

- Civil Registration Plans Rejected
- New Publications
- News from the World of Genealogy

ISSN 1393-3183

Newsletter Editor *E-mail* GenSocIreland@iol.ie

The Gene Gazette

*The Newsletter of
the Genealogical Society
of Ireland
Volume 6 • Issue 6
June 2001*

*"Cumbria AR
Ar Sinsir
Remember
Our
Ancestors"*

GRO CONSULTATION – THE LAST STRAW

Consultation on the Future of the GRO Fundamentally Flawed & Unfair

"Bringing Civil Registration into the 21st Century" - the long awaited consultation document on the future of the General Register Office in Dublin was a deep and worrying disappointment to Irish genealogists. Besides the whole process being high-jacked by the Dept. of Social, Community & Family Affairs as part of a grand scheme to introduce a computerised civil database for government departments, the process was fundamentally flawed and grossly unfair. Hopefully, most genealogists had the good sense to reject out of hand this consultation process and thereby, avoided being sucked into a heavily security conscious scheme aimed at closing or limiting access to the records of the GRO. Since 1992 several Ministers resorted to delivering the "Roscommon Mantra" every time anyone raised the appalling service at the GRO in Dublin, indeed, for those genealogists who constantly complained about the service over the years, this long promised consultation document is nothing short of a slap in the face. How many times have we been assured that all the problems at Lombard Street would be solved by the completion of the computerisation of the records of births, marriages and deaths? Now it appears we'll have to wait several more years as neither the

technology nor the will exists to bring forward this much promised greater accessibility. In the meantime, it may well be an uphill battle to avoid legislation being enacted to facilitate the implementation of the goals of this document, inclusive of "safeguards" and "levels of access" – isn't it time to say enough is enough. Spending on the "Roscommon Experiment" has not been value for money for the Irish taxpayer, it's incapable of producing what was claimed by the "Roscommon Mantra" delivered by successive Ministers of Health since 1992 to Deputies in Dáil Éireann. Indeed, changing the goal posts at this stage to facilitate the development of what would be a "National Civil Database" is simply another means of pouring more good money after bad. This scheme, if implemented as proposed, would effectively remove the "public record" status of the GRO records. The allocation of "Personal Public Service Numbers" to facilitate the tracking of life events, other than those covered by the GRO, and to have such centrally recorded is the main goal of this document. The prevention of the fraudulent use of Birth Certificates, mentioned many times, could be achieved by the allocation of PPSNs to children on entering secondary school. This system would cover every citizen over 12 years of age and provide safeguards against fraud by recording information not on the GRO certificate. Clearly there's no need for the records of the GRO to be subsumed in this process at the expense of public accessibility and, no doubt, many more millions of taxpayers money? The GRO

debacle is not the only area where valuable genealogical resources are victims of administrative folly. Nobody should forget the issue of the Heritage Council's "Pay-for-View" fiasco, the state of the Irish Genealogical Project, the lack of funds and staff allocated to the National Library and the National Archives and, of course, our "bogus" Gaelic Chiefs scandal. Is there any serious genealogist in Ireland who fails to understand that time has come for Irish genealogy to have the legislative protection, national co-ordination of policy, planned development and protection afforded by an Irish Genealogy & Heraldry Bill as called for by this Society in October last year? Must we await another flawed consultation process or for the GRO goal posts to be moved for the third time? If so, why?

NEW PUBLICATION

Irish Genealogical Sources No. 25
"History of the Royal Hibernian Military School, Dublin" (ISBN 1 898471 91 6) Price Ir£8.00 €10.16 (postage IRL & UK Ir£1.00 €1.27-elsewhere Ir£3.00 €3.80 & Airmail Ir£4.00 €5.08). Edited by G. H. O'Reilly, MA, FRSAI, MGSi. This is the history of a forgotten place and, perhaps, a forgotten group of people. Both the pupils, of whom there were thousands over the years from 1770 to 1922, and the staff, are rarely mentioned as such in the history books. Yet, this school founded by people concerned with the large number of orphans in Dublin, in particular those who were orphaned because of the many wars which took place in the early 18th century, was the first of its kind in either

Ireland or England at that time. Later on other schools were established on similar grounds elsewhere in the then British Isles. Unfortunately, most of the records of the School were destroyed in England during the Second World War. This book attempts to bring together some of those remaining in order to provide both an interesting historical 'read' and to help those researching family connections and, of course, it will be of use to those interested in this aspect of military history. The book includes a history of the School, lists of pupils and staff from the 1901 and 1911 Census Returns, lists of the memorial inscriptions in the adjoining graveyard (opened in 1851), list of deaths from 1851, rules of the establishment, etc. Also, available via the Society's Website where other titles published by the Society can be found.

DIARY DATES

EVENING MEETINGS

Monday 11th June 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: **Siobhán O'Rafferty**

Topic: "Accessing Records of the RIA"

Monday 9th July 2001

Evening Open Meeting.

Venue & Time: *as above*

Speaker: **Teresa Moriarty**

Topic: "Labour History Society Records"

MORNING MEETINGS

Wednesday June 27th & July 25th 2001

Morning Open Meeting 10.30hrs

The Port View Hotel, Marine Road,

Dún Laoghaire.

Discussion Group on Family History

YOUR JUNE GENIE

UPDATES...

GSI JOURNAL The Summer 2001 issue of the Society's Quarterly Journal Vol. 2 No. 2. is now available and offers its readers an array of very interesting articles. Editor Brendan Hall MGSi must be congratulated on yet another fine edition of the Society's flagship publication. Simpson's Hospital; the Polley family of Belfast; Driving Offences in Dublin 1916; the Hibernian Magazine of 1783; the Catholic Oath of Allegiance of 1829; the Pile family annals; Deserted Children of Dublin; the Rev. Patrick Henry Kilduff; the Irish in N.E. England; the Irish in the Boer War; Louth emigrants to Canada & USA and much more besides in this 64 page edition. Copies available via the GSI Website. Price Ir£3.50 €4.45 (p+p IRL & UK Ir£1.00 €1.27 – others Ir£3.00 €3.80.

EURO CHANGEOVER There are only SIX months remaining before Ireland sees the introduction of Euro notes and coins on January 1st 2002. 11 other member states of the European Union, excluding the UK, Denmark and Sweden, will do likewise. During this month of June explanatory leaflets on the Euro are being dispatched to each of our Overseas Members showing the design of the notes and coins, including a breakdown of the timetable for the changeover. The Society is very happy to assist with any query on the new currency from our Overseas Members.

UHF CONFERENCE With the FMD crisis, hopefully behind us all – Ireland is OPEN FOR BUSINESS again with the Ulster Historical Foundation hosting a conference on "*Plantation & Colonial Migration*" in Belfast from 24th to 29th September 2001. With over 15 excellent speakers, covering a very wide range of topics, to attend this Conference it certainly is a must for those with northern roots. Booking is necessary either by mail or via the Website www.ancestryireland.com Our Society Vice-President & NI Rep. **James Davidson MGSi** asks "*overseas visitors why not make September a feast of family history in Dublin for the Congress and afterwards in Belfast for this conference?*" Further information from the Ulster Historical Foundation, Balmoral Buildings, 12, College Sq. East, Belfast BT1 6DD, Northern Ireland.

CEMETERY PROJECT The Society's Cemetery Project Officer, **Barry O'Connor FGSI**, invites members to register as volunteers for this summer's cemetery project transcribing the memorial inscriptions in the Friends' Graveyard at Temple Hill, Blackrock, County Dublin on Saturday June 16th at 10.00hrs. Please contact Barry on e-mail btoc@esatclear.ie or the Hon. Secretary (address below). Work on Vol. 5 of the Memorials of Dean's Grange Cemetery (West Section) is now at the typesetting stage and Vol. 2 of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown is coming along well according to Barry O'Connor – Cemetery Project Officer. Congratulations to Barry and his team.

GRANT OF ARMS Members should have received their new Membership Cards by now featuring the Society's heraldic badge granted by the Chief Herald of Ireland. This "**Mungovan Badge**" will appear on the GSI publications etc. following formal receipt of the Letters Patent from the Chief Herald and presentation to be held in Dún Laoghaire. It is hoped that **Barbara Mungovan Koch MGSi** and her father, in whose honour the heraldic badge is named, will be in Dublin for the presentation. Further details of the date and venue will be available soon and invitations will follow to our Irish based Members. Overseas Members who may be in Ireland at the time are very welcome to attend also. Our Autumn Journal will carry the Society's Arms, Banner and Badge on the cover of this special edition published to mark the 4th Irish

Genealogical Congress in Trinity College Dublin in September.

CHURCH RECORDS Our Member, Dr. James G. Ryan MGSi, has just published what amounts to the definitive handbook on Irish Church Records. This is very readable and yet, comprehensive account of the records available for genealogical research of Ireland's various religious denominations. With an introduction to the origins and traditions of each of the churches provided by the nine expert contributors to this publication it makes for fascinating reading. Too often authors of publications covering church records fail to appreciate that not all readers have a familiarity with the environment which may have impacted on the various religious traditions in Ireland over the past few centuries. Indeed, in many cases, this information explains the type, scope and availability of the records of a particular church. The spread or for that matter, the scarcity, of the minor religious groupings in Ireland is also explained and this is of particular interest to genealogists as it narrows the search. Details of the records, including dates, are provided for each parish or congregation of the seven Christian Churches and the Jewish Congregation in Ireland, many with fine illustrations of the records themselves. Extensive bibliographies, Website addresses, organisations and references are provided in each chapter facilitating further research on any of the religions. The only omission is one which time and possibly, the next edition will rectify – the records of the growing Irish Muslim Community. However, this publication must rank as the best available guide to Irish Church Records – a must for all engaged in genealogical research in Ireland. "Irish Church Records" edited by James G. Ryan. (ISBN 0-9539974-1-3) Price Ir£22.00 €27.95 or including postage to the UK Stg£21.00 & to the USA \$33.00. Flyleaf Press, 4, Spencer Villas, Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland. E-mail: flyleaf@indigo.ie

FOURTH CONGRESS The 4th Irish Genealogical Congress will be held between the 17th and 23rd of September 2001 in Trinity College Dublin. Early booking is advisable. The GSI urges all intending to come to Dublin for this conference to still do so as the FMD crisis has ended and IRELAND is OPEN FOR BUSINESS. Contact the Irish Genealogical Congress, c/o National Archives of Ireland, Bishop Street, Dublin 8, Ireland or via the Website: <http://indigo.ie/~irishgc> for details

GSI ARCHIVE The Society's Archive will be closed on Saturday 9th June and will not reopen until Saturday 23rd June 2001. The Archivist, Frieda Carroll FGSI, regrets any inconvenience caused. Frieda still asks Members to forward copies of their Birth Briefs for the Archive and, for those Members travelling around the country this Summer on vacation, Frieda reminds all to keep a look out for local or parish histories. The GSI Archive welcomes donations of such publications by Members and friends of the Society.

GENEALOGY RAISED AGAIN

Dáil Éireann Tuesday 1st May 2001. Deputy Dinny McGinley (Donegal SW) asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands if her attention has been drawn to the fact that visitors and others have difficulties in accessing genealogical records; and if there are any plans to improve access especially for overseas visitors. The Minister **Miss Síle de Valera TD**, in reply firstly pointed out that the **General Register Office** falls within the remit of the Minister for Health and Children. However, in her own Department, the Minister said "there are records and other material useful to genealogical researchers in the National Library and the National Archives. In the case of the **National Library**, the material is readily available to readers at the Library's reading rooms. The Library has been endeavouring to expand the range of records and materials available for research purposes and has included useful guidance on the subject on its Website: www.nli.ie. A separate genealogy service is available to personal callers to the Library giving them an opportunity to discuss their family history research with a professional genealogist or experienced staff member". Then the Minister referred the National Archives, where she said "the records used most heavily by genealogists include copies of the Census Returns of 1901 and 1911, the **Tithe Applotment Books** and valuation records of the 19th century, and copies of wills dating from the 17th to 19th centuries. Access to the records is relatively easy for members of the public visiting Dublin as the National Archives reading room is open from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., Monday to Friday." Especially of interest to overseas researchers and societies, the Minister confirmed that the more important genealogical sources held in the National Archives, including the **Census Returns of 1901 and 1911**, are now available on microfilm. Duplicates of these microfilms are available for purchase by county libraries, county genealogical centres and other institutions in order to facilitate access to the records by researchers who are based outside Dublin or are not in a position to visit the National Archives. Most of the microfilms are also available to researchers living overseas through the genealogical libraries of the **Genealogical Society of Utah**. The Website of the **National Archives**, www.nationalarchives.ie, already includes a considerable amount of information of interest to genealogists". Ms. de Valera continued "the National Archives is investigating the feasibility of adding copies of some of the most frequently used records to the Website, but this will probably take several years to achieve. The Minister concluded by saying that "An Index to Wills in the National Archives was

published by **Eneclann** on CD-ROM. Again in **Dáil Éireann Thursday 10th May 2001**, access to the **Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages** was raised by **Deputy Nora Owen** (Dublin North). Mrs Owen asked the Minister for Health and Children the situation concerning the review of the registration service; if the waiving of fees for old age pensioners when they seek to obtain information regarding their family background in the Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages will be introduced. In reply, the Minister **Mr. Micheál Martin, TD** refrained from giving us the "**Roscommon Mantra**" saying that the administration of the registration system is a matter for An tArd-Chláraitheoir - the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages, and for local registrars who operate under his general direction." He continued giving the statutory basis for the present fees and the confirmed that "a review of these fees is ongoing and the matter raised by the Deputy will be considered in the context of the review of the registration service. The Deputy may be aware of the recent launch of a consultative document on the modernisation of the registration service which invites views from all interested persons."

QUERIES RECEIVED

LIBERATION CHILDREN E-mail liberationchildren@worldmail.nl & Website <http://liberation-children.wolweb.nl> is a non-profit, self-help organisation founded in 1985 to assist individuals fathered by members of the Allied forces that liberated **The Netherlands** after WWII in the search for their fathers in their countries of origin. Liberation Children seeks volunteers who know about genealogy and research, especially in Scotland and Ireland. For information contact **Jane Schoemaker** at the above E-mail address.

MARGARET STOREY, E-mail: MAD2109@aol.com Wrote:- My g grandfather **William Harris** originated from Dublin, Apparently he was a joiner by trade. he settled in Crawcrook, Ryton, Tyne & Wear (then in the County of Durham boundaries) in the North East of England. He married my great Grandmother **Ruth Bell** of Crawcrook and had a family of one son William and three daughters Isabella, Annie (my grandmother) and Ellen. According to my grandmother's marriage certificate he had passed away. Annie was 22 years old when she married in 1900 to **William Harrison** of Clara Vale another small hamlet about 2 miles from Crawcrook. Sorry I am unable to be more specific. Any info. pls.

SHEILA CHAUDOIN, E-mail: schaudojn@machlink.com Wrote:- I have been researching my Irish family Byrne of County. **John Byrne**, (father was Hugh) born about 1790 in County Wicklow, died August 18, 1852 in Muscatine County, Iowa, USA. He married **Margaret O'Toole** in 1824. Their children are Thomas (1825), Mary (1826), Nancy (1828), Edward (1829), Bridget and

Margaret (1830), John (1835), Theresa (1836), Peter (1840), Catherine (1843). The information I have is that they sold the family farm and left for the United States in May of 1847. They arrived in the port of New Orleans in October. The mother Margaret died on board ship and was buried at sea. Another child died in route but was buried in New Orleans. Now I have another Byrne family supposedly not related to the one above. Hugh Byrne died 1899 in County Wicklow, married Bridget (?) no dates. Lived in Ballymaconey, County Wicklow. Their children: Anna (1855), others only names and no dates, Matthew, Julia, Elizabeth, Mary, Bridget, Michael and Jane. Anna & Matthew came to the USA in 1870's. Anna married the son of the John listed above. Moved to Ardon, Iowa where she died in 1938. Again any help is appreciated.

GREG MAXFIELD of Queensland Australia E-mail:- greg@maxfield.org Wrote:- I have a Great Great Grandmother who was born in Blackwater Town Ireland around 1812, her name was **Mary Ann Bannon** (known to all as Ann). Can anyone help me with information on Blackwater Town?

JEANNINE CAIN, E-mail:- cain@nfdc.net Wrote:- I am trying to find the birthplace in Ireland of **Joseph Nichols**, b. 30/10/1829, d.28/04/1903 in Upper Falls, Maryland, USA. He emigrated to Baltimore, Maryland with his brothers, James b.1826, John b.1831, William b.1833 and aunt and uncle, Eleanor and Robert Nichols 23/07/1849. They may have been Church of Ireland. All records here only give country of birth, not county. He married **Agnes Fleming** in Md. and owned a general merchandise store. Any help appreciated.

GAIL COOKSLEY, 33 Loyola Way, Attadale 6156, Western Australia. Wrote:- I am trying to find out where my great grandfather came from in Ireland and his parents and siblings names. **John William Murphy**. Born 22nd June 1808 - Ireland. Died 2nd October 1890 - New Zealand. He trained as a priest in the Catholic Church. (We have a few items of personal things to confirm this, but no indication as to where he trained or when he left Ireland for Australia). The next thing I do know is he married in Hobart, Tasmania on 4th September 1860. A son was born in Hobart, Tasmania, then the following year he moved to New Zealand where he and his wife had twin girls. The rest of his life, I do know about - except he never put his parents' name on any papers. I am really hoping a member of this Murphy family has done some research and knows something of my g/grandfather and his movements for the first 52 years of his life.

JOYCE KENNEDY, E-mail: joycekennedy@webtv.net Wrote:- I'm looking for information on my gr. grandparents. **Mary Warren**, b. 1823 in Marshalstown, Wexford, married **Andrew Kennedy** in 1841 in St. Patrick's Church in Marshalstown. I don't know any more about Andrew. They left Ireland for the US in 1854 or 1855. Five children may have been born and died in Ireland. They had

son, Andrew Warren Kennedy born in Watertown, NY in 1855 & a daughter, Katherine. I'm not sure whether she was born in Ireland or the US. Any info. please.

HAROLD KEISLING, E-mail: halsheritage@taccess.com Wrote:- I need an Irish perspective on some my name problems. **Lawrence Conner** born abt 1752 in Dublin Ireland baptised in St. Catherine's Church (Catholic) Meath Street, Dublin. (I am not 100% sure that the one we found at St. Catharine's is our Lawrence Conner who migrated to America in 1769-1770). Why would the family change the spelling of the name O'Connor to the English spelling of Conner and then hold fast to the Catholic religion? Why would they have named a son Lawrence? The 1769 Flax Growers list does not have a Connor with a first name of Lawrence or of Alexander. The 1766 census data of County Cork does not have a Connor/Conner/Connors with the first name of Lawrence or Alexander. Lawrence Conner married **Margaret Blane** in 1783. Their male children all were born in America. 1st boy: Alexander Conner b. 1784, 2nd boy: Joseph B. Conner b. c.1792, 3rd boy: James Conner b. c. 1794 and 4th boy: **Cornelius Maquire Conner** b. 1802. What are the possible explanations of these strange naming customs. Can someone please help? Ideas, Opinions, or suggestions are welcomed. I need to understand what may be happening with the names. It looks to the time period 1670-1700 is when the name was changed to Conner. The 1766 County Cork Census shows none of the name Lawrence or Alexander. Any help please.

MARILYN SUE WALKER BALDWIN JONES, E-mail: tfmsjones@riverrats.net Wrote:- Seeking information on a Great-Great-Grandmother who was born in Ireland 27 October, 1775 and married in Virginia in America 26 February 1795. Since I do not know where in Ireland she was born, I would think that trying to find birth records for **Elizabeth Murphy** would be just about impossible. Also, I don't know name of her parents. However, what I am hoping to locate would be ship passenger list that might contain her name sometime between 1775 and 1793. Information we have simply says she was born in Ireland 27 Oct 1775 married in Washington Virginia 26 Feb, 1793. Not known whether she was Protestant or Catholic. Info. on either her birth location or when she sailed to America, I'd be very grateful.

NATHAN A. D. MILLER, E-mail vermont@excelonline.com Wrote:- Am vitally interested in information on the **Chevvers** or **Cheevers** of Ballyhealy and Monkstown Castle and their connections. I am an American descendant of that family. I also am interested in the **Gribben** Family, particularly that of Ballymacormick, County Down, Ireland. I have information to share on the US relatives of these families. Any further information please.

BRIAN MARTENS. 3221 Mercury Lane, Missouri Valley, IA 51555, USA. E-mail: Uscareme2005@aol.com Wrote:- I am searching for my ancestors, **Patrick Carey** born October 20, 1800 (according to tombstone) in County Meath. He married Margaret (maiden name unknown) in County Meath. Margaret was born May 22, 1811 in County Meath. Patrick was born about 1820 in County Meath, Ireland. He was Catholic. He had three children in Ireland, John, born August of 1842 in County Meath, Matthew, born 1845 in County Meath, and Lawrence, born June 24 1847 in County Meath. Six months after Lawrence's birth, Patrick and Margaret and their three children left for the United States of America, landing in Boston, Massachusetts. From there the family moved to New York City where Patrick and Margaret had 3 daughters. From there the family moved to Linn County, Iowa. Any info. please.

EVELYN I. MANCHESTER, P.O. Box 301, Gilmanton, NH 03237-0301, U.S.A. Wrote:- Seeking info. on **William J. Sloan** and **Eliza J. Gorman** born in Ireland and married there in 1848. They are my great-grandparents on my mother's side. to Her mother (Isabelle Sloan) was born in Scotland in 1871 after my great-grandparents moved there. I would like to have the dates of birth for both my great-grandparents. Any information please.

PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGY: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lecturers, and Librarians (ISBN 0-8063-1648-9) Edited by **Elizabeth Shown Mills** who is current president of the American Society of Genealogists and the editor of the "National Genealogical Society Quarterly." This is a manual by professionals for everyone serious about genealogy. For family historians who want to do their own study, reliably, it describes the standards. For hobbyists, attorneys, and medical scientists who seek professional researchers, it's a consumer guide that defines quality and facilitates choices. For librarians who struggle to help a whole new class of patrons, it provides a bridge to the methods, sources, and minutiae of "history, up-close and personal." For established genealogical professionals, it offers benchmarks by which they can advance their skills and places their businesses on sounder footing. Dream of turning a fascinating hobby into a successful career as a commercial genealogist - this publication is a good place to start.. With 680 pp. indexed & fully illustrated in hardcover at just US\$44.95 it is great value. [http://www.genealogical.com/item_detail.cfm?](http://www.genealogical.com/item_detail.cfm?ID=3844)

ID=3844 for orders via the web.

CHECKOUT ALL OF THE PUBLICATIONS BY THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND ON OUR WEBSITE

ARTIST IN DUBLIN

Located your ancestral home in Ireland? Why not commission a line drawing or painting for your home, office or as a gift to a member of the family? Veronica Heywood is a renowned artist and arts educator based in Dún Laoghaire. Veronica undertakes such commissions from genealogists the world over. Studio:- 38, Cross Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Telephone +353.1.2803204 e-mail: localartist@ireland.com

OVERSEAS MEMBERS

GSI Membership Officer, **Mrs. Annette McDonnell**, advises that 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. In future, all overseas members will be notified, in advance, of their renewal dates by letter with the monthly newsletter.

GSI CHAPTER OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

The Society, in recognition of the growing interest in one-name studies in Ireland, has decided to establish a Chapter of the GSI devoted to the promotion of Irish One-Name Studies. Emanating from a suggestion by **Dr. Lorcán O'Flannery** MGSi, the Chapter would seek to attract membership amongst the Clans of Ireland movement and Irish based members of the UK based Guild of One-Name Studies. One-Name Studies is a well established feature of genealogy in Great Britain, however, it is relatively new amongst genealogists in Ireland. The Clans of Ireland movement has, for many, provided their first introduction to Irish One-Name Studies. It is envisaged that the Chapter will have to define Irish One-Name Studies and provide guidelines for such as there are many differences between Irish One-Name Studies and the already well defined English counterpart. Those wishing to join this Chapter of the GSI, whether presently undertaking One-Name Studies or wishing to embark on such, are invited to contact me on e-mail: GenSocIreland@iol.ie with details of the surname(s) concerned, name and address etc. It is hoped that a meeting will be arranged in July now that the FMD restrictions are lifted. **MICHAEL MERRIGAN** Tel: 353.1.284 2711