

- News on the General Register Office, Dublin
- New Queries
- News from the World of Irish Genealogy

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The Gene Gazette

The Newsletter of
the Genealogical Society
of Ireland
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Comhairsle
Ár Sinneir

Remember Our
Ancestors

PUBLIC CONSULTATION BEGINS AT LAST

The Future Shape of Civil Registration in Ireland under Review

Consultation on improving the situation at the General Register Office in Dublin is underway at last. Meetings have been arranged with the Deputy Registrar General for various groups, including CIGO/APGI and the Genealogical Society of Ireland, to set the groundwork for a Consultation Document to be released by the GRO at the end of the month. The proposals prepared by this Society, along with others, will be examined in this consultation process. However, with new Project Managers appointed by the GRO, the opportunity now exists to discuss the computerisation at Roscommon, any new certification process and possibly, on line access to the GRO records. This Society will strongly advocate the adoption and implementation of the "Regional & North/South Proposal on the Records of the General Register Office in Dublin" as the most progressive approach to accessibility to these records by the public. On the issue of accessibility to GRO records and following on the successful campaign by this Society to have charges waived at the Valuation Office for certain categories of researcher, the matter was raised again when the Dáil resumed on Tuesday, 30th January 2001. Mrs. Nora Owen, T.D. (Fine Gael), asked the Minister for Health and Children, if he will consider waiving charges for old age pensioners when they seek to obtain information about their family background in the Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages in the same way as such charges have been waived in the Valuation Office when senior citizens seek to do research in the archives; and if he will make a statement on the matter. In reply, the Minister for Health and

Children, Mr. Micheál Martin, T.D., (Fianna Fáil) said that "the administration of the registration system is a matter for An tArd-Chláraitheoir, the Register-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages, and for local registrars who operate under his general direction." He then outlined the present charges and the legislation concerned before saying "Issues such as the waiving of fees for old age pensioners will be considered in the context of the current review of the registration service, which is being undertaken to identify the changes necessary to provide a modern and effective service based on the electronic recording of events." The "Roscommon Experiment" was raised by Deputy, Mr. Denis Naughten, T.D. (Fine Gael) on Wednesday 31st January 2001, asking the Minister for Health and Children, "when his Department will complete the decentralisation of the General Register Office to Roscommon Town; the reason for the delay in completing this transfer; and if he will make a statement on the matter" In reply, Minister Micheál Martin said "the full decentralisation of the General Registrar's Office to Roscommon is scheduled to take place on completion of the project to computerise the historical records of the office. This project is under way in Roscommon and it is planned to have it completed by end 2002. The delay in finalising this major project can be attributed mainly to the complexity of the computerisation of the historical records and to the fact that an appropriate staffing package was the subject of protracted negotiations during the year 2000. However, work is now progressing on the filling of the approved posts as a matter of

priority." Readers can be forgiven if they feel that there is an air of "groundhog day" about the Minister's reply as this project was first mooted back in November 1992 with many "completion dates" and "projected completion dates" already come and gone. Maybe now, with this new consultation process we're nearing the end of this long running saga of greater accessibility to GRO records – we'll see!!!

DIARY DATES

EVENING MEETINGS

Monday 12th February 2001

Evening Open Meeting

Dún Laoghaire Club, Eblana Avenue,

Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin

20.00 hrs – 22.00hrs

Bus: 7, 7A, 8, 46A, 75, & 111.

DART Dún Laoghaire Station.

Speaker: Philip Lecane

Topic: "The Western Front 1914-18"

Monday 12th March 2001

Evening Open Meeting.

Venue & Time: as above

Speaker: Paula O'Kelly

Topic: "Dublin People & Places in the early 20th century"

Monday 9th April 2001

Speaker: Muiris Ó Raghail

Topic: "County Library Sources"

Monday 14th May 2001

Speaker: Siobhán O'Rafferty

Topic: "Royal Irish Academy Sources"

MORNING MEETINGS

Wednesday Feb. 28th & Mar. 28th 2001

Morning Open Meeting 10.30hrs

The Port View Hotel, Marine Road,

Dún Laoghaire.

Discussion Group on Family History

MARSH LIBRARY

The Saturday outings will begin again this year on the 24th February with a visit to Marsh's Library. This is the first and oldest public library in Ireland and was it founded by Narcissus Marsh in 1701. Marsh, as Church of Ireland Archbishop of Dublin (1694-1703), was aware of the need for a library for the ordinary citizen of Dublin at the time. He purchased an old library from Bishop Stillingfleet and had a new library built on that site in the garden of St. Sepulchre close to St. Patrick's Cathedral. The building was designed by Sir William Robinson whose major work was the Royal Hospital at Kilmahnam in Dublin. Many people are unaware of the existence of this treasure housing years of history. It should be interesting especially the fact that it is haunted! **Róisín Lafferty, PRO,** GSL Tel: (01) 280 0894.

QUERIES RECEIVED

William S. Griffith, 18, Belmont Parade, Mount Colah, NSW, Australia 2079. Write:- Seeking info. on Maurice Flynn, a RC native of Cork born c. 1820 and ancestor of a son-in-law, joined the Royal Irish Constabulary in 1839. Stationed in Co. Waterford (where?), he married a "native of England" (who & where?) in 1853. In 1858 he was transferred to North Tipperary. About 1855 he had a son, presumably born in Co. Waterford, known later in Wales as John Lucius O'Flynn. Maurice retired as Head Constable in 1871. I wish to find the marriage & the children of Maurice Flynn and more about his career than the PRO at Kew, London, gave me. Any info, please.

Sharon Crowley, E-mail:- slc33@texas.net Write:- I know that my Kane/Keane family came from Mylerstown, Co. Kildare. Michael Kane [tailor] and Bridget Dungan lived there had 9 children, have info on 5/6 that emigrated to the US.. How would I go about finding a historical society that would include Mylerstown? I really would like to know more about the town if possible and would like to contribute what info I have on the family to the correct area/society in case anyone comes along that is related to the family that might benefit from what I have so far. It has taken me 4 yrs to get what I have on the family here in the US. While it's not complete by any means it would be nice to take what I do know back 'home' for this family as most of us come looking for what info there is on family in Ireland. 2 of Michael and Bridget's daughters were nuns in the Convent of the Society of the Sacred Heart in Missouri and I was given, by the nuns, some records that tell of their life and an insight into their personalities. Michael and Bridget's one son Patrick was my G-G-grandfather, also a tailor. Any info, please.

Peter King, 10, Obelisk Rise, Kingsthorpe, Northampton, NN2 8QT, England. Write:- Seeking info. on the parents or next of kin of Sarah Flynn (Catholic) born in Dublin in the early 1840s and married a William Reynolds

(non-Catholic) at the Church of St. Peter's, Dublin on May 8th 1860 whilst he was serving in the Royal Horse Artillery stationed at Portobello Barracks, Dublin. Her father's name was Edward Flynn and he was a servant butler. Before marriage to William Reynolds, Sarah Flynn was living at 10, Grattan Court, Dublin, and after the marriage in 1860, gave birth to a son Henry Patrick on Feb. 4th 1868, whilst living at 4, Union Place, Grand Canal Bank, Dublin - after being stationed at various locations in Kent, England. William Reynolds finally terminated his military career at Newcastle upon Tyne possibly in the mid 1870s, he died in 1880 at the age of 43 at 2, Strawberry Place, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Carol Mack, E-mail:- macabella@ozemail.com.au Write:- I am trying to find out where I can begin my search in Ireland for my great great great grandfather. According to his transport information Thomas MACK was born in Dublin 1792 but his death certificate states that he was 50 when he died in 1846 so that would make his birth date 1796. Thomas was Roman Catholic, however, I don't know his parents names or the parish in which they lived. Thomas was transported from Cork 1820 for stealing feathers, on the ship Dorothy. Also how can I find out if he had any siblings.

Robert J. Grace, E-mail:- GRABERTELA@AOL.com Write:- Looking for any connection to my grandfather who was born in 1864 near Ring, Clonakilty, Co.Cork, Ireland and emigrated to the U.S. in 1894. His name was Patrick Grace and he married Catherine Donovan in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1897. He was a direct descendant of the Sheehy family and had seven brothers and sisters who all emigrated to Australia save one brother who moved to England. Two of his sisters were nuns and one brother was a priest. Any information concerning any of these persons would be greatly appreciated.

Elaine Evans, E-mail:- gemevans@telusplanet.net Write:- I am searching for the marriage of Anastasia Sheehan and Walter Evans from Thomongate, Limerick, Ireland in approx.1908. They later emigrated to Canada in 1928 to Montreal, Quebec. I would appreciate any information that you could give me. I am currently doing my family history and have come to a road block. Any info, please.

Roy Battigan, E-mail:- roybatigan-bethany@ic24.net Write:- I am a member of the GOONS and I have an unusual surname my father always said it originated from Ireland. I have researched our family history here in England and have only found 67since records began. I am near to completion now but still have a problem with my gt grandfather who could have been the one who brought over the name from Ireland, he was a little selfish, born in 1790 married in 1817 and died in 1840 one year before the first census. I have been over to Ireland and spent a week in the Archive centre and library in Dublin.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Having discovered a number of BATTIGANS. Note the spelling. None of these can I find a trace to my family but surely the link is about somewhere. I have looked at all the records in Dublin and I think a search is now required of Church records before the official records began. Any info. please.

Marney Young, E-mail:- marneyy@home.com Write:- I am looking for any info on our family members by the names of Halladay, Owens, or Dilworth as they were born in Pettigo, Ireland. I hope you can help or re-direct so I can find something, anything.

Myra Anderson, E-mail:- myrae@telusplanet.net Write:- Could you please add the name of William Miltimore to your list of names born May 1736 in Ireland and married a Janet Gregg whose parents were born in Londonderry Ireland. In 1720 the Gregg's relocated to the US and the first mention is of William buying a house in the US in 1756, but we have not idea of when he arrived. I have had a researcher looking for the Miltimore name in Ireland, but she has been unsuccessful in finding the name at all. Could anyone suggest another name, and I have been wondering why so many names end in "more". Any suggestions?

Dennis Lawrence, E-mail:- lawrend@home.com Write:- My relative moved from Dublin arriving in Canada in 1837. Noble Lawrence was a child 17 years of age and accompanied his Mother and Father to Little York now known as Toronto. How best to proceed to find out about this gentleman, not knowing the names of his parents?

Karen Whetston, E-mail:- whetston@bellsouth.net Write:- I am researching the Whetstone or Whetston surname, specifically the families of John Whetston or Whetstone, Jr. and his wife Katherine Lynch Whetstone, both supposedly born in County Kerry in 1821. Katherine's parents were Daniel Lynch and Nora Egan. I believe John and Katherine had a couple of children before emigrating to the United States, probably in the 1850's but I am not positive. I am also researching the family of Daniel Brick (b. 1807) and Mary Finn, who were also from that area. Any info, please.

Dorothy Lawton, 39, Colwyn Drive, Knypersley, Stoke-on-Trent, ST8 7BJ, England. Write: Seeking info. on Thomas Bloor who was born in 1812 at Newcastle-under-Lyme in Staffordshire, England, the son of Ephraim and Sarah. He is mentioned in his father's will of 1833. Thomas died in 1848 of "consumption" at Newcastle. His occupation was a joiner. Thomas was married to Alice Whyte, who, according to the 1881 Census, was born in Ireland. Two of their children were also born there - Sarah A. (b. c. 1839) and Ephraim Thomas (b. c. 1840). On the 1891 Census, Ephraim Thomas, was shown as born in Co. Meath. Their other two children, Hannah (b. 1843) and Alice (b. 1846) were born in Newcastle, therefore, it is possible that

the family left Ireland circa 1836/7. Any info. would be most appreciated.

Brenda Edman, E-mail bbr.cek@gateway.net
Wrote:- My husband's mother was born in Coolcumisk, County Kerry in 1899. We have not been able to find the location of this Townland. Can you tell us if the name has been changed and where it is located? Her name was Bridget Sullivan and her parents were Roger and Margaret (Coffey) Sullivan.

Hilda E. Gregory, 17, Fairlight Gardens, Fairlight Cove, East Sussex, TN35 4AY, England. Wrote:- Seeking marriage or any information on Matthew Ward, farmer, and particularly, his wife - nee Buckley - my great grandparents. The last known address was Bow Island, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow, from where their daughter, Maria, married James Fidler in 1880. I would love to know who this mysterious Buckley great grandmother was. Any info. please.

James Michael Sproat, E-mail: jsproat@worldnet.att.net Wrote:- I am seeking information about my Great Grandfather, Thomas O'Neill. His Father was supposedly Hugh O'Neill, Mother was Bridget Hoey of Rathfarnham. His Grandfather was also Hugh O'Neill. He was born November or December 28th, 1862 (Baptism records at Rathfarnham). This fits because we know he came to the USA in 1880-81. He married Mary Jane Hannon of Dixon, in Illinois in 1882. I am seeking any family left in the area, my Mother, Peggy O'Neill/Sproat and her sister are the only two left in the family, and Thomas had eight children, his son, Henry had eight children (my Grandfather). I would appreciate any help you might give me, please let me know.
Stuart Rosenblatt P.C., Irish Jewish Genealogical Society, E-mail mastere@medianet.ie Wrote: Seeking info. on Mary Ann Lucas who married Samuel Lucas Westport Co Mayo 22/12/1844. Could any person know where to look for this marriage certificate which is not in Joyce House. This was a Jewish marriage. There are no Jewish records until 1845. Any help would be appreciated as the descendants in Australia need religious rite conformation.

M.S. Wroe, 15, Haybridge Avenue, Hagley, Worcestershire, DY8 2XG, England. Wrote:- I discovered that my great-grandfather, Michael Wroe, was born in Ireland circa 1826/7 in Dublin and moved later to Manchester, England. He married in 1846 in Manchester to Grace Barlow. No further information was entered on the Register. I would be most grateful for any links or possible research avenues in Dublin. (Ed.) However, there being not one of the name Wroe in the Dublin Telephone Directory of 2000, it is possible that his name was Michael Roe.
Philip Jones, 23, Boundstone Road, Boundstone, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 4TW, England. Wrote:- Seeking info. on Thomas Creal (or Crail), a mariner on a Revenue Cruiser when he married in Belfast on October 19th 1845. His father was Henry Crail, a

Coastguard. Areas of interest to my research are Carrickfergus, Larne, Brandon (Tralee), Glandore, Aran Islands and Galway City. Any help please on Thomas Creal my great grandfather would be most appreciated.

LETTERS

Faye Robinson, Queensland, Australia, Email: john-faye@iname.com 2nd February 2001
Dear Michael, **Re: GSOI recommendation to relieve pressure at GRO, Dublin.** I read in the Queensland Genealogical Society's Journal of your proposal. I think your suggestion that the Government make microfilm copies of all registers of birth, death & marriages over 70 years of age, available in the National Library, the National Archives and Regional Centres throughout the country is an excellent one. As a descendant from Irish folk I will want to come to Ireland again to do genealogical research. Certainly, it would be more interesting from a tourist point of view and convenient, not to say less expensive to do research in the relevant counties rather than in a busy office in Dublin. I believe that Genealogy tourists would stay longer because they would be finding out more about their ancestors which would increase interest in the local areas and also increase the areas of interest. We travel to England for our holidays every two years and stay abroad for 3 months. During this time we travel about the countryside do the tourist things and do research in our relevant areas. I believe there are many 'baby boomers' such as ourselves who are in the position to do trips of this kind and these people would provide a great source of foreign income to Ireland if facilities for research are improved. We have heard from other researchers of the difficulties the facilities and structure in Ireland present. Also the unco-operative response from the clergy they have met with in Ireland. For people wanting to access information on their ancestors such as ourselves this has had such a negative effect that we have not yet even tried to go to Ireland to do research although we would love to. I want to find out more (if possible) about my G. G. Grandmother and G.G. Grandfather the former from Kilkenny and the latter from Cork. If you are successful in persuading the Government I would be very happy to include Ireland in our next trip which is August to November of this year. Good luck and Best Wishes. FAYE ROBINSON

OVERSEAS MEMBERS

Following a number of inquiries about overseas membership renewal dates the position is: Overseas members who have joined the society since 1st January 2000 have their membership year calculated on the basis of twelve calendar months from the date they joined e.g. suppose you joined on 14th March 2000, then your membership fees will fall due on 1st April every year. Overseas members who joined the society before 1st January 2000 will have their membership year calculated from the date of their most recent payment and

thereafter membership fees will fall due on that date every year e.g. if your last payment was on 20th August 2000, then your membership fees will fall due on 1st September every year from now on. All overseas members will be notified, in advance, of their renewal dates. Annette McDonnell, Membership Officer, E-mail: mcdonnellanette@hotmail.com

"A BROOKLYN FAMILY"

Brooklyn native Patricia Mansfield Phelan is the author of a newly published work, "*A Brooklyn Family: A Brief History of Mary Elizabeth Ryan, John Francis A. Stewart, and Their Ancestors*". The book presents genealogical and historical information about members of an old Brooklyn Irish family, whose members included several prominent politicians and who had such names as Stewart, Ryan, McNulty, McDonough, Brady, Reilly, Seaman, and Conklin. A Brooklyn Family should appeal to anyone with an interest in genealogy, family history, Dublin City, Brooklyn history, or Irish and Irish-American history. Among the individuals highlighted in the text are:- Alderman David Samuel Stewart, a first-generation American, staunch Republican, and last president of the Board of Aldermen of the old city of Brooklyn, who remembered the debut of the Brooklyn Eagle in the late 1830s and Charities Commissioner, James J. Ryan, an immigrant from Dublin City, "whose funeral procession in 1895 was one of the largest that has ever passed through the streets of Flatbush." The proprietor of Ryan's Hotel and the owner of a marble works, he donated the baptismal font still in use today in Holy Cross Church. William H. Stewart, a young Brooklyn police officer who was among 32 people to die of consumption in Brooklyn in the first week of 1861. Mary Elizabeth Ryan and Frank Stewart, whose 1885 marriage, united the daughter of one of Brooklyn's most prominent Democrats with the son of one of its most ardent Republicans; Teresa Ryan; Elizabeth Seaman, a "member of the old Seaman family of Long Island," whose ancestry could be traced to 1545 in Southwold, England, and who married the Irish David Stewart. David Stewart, who immigrated from Co. Tyrone; Alexander McGuire, "one of the most popular young men of Flatbush" and Margaret McNulty, Irish immigrant and mother of ten children, who buried three husbands. The book, which contains an index of about 150 names, consists of 70 pages (including front matter and index). The book, which sells for \$20 (plus postage, and sales tax where applicable), is published by Glanvil Enterprises. To order, email Glanvil2@aol.com. Postage for domestic orders is \$3; for overseas orders, \$5. For postage rates for multiple orders, please email. About the author Patricia Mansfield Phelan, a great-granddaughter of Mary Elizabeth Ryan and Frank Stewart, traces her roots to Ireland, England, France, Switzerland, and Germany. Born in Flatbush, she now makes her home in

Freeport, New York, where she lives with her husband, novelist Tom Phelan. A poet and freelance editor, she is also an officer of the Irish Family History Forum, a Long Island, New York, genealogical organisation.

OUR GENIE UPDATES

1901 CENSUS Next month will see the 100th anniversary of the taking of the Census of Ireland on March 31st 1901 – the earliest complete census returns available for Ireland. The Society is commemorating the event by publishing the indexes to the Census for the Greater Dún Laoghaire Area e.g. the Urban District Council areas of Blackrock, Kingstown, Dalkey and Killiney/Ballybrack including all villages etc. in these areas. The total population of the district in 1901 was circa 30,000, however, these indexes will contain only the names of the heads of household, visitors and lodgers: their addresses, occupations; age, place of birth and the Census reference number. This allows any researcher to access the originals in the National Archives in Dublin or through the LDS Family History Centres around the world. The volume for Blackrock is already available. Others to follow shortly.

MUNICIPAL MUSEUM? The possibility of having a Municipal Museum & Art Gallery in Dún Laoghaire was raised, once again, in a submission to the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council by the local community tourism company, Dublin's Riviera Limited. The plan called for the restoration and refurbishment of the Municipal Buildings and Fire Station at Kelly's Avenue to house a county museum, art gallery and the county archives. The Dún Laoghaire Borough Historical Society has been campaigning for a museum for over twenty years and the plan envisages the County Council entering a "heritage partnership" with the historical society which already has a considerable collection of items for a museum. Info. Colin Scudds, DLBHS, 7, Northumberland Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

BIRTH BRIEF REGISTER The Archivist, Frieda Carroll, FGSI, is advising all readers that the Genealogical Society of Ireland has a Birth Brief Register where members and others may deposit copies of their family trees and have all deposits registered and an official receipt provided. Why not avail of this opportunity to have your genealogy registered with the Society for future generations of researchers and thereby, assisting the collection of genealogical material on the Irish nation and her Diaspora. Birth Brief forms available from Frieda at Archivist, GSI, 14, Rochestown Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS Membership Officer, Annette McDonnell, has ordered a full reprint of the Membership Cards as a fault has been discovered in the printing of the original batch. Also, it is intended to include more information on membership of the Society on the new cards. The cards will have the

"Mungovan Badge" emblazoned on the front with all membership details on the reverse. Members should start receiving the replacement cards from later the month. We apologise for any inconvenience.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE The Society is pleased to learn that an "Irish Genealogy for Beginners" course is available in the University at Newcastle-on-Tyne in the North of England. The course is given by Godfrey Duffy a very experienced genealogist, author of "Tracing Your Donegal Ancestors" and of a number of articles on the subject. The university is hosting this course as part of their Adult Education Programme. Like the courses available here in the Blackrock Campus of University College Dublin, the Society strongly encourages members and readers to consider the benefits of a comprehensive and structured course in genealogy. So if you're in reach of the Newcastle course, contact Godfrey Duffy by E-mail: Godfrey2000@yahoo.com or for the Dublin courses contact the Adult Education Dept., UCD, Belfield, Dublin 4.

NUNS REGISTER Have you family members who were born in Ireland and became nuns? If so, the Society is compiling a Register of Nuns of Irish origin and would welcome details of your family member. The details sought include, name, religious name, order, parent's names, place of birth, date of birth, entered order, date and place of death etc. and, if possible, a short biography of her life. Contact: Clare Malone, Registrar, GSI Nuns Register, 90, Parnell Road, Dublin 12, Ireland.

I.G.S SERIES George H. O'Reilly, MA, the Editor of the Irish Genealogical Sources series has provided the Board with a very interesting publications programme for 2001. Included in this year's programme are volumes on the Royal Hibernian Military School, an index to over 30 thousand memorials from County Louth and a fascinating account of Arklow from the 1870s with drawings of each house. Work on the memorials in the Jewish Cemetery at Dophin's Barn is continuing with Ray Collins sorting the massive amount of information received from Stuart Rosenblatt in order to publish this work in the usual A5 format. However, George O'Reilly stresses the need for sponsorship to enable the Society publications programme to make more and more valuable sources available to researchers at home and overseas. If you would like to sponsor a publication, possibly in the name of a loved one, why not contact George on E-mail: ghore@eircom.net

LOCAL HISTORY JOURNALS The Society is building up a collection of local history journals from all over Ireland. Frieda Carroll, our Archivist, encourages all members to keep an eye out for copies of local history, parish or school journals at book sales around the country. Donations of this type of material are very useful for family history research. Please forward journals to Frieda at Archivist, GSI, 14, Rochestown Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

PUBLISHED CENSUS "Irish Genealogical Sources No. 22 - 1901 Census Index for Blackrock, Urban District Area, County Dublin" Compiled by Marie Keogh, ISBN 1 898471 76 2. Price Ir£6.00 €7.60 (postage IRL & UK Ir£1.00 : Others Ir£2.00 surface & airmail Ir£4.00). The first volume covers the Blackrock UDC area and contains the names, addresses, ages and areas of birth for over 4,500 people being the heads of households, visitors and lodgers in the area. Available via the website or from the address below.

NORTH OF THE BORDER The Northern Editor of "The Genie Gazette" is **John Sturgeon**, 37, Nettle Hill Road, Lisburn, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland. John welcomes comments, news and suggestions for northern readers on matters concerning genealogists in Northern Ireland. The GSI Rep. in Northern Ireland is James Davidson who is glad to report that the Northern Ireland Executive has announced that it will provide free travel on public transport in Northern Ireland for persons over 65 years of age. Though, this will bring the North into line with the Republic where such facilities have been in place for years, it should make the joy of family history and the northern repositories accessible to many more people across the North. The scheme will come into effect on October 1st this year. James Davidson is seeking a photograph of a car or van operating in Ireland during WWII using gas. One with the gas balloon on the roof. Any help on this query much appreciated. James Davidson, 4, Priory Close, Lambeg, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland.

FOURTH IRISH GENEALOGICAL CONGRESS will be returning to Trinity College Dublin between the 17th and 23rd September 2001. Checkout the Congress website: <http://indigo.ie/~irishgc> and more importantly, to book early to attend what will be a most exciting and informative occasion. Irish Genealogical Congress, c/o NAI, Bishop Street, Dublin 8, Ireland.

GSI ARCHIVES

Frieda Carroll, GSI Archivist, wishes to thank John Kerrigan of New York for the donation of family photos to the Society's Archive. Frieda welcomes such donations as valuable contributions to the Society's collections. *Thanks John!*

ARTIST IN DUBLIN

Have you located the old family home in Ireland? Why not have a painting or line drawing of it to display in your home or office? **Veronica Heywood** a renowned artist and arts educator in Dún Laoghaire undertakes such commissions from family historians around the world – interested? Why drop her a line at 38, Cross Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin or why not call her on Dublin (353.1.) 280 3204 or on E-mail: heywood59@hotmail.com

<http://welcome.to/GenealogyIreland>

The Society's Website