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# The Genie Gazette

The Newsletter of  
the Genealogical Society  
of Ireland  
Volume 5 • Issue 1  
January 2000

"Welcome  
to the  
World of  
Genealogy"

## GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, DUBLIN

*Genealogical Society of Ireland Proposals Outlined*

### "GSI on the GRO"

As reported in Vol. 2 No. 11 of "The Genie Gazette" (November 1997) - The following resolutions were passed at the AGM in October 1997 of *Dún Laoghaire Genealogical Society* by an overwhelming majority of the members present. Copies of the resolutions have been forward to **Mr. Brian Cowen, T.D.**, Minister for Health & Children, who is responsible for the GRO, Dublin. Members, at home and overseas, were and are still encouraged to contact either their local Teachtaí Dála or to write directly to the Minister seeking support for these important resolutions. The Minister for Health & Children can be contacted at Dept. of Health & Children, Hawkins House, Poolbeg Street, Dublin 2.

**Resolutions - (1) Charges at the General Register Office, Dublin** - That, this meeting deplores any proposed increases in the fees charged to family and historical researchers in the General Register Office and instructs the incoming Executive Committee to write accordingly to the appropriate Government Minister(s) and to such members of An Dáil and An Seanad who might be sympathetic to the views of the Society

**(2) The Records of the General Register Office** - That, this meeting instructs the incoming Executive Committee to write to the appropriate Government Minister(s) and to such members of An Dáil and An Seanad who might be sympathetic to the views of the Society requesting that microfilm copies of all Births, Marriages and Death Registers, now held in the General Register Office, be placed in the **National Archives and National Library** for free access by family and historical researchers. This policy was further clarified in December 1997 to

propose that *microfilm copies all GRO records over seventy years of age* (i.e. a progressive transfer of records) to the National Archives and the National Library (and other repositories around the country) provided for the greatest public accessibility to these records, whilst, freeing-up the resources of the GRO to more effectively deal with its core function of "registration and certification" and custodian of the originals. The *Genealogical Society of Ireland*, as the successor organisation to the DLGS, fully accepts that these resolutions adopted in 1997 represent the current Genealogical Society of Ireland position on the records of the General Register Office, Dublin.

### LAST ISSUE OF DLGS JOURNAL

The last issue of the Quarterly Journal of Dún Laoghaire Genealogical Society was published in December 1999. This is Vol. 8 No. 4. and completes the 1999 issues making way for a new Quarterly Journal of the Genealogical Society of Ireland to be published in the Spring of 2000. Articles in this last issue of the DLGS Journal include "Life after Death? I Hope So!" by Jim Coyle; "untimely taken"... from yesteryear's papers" by Declan Byrne; "The Band Who Went to War" by Philip Lecane; "The Estate of Gilbert Conry 1853" by Pat Callery; "Wrong Expectations" by Gordon Johnson; "Magistrates for County Dublin in 1852" by Margaret O'Reilly; "Ireland of the Hidden Centuries" by Michael Merrigan; "Balieboro District Model School 1854" by George H. O'Reilly; "Memorial at Howth Village, Co. Dublin" by Pat Callery; "Take one Townland" by Brendan Hall; "The Strangers Friend Society" by Róisín Lafferty; "What's in a Name?" by Annette McDonnell and, of course, Society News and research tips. It is hoped to produced a complete index to the 8 volumes of the DLGS Quarterly Journal 1992-99 in the coming year. Copies of this last issue available by mail: Ir£3.50 (plus Ir£1.00 p+p Ireland & UK : Ir£2.00 Others) from the Hon. Secretary, GSI (address below) or from the Genealogy Bookshop, 3, Nassau Street, Dublin 2 - stockists of all GSI Publications

### DIARY DATES

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2000**

Evening Open Meeting - **Dún Laoghaire Club**, Eblana Avenue, Dún Laoghaire. 20.00 hrs. - 22.00 hrs. Buses 7, 8, 46A, 75 & 111 - DART Dún Laoghaire station. Speaker: Mr. John Sturgeon - Irish Quaker Records.

