



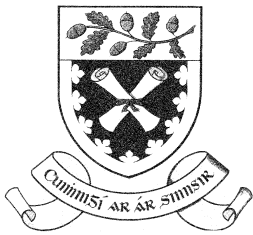
# Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

Vol. 8 No. 10

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October : Deireadh Fómhair 2013



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



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## CONTENTS

Maynooth Local History Studies—New Volumes	2
Précis of Sept. Lecture Genealogy Courses	2
James Scannell Reports .. CIGO on the FOI Bill	3
Irish DNA Atlas Project	3
Graveyard Identified	4
Diary Dates	4
Vexillology Ireland	
Werbergh Street	4
Heraldic Project	
GSI Lecture Programme	4
Ingoldsby Gathering	

## Family History Month & 'Back To Our Past'

The month of October each year is designated as 'Family History Month' in the United States with hundreds of genealogical and historical societies organising special events to promote family history. Providing genealogy with such a national focus is something that we should seriously consider in Ireland. The wonderful success of *The Gathering* this year has shown the huge potential of coordinated voluntary and community action. Events organised throughout the country provided opportunities for local people to celebrate their heritage and, in doing so, to reconnect with the Irish diaspora. Many communities are unwilling to allow these connections to lapse after the close of *The Gathering* on New Year's Eve. They readily appreciate the huge potential afforded by the creation of sustainable local or county based diaspora initiatives. The successful planning and organisation of events for *The Gathering* allowed new skill-sets to be acquired, not only in the tourism and hospitality sectors, but crucially amongst the Local Authority staff in each county charged

with coordinating the events in their areas. Local Authorities around the State should be encouraged to designate the 'lead official' on the County Steering Groups as the Local Authority's 'Diaspora Liaison Officer'. The main role of this position would be to formulate and develop initiatives aimed at furthering and deepening the engagement by local groups with their newly reconnected worldwide communities. A nationwide network of Local Authority Diaspora Liaison Officers would be greatly assisted by the adoption of October as 'Family History Month' here in Ireland to coincide and link with groups across the United States and Canada. A national strategy on the development and maintenance of our diasporan links based on the promotion of our national genealogical resources, including the release of the 1926 Census, should be a priority for the government. Minister Jimmy Deenihan's establishment of an inter-departmental group on the preparation of the 1926 Census for release is a very significant step in the right direction. Given the momentum generated by the success of *The Gathering*, the Minister should seriously con-

sider supporting the *Statistics (1926 Census) Bill, 2013* presented by Seán Ó Fearghaíl, TD, to provide the necessary legislative framework for the release of the 1926 census. Very fittingly Ireland's main genealogical event is held each year in October. 'Back To Our Past' at the RDS from Friday 18th to Sunday 20th October showcases Irish genealogy. A wonderful line up of speakers, exhibitions and stands is expected to draw thousands of would-be 'ancestor hunters' to the RDS. So if you're planning a trip to the RDS, please drop by the GSI Stand to meet the team of friendly and knowledgeable volunteers. *Happy 'Family History Month'*

## RESHUFFLE AT GSI

The GSI Board at its October meeting, its 150th since incorporation in 2000, decided to reconfigure certain portfolios to maximise the potential of available skill-sets and experience. **Tom Conlon** takes over Internet Services, **Tony O'Hara** has Sales and Marketing and **Barry O'Connor** adds Membership Services to his portfolio which includes Cemetery Projects. We wish each of the above every success in their new roles.

## FOI Bill and Genealogical Research

The *Freedom of Information Bill, 2013*, completed its second reading in Dáil Éireann on October 2nd and 3rd and has been sent to the Select Sub-Committee on Public Expenditure and Reform. **Catherine Murphy TD**, spoke of her own interest in genealogy and told the Dáil that 'there are particular things in this legislation that could cause serious problems'. Deputy Murphy put matters in context saying 'given the size of our diaspora, genealogy research could provide an economic opportunity. Let us not close off

that opportunity. The first principle should be that of public ownership of the right to access'. Deputy Murphy explained that difficulties could arise 'for those who are not related to a person whom they are researching, whether on a voluntary or a professional basis' and stated that the difficulty arises with the definition under Section 2. Deputy Murphy stressed that 'if we start to describe genealogical information, such as birth, marriage and death records, as private rather than public information, then the scope for genealogical research is closed unless

one is connected to the person one is researching. This could be incredibly damaging'. Deputy Murphy said that this 'Bill presents several challenges in this regard. The drafters have failed to realise that there is a potential difficulty there'. In summing up the debate, Minister of State, **Brian Hayes, TD**, said 'it is the firm intention of the Minister to deal with all these issues on Committee Stage. Points were made about genealogy etc. and we will have the opportunity to debate those in greater detail at the next Stage'.

## MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY STUDIES - *New Volumes Published*

**James Scannell** reviews here five of the six latest titles in the excellently researched Maynooth Studies in Local History series published by Four Courts Press and launched by NUI Maynooth in September.

'*Borris House, Co. Carlow, and elite regency patronage*' by **Edmund Joyce**. Borris House, situated in the small town of Borris in Co. Carlow, is the ancestral home of the MacMurrough Kavanagh family which have had a residence at Borris for approximately 900 years. Walter Kavanagh, the eldest son of Thomas Kavanagh and Lady Susanna Butler, a sister to the 19<sup>th</sup> earl of Ormonde, succeeded his father to the estates at Borris in 1792. In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century Walter Kavanagh decided to transform his home at Borris. The early Georgian house built c.1721-40 by his grandfather Brian Kavanagh was given an ornate Tudor revivalist exterior and a richly classical interior under the direction of the Co. Cork-born architect Sir Richard Morrison. As the house transformed, so did the collections within. The family amassed notable collections of furniture, books and silver. This short book identifies the role that the two major patrons at Borris, Walter Kavanagh, a bachelor, in his fifties when work begun at Borris, and later his brother and heir Thomas had in the shaping of Borris House.

'*Portmarnock and the Plunketts, 1850-1918; The Portmarnock Brick and Terracotta Works*' by **Alan Costello**. This book presents a picture of Portmarnock, Co. Dublin, as an important local centre for the manufacture of brick and terracotta during the Victorian period. The outstanding material products produced by the Portmarnock Brick and Terracotta Works were such that many of the most significant architects of the day specified them by name, and many remarkable buildings of the period were constructed and decorated

using Portmarnock's striking red brick and moulded terracotta. The owners of the Brick and Terracotta Works, the Plunketts, are presented as more than local landowners or entrepreneurs, but rather as selfless economic nationalists during a period of significant change in Ireland, both politically and economically. Combining impressive and varied primary sources the author goes some way to respond to Maurice Craig's assertion that the relationship between buildings and geology is often ignored in our history. The result is the illumination of a little known and largely unrecorded part of our architectural and social history.

'*The Easter Rising of 1916 in north Co. Dublin; A Skerries perspective*' by **Peter F. Whearity** The rebellion of 1916 transformed Irish politics. Outside of Dublin, there were only a few locations where military action occurred. One of these was Ashbourne, Co. Meath, and it was organized by Volunteers from north Co. Dublin. This book examines the Irish Volunteer movement and looks at the events of Easter week, and explores what the rebellion meant to the population of towns such as Skerries, where local loyalist residents left their homes and paced the seashore for fear of attack from the Volunteers. While the *Helga* was heading up the River Liffey to bombard the city centre, patrolling gunboats aimed their guns on the town of Skerries, and a force of about 200 men of the North Staffordshire Regiment was landed on Wednesday 26 April 1916. Strategic points in the town were fortified and a night-time curfew was imposed. The collapse of the rebellion saw thousands arrested and interned, among them men from north Co. Dublin, and their experiences form an integral part of this study.

'*The South Circular Road, Dublin, on the eve of the First World War*' by **Catherine Scuffil**. Dublin's

South Circular Road (SCR) is one of the city's main thoroughfares and Catherine Scuffil examines its population under a variety of topics using databases created with the 1911 census data supported by other relevant sources. The intention of early road planners to create a circular road around the inner city was mostly achieved in the 2½-mile-long residential road divided into five postal districts commencing at Portobello, through Dolphin's Barn, Rialto, Kilmainham and Islandbridge, before crossing the River Liffey to end at the Phoenix Park. The route provides a unique synopsis of Dublin's development, incorporating a range of religious and cultural groups, each bringing a distinct cultural footprint, evident in place names and in the variety of its architecture.

'*Marcella Gerrard's Galway Estate, 1820-70*' by **Tom Crehan**. This book explores the transition in a landed estate in the barony of Killian, east Galway, in the years 1820-70. It examines how the landlord, John Netterville Gerard reacted to the social and economic changes which took place before, during, and after the Famine. The marriage of John Gerrard to Marcella Netterville in 1822 heralded a different approach to the management of the estate. His efforts to convert the estate from a tillage-based rental property to a grazing operation rendered large numbers of tenants surplus to requirements. His sole method of dealing with these surplus tenants was eviction and destruction of dwellings. The widespread publicity generated by the Gerrard evictions at Ballinlass in 1846 is examined in some detail as it offers the tenants' perspective of the clearances and also the public defence which the landlord felt compelled to offer. The fate of the estate, in the aftermath of the deaths of John and Marcella Gerrard, and its subsequent division among three distant relatives, is also studied.

## Précis of the September Lecture

On Tuesday September 10<sup>th</sup> 2013 members were treated to a wonderfully interesting lecture by **Harriet Wheelock** on the '*Medical Records of the Royal College of Physicians*'. Founded in 1654, the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) is the oldest medical institution in the country and its mission is to regulate the medical profession in Ireland and to confirm the competence of medical practitioners. The RCPI Heritage Centre holds extensive records on doctors from the mid seventeenth century. This is an exceptionally useful resource for tracing medical ancestors. Harriet Wheelock outlined what researchers would need to commence their search for the medical ancestors in the RCPI records as follows: Name of the doctor; Birth or Death Date (or rough idea); Place of residence and any known qualification. Having as much information as possible will speed up the loca-

tion of other relevant records. Other resources include: The Kirkpatrick Index—a unique collection of newspaper clippings. The Medical Register and Medical Directories publish annually since 1852. RCPI registers dating from 1692.. Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland registers dating from 1792. Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland registers—digital copy held covering 1828-1983. RCPI Archive Collections containing various records, documents and publications and finally, Dun's Library which holds printed works including histories of Irish medical schools and hospitals; histories and printed alumni lists of the main universities and colleges teaching medicine and the printed rolls of the Royal Army and the Indian Medical Service for doctors that entered military service in the British Empire. To search for a person in the RCPI sources visitors can consult the above resources

guided by the RCPI Heritage Centre staff at 6, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.. Appointment is required by telephone on +353 1 669 8817 Research can also be commissioned for a fee.

### MEMBERSHIP OF GSI BRANCHES

The Board of Directors has set the Annual Subscription rates for membership (associate) of either *Heraldry Ireland* or *Vexillology Ireland* is €20.00 per annum to include a biannual electronic newsletter and the free registration of Arms in respect of *Heraldry Ireland* and of flags or emblems in respect of *Vexillology Ireland*. Members of the following organisations shall be entitled to a 50% reduction in the Annual Subscription to each (i) Genealogical Society of Ireland; (ii) National Maritime Institute of Ireland and (iii) individual members of Clan/Sept Associations registered with Clans of Ireland and, in the case of *Vexillology Ireland*, individual members of the registered member organisations of FIAV. For further details on these new GSI branches see the following websites: [www.heraldryireland.com](http://www.heraldryireland.com) or for *Vexillology Ireland* see: [www.flagsireland.wordpress.com](http://www.flagsireland.wordpress.com)

## GENEALOGY COURSES

The next series of Weekend Genealogy Courses provided in conjunction with John Hamrock of **Ancestor Network Ltd** will commence on Sat. **October 26th 2013**. 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**. The course includes guided tours at the National Library, Dublin City Library and other repositories. 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 GSI 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 info. please contact John Hamrock by phone on 087 050 5296 or by e-mail on [john.hamrock@ancestor.ie](mailto:john.hamrock@ancestor.ie)

### IRELAND'S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE

All the past issues of this newsletter and its predecessor are available in pdf format to read or to download or to read *free of charge* on the Society's website [www.familyhistory.ie](http://www.familyhistory.ie)

## IRISH LIVES REMEMBERED

The October 2013 issue (No. 17) 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 absolutely *free of charge* on [www.irishlivesremembered.ie](http://www.irishlivesremembered.ie)

Why not checkout previous issues of this wonderful Genealogy E-magazine on the website above?. The various articles on the resources for researching your ancestors in particular counties provide an exceptionally useful guide for those wishing to further their knowledge of the genealogical, archival and local history resources of these counties.



# James Scannell Reports...

## 2013 IRISH CHIEFS' PRIZE

Dr. Chris Lawlor, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow, who is senior history teacher at Meáncoil Iognáid Rís Christian Brothers School, Naas, Co. Kildare, was been awarded this year's Irish Chiefs' Prize in History. This prize is awarded to the winner of an essay competition run in conjunction with the Department of History, Trinity College, Dublin, which must be on piece of original research dealing with any aspect of the political, social, cultural history of Gaelic Ireland within the date range of 400 A.D. to 1690 A.D. such as Irish kingship, lordship, landholding, genealogy or family history. Chris Lawlor's winning essay was titled *'Burning the bridges: the opposition of the Gabhal Raghnaill and Feagh Mac Hugh to the process of Anglicisation during the sixteenth century'* in which he traced the rise of the O'Byrne clan, in particular the Gabhal Raghnaill sept, in Wicklow and highlighted the resistance of Feagh Mac Hugh O'Byrne and some of his forebears to the Crown. An abridged version of his essay was published in the September / October 2013 issue of 'History Ireland' magazine.

## AUGHRIM GATHERING

Lawless's Hotel, Aghrim, Co. Wicklow, was the venue for a 'Gathering' of the Langrell,

Hinch and Traynor Clans. The Langrells were of French Huguenot origin who fled France in late 1600s, with a clan of six families travelling to Ireland via England and settling in Aghrim where they farmed extensively, a tradition still carried on. The Hinch name is of German-Dutch origin with this name coming to Ireland in the late 1600s when troops of William of Orange were settled in Leinster. Over time the Langrell and Hinch families became intertwined through marriage but in recent times the Hinch name has declined. The Traynor name is of Scottish-Irish origin with the name being popular in border counties as Trainor, and in Wicklow. Traynors were also farmers and in the 1800s married into the Langrell-Hinch families. The name is still found in the Wicklow area. Many of the Langrell / Hinch / Traynor family members emigrated during the 1700s and 1800s particularly after the Famine and family links have been traced in the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

## SERVICE FOR RIC AND DMP

At the end of August Mount Argus Church, Dublin, was the setting for an ecumenical service to remember deceased members of the Royal Irish Constabulary and Dublin Metropolitan Police at which the attendance included

Minister for State, Brian Hayes, TD, and relatives of those who served with these police forces and well as a number retired Gardaí. Rob Fenning represented the British Ambassador to Ireland and Supt. Brendan Connolly represented the Garda Commissioner. In an address at the start of the service, retired Garda Gerard Lovett, Hon. Secretary of the commemoration committee, extended a special welcome to the families of these deceased police members pointing out that between 1868 and 1915 thirty-nine policemen in Ireland died violently, a figure which rose to five hundred between 1916 and 1921, fifty-eight of which were after the signing of the Anglo-Irish Peace Treaty with another twenty-one reported missing and their bodies never recovered. Mr. Lovett thanked Fr. Joe Murray, CP, the Garda chaplain, for his invaluable assistance in organising this event. [*Police Casualties in Ireland, 1919 to 1922*, by Richard Abbott, Mercier Press, 2000, ISBN 1 85635 314 1, records incidents in which police were killed or injured during this period.]

## THE BRABAZON FAMILY

On Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup> Brian White will present his lecture on *'The Brabazon of Dublin & Wicklow'* at 6.30 p.m. to the Old Dublin Society in the Conference Room of Dublin City Library & Archive, 138 -144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. All welcome – admission free.

## CIGO on the FOI Bill

The Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations (CIGO), of which, the GSI is *not* a member, issued a public statement on October 4th 2013 which alleged that 'some in the genealogical community' are circulating 'unfounded rumours' about the *Freedom of Information Bill, 2013*. This extraordinary statement was issued barely eighteen hours after the second stage debate on the Bill in Dáil Éireann. Therefore, it is unclear whether a meeting of CIGO's governing body could have been convened to consider this matter and to authorise the issuance of this public statement. Surely the constituent organisations of CIGO fully understand that accusing those who have raised very serious questions about the FOI Bill of circulating 'unfounded rumours' is astonishingly disingenuous given that the same concerns were raised in a report published by a Parliamentary Committee, Teachtaí Dála (MPs), Senators and others. Indeed, by attempting to drag Minister Brian Hayes, TD, into supporting this accusation, CIGO is in danger of bringing genealogy into disrepute. Careful consideration of the provisions of the Bill and of the recommendations in the

Parliamentary Report would have been expected of CIGO. Unfortunately, it seems that lessons have gone unheeded of CIGO's entry to the 1926 Census Campaign in 2008 with the launch of a fundamentally flawed public petition based on a complete misreading the *Statistics Act, 1993*; followed by the circulation of a *Briefing Document* to each TD in 2011 which purported to show that CIGO was centrally involved in the debate on the *Statistics Bill* in 1993 which became law exactly one year *before* the establishment of CIGO in July 1994; and of CIGO's two extremely damaging 'redaction proposals' on the 1926 Census. Clearly the constituent organisations of CIGO should take careful note of what is being issued on their behalf by CIGO.

## SOCIAL INCLUSION WEEK

The Society of will provide a Family History Research information stand during Social Inclusion Week in the Concourse at the County Hall, Dún Laoghaire, from Mon. 14th to Thurs 17th October 2013—09.00hrs to 18.00hrs. The Society adopted a Social Inclusion Policy back in 2003. New members are always welcome irrespective of background, creed, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation or prior learning.

## 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](mailto:Irish.dna@familyhistory.ie) Also, check-out 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](http://www.familyhistory.ie) or if you prefer, download the form and send it to **Mr. Billy Saunderson, MGSJ**, 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? Check out the Medal Society of Ireland on [www.msou.ie](http://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** (Internet Services); **Ciarán Hurley** (Archive); **Barry O'Connor** (Cemetery Projects & Membership); **Séamus Moriarty** (Lecture Programme), **John Hamrock** (Education & Social Inclusion); **Eddie Gahan** (Outreach Programme); **Maura Flood** (Digital Archive); and **Tony O'Hara** (Sales & Marketing).

**JOIN ON-LINE**[www.familyhistory.ie](http://www.familyhistory.ie)**DIARY DATES**

Tuesday October 8th &amp; November 12th 2013

**Evening Open Meeting**

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

Wednesday October 23rd &amp; November 27th 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)

**GRAVEYARD IDENTIFIED**

A photograph published on September 19<sup>th</sup> 2013 on the very popular Facebook page hosted by the National Library of Ireland certainly aroused great interest amongst genealogists and local historians. The NLI posting was quite vague "Look at the amazing clarity of this - may be from as early as Circa 1863! (Cemetery in Kingstown / Dun Laoghaire in Dublin)" and many 'Facebookers' initially thought that it was the old cemetery at Carrickbrennan in Monkstown. As one only of the photographs was displayed, the National Library of Ireland provided the link to the photographs in its catalogue explaining that the photograph was one of a stereo pair. Quoting from Sarah Rouse's 'Into the Light', the NLI staff posted that "stereographic photographs were made with a special camera with two lenses side-by-side, simultaneously taking two nearly identical images. When the mounted print is viewed through a special viewer (stereoscope), a three-dimensional effect is created". On noticing the photograph, the staff at An Daonchartlann, the Archives and Research Centre of Genealogical Society of Ireland in Dún Laoghaire, immediately recognised the cemetery as the old Catholic Cemetery at Kill O' The Grange. The cemetery was closed by Ministerial Order in 1864 and the location of the burial records, if still extant, is unknown. The remaining headstones were recorded and published by the Genealogical Society of Ireland in 2005 - 'Memorial Inscriptions of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Co. Dublin, Ireland' Vol. 3, pp41-45 - ISBN 1-898471-42-8. A drawing of the ancient church in this graveyard - dedicated to St. Fintan - is shown on the cover of this publication. These photographs are of exceptional value to genealogy as the inscriptions on the wooden crosses, the majority couldn't afford inscribed stone markings, are possibly the only records that we have on the death and burial of these individuals. Maybe the National Library should build on the success of this public consultation on an anonymous or uncertain photograph or drawing. These wonderful photographs can be viewed on the NLI website at [http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/STP\\_0745](http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/STP_0745) and [http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/STP\\_0746](http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/STP_0746)

**VEXILLOLOGY IRELAND**

Stanislav Zamyatin, CEO of Vexillology Ireland, is pleased to announce that a new temporary website has been established for VIBE at [www.flagsireland.wordpress.com](http://www.flagsireland.wordpress.com) and that the Facebook page [www.facebook.com/flagsireland](http://www.facebook.com/flagsireland) is also up and running with information on this new branch of the Society. Twitter @flagsireland

**FOUR COURTS PRESS***Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more*[www.fourcourtspress.ie](http://www.fourcourtspress.ie)**WERBERGH STREET**

The relocation of the General Register Office research facility from the Irish Life Centre to Werburgh Street was resisted by many genealogists. However, moving from expensive rented accommodation to a State owned building was understandable in these recessionary times. Unfortunately, the current state of the refurbished building has not lived up to the normally very high standards associated with buildings provided by the Office of Public Works (OPW). Amongst the issues raised by GSI members are the inadequate lighting which is florescent lights circa 2.5m above the research desk level. This makes the reading of some items very difficult indeed. One toilet for a room designed to serve up to forty researchers does not possibly provide adequate sanitary standards, for example, in the Irish Life Centre there were two separate facilities for men and women. The counter area provided is at wheelchair height thus requiring bending to be at eye level with staff. Many have also warned about parking in the car park at the front of the building. The ground is very uneven under foot and the wheel clampers are very active. In all the upheaval of the relocation the wonderful staff are, as usual, doing their very best to serve the public. The Society calls on the Minister and the OPW to rectify these problems as soon as possible and, if it is found that the building at Werburgh Street is incapable of being brought up to the normal OPW standards, then another premises must be sought for this facility which is so important for the development and sustainability of 'roots tourism' in the capital.

**TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS**

by John Grenham, MA, MAPGI, FIGRS, FGSI

The Society strongly recommends to anyone embarking on their family history quest that one essential piece of kit must be, without doubt, a copy of the latest edition of 'Tracing Your Irish Ancestors' by John Grenham. Please checkout the website [www.gillmacmillan.com](http://www.gillmacmillan.com) Price €22.99 [RRP]. **YOU NEED THIS BOOK**

**HERALDIC PROJECT**

The GSI Board established the *Irish Heraldic Atlas Project* as a new national and international heraldic project for *Heraldry Ireland* aimed at promoting an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of Ireland's heraldic heritage. It will create an on-line photographic database on the use of heraldry on public monuments, funerary monuments, buildings and other structures throughout Ireland and on the use of heraldry by civil society including corporations, institutions, tradespersons, sporting organisations, clubs and associations. It will create an on-line map of the locations of heraldic monuments and facilitate the collection of data from overseas on monumental heraldry with associations to Ireland. Finally, it aims to create photographic exhibition of Irish monumental heraldry as an educational and cultural resource to inform and inspire the design of new heraldic achievements to be registered with the Society. For info. see: [www.heraldryireland.com](http://www.heraldryireland.com)

**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](http://www.familyhistory.ie)

**LECTURE PROGRAMME**

**Tues. October 8<sup>th</sup>** - 'Rental Records as a Genealogical Source' by James Ryan; **Tues. November 12<sup>th</sup>** - 'Children in Care - Records of Pre-1952 Adoptions' by Fiona Fitzsimons; **Tues. December 10<sup>th</sup>** - '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](http://www.familyhistory.ie) As the only genealogical organisation providing monthly lectures throughout the year, the programme is varied to meet the needs of all levels of research experience. **Séamus Moriarty, FGSI Dir, GSI Lecture Programme:-** Gazette@familyhistory.ie

**INGOLDSBY GATHERING**

GSI Cathaoirleach, Pádraic Ingoldsby, would like to thank the President, Rory Stanley and his wife Roz for their presence at the official opening of 'The Ingoldsby Gathering' at The Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire, on Friday September 13th 2013. He would also like to thank Eddie Gahan and Clare Tuohy for assisting the Ingoldsby visitors from Canada and the United States who sought further information on their Irish ancestry. It was a most enjoyable and very successful event.

**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.