



Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating “The Genie Gazette”)

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www.familyhistory.ie

June : Meitheamh 2017

Ethnicity and DNA

Mike Mulligan of Ancestry.com delivered a wonderfully informative talk on “*The Story of Our DNA*” at the Society’s Open Meeting last month (see page 4) and clearly the potential of DNA testing has gripped the imagination of genealogists around the world. Connecting with cousins, sometimes quite distant, can enormously expand our knowledge of our ancestors and their relatives and, of course, introduce us to their far-flung descendants via the Internet.

Taking the DNA test with Ancestry.com is a simple saliva test which is then analysed at their laboratory within a few weeks before you receive your results on-line. These results are compared to the database of DNA tests from around the world to assess your genetic origins and your “Ethnicity Estimate”.

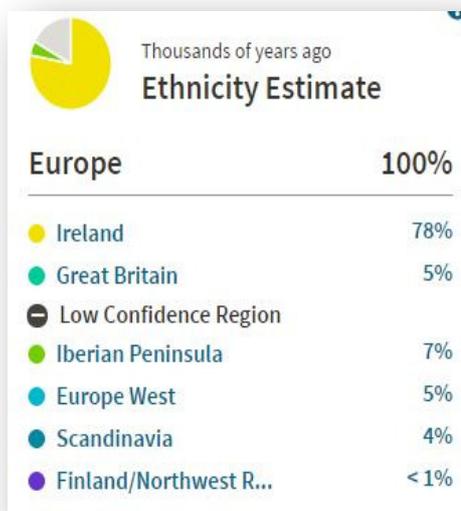
For most in Ireland, categorising our genetic roots in terms of our “ethnicity” poses no great problem as we’re clearly culturally, historically and ethnically Irish. However, questions are being asked about the appropriateness of the use of the term “ethnicity” in the context of DNA.

The concept of ethnicity generally refers to a shared culture as expressed in a common language, uniformity of religious beliefs, traditional clothing, music, food or art and identity with a common history. As with all such categorisations, ethnicity is regularly seen as the root of both social cohesion and intercommunal conflict.

In Ireland, for example, the ethnicity of the Traveller Community was formally recognised by the Irish government after many years of

campaigning by the Irish Traveller Movement (see www.itmtrav.ie).

The genetic origins of the Irish Traveller Community have been analysed by scientists at the



RCSI in Dublin. This DNA analysis shows that the community had diverged from the wider Irish population over the past two hundred and fifty years or so, however, its genetic origins are Irish.

The complexities of the concept of ethnicity and our understanding of the term clearly point to its unsuitability as a categorisation in a DNA analysis. Indeed, Ancestry also use the more appropriate categorisation “genetic ancestry”.

GENEALOGY

HERALDRY

VEXILLOLOGY

SOCIAL HISTORY

Heritage Matters

Book Reviews

Open Meetings

News & Events

Stop Press - New Premises

As we go to press today (12th June) we got firm news of a new premises for our Archives and Research Centre.

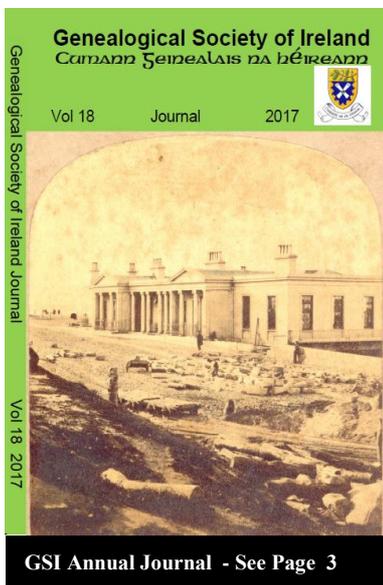
We will be relocating in a modular building in a secluded location in the grounds of Loughlinstown Leisure Centre. Members can now have a swim, a workout and a coffee or snack, all on the same campus.

