



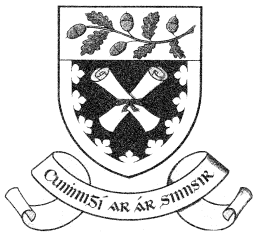
Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

Vol. 8 No. 8

www.familyhistory.ie

August : Lúnasa 2013



GENEALOGY
HERALDRY
VEXILLOLOGY
SOCIAL HISTORY
Heritage Matters
Book Reviews
Open Meetings
News & Queries



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Genealogy and Freedom of Information

The proposed relocation of the General Register Office to Werburgh Street has certainly raised the hackles of many genealogists. However, a far more important issue that may have been overlooked was the publication on July 24th of the *Freedom of Information Bill, 2013*. Given that genealogical research is not specifically mentioned in the Bill, despite the excellent recommendations in the recent Report of the Joint Oireachtas Committee, including the endorsement of the 'Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access' to our genealogical heritage, the Minister for Public Expenditure & Reform, **Brendan Howlin, TD**, published a Bill with some seriously questionable measures. For example, does the Bill seek to *redefine* the records held by the General Register Office from their original status as 'public records on individuals held by the State' to 'personal records on individuals held by the State' and, if so, what are the implications for genealogical, biographical or historical research? This may be particularly worrying in respect of **Section 2** which defines cer-

tain terms used in the Bill. One of the important definitions relates to 'personal information' which is as per Section 2 (1) of *Civil Registration Act, 2004* which covers information on events such as births, marriages and deaths etc. The above definition of 'personal information' may have implications for commercial genealogists or those without a familial connection undertaking research assignments for clients as **Section 37** protects personal information held by an FOI body against third party access. A definition of 'personal information' is, as we've seen above, included at Section 2 of the Bill and has been aligned with the Data Protection Commissioner's definition. The custodian of the records has a discretionary function in respect of the release of the information to a third party balancing the public interest in disclosure and the right to privacy of the individual. It is possible under **Section 48** that guidelines will protect the current level of access to GRO records but this is unclear. Section 48 of the Bill gives the Minister the power to draw up and publish a code of practice and guidelines to assist FOI bodies.

However, the impact, if any, that this Bill may have on accessing records, given their redefinition and the issue of 'privacy', is still very unclear. It may be depressing, but the above must be seen in the context of the recommendations in the *Report of the Joint Oireachtas on the Draft Heads of the General Scheme of the Freedom of Information Bill 2012*. The report was launched on June 26th 2013 and is available on-line as is the full text of the Bill. Given the strong recommendations in the Report, it is highly possible that a solution is achievable that could include (1) a designation of 'historic records' i.e. those over 70 years; (2) free on-line access to the indexes and registers of such 'historic records'; (3) the designation of all records under 70 years as 'personal information' with, as suggested by one of our readers, (4) the stamping of all certificates obtained for research purposes to prevent misuse. Until we get these important clarifications on the Bill, the move to the building in Werburgh Street may be considered little more than an annoying inconvenience.

Ireland Returns after Twenty-One Years

ROTTERDAM, Zuid-Holland – Ireland is once again a member of **FIAB** – the **International Federation of Vexillological Associations**, after the Genealogical Society of Ireland was formally admitted at the 23rd General Assembly of FIAB held in Rotterdam on August 6th 2013. The Society was represented at Rotterdam by its Director of Sales, Marketing & Membership, **Tom Conlon, MSc MGSI**, and **Stanislav Zamyatin, MGSI, CEO, Vexillology Ireland**, a

branch of the Society dealing specifically with the promotion of the study of the history, symbolism and use of flags and emblems. According to FIAB Congress delegate, Tom Conlon, "the Society's membership of FIAB brings Ireland back to the international family of flag organisations after a gap of over twenty-one years. Membership of this prestigious international body members from over 40 countries around the world will greatly enhance the promotion of an international awareness of Ireland's vexillological heritage".

