

Cumann Genealais na hÉireann

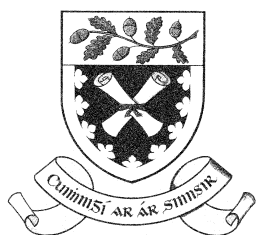
Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

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GENEALOGY
HERALDRY
VEXILLOLOGY
SOCIAL HISTORY
Heritage Matters
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IRISH DNA ATLAS

Last month our headline read 'Is Féidir Linn—With Imagination, Innovation and Inclusivity' and keeping with that theme, certainly the Society's newest group project represents a bold step in the development of genealogical research. Over the past decade or so genealogists around the world have become increasingly intrigued by the possibilities afforded through the advances in genetic genealogy to augment or confirm our traditional record based research. This new group project is yet another first for Irish genealogy building on the Society's unparalleled record of innovative projects and initiatives. The Society's Director of Archival Services, **Séamus O'Reilly, FGSI**, will spearhead this new group project in conjunction with **Dr. Gianpiero Cavalleri** of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland aimed at promoting an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of genetic genealogy. The project will compile an Irish DNA Atlas through the collection of birth briefs and DNA samples. The group project is to be based at *An Daonchartlann* under the overall supervision of the Director of Archival Services who may, establish a team to assist in the administration of the project. The RCSI may provide training for the project team. The Society is honoured to be partnering with Dr.

Gianpiero Cavalleri of the Royal College of Surgeons. Dr. Cavalleri is a Senior Scientist, of Italian parentage but born and raised in Ireland, and a population geneticist who trained with Prof Dan Bradley at Trinity College, Dublin before going on to work at Stanford with Prof Luca Cavalli-Sforza and Dr Peter Underhill. He was responsible for the placement of a number of markers on the Y chromosome tree including M201, M207, M222, M223, M242, M267 and M269. Dr. Cavalleri completed a PhD at University College London under Prof David Goldstein studying the genetics of epilepsy predisposition and treatment. He is currently researching the genetics and pharmacogenetics of epilepsy at the Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin, Ireland. Dr. Cavalleri explained the objective of the project as 'seeking to create a collection of DNA samples from individuals of Irish origin, which can then be used to explore human genetic variation in the Irish population. Understanding human genetic variation in the Irish population is required for two principal purposes; (1) to further our knowledge of the population history of Ireland and (2) to help us understand how genes influence health in Ireland.' He said that 'the diversity of the Irish genome is a valuable, yet largely unexplored, resource of the Irish nation. As an island population on the edge

of Europe, Ireland has a rich cultural heritage that is the product of ancient migrations to the region. Understanding and preserving this history enriches our culture. Whilst historical records and archaeological studies have uncovered many wonderful aspects of Irish history, there are many questions left unanswered and DNA can help address these.' The Aims of the Irish DNA Atlas are (1) To create a DNA collection that allows genetic analysis of population structure within Ireland, and ethnic groups across the island. Analysis of such a collection will reveal ancient demographic movements and inform on the ancestry of specific regions and ethnic groups within Ireland. (2) To create a DNA collection to act as controls in population based studies of health in Ireland. The Project aims to recruit individuals representing each of the 32 counties of Ireland. Each participant should have all eight great grandparents from that county – so that their DNA represents that particular region of Ireland. By recruiting people from every county the project hopes to build a "DNA atlas" of the island of Ireland. This new group project is not confined to GSI Members, anybody can participate. For further information or to participate please contact Séamus O'Reilly on Irish.DNA@familyhistory.ie

Irish Genealogy in 2016

With the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising coming up within five years, there is no shortage of worthy suggestions on how this occasion should be marked. It is reported that the Minister for Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht, **Jimmy Deenihan, TD**, is looking at the State acquiring the Bank of Ireland on College Green in Dublin which was the old Irish Parliament building before 1801. This iconic building, it is suggested, could house a 'National Genealogy Centre' amongst other cultural uses. This is an exciting and very welcome proposal, however, it is hoped that it is not merely a resuscitation of the Heritage Council's 'pay-for-

view' proposal of 2000 which was publicly dismissed by the Minister soon after its publication. Under that proposal sources at the National Library and the National Archives which were free, and remain so today, were to be centralised and made publicly accessible at a fee. This 'pay-per-view' proposal was contained in the Heritage Council's final report on 'The Provision of Genealogical Services in Ireland' which strayed far away from its original purpose as contained in the interim report. Unfortunately the Heritage Council's pandering to vested interests on this issue brought a very worthy process aimed at gathering information for the future planning of

genealogical services to an abrupt halt. In keeping with the 'Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access' to our genealogical heritage, any new facility should maintain the access policies and ethos of the National Library and National Archives. It seems that 2016 is going to be an important year for the 1926 census campaign as the Minister on Weds. June 22nd confirmed his 'proposal to digitise and make available online the 1926 census returns' and that it is his 'Department's objective to have this in place by 2016'. No doubt, at that stage with just 10 years off the 100 year closure rule, talk of any redaction of information will be utterly irrelevant.

Ireland 1870-1914—Coercion and Conciliation

'Ireland 1870-1914 - Coercion and Conciliation' edited by **Donnchadh Ó Corráin** and **Tomás O'Riordan** and published by Four Courts Press (ISBN 978-1-84682-233-9 : 354pp : Illustrated : P/b : Price €19.95) is the second part of a new series which takes an innovative approach to the study and, very importantly, the presentation of Irish history. The first part *'Ireland 1815-1870 - Emancipation, Famine and Religion'* was reviewed in our last issue of the *Gazette*. Both publications are linked to the MultiText Project in History [http://multitext.ucc.ie] which is an innovative educational project by the History Department of University College Cork. It is the largest and most ambitious project undertaken by any university to provide resources for students of Modern Irish History at all levels: University students, the general reader, and second-level students. The project aims to publish a minimum of twelve books each on a separate period of Irish history with accounts of key personalities, concepts, and detailed elucidations of some case studies in each period. In *'Ireland 1870-1914'* as with the earlier volume, the editors and contributors have replaced the normal historical narrative with a more aspectual approach to the key issues, events and persons of the era and focuses on three major aspects: the foundation of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) and the promotion of 'Irish Ireland'; the pursuit of Home Rule and the elections of 1885-6; and the struggle between labour and capital that culminated in the Lockout of 25,000 Dublin workers in 1913. According to the editors, 'all three events, in varying ways, changed the face of late nineteenth - and early twentieth-century Ireland.' Indeed, this era is of exceptional importance to the study of Irish ancestry as is the first in which the general population of Ireland is covered

by written records including civil registration records, parish records, land records and, for the early twentieth century, census records (1901 and 1911). In his very insightful Foreword to this volume, Joseph Carey, Chairman of MultiText, stresses 'that an understanding of the past is essential for the welfare of society - political, economic and cultural' and that he has 'found strength, support and inspiration in the history of Ireland' and in his 'understanding of the cultural achievements of the Irish people'. Indeed, the Ireland covered by this volume is one where attempts at a political solution foundered and where the land problem was largely resolved with the transfer of the bulk of the agricultural land of Ireland from landlords to their tenants. This period is of immense importance to genealogists, local and social historians as it was an era when an aristocracy which had dominated Ireland since the end of the seventeenth century was virtually wiped out politically and economically producing an Ireland of deeply conservative peasant proprietors by the first decade of the twentieth century. Chapter One deals with the politics and administration of the country including the campaigns for 'Home Rule' and the rise of Unionist opposition to any measure of self-government; the rise of the Home Rule as a broad popular movement with influential Irish members of parliament at Westminster; the legislative measures aimed at defeating separatism and combating civil or agrarian unrest; the emergence of new identities and the polarisation of national politics before the First World War. Chapters Two and Three are certainly recommended for all with an interest in the social, cultural and socio-religious development of Ireland during this period and, once again, an understanding of these aspects of our history is absolutely essential for

the genealogist, local and social historian. These socially formative elements feed into the political life of the country and contribute hugely to the development of Irish political culture and its electoral expression as covered by Chapters Four and Five dealing with Home Rule and the elections of 1885-6. Chapters Six and Seven deal with one of the most important social movements in modern Irish history and one which is still hugely significant in the life of the country today - the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA). Touching every rural parish and extending into the cities through a combination of internal migration and the rise of national sentiment, the GAA was always more than just a sporting organisation as its impact transformed social life in Ireland. Chapters Eight and Nine take us into the heart of Dublin City during the strike and Lockout of 1913. This was the Irish stage for its manifestation of the bitter and protracted international struggle between capital and labour - hitting hardest on the urban poor of Dublin's slums of overcrowded dilapidated tenements where hunger and disease was rampant. Again, here too is essential reading for anybody with Dublin city ancestry. Chapter Ten explains the key concepts such as Anglicisation and de-Anglicisation; Irish-Ireland; the 'Anglo-Irish' and, of course, with the various political ideologies influencing or shaping the period. Chapter Eleven provides short biographies of the key personalities introduced in the earlier chapters. This volume has twenty nine illustrations and with extracts from original documentation throughout, it is exceptionally accessible for all levels of interest. These two volumes provide the vital pointers to events, issues and resources that are essential for the construction of a well researched family history narrative. **MM**

Commissioning Research in Ireland

This Society is an educational charity devoted to the promotion of the study of genealogy, heraldry and vexillology as educational leisure pursuits available to all irrespective of age, prior-learning, background or socio-economic circumstances. Indeed, in many respects it qualifies as learned society inasmuch as research, study and education are at the heart of all its activities. The Society provides information on the research resources available and recommends an essential guidebook, in addition to its other activities, including twelve lectures, eleven group discussions and an archive. However, the Society does not undertake commercial research assignments, nevertheless many readers still contact this Society each year seeking information and advice on commissioning genealogical research in Ireland. Enquirers are directed to the lists provided by the National Library and National Archives and, of course, to the Association of Professional Genealogists in Ireland Limited (APGI). Many genealogists offering these services have successfully completed courses like those offered by University

College Dublin under the direction of the renowned genealogist, historian and lecturer, Seán Murphy, MA. Besides directing enquirers to the published lists of researchers, the Society advises those intending to avail of such services to do some 'homework' themselves on their research topics to ensure that their instructions to the professional genealogist of their choice will be as precise as possible. This will save time and money. Most professional genealogists in Ireland are self-employed, however, a few are employees of specialist genealogical research companies, for example, probate researchers. The standard and reputation of professional genealogical research in Ireland is consistently high, however, costs and methodologies may vary considerably between researchers. Check out a number before choosing the one that best suits your requirements. For information on APGI and its membership see www.apgi.ie or for information on corporate bodies providing research services see their company websites or for more detailed corporate, trading or accounts information on the body concerned see www.cro.ie

GSI LECTURES 2011

On **Tuesday 12th July** - *Dublin Firefighters and the 1941 Belfast Blitz* - James Scannell. On **Tuesday 9th August** - *Dublin's own Titanic: The sinking of the 'Tayleur' off Lambay in 1854* - Declan Heffernan. On **Tuesday 13th September** - *Unbounded Charity and Unfortunate Females: Lady Arbella Denny and the early years of the Leeson St. Magdalen Asylum* - Rosemary Raughter. On **Tuesday 11th October** - *Court and Prison Records* - Brian Donovan. On **Tuesday 8th November** - *Barrack Obama's Benn and Donovan ancestors* - Fiona Fitzsimons. On **Tuesday 13th December** - *National Library of Ireland - Recent Developments & Future Plans* - Katherine McSharry. All lectures are held at the Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education, Cumberland St., Dún Laoghaire. For full directions to the venue by car and public transport see the home page of the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie Please send any suggestions for lectures to **Séamus Moriarty, FGSI**, Director of the Lecture Programme, e-mail: Gazette@familyhistory.ie

Weekend Genealogy Courses

Would you like to trace your trace your ancestors? The Saturday Morning Genealogy Course will show you how! In conjunction with the Genealogical Society of Ireland, John Hamrock of **Ancestor Network Limited** is conducting a course on *'How to Trace Your Ancestors in Ireland'* The aim of the course is to help beginners unlock the mysteries of their ancestry. The course includes guided tours at the National Library, Dublin City Library, and other important centres of research. You can learn how to be your own researcher. All you need is some curiosity and some expert guidance. Topics to be covered include the principles of genealogy, computers and the internet, place names and surnames, location and use of census, vital, valuation, church and other records. Practical advice will be shared with participants as they embark on the quest to trace their ancestors. The following areas are covered on the course: getting started; talking to family mem-

bers, drawing up a family tree, family group sheets, organising files, origins of surnames; Church Parish Records; Civil Registrations (births, marriages & deaths); Census Returns and Census Substitutes; Land Records; Other; estate records, directories & occupational records, grave records and inscriptions, newspapers, wills & administrations, DNA testing (genetic genealogy) and Recommended Books and Websites. Courses are held at the Genealogical Society of Ireland Library and Archive, *An Daonchartlann*, Carlisle Pier, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, where computer access ensures that the major online resources will be covered in a 'hands-on' way for best results. The classes will commence on Saturday, 17 September 2011. So when you hear that question—*Who Do You Think You Are?* - let us help you find out! For more information please contact **John Hamrock, MGS** by phone 087 050 5296 or by e-mail at john.hamrock@ancestor.ie

IN MEMORIAM

The Society sends its condolences to the family of our Director of Sales, Marketing & Membership, Tom Conlon, MGS, on the death of his brother **Hugh Conlon** of Renmore, Co. Galway, who died suddenly on July 8th 2011. Deeply regretted by his family, brothers Peter and Tom, sisters Margaret (Hernan), Nellie (Carr), Kathleen (Cummins), relatives and friends. **RIP**. The Society also sends its condolences to the family and friends our co-Founder, **Jean Reddin (née Taaffe)**, FGSI, who died on June 15th 2011 the loving wife of Billy Reddin and devoted mother of Barbara, Audrey, Jane, Brian and Mark, grandmother and great grandmother. Jean was one of the four co-Founders of the Society's and its first Treasurer. An excellent researcher, Jean stepped down from the Executive to pursue further studies, at which, she excelled. **RIP**

James Scannell Reports...

CATHAL BRUGHA BARRACKS

In May Alan Shatter, T.D., Minister for Justice and Defence, opened a new Visitor Centre in Cathal Brugha Barracks, Rathmines, Dublin 6, which displays memorabilia from Patrick McIntyre, Thomas Dickson, and journalist Francis Sheehy-Skeffington who were shot in the guardhouse yard during the Easter 1916 Rising even though they had no connection or involvement or connection with this event as they were pacifists. The museum also displays memorabilia on Cathal Brugha, chief of staff of the IRA and Minister for Defence until his death during the Civil War and from General Richard Mulcahy who succeeded him in this position. While there are museums located in other military barracks throughout the State, the Cathal Brugha Barracks Visitor Centre is the first of its type for the Irish Defence Forces. It is open to the public by appointment.

HERITAGE BUILDINGS AT RISK

An Taisce and a number of other conservation organisations have expressed their deep concern of the rising levels of damage sustained to Georgian and other heritage buildings across Dublin City and believe that these buildings are being damaged at rate not seen since the early

1980's. In recent times buildings in Hume Street, Parnell Square, Portland Row and at other locations are being subjected to sustained attacks in which metal such as copper and lead are being stripped from them in addition to fireplaces, brass letter boxes and door handles and stained glass. One building which has been the subject of sustained and regular attacks was Belcamp College which was destroyed by an arson attack in April of this year. Belcamp College was purchased in 2004 from the Oblate Fathers for €105M by property developer Gerry Gannon. Belcamp House which stood on 200 acres was designed by James Hoban who later designed the White House in Washington, DC. Security personnel employed by Mr. Gannon also came under attack and six sets of stained glass panels were removed from the property by Mr. Gannon with the assistance of the Heritage Office of Fingal County Council and are now being held for safekeeping in the storehouse of the National Museum. But other heritage features of the property such as marble fireplaces, brass letterboxes, door handles, oak floorboards and lead from the roof had already been stolen. Another house over which these is rising concern is Aldborough House in Portland Row in the inner city as it too has been attacked on a number of occasions. Although the building is

protected by security, there is concern that this example of one of the last great Georgian houses built in the city and dating from 1798 may be severely damaged.

SUMMER OF HERITAGE

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council has published its Summer of Heritage 2011 programme brochure which runs from June 27th to September 4th 2011. Guided tours will take place of The Oratory, Library Road, Dún Laoghaire, the Stillorgan Obelisk, Cabinteely House, Marlay House, Dún Laoghaire Seafont Memorials, the Metals in Dún Laoghaire, Seapoint Martello Tower, Carrickbrennan Graveyard, Deansgrange Cemetery on different days of the week. There is also a Martello Tower Exhibition in the County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire. Copies of the brochure are available from branches of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Public Libraries or on www.dlrevents.ie

EDITOR: The Society's contribution to the restoration of the Martello Tower at Seapoint is featured in the Martello Tower Exhibition at the County Hall, Dún Laoghaire. The Society commends the County Heritage Officer, Tim Carey, for this wonderfully presented exhibition and indeed, for the production of the wide ranging *Summer of Heritage* programme above.

Précis of the June Lecture

On Tuesday 14th June 2011 the ever popular **Mary Beglan**, MAPGI, was back for a second lecture on the topic of *'Irish Online Sources'*. Once again, Mary's lively delivery and wealth of knowledge was wonderfully received by a packed venue with standing room only. The online sources covered by Mary included: **National Library of Ireland** www.nli.ie and especially the Library's *Sources: A National Library of Ireland database for Irish research*—containing over 180,000 catalogue records for Irish manuscripts, articles in Irish periodicals etc—see: <http://sources.nli.ie> This online catalogue also includes 34,000 photographic images. **National Archives of Ireland** www.nationalarchives.ie where there is no on-line catalogue but the website includes extensive information on the records held. This also includes the 1901 and 1911 census records on www.census.nationalarchives.ie **Public Records of Northern Ireland** www.proni.gov.uk where an online catalogue is available with the following indexes: *Geographical Index, Prominent Persons*

Index, Presbyterian Church Index and Church of Ireland Index. In addition five major database are available including: Ulster Covenant, Freeholder's Records, Street Directories, Will Calendars and Name Search. **Irish Archives Resource** www.iar.ie which contains information about archival collections open for research in Ireland and a list of contributing repositories. **Dublin Heritage** www.dublinheritage.ie which includes Dublin City Electoral Lists and an online Dublin Graveyards Directory for the greater Dublin area. **Glasnevin Cemeteries Group** www.glasnevintrust.ie which has an online database for Glasnevin Cemetery & Crematorium, Dardistown Cemetery, Newlands Cross Cemetery & Crematorium and Palmerstown Cemetery. Glasnevin records date from 1826. Initial search is free. Charges apply for other information. Then again going north of the border, **Belfast City Council** www.belfastcity.gov.uk/burialrecords/ which has a free online search for Belfast City Cemetery, records from 1869 (including Jewish,

Public and Glenalina extension sections), Roselawn Cemetery—records from 1954 and Dundonald Cemetery—records from 1905. **Irish Genealogy**—the government sponsored site www.irishgenealogy.ie includes records for Carlow (CoL), Cork & Ross (RC), Dublin City (CoL, Presbyterian & RC) and Kerry (CoL & RC). With more records added this month. During her lecture Mary provided examples of the information available on each website. Other websites discussed were: **Irish Newspaper Archives** www.irishnewsarchive.ie **Irish Times Archives** www.irishtimes.com/archive Pay-per-view sites like the newly launched **www.findmypast.ie** and **Origins Network** www.originsnetwork.com and the free sites like **Ask About Ireland** www.askaboutireland.ie and **Family Search LDS** www.familysearch.org which includes indexes for Irish Civil Registration to 1958. **Guinness Archives** www.guinness-storehouse.com which includes personnel records. **Irish Ancestors** on www.irishtimes.com/ancestor - free & pay-per-view. And then finally, **Cyndi's List** - www.cyndislist.com

GSI 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 pro-

jects; 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 obtained or renewed via the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie/shop or if you prefer, simply

download the form, complete it and send it to **Mr. Billy Saunderson**, MGSI, Director of Finance, 'Suzkar', Killiney Avenue, Killiney, Co. Dublin, Ireland. *New Members always welcome!*

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?

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*The Society is a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann***Board of Directors 2011-2012**

Pádraic Ingoldsby (Cathaoirleach : Chairperson); **Gerry Hayden** (Leas-Chathaoirleach : Vice Chair); **Michael Merrigan** (General Secretary : Company Secretary & Publications); **Billy Saunderson** (Finance); **Tom Conlon** (Sales, Marketing & Membership); **Séamus O'Reilly** (Archive); **Barry O'Connor** (Cemetery Projects); **Séamus Moriarty** (Lecture Programme), **John Hamrock** (Education & Social Inclusion) **Bartosz Kozłowski** (Poland) (Internet Services) and **Eddie Gahan** (Research Info. Services).

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*Checkout the Society's Facebook Page
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World of Genealogy and Heraldry*

DIARY DATES

Tuesday July 12th & Aug. 9th 2011

Evening Open Meeting

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

Wednesday July 27th & Aug. 24th 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)

'Unlikely Rebels'

'Unlikely Rebels - The Gifford Girls and the Fight for Irish Freedom' by **Anne Clare**, Mercier Press, (ISBN 978 85635 7128, pb, 320pp, ills.) This is a truly remarkable book about the Gifford Sisters, Muriel, Grace, Nellie, Kate, Sidney and Ada, and as really several books in one given the vast amount of information contained it, excellently told and presented by author Anne Clare. Many people will know the story of Grace Gifford who married Joseph Mary Plunkett in Kilmainham Gaol on the eve of his execution for his part in leading the 1916 Rising. Often overlooked is the fact that one her other sisters Muriel Gifford was married to Thomas McDonagh who was also executed. The Gifford family were Unionist and Protestant and this book provides the reader with a very good insight into how this type of family functioned in Dublin at the start of the twentieth century, their social contacts and the etiquette observed at that time, and what life in their Dublin suburb of Rathmines, and how the people lived there with a fascinating insight on how people pretended to be away on holiday in the eyes of neighbours while still living in the house all the time and other ways of 'keeping up appearances'. The early years of the girls growing is covered in detail based on family memoirs that have survived which portray a picture of their mother who was extremely class conscious and Unionist to the core and who had plans and ambitions for her daughters, all of whom pursued different paths and became involved in the Irish nationalist movement, with two of them, Nellie and Kate, being imprisoned for their republican activities. Additionally to becoming involved in the nationalist movement, some of the girls converted to Catholicism, two actions which distanced themselves from their mother. The different paths that the girls took after the Civil War is covered and it's to one of them that we owe large debt as she began collecting material in the 1930 as is the final years of their lives. One of the great strengths of this book is the vast amount of family information, the insight into what it was like to live in Dublin when they were growing up and their interaction with many of the those engaged in the quest for national independence to living in Dublin, their activities during and after the civil war, what they subsequently did after this event and how their lived out the remainders of their lives - a truly fascinating biography of Grace Gifford, her remarkable sisters, her brothers who followed various careers but never espoused their sisters republican beliefs, her matriarchal mother, and all in the context of their time. **James Scannell**

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

Hot off the press! Another edition of an exceptionally useful guide has been published this month by Four Courts Press— **'Directory of Irish Archives'** (Fifth Edition) edited by **Séamus Helferty & Raymond Refaüssé**. (Hardback ISBN: 978-1-84682-245-2 : 240pp : Price: €50.00 : Web Price: €45.00 : Paperback ISBN: 978-1-84682-246-9 : 240pp : Price: €24.95 : Web Price: €22.45) Since its first appearance in 1988 the *Directory of Irish Archives* has become the standard work for all who need introductory information on archival and manuscript collections in Irish repositories. This new revised and updated edition contains entries for 269 educational, religious, cultural and governmental repositories and organizations holding records of historical significance and, of course, many are of genealogical interest or potential. The various collections are briefly described with access information and contact details provided for each. The excellent index for the new edition is the most detailed to date, with almost 2,500 entries, making it easier than ever for users to track down sources for a wide range of subjects, people and places. The editors: Séamus Helferty is senior archivist, University College Dublin Archives (UCDA) and Raymond Refaüssé is librarian and archivist, Church of Ireland Representative Church Body Library, Dublin.

MEDAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Members researching ancestors or relatives who served in the Irish or other armed forces or in the mercantile marine will find the publications and meetings of the Medal Society of Ireland of interest. For further info. see the Medal Society's website at: www.msoui.eu

GSI ANNUAL JOURNAL

The Society's Annual Journal (Vol. 12—2011) has just been published. Members receive a copy free of charge as part of the current membership package, otherwise copies are available for purchase Price €7.50 (plus p+p €1.50 for Ireland : €3.00 elsewhere). **Contents** *Flanagans, Halligans and Byrnes - My Ancestors from County Louth* by Liam Clare; *Tombstone Inscriptions of Kilconickny and Lickerrig, Co. Galway* by Adrian James & Noreen (McLoughlin) Martyn; *Pedigree of the Fallons of Turloughmore, Co. Galway* by Paul McNulty; *Francis Duffy from Ballybay to Australia - A Policeman's Biography* by Róisín Lafferty; *The Gauls of Rathasker Road, Naas* by James Durney; *Logues of Stillorgan and 'The King's Speech'* by Michael Nelson; *The Last Word - Irish Wills and Testamentary Records* by Caroline McCall; *An Emigrant's Story - Eight Years in New York* by Barry Kennerk; *James Lynch, Carnamoyle, Co. Donegal, Ireland* by Dana Lynch, Phil & Anna Tiebout Reisman; *Lawless of Connacht* by Adrian James Martyn; *Miscellaneous Information from the Irish Year Book 1921*; *The Saundersons of Farransee, Co. Cavan* by Billy Saunderson. Congratulations to the Joint Editors, George O'Reilly and Brendan Hall, for a wonderful high quality production with very well researched articles on a wide range of subjects from home and overseas.

ACADEMIC BOOKS WANTED

The Society is supporting the initiative by Bosnian students to restock the Library of the University of Sarajevo following its destruction in the Bosnian civil war. Contemporary academic works in any discipline wanted. Please forward donated volumes to the University Library by mail to: **Mr. Muris Rahmanovic**, University of Sarajevo—Campus, Zmaj od Bosne bb., 71000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. For further information see: www.books4vijecnica.com

LANDING & RADIO SITES STILL UNKNOWN

The bog at Derrygimlagh near Clifden, Co. Mayo, has two unique claims to fame - it was the landing site for Alcock and Brown who crashed landed there in 1919 after making the first west to east Atlantic crossing by aircraft and also the site of Marconi's first transatlantic wireless station but their actual locations are unknown. The 1959 memorial to Alcock and Brown in the form of an aircraft tailfin at Errislanan Hill is not in the correct location as the original crash site was never marked at the time it took place. Equally the location of the Marconi Wireless Station is unknown as it was burned down in 1921 during the War of Independence even though it had been in operation there since 1907 with one of those who served there being Jack Phillips, Chief Radio Officer on the *RMS Titanic*, who was lost in that vessel's April 1912 sinking. But now the hunt is on by a team with archaeological, engineering, geographical and historical research skills to identify these two locations. The search project being carried out on behalf of the Clifden and Connemara Heritage Society and it is being supported by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The project will utilise both modern technology and the more traditional methods of traditional archaeological and historical research. The Bodleian Library at Oxford, England, which holds the Marconi Company archive, is providing assistance as is the British Royal Navy. A specialist researcher has also been engaged. **James Scannell**

TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS

by John Grenham, MA, MAPGI, FIGRS, FGSI

The Society strongly recommends that anybody wishing to trace their Irish ancestry should, as a first step, get a copy of this very comprehensive guide. Checkout: www.gillmacmillan.com

Doing your Family Tree? You need this book!!