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THE GENIE GAZETTE

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D.L.G.S. Monthly Newsletter

SILE de VALERA TAKES UP THE REINS OF IRISH HERITAGE

Following the General Election and the return to office of a Fianna Fail/Progressive Democrat government, An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern T.D., appointed Ms. Sile de Valera T.D. (Co. Clare) to the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands. Sile was the opposition spokesperson on such matters for the past two and a half years and is well acquainted with all aspects of her new post. She was quick to affirm the continuance of Michael D. Higgins' practice of consultation with the voluntary heritage organisations in the formulation of policy and legislation. The former Minister, Michael D. Higgins T.D., is generally acknowledged as having created this department, almost to measure, therefore, many will watch the changes, if any, that the new administration will make to the department's function. Though, it must be said, that Fianna Fail had laid out its stall in its Policy Document "*Caring for our Heritage*" published in February. Many points in this document will be taken up by C.I.G.O. and this Society over the next few months. The Society wishes Sile every success in her new position as Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands..

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 8th July & 12th August 1997 -
Evening Meeting An Culturlann, Belgrave Sq.,
Monkstown, Co. Dublin - 20.00 hrs

Wednesday 23rd July & 27th August 1997 -
Morning Meeting, Port View Hotel, Marine
Road, Dun Laoghaire - 10.30 hrs.

Tuesday 15th July & 19th August 1997 -
Wicklow County Genealogical Society - Group
Discussion - 20.30 hrs.

OLD IRISH FAMILIES

Over the past few months, many members have expressed an interest in researching the old Irish Gaelic families and computerising genealogies to enable further research to be undertaken into the lines of the younger sons and the daughters of the chieftains. Much information is available, though, little research has been undertaken in this area of Irish genealogy. Possibly, a study group could develop this idea further. Interested contact: Michael Merrigan - tel: 235 2032.

BRITISH FAMILY RECORDS CENTRE

In Great Britain the Office for National Statistics and the Public Records Office have now come together to establish the new Family Records Centre at 1, Myddleton Street, London, EC1. The nearest Tube Stations are Angel and Farringdon. The centre has indexes of births, marriages and deaths for England & Wales from 1837; adoptions from 1927; overseas records of births, marriages & deaths for some British subjects dating from the 18th century; microform copies of census returns 1841-91; Estate Duty Office registers 1796-1858 with indexes from 1796-1903; microfilms of registered copies of wills and administrations up to 1858; non-parochial registers from 1567 to 1858 and miscellaneous foreign returns of births, marriages and deaths from 1627 to 1960.

Opening Hours

Mon., Wed. & Fri. - 09.00 hrs to 17.00 hrs.

Tues. - 10.00 hrs - 19.00 hrs.

Thurs. - 09.00 hrs - 19.00 hrs.

Sat. - 09.30 hrs - 17.00 hrs.

INFO: tel: 00.44.181.392 5300

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14, Rochestown Park, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.
Tel: 353.1.235 2032 Fax: 353.1.285 4020

Marshal MacMahon, President of France

Few Irish people are aware that the first elected President of France was a MacMahon descended from Brian Boru, Ard Ri (High King) of Ireland who was killed at the Battle of Clontarf in 1014, through, Muirheartach Mor, Ard Ri, who died in 1119 and his son Mathghamhan (Mahon), Prince of Corcobaskin (in present day Co. Clare). Edmonde Patrice Maurice MacMahon was born at Sully in France on the 13th June 1808, the third son of Lieut.Gen. Maurice Francis de MacMahon, Baron de Sully. Following his victory at the Battle of Magenta in Italy, Edmonde Patrice Maurice MacMahon was created Duke of Magenta by Emperor Napoleon III. He was elected President of the French Republic in 1873 and served until 1879. He died on the 17th October 1893 and his descendants are still living in France at the Chateau de Sully near Bordeaux, home of the Philippe Mac Mahon, 4th Duke of Magenta.

3rd IRISH GENEALOGICAL CONGRESS

Our Cathaoirleach, Rory Stanley, was a guest at the formal launch of the programme in the Four Courts on Monday 30th June 1997. The theme of this well attended launch, and this year's congress, is the 75th anniversary of the burning of the Four Courts during the Civil War in 1922. The Congress will run from September 22nd to 28th, 1997 in 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

With time moving close to the closing date for receipt of completed entries, 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.

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 two publications were launched at the Monthly Evening Meeting last month. Copies are available by post, just add IRP1.00 per item.

C.I.G.O. PROJECTS

Steven Smyrl has launched the first national family history project for the voluntary and community sector in Ireland. The *Marriage Licence Bonds* in the National Archives are to be indexed and placed on microfiche. You can participate from your own home if you have an IBM Compatible P.C. or if you don't have a computer, Steven, requires volunteers to check printouts etc.. *Volunteers*, please phone Steven on 668 8074 for further information.

REGISTER OF ONE NAME STUDIES

Due to an increased interest in one name studies in Ireland, Rory Stanley, Cathaoirleach, has suggested that a register should be established, possibly, in conjunction with the Guild of One Name Studies in London and the Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations. Many people like Rory have collected hundreds, if not thousands, of references to particular surnames and information on these sources should be accessible to other researchers. Interested? Contact Rory on tel: 282 4596.

DEANSGRANGE & OTHER CEMETERIES PROJECT

Barry O'Connor is seeking volunteers for the transcription of the memorial inscriptions in various cemeteries in the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Area. Members would work in their own time over the months of July and August and the results will be published by the Society. Interested? Contact Barry on tel: 285 4386

SOCIETY'S ARCHIVE IN ROCHESTOWN
Frieda Carroll, Archivist, has advised that the Archive will be closed for certain dates during the month of August. Members are asked to phone the Hon. Secretary for the dates.