The flag of 'Vexillology Ireland' created by Stanislav Zamyatin was flown during the Society's attendance at Rotterdam. A new website www.bratacha.ie will host Ireland's first public **Register of Flags & Emblems** enabling clubs, schools, colleges, businesses, clan associations and others to have their flags and emblems registered. The register will also have information on the design, meaning and history of each flag and emblem. The biannual newsletter 'VIBE' is available on the website.

The Battle of Clontarf—Good Friday 1014

'*The Battle of Clontarf—Good Friday 1014*' by **Darren McGettigan** is published by Four Courts Press. (ISBN: 978-1-84682-384-8 : 156pp: Catalogue Price: €14.95). Now that we are well into a decade of centenaries which will run until 2022 or some would argue, 2023, we are all too aware of the difficult political or cultural 'baggage' associated with some aspects of these commemorations, so going back a thousand years may offer some relief. Undoubtedly the Battle of Clontarf has entered the Irish psyche as a great victory, so much so, that it featured at the European Championship Qualifier soccer match held in Dublin in 1979 between Ireland and Denmark. Irish fans at one end of the stadium held up a banner saying "*Remember 1014*" which seemed to work as the Irish won 2 : 0 through goals from Gerry Daly and Don Givens. However, understanding the real significance of this battle in both its Irish and wider European contexts has been largely overlooked in the school history books. Many myths surround the struggle between the "Vikings" of Dublin and the native Irish which erroneously painted a picture of 'God fearing Christians versus cruel and barbaric foreign pagans'. In reality, as McGettigan points out, at the time of Clontarf we are talking about a Hiberno-Norse population in Dublin and its environs which was possibly largely Gaelic speaking and, of course, Christian. Intermarriage between the ruling elites of the Hiberno-Norse and the Gaelic Irish was extensive as was trade in various goods. In this new book, McGettigan explains that the story of the Battle of Clontarf, fought almost a thousand years ago is an inspiring one and must rank with those of other great seminal battles of the medieval period in these islands such as the Battle of Hastings in 1066 and the Battle of Bannockburn of 1314. Dealing with the main protagonists explored by

McGettigan reveals a fascinating and captivating tale of ambition, determination, courage and sacrifice. The accounts of the peoples, places and the events surrounding the battle are not presented in a purely academic style, but accessible to all readers. McGettigan's careful attention to nomenclature is certainly admirable as he avoids inappropriate anachronistic geopolitical terms and the needless Anglicization of proper names. He sets the scene in a manner that is clearly understandable outlining the domestic and external political challenges to the power bases of Brian Boru, High King; Máelsechnaill II, king of Meath; Sitric Silkenbeard, king of Dublin; and Máelmóirda, king of Leinster. Although the history of the battle has often been misrepresented, it is without doubt, one of the most important events to have taken place in medieval Ireland. As McGettigan explains, the battle was not just influential in Irish history; it also had a major impact on the subsequent history of the Jarldom of Orkney – a Scandinavian power to the north and west of medieval Scotland. In many ways, the battle must be seen as a part of a much wider Irish dynastic struggle over the largely ceremonial high kingship, into which, the Hiberno-Norse enter these interregional conflicts as opportunists in frequently shifting alliances. Attempts by Sitric Silkenbeard to draw the wider Viking world into the conflict proved only marginally successful. However, the defeat at Clontarf reverberated around the Viking world and is retold in the Sagas, although, for the Irish Clontarf could be considered a pyrrhic victory due to the severe losses, including Brian himself. High King Brian Boru emerges from the pages of this illustrated book, not as the great reforming High-King of legend and school history books, but as a highly ambitious and intelligent monarch, whose steely resolve led his army to victory on the Clontarf battle-

field that Good Friday in 1014. In this new book McGettigan has certainly provided a very accessible and hugely informative account of this period of Irish history, however, as genealogists we're never satisfied until we see the genealogical charts indicating the various relationships between the ruling families mentioned in the text. But in reality, in this case, that hasn't impacted on a what is undoubtedly a wonderfully interesting read. **Darren McGettigan** is the author of *Red Hugh O'Donnell and the Nine Years War* (2005) and *The Donegal Plantation and the Tír Chonail Irish, 1610–1710* (2010). **MM**

