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(incorporating “The Genie Gazette”)

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Gaelic History, Culture & Society

The popularity of a number of excellent TV documentary series shown on RTÉ and TG4 over the past few years has tapped into a growing curiosity about an aspect of our past, with which, we feel innately a part and yet strangely disconnected by time and language.

The evidence for this past is all around us and within our DNA. It's our connection to a Gaelic civilisation that was materially dismantled through the wars and plantations of the seventeenth century and was linguistically in retreat westwards ever since. It never completely vanished, its footprint is in the naming of the landscape of our island and in the surnames of the overwhelming majority of its population.

Place-names tell its story and provide a glimpse into a much older narrative going back millennia and on that journey we encounter Ireland of the middle ages. This was the time of the formation of our surnames, one of the first peoples in Europe to adopt surnames as an addition to our patronymics. These patronymics (names derived from one's father) are not only carried around with us as part of our cultural and ethnic identity, they're in the landscape, in the names of towns, villages, mountains, lakes, rivers and streams and, more intimately in the fields our ancestors worked.

This civilisation has bequeathed literature, music and poetry to us, although, due to the language shift in the nineteenth century, access to this wonderful heritage for many has been difficult and sporadic.

Nevertheless, the cultural identification with this Gaelic heritage remains strong, albeit largely through the medium of the English language.

Beyond the cultural manifestation of Gaelic culture, its history and, in particular, knowledge of the society that created, developed and, for over a millennium, sustained this civilisation, became the preserve of academics, antiquarians, linguists and folklorists.

Then relatively recently a new science gripped the popular imagination, DNA and “genetic genealogy” which opened up many new and hugely exciting avenues of research into our Gaelic speaking ancestors. However, many academic historians feared, with considerable justification, that the interpretation of the scientific data could be accompanied by wildly inaccurate associations to cultures and ethnic groups.

This Society's own ‘Irish DNA Project’ undertaken in collaboration with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) was established in 2011 precisely to deal with historic population movements into and around Ireland. (see page 2) Whilst, the popularity of the services provided by commercial DNA testing companies also greatly increased the public awareness of the potential of this science to unlock the past.

More questions came and whilst initially most historians were reluctant to venture into the world of ‘genetic genealogy’, they soon became regular speakers at events hosted by Genetic Genealogy Ireland and, in doing so, emphasised the importance of academic research to our understanding of our Gaelic past.

Indeed, a monumental new work by Dr. Katherine Simms on ‘Gaelic Ulster in the Middle Ages’ will contribute enormously to our understanding of the Gaelic civilisation of our ancestors. (see page 2)

GENEALOGY

HERALDRY

VEXILLOLOGY

SOCIAL HISTORY

Heritage Matters

Book Reviews

Open Meetings

News & Events

DATA PROTECTION

The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force on May 25th 2018. The Board, under Res: 18/05/1380, advises Members that the Society holds the following records on its Members (1) Name; (2) Address; (3) Telephone Number; (4) Email Address and (5) the name of the Associate Member, if applicable, and that such records are **only used** for the purpose of contacting Members on Society matters and for the dispatch of the Monthly Newsletter and the Annual Journal and furthermore, that these records are **only held** by the Director of Membership Services and are **inaccessible to all other persons** and that, the Society does not share this information with any other individual or organisation. Records are also held for contractual necessity to deliver paid services.

ARCHIVE & RESEARCH CENTRE

‘An Daonchartlann’ the Society's Archive & Research Centre based at the DLR Leisure Centre in Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin, has re-opened to Members and the public see pages 2 and 4 of this newsletter.

Back to our Past

www.backtoourpast.ie

Virtual Conference & Event
18th – 20th September, 2020



CORONAVIRUS—COVID-19

The President of the Society, **Stuart Rosenblatt, PC, FGSI**, and the Cathaoirleach, **Gerry Hayden, MGSI** and members of the Board of Directors, extend their deepest sympathies to the families, friends and colleagues of those who have been very sadly taken by COVID-19.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved and with the many thousands of people fighting this terrible disease in hospitals, care facilities and in their own homes around the world.

The commitment, expertise and care provided by all the first responders, emergency services and hospital staff gives us all the much needed courage to get through these very difficult times—Go Raibh Mile Maith Agaibh.

