



Cumann Genealaíais na hÉireann

Thirtieth Anniversary Year 1990–2020

“Cuimhnigí ar Ár Sinnsir—Remember Our Ancestors”



Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating “The Genie Gazette”)

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www.familyhistory.ie

March : Maaliskuu : Márta 2020

Seanad Éireann General Election

The Society is a **Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann** since 2006. This entitles the Society to nominate one candidate to contest the General Election for Seanad Éireann (Irish Senate) and the Society has exercised this right on four occasions, 2007, 2011, 2016 and 2020.



In 2016 our nominee, Cllr. Fintan Warfield, was successfully elected on the **Culture and Educational Panel**.

This time the Society nominated Cllr. **Joe Conway (left)** of **Waterford City and County Council** as a candidate on the same Panel.

The selection of nominees for candidature has been confined to the Board of Directors since 2006 in accordance with *Standing Orders*. This process was most recently exercised at the Special Board Meeting of Thursday 20th February 2020 which was convened to select the current candidate.

There is much public discourse concerning the narrowness of the franchise for the Seanad General Elections and the perceived “closed-shop” system of selecting candidates by members of the Oireachtas and the rather restrictive process involving the various Nominating Bodies. There is no standardised system of selection or election of nominees by the Nominating Bodies and few, if any, open up the process to the individual members of these bodies outside their executives.

This Society's uses the *Single Transferrable Vote* system of *Proportional Representation* in

its selection of its nominee by a secret ballot of the Directors. However, currently the franchise is restricted to the Board of Directors who exercise this vote for and on behalf of the Members.

The Society's Development Plans since 2010 have valued and prioritised the participatory basis of membership – encouraging our Members to volunteer and take up more active roles in the running of the Society and in the provision of our various services. This is still very much a “work in progress” as the fluctuating levels of volunteering create a challenging environment for the Board as it seeks to sustain the delivery levels of the Society's services.

The need to widen the franchise was considered and the following proposal (**Res: 20/03/1503**) was agreed by the Board on March 5th 2020.

Proposal: That, in order to promote a greater awareness, appreciation and knowledge of the Society's obligations and role as a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann amongst our Members and the general public, that the Board, in accordance with *Standing Order 13.v.*, establish a mechanism for extending the voting rights in the selection process for a candidate to contest the next Seanad Éireann General Election to all Members of the Society and, that this proposal be placed before the Members for approval or otherwise at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday 10th March 2020.

The question to be put at the Annual General Meeting is as follows:

Do you agree that voting rights for the Society's nominee to contest the next Seanad Éireann General Election should be extended to all Members of the Society? YES / NO

If adopted by the AGM, the Board will arrange for Members to select the Society's nominee to contest the next Seanad General Election.

OPEN MEETINGS

Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute

Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire

Tuesday 10 March (AGM)—20.00hrs

Tuesday 14 April—20.00hrs

Royal Marine Hotel

Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire

Wednesday 25 March—10.30hrs

Wednesday 22 April—10.30hrs

Contribution €5.00 p.p.

(including Tea/Coffee at the Morning Meeting)

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Genealogical Society of Ireland will be held on **Tuesday 10th March 2020** at 20.00hrs in the Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute, Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, A96 EP44.

- Minutes of the 2019 AGM
- Matters Arising
- Annual Report of the Board (see page 2)
- Annual Accounts (unaudited)
- Resolution re. Seanad Nominations
- Election of Board for 2020/2021
- Guest Speaker (circa 20.30hrs)
- Q& A (to end circa 21.50)

Only fully paid-up Members are eligible to vote or be proposed for any elected position.
General Secretary

GENEALOGY

HERALDRY

VEXILLOLOGY

SOCIAL HISTORY

Heritage Matters

Book Reviews

Open Meetings

News & Events

DATA PROTECTION

The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force on **May 25th 2018**. The Board, under **Res: 18/05/1380**, advises Members that the Society holds the following records on its Members (1) Name; (2) Address; (3) Telephone Number; (4) Email Address and (5) the name of the Associate Member, if applicable, and that such records are **only used** for the purpose of contacting Members on Society matters and for the dispatch of the Monthly Newsletter and the Annual Journal and furthermore, that these records are **only held** by the Director of Membership Services and are **inaccessible to all other persons** and that, the **Society does not share this information** with any other individual or organisation. Records are also held for **contractual necessity** to deliver paid services.

ITEMS HELD OVER

Due to the requirement to publish the Annual Report and other matters appertaining to the AGM, the review of Charles Egan's *'The Killing Snows'* and other reports may have been edited down to fit the available space in the newsletter. The above review will be published next month.

In this issue.....

- Annual Report of Board
- FCP 2020 Catalogue
- James Scannell Reports..
- Coronavirus—COVID-19
- GSI Lecture Programme
- Précis of Feb. Lecture
- News from the Board
- Directions & map to new premises in Loughlinstown



@GenSocIreland

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

The Society's very active Outreach Programme team headed by our inspirational and hugely energetic "ambassador at large" **Eddie Gahan, MGSi**, is planning to travel the country again this year promoting genealogy.

Eddie is currently in discussions with various groups and event organisers, including the Irish Active Retirement Association, on the inclusion of GSI Stands at events in the Republic and Northern Ireland.

If you wish to join Eddie's team, please email him at eddie_gahan_snr@hotmail.com

GENEALOGY HELP CENTRE

Did you know that this Society operates a "Help Centre" for those researching their family history?

Family history need not be a lonely pilgrimage of discovery with many bumps in a very twisty road of pitfalls. Many of these research problems appear as impenetrable "brick walls" but they are rarely new problems. Many have overcome such and progressed their research with the help and advice of others.

The Society's "Help Centre" is open to the public each week where you can discuss your research problems with experienced researchers who will take you through the available resources. For times and directions please see page 4 of this newsletter.

Annual Report of the Board

The following is the Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Genealogical Society of Ireland CLG adopted by the Board at its meeting of March 5th 2020 under **Res: 20/03/1501**. As usual the Annual Report covers the period from AGM to AGM. The Annual Financial Report is for P.E. 31.12.2019.

The Board of the Society met eleven times during the year to deal with the day-to-day business of the Society. In addition to attending these meetings each of the directors undertook duties associated with their various portfolios including organising eleven Morning Open Meetings and twelve Evening Open Meetings, the latter with guest speakers. These excellent monthly lectures are now uploaded to the Society's YouTube channel and social media.

In addition to the Annual Journal which was published, for the first time, in electronic format this month, the Society published twelve issues of its newsletter 'Ireland's Genealogical Gazette' and its readership figures continued to be very strong throughout the year especially on-line where it was available in pdf format. The Society's Archives and Research Centre – An Daonchartlann – at the DLR Leisure Centre at Loughlinstown was open to the public on Wednesdays throughout the year with the exception of the Christmas / New Year period.

The Society's is very grateful to Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council for the level of grant aid provided to the Society to assist with running costs, purchase equipment, website redesign and promotional research.

The Society continues to campaign for the establishment of an 'Irish Institute of Genealogical and Heraldic Studies – incorporating a Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies' in Dún Laoghaire and the Society will continue to work with the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council on this proposal. The Society's Outreach Policy involved the Society's participation in several exhibitions and events including the Holiday World Shows in Belfast, Dublin and Limerick, the Active Retirement Ireland Show in Naas and several others around the country, both in Northern Ireland and in the Republic.

On legislative matters, the Society continued to work for the release of the 1926 Census of Ireland through the amendment of the Statistics Act, 1993.

The Society's two branches, Vexillology Ireland and Heraldry Ireland, continue to deal with these specific aspects of the Society's many and varied activities. The Society is Ireland's only member of FIAV – the International Federation of Vexillological Associations.

The Society will soon launch its newly designed website. The Facebook page and Twitter account continue to be valuable components in the promotion of the activities of the Society, its legislative campaigns and Irish genealogy in general. The Irish DNA Atlas Project, operated in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, continues to provide very exciting and ground-breaking data from this unique academic genetic genealogy research project was welcomed by genealogists, geneticists, historians and others from around the world.

The 2019 Annual General Meeting elected eight Directors to the Board. There were two resignations in the past year, one in July and one in December. The Board intended to co-opt replacements as three vacancies exist. The maximum number of Directors permitted is ten.

Between May and July of 2019 with the unexpected temporary inaccessibility of the Society files dealing with the 2018 accounts in the run-up to the Annual Reporting Date (ARD), the Society was unable to meet its ARD on time. However, all documents were subsequently filed with the Companies Registration Office and late fees paid to regularise matters.

In addition to the above, the outgoing Board dealt with matters relating to the Society's membership of the Federation of Family History Societies, The Wheel, DLR PPN and FIAV. The Board also complied with its statutory obligations in respect of the Companies Act, 2014, Register of Beneficial Ownership (SI 110/2019), the Charities Act, 2009, the Charities Regulatory Authority and the EU GDPR.

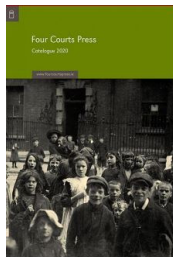
As the Society is in its 30th anniversary year, the Board requested that the GSI President, Mr. Stuart Rosenblatt, PC, FGSI, remain in office until the end of 2020 and he has very graciously agreed to do so and to preside at events marking this anniversary. Finally, as a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann, the Society nominated Cllr. Joe Conway of Waterford City & County Council as a candidate in the Seanad Éireann (Irish Senate) General Election on the Culture & Educational Panel.

Michael Merrigan, MA, FGSI, General Secretary

Have you visited An Daonchartlann at the DLR Loughlinstown Leisure Centre?

Four Courts Press—2020 Catalogue Published

The 2020 catalogue has just been published by Four Courts Press and, no doubt, every genealogist and local historian will discover many titles of interest in this year's catalogue. Here are just a few of the new books coming this year.



'**Gaelic Ulster in the Middle Ages: history, culture and society**' by Katharine Simms. Due Spring 2020. The Plantation of Ulster followed from the perceived recalcitrance and military strength of its Gaelic lords. This book examines the prelude to their final rebellion. It delves into the 'plain living and high thinking' of its somewhat enigmatic society, operating largely independently of towns or coinage, describing in turn its chieftains, churchmen, scholars, warriors, court ladies and other women, and everyday life of the people.

'**The kings of Aileach and the Vikings, ad 800–1060**' by Darren McGettigan. Due Spring 2020. The kings of Aileach came to prominence in the north of Ireland c.ad 800, just as the first Viking fleets began to raid the coasts of Ulster. This book also tells the stories of other noteworthy early medieval high-kings of Ireland who sprang from the Cenél nÉogain dynasty, including Niall Glúndub, who was killed at the battle of Dublin in 919, leading the combined armies of the Uí Néill against Viking invaders known as the grandsons of Ívarr.

'**The churchwardens' accounts of the parishes of St Bride, St Michael Le Pole and St Stephen, Dublin, 1663–1742**' edited by W.J.R. Wallace. Due Spring 2020. The accounts of its churchwardens complement the records of its vestry, and reveal how the parish recovered following the Restoration and developed in the eighteenth century. Information on the parish church, the clergy and patterns of worship, the role of the parish officers and their interactions with the city in areas such as poor relief, firefighting and policing provide valuable insights into the local and ecclesiastical history of inner-city Dublin.

'**Moygara Castle, County Sligo and the O'Garas of Coolavin**' edited by Kieran O'Connor. Due Summer 2020. This study of Moygara Castle marshals fields of expertise – history, archaeology, architecture, geography, genealogy, geophysical survey and DNA analysis – to provide information about life in later-medieval Gaelic Ireland.

'**Spectral mansions: the making of a Dublin tenement, 1800–1914**' by Timothy Murtagh. Due Autumn 2020. In 1800, Dublin was one of the largest and most impressive cities in Europe. Yet, less than a century later, Dublin had been transformed from the playground of the elite, into a city renowned for its deprivation and vast slums. Despite once being 'the best address in town', by 1900 almost every house on Henrietta Street was in use as tenements, some shockingly overcrowded.