THE GATHERING IRELAND

Members of the Society continue to play a very active role in events organised for *The Gathering Ireland*. On Thursday June 27th 2013, the GSI Director of Finance, **Billy Saunderson**, **MGSI** delivered an illustrated talk on Farransee House. The talk was a part of the hugely successful "*Come home to Coraifean*" held in event in Co. Cavan. Then on Wednesday July 3rd 2013, **Tom Conlon**, **MGSI**, Director of Sales, Marketing & Membership delivered an illustrated talk on the photographic history of Dún Laoghaire to the McDonnell Gathering in McKenna's Pub in Dún Laoghaire. The McDonnell Gathering was organised by **Jim McDonnell**, **MGSI**. In the meantime, **Eddie Gahan**, **MGSI**, Director of the Outreach Programme continues to receive requests for the Society's attendance at events.

Précis of the July Lecture

The years 2013 to 2123 have rightly been termed the decade of centenaries and one of these will be the outbreak of the First World War in August 2014. The GSI has been quicker off the mark than most and recalled this event at its July 9th Open Meeting when **Brian White** gave a talk on the *Shamrock Fund in World War I*. Until Brian did a one man research project on the fund it had never figured in any history of Ireland and the war. We are glad to report that this gap will soon be filled as the speaker informed the meeting that he is negotiating with publishers to produce the definitive history of what is a fascinating, but hitherto neglected, by way of Ireland's role in this calamitous event. The fund was established in America to raise funds for the many thousands of Irish disabled soldiers in the war. US\$140,000 dollars was raised. A huge sum in those days and American women were asked to adapt an Irish soldier. The driving force behind the fund raising was the Countess of Kingston, a remarkable lady of Anglo-Irish aristocratic stock from Co. Roscommon who was related to many of the great Anglo-Irish families in the west of Ireland. As

with so much of Irish involvement in the Great War, the Countess has been largely neglected figure in Irish history but from Brian White's research she would appear to be a remarkable lady with prodigious energy who had no difficulty relating to Irish Americans of Catholic stock, despite her own very different background. As a by-product of this research Brian has identified the various hospitals throughout the country that treated the Irish Great War wounded, many of them assisted by the fund. For instance, the Shamrock Fund was a very significant contributor to the opening of an Auxiliary Hospital in Bray that specialised in fitting artificial limbs. Brian White gave a marvellous talk and deserves great praise for doing such Herculean research, which incidentally was inspired solely by a brief reference to this topic that the speaker stumbled upon in a book called *American Women in the World War* by **Ida Clyde Clarke** published in 1918. If the quality and wealth of information supplied by Brian's talk to our Society is anything to go on, without doubt, his forthcoming book on this much neglected subject will be eagerly anticipated. **Séamus Moriarty, FCSI**

4-DAY GENEALOGY COURSE

A 4-Day Genealogy Course in Carrickmacross Workhouse for €50! From Monday 21st October to Thursday 24th October, Monaghan Genealogy will deliver a 4-day training course in Carrickmacross Workhouse for visitors and locals. The course will run from 08.30hrs to 16.00hrs each day, and will incorporate 17 Speakers, 3 Field Trips, and 1-to-1 Genealogy Advice for further info. contact John Hamrock on Mobile: 087 050 5296 Website: www.monaghangealogy.ie Email: info@monaghangealogy.ie

GSI WEBSITE REDESIGN

The Director of Internet Services, **Tony O'Hara**, **MGSI**, presented an analysis of the content, functionality and overall appearance of the current website, including a broad outline of his recommendations for a total revamp of the website at the August meeting of the Board of Directors. The Board will consider his detailed recommendations for redesigning the website to meet the Society's current and, hopefully, expected requirements at its September meeting.

WEEKEND GENEALOGY COURSES

Weekend Genealogy Courses are provided in conjunction with John Hamrock of **Ancestor Network Ltd**. These very successful and popular courses are specially designed to help beginners unlock the mysteries of their ancestry. Classes are small providing better tuition. Ancestor Network Ltd. is the provider of the Genealogy Advisory Services for the **National Library of Ireland** and the **National Archives of Ireland**. The includes guided tours at the National Library, Dublin City Library and other centres of research. Learn how to be your own researcher. Topics to be covered include the principles of genealogy, computers and the internet, place names and surnames, location and use of census, vital, valuation, church and

other records. Practical advice will be shared with participants as they embark on the quest to trace their ancestors. Courses are held at the GSI Archives and Research Centre, *An Daonchartlann*, where the major on-line genealogy resources will be covered in a 'hands-on' way for best results. For further information please contact John Hamrock by phone on 087 050 5296 or by e-mail on john.hamrock@ancestor.ie

IRELAND'S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE

All the past issues of this newsletter and its predecessor are available in pdf format to read or to download or to read *free of charge* on the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie

IRISH LIVES REMEMBERED

The August 2013 issue (No. 15) of the excellently produced and very popular e-magazine '*Irish Lives Remembered*' is now available to read or to download to your PC, mobile device or tablet absolutely *free of charge* on www.irishlivesremembered.ie Why not checkout previous issues of this wonderful Genealogy E-magazine? The various articles on the resources for researching your ancestors in particular counties provide an exceptionally useful guide for those wishing to further their knowledge of the genealogical, archival and local history resources of these counties.



James Scannell Reports...

WAR OF INDEPENDENCE IN KILDARE

Mercier Press has published *The War of Independence in Kildare* by James Durney who reveals that Kildare was one of the most important, but also the most dangerous counties for the rebels in the struggle for independence due to its position on the axis between the Curragh camp and Dublin Castle. When the War of Independence began on 21 January 1919, the IRA in Kildare faced a unique situation. One-third of Britain's overall military strength was based in the Curragh alone and the county had a huge population of ex-servicemen and their families with strong ties to the British crown. Fear of reprisals, as well as Kildare's open plains, which militated against the IRA's favoured tactic of ambush, were a strong deterrent to military engagements. Indeed, the county has often been criticised for a perceived lack of action. However, in *The War of Independence in Kildare* James Durney argues that Kildare's role deserves to be reconsidered. Despite the obstacles, the IRA in the county did operate quite successfully and contributed enough to the IRA's overall campaign to get a commendation from GHQ and sneaking admiration from the crown forces it opposed. From attacks at Greenhill, Maynooth and Barrowhouse, to the critical

role carried out by agents there in intelligence gathering, the county played an integral part in Ireland's fight for freedom. *The War of Independence in Kildare* reveals for the first time the full story of the county's involvement in the struggle for freedom from 1916–21. James Durney, author of *The Civil War in Kildare*, is a historical tour guide, working in the Local Studies Department of Kildare Library. He gives several talks per year to local history groups on subjects as diverse as Irish gangsters in America, and Kildare men and women in the Spanish Civil War. He has had material published in various newspapers and has been interviewed on RTÉ several times. *The War of Independence in Kildare* is published in paperback at €16.99.

WILLIAM DARGAN

William Dargan: An Honourable Life 1799 to 1867 by Fergus Mulligan, published by The Lilliput Press, is the first comprehensive biography to be written about this remarkable and fascinating 19th century contractor and entrepreneur who began his career in Wales working on the Holyhead Road under Thomas Telford, the famous Scottish engineer. In a very hectic life William Dargan went on to build roads canals, Ireland's first railway - the Dublin and Kingstown (now Dún Laoghaire), canals and

reservoirs. He developed the seaside roads of Bray, Co. Wicklow, and Portrush, Co. Antrim, operated flax and thread mills, reclaimed vast sections of land in Derry and Wexford, in addition to operating canal boats and cross-channels steamers. He also built the railway from Bray to Dalkey and converted the atmospheric railway from Dalkey to Kingstown (Dún Laoghaire) for steam train use making unbroken travel between Dublin and Bray possible. The fascinating and engrossing biography of William Dargan also provides the reader with an insight to the private life of this remarkable Victorian and his family, providing many details about him not previously known. With over 90 illustrations and photographs, many previously unseen, this biography draws on a wide range of archival material revealing that William Dargan was a dynamic, engaging, bibulous figure, whose formidable abilities created the infrastructure for modern Ireland where there is scarcely a town untouched by his genius.

