



Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating “The Genie Gazette”)

Vol. 16 No. 3

www.familyhistory.ie

Márta : Kovas : March 2021

Twentieth Anniversary of Grant of Arms

Twenty years ago on March 15th 2001, the Chief Herald of Ireland, Mr. Brendan O'Donoghue, signed the Letters Patent granting Arms, Heraldic Banner and Heraldic Badge to the Genealogical Society of Ireland.

The Society was the first genealogical organisation, other than the Office of Arms itself, to be granted Arms—a milestone for Irish genealogy. This was in keeping with the Society's promotion of genealogy and heraldry as part of the cultural heritage of the people of Ireland and of her global diaspora.



The Letters Patent confirming the Grant of Arms was formally presented to the Society at a civic reception held at the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Hall on July 23rd 2001 hosted by the County Council. This was a very formal event with the Arms ceremoniously carried into the Assembly Hall preceded by a piper and a Colour Party of the Irish Army Reserve.

The Chief Herald of Ireland, Mr. Brendan O'Donoghue, (above, centre) presented the Arms to the then Cathaoirleach of the Society, **Rory Stanley, FGSI**, in the presence of the then Cathaoirleach of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, Cllr. **Betty Coffey**. This was the first heraldic event held in the

County Hall in Dún Laoghaire and it was very appropriate because the following year, 2002, marked the 450th anniversary of the foundation of the Irish heraldic authority by King Edward VI in 1552.

In the autumn of 2002, the State hosted the **XXVth International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences** in Dublin Castle from 16th - 21st September 2002. The theme of the event marking this important anniversary was ‘*Genealogy and Heraldry: their place and practice in changing times*’.

The Society's new Grant of Arms was on display at the heraldic exhibition hosted by the Office of the Chief Herald of Ireland and the **National Library of Ireland** during this international congress.

The symbolism in the Arms designed by **Micheál Ó Comáin**, (below, left) Consulting Herald at the Office of the Chief Herald, and beautifully painted by the Donegal based heraldic artist, **Philip Mackey**, brought together many elements of the Society's history, association with its first President **Denis O'Conor Don** and, of course, its objectives



So as we mark the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Letters Patent for the Grant of Arms this month, we will convene our thirtieth Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 9th March 2021—*another milestone!*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 30th Annual General Meeting of the Genealogical Society of Ireland will be held on **Tuesday 9th March 2021** at **20.00hrs UTC** (Irish Time) as an incorporation meeting due to the Irish Government's Covid-19 restrictions. All Members will receive an email with the access details.



The guest speaker at the AGM is **Cauvery Madhavan** on the research undertaken to write her best selling and much acclaimed novel '*The Tainted*' and especially, on the Irish serving in India under the British Raj. For further information on this wonderful book, please see: www.cauverymadhavan.com

OPEN MEETINGS

Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute ([but for now via Zoom](#)) Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire

Tuesday 9 March 2021 AGM (Zoom) —20.00hrs

Tuesday 13 April 2021 (Zoom)—20.00hrs

Royal Marine Hotel ([now Zoom](#)) Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire

Wednesday 24 March (Zoom) —11.00hrs

Wednesday 28 April (Zoom)—11.00hrs

Contribution €5.00 p.p.

(Donations via www.familyhistory.ie)

- 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.

INAR—MEMBERSHIP

The Board on Thursday 4th March 2021 unanimously agreed by **Res: 21/03/1561** that the Society apply for membership of the **INAR - Irish Network Against Racism**. The General Secretary has lodged the application with INAR. For further information see: www.inar.ie

In this issue.....

- GSI on Social Media
- JGSI 2021 Select Committ
- Board's Annual Report
- Summer Reading List
- Mobile Phone Deals
- Open Meetings up to June
- James Scannell Reports..
- Fellows of the Society
- Précis of January Lecture
- GSI Board News / Updates
- GSI Board Members



Monthly Newsletter of the Genealogical Society of Ireland

GSI ON SOCIAL MEDIA

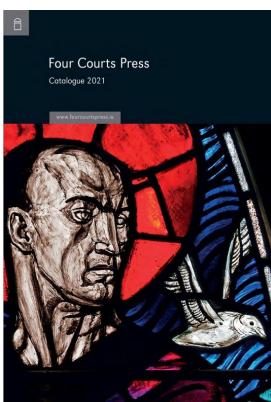
The Society's social media platforms continue to attract reasonably large numbers of visitors, however, we would dearly like to expand our presence on social media and you can help. Please visit our **Facebook** page, our **Twitter** account, our new **Instagram** account or indeed, our totally revamped YouTube channel and, of course, **LIKE** and **SHARE**.

Please go to the **Society's YouTube** channel—www.youtube.com/c/genealogicalsocietyofirelandGSI and you will find the links to our other social media platforms in the top right of the banner. By the way, the videos of the lectures are simply excellent. Checkout the Playlist too. **Enjoy!**

Please Stay Safe—We'll Stay Connected via Zoom & Teams

Need Suggestions for a Summer Reading List?

Since its foundation in 1990, this Society has supported and promoted Irish publishing houses, authors and academic researchers. We have continued to promote such publications throughout this pandemic and hopefully, given that many of us have had more time to read than we originally planned, we hope that, top of each reading list, were Irish authors and their works. Please continue to support Irish publishers and bookstores online.



The eagerly awaited 2021 catalogue from **Four Courts Press** was published recently and, once again, it lists many works of interest to the genealogist and local historian set to be published over the coming months. Publishing houses like Four Courts Press provide an enormously important service to Irish academic research and especially, in the fields of history, culture, genealogy and local studies. These subjects normally don't attract a sizeable general readership and therefore, the publication of such research work is difficult for many scholars. Four Courts Press has been a lifeline for independent scholars in Ireland since its foundation just over fifty years ago.

The existence of Irish publishing houses such as Four Courts Press has ensured that such wonderful resources like the '**Maynooth Studies in Local History**' series continues to be published to the enormous benefit of genealogists and local historians. Five more volumes in this series are due out this summer bringing the total number published to 153 volumes. The series editor, **Professor Raymond Gillespie**, could rightly be considered as the "father of academic local studies in Ireland" as the contribution made by this series to our awareness, appreciation and knowledge of the immense value of local history is hugely important to our understanding of our own family history and our ancestral communities.

Many believe that local history studies and indeed, genealogy, can be gateways to more specialised historical research and, in many cases, to further education at a number of levels in Ireland. Indeed, this 2021 catalogue covers Medieval Studies, Irish Legal History Society Series, Early Modern Studies, Dublin City Council Series, Science, Local History, Modern Studies, 20th Century Studies (including the county series on the War of Independence), Music, Folklore and the '*Making of Dublin City*' series. So when you're compiling your Summer Reading List, checkout www.fourcourtspress.ie

FOUR COURTS PRESS

Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more. Checkout the 2021 online 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

JGSI 2021 PUBLICATION TEAM

Soon after the AGM, the Director of Internet Services & Publications, **Shane Wilson, MGSI**, will convene a meeting of the Select Committee established under **Res: 21/01/1541** tasked with seeking, collecting and collating suitable items for publication in the **Society's Annual Journal** which will be published in a digital format.

GSI Members are encouraged to contribute items for publication. Articles on specific research, particular resources, family histories or, indeed, photographs of the Society's activities over the past thirty years for a photomontage. Please e-mail your items for publication to JGSI2021@familyhistory.ie **Thank You!**

Annual Report of GSI Board

The following is the Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Genealogical Society of Ireland CLG adopted by the Board at its meeting of March 4th 2021 under **Res: 21/03/1565**

As usual the Annual Report covers the period from AGM to AGM, however, the Annual Financial Report is for P.E. 31.12.2020.

This was a very challenging year with the Covid-19 restrictions and, although, the Board made provision at its March 2020 meeting for the possibility of introductions of restrictions on physical meetings, these provisions related to administrative matters, including payments etc. Details of these provisions were published in the March 2020 issue of the '*Gazette*'.

The severity of the lockdown was not anticipated when these provisions were adopted, however, they facilitated the smooth day-to-day administration of the Society during the periods when physical meetings of the Board were not permitted.

The Board elected at the AGM in 2020 had its first physical meeting on July 16th 2020 where the Directors signed the '*Director's Code of Conduct*' and the various portfolios were allocated and new provisions in Standing Orders adopted to permit incorporeal meetings of the Board. These were published in the August 2020 issue of the '*Gazette*'.

The Board of the Society met once physically and six times incorporeally during the year to deal with the day-to-day business of the Society. In addition to attending these meetings each of the directors undertook duties associated with their various portfolios.

The Open Meeting schedule was completely upended by the Covid-19 restrictions, however, the Society organised two Morning Open Meetings and two Evening Open Meetings using the Zoom technology, the latter lecture presentations. These monthly lectures uploaded to the Society's YouTube channel and social media.

In addition to the Annual Journal which was published, for the first time, in electronic format this month, the Society published twelve issues of its newsletter '*Ireland's Genealogical Gazette*' and its readership figures continued to be very strong throughout the year especially on-line where it was available in pdf format.

The Society's Archives and Research Centre – An Daonchartann – at the DLR Leisure Centre at Loughlinstown was closed for most of the year due to the Covid-19 restrictions, however, the Society did make all of the necessary structural changes to permit the safe use of the facility.

The Society's is very grateful to Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council for the level of grant aid provided to the Society to assist with running costs.

The Society continues to campaign for the establishment of an 'Irish Institute of Genealogical and Heraldic Studies – incorporating a Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies' in Dún Laoghaire and the Society will continue to work with the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council on this proposal.

The Society's Outreach Policy was suspended due to the cancellation of events throughout the country due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

On legislative matters, the Society continued to work for the release of the 1926 Census of Ireland through the amendment of the *Statistics Act, 1993*. The Society also redoubled its endeavours to have section 13 of the *National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997* amended to regularise the position of heraldic grants made in Ireland prior to May 2005.

The Society's two branches, Vexillology Ireland and Heraldry Ireland, continue to deal with these specific aspects of the Society's many and varied activities. The Society is Ireland's only member of FIAV – the International Federation of Vexillological Associations.

The Society launched its newly designed website with an integration with its social media platforms. The Facebook page and Twitter account continue to be valuable components in the promotion of the activities of the Society, its legislative campaigns and Irish genealogy in general. The Irish DNA Atlas Project, operated in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, continues to provide very exciting and ground-breaking data from this unique academic genetic genealogy research project was welcomed by genealogists, geneticists, historians and others from around the world.

Continued on page 4

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.

MARCH LECTURES

James Scannell that due to current Government restrictions on public meetings, indoor gatherings and non-essential travel as a public health measure to prevent the spread of Covid-19, the following events are being held online or via Zoom - donation/charge may apply. Check the websites of the societies or institutions for further information.

GSI MONTHLY OPEN MEETINGS

Due to the restrictions imposed by the Irish government during the COVID-19 pandemic the Society's Open Meetings are now held virtually. CHECKOUT our YouTube Channel for past lectures. www.youtube.com

Tuesday March 9th—Annual General Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) - Speaker: Cauvery Madhavan, author of '*The Tainted*' on her research into the Irish in India.

AGM AGENDA

1. Registration of Attendees
2. Appointment of Electronic Controllers
3. Minutes of the 2020 AGM
4. Matters Arising
5. Annual Report of the GSI Board
6. Annual Financial Report
7. AGM Resolution—Fixed Terms of Office
8. Election of Board for 2021-2022
9. Guest Speaker & Q+A
10. Close of Meeting

Wednesday March 24th—Morning Open Meeting—11.00hrs (Zoom)—Informal general discussion on family history and related matters.

Tuesday April 13th—Evening Open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) Gerard Corcoran, MGSI, on "I got my DNA results, what next?"

Wednesday April 28th—Morning Open Meeting—11.00hrs (Zoom)—Informal general discussion on family history and related matters.

Tuesday May 11th—Evening open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) — provisionally MyHeritage.com (speaker TBA).

Wednesday May 26th—Morning Open Meeting 11.00hrs (Zoom) - Informal general discussion on family history and related matters.

Tuesday 8th June—Evening Open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) James Scannell on 'Published local history—a much overlooked resource for the genealogist?'

Wednesday June 23rd—Morning Open Meeting 11.00hrs (Zoom) - Informal general discussion on family history and related matters.

ZOOM MEETINGS

The Membership Director, Barry O'Connor, **FGSI**, will email Members to log in to **Zoom** for the two Open Meetings listed above.

The lectures are open to the public and the access details are available on request by email from Membership@Familyhistory.ie

Members may send their research queries in advance for the Morning Open Meeting by email to Archivist@familyhistory.ie



www.eneclann.ie



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

James Scannell Reports...

FOXROCK LOCAL HISTORY CLUB

Myles Reid will recall '*Walled Gardens in our area /Foxrock in the past*' at 20.00hrs on Tuesday 09 March. Maurice Manning will speak about '*Eoin O'Duffy*' at 20.00hrs on Tuesday 16 March and Joe Glynn will give a short talk on '*Irish Teachers in Africa - a personal experience*' at 20.00hrs on Tuesday 13 April. Access details for these talks via info@foxrocklocalhistory.ie.

THE OLD DUBLIN SOCIETY

Pól Ó Duibhir will present '*No Blood on the Ceiling: the Story of Edward Ball*' at 19.30hrs on 10 March - members only. Declan Brady will present '*Voters and Politicians: Elections and Local Government in North Dublin during the lifetime of the Rural District Council, 1898-1925*' at 19.30hrs on Wednesday 24 March - members only.

MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY

Dr. Pat McCarty will present '*Hero or Humbug? The military career of Brigadier General Thomas Francis Meagher*' at 20.00hrs on Friday 19 March. Access via admin@mhs.ie.

RATHMINES, RANELAGH & RATHGAR

Peadar Curran will present '*Mary Mulligan, Neighbour to Countess Markievicz*' at 19.00hrs on Thursday 25 March - members only.

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL

Professor Paula Murphy will speak on '*Public Sculpture in Dublin: The Commission*' at 13.00hrs on Friday 26 March - register via sculpturedublin.ie.

MOUNT MERRION HIST SOC

Séamus Cannon will present '*Ulysses at 100 - The Characters in Dean's Grange Cemetery*' at 20.00hrs on Thursday 01 April - members only.

RATHMICHAEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Claire Walsh will reveal '*Excavations at Newmarket and Millstreet*' at 20.00hrs Weds 7 April details: www.rathmichaelhistoricalsociety.ie.

PUBLICATIONS

'*Police Casualties in Ireland 1919-1922*' by Richard Abbott, published by Mercier Press, Ireland oldest independent publishing house, P/b, 448 pages, ISBN 978 1 78117 634 4

This is a revised and updated version of this essential reference book for those interested in this aspect of the War of Independence first published in 2000 by Mercier Press which now contains additional information on many the incidents and personnel featured in the original edition based on the release of previously unavailable records and files over the past 20 years. For this new version the author has now revised the number of police deaths of 493 cited in the 2000 edition to 502 deaths to members of the Royal Irish Constabulary, the Dublin Metropolitan Police, the Royal Irish Constabulary Special Reserve better known as the Black and Tans, and the Auxiliary Division Royal Irish Constabulary better known as the Auxiliaries.

The book opens on January 21st 1919 with the opening shots in the military campaign of the War of Independence being fired at Solheadbeg, Co. Tipperary, during which two members of the Royal Irish Constabulary, Constable James McConnell, and Constable Patrick O'Connell, were killed while escorting a quantity of gelignite for use at a local quarry by a party of nine Irish Volunteers of the South Tipperary Brigade in an operation planned and led by Dan Breen (brigade quartermaster) to seize it without any consultation or approval of the Irish Volunteers General Headquarters

staff in Dublin. This was the same day that the first sitting of Dáil Éireann took place in Dublin's Mansion House and both these events resulted in the Dublin Castle administration quickly proclaiming Dáil Éireann as an illegal organisation with both competing government organisations then embarking on a struggle for control of the country against a background of increasing violence. Attacks on the Royal Irish Constabulary and the Dublin Metropolitan Police continued throughout 1919 and as attacks on both forces increased throughout 1920, the numbers joining the Royal Irish Constabulary declined sharply so the British government responded by creating the Royal Irish Constabulary Special Reserve, more generally known as the Blacks and Tans, who arrived in Ireland in April and May 1920 and quickly gained a reputation for lawlessness and violence against the civilian population followed in July that year by the deployment of an additional new force, the Auxiliary Division Royal Irish Constabulary or Auxiliaries, consisting of unemployed ex-British army officers to confront the activities of the I.R.A. Unlike the Black and Tans based mainly in police barracks, the Auxiliaries were the first counter-insurgency force created by the British, highly mobile and well equipped, and whose members gave no quarter and expected none in return. Many republican commanders considered them more ruthless, dangerous, and intelligent than other branches of the Crown security forces.

In addition to being attacked at any time, members of Royal Irish Constabulary were subjected to boycotts and ostracism in many communities where they served. Within Dublin rank and file members of the Dublin Metropolitan Police knew that they would not be attacked provided that they did not interfere or take part in operations against Sinn Féin or the I.R.A. resulting in many members deciding to look the other way or not investigate too closely with those detectives who did not heed this warning liable to attack by Michael Collins' Squad which they were.

Each incident where a police fatality occurred is detailed by date, location, name and service number of those involved, the nature of the incident, length of service and where buried. Also provided is an Alphabetical List of Men killed by Name, Rank, and Date Attacked. The author also make the point that there may have been other incidents which took place but were not reported and would welcome information on these.

The chapter 'Missing Men' contains a list of police officers reported missing or kidnapped (and presumed killed) using the latest information to-hand while 'Other Casualties' records police officers who died as the result of tragic accidents or mistakes but does not include those who died from natural causes. This is a fascinating and engrossing book on this particular subject and the author is to be complimented for the clarity of his text, the wealth of detail supported with additional information and is an essential reference work when looking at the numerous War of Independence incidents in which policemen were killed during the War of Independence and is a must-have reference book to have at one's side when reading other books about this period of our history or researching it.

James Scannell

Editor: Due to the requirement to publish the Annual Report of the GSI Board and other matters relating to the Annual General Meeting, certain items received have been held over for publication in next month's '*Gazette*'.

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].

PRÉCIS OF THE JANUARY LECTURE

The Society's first ever live online presentation was held on Tuesday 19th January 2021 at 20.00hrs featuring the Society's Director of Archival Services and Education, **Gerard White, MGSI**, delivering an illustrated lecture on '**How to Research your Irish Police Ancestors in Irish Police Forces Registers & Service Records**'.

The three Police Forces covered by the lecture were the **Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC), Dublin Metropolitan Police (DMP)** and the early members of **An Garda Síochána** or "Civic Guard" which was established 22 February 1922 by the new Irish Free State. Gerard commenced the lecture with a brief history of each of the forces and this was important as many are not familiar with the very distinct histories of each. Covering the various resources and books available to assist in one's research he wanted to cover how one might research members from the three forces using different sources in each case.

In researching a member of the Garda, Gerard's starting point was a statement made by one of the survivors following the bombing and sinking of the Irish Lights (Lighthouse Service) tender **SS Isolda** by a German aircraft on 19 December 1940 off the Saltee Islands Co. Wexford. The subject of his research was Garda Inspector Bernard Carr, (Service No. 3751), Wexford Garda Station. He took and witnessed statements and drawings from the survivors, prepared a report on the loss of the **SS Isolda** which he submitted to Garda HQ and in turn to Irish Army Military Intelligence "G2 Branch". Here Gerard obtained all of the necessary BMD Certificates, 1901 & 1911 Census Returns, Garda Register and newspaper cuttings so that he could track his career in the Garda.

Gerard then explained that he then took an RIC Member on the 1911 Irish Census listed only by his Initials at the RIC Barracks, Bray, Co. Wicklow and set about trying to find him in the RIC Service Register. He created a research template to assist him in this task. He explained that the same template can be used, if one was to start with the RIC Service Register and track the RIC member in the Census records. The research template methodology was of considerable interest and, indeed, something that a future lecture may explore.

For his next example, he took a photograph of an RIC member from a book of glass photographic plates which were created in Wexford in the late 1800's. The following records came into play in this case, RIC Service Register, RIC Pension Register, 1901 and 1911 Census records and all relevant BMD Certificates. What he wanted to show here was that one could just start their research with a name and a photograph and no other information. Gerard finished with details of his great-great grandfather, Patrick Lynam, (Service No. 1302), and his service in the DMP.

There was a limited amount of time in which to present the material set out above, but Gerard did give other examples of available resources which offer the best place to start your research into your police ancestors. With the huge interest in this topic, Gerard will certainly be requested to re-visit this subject at a future date, possibly for the centenary of the establishment of An Garda Síochána in February 2022.

This very informative lecture is now available to view, free of charge, on the YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/c/genealogicalsocietyofirelandGSI>. The précis of the February lecture (Gerard White & Shane Wilson on the GSI Online Resources) will be published next month.

