



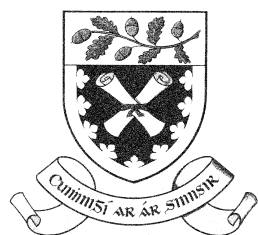
Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(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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Seanad Éireann & the Cultural Sector

The headline of the January 2011 issue of this newsletter read 'Seanad Éireann—Abused, Legislatively Starved, Ignored and now to be Abolished?'. The lead article outlined aspects of the valuable work undertaken by the Seanad which is so often neglected by the media. Nowhere is this more evident than in the case of the arts, heritage and cultural sectors. Ever since the reestablishment of the Seanad in 1938, and indeed in its predecessor from 1922 to 1936, these sectors of Irish life benefited enormously from informed and comprehensive debates on legislative matters impacting on these sectors. As a parliamentary chamber, Seanad Éireann (Senate) has provided the much needed in-depth analysis, usually based on the academic or professional experience held by various Senators, to fully interrogate legislative proposals dealing with all aspects of Irish life and culture. Social, cultural and indeed, moral issues, have been publicly examined by some of the brightest and most talented of our country's legislators who brought exceptional

value and wonderful insights to the public discourse on a range of issues, not least, in the realms of arts, heritage and culture. Sadly, as noted in the 2011 article, many fine and imaginative proposals for the reform of Seanad Éireann have been ignored by successive governments as indeed, was a 1979 referendum decision to extend its franchise. However, with the recently published Bill to provide for a referendum to abolish the Seanad, the arts, culture and heritage sectors (and maybe the community and voluntary sectors also) must consider whether, in the absence of Seanad Éireann, that Dáil Éireann would be in a position to provide for a similar or increased level of informed scrutiny of legislation impacting on their sectors. Will the proposed enhanced Parliamentary Committee structures provide for any in-depth and informed debate on these matters or will they be simply whipped into line to smooth the passage of the government's legislative programme? These are fundamental questions that must be considered by the sectors concerned. As a veteran campaigner on legislative and public policy

matters this Society has achieved remarkable success in terms of Bills initiated and amendments secured through a proactive engagement with Senators, from all parties and none, on the Society's various campaigns. Government Ministers down through the years have frequently praised the quality of debate, the tabling of constructive amendments and the level of research undertaken by Senators during the passage of legislation through the Seanad. The fact that most of this wonderful work goes unreported by the media has exposed the Seanad to ridicule and uninformed populist charges of waste of public money, anachronistic elitism and political cronyism. Whereas few supporters of the Seanad would deny that it needs radical root and branch reform, many argue that much of this can be achieved through legislation. Therefore, we must question whether the stark choice to be offered in the referendum between outright abolition or the status quo is in the best interests of Irish democracy and of a fully accountable legislative process.

Government U-Turn on 1926 Census?

Reports have recently emerged that the Minister of State at the Department of An Taoiseach with responsibility for the Central Statistics Office, **Mr. Paul Kehoe, TD**, has effectively endorsed the 100 closure rule for the 1926 Census. A posting on the *Irish Genealogy News* blog published a letter received from Deputy Kehoe stating "I am satisfied, therefore, that the 100 years period provided for in the 1993 Act strikes the right balance in facilitating legitimate historical and sociological research on the one

hand, while the protecting the confidentiality of Census data and the integrity of CSO procedures on the other." This statement, if accurate, clearly points to a U-Turn by the Government on its commitment in the 2011 'Programme for Government' which states "We will promote genealogical tourism by updating the National Cultural Institutions Act in relation to the Genealogical office to put it on a proper statutory footing, modernise its operations and to enable publication of the 1926 census to stimulate genealogy tourism." Obviously given

the lifetime of the current government, Deputy Kehoe's position has effectively scuppered any tentative plans Minister Deenihan had for an early release of the 1926 Census in time for the centenary of the 1916 Rising. Notwithstanding the huge damage inflicted on the 1926 Census campaign by the two 'redaction proposals' which served only to reinforce the 100 year rule, it's time now for a strong united campaign to seek cross-party support for the 'Statistics (1926 Census) Bill, 2013' sponsored by **Mr. Seán Ó Fearghail, TD**.

Leaders of the City—*Dublin's first citizens, 1500-1950*

A wonderful new history of the mayors and lord mayors of Dublin—*Leaders of the City—Dublin's first citizens, 1500-1950* edited by **Ruth McManus** and **Lisa-Marie Griffith** (ISBN: 978-1-84682-347-3 : 224pp : Illustrations : h/bk : Price: €45.00) was published by Four Courts Press last month. Whilst we often get new histories of our capital city, few have concentrated on the lives and times of the individuals that occupied the position of chairperson of the city council as it evolved down the centuries. Therefore, this volume provides an exceptional insight into the personal lives, ambitions, achievements, failures and tragedies of Dublin's first citizens from 1500 as the capital of the Lordship of Ireland; from 1541 to 1801 as that of the Kingdom of Ireland; from 1801 until 1922 as the administrative centre of a part of the United Kingdom and finally, once again, as the capital and seat of government from 1922. Although the office of mayor was created in 1229 it was restyled as lord mayor in 1665 after the restoration of Charles II. It's the title held today by the capital's first citizen, Cllr. Naoise Ó Muirí, who contributed the foreword to this collection of essays. The joint editors in their introduction to this volume explore the evolution of the office held by Dublin's first citizens through a very turbulent history and the development of municipal government in Ireland. The essays open with Colm Lennon (NUIM) looking at the life and times of Mayor Francis Taylor (1595-6), the martyred mayor, and challenges some accounts surrounding his demise. Patricia Stapleton's (TCD) essay on Sir James Carroll explores this exemplar of 'pragmatic Protestantism' adopted by many of Gaelic ancestry in the early seventeenth century. Raymond Gillespie (NUIM) looks at Mayor William Smith and the plans for the building of The Tholsel. Janet Redmond examines the rise and dra-

matic fall from grace of Dublin's first Lord Mayor, Sir Daniel Bellingham, 1665. Máire Kennedy (DCLA) explores the life of Mayor John Exshaw and interdependence of commerce and political office. Lisa-Marie Griffith (National Print Museum) looks at the career of Henry Gore Sankey which sheds light on the political factions and corruption outside the corporation that shaped politics within civic institutions. Jacqueline Hill ((NUIM) deals with Thomas McKenny and the often overlooked role that liberal Protestants played in the campaign for Catholic emancipation. Mary E. Clark (Dublin City Archivist) explores the fundamental changes to the office emanating from the election of the most famous Lord Mayor of Dublin, Daniel O'Connell, the first Roman Catholic to hold the post since the reign of James II. Ciarán Wallace (TCD) provides a fascinating account of Joseph Patrick Nannetti who was born in Dublin in 1851 to an Italian immigrant sculptor and modeller. Lydia Carroll's account of 'Little' Lorcan Sherlock, 1912-15, is intriguing as he was likened to 'a miniature Boss Croker' with his Mountjoy electoral ward described as 'Tammam Hall. Sherlock's activities leading up to and during the Lockout of 1913 demonstrate the abilities and tenacity of the man. Ruth McManus (St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra) examines the role Lord Mayor Laurence O'Neill and Alderman Tom Kelly played in highlighting the plight of the overwhelming majority of Dublin's poor and their efforts to deal with a housing crisis that was beyond the resources of the municipality and needed state aid which was never enough. The title of David McEllin's essay 'Legendary Lord Mayor Alfie Byrne' explores the life and times of the longest serving Lord Mayor, member of parliament at Westminster, member of Dáil Éireann and of Seanad Éireann. Alfie Byrne's principal opponent at elections

during the 1930s was Fianna Fáil's Kathleen Clarke who is the subject of Helen Litton's essay. Each of the essayists provide useful genealogical information on their subjects whilst the three appendices include a listing of mayors, a history of the Mansion House and a description of the Dublin city regalia and Dublin city silverware. The select bibliography is exceptionally useful for further research. The illustrations are excellent throughout. A most enjoyable and very interesting read indeed. **MM**