'**Ireland and the crusades**' edited by Edward Coleman, Paul Duffy & Tadhg O'Keeffe. Due Winter 2020. The crusades – a broad term encompassing a disparate series of military expeditions, with the avowed intent of preserving/expanding Christianity and the heterodoxy of the Roman Church – were a quintessential phenomenon of moral and religious life in medieval Europe. This is an interdisciplinary volume of essays from leading scholars working in this field, which re-examines Ireland's connection to the crusading movement in its many forms.

There are many more exceptionally well researched works in this catalogue see: www.fourcourtspress.ie

FOUR COURTS PRESS

Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more. Checkout the 2019 catalogue and the wonderful special offers at www.fourcourtspress.ie

MOBILE PHONE DEALS FOR MEMBERS

The Board agreed a new mobile phone deal for GSI members similar to the one that brought considerable savings on phones and calls in the past.

This offer is Sim only for First Time Customers: €20 per month inc vat. ☀ 300 off net local ,national and domestic calls. ☀ 300 off net texts. ☀ Unlimited Data. ☀ Unlimited Three to Three Talk & Text.

Are you more of a talker and texter then this is the plan for you: €28.91 per month inc vat. ☀ Unlimited calls to any network in ROI ☀ Unlimited calls to all landlines in ROI ☀ Unlimited Texts to any network in ROI ☀ 100 international minutes & 100 international texts ☀ 13GB of mobile data of which up to 11Gb can be used within the EU for data roaming. ☀ Smart Phones at subsidised rates. ☀ 24 month Contract

Are you more of a data/internet user, then this is the plan for you: €27 per month inc vat. ☀ Unlimited Three/Three calls in ROI ☀ Unlimited Three/Three texts in ROI ☀ 300 Minutes for off net mobile calls including domestic/national landlines in ROI ☀ 300 Texts to off net Irish mobiles. ☀ Unlimited mobile data of which up to 8GB's can be used within the EU for data roaming. ☀ Smart Phones at subsidised rates. ☀ 24 month Contract.

Do you need unlimited national usage for talk text

and data then this is the plan for you: €40.50 per month inc vat. ☀ Unlimited calls to any network in ROI ☀ Unlimited calls to all landlines in ROI ☀ Unlimited Texts to any network in ROI ☀ Unlimited mobile data of which up to 15GB's can be used within the EU for data roaming. ☀ Smart Phones at subsidised rates. ☀ 24 month Contract. Call today to discuss the best plan for you. Ph: 01 6876021 or email Conor.Spencer@threegovstaff.com

DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY

This Society is funded largely by its Membership Fees and the kind donations received from Members and friends at home and overseas.



The Society is a Registered Charity in Ireland and always considers options for fund raising and grant applications.

The possibility of crowdfunding for specific projects is being considered. However, in the meantime it was decided to appeal to our Members and friends. Donations can be made on-line via the Society's website or by cheque payable to the *Genealogical Society of Ireland* and sent to the General Secretary at: **11, Desmond Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland, A96 AD76**

The Board would like to sincerely thank the Members and friends of the Society who have already donated.

In Brief....

GSI MEMBERSHIP

Join on-line at www.familyhistory.ie
Please note that GSI Membership is open to all interested in genealogy and related subjects. Discounted membership rates available for under 25s and students at recognised genealogy courses.

IDEAL GIFT IDEAS

Genealogists and local historians love books! So if you have a gift to buy—think books by our Members. Much of the research for these books was undertaken at the Society's Archive & Research Centre—*An Daonchartlann*.

'*Victorian Dún Laoghaire*' by Tom Conlon—excellent local history of the town and the first to deal extensively with the poor and "the courts" where they lived. Price: €20.00

MONTHLY LECTURE PROGRAMME

Tuesday Mar. 10th—'*Genetic Landscape and History Revealed by the Irish DNA Atlas*' by Dr. Edmund Gilbert, RCSI.

Dr Edmund Gilbert will be presenting an update to the *Irish DNA Atlas* study, a joint research project between the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and the Genealogical Society of Ireland. He will be presenting the current status of the project, and how geneticists have used the *Irish DNA Atlas* as a resource to investigate the genetic ancestry of Ireland.

Tuesday April 14th—'*The kings of Aileach & the Viking raids*' by Dr Darren McGettigan.

Dr Darren McGettigan, a member of the *Irish DNA Atlas* Project Team, will be outlining the research he has undertaken for his recent work '*The kings of Aileach and the Vikings, ad 800-1060*' published by Four Courts Press. See page 2 of this newsletter.

All **WELCOME**—Contribution €5.00
Please note '*Parking at DFEI*' see below.

We welcome comments and suggestions on the lecture programme. Please email Tony O'Hara, MGSI, Director of the Society's Monthly Lecture Programme at toharads@gmail.com

CHECKOUT our YouTube Channel for past lectures. www.youtube.com

PARKING AT DFEI

Car-parking facilities at the *Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute*. The best 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 Salthill & Monkstown. On street car-parking is usually available in the area also. Members are asked to consider 'car pooling' for each month's open meeting. For details on the Institute and its courses please checkout www.dfei.ie



www.eneclann.ie



Some of the Archival Collections in An Daonchartlann, Loughlinstown. (Photo: Tom Conlon)

James Scannell Reports...

OLD DUBLIN SOCIETY

Ged Walsh on '*On the Banks of the Dodder*' at 18.00hrs on Weds 11 March, Dublin City Library & Archive, 138-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. Clifton Flewitt on '*Dublin's Tramways - the first generation*' at 18.00hrs on Weds 25 March in the same venue. All welcome - admission free.

BALLSBRIDGE, DONNYBROOK & SANDYMOUNT HS

Thomas A. Burke on '*Sarah Cecilia Harrison, Dublin's First Female City Councillor*' in Pembroke Library, Anglesea Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. Admission free - booking 01-6689575 email: pembroke.library@dublincity.ie.

ENNISKERRY HISTORY SOCIETY

Tom Conlon on '*The History of St. Michael's Hospital, Dún Laoghaire*' at 20.30hrs on Thursday 12 March in the Powerscourt Arms Hotel, Enniskerry. All welcome - admission €5.00

KILMACUD STILLORGAN LHS

Michael Pegum will speak on '*Baggot Street Hospital 60 Years Ago*' at 20.00hrs on Thursday 12 March in Glenalbyn Sports Club, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin. All welcome - Contribution €3.00

DÚN LAOGHAIRE BOROUGH HS

David Doyle will speak on '*Carriglea House, Kill Avenue*' at 20.00hrs on Wednesday 18 March—Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire. All welcome - entrance €3.00

BRAY CUALANN HS

Paola Viscardi on '*Richard Barrington, Human Science and Animal Science*' at 20.00hrs on Thurs 19 March, Royal Hotel, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All welcome - admission €6.00

RATHMICHAEL HS

Peadar Curran on '*Mary Mulligan, Neighbour to Countess Markievicz*' at 20.00hrs on Weds 01 April, Rathmichael National School, Stonebridge Rd. (Dublin Rd end), Shankill, Co. Dublin. All welcome - admission €5.00

MOUNT MERRION HS

Brendan Matthews on '*The Sack of Balbriggan*' at 20.00hrs on Thurs 02 April in the Community Centre, North Ave., Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin. All welcome - admission €4.00 / Students €2.00

PUBLICATIONS

'*Obelisk 14 - 2020 Journal of the Kilmacud Stillorgan Local History Society*', published by the Kilmacud Stillorgan Local History Society.

Running to 170 pages, there is an excellent selection of articles in this annual publication which cover a variety of subjects including 'St. Benildus College, Kilmacud - Caoga bliain ag fás' by Liam McLoughlin; 'Avondale Hall; The Military Orthopaedic Hospital (1917-1932)' by Paula O'Regan; 'The Abergyle Rail Disaster of 1868: Stillorgan Connections' by Bryan MacMahon; 'School in the 1950s' by Fedelma Martin; 'The history

of 'Glencairn House' by Thomas A. Burke; 'The Rise and Demise of Glenalbyn Swimming Pool' by Susan Waime; 'Isaac W. Usher, Father and Son' by Anne O'Connor; 'Some Memories of Old Stillorgan' by Paddy Rochford; 'The Haunting Soldier Sculpture' by Sabrina Purcell; 'Westbury House and its Residents' by Pat Sheridan; 'Poet Lizzie Twigg's Kilmacud Connections' by Vivien Igoe; John Traynor, American Pioneer' by John Traynor; 'Fr. Daniel Hickey, Kilmacud Curate and World War One Chaplain' by Peter Sobolewski; 'Shooting the School Principal: Stillorgan, 1924' by Margaret Smith; 'The Belmont Boys' by Michael Fitzgerald; 'The First Women Guardians Elected to the Rathdown Union in 1897' by James Scannell; and 'Growing up in Dundrum' by Sylvester Byrne.

Copies of this excellent journal can be obtained via the Kilmacud and Stillorgan Local History Society's web-site - www.kilmacudstillorganhistory.ie. James Scannell

CORONAVIRUS—COVID-19

In the event of any national containment measures being introduced by the government, health authorities or the local authority which prevent the Board from meeting as scheduled in order to conduct the normal day-to-day running of the Society, the Board agreed to the following under *Res: 20/03/1497* at its meeting on March 5th 2020.

The Company Secretary shall be **authorised to process payments** that would normally be submitted to the Board Meetings for approval and processing.

The Company Secretary, in consultation with An Cathaoirleach, shall liaise with the managements of the following venues in respect of the **Open Meetings - Royal Marine Hotel and the Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute** - in order to be in a position to advise our Members in the event of either venue being rendered unavailable due to the current situation with COVID-19.

The Company Secretary, in conjunction with An Cathaoirleach, shall liaise with the managements of **Park House and the DLR Leisure Centre at Loughlinstown** in respect of the availability of these premises.

The Company Secretary, in conjunction with An Cathaoirleach, shall be **authorised to cancel any scheduled meeting, event or service provision** in line with the professional advice received in respect of COVID-19.

These measures shall remain at the disposal of the Company Secretary for the duration of the current containment period in respect of COVID-19, however, the Board shall be required to give effect to their continuance by a simple resolution at each subsequent Board Meeting following the adoption of this resolution. Also see: www.hse.ie

NEW BOARD FOR 2020-2021

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Society will be held on **Tuesday March 10th 2020** at 20.00hrs, at which, Members will elect the new Board of Directors for the coming year, including An Cathaoirleach (Chair), Leas-Chathaoirleach (Vice-Chair), General Secretary and Director of Finance. Six other directors will be elected and will receive their portfolios at the Board Meeting on Thursday April 2nd 2020. The Board meets for two hours on the first Thursday of each month, except January when it's the second Thursday. No meeting is held in August.

TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS

by John Grenham, MA, MAPGI, FIGRS, FGSI

The Society strongly recommends to anyone embarking on their family history quest that one **essential** piece of kit must be, without doubt, a copy of the **FIFTH** edition of '*Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*'. Please checkout the website www.gillmacmillan.com Price €24.99 [RRP].

Précis of the February Lecture

'Research your Clan using DNA and Documentary Records' by Dr. Maurice Gleeson, MGSi

It is a little over a year since we had the pleasure of a lecture from Dr. Maurice Gleeson and this one was well anticipated and well attended. Maurice is the Education Ambassador for the ISOGG and the subject concentrated on researching your clan using DNA testing in conjunction with documentary records. Asking for a show of hands Maurice asked the gathering who was part of a Surname DNA project and who had a Y-DNA test. He spoke about the tree of mankind and then showed a slide which covered the timeline he was talking about. Surnames in Ireland started about 1000 to 1100 years ago and Ireland was one of the first countries in Europe to adopt this. The era of Clans predates the era of Surnames and this was illustrated using three maps covering the period from 500 AD to recent times. Using ancient Annals and Ancient genealogies through to about 700 AD and the main Kingdoms and on to the pre Norman era around 1100 AD.