Located on Loughlinstown Drive, off Wyattville Road, the Leisure Centre is on the Dublin Bus routes 7 and 111, the latter linking the DART and the LUAS. There is plenty of free carparking. The building is well fitted out for our needs with plenty of space and good facilities for archives, computers etc.

In the next few days we will put together a plan for moving, so we will be calling on members to join a “meitheal” to help us on the moving day.

The Society is very grateful to Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council for its help in making this building available.

Tom Conlon



OPEN MEETINGS

Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute

Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire

Tuesday 13 June—20.00hrs

Tuesday 11 July—20.00hrs

Royal Marine Hotel

Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire

Wednesday 28 June—10.30hrs

Wednesday 26 July—10.30hrs

Contribution €3.00 p.p.

(including Tea/Coffee at the Morning Meeting)

In this issue.....

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- Heraldry Ireland Project
- James Scannell Reports
- GSI Lecture Programme
- Précis of May Lecture
- Dublin Ancestors



@GenSocIreland

YOUR FAMILY HISTORY?

If you are thinking of starting your family history research and just don't know where to start, don't despair as Eddie and his team are on hand to show you the ropes.

Whilst the Society does not undertake commercial research assignments, it does provide research advice to enable you to take a D.I.Y. approach to your research.

Also, please note that Eddie and his team travel around the country promoting the study of genealogy. For more information on the Society's Outreach Programme contact eddie_gahan_snr@hotmail.com

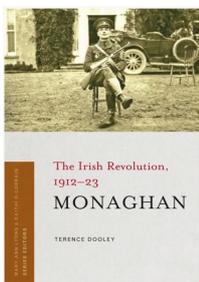


Eddie Gahan and his Team ready to discuss your Family History Research

The Irish Revolution, 1912-23—Monaghan

Genealogists and local historians have really been delightfully "spoilt for choice" with the array of very fine publications on the many aspects of the Irish revolutionary period 1912-23 that were published to coincide with the nationwide 'decade of centenaries'.

The research underpinning many of the works has opened up a wealth of heretofore inaccessible local knowledge, contemporary personal narratives, rare photographs and family papers. While much has been written and published on the events in Dublin and the major cities during this period, the story of events and people in rural revolutionary Ireland still offers fertile ground for further research. *'The Irish Revolution, 1912-23—Monaghan'* by Terence Dooley (ISBN: 978-1-84682-617-0 : p/bk : 208pp : €19.95 Web-Price: €17.95) and published by Four Court Press, explores the fascinatingly complex story of an Ulster county with a sizeable unionist minority that found itself on the southern side of the new border.



Monaghan was virtually untouched by the 1916 Rising, although the rise of the Ulster Volunteer Force from the fourteen unionists clubs in the county fuelled deep resentment amongst the nationalist community. By March 1914 there were 2,070 UVF members in Monaghan which amounted to almost 34% of the eligible male Protestant community. In June 1914 the membership of the overwhelmingly Catholic Irish Volunteers in the County was reportedly over 5,000. This county's story during the War of Independence (1919-21)

and the Civil War (1922-23) and the impact of partition on its social fabric, especially amongst the unionist population, is extremely well researched and presented by Terence Dooley. The copious notes, extensive bibliography and the wonderful photographs, some of which, are family groups and another described as "unidentified Monaghan IRA volunteers" make this book a real gem for anyone with ancestral connections to County Monaghan.

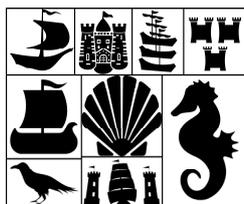
Terence Dooley is director of the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses & Estates, Maynooth University. He is the author of *The decline and fall of the Dukes of Leinster, 1872-1948: love, war, debt and madness* (Dublin, 2014) and co-editor, with Christopher Ridgway, of *The Country House and the Great War: Irish and British experiences* (Dublin, 2016).

FOUR COURTS PRESS

Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more. Checkout the new 2017 catalogue and the special offers at www.fourcourtpress.ie

Heraldry Ireland Project

Stan Zamyatin, the Society's head of Flag and Heraldic Studies is currently finalising his paper on the *"County Flags of Ireland"* which he will give in August at the 27th International Congress of Vexillology (ICV) in London. On top of that, he is



also working on producing the first guide to Irish county and municipal coats of arms. A few details have yet to be decided but the format and style is already in place. Every coat of arms will be given a full page with a complete description of the history, origins and meaning of the symbols and colours. Everything will be analysed consistently in order to make comparisons simple. We have a rich history of civic heraldry in Ireland which has unfortunately

not been acknowledged or appreciated enough. The aim of this publication will be to provide a knowledge and appreciation of this history and heritage and to try to get more Irish people to use the various arms wherever possible. The abolition of eighty town councils in 2014 might have saved money in places but it also made many arms obsolete and less likely to be used. Sports in Ireland have proven to be the biggest life support for civic heraldry due to their use by many clubs. We hope that the Irish government and the various county councils take some lessons from them and end this trend of corporatisation, which, as suggested in this newsletter in 2008, has seen Ireland gripped "by the insidious mania of corporate logoism".

Checkout *Heraldry Ireland* and *Vexillology Ireland* on the links below:
www.facebook.com/Herarldy.Ireland
www.facebook.com/Flags.Ireland

'1916 -The Rising Handbook'

'1916 - The Rising Handbook' by Lorcan Collins, published by The O'Brien Press.

Last year a vast range of books covering various aspects of the 1916 were released and one of the most useful and fascinating books still available is this one compiled by Lorcan Collins. This remarkable book commences with a Timeline of the Rising, then progresses to sections covering the various documents issued including the Proclamation with various insights to its composition and printing, the weapons used by all sides in the Rising, the locations of the various British Army barracks around Dublin and the units that occupied them, as well as maritime aspects of the Rising.

Also provided are brief biographies of the sixteen men, fourteen in Dublin, one in Cork and one in London, executed for their role in the Rising

One of the most interesting sections, 'Casualties & Destruction', reveals that in addition to the sixteen executed for their role in the Rising, sixty-three in insurgents were killed in action while a further fourteen died from their wounds or ill-treatment in prison; three were drowned in Ballykissane, Co. Kerry on a pre-Rising mission, two hundred and seventy-six civilians including thirty-five children; eighteen policemen and one hundred and twenty-six British soldiers including five members of the Georgius Rex Brigade and one Canadian were killed. What makes this book unique is that all these individuals are named.

Other sections look at the Weapons Used, The 1936 Roll of Honour by name and location, Lists of Prisoners by name, and where they were sent to, Statements and Last Letters of the Proclamation Signatories, Medals Awarded, and a list by name and address of the 2,577 recipients of the 1916 Medal name and address.

All in all, a most useful book to keep to hand when reading others books on the Rising and the subsequent War of Independence as it contains most of the information that one may wish to quickly refer to. **James Scannell**

SURNAME DISTRIBUTION

The distribution of surnames across the country is a fascinating study in itself. The Guild of One-Name Studies has spearheaded this type of surname research for many decades. "One-Namers" will find the resource below of considerable use. Type a surname into the site below. It will provide a county-by-county up-to-date analysis of telephone directory entries for that surname in Ireland. www.missedcallireland.com/Surname

In Brief....

GSI MEMBERSHIP

Join this Society on-line at www.familyhistory.ie Please note that GSI Membership is open to all interested in genealogy and related subjects. Discounted membership rates available for under 25s and students at recognised genealogy courses.

PARKING AT DFEI

Car-parking facilities at the **Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute**. The best option is to use public transport. Dublin Bus nos. 7, 7A, 46A and 75 all serve the college or streets adjacent to the college—Lower George's Street, York Road, Clarence Street. The DART (suburban rail) services to Salthill & Monkstown. On street car-parking is usually available in the area also. Members are asked to consider 'car pooling' for each month's open meeting. For details on the Institute and its courses please checkout www.dfei.ie

DISCOUNTS

Exclusive discounts for the Members of the Society are available for online genealogical services and publications, including, **Findmypast, Irish Newspaper Archives, Forces War Records** and from **Flatcapsandbonnets.com**. To avail of any of these Member discounts, please contact **Barry O'Connor, FGSI**, by email at membership@familyhistory.ie

IDEAL GIFT IDEAS

Genealogists and local historians are relatively easy souls to please when it comes to gifts—books! So if you have a birthday gift to buy—think books by our Members. Much of the research for these books was undertaken at the Society's Archive & Research Centre—*An Daonchartlann*.

'Victorian Dún Laoghaire' by Tom Conlon—excellent local history of the town and the first to deal extensively with the poor and "the courts" where they lived. Price: €20.00

'Labour in Kingstown, 1890-1920' by Charlie Callan—explores a much neglected subject—the working class of Kingstown (now Dún Laoghaire) and the development of organised labour and its political representation. Price: €10.00 (published privately contact: chascallan@gmail.com)

'Twice Built—The Construction of St. Patrick's Church, Monkstown, Co. Dublin, 1861-66' by Tom Conlon. An intriguing story of "church politics" surrounding the building of a parish church in Dublin. Price €12.00



www.eneclann.ie



GSI Archival Collections soon to be available in a new premises at Loughlinstown

JAMES SCANNELL REPORTS...

FAMINE IN KERRY

On Thursday 22 June 'The Great Famine in Tralee and North Kerry', the latest book by Stillorgan Co. Dublin, based local historian Bryan MacMahon, published by Mercier Press, will be launched in O'Mahony's Bookshop in Tralee. This book contains absorbing first-person accounts of the hardship and heroism that occurred in Co. Kerry during the Great Famine, and provides a detailed overview and moving insight in the suffering endured by thousands in the area. This book includes the names and inquest details of some of the dead, and poignant descriptions of life in the Tralee and Listowel workhouses, including stories of scandals and possible sexual abuse in them as well as many examples of selfless humanitarian work.

BATTLE OF MESSINES STAMP

On 8 June An Post issued a stamp to mark the centenary of the Battle of Messines Ridge which commenced on 7 June 1917 when soldiers from the 16th (Irish) and the 36th (Ulster) Divisions re-took the German occupied Flemish village of Wijtschate/Wytschaete. The commemorative stamp, designed by Ger Garland, features the Round Tower from the Island of Ireland Peace Park in Messines, Belgium, which is a war memorial to the soldiers of the island of Ireland, who died, were wounded, or missing from World War One.

SS HARE AND SS ADELA

Victim relatives, local historians, and community groups from the Dublin Docklands area are working together to commemorate later this year the centenary of the World War One sinking of two Dublin ships. On 14 December 1914 the *SS Hare*, best remembered as the ship that brought food packages from British trade unionists to starving Dublin workers during the 1913 Lockout, was sunk by the German submarine *U-62* east of Howth Head, Co. Dublin, while en-route from Manchester to Dublin Port with the loss of eleven members of the twenty-one man crew, and the *SS Adela* sunk by the German submarine *UB-100* twelve miles east of Skerries, Co. Dublin, with the loss of twenty-four lives on 27 December 1917 while en-route from Dublin Port to Liverpool. The group plans to erect memorial plaques on Dublin's North and South Quays, hold memorial services to the victims and produce a publication

recalling the sinking of these two ships. It also intended to provide a programme of talks to local schools and the general public and to mount an exhibition.

BATTLE OF MESSINES

On Sunday 18 June at 15.00hrs the Museum of Decorative Arts and History (Including Military History), Collins Barracks, Benburb Street, Dublin 7, will host an afternoon of talks to mark the centenary of the June 1917 Battle of Messines in which two of the British Army's Irish Divisions fought side-by-side in this battle. The afternoon of talks will feature keynote speaker Kevin Myers, journalist and writer with a panel of historians including Damien Burke, Jesuits Archive, Lar Joye, the Museum's curator of Military History and Dr. Jennifer Wellington, University College Dublin. Admission free but booking required - call 01-6486453 or email: bookings@museum.ie.

GSI Lecture Programme

On **Tuesday June 13th** the topic will be *'How Online Sources Helped Put Flesh on the Bones of the Beglan Family Tree'* by Mary Beglan.

On **Tuesday July 11th** the topic will be *'The 1901 & 1911 census, BMDs from 1864 onwards, Catholic church records and more'* by Brian Donovan

Please note the advice regarding *'Parking at DFEI'* on panel to the left on this page.

Tony O'Hara welcomes any of your comments on the Society's lecture programme as this will help us improve the programme. Please forward any suggestions that you may have for topics or guest speakers to **Tony O'Hara, MGSI**, Director of the GSI Lecture Programme at toharadsl@gmail.com

GSI ANNUAL JOURNAL

The cover of the 2017 issue of the *Annual Journal of the Genealogical Society of Ireland (JGSI)* carries an 1859 photo taken from the very spot where the recently evacuated *An Daonchartlann* was later built at the foot of the Carlisle Pier.

The articles inside have a distinctly international flavour with many fully illustrated.

A copy of the JGSI 2017 was despatched to each fully paid-up Members. If you haven't received your copy please make contact. **Tom Conlon, MGSI**

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'*. Please checkout the website www.gillmacmillan.com Price €22.99 [RRP].

Précis of the MAY Lecture

Mike Mulligan's lecture on the story of DNA was fascinating and the fact that this lecture was very well attended, gave a strong indication of the interest in this subject. Mike has recently appeared as a guest on the *Late Late Show* and various prominent radio programmes. He is a very experienced genealogist with over 30 years of genealogical investigations behind him. During his lecture, Mike showed us the some genealogical records of his family that he has accumulated over that time.

Mike began his talk on DNA by stating that on the 25th April 2003 the first human genome was published at a cost of over \$3 billion. Today, just 14 years later one can get a record of ones DNA for approximately €100 – a fraction of the original cost. DNA provides a blueprint for life as it documents all the molecules inside the cells of our bodies which make us unique. We each inherit 50% of our molecules from our paternal source and 50% from our maternal source. DNA therefore becomes a document that is handed down from generation to generation. We can look for the signatures of our ancestors in our DNA.

Mike said that DNA profiling gives us a sideways view of genealogy and the science is evolving at a breath-taking pace. Science provides with the tools to read the human genome and genealogy helps to interpret this information. There are three types of Analysis. The first is Distant Past or Ethnicity Estimates using a reference panel spread geographically around the world where proof of origin uses genealogical records to establish precise groups, by which to measure tiny differences.

All people share 99.9% of the same DNA and what scientists discovered is that tiny differences can define where people originated. Mike used the analogy whereby inserting a reordered sentence in the middle of the book "Ulysses" by James Joyce would be difficult to find, unless you knew where to look. This is the same with people, to differentiate between two people – you need to know where to look. He then addressed the second type of Analysis namely Recent Past or Genetic Communities. Ancestry has a large DNA database and with the help of clever algorithms they are able to establish relationships between communities. This whole area is a very recent development and hopefully our understanding of the science will grow over time.

Mike then illustrated the link between Clusters, Ethnicity, Surnames and Birth Locations to help isolate separate identifiable clusters. Using these links, it was estimated that there are 31 genetic communities in the UK & Ireland. He showed that this analysis can be used to identify migratory trends in populations, linking the Californian Gold Rush of 1849 with the help of clusters of people with specific Munster DNA to illustrate his results. The final analysis Mike spoke about was entitled "Present to Past or Cousin Matching". He personally has identified 10,000 cousins using this process and expects this to grow to 15,000 by end of year. This area has huge growth potential as the database grows over time. The Q & A session at the conclusion, was lively and informative and I believe that everybody went away more informed and well pleased with what they had just learned. Many thanks Mike!

Tony O'Hara, MGSI

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The Society is a Nominating Body for
Seanad Éireann (Irish Senate)

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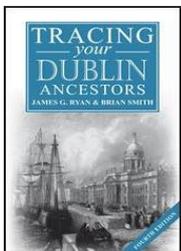
The "Gazette" is Ireland's longest running monthly genealogical newsletter and it is read by thousands each month around the world. All the past issues of this newsletter and its predecessor back to 1996 have been fully indexed by **Brendan Hall, MGSI** and they are available in pdf format to read or to download *free of charge* on www.familyhistory.ie Although we're not members of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ), the team at the "Gazette" always endeavour to operate in accordance with the *NUJ Code of Conduct* www.nuj.org.uk/about/nuj-code/ and in line with the 'National Policy Statement on Ensuring Research Integrity in Ireland' which was endorsed by the Genealogical Society of Ireland back in June 2014 soon after its launch at the Royal Irish Academy. (see the June 2014 issue at www.familyhistory.ie)

Checkout the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie

'TRACING YOUR DUBLIN ANCESTORS'

Flyleaf Press will shortly publish a completely updated Edition of 'Tracing your Dublin Ancestors', a guide to all of the records available for tracing families in Dublin city and county, and how to find them and use them to trace your ancestry. Some details are available below. It is well illustrated with useful maps; with examples of the types of records to be found; and with relevant background material. It also sketches the social history of the county and how this history has affected the keeping and survival of records. There is also a comprehensive index. This is the latest in a series of county guides published by Flyleaf Press. These include guides for Kildare, Limerick, Sligo, Galway, Cork, Clare, Westmeath, Kerry, Limerick, Roscommon, Mayo and Donegal. **Tracing your Dublin Ancestors - Fourth Edition - by James G Ryan and Brian Smith** (ISBN: 978-1-907990-31-1 : Soft-cover : 230 x 143 mm:

€14.00 retail) See. www.flyleaf.ie



Mobile Phone Offer for GSI Members



Three.ie

The GSI arranges various discounted products for its Members. The Board has agreed to make the following available in conjunction with THREE. The two options are as follows:

1. The price plan is NOW only €28.91 including VAT. In the plan you get the following calls, texts.
 - Unlimited calls to any Irish mobile network.
 - Unlimited texts to any Irish mobile network.
 - Unlimited calls to Irish landlines.
 - 5GB of internet data.
 - 100 international minutes and 100 international texts.

This plan is a 24 month contract and would come with a **FREE SMART PHONE**— Samsung Galaxy J3 2016 or a HTC Desire 530.

Another option is a **SIM ONLY** offer which consists of.....

2. The price plan is NOW only €19.99 including VAT. In the plan you get the following calls, texts.

- Unlimited calls to any Irish mobile network.
- Unlimited texts to any Irish mobile network.
- Unlimited calls to Irish landlines.
- 5GB of internet data.
- 100 international minutes and 100 international texts.

This plan is an 18 month contract.

If you would like to avail of either of the above offers please contact **NICOLE DUFF** at nicole@threegovstaff.com or by phone on 01.687 6013.

Please Note: Your current membership of the Society will be subsequently verified to THREE by the GSI Director of Membership Services in accordance with *RES: 17/04/1302*

FREE RESEARCH ADVICE

An Daonchartlann, the Society's Archive and Research Centre is moving to Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin. The new premises is well served by public transport, including the Dublin Bus connection between the LUAS and the DART.

Up to the time of closure, the use of our extensive archival resources was reserved for fully paid-up GSI members, however, day research membership was available for €5.00.



Resources freely available to Members include a number of excellent pay-for-view websites including Ancestry.com, Findmypast, Forces War Records, Newspapers.com, British Newspaper Archives and Irish Newspaper Archives.

The Board of the Society is currently working on getting the new premises ready for the resumption of the Society's services to its members and the general public at its new location. The Loughlinstown Leisure Centre has ample free car parking and great facilities. Please see www.familyhistory.ie for updates on premises.