OPEN MEETINGS

Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute

Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire

Tuesday 8 September (Cancelled) —20.00hrs

Tuesday 13 October (Provisional)—20.00hrs

Royal Marine Hotel

Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire

Wednesday 23 September (Cancelled) —10.30hrs

Wednesday 28 October (Provisional)—10.30hrs

Contribution €5.00 p.p.

(including Tea/Coffee at the Morning Meeting)

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@GenSocIreland

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

The increasing cases of Covid-19 in Ireland over the past month has caused havoc with the plans for the resumption of activities by the voluntary and community sectors.

The Society's Outreach Programme team headed by **Eddie Gahan**, MGSi has suspended its operations since March 2020.

The GSI Health & Safety Officer (Covid-19 monitor) keeps the Board advised on the public health advice and he assesses our options, if any, to resume operations.

By the way, if you wish to join Eddie's Outreach Programme team, please email him at eddie.gahan_snr@hotmail.com

Have you visited An Daonchartlann at the DLR Loughlinstown Leisure Centre?

Gaelic Ulster in the Middle Ages

As mentioned in the main article (see Page 1), there has been a growing interest in Gaelic Ireland, that Ireland that existed prior to its catastrophic collapse following its military defeat in the wars that spanned the seventeenth century. Although the Anglo-Norman invasion in the late twelfth century had challenged the security and viability of this Gaelic civilisation, over time it adapted to deal with the aggressively expansionist Anglo-Norman lordships and, indeed, gradually recovered lands previously lost, including many with fortified structures built by the Anglo-Normans. Thereafter, two distinct civilisations occupied the island of Ireland, one Gaelic in language, culture and law, the other originally Anglo-Norman with English law and Norman French as the language of the elite, but increasingly a hybrid multilingual society of Anglo-Normans, English, Welsh, Flemish and Irish. The Anglo-Norman world contained many ethnic groups speaking an array of different languages.

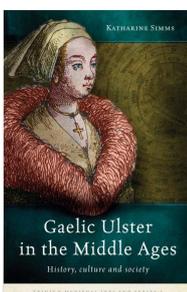
As the Gaelic areas expanded or were joined by the Gaelicised Anglo-Norman lordships, the area of "English Ireland" shrunk to include the coastal towns and cities and the hinterland of Dublin known as the Pale. By this time, the Gaelic province of Ulster lay way beyond the reach of "English Ireland" and became the strongest Gaelic province in Ireland.

A monumental new work '*Gaelic Ulster in the Middle Ages—History, culture and society*' by **Katherine Simms** published by Four Courts Press as part of the 'Trinity Medieval Ireland Series: 4' (ISBN: 978-1-84682-793-8: 568pp : Colour illustrations: H/bk : Price €65.00 : Web Price €58.50) is one of the most comprehensive studies undertaken on this province which sustained the Gaelic civilisation until the mid-seventeenth century. After setting the scene with an overview of Ulster from earliest times and explaining why the focus was on this province and not others, the book is in two sections – '*Political History*'

which traces the development of the structures of power, the great families and the political, diplomatic and trading worlds that sustained, influenced and were exploited by its elites between the eleventh to the sixteenth centuries. Although this is the history, of which, we are most familiar, it is explored and illuminated through contextualisation.

The second section – '*Culture and Society*' explores this Gaelic society in a manner that will captivate the reader whether they have connections to this part of Ireland or not. This section provides a unique window into the life and times of the people, their popular beliefs and traditions, their learned classes, their craftspeople, their cultural life, including their poets, and their roles within this unique, if not quite archaic, society. Dr. Simms also looks at one of their institutions most susceptible to outside influences, their church, its resistance to reform, its power and its hierarchy. The society had a warrior class imbued with its own self-image drawn from mythology and reinforced by clientship. The role of women in this society and their place in Brehon Law is explored, a subject that is frequently overlooked in such studies. In the final chapter, the day to day matters of food, popular assemblies, farming, housing and settlement are explored proving a wonderfully vivid idea of the everyday living conditions in this Gaelic civilisation.

Katharine Simms lectured in medieval history at Trinity College Dublin until 2010. She has written *From kings to warlords: the changing political structure of Gaelic Ireland in the later Middle Ages* (Woodbridge, 1987), *Medieval Gaelic sources* (Dublin, 2009), and many articles on Gaelic Ireland.



HITTING BRICK WALLS?

This Society operates a "Help Centre" for those researching their family history.

Family history need not be a lonely pilgrimage of discovery with many bumps in a very twisty road of pitfalls. Many of these research problems appear as impenetrable "brick walls" but they are rarely new problems. Many have overcome such and progressed their research with the help and advice of others.

The "Help Centre" is open to the public on appointment, however, spaces are limited and early booking is advisable. Strict adherence to the Covid-19 regulations—see panel to the right—is required for ALL visitors to the facility. NO EXCEPTIONS.

An Daonchartlann & Covid-19

An Daonchartlann - Archive & Research Centre is open each Wednesday between 10.00hrs to 16.00hrs (subject to current advice at the time)

The new system for operating the archive due to Covid-19, is as follows.

- (1) All visits to the archive, for members and non-members, is by **appointment only**. All appointments to be made, in advance, to Archivist@familyhistory.ie only.
- (2) Maximum time for each visit, is 1 hour for non-members and 2 hours for paid up members. Maximum number of visitors per appointment is one person.
- (3) Gloves supplied in the archive, must always be used while in the archive.
- (4) Face mask/covering (not supplied) must always be worn while in the archive. You will be refused admission to the archive without a face mask/covering.
- (5) A name and contact phone number will be required from each person visiting.
- (6) All visitors, members and non-members must leave the archive as soon as their allocated time has finished.

Please do **not** visit the archive, if you are feeling unwell or have been in contact with someone, who has been confirmed as having Covid-19 or are waiting for test results. (*The Archive cannot be a drop-in centre under the current Covid-19 regulations and we hope to be able to revert at a later stage.*)

The Keys to Unlocking Your Irish Family History

A Dublin based genealogist and online course creator, **Sandra Taylor**, recently contacted the Society regarding a free research guide that she produced.

Sandra wrote: "I have been researching my own family history for more years and late nights than I care to remember. In the early days, I found it frustrating trying to understand what records are available, where they are available and the key to getting access to them.

If you have had similar experiences to me in this area, maybe I can help. I have created a new eBook to assist you in your research and reduce your stress levels!

My free eBook '*The Keys to Unlocking Your Irish Family History*' provides you with useful tips and resources to help with your research.

It doesn't matter if you are a novice or have been researching your family history for a while, this eBook will point you in the right direction.

You can get access to this free eBook by going to www.youririshfamilyhistory.com and fill in your details in the pop-up box and the eBook will be automatically emailed to you."

FOUR COURTS PRESS

Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more. Checkout the 2020 catalogue and the wonderful special offers at www.fourcourtspress.ie

MOBILE PHONE DEALS FOR MEMBERS

The Board agreed a new mobile phone deal for GSI members similar to the one that brought considerable savings on phones and calls in the past.

This offer is Sim only for First Time Customers: €20 per month inc vat. ☺ 300 off net local ,national and domestic calls. ☺ 300 off net texts. ☺ Unlimited Data. ☺ Unlimited Three to Three Talk & Text.

Are you more of a talker and texter then this is the plan for you: €28.91 per month inc vat. ☺ Unlimited calls to any network in ROI ☺ Unlimited calls to all landlines in ROI ☺ Unlimited Texts to any network in ROI ☺ 100 international minutes & 100 international texts ☺ 13GB of mobile data of which up to 11Gb can be used within the EU for data roaming. ☺ Smart Phones at subsidised rates. ☺ 24 month Contract

Are you more of a data/internet user, then this is the plan for you: €27 per month inc vat. ☺ Unlimited Three/Three calls in ROI ☺ Unlimited Three/Three texts in ROI ☺ 300 Minutes for off net mobile calls including domestic/national landlines in ROI ☺ 300 Texts to off net Irish mobiles. ☺ Unlimited mobile data of which up to 8GB's can be used within the EU for data roaming. ☺ Smart Phones at subsidised rates. ☺ 24 month Contract.

Do you need unlimited national usage for talk text

and data then this is the plan for you: €40.50 per month inc vat. ☺ Unlimited calls to any network in ROI ☺ Unlimited calls to all landlines in ROI ☺ Unlimited Texts to any network in ROI ☺ Unlimited mobile data of which up to 15GB's can be used within the EU for data roaming. ☺ Smart Phones at subsidised rates. ☺ 24 month Contract. Call today to discuss the best plan for you. Ph: 01 6876021 or email Conor.Spencer@threegovstaff.com

DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY

This Society is funded largely by its Membership Fees and the kind donations received from Members and friends at home and overseas.



