



The Genie Gazette

January 1996

Social Newsletter of the Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society

Free

Expansion Plans for 1996

Now into its sixth year in operation, the development of this Society has been one of steady progress built on a solid foundation. The elections of last October brought some new faces to the forefront - Mary Rigney-Dunne, Sean Magee, David Hutcheson, etc - and coupled with such older hands as Michael Merrigan, Frieda Carroll, Sean Kane and under the Chairmanship (for the third year!) of Senan McGrath, the future looks brighter than ever.

Various new committees were formed and old ones reorganised and as we push inexorably into 1996 the main objective of the new groupings would seem to be expansion. New and expanded fund raising activities, a deeper involvement by individual members at public functions, but above all an expansion in membership. New blood, new ideas, new vigour! Remember you can play your part by promoting your Society by word of mouth, by passing on 'The Gazette' to prospective members and by encouraging a friend to consider the hobby/craft of Family History Research. And when we see new faces in our midst, do maintain the DLGS tradition of making them feel welcome right from the start.

The expansion of the library continues apace, thanks to the generosity of individual members and well wishers in providing books and records. However, the space available does not increase pro rata. Short of asking Frieda and John to move out of their home, we have no option but to obtain - somehow, somewhere - a secure and larger premises. Rest assured we will be hearing about this problem on a regular basis from our esteemed Runai/Hon Secretary, as will the local TD's, the appropriate Ministers, the Council, the Lotto, The Little Sisters Of The Poor, etc etc.

This library is a real asset and a genuine treasure trove for researchers... In fact, a detailed talk on what's available by Michael, Frieda, Sean Magee or Brian Smith might surprise a good number of members. Now there's a good idea for the New Year.

Wicklow Expansion

We are told by Maeve Flannery, that bundle of energy in the Wicklow County Genealogical Society, that they hope to go County-wide during 1996, starting with a branch in Bray in the next few months. The Wicklow society completed its first full year last August and we understand interest is high. The Wicklow County Genealogical Society meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Community Services, Bridge Street, Wicklow 8.30pm. Newcomers very welcome. "Bring a Friend - Bring Two!"

The Unknown Grave

*No name to bid us know
Who rests below,
No word of death or birth,
Only the grass's wave,
Over a mound of earth,
Over a nameless grave.*

Adelaide Procter (1825-1864)

Available Soon

Volume 2
Memorial Inscriptions
of
Deansgrange Cemetery
Blackrock Co. Dublin Ireland
Lower North Section

Order Your Copy Now
Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society
14 Rochestown Park Dun Laoghaire Co. Dublin

Mystery

An inscription in Monkstown states "Robert Hedges and Edward Eyre, 2nd and 4th sons of Thomas Strathford Eyre, of Eyreville, Co Galway, who both died in the flower of their youth the same day 26th November 1854 and sleep together in this grave".

The Freeman Journal of November 29th 1854 carries an obituary notice - "November 26th at Kingstown Robert Hedges second son and Edward fourth son of Thomas S Eyre of Eyreville in the Co. Galway".

However a history of the family - "Eyre by Rev. A.S. Hartigan" lists five sons in this family: (1) Thomas Stratford (2) Robert Hedges (3) William (4) Alfred (5) Edward.

Can anyone throw any light on this? Was Edward the 4th or 5th? And in particular the cause of death - accident, illness, whatever?

The Interview

Q *How and when did the DLGS come into being?*

A An idea of Michael Merrigan and myself in 1990 over a cup of coffee in the kitchen.

Q *How did you get the first members?*

A By word of mouth to our neighbours and friends.

Q *Where and when was your first public meeting?*

A In the Hotel Victor. Though the society was founded on 25th October 1990, our first meeting was held in April 1991 and so far over two and half thousand persons have attended the public meetings. These are now held at two locations, An Culturann, Belgrave Square, Monkstown and at the Port View Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire

Q *How many members do you have at present?*

A Above 300 or thereabouts

Q *What in your opinion has been the greatest achievement of the Society todate?*

A Undoubtedly our Library Collection, and also the promotion of Genealogy in Ireland.

Q *Research is time-consuming and a lonely occupation - why do people do it?*

A Nearly everybody wants to know something of their ancestry, and don't forget that research can also be interesting and very enjoyable, particularly as the pieces start to fall into place. And it's not always so lonely...sometimes we have small groups that go together to the National Archives or Registry of Deeds. They have a 'bit of craic' as well as doing the serious business.

Q *How is your own research progressing - or is it completed?*

A Nearly back to Noah! Well... not quite. Back to about 1750 with some little gaps to be filled, here and there.

Q *Does the Society have an Annual dinner or luncheon?*

A No... but it has been suggested many times and will probably start this year. We all have great hopes for 1996!

Q *Will the InterNet make societies like the DLGS redundant?*

A Certainly not - it will greatly assist researchers around the world - but it will also increase contact between individual societies as well as countries and continents. The personal contact of the society or circle will remain. Many of our members do their records on PCs and this gives them an added common interest; their discussions on the various software programmes can be quite lively.

Q *What would be your greatest wish for the society in 1996?*

A The same as for most others in the society, I'm sure... To obtain a permanent premises with the possible assistance from the Lotto or Local Government. We have greatly outgrown our present location which is based here in my home in Rochestown Park. As I said, we have great hopes for 1996.

Frieda Carroll (Archivist) was interviewed for the Gazette by Bridget Finn.

Newcomers Info

Membership

Everyone interested in Irish Family History is welcome to join the society.

Funding

The Society receives no funding from on the revenue raised by Annual and the community in Dun Laoghaire -



local or national government and therefore, relies solely on Subscriptions and the generosity of the membership in Rathdown.

Open Meetings

The Society organises two open meetings each month (see next page). All are welcome.

Archive/Library

The Society operates an Archive of genealogical material collected by members. It is based at 14 Rochestown Park, Dun Laoghaire and is open on Monday 19.00-21.00 and Saturdays 14.00-17.00. It contains approximately 1500 books/journals; 2000 manuscripts/documents; microfiche and microfilms. A permanent home for this valuable collection is being sought in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown.

Publications

The Society publishes a quarterly journal which is sold locally and exchanged with over seventy-five societies throughout the world. Encouragement is given to members to publish their research and the Society publishes the results of various group projects aimed at increasing the genealogical material available to researchers.

Ghosts Of My Past

What were they like
In those barren years
And who were those
Who shed the tears?
I cannot trace, I do not know
My people of the long ago.
Were they the ones in trade or land
Who would not lend a helping hand
Or were my folk of peasant stock
Who scratched a living from the rock
Of hard infertile barren soil;
And when the black disaster came
With rotting fields and hoarded grain
Were mine the folk who would not see
Or understand the misery;
Who sent their grain in British ships
And said "Let enterprise be free
For honest folks like you and me" -
Or were they those
Worked stony roads
With strength that ebbed each grinding day
Till in the end death came, their friend,
But none were there to keen and pray...

I often think from which I came!

© Cicely Forde
Bray Writers

Group Projects

Volunteers have recorded the memorial inscriptions in Deansgrange Cemetery and have published the first volume (South West Section). The North Section is in preparation. Recording in St Peters, Little Bray has been commenced. The indexing of the 1901 Census of Kingstown and districts is on-going.

Irish Language

The Society encourages the use of the Irish language in its publications and activities.

Links

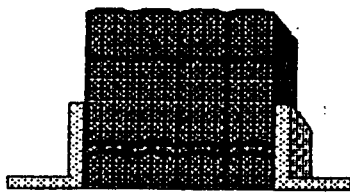
The Society is a member of the International Federation of Family History Societies and the Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations. We have a special relationship with the Wicklow County Genealogical Society and members of both societies meet regularly. Contact is also maintained with the North of Ireland Family History Society and the Raheny Heritage Society in North County Dublin.



The Registry of Deeds, Henrietta Street, Dublin

Following recent renovation the Registry of Deeds is a pleasant situation and an easier resource in which to search. It is necessary to prepare ones self for a visit by knowing what kind of record one hopes to find, and essential to know County, Barony and Town land of an ancestor.

The object is to locate a 'Memorial' of legal transaction. This could be for with or without property on it, a etc. The Memorials (slightly document,) are filed into very large or dated; it is only necessary then to Memorial relative to the affairs of



an ancient document covering some type the leasing of land, the transfer of same marriage settlement, a will, or bankruptcy, abbreviated copies of the legal heavy books which are either numbered locate the number of an appropriate one's ancestor.

Most of the information required is now kept in three large rooms and in each of these facilities the conditions are excellent since the Registry of Deeds received its recent uplift. Before heading for the Memorials it is necessary to locate a number from one of an assortment of Index Books. The earliest indexes (starting 1708) contain alphabetical lists of Grantor's name followed by name of associated Grantee. In these main indexes no location is provided; however the difficulty which this creates can be overcome by referring also or alternatively to a second set called the 'land index' book for the same period. From about 1825 indexes provide both Grantor's and Grantee's name as well as listing the name of the Town land and this makes research somewhat easier.

It will be found that one room (the Mezzanine on the top floor) now contains all of the Land Index books for periods both before and after 1825 and also some later dates Memorials (from about 1870); that one fine newly furnished area has all the early alphabetical indexes also some Memorial books. While the original old research room at the top of the building still houses the approximately 800 largest books in which the earliest Memorials (of 1700 to about 1825) are filed.

A set of cards is available which provide the number of each Land Index book relative to any year, for all the counties. It is useful to remember also that there are index books which cover the largest towns and cities.

Visitors are required to pay a research fee of £2, a copy of any memorial may be ordered for £4 for delivery in six weeks and staff are available and very willing to provide assistance to researchers who require help.

Do not be disappointed if you fail to locate any document related to some activity of an ancestor but it is fun to try and in very many cases it proves to be well worth the effort. It may be useful to remember that all of this concerns the REGISTRATION of a legal transaction previously accomplished and therefore the Memorial could be dated some years after the event.

Riddle me this...

"Brothers and Sisters
I have none,
but this man's father
is my father's son"

Of whom does he speak?

Bill Hogg
January '96

FAMILY HISTORY

Evening Meetings
2nd Tuesday of Each Month

An Culturann
Belgrave Square, Monkstown
8.00 pm

Morning Meetings
4th Wednesday of Each Month

Port View Hotel, Marine Road
Dun Laoghaire
10.30 am

All Welcome
"Bring a Friend - Bring Two!"

Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society, 14 Rochestown Park, Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin