

- Volunteerism in Ireland
- "Bogus Chiefs" Enquiry
- News & Views from the World of Genealogy

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# The Gene Gazette

The Newsletter of  
the Genealogical Society  
of Ireland  
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"Cuimhnigí ar  
Ár Sinnsir  
Remember Our  
Ancestors"

## VOLUNTEERS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

*Has Volunteerism a Future in the post Celtic Tiger Ireland ?*

Back in the last year of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the main article in this month's edition of the newsletter focussed on the issue of volunteerism in Ireland. Indeed, it's a subject raised time and time again by the organisers of charity events and organisations like this Society. But it's not only voluntary organisations that are becoming concerned about the level of volunteerism in Irish society at the beginning of this new century.

### *Our Democracy and Volunteerism*

Many of our Dáil candidates in this month's General Election know that they will only succeed through the thousands of hours of canvassing by their supporters, many of whom, cynics might say are either innocent well meaning idealists or well-seasoned party hacks with little concern or understanding of policy. Whatever, the case maybe, each is a volunteer giving of their free time to the maintenance of our cherished democratic system by encouraging participation by their fellow citizens in the electoral process. It seems that democracy in this new century is wholly dependent on volunteerism if an increasing number of our younger voters in the European Union, normally content on wallowing in complacency and apathy, are to be encouraged to go out and exercise their franchise.

### *Thousands depend on Volunteerism*

When questions are asked about the relevancy of volunteerism in the modern Ireland, one need only look at the many organisations dealing with the various social issues that have become almost symptomatic of a growing economy and a wealthier society. Social exclusion, disadvantage and its associated problems are, by and large, left to the voluntary sector to tackle in areas where merely throwing money at these issues serves only to absolve officialdom of its responsibility between elections. From the many thousands of careers in the country to the hard working and dedicated members of countless community and voluntary groups throughout each county in Ireland, tens of thousands of our people daily depend on volunteerism.

### *Celtic Tiger & Volunteerism*

With the International Year of the Volunteer just behind us, one would have thought that volunteerism would have anchored itself in the hearts and minds of the Irish people. However charitable bodies and community organisations are finding it increasing difficult to attract volunteers or to replace those retired after many years of dedicated service to their organisation. Have new values entered our culture where each hour

must have a monetary value and each good deed needs be bankable? It seems that the Celtic Tiger economy sees little value in the age-old concept of volunteerism.

### *What the Doctor ordered*

It appears that we're all too busy these days to take any timeout for volunteerism and yet, it's this break in our weekly routine, coupled with the community interaction afforded by volunteerism that is, according to the medical profession, "just what the Doctor ordered". It relieves stress, it promotes activity and exercise, it gives immense personal satisfaction and above all, it gets a valuable and worthwhile job done. Relieving the stress of a hectic working environment through volunteerism benefits both employee and employer. Why then, you may ask, don't more firms in Ireland advocate and facilitate volunteerism by their staff?

### *National Policy Needed*

As political manifestos with electoral pledges abundant roll off the presses in the run-up to polling day on May 17<sup>th</sup> it's surprising that volunteerism and the value of the volunteer to Irish society is hardly mentioned by any of the political parties. Volunteerism, it seems, has been unwittingly undervalued or simply taken for granted by the political parties, possibly in the mistaken belief that its continued service to Irish society is a foregone

conclusion. Without a national debate leading to the formulation of a policy on the promotion and sustainability of volunteerism in Ireland, we have only ourselves to blame for the consequences.

### *Free Time V. Fee Time*

For genealogists and historians, without volunteerism, many of us would be deprived of vital sources of information and a wealth of research undertaken by volunteers. Since the foundation of this Society we've had a reasonably large pool of volunteers to undertake a range of projects. But in the last two years this pool of volunteers has been steadily reducing. For many of us, it seems, any free time is just another opportunity for "fee time" and we've simply lost the plot – "that volunteerism is good for us" and it pays health dividends too!!

### *Health & Social Benefits*

However, as organisations like ours around the world are experiencing the same difficulty, should the United States be seen as a leader in volunteerism, hope is far from lost. The vibrancy of many new volunteering opportunities in America is attracting thousands of people who are becoming increasingly conscious of the health and social benefits afforded to oneself. We in this Society have such opportunities for volunteering both in your home on your own PC or by joining a group recording Memorial Inscriptions in one of the many cemeteries around. So think about it – can you afford to give your time to volunteering for your own sake – remember – it's what your Doctor ordered!!

## YOUR MAY GENIE UPDATES

**CARRICKBRENNAN** The Board of the Society has decided at its May meeting by Resolution 02/05/169 to implement an earlier decision to transcribe for publication the memorial inscriptions of Carrickbrennan Cemetery, Monkstown, Co. Dublin. This cemetery was surveyed twice before, however, a comprehensive record suitable for genealogical research has not been published as yet. Therefore, Barry O'Connor, Cemetery Projects Co-

ordinator, will be seeking volunteers for the fieldwork in this very old cemetery in the Monkstown Parish of south Co. Dublin. Each person will be allocated a section of the cemetery to record in workbooks provided by the Society. Then Barry will be seeking volunteers to transfer the details to discs for compilation. Volunteers are asked to contact Barry at telephone (+353.1) 285 4386 E-mail: [btoc@esatclear.ie](mailto:btoc@esatclear.ie)

**GSI PRESIDENT** In accordance with Resolution 01/09/88 of the Board, that came in to effect on September 30<sup>th</sup> last, the College of Fellows of the Genealogical Society of Ireland will meet before the end of July 2002 to elect a President of the Genealogical Society of Ireland. This vacancy was caused by the death of Denis, O Conor Don on July 10<sup>th</sup> 2000. Nominees for the post of President will be forwarded to the Fellows following the July meeting of the Board.

**FEEDBACK** Due to a recent query that you placed in 'Genie' on my behalf I have received a letter from the daughter of a second cousin who still lives in Dublin area. She has done some research herself into the family and is a member of the Genealogical Society of Ireland. I don't need to explain how good this is!! Thank you very much for your help. Best regards, Steve Byrne. Website: [www.geocities.com/steve\\_byrneuk](http://www.geocities.com/steve_byrneuk)

**SEPTEMBER 2002 XXVth International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences** will take place in Dublin from 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> 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. Síle 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. This is intended to encompass historical as well as modern practice. 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". If, in addition to attending the Congress, persons wishing to present a paper on the above theme at the Congress may attach a summary of the proposed paper with their application form. All proposals for Congress papers will be reviewed by a Committee to ascertain their relevance to the theme of the Congress etc. prior to their inclusion in the final programme. 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](mailto:Hergen2002@nli.ie)

**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.

**CIGO TABLE QUIZ** The Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations (CIGO) will host a Table Quiz on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2002 in the Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2 at 19.30hrs with registration from 19.00hrs. Tables of four €20.00 or singles form their own teams on the night. Bookings to: Steven ffearry-Smyrl, 41, Templemore Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin 6. Telephone: (01) 497 2589.

**IGRS-AGM** The Ireland Branch of the London based Irish Genealogical Research Society (IGRS) will hold its Annual General Meeting on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2002 in the Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2 at 14.30hrs. The annual Brian Cantwell Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Dr. Raymond Gillespie, Department of Modern History, NUI Maynooth, on "Murder & Mayhem: Stories of families from the sixteenth century Irish Annals".

**FOURTH OF JULY** Calling all Americans who will be in Ireland on Thursday July 4<sup>th</sup> 2002 to visit Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, to celebrate in style with Ireland's only Fourth of July Parade commencing at 19.30hrs. Full details on [www.dun-laoghaire.com](http://www.dun-laoghaire.com)

**JOIN THE GSI** The Society always welcomes new Members. Joining is easy and the cost is minimal at just €15.00 per annum. Why not join on-line via our Website <http://www.gensocireland.org> or by writing to our Membership Officer,

Mrs. Annette MacDonnell, 4, Kippure Avenue, Dublin 12, Ireland.

**ARCHIVE MATTERS** The Society's Archive, presently located at 14, Rochestown Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, is open to MEMBERS ONLY on Mondays from 19.00hrs to 21.00hrs and Saturdays from 14.00hrs to 17.00hrs with the exception of Bank Holiday weekends when it will be closed on both days. The Society's Archivist, Mrs. Frieda Carroll, FGSI, wishes to advise Members that the services of the Archive are strictly for currently paid-up Members only and as space is at a premium, consideration is being given to the introduction of a booking system. Members may be asked by the Archivist to produce their Membership Cards as proof of payment of the Annual Membership Fee of €15.00 before using the services of the Society's Archive. Finally, Frieda reminds all Members about depositing a copy of their Birth Brief with the Archive – have you done so yet?

**MAKING YOUR WILL?** There comes a time in everybody's life when we must consider making a Will, not only to dispose of our property after death, but also to make provision for those people in our lives that we valued most. Some of us have special charities or causes that we've supported for years ranging from the relief of famine or poverty to the provision of education and healthcare in less fortunate parts of the world or, indeed, nearer to home in our own lands. Many charitable institutions depend on such bequests, some like the various hospices specialising in the dignified care of the elderly, infirm or dying could not perform their invaluable service to the community without such income. Other charitable bodies dealing with education, research, culture or heritage matters likewise receive a not inconsiderable amount of their funding from generous bequests from the public. Therefore, when you come to make your Will, and we are all advised to do so, after giving to your special or favourite charitable cause, why not consider a small donation to the Society? It has charitable status in Ireland granted by the Revenue Commissioners under ref. CHY 10672. Thank you.

**MARKETING** Gerry Hayden, MGSI, as the Director of Marketing & Sales is seeking further outlets for the Society's publications. The Society, as Ireland's premier publisher of genealogical material, is keenly aware of the need to

have its publications readily available to the general public. Sales via the Website are very encouraging, however, further opportunities for direct sales are eagerly sought. Gerry can be contacted on telephone (353.1.) 494 1173 for supplies to retail outlets. The Society offers the standard trade discount to approved outlets.

## DIARY DATES

**Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> 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: **Dr. Máire Kennedy**

Genealogical Resources

at the Gilbert Library, Dublin

**Tuesday June 11<sup>th</sup> 2002**

Venue as above

Members' Night

Topics:- Research Sources, One Name Studies, Q & A Session.

**Weds. May 22<sup>nd</sup> & June 26<sup>th</sup> 2002**

Morning Open Meeting 10.30hrs

**The Port View Hotel,**

**Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire**

Discussion Group on Family History

## WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE "BOGUS" CHIEFS ENQUIRY?

Over a year ago on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2001 during Parliamentary Questions in Dáil Éireann (Irish Parliament) **Mr. Eamon Gilmore, T.D. (Dún Laoghaire)** asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands, **Ms. Síle de Valera T.D. (Clare)** why she had decided not to proceed with her proposed committee of experts to carry out a review of the procedures whereby courtesy recognition of chiefs is granted by the Genealogical Office. In reply, the Minister said "the Deputy will be aware from my reply on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb. 2001, that I have decided that the establishment of a committee to review procedures in the Genealogical Office ... is not warranted at this time". **Ms. de Valera** continued "the Director of the National Library, in his capacity as Chief Herald, has commenced examination of a number of high profile individual cases where courtesy

recognition of chiefs of the name was granted in the past. His preliminary examination has elicited the need for legal advice on certain complex aspects of the cases and this advice is awaited. Detailed consideration of these cases by him, as Chief Herald, cannot be concluded until he has received and considered the legal advice. The work of any review committee would be severely constrained by the absence of both the legal advice now sought and formal consideration by the Chief Herald of these cases. The legal issues need to be fully resolved before the question of a formal policy review can be revisited". **Ms de Valera** then said that she was "somewhat constrained with regard to elaborating the specific nature of the legal issues involved" but finally she made the point clear that "*a chief of the name has no legal standing. It is a person recognised by the Chief Herald of Ireland as the senior descendant of the last inaugurated Gaelic lord of that name, granted courtesy recognition. Recognition is therefore no more than the acknowledgement of a genealogical fact which does not carry with it any rights or privileges in law*". This clearly is at variance with the views expressed by a former Chief Herald and will be a severe blow to others closely associated with some Chiefs of the Name who claimed some sort of Constitutional protection for their position. **Mr. Brian O'Shea, T.D. (Waterford)** sought clarification from the Minister on the issue "from what the Minister says, it may be quite some time before there is any substantial progress on this issue. Can we take it there will not be any further recognition of bogus titles, or of any titles in the interim, until this issue is dealt with? **Ms de Valera** said that she could not say how long it will take to get the necessary legal advice and that it may take some time. **Mr. O'Shea, T.D.** asked the Minister if there was a full record of the number of bogus titles at the moment and whether there will be a mechanism whereby such titles can be withdrawn? In reply **Ms de Valera** said she could not give the number of such titles and in relation to the matter which is under review by the Chief Herald, as it is a question of law, I do not want to discuss it. It would not be appropriate for me to discuss legal issues in this House. The Minister confirmed that there had been "some high profile cases and they are being considered at the moment and it is not until all due procedures have been

completed that we will know the full facts on these issues". The Genealogical Society of Ireland supports the call for a full enquiry into the matter of "bogus" Chiefs recognised by former Chief Heralds of Ireland. From "The Genie Gazette" of May 2001, clearly, the matter of an enquiry is to be dropped or is it?

### QUERIES RECEIVED

**NIKKI ARCHER-WARING**, 12A Metcalfe House, Albion Avenue, London SW8 2AE, England. Email: [archer.waring@btinternet.com](mailto:archer.waring@btinternet.com) Wrote: I am researching the **Waring** family history and would be most grateful to receive any information on the following people or other family members. My great grandfather was Samuel James **WARING** (1860-1940) of Liverpool, (of Waring & Gillow of Liverpool and London) - Son of Samuel James **WARING** of Liverpool, UK (1837-1907), who married Sarah Ann Wells - Son of John Moore Johnson **WARING**, (1802-1866) moved from Belfast to Liverpool in about 1835. Married Elizabeth **Shaw** - Son of Samuel **WARING** (1785- aft 1802) of Downpatrick & Lisburn, Ireland - Son of John **WARING** ( d aft 1785) of Downpatrick & Bellmount, Ireland, married Margaret. - Son of John **WARING** (bapt St Clement Danes 30 Nov 1696, died Dec 1772 Maralin, Ireland). He lived in Fidany and Bellmount, Co. Down, Ireland. 1st wife unknown, 2nd wife Elizabeth **Stothard** of Maralin - Son of John **WARING** of St Clement Danes, Middlesex. Christened 13 Dec 1654 in Lisburn Cathedral, Ireland, married Rebecca & died 1727 St Clement Danes - Son of William **WARING** of Clanconnell, Co. Down (1619-1703) 1st wife Elizabeth **Gardiner**, 2nd wife Jane **Close** (mother of John) - Son of John **WARING** (abt 1585-1635) from, (I believe), Cherry Tree House, near Chorley, Lancashire, moved to Derriaghy, co Antrim, Ireland and married Mary Peers (abt 1618). Any further info. or connections please.

**JIM DRISCOLL**, "Nye Timbers", 14c, Sidney Road, Walton on Thames, Surrey, KT12 2NA, England. Wrote: I would be so pleased to learn something of my great-grandfather, Patrick **Driscoll**, born circa 1800 in Cork. He married Ellen **Bryant**, born 1810, also in Cork. Any info. please.

**ELSIE WILLIAMS**, PO Box 3105, Auburn, CA 95604-3105, USA Wrote:- I am seeking information on Peter Philip

**Tyrrell**, born 1867 in Co. Cork. He left Ireland from Dublin 1886/7 on a boat with a load of horses for the US Infantry. He became a blacksmith, a trade he practised until his death in an accident in 1922. Family lore has also a Peter Paul Miles **Tyrrell**, perhaps this was his father. Any assistance much appreciated.

**PATRICK FARRELL**, Broad Oak, 38B, Shillingford Road, Alphington, Exeter, Devon, EX2 8UB, England. Wrote:- I am trying to locate a birth certificate for Laurence **Farrell** born January 1905 in Clontarf, Co. Dublin. There is no record of such in the GRO nor in the three Roman Catholic churches in the Clontarf area. His father was a Michael **Farrell** - a Turf Commission Agent. His mother's name was either Cora, Mary or Louise. Laurence studied music in Dublin. He left Ireland after 1923 and joined the British Army serving with the Royal Tank Corps until 1930/31. He married Dora **Pearce** in Exeter, Devon on April 1<sup>st</sup> 1931. Any info. much appreciated on Laurence or family connections.

**LES TODD**, 4, Springwood Drive, Lismore Heights 2480, NSW, Australia. Wrote:- I am a descendant of John Edward **Todd** and Frances **Neale** who sailed from Cork on "The Royal Saxon" on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1844 arriving in Sydney on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 1844. John Edward was the son of John and Mary **Todd** of Market Hill, Co. Armagh - the Governor of H.M. Gaol at Market Hill. Frances was the daughter of Archibald & Mary **Neale**, seed merchants of Tomareyer, Armagh. Seeking info. on any Irish connections.

### BIOGRAPHIES

The Editor of the Society's quarterly journal, Brendan Hall, MGSI, has offered his services as the "Society's Editor of *Biographies*" as advertised in last month's issue of "The Genie Gazette". The Society is seeking to publish short biographies of those Irishmen and Irishwomen who left these shores to make their lives and careers in foreign lands. These people of the Irish Diaspora may or may not be well known in their adopted countries, however, many have never had their lives and achievements published in the land of their birth, Ireland. Biographies should be previously unpublished and have sufficient references as to sources etc. so as to assist future generations of family historians in their research. Brendan would welcome

short biographies of circa 2000/3000 words for publication in the Society's quarterly Journal. Submissions by E-mail to [jbhall@indigo.ie](mailto:jbhall@indigo.ie) or by mail to: Brendan Hall, MGSI, 14, Foxrock Mount, Foxrock, Dublin 18, Ireland.

### MONKSTOWN CHURCH

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 20<sup>th</sup> at 20.00hrs and this concert will followed on Tuesday June 25<sup>th</sup> 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 or via the Website <http://www.dun-laoghaire.com>

### 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**, MGSI, Registrar, GSI Nuns Register, 90, Parnell Road, Dublin 12, Ireland. To date, Clare has collected and collated many thousands of names of Irish women who entered religious life and spent the rest of their lives outside Ireland in the realms of education, healthcare and the delivery of aid to the less fortunate around the world. Their lives may well be forgotten, except within their Orders and families, however, the wider Irish Diaspora can both assist and benefit from the "Nuns Project" organised by this Society. The collection and eventual publication of the Nuns' Register will greatly assist a wide range of researchers from genealogists, social historians to religious historians. If you feel that you would like to assist Clare in the collection or sorting of data - please drop her a line today at the address above.