

ISSN 1393-3183

THE GENIE GAZETTE

Vol. 4. No. 2. February 1999

Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society
Monthly Newsletter

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GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE MINISTER REPLIES

As the new session of the Dail has just got off to a stormy start with matters concerning Tribunals of Enquiry, we could easily overlook the written answer of December 15th 1998 to three clear and precise Parliamentary Questions tabled by **Enda Kenny, T.D.** on the GRO, the proposed price increase and the possible transfer of microfilm copies of all pre 1928 records to the National Archives and the National Library. In a long and detailed answer, the **Minister for Health and Children, Brian Cowen, T.D.**, failed to grasp the nub of the point i.e. accessibility of the records of Births, Marriages and Deaths. He gave an account of the computerisation at Roscommon, the need to recover costs and the prospect of a future computerised service being available throughout the country. All well and good in three to five years, however, the point is simple, straightforward and does not require legislative changes nor ministerial order, just action now - make additional copies of the microfilms of the pre 1928 records of Births, Marriages and Deaths held in the GRO and make these accessible in the National Archives and the National Library, thus, leaving the Registrar-General to his core function of registration and certification and, of course, as custodian of the original records. This removes the pressure for a price increase in the GRO, effectively increases accessibility to the public through, not one, but two repositories and brings us into line with other western democracies. This can happen now before the Summer season and the visitors from overseas land to trace their Irish roots. But irrespective of the needs of our Diaspora, we should facilitate our citizens with the fullest access to their own records. There is no need to wait, Minister, we trust that this matter will be revisited in Dail Eireann should no positive action be taken in the meantime. Whilst, thanking Deputy Kenny for his assistance and the Minister for his detailed answer, we await the Minister's response to the substantive issue of the availability of microfilmed copies of Births, Deaths and Marriages in the National Archives and the National Library for free and full access by the People of Ireland.

DLGS, 14, Rochestown Park, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday Feb. 9th & Mar. 9th 1999

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 Feb. 24th & Mar. 24th 1999

Morning Open Meeting - The Port View Hotel, Marine Road, 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.

"THE RACKER"

Our first evening meeting in January 1999 was enlivened by a pair of hilarious verse histories "*Happy Birthday, Monkstown*" and "*Talking about Dun Laoghaire*", that were performed by Sandycove entertainer Peter Donnelly alias "*The Racker*". Peter researched and composed both ten minute "racks" and has raised over IRP1,000 to date for The Omagh Fund from script sales at IRP1.00 a copy. The Racker also offers a full-length one-man show, which includes historical racks, music hall recitations and a tragic farce about Lucrezia Borgia. He is working on a new rack "*Walkie Dalkey*". For scripts and/or performance, ring Dublin 284 5875 or write to *The Racker*, Apt. 3., 47, Sandycove Road, Sandycove, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM THE SOCIETY

"*Irish Genealogical Sources No. 12 - The Irish Independence Movement on Tyneside 1919-1921*" (ISBN 1 898471 11 8) price Euro4.00 (IRP3.15) (postage Ireland & UK Euro1.27 (IRP1.00) others Euro2.54 (IRP2.00) compiled by *Mary A. Barrington*. This publication is based on the testimony of Gilbert Francis Barrington, Dublin, and formerly of South Shields in England. He was Quartermaster of the Tyneside Division of the Old I.R.A. and his account of the period is fascinatingly clear and precise with hundreds of names of the persons involved in this most overlooked piece of Irish History. It will be particularly of interest to those with Irish connections in the North East of England. The Society published this volume to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the First Dail (Irish Parliament) and the Declaration of Irish Independence on the 21st January 1919. A very useful source for historians of the period.

