



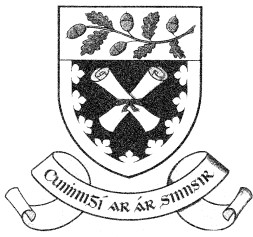
Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

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GENEALOGY
HERALDRY
VEXILLOLOGY
SOCIAL HISTORY

Heritage Matters

Book Reviews

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News & Queries



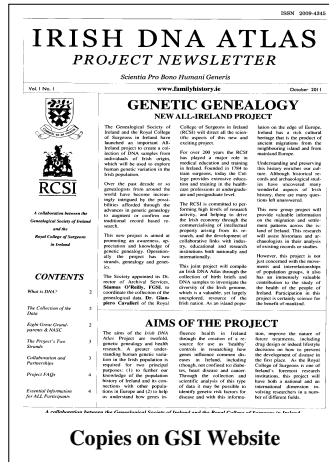
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An Naóú Uachtarán ar Éirinn

The recent election of An Naóú Uachtarán ar Éirinn—the ninth President of Ireland, Mr. Michael D. Higgins, opens up new and exciting possibilities for the office of President. The highest office in the land was often seen as remote and, in many ways, irrelevant or as Dr. Noël Browne maintained in 'The Irish Times' of March 20, 1997 "under our constitution it is a glass box, glass cage or even a goldfish bowl. It is our House of Lords, our Legion d'Honneur; simply an honour from the people and no more". Dr. Browne's views may have reflected those of the majority of our citizens until the election of President Mary Robinson in October 1990 and her successor President Mary McAleese in 1997. Undoubtedly these two wonderfully energetic, committed and immensely popular Presidents expanded the role of the largely ceremonial office. President McAleese and her husband Senator Martin McAleese are widely recognised for their unique contribution to building bridges between the two parts of Ireland and between the two communities in Northern Ireland. Many would say that Presidents Robinson and McAleese will be very hard acts to follow, however, those who know or may have worked with Michael D. Higgins see exciting times ahead for the presidency. As a former university professor, sena-



tor, Teachta Dála (MP), government minister and onetime President of the Council of European Union Culture Ministers, Michael D. Higgins brings very different skills, experiences and perspectives to the office of President of Ireland. His term as Minister in the mid 1990s was exceptionally productive legislatively with the *Heritage Act, 1995* and the *National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997*. During the passage of the legislation through the Oireachtas, this Society was delighted with the constant readiness of the Minister to accept our suggestions for the inclusion of points or, indeed, the amendment of sections of the Bills. The passage of the 1997 Act was unfortunately marred by unfounded attacks on the Minister

over the future of the Genealogical Office. This Society, working with opposition Senator Paschal Mooney, approached the legislation in a cooperative and constructive manner and, in doing so, achieved circa 28 amendments to the Bill. The Minister thanked the Society for its part in improving the Bill. The late Ida Grehan in her 'Irish Family Histories' (Dublin 1993) says of the surname Higgins that it 'is a phonetic representation of the Irish Ó hUigín. Uigín [should read Uige] means knowledge, skill or ingenuity, a more than apt description for this family which has produced an astonishing number of literary people' and that 'from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century, the family had must surely have had a monopoly on the arts, especially poetry'. Although the correct etymology of the surname is, according to surname experts MacLysaght and Wolfe and the lexicographer, Dinneen, more likely to come from an Old-Irish word akin to *Viking*. Nevertheless, Grehan could easily have been describing the well-known attributes of our new President. As an academic, poet, philosopher, political scientist, human rights activist, President Higgins will undoubtedly challenge each of us to reflect on our Republic, the sort of society we want to build and what it truly means to be Irish in the twenty-first century.

RDS Event a Great Success!

It seems that everyone with an interest in matters genealogical made their way to the *Back To Our Past* exhibition at the RDS, Dublin, between October 21st and 23rd 2011. The Society's stand at the RDS was extremely busy throughout and especially so following the official launch of the *Irish DNA Atlas Project* on Friday 21st October. Interest in the project has been phenomenal with queries flooding in from all corners of the globe. The publication of a special newsletter for the

project (see above) proved highly successful with an on-line readership of over 3,000 within three weeks. The visitors to our stand came from all parts of Ireland and a significant number came from overseas. This was the second year that the Society had a stand at the event and, once again, our partners at the show were the UK based **Guild of One-Name Studies** and the **Irish Jewish Genealogical Society**. There is a growing interest in the idea of conducting one-studies in Ireland, however, unlike the Guild members in Eng-

land or those researching English surnames, the Irish situation is radically different due to the history and structure of our native Gaelic surnames. For example, there are several different origins for the surname O'Connor. Irish one-namers are possibly more akin to clan/sept researchers. Meanwhile, our other stand partner, the Irish Jewish Genealogical Society, was exceptionally busy. Stuart Rosenblatt's 'A Yidiot's Guide to Irish Jewish Ancestry' is now the essential guide for such research.