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2000**

As above - Speaker Mr. James Davidson (NIFHS) Hon. Vice-President GSI "The 2<sup>nd</sup> Oldest Profession"

**Wednesday Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> & Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> 2000**

Morning Open Meeting - **The Port View Hotel**, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire. 10.30 hrs. -12.30 hrs. Buses 7, 8, 46A, 59, 111, 75 - DART Dún Laoghaire Station.

### Our Society's Archive

Located at 14, Rochestown Park, Dún Laoghaire. Open (Members only) **Saturdays** 14.00 hrs. - 17.00 hrs and **Mondays** (excluding 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday) 19.00 - 21.00 hrs. **Closed Bank Holiday Weekends.**

CHECKOUT THE SOCIETY'S WEBSITE

<http://www.dun-laoghaire.com/genealogy>

### NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

The Hon. Sec, Michael Merrigan, can be contacted on the new Genealogical Society of Ireland

E-mail address:

[GenSocIreland@iol.ie](mailto:GenSocIreland@iol.ie)

## MARTELLO TOWER PROJECT

**New Genealogical Archive** - The Society plans to restore the *Martello Tower* at Seapoint, Co. Dublin, to house its growing archive. This new facility - *An Daonchartlann*, will be a major visitor attraction just south of the City of Dublin complementing the *Joyce Museum*, *Dalkey Heritage Centre* and the *National Maritime Museum*. If you would like to make a donation to the Building Fund - possibly, in the name of an ancestor or loved one, please make cheques (Ir£25.00 or equivalent in US\$, CAN\$, Stg£, AU\$\$, NZ\$ or Euros) payable to GSI Building Fund and send to: Michael Merrigan, Hon. Sec., GSI at the address below.

## QUERIES RECEIVED

**Louise Collins of the USA** E-mail: ldcollins@erols.com wrote:- I am not looking for a commercial researcher but rather basic historical information on Cork and environs. I would very much appreciate any information you have on Jerome J. Collins of Cork, an engineer, who worked in the United States (late 1800's) for James Gordon Bennett and the Herald newspaper. He was a member of the ill fated Jeanette Arctic Expedition. He is buried, I am told, in the Curraugh Kippane Cemetery in or near Cork. Is there a Museum or Historical Society in Cork?

**Jean Outram of New Zealand** E-mail: rickjean@bopis.co.nz wrote:- I have been looking for my father's family but have very little information except they came from Dublin his father's name was James Halliday and his mother was Eliza Orr. It must have been in the late 1870 as my father was born in New Zealand in 1884. If you could steer me on the right track please with information on possible connections in Ireland to either the Halliday or Orr families I would be obliged.

**Russell Buster, 4590 Overseas Hwy, Marathon, Florida 33050, USA** E-mail: herbbust@aol.com wrote:- The Buster family line in the United States has been traced back to the state of Virginia in the early 1700's. The first Buster in this country apparently was William Buster, who seems to have arrived here in the early 1700's, but it is not known from whence he came or when or where he was born. There is a copy of a land grant in Virginia, dated 1702, which was granted to a Susanna Page, for transporting twenty-nine persons to this country. Among the list is a Wm. Buster. Assuming that he was at least sixteen years of age to have made the trip would place his birth in 1686 or before. Various sources place him being born in Scotland in 1680, or England around

1694, or County Donegal in Ireland in 1700, or No. Ireland in 1708, but no one has found any documentation to place him for sure in any of these places. Likewise, no one has found a ship's passenger list, or crew list, or transported felon list to show how he got here. My goal is to find some written record of William's birth, family history, and transportation to America. To go back 300 years to do this may be hopeless, but the satisfaction of finding that kind of evidence would give great satisfaction. Could you make any suggestions how I could go about trying to find out if there is any evidence that William was ever in Ireland, and if so, how he got from there to the USA?

