The recent announcement that Stena Line has ceased its operations on the Dún Laoghaire to Holyhead / Caergybi route has been greeted with sadness and dismay by many with family connections to this 181 year old ferry service. The opening of the world’s first suburban railway service from Dublin city to Kingstown (now Dún Laoghaire) in 1834 and the sifting up of the harbour at Howth brought the Holyhead service to Kingstown Harbour in April 1834. By 1851 the regular services to Holyhead and onward by train to London Euston meant that passengers could leave Kingstown at 08.30hrs and arrive in London at 22.30hrs that evening. The service soon became the route taken by millions of emigrants seeking better lives in Britain or in her far flung Empire. The departure point from 1859 was the Carlisle Pier, just in front of where the Society has its Archive and Research Centre now. This pier was dubbed the ‘pier of tears’ as so many emigrants were never to see their homeland or families again. In 1996 a new high speed ferry service began with the Stena Explorer, however, increasing fuel costs and cheap air travel eroded the viability of the service over the past decade. Plans are now being advanced to promote Dún Laoghaire as a major cruise liner port on the Irish Sea and it is estimated that around 100,000 cruise passengers will pass through Dún Laoghaire in the coming year. Hopefully, this will keep Dún Laoghaire on the map for international travellers. Other Irish ports that lost their cross channel ferry services, like Greencore, Co. Louth, in 1951 no longer appear on most maps. The Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company has ambitious plans for the rejuvenation of the port and its facilities, including the possible building of a National Diaspora Centre. This is exciting news for all with an interest in genealogy, migration and diaspora studies.

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The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Tuesday March 10th 2015 at 20.00hrs in the Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute, (DFEI) Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire. Only fully paid Members may vote or stand for election at the AGM. The Annual Financial Report, duly audited will be presented and the Board for the year 2015-2016 will be elected. Members will also be asked to consider a proposal to cap the number of Directors on the Board at ten elected members.

‘Recovered Voices’ Exhibition

On Wednesday January 28th 2015, Ms. Heather Humphreys, TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, opened an exhibition ‘Recovered Irish Voices: The Stories of the Irish at War’ in the Museum of Decorative Arts and History at Collins Barracks, Dublin. The exhibition included photographs never seen publicly previously of the Gallipoli campaign taken by Dr. Andrew Horne from Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, who served with the Royal Army Medical Corps. Dr. Horne landed on W Beach on 25th April 1915 as part of the 29th Division and was one of the last five officers to leave Gallipoli on 9th January 1916, going on served in the Mesopotamia campaign and survived the war. His 99 page album, donated to the Museum by his daughters Patricia and Margaret, show shells exploding on the beaches of Gallipoli, and a rare image of the River Clyde with a converted coaster which became a coffin ship for the Royal Dublin Fusiliers and the Royal Munster Fusiliers during the 25th April 1915 landings. Lt. Joyce, Curator of Irish Military History at the National Museum described the album as a “hugely important”, Other people featured in this exhibition include Thomas Kettle, MP, poet, nationalist, killed at the Battle of the Somme 1916, whose medals are displayed along with a copy of his famous poem ‘To My Daughter Betty’. The sisters Elea- nor and Rosamund (Poppys) Bur-rows who served as nurses in a military hospital in Northern France, and Clarisa Maud Crawford Smith, who as head of 60- person Red Cross unit in Dublin, turned her elegant home in Aliesbury Park into an emergency hospital during the 1916 Easter Rising. 