LITTLE BRAY CEMETERY

On Saturday August 25th, Brian White of the Bray Cualann Historical Society, will lead a walking tour of St. Peter's Cemetery, Dublin Road, Little Bray, Bray, Co. Wicklow, and will discuss the history of those occupying flagged graves. All welcome – admission free.

Outreach Programme in Full Swing

With very successful GSI Stands at DUBLIN (Pearse Street Library) on July 26th, and August 9th, BELFAST (PRONI) on August 2nd, and 3rd and ARMAGH on August 8th the Society's Outreach Programme is in full swing. Over the past few years the Society has regularly participated in events all over the island of Ireland. The Board considers the GSI Outreach Programme to be one of the core functions of the Society promoting an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of our genealogical heritage throughout Ireland. Recently the Outreach Programme has facilitated family history research sessions at events organised for *The Gathering Ireland* (see page 2) and this is set to continue during the remainder of the year. To meet the increasing demand for the provision of a GSI Stand at events around the country, the

Director of the Society's Outreach Programme, **Eddie Gahan, MGS**, is seeking a number of volunteers to assist him with the provision of the Society's stands on the following dates: DUBLIN (Dublin City Library and Archive, Pearse Street) - and 16th and September 20th. DUBLIN (Back to Our Past, RDS) - October 18th to 20th and NEWRY - October 26th. It is during HERITAGE WEEK at *An Daonchartlann*, the Society's Archives & Research Centre at the Carlisle Pier, DÚN LAOGHAIRE that **Eddie** particularly needs a number of volunteers as the facility is going to be open each day between August 17th to 25th from 10.00hrs to 17.00hrs providing FREE FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH ADVICE. Have you an hour or two to assist? Please contact Eddie by e-mail on: eddie_gahan_snr@hotmail.com

IRISH DNA ATLAS PROJECT

The Irish DNA Atlas is a collaborative academic research project undertaken by **Dr. Gianpiero Cavalleri** of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), the University of Leicester in the UK and the Society. The main objectives of the project are (1) to further our knowledge of the population history of Ireland and (2) to help us understand how genes influence health in Ireland. Participants continue to be sought from across the island of Ireland and, indeed, from overseas who can trace each of their eight great-grandparents to the same general area of Ireland. Participants are requested to present a Birth Brief (Pedigree Chart) and to provide a DNA sample (kit provided) for analysis. Participants are sought, male or female, with ancestry from any part of Ireland meeting the criteria regarding the eight great grandparents. Members are asked to assist the project by inviting friends and colleagues to participate. If you are interested in participating or have a query about participating, please don't hesitate to contact **Séamus O'Reilly, FGS** by e-mail on Irish.dna@familyhistory.ie Also, checkout the project newsletter on the GSI website.

GSI MEMBERSHIP

The Annual Review of the Membership Package was undertaken by the Board of Directors at its meeting on Thursday November 1st, 2012. It was agreed under **Res: 12/11/952** to keep the cost of the Annual Subscription for 2013 for Irish and Overseas Members at €40.00. The Membership Package for 2013 includes the following: Member voting rights; optional second household adult member (18 years or over) with voting rights; Membership Certificate [**Res: 11/09/859**]; right to use GSI post-nominal; copy of the Annual Journal; monthly newsletter by e-mail; use of the Society's Archive; monthly meetings/lectures; special prices of up to 50% off selected Society publications; right to register your own assumed Arms or emblems with the Society free of charge; right to have your Club, School or Institutions assumed Arms or emblems registered with the Society free of charge to a maximum of ten registrations; occasional group pro-

jects; Members' internet forum (under construction); genealogical, heraldic and vexillological advice; and the facility to publish your research in the GSI Journal. Special Membership concessions on products and services obtained, from time to time, by the Society. The Board also agreed to provide a number of concessionary rates at €20.00 for persons under 25 years of age and persons attending recognised genealogy courses etc. This Membership Package shall be applied as and from January 1st 2013 and be subject to annual review, however, existing Membership Packages shall be honored until their annual renewal date.

NOTE: In accordance with **Res: 10/09/785** all Membership Packages fall due for renewal on the anniversary of joining—please check your Membership Certificate. Apply on-line at www.familyhistory.ie or if you prefer, download the form and send it to **Mr. Billy Sanderson, MGS**, Director of Finance, 'Suzkar', Killiney Avenue, Killiney, Co. Dublin, Ireland. *New Members always welcome!*

WILL YOUR RECORDS WELL

In the course of our research over many years we naturally amass a huge amount of paper and computer records. We love these records, we've worked hard to collect the information—it is of great value. Books, photographs, charts, interview notes, copy certificates, parish register and census transcripts—all lovingly collected over many years. But have you made provision for the preservation of your records, files and notes after we die? Don't let your hard work end up as landfill or all of your books be sold off after you've gone. Please make provision in your Will to donate them to the Society's Archives for future generations.

MEDAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Ancestors or relatives who served in the Irish, British, Commonwealth, American or other armed forces or in the mercantile marine of these countries? Checkout the Medal Society of Ireland on www.msou.ie

IRELAND'S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE

is published by the

Genealogical Society of Ireland Limited

11, Desmond Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland

E-mail: GAZETTE@familyhistory.ie

Charity Reference: CHY10672

The Society is a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann

Board of Directors 2013-2014

Pádraic Ingoldsby (Cathaoirleach : Chairperson); **Gerry Hayden** (Leas-Chathaoirleach : Building Mgr.); **Michael Merrigan** (General Secretary : Company Secretary, Publications); **Billy Saunderson** (Finance); **Tom Conlon** (Sales, Marketing & Membership); **Ciarán Hurley** (Archive); **Barry O'Connor** (Cemetery Projects); **Séamus Moriarty** (Lecture Programme), **John Hamrock** (Education & Social Inclusion); **Eddie Gahan** (Outreach Programme); **Maura Flood** (Digital Archive); and **Tony O'Hara** (Internet Services).

JOIN ON-LINE

www.familyhistory.ie



DIARY DATES

Tuesday August 13th & September 10th 2013

Evening Open Meeting

Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education
Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire
20.00hrs—22.00hrs

Wednesday August 28th & September 25th 2013

Morning Open Meeting

Hardy's Bar, Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire
10.30hrs—12.30hrs

Contribution €3.00 p.p. Evening & €4.00 p.p. Morning
(Coffee/Tea included at Morning Meetings)

GENETIC GENEALOGY

A major conference on 'Genetic Genealogy' is to be held as part of the *Back To Our Past* event at the RDS in Dublin from Friday Oct. 18th to Sunday Oct. 20th 2013. *Genetic Genealogy Ireland 2013* is a 3-day series of DNA lectures sponsored by *FamilyTreeDNA* and organised by the *International Society of Genetic Genealogy*. The event will have speakers from Ireland, the UK, and the US on topics such as: ● *Using DNA to break down Brick Walls in your own family tree research.* ● *The three main DNA tests - which one is best for you?* ● *The DNA signatures of specific Irish surnames.* ● *What does DNA tell us about the Irish Clans?* ● *How DNA can help pinpoint your ancestral Irish homeland.* ● *Using DNA to connect adoptees with their biological families.* ● *What DNA reveals about the migration of peoples into and out of Ireland.* However, it is unclear at this stage whether an academic interdisciplinary approach is envisaged with the vital inclusion of historians of early and medieval Ireland. Geneticists provide excellent data on the scientific analysis of the DNA samples collected, however, interpreting that data from an anthropological, archaeological or historical perspective to link it with historic events or periods requires the involvement of academics in those fields. Failure to involve the appropriate academic assessment of a possible relationship between the scientific data and historical events has given rise, in many cases, to speculative interpretations, imprecise or incorrect labelling of population groups and territories or erroneous associations with historic events, all of which, may satisfy a populist view of the capabilities of DNA analysis, but could seriously undermine its real benefit to our understanding of our past. This is precisely why the *Irish DNA Atlas Project* operated by this Society in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) only deals with participants that can prove that their eight great grandparents originated in the same particular area. This type of DNA project allows for a more detailed scientific analysis and an accurate assessment of the data in relation to the history of the area. For fuller details on the *Irish DNA Atlas* see page 3.

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GENEALOGY COURSES
UCD ADULT EDUCATION

Enrolment opens on August 12th 2013 for the very highly regarded UCD Adult Education classes in genealogy given by **Seán Murphy, MA**, which are due to commence in late September. The first option is to apply for admission to Module 1 of a six-module, three-year Certificate in Genealogy/Family History course, which involves submission of assignments. The second option is a stand-alone Introduction to Genealogy module which does not involve assessment. Further information on these genealogy classes, together with a wide range of Open Learning and Access courses in history, literature and the arts, can be obtained on the UCD Adult Education website at <http://www.ucd.ie/adulted> Queries about the content of the genealogy classes may be sent by e-mail to **Seán Murphy** at sjbmurphy@eircom.net

TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS

by John Grenham, MA, MAPGI, FIGRS, FCSI

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 latest edition of *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* by John Grenham. Please check out the website www.gillmacmillan.com Price €22.99 [RRP]. **YOU NEED THIS BOOK**

VIBE NEWSLETTER

This month the Society published a new biannual newsletter *'VIBE - Vexillology Ireland : Brateolaíocht Éireann'* (ISSN 2009-6437). The acronym 'Vibe' is appropriate as the etymology of the word suggests 'movement' or in modern American English slang 'instinctive feelings'. There is no better way to describe the often incomprehensible and mutually incompatible feelings of inclusivity and exclusivity engendered by flags and emblems. Stan Zamyatin also created a new website for *Vexillology Ireland* at www.bratacha.ie which will host Ireland's first public *Register of Flags & Emblems* enabling clubs, schools, businesses and others to have their flags and emblems registered. The register will include information on the design, meaning and history of each flag and emblem in order to build up a wonderful vexillological resource.. **Stanislav Zamyatin**, CEO of *Vexillology Ireland* can be contacted at bratachaire@gmail.com or via www.bratacha.ie

FREE RESEARCH ADVICE

An Daonchartlann, the Society's Archives and Research Centre, at the Carlisle Pier in Dún Laoghaire, is open each Weds from 10.30hrs to 16.30hrs (except 4th Weds. open at 13.00hrs) and each Sat. from 14.00hrs to 17.30hrs. Members are on hand to provide **free family history research advice** to visitors. The use of the resources is reserved for GSI members. Day research membership is available for €5.00 and payable on-line at the GSI website. Travelling to the facility is best by public transport as Dublin Bus and the DART. Pay-n-display parking is available in the Dún Laoghaire area. See: www.familyhistory.ie

LECTURE PROGRAMME

Tues. August 13th - *'Irish and British Maritime Records'* by David Snook; **Tues. September 10th** - *'Medical Records of the Royal College of Physicians'* by Harriet Wheelock; **Tues. October 8th** - *'Rental Records as a Genealogical Source'* by James Ryan; **Tues. November 12th** - *'Children in Care - Records of Pre-1952 Adoptions'* by Fiona Fitzsimons; **Tues. December 10th** - *'The resources of Ancestry.com as a support for the Genealogist'* by Eric Booth. **VENUE: Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education**, Cumberland St., Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Directions on www.familyhistory.ie As the only genealogical organisation providing monthly lectures throughout the year, the programme is varied to meet the needs of all levels of research experience. **Séamus Moriarty**, FCSI Director of GSI Lecture Programme:- Gazette@familyhistory.ie

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

To encourage students and young people to take up family history research, the Society offers a 50% reduction for persons under 25 years of age. Also, persons who take up adult education courses in genealogy can avail of a similar 50% reduction on the standard membership rate—that's right, for just €20.00.

BUSINESS NAMES REGISTERED

The following Business Names are registered to the Society and are currently in use for different aspects of its activities: *Genealogical Society of Ireland*; *An Daonchartlann*; *Vexillology Ireland* and *Heraldry Ireland*. See www.cro.ie