Maurice told us that Annals are now considered quite reliable up to about 600 AD but caution is recommended for the periods before this. We saw from the superb slides that "genetic Adam" left Africa and spread all over the world mutating at various stages both historically and geographically. We were told that the last place on earth to be inhabited was New Zealand in approximately 1300 AD and that all Maori DNA is closely related.

The Y-DNA test gives the father to son extensive reach all the way back to Adam in Africa up to 200,000 years. There are two types of Y-DNA markers STR's (Short Tandem Repeat) and SNP's (Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) usually pronounced Snips. This research is quite new, starting in the early part of this century when there were only 20 branches whereas today that number is over 10,000 and growing exponentially. Haplogroup R1b is the dominant one here in Ireland with an 85% concentration. The Haplogroup R1b is largely found in Scandinavia and northern Europe.

In order to achieve a good pedigree over such a long period there are many pitfalls and Maurice gave many reasons for surname or DNA switches, such as allegiance to the Lord / Chief of the Clan, adoption, fostering, infidelity, illegitimacy, Anglicisation of name and the taking of wife's name upon marriage. People with extensive pedigrees like Sir Conor O'Brien the 18th Baron Inchiquin, can trace his pedigree back to Brian Boru, Maurice tells us. This thirty generation pedigree tested positive for L226 SNP marker. Indeed the L226 SNP marker was mentioned extensively in the following slides where the tracing back from other markers, all converged on the L226 marker.

Maurice referenced pioneering studies carried out by Dennis Wright and Bart Jaski for this part of the lecture. This element of the lecture required a more detailed knowledge of the subject matter than what is normally associated with the amateur genealogist.

Maurice displayed a very comprehensive and detailed superimposition of comparative family trees from clan histories and DNA based on the Dalcassian L226 or Irish Type 3 marker. It certainly appears like a very complex puzzle and ongoing developments in the area of Genetics are happening so fast that this picture will appear much clearer over time, to the slow learners like yours truly. The lecture was very well received and the audience went away with plenty of information to analyse and absorb. Many thanks Maurice for a wonderful evening. The full lecture available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEKDOWKSvJ8&feature=youtu.be>

Tony O'Hara, MGSi

Checkout the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie

GETTING TO AN DAONCHARTLANN

Travel Information for visitors to the An Daonchartlann, Loughlinstown Leisure Centre, Loughlinstown Drive, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin, A96 XP60.

DART & DUBLIN BUS—Dún Laoghaire DART Station—Bus 111 & 7A from Crofton Road, Bus Stop no. 2036 to Loughlinstown Park, Bus Stop no. 3222

LUAS & DUBLIN BUS—Bride's Glen (Green Line) - Bus 111 from outside the Luas station, Bus Stop no. 7639 to Loughlinstown Park, Bus Stop no. 3222.

DUBLIN BUS from City Centre—O'Connell Bridge, Bus Stop no. 273 or Nassau Street, Bus Stop no. 405—Bus 7A to Loughlinstown Park, Bus stop no. 3222

DRIVING—From the M50 - at Junction 16 follow the signs for Loughlinstown. Straight on through Cherrywood and over the N11 flyover. **Signposted** at the second traffic lights beyond the flyover on Wyattville Road turn right into Loughlinstown Drive. Follow this twisty road for about 1km to Loughlinstown Leisure Centre (very large buildings on right). GSI is behind these buildings. **From N11 southwards** - after Cabinteely junction, and Topaz garage move to left lane and exit left to Wyattville Road. At the second traffic lights on Wyattville Road, turn right into Loughlinstown Drive and follow as above. Checkout www.dlrleisure.ie/Loughlinstown

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

A **Special Board Meeting** was held on Thursday February 20th 2020 to select the Society's nominee to stand as a candidate in the **Seanad Éireann** (Irish Senate) General Election. The Board considered each application in detail and then, by secret ballot using the Single Transferable Vote system of Proportional Representation, elected **Councillor Joe Conway** (Independent) of Waterford City and County Council as the Society's nominee. All formalities were completed in Leinster House on Monday 24th February 2020 with the Seanad Returning Officer, Mr. Martin Groves.