"*Irish Genealogical Sources No. 13 - St. Patrick's School, Dalkey, County Dublin - School Registers 1894-1970*" (ISBN 1 898471 16 9) price Euro7.00 (IRP5.50) (postage Ireland & UK Euro1.27 (IRP1.00) others Euro2.54 (IRP2.00) compiled by *Annette McDonnell*. This publication covers the School Registers for the Girls Primary School 1894 - 1970 and the Boys National School 1894 - 1968. Though, this school was a Church of Ireland National School (Anglican), the pupils come from all religious denominations. This publication

follows that of **Boosterstown, Glashule and Newcastle National Schools Registers** published by the Society. Others in the pipe line include **Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow** and **Christian Brothers National School, Eblana Avenue, Dun Laoghaire. ALL DLGS publications available by mail order (MasterCard/Visa) - Telephone: Dublin 284 2711 with Credit Card Number & Expiry Date.**

DUN LAOGHAIRE BOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Lecture on Wednesday 17th February in the Royal Marine Hotel at 20.00hrs - *"The Sinking of the Leinster"* by Roy Stokes and on Wednesday 24th March - same venue & time - *"Dalkey, the Medieval Town"* by Charles V. Smith. Non-members of DLBHS - IRP2.00.

QUERIES RECEIVED

Mrs. M. O'Malley, "The Hollies", 9, East Avenue, Stoke Park, Coventry, CV2 4DJ, England - is trying to trace her grandfather Robert WOOD's sisters. Robert was born in Cork. His sister Emily Wood, born 1870, married a Mr. Shannon. Their family home was in Dun Laoghaire & Emily's son, Robert SHANNON worked for "The Irish Times" & married a girl who had a bookshop. Robert had a sister Elizabeth. Any info. please.
Monica Kelly, 12, Reynolds Street, Toongabbie 2146, Sydney, NSW, Australia - seeks info. on the Coyle & Shaw families in Dublin in the period 1780 onwards & particularly like to make contact with any descendants of Richard & Mary COYLE and John & Jane SHAW or anyone researching these names. Any information please.

Mr. J. Harding, 18, Bownham Park, Rodborough Common, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 5BY, England - seeks contact with James Christopher DOWNES, son of Michael Francis & Kathleen Downes, he married, Nov. 1957 at Ilford, Essex, Ellen Iris Caroline COX. James Christopher had a brother Michael Downes. James & Ellen's children were Joseph Brian (b. 1958) and Andre Alan Nathan (b. 1959). It is possible that the family moved back to Ireland circa 1975 to the Limerick area. Any information please to the above.

Margaret M. Mason, 48, Cholmondeley Road, Pendleton, Salford, M6 8PR seeks information on the ASH and CRITCHLEY families of Avoca and connections still leaving in Ireland. Michael ASH and Anastasia CRITCHLEY had five known children, Patrick, born 21. Aug. 1864, Avoca, Co. Wicklow; Emily, born 22. June 1866, Avoca; Elizabeth, born Avoca; Winifred born 26.03.1871, Avoca and Sarah, possibly, also born in Avoca. Any information please for Margaret on these families.

Carol Millar, Mountain View, 6, Dalton Road, Lancaster, LA1 3HD, England - seeks information and contact with persons of the name BRAYSHAW in Britain & Ireland - E-mail:MMillar542@aol.com

Jennifer Wilson O'Connor, "May Cottage", 9-413, Wilson's Pocket Road, Gympie 4570, Queensland, Australia - seeks information on a shipping disaster in the Irish Sea circa 1878/9. It was a collision between a Coast Guard "R.C. Fanny" and a steamship. He grandfather Joseph GREET was Chief Officer of the "Fanny" and drowned. Trying to find the actual date of the incident. Any information please.

Josi Birkbeck, 330, Dereham Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 4DL, England (E-mail: josi@birkbeckj.freemove.co.uk) seeks information on an accident report for 1947 where a Thomas GEOGHEGAN was killed on 18. Feb. 1947 when a building collapsed at a CGE Omnibus Site at Stone Street, (Store St. ??) Dublin. The Inquest was held on March 12th 1947 - Coroner possibly Dr. McEleaney. She hopes to find probate to his wife Mary Ann GEOGHEGAN. Any assistance please.

