



Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

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December : Nollaig 2019

Soldier, Gaelic Chief & Vice-President

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of the Society's Vice-President, Maj. Gen. David, The O'Morchoe, CB, CBE, FGSi, on November 22nd 2019.

Born in Dublin on May 17th 1928, the eldest son of Niall Creagh O'Morchoe and Jess Elizabeth Joly. David Niall Creagh O'Morchoe was educated at St. Columba's College in Dublin and then followed in the family tradition and joined the British Army.

He attended the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst and was commissioned in 1948 in the Royal Irish Fusiliers. He commended the 1st battalion of that regiment in 1967/8 and served in the Middle East, Europe, Africa and the Persian Gulf. He was the Director of Staff at the Camberley Staff College in 1969 and at the Royal College of Defence Studies in 1972. He retired in 1979 to farm near Gorey in Co. Wexford.

David married Margaret Jane Brewitt of Co. Cork and both settled comfortably into the military life of travel and exotic foreign postings. The couple had two sons and three daughters.

'Ardgarry', their 250 year old home in the townland of Ballincarrig near Gorey is the ancestral seat of this ancient Gaelic family. David had an enormous interest in Irish and military history and he was heavily involved with the *Royal British Legion (Republic of*

Ireland) Branch, of which, he was President for many years. In that role he acted as a very skilful, diplomatic and, many would say, charmingly disarming interlocutor with the Irish government on its participation in commemorative events. These were hugely successful in "normalising" a shared commemorative culture on the island of Ireland.

David was instrumental in reforming and, in reality, rescuing the *Standing Council of Irish Chiefs & Chieftains* after the very damaging "bogus chiefs" affair. The organisation now is devoted to promoting an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of the history and culture of the Irish Gaelic chiefly families. In this regard it sponsors an annual award in conjunction with 'History Ireland' magazine.

His interest in genealogy was not confined to the Gaelic chiefly families as he strongly believed that we all should have access to our genealogical heritage and, with research, come to understand and appreciate the importance of family history.

David was a very frequent attendee at the Open Meetings until relatively recently. He was a hugely popular choice for the position of Vice-President of the Society in 2009, a position he held with dedication and distinction for the past ten years.

The funeral service for David took place on Monday, November 25th 2019 at Christ Church, Gorey, Co. Wexford. The Society was represented by An Cathaoirleach, Gerry Hayden, and the Society's President and the College of Fellows was represented by Séamus Moriarty, FGSi. A Memorial Service to celebrate his life will take place in the New Year.

The Society sends its deepest condolences to David's wife Margaret (née Brewitt) and his children Dermot, his successor as The O'Morchoe; Kevin and Maureen and their families.

David's fascinatingly full and interesting life is well recorded in Walter Curley's *'Vanishing Knights—The Irish Chiefs and their Families'* and in Peter Berresford Ellis's *'Erin's Blood Royal—The Gaelic Noble Dynasties of Ireland'*. May he Rest in Peace.

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.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

The President, Cathaoirleach and Board of the Society wish all our Members and friends in Ireland and around the world, all the very best at this holiday time and we wish everybody a Happy, Peaceful, Healthy and Prosperous New Year—2020—our thirtieth anniversary year.

In this issue.....

- Belfast Holiday World
- Country Houses & Sport
- New Mobile Phone Deals
- James Scannell Reports..
- GSI Lecture Programme
- Précis of Nov. Lecture
- Oral History—NUIG
- Directions & map to new premises in Loughlinstown



@GenSocIreland



Genealogical Society Of Ireland

Stand: AF5



Thinking of researching your family history? Members of this Society, some with many decades of research experience, are always on hand to assist and advice you on your research journey. Call by the Society's Archive & Research Centre—directions on page 4.

OPEN MEETINGS

Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute

Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire

Tuesday 10 December—20.00hrs

Tuesday 14 January 2020—20.00hrs

Royal Marine Hotel

Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire

Wednesday 22 January 2020—10.30hrs

Wednesday 26 February—10.30hrs

Contribution €3.00 p.p. (€5.00 from Jan. 2020)

(including Tea/Coffee at the Morning Meeting)

HOLIDAY WORLD SHOW

Eddie Gahan and his team kick off the 2020 Outreach Programme with another visit to the Belfast Telegraph Holiday World Show at the Titanic Exhibition Centre, 20 Queen's Road Titanic Quarter, Belfast BT3 9DU, from **January 17th to 19th 2020**.

The Genealogical Society of Ireland will be at Stand AF5 with our volunteers ready to assist visitors to the show with their family history research. Please do drop by the stand.

Prices: Adults Stg£5.00 : Senior Citizens / Students Stg£4.00 : Special Family Price 2 Adults & up to 4 children – Stg£10.00.

See: www.holidayworldshowni.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.

WHAT DOES THE GSI DO?

The Society’s main objective is to promote an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of our genealogical, heraldic and vexillological heritage at home and overseas amongst our diaspora.

The GSI widely acclaimed as being the most active voluntary genealogical organisation in Ireland hosting Monthly Lectures each month throughout the year and eleven Morning Open Meetings from January to November each year. These are open to the public—everyone is welcome!

We publish a Monthly Newsletter, Annual Journal, operates an Archive and Research Centre and promote genealogy, heraldry and vexillology at events around Ireland through our very active ‘Outreach Programme’ offering ‘Free Family History Advice’ to the public, active retirement groups, ladies’ clubs and all sorts of community groups.

The Society has a collaborative academic research project with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, RCSI. The *Irish DNA Atlas* project was co-designed by population geneticists at the RCSI and this Society coming together to collect DNA samples from individuals with four generations of ancestry linked to specific areas across the island of Ireland. This research has been funded through an Award from Science Foundation Ireland.

We have two ‘specialist branches’ one for heraldry and the other for vexillology (flags)—the only organisation in Ireland promoting this aspect of our cultural heritage. We maintain a very active on-line presence promoting sustainable contacts with our diaspora.

We also campaign to obtain better public access to our genealogical heritage and records held by the State or other agencies. However, as a registered charity, none of the above would be possible without the generosity of our Members who, through their Annual Subscriptions and volunteerism, provide these services throughout the year.

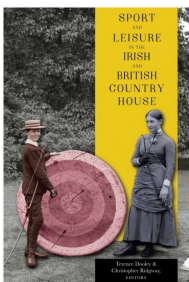
The Society is governed by a Board elected by the Members at the Annual General Meeting each year—all of the Society’s directors and officers are volunteers.

PLEASE help us to do more by joining the Society—new Members always welcome or by making a donation, no matter how small, to the Society. *Many thanks!*

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

Sport and Leisure in the Irish and British Country House

The world of the “big house” in rural Ireland during the latter half of the nineteenth century and the pre-WWI period of the twentieth century was generally portrayed as amplifying a rigid class system in a sort of “Irish Raj” with a genteel Anglo-Irish Protestant landlord class surrounded by mostly Catholic native workers and tenant farmers. Although, the status of the latter was greatly transformed by the Land Acts at the end of the nineteenth century, the landlord class continued to supply officials, soldiers and colonial administrators for the far-flung British Empire. The “Irish Raj” analogy, so prevalent in literature and political satire at the time, has largely moulded the popular view of the Irish country house down to today. But how accurate is this narrative?



A wonderful new illustrated collection of essays provides very interesting insights into this world of the “country house” and “seats” of the nobility. ‘*Sport and Leisure in the Irish and British Country House*’ edited by **Terence Dooley** and **Christopher Ridgway** (ISBN: 978-1-84682-806-5 : 320pp : P/bk : Price: €29.95 : Web-Price €26.95) examines the subject in the case of both British and Irish country houses. This is a very commendable approach which should encourage further studies given that some of the larger landowners had estates on both islands and, of particular interest to the genealogist, the high prevalence of intermarriage between the country house class on both sides of the Irish Sea.

The collection of eighteen essays is as follows: ‘*Marmosets and mynah birds; exotica and other pets at Nostell, c. 1759-1806*’ by **Kerry Bristol** (U. of Leeds); ‘*Edith Somerville and the West Carbery Hunt, 1903-19*’ by **Laura Servilan Brown** (NUIM); ‘*U is for Union, the name of our hunt*’ the *South Union Hunt in the lives of the Cork gentry*’ by **Fergal Brown** (ind.); ‘*Travel, recreation and hospitality: the Richards and Orpen families, 1860-1960*’ by **Philip Bull** (La Trobe U., Melbourne); ‘*Horse racing and the country house*’ by **Oliver Cox**, (Oxford); ‘*Aquatic gentlemen ... the sport and status of sailing in the gentry’s world from the 1830s to the 1920s*’ by **Ian d’Alton** (TCD); ‘*The Big House, aristocracy, and golf in Ireland, c. 1890-1921*’ by **Terence Dooley** (NUIM); ‘*Harry Worcester Smith and the Westmeath Hunt: a curious experiment*’ by **Eugene Dunne** (NUIM); ‘*Banishing ennui, blue devils and thoughts of bad potatoes: the country house and sport and leisure during the Great Famine*’ by **Brian Griffin** (Bath Spa U.); ‘*Cricket, Gaelic football and the Big House: the Avondale perspective*’ by **Tom Hunt** (de Montfort U. Leicester); ‘*Hill of Tarvit*’ by **Antonia Laurence-Allen** (National Trust Scotland); ‘*A sporting politician: George Wyndham (1863-1913)*’ by **Tony McCarthy** (NUIM); ‘*Lady Castletown’s scrapbook: making memories for leisure*’ **Maeve O’Riordan** (UCC); ‘*Ill-gotten acres: the GAA and the Irish country house*’ by **Ciarán Reilly** (NUIM); ‘*Keepers, pheasants, poachers, religion and politics: the Rhiwlas estate, Bala, Wales*’ by **Einion Wyn Thomas** (Bangor U.); ‘*Sport on the wall: the nineteenth-century boom in sporting taxidermy*’ by **Annie Tindley** (U. of Newcastle); ‘*Open spaces, the landed classes and the Boy Scouts, 1908-39*’ by **Allen Warren** (U. of York); ‘*Amateur astronomy in the nineteenth-century Irish country house: the observatory at Monksgrange, Co. Wexford*’ by **Lesley Whiteside** (ind.). **Terence Dooley** is director of the Centre for Historic Irish Houses and Estates, Maynooth University. **Christopher Ridgway** is curator at Castle Howard in Yorkshire.

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.

Go Raibh Míle Maith Agaibh—Many Thanks!

News from the Board

The monthly meeting of Board of Directors was held on Thursday December 5th 2019 at Park House, Library Road, Dún Laoghaire.

The Acting Director of Finance presented an overview of the **funding mechanisms** for the Society in a ‘discussion paper’ was the main Agenda item. There is a pressing **need to cut costs** and to **fund-raise** in order to maintain service delivery levels.

The **increased cost of postage and printing** was of considerable concern and yet, the Directors were unwilling to raise annual **Membership Subscription** to cover these costs. Under *Res: 19/12/1479* the Board decided to keep the subscription at **€40.00 per annum**, however, under *Res: 19/12/1477*, it was agreed to publish the **Annual Journal as an electronic publication from 2020**. The savings in postage alone is circa €500.00 per annum.

The **need to identify new revenue streams** for the Society was strongly emphasised in the ‘discussion paper’ and a number of suggestions were considered. The hosting of an **annual fund raising concert** was proposed, however, other more sustainable measures were also considered. For example, it was agreed under *Res: 19/12/1478* to increase the contribution at the **Open Meetings** from **€3.00 to €5.00** per person.

It was agreed to consider ways to monetise the Society’s web presence over a number of social media platforms. The next Board meeting will be on **Thursday 9th January 2020**. *General Secretary*

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.

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

LECTURE PROGRAMME

Tuesday Dec. 10th— *'Digital Transformation for Cemeteries'* by Neil Sherrin

Tuesday Jan. 14th— *'Townlands, Maps & Directories'* by Shane Wilson.

All WELCOME—Contribution €3.00
Please note *'Parking at DFEI'* above.

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

IDEAL GIFT IDEAS

Genealogists and local historians love books! So if you have a Christmas 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

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENINGS

Lua Ó Scolaí, Director of *An Daonchartlann*, the Society's Archive and Research Centre, advised the Board of the following arrangements for the holiday period.