GSJ LECTURE PROGRAMME

Tues. 11th June—*The Ordnance Survey Office as a Genealogical Resource*; **Tues. July 9th**—*The Shamrock Fund in World War I* by Brian White; **Tues. August 13th**—*Irish and British Maritime Records* by David Snook; **Tues. September 10th**—*Medical Records of the Royal College of Physicians* by Harriet Wheelock; **Tues. October 8th**—*Rental Records as a Genealogical Source* by James Ryan; **Tues. November 12th**—*Children in Care – Records of Pre-1952 Adoptions* by Fiona Fitzsimons; **Tues. December 10th**—*The resources of Ancestry.com as a support for the Genealogist* by Eric Booth. **VENUE: Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education**, Cumberland St., Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Directions on www.familyhistory.ie The Director of the GSJ Lecture Programme, **Séamus Moriarty, FGSI**, always welcomes feedback and suggestions on possible speakers or topics. As the only genealogical organisation providing monthly lectures throughout the year, the programme is necessarily varied to meet the needs of all levels of research experience. Contact Séamus by E-mail: Gazette@familyhistory.ie

Précis of the May Lecture

On Tuesday 14th May 2013 members were treated to a very informative lecture by **Christine Deakin** on the topic *'The Preservation of Old Documents'*. Christine explained that all paper deteriorates within 10 years and the standard off the shelf storage items will release chemicals that inevitably will damage or destroy any collection. Contrary to popular belief electronic documentation is often lost and a paper copy will always be needed. She recommends that acid free paper should be used for all documentation of importance, including writing one's family history. Likewise for storage, acid free pockets, boxes, binders and files should only be used. Staples, sellotape, glue and using biro's for writing will cause damage. Biro's in particular should never be used on the back of a photo. Sellotape will also leave a yellow residue. Instead acid free tape should be used

on specialist card for mounting photographs etc. Paper should be stored away from sun light, ideally in the middle of the house avoiding fluctuating temperatures and nowhere over/ beside a heater. Ideally temperature should be about 20C and garages, attics and basements are not suitable. Humidity should be avoided at all costs. Rubber bands as well as newspaper are both highly acidic. Acid free pens should be used for writing. Storage should also be well away from insect infestation. Antiquarian books should ideally be wrapped in acid free tissue paper. She considered that photocopying does not unduly damage documents but that old documents should ideally be handled by using an archival glove. Irish Genealogy Solutions offers a wide range of storage material to assist in extending the life of documents, cards, photos, newspaper cuttings etc. Details, including

prices, are available on their website. She offered a 10% discount on her wares last night and promised this morning that she will continue with the 10% discount offer for anyone who mentions the *Gazette* when buying from her on-line. Christine welcomes enquiries by either email or phone. **Irish Genealogy Solutions**, Killeenagh Cross, Knockamore, Co Waterford. Tel.: 024 97963 and 087 3156807 E-mail info@irishgenealogysolutions.com www.irishgenealogysolutions.com

Séamus Moriarty, FGSI

GSJ WEBSITE

The Board of the Society apologies for any inconvenience caused by the current disruption to the Society's website. It is hoped to have matters resolved very shortly.

GENEALOGY COURSES

Weekend Genealogy Courses are provided in conjunction with John Hamrock of **Ancestor Network Ltd.** These very successful and popular courses are specially designed to help beginners unlock the mysteries of their ancestry. Classes are small providing better tuition. Ancestor Network Ltd. is the provider of the Genealogy Advisory Services for the **National Library of Ireland** and the **National Archives of Ireland**. The current course began on Sunday April 21st 2013 and includes guided tours at the National Library, Dublin City Library and other centres of research. Learn how to be your own researcher. 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 GSJ Archives and Research Centre, *An Daonchartlann*, where the major on-line genealogy resources will be covered in a 'hands-on' way for best results. For further information please contact John Hamrock by phone on 087 050 5296 or by e-mail on john.hamrock@ancestor.ie

IRELAND'S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE

Past issues of this newsletter are available in pdf format to read or to download free of charge on the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie

1921 CENSUS RELEASED

Good news from across the Atlantic as Library and Archives Canada recently took custody of the Census of the Canadian population, 1921 from Statistics Canada. Closed for 92 years under the *Statistics Act* the census data is being indexed to facilitate historical and genealogical research. This Canadian census was taken on June 1, 1921, it now consists of more than 197,500 images with information on circa 8.8 million individuals. According to Library and Archives Canada it is committed to making the 1921 Census available in the next few weeks. Access to censuses taken before 1921 is available through Library and Archives Canada's very interesting Census Indexes webpage: <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca>

James Scannell Reports...

DOWN SURVEY ONLINE

The Down Survey of Ireland, which details the gradual transfer of lawn ownership from Catholics to Protestants, has been uploaded online by the History Department of Trinity College Dublin. The original map collection was burned twice, in 1771 and again in the Four Courts in 1922. A team of historians led by Dr. Micheál Ó Siochru tracked down 2000 copies of the original survey maps held in libraries and archives in Ireland, Britain and France. The website – www.downsurvey.tcd.ie allows users to explore 17th century Ireland through the use of GIS technology and the overlaying of Down Survey maps onto Ordnance Survey and Google maps.

CORK WOMAN HONOURED

Mary Elmes, who died in 2002, has become the first Irish person to be honoured as 'Righteous Among the Nations' by Yad Vashem, Israel's official memorial to Jewish victims of the Holocaust, for her efforts to save Jewish children from Nazi gas chambers. Living in France after the Occupation in 1940, with her Quaker colleagues, began to a campaign to save as many Jews as they could held in the Riversaltes camp near Perpignan, which was a transit camp for Jews destined for Auschwitz.

Arrested in January 1943 on suspicion of helping Jews to escape, she endured 6 months in-carceration in the notorious Fresnes Prison in Paris before she was released.


FAMINE VICTIMS REMEMBERED

On Sunday May 12th the 6th annual National Famine Commemoration took place in Kiltrush, Co. Clare attended by upwards of 20,000 people which included Jimmy Deenihan, T.D., Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, who is chairman of the National Famine Commemoration Committee. Frances Fitzgerald, T.D., Minister for Children, and Máire Whelan, S.C., Attorney General, members of the Northern Ireland Assembly and diplomats from 36 countries. Guest of Honour was Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland, who said in his speech that within Munster, County Clare was one of the most severely affected by the Famine and that Kiltrush, Co. Clare, had the unhappy distraction of being one of the three areas worst hit by death, disease and evictions as between 1846 and 1851 it is estimated that this town lost 50% of its population. The President said that many Irish people died during the Famine believing that their lives were of no value and that they counted for nothing but by their presence at the ceremony honoured their lives and remembered the their suffering.

In Co. Dublin, on that Sunday, the peoples of the parishes of Shankill, Ballybrack, Killiney and Loughlinstown, assembled in the Famine Cemetery at the rear of St. Columcille's Hospital, formerly known as the Rathdown Poor Law Union Infirmary from 1841 to 1921, to remember those buried in the cemetery. An International Famine Commemoration will be held in Sydney, Australia, during August while will be attended by the Minister Jimmy Deenihan, TD.

IRISH LIVES REMEMBERED

The June 2013 issue (No. 13) of the excellently produced and very popular e-magazine 'Irish Lives Remembered' is now available to read or to download to your PC, mobile device or tablet free of charge on www.irishlivesremembered.ie

The current issue has an account of the 1926 Census campaign and the introduction of the *Statistics (1926 Census) Bill, 2013*, by Seán Ó Fearghail, TD. The article outlines the simplicity of the legislative measure required to have this important heritage resource released to researchers before the expiry of the 100 year closure rule. Why not checkout previous issues of this wonderful Genealogy E-magazine on the website above? 

BOOK PUBLISHED ON DIARMUID LYNCH

Mercier Press has published 'Diarmuid Lynch: A Forgotten Irish Patriot: The untold story of Diarmuid Lynch, one of the key architects of the 1916 Rising and the last man to leave the GPO' by Eileen McGough. On Saturday night 22 April 1916, a tense meeting in Dublin had to decide whether the Easter Rising would go ahead. Present at that meeting were Pádraig Pearse, Tomás MacDonagh, Joseph Plunkett and Seán Mac Diarmada, and Diarmuid Lynch. Two weeks later the only one still alive of all those present at this all-night session was Diarmuid Lynch. It is difficult to understand how Lynch, a member of the Supreme Council of the IRB, has been so completely forgotten. Lynch was at the heart of plans for the Rising and was aide-de-camp to James Connolly in the GPO. Initially sentenced to death, his sentence was commuted to ten years penal servitude because he was an American citizen. Released

on 16 June 1917, he immediately became active again, and along with Michael Collins and Thomas Ashe, participated in the re-organisation of the IRB. He was arrested again in 1918 and deported to America. While in America he was elected as TD for Cork South-East. In America he worked frenetically as the National Secretary of the FOIF (Friends of Irish Freedom) organization to raise money for the Irish republican cause. Later sharp differences between De Valera and the FOIF meant his vital role was ignored. Lynch did not take part in the Civil War, but made several unsuccessful attempts to stop it. Eileen McGough, originally from Killarney is active in the local community of Tracton, near Kinsale, where Diarmuid Lynch was born and raised. She published two local history books. She has researched the life of Diarmuid Lynch through his own extensive writings as well as many other primary sources. *James Scannell.*

IRISH DNA ATLAS PROJECT

The Irish DNA Atlas is a collaborative academic research project undertaken by Dr. Gianpiero Cavalleri of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), the University of Leicester in the UK and the Society. The main objectives of the project are (1) to further our knowledge of the population history of Ireland and (2) to help us understand how genes influence health in Ireland. Participants continue to be sought from across the island of Ireland and, indeed, from overseas who can trace each of their eight great-grandparents to the same general area of Ireland. Participants are requested to present a Birth Brief (Pedigree Chart) and to provide a DNA sample (kit provided) for analysis. Participants are sought, male or female, with ancestry from any part of Ireland meeting the criteria regarding the eight great grandparents. Members are asked to assist the project by inviting friends and colleagues to participate. If you are interested in participating or have a query about participating, please don't hesitate to contact Séamus O'Reilly by e-mail on Irish.dna@familyhistory.ie Also, checkout the project newsletter on the GSI website.

GSI MEMBERSHIP

The Annual Review of the Membership Package was undertaken by the Board of Directors at its meeting on Thursday November 1st, 2012. It was agreed under Res: 12/11/952 to keep the cost of the Annual Subscription for 2013 for Irish and Overseas Members at €40.00. The Membership Package for 2013 includes the following: Member voting rights; optional second household adult member (18 years or over) 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 pro-

jects; Members' internet forum (under construction); 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 2013 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. Apply on-line at www.familyhistory.ie or if you prefer, download the form and send it to Mr. Billy Sanderson, MGS, Director of Finance, 'Suzkar', Killiney Avenue, Killiney, Co. Dublin, Ireland. *New Members always welcome!*

WILL YOUR RECORDS WELL

In the course of our research over many years we naturally amass a huge amount of paper and computer records. We love these records, we've worked hard to collect the information—it is of great value. Books, photographs, charts, interview notes, copy certificates, parish register and census transcripts—all lovingly collected over many years. But have you made provision for the preservation of your records, files and notes after we die? Don't let your hard work end up as landfill or all of your books be sold off after you've gone. Please make provision in your Will to donate them to the Society's Archives for future generations.

MEDAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Ancestors or relatives who served in the Irish, British, Commonwealth, American or other armed forces or in the mercantile marine of these countries? Checkout the Medal Society of Ireland on www.msou.ie

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*The Society is a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann***Board of Directors 2013-2014**

Pádraic Ingoldsby (Cathaoirleach : Chairperson); **Gerry Hayden** (Leas-Chathaoirleach : Building Mgr.); **Michael Merrigan** (General Secretary : Company Secretary, Publications); **Billy Saunderson** (Finance); **Tom Conlon** (Sales, Marketing & Membership); **Ciarán Hurley** (Archive); **Barry O'Connor** (Cemetery Projects); **Séamus Moriarty** (Lecture Programme), **John Hamrock** (Education & Social Inclusion); **Eddie Gahan** (Outreach Programme); **Maura Flood** (Digital Archive); and **Tony O'Hara** (Internet Services).

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

Tuesday June 11th & July 9th 2013

Evening Open Meeting

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

Wednesday June 26th & July 24th 2013

Morning Open Meeting

Hardy's Bar, Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire
10.30hrs—12.30hrs

Contribution €3.00 p.p. Evening & €4.00 p.p. Morning
(Coffee/Tea included at Morning Meetings)

The Morpeth Roll

'*The Morpeth Roll—Ireland identified in 1841*' edited by **Christopher Ridgeway** and published by Four Courts Press (ISBN: 978-1-84682-406-7 : 144pp : colour illustrations : p/bk : Price €9.95) is a lavishly illustrated collection of essays on the huge significance of the Morpeth Roll which will be exhibited in a number of locations in Ireland over the coming year. In 1841, on stepping down as Chief Secretary of Ireland, George Howard, Lord Morpeth, received a grand farewell testimonial containing circa a quarter of a million signatures on sheets of paper wrapped around a gigantic bobbin; when unwound, the testimonial measures a staggering 420 metres. Described by Daniel O'Connell as '*the unbought and spontaneous offering of a generous and oppressed people—the unpurchasable testimonial of that ardent disposition which shows how much we value those who are honest and sincere friends of Ireland*'. Morpeth '*Ireland's favourite Englishman*' may be a gross over simplification of the political environment of pre-Famine Ireland. The essayists illuminate the man, George Howard, and his time in Ireland as Chief Secretary, his friendship with Daniel O'Connell and others. He was described as 'a talented public speaker and an adroit political manager' with a personality that was 'conciliatory, polite, never patronizing, self-effacing'. This book provides an excellent introduction to the circumstances which brought forth this wonderfully unique treasure which is being viewed publicly for the first time in 170 years. Although this book deals with Lord Morpeth as Chief Secretary, he returned to Ireland in 1855 as Lord Lieutenant. Indeed, the connection between Dún Laoghaire and Morpeth is not readily apparent, however, he is the same Lord Carlisle, after whom, the Carlisle Pier is named and officially opened in 1859. The GSI has its HQ on the Carlisle Pier and it's where the proposed **Irish International Diaspora Centre** may be located. From a genealogical perspective the signatures are a wonderful resource. Ancestry.com has digitised the Morpeth Roll. See: www.ancestry.com/Morpeth

FOUR COURTS PRESS*Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more*www.fourcourtspress.ie**SARAJEVO APPEAL**

The Society is currently sorting the latest donation of books from Trinity College Dublin in preparation for their delivery to the University of Sarajevo. In the meantime we call on all bibliophiles, academics and authors to donate books. Over twenty years ago 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. This Society is proactively supporting a group of Bosnian academics seeking donations of contemporary academic works in any discipline to restock their university's library which was totally destroyed in August 1992. Have you any books that you could donate? Please forward donated volumes to: **Mrs Fuada Muslic**, Senior Officer for Publishing, University of Sarajevo, Obala Kulina Bana 7/2, 71000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Tel: 00 387 3322 1946 : or by E-mail: izdavacka.djelatnost@unsa.ba **NOTA BENE:** Please e-mail Ms. Muslic when items are put in the mail to her and include details of sender and contents. An example of what is required by the Bosnian authorities on the Society's website. It's a simple declaration of the contents etc. Please share this appeal with your colleagues in universities at home and overseas.

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

The Society strongly recommends that for anyone embarking on their family history quest one essential piece of kit must be John Grenham's '*Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*'. Checkout: www.gillmacmillan.com Price €22.99 [RRP]

LOURDES, FRANCE

GSI Cathaoirleach **Pádraic Ingoldsby**, MGSJ and his wife Kathleen were in Lourdes at the end of May where he presented **Fionnuala Bruen**, principal representative of Joe Walsh Tours with a copy of the 2013 Journal featuring an article written by him on the Irish people who died in Lourdes while on Pilgrimage. Many were buried in the local cemetery in the crypt of the Irish plot as it was too expensive to bring the body back overland while those repatriated are commemorated by small plaques at the memorial. Pádraic published a list of those buried in the Crypt in the article. Copies of the article will be displayed in the hotels where Irish people traditionally stay and amongst the Irish community in Lourdes. The Minister of State at the Department of Defence, **Paul Kehoe, TD**, laid a wreath on the Irish plot in Lourdes on behalf of the State. He accompanied a 300 strong Irish Army contingent who joined other national armies at Lourdes this year.

FREE RESEARCH ADVICE

An Daonchartlann, the Society's Archives and Research Centre, at the Carlisle Pier in Dún Laoghaire, is open each Weds from 10.30hrs to 16.30hrs (except 4th Weds. open at 13.00hrs) and each Sat. from 14.00hrs to 17.30hrs. Members are on hand to provide **free family history research advice** to visitors. The use of the resources is reserved for GSI members. Day research membership is available for €5.00 and payable on-line at the GSI website. Travelling to the facility is best by public transport as Dublin Bus and the DART. Pay-n-display parking is available in the Dún Laoghaire area. See: www.familyhistory.ie

VEXILLOLOGY IRELAND

The Board of the Society is delighted to announce the appointment of **Mr. Stanislav Zamyatin**, MGSJ, as the first Chief Executive Officer of **Vexillology Ireland**, a branch of the GSI dealing specifically with the promotion of the study of the history, symbolism and use of flags and emblems. Meanwhile the *Bratacha 2013 Exhibition of Flags & Emblems* which has attracted much media attention at home and overseas will continue until the end of June at the **National Maritime Museum of Ireland**, Haigh Terrace, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. The exhibition was assembled by Hon. Curator and Vexillologist, **Mr. Stanislav Zamyatin**, with an incredibly enthusiastic and gifted team. This unique educational and cultural exhibition has attracted some controversy over the display of certain flags and indeed, regarding aspects the symbolism used in the very imaginative and informative displays. Like every art exhibition, this exhibition challenges perceived notions on the history and symbolism of flags. It's worth remembering that most flags, by their very nature, have contested histories which can be simultaneously inclusive and exclusive. **Open** 11.00hrs to 17.00hrs every day. **Admission:** Adults: €5, Family: €12 and Children under 12: €3. See: www.mariner.ie

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

To encourage students and young people to take up family history research, the Society offers a 50% reduction for persons under 25 years of age. Also, persons who take up adult education courses in genealogy can avail of a similar 50% reduction on the standard membership rate—that's right, for just €20.00.