At the **monthly meeting** of Board of Directors held on Thursday March 5th 2020 at Park House, Library Road, Dún Laoghaire, the General Secretary, as Acting Director of Finance, informed the Board that the audited annual accounts will not be completed until near the end of March. Therefore, they will not be ready for presentation to the **Annual General Meeting** to be held on Tuesday March 10th 2020 as has been customary.

The General Secretary advised the Board that he could present the AGM a copy of the unaudited accounts for the period ending 31st December 2019 which were prepared for the auditor. This was agreed and that such could be adopted pending the completion of a successful audit. The fully **audited accounts** will be presented to the Board at its April Meeting and then to the **Companies Registration Office** to meet the

Society's obligations under the **Companies Act, 2014**. A copy of the fully audited accounts will be available to the public via www.cro.ie following the ARD of May 8th 2020.

The publication of the **Annual Journal** electronically has encountered issues regarding the format the various Copyright Libraries in Ireland and the UK can receive copies of the journal. Each of the Copyright Libraries was requested by letter to confirm their preferred format and, to date, only three of the thirteen have replied. It is intended to go ahead with the electronic publication but these important matters must be clarified in order to comply with the **Copyright & Related Rights Act, 2000** (as amended). Failure to comply has cost implications for the publisher and could seriously impair copyright.

The Board agreed to seek the Members views on extending the right to vote for the Society's nominee for candidature in the next Seanad Éireann General Election. A resolution was agreed for the **Annual General Meeting**.

Some existing Board Members indicated that they wished to stand down at the AGM, however, they were willing to take up such non-executive positions as may become available to assist the incoming directorate.

General Secretary

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The Society is a Nominating Body for
Seanad Éireann (Irish Senate)

Board of Directors 2019-2020

Gerry Hayden (Cathaoirleach : Chairperson);
Tony O'Hara (Leas-Chathaoirleach : Vice-Chairperson & Open Meetings Convener);
Michael Merrigan (General Secretary, Company Secretary, 'Gazette' Editor, RF:- Oifigeach na Gaeilge, Vexillological & Heraldic Services, & Irish DNA Atlas); & from July 2019 **Acting (Finance & pro-tem ADF, Philanthropy): Eddie Gahan** (Outreach & Education); **Barry O'Connor** (Membership Services & Cemetery Projects); **Séamus Moriarty** (Building & Utilities, Health & Safety Officer); **Lua Ó Scolaí** (Archive & Research Centre); (Public Relations & Diaspora Outreach) **vacant**. (seven members)

(Journal Editor & Video Production—**Tom Conlon** as a non-executive officer as and from 06.02.2020 under Res; 20/02/1490)

The Board is limited to ten Members with a quorum of six. [Note: 'RF' signifies a 'reporting function' for a Non-Executive Officer].

"HALL'S INDEX"

The "Gazette" is Ireland's longest running monthly genealogical newsletter and it is read by thousands each month around the world. All the past issues of this newsletter and its predecessor back to 1996 have been fully indexed by the late **Brendan Hall, MGSi** and they are available in pdf format to read or to download free of charge on www.familyhistory.ie

Although we're not members of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ), the team at the "Gazette" always endeavour to operate in accordance with the **NUJ Code of Conduct** www.nuj.org.uk/about/nuj-code/ and in line with the **'National Policy Statement on Ensuring Research Integrity in Ireland'** which was endorsed by the Genealogical Society of Ireland back in June 2014 soon after its launch at the Royal Irish Academy. (see the June 2014 issue at www.familyhistory.ie)

GENEALOGY HELP CENTRE

An Daonchartlann, the Society's Archive and Research Centre is located at the **DLR Leisure Centre at Loughlinstown**, Co. Dublin. OPEN on the following days: Currently:- **Wednesdays**—10.00hrs to 16.00hrs.

The use of our extensive archival resources is reserved for fully paid-up GSI members, however, day research membership is always available on request.