The facility will close at 16.00hrs on **Wednesday December 18th 2019** and reopen at 10.00hrs on **Wednesday 8th January 2020**.

The closure of the Saturday openings will continue over the winter period due to a fall off in the demand at this time.



www.eneclann.ie



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

James Scannell Reports...

ENNISKERRY HIST. SOC.

Ken Finlay will recall '366 Days of Dublin' at 20.30hrs on Thursday 12 December in the Powerscourt Arms Hotel, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow - all welcome, admission €5.00

BRAY CUALANN HIST. SOC.

James Scannell will recall 'Christmas 1919 in Bray, Co. Wicklow' at 11.30hrs on Friday 13 December in Bray Library, Eglinton Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All welcome - admission free.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND

There is a free guided tour of the Yeats Exhibition at 13.00hrs on 02 Thursday 2020, in the NLI, Kildare Street, Dublin 2. There is a free guided tour of the World War One Ireland Exhibition at 13.00hrs on Thursday 09 January 2020 in the NLI, 2 Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

RATHMICHAEL HIST. SOC.

The AGM of the Society takes place in Rathmichael National School, Stonebridge Road (Dublin Road end), Shankill, Co. Dublin, at 20.00hrs on Wednesday 8 January 2020.

KILMACUD STILLORGAN LHS

Fergus D'Arcy will present his lecture on 'Leopardstown Racecourse' at 20.00hrs on Thursday 09 January 2020 in the Glendalyn Sports Club, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin. All welcome - Contribution €3.00

MOUNT MERRION HIST. SOC.

Michael Barry will reveal 'The Heritage and History of Ancient Syria' at 20.00hrs on Thursday 09 January 2020 in the Community Centre, North Avenue, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin. All welcome - admission €4.00 / Students €2.00

PUBLICATIONS

'Journal of the Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society No 29 - 2020' produced by the Publication Committee of Mona O'Donnell, Séamus O'Connor, Anna Scudds, and Colin Scudds.

Variety of content is the feature of this excellent local history publication which contains the following articles - 'In So Long Marianne' Marilyn Nash recalls her days in the 1970s spent in the old Technical School on Eblana Avenue; Vincent Delaney covers the history 'The Seapoint Boat Club' formed in 1916 which lasted until 1932 when it was unable to continue with some of its prestigious cups being offered to rival clubs; 2020 marks the centenary of the renaming of Kingstown to Dún Laoghaire and this came about is revealed by Brian Smith in 'Seán Ó hUadhaigh - Renaming Kingstown in 1920' who also provides a brief biography of the man who moved the original proposal to rename the town at a meeting of Kingstown Urban District Council on July 6th 1920, and reveals the winners in 'The Treasure Hunt of Dún Laoghaire - Dún Laoghaire Borough Winner's'; Bathing in the sea is recalled by Anna Scudds in 'The Great Indecency - Sea Bathing in South Dublin' which reveals various locations where men and women bathed; Anna Swan in 'The Registered Letter' reminds the reader that in the 1950s many people had to emigrate Britain to find work and mailed home money every week to support their families as in the case of her family.

A 1789 festival in Dunleary known as 'Lau Braugh Pleasura' is recalled by Tom Conlon in 'Lau Braugh Pleasura in Dún Laoghaire and the fall of John Magee'

which reveals that not all the advertised events took place and rescheduling them to another date never happened as Magee was in prison due to publishing contemptuous comments about Lord Viscount Clonmell (Copperface Jack); Brian Comerford provides an outline of 'The Dunleary Lifeboat Restoration Project' which aims to restore the old Dunleary lifeboat which saw service in Dún Laoghaire from 1919 to 1937 and then Lytham St. Anne's near Liverpool until 1957 when she was withdrawn and sold into private ownership. Acquired last year (2018), restoration work is currently on-going. In 'Carrickmines - Profile of a Pale Castle' Colin Scudds provides a history of this castle and what happened to its ruins in the early decade of this century and in 'Disappearing Dún Laoghaire' recalls Buckley Galleries, 27/28 Sandycove Road.

James Scannell in 'Dún Laoghaire - Prelude to the Emergency' recalls events in and around the Dún Laoghaire area on Saturday September 2nd 1939 as the countdown to the declaration of the Emergency by Dáil Éireann and the British declaration of war against Germany continued while 'In 'Disappearing Dún Laoghaire' and the recollections of some local residents who survived a 1915 railway accident in Britain in 'The Irish Mail Accident, 1915'; 'Irish Sailors and Soldiers' Land Trust - Dún Laoghaire and Sallynoggin' by Dermot O' Riordan recalls the provision of housing for WW1 ex-servicemen by the Trust which built 48 houses in Dún Laoghaire and Sallynoggin, while Mary Grogan remembers 'Rev. William Hawkes - Archaeologist and Historian' who served as a curate in St. Michael's Church, Dún Laoghaire in 1940/41, including some of his writings.

'Entertaining injured troops at Seapoint Boat Club' by Vincent Delaney recalls two events held in July and August 1917 for the benefit of injured servicemen recovering from the wounds in several military hospitals around the Dun Laoghaire and further afield. The Society's 2019 Day Trip to Trim Castle, Ballyjamesduff, Cavan County Museum, is recalled in text and picture by Frances Fletcher.

Copies of this journal, €7.00, are available locally in the Dún Laoghaire area from a number of outlets, at monthly meetings of the Society in the Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire, or by post, price €11.00 (Ireland), €12.00 (Rest of the World) from the **Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society**, 7, Northumberland Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Some copies of Journals 23 to 27 are still available for those who wish to complete or add copies to their collections.

James Scannell

Editor: Many, many thanks James for all of your very interesting contributions to the 'Gazette' over the past year. They are very much appreciated by our readers.

DUBLIN HISTORIC MAPS

Update for users of the Dublin Historic Maps website. If you are interested in comparing or viewing any two of six Leinster historical boundaries please visit the following website dublinhistoricmaps.ie and select the Leinster tab in the boundaries section. By switching off the *Openstreetmap* layer you can compare any two other layers by using the sliding fade control. For example, to see which registrars districts make up a "Super R D" or which townlands make up a civil parish etc. Genealogists rejoice and enjoy!

Brian Hollinshead, 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 **FIFTH** edition of *'Tracing Your Irish Ancestors'*. Please checkout the website www.gillmacmillan.com Price €24.99 [RRP].

Précis of the November Lecture

'The 19th Century Valuation of Ireland' by Frances McGee. Given that the early Census records were destroyed, with only fragments surviving and general registration for the Catholic majority, only commencing in 1864, plus the loss of early church records, the Primary Valuation records have assumed a never intended but great historical and genealogical significance.

Frances McGee explained why this valuation happened. Prior to the creation of County Councils we had Grand Juries which were funded by a "county cess" or tax on house property and land. This system was regarded as unequal and unfair and varied from place to place. What was required was a reliable map and a system that was uniform in method and carried out by an independent body. In other countries they used cadastral surveys maps and books.

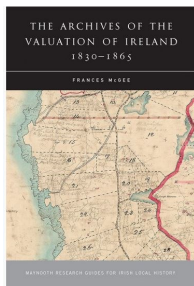
So a select committee was set up in 1824 known as "Spring Rice" resulting in the setting up the Boundary Survey, the Ordnance Survey and the Valuation Office, all of which survive today. This provided the foundation for the future rateable valuation system. It was successfully completed over a 35 year period. It is important to note that there were two methodologies used, namely the Townland Valuation 1830 -52 and the Tenement Valuation 1844 - 65. Only 26 counties were valued using the first method with six not surveyed at all. It was decided that the Tenement Valuation was the way to go and from 1844 counties were valued on this basis. All 26 counties originally valued using the Townland Valuation were subsequently revalued using the Tenement Valuation form the 1850's onwards. The 1852 Valuation Act was the definitive Act and was only superseded in 2001.

Frances then explained that data collected from separate documents is fragmented and needs to be put together in research. It is vital to understand what the documents contain and how they were compiled. Detail may vary and it is therefore important to access all relevant documents. Frances then produced two excellent examples one rural and one urban. In the rural example she compiled documents for Shanganagh Castle area and showed us how the information varied from book to book. Frances warned us that it can be slow and tedious and is not always easy. In this example she showed the Valuation Maps (1845-1870), Tenement Valuation check house book (1844), Tenement Valuation original field book (1845), Tenement Valuation survey book (1845) Tenement Valuation tenure book (1846) and the printed Primary Valuation (1849). This impressive list of documents took Frances some time to put together, however to an untrained person it would take considerably longer. Frances then proceeded to examine all of these books and commented on the variation of information contained in each book. For towns or urban areas you do not have a field book but you get the Quarto book.

For Kingstown we got Town Plans (1845), Tenement house book in two parts (1845), Quarto book (1846) and the printed Primary Valuation (Griffith's Valuation) (1849). The town plans were on a large scale 1:1056 showing house numbered to correspond to books and these remained current for a long time. We saw detailed information on a property on Georges Street and Longford Terrace with very neat diagrams.

Summing up Frances said that this was a unique sources for 19th century people and property, with high quality information collected by independent and professional sources and importantly it was standardised and very detailed. It covered every parish in the country with a wide range of additional information. However Frances finished off by warning that this takes patience and time.

Frances has written a book on the subject *'The Archives of the Valuation of Ireland 1830-1965'* published by Four Courts Press and is available in all good bookshops. I would urge you to buy this if you have an interest in history or genealogy. There was a Q&A session following the talk and all in all, this was a well-received talk about a most absorbing subject. *Many thanks to Frances.* The full lecture can be viewed on YouTube on the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5i3jVcxEWA> *Tony O'Hara, MGS*



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

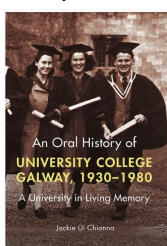
LUAS & DUBLIN BUS—Bride's Glen (Green Line) - Bus 111 from outside the Luas station, Bus Stop no. 7639 to Loughlinstown Park, Bus Stop no. 3222.

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

ORAL HISTORY AND FAMILY HISTORY

Following on from the article last month on our 'linguistic heritage and family history', we look at another facet of history that can be of great assistance to family historians—oral history.



The publication last month by Four Courts Press of *'An Oral History of University College Galway, 1930-1980—A University in Living Memory'* by Jackie Uí Chionna (ISBN: 978-1-84682-812-6 : 270pp : P/bk : Price: €25.00 : Web-Price €22.50) is a wonderfully crafted collection of stories on university life spanning the middle of twentieth century Ireland. The reminiscences captured here are not just of the former students or their lecturers or their bosses, but of the ordinary staff, many of whom, are remembered very fondly by the interviewees. This makes this book a real treasure.

The period covered was one of great change in Ireland, socially and culturally. Entering UCG in the 1930s many of the students would have been children during the Irish revolutionary period 1912-23 and the ethos of the college reflected an Ireland in "state-building" mode. Whilst, those graduating in 1980 embarked on their careers in a new "internationalised" Ireland, outward looking and a member of the European Eco-

nomie Community (EEC). Socially the country had greatly transformed over the fifty years covered by this important research project and this is reflected in the contributions. For example, for a student of Romance languages entering in the 1930s, their professor, Liam Ó Briain, fought in the 1916 Easter Rising and was imprisoned at Frongoch. Whilst, in the 1970s and 1980s students of marine science remembered the pioneering and inspiring work of Prof. Pádraig Ó Céidigh who spearheaded the development of marine science in Ireland. Although, Ó Briain was of the "state-building" Ireland and Ó Céidigh of the newly emerging and rapidly expanding Ireland of technology, science and innovation, they were great friends. Friendships formed at UCG both in the academic environment and in the many hilarious parties have produced some fascinating and hugely entertaining reminiscences. There is a certain rustic simplicity reflected in the earlier period which gives way to the more mundane pressures of research funding and commercialisation in the latter years. Highly recommended and, indeed, a real gem for former students and staff.

Jackie Uí Chionna teaches history at NUIG. Her study of *'Martin 'Máirtín Mór' McDonogh, He was Galway'* was published by Four Courts Press in 2016. She is writing a biography of music scholar and code-breaker Emily Anderson OBE.

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"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**, MGS 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.

