

Cumann Genealais na hÉireann

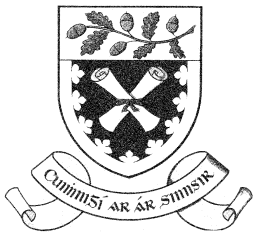
Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

Vol. I No. 3

www.familyhistory.ie

March : Márta 2006



GENEALOGY
HERALDRY
VEXILLOLOGY
SOCIAL HISTORY
Heritage Matters
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IRISH ONE-NAME STUDIES

An increasing number of Irish genealogists are beginning to specialise in their research, some focusing on occupational or military aspects and others on single surnames and their variants. The latter group are known as "one-namers" and they aim to collect as much material as is available on all persons of a particular surname and to trace its origins and its current positions and numbers worldwide.

In England this particular form of genealogy is at a much more advanced stage of development than it is in Ireland, however, we are catching up very quickly indeed. The English surnames are, for the most part, derived from placenames, occupations, nicknames and surnames of relationship. Therefore, unlike Ireland where most surnames are patronymics (surnames of relationship), England has a far greater number of different surnames. Ireland and the other predominately Celtic countries like Scotland, Wales and the Isle of Man have fewer surnames because of the patronymic or metronymic nature of their own surnames mostly derived from Gaelic (Ireland, Scotland and Isle

of Man) and Welsh. However, there is one Celtic area that, unlike the others, has mostly toponymics (surnames derived from placenames) and that's Cornwall (Kernow). The old saying "*by Tre, Pol and Pen you'll know the Cornishman*" is very true. Indeed, the Cornish name that is most familiar to us in Ireland is Trevelyan—Sir Charles Edward who was infamously responsible for cruelly managing the British government's relief schemes during the Great Famine.

Whilst, the greater majority of Irish surnames are Gaelic in origin, others are derived from the various waves of invaders, planters and settlers—Norse, Anglo/Cambro-Norman, English and Scottish, the latter especially in Ulster. In comparison with other European nations, Ireland has relatively few surnames because of the structure of the Gaelic surname i.e. Mac or Ó etc and then followed by a personal name or tribal name. But to say that Irish Gaelic surnames are solely patronymics would be misleading as contained within these patronymics we can find occupations and some area or placenames. For example Mac an

tSaoir—son of the craftsman anglicised as McAteer or the Scottish McIntyre and used as the Gaelic version of the surname Wright. The 18th and more so in the 19th century was a period of the rapid Anglicisation of the Gaelic surnames and as this process was haphazard and localised, many variants of Irish surnames were created. Indeed, the English language versions of surnames in Ireland can mask and at other times, reveal the true origins of the surname. Not all O'Connors are from the one sept / family group and, for example, persons by the of Durkin, Durkan or Durcan may either be from Ó Duarcáin—a branch of the O'Hara Sept from Co. Sligo or Mac Dhuarcáin from South Down and Armagh. This surname derives from the Gaelic "duarcán" meaning "a gloomy person".

Though, the development of Irish One-Name Studies is still in its infancy, advances in DNA technology are being increasingly utilised by one-namers here and in England. For persons interested in beginning a One-Name Study no better place to start than to contact the **Guild of One-Name Studies** on www.one-name.org



Happy St. Patrick's Day



The President of the Society, Mr. Tony McCarthy, MA, FGSI, Vice-Presidents, our Cathaoirleach & the Board of Directors wish all Members, at home and abroad, a very happy St. Patrick's Day. Ireland's National Day unites all her people from the far flung corners of the globe and for one day of the year, we

can celebrate together, in our own ways, the heritage we all share. Whether we're of the green or orange traditions, irrespective of religion or politics, this day is one of peace—the true message of our Patron Saint. No matter whether it's on 5th Avenue, O'Connell Street or wherever, we'll celebrate the National

Day the world over with parades, pageants and music. All Irish for a day—well maybe, but for a brief moment do we think of the generations past and their toil, suffering and goals? If so, why not share their story and find out more about your own family history? New members are always welcome!!

The True Origin of St. Patrick Coinage?

An enduring mystery remains as to the true origin of the design of important pieces of coinage, many examples of which, were probably brought by early Irish and British emigrants to America. Indeed, many families in the United States may have some fine examples of this coinage as family heirlooms—handed down generation by generation since the late 17th century. One of these early settlers was **Mark Newby** (Newbie), a Quaker, who was born in England and moved to Ireland to avoid religious persecution. In 1681 when he emigrated to the American colonies he took with him a quantity of St. Patrick farthings and halfpennies. He died in New Jersey in 1683. The interesting thing was that like the Dublin City Millennium 50p coin of 1988, the half-penny coin had the Arms of the City of Dublin on it. The Coat of Arms of the City of Dublin was first granted officially to the Dublin City Assembly in 1607. It includes the ancient device of the three castles, which has been the symbol of the city since the Middle Ages. As both denominations of the coin brought by Newby to America were undated, it is not

possible to give an exact date of their manufacture. Over the years a number of people have been mentioned and found unlikely to have been responsible, including Nicholas Briot. This **Nicholas Briot** (c.1579-c.1646) was a much celebrated French coin engraver, medalist and inventor of minting machinery. He held the post of engraver-general at the Paris mint (1606-25), but moved to Britain in 1625 where he became the principal die engraver at the Royal Mint and master of the mint in Edinburgh (1635-9). During the English Civil Wars he was attached to the court of King Charles I. These "English" civil wars spilled over into Scotland and, with disastrous consequences, over to Ireland with Oliver Cromwell. Recent research by **Brian Damforth** has suggested that these coins were produced for Lord Ormonde by **Peter Blondeau** a Frenchman working at the Tower of London mint circa 1651-56. Blondeau is a strong candidate for producing these coins as he owned five coin presses and it was normal for mint workers to produce token coins for merchants whilst also working at the mint. As for dating the coins, **Thomas Simon** (1618-

1665), the celebrated numismatist suggested the year 1642—a time of great turmoil in Ireland. **Philip Nelson**, one hundred years ago suggested 1678. What is known is that in 1679 the Tynwald (Manx Parliament) demonetized them on the Isle of Man and the yacht "Mary" which sank on March 24, 1675 on its way from Dublin to Chester had a cache of them on board. So they had to be struck prior to 1675. The current suggested date of manufacture is 1667-69 using the accepted archaeological dating techniques, but without conclusive evidence, to some people, the jury is still out. Members of the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) in America have done and continue to research all aspects of these fascinating coins. **John Griffie** and **Stan Stevens** have done much work on the dies. Brian Damforth did the current historical research and even turned up a copy of the Will of **William Wood** in London. Wood was the subject of "The Drapier's Letters" (1724-5) by **Jonathan Swift**. Research is still on-going and if any readers have any information on this topic, please contact **David Paling**, MGSI at E-mail:- David.Paling@familyhistory.ie

Grangegorman Military Cemetery

"Memorial Inscriptions of Grangegorman Military Cemetery, Dublin, Ireland" ISBN 1 898471 47 9 has just been published by the Society. Grangegorman Military Cemetery, on Blackhorse Avenue, Dublin has been in use since the 1870s as a burial ground for British and Commonwealth military service personnel and their families. Among the burials, are soldiers who took part in the Crimean War, the First and Second World Wars, the 1916 Easter Rising and those who perished on the 'RMS Leinster' when it was sunk in the Irish Sea by a German torpedo in 1918. This publication is a valuable source for military, family, local and social historians, containing the transcriptions

of over 1,300 headstones and memorials, providing such details as rank, regiment and date of death etc. with a surname index for easy reference. Once again, Barry O'Connor, FGSI and his team have provided the world of genealogy with another great resource. Copies of 'Memorial Inscriptions of Grangegorman Military Cemetery' are available for sale via the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie or by mail at the address on page 4 of this newsletter.

120 pages; Soft cover; 210 x 148mm; Indexed; Price - Including post & package: Ireland €11.50; Europe €13.00; UK£7.50; US\$15.50; AU\$20.00; CAN\$17.50; NZ\$22.00

SGI JOURNAL

The Autumn and Winter issues of the Society's Journal are in the mail to members this week. The delay in printing and dispatching these issues was due to the loss of our regular printer and with difficulties identifying a replacement. The Board of the Society sincerely regrets any inconvenience caused by this delay, however, the Board did manage to get a printer to deal with this publication within the budgetary constraints allocated for that purpose. This was important as printing costs have risen steeply in the past few years with fewer printers taking on smaller print runs such as the Society's Journal.

