

- Irish Genealogy & Heraldry Bill
- Fifth Volume of Inscriptions Published
- Queries Received

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“Cúimhnigí ar
Ár Sinnsir
Remember Our
Ancestors”

A NEW BEGINNING URGENTLY REQUIRED

Case for an Irish Genealogy & Heraldry Bill now Stronger than Ever

Well the dye is cast and only a fool would have expected otherwise as the Social Welfare (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill is rushed through both Houses of the Irish Parliament leaving the continued public accessibility to the records of the General Register Office now in some doubt. This deplorable exercise and wanton disregard of the views of a sizeable number of the users of the GRO was not unforeseen. Indeed, back in May 2001 when the Dept. of Social, Community & Family Affairs launched a “consultation” document *“Bringing Civil Registration into the 21st Century”* this Society, alone in Ireland, warned against buying into this sham consultation process in the manner prescribed by the Department. The questions posed by the document were designed in order to produce a particular outcome that manifested itself in this legislation, which was rushed through the Oireachtas before the imminent announcement of the General Election.

Consultation a Sham

The May 2001 issue of this newsletter warned of the limitations of the proposed scheme, the closure of access to certain data, the different levels of access and the absence of any timeframe for the implementation of any new procedures proposed, including any accessibility to computerised records. The article warned of the inevitable shift from “public records” to facilitate “an opportunity to introduce greater safeguards and controls”

permitting the reclassification of the GRO records as “personal records on individuals held by the State”. Indeed, a further reclassification involved the introduction of “historic records” which would be applied to those records over 50, 75 or a 100 years old. Some genealogists advised opting for 75 years closure, apparently unaware that by doing so the universal access presently enjoyed, no matter how flawed, was conceded and ultimately doomed. Others took the view that if closure was necessary, and that’s far from certain, the normal 30 years applied to other government papers is the only option that should be considered. A reading of some of the submissions received by the Department and obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, shows that few of the genealogical organisations in Ireland heeded this Society’s warning that the consultative process was fundamentally flawed. This contributed to the situation we find ourselves in today with the passing of this legislation.

No Amendments Accepted

A gallant effort was made by Opposition Teachtaí Dála and Seanadóirí and others, including this Society, to get the Minister to amend the Social Welfare (Misc. Prov.) Bill. Indeed, during the debate the Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations (CIGO) was praised for providing expert advice on aspects of the Irish civil registration system. However, letters to newspapers now crying foul play by the Minister will do little, at this stage, to resolve the problems faced today by Irish genealogists. No matter how well intentioned, concentrating on the minutia

of the Civil Registration system obscures the vastly more important issue of public accessibility to the records of the General Register Office. This was the central issue conveyed in this newsletter in January and February 2000 when the Society’s *“North/South Proposal on the Records of the GRO, Dublin”* was published to achieve the maximum public accessibility to the GRO records in Ireland. The initiatives outlined in this proposal were amongst those adopted at the Society AGM of October 1997 and indeed, they are as relevant now as they were five years ago.

Valuable Lessons Learned

If there is any lesson to be learned from this recent fiasco, it must be that Irish genealogy and especially, the provision of genealogical services in Ireland urgently requires central planning, policy formulation and co-ordination from within the state sector. It seems that nobody, except for genealogists, view the body of documents and sources associated with genealogical research held by the state and others to represent a single heritage resource. Each department or state agency considers the documents of genealogical value in their possession as solely objects of their day-to-day functions and duties. Many officials view genealogists as a nuisance and no where is this more clearly displayed than within the department sponsoring the latest piece of legislation.

A New Beginning Required

Clearly genealogists cannot go on fighting skirmishes with this and that department or state agency over accessibility, quality of service or indeed, the need to maintain records in a particular manner or place. This is especially true for those who engage in commercial genealogical research for their livelihood where the uncertainties surrounding access to records and the unreliability of services cannot be sustained indefinitely. Genealogy needs a central authoritative figure

within the state sector charged with overseeing the formulation of policy, planning and ensuring accessibility for the public, including professional genealogists, to records held by all state departments and agencies. This person would require legislative authority to underpin the performance of such a wide ranging brief including the provision of guidelines for departments on the maintenance of records of genealogical value and, indeed, with the power to determine whether records meet such criteria. Above all, genealogists and others interested in genealogical records, would have in such an authoritative figure a conduit, within the state sector, to heads of departments, ministers and others who may have responsibility for the keeping of records of genealogical value. The government and ministers, on the other hand, would be facilitated with an "in-house" expert advisor on matters concerning the provision and development of genealogical services in Ireland.

A Wider Legislative Agenda

However, the establishment of such an authoritative position within the state sector alone would not be a prudent use of a legislative instrument. But the opportunity afforded by the legislation could also deal with the provision of accurate and binding definitions; the Office of the Chief Herald; the Hereditary Chiefs; an Irish Vexillological authority and the establishment of Standing Advisory Committees. Whilst, this Society proposed the introduction of an Irish Genealogy & Heraldry Bill back in October 2000, the proposed headings for such legislation are published here for the first time, hopefully, igniting sensible and reasoned debate amongst all concerned with Irish genealogy, heraldry, hereditary chiefs and/or related matters. These are just headings requiring fleshing-out at a later stage.

A Common Approach Needed

It is hoped that sufficient support would be achieved amongst the genealogical community in Ireland to have a provision for the introduction of an Irish Genealogy & Heraldry Bill included in the programme for government for the 29th Dáil Éireann.

IRISH GENEALOGY & HERALDRY BILL

The following points should be considered for inclusion in an Irish Genealogy & Heraldry Bill as proposed by the Genealogical Society of Ireland.

- Clear definition of genealogy and genealogical records / material / heritage
- Clear definition of heraldry and the nature of armorial bearings
- Designation of place of deposit for genealogical and heraldic records
- Establishment of the Office of Chief Genealogical Officer, based at the National Library of Ireland, to oversee the formulation, planning and execution of policy in respect of

genealogy and associated records, especially, the public accessibility to such

- Establishment of a supervisory / advisory role for the Chief Genealogical Officer in respect of government departments, local government or State agencies holding such records
- Establishment of a National Inventory of Genealogical Records held by the State or by private institutions and the publication of such
- Establishment of a mechanism to underpin best practice in the storage and public accessibility to genealogical records in liaison with the Heritage Council
- Establishment of the "Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access" to our genealogical heritage for persons in Ireland and the Irish Diaspora
- Recognition of the importance of records of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials held and maintained by ecclesiastic institutions in Ireland as part of the Nation's genealogical heritage
- Establishment of a Standing Advisory Committee on Genealogy to assist and advise the Chief Genealogical Officer with members from the commercial and voluntary genealogical organisations in the State
- Establishment of a State acquisitions policy in respect of genealogical records in private hands whether at risk or not
- Prevention of the export of original material whether in State or private ownership
- Application of functions to the Office of the Chief Genealogical Officer in respect to the provision of educational and promotional material / programmes for genealogy
- Legislative establishment of the prerogative rights of the Office of the Chief Herald of Ireland
- Legislative protection for armorial bearings in the Republic
- Legislative regulation in the application for and granting of Arms and Letters Patent
- Legislative framework for fees charged by the Chief Herald of Ireland
- Protection of copyright in respect of armorial bearings
- Legislative regulation and requirements in respect of heraldic records
- Protection of rights to inheritance in respect of armorial bearings in the Republic
- Definition of types of grantee, i.e. corporation, individual, local authority etc.
- Rights of grantees to the free use of armorial bearings and protection of such
- Protection and defined use of the Arms of Ireland
- Establishment of a Standing Advisory Committee on Heraldry and Vexillology to assist and advise the Chief Herald of Ireland on such matters
- Legislative establishment of Office of the Chief Herald as the vexillological authority for Ireland
- Clear definition of vexillology and vexillological records / material
- Establishment of a "Vexillological Register" for Ireland and a mechanism for the granting of Letters Patent in respect of flags and emblems by the Chief Herald for State, local authority or corporate bodies
- Legislative protection for flags and emblems in the Republic, especially, the National Flag and the Presidential Standard
- Legislative regulation on the maintenance by the Chief Herald of a register of Irish

Hereditary Chieftains as "national treasures" and as an embodiment of our ancient genealogical heritage, including, the requirement for the strict scrutiny by independent genealogical researchers of all applications for courtesy recognition of "hereditary chieftains"

- Provision for the awarding by Government of a Special Grant of Arms to individuals in recognition for services to the State, community, business, arts, sports or education, including Letters Patent outlining the reasons for the award

The Society welcomes comments and suggestions as to the furtherance of this important proposal in the interest of Irish genealogy and heraldry in the 21st century.

YOUR APRIL GENIE UPDATES

APRIL 2000 & 2001 – The GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, Dublin was in the news again in this month issue of "The Genie Gazette" back in 2000 with the following report. *Since the publication of the Society's Regional & North/South Proposal in January, the support it has received has been overwhelming. Indeed, in a recent letter (23. March 2000) to the Society, the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, Ms. Síle de Valera, T.D. has welcomed the Society's proposals saying "The matter of access to these records is primarily one for the Minister for Health & Children. However, your proposal that microfilm copies of all Civil Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths over seventy years old and all Indexes to the Registers over twenty years old be made available for consultation at the National Library and the National Archives is an interesting one."* While the Minister expressed doubt over the "evidential" value of copies obtained from microfilm copies held in these repositories, she said "wider access to records of births, marriages and deaths, for research purposes, is highly desirable". The Society has assured the Minister that no "evidential" use is envisaged in the GSI Proposal for copies of any GRO entry obtained from the microfilm copies to be placed, under the GSI Proposal, in the National Library or National Archives – all for bona fide genealogical research. The matter is receiving Ministerial consideration. Well two years on and no change whatsoever. In April 2001 – the headline read "Celtic Tiger in Terror of Saxon Sheep" with the report - *Much hailed over recent years, Ireland's Celtic Tiger economy was considered as one of the most resilient in Europe with a very promising future. Who would ever have thought that our dauntless Celtic Tiger could possibly have anything to fear from Saxon sheep? Who ever heard of Heddon-on-the-Wall? Then, first pigs, then sheep and then nearly all England was gripped in an epidemic of Foot & Mouth Disease last seen there in 1967. All in Ireland waited. Then, our worst fears were realised by an outbreak of the dreaded disease at Meigh, Co. Armagh in Northern Ireland from sheep*

imported from England. The Republic held its breath, then shockingly we've an outbreak in the Republic at Proleek in Co. Louth just south of Meigh. The cancellation of the St. Patrick's Day parades, social and sporting events and even in the affected parishes, the cancellation of Sunday Masses, was all testament to the national determination to stamp out FMD last seen in Ireland in 1941. The national census was also cancelled in 2001 as a precautionary measure to prevent the spread of FMD in the Republic. The census will be taken this year on Sunday 28th April 2002. Back in April 2000 the Society's Nuns' Register was established to gather info. on Irish women who entered religious life in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

SEPTEMBER 2002

XXVth

International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences will take place in Dublin from 16th to 21st September 2002. The Congress is being organised by the Office of the Chief Herald under the direction of the Chief Herald of Ireland, Mr. Brendan O'Donoghue, and with the support of the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, Ms. Sile de Valera, TD. The Congress sessions will be held in Dublin Castle and there will be a programme of other events in Dublin and in Kilkenny. The theme of the Congress will be Genealogy and Heraldry: their Place and Practice in Changing Times. Topics might include genealogy and heraldry in the age of information technology, heraldry in republics like Ireland, Italy, France, USA and South Africa etc., women and heraldry – including female transmission of names and Arms and the use of cadency marks, accessibility of heraldic and genealogical records, heraldry and corporate symbols or "logos". Application forms may be had from The Congress Secretary, Office of the Chief Herald, 2 Kildare Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. E-mail: Hergen2002@nli.ie

MONKSTOWN CHURCH Certainly the finest ecclesiastic building in the Dún Laoghaire region – the Church of Ireland Parish Church at Monkstown is to benefit from the visit to Ireland by two world-renowned choirs. The **North Jamestown College Choir** from the USA will be in concert in the church on Monday May 20th at 20.00hrs and this concert will followed on Tuesday June 25th by a performance of the **Helsingborg Concert Hall Choir** from Sweden at 20.00hrs. The proceeds from these two concerts will be shared between the Church's Building Fund and the Community Tourism Company. Tickets are priced a €10.00 for each concert and they are available from **Costello Jewellers**, 1, Northumberland Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin – tel: (353.1) 230 2311

SEÁN A. KANE, FGSI The Board has accepted the resignation of its Education & Community Officer, Mr. Seán Kane, who is stepping down from his position to give more time to the Dún Laoghaire Active Retirement Association, of which, he is President. He is active in Federation of Active Retirement

Associations, FARA, and the Irish Senior Citizens' Parliament and a keen tennis player. Though, stepping down from the Board, Seán will be maintaining his position on the Daonchartlann Development Committee dealing with the restoration and refurbishment of the Martello Tower at Seapoint. Seán first joined the Executive Committee back in 1992 and thus was one of the longest serving members of the Board of the Society. The Board wishes Seán the very best in the future.

SPRING JOURNAL The Spring 2002 issue of the Society's Quarterly Journal (Vol. 3 No. 1) is now available price €5.00 (Member €4.50). The articles include:- **Early Research into the Elmes Family** by Margaret Elmes; **Kenilworth Square, Rathgar, Dublin: Family Scraps** by Patricia Moorhead; **The Bridgmans of County Clare** by Shirley G. Straney; **Names from the Dublin Corporation Reports of 1908** by M. O'Reilly; **A Family of Little Importance** by Eamonn Dowling; **Patrick McMahon of Torrodile, Co. Limerick** by G.H. O'Reilly; **Vere Foster and the 'City of Mobile** by Brendan Hall; **Patrick Hanratty, Convict** by June Reeks; **Loughlinstown Workhouse in the 1840's** by Liam Clare; **My Cavan Connections [poem]** by Seán Mac Brádaigh, B.A.; **Murder Case in Wexford in 1824** by G.H. O'Reilly; **The British National Inventory of War Memorials** by James Scannell; **An Ulster Migration to Arklow 1597** by Seán Mac Brádaigh, B.A.; **Limerick Assizes, March 1815**. Copies of the journal are available via the Society's Website & Genealogical Bookshop, 3, Nassau Street, Dublin 2.

GSI MEMBERSHIP The Society welcomes members from all over the world and indeed, with the Membership Fee costing as little as €15.00 per annum, membership is easily available to all. In accordance with Board Res. 01/09/86 from the 1st of January 2002 the annual Membership Fee for both Irish based and Overseas Members is €15.00 payable via the Website or directly to the Membership Officer who will issue a laminated Membership Card as receipt of payment. New Members are always welcome. To become a member of the Genealogical Society of Ireland readers may use the secure payment facility on the Society's Website or write directly to our Membership Officer, **Annette McDonnell, MGSI, 4, Kippure Avenue, Green Park, Dublin 12, Éire**

THE QUEEN MOTHER

The Board and Members of the Genealogical Society of Ireland offer their sincere condolences to our members in the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand and Australia on the death of the British Queen Mother, H.M. Queen Elizabeth. The death of the Queen Mother marks the end of an era in the history of these isles spanning three centuries. She was the Queen Consort of the last King of Great Britain & Ireland, the last King Emperor of India, King George VI, who was crowned in

1937. She had many admirers in Ireland, especially, amongst the horse racing community who shared her passion for the turf and the breeding of fine thoroughbred horses. Her charm and natural affinity with ordinary folk, especially, in Great Britain's darkest days of World War II, gave much needed support and encouragement to communities ravaged by almost relentless bombing. Indeed, it was this personal fortitude, through good times and bad, that brought her lifelong admirers from outside the United Kingdom. Echoing the words of Alfred, Lord Tennyson "the spacious times of good Elizabeth," her life of 101 years is, in essence, the story of the 20th century – a story from Empire through two world wars to a modern Britain in partnership with all its neighbours in an evolving European Union. In many ways, her passing is more a celebration of a life of devotion, duty and kindness than a death widely mourned. The Society extends its deepest condolences to her family and friends.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday April 9th 2002

Evening Open Meeting, 20.00hrs

Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education

Cumberland St., Dún Laoghaire

Bus: 7, 7A, 46A, and 75.

DART Monkstown/Salthill Station.

Speaker: Collete O'Flaherty

Genealogical Resources at the National Library of Ireland

Tuesday 14th May 2002

Venue as above

Speaker: Dr. Máire Kennedy

Genealogical Resources at the Gilbert Library,

Dublin

Weds. April 24th & May 22nd 2002

Morning Open Meeting 10.30hrs

The Port View Hotel, Marine Road,

Dún Laoghaire

Discussion Group on Family History

QUERIES RECEIVED

CAROLE ATKINS SHERR, 536 Gralan Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601, USA, E-mail: carsherr@aol.com Wrote:- I am seeking information on: John H. Thompson, born about 1833, probably in Northern Ireland. He died in 1911 in Philadelphia, PA. He married Rebecca Wilson, born about 1836, probably in Northern Ireland. She died in 1911 in Philadelphia, PA. I do not know where they were married but they were Protestant in Philadelphia. I realise that the Thompson and Wilson names are very frequent in Ireland but I am hoping that someone may have info. on where as I seem to have exhausted resources in the Pennsylvania area of the USA.

GAIL COOKSLEY, 33 Loyola Way, Attadale 6156, Western Australia E-mail bgcooks@inet.com.au Wrote:- I am seeking some help and guidance in trying to locate where my g/grandfather was born in Ireland. His name is John William Murphy - Born 22nd June 1808. I do know that he trained to be a priest, but I do not know where this took place. I have made several enquiries without any results. However, recently a friend who was visiting Ireland did do some research for me and found that there may be a connection in Tipperary. She believes that the Cashel Diocese has very good diocesan records, which are held in Thurles, Tipperary. If anyone in that area reading this has any advise for me I would very much appreciate hearing

from them. I would be willing to pay a genealogist some time if there were records of such. I believe my g/grandfather came out to Australia possibly in the mid to late 1850's as he married in Tasmania, Australia on the 4th September, 1860. Any help I get would be most appreciated.

LYNDA BROWN, 7 Haywood Avenue, Sheffield S36 2QD, Yorkshire, England. E-mail: cordlynn@hotmail.com Wrote:- My great-grandfather, **John Delaney** (born 1837-1840) married **Mary Jane O'Brien**, (probably born 1847) around 1867. They were both born in Ireland. He was a Gunner in the Royal Artillery and the first occasion I can find them is when their son, **Thomas**, was born in Cheriton, Kent, on 13.12.1868. They went on to have 4 more children at different locations and another 4 in Sheffield, Yorkshire, where they settled, presumably when John left the Army. Does anyone have any more information about them, please? Or whether he would have joined the Army in Ireland or England? Any help on where to get more information would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

JUDITH A ROBERTS, 4 Shipcarpenter Square, Lewes, DE 19958 USA E-mail jar_4935@aol.com Wrote:- I am looking for any information on the ancestry of **Samuel Russell** born 9/5/1837 probably in Ballymena, Kirkinriola, Antrim. Siblings were possibly **John** and **Robert Russell**. Mother possibly named **Louden**. Joined harmony Lodge No.645 in Newtownabbey in 1879. Became a Master Mason. Was a Presbyterian. Was a linen printer. Married about 1874 a woman possibly named **Elizabeth Thompson**. Said to have had four children by her before she died. Worked for a time in Massachusetts. Returned to Ireland and married **Sarah Jane Moore** born 1851. Her father possibly named **Robert Moore**. Emigrated from Laren (Larne?) and arrived in New York City on 11/4/1887 with his family. Settled in Troy, New York. Died there 2/2/1921 at 2188 5th Ave. Troy. Buried Albany Rural Cemetery. I also have a **Samuel Russell** who owned 67 acres of land at Cross Kinnon in the latter part of the 1870's. There is no **Russell** listed in Antrim's 1823 names and places. The family may have come from Scotland.

STEVE BYRNE, 98, Glenhills Boulevard, Eyres Monsell Estate, Leicester, LE2 8UD, England E-mail:- steve.byrne@ntlworld.com Wrote:- I'm trying to research my Grandfathers descendants in the Dún Laoghaire (Kingstown) area. His generation included; **Margaret Byrne** b.1874 (d1889); **Denis Byrne** b.1877; **Christopher Byrne** b.1879; **Mary Byrne** b.1882; **John Byrne** b.1884; **Patrick Byrne** b.1886; **Sarah Byrne** b.1888; **Joseph Francis Byrne** b.1890.(my Grandfather); **Margaret Byrne** b.1892; **Gerald Byrne** b.1895: Their parents were **Joseph Byrne** b. 1852 & **Anne** (nee) **Walsh**. I know of 2 brothers & a sister of **Joseph**, they were **John** b.1848, **mary** b.1857 & **Gerald** b.1858, but there could be more. My real problem is with **Joseph's** parents, all I know is that their names were **Denis Byrne** & **Margaret Rourke** & that they married at the Church of the Assumption in Booterstown on the 30th August 1847. There were no ages or parents names on the printout I got & I can't find any other way round it. If anyone has any ideas or advice for me please contact me at the address or email above.

MERVYN JOHNSON, MGSI, 5, Glendown Lawn, Dublin 6W, Ireland. E-mail:- johnsonm@indigo.ie Wrote:- I have traced my ancestor's on my fathers side back to 1813 through the C of I parish records in the RCB & census records 1901/1911. They mostly were C of I & originated from Caslemacadam Parish in Avoca, County Wicklow although there is also RC connections including a plaque in the local Catholic church. My father **George Charles Johnson** 1909/1970 was the youngest of 13 & his parents were

Samuel Johnson 1854/1921 & **Mary Smith** 1866/1952 [latter my grandmother & godmother]. **Samuel** was the eldest son of **Edward Johnson** 1814/1900 & **Margaret Correll** c1822/1895 who married 1842 & had 9 children. **Edward Johnson's** parents [he was eldest of five] were in turn: **Samuel Johnson** born c. 1790/1828 & **Jane Ruskell** 1792/1869 who married 31/10/1813 in Caslemacadam Church. Unfortunately I cannot establish the latter **Samuel's** exact d.o.b. as the parish records c1790/1800 & some prior to that date are virtually illegible but his death was 1828 age 37. The baptismal register records a **Samuel Johnson** 1801 to an **Edward** & **Elizabeth** but this is only 12 years before the marriage date so unless it was recorded some 10 years late this must be a different person. They lived in a Townland called **Ballymoneen** until 1904 & subsequently owned a shop in **Avoca** village [Kilmagig Lower] now **Henley's** supermarket until 1968. While the current **Caslemacadam** graveyard is very well kept, the old graveyard nearby is inaccessible & I understand the inscriptions are now illegible. Can anyone suggest how I might establish my ancestry further back? Also I would be interested in any available points of interest re **Avoca** & hinterland, **Caslemacadam** Parish & the mines etc. If anybody has researched other families which married into the **Avoca Johnsons** such as **Ruskell**, **Correll**, **Smith**, **Greene**, **Higgins**, **Stedman**, **Morgan**, **Stringer**, **Kearon**, **Tuke** etc I would be happy to exchange my information.

MAUREEN HALL, 3, St. Mary's Road, Goldthorpe, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, S63 9JG England. E-mail: maureen_sid@btopenworld.com Wrote:- looking for help to find info on my grandad **Joseph O'Shea** married to **Elizabeth [Burns]** both from **Tullamore** but had my dad **James** at **Blackrock** then moved to **Sallynoggin**, **Dún Laoghaire** some where in the late 1920's. Any info. please **ANNA SCUDDS**, MGSI, 7, Northumberland Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland Wrote:- Seeking information on **Patrick Kelly**, son of **Daniel Kelly** & **Rosana Fitzsimons**, born 1860 in Dublin. Lived at 2, Upper Newmarket. He married **Mary McDonald** (Kindlestown, Co. Wicklow) on the 19th Feb. 1882. The marriage took place in the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Herbert Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow. Children:- **Ross** born 18th June 1884; **Edward**; **Catherine** born 30 January 1889. Lived at "Graham's Cottages" 11, Spring Garden Street, Dublin 1. **Mary** died in 1889 - **Patrick** went to Australia 1889/90 and landed in Sydney, NSW. We think he ended up in the hinterland in sheep country. **Catherine** got word through relatives that he died in 1932 - but no further details. Any info. please.

JOSEPH A. MUNGOVAN, MGSI

+ RIP +

News has just reached the Board of the death on Wednesday 3rd April 2002 of our American member, **Mr. Joseph A. Mungovan**. **Joseph** died from complications from recent surgery. He will be buried at **Queen of Heaven Cemetery**, **Hillside**, **Illinois** following **Mass** at **Christ the Servant Church** in **Woodridge**. **Joseph's** daughter, **Barbara Mungovan Koch** MGSI, kindly donated funds to the Society to enable us obtain a grant of a heraldic badge from the **Chief Herald of Ireland**. The badge quickly became known as the "**Mungovan Badge**" as it was dedicated to her father **Joseph A. Mungovan**. The GSI Membership Card displays the "**Mungovan Badge**" with pride in memory of **Joseph**. The **Cathaoirleach**, **Rory Stanley**, **FGSI**, the **Board** and **Members** of the Society extend our deepest condolences to **Barbara** and her family on the passing of her father.

YOUR APRIL GENIE REVIEWS

"**Memorial Inscriptions of Deansgrange Cemetery, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland – Vol. 5 West Section**" (ISBN 1 898471 22 3) published last month by the Society, this volume completes the older section of this the largest graveyard in south Co. Dublin. This cemetery opened in 1864 and contains both Catholic and non-Catholic burials from that period with current use for those with rights only. The West Section covered by this volume was opened on October 16th 1902 and contains in excess of 6,000 plots, of which, 2,500 are marked by a headstone. **Barry O'Connor** and his team have done a marvellous job in recording all the older sections of this large graveyard. Indeed, these volumes are essential reading for any local historian and are an invaluable tool for anyone researching ancestry in County Dublin. This area of the graveyard contains the Republican Plot for fallen volunteers in the 1916 Rising and the War of Independence 1919-22 along with large plots for religious orders. Whilst, some inscriptions are simple e.g. "*My husband, William Breen who was killed at Blackrock on the D & S.E.R. 15/9/1911*" others contain a lot of genealogical information and sometimes with several generations mentioned. Though, as usual the piety and sentiment contained on the inscriptions is omitted, all other pieces of information are recorded. An interesting stone **Row U2 Plot 25** (along with **Plot V2 25**) has the following inscription – *10404 Guardsman Peter Ennis, Scots Guards, died 25/04/1916 aged 33. Lieut. Joseph Costello & Vol. Andrew Joseph Byrne (Old IRA) killed Easter 1916. Bridget Clayton, d. 11/5/1931. Adversaries in the Easter Rising buried together – at peace at last. Another inscription gives more detail – **Row Q3 Plot 33** – *Erected by Joseph Rossney and Family. Elizabeth Rossney, 32, Havelock Square, Sandymount, d. 24/1/1935 aged 52 years. Her children, Joseph Rossney, d. 9/4/1916 aged 1yr. Carmel Rossney, d. 24/1/1923 aged 3 years Thomas Rossney, late Royal Navy, d. 22/8/1934 aged 52 years. Joseph Myles Rossney, d. 1/9/1988 aged 77 years.* This volume is very reasonably priced at just €13.00 and with circa 200 pages of inscriptions and index is a great addition to corpus of genealogical material now available in print from this Society. It's available via the Website and shortly in the Genealogical Bookshop, 3, Nassau Street, Dublin; Bookstop in Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre and in the National Library Bookshop. For details on the earlier volumes please see the Society's Website.*

MEETING DONATIONS

To defray some of the costs associated with the Open Meetings the Board has instituted a meeting contribution of €2.50 for the Evening Meetings in Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education. For the Morning Meetings in The Port View Hotel a donation of €3.00, which includes Coffee, was agreed by the Board under Res: 02/04/159 because of an increase in the price of coffee at the hotel.