**Tony Coulthard, 21, Glenview, Rochestown Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin** - E mail pculthrd@td.ie wrote:- Beginner's Luck .....I may have mentioned that I had rediscovered someone in Cardiff who had done a 'family tree' of the Coulthards back to 1837. It turns out that he is a genealogist! Our great grandfathers were brothers, sons of William McKinley Coulthard b. circa 1825 Scotland. Details about the Scottish Genealogical Society in the December 99 "Genie" will be useful in due course. I intend concentrating on my Irish Roots first. He has sent me a wealth of information about that branch of the family including some location maps, and down to the plot numbers in Barry Cemetery. He has given me a lead on the "Mooneys of Arklow" in that my grandmother Rose Mooney was born in Merthyr, as were her parents James and Mary, but her Grandfather John Mooney was recorded in the 1881 census as being a Labourer in the Iron Works, born in Ireland c 1820. Her Grandmother Catherine was also born in Ireland. I can now follow this up with applications for Birth/Marriage certs. from Merthyr. I am seeking a contact in Liverpool to see if there was any info on my Irish Great grandmother Mary/Maria Miller (Baptised St. Michael's Limerick 1860) who was recorded as being a servant residing in Liverpool at the time of her marriage in Waterford in 1889. Also, in Frieda Carroll's, the England & Wales census 1891 on CD was very helpful for within half an hour at we found entries for about ten of my ancestors in the South Wales area.

**Neville Casey** (E-mail with Hon. Sec. GSI) wrote:- Thank you for looking for Leith. The information I obtain was from two old death certificates for Patrick and Elizabeth Casey who came to New South Wales with their son Matthew between 1837-1840. They both died in 1867 Elizabeth died in January of that year her father was a Christopher Trevors he was a tanner. The certificate states they were married in Dublin in 1825. The information for Elizabeth death certificate was supplied by Patrick Casey. Then Patrick died in July of 1867 his father was a Matthias Casey from Meath. This time on Patrick certificate for place of marriage it stated "LEITH KILDARE"

about 1825 the information was given by his son Matthew. I am unable to determine which is correct. Matthew Casey is my Great Great Grandfather who had come to Queensland. He died in 1908. Any info. on the above please.

**John Russell** E-mail: johnrussell@ic24.net or john@russell82.freemove.co.uk wrote:- The person that I am looking for is RUSSELL I am told that he came from Blackrock, there is a Michael Russell who has signed the petition against the closure of Kill O' the Grange cemetery, and he gives his address as Blackrock, there is also a James Russell who has also signed and he gives his address as Kingstown. At this time Michael would have had a son named Nicholas aged 3 approx. I believe he married a Catherine RILEY this is how her name is spelt on birth certificates here in UK. There is a James RILEY who also signed this petition, he gave his address as Kingstown. I hope I have given enough information to enable you to help me.

**Bernice Hassett of the USA**, E-mail: B.T.Hassett@worldnet.att.net wrote:- I saw your post on soc.genealogy.com (Genealogical Newsgroup) and checked the surnames. Several of mine appear and here is our story. Bridget Culliney married Daniel Hassett - don't have their ages and don't know when or where except that it was in Ireland. They had at least two children, born in Ireland, in the early 1860's. James came to the U.S. about 1882 and married. He is our direct ancestor. His brother Patrick came to the U.S. about the same time, stayed several years and went back to Ireland. They may have had a sister Catherine but I haven't made that connection yet. It has been told to us that they were from County Clare. James married (in the U.S.) a Crotty from Scattery Island, County Clare. We are able to trace her family with birth records in Ireland. Daniel Hassett died when James and Patrick were very young and Bridget married a Mr. Ryan. I don't know when or where in Ireland. They had a child Daniel Ryan and he came to the U.S., married and died here. They may have had more. I only know about Daniel Ryan. So I wonder if you have ever heard of the people in my story. Any help please for Bernice on the above.

**Barbara Ford of Providence, Rhode Island, USA** (E-mail with Hon. Sec. GSI) wrote:- My Famine immigrant ancestors' surname appears nowhere in any list of names, and, after four years of work on them, over there and over here, would love to see it on a list! It is Carbine, or Carabine in 19th century, Carrabine in modern Mayo/Donnegal phone book. Mine was spelled Carbine, although they were illiterate. Even one on the Spinning Wheel Survey in Mayo. It is a very rare name, there are 13 on the Griffith's in Co. Mayo. There were about 10 though in Chicago IL USA in late 19th, where mine went, lived, and died. I will go get my papers from North Mayo

Heritage Center as "proof" that it exists! "Carabine. A variant of Corribreen almost peculiar to Co. Mayo. Corribreen, O Coirbin, (possibly from corb, chariot). Found in Cos. Mayo and Galway." I have posted the name once on your side of the pond, on the Famine Immigrant site. Let me know if you know anyone with the name, do have them contact me! I have been Carbine-hunting for four years.

### GEOGHEGAN FAMILY REUNION

Athlone, Co. Westmeath - 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July 2000. The last reunion was held in 1992, so it's high time to meet old friends and new. On arrival there will be an informal meeting to exchange charts and plans to make the best of our trip to the Dún na Sí Archives. Eddie Geoghegan, (E-mail: eddiegeo@eircom.net) who lives in Athlone, has organised a bus for the day, as many of us are not used to driving on the 'wrong' side of the road... A visit is planned to the old stamping ground of the GEOGHEGANS at Moycashel where a ceremony to elect a new Clan Chief will be held. Entertainment will follow in the evening... Dress is very informal. This will be a good chance to match a query on your chart with the answer on another's... Further details from: Eddie. Take a peek at Volume One of my newsletter on Eddie Geoghegan's Site (<http://gofree.indigo.ie/~eddiegeo/page12.html>) And Volume Two on my new site at: (<http://www.norwichnr2.freemove.co.uk>) Kind Regards - Josi Birkbeck.

### LATEST IN THE I.G.S. SERIES

"Irish Genealogical Sources No. 15 - The Officers and Recruits of the Louth Rifles 1854-1876" by *Brendan Hall* (ISBN 1898471 31 2) Ir£8.00 (Ir£1.00 P+P - Ireland & UK : Ir£2.00 elsewhere surface mail Ir£4.00 airmail) This book concentrates on those persons who served with the Louth Rifles from its formation from the Louth Militia in 1854 until 1876. As well as nominal lists, historical and contextual background information extracted from the Regimental History, local newspapers, etc. is provided. With about 38 pages of text and about 3,900 names on the list this publication is a must for anyone researching their County Louth roots from Drogheda, Dundalk etc. "Irish Genealogical Sources No. 16 - Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow, School Registers from 1861" compiled by *G. H. O'Reilly, MA, FRSAI* (ISBN 1 898471 36 3). Price Ir£5.00 (€6.35) (Ir£1.00 p+p Ireland & UK, Ir£2.00 others & Ir£3.00 airmail) The Kilcoole School Registers, from which the names of over 1,000 boys and nearly 500 girls have been extracted, cover the periods 1861-1938 (boys) and 1864-1918 (girls). The extracts have been combined to make it easier to find family connections. The Registers have an index and pages showing the attendances of the children

and examinations passed, etc. The information most useful to family history researchers provided in the Registers is the name of the child, age last birthday, address, occupation of the parents and the school the child came from. The Society is grateful for the kind donation of Ir£100.00 (€126.97) towards the cost of publication received from the **Kilcoole Millennium Residents Association**.

Other School Registers available in the Irish Genealogical Sources Series include **Newcastle, Co. Wicklow, 1864-1947** (Irish Genealogical Sources No. 3), **Boosterstown, Co. Dublin, 1861-1931** (Irish Genealogical Sources No. 6), **Harold Boys School, Glathule, Co. Dublin, 1904-1948** (Irish Genealogical Sources No. 11) and **St Patrick's School, Dalkey, Co. Dublin, 1894-1970** (Irish Genealogical Sources No. 13).



### MEMBERSHIP OFFICER - STOP!

It's **Seán Kane**, Membership Officer, reminding Members that their Annual Subscriptions are now due for 1999/2000 Ir£10.00 for Irish based members and, since the AGM, €15.00 (Euros) for Overseas Members. New Members - just write with details, name, address, telephone number and E-mail address (if you have one) to the Hon. Secretary, GSI, (address below). Credit Card payments are most welcome MasterCard or Visa. Payments may also be made through the secure site on the Internet at <http://www.dun-laoghaire.com/genealogy>

### THE LOCAL SOCIETIES WITH MONTHLY MEETINGS IN IRELAND

**Ballinteer FHS, Co. Dublin** - Info. Chris Ryan, 29, The View, Woodpark, Ballinteer, Dundrum, Dublin 16.

**Blessington FHS, Co. Wicklow** (west of the County) Info. etc. Maureen Phibbs, Blackrock, Blessington, Co. Wicklow.

**Cork Gen. Soc., Cork City** -Info: Michael O'Connell, 4 Evergreen Villas, Evergreen Road, Cork City.

**Dún Laoghaire Gen. Soc.** - meetings now organised by the Genealogical Society of Ireland - see front page.

**North of Ireland FHS** - meetings arranged by various branches throughout Northern Ireland and Donegal (Rep. of Ireland). Info. Hon. Sec., NIFHS, c/o Dept. of Education, QUB, University St., Belfast, BT7 1HL

**Raheny HS, Co. Dublin** - Info: Joan Sharkey, 68, Raheny Park, Dublin 5.

**Wexford FHS, Co. Wexford** - Info: Mr. Hilary Murphy, 24, Parklands, Wexford Town, Co. Wexford.

**Wicklow C.G.S., Info.** Declan Byrne, 22, Wesley Lawns, Dublin 16.

### ARCHIVIST CALLING

Frieda Carroll, the Society's Archivist, calls on all members to place a copy of your Birth Brief in the Society's Archive. Also wanted - copies of BDM photocopies; copies of Census Returns; Family Histories; Photographs; Thom's Directories; School & College Year Books; Local History Journals; Ordnance Survey Maps and Parish Histories etc. Please forward same to: Archivist, GSI, 14, Rochestown Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland. *Support the GSI Archive!!*

### 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY WICKLOW SOURCES PUBLISHED

Two excellent publications from **IRISH ACADEMIC PRESS** provide an uniquely valuable source for the genealogist and social historian, and of course, the military historian. Both by Ruán O'Donnell, who was a Guest Lecturer twice to this Society in the past, cover that traumatic period in the history of County Wicklow when hardly any family in the county was left untouched by the brutality of war and insurgency. Those of us with Wicklow ancestors owe a depth of gratitude to Ruán O'Donnell for his years of research, at home and overseas, resulting in the publication of two excellent accounts of the period. "**The Rebellion in Wicklow 1798**" by Ruán O'Donnell, *University College, Dublin* This book is the first comprehensive investigation of a county level United Irishman organisation from its inception to its final dissolution. It is also the first full length historical treatment of 1798 in County Wicklow and makes a case for reconsidering the current Wexford orientated historiography of the south Leinster rebellion. While the main body of the work spans the period 1797 to 1803, fresh account is also taken of the social, economic and political origins of the Rebellion in the region. A detailed examination is provided for every part of Wicklow in the advent of Rebellion with discussion of such hitherto neglected issues as the operation of the government's counter-insurgency strategy and the growth of native ultra-Loyalism in the county. The course of the rising in Wicklow is charted day by day from May 1798 to the underrated guerrilla campaign waged by General Joseph Holt's rump forces until the winter of 1798. The book fully explores the interaction of that county's United Irishmen with their comrades in Wexford, Dublin, Carlow, Kildare and Meath, and one of its appendices contains a list of almost 1,000 identified Wicklow United Irishmen. 1998 || 420 pages || ISBN 0 7165 2659 X cloth

£39.50/\$57.50 || ISBN 0 7165 2694 8 paper  
£17.95/\$24.95

**"Aftermath: Post-Rebellion Insurgency in Wicklow 1799-1803"** by Ruán O'Donnell, *University College, Dublin* County Wicklow, scene of some of the heaviest and intense fighting of the Rebellion of 1798, remained the most consistently disturbed part of Ireland until 1803. Militant factions of battle-hardened United Irishmen held out in the vastness of the Wicklow mountains and confounded every strategy devised to defeat them for over five years. This book investigates the underlying causes of this phenomenon and provides a detailed account of the experiences of all the major groupings, including the little known elements led by James Hughes and Michael Dalton. Unhistorical myths regarding the dynamic Michael Dwyer of Imaal are dispelled by the first detailed examination and critical evaluation of his insurgent career. All Wicklow rebel activity, however, is assessed in terms of its nature, compatibility with the cause of the United Irishmen and influence on post-Rebellion Ireland. Account is taken of such themes as the brutal 'white terror' visited on the county by resident loyalists in 1799-1801, the rise of the Orange Order, the building of the arterial Military Road and the administration of justice. The major role of Wicklow United Irishmen in Robert Emmet's plot of July 1803 is also reconsidered along with an analysis of the circumstances which gradually contained the Dwyer group in December 1803. The appendices include a list of 1,100 identified Wicklow rebels and reprints many documents of great historical significance. 1999 || 272 pages ill. || ISBN 0 7165 2628 X £37.50/\$52.50 || ISBN 0 7165 2638 7 paper £16.95/\$24.95 - Both of these publications can be ordered directly from **Irish Academic Press, Northumberland House, 4, Northumberland Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Ireland.** Telephone: (353.1.) 688 8244. FAX 6601610 or E-mail: info@iap.ie

In addition the Society has published two volumes in the very successful **IRISH GENEALOGICAL SOURCES SERIES** on the period in Co. Wicklow. These can be ordered through the GSI Website or directly from the Hon. Secretary, (address below) **"Irish Genealogical Sources No. 2 - Corn Growers, Carriers & Traders, County Wicklow 1788, 1789 & 1790"** Compiled by **George H. O'Reilly & James O. Coyle** (ISBN 1 898471 50 9). price IR£3.00 (postage IR£1.00 - Ireland & IR£2.00 overseas). The information contained in this publication has been extracted from documents covering the period before **The Great Rebellion of 1798** and therefore, provide a valuable census substitute almost fifty years before the Tithing Applotment Books. **"Irish Genealogical Sources No. 14 - The People of the Rebellion - Wicklow 1798"** (ISBN 1 898471 26 6) Price

IR£8.00 (p+p Ireland IR£1.00 and others surface mail IR£2.00 - airmail IR£4.00) compiled by *Pat Power* of Arklow its the first attempt to list all those involved in the Rebellion in Wicklow from existing records. It has a reproduction of a 1760 map of the county to assist readers. The names listed have probable addresses coupled with information on other aspects of their lives. A must for all with connections with Wicklow.

### The Genie Gazette

The Monthly Newsletter of the GSI is free of charge to our members at the Open Meetings or for just IR£3.00 p.a. by mail. Overseas Members receive their copies by mail each month as part of their membership fee. Non-members in Ireland may have copies (12 issues) by mail for IR£6.00 p.a.

### WILL YOUR RESEARCH WELL

As genealogists, we tend to amass a lot of files, notes and discs over the years of our Family History Research. We also collect useful publications e.g. local and family histories etc. But do we ever give a thought to what happens to all our precious research data when we die? Not everybody in the family shares our love for genealogy - old files, notes or loose papers and books. Don't let them be dumped or sold at some car boot sale - donate them to the Archive of the Genealogical Society of Ireland for future generations of researchers to enjoy, learn and admire your work. Why not make provision in your Will for this donation and don't forget to let us know. *Thank You.*

### RAHENY CENSUS PUBLISHED

Anyone interested in the Raheny area of Dublin (postal district 5) will be delighted to get a copy of a new 36 page booklet produced by the Raheny Heritage Society. This publication provides the 1901 and 1911 Census Returns for Raheny and Environs in surname order with addresses, occupations, etc. Included also is a very interesting history of Raheny and a map of the Parish and environs. Copies are available from Ms. Joan Sharkey, RHS, 68, Raheny Park, Dublin 5, Ireland. Price IR£3.00 plus postage IR£1.00. The GSI thanks Joan & the RHS for the kind donation of a copy for the GSI Archive.

### GSI REGISTER OF RECIPROCAL RESEARCH

The Society is inviting all its members at home and abroad to place their names on the GSI Register of Reciprocal Research. The purpose of the Register is help each other in our research, especially, when members cannot get to the various repositories in Ireland or indeed, Irish based members who are researching links overseas. Costs, if any, associated with this type of research would only be for postage and photocopies etc. and would be agreed, in advance, by the members concerned. The

Register is for *voluntary research assignments only*. It is the policy of the GSI to direct persons seeking commercial research assignments to APCI or AUGRA. Should you like to help out as **RRR Volunteer** - just send your name, address and E-mail (if you have one) to **Frieda Carroll, FGSI, 14, Rochestown Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland.** Don't forget to indicate the area (i.e. County) in which you offer to do research AND the area in which you would like research done. Indeed, why not celebrate the Millennium by donating a source on microfilm/fiche or CD Rom to the Society's Archive - contact the Hon. Sec. -address below

### RESEARCH TIPS No. 1 DON' FORGET TO CHECK THE WILLS

Wills can be an important source of information as they can provide dates, relationships, addresses, etc., And it is obvious from a check on the indices in the National Archives, Bishop Street, Dublin, that not everybody was a millionaire - some of the wills indicate that the individual concerned had very little to leave anybody! Two examples show the sort of information expected :- "John Reilly effects unadministered under £450 - 9<sup>th</sup> April 1861. Letter of Administration (with the Will annexed) of the personal estate of John Reilly late of Sandwith-place in the city of Dublin deceased who died 7<sup>th</sup> October 1850 at same place (left unadministered by Mary Reilly his widow) were granted at the Principal Registry to Mary Waters otherwise Reilly (wife of Thomas Waters) of Harmony-row Dublin the Daughter one of the next of kin one of the Residuary Legatees. Former Grant Consistory of Dublin 1851" Just look at the information above - a date of death before Civil Registration commenced in 1864 - the married name and husband's name of a daughter - the addresses of father and daughter - a veritable gold mine !! I had thought that my great grandfather might have lived in South Great Georges Street in Dublin sometime in the 1860s and when I came across a death of a Michael Reilly in 1876 of the right age, etc., I was very hopeful but a look at the index of wills soon wiped the hopeful look off my face. "Michael Reilly effects under £9,000 - 6<sup>th</sup> March 1876. The will of Michael Reilly late of 28 South Great Georges Street Dublin grocer and wine and spirit merchant deceased who died 12<sup>th</sup> February 1876 at same place was proved at the Principal Registry by the oaths of Rosanna Reilly of 28 South Great Georges Street (the widow) and Thomas Reilly of 64 Mary's Lane in said city grocer the Executors". My great grandmother's name was Bridget so that quickly ruled out Michael - pity, and him with £9,000 !! Now I wonder if Bridget might have been called Rosanna also or if Michael might have married twice ! G.H.O'Reilly, E-mail: ghor@iol.ie