A Dictionary of Irish Saints

'A Dictionary of Irish Saints' by Pádraig Ó Riain, (ISBN: 978-1-84682-318-3 : 660pp : h/bk : €65.00 : Web-Price €58.50) published on October 14th 2011 by **Four Courts Press** is a wonderful and unique resource for genealogists, one-namers and local historians. This volume has a wealth of information drawn from many sources. The author has been working in the field of Irish hagiography for upwards of forty years, and the material for the over 1,000 entries in this *Dictionary* has come from a variety of sources, including Lives of the saints, martyrologies, genealogies of the saints, shorter tracts on the saints (some of them accessible only in manuscripts), annals, annates, collections of folklore, Ordnance Survey letters, and other documents. Placenames throughout the island of Ireland from the smallest townlands, parishes, villages and towns to cities like Kilkenny and Derry attest to their connections with Irish saints. Hundreds of ancient churches and monasteries, grottos, retreats and holy wells are dedicated to one or more of the Irish saints and, in many cases, aspects of their lives still colour local traditions and lore. The author's extensive research provides short biographies of each of the Irish saints and, in doing so, he provides information on the various locations associated with each saint and any lore surrounding their feast-days. The overwhelming majority of these Irish saints do not appear on the lists of canonized saints provided by the Vatican. Interestingly many of the Irish saints were closely related, often siblings, the sons and daughters of chieftains and kings. These family connections with the ruling classes and the foundation of churches and monasteries within the clan/sept area served to intensify the localisation of

the devotion to a particular saint. Their names were held in high regard and often adopted as forenames, sometimes peculiar to certain local families and used over the centuries as surnames developed and standardised. The veneration of these local saints was widespread in Ireland with processions to the churches or holy wells associated with the saint on their feast-day, many were also believed to cure certain ailments in humans or animals. These practices went into a steady decline after the Great Famine with the advance of the English language and the Romanization, or as some would suggest the 'Cullenization', of the Irish Catholic Church under Cardinal Cullen in latter half of the 19th century. Therefore, Professor Ó Riain's monumental work has preserved and made publicly accessible an enormous treasure trove of information for the local historian, folklorist, placenames researcher, surname specialist and, of course, the genealogist. The first element in well known Irish surnames like Mulcahy, Mulcair, Mulhall, Mulhern, Mulholland or Mullarkey, is derived from the Gaelic word 'Maol' signifying a 'devotee' of a particular saint. The word means bald, one tonsured or shaved in the style of a monk, therefore, Mulholland comes from Ó *Maolchallann* meaning a devotee of Callann (Caillín or Cailléán). This saint was also the patron of the powerful clan/sept of Uí Ruairc (O'Rourke) of Bréifne through his conversion of Aodh Dubh son of Feargna, ancestor of the Uí Ruairc. His feast-day is November 13th. Other surnames like Gildernew, Gilmartin, Gilsean, Guilfoyle Kilbride, Kilcoyne, Kilfeather and Kilkelly, for example, have as their first element a corruption of the Gaelic word 'Giolla' meaning servant. While the

surname Gildernew is non-specific in its meaning 'Giolla na Naomh' (servant of the saints), Kilkelly means a 'servant of Ceallach' who when a pupil of Ciarán, was persuaded by his people to assume the kingship of the Uí Fhiachrach, only to have his violent death foretold by his disappointed tutor. But despite relinquishing the kingship to resume his studies and then becoming a bishop, Ciarán could not undo the terms of his prophecy and the unfortunate Ceallach was later murdered. A number of surnames in their anclised forms hide their associations with the Irish saints through the contraction or deletion of the original Gaelic word 'Giolla', for example, McElherron, McElhinney or McElrone (Mac Giolla Chiaráin, Mac Giolla Chainnigh and Mac Giolla Ruadháin). Although many Irish surnames contain references to Irish saints, nearly every clan/sept and later parish or district had an association with one or more Irish saints and this is reflected in their histories, lore and placenames. A number of clans/septs and places have depicted their associations with various Irish saints or their ecclesiastical foundations in their coats-of-arms and therefore, the information provided by Professor Ó Riain will be of interest to heraldry enthusiasts. Indeed, it could be a wonderful resource for the differencing of Arms. Genealogists and clan/sept historians will discover this volume to be a mine full of very useful information and references for further study, however, in many respects it should be read in conjunction with the works on Irish surnames by either MacLysaght or Woulfe. Ó Riain's work is an enormous resource for many different studies. No library should be without a copy. **MM**

