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THE GENIE GAZETTE

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Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society
Monthly Newsletter

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS

This year is the centenary of the most important local government reforms undertaken in Ireland when the hated, discredited and landlord dominated Grand Juries were replaced by elected County Councils under the *Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898*. This Act and the earlier Registration (Ireland) Act, 1898, extended the franchise to women and gave them the right to sit on district councils and act as town commissioners, though, not to sit on county or borough councils. Kingstown had its own Town Commissioners from 1834 under an Act *'for the paving, watching, lighting, regulating and otherwise improving the town of Kingstown'*. The eighteen Town Commissioners were elected by the ratepayers of Kingstown and were empowered to oversee much of the development of the town and to appoint constables, watchmen and beadles. The constables were instructed to preserve the peace and were authorised to detain *'all felons, malefactors, disturbers of public peace, disorderly persons, rogues, vagrants, beggars and all other such persons found misbehaving'*. Elevated to the status of an Urban District Council under local government reforms, Kingstown's administration finally passed into Nationalist (i.e. majority) control just before the First World War. This heralded an end to the Town's shameful neglect of its poor as documented in 1844 by Dr. Haliday. In 1911 some 500 of its houses were vacant due to high rents and this, more than anything, exemplified the attitude of the pre-nationalist Council to the majority of the Town's inhabitants, descendants of those who built the town, the pier and the railways. Access to the County Council's archive would greatly enhance research. Would not the publishing of a guide to such records be a fitting commemoration of the 1898 Act ?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday February 10th & March 10th 1998

Evening Open Meeting - An Culturlann, Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann, Belgrave Square, Monkstown. 20.30 hrs. - 22.00 hrs.
Buses 7 & 8 - DART Seapoint or Monkstown.

Wednesday Feb. 25th & March 25th 1998

Morning Open Meeting - Port View Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire. 10.30 - 12.30 hrs.

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

Wicklow County Genealogical Society

Tuesday 17th February 1998 Grand Hotel, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow - 20.30 hrs.

NEWS FROM HEATHER

Our P.R.O., Heather Jeffery (tel: 288 3777) has outlined the Evening Meetings for the coming year as follows: Feb. Philip Lecane; Mar. Members' Night & Computer Group; Apr. John Heuston; May Tony Quinn (Garda History); June Members' Night & Computer Group; July 1798 (prov.); Aug. Peter Cassells (Valuation Office); Sep. Members' Night & Computer Group; Oct. A.G.M. (Guest Lecturer); Nov. TBA; Dec. TBA.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Hon. Secretary has moved to 11, Desmond Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, though, the Society's registered address will remain as below, contacting the Hon. Secretary may be expedited by utilising the new address. The telephone number 235 2032 will be redirected by Telecom Éireann shortly. The Hon. Secretary apologies for any difficulty experienced in contacting him during the past two weeks.

BRITISH PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

The Director of Public Services of the British Public Record Office, Dr. Elizabeth Hallam Smith, has advised that the *First World War Soldiers' Documents, Burnt Series (WO 363)* are being filmed and will be transferred to public access as each alphabetical letter is completed. Filming, funded by the British National Lottery, began for men whose surname began with N,O,Q,U,V, and Z. The P.R.O. has placed a bid for further funding from the UK Lottery to complete the filming by 2002. A total of 33,000 boxes of records are to be filmed and Society members are requested by Dr. Hallam Smith to write to the **British Public Records Office**, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, England supporting this bid and this important project which will greatly assist genealogists and historians throughout these islands.

ULTIMATE FAMILY TREE UK VERSION

News for computer users. Palladium Interactive have just published the above new package distributed by Mindscape for PC CD-ROM Windows 3.1 & Windows 95 for a special price of STG 14.99 (RRP STG19.99) contact mail order company on 0044 1664 481563 or E-Mail: jfisher@mindscape.com. Review in next issue of the Society's quarterly journal.

OUR MEMBERS HAVE THEIR SAY

The Members of this Society are afforded an opportunity to have a direct say in the development of genealogy or genealogical services in Ireland through their own Rep. to the Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations or CIGO, Ted Morrissey, who can be contacted at 203, Barton Road East, Dublin 14. Ted welcomes your comments and suggestions.

DAONCHARTLANN PROJECT

Like to help establish our new archive?

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 **Bank Transfer** to: D.L.G.S. Building Fund, c/o Ulster Bank, Rochestown Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Sort Code: 98-59-50 Building A/C No. 52252212. *Thank you for your kind support.*

NORWAY CALLING

Bill & Judith Sloan (nee Hall) of Tubbermyrvn 3, 3580 Geilo, Norway seek assistance of and contact with persons researching Wilkinson & Maynard (Wexford), Norton (Wicklow), Quin (Tyrone), Sloan & O'Hare (Down) and William Walshe, a farmer & his wife Elizabeth Green of Swords, Co. Dublin married circa 1818-24. Children Elizabeth Walsh (married Thomas M. Hall) and Mary Walsh (married John West) both families emigrated to Australia. Also John Green of Swords (a Scholar and Tutor) died aged 96. He married Anne Neville who eloped with him to Ireland. Their daughter Anne Green married Richard Meredith. Child Sarah Meredith married James Gray in Ireland though emigrated to the United States. *Any info. please.*

DOWN UNDER ONCE AGAIN

Cheryl Credlin of PO Box 83, Sebastopol, Victoria 3356, Australia writes seeking information on an Edward Hackett and his wife Mary O'Brien from Scariff, Co. Clare. They had a daughter Bridget Hackett born 1832/5 in Scariff and married 18. Aug. 1856 in Bendigo, Victoria spouse William Credlin. Prior to 1856 Edward died and Mary Hackett (nee O'Brien) married a Mr. O'Brien from Nesnah (Nenagh ?). *Any info. please.*

C.I.G.O. SECRETARIAT CONFIRMED

At their first meeting of the new year held on January 12th, C.I.G.O. confirmed John Dyer of Raheny Heritage Society as Cathaoirleach; Tom O'Keeffe of Wicklow County Genealogical Society as Leas-Chathaoirleach; Des Clarke (Raheny) as Hon. Secretary; Chris Ryan (Irish Gen. Congress Comm.) as Hon. Treasurer; Cathal Roche (I.G.R.S.) as Public Relations Officer; Steven Feary-Smyrl (APGI) as Projects Officer and Randal Gill (NIFHS) as Northern Liaison Officer. This Society proposals for Standing Orders were deferred until March to allow for further discussion by the member organisations. C.I.G.O. Hon. Secretary, 21, St. Brigid's Grove, Killester, Dublin 5, Ireland.

JOURNAL EDITOR BY E-MAIL

Liam Mac Alasdair, Editor of the Society's quarterly journal may be contacted by e-mail on Liam@indigo.ie with items for inclusion in forthcoming issues of the journal.

CENTENARY OF JEWISH CEMETERY

As published in the January issue of *The Genie Gazette*, the Society is honoured to participate in the centenary commemoration of the foundation of the **Jewish Cemetery** at Dolphin's Barn, Dublin in 1898. Members will be recording the memorial inscriptions of the 2800 plots in this cemetery for publication in a single volume. The Secretary of the *Jewish Burial Board* arranged for Barry O'Connor to survey the cemetery and Barry estimated that he will require ten volunteers to record the inscriptions as part of a team. Other members with computers will be required later for data input and proof reading of the hard copy. Should you like to participate in this unique project contact **Barry on tel: 01. 285 4386.**

AMERICAN SEEKS ASSISTANCE

Seeking info. on James Edmisten, born Monkstown Parish, wife Catherine, son John W. Edmisten, born 17 March 1817 in Monkstown Parish or district. John died in Ohio, USA 20. June 1860. He married 06. Aug. 1840 Mary Ann Fowler and had issue. A family bible states that John Edmisten came to Lawrence County, Ohio in 1834 and gives his birth place as Kingstown (though, district not so named until 1821). Any info. please to Carolyn J. Burns, 229, Orchard Hill Drive, Dayton, Ohio, USA 45449 or by e-mail: carolyn.j.burns@daytonoh.ocr.com

IRISH NEWS ITEMS WELCOME

Kyle J. Betit, Co-Editor of "*The Irish at Home and Abroad*" seeks information on Irish genealogical, historical and heritage events and news for inclusion in the above journal and on their web site. Please forward items to e-mail: kjbslc@aol.com

"AUSTRALIAN FAMILY TREE CONNECTIONS"

This Australian monthly above provides an excellent opportunity for news and views to be shared and connections to be made down under. The Editor, Michele J.C. Stephens welcomes comments and suggestions from Ireland. Copies of this monthly are held in the Society's Archive, though, for those with Australian connections why not order your own copy. Orders to AFTC, P.O. Box 322, Gosford, NSW 2250
E-mail: publisher@aftc.com.au - check out AFTC Online:
<http://www.aftc.com.au>

*copies of the spinning wheel settlements
are available N.L.I.*