

ISSN 1393-3183

THE GENIE GAZETTE

Vol. 2. No. 5. May 1997
D.L.G.S. Monthly Newsletter

VALUE FOR MONEY OR NOT ?

The Comptroller & Auditor General published the *Report on Value for Money Examination* of the Irish Genealogical Project on Tuesday 22nd April 1997 in Dublin. The report highlighted many deficiencies in the planning and implementation of the goals of the project since its inception in 1988. The report maintains that *"The monitoring of progress in implementing the project has been ineffective. No budget or measurable targets were set and the gathering of relevant management information was sporadic and generally ineffective."* Whilst, the I.G.P. (Heritage Centres) were originally established as a means of stimulating extra tourism revenue for the country, the report is very scathing, stating that *"No targets have been set for these objectives and no mechanism is in place to measure the tourism impacts attributable to the IGP. Consequently, the like effectiveness of the project in contributing to tourism growth cannot currently be established."* With just 29% of the target records now on computer and no main data base established, the question of whether value for money was established by the IGP following the spending of nearly fifteen million Irish pounds on the project remains very doubtful. The position of the Irish based genealogist, other than commercial genealogists, was not considered, though, the effect of the IGP on access to source records has been generally very negative. Certain dioceses were "closed" others got in on the act and now charge over a hundred pounds for a "full search".

It is clear that on the governing body of the IGP, no voice for the Irish family historian (apart from commercial genealogists) was heard as this type of "customer" is not even mentioned by the report. Overseas "customers" of the IGP have been venting their anger at the IGP on the internet and in overseas genealogical publications.

Time has come for genealogists to insist on a strong representation on any future IGP management structure for the voluntary and community based genealogical organisations should the IGP survive this report.

Copies available at five pounds from the Government Publications Office, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2.

PLANS FOR THE MARTELLO TOWER

Final plans for the Society's Archive or "Daonchartlann" are to be presented to the meeting of the Sub-Committee for Finance on the 12th May 1997. These plans then will be presented to Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council for their approval. It is hoped to have a copy on display at the Society's Open Meetings during the month of May and June.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Tuesday 13th May 1997** - Evening Meeting
- An Culturlann, Belgrave Square, Monkstown
- 20.30 hrs. "Members Night & Computer Group Meeting"
- Wednesday 28th May 1997** - Morning Meeting
- Port View Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire
- 10.30 hrs "General Discussion & Queries"
- Tuesday 10th June 1997** - Evening Meeting
- An Culturlann 20.30 hrs.
- Wednesday 25th June 1997** - Morning Meeting
- Port View Hotel - 10.30 hrs.

WICKLOW COUNTY GEN. SOC.

Tuesday 20th May & Tuesday 17th June 1997 General Family History Discussion Group, Grand Hotel, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow, 20.30 hrs.

Info: Tel: 0404 67442 Maeve Flannery.

IRISH FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Saturday 7th June 1997. The Clane, Co. Kildare based I.F.H.S. will hold a one day conference in An Culturlann, Belgrave Sq., Monkstown, Co. Dublin.

Info. from P.O. Box 36, Naas, Co. Kildare.

"The Genie Gazette" is published by
Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society,
14, Rochestown Park, Dun Laoghaire,
Co. Dublin, Ireland. It is distributed to
the members & friends of the Society.

C.I.G.O. NEWS

The Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations is set to welcome the Irish Genealogical Research Society (Ireland Branch) as the newest member of C.I.G.O. following a vote at the Branch Annual General Meeting to instruct the incoming committee to apply for membership of the all Ireland body. The Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society's Archive renewed its membership of the Irish Genealogical Research Society in anticipation of this positive development and we look forward to meeting representatives of the I.G.R.S. at the Council meetings.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH DIRECTORY - *Now Available*

The 1997 GRD is now available, bigger & better and as always, a credit to the publishers Keith Johnson and Malcolm Sainty. Members can consult the Society's copy in the Archive on Mondays between 19.00 hrs & 21.00 hrs and Saturdays between 14.00 hrs & 17.00 hrs. The feature article "*Convict Transportation from England to America, 1611-1776*" by Peter Wilson Coldham is very interesting and sets a challenge for an Irish genealogist or researcher to cover the same period for "convicts" from Ireland, inclusive of those forcibly transported by Cromwell, and publish an equally illuminating article on the topic.

3rd IRISH GENEALOGICAL CONGRESS
September 22-28, 1997 - St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. The Congress is the showcase of Irish Genealogy and the Society's urges members to book early for the lectures. Booking Forms available from the I.G.C. Committee, c/o The National Archives, Bishop Street, Dublin 8.

An tEOLAI - RESEARCH DIRECTORY

Brian Smith has invited research queries from members for inclusion in the Society Members Interests Directory - An tEolai. Entries are free of charge and any number may be submitted in the following format:

Name: _____

Area: _____

Period: _____

Complete as many entry forms as you wish and forward them to Brian at the Society's address.

WICKLOW TO COMMEMORATE FIACH MAC HUGH

The Rathdrum Historical Society will mark the 400th anniversary of the beheading of *Fiach Mac Hugh O'Byrne* by the Lord Deputy on 8th May 1597, by the unveiling of a memorial commissioned especially for the occasion. The ceremony will be held on Sunday 11th May at 15.00 hrs at the Parnell Memorial in Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow. On the following Sunday the 18th May 1997, Carmel O'Toole will lead a guided tour of Glenmalure in relation to Fiach MacHugh O'Byrne. Gather outside the Glenmalure Lodge Hotel at 14.30 hrs.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Brian Smith and Sean Magee have completed their first of a series of genealogical aides and sources. "*Shillelagh & Ballinacor South, Co. Wicklow - 1837 - A Memorial*" price IRP5.00 (ISBN 1 898471 40 1) and "*A Guide to the Articles & Sources Published by Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society -1992-1996*" price IRP2.00 (ISBN 1 898471 45 2). The will be launched at the Evening Meeting to be held on Tuesday 13th May 1997. Copies will be available by post, just add IRP1.00 per item.

NEW MEMBERS & REMINDERS

The Society always welcomes new members and the only requirement for membership is the payment of the Annual Subscription of ten pounds (payable by moiety, if you wish) to Sean Kane, Membership Officer. Sean also reminds existing members, who may be in arrears, that their Annual Subscriptions are overdue. Cheques should be made payable to D.L.G.S. If you have a query about the A.S. you can contact Sean Kane on tel: 280 8265.

SPECIAL AWARD FOR MEMBER

The founder of Our Lady's Manor, Bullock Castle, Dalkey and many other similar establishments throughout the world, Sr. M. Bernadette de Lourdes, O.Carm., a member of this Society, has been awarded the "Mother M. Angeline Teresa Award" at a ceremony in Connecticut, U.S.A. Born in Dublin in 1905 as Kathleen Wisely, she emigrated to the States in the 1920's and became a close associate of the Foundress of her order, Mother M. Angeline Teresa. The Society wishes Sister well and congratulates her on receiving this award.