



Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating “The Genie Gazette”)

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May : Bealtaine 2017

Éireannaigh an Domhain : Global Irish

Historic Dublin Castle on May 4th and 5th 2017 hosted over two hundred delegates representing organisations, voluntary and commercial, providing services to the Irish diaspora.

The delegates came to the 'Global Irish Civic Forum' from around the world at their own expense and given the distances travelled by some, this was a huge testimony to their commitment to Ireland.

The event was officially opened by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr. Charlie Flanagan, TD, who was introduced by Ms. Caitríona Ingoldsby, Director of the Irish Abroad Unit at the Department. The Minister outlined the importance of the Global Irish Civic Forum and its enormous contribution to the State's engagement with Ireland's many and diverse diasporas.

The Minister of State for the Diaspora, Mr. Joe McHugh, TD, in conversation with Máire Treasa Ní Cheallaigh of RTÉ, spoke of the many organisations and individuals he met when visiting the Irish abroad with H.E. President Michael D. Higgins. The visit by the President or by a government Minister was so important, he said, to recognise the great work undertaken by groups across the globe promoting Ireland, celebrating Irish culture and heritage and, especially, providing welfare, comfort and shelter to the elderly, infirm or less fortunate members of our “global Irish family”.

The structure of the event, after the opening session, involved a number of panel discussions and moderated workshops on a range of topics including the following on Thursday May 4th: 'Evolving Global Irish Communities—Meeting their needs and identifying opportunities for collaboration', 'Global Irish: Ireland's Diaspora Policy', 'Communicating Better in a Digital Age: Using New Tools to Stay Connected', 'Imaging an Irish Culture for the Future—Representing a new Ireland and engaging future generations of the Irish Abroad' and ending the day with an 'Evening Networking Event: Connecting Irish communities abroad with Irish business'.

Day two of the Forum started with a presentation on 'A Department Innovating to Support our Citizens Abroad' and followed by a very lively panel discussion on 'Voting Rights in Presidential Elections' moderated by Dearbhail McDonald with guests Mr. Simon Coveney, TD, Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Mr. Joe McHugh, TD, Minister of State, Senator Billy Lawless and Dr. Iseult Honohan (UCD). Two further rounds of moderated workshops were held before a very interesting “Wrap-Up Session” by Mr. Niall Burgess, Secretary General of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

It was an exceptionally good international 'networking event' and it was important that the Society was represented as genealogy and 'roots tourism' are so interwoven with the State's Diaspora Policy. Is it time now for each local authority in Ireland to consider formulating and implementing a diaspora policy?

GENEALOGY

HERALDRY

VEXILLOLOGY

SOCIAL HISTORY

Heritage Matters

Book Reviews

Open Meetings

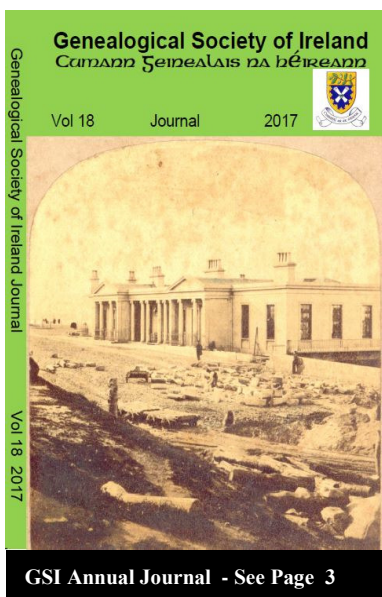
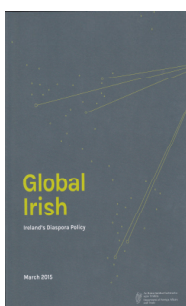
News & Events

Publicity Matters

At the May 2017 meeting of the Board of Directors the issue of publicity and increasing the profile of the Society, especially on-line, was discussed.

Copies of the 'Global Irish Communications Handbook' published by the Dept. of Foreign Affairs was distributed to each Director. This excellent publication will inform the Society's own policies and strategies.

Members with ideas or suggestions on this issue are invited to share them with the Board by email to: web@familyhistory.ie



OPEN MEETINGS

Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute

Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire

Tuesday 9 May—20.00hrs

Tuesday 13 June —20.00hrs

Royal Marine Hotel

Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire

Wednesday 24 May—10.30hrs

Wednesday 28 June—10.30hrs

Contribution €3.00 p.p.

(including Tea/Coffee at the Morning Meeting)

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@GenSocIreland

YOUR FAMILY HISTORY?

If you are thinking of starting your family history research and just don't know where to start, don't despair as Eddie and his team are on hand to show you the ropes.

Whilst the Society does not undertake commercial research assignments, it does provide research advice to enable you to take a D.I.Y. approach to your research.

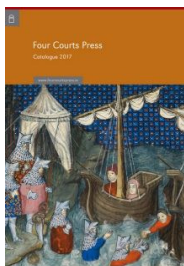
Also, please note that Eddie and his team travel around the country promoting the study of genealogy. For more information on the Society's Outreach Programme contact eddie_gahan_snr@hotmail.com



Eddie Gahan and his Team ready to discuss your Family History Research

BOOKS FOR A LAZY SUMMER

For the past fourteen years or so I have had the absolute delight and pleasure of reviewing works published by Four Courts Press (FCP) in Dublin and sharing those reviews in this newsletter and its predecessor. This endeavour wonderfully embraces my passion for reading and history, indeed, history was my 'gateway' into genealogy and heraldry. Notwithstanding the fact that relatively few purely genealogical or heraldic books are published in Ireland, works in many disciplines published Four Courts Press regularly contain items or essays of interest to the genealogist and local historian.



Four Courts Press is one of Ireland's premier academic publishers with currently over 500 titles in print. Founded in 1970 by Michael Adams (1937-2009), a native of County Fermanagh and a graduate of Queen's University Belfast. Based in 7, Malpas Street near Dublin's historic Blackpitts area, Four Courts Press is highly respected in the field of academic publishing, however, the overwhelming majority of its publications have a general readership appeal and, although the subjects and the works are rigorously peer-reviewed, they are readily accessible in presentation and content.

FCP expanded rapidly from a small press dealing mainly with works of theology to initially Celtic and Medieval Studies and Ecclesiastical History and then to include Modern History, Art, Literature and Law. The range expanded further to include excellent publications from the National University of Ireland,

Comhairle Bhéaloideas Éireann/ Folklore of Ireland Council and, of course, the Maynooth Research Guides for Irish Local History. The latter collection is a tremendous resource for the genealogist and local historian, however, unfortunately none of the publications in this series is indexed. Maybe some philanthropic reader will fund the complete indexing of this wonderful series and the publication of that index on line and in print by Four Courts Press.

The founder of the press, Michael Adams, received an honorary doctorate in Letters in 2005 from Trinity College Dublin and, the citation says it all: 'It is impossible to imagine the intellectual life of Ireland without Four Courts Press, our most prestigious academic publisher'. The 2017 catalogue is available on-line at www.fourcourtspress.ie and, once again, the genealogist and local historian are spoiled for choice. I am certainly looking forward to a summer of some wonderful reading. **MM**

FOUR COURTS PRESS

Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more. Checkout the new 2017 catalogue and the special offers at www.fourcourtspress.ie

GSI Lectures on Video

In recent months, the monthly lectures to GSI have been recorded and are available on our site. As we move further and further into technology and online information, speakers have a lot of information to impart – so much that it is impossible to take satisfactory notes.

Playback capability is important for those who can attend; it gives them an opportunity to stop the video and take such notes. It is also very important for us to be able to give non-attending members, including overseas members, the benefit of those lectures.

During each lecture, we record the voice and the visual aspects of the lecturer's delivery. Many modest cameras today can capture a full one-hour lecture in a single "take", if appropriately set up. The camera which I use is a Canon SX40 and is ideally suited for such purposes. In the editing process, we move the lecturer to the side

of the screen, and we edit in crystal clear copies of the PowerPoint slides. Tops and tails are added, and the whole thing is run through a rendering process to produce a seamless result. Youtube Movie Maker is our editing and rendering system.

The lecture is then uploaded to YouTube, checked, and made available. Links to the appropriate YouTube file are placed on our own website, and we are good to go.

The results are interesting. We had a full house in attendance at a recent lecture on the Irish military archives, but ten times as many people viewed the lecture online.

Find links to all of our 4 videos to date on our homepage, www.familyhistory.ie.

Tom Conlon, MGS

Edward Lee

'Edward Lee – Model Employer and Man of Moral Courage' by Michael Lee, published by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

Some readers may remember the chain of drapery and household furnishing shops operated by Edward Lee and & Co which had shops in Dublin, Rathmines, Dún Laoghaire, and Bray, and one of the many famous family trade names that has vanished in recent decades.

This book recalls Edward Lee who opened his first drapery shop in Bray, Co. Wicklow, in 1885 who unlike many employers the time had a strong social conscience and a very caring approach towards his employees and was responsible for creating the ½ day mid week closing. As a member of the Housing Committee of the Bray Urban District Council, Edward Lee oversaw the erection of municipal housing in Bray in 1905 which up to then had been neglected by the Council and its predecessor the Bray Township Commissioners. He subsequently served as chairman of Bray Urban District Council and later sat as a member on Blackrock Urban District Council. He also had a strong social conscience and during the 1913 Lock-out profoundly disagreed with the tactics used by William Martin Murphy and other employers against the strikers and was a man of moral courage.

The First World War also brought him great sadness as his son Lt. Joseph Lee was killed at Sulva Bay in 1915, and another Captain Ernest Lee, was lost when the RMS *Leinster* was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine off the Kish Bank on 10 October 1918 with the loss of 501 passengers and crew.

With loads of excellent illustrations, this excellent concise and fascinating biography of Edward Lee, written by a great-grandson, also contains a reproduction of his account of a visit to Canada and the United States of America in 1904. What emerges from this biography is a fascinating picture of this remarkable individual and his family and the many challenges they had to face and overcome in the early 20th century.

Copies are available from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown branch libraries, and booksellers. **James Scannell**

HARBOUR BICENTENARY

Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company, in conjunction with Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, has an array of events planned to mark the bicentenary of the harbour. Checkout www.dlharour.ie for details

In Brief....

GSI MEMBERSHIP

Join this Society 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.

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

DISCOUNTS

Exclusive discounts for the Members of the Society are available for online genealogical services and publications, including, **Findmypast, Irish Newspaper Archives, Forces War Records** and from **Flatcapsandbonnets.com**. To avail of any of these Member discounts, please contact **Barry O'Connor, FGSI**, by email at membership@familyhistory.ie

IDEAL GIFT IDEAS

Genealogists and local historians are relatively easy souls to please when it comes to gifts—books! So if you have a birthday 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*.

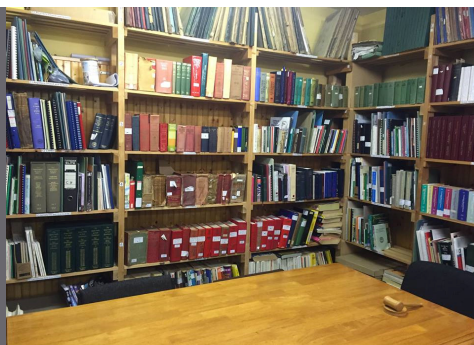
'*Victorian Dún Laoghaire*' by Tom Conlon—excellent local history of the town and the first to deal extensively with the poor and "the courts" where they lived. Price: €20.00

'*Labour in Kingstown, 1890-1920*' by Charlie Callan—explores a much neglected subject—the working class of Kingstown (now Dún Laoghaire) and the development of organised labour and its political representation. Price: €10.00 (published privately contact: chascallan@gmail.com)

'*Twice Built—The Construction of St. Patrick's Church, Monkstown, Co. Dublin, 1861-66*' by Tom Conlon. An intriguing story of "church politics" surrounding the building of a parish church in Dublin. Price €12.00



www.eneclann.ie



GSI Research Centre Temporarily Closed & its Archival Collections are in Storage

JAMES SCANNELL REPORTS...

GALLIPOLI

At 20.00hrs on Wednesday 17 May Philip Lecane will present his lecture '*Beneath a Turkish Sky – The Royal Dublin Fusiliers and the assault on Gallipoli*' to the Dún Laoghaire Borough Historical Society in the Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. All welcome – admission €3.00

EDWARD LEE

At 20.00hrs on Thursday 18 May Michael Lee will present his lecture '*Edward Lee, A Model Employer, Remembering Lees of Bray*' to the Bray Cualann Historical Society in the Royal Hotel, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All welcome – admission €5.00

THE IRISH AIR CORPS

At 19.00hrs in Tuesday 23 May Michael Whelan will present his lecture '*The Collection of the Irish Air Corps Museum*' to the Tallaght Historical Society in the County Library, The Square, Tallaght, Dublin 24. All welcome – admission free.

SAMUEL CLAYTON

At 20.00hrs on Thursday 25 May Ms. Margaret Smyth will present her lecture '*Forger, Freemason, Freeman: the story of Samuel Clayton, Dubliner*' to the Rathmines, Ranelagh & Rathgar Historical Society in Rathmines Town Hall, Rathmines Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6. Admission €3.00 – Swan Centre Car Park Evening Rate €2.00 (Total) from 18.00hrs to 00.30hrs.

IRISH LABOUR HISTORY

At 20.00hrs on Wednesday 31 May Pádraig Yeates will present his lecture '*The Russian Revolution, Easter 1916 and Irish Labour History*' to the Balbriggan & District Historical Society in Balbriggan Town Hall, Main Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin. All welcome – admission €5.00

HARBOUR BICENTENARY

At the end May ceremonies will take place to mark the centenary of Dún Laoghaire Harbour and from 15 May to 30 June the dlr Lexicon will host an exhibition 'Bicentenary of the Pier' which will be on view during normal opening hours and provide an account of the pier over the past two hundred years. The exhibition has been

researched by Colin and Anna Scudds of the Dún Laoghaire Borough Historical Society and will include numerous images from the nineteenth century right up to the present time.

GSI Lecture Programme

On **Tuesday May 9th** the topic will be '*The Story of our DNA*' by Mike Mulligan of Ancestry.com

On **Tuesday June 13th** the topic will be '*How Online Sources Helped Put Flesh on the Bones of the Beglan Family Tree*' by Mary Beglan.

Please note the advice regarding '**Parking at DFEI**' on panel to the left on this page.

Tony O'Hara welcomes any of your comments on the Society's lecture programme as this will help us improve the programme.

Forward any suggestions that you may have for topics or guest speakers by email to **Tony O'Hara, MGSI**, Director of the Society's Lecture Programme at toharads1@gmail.com

UPDATE ON PREMISES

As previously advised, the Board of Directors of the Society appointed Tom Conlon to liaise with the officials of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council on the identification of a suitable premises for the Society's Archive and Research Centre.

Negotiations are on-going and hopefully, will conclude this month. The Council officials have been extremely helpful and fully engaged with the Society in our endeavours to reach a successful and mutually beneficial resolution to our current predicament.

The Board would like to thank, once again, all of the Teachtaí Dála, Senators and County Councillors who continue to make representations on our behalf. "Fingers crossed" good news this month!

GSI ANNUAL JOURNAL

The cover of the 2017 issue of the *Annual Journal of the Genealogical Society of Ireland (JGSI)* carries an 1859 photo taken from the very spot where the recently evacuated *An Daonchartlann* was later built at the foot of the Carlisle Pier.

The articles inside have a distinctly international flavour with many fully illustrated.

A copy of the JGSI 2017 was despatched to each fully paid-up Members. If you haven't received your copy please make contact. **Tom Conlon, MGSI**

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 latest edition of '*Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*'. Please checkout the website www.gillmacmillan.com Price €22.99 [RRP].

Précis of the April Lecture

The title of the April lecture was “*Digitised online resources and complementary sources for researching family histories*” by Tom Quinlan keeper of the National Archives Ireland. This was a comprehensive overview of what is on offer to the avid researcher at the National Archives of Ireland. Most people are familiar with the offerings online like the 1901 and 1911 Census records with images, plus the surviving fragments of the pre 1901, the Search forms used to verify age for the new pension provisions in 1908, the title Applotments 1823 – 1837, valuation records 1824 – 1856. Indexes to wills / administrations plus marriage license bonds plus calendars of civil wills, Soldiers wills, Convert rolls and shipping agreements from 1863-1921, were all mentioned in this fact filled lecture. The presenter interspersed the talk with some witty and amusing comments relating to his many years’ experience in this area. The talk covered the history of the creation of the National Archives Act in 1986 which abolished two older institutions namely the State Paper Office of Ireland and the Public Record Office of Ireland. The 1986 Act mandates that records are transferred to the NAI when thirty years old subject to certain exemptions and it is the duty of the NAI to preserve these records. All records for Departments of state are preserved by the NAI in addition to sixty one additional bodies including the Revenue Commissioners and An Garda Síochána to name but two.

Tom’s talk covered the destruction of the Public Records Office in 1922 and he displayed photos of fragments which were salvaged by concerned citizens. He also informed us that there was no provision to preserve records in the years between 1922 and 1986. Tom outlined the scope of the archives preserved at the NAI. He outlined the details of older religious censuses and early agricultural records which are available and he also spoke about the complex area of Testamentary and Prerogative Wills and how they evolved over time. The search for larger and better equipped premises is an ongoing issue with more and more records being sent to the Archives for safe keeping and possible digitalisation of these records in the future. The next big issue for the National Archives is the capturing of the details of the 1926 census records – the first census by the new independent government of Ireland which is highly anticipated by genealogists and historians alike. These records will throw light on the contrast between the 1911 and 1926 data – a span of fifteen tumultuous years which should put some details on historical speculation regarding population movement amongst many other factors. Towards the end of the talk Tom showed examples of prison registers which included photographs of prisoners and also included examples of Fenian records with photos. This provided a very factual insight into the reality of the times. The lecture clearly shows that the National Archive has a wealth of fantastic records, many which have genealogical significance and a visit to the Archives is a must for those interested in history and genealogy.

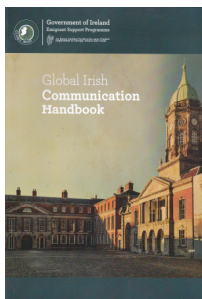
The lecture can be viewed on YouTube and the link is available on the Society’s website, as are previous lectures.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNpMqG_bJYA&feature=youtu.be **Tony O’Hara, MGSI**

Checkout the Society’s website www.familyhistory.ie

GLOBAL IRISH COMMUNICATIONS HANDBOOK

The ‘*Global Irish Communications Handbook*’ was published by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for the Global Irish Civic Forum which was held in Dublin Castle on May 4th and 5th 2017, at which, the Genealogical Society of Ireland was represented by the General Secretary.



The theme of the Civic Forum was “*Communities, Connections, Conversations*” and this most certainly resonates with genealogists and local historians. Creating, developing and sustaining links with our nation’s many diasporas is challenging for most organisations and even more so, for voluntary bodies like genealogical or historical societies. This handbook is essential.

One of the many lively panel discussions at the Civic Forum considered the topic ‘*Communicating Better in a Digital Age: Using New Tools to Stay Connected*’ and involved speakers from Facebook, Twitter and Culture Ark. The excellent and very informative advice provided by the speakers was matched by wonderfully insightful contributions from the audience.

For further information on this handbook see: www.dfa.ie

Mobile Phone Offer for GSI Members



Three.ie

The GSI arranges various discounted products for its Members. The Board has agreed to make the following available in conjunction with THREE. The two options are as follows:

1. The price plan is NOW only €28.91 including VAT. In the plan you get the following calls, texts.
 - Unlimited calls to any Irish mobile network.
 - Unlimited texts to any Irish mobile network.
 - Unlimited calls to Irish landlines.
 - 5GB of internet data.
 - 100 international minutes and 100 international texts.

This plan is a 24 month contract and would come with a **FREE SMART PHONE**—Samsung Galaxy J3 2016 or a HTC Desire 530.

Another option is a **SIM ONLY** offer which consists of.....

2. The price plan is NOW only €19.99 including VAT. In the plan you get the following calls, texts.

- Unlimited calls to any Irish mobile network.
- Unlimited texts to any Irish mobile network.
- Unlimited calls to Irish landlines.
- 5GB of internet data.
- 100 international minutes and 100 international texts.

This plan is an 18 month contract.

If you would like to avail of either of the above offers please contact **NICOLE DUFF** at nicole@threegovstaff.com or by phone on 01.687 6013.

Please Note: Your current membership of the Society will be subsequently verified to THREE by the GSI Director of Membership Services in accordance with **RES: 17/04/1302**

IRELAND’S GENEALOGICAL GAZETTE

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

Board of Directors 2017-2018

Gerry Hayden (*Cathaoirleach : Chairperson*); **Tony O’Hara** (*Leas-Chathaoirleach : Vice-Chairperson, Lecture Programme*); **Michael Merrigan** (*General Secretary, Company Secretary, ‘Gazette’ Editor, RF:- Oifigeach na Gaeilge, Vexillological and Heraldic Services, and Irish DNA Atlas*); **Billy Saunderson** (*Finance and pro tem An Daonchartlann Foundation, Philanthropy*); **Eddie Gahan** (*Outreach Programme, GSI Exhibitions*); **Tom Conlon** (*Internet Services, Sales and Marketing, and the Annual Journal*); **Barry O’Connor** (*Membership Services & Cemetery Projects*); **Séamus Moriarty** (*Building and Utilities, Health and Safety Officer*); **Lua Ó Scoláí** (*Archival Services, RF:- Education Services*)

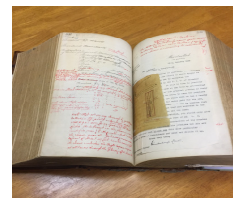
INDEX TO 11 VOLUMES

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 **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)

FREE RESEARCH ADVICE

An Daonchartlann, the Society’s Archive and Research Centre in Dún Laoghaire is now **closed**. The Society is currently looking for a new home for its collections and its research facilities.

Up to the time of closure, the use of our extensive archival resources was reserved for fully paid-up GSI members, however, day research membership was available for €5.00.



Resources freely available to Members include a number of excellent pay-for-view websites including Ancestry.com, Findmypast, Forces War Records, Newspapers.com, British Newspaper Archives and Irish Newspaper Archives.

The Board of the Society will continue to search for an alternative venue to provide this very popular and much needed service to Members and the public in Dún Laoghaire, if available space can be found, or in the City of Dublin. Please check the Society’s website for updates—www.familyhistory.ie