

Cumann Genealais na hÉireann

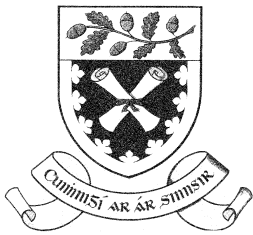
# Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

Vol. 6 No. 1

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**GENEALOGY**  
**HERALDRY**  
**VEXILLOLOGY**  
**SOCIAL HISTORY**  
**Heritage Matters**  
**Book Reviews**  
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## SEANAD ÉIREANN

### *Abused, Legislatively Starved, Ignored and now to be Abolished?*

Many times during this recession commentators have likened the societal trauma that hit the Irish people in terms of the five stages of grief as formulated by Elizabeth Kübler-Ross in her 1969 book *'On Death and Dying'*. Dramatic as this may be, it possibly accurately describes the shifting mood of the Irish population as each citizen, according to their own particular circumstances, deals with the enormous impact of the economic collapse in Ireland over the past three/four years. Many are still painfully working through the various stages of denial, anger, bargaining, depression and finally acceptance of the dire position into which various elites have plunged our nation. Acceptance may well be symptomatic of a full realisation of the current circumstances however it certainly does not indicate resignation or passivity. On the contrary many see it as the empowerment of the individual citizen with a steely determination to demand change and accountability. Whilst political accountability is certainly within the public grasp with a General Election due sometime before the summer, but the prospect of fundamental change seems less certain as politics itself was severely undermined by this crisis. Cronyism and pandering to the unfettered self-interests of elites and ideologies may have been the root cause of the economic crash. However, a return to traditional auction politics by the various political parties in the run-up to the General Election is undoubtedly gathering pace but this will only serve to deepen the national malaise. Political parties are already lining up to scrap Seanad Éireann (Irish Senate) as a claimed cost-saving measure on the grounds that it has become increasingly

irrelevant over the past thirteen years and indeed, because it has long been argued that the electoral system for Seanad Éireann is anachronistic and elitist. Seanad Éireann was first established in 1922 to provide a mechanism by which minorities, mainly unionist and Protestant, could be assured representation in the Oireachtas (Irish Parliament). It was abolished in 1936 by Fianna Fáil because Senators would not march to Éamon de Valera's legislative tune. However he reinstated the Seanad in 1937 under the new Constitution but on vocational lines representing sectors in Irish society and the universities. An inbuilt government majority was assured through the nomination of eleven Senators by An Taoiseach (Prime Minister) and therefore, the business of the Seanad is ordered entirely at the behest of the government. The latter point is at the root of calls for the abolition of the Seanad as Opposition Senators were frequently frustrated by the drip-feeding of legislation to the chamber throughout the parliamentary year only to be followed by a rushed period of force-feeding in the week or two before the long Christmas and summer breaks. This abuse of the Seanad by government left Senators discussing reports, making statements on national or international issues and futilely calling for urgent debates on matters of public interest, few of which, excited the media to comment. The government's deliberate withholding of a balanced legislative diet from Seanad Éireann ultimately undermined its relevance and despite twelve separate reports urging reform to its structure, composition, role and the expansion of its electoral base, the latest report was in 2004, nothing was done by successive governments to reform the Seanad. Indeed, the will of the People on

Seanad electoral reform, as expressed in a constitutional referendum in 1979, has also been ignored. The clamour for abolition rather than reform has all the hallmarks of a 'slash and burn' frenzy to distance politicians from the 'boom and bust' era that left this country in an economic quagmire. Whatever the merit of the various reasons proffered by the political parties for the abolition of the Seanad, as owners of the Constitution the citizens of our Republic should not treat lightly any proposal to abolish any constitutional forum which can, if properly used, hold governments to account. This Society values the vital role of Seanad Éireann played in the improvement of legislation especially in the areas of heritage, culture and education. The Society lobbied and worked with Senators on access to census records during the passage of the *Statistics Act, 1993*; for the inclusion of genealogy in the *Heritage Act, 1995*; successfully obtained twenty-eight amendments to the *National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997*; and lobbied on various issues during the passage of the *Copyright & Related Rights Act, 2000* and on the *Civil Registration Act, 2004* amongst other pieces of legislation. It also drafted the *Genealogy & Heraldry Bill, 2006*; advised on the *National Cultural Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2008* and drafted the *Statistics (Heritage Amendment) Bill, 2010*. As a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann this Society urges fundamental reform rather than the outright abolition of this chamber. With the political will of government Seanad Éireann has shown how it can be very effectively employed in the improvement of proposed legislation. In this respect it is government that has failed the Seanad and precipitated its demise.

## General Election Manifestos

In the run-up to the General Election the various political parties are either preparing or dusting down manifesto pledges to present to an increasingly angry and sceptical electorate. The prevailing attitudes amongst the Irish heritage, arts and cultural communities are similarly pessimistic about election promises in these recessionary times. The November 2010 issue of this *Gazette* argued that 'recessionary times offer an opportunity to take stock and to plan' for the development of our heritage facilities and services. During the past year the Society successfully advocated a cooperative and constructive approach to the Government's proposed merger of the National Ar-

chives, National Library and the Irish Manuscripts Commission. In February the Society called for meaningful public consultation on this proposed merger and in April at the *'Archives in Crisis'* meeting in TCD the Society proffered the idea of legislative amalgamation that 'ensures the maintenance of the separate functions and identities' of the institutions. In May the *Gazette* urged the Minister to seek submissions from the public on issues to be included in the legislation required for any merger and proffered specific areas for consideration. The June issue reported that the Minister was 'absolutely satisfied that what ever processes and procedures are put in place will ensure the existence of two separate bodies with two independ-

ent directors and two separate roles'. In line with the Society's long-time commitment to the improvement and expansion of the State's heraldic services, the August issue argued for reform of these services in the new legislation. Last year the Society kept up its seventeen year campaign to have the 1926 Census opened to the public and produced a draft Bill which was sponsored by Senator Ó Murchú and published as the *Statistics (Heritage Amendment) Bill, 2010*. Whilst urging all political parties to support the 1926 Census Campaign in their manifestos, the Society strongly advocates that a major rethink of the proposed merger of the NAI, NLI and IMC is absolutely necessary.

# The Alchemy of Medicine and Print

## *The Edward Worth Library, Dublin*

*'The Alchemy of Medicine and Print—The Edward Worth Library, Dublin'* edited by **Danielle Westerhof** (ISBN: 978-1-84682-228-5 : 224pp : ills. h/bk : Price €55.00). Published by Four Courts Press on December 10th 2010, this volume arises from a conference held in 2008 at the Royal Society in London to mark the 275th anniversary of the establishment of the Edward Worth Library in Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin. In the introduction to this fascinating and intriguing volume of essays, Westerhof explains that Edward Worth had been a trustee on the hospital's board and was involved in its inception from 1717 and in 1730 he was appointed as one of the governors of the new hospital. In a codicil to his will, written in 1729, he bequeathed the greater part of his collection of books (circa 4,500) to the hospital. 'Alchemy' is often described as the very early stage of chemistry—the quest for the 'transmutation' of ordinary base metals into gold and, of course, to discover the elixir of life. According to Michael Lyons in his foreword to this volume 'in a relatively small library, predominately scientific in content and interest, it is striking to find nine volumes of plays by Calderon de la Barca (with Madrid title pages dated from 1683 through to 1694)' and that 'the essays in the present book constitute the first extended exploration of the Edward Worth Library's potential as a centre for research into the reception of the New Science in Ireland'. Indeed, each of the above volumes of plays is signed by John Conduitt, a kinsman by marriage to Sir Isaac Newton who is, according to Lyons, 'a constant presence behind the elegantly bound volumes collected by the Dublin physician and connoisseur' Edward Worth. Surpris-

ingly for several years in the last century this unique library was apparently destined for relative obscurity, overshadowed by its near-contemporaries Marsh's and Trinity College. The library moved to raise its profile by key appointments and by raising awareness amongst scholars through digitization and an on-line cataloguing project. The latter point emulates the central role the printing press played in the codification of the sciences and the dissemination of this knowledge which, of course, is a theme of this volume. Lisa Lambert in a chapter entitled 'Men of varying means' introduces us to an eclectic mix of practitioners and others in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, including Dermot O'Meara (fl. 1614-42), a Tipperary-born Catholic Oxford graduate who wrote to the Lord Deputy of Ireland in 1619 saying that 'there are certainly more persons in Dublin at the present day practising the art of medicine than any other art, yet there are very few of them who have the ... qualifications which Hippocrates requires in a medical doctor.' O'Meara painted a grim picture, however, Lambert details many of the more reputable and qualified. Details provided are of interest to the genealogist. Denis Coakely explores the life and times of Edward Worth who studied at Leiden and qualified at Utrecht in Holland moving back to Dublin where he received an MD *ad eundem* from Trinity in 1702. Charles Benson's essay deals with some private libraries in early eighteenth century Ireland and makes the point that 'educational and intellectual contact was not limited to England' but extended to much of Europe. No wonder that the numbers of volumes both held in private libraries and donated to institutions is quite

impressive. Jean-Paul Pitton's essay explores medicine in print in the early modern period highlighting individuals and their discoveries. Elizabeth Boran looks at the collections on alchemy and chemistry in early modern Irish medical libraries. Maria Edgeworth's longest novel '*Patronage*' is closely examined by Bill McCormack revealing much behind this family saga and domestic romance which has a manifest political theme—sometimes shrouded in cryptic historic allusion. Michael Hunter examines Robert Boyle and the uses of print while Sachiko Kusakawa looks at the work of Andreas Vesalius with some wonderful illustrations. Magdalena Kozluk's essay deals with syphilis in print before 1733 and notes the 'opening up' of the professional medical culture of the time. Danielle Westerhof examines Worth's interest in the pharmacological properties of plants. The essay by Iham Ibnou-Zahir is an examination of illness and the art of healing as portrayed in the writings of physician-philosophers such as Hippocrates and Galen. The latter he states 'was significant and influential because he astutely brought together the virtues of the Hippocratic art of healing and the virtues of Hellenistic anatomical, physiological and chemical knowledge without attempting to merge one into the other'. Howard Caygill's essay looks at medicine and the origins of modern philosophy in the writings of both early Greek physician-philosophers and the medieval Islamic and Jewish thinkers right through to the mid-seventeenth century. From a genealogical perspective this volume should be of interest to those with ancestors in the medical profession, but it is also a very valuable social history. **MM**

## Fire Destroys Sacristy of Historic Church

A break-in and fire on New Year's Day at St Laurence's Church in Dunganarvan which destroyed the sacristy raised concerns about the original Parish Registers of this historic church. Reports suggest that An Garda Síochána believe that the blaze broke out on Jan. 1st after two intruders smashed a stained-glass window at the side of the church to gain entry to the building which they intended to rob. They then started a fire which extensively damaged the sacristy. Locals raised the alarm shortly sometime after 21.00hrs and five units of Waterford County Fire Service brought the fire under control within forty minutes. The quick action by the Fire Service and a solid wall running from floor to roof at the back of the altar prevented it from spreading to the main body church. St. Laurence's church, one of three churches in the

Abbeyside Parish, which covers the town of Dunganarvan and surrounding areas was built in 1804 following a relaxation of the Penal Laws. It is second oldest church in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Waterford and Lismore. The Parish Priest of St. Laurence's, Fr. Tim O'Riordan, PP, has confirmed to the *Gazette* that no damage whatsoever was done to the original Parish Registers as they are not stored in St. Laurence's. Copies of these Parish Registers up to 1880 (NLI Pos. 2468 & 2469) are on microfilm at the National Library and up to 1911 at Waterford Heritage Services, Jenkin's Lane, Waterford City. Website: [www.waterford-heritage.ie](http://www.waterford-heritage.ie) Two men were later arrested by Gardai and both have since appeared in Dunganarvan District Court on charges of burglary and criminal damage at the church which destroyed the sacristy.