The Society is a Registered Charity in Ireland and always considers options for fund raising and grant applications.

The possibility of crowdfunding for specific projects is being considered. However, in the meantime it was decided to appeal to our Members and friends. Donations can be made on-line via the Society's website or by cheque payable to the *Genealogical Society of Ireland* and forwarded to the General Secretary at: **11, Desmond Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland, A96 AD76.**

The Board would like to sincerely thank the Members and friends of the Society who have already donated.

IRISH DNA ATLAS

The public interest in Genetic Genealogy and the potential of DNA research to unlock the past has been boosted by a new television series. '*DNA Cailte*' (*The Lost DNA*) is a dynamic new science / history series produced by *Tile Films Limited* for *TG4* (Irish language TV station) is presented by **Manchán Magan**. Episode 1 premiered on TG4 on Wednesday 2nd September 2020 with Episodes 2 and 3 to follow on 9th and 16th September 2020.

This is an ideal opportunity to, once again, highlight the *Irish DNA Atlas project*. This is a collaborative academic project under the direction of **Prof. Gianpiero Cavalleri** and **Dr. Edmund Gilbert** of the *Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland*, in conjunction with **Séamus O'Reilly**, **Michael Merrigan** and **Dr. Darren McGettigan** from this Society.

The main objectives of the project are (1) to further our understanding of the population history of Ireland, and (2) to help us understand how genes influence disease within Ireland. Interested in participating?

Contact **Séamus O'Reilly**, FGSI by e-mail on Irish.dna@familyhistory.ie

In Brief....

GSI MEMBERSHIP

Join 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.

IDEAL GIFT IDEAS

Genealogists and local historians love books! So if you have a 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

MONTHLY LECTURE PROGRAMME

Due to the restrictions imposed by the Irish government during the COVID-19 pandemic the Society's Open Meeting schedule has been suspended until further notice.

CHECKOUT our YouTube Channel for past lectures. www.youtube.com

SEPTEMBER LECTURE PROGRAMME

James Scannell advises that due to the measures announced by the Government to prevent the spread of Covid-19 by restricting public meetings and gatherings, the introduction of social distancing, and the closing of schools, colleges, museums and galleries, all lectures and meetings of local history societies have been cancelled and will not resume until permitted to do so.

Some museums and galleries have reopened, however, prior booking is generally required. Check the websites of the institutions for further information.

PARKING AT DFEI

Car-parking facilities at *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



www.eneclann.ie



Some of the Archival Collections in An Daonchartlann, Loughlinstown. (Photo: Tom Conlon)

James Scannell Reports...

MUSEUMS OPEN

The **National Gallery of Ireland**, Clare Street, Dublin 2, is to the public subject to a number of entry requirements. Full details can be found on the National Gallery's website.

The **Museum of Decorative Arts and History**, Collins Barracks, Benburb Street, Dublin 7, and the Museum of Country Life, Turlough Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, are also open with controlled admission.

Also open are the **Museum of Archaeology**, Kildare Street, Dublin 2, and the **Museum of Natural History**, Merrion Street, Dublin 2, but admission to these museums is by advance booking only which can be made through the website of the **National Museum of Ireland**.

Another museum open is the **National Maritime Museum of Ireland**, Haigh Terrace, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, but are number of changes to its operation and details can be viewed on its website.

Also open on a ticketed /appointment basis are the following services in the **National Library of Ireland**, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 - Reading Services for registered Readers in the Main Reading Room and Microfilm Room; Reading Services for registered Readers in the Manuscripts Reading Room; Family history research spaces for registered readers in the Family History Room; Visits to the Seamus Heaney Exhibition; Listen Now Again Exhibition; Visits to Yeats: The Life and Work of William Butler Yeats. Further information from the National Library of Ireland website.

DUBLIN FESTIVAL OF HISTORY 2020

Dublin Festival of History 2020, which runs from 11 September 11th to 04 October will consist of online talks, guided walks and events, subject to public health guidelines. The programme is available on the festival's website - www.dublinfestivalofhistory.ie.

PUBLICATIONS

'*The Fallen - Gardaí Killed in Service 1922 - 1949*' by **Colm Wallace**, published by The History Press Ireland.

In 1922 the Government established the Civic Guard which later became An Garda Síochána to replace the R.I.C. as a national police force. As an unarmed police force some members took up duty while the Civil War was in progress and once this tragic conflict was over continued to take duty in various parts of Ireland which were still unsettled where some the population was still suspicious of law and order after centuries of forceful policing by the British.

One key decision taken by Government was that the force would uphold the law with the consent of the people and that it would be unarmed. This brave decision may have been popular with ordinary men and women but it left members vulnerable to attack and to murder.

The first garda killed in the line of duty was Garda Henry Phelan who was shot dead in Mullinohone in November 1922 in an attack suspected to have been carried out by republicans. No other garda was killed during the Civil War and once republicans realized that attacks on garda were unpopular with the general population, an order was issued a month after his death that no further attacks were to be mounted against unarmed members of the force. In 1924 two men were arrested and charged with his murder but there was insufficient evidence for conviction and the two accused were subsequently released.

Gardaí who lost their lives between 1922 and 1949 featured in this book include - Garda Henry Phelan,

Sergeant James Woods, Garda Patrick O'Halloran, Detective Arthur Nolan, Sergeant Thomas Griffin & Garda John Murrin, Garda Thomas Dowling, Sergeant James Fitzsimons and Garda Hugh Ward, Detective Timothy O'Sullivan, Superintendent John Curtin, Detective Patrick McGeehan, Detective John Roche, Detective Richard Hyland & Detective Sergeant Patrick McKeown, Detective Sergeant Denis O'Brien, Detective Michael Walsh, Detective George Mordaunt, Garda Denis Harrington, Garda James Byrne, and Chief Superintendent Seán Gantly.

The death of each garda is the subject of an individual chapter in which the author provides a history of the individual featured, the circumstances of his death, the subsequent investigation, the trial of the suspect(s) and outcome.

In addition to losing their lives in random post civil incidents, Garda Patrick O'Halloran was killed in 1924 in Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow, during a bank robbery by two armed men, one of whom, Felix McMullen, was hanged for his murder while his accomplice Peter Jordan was found not guilty of murder but was sentenced to ten year's penal servitude for armed robbery.

1924 also saw the death of Detective Garda Arthur Nolan who died from the result of injuries received in Pearse Street, Garda Station, Dublin, following an attack by a mentally disturbed person who was later ordered to be detained in a mental asylum; and the shooting in Cregg, Co. Tipperary of Sergeant Thomas Griffin and Garda John Murrin, by an individual who although identified was never apprehended.

1926 saw the deaths of Garda Sergeant James Fitzsimons and Garda Hugh Ward during raids by armed men on two garda stations; in 1929 Detective Garda Timothy O'Sullivan was killed by an improvised explosive device while in 1931 Superintendent John Curtin was killed outside his home in a targeted attack.

During the "Emergency" several members of the force, mainly detectives, were killed during operations against the I.R.A. though in 1942 Detective Sergeant Denis O'Brien was killed in a targeted attack by the I.R.A.

Other cases included in this book include two incidents where members of the force killed a colleague, a murder-suicide in one case and murder in the other due to animosity between the two individuals concerned, and a friendly fire incident in 1949 when Chief Superintendent Sean Gantly was accident shot dead by a colleague during an operation to find a wanted criminal. Sadly for nearly 60 years the Garda authorities refused to add his name to the 'Roll of Honour' as they refused to recognise that he had died in the line of duty, finally adding his name to it in 2008 and presenting his family with the special medal that is awarded to the family of a garda killed in the line of duty.

This is an excellent book dealing with a specific aspect of the history of An Garda Síochána which is not mentioned in other books dealing with the history of the force and a welcome addition to these previously published books. An essential acquisition for anyone interested in Irish history and law and order in Ireland. **James Scannell**

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 **FIFTH** edition of '*Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*'. Please checkout the website www.gillmacmillan.com Price €24.99 [RRP].

English-Irish Dictionary : Foclóir Béarla-Gaeilge

The overwhelming majority of the Irish people, and the Irish diaspora, had ancestors who spoke Irish and indeed, as you go back through the centuries, this includes almost all of your ancestors. The seventeenth-century plantations brought the English and Scots languages to parts of the province of Ulster, however, the newcomers also included Scottish Gaelic speakers and Scots whose ancestral language was Gaelic. Although these new settlers were predominantly Presbyterian, communities of Irish speaking protestants existed throughout parts of Ulster until the early nineteenth-century. Two excellent works are recommended for those wishing to explore the subject—*'Presbyterians and the Irish Language'* by **Roger Blaney** (Ulster Historical Foundation / Ultach, reprint 2012) and *'Towards Inclusion—Protestants and the Irish Language'* by **Ian Malcolm** (Blackstaff Press / Ultach, 2009).



Many of us remember the maps showing the relentless push of the English language westward across Ireland which accelerated following the devastation of the Great Famine (1845-50), well more recent research has shown how the Irish language lingered on in areas well into the twentieth century, in some case. Two books are recommended reading on this subject - *'An Irish-Speaking Island—State, Religion, Community and the Linguistic Landscape in Ireland, 1770-1870'* by **Nicholas M. Wolfe** (University of Wisconsin Press, 2014) and *'Irish Speakers, Interpreters and the Courts, 1754-1921'* by **Mary Phelan** (Four Courts Press, 2019).

The Irish language is undoubtedly a very important part of our heritage and culture, no matter if we can speak it well or at all, it is an important part of our identity as a people. However, learning the language in Irish schools was not always a pleasant experience with its concentration on grammar and its use of literature that did not resonate with students. Thankfully, teaching methods and the public attitude towards the language have changed considerably with all-Irish schools one of the fastest growing educational sectors.

When it comes to school books, most of us of a particular vintage will remember the rather austere looking *'English-Irish Dictionary'* edited by **Dr Tomás de Bhaldraithe** and published by the Stationery Office (Oifig an tSoláthair), Dublin, in 1959. Each Irish secondary school (high school) student was required to obtain a copy of this 864 page hardback dictionary. Although several short or 'pocket-sized' dictionaries, both *'English-Irish'* and *'Irish-English'*, were published from the 1980s onwards, de Bhaldraithe's monumental work remained as the most comprehensive *'English-Irish Dictionary'* that was available in print until last month.

An electronic *'English-Irish Dictionary'* was made available by **Foras na Gaeilge** since 2013—see www.foclóir.ie, however, the need for a printed version was evident from the start of the work over a decade ago. This project to produce an online resource enabled the capturing of the data from previous printed dictionaries published from the foundation of the State, including those edited by **Rev. Patrick S. Dineen** (1927) and **L. Mac Cionnaith** (1935), the latter was the most comprehensive 'English-Irish Dictionary' published before 1959. The 1,309 page *'Irish-English Dictionary—Foclóir Gaeilge-Béarla'* edited by **Niall Ó Dónaill** and published by the Stationery Office in 1977, was the most important one published since Dineen (1927).

Now the new *'Concise English-Irish Dictionary—Foclóir Béarla-Gaeilge'* edited by **Pádraig Ó Mianáin** (ISBN: 9781857910247 : Price €30.00 : H/bk : 1,776 pp) is now available from *An Siopa Leabhar*. It has more than 30,000 'headwords'; more than 85,000 senses; more than 200,000 phrases and sentences in Irish, thousands of new technical terms etc.; a style and grammar supplement and, most importantly, it has a very user-friendly layout. For copies see: www.siopaleabhar.com **MM**



Checkout the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie

AN DAONCHARTLANN IN LOUGHLINSTOWN

Travel Information for visitors to the An Daonchartlann, Loughlinstown Leisure Centre, Loughlinstown Drive, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin, A96 XP60.

DART & DUBLIN BUS—Dún Laoghaire DART Station—Bus 111 & 7A from Crofton Road, Bus Stop no. 2036 to Loughlinstown Park, Bus Stop no. 3222

LUAS & DUBLIN BUS—Bride's Glen (Green Line) - Bus 111 from outside the Luas station, Bus Stop no. 7639 to Loughlinstown Park, Bus Stop no. 3222

DUBLIN BUS from City Centre—O'Connell Bridge, Bus Stop no. 273 or Nassau Street, Bus Stop no. 405—Bus 7A to Loughlinstown Park, Bus stop no. 3222

DRIVING—From the **M50** - at Junction 16 follow the signs for Loughlinstown. Straight on through Cherrywood and over the N11 flyover. **Signposted** at the second traffic lights beyond the flyover on Wyattville Road turn right into Loughlinstown Drive. Follow this twisty road for about 1km to Loughlinstown Leisure Centre (very large buildings on right). GSI is behind these buildings. **From N11 southwards** - after Cabinteely junction, and Topaz garage move to left lane and exit left to Wyattville Road. At the second traffic lights on Wyattville Road, turn right into Loughlinstown Drive and follow as above. Checkout www.dlrleisure.ie/Loughlinstown

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Although the Board agreed on **Thursday July 16th 2020** to adopt an additional Standing Order to facilitate the holding of **incorporeal meetings** of the Board (**Res: 20/07/1511 & SO.14**), in line with previous years no meeting was scheduled for August.

The Cathaoirleach considered hosting the first incorporeal meeting this month, however, as a number of the Directors wanted a "trial run" of the **Zoom** facility before hosting a formal meeting, it was decided to work on this and host the next meeting in October.

The increase in the numbers of **COVID-19** cases in Ireland over the past few weeks is extremely worrying and more stringent measures may yet be taken by government to slow down community spread.

In the meantime, the continued suspension of all of our **Open Meetings** is determined by the venues and the current public health advice based on the **COVID-19** guidelines issued by government.

The Society's **Archive & Research Centre** at **DLR Leisure Centre**, Loughlinstown, was made safe for reopening and did so on August 5th albeit by appointment only. The Society has installed protective clear shields between each workstation, provided hand sanitation gels, gloves and a supply of masks for the use of volunteers and visitors.

The facility is **OPEN** on **WEDNESDAYS** at 10.00hrs to 16.00hrs with strict adherence to the regulations (see page 2) required for all Members and visitors with a prior booking necessary.

The index to this newsletter compiled by the late **Brendan Hall** up to 2016 was updated, including the re-indexing of the 2015 and 2016 issues as the original Excel file was not accessible. The index now includes all issues of this newsletter from 2006 up to date. The previous newsletter from 1996 to 2005 is also indexed.

The **Director of Web Services & Publications** developed a search facility for the index to this newsletter which, of course, was named the **"Hall's Index"** in honour of our good friend Brendan who died in 2017. This facility allows quick access to thousands of articles, reports on lectures and other items with a direct link to the issue of the newsletter.

Shane Wilson, **MGSI**, is putting the final touches to the new website, eliminating some glitches, ensuring all the various features and internal links work, including the integration of social media platforms, like a Twitter feed. Shane hopes to have the website go 'live' in the near future and then hopefully members will give us feedback on it. **General Secretary**

IRELAND'S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE

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Genealogical Society of Ireland
Company Limited by Guarantee
11, Desmond Avenue,
Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin,
A96 AD76, Ireland

E-mail: GAZETTE@familyhistory.ie

Charity Ref: CHY 10672 : CRO: 334884

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

Board of Directors (2020-21)

Gerry Hayden (Cathaoirleach : Chairperson);
James Walsh* (Leas-Chathaoirleach : Vice-Chairperson & Open Meetings Convener);
Michael Merrigan (General Secretary, Company Secretary, 'Gazette' Editor, RF:- Oifigeach na Gaeilge, Vexillological & Heraldic Services, & Irish DNA Atlas); **Lua Ó Scolaí** (Finance & pro-tem ADF, Philanthropy); **Gerard White** (Archival Services & Education); **Eddie Gahan** (Outreach); **Shane Wilson** (Publications & Website, Public Relations & Diaspora Outreach); **Barry O'Connor** (Membership Services & Cemetery Projects); **Séamus Moriarty** (Building & Utilities, Health & Safety Officer, COVID-19 Officer). [RF = Reporting function]

(Journal Editor & Video Production—**Tom Conlon** as a non-executive officer as and from 06.02.2020 under Res; 20/02/1490) . *CRO registration TBA.

Board limited to ten Members with a quorum of six.

"HALL'S INDEX"

The "Gazette" is Ireland's longest running monthly genealogical newsletter and it is read by thousands each month around the world. The past issues of the Society's newsletter from 1996 to 2016 had been fully indexed by the late **Brendan Hall**, **MGSI**. The "Hall's Index" now includes all issues right up to date and is available 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)

GENEALOGY HELP CENTRE

An Daonchartlann, the Society's Archive and Research Centre is located at the **DLR Leisure Centre, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin**.

The facility will be open each Wednesday from 10.00hrs to 16.00hrs with prior booking.

The use of our extensive archival resources is reserved for fully paid-up GSI members, however, day research membership is always available on request.

