



Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

Vol. 19 No. 7

www.familyhistory.ie

Túil : Lipiec : July 2024

Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access

Fintan O'Toole in his OpEd *'Failure to prevent destruction of records is a further insult to those whose identities were stolen'* published in *'The Irish Times'* Tuesday 18th June 2024 highlights the appalling fact that the many of the records of the various "Mother & Baby Homes" and "Magdalen Laundries" are still not in state custody.

He notes the failure by successive governments to put in place effective procedures, by which, to locate, centrally record and ensure the proper preservation of these invaluable registers and records.

According to O'Toole "To treat these records with such contempt is to repeat the contempt shown by Church and State to thousands of women and children" and, indeed, his OpEd makes for very grim reading about the discovery of records in derelict, damp, leaky buildings subject to vandalism and infested by pigeons. These documents, he rightly points out "are not of merely historical interest" but they "are the traces of real lives. They contain information that may Irish people still need in order to understand who they are and where they came from".

This Society has campaigned, since its foundation in 1990, for the protection and preservation of such records, indeed, during the Seanad Éireann debate on what would become the *'National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997'*, the Society successfully had sections 49 and 50 of this legislation include records of genealogical interest, for example, school, parish, burial, and cemetery registers, and provisions for copying, prohibitions on export etc. Although, this legislation was passed by the Oireachtas in March 1997, shamefully, it was not commenced until May 2005.

The following is the text of the resolution adopted at our Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 14th October 1997 in An Cultúrlann in Monkstown, Co. Dublin.

'Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access' - That, this meeting fully endorses the definition of our genealogical heritage as meaning "records of birth, baptism, marriage and death; burial records; census returns; testamentary, property and school records and maps; biographies and family histories; heraldic devices; clan/sept and local histories; gravestones and the inscriptions thereon and all other associated records", and in doing so,

affirms the principle of public ownership and right of access to this heritage by the people of Ireland and her diaspora. In addition, the meeting instructs the incoming Executive Committee to ensure that the Society shall only affiliate with such organisations and bodies endorsing this 'Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access'. (Text published in Vol. 2 No. 11 (November 1997) issue of *'The Genie Gazette'*)

Just over ten years after the adoption of the above principle, the editorial of this newsletter in July 2008 (Vol. 3 No. 7), highlighted the continuing campaign by the Society on this vital issue for genealogists and other researchers.

The following two excerpts from the 2008 editorial noted some considerable progress, but with much more work to do.

[All the Society's policies are based on this principle. Indeed, so strongly did our members endorse this fundamental principle in 1997 that they made acceptance of the principle a precondition for the Society's affiliation with other heritage organisations. Indeed, back in 1997/8 some others involved in Irish genealogy refused to endorse this principle on the mistaken belief that it somehow interfered with lawful ownership or copyright. However, over time such fears were seen to be utterly groundless. Although, the Society pioneered the acceptance of this principle, over the years it has become the widely accepted bedrock of good governance and best practice in the management, custody, and delivery of heritage services.]

[The various custodians of these archival collections have a duty to the people of Ireland to ensure the security, proper care, and management of the collections and many, if not all, take this responsibility very seriously indeed. However, there is no agreed national policy or coordinated approach to the management and care of the archival collections held by private institutions in the State. Indeed, each of the national repositories, depending on the primary legislation concerned, makes its own provisions, and adopts its own policies in respect of its archival collections.]

Now nearly twenty-seven years since the Society's adoption of the *'Principle of Public Ownership & Right of Access'*, clearly this fundamental principle requires a legislative expression by strengthening the provisions of the 1997 Act.

Also, Fintan O'Toole's piece in *'The Irish Times'* highlights the urgent need to utilise the powers provided by the *'Birth Information & Tracing Act, 2022'* to establish a properly resourced unit specifically tasked with the locating and urgent State acquisition of the records of these institutions.

GENEALOGY

HERALDRY

VEXILLOLOGY

SOCIAL HISTORY

Heritage Matters

Book Reviews

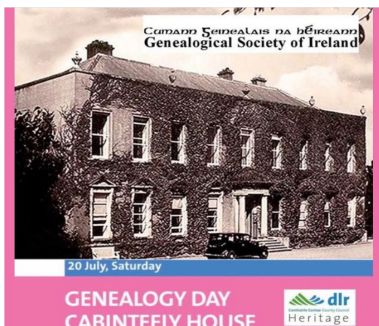
Open Meetings

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.

Donate



GENEALOGY DAY

Cabinteely House

Saturday July 20th 2024

11.00hrs to 14.00hrs

All Welcome

MONTHLY MEETINGS

EVENING OPEN MEETING

(via Zoom)

Tuesday 9 July 2024 —20.00hrs

Tuesday 13 Aug 2024 —20.00hrs

MORNING OPEN MEETING

(via Zoom)

Wednesday 25 July 2024 —11.00hrs

Wednesday 22 August 2024 —11.00hrs

Free of Charge—Donations Welcome!

(Donations via www.familyhistory.ie)

In this issue.....

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- Donations to GSI
- GSI Board Members

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FESTSCHRIFT : FÉIL-SCRÍBHÍN

Invitation to our Readers

The Board of the Society invites Members and friends of the Society to submit newly composed essays on any aspect of genealogy, heraldry, vexillology, genetic genealogy, local history or historical event or a biography for a new publication. Authors only please.

These essays will be compiled as a “festschrift” to be published in honour of former President **Stuart Rosenblatt, PC, FGSI**, and presented to him by our Society’s new President **Amb (ret) Francis M. O’Donnell, FGSI**.

Interested? Please email colas@familyhistory.ie

“ARCHIVE DROP-INS”

The weekly “Drop-Ins” hosted by the Society are hugely popular with our Members in Ireland and around the world.

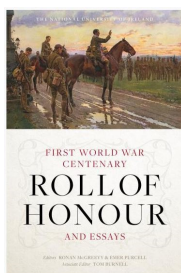
These weekly “Drop-Ins” have been opened up to non-members for the summer period and are designed to allow you to join via **Zoom** between 11.00hrs and 12.00hrs on Wednesdays.

Previously only the “Drop-In” on the 4th Wednesday was publicly accessible for Members and visitors alike.

For the link to this “Drop-In” meeting please see the link and passcode at bottom of this page Members can send in their research query in advance to Archivist@familyhistory.ie

We’ll All Stay Connected Each Week via Zoom

The NUI WW1 Centenary Roll of Honour & Essays



The national commemoration of the “*Decade of Centenaries*” has been widely praised as having been inclusive, respectful, and sensitive to the communal and familial memories and experiences of the turbulent years that ushered in the birth of an independent Ireland. The organisers and, particularly the academic historians who advised on the interpretation of the events being commemorated, ensured that each event was reflective, interpretative, and educational.

The care and attention paid to nomenclature, symbolism, phraseology, and historical accuracy allowed for a dignified memorialisation of a shared and often troubled history, especially at local level. No doubt, this included an awareness of the need for certain events not to simply mirror the type, tone and focus of such held elsewhere to commemorate, for example, the First World War. That this was achieved is a credit to all concerned.

This forthcoming publication by **Four Courts Press** must be viewed in that context. “*The National University of Ireland First World War Centenary Roll of Honour and Essays*” by **Ronan McGreevy & Emer Purcell** is due to be published by **Four Courts Press** (ISBN:

978-0901510-990 : P/bk : 400pps : Full Colour : Price: €30.00 : Web. Price: €27.00) in September 2024. This book is very likely to be quickly sold out and therefore, pre-publication ordering is strongly advised.