## FAMINE TALK

The December snow and ice led to the cancellation of numerous local history talks and lectures in addition to a variety of other events. One such cancelled event has been rescheduled for January 19th at 8 p.m. is Brian White's talk '*The Famine in Bray, Co. Wicklow*' to be held in the Royal Hotel, Bray, Co. Wicklow. This is a fund raising lecture in aid of Bray Cancer Support Centre and the Chernobyl Children's Fund. All welcome to attend. **James Scannell**

## *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*

by **John Grenham**

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## Weekend Genealogy Courses

As reported last month, a weekend course in genealogy will be offered at the Society's Archive or *An Daoncharlann* at the Carlisle Pier, Dún Laoghaire, starting from Saturday 22nd January 2011. The class duration will be 2.5 hours and each programme will run for eight weeks. The aim of the course is to provide an introduction to the theory and practice of genealogy and family history research. Topics to be covered include principles of genealogy, internet research, and how to draw up a family tree. Key records such as church parish records, civil registrations (births, marriages, and deaths), census returns, and land records will be explored in detail. Other sources discussed will include burial records and inscriptions, newspa-

pers, wills, trade directories and new developments in DNA testing. Class size will be restricted to six students to allow for individualised training and guidance on how to conduct and write your own family history. The GSI facility provides broadband access to conduct on-line research as part of the programme. The cost of the course is €300 which includes one year's free student membership of the GSI. The course will be taught by John Hamrock of Ancestor Network Limited. John is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He holds a Certificate and a Diploma in Genealogy from UCD (first class honours) and is the author of *Tracing Your Roscommon Ancestors*. For more information on these unique Weekend Courses please contact John Hamrock at 087 0505296 or at [john.hamrock@ancestor.ie](mailto:john.hamrock@ancestor.ie)

## 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...

## I.C.A. CENTENARY

One of several organisations celebrating their centenary during 2010 was the Irish Countrywoman's Association better known as the I.C.A. and uniquely the largest women's organisation in Ireland with over 15,000 members. Established in Bree, Co. Wexford as the United Irishmen, its first president was Anita Lett who was also a powerful driving force in setting up an organisation committed to making life better for the women of rural Ireland and from the onset it has held that promoting a better quality of life and living for women would have benefits for the entire country. In 1935 the organisation chose a new name – the Irish Countrywoman's Association (I.C.A) but continued to work / campaign on improving conditions for women including family health and education as it still does. Currently the I.C.A. has branches known as 'guilds' in numerous towns and villages throughout Ireland including city neighbourhoods. The I.C.A. continues to work and campaign to make life better for women and families all over the country while also promoting Irish language and culture.

## IRELAND'S BIG HOUSES

On view in the National Photographic Archive, Temple Bar, Dublin, until the end of March 2011 is a unique photographic exhibition 'Power & Privilege: photographs of the Big Houses in Ireland 1858 to 1922' which provides the opportunity for viewers to have a glimpse of life in Ireland's 'Big Houses' from the mid 1800's to the early 1900's. In August 2010

Ms. Mary Hanafin, T.D., Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport, opened the exhibition of photographs which is divided into six categories – gardens and landscapes; employees; transport; entertainment and recreation; the arts and sciences; and family life. The selection of images on display is drawn from the National Photographic Archive's collection of 630,000 images which is the world's largest collection of Irish photographs dating from the 1840's to the present time. Some of the images are homes that still are famous landmarks such as Ashford Castle, Co. Mayo; Carlton House, Co. Kildare; and Curraghmore, Co. Waterford. Houses such as Castleboro, Co. Wexford and Moydrum Castle, Co. Westmeath have long since vanished while Tollymore Forest Park, Co. Down is owned by the Northern Ireland Department of Agriculture and Woodstock Gardens, Co. Kilkenny is owned by Kilkenny County Council. The oldest photographs in this exhibition are drawn from the collection of wealthy amateur photographers such as Luke Dillon 4th Baron Clonbrock and his wife Lady Augusta. Members of the Dillon family between 1860 and 1930 took images in the Clonbrock Collection. In addition to recording most aspects of daily life on the Clonbrock estate in Ahascragh, Co. Galway, this collection includes images of estate staff, family members and neighbours, and images from the travels of friends and family in Ireland. Of the 87 copies from the Archive's late 19th century and early 20th century photographic collections on display, many were taken by commercial firms such as William Lawrence in Dublin, A.H. Poole in Waterford, and the Dublin based photographers James Simonton and Frederick Holland Mares.

The William Lawrence Collection (1865–1914) primarily features topographical scenes through Ireland but also features people, activities and interiors. The A.H. Poole Collection consists of works commissioned by clients from Waterford city and county, New Ross, Tipperary South Riding and south Kilkenny between 1860 and 1883. The Stereo Pairs Collection consists mainly of picturesque scenes from 26 counties and is called this because photographers used a camera with two lenses mounted side by side simultaneously taking two virtually identical images – the mounted print was viewed through a stereoscope creating a three-dimensional effect.

## A.T.Q. STEWART, RIP.

The death occurred on Friday December 17th in Belfast of A.T.Q. Stewart, historian, author teacher and academic, following a long illness. A. T. Q. Stewart was formerly a history teacher at the Belfast Royal Academy and a lecturer at Queen's University Belfast, reading in the School of History and Anthropology. He was best selling author with a string of well-known titles to his credit including 'The Ulster Crisis' (1969); his study of the creation of the Ulster Volunteer Force for which his is perhaps best known. He also wrote 'The Narrow Ground' (1977) and 'A Deeper Silence' (1993) in addition to 'The Shape of Irish History' (2001). He also acted as consultant to the BBC and Thames Television and presented 'The Divided World' for Channel 4. He wrote extensively and had a particular interest in the United Irishmen and the 1798 Rebellion.

## Précis of the December Lecture

**John Hamrock, MGSI**, the Society's Director of National Projects and founder of Ancestor Network, provided a long awaited and valuable 'back to the basics' summation of sources for Irish family history research on 14 December 2010. John's power point presentation was entitled, "How to Go About Tracing Your Irish Ancestors." The topics included how to get started in genealogical research which encompassed the importance of speaking to senior family members before it is too late, definitions of genealogy and family history, and also examination of sample pedigree sheets and family group sheets. As a branch of history, genealogists are concerned with establishing facts through careful and critical documentary research. The four primary sources of Irish family history were discussed in detail; civil registra-

tions, census and census substitutes, church records, and land and estate records. The closing elements of the presentation focused on coordination of one's family history searches; how far back one can expect to go; and recommended genealogy books and websites. John can be contacted at [john.hamrock@ancestor.ie](mailto:john.hamrock@ancestor.ie) to obtain copies of the power point presentation in pdf format and also a four page compilation on relevant websites for Irish sources.

## GSI LECTURES 2011

On **Tuesday January 11th** 'Irish Gathering – Recording your Family History in real time Global Web Environment' by **Joe Whelan**. On **Tuesday 8th February** 'RIC and Related Police Forces' **Jim Herlihy**, FGSI. On **Tuesday**

**8th March** 'Researching the Irish Revolution' by **Daihtí Ó Corráin**. On **Tuesday 12th April** 'The 1641 Depositions as an aid to the genealogist' by **Jane Ohlmeyer**. On **Tuesday 10th May** 'Tracing Ancestry through DNA' by **Gianpiero Cavalleri** and finally, on **Tuesday 14th June** 'Irish Online Sources' by **Mary Beglan**, MAPGI. Please send any suggestions for possible lectures to the Director of the GSI Lecture Programme, **Séamus Moriarty**, FGSI at e-mail: [Gazette@familyhistory.ie](mailto:Gazette@familyhistory.ie)

## DÚN LAOGHAIRE HARBOUR

Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company is preparing a masterplan for this historic harbour and invites submissions from the public and interested parties on the future development of this wonderful resource and public amenity. Please see [www.dlharbour.ie/masterplan/](http://www.dlharbour.ie/masterplan/)

## 2011 Membership Package

The Annual Review of the Membership Package was undertaken by the Board of Directors at its meeting on Thursday November 4, 2010. It was agreed under **Res: 10/11/798** to keep the cost of the Annual Subscription for 2011 for Irish and Overseas Members at €40.00. The Membership Package for 2011 includes 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 by e-mail; 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. Special Membership concessions on products and services obtained, from time to time, by the Society. The Board also agreed to provide a number of concessionary rates at €20.00 for persons under 25 years of age and persons attending recognised

genealogy courses etc. This Membership Package shall be applied as and from January 1st 2011 and be subject to annual review, however, existing Membership Packages shall be honored until their annual renewal date. **NOTE:** In accordance with **Res: 10/09/785** all Membership Packages fall due for renewal on the anniversary of joining—please check your Membership Card for details. Membership can be renewed via the Society's website [www.familyhistory.ie/shop](http://www.familyhistory.ie/shop) or if you prefer, simply download the form, complete it and send it to **Mr. Tom Conlon**, MGSI, Director of Finance, 24, Carrickbrennan Lawn, Monkstown, County Dublin, Ireland. **New Members always welcome!**

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### Board of Directors 2010-2011

**Pádraic Ingoldsby** (Cathaoirleach : Chairperson); **Gerry Hayden** (Leas-Chathaoirleach : Vice Chair); **Michael Merrigan** (General Secretary : Company Secretary & Publications); **Tom Conlon** (Finance & Web Editor); **Sharon Bofin** (Membership); **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).

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### DIARY DATES

Tuesday Jan. 11th & Feb. 8th 2011

#### Evening Open Meeting

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

Wednesday Jan. 26th & Feb. 23rd 2011

#### 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)

## 'SHADOW OF THE BROTHERHOOD'

'*Shadow of The Brotherhood – The Temple Bar Shootings*' by Barry Kennerk and published by Mercier Press is another excellent factual crime book from this leading Irish publisher. The author brings the reader back to Dublin in 1867 when on a foggy October night two members of the Dublin Metropolitan Police (DMP), Constable John Kenna and Sergeant Stephen Kelly, were shot in Temple Bar, Dublin, by a lone gunman who escaped into the foggy night and evaded capture in the subsequent search mounted for him. The first D.M.P. man shot was Constable Kenna after he called on a lone individual to stop who simply turned round and shot this constable without warning before vanishing into the night. Minutes later this lone individual also shot Sergeant Kelly when challenged by him and again the assailant made off into the night. Both policemen were rushed to Mercer's Hospital where Surgeon Butcher treated them for their wounds and subsequently wrote a treatise on their treatment titled 'On Gunshot Wounds and their Treatment' in which he detailed the battle to save their lives. Following the American Civil War / War Between the States, Dublin was awash with many members of the American Fenian Brotherhood who had seen military service in that conflict and had brought in firearms with them. Between 1865 and 1867 there were several random shooting incidents in Dublin and in time the authorities in London and Dublin formed the view that Fenian operations were being operated by a maverick circle with the shooting of these two policemen becoming its best known victims. After outlining the events leading up to the shooting of the two policemen, this excellent book then divides into two stories - the extensive medical efforts undertaken to save the lives of the two policemen which resulted in Sergeant Kelly's life being saved but unsuccessful in the case of Constable Kenna who died from his wounds several days after being shot but not before he gave a deposition on the immediate events leading to his shooting and a description of his assailant. Fearful that there was a Fenian assassination circle at work in Dublin and that some high ranking officials might become their next targets, the authorities in London exerted pressure on Dublin Castle to catch the killer and it then fell to Superintendent Daniel Ryan and his detective squad to launch a massive manhunt during which it emerged that the killer was part of a radical republican squad which considered policemen, informers and members of the judiciary as potential targets. Through good detective work and the work of informers which the police relied on extensively to obtain information on the underworld and political groups, the police managed to identify the alleged killer who was eventually arrested and tried for the crime in Green Street courthouse amid scenes of tight security. Who the alleged killer was and the trial verdict form the closing part of this excellent book. This excellent and fascinating book concludes with information on what happened subsequently to many of those featured in the text including the subsequent life of Sergeant Kelly. In September this year a plaque commemorating the shooting of these two members of the D.M.P. was unveiled in Temple Bar by Gerry Breenan, Lord Mayor of Dublin. All in all another fascinating excellent true crime book from this leading Irish publisher. **James Scannell**

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## 'History Ireland' Hedge School