Checkout the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie

GSI BOARD NEWS & AGM UPDATES

The Board at its meeting of **March 4th 2021** adopted the **Annual Report of the Board of Directors (Res: 21/03/1565—published on page 2); Annual Financial Report** for the period ending 31.12.2020 (**Res: 21/03/1566**); amended **Res: 21/02/1554** (see page 4 of the February issue) to allow for **electronic voting at the AGM (Res: 21/03/1567)** and appointed Shane Wilson, MGSI, as '**Meeting Electronic Controller**' and Barry O'Connor, FGSI, as '**Deputy Meeting Electronic Controller**' or '**Tellers**' for the AGM (**Res: 21/03/1568**).

The Board adopted **Res: 21/03/1558** to convene an incorporeal meeting of the **College of Fellows of the Society** to be chaired by the **Dean of the College, Mr. Stuart Rosenblatt, PC, FGSI, President of the Society**. The agenda will include: (1) Nominations for Fellowship; (2) Annual Award for Research Excellence; (3) Annual Award for Best Article in JGSI; (4) Criteria for Associate Fellowship and (5) any other matter determined by the Board.

The Board agreed (**Res: 21/03/1560**) to permit fully paid-up Members to display the Society's heraldic badge ("**Mungovan Badge**" - see top right of the masthead of this newsletter), not the Arms, on personal or professional stationery, including websites, with the words '**Member of the Genealogical Society of Ireland**' in English, Irish or any other language on the understanding that, in the event of lapsed membership, the displaying of the heraldic badge shall be discontinued. Members availing of this privilege, like with the use of the post-nominal "**MGSI**", shall desist from using such if requested, for whatever reason, to do so by the Director of Membership Services.

Annual Report of GSI Board—continued

Continued from page 2 -

The 2020 Annual General Meeting elected nine Directors to the Board. There were no resignations nor co-options in the past year. The maximum number of Directors permitted is ten.

The 2020 AGM was presented with an Annual Financial Report which was adopted by the Board and sent to the Society's auditor, however, the Audited Annual Financial Report was not yet received back from the auditor.

The AGM adopted the Annual Financial Report and when the audited accounts were received by the Board, they were submitted to the Companies Registration Office to meet its Annual Reporting Date (ARD).

This year the draft Annual Accounts were delivered to the Society's auditor in January, however, due to the disruption caused by Covid-19 we are unlikely to have the Audited Financial Report back in time for presentation at the Annual General Meeting on March 9th 2021.

In addition to the above, the outgoing Board dealt with matters relating to the Society's membership of the Federation of Family History Societies, The Wheel, DLR PPN and FIAV. The Board also com-

plied with its statutory obligations in respect of the **Companies Act, 2014, Register of Beneficial Ownership** (SI 110/2019), the **Charities Act, 2009**, the Charities Regulatory Authority, the EU GDPR and as a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann.

In December we very sadly lost our Vice-President, James Davidson, FGSI, and, indeed, just over a year previously, we had the passing of Vice-President, David, O Morchoe, they are both missed and fondly remembered by us all. RIP.

The year 2020 was the Society's thirtieth anniversary year, the Board requested that the Society's President, Mr. Stuart Rosenblatt, PC, FGSI, remain in office until the end of 2021 and he has very graciously agreed to do so.

The President appointed two new Fellows to mark his presidency, Ms. Fiona Fitzsimons, FGSI and Mr. Eddie Gahan, FGSI.

All in all, this was an extremely challenging year and our thoughts are with all those who were bereaved by the loss of family, friends or colleagues to the Covid-19 and we wish all those still struggling with this disease a speedy and full recovery.

Michael Merrigan, MA, FGSI, General Secretary

IRELAND'S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE

is published by the

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 : No: 20027551
Company Registration (CRO): 334884

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

Board of Directors (2020-2021)

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 Scoláí** (*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]

"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 of the "Gazette" at www.familyhistory.ie)

Editor: Apologies to **Gerard White, MGSI**, for the omission of the précis of the January lecture in last month's "Gazette". This was an unfortunate oversight on my part. It is published this month. **MM**

GENEALOGY HELP CENTRE

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

The facility will, **when Covid-19 restrictions permit**, be open each Wednesday from 10.00hrs to 14.30hrs 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.