A New History of the Royal Military School

A copy of '*A New History of the Royal Hibernian Military School, Phoenix Park, Dublin—1765-1921*' by Howard Clarke, BSc. (Econ), M.Sc.(Oxon), FRSA, (ISBN: 978-0-9568884-01 : 561pp : ill : p/bk : Price Stg€25.00) was recently kindly donated by the author to the Society's Archive. In describing this work as '*A New History*' it is clear that Howard Clarke has drawn on previously published works, including this Society's 2001 publication '*History of the Royal Military School Dublin*' edited by George H. O'Reilly (ISBN: 1-898471-91-6). However, Howard Clarke has gone further and deeper into the story of this first publicly funded school for the children of military personnel in either Great Britain or Ireland. The school was founded in 1765 and over the next circa 155 years it was the home to some thirteen thousand boys and girls, most of whom, had families in Ireland. Their fathers served in various branches of the British military in Ireland and throughout the British Empire. The splendid school building, which dates from 1770,

finally closed its doors in Dublin in 1922 with the establishment of the Irish Free State. The author has painstakingly traced its history through archival sources on both sides of the Irish Sea, including personal and family papers of former pupils, teachers and administrators. His excellent research illuminates a facet of Irish history which, for many reasons, has been either overlooked or neglected by many historians. The level of detail provided will serve to excite and enthral the military history enthusiast, whilst in equal measure bewilder the casual reader. Each of the seventeen chapters, nine appendices and the extensive bibliography is a treasure trove of information on this unique institution and its place in the grand imperial enterprise it sought to serve and defend. Established as a Protestant charity for the care of orphaned or destitute children of soldiers, the '*Hibernian Society*' had a policy of enlisting boy soldiers into the British Army. This role facilitated its transformation during the 19th century into a British military school. In many respects this

work reads like a regimental history with intimate details on the lives, exploits and glorious campaigns of the rank and file in the loyal service of 'King and Country'. But unlike most regimental histories, the story of the '*Old Hib*', as the school was affectionately known by the boys and the staff, encompasses a social, political and military history. Howard Clarke's research will undoubtedly be viewed as a major contribution to our understanding of the 'end of Empire' in the Irish context. Frequently overshadowed by the rise of nationalism, revolution and state-building, this work is a unique imperial narrative that will inspire and encourage further scholarship and intellectual inquiry into Ireland's sometimes ambiguous or reluctant assessment of its own role in the British imperial enterprise. The author's extensive knowledge and insightful interrogation of his subject has created a monumental scholarly work on an important, much neglected, aspect of our country's history. This publication is a wonderful addition to the GSI archives.

Irish DNA Atlas Project Officially Launched

The Society's President, Rory Stanley, FGSI; Cathaoirleach, Pádraic Ingoldsby, MGSI, Director of Archival Services, Séamus O'Reilly, FGSI, and Dr. Gianpiero Cavalleri of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) officially launched the 'Irish DNA Atlas' project at *Back To Our Past* event at the RDS on Friday 21st October 2011. The next day Dr. Cavalleri's interview with the Science Editor of '*The Irish Times*' Dick Ahlstrom, was published which generated huge interest in the project. Five hundred copies of the first issue of the '*Irish DNA Atlas Project Newsletter*' distributed at the RDS and through the usual outlets. It was also available on-line attracting a readership of over 3,000 in around twenty days. Within a few days of the official launch, Séamus O'Reilly received over a hundred e-mails from prospective participants and he is currently assessing their genealogical data against the criteria required. On

November 3rd, Séamus advised the Board that the first batch of participants will be receiving their Project Pacts soon. These will include the questionnaire, birth brief and a sample kit. Participants are asked to read the information carefully, complete the forms and to return them in the envelope provided. There is no cost to the participant except the return postage on the sample kit which is reasonably small—around €2.00. The aims of this important project are twofold (1) to further our knowledge of the population history of Ireland and (2) to help us understand how genes influence health in Ireland. Participants may opt to take part in the medical or historical research or both. The project seeks participants with all eight great grandparents from the same general area, say a radius of 30-40kms, to present a Birth Brief and to provide a DNA sample (kit provided) for analysis. For further info, please e-mail Séamus on Irish.DNA@familyhistory.ie

GSI LECTURES 2011

The lecture programme this year has been excellent with a very wide range of very interesting topics covered since January. This high standard continues with the following lectures for the remainder of 2011. 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. The lectures for the first few months of the new year will be published hopefully in the December issue of the *Gazette*. All lectures are held at the Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education, Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Directions to the venue have been posted to the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie Please send any comments on the lecture or suggestions for future lectures to Séamus Moriarty, FGSI, Director, GSI Lecture Programme, at e-mail: Gazette@familyhistory.ie

James Scannell Reports...

CATHAL O'SHANNON, RIP

The death took place on Saturday October 22nd after a long illness of the veteran journalist 83-year old Cathal O'Shannon. Born in Dublin, he lied about his age and joined the Royal Air Force during World War 2 and served for three years in the Far East before he returned to Dublin and began working for *The Irish Times* in 1949. He later served with the paper's London office and in 1960 was sent to the Congo where he covered the involvement of Irish troops in U.N. peace-keeping operations there. (His recollections of that operations are contained in the chapter 'A Journalist's Tale' in *The Irish Army in the Congo 1960-1964*, David O'Donoghue, Ed., published by the Irish Academic Press). He subsequently joined the BBC and was a reporter for the popular Monday to Friday 'Tonight' programme fronted by Cliff Michellmore until it ended in the late 1960's. He then returned to Ireland and joined RTÉ and worked as a reporter on the 'Newsbeat' programme presented by Frank Hall. He also wrote and presented a number of outstanding documentaries including 'Even the Olives are Bleeding' which dealt with the Irish who took part in the 1936-1939 Spanish Civil War and 'In the Shadow of Béal na Bláth' which dealt with

Emmet Dalton's recollections of the killing of Michael Collins in August 1922. His most memorable RTÉ. interview was that with Muhammad Ali in 1972 when he came to Ireland and was at the receiving end of the boxer's legendary humour. Later in the 1970's O'Shannon left RTÉ to work as a public relations consultant with Aughinish Aluminum in Limerick and on his retirement from this position in 1991, returned to broadcasting making a series of interviews and narrating documentaries.

MARITIME MUSEUM TO OPEN 2012

Although the Maritime Museum on Haigh Terrace, Dún Laoghaire, has been closed for a number of years, now after many years of fund raising and hard work the new National Maritime Museum is scheduled to open in the Spring of next year. The mechanical artefacts exhibition is now in place and this includes the story of the *RMS Leinster* sunk off the Kisk Bank in October 1918 with the loss of 501 lives. Work is now taking place on additional exhibits which include maritime life and art exhibition, an exhibition dealing the *RMS Titanic* which will commemorate its centenary next year and a Marconi radio room. In addition to the exhibitions there will also be video presentations, a

coffee shop and a souvenir shop. On Thursday November 10th 2011 there will be a fund raising Fashion Show at 8 p.m. in the National Yacht Club, Dún Laoghaire – further info. available from www.mariner.ie

SEAFARERS' COMMEMORATIONS

On Sunday November 20th 2011 the National Maritime Institute of Ireland will hold its annual commemoration ceremonies starting with Maas at 11.30 a.m. the Church of Immaculate Mary, City Quay, Dublin, followed at 12.30 p.m. by a wreath laying at the Irish Merchant Seamens' Memorial. At 3.15 p.m. there will be a Service of Remembrance in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. At 12 Noon on Monday November 28th 2011 there will be a Seafarers' Commemoration in the board room of the Port of Cork Company, Custom House Quay, Cork.

FREE FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH ADVISORY SERVICE available each week at the Society's Archives & Research Centre, *An Daoncharlann*, Carlisle Pier (Old Mail-Boat Pier), Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, every Wednesday and Friday from 10.30hrs to 1630hrs (except 4th Weds. opens at 13.00hrs). Why not call in to discuss your own research?