The next 'History Ireland' Hedge School will explore the topic '1916 and all that...' *How should the forthcoming centenaries—Home Rule, First World War, 1916 Rising—be commemorated?* As we survey the wreckage of our economy, now beholden to the International Monetary Fund and the European Central Bank, the issue of Ireland's sovereignty is very much on the agenda. Newspaper editorials were full of quotes from W.B. Yeats ('Was it for this...?') and the 1916 Proclamation. This has added an unexpected poignancy to forthcoming centenaries—Home Rule, the First World War and the 1916 Rising itself. The glorification of the 1916 Rising as a key foundation myth of the Irish state, which reached its apogée in the 50th anniversary celebrations of 1966, has long since given way to a more critical appraisal, or in extremis, to total rejection. The 1916 Rising was unnecessary, according to this view; Home Rule was about to be delivered in any case. But what would Home Rule have meant for Ireland or, more to the point, what did Irish people think it meant? Did the Rising change things 'utterly' or did it simply bring into sharp relief sentiments that were latent? The focus of previous generations on the Rising has often been to the detriment of Ireland's Great War legacy, or has been considered in isolation from the larger European cataclysm. In truth the latter begot the former ('England's difficulty...etc.') and the militarization of Irish society (with three militias formed in 1913: Ulster Volunteers, Irish Volunteers and Irish Citizen Army) was all of a piece with what was happening in the rest of Europe. Join editor

Tommy Graham for the latest 'History Ireland' Hedge School in a lively round-table discussion of these and related issues at the National Library of Ireland, Kildare Street, Wednesday 12 January at 7pm with Kevin Whelan (Notre Dame), Roisín Higgins (Boston College), Fearghal McGarry (Queen's), and Edward Madigan (TCD). Like all events in the National Library this one is free to the public but to avoid disappointment on the night book your seat at (0)1 6030229. Contact: Tommy Graham, editor@historyireland.com

### GUILD OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

The January—March issue of the *Journal of One-Name Studies* (Vol. 10, Issue 9) has just been despatched to all Guild members in Ireland. In this issue Vicki Perry's article 'An Irish One-Name Study' is an excellently researched piece on the Anglo-Irish surname of Perry/Pery which originated in the south-western counties of England and settled in Ireland in the 17th century. The author's paternal grandfather, Gerard Perry, was born in Ireland in 1924, however, she says that 'I hit a genealogical brick wall in the form of my 6 x great grandfather, John Perry, who lived at Graystown, near Killenaule, Co. Tipperary in 1760'. This article is more of an instruction on research possibilities than a strict one-name study of the Perry/Pery family. The author's great grandfather, James Perry, was a member of the Dublin Metropolitan Police and she provides a photo of James and Sarah Perry probably on their wedding day, Feb. 1st 1880, in Monasterevin, Co. Kildare. Not surprisingly she found that there were Catholic as well as Protestant Perrys, including one Ambrose Perry who was transplanted to Co. Clare in 1653 on the confiscation of his lands because of his Catholicism. For further info, on the Journal and on the Guild see: [www.one-name.org](http://www.one-name.org)

## GENEALOGY ROADSHOW

Representatives from the Genealogical Society of Ireland, the Guild of One-Name Studies and the Irish-Jewish Genealogical Society will have stands at a day-long genealogy event to be held at the beautiful old Carton House, Co. Kildare on Sunday January 16th. The event will be filmed for RTÉ (*Irish Public Broadcaster*) by Big Mountain Productions. The 'Genealogy Roadshow' will be hosted by RTÉ's own Derek Mooney who will be helping ordinary people find extraordinary stories from their family history. So do you think you're related to someone famous? Is there a family connection to some politician, entertainer, sports personality or explorer? If so, the organizers want to meet you at this event. If there is a mystery hanging from your family tree help is on hand to solve it. Was one of your relations involved in a dramatic part of local or national history? The organizers want to find out all the details. So if you have letters, photographs, birth certificates, heirlooms or any other piece of information that might help, then bring them along to Carton House, Maynooth, Co. Kildare on Sunday January 16th 2011 from 11.00hrs to 17.00hrs. For directions checkout [www.cartonhouse.com](http://www.cartonhouse.com)

### 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](http://www.msou.ie)