

Cumann Seinealais na hÉireann

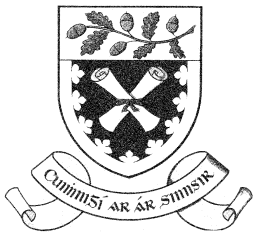
Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

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



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The Last Chief Herald of Ireland?

'The Office of the Chief Herald is currently not accepting new applications for grants or confirmations or arms owing to the retirement of the Chief Herald. The application process will resume when a new appointment has been made.' With the above simple and brief notice placed on the website of the National Library of Ireland, Irish heraldic services may have been consigned to history. The recession has devastated the public finances as savage cuts in government expenditure are anticipated in the December budget. Indeed, the government's embargo on recruitment in the civil and public service, according to Trade Union leaders could 'last for a number of years'. Already government plans for the amalgamation of the National Library, National Archives and the Irish Manuscripts Commission are unlikely to see the light of day until there is a significant improvement in the public finances. Though this amalgamation was announced last year as cost cutting measure, the Min-

ister later admitted that it is unlikely to achieve any savings. But since legislation is required to amalgamate these institutions, any appointment of a new Chief Herald may await the enactment of that legislation, if ever. Such a lengthy delay would be extremely damaging to Irish heraldry, though it must be said, this is not without precedent. Irish heraldic services were suspended between September 2003 with the retirement of Chief Herald Brendan O'Donoghue until May 2005 and the appointment of Fergus Gillespie. Evidently by some anachronistic interpretation of 'heraldic law' the Deputy Chief Herald was not permitted to deputise in the absence of a Chief Herald for that period—so no heraldic services were delivered. The services were again suspended for a period of eight months in 2007 because of doubts over the legal basis upon which the services were provided. This suspension ended with the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism finally accepting in October 2007 that the State

had no legislative authority to grant arms between 1943 and 2005. The Minister's statement vindicated this Society's position in its *Genealogy and Heraldry Bill, 2006*. This Bill also sought to provide for a Deputy Chief Herald with the authority to deliver heraldic services in circumstances such as the retirement or otherwise of the Chief Herald. Unfortunately neither the former Chief Herald nor the National Library's Committee on Genealogy and Heraldry supported the Bill opting instead to strenuously uphold the status quo. By clinging to its fanciful notions and doubtful legal basis of operation the 'office' of the Chief Herald may have hastened its own demise. However, it is open to the Board of the National Library under Section 13 (2) of the 1997 Act to temporarily assign the duties and functions of the Chief Herald to the Director of the National Library. This would ensure that heraldic services could be resumed immediately otherwise we may have seen the last Chief Herald of Ireland.

Honorary Herald Appointed

This Society is the only non-governmental organisation in Ireland promoting the study and appreciation of heraldry and vexillology. Therefore, to further assist the Society with this aspect of its work, the Board at its November 2009 meeting duly appointed **Mr. Andrew Tully, MAPM, FGSI (right)** to the position of Honorary Herald of the Society. He served the Society of Heraldic Art in London and was qualified as a Herald through the [British] Her-

aldry Society. He is also a Fellow of the International Association of Amateur Heralds where he serves as an artist and Herald. He attended the University of South Africa and later received a MAPM from the Institute of Project Management. He served in the RSA Defence Force as an infantryman and as an HQ Staff Officer. In 2005 he painted



the Arms for GSI President Tony McCarthy which were designed by Canadian Herald George Lucki. Currently Andrew resides in South Africa with his wife Karin, and their son Shaldon. He is also Vice-Chair of the Tully Clan Association. The Honorary Herald will provide advice and information on various heraldic matters though occasional articles in this newsletter, including on the operation of the Society's own Heraldic Register. See page 4.

Early Gaelic Sources & Literature

For many Irish genealogists and local historians the centuries prior to the late seventeenth or, in some cases, even the late eighteenth century, are a 'terra incognita'. This may well seem the case due to the scarcity of the usual primary sources such as parish registers. But whilst such sources are the mainstay of genealogical research they generally provide little by way of social narrative that helps us to build up a picture of the life and times of our ancestors. For this aspect of our studies we must look elsewhere and in particular, at the research published on the history, social conditions, economy and, of course, culture and beliefs of the Irish during the centuries of political turmoil, religious strife, war, famine, dispossession and plantation. A renewed interest in the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries has produced a number of fine works, many published by Four Courts Press—see www.fourcourtspress.ie However, what about the earlier centuries—the Gaelic world of medieval Ireland? Well, two new publications from Four Courts Press provide an excellent and accessible introduction to sources that may unlock many exciting and unexpected research possibilities. *'Medieval Gaelic Sources'* by Katherine Simms published as part of the Maynooth Research Guides for Irish Local History (ISBN 978-1-84682-138-7 : 132pp; ills., Price: h/b €39.95 : p/b €19.95). Simms explores the Gaelic language sources for the study of medieval and early Irish history which were created by the bardic schools. This book is a practical guide for those wish to access the information contained in the annals, genealogies,

poems and prose, sagas, legal and medical works. This is not an easy task by any means as much of this information is written in Irish or indeed, Latin, in scripts that are sometimes very difficult to decipher. But this should not deter the researcher as Simms sets about explaining the nature and purpose of the sources and importantly, how to access these sources in translation and even on-line. For genealogists or social historians looking at the medieval or Tudor periods of Irish history this practical guide is simply an essential tool. Indeed, without the clarity provided by Simms such a venture into Ireland's medieval sources would be a daunting and possibly a very frustrating exercise. For example the development of the Irish language from Old Irish (AD 650-900), Middle Irish (AD 900-1200) and Classical Irish, sometimes known as Early Modern Irish (AD 1200-1650) is but one hurdle. However, for those with a good command of Modern Irish Simms provides details of modern publications which will make Classical Irish more accessible. As medieval Gaelic sources were all produced by members of the professional learned classes and particular families, these annals and especially, the genealogies can often be cross-referenced against each other. This aspect of the sources provided the main building blocks for our knowledge of the Gaelic worldview and civilisation in medieval Ireland. Chapter 2—Genealogies, is of immense importance to our understanding of the critical role genealogy played in Gaelic Ireland. The later chapters dealing with the poems, prose tracts, sagas and hagiographies make this work

an excellent companion to another publication. *'An Introduction to Early Irish Literature'* by Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin (ISBN 978-1-84682-177-6 : 214pp Price h/b €55.00 : p/b €24.95) In this work Ní Bhrolcháin explores the literary heritage of the Old and Middle Irish period roughly from AD 600 to 1200. This is an enormously rich resource which passed down through the generations orally before it was recorded by the bardic schools and on the demise of these native institutions it passed, once again, to the oral tradition of Gaelic Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man. The study of the early Irish sagas and related texts as literature is a comparatively recent development dating from the 1940s and in many respects, it has not been afforded the academic treatment this important body of saga-literature deserves. Though Ní Bhrolcháin aims her work at the medievalist, it has a much broader appeal and indeed, it has much for the general reader. The structure and purpose of the narrative is explored with reference to the actual historical and social conditions of the Gaelic world. Christianised and yet steeped in a much older mythology and worldview with similarities in the Indian subcontinent and elsewhere in Asia. Whether it be the first recorded 'copyright' judgement by King Diarmait mac Cerbaill (†565) - *'To every cow its calf and to every book its copy'* or the lore surrounding conception and birth, or the 'Otherworld' each is explored with a clarity providing an ease of access for the novice and yet, a well referenced source for others. Ní Bhrolcháin and Simms have provided the keys to fascinating subjects. **MM**

Population Decline or 'Ethnic Cleansing'?

The recent controversy arising from RTE's (Irish State TV) *'CSÍ Cork's Bloody Secret'* has produced widely differing estimations on the numbers and reasons for the decline in the Protestant population in the twenty six counties between 1911 and 1926. This issue has generated many letters to *The Irish Times* since the airing of the programme with historians and a prominent Senator battling it out over numbers ranging from the hundreds of thousands to the tens of thousands of victims of alleged 'forced emigration' during the War of Independence and the Civil War. But all this speculation on numbers may be based on utterly flawed or insufficiently reliable sources. Various factors such as normal emigration, disproportionately high WWI fatalities, deaths in the flu pandemic, withdrawal of British Army and government personnel and their families, emigration of former Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) personnel for service in the British colonies, a longstanding tradition of migration for education and

then employment in the imperial civil service, economic stagnation and, of course, possibly an unwillingness to accept the new regime all impacted negatively on the numbers of Protestants in the twenty-six counties in that period. However, a combination of any of the above factors on a small and scattered community could have produced a disproportionately high number of unmarried individuals, late marriages and possibly, smaller families amongst the Protestant community, especially in rural Ireland. Therefore, detailed local studies are required to ascertain the actual reasons for the decline through emigration or otherwise. But our understanding of this subject is hampered by the closure of the 1926 census returns to research. The 1926 census was the first taken after independence and therefore, if opened (beyond the statistical data) it would provide an enormously valuable resource for historians, local historians and genealogists. All Irish census returns are subject to 100

years closure under the *Statistics Act, 1993*, however, during the passage of that legislation through Seanad Éireann in 1993, this Society (then the Dún Laoghaire Genealogical Society) successfully lobbied senators to reduce this period of closure to 70 years. Unfortunately, this period was increased to 100 years at Report Stage and it became law on July 14th 1993. The Society has proposed an amendment to the 1993 Act to accord the first census of an independent Ireland a 'special heritage status' and to have it released to the public through the National Archives in Dublin. Senator Labhrás Ó Murchú has enthusiastically agreed to obtain the support of his parliamentary colleagues for the introduction of the Society's *Statistics (Heritage Amendment) Bill*. The release of the 1926 census to the public and its eventual computerisation would greatly assist in our understanding of a very turbulent period in our nation's history and hopefully, clarify aspects of the debate surrounding *'Cork's Bloody Secret'*.

GSI Website & Archival Services

The Director of Internet Services, **Bartosz Kozlowski**, has advised the Board that the new website for the Society will be officially launched on Tuesday December 8th 2009. He has chosen the occasion of the inauguration of the Society's third President for the launch of the new website. Bartosz Kozlowski can be contacted at b.k.webdesigner@gmail.com As reported last month, some members suggested that the website should be 'interactive' allowing the Society's members from around the world participate in occasional structured on-line workshops. This would certainly link into the on-going work undertaken by the volunteers in the Society's Archive. The cataloguing of the collections



is nearing completion, however, the painstakingly careful work on the manuscripts collection is continuing. The Society's Director of Archival Services, **Séamus O'Reilly**, advised the Board that he urgently needs more volunteers to prepare the data for uploading to the website. Recently our Director of National Projects, **Pádraic Ingoldsby**, e-mailed members regarding access to the Society's Archive which is located at 111, Lower George's Street, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Séamus O'Reilly is available to assist members on Mondays (except Bank Holidays) from 10.30hrs to 16.00hrs. It has been suggested that a **'Situations Vacant'** section be included in this newsletter seeking more volunteers—so anybody interested in helping out in the Society's Archive please contact Séamus O'Reilly by e-mail on jsoreilly@eircom.net

A FITTING TRIBUTE

Thomas St. George MacCarthy was buried in unmarked pauper's grave in Deansgrange Cemetery, Blackrock, Co. Dublin. He attended the first meeting of the GAA held in Thurles, Co. Tipperary in 1884 and is the only one not to be commemorated on account of his being a District Inspector in the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC). GSI member, **Garda Jim Herlihy, FGSI**, found his unmarked grave about ten years ago and at 11.00hrs on Weds 18th Nov. 2009 after much quiet campaigning he will have a new headstone unveiled to him. This is a very fitting tribute to MacCarthy as the GAA celebrates its 125th anniversary this year with events in Ireland and across the world.

James Scannell Reports...

VANISHING NAMES

Researchers in Britain have discovered that Irish Roman Catholic names such as Patrick and Bridget almost creased in use among Irish emigrants due to fear of discrimination. A study of tens of thousands of records in England and Wales revealed that the use of these names and other Catholic names were far lower in the second generation while the use of English Protestant names increased. Researchers at Durham University say these findings show the pressures faced by immigrants and the steps they take to assimilate and integrate into new communities. A similar trend has been noticed in the Turkish community in Germany, with Indians in Australia and the Irish in America.

DUBLIN'S VIKING WALL

A section of Dublin's 900 year old Viking wall has gone on view for the first time in Dublin City Council's Civil Offices. When the wall was first excavated over thirty years ago near Christ Church Cathedral. There was widespread condemnation over plans to demolish it and store it at another location with thousands of

people demanding that this historically important area be preserved for future generations. Measuring 20m long and just over 4m in height, the section of wall is now visible through a glass viewing platform with each stone still wearing the number painted on it when it was scheduled for demolition. The wall is now part of the new Wood Quay Venue at the City Council's civic offices which houses a conference and events space and a new permanent exhibition on the development of Dublin City.

NATIONAL LIBRARY BOOK

The National Library of Ireland has published a new book called 'The National Library of Ireland' containing a selection from the world's largest repository of Irish documentary material. The book introduces the reader to the Library's collection of more than eight million items in the form of books, serials, newspapers, manuscripts, photographs, official publications, maps, prints drawings, political and literary correspondence, heraldic and genealogical material, music and ephemera. Photographs and descriptions of the one hundred and eighteen treasures chosen to represent the Library's

collections are presented thematically. The Library's extraordinary Ephemera Collection opens a window on the mundane and momentous aspects of Irish life spanning a 300 year period. Items include a 1795 lottery ticket, a hand bill from 1689 relating to the English and French naval battle in Bantry Bay and a selection of 1932 General Election posters. The book sells for €15.00.

DEATH OF WERNER HEUBECK

The death took place in Scotland at the end of October of Werner Heubeck. O.B.E., C.B.E., aged 85, who took over Ulsterbus in 1967 and became famous for carrying bombs off buses in his determination to keep them running. A former member of the Africa Corps, Mr. Heubeck was born in Nuremberg in 1923 and conscripted into the German Army in 1943.

SOURCES

On Weds. 11th Nov. 2009 the Minister for Arts, Sport & Tourism, **Mr. Martin Cullen, TD**, will launch SOURCES a National Library of Ireland database for Irish research. [Http://sources.nli.ie](http://sources.nli.ie)

GSI Lectures & News

On Tues. October 13th 2009 members heard a most interesting lecture by **Dr Máire Kennedy** on the '*Research Collections at Dublin City Library and Archive*'. Due to some technical problems beyond our control, Dr. Kennedy was unable to deliver the lecture with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. Undaunted, by this 'systems failure' Dr. Kennedy delivered a very comprehensive lecture on the resources at the Dublin City Library and Archive including the database compiled by the Dublin Heritage Project of baptisms, marriages and burials in the Dublin City and County parish registers. In conjunction with the LDS microfilm copies of the GRO registers are available at the Library on Dublin's Pearse Street. Other resources of particular interest to genealogists are the tran-

scriptions of the Memorial Plaques compiled by the Library. These plaques are situated in churches, institutions, public buildings and in some roadside and cemetery locations. The information contained on these plaques can be of considerable biographical interest. Dr. Kennedy also outlined the usefulness to genealogists of the City Archives and in particular, the rolls of the Freemen and guilds of Dublin.

GSI LECTURE PROGRAMME

Tues. November 10—Researching one family history in Co Wexford by Gaye Conroy, MGSI and **Tues. December 8**— The Bram Stoker family – a typical 19th century Dublin Protestant family. Douglas Appleyard, historian, author

and specialist on the author of Dracula. Any suggestions on the Society lecture programme please contact **Séamus Moriarty, MGSI** by e-mail on Gazette@familyhistory.ie

PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

The Society will inaugurate its third President on Tuesday 8th December 2009 commencing at 20.00hrs. Former Cathaoirleach **Rory Stanley, FGSI**, succeeds **Tony McCarthy, MA, FGSI**. The brief ceremony will be performed by the Vice-Presidents and the current Cathaoirleach. Rory was elected by the College of Fellows on May 7th 2009 and though he assumed his position on election, it was decided to host the official inauguration at the end of the year. He will receive the Presidential Chain-of-Office and invest two new Fellows of the Society. All members are invited.

Annual Review of the Membership Packages

In the annual review of the Membership Packages the Board agreed, under **Res: 09/11/718** to maintain the Annual Subscription for 2010 for Irish and Overseas Members at the level agreed in 2007 of €40.00 to include the following: Member voting rights; optional second household member with voting rights; Membership Card (s); right to use GSI post-nominal; copy of the Annual Journal; monthly newsletter; use of the Society's Archive; monthly meetings/lectures; special prices of up to 50% off selected Society publications; right to register your own assumed Arms or emblems with the Society free of charge; right to have your Club,

School or Institutions assumed Arms or emblems registered with the Society free of charge to a maximum of ten registrations; occasional group projects; Members' internet forum; genealogical, heraldic and vexillological advice; and the facility to publish your research in the GSI Journal. This Membership Package shall be applied as and from Jan. 1st 2010 and be subject to annual review, however, existing Membership Packages shall be honoured until their annual renewal date. Also under **Res: 08/11/636** persons under twenty-five years can still avail of 50% reduction on the membership fee. Membership can be renewed on-line or, if you

prefer, simply download the form and forward it with your remittance to the Society's Director of Finance, **Mr. Denis Ryan, MGSI**, 6, St. Thomas Mead, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

Tracing Your Irish Ancestors

by John Grenham

Highly recommended by this Society for **EVERYBODY** researching Irish family history at home or overseas.

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The Society is a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann**Board of Directors 2009-2010**

Séamus Moriarty (Cathaoirleach : Chairperson); **Gerry Hayden** (Leas-Chathaoirleach : Vice Chair); **Michael Merrigan** (General Secretary : Company Secretary); **Denis Ryan** (Finance); **Sharon Bofin** (Publications & Membership); **Séamus O'Reilly** (Archive); **Barry O'Connor** (Cemetery Projects); **Bartosz Kozlowski** (Poland) (Internet Services); **Pádraic Ingoldsby** (National Projects)

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www.familyhistory.ie/shop**DIARY DATES**

Tuesday Nov. 10th & Dec. 8th 2009

Evening Open Meeting

Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education

Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire

20.00hrs—22.00hrs

Wednesday Nov. 25th 2009 & Jan. 27th 2010

Morning Open Meeting

Weir's, Lower George's Street, Dún Laoghaire

10.30hrs—12.30hrs

Contribution €3.00 p.p.

(Coffee/Tea included at Morning Meetings)

Celebrating Nineteen Years (2)

Continued: Last month we chronicled the period from the foundation of the Society on October 25th 1990 to circa 1997 and the enactment of the *National Cultural Institutions Act*. Whilst, this brief history of the Society cannot hope to cover all aspects of the development of the Society over the past nineteen years, it is hoped that it creates an appreciation and awareness amongst our current membership of the Society's important contribution to the promotion of Irish genealogy and heraldry. By now the Society was undoubtedly the most active genealogical organisation in Ireland having celebrated hosting its 100th Open Meeting on April 9th 1996 with guest speaker Tony McCarthy, Editor and founder of 'Irish Roots Magazine'. In May 1996 the Society organised a Members' Internet Group and three years later, in September 1999, it hosted Ireland's first genealogical conference dealing exclusively with computerisation and the development of the Internet. To assist and encourage Members wishing to write a family history, Bill Hogg established a 'Writers' Group' in July 1996 and from this worthy initiative many successful authors emerged. Earlier in February 1996 the Society's proposal for the establishment of a County Heritage Forum came to fruition involving each of the heritage and arts organisations in Dún Laoghaire Rathdown. In January 1997 the 'Genie Gazette' was born and remained the title of the Society's newsletter until December 2005. In 1997 the Society published the report of the Heritage Forum 'Towards a County Heritage Policy' to wide acclaim. The concept of a 'County Heritage Policy' and of appointing 'County Heritage Officers' was later adopted by the Minister and rolled out across the country over the next ten years. In March of 1997 the Society's long-running campaign for a permanent home for its growing archive received a considerable boost with the allocation by Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council of the Martello Tower at Seapoint to the Society. Fund raising to restore the Tower started in earnest and would continue for the next six years before restoration work could begin on the Tower dating from 1804. At the 1997 AGM the members adopted the 'Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access' to our genealogical and heraldic heritage. Though this fundamental principle is now the 'cornerstone' of progressive public access policies of most archives and libraries in Ireland, it wasn't immediately supported by others in the genealogical community at the time. Members at the 1997 AGM made acceptance of this principle a condition of the Society's affiliation with any other heritage organisations. Indeed, it was the failure of the Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations (CIGO) to endorse the principle which precluded the Society from continuing its membership of CIGO in 1998. In October 1997 the Heritage Council finally launched its study of Irish genealogy which had been advocated by this Society and secured during the debate on the 1997 Act. Next month in the final chapter of this brief history, name change, incorporation and the Grant of Arms will be just some of the milestones of the Society's development explored.

FOUR COURTS PRESS*Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more***www.fourcourtpress.ie***Checkout the Sale Items - 10% Reduction On-Line***Arms & Emblems Register**

Many individuals and organisations in Ireland have adopted their own coats-of-arms which they proudly display in their homes, club houses or on uniforms etc. This is perfectly legal in Ireland despite having a State heraldic authority which grants Arms to Irish citizens, the Diaspora and bodies corporate for a substantial fee. This Society has always advocated a less costly mechanism for ordinary citizens to obtain or register coats-of-arms. Indeed, the Society's *Genealogy and Heraldry Bill, 2006* sought to provide a facility to register assumed Arms or emblems, but this was rejected by the Irish government in December 2006 and currently no such facility exists in Ireland. Therefore, understanding that many clubs, schools, societies and other bodies have assumed coats-of-arms or emblems, the Board of the Society has agreed to the establishment of a public register of assumed Arms and emblems to be maintained by the Society. Now persons, bodies corporate, institutions and non-incorporated charitable or voluntary organisations may register their assumed coats-of-arms, emblems or flags with the Society and receive a certificate of registration. The Society may charge a small administration fee for such registration and certification. The details required for the registration of assumed Arms or emblems shall be such as to, in time, create a valuable heraldic and vexillological heritage resource for research. However, the on-line version of the register, in addition to the date of registration and folio number, shall only contain a depiction

of the Arms or emblem, the name to whom/what such are registered and location (city, town or county) and a brief description of the items registered. The certification of registration supplied by the Society shall only be evidence of the registration with the Society of assumed Arms or emblems. Whereas, the Society may offer advice on the design or acquisition of Arms or emblems it shall not make any Grants of Arms unless the State ceases to offer this facility in Ireland. Registration of coats-of-arms and emblems (flags) which were designed by individuals, organisations or institutions provides a centrally held record of such assumed Arms and emblems. The certification process will provide the proper heraldic description of the items registered and, of course, proof of registration. The accompanying information on the history, meaning and design of the items will provide a valuable resource for the popular use of heraldry in Ireland. So if you or your club, society, school or organisation has adopted its own coat-of-arms or flag why not register such items with the Society? The registration process is simple—complete the application form with the required details and include a photograph of the items to be registered and forward to the Society. The Society will then issue a *Certificate of Registration* to you or your organisation. It is envisaged that the registration system will be operative from December 8th 2009. Further information on the registration process will be published on the Society's website and in next month's newsletter.

GUILD OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

Pádraic Ingoldsby, MGSJ, the Ireland representative of the Guild of One-Name Studies reminds members that the Guild's annual subscription falls due this month. For further information on the Guild contact Pádraic on e-mail ingold@gofree.indigo.ie or go to the Guild's website www.one-name.org

GSI JOURNAL

Volume 10 of the Society Journal was published last month. The articles included 'Kenmare, The Mansion that no one would buy' by **Caroline McCall**; 'A Wedding in Time of Famine' by **Honor Smith**; 'Sources: a NLI Database for Irish Research' by **Katherine McSharry**; 'Offences committed in County Kilkenny 1861-1862' by **G. H. O'Reilly**; 'The Mooneys of Trudder. A Farm and a Family' by **Gregory Peppard**; 'Genealogy at the Guinness Archive' by **Deirdre Flood**; 'Tenants on His Lordships Estate in the County of Wicklow' by **Annette Code**; 'The Cottingham Family (1500-1875)' by **W.S. Griffith**; 'Looking back in wonder: Online photographs from the National Library of Ireland' by **Katherine McSharry**; 'Soldier, Adventurer and Newspaper Founder—a profile of Laurence Knox' by **Patrick M. Geoghegan**; 'The Argentine Republic Emigration Scheme' by **Peter Mulvany**; 'Irish Spiritual Pioneers in the Antipodes' by **Séamus Moriarty**; 'On the Origin and History of Wills' by **G.H. O'Reilly**; 'Jane Byrne (1843-1928) A Nun's Story' by **Paula O'Kelly**; 'The response of the inhabitants of Swords and Enniscorthy to Wood's Halfpenny 1724' by **S. Magee** and finally, 'Hard Times Come No More' by **Joan McCarthy**. The Journal Editor, **Sharon Bofin**, MGSJ is to be congratulated on the production of such a fine publication with a varied collection of very well researched articles. Sharon is now seeking articles for the next issue. Please contact Sharon by e-mail on sharonbofin@eircom.net Copies of the Journal are available at €7.50 plus p+p of €1.50