

ISSN 1393-3183

THE GENIE GAZETTE

Vol. 3. No. 11. November 1998

Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society
Monthly Newsletter

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JUST RUMOUR AT THE GRO ?

No clear decision has been made on the proposed price increase at the General Register Office in Dublin. Reports of a IRP25.00 day charge with lunch time opening cannot be confirmed. However, a 108% price increase is simply not on and the Minister for Health, Mr. Brian Cowen, TD should move to quash such rumours as they are damaging to the image of Ireland and Dublin's reputation as a research destination for Family Historians. No half hearted measures nor deals for frequent users will quell the anger of the vast majority of genealogists who view the GRO as a public service, publicly owned and maintained. Leave any frequent user deals to the supermarket chains. If the Registrar needs to cut costs at the GRO he should confine himself to the core functions of his office i.e. registration and certification. This would allow the transfer of archival material (over seventy years old) on microfilm to the National Archives or the National Library. The Directors of these institutions have a responsibility to provide access to material received. Free public access to the microfilm records of Births, Marriages and Deaths prior to 1928 in the National Archives, the National Library and regional archives throughout the country would permit the GRO to function effectively as a registration and certification service. Any suggestion that the public must wait for the completion of the computerisation project in Roscommon is totally unacceptable as is any proposal to provide a role for the Heritage Centres or Irish Genealogy Limited in the delivery of access to these records. Free public access is demanded !!

NATIONAL CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS ACT

The Society has requested that CIGO establish from the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands, Ms. Sile de Valera, TD the present state of implementation of the Act governing the National Library (& National Museum). What plans, if any, she has to implement the Act, what clauses have been implemented or what timetable, if any, she has to either implement the Act in full or bring forward amendments to this important piece of legislation. The Act contains much of importance to genealogists, including, the Genealogical Office, Chief Herald and a proposed Advisory Committee on Genealogy. The Minister's reply will be published in "The Genie Gazette"

NEW CHARGES AT GRO IN BELFAST

From the 1st Nov. 1998 the following charges will be applied:- Full Cert. UKP7.00: Short Cert: UKP7.00: Priority Cert: UKP10.00 extra: Search Only: UKP3.00 for 5 year period: Index Search of BDM for 6 hours UKP6.00 and Assisted Search by GRO staff UKP15.00 per hour.

NORTH OF IRELAND VICE-CHAIR PRESIDES

In yet, another sign of the growing co-operation between this Society and our friends in the North, the Vice-Chair of the North of Ireland Family History Society, **Mr. James Davidson**, presided, in place of our President, **H.E. O Conor Don**, at the Annual General Meeting of this Society on October 13th 1998. The AGM elected the following officers for 1998/9 - Cathaoirleach: **Rory Stanley**; Leas-Chathaoirleach: **Seamus Moriarty**; Hon. Secretary: **Michael Merrigan** and Public Relations Officer: **Heather Jeffery**. The position of Hon. Treasurer was conferred on Rory Stanley for the coming year in order to both fully computerise the accounts system and then train a possible successor to take up the post, if elected, at the next AGM in October 1999. The members adopted two Motions, one providing for the incorporation of the Society as a Company Limited by Guarantee and secondly, to authorise the re-appointment of Delegates to CIGO. The Guest

Lecturer was **Dr. Liam Bane** of the Dun Laoghaire Adult Education Board who delivered a fascinating talk on "*The Wills of the Roman Catholic Clergy in the 19th Century*". The Society has invited Dr. Bane to publish the lecture through the Society.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday Nov. 10th & Dec. 8th 1998

Evening Open Meeting - **An Culturlann**, Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann, Belgrave Square, Monkstown. 20.30 hrs. - 22.00 hrs.

Buses 7 & 8 - DART Seapoint or Monkstown stations.

Wednesday Nov. 25th 1998 & NO DEC. MEETING

Morning Open Meeting - **RJ COONEY'S**, 88, Lwr. George's St., (Main Street) Dun Laoghaire. 10.30 hrs. - 12.30 hrs.

Buses 7, 8, 46A, 59, 111, 75 - DART Dun Laoghaire Station.

Our Society's Archive

Located at 14, Rochestown Park, Dun Laoghaire. Open (**Members only**)

Saturdays 14.00 hrs. - 17.00 hrs and **Mondays** 19.00 - 21.00 hrs. **Closed**

Bank Holiday Weekends i.e on both days.

Wicklow County Genealogical Society.

Please contact Declan Tel: (01) 295 7782 for details etc.

Received from: Tony Ffrench, a colour copy of the following certificate for the Society's Archives. Original given, on permanent loan, to National Library. **Society of Farriers -Trade of Farriers Unite** - established A.D.1805. This is to certify that Patrick French was admitted a member of the **Amalgamated Society of Farriers** on the 14th day of August 1911 Signed: John J. Lawless President & William J. Coleman, Secretary. *Many thanks Tony*

DUN LAOGHAIRE - DUBLIN'S RIVIERA

"*Dun Laoghaire 1500*", **Breasal O Caollai** and **Fr. Cassidy** spearheaded the new co-operative venture between the business and the voluntary sectors which was launched in Dun Laoghaire on October 29th 1998. "**Dun Laoghaire - Dublin's Riviera Ltd.**" aims to bring co-ordination, planning, marketing and sales expertise to the organisation of the various events and activities run each year in Dun Laoghaire and district. The Company (limited by guarantee) seeks to promote the coastal strip from Booterstown Marsh to the Shangannagh River as "**Dublin's Riviera**" with maritime recreational facilities, great shopping, the best in hotels, guest houses, bars etc. and, of course, cultural and heritage activities and events. The new company will work closely with the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Tourism Company and its Chief Executive, **Norman Duffy**. Directorships on the Board of the new company were offered to businesses and voluntary groups in Dun Laoghaire. **Michael Merrigan** was elected as the first Chairperson of the new company with **Paul Maher** of **Spiders Consultancy** as Secretary/P.R. Paul may be contacted at tel: 284 2735 or E-mail: paul.maher@spiders.ie for further information. Mail enquiries to: "**Dun Laoghaire - Dublin's Riviera**", Corrivreckan, Glenageary, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

THE IRISH OVERSEAS

Calling all our friends and members in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Great Britain, USA, South Africa, Argentina and Mainland Europe - this is your chance to assist us create a new facility here in Ireland. Many overseas societies and organisations publish very valuable information concerning the Irish Diaspora on either microfiche, microfilm, CD Rom or in print. These cover gravestone inscriptions, census records, shipping lists, parish registers, immigration records or Births, Marriages and Deaths from Civil Registration Records. Why not obtain a copy for this Society's Archive in Ireland ? The Society welcomes donations of such material from all over the world for its growing Archive to be located at the Martello Tower, Seapoint, Co. Dublin.). Is there anything published in your area that you might donate to the Society - donations will be acknowledged in *The Genie Gazette*. Donations of material for the Archive can be made in honour of an ancestor or a loved one - the names will be recorded in the Archive and acknowledged in *The Genie Gazette* at the time of receipt. This is an easy and yet, very tangible, way overseas members and friends of the Society can contribute to the development of genealogical research in Ireland. *Think about it & Thanks !!*

VOLUNTEERS

Barry O'Connor seeks volunteers to complete sections in Deansgrange Cemetery and for the transference of the data on to computer discs for publication. Please give him a call on Dublin 285 4386 or Roisin Lafferty on 280 0894. *Think you can help ?*

NATIONAL HERITAGE PLAN

Genealogists have another chance to air their views on our Archival Heritage - including genealogical records. This is in addition to the Heritage Council's Study on Genealogical Practises in Ireland - final report due out shortly. Unfortunately, the compilers of the interim report, in seeking second submissions from "key Partners", assumed that there existed no cross membership nor unity of purpose between the Irish Genealogical Project, the Irish Family History Foundation, Irish Genealogy Limited and FAS in relation to the running of the Heritage Centres - what of their conclusions ?? However, the areas under consideration in the National Heritage Plan are: Natural Heritage; Archaeological Heritage; Architectural, Artistic and Historic Heritage; Natural & Cultural Landscapes; Inland Waterways and Documentary & Archival Heritage. Submissions from home and abroad are invited by **16. November 1998**. Write to: Moling Ryan, Heritage Policy Division, Dept. of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands, "Dun Aimirgin", 43-49, Mespil Road, Dublin 4.

THANKS TO JOHN KERRIGAN OF NEW YORK

The Archivist, Frieda Carroll, acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Family Records of Mr. John Kerrigan of Woodside, Queens, New York. Mr. Kerrigan's kind donation of these records is a fine example of the wealth of information that can be contributed to genealogical research in Ireland by our Diaspora in North & South America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and other parts of the world. Such donations will assist future generations of genealogists to trace their roots.

DAONCHARTLANN PROJECT

Your help is urgently needed for our new archive

Following the great news that **The American Ireland Fund** contributed USD14,000 (IRP10,000) to the project to restore and refurbish the Martello Tower, once again, we appeal to all our members and friends to assist our fund raising endeavours for the project to provide a permanent home for our Society's Archive. The Society will erect a lasting memorial to all those who, by their kind and generous subscriptions, enabled Ireland's first "*Daonchartlann*" to become a reality. This memorial will be placed in a prominent position in the Martello Tower as a mark of gratitude and respect. This memorial is an unique opportunity for members and friends of the Society to mark the life of a loved one or that special ancestor by having their names inscribed on this memorial. What better way to commemorate their lives than on this memorial in Ireland's *Daonchartlann* (Ir. "peoples archive"). The Society will publish a full list of subscribers, though not the amounts of each subscription, in the commemorative booklet to accompany the opening of the *Daonchartlann*. As this special memorial has limitations as to the number of names that may be inscribed thereon, only subscriptions in excess of twenty five pounds or fifty dollars will qualify for inclusion on the memorial, though, all subscriptions will receive a certificate to mark the donation and the official opening of the *Daonchartlann*. Payments by mail to the address below or by **Bank Transfer** to: D.L.G.S. Building Fund, c/o **Ulster Bank**, Rochestown Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland. **Sort Code:** 98-59-50 - **A/c number:** 52252212 *Thank you for your support.*

DUN LAOGHAIRE AT MESSINES

Seamus Moriarty, the newly Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Society and Member, **Philip Lecane** will represent this Society and **Michael McGovern** and **Seamus O'Connor** will represent the *Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society* at the ceremony at Messines in Belgium to commemorate the Irishmen and women that lost their lives in the First World War. Her Excellency, **Mary MacAleese, President of Ireland**, will officially open the memorial jointly with Britain's **Queen Elizabeth** and Belgium's **King Albert** on November 11th. The memorial is in the form of an ancient Irish Round Tower built from the stones of an Irish Workhouse and commemorates the joint action by the 16th (Irish) Division and the 36th (Ulster) Division of the British Army where men from the north and south fought side by side. The memorial is certainly a very poignant symbol of the desire for peace and reconciliation amongst the nations of Europe, between Great Britain and Ireland and amongst all of goodwill on the island of Ireland.

IGRS LECTURES

Weds. 18. Nov. 1998 19.30hrs National Library, Kildare St., Dublin - "*The Crimean War & the Irish who took part*" by Gregory O'Connor of the National Archives. All Welcome.

CIGO AGM - All Welcome too!!

Sat. 28. Nov. 1998 14.30 hrs ILAC Centre, Dublin.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The Society may now accept payments by Credit Card (MasterCard/Access/Visa) for all our services - including: Membership Fees, Donations to the Building Fund and, of course, your copies of our publications by Mail Order - Telephone: Dublin 284 2711 (Intl. code 353.1) n.b. Annual Subs. now due - IRP10.00 - *are you paid up?*

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS 1998/9

The following appointments were made at the first meeting of the 9th Executive Committee held in The Rochestown Lodge Hotel on Thursday Nov. 5th 1998. Appointees hold office for the term of each Executive, therefore, though the jobs are on-going, they are appointed annually at the first meeting of the Executive. Membership Officer: **Sean Kane**; Oifigeach na Gaeilge/Projects Liaison Officer: **Roisin Lafferty**; Editor: **Liam Mac Alasdair**; IGS Editor: **George H. O'Reilly**; Cemetery Project/JEP Officer: **Barry O'Connor**; Overseas Members' Officer: **David Hutcheson**; Gazette Editor & CIGO Rep.: **Michael Merrigan**; An Foram Oidhreachta Rep. : **Roisin Lafferty**; Euro Officer: **Rory Stanley**; Deputy Hon. Secretaries: **Marie Keogh & Annette MacDonnell** and the Daonchartlann Expert Group: Director of Archive Planning: **Dr. Eithne Guilfoyle**; Director of Computerisation: **George H. O'Reilly, MA** and Director of the Manuscript Collection: **Sean Magee**. The sub-committees for Finance and Publications were not, as yet, re-activated by the Executive Committee. Appointees, other than the Membership Officer and Oifigeach na Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer) and those already elected at the AGM, need only attend the Executive Committee meetings when invited to do so and as they do not have voting rights, the Executive elected by the AGM retains overall control and responsibility for the running of the Society

QUERIES RECEIVED

David and Pamela Ball, 50, Park Avenue, Redcar, Cleveland, TS10 3LD, England. Seeking info. on Joseph Linch, British Army sergeant stationed in Dublin Bks., Cork, d. pre-1887. Any info. on Regt or Unit.

Sheila Jones, St. George's House, Blue Coat School, Somerset Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B17 0HR, England. Seeking info. on Seamus O'Doherty born 1829 Limerick City, parents Edward and Sarah (?) Doherty or O'Doherty. Seamus married in England 1855. Any info.

Jan Pain: E-mail: jbp@senet.com.au seeks info. on Richard James Augustus Doherty, born Blackrock, Co. Dublin, 1854. His mother's name was Lucinda. He enlisted in the Royal Artillery in 1872. He married in Pietermaritzburg, SA, 1877 Elizabeth Beatrice Selina Wills, born Liverpool. After serving in South Africa and Singapore in arrived, with his wife & five children, in South Australia in 1889. Any info.

Josi Birkbeck, 330, Dereham Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 4DL, England. seeks info. on Jack Gargan McGeoghegan from USA - Clan Chief of Geoghegans in 1992. E-mail: josi@familynet.co.uk

Harry Richards, 22, Moss Grove, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 9HU, England, seeks info. on his Great Uncle John Richard Harlowen Richards who lived at Dunstaffnage, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin from c. 1905 to his death 1931. Info. on his three daughters, Mary Anne, Melosina and Helena. Family connections etc. please.

Sheila M. Bennett, 3, Standbridge Lane, Wakefield, WF2 7DZ, England seeks info. on John Gallagher born c. 1846 at Dromalough, near Ardara, Co. Donegal, son of James Gallagher. He had a brother Hugh. He died in Sheffield, Eng. in 1918 aged 72 years. Married Dinah Jane Hall from Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire and had six children. The 6th child, John Gallagher, born 1890 was her father. Any info. please

THANKS to Peter Bird in Scotland for assisting Ruth Hussing and Philip Lecane, Peter is, however, still awaiting information on his query published in the September issue as follows: **PETER BIRD, 38, Mayfield Crescent, Stevenston, Ayrshire, Scotland, KA20 4AJ** - seeks information on **John (Patrick) Bird**, b. 1831 in Co. Roscommon son of **Michael Bird**, a hand loom weaver, and **Ann Dolan**. John married **Catherine O'Dyer** or **O'Dwyer** circa 1852. The family were known to have lived in or around Fourmilehouse, Kilbride Parish, Co. Roscommon. John moved to Kilburn, Derbyshire in 1867 where he, now a widower, married **Catherine Feeney**. Peter is also interested in a County Down connection:- **James Gallagher**, b. 1827 at Benagh, Newry son of **John Gallagher & Margaret Downey**. James married **Mary Moore** in 1856 and had issue: **William Gallagher**, b. 1866 (moved to Scotland). Also, **John O'Hare**, b. Kilcoo, Castlewellingan, Co. Down (moved to Scotland) son of **Peter O'Hare & Mary McVey**. He married **Rose McCrickard** daughter of **Hugh McCrickard** and **Alice Munn**. Any info. please.

HON. SECRETARY'S TEL. NUMBER IS DUBLIN (353.1) 284 2711