriously appointed lounge where coffee/tea will be served as usual. Weir's of Dún Laoghaire is located on the town's main street up from the hotel—turn right at the top of Marine Road at the church and it's less than seventy meters down on your right.

## War of Independence Medals

The Irish Minister for Defence **Willie O'Dea TD** on Sunday, July 30th 2006 unveiled Official Certificates that will be issued to families of military Veterans of 1916 and War of Independence to replace lost, stolen or destroyed 1916 and War of Independence Medals. "It has been settled Departmental policy for many years that replacement medals were issued on a once only basis on receipt of a request from the Veteran to whom the medals were originally awarded. This policy was adopted in the interest of preserving the intrinsic value of these medals and to strictly limit the number of medals issued in any particular case. Although almost all of the Veterans are now deceased, the rationale I believe, for restricting the issue of replacement medals, is still valid," added Minister O'Dea. The Minister said that he fully understood the feelings and frustrations of family members of Veterans when requests for replacement Medals are refused. "Veterans of 1916 and War of Independence sacrificed so much to build the foundations of this State and allow this country gain its freedom. We must, said the Minister, "honour and respect their

selfless idealism and patriotism. Their vision and bravery must never be forgotten down through the generations. I have therefore decided that an Official Certificate signed by the Minister for Defence should be issued in such cases confirming that one of the medals in question was awarded to the named Veteran. If more than one medal was awarded, a separate certificate will be provided for each medal. Certificates will be presented to families in both Irish and English." The Minister was speaking to a group of the families who had medals either lost, stolen or destroyed. According to the Minister this initiative was to coincide with the 90th Anniversary of the Easter Rising. A total of five medals were issued for participants in the 1916 Rising and the War of Independence. The **1916 Medal** was awarded to persons who participated in the Rising during the week commencing 23 April, 1916—circa 2,000 were awarded. The **1917-1921 Service Medal with Bar** was awarded to persons who rendered active military service during the War of Independence—more than 15,000 medals were awarded. The **1917-1921 Service Medal with**

**Bar** was awarded to persons whose service was not deemed active military service, but who were members of Óglaigh na hÉireann, Fianna Éireann, Cumann na mBan or the Irish Citizen Army continuously for the three months which ended with the Anglo-Irish truce of the 11th July 1921—over 50,000 Medals were awarded. The **1916 Survivor's Medal** was created in 1966 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Rising of Easter Week 1916. The medal was issued to those who had been awarded the 1916 Medal and who were still alive at the time. The **1921 Truce Commemoration Medal** was created to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Truce that ended the War of Independence. The medal was issued to veterans of the War of Independence who were alive on the 11 July 1971 and who had been duly awarded the 1917-1921 Service Medal, whether with or without Bar. To apply for an **Official Certificate** to replace lost, stolen or destroyed 1916 / War of Independence Medals, people should apply to the following address:- **Pensions Administration Branch**, Department of Defence, Áras an tSáile, Renmore, Galway, Ireland.

## Cathaoirleach to Represent Society in Boston

The Cathaoirleach of the Society, **Rory Stanley, FGSI**, and his wife **Roz Stanley, MGSI**, will represent the Genealogical Society of Ireland at the FGS Conference in Boston at the end of the month. This conference will see a strong Irish contingent promote Ireland as a research holiday destination for North Americans with Irish ancestry. The Society will have a stand in the exhibition hall along with other Irish exhibitors all hoping to paint Boston greener than usual during this important conference which draws people from all over the United States and Canada. Our colleagues in The Irish Ancestral Research Association (TIARA) and hosts, the New England Historic

Genealogical Society and the Federation of Genealogical Societies in the United States have certainly planned a bumper four day event. Lectures, workshops and, of course, the typical Bostonian hospitality events all have proven extremely popular at the pre-booking stage. Though places are still plentiful, booking now is very advisable. Many of our American Members are also assisting with the organisation of events, including **Mary Ellen Grogan, MGSI**, who has been of tremendous assistance to all the Irish contingent. **Eileen Ó Dúill** of the Association of Professional Genealogists in Ireland (APGI) has been instrumental in attracting one of the largest Irish contingents yet to

travel to a genealogical conference in the United States. This conference will most certainly showcase Irish genealogy and heraldry in a vitally important tourism market for the whole island of Ireland. As part of the lecture programme, **Rory Stanley, FGSI**, will deliver a talk on the publication of the Genealogy & Heraldry Bill, 2006 and its proposals for greater access to certain genealogical records. Other GSI members, including **George Handran, Sheila Benedict** and **Brian Mitchell, FGSI** will also speak at the Conference which runs from August 30th thru September 2nd 2006 in Boston. Further details, including booking information, may be obtained on [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org)

## Lecture Programme August—December 2006

**Séamus Moriarty, MGSI**, Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Society and Convener of the Evening Meetings has arranged a full programme of lectures for the remainder of the year. Beginning with Tuesday August 8th our Guest Speaker will be **Caroline McCall, MGSI** on the topic "*Where there is a Will there is a Relative*" which touches on a topic of considerable significance to genealogists. On Tuesday September 12th the former Director of the National Library and former Chief Herald of Ireland, **Brendan O'Donoghue** will speak

on the topic of "*The Leahy family of Engineers 1780 to 1888*". **Brendan** has done considerable research on the lives and times of Irish engineers. This type of study of a family occupation or business provides a framework for one's own research and opens up resource possibilities. On Tuesday October 10th we are delighted to have **Dr. Siobhán FitzPatrick**, Librarian at the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin. This lecture will explore the Royal Irish Academy as a resource for family history by explaining what is available in this wonderful archive and how

to access these resources. On Tuesday November 14th **Patrick-Wyse Jackson** of the Dept. of Geology, Trinity College Dublin, will speak on "*Sir Richard Griffith (1784-1878) public servant, valuator and geologist*". This will give us a chance to learn more on the man behind Griffith's Valuation Survey. Finally, on the last Evening Meeting of 2006, we are very pleased to have **Eileen Ó Dúill, MAPGI**, professional genealogist, who will speak on the topic "*The Four Courts Fire of 1922*"—an opportunity to understand what was lost and what survived.

## James Scannell Reports....

**BATTLE OF THE SOMME STAMP** To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Somme, An Post (Irish Postal Service) has issued a special 75c stamp based on a painting by J. P. Beadle. On 1 July 1916, the Allies mounted an attack along a 30 kilometre front north of the River Somme between Arras and Albert which had been preceded by an 8 day artillery bombardment which it was expected would have destroyed all the forward German positions enabling the attacking troops to cross "No Man's Land" at walking pace and then occupy the German front lines. But the artillery barrage failed to destroy the strongly constructed concrete bunkers that sheltered the Germans troops or the masses of barbed wire entanglements in front of these positions. When the artillery ceased and the Allied troops began to cross "No Man's Land" the German troops emerged and cut down the heavily laden troops with highly effective machine gun fire. On this first day an estimated 19,000 British and Irish troops were killed and 39,000 wounded. For the next 5 months, the slaughter continued with the deployment of tanks in September 1916

which though initially took the Germans by surprise, had little effect on the outcome due to mechanical problems. By the time the battle came to and end in November 1916 due to the onset of severe weather. British, Irish and French troops has gained 12 kilometres of ground at a cost of 420,000 casualties - 200,000 French and 500,000 German soldiers lost their lives. The 75c An Post Stamp depicts "*The Battle of the Somme (36th Ulster Division)*" from a painting by J. P. Beadle, and reproduced by kind permission of Belfast City Council. Copies of the stamp can be obtained from the **An Post Philatelic Bureau**, P.O. Box 1991, General Post Office, O'Connell Street, Dublin 1, Ireland.

**IRISH BARRISTERS IN WW1** The book "Wigs and Guns" by Dalkey resident, barrister and onetime member of this Society, **Anthony P. Quinn**, published by the Four Courts Press, recalls the many Irish barristers who took up arms against Germany in the First World War and lost their lives in this conflict. Inspiration for the book came to him when he saw 25

names in a memorial to Irish barristers killed during WW1 while studying at the Four Courts. His research took him to London, and he travelled to Flanders, France and Gallipoli with the Royal Dublin Fusiliers' Association to visit battlefields, cemeteries and memorials. Information was also obtained from British and Irish school archives, victim's families and other sources. "*Wigs and Guns - Irish Barristers in the Great War*" took six years to complete and includes an extensive bibliography.

**DUBLIN DAY BY DAY** Dublin's Temple Bar was the location recently for the launch of **Ken Finlay's** wonderful book "*Dublin Day by Day*" published by Nonsuch Publishing, which focuses on the daily lives of Dubliners and the city from the 18th century onwards. Every day has its own page in which a variety of events are listed for that day - some are serious, some are light hearted while others reveal that some of today's issues were also known to our ancestors. An essential book for those interested in the history of the City of Dublin—especially, in "the rare auld times" ...

## Précis of the July Lecture

On Tuesday July 12th the Society was delighted to welcome **Mr. Gregory O'Connor**, Archivist at the National Archives of Ireland as our Guest Speaker. Gregory is well known to many of our members as an extremely helpful and very knowledgeable staff member at Bishop Street. Though, most of our members would be familiar with many of the resources for genealogy at the NAI—new members and many not-so-new members greatly benefited from the overview presented by Gregory. Besides looking at the various census returns, microform records etc Gregory outlined some new and exciting developments at the National Archives of Ireland. Amongst the most promising from a genealogi-

cal perspective is the digitisation of the 1901 and 1911 census returns to enable free on-line access to researchers around the world. Using an overhead projector Gregory explained how to access records and detailed their usefulness to family history research. Following his very interesting talk a lively question and answer session ensued. Gregory O'Connor will represent the National Archives of Ireland at the FGS Conference in Boston at the end of the month.

### ON-LINE SURVEY

Readers are invited to participate in the **Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology 2006**

On-Line Survey of Genealogy Tourists and Researchers to Ireland. The survey asks questions about where you are from, your holiday preferences and some information connected with genealogical research. It will take approximately 5 minutes to complete the questionnaire. Your survey responses will be strictly confidential and data from this research will be reported only in the aggregate. However if you have any questions or wish to add any comment contact **Jon Towler** at E-mail: [jontowler@eircom.net](mailto:jontowler@eircom.net) The text of the survey is available <http://gmitweb.gmit.ie:8080/genealogy> our members are readers are encouraged to assist Jon Towler with this important research project.

## Membership of the Genealogical Society

Membership of this Society is open to all persons with an interest in genealogy, heraldry, vexillology or social history whether based in Ireland or overseas. The Society strongly advocates the "*Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access*" to our heritage in all its varied forms. Therefore, members are always encouraged to contribute to the heritage resources of future generations by recording their own family history, story and lore for deposit in the Genealogical Society's Archives or publication in the Society's biannual journal.

As members of the Society we appreciate the importance of our heritage not only to people in Ireland, north and south, but also to Ireland's vast Diaspora. We have links with similar organisations overseas and we exchange journals with over sixty societies. Our activities are many and varied—full details on the website. For many, membership of this Society, means playing an active and vital role in the study and promotion of Irish heritage.

Membership Packages. **Ireland:-** Offering

ordinary membership of the Society, Membership Card, voting rights, use of the Society's Archive, monthly newsletter by mail, biannual Journal by mail, and the right to purchase the Society's publications at Special Members' prices of up to 50% off selected publications. This also includes an optional second Membership Card for a household member, including voting rights, for an all inclusive cost of just €30.00 per annum. **Overseas:-** Offering the same at €40.00 per annum. Join OR renew membership on line on the Society's website [www.familyhistory.ie/shop](http://www.familyhistory.ie/shop)

**IRELAND'S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE**

is published by the

**Genealogical Society of Ireland**

11, Desmond Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland

E-mail: GAZETTE@familyhistory.ie

Website: www.familyhistory.ie

**JOIN ON-LINE**

@

**www.familyhistory.ie/shop****DIARY DATES***Tuesday Aug. 8th & Sept. 12th 2006***Evening Open Meeting***Dún Laoghaire College of Further  
Education**Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire  
20.00hrs—22.00hrs**Wednesday Aug. 23rd & Sept. 27th 2006***Morning Open Meeting***Weir's, Lower George's St., Dún Laoghaire  
10.30hrs—12.30hrs**Contribution €3.00 p.p.**(Coffee/Tea included at Morning  
Meetings)***QUERIES**

**CAROL HILL** (née Hetherington) 7 Eastview Terrace, Pendleton, Clitheroe, Lancashire, England E-mail:- Carolhillbeads@aol.com Wrote:- Looking for information on the family of Thomas **Hetherington** (born around 1811) who married Margaret **Trotter** on 4th November 1835 in Cloonclare Church, Thomas was from Kilarue. They moved to England between 1850 and 1854, they had a son called John Hetherington who doesn't appear to have moved with them. Any information appreciated.

**ROBERT LEWIS ANGLIN**, 4175 Welcome All Rd SW, Atlanta, GA 30349-1824 USA E-mail:- robanglin@knology.net Wrote:- Seeking information regarding James **Anglin**, born about 1720 (+ or - 5 years) in Co. Cork. He died in Wilkes Co., Georgia, USA on 17 April 1778. His wife was possibly Mary **Lindsey**. If she was the wife of the James whom I am researching, they were married on 5 May 1743 in Doneraile, Co. Cork. Any information regarding James' life prior to his immigration to the States would be greatly appreciated.

**SUSAN HEUCHERT**, 440 Venado Dr. Santa Barbara, CA, 93111 USA E-mail:- speuchert@raytheon.com Wrote:- Seeking information on relatives of a Catherine **Toole** or **O'Toole** b 1831 in Dublin area. Emigrated to Cincinnati, Ohio USA about 1850-1854. Married James **McDonald** about 1854. Possible sister Ann Toole b 1846 and her husband Michael Byrne emigrated with son **Charles Byrne** age 1 in 1866. Relatives known to have stayed in Dublin area. Any information appreciated.

**FRED MacDONALD** 1689 Golf Club Dr., Delta, British Columbia, Canada E-mail:- fl54051@telus.net Wrote:- Trying to find information of John **McDonald** born circa 1804 m Elizabeth **Gunness** born circa 1804. Elizabeth's parents were Thomas **Gunness (Guinness)** 1782 m Elizabeth Farris c 1782 from county Armagh they emigrated to Canada before 1827 probably 1818-1825. Any information most appreciated.

**NOTA BENE:-** Queries are only published at the discretion of the editor and where a mailing address and e-mail address are provided. This is to ensure that readers will be able to contact you should you change your e-mail address in the future. Queries should be forwarded to the Editor at GAZETTE@familyhistory.ie

# Imeacht na nIarlaí - Flight of the Earls

Next month Ireland will be just one year away from the four hundredth anniversary of one of the most controversial and divisive episodes in Irish history—the Flight of the Earls. On September 14th 1607 a ship left Rathmullan in Lough Swilly, Co. Donegal with around a hundred members of the Gaelic nobility and their followers bound for mainland Europe. The reasons for their departure have been hotly debated for centuries but the security of these Gaelic leaders following their defeat at the Battle of Kinsale in 1601 was always going to be precarious. Though they had received a general pardon from the Crown in 1603 and confirmed in their estates, rumour, political intrigue and trumped-up charges of further plots for rebellion besieged the last bastion of Gaelic Ireland. These Ulster chieftains were followers of Hugh O'Neill who had engaged in a protracted guerilla war against Elizabeth I from 1592 until their defeat at Kinsale, Co. Cork, in 1601 as they went to the aid of their Spanish allies. Possibly the Gaelic chiefs viewed this departure more as a strategic withdrawal rather than a total abandonment of their homeland and people. Some Irish chieftains and their emissaries were already in contact with the King of Spain, the Pope and others seeking military assistance. What followed the departure of the Gaelic Chiefs or "Earls" laid the foundation for the Plantation of Ulster with English and Scot-

tish settlers—the ancestors of much of today's Northern Irish protestant population and doubtless, of many of its catholic population too. But back in 1607 the juries at two inquiries, one held in Strabane and the other at Lifford, found the exiles guilty of treason and the Bills of Indictment against O'Neill, O'Donnell and the others were later confirmed under English law. They now stood attainted and their lands forfeited to the Crown. An act of Parliament followed completing the process. But the juries were of the opinion that only the personal lands of the outlawed Chiefs were forfeited in accordance with legal precedent in both English and Irish (Brehon) Law. Some English officials at the time had voiced their concern at the process on legal and moral grounds but the Attorney-General maintained that "both by Irish custom and the law of England his Majesty may now seize these lands and dispose of them at his good pleasure". So on a plea of rebellion which had been pardoned in 1603 the whole of the counties of Donegal, Tyrone, Derry, Armagh, Cavan and Fermanagh were confiscated by the Articles of Plantation in May 1609. The Lord Deputy, Sir Arthur Chichester and Sir George Carew protested the injustice of the total confiscation of native lands, the latter prophesied that they would rebel under "the veil of religion and liberty than which nothing is esteemed so precious in the hearts of men". But nowadays for

genealogists this period brings a new strand into the population of Ireland which was to become the ancestors of not only the Northern Irish but of millions of people around the world. Amongst these are a number of American Presidents, captains of industry, inventors, educators, politicians and military commanders. Whether we are of Gaelic, Planter or mixed ancestry, if this anniversary could be marked by generosity, openness and the accommodation of difference then it is truly our shared history of this land.

## AN DAONCHARTLANN

The Society's Archive is based at the restored Martello Tower at Seapoint, County Dublin. "An Daonchartlann" as it is called, is open to members and visitors at various times during the month. As it is entirely staffed by our volunteers, the times of operation may vary. Therefore, the Archivist, **Mr. Séamus O'Reilly, MGSi**, advises all intending to visit the Society's Archive to telephone (01) 202 0464 to ascertain opening times. Persons visiting the Martello Tower are advised to use public transport—DART (rail) to Seapoint Station approx. 4 minutes walk.