Précis of the October Lecture

On Tuesday 11th October 2011, **Brian Donovan**, Director of Findmypast.ie, delivered a lecture on one of the greatest untapped sources '*Court and Prison Records*'. The original Prison Registers, held at the National Archives, cover all types of custodial institutions, from bridewells, to county prisons, to sanatoriums for alcoholics. They contain over 3.5 million entries, spread over 130,000 pages, with most records giving comprehensive details of the prisoner, including: name, address, place of birth, occupation, religion, education, age, physical description, name and address of next of kin, crime committed, sentence, dates of committal and release/decease. The registers offer a real insight into 18th-19th century Ireland. They present evidence of a society of rebellion and social confrontation, where rioting and assault of police officers were everyday occurrences, and of widespread poverty and destitution, with the theft of everything from handkerchiefs to turnips. The reasons for incarceration cover all types of crime but unsurprisingly the most common offence was drunkenness, which ac-

counted for over 30% of all crimes reported and over 25% of incarcerations. The top five offences recorded in the registers are: 1. Drunkenness - 25%. 2. Theft - 16%. 3. Assault - 12%. 4. Vagrancy - 8% and 5. Rioting - 4%. The nature of these crimes was significantly different from those in England. Figures show that the rate of conviction for drunkenness and tax evasion was three times greater, and the rate of both destruction of property and prostitution were twice that of England. The Irish population averaged 4.08 million in the period 1790-1924 and with over 3.5 million names listed in the prison records, it is clear to see how almost every family in Ireland was affected somehow. Officially launched at the RDS, Brian Donovan said "these records provide an invaluable resource for anyone tracing their Irish ancestors, as during the period covered almost every household in Ireland had a convict in their family. These records provide such a wealth of information that they are sure to shock and surprise almost anyone looking for the missing links in their Irish family tree." (Source: www.findmypast.ie)

GSI INTERNET SERVICES

At the November 3rd 2011 meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society, members were advised that the Director of Internet Services, **Bartosz Kozłowski**, MGSi, had tendered his resignation citing pressures of work leaving little time to devote to the maintenance and development of the Society's website. Bartosz had been the Society's Director of Internet Services since 2008 and launched two distinct websites for the Society, each meeting the changing needs of the Society and its national and international membership. The Board accepted Bartosz's resignation with regret and wished him every success in the future. As a new appointment is unlikely to be made until early 2012, in the interim any queries regarding the website should be directed to the General Secretary at eolas@familyhistory.ie

MEDAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Researching ancestors or relatives who served in the Irish or other armed forces or in the mercantile marine? Checkout the Medal Society of Ireland on www.msioi.eu

GSI Membership Package for 2012

The Annual Review of the Membership Package was undertaken by the Board of Directors at its meeting on Thursday November 3, 2011. It was agreed under **Res: 11/11/689** to keep the cost of the Annual Subscription for 2012 for Irish and Overseas Members at €40.00. The Membership Package for 2012 includes the following: Member voting rights; optional second household member with voting rights; Membership Certificate [**Res: 11/09/859**]; 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 2012 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 Certificate for details. Membership can be obtained or renewed on www.familyhistory.ie/shop or if you prefer, simply

download the form 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 & Internet Services); **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) and **Eddie Gahan** (Research Information Services).

JOIN ON-LINEwww.familyhistory.ie/shop**DIARY DATES**

Tuesday Nov. 8th & Dec.13th 2011

Evening Open Meeting

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

Wednesday Nov. 23rd 2011 & Jan. 25th 2012

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)

THE BATTLE OF BENBURB 1646

'*The Battle of Benburb 1646*' by **Clive Hollick**, published by the Mercier Press (ISBN 978 - 1 - 141 - 85635 - 670 - 1 , hb, 352 pp, ills.) This excellent and fascinating book offers a fresh new perspective on the 5 June 1646 Battle of Benburb in Co. Tyrone, which started in the afternoon and continued until nightfall, when the native Irish under the command of Owen Roe O'Neill defeated a British force under the command of Robert Monro composed of English and Scottish troops. But this is not just an account of the battle as the author examines in detail the two opposing forces under various heading such as their key personnel, their troops, the equipment they had and how it was used at that time, the tactics used and those in use that time as many military leaders had different views on what ones should be used and it was not uncommon for military leaders to be influenced by the tactics advocated by those they had served under in previous campaigns. The author examines the differences in the size and type of pikes used by the opposing sides, the ratio of pikemen to those equipped with firearms, and the types of firearms in use at that time, the infantry formations used and how they were deployed. This was an engagement in which the choice of ground, the deployment of troops and the tactics used all had a bearing on the final outcome. While both sides had some artillery, this did not decide the final result as it was the infantry who decided this battle's outcome supported by cavalry on the flanks. This was also no ordinary battle due to the mixed nationalities and political allegiances of combatants taking part which included those from Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland representing the mixed interests of the imprisoned King Charles I, his rebellious English parliament, the Scottish covenanters, the 'Old English', the Vatican, Ulster planters and the native Irish, each of whom had their own reasons and ambitions for taking part in this conflict. In this era when all communications between leaders had to be carried by messengers either in foot or by horse, after an initially briefing by a commander who set out the general plan of engagement, it was generally left to officers to carry out their orders to the best of their abilities as it was extremely difficult to issue new directions to them and for these to be implemented once the battle had started. This excellent book is divided into five parts which provides the reader with all the information they require to know about last great victory of a native Irish army. Part One covers the Background to the Campaign, including the general situation in Ireland and Britain at that time and the principals involved. Part Two looks at the British and New Scots covering the British and New Scots Armies and the Commanders and Order of Battle of Monro's Army. Part Three looks at the Confederate Army of Ulster and the Commanders and Order of Battle of Owen Roe O'Neill's Army. Part Four looks at the Campaign and the Battle itself. Part Five covers the Aftermath. Regrettably the Irish failed to capitalise on their victory and the author explores the various reasons as to why this happened as ultimately it allowed their opponents to regain the upper hand in Ulster afterwards. This book is a very comprehensive account of the battle, the events leading up to it, the battle itself, and its aftermath, told by the author in a very clear concise analytical style and it essential for anyone interested in Irish history and Irish military history in particular. *James Scannell*

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Checkout the Sale Items - 10% Reduction On-Line

**Commissioning Research in Ireland**

Due to the overwhelming international interest generated by the launch of the *Irish DNA Atlas* project at the *Back To Our Past* event last month, the Society received many requests for information on the commissioning of research. However, the Society does *not* undertake commercial research assignments as it 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. In addition to the provision of twelve public lectures and eleven public group discussions, the Society provides a free research advice service at its Archive & Research Centre every Wednesday and Friday from 10.30hrs to 16.30hrs (except 4th Weds. open 13.00hrs). The Archive & Research Centre—*An Daonchartlann*—is located at the Carlisle Pier (Old Mail-Boat Pier), Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. The Society also strongly recommends the purchase of the essential guidebook '*Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*' by John Grenham, MA, MAPGI, FIGRS, FGSI. Although, there is no official accrediting body for genealogists involved in commercial genealogical research in Ireland, many have successfully completed the certificate or diploma courses offered by University College Dublin under the direction of the renowned genealogist, historian and lecturer Seán Murphy, MA. The Society has a policy of directing all enquiries for commercial genealogical research

to the lists provided by the National Library and National Archives and, of course, to the Association of Professional Genealogists in Ireland Limited (APGI). There is a new on-line listing of Irish and international genealogists undertaking commercial genealogical research assignments see: <http://24-7genealogist.com> Besides directing enquirers to the various on-line 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 or legal researchers. The standard and reputation of professional genealogical research in Ireland is consistently high, however, costs and methodologies may vary considerably between researchers. Checkout 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

TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS
by John Grenham, MA, MAPGI, FIGRS, FGSI

The Society strongly recommends this very comprehensive guide available at www.gillmacmillan.com

*Doing your Family Tree? You need this book!!***WEEKEND COURSES**

The Saturday Morning Genealogy Course in conjunction with John Hamrock of **Ancestor Network Ltd** commenced on September 17th 2011. 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. Courses are held at the Society's Archive and Research Centre, *An Daonchartlann*, Carlisle Pier (Old Mail-Boat 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. For more information on these courses please contact **John Hamrock, MGSi** by phone 087 050 5296 or by e-mail at john.hamrock@ancestor.ie

ACADEMIC BOOKS APPEAL

Over two million volumes, including priceless manuscripts, were destroyed in the fire that engulfed the National & University Library in Sarajevo on August 26th 1992 during the Bosnian civil war—just over seventy years after we lost our Public Records Office during our bitter Civil War. Now a group of Bosnian students is seeking donations of contemporary academic works in any discipline to restock their university's library which was totally destroyed. Have you any books that you could donate? Please forward your 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. Please share this appeal with your friends and colleagues. For further information see: www.books4vijecnica.com