James Scannell
Philanthropy in Nineteenth-Century Ireland

‘Philanthropy in Nineteenth Century Ireland’ edited by Laurence M. Geary and Oonagh Walsh (ISBN: 978-1-84682-350-3: 256pp: h/bk : Price (web) €49.50) is the latest collection of essays in the SSNC (Society for the Study of Nineteenth Century Ireland) series and reflects recent advances in the historiography of poverty and philanthropy in nineteenth-century Ireland. This volume offers new and challenging perspectives on the history of philanthropy, including state and voluntary philanthropy, relief under the poor law, formal and informal systems of assistance on landed estates, workers’ housing and public amenities, and cultural philanthropy mediated through literature, and subsidized art exhibitions for the education of the working classes. The essays are grouped under the following headings (1) Self Help and Mutual Aid; (2) Land and Guinness; (3) Women and Children and finally (4) Cultural Philanthropy: Art and Literature. In setting the scene for these essays, the joint editors point out that ‘the emergence of a class system inevitably produced an underclass, and included those who were marginalised by birth through poverty and congenital disability, or became so as a result of economic upheaval, illness or old age’. In an increasingly industrialised age, new classes of workers and the introduction of a waged economy left many behind in poverty and misery, including entire families and neighbourhoods. Mel Cousins (TCD) deals with philanthropy before the poor law, 1831-1846, which is the period before the establishment of the Workhouse system in Ireland. This is when foundling hospitals, mendicity and benevolent societies, supported by philanthropic individuals and churches, were established. Laurence M. Geary’s chapter explores the rather oddly named ‘Society for the Promoting the Comforts of the Poor. Eoin McLaughlin (U St Andrews, Scotland) looks at the operation of the charitable loan funds in Ireland from circa 1820 to 1814 and provides very interesting cases studies of these ‘micro-financing’ initiatives. Conor McNamara (St Patrick’s, DCU) examines the concept of ‘landlord paternalism’ in relation to the 1822 famine in the west and focuses mainly on Co. Galway, and reveals a story of assistance to the landless labouring classes that is frequently overlooked. Much of this philanthropy was English rather than Irish. Kevin Mc Kenna (ind.) who previously researched the Clonbrock estates, Co. Galway, from 1826-1908, examines the issues of charity, paternalism and power on these estates, 1834-44. Joanne McEntee (ind.) deals with the subject of pecuniary assistance for poverty and emigration and the political and social management of philanthropy. Linda King (IADT, Dún Laoghaire) looks at the extensive philanthropic works, including social housing and public amenities, undertaken and financed by the Guinness family through the brewery and the philanthropic, Iveagh Trust. Oonagh Walsh (Glasgow Caledonian U, Scotland) explores the very difficult area of the plight of the intellectually disabled during the period. Sarah-Anne Buckley (NUIG) looks at the foundation and development of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCA) in Ireland from 1889 to 1921, just before independence. Mary Pierse (MM) examines the changing roles of philanthropists and the dynamic of their social activism. Philip McEvansoneya (TCD) looks at philanthropy in the realm of culture and the arts. He examines fund raising, especially for famine relief, through the arts and cultural activities. Finally, John Wilson Foster (U British Columbia/QUB) examines the evolution of the published narrative underpinning the social values, prejudices and philanthropy of Victorian Ireland. Each of the essays provides a wealth of information for the local and social historian through the extensive research undertaken by the authors. See: www.fourcourtspress.ie MM

In Memoriam

Our sincerest condolences to the family of Professor Niall M. Duignan who died on January 17th 2015 and especially, to his sister Fiona Tippole, OSI Member and Senior Librarian with this Society. Late of Galway and The Coombe and St Vincent’s Hospitals, Prof. Duignan died peacefully in the Blackrock Clinic. Beloved husband of Dolores and much loved father of Andrew and Anne-Marie. Will be very sadly missed by his close family, daughter-in-law Catriona, grandchildren Finn, Oran and Rian, sister Fiona, brothers-in-law Brendan and David, sister-in-law Mary, relatives, friends and colleagues. RIP

Cavalleri, (RCSI), Dr. Darren McGettigan, medieval historian and Séamas O’Reilly and Michael Merrigan from this Society. The Board wishes Ed every success and best wishes with his new position at the RCSI. For more info. Contact Séamus on Irish.DNA@familyhistory.ie

CARE FOR YOUR RECORDS

In the course of our research we amass a huge amount of paper and computer records. We love these records, we’ve worked hard to collect them. Books, photographs, charts, notes, certificates, parish registers and transcriptions. Have you made provision for the preservation of your records after you die? Don’t let your hard work end up as landfill or your books to be sold off. PLEASE make provision in your Will to have them donated to the care of the Society’s Archives for future generations of researchers. Please Will Your Society Well—add that codicil today. Thanks!

PhD Candidate for Irish DNA Atlas

The Irish DNA Atlas project is delighted to announce that Edmund Gilbert has been recruited with the assistance of Science Foundation Ireland to work as the new PhD student with Dr. Gianpiero Cavalleri at his laboratory at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland on St. Stephen’s Green, Dublin. Edmund ‘Ed’ is studying human genetics and he found that he really enjoyed the genetic component and was always interested in human genetics and what it can tell us about past human movements and populations. Since graduating he has worked in a forensic lab, processing and analyzing DNA samples from the police in the UK, until this January where he moved to Dublin to work on the Irish DNA database. Commenting on his new post Ed said “I am thrilled to be working on the project, the fact that we have samples that are tied to real people. The hope is that we should really help tease out some of the genetic diversity in Ireland, and the close ties this sort of study has with historians and genealogies gives it information and expertise we wouldn’t normally have”. Ed’s immense interest in this unique research was very evident at a recent meeting of the project team, which included, Dr. Gianpiero Cavalleri, (RCSI), Dr. Darren McGettigan, medieval historian and Séamas O’Reilly and Michael Merrigan from this Society. The Board wishes Ed every success and best wishes with his new position at the RCSI. For more info. Contact Séamus on Irish.DNA@familyhistory.ie