In 1919, the **National University of Ireland** compiled a war list of all students, graduates, and staff of University College Cork, University College Dublin, and University College Galway, who had died or served in the “Great War”. The original *Honour Roll* is reprinted here along with a collection of explanatory essays and with a substantive introduction accompanied by a selection of individual personal profiles brings the men recorded in the roll to life. In addition to the NUI’s list, the *Honour Roll of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland* is also reproduced along with an essay on NUI doctors who served during the war. For the first time, a list of the chaplains from St Patrick’s College Maynooth is presented and their lives examined. NUI’s women students, graduates, and staff and the ways in which they contributed to the war effort is also explored.

Associate Editor: Tom Burnell. **Contributors of essays:** Patrick Casey, Kevin Cullen, Joe Duignan, Barbara McCormack, Ronan McGreevy and Fionnuala Walsh.

Ronan McGreevy is a senior journalist with the ‘*Irish Times*’ and author of numerous publications. He was made a *Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres* by the French government in 2018 for his work on remembrance of WW1.

Emer Purcell is NUI Publications Manager. She is responsible for NUI’s *Decade of Centenaries* programme. She was previously a part-time lecturer in the School of History, University College Cork. She is the general editor of ‘*Clerics, Kings, and Vikings*’ (Dublin, 2015) and co-editor of numerous other publications.

FOUR COURTS PRESS

Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more. Checkout the extensive online catalogue for 2024 and the wonderful special offers at www.fourcourtspress.ie—note the “back-in-prints” too!!

GSJ BOARD NEWS

The meeting of the Board of Directors was held on **Thursday July 4th 2024** at 19.00hrs via Zoom. In the absence of the Cathaoirleach. The meeting was chaired by the Leas-Chathaoirleach, **Fiona Tipple, FGSI**, with seven of the nine directors in attendance. The two others were on vacation.

The change of the time of the meeting was to facilitate the attendance at the **Dargan Forum** in Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, by **Gerard Corcoran, MGSI, Director of Digitization & Genetic Genealogy**, and the **Director of the Outreach Programme, Fiona Tipple, FGSI**, where the GSI had a stand.

The General Secretary advised the Board that the August issue of ‘*Ireland’s Genealogical Gazette*’ will be published on **August 18th 2024**, one week later than usual. A notice will be placed in the ‘*Gazette*’.

The General Secretary advised the Board on the Society’s considerable presence across each of its **social media** platforms. The data on each was provided giving a total number of individual followers from around the world heading for nearly 26,500.

Lua Ó Scolaí, MGSI, Director of Finance, presented the **Monthly Accounts** for P.E. 30.06.2024. He also presented a proposal on the establishment of a ‘*Members Only Monthly Draw*’ which was agreed under **Res: 24/07/1848**.

The Board agreed (**Res: 24/07/1849**) that, the **Director of Digitisation & Genetic Genealogy, Gerard Corcoran, MGSI**, will represent the Society at the *Festival InterCeltique de Lorient*, Brittany / Breizh, from 12th to 18th August 2024.

The Society will be participating in **Dún Laoghaire**

Rathdown County Council’s ‘Genealogy Day’ to be held on Saturday July 20th 2024 in Cabinteely House.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday 5th September 2024 at 11.00hrs via Zoom. No meeting is held in August (S.O. 3.i.). **General Secretary**

GSJ ANNUAL JOURNAL

Articles are now sought for the Society’s Annual Journal 2024 which will be published electronically in October 2024. Subjects include genealogical research or resources, heraldry, vexillology, local, social or family history, biographies etc. Articles may be in English or Irish and ideally they should not have been published previously.

It is also a great way to record your own family history. For further information please contact **Laura Price, MGSI**, on JGSI@familyhistory.ie

AUGUST ISSUE OF THE ‘GAZETTE’

Members and readers please note that, the August issue of ‘*Ireland’s Genealogical Gazette*’ will be published approximately one week later than usual due to annual vacations. The provisional publication date will be 18th August 2024. **Editor**

WEEKLY RESEARCH ADVICE

WEDNESDAY at 11.00hrs (UTC+0) (Irