

Cumann Genealais na hÉireann

Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

Vol. 5 No. 10

www.familyhistory.ie

October : Deireadh Fómhair 2010



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



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Fiche Bliain ag Fás

"Ireland's Most Active Genealogical Organisation"

The headline *'Fiche Bliain ag Fás'* (Twenty Years a-Growing) is taken from the title of Muiris Ó Súilleabháin's wonderful autobiography of his life on the Great Blasket Island off the Co. Kerry coast which was first published in 1933. This book is best described as a 'coming of age' story and in many ways its evocative title can be applied to this Society's first twenty years. From its foundation in October 1990 the Society sought to break the mould in which Irish genealogical and heritage organisations were traditionally cast. Its aims and objectives were both visionary and challenging from the outset. Its central aim was the promotion of the study of genealogy as an educational leisure activity available to all in the community irrespective of age, educational qualification or socio-economic circumstances. However, not content with just promoting the study of genealogy by providing a forum for family historians, the Society embarked on an ambitious programme of activities including group projects, publishing and, of course, the establishment of its own archive. The Society became the only voluntary genealogical organisation in Ireland with activities throughout the year, including Morning and Evening Meetings each month from January to No-

Senior Times
Over
50's
Show
Ireland's
Lifestyle Event
for Older People
RDS 15-17, October 2010
Stand 176

ember and an Evening Meeting in December. Group projects were organised during the summer to record memorial transcriptions for publication. Indeed, publishing soon became a major part of the Society's activities with a monthly newsletter, Journal, Memorial Inscriptions and other miscellaneous sources published each year. The monthly meetings were designed to provide lectures at the Evening Meetings and group discussions at the Morning Meetings. This format provides members with excellent talks on aspects of genealogical

research and an informal forum in which to share research tips or problems and information on new resources with fellow members over a cup of coffee. Since 1990 the Society has been collecting items for its archive which is located at the Carlisle Pier, Dún Laoghaire Harbour, Co. Dublin. This is the only such research facility operated by a genealogical organisation in Dublin. But along with promoting genealogy and collecting items for its archive, the Society has been directly involved with advocacy on behalf of its members and Irish genealogy in general since its foundation. Whether it was public access to records or their protection, the Society has campaigned vigorously on such issues since its foundation. It was the first organisation in Ireland to adopt the *'Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access'* to our genealogical heritage—now considered best practice in most repositories. However, we are proud to say that this was but one 'first' in a list too numerous to publish here, but includes: first to advocate legislative protection of our genealogical records; first to campaign for the release of the 1926 census; first to acquire a coat-of-arms; first to be incorporated; first to draft legislation; and first to promote heraldry and vexillology. Twenty years a' growing and, no doubt, many more 'firsts' to come!

Guild of One-Name Studies

The UK based Guild of One-Name Studies will exhibit in Ireland for the first time at the Over 50s Show in the RDS this month. The Guild will co-host Stand 176 with this Society to promote the study of surnames. This type of genealogical research is well known in England, though, can be confused with the activities of the Clan/Sept organisations here. Though, some of the latter can be considered as engaging in genealogical research, most are more concerned with 'clan' reun-

ions and commemorative events. One-name studies takes in the origin, history, variants, holders and distribution of particular surnames. But the study of English surnames is quite different to the study of Irish surnames for a number of reasons. The general structure and origin of English surnames does not follow the patronymic system of the surnames of Gaelic origin which predominate in Ireland. So while an English one-name study could be concerned with all persons of a single surname, Irish one-name

studies must decide, for example, on which of the ten or so different origins of the O'Connor surname to study. This phenomena is shared with each of our Celtic cousins with the possible exception of Cornwall where toponymics are numerous. The Guild is fully aware of the Celtic aspects of one-name studies and it is seeking to develop and promote this type of one-name study. For further information call to Stand 176 at the RDS or checkout the Guild's website: www.one-name.org

The Irish Church and the Tudor Reformations

'The Irish Church and the Tudor Reformations' by Henry A. Jefferies (ISBN 978-1-84682-050-2 : 302pp : h/bk : Price €55.00) published by Four Courts Press deals with an aspect of our nation's history that is rarely touched on in any depth by historians. The reason for this maybe twofold, firstly most concentrated on the political and social consequences of the religious policies of the Tudor monarchs and secondly, many may have considered the subject to be essentially religious or church history. Indeed, many historians simply assumed that the Protestant reformation was doomed to inevitable failure in Ireland, however, according to the author he was fascinated by the dissenting voice of historian, Nicholas Canny, who argued otherwise. Intrigued with the possibility that Ireland could have become Protestant during the mid-sixteenth century, the author's research demonstrates that failure was not necessarily inevitable but highly probable from an early date and certainly clear before the 1590s. At that time, according to a contemporary report, there were hardly more than 120 Irish-born Protestants in the country and only twenty Irish-born householders in Dublin who attended Church of Ireland services. Readers unfamiliar with Irish history must note that this was prior to the Plantation of Ulster and the influx of mostly Scottish Protestants in the early decades of the seventeenth century. In Part I—'Before the reformations' the author provides us with a surprising picture of a seemingly well organised and thriving Church in late medieval Ireland. Indeed, in chapter one Jefferies examines the position of pastoral care in the late medieval Irish Church and challenges the conventional image of 'tumbledown, disused and makeshift houses of worship'. In fact, he states that there was 'an extensive network of thousands of parishes and chapelries' with many of the churches either 'newly built, rebuilt or

refurbished'. He also examines the functioning of the Church from parish level to the work of the religious orders and, in chapter two, right up to the diocesan structure and its Episcopal administration. In his examination of the position of the laity, in chapter three, he points to the fact that they 'exercised a considerable degree of authority and influence over the Church and in the parishes in late medieval Ireland'. This relationship between the ordinary parishioners and the institution is examined in terms of the two Irelands existing at the time, Gaelic and Anglicised. He also looks at the confraternities or associations of lay men and women and their functions within the Church. He notes the scarcity of sources to assist us in our knowledge of popular piety during this period, however, he notes that the 'cult of St. Francis seems to have been particularly popular in late medieval Ireland'. In Part II—'The Early Tudor reformations' the author explores the complexities of not simply one 'reformation' but indeed, several and, of course, the attempted restoration of Catholicism during the reign of Mary Tudor. Chapter four deals with the extension to Ireland of Henry VIII's brake with Rome and the dissolution of the monasteries in a country with a 'strong general attachment to Catholicism among the clergy and laity' in both Gaelic and Anglicised Ireland. The first wave of monastic dissolutions in Ireland began in 1537 was 'very limited in scale' but within twelve months of the 'enactment of the English monasteries act' in April 1539, monasticism in the crown territories in Ireland had been dismantled. But as Jefferies observes 'the opportunity was lost to deploy even a fraction of the monastic windfall to address the problems of clerical poverty, education and training.' It also resulted in the closing down of some of the hospitals and schools in the English lordship. The real impact of the Henrican reformation,

according to Jefferies, was at the level of legislative sanction and not doctrinal nor liturgical due to the effective resistance of diocesan clergy. In chapter five, the impact of the more radical Protestantism of Edward VI and the Anglophone reformation is examined. Interestingly, instructions to the Lord Deputy to have Church services translated into Irish were ignored. Jefferies sees the Edwardian reformation as producing outward conformity in the Anglophone areas, but it failed in terms of 'winning hearts and souls'. He succinctly describes the attempts at Catholic restoration in Ireland by Mary Tudor as offering 'a short reprieve from religious controversy in Ireland, but it left the question open of what would happen next'. In Part III—'The Elizabethan reformation' the author explores arguably the most concerted attempt at advancing and securing Protestantism in Ireland under the Tudors. In chapter seven, he examines a legislative programme for reformation but one almost devoid of 'reformers'. Resistance proved strong as the Catholic Counter-Reformation and rebellion gripped the country. Compulsion to attend Church of Ireland services was widely resisted in the Pale. In chapter eight, the legal fiction that was the Church of Ireland is slowly transformed into a structured institution across much of Ireland. But years of enforced conformity had not produced significant numbers of conversions. In chapter nine, rebellion and coercion prove costly as external factors demand a military rather than a proselytising approach to Ireland. Nevertheless, Jefferies points out that this period was a 'watershed' for the Church of Ireland, however, as he explains in chapter ten, not in the number of its converts, but that it survived at all. Jefferies concludes that 'Ireland' was a Reformation with virtually no reformers, and consequently it had no real chance of success'. **MM**

GSI Archive—Twenty Years a' Collecting

The Society's Archive located at the Carlisle Pier, Dún Laoghaire Harbour, Co. Dublin is most definitely a unique genealogical resource in Ireland. It was established in October 1990 with a few items and publications donated by the co-founders. Indeed, a great debt of gratitude must go to our co-founder, first Cathaoir-leach and first Archivist, Frieda Carroll, for housing the Society's archival collections until 2004. With the restoration of the Martello Tower in Seapoint in 2004, the archival collections were located in this historic building. However, difficulties in controlling the atmospheric conditions within the Tower necessitated the removal of the archival collections to a temporary home at 111, George's Street, Dún Laoghaire in 2008. This year, courtesy of Dún

Laoghaire Harbour Company, the Society moved into its new premises at the Carlisle Pier. Over the years items came into the Archive from all around the world. Members in Ireland sourced and obtained special collections such as school registers etc and donated them to the GSI Archive. Séamus O'Reilly, who succeeded Frieda in 2005, had the entire collection catalogued electronically for the move to the new premises. Séamus has been very ably assisted by members who are professionally trained librarians who designed the new shelving and storage systems. With the acquisition of microfilm and microfiche readers, computers and very soon, broadband internet connection, the GSI Archive will be fully equipped to meet the needs of members and visitors. In the mean-

time, the Board has agreed to acquire microfilm copies of records that will augment parts of the archival collections. Consideration is being given to providing a public genealogy advisory service at the premises. The Archive continues to receive donations of family histories, books and other items of genealogical or historical interest. Some of the more unique items in the collection are ideal for academic research in a number of disciplines. The Society's Archive is currently open on Tues. 09.30hrs to 12.00hrs and on Weds. 10.30hrs to 16.30hrs (with the exception of the 4th Weds when it will open at 13.00hrs) at the Carlisle Pier, Dún Laoghaire Harbour. Further days will be added as and when volunteers are trained. For further info. contact Séamus on seamus.oreilly@gmail.com

1926 Census of Ireland

Two years ago, this Society presented a draft Bill to Senator Labhrás Ó Murchú aimed at amending the *Statistics Act, 1993* to permit access to the 1926 Census of Ireland. Amending the legislation is the only way that this census can be released to the public. Senator Ó Murchú kindly agreed to sponsor the *Statistics (Heritage Amendment) Bill*, however, with the downturn in the economy and the Oireachtas (Irish Parliament) naturally preoccupied with fiscal matters, understandably, little progress on publishing this Bill was achieved. But in the interim it appears that a number of Senator Ó Murchú's colleagues have agreed to support the Bill should it be introduced. Other parliamentarians

possibly view this measure as having a low priority in these recessionary times. On the contrary, this Bill would allow the Minister to unlock the great tourism and marketing potential of this national resource. By providing public access to the 1926 Census it will allow researchers to properly compare the first census taken after independence with those of 1901 and 1911 which are already on-line. The release of the 1926 Census would be accompanied by an enormous interest at home and overseas. Indeed, from a marketing perspective, *Fáilte Ireland*, could not be provided with a more cost effective and sustainable initiative, by which, to promote Irish tourism amongst our Diaspora.

WILL YOUR RECORDS WELL

As genealogists, heraldists and local historians we naturally amass a huge amount of paper and computer records during our many years of research. We love these records, we've worked hard to collect the information—it's of great value. Books, photographs, charts, interview notes, copy certificates, parish register and census transcripts—all lovingly collected over many years. But how many of us have made provision for the preservation of our own records, files and notes after we die? Don't let your hard work end up as landfill or your genealogy, heraldry & local history books be sold off piece meal after you've gone. Why not make provision in your Will to donate them to the Society's Archive for future generations?

James Scannell Reports...

SKELLIG MICHAEL

Skellig Michael off the Co. Kerry coast is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and recently what is believed to be the earliest sea entrance to this 6th century monastic island was recently discovered on the north eastern edge of the island. Colin McGorlick from New Zealand, the island's resident rope man and safety expert, discovered the new entrance while a team of architects, archaeologists and masons were in the process of completing the restoration and excavation of the hermitage on the island's steep southern side. Other discoveries during this work were a previously unknown route which involved a 40m climb up an almost vertical gully on the South Peak and revealed by series of rock cut steps and hand holds.

KILMAINHAM GAOL

In 1924, Kilmainham Gaol where the leaders of the 1916 Rising had been executed and others detained during the Civil War, closed and came into the ownership of Dublin Corporation. Later the State bought it back for a nominal fee, promising to restore it but this did not happen and the building fell into disrepair. However later a small committee obtained a lease on the

building and in 1960 and the help of hundred of volunteers, some of whom were veterans of the 1916 Rising, the War of Independence, or the Civil War, embarked on a massive restoration programme which was completed for the anniversary of the 1916 Rising in 1966. On view in the exhibition area of Kilmainham Gaol until January 16th 2011 is a photographic exhibition showing the work carried out by the Kilmainham Gaol Restoration Society, showing the building as it was before work commence, the work in progress and some of the numerous people who took part in the project. For further information on Kilmainham please visit www.heritageireland.ie/en/dublin/kilmainhangaol/

VIKING FORTRESS DISCOVERED

Archaeologists believe that they have discovered the remains of Viking fortress near the County Louth village of Annagassan. The discovery is based on what was revealed from three test trenches which included human remains, rough silver used for ballast on ships, nails for shipbuilding and artefacts from day to day life. Also discovered were signs of an extensive defensive rampart which would have protected the settlement on one side with the River Glyde and the Irish Sea protecting the

other ones. Archaeologists believe that fortress is Linn Duchail, founded in 841 AD and was a rival to the other large Viking town at that time, Dublin. This discovery came following years of work by local enthusiasts and members of the Annagassan and District Historical Society.

MEDAL SOCIETY AUCTION

The Medal Society of Ireland will hold an Auction of Medals and Militaria on Sat. Oct. 16th at 1 p.m. in the Teachers' Club, 36 Parnell Square West, Dublin 1. The auction includes Part One of the Barry Sutton collection of Irish army militaria, including a significant quantity of scarce FCA early embroidered shoulder flashes with named of towns and cities. An extensive selection of Irish Defence Forces unit flashes; Irish U.N. and various Irish badges; Ulster Defence Regiment titles, badges and paperwork; and badges of Irish Regiments. Medals for the Irish War of Independence, Emergency, and PDF/FCA/SM; British and Commonwealth Great War medals. Also paperwork relating to TCD and proposals for its defence by the Dublin University Officer Training Corps. Viewing on Saturday October 16th from 11.00hrs until 12.45hrs in Room 4 of the Teachers' Club. The catalogue can viewed at www.msociety.ie.

Précis of the September Lecture

On Tuesday September 14, 2010 our members heard a very interesting lecture on the fascinating topic of *'Irish Newspaper Archives as a Resource for the Genealogist'* by Jonathan Martin. Mr. Martin introduced members to the website www.irishnewspaperarchives.com which is Ireland's largest digital newspaper archive with access to newspapers dating from the 1700s right down to the present. Explaining the ease of access to the various resources available on this website, Mr. Martin brought his audience through each of the browsing options and provided useful tips on each. The search options are very user friendly and the articles can be viewed singularly or you can obtain a full page view. It also allows for keyword search, various sorting options and, of course, printing of the document in its original format

should you have a printer capable of dealing with larger than A4 paper. Search results can either be saved directly onto your PC or stored within the system for retrieval later. You can also e-mail the results to yourself from within the website. Mr. Martin explained that the website is still a work-in-progress with new resources being added constantly. Currently it has a selection of national and local newspapers some dating from the eighteenth century. The website is typically used by genealogists looking for notices of births, marriages or deaths. Local newspapers, in particular, are a very useful resource for genealogists because the death notices and funeral reports contain much greater detail on the deceased and their relatives. Access to this type of on-line resource is of immense value to genealogists, local and

social historians. Mr. Martin provided the GSI members with a month's free access to the website which will expire on October 13, 2010.

GSI LECTURES 2010

Tues. October 12th 'The Medlar's Gotcha – the story of a Dublin family' by Pól Ó Duibhir; **Tues. November 9th** 'Irish Convict Transportation – Damnation or Salvation?' by Seán Solan; **Tues. December 14th** '1916 to 1921 Casualties' by Dáithí Ó Corráin.

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Membership of the Genealogical Society

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. **NEW:** At its **September 2010** meeting the

Board of Directors agreed that the annual renewal date for **all members joining after July 1st 2010** will be the anniversary of the date of joining rather than the calendar year as previously applied. The complete Membership Package will be up for review and enhancement at the November meeting of the Board. **Day Membership** at €5.00 is available for persons visiting the Society's Archive at the Carlisle Pier, Dún Laoghaire. 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. Tom Conlon, MGSI, 24, Carrickbrennan Lawn, Monkstown, Co. Dublin, Ireland.**

IRELAND'S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE

is published by the

Genealogical Society of Ireland Limited

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

E-mail: GAZETTE@familyhistory.ie

Charity Reference: CHY10672

*The Society is a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann***Board of Directors 2010-2011**

Pádraic Ingoldsby (Cathaoirleach : Chairperson); **Gerry Hayden** (Leas-Chathaoirleach : Vice Chair); **Michael Merrigan** (General Secretary : Company Secretary); **Tom Conlon** (Finance); **Sharon Bofin** (Membership & Publications); **Séamus O'Reilly** (Archive); **Barry O'Connor** (Cemetery Projects); **Séamus Moriarty** (Lecture Programme); **Fiona Tipple** (Education & Social Inclusion) **Bartosz Kozłowski** (Poland) (Internet Services); **John Hamrock** (National Projects) and **Pat Feenan** (Sales & Marketing).

JOIN ON-LINE

@

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

Tuesday Oct. 12th & Nov. 9th 2010

Evening Open Meeting

Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education
Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire
20.00hrs—22.00hrs

Wednesday Oct. 27th & Nov. 24th 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)

'Blood in the Streets'

'*Blood in the Streets - 1916 & The Battle of Mount Street Bridge*' by Paul O'Brien, published by Mercier Press. Thousands of commuters who pass daily over Dublin's Mount Street Bridge are generally not aware that this location was where one of the crucial engagements of the 1916 Rising took place. It was bloody and lasted the best part of the day but when it ended the handful of volunteers under the command of Lt. Michael Malone had managed to inflict serious casualties on the advancing British forces far in excess of their numbers. When the British rushed troops from Britain to Kingstown, (Dún Laoghaire), they were training in Britain for deployment on the Western Front and not for urban warfare. Author Paul O'Brien reveals in this account of this crucial engagement that such was the haste that British troops were rushed into action, that they were told to leave their Lewis machine guns behind and so were deprived of this means of providing covering fire when attacking the buildings in Mount Street. Lt. Malone positioned his men carefully in a number of Mount Street buildings which gave them excellent fields of fire and so when the British advanced along Northumberland Road to cross Mount Street Bridge to reach Trinity College, they encountered withering fire that repulsed wave after wave of attacking troops. In desperation the British ordered the troops to take all the buildings occupied by the Volunteers at all costs resulting in them suffering some 214 troops killed or wounded executing this order. The Volunteers knew that in time they would be overcome and Paul O'Brien provides the reader with a fascinating, clear and engrossing account of this day long battle before sheer weight of numbers overcame this small band of Volunteers in what could be described as Ireland's 'Alamo'. Paul O'Brien also provides the reader with an account of the executions carried out in Kilmainham Gaol after the Rising by the firing squads based on the diary of a British officer involved in this process who recorded his experiences. In the final section of this book Paul O'Brien concludes his account of the Mount Street battle with an overview of the tactics used by the Volunteers and British troops, revealing that the British troops suffered two handicaps – lack of training in urban warfare, the absence of the Lewis machine guns to provide covering fire for attacking troops, a rigid adherence to orders when greater flexibility was required and the 'take it all costs' directive and the excellent choice of buildings which resulted in the small band of Volunteers being able to inflict such a high number of casualties on the attacking forces. An excellent history of this crucial 1916 engagement.

*James Scannell***FOUR COURTS PRESS***Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more***www.fourcourtpress.ie***Checkout the Sale Items - 10% Reduction On-Line***New NLI Board**

On Wednesday 22nd September 2010, Ms. Mary Hanafin, TD., Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport, announced the appointment of a new Board of Directors for the National Library of Ireland. Announcing the new board members Minister Hanafin said "I am extremely pleased that these very experienced and talented people have agreed to serve on the Board of the National Library of Ireland. They will form the second Board to be appointed since the Library became an autonomous body in 2005. The new Board Members possess a range of exceptional skills and experience that can be used to steer and improve the fortunes of what is one of Ireland's premier and venerable national cultural institutions, in difficult times. The role of our national cultural institutions, like the National Library, was never more critical. The skills set of these new members will assist the Library in using new technology, understanding copyright issues and linking into local and national library users." The appointments are made for a five year period, subject to progress on restructuring between the National Library, the National Archives and the Irish Manuscripts Commission. In announcing the new Board, Minister Hanafin paid special tribute to the work of the outgoing Board under the Chairmanship of Gerard Danaher, S.C. The Board Members are as follows: **Mr. David Harvey**, Chairman, Chief Executive of City Channel Ltd, Ireland. Chairman of the National St Patrick's Day Festival organisation and recently assumed the Chairmanship of Dublin Contemporary 2011; **Prof. Diarmaid Ferriter**, Author, historian and university lecturer, Professor of Modern Irish History at University

College Dublin; **Dr. Marian Fitzgibbon**, Head of the School of Humanities in Athlone Institute of Technology; **Mr. Brian Halpin** – FCCA. Former Deputy DG and Secretary of the Central Bank of Ireland; **Mr. Patrick McMahon**, Galway City and County Librarian, former President of the Library Association of Ireland; **Ms. Carol Maddock**, Information Systems National Library of Ireland. Nominated by the staff of the National Library; **Mr. Des Marnane**, Historian, writer and teacher. Hon. Sec. Tipperary Historical Society; **Mrs Susan Philips**, Lecturer involved in community and rural affairs. Nominee and Council Member of Royal Dublin Society; **Ms. Pat Quinn**, Secondary school teacher of English and History; **Mr. Paul Rellis**, Managing Director of Microsoft Ireland; **Mr. H. Paul Shovlin**, Company director, business consultant. Nominee and Council Member of Royal Dublin Society; and **Prof. Robert Spoo**, a member of the faculty at The University of Tulsa College of Law. He has a law doctorate from Yale University and a Ph.D in English from Princeton University. His particular expertise is in copyright, trademark and intellectual property. From the composition of this new Board we can be cautiously optimistic that there will be the much needed and long overdue innovative approach to the development of this premier national cultural institution. One lingering issue that the new Board must tackle is the effective delivery of heraldic services and most importantly, it must instigate an immediate audit of the records of the 'office' of the Chief Herald in the wake of the 'bogus chiefs' and related scandals. This audit is required if the integrity of its records is to be assured and the reputation of Irish heraldic services is to be restored. The Society wishes the new Board every success for its term of office.

BOOK LAUNCH

Warmest congratulations to GSI Member, **Barry Kennerk**, on the publication of his latest book. The book was formally launched at the Prospect Gallery in Glasnevin Cemetery on Friday September 17th 2010 by Paul Williams, author and criminologist. Published by Mercier Press '*Shadow of the Brotherhood - The Temple Bar Shootings*' (ISBN: 978 1 85635 677 0 : 350 pages : p/bk: Price: €14.99) which deals with the shooting of two members of the Dublin Metropolitan Police (DMP) in the locality in October 1867. The ensuing police investigation uncovered the existence of an Irish Republican Brotherhood squad of assassins that targeted policemen, members of the judiciary and informers. This new book will be appeal to those researching the Irish Republican Brotherhood but is also of relevance to historians and others researching policing in Ireland in the nineteenth century. Of note, there are a number of appendices, one of which contains a detailed list of every serving member of the DMP's G Division in 1867.

MEDAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

GSI Members researching ancestors or relatives who served in the Irish, British, Commonwealth, American or other armed forces or in the mercantile marine will find the publications and meetings of the Medal Society of Ireland of interest. Find out more about those medals so cherished by the family and handed down through generations. For further information please visit the Medal Society's website at: www.msou.ie