

- Heritage Functions split between Ministers
- Civil Registration in Ireland - Update
- News from the World of Genealogy & Heraldry

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“Cuimhnigí ar
Ár Sinnsir
Remember Our
Ancestors”

LIVING ARTISTS OR DEAD POETS

Confusion as Arts and Heritage Departments are Split in Post-Election Shake-up

The General Election 2002 is now firmly behind us with the Coalition Government set to run for a second full term in office. We wish each of the new Ministers well in their new positions. However, as new faces take over at the helm of Irish heritage matters what now for the long awaited Heritage Plan published by the outgoing Minister Ms. Síle de Valera, TD. in April?

“Our Sense of Identity”

The recently published National Heritage Plan seeks to provide “a new more coherent approach” over the coming five year period by setting out “a comprehensive strategy and framework” for the protection and management of heritage. Of “heritage” the document states “*While our heritage is inextricably intertwined with our sense of identity, it also affirms the historic, cultural and natural inheritance which is shared on the island of Ireland. For present and future generations who will live in Ireland that inheritance has the ability to enhance and enrich the context of everyday existence. It has the capacity to vividly convey to visitors and those living in Ireland alike what it means to be Irish. In short, our heritage is a presence which physically expresses the essence and the heartbeat of our collective historical identity.*”

The statement affirms the great importance of heritage to the nation and to our sense of identity. The document itself is ambitious and indeed, very welcome as a blueprint for future co-ordinated planning and development of Arts and Heritage Policy. So little wonder that the arts and heritage communities in Ireland were thrown into confusion and disbelief by the apparent dismemberment and downgrading of the Arts & Heritage portfolio by An Taoiseach, Mr. Bertie Ahern, TD, when he announced his new cabinet on Thursday June 6th 2002.

“Heritage Framework”

The present framework evolved from the creation in 1992 of the Department of Arts, Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht with Mr. Michael D. Higgins, TD as Minister. It was in this period that the two major pieces of legislation underpinning heritage matters in Ireland were enacted – Heritage Act, 1995 and the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997. On the change of government in 1997, Ms. Síle de Valera, TD presided over this department, albeit, under its new title “Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands” – “culture” being subsumed in the process.

“Department Abolished”

The pundits had predicted that Arts would be a casualty of the tightening of the purse strings as the Celtic Tiger economy slows down, but Mr. Ahern’s decision to carve-up the functions of this department between other Ministers and to effectively abolish the department took everyone by surprise. Ms. de Valera, TD is out of the cabinet and becomes a backbencher. Arts goes to Mr. John O’Donoghue, TD (Kerry South) in the new Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism; Heritage goes to Mr. Martin Cullen, TD (Waterford) in the Department of Environment & Local Government and the Gaeltacht & the Islands goes to Mr. Eamonn Ó Cuív, TD (Galway West) in the new Department of Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs.

“Living Artists or Dead Poets”

Where all these changes will lead, at this stage, is anyone’s guess. However, it’s safe to say that it will take months for the dust to settle and the new framework and personalities to be fully operational. Dúchas – the Heritage Service is transferring to Mr. Cullen at Environment who will also have the responsibility of heritage policy and planning. But the future of the National Heritage Plan, published in April, is far from certain in this “shake-up” by Mr. Ahern. Whether, it will be policy on the works of dead poets - see Mr. Cullen and for living artists - see Mr.

O’Donoghue or if it’s in Irish, see Mr. Ó Cuív – we’ll have to wait and see.

“A Heritage Trio or Quartet”

Besides the inevitable delays, confusion and staff consultation problems resulting from the usual departmental shake-ups following each general election, some consideration must be given to which of the new Ministers will represent Ireland at ministerial level at European Union discussions on Arts, Culture & Heritage matters. This new arrangement could mean that, the Northern Ireland Heritage Minister, Mr. Michael McGimpsey, MLA will now have to meet a “ministerial trio” or possibly a “quartet” on North/South Ministerial Council business. With broadcasting matters transferred in the “shake-up” to Mr. Dermot Ahern, TD (Louth) at the new Department of Communications & Natural Resources, a “ministerial heritage quartet” looks likely.

“Back to the Drawing Board”

According to the National Heritage Plan “*heritage is a solid and substantial reality, deserving of protection for its intrinsic value. Our natural heritage, archaeology, architecture, inland waterways, and cultural heritage combine to provide Ireland with resources of tremendous social, educational, recreational, and aesthetic value. In economic terms, our heritage is of fundamental importance to our tourism industry in a wide variety of ways.*” Though, this Plan was developed through an exhaustive public and professional consultation process with over 350 submissions received, it’s clear that a new more conservative and finely focused Plan will be sought by officials at two of the new departments. What this will mean for many of the 163 important actions and the long overdue programmes envisaged by the Plan is far from clear as the estimated additional costs involved were €123.16m over the lifetime of the Plan, including 102 additional staff to enhance existing heritage programmes. Setting out actions to be achieved over the next five years, the lifetime of this new government, the post-

September 11th economic climate has possibly consigned this very worthy document to the skip outside its "abolished" Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands. Ah, yes, it's back to the drawing board for heritage planners throughout Ireland – what a great pity or, is it just possible that Ministers O'Donoghue, Cullen and Ó Cuív may yet surprise us all – *only time will tell.*

CIVIL REGISTRATION NEWS

After nearly ten years of sometimes bitter wrangling between the genealogical community and the Minister for Health, the General Register Office has just presented a promising and detailed report on the progress of the "Roscommon Experiment". The modernisation programme for the Irish Civil Registration Service is certainly gathering a pace with the trial period for computerisation now just months away. At a meeting in Dublin on Monday May 13th 2002 Ms. Vera Dervan, Programme Director and Mr. Séamus Ó Cléirigh, Deputy Registrar General, provided a full explanation of the type of service envisaged for representatives of Irish Genealogy Ltd. and this Society as follows.

What is Civil Registration? It is the continuous, permanent and compulsory recording of the occurrence and characteristics of vital events which occur in the State, it includes the current registration of and issuing of certificates for births, deaths, marriages and adoptions. In the future it will include divorce and civil nullity.

Current Structures The General Register Office (GRO) has 60 staff and is part of the Dept. of Health & Children. Around the country the various Registrars' Offices are administered by the Health Board and have 196 staff. There are also 85 Private Registrars who are self employed and the hospitals act as "qualified informants" for deaths and births.

Current System With circa 52,000 births, 26,000 marriages and 24,000 deaths per annum in the Republic, the system of registration has changed little since 1864. It's a manual paper based system in operation since 1845 for non-Roman Catholic Marriages and since 1864 for births, deaths and Roman Catholic marriages. A National Index is created annually in arrears at the GRO.

Reasons for Change There are many external and internal drivers for modernisation, including computerisation. Changes in the expectations of customers, radical changes in society, modernisation and integration of the Public Services, the need to share data with other departments and State agencies and the introduction of "Electronic Government". The manual system of certificate production at circa 400,000 per annum and the manual searching of indices etc. is labour intensive and slow. There is no linking of life events i.e. births, marriages and deaths and customer service is limited.

Programme Objectives Amongst the issues being addressed by the modernisation

programme are, the updating of current legislation, replacing the manual system, the timely capture of event data, electronic capturing of data and the streamlining of the organisation structure. This will provide for an improved customer service, eliminate the manual production certificates and provide for the allocation of Personal Public Services Numbers (PPSN) at birth as part of the birth registration process.

Approach Taken The programme was designed by a joint working group drawn from staff at the Department of Health & Children and at the Department of Social, Community & Family Affairs and which facilitated a public consultation process last year. The Consultation Document – "Bringing Civil Registration into the 21st Century" was published in May last year. There have been follow-up discussions with key groups to keep them informed on the progress to date.

Legislation The enactment of the Social Welfare (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2002 provided the necessary "housekeeping" changes to existing legislation governing Civil Registration, however, a comprehensive Civil Registration Bill will be brought forward in the Autumn of this year for possible enactment in the first quarter of 2003. It is the latter piece of legislation that the minutia of the Civil Registration System will be facilitated including many issues raised during the debate on the Social Welfare (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2002.

Phased Introduction With the project at Roscommon progressing with the capture of all historical data now finally in sight with the imaging of 5m Register Pages and 20m Index Records. Each of the imaged Register Pages is indexed and accessibly by a computer search facility. In tandem with this work at Roscommon a phased introduction of electronic Birth and Death registration is set for later this year, this will include, the electronic handling of certificate requests and production. There will be an "in-house" computerised research facility which will become, in due course, the basis for a customer self service computer research facility in the GRO. Customers will be able to buy time on the system to search the indices through a personal account PIN. Following the successful phasing in of these procedures and services, the issue of Internet access will be addressed allowing access to the records of the GRO from anywhere in the world.

A Modern Service It is the objective to have all events registered within three months, the electronic capture of all events on a central database, capture paper based records in an electronic format, access and registration of data at any Registrar's office, linking life events and having parents / next of kin as informants. However, it is unfortunate from a genealogical perspective because of the manner of the capture of data there can be no retrospective linking of life events permitted. This service will, according

to the Project Team, be one of the most modern systems in the world when fully operational. There will be a pilot service in September with a launch of the service in October 2002, however, certain aspects will have to await the Civil Registration Bill next year.

Public Access The matter of different levels of access mentioned in the Consultation Document was clarified by Mr. Ó Cléirigh. This meant the difference between internal and public access only. He was adamant that access and fees would be the same for all sectors of the public irrespective of the frequency of use, type of use or whether the researcher was engaged in commercial genealogical research or researching their own family history. The Society was very pleased with this important clarification on the equity of public accessibility to the records of the GRO by the Deputy Registrar General.

Consultative Panels It is the intention of the Project Team to establish consultative panels both within the Civil Service and with interested customer representative groups like this Society. The focus of these panels will be current service, future service, decentralisation etc.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday June 11th 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.

"Members' Night"

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

Tuesday July 9th 2002

Venue as above

Speaker: Cllr. Vincent MacDowell, MCC

Topic: "A Long Road from Hill Street, Newry"

Weds. June 26th & July 24th 2002

Morning Open Meeting 10.30hrs

The Port View Hotel

Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire

Discussion Group on Family History

YOUR JUNE GENIE REVIEWS

"Irish Migrants in Britain, 1815-1914 – A Documentary History" by Roger Swift, published by Cork University Press, ISBN 1 85918 236 4. Price:- €57.25 (£45.09). 276pp. May 2002. Given the wealth of documentary sources available for the study of Irish history in many repositories throughout these islands, there is a dearth of this type of publication on the subject. Professor Swift provides in this volume access to source material for the study of those who settled in Great Britain of the nearly eight million Irish people who emigrated from Ireland in the 19th century. In many ways, little research until recently has been undertaken or published on this aspect of the social history of Great Britain. The Irish who settled in Great Britain became the most socially immobile of all Irish emigrant communities and with a constant replenishment of their numbers in each

generation of the 20th century, excluding the last decade, they became almost synonymous with certain industries like construction. The rate of assimilation of the Irish in Great Britain was slower than in other countries and many factors have been suggested for this situation. In presenting this work, Professor Swift, has examined who emigrated and why, why Great Britain rather than another destination and British society's perception of these Irish immigrants. Though, much attention has been directed to the development of British-Irish Studies in the wake of the many attempts to put the more painful aspects of our shared history behind us, much more needs to be published on the subject to facilitate public accessibility to valuable research. In this regard, Professor Swift has to be congratulated on publishing this work as it brings the reader in contact with contemporary documents, including extracts from British parliamentary papers, social surveys, newspapers, letters and reminiscences. This work is the first of its kind and very much overdue as the structured approach to each chapter on migration, settlement, employment, social conditions, religion and politics, provides excellent reference points for any researcher of the many aspects of Irish or British Social History. The author's treatment of the subject is comprehensive and it includes the very neglected subject of the study of the history of Irish Unionist or Irish Protestant elements within the immigrant population in Great Britain. This group were a significant minority within the larger Catholic Irish immigrant population, however, as they found it easier to fully assimilate, the Protestant Irish in Great Britain quickly disappear as a distinct group. The author provides copious footnotes, a full description of the primary sources and a very extensive bibliography making this publication invaluable to the social historian. Cork University Press, Crawford Business Park, Crosses Green, Cork, Ireland. Website: www.corkuniversitypress.com

GSI VICE-PRESIDENT

The Board of the Society at a meeting held on 6th June 2002 at Park House, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, appointed **Sr. Mary Bernadette de Lourdes, O.Carm.**, to the position of Vice-President of the Genealogical Society of Ireland. Sr. Bernadette is a longstanding Member of this Society, a Native of the City of Dublin and presently a resident of the State of New York, USA. This appointment was made "in recognition of a life of service and devotion to the care of others, especially, the aged and infirm in Ireland and the United States of America and, also in recognition of a commitment to the advancement of education and learning, through the publication of many notable works on the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged & Infirm and their Mission and, in recognition of service in the protection of our archival heritage, including areas of religious life, genealogy and social history". Sr. Bernadette will celebrate her seventieth

anniversary of her entry to religious life at ceremonies in New York later this month. She will join the Society's two other Vice-Presidents, **Mr. James Davidson, FGSI**, from Lambeg, Co. Antrim in Northern Ireland and **Mr. Stuart Rosenblatt, PC, MGSI**, from Dublin, Chairman of the Irish Jewish Genealogical Society. The Society sends its congratulations to Sr. Bernadette on her seventieth anniversary and on her appointment as Vice President of the Society.

CHIEF HERALD'S INVITATION

I am very pleased to invite you to the *XXVth International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences* which will take place from 16th – 21st Sept., 2002 at Dublin Castle. The theme will be *Genealogy and heraldry: their place and practice in changing times*. The call for papers has brought a considerable response and a wide variety of lectures has already been offered on subjects ranging from medieval systems of heraldic differencing to the application of electronic technology and the most recent genetic research results. Throughout the Congress the herald-painters attached to my Office will operate an open studio at Dublin Castle. Participants will be actively encouraged to take part in several artistic projects planned to produce lasting heraldic records of the Congress. Throughout the week there will be opportunities for painters and those interested in the techniques of heraldic artwork to exchange information. An exhibition of manuscripts from the records and collections of the Office, dating back to its foundation in the 16th century, will take place at the National Library during the Congress. The majority of the material has never before been on public display. Congress participants and their companions will quickly become aware why Dublin has become one of Europe's most popular locations for short vacations. Entertainment apart, its buildings and cultural institutions, including libraries and repositories, will be of great interest to genealogists, heraldists and historians. I hope, therefore, that you will be able to join us in Dublin in Sept. and to participate in the Congress which promises to be a most enjoyable event. Register for the Congress on the Website of National Library www.nli.ie or by writing to Congress Secretary, Office of the Chief Herald, 2 Kildare St., Dublin 2, Ireland. E-mail: Hergen2002@nli.ie **Brendan O Donoghue**, *Chief Herald of Ireland*

LIVERPOOL HISTORY SOCIETY

The newly formed Liverpool History Society has published its first journal this month. This 56 page, A 5 format booklet has articles on the most "Irish" of cities in England – Liverpool. The first volume contains the following articles: "At the turn of each Century" a cover story by Jo McCann & Marie McQuade; "Four Liverpool Philanthropists" by Brenda Murray; "German Immigrants in 19th Century Liverpool" by Neville King; Williamson's Advertiser 1756; "The Codman Family –

Puppeteers" by Ronald Codman; Gore's Directory 1807 – the last slave ships; "Liverpool & Hydrotherapy" by June Jones; James Chadwick's Liverpool Map of 1725" by Sheila Powell; "The Impact of WW2 on Liverpool Children" by Dick Hunter; "Liverpool – A French Connection" by Jo McCann; "Felicia Dorothea Hermans - Poetess" by Michael Brian; Recent Publications on Merseyside. The Journal is available from Mrs. Jo McCann, Hon. Secretary, Liverpool History Society, 46, Stanley Avenue, Rainford, Merseyside, WA11 8HU, England for Stg£4.00 €6.25 (incl. p+p).

YOUR JUNE GENIE UPDATES

ONE NAMERS A year ago this month, the Society decided to establish a Chapter of the GSI devoted to the promotion of Irish One-Name Studies. This development emanated from a suggestion by **Dr. Lorcán O'Flannery MGSI**, realising that it is a neglected area of research in Ireland. Dr. O'Flannery and a few others in Ireland have done considerable research into the origins and distribution of the native Gaelic surnames of Ireland and their variants at home and abroad. However, despite the passage of a year, the Chapter has yet 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 established English counterpart. The very active Guild of One-Name Studies based at the Society of Genealogists' in London has over the years brought the various types of One-Name research in England under a single framework. Work on the Irish Gaelic surnames is now receiving attention by many associated with the Clans of Ireland movement, along with, the few Irish based members of the Guild. Hopefully, a clear and precise definition of Irish One-Name Studies can be found to permit those researching Gaelic surnames to proceed with their valuable research in a recognised and orderly manner. To assist in this process, suggested definitions are sought to provide a parameter for Irish One-Name Studies given the interrelationship of many of our Gaelic surnames and the ongoing difficulty of unrelated origins for many surnames which appear to be identical. Amongst the problems facing Irish One-Name research are, for example, several very distinct O'Connor families, two totally unrelated MacMahon families, choosing MacCluskey or the parent O'Kane, whether to research one branch of the O'Neill family or all. Other issues relate to the reinsertion of the prefix "Mac" and "O" – are some O'Brien and O'Connor families actually, MacBrien or MacConnor? The problem has been described as one of origin, area, related or unrelated development and variant. All aspects are further compounded by the language shift from Gaelic to English over three and a half centuries. Suggested definitions should be forwarded to the Hon. Sec. - address below. For those wishing to join this Chapter of the

GSI, contact the Hon. Secretary with details of the surname(s) concerned, name and address.

JOURNAL The Summer 2002 issue of the GSI Quarterly Journal is now available. Articles included in this issue are:- Medieval Freeholders in Finglas, Co. Dublin by Eamonn Dowling; Enniscorthy - The Portsmouth Estates in 1829 by B.J. Cantwell; Pádraig Mac Piarais agus Tochair an Phóir le Seán MacBrádaigh; Orphans' Records from the Irish Church Missions by Betty Barrett; Corn Exchange Buildings Company, Dublin, 1815; Joseph White and 'The National Cap' by Brendan Hall; Occupants of the Village of Deansgrange, Co. Dublin 1846-1895 by Seán MacBrádaigh; Robert Emmet and His People by G.H. O'Reilly; Maud's Story by Margaret Elmes; Unclaimed Money by G. H. O'Reilly; Monaghan Assizes, September 1797; People of the Irish Diaspora: Daniel J.J.P. O'Connell & Eliz. A. Leyne by Sheila Taipale, Margaret Moore (c1853 - 1881) by Rita Chesterton. The Editor of the Society's Quarterly Journal Mr. Brendan Hall, MGSI, is also the owner of the County Louth Genealogical Sources Website: <http://www.jbhall.freesevers.com> E-mail: Brendan@jbhall@indigo.ie

FOURTH OF JULY Celebrate the American Declaration of Independence and the special relationship between the island of Ireland and the USA. Dún Laoghaire will host Ireland's only Fourth of July Parade on Thursday 4th July with an evening parade through the Town headed by a Colour Party for the Irish Reserve Defence Force. Bands from all over Dublin will participate in the parade. Vintage and veteran vehicles, classic American cars, Harleys and many Marching Groups are set to attract thousands to the Town from home and overseas. The Cathaoirleach of the Society, Mr. Rory Stanley, FGSI, will represent the Board and Members, especially our American Members, including the family of the late Mr. Joseph Mungovan, MGSI, as he takes his place with the other dignitaries. Parade commences at 19.30hrs from the "Top Hat Corner" and through the Town, Seafront to Marine Road.

CLARIFICATION Many readers commented very favourably on the article carried on the death of the British Queen Mother in the April issue of this newsletter and also noted with appreciation that flags were flown at half-mast in the Republic of Ireland. However, some suggested that the late Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, was the "last Queen of Ireland" and that this should have been mentioned. Indeed, it is noted that in the current issue of "Irish Roots" magazine, a similar erroneous claim is made. To clarify matters, Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon who married the Duke of York, second son of King George V, on April 26th 1923 and became the Duchess of York was crowned Queen Consort of her husband, King George VI on May 12th 1937. Her husband became King of Great Britain & Ireland and Emperor of India etc. on the abdication of his elder brother King Edward VIII on December 10th 1936. As

"Queen Consort" she was not a monarch in her own right and therefore, no realm is attached to the title. So on the death of her husband on February 6th 1952, she became and was styled, Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother. The twenty-six counties of the Irish Free State had been independent since 1922 with the same dominion status as Canada. However, regarding the enactment of the 1937 Constitution in Ireland which created the post of "President of Ireland" this did not effect the position of the Crown which, though not mentioned in the Constitution, was afforded certain functions under the External Relations Act, 1936. This piece of legislation was rushed through Dáil Éireann during the "Abdication Crisis" by Mr. Eamonn de Valera, TD and was later repealed in 1948 heralding Ireland's exit from the Commonwealth with the declaration of the Republic. In response, the Westminster Parliament enacted the Republic of Ireland Act, 1949 which declared the twenty-six counties of the Republic to be outside "His Majesty's Dominions" therefore, consigning the "United Kingdom of Great Britain & Ireland" to history and creating the present United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland. In the end, three years before the death of her husband, George VI, the British Parliament officially dropped the title "King of Great Britain & Ireland" so on her death, HM Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother was "the late Queen Consort of the last King of Great Britain & Northern Ireland". Hoping that this clarifies matters, the Board of the Society takes this opportunity to extend its congratulations to our British and Commonwealth readers on the jubilee celebrations for HM Queen Elizabeth II.

MONKSTOWN CHURCH Helsingborg Concert Hall Choir from Sweden will perform a concert on **Tuesday 25th June** at the above venue at 20.00hrs. The tickets priced at €10 (adults) and €5 (child u/16) are available from **Costello Jewellers**, 1, Northumberland Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin - Tel: (+353.1) 230 2311 or at the door.

GRAVEYARD PROJECT The Society has decided 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. **Barry O'Connor**, FGSI, Co-ordinator, seeks volunteers for the fieldwork. Each person will be allocated a section of the cemetery to record in workbooks provided by the Society. Contact Barry at telephone (+353.1) 285 4386 E-mail: btoc@esatclear.ie

SOCIETY PRESIDENT In accordance with Resolution 01/09/88 of the Board, 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 10th 2000. The names of three nominees for the post of President chosen by the Board at the

June meeting will be presented to the Fellows at their meeting in July for consideration. The Fellows may elect one of the nominees for the post of President or refer the matter back to the Board. Hopefully, a clear choice is made permitting the Cathaoirleach, Mr. Rory Stanley, FGSI, to make the formal announcement as the Fellows decide on the manner, date and venue of the investiture of the incoming President of the Society.

SOCIETY ARCHIVE The Society's Archive, presently located at 14, Rochestown Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, is open 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 Archivist 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 and a booking system is being considered.

BIOGRAPHIES Brendan Hall, MGSI, as the "Society's Editor of Biographies" is seeking to publish short biographies of those Irishmen and Irishwomen who left these shores to make their lives and careers in foreign lands. Biographies should be previously unpublished and have sufficient references as to sources etc. so as to assist others. Brendan welcomes short biographies of circa 2000/3000 words for publication in the Society's quarterly Journal. Submissions by E-mail to jbhall@indigo.ie or by mail to: Brendan Hall, MGSI, 14, Foxrock Mount, Foxrock, Dublin 18, Ireland.

NUNS' REGISTER The Society is compiling a Register of Nuns of Irish origin. 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.

JOIN THE GSI The Society welcomes new Members. Just €15.00 per annum. Website <http://www.gensocireland.org> or by writing to our Membership Officer, Mrs. Annette MacDonnell, MGSI, 4, Kippure Avenue, Dublin 12, Ireland.

NEW PUBLICATION The Society has just published "Irish Genealogical Sources No. 28 - Howth, Sutton, Kilbarrack & Baldoyle, Co. Dublin 1901 Census Index" ISBN 1 898471 07 X. Price €6.00. Compiled by Marie Keogh, MGSI, this 72 page book contains the names, addresses, ages and places of birth of each head of household, relative of different surname, visitor, servant and lodger.

QUERIES There were no queries received for publication this month with the following required information:- (1) Name & Postal Address (2) E-mail Address if desired (3) Name (forename & surname) being researched (4) Approx. Years (5) Location in Ireland (6) Details or information sought. Members may forward queries for publication to the address below or to the Hon. Secretary - E-mail: GenSocIreland@iol.ie