Belfast Over 50s Show—A Great Success

Edie Gahan, MGSI, (Left), the Society’s Director of the GSI Outreach Programme, recently brought the GSI to Belfast for the Belfast Telegraph’s 50+ Show. The event took place in the King’s Hall Pavilion, Balmoral, between Friday 16th Sunday 18th January 2015. The Board wishes to thank all the Members who travelled up to Belfast to assist on the GSI with the hundreds of queries for genealogical advice received over the three days. Edie especially wants to thank the organisers, Mr. Edmund Hourican, Managing Director and his team at Tapestry, Lio ref, and the volunteers at Sandyford Office Park in Dublin. The assistance and courtesy shown to the Society and our volunteers by Mr. Hourican’s staff was exceptional, according to Edie. The draw for one year’s membership of the GSI attracted over a hundred entrants with following the winners: Mr. Cheirs Ferguson of Dungannon, Co. Down, Ms. Alison Howard of Bangor, Co. Down and Mr. Garry McGuigan of Belfast. Eddie has brought the Society’s Exhibition Stand to all corners of the country over the past three years and he had it all packed up on his extensive list for 2015. Without a shadow of doubt, it is Eddie’s energy and commitment that is a great source of encouragement to his wonderfully dedicated team of volunteers. These events promote the society’s mission to help Ireland and veins to access open educational leisure pursuits available to all in our community.

IRISH LIVES REMEMBERED

Ireland’s FREE digital e-Magazine ‘Irish Lives Remembered Genealogy e-Magazine’ dedicated to helping people trace their IRISH Ancestry globally will now be published ‘bi-monthly’ going forward. The current information packed edition is available to read or download for FREE at www.irishlivesremembered.com. Click on Back Editions to read many hundreds of excellent articles on researching your Irish ancestors. Download them now to your own PC. There is a charge to read past issues.

IRELAND’S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE

All the past issues of this newsletter and its predecessor are available in .pdf format to read or download for FREE at www.genealogy.ie The index to the 2014 issues is in preparation.
LUSITANIA REMEMBERED

At sunset on Sunday February 1st 2015 three flares fired into the air over Cork Harbour off Cobh (Quinstown until 1922), marked the first of several cen-
tenary commemoration events to mark the sinking of the RMS Lusitania off the Old Head of Kinsale in May 1915, that will take place at various locations in Co. Cork associated with this including the Old Head of Kinsale, Courtmacsherry and Kinsale itself. Sunday’s event, organised by Cork County Council, commenced at sunset with a clarion on the 49 bells of St. Colman’s Cathedral, followed by address-
es from Cllr. Claire Cullinane, who presid-
ed over the ceremony, Cork County Mayor, Cllr. Alan Coleman, and Minister for the Marine Simon Coveney, TD, cov-
ering the impact that this First World War
maritime tragedy had on Cobh and the surrounding area. Chairman of the Cobh Lusitania Centenary Centennial, David Verwey, said that Cobh was proud to hold this first in a series of commemorations that will be held in Co. Cork in the com-
ing months. Cobh plans to hold a series of lectures and exhibition of rare photographs of this famous ship. The Cobh ceremony concluded with the reading of the names of those lost on RMS Lusitania, several of them children who are buried in the town’s cemetery, by local children who, after which, fires fared from Cobh, Fort Mitch-
ells and Fort Camden brought the ceremony to an end.

OLD DUBLIN SOCIETY

On Wednesday February 11th Frank Tracy will present his lecture ‘If Those Trees Could Speak – the family history of Lord Massy’ at 18.30hrs to the Old Dublin Society in the Dublin City & Archive Conference Room, 138 – 144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. (The lecture for this date by Rob Goodbody mentioned in last month’s Gazette will take place at a later date). Admission free and all are welcome. This will be followed on Wednesday February 25th with a lecture by Dr. Clara Cullen on ‘The World Upturning: Elsie Henry’s Irish Wartime Diaries, 1913 – 1919’ and on Wednesday March 4th by Tony Behan with ‘The We Were: 80 Years of the Old Dublin Socie-
ty’. Both these lectures take place at 18.30hrs in the same venue. All welcome – admission free.

HISTORIC RE-ENACTMENT

Between 14.00hrs and 16.00hrs on Satur-
day, February 21st ‘Regiment at Rest’, one of three Irish regiments in the Spanish Army during the Napoleonic Wars, will display foot and arms drill of 200 years ago, with re-enactment group Lord Ed-
ward’s Own in Clarke Square of the Mu-
sum of Decorative Arts & History, Collins Barracks, Bembridge Street, Dublin 7. See how these “Wild Geese” garnered in their distinctive blue uniforms, re-acted to words of command in Spanish. There will be allies and enemies about as British Redcoats and French Grenadiers dem-
strate their own drilled, weapons, and uni-
forms. Admission free.

LOCAL HISTORY LECTURE

On Thursday February 12th Ron Ennis will present his lecture ’Some Antigies of the Military Road from the Yellow House to the Hell Fire Club’ at 20.00hrsto the Kilmacud Stillorgan Local History Society in The Function Room, Glenalbyn Sports Club, Stillorgan, Co.Dublin. All welcome – Contribution €3.

IRISH DNA ATLAS PROJECT

The Irish DNA Atlas is a collaborative academic research project undertaken by Dr. Gianni Cavallieri of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) and the Society. The main objectives are (1) to further our knowledge of the population history of Ireland and (2) to help us understand how genes influence health in Ireland. Whilst the scientific data is provided by Dr. Cavallieri’s team at the RCSI, the project also has an academic historian, Dr. Darren Meggett, who specialises in Irish medieval history. This academic collaboration ensures that the scientific data provided by the RCSI is interpreted in a manner that properly places it in a historical context based on extant sources and in relation to historical or archaeological published research. Participants are sought from Ireland and overseas who can trace each of their eight great-grandparents to the same general area of Ireland. Participants, male or female, are requested to present a Birth Brief (Pedigree Chart) and to provide a DNA sample (kit provided) for analysis. If you are interested in participating or have a query about participating, please contact Seamus O’Reilly, FGSi by e-mail on irish.dna@familyhistory.ie and please checkout the project newsletter on the GSI website.

James Scannell Reports...

The well-known and highly regarded folklorist Sean Ó Duíl gave a well-informed lecture on the fascinating topic of ‘Matchmaking and Marriage Customs in 19th Century Ireland’ at the January 13th GSI Meeting of GSI. Sean, a native Irish speaker from Louis-
burgh, Co Mayo, manages to place family history in its historical and social context. This allows for family history researchers to get an understanding of this crucial context in which our ancestors lived out their lives. He had previously spoken to us on ‘Death and Burial Customs in 19th Century Ireland’ in 2007. In both cases his talk was enlivened with considerable humour – not something always associated with family history. For readers who were not fortunate enough to attend the talk, Sean has produced two professionally produced DVDs and these can be ordered by email from info@heirsireland.com.

Costs are €15.00, including postage. For GSi members of GSI he has allowed a reduction to €12.00 plus postage. Postage comes to €5.00 in the Republic of Ireland but this can be avoided by anyone attend-
ing any of our meetings where they can be collected. They would certainly make excellent gifts for relatives and friends, and would by particularly attractive to the Irish diaspora. Séamus Moriarty, FGSi

MEMBERSHIP OF GSI BRANCHES

The Board of Directors has set the Annual Subscription rates for membership (associate) of either Heraldry Ireland or Vexillology Ireland is €20.00 per annum to include a biannual electronic newsletter and the free registration of Arms in respect of Heraldry Ireland and of flags or emblems in respect of Vexillology Ireland. Members of the following organisations shall be enti-
tied to a 50% reduction in the Annual Subscription to each (i) Genealogical Society of Ireland; (ii) National Maritime Institute of Ireland and (iii) individual mem-
bers of Clan/Sept Associations registered with Clans of Ireland, in the case of Heraldry Ireland, individu-
al members of the registered member organisations of FLAX— the International Federation of Vexillological Associations which represents fifty similar organisa-
tions in around thirty countries.

For further details on these new GSI branches see the following websites: www.heraldryireland.com or for Vexillology Ireland the following website: www.flagsireland.wordpress.com

Monthly Newsletter of the Genealogical Society of Ireland
JOIN ON-LINE www.familyhistory.ie

DIARY DATES
Tuesday February 10th & March 10th 2015
Evening Open Meeting
Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute
Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire
20.00hrs—22.00hrs

Wednesday February 25th & March 25th 2015
Morning Open Meeting
Hardy's Bar, Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire
10.30hrs—12.30hrs

Contribution €2.00 p.p.
(Coffe/Tea included at Morning Meetings)

EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS
Members of the Society are entitled to the following discounts on on-line genealogical products. Whilst access to these resources is free to members at An Daonchartlann, it is also recommended that members avail of these discounts to have access from their own homes. Findmypast Ireland were findmypast.ie to offer a huge 50% discount and the Irish Newspaper Archive www.irishnewspaperarchive.com offer an excellent 25% discount to GSI members. The British based Newspapers.com provide a 20% discount on their range of DVDs. GSI Members get 40% off the first month’s subscription for the Forces War Records database, which normally costs UK£8.95 for 28 days, for just UK£5.00. To avail of these discounts please contact Barry O’Connor on membership@familyhistory.ie

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP
The Society offers a special 50% reduction on the standard membership rate for students and young researchers under 25 years of age. Persons taking adult education courses in genealogy can avail of a similar 50% reduction—that’s right, for just €20.00! See GSI website. Evidence of student status may be requested.

LECTURE PROGRAMME

PARKING AT THE DFEI
Members are advised that car-parking facilities at the Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute are very limited, especially during the college terms. The most convenient option is to use public transport. Dublin Bus nos. 7, 7A, 46A and 75 all serve the college or streets adjacent to the college—Lower George’s Street, York Road, Clarence Street. The DART (suburban rail) services to Sandymount and Dalkey. On street car-parking is usually available in the area also. The Director of the GSI Lecture Programme, Séamus Moriarty, asks members to consider ‘car pooling’ for each month’s open meeting as many Members come from the same areas. It will make parking easier for all. Ask at the meeting. For details on the Institute checkout www.dfei.ie

FREE RESEARCH ADVICE
An Daonchartlann, the Society’s Archives and Research Centre at the historic Carlisle Pier in Dún Laoghaire, is open each Wednesday from 10.30hrs to 16.30hrs (except 4th Weds. open at 13.15hrs) and each Saturday from 14.00hrs to 17.30hrs. Members are on hand to provide free family history research advice to visitors. The use of the Society’s extensive archival resources is reserved for fully paid-up GSI members, however, day research membership is available for €5.00 and payable on-line at the GSI website. Resources freely available to GSI members include a number of excellent pay-for-view websites including Ancestry.com, Findmypast, Forces War Records, Newspapers.com, the British Newspaper Archives and the Irish Newspaper Papers. Travelling to the facility is best by public transport as both Dublin Bus (nos. 7, 7A, 8, 46A and 75) and the DART (suburban rail) are nearby. Pay-n-display parking at Dún Laoghaire Harbour area. See: www.familyhistory.ie

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Bray, Co. Wicklow and WW1
‘The Old Bray Society Special World War One Journal’ - Editor Henry Cairns. The Old Bray Society has published a 120 page special edition of the Bray Historical Record, the Society’s journal, World War One, devoted to World War One in Bray and the North Wicklow area. Divided into six chapters, this special journal opens with an overview of the impact World War One had on Bray and the surrounding area followed by specific chapters covering: The Bray Roll of Honour, listing all those from the town and surrounding area who served during the War. The Bray War Memorial, located on Quinsboro Road opposite the Bray Leisure Centre with information contributed by Barry, Connor and Liam Dodd, on those listed on it broken down by time and place of death. The diary of Sergeant Bernard Martin who served in Bulgaria which he later used to write a far more extensive memoir which forms the basis for this chapter. Fr. Francis Gleeson who served two tours of duty as chaplain on the Western Front with the 2nd Batt. Royal Munster Fusiliers and appointed a curate to Holy Redeemer Parish, Bray, in 1924 until 1940 when he was transferred to Aughrim, following a sermon criticizing the Bray Urban District Council for evicting family (a summary of the official report of the sermon contents is reproduced) until 1944 when he was appointed Parish Priest of St. Catherine’s Parish, Dublin. Thomas Curtis provides a fascinating article on his grandfather Drummer Tom Brennan, who survived Gallipoli and went on to serve on the Western Front, and survived the conflict. The final chapter covers ‘Further Information on North Wicklow People in the First World War’ with special thanks to Judy Cameron for information on those from Powerscourt and Kilbride. One of the interesting statistics in this book is that out of the 1914 Bray population of 7680, a total of 930 men enlisted between 1914 – 1918, of which 155 were killed while Rathnew, Co. Wicklow, is said to have provided more men to the British Army than any village in the Empire. Copies of this special journal, price €17.50, which contains numerous illustrations of documents, people, and other items, are available from the Town Hall Book Shop, 23 Florence Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

LIVE rue PROGRAMME
16.30hrs (except 4th Weds. open at 13.15hrs)