Nominating Bodies for the Irish Senate

Under the Seanad Electoral (Panel Members) Acts, 1947 to 1972 the Society became a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann this month following the annual review of such bodies undertaken by the Seanad Returning Officer. The Society will now be on the register for the Culture & Education Panel and be entitled to nominate a candidate for the election to the Seanad (Senate) which takes place not later than 90 days after the General Election for Dáil Éireann. The electorate for the upper House of the Irish Parliament is composed of

Teachtaí Dála (MPs) and City and County Councillors, each of whom receives a ballot paper for each of the five panels. The ballot is by the single transferable vote system of proportional representation. Amongst the bodies on the Culture & Education Panel are the Royal Irish Academy, the Library Association of Ireland, The Law Society, Irish Georgian Society, The Old Dublin Society, Conradh na Gaeilge (Gaelic League), the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland and a number teachers' organisations. On this Panel the Society is the

only body dealing with the genealogical and heraldic sciences. The full list of the Seanad Nominating Bodies will be published in "Iris Oifigiúil" the government gazette by the Seanad Returning Officer which is also available on line at www.gov.ie

SPECIAL OPEN MEETING

A special Open Meeting will be held at Dún Laoghaire Senior College (see p. 4) on **Tuesday 28th March 2006** at 20.00hrs to welcome our friends from **TIARA**, Boston. All Welcome.

James Scannell Reports....

Local Heroes Controversy

Many people will be aware that Admiral William Browne, founder of the Argentine Navy, came from Foxford, Co. Mayo, but currently the Foxford Development Association has become embroiled in a dispute of the naming of a new road in honour of Mother Morrough Bernard, a Sister of Charity who set up a Woollen Mill in the town in 1892 to help tackle poverty. The local Admiral Brown Society has drawn up ambitious plans for 2007, the 150th anniversary of the Admiral's death which include the importation of ancient canon from Argentina to decorate what they call a 'boulevard of homage' to him. It is understood that at a meeting of the Foxford Development Association, the meeting voted against naming the road in honour of Admiral Browne but the validity of this vote had been challenged by the chairperson of the local Admiral Browne Association who alleges the result was invalid as the meeting minutes were not properly approved and has suggested that both individual can be honoured as there are two new roads.

1916 Rising & Battle of the Somme Commemorations

The Government has indicated that a military parade in Dublin on Easter Sunday, 16th April, is intended to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the 1916 Rising and its expected that some 2,500 members from all branches of the Defence Forces along with ex-service personnel and U.N. veterans will take part in the parade. Also taking part will be An Garda Síochána (Irish Police) marking their service overseas with the U.N. while the Air Corps will provide fly past. Earlier in the day a wreath will be laid in Kilmainham Gaol followed by State reception at Dublin Castle that evening. Prior to Easter, the Museum of Decorative Arts and History in Collins Barracks, Dublin 7, will open a newly prepared exhibition on the 1916 Rising following the transfer of the 1916 Room from the Museum of Archaeology and History, Kildare Street, to the Barracks. An Post (Irish Postal Service) will issue a special commemorative postage stamp. An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern, TD has invited the

members of the Oireachtas (the two Houses of Irish Parliament) to offer advice on the content and type of commemoration programme to mark the centenary of the Rising in 2016. Close to the 1st of July, the Irish Government plans to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Somme in which many Irishmen, North and South died, and format details will be announced in the near future.

Stephen Gwynn

Colin Reed, School of Politics, International Studies and Philosophies, Queen's University, Belfast, 21 University Square, Belfast BT7 1PA. (email creid@qub.ac.uk) is researching the life and times of Irish nationalist politician Stephen Gwynn (1864–1950) and looking for archive material on Gwynn that is not available in official institutions. Most of Gwynn's papers were destroyed in 1922 when his library was bombed by republicans. But the whereabouts of his other papers from a very productive literary career is a mystery!

Irish Female Convicts to Tasmania in 1849

A much forgotten aspect of Irish history for most in Ireland is the transportation of convicts to British colonies during the 19th century, mostly to Australia. For Australians this is an important part of their heritage and, as such, much celebrated in song and story. The various exploits of the immediate descendants of those transported, both within the law and without, created a reservoir from which the modern Australian identity and unique character has emerged. Whilst, understanding that only a small minority of present day Aussies can trace their ancestry back via a convict ship to Ireland or Great Britain, it is this "convict" heritage that has captured the imagination of the nation. For

us in Ireland, we tend to think of these transportations as cruel and harsh punishments meted out by the British authorities not in the pursuit of justice but to achieve a colonial objective. Roman Catholic priests, political and agrarian activists and "rebels" we most associate with these transportations, but these alone a colony cannot make. Along with the men, approximately 12,500 women and girls were shipped to Tasmania as convicts in the first half of the 19th century. Dr. Trudy Mae Cowley, herself a descendant of no fewer than twenty convicts, has undertaken an extensive study on the lives and times of the women convicts. Her latest book "A Drift of Derwent Ducks" concerns the

lives of the 200 Irish female convicts transported on the "Australasia" from Kingstown (now Dún Laoghaire) to Hobart, Tasmania, in 1849. The depth of research, analysis and contemporary sources presented in this book is a monument in itself to these unfortunate and yet, spirited women. Their story and their own contribution to the making of their new homeland makes for fascinating reading. The book traces their experiences from trial, holding, voyage, landing, penal servitude and release to create a life down-under. This book is essential reading for those with Australian connections or for those researching this period of Irish history. Copies: www.researchtasmania.com.au

Annual General Meeting 2006

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on **March 14th 2006** at 20.00hrs in the Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education, Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire. The Guest Speaker will be **Comdt. Victor Laing** of the **Irish Military Archives**, Cathal Brugha Barracks, Dublin.

Membership fee renewals are **now overdue**. The Board of the Society at its November 2005 meeting conducted the normal annual review of the **Membership Fee** structure under **Res:**

05/11/456 the Board adopted the following Membership Packages:- **Ireland:-** Offering ordinary membership of the Society, Membership Card, voting rights, use of the Society's Archive, monthly newsletter by mail, biannual Journal by mail, and the right to purchase the Society's publications at Special Members' prices of up to 50% off selected publications. This also includes an optional second Membership Card for a household member, including voting rights, for an all inclusive cost of just €30.00 per annum. **Overseas:-** Offering the

same at €40.00 per annum. Remember you can renew on line on the Society's website—www.familyhistory.ie/shop

APRIL MEETING

'When Paddy Came Home' will be the title of the talk by **Pat Lynch** of the British Legion at the April Open Meeting. Examining the post First World War experiences of war veterans and soldiers housing, war memorials, Islandbridge Memorial and the Blackhorse Avenue Cemetery.

IRELAND'S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE
is published by the
Genealogical Society of Ireland
11, Desmond Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland

E-mail: GAZETTE@familyhistory.ie

Editor: Michael Merrigan, FGSI

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DIARY DATES

Tuesday Mar. 14th & 28th & Apr. 11th 2006

Evening Open Meeting

*Dún Laoghaire Senior College
Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire
20.00hrs—22.00hrs*

Wednesday Mar. 22nd & Apr. 26th 2006

Morning Open Meeting

*Port View Hotel, Marine Rd., Dún Laoghaire
10.30hrs—12.30hrs*

Contribution €3.00 p.p.

(Coffee/Tea included at Morning Meetings)

QUERIES

Cathy Daly (Mrs), 16, Carndonagh Drive, Donaghmede, Dublin 13 E-mail:- cdaly@efc.ie
Wrote:- I am looking for more information about my great great uncle Arthur Richard Claude Kavanagh. He was born in Dublin in the 1880s to Selina **Kavanagh** née **Leader** and Thomas Kavanagh. He had four sisters. He was involved in the Dublin Militia at 17 and the family bought him out. He emigrated to England where he joined the South Irish Horse and served in the Boer War and WW1. He was gassed in WW1. He married Kathleen **Kennedy** (from Phibsboro, Dublin) and settled in the Manchester area. They had four children, three boys and a girl. Still have relatives living in the Manchester area and I would love to meet them.

Peter J Miller, 116 Aiken Road, West Pennant Hills. NSW. 2125, Australia E-mail:- pmiller8@bigpond.net.au Wrote:- Seeking info. on Bridget **Nixon**, born in Limerick c1815. Bridget was convicted of stealing and was transported to Australia for 7 years in 1830 aboard the ship Palambam. She arrived at Port Jackson (Sydney) in 1831, had a child out of wedlock (Mary Ann **Hannon**, to John Hannon) in 1832. Married William **Graham** in 1834 & received a Certificate of Freedom in 1839. Married William **Hunt** in 1850. Remained in Australia. Related names include **Rourke**, **Stanley**, **Kirwan** and **Hannon**.

Karen (Adams) Buchholz, 2428 N 15th Street, Terre Haute IN 47804, USA E-mail:- malloisirishpub@yahoo.com Wrote:- Seeking info on John **Malloy**, married to Anna **Harris**, both from Dublin. Went to America shortly after marrying around, or shortly before, 1853. (I own a chest of drawers that they brought with them from Ireland. It was a made for them as a wedding present.) Their first child was James Malloy, born in Fayette County, Illinois, USA, in 1854 (later siblings William and Ann). James Malloy's son, George Benjamin Malloy (born 1882) married Lydia Susan **Beck** in Fayette Co., IL. Their daughter, Anna Evelyne Malloy (born 1909) in Fayette Co., IL, is my paternal grandmother. Any information please.

Jacqueline Davidson, 121 Southall Court, Rocky Mount, NC 27804, USA E-mail: mete245919@cox.net Wrote:- Seeking information on Laberta Lucretia **Leland**, who married Charles Henry **Dent** in Maryland, about 1860. Any help will be appreciated.

Hamish Stevens, 3 Glenoaks Rise, Howick, New Zealand E-mail:- hamishs@xtra.co.nz
Wrote:- I am looking for any information on Mary **Lewis** born Cork 1851 and Mary Ann Lewis born Cork 1843. The latter emigrated to Australia in the 1860s and married a William **Craven** in Bendigo, Victoria. Mary Lewis went to New Zealand in 1866.

NOTA BENE

Queries are only published at the discretion of the editor where space permitting and where a mailing address and e-mail address are provided for publication.

Similar Differences?

Dublin City House Painters, Religious Affiliation, Census 1911 *(Précis of the Talk Delivered at the February Meeting)*

A survey of the occupational category in the Dublin City Census Returns 1911 reveals a range of information. Of the 2,033 painters in the category 91% were identified. Although part of a larger work this talk looked at the similarities and differences between Protestant and Roman Catholics in the trade. Religious affiliation in the trade, 16% Protestant and 84% Roman Catholic reflected that of Dublin's population. There were slight differences in age structure, average ages, marital status, household status or literacy. There were considerable differences in terms of housing, family size, mortality of children, and place of birth. In terms of housing 47% of Protestants and 60% of Roman Catholics people lived in tenements. Twice as many Roman Catholics lived in multi-occupancy dwellings than Protestants. Some 30% of Protestants and 19% of Roman Catholics lived in small houses and cottages whilst 11% of Protestants and 3% of Roman Catholics lived in medium or large houses. The small numbers living in flats and institutions were similar. In terms of the housing of families (as opposed to people) a different picture emerged. Over 47% of Protestant and 53% of Roman Catholic lived in tenements, 5% of Protestant and 14% of Roman Catholic lived in multi-occupancy dwellings, and 32% of Protestant and 24% of Roman Catholic lived in small houses and cottages. The proportions of

families living in large houses and flats were much the same as for people. It appears that Protestant people and families (47% in both cases) were less likely to live in tenements than Roman Catholics. On closer scrutiny it appears that what determined the choice of accommodation was influenced more by where the person was from (i.e. outside Dublin) than religious affiliation. Dubliners, Protestant and Roman Catholic, were more likely to live in tenement accommodation than those from elsewhere probably indicating a class or cultural disposition. Information on the numbers of children revealed that 7% of Protestant and 11% of Roman Catholic families had from 10-15 children, 22% of Protestant and 28% of Catholic families had from 6-9 children and 70% of Protestant and 49% of Catholic families had from 1-5 children. Some 12% of Protestant and 10% of Roman Catholic families had no children and a further 5% of the total provided no information. In Protestant families with 10-15 children 'born live' almost 30% had died between birth and the Census; the figure for Roman Catholics was over 42%. In Protestant families with 6-9 children 31% had died whilst the figure for Catholics was over 52%. In Protestant families with 1-5 children almost 17% had died whilst figure for Roman Catholics was almost 33%. The figures indicate that child mortality afflicted Protestants to a

lesser extent than Roman Catholics. Such was undoubtedly related to family size, housing and associated sanitary conditions. The majority of Dublin's house painters were born in the city (Protestants 54% and Catholics 80%). Those from rural areas were Protestants 16% and Roman Catholics 12% whilst those from urban areas were 4% and 3% respectively. Most notably 13% of Protestants were born in Scotland compared to 1% of Roman Catholics and 10% of Protestant painters were born in England compared to 2% of Roman Catholics. In is worth remembering that skilled, organised workers, like these, were considerably better-off than the majority of manual workers at that time.

Charles Callan, MGS

AN DAONCHARTLANN

The Society's Archive is based at the restored Martello Tower at Seapoint, County Dublin. "An Daonchartlann" as it is called, is open to members and visitors at various times during the month. As it is entirely staffed by our volunteers, the times of operation may vary. Therefore, the Archivist, **Mr. Séamus O'Reilly, MGS**, advises all intending to visit the Society's Archive to telephone (01) 202 0464 to ascertain opening times. The nearest DART Station is Seapoint—4 minutes walk.