G. Collins, 3, Langland Avenue, Malvern, Worcs., WR14 2EG, England - seeks information on a PARKS family that lived at 37, Cumberland Street, Dun Laoghaire in the early 1900's. Any information please on this family and present connections.

Wendal Garrett of E-mail: coygarrett@hotmail.com seeks information for a book he is writing about a young man from Ireland going to America in the 1850's. He would appreciate info. on roads, towns, rates of pay for dock workers, cost of passage to America etc. Any assistance please.

Joseph H. Page, 119, Eastern Avenue, Woburn, MA, 01801, USA - seeks information on persons in Ireland researching families from County Waterford emigrating to Newfoundland circa 1800 especially the surnames MERRIGAN, CONAWAY, BUCKLE, HOWE/HAWE & KENNEDY.

George H. O'Reilly, E-mail: ghor@iol.ie seeks information on the name Le GRUE or LE GROS -possibly from Holywood, Co. Wicklow and possibly having connections with the FARRELL family. Any info. please.

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.**

AN LEABHAR NUINSEANNACH

Readers will remember the story carried in the January 1998 issue of "The Genie Gazette" about the loss to the nation of this valuable manuscript and the subsequent raising of the matter in Dail Eireann by Enda Kenny, T.D.. Thankfully, a generous gesture by a Dublin businessman has saved *An Leabhar Nuinseannach - The Nugent Book*, for the People of Ireland. Originally on loan to the National Library, this manuscript dating from 1577 contains bardic poetry from the 13th to the 16th centuries addressed to chieftains in the four provinces of Ireland. The manuscript was removed for auction at Sotheby's in London by its owners and sold for IRP177,500. Also acquired by the National Library through its own purchase and announced recently by the Minister, Ms. Sile de Valera, T.D., are the estate papers of the Earls of Wicklow, a correspondence series between the Conolly and Fitzgerald families of Kildare and the papers of the novelist and satirist Eimar O'Duffy. Full details of these acquisitions are published in Volume 7 No. 4 of the Society's Journal - out now !!

EURO INFORMATION

The Society's publications since January 1st 1999 are priced in Euros as Ireland is one of the eleven countries now in the Euro Zone. The Euro is fixed at IRP0.787564, therefore, to convert an Irish pound amount to a Euro amount simply divide the Irish pound amount by .787564 then round the resulting Euro amount to two decimal places, i.e. to cent.

THINKING OF TRAVELLING TO IRELAND

Check out the WEBSITE:- www.dun-laoghaire.com for information on Dun Laoghaire on Dublin's Riviera in easy access to all Dublin's repositories. Best accommodation at E-mail:riviera@dun-laoghaire.com

FRENCH & AMERICAN CONNECTIONS SOUGHT

Whether they were "Wild Geese" or "Wine Geese" the LYNCHES were in France from the late seventeenth century and in the Americas soon thereafter. Any info. please on the French, American & South American LYNCH families (& especially, Dominick Lynch of New York, wine merchant and ship owner in colonial New York who may have had connections with Argentina or other parts of South America) to our Member John Mackey, 5, Rowan Park, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

Don & Sally Dunn, P.O. Box 4097, Wanganui, New Zealand (E-mail: dunn.moss@extra.co.nz) seek contact with any descendants of Arthur WILLIAM & Christine Foulkes of Talbot Street, Dublin 1820-78 and also of Richmond House, Drumcondra. Children: (1) Erasmus Wilson WILLIAMS (Architect) married Mary Georgina COPPERTHWAITTE in 1844, then Isabella (?). Res. 43/44 Talbot St. (2) Leonard Douglas WILLIAMS (Builder); (3) Ameila Ismena WILLIAMS married Edward George CAROLIN (Builder); (4) Albert Alexander WILLIAMS (Architect) married Isabella Gethin CREAGH at St. Thomas Church 1855; (5) Mathilda WILLIAMS married Joseph BOYLE at Drumcondra church, 1845. Possibly 2 more children. Also a Digby Frederick FOULKES seems to have been related to this family. Any info. please.

DLGS, 14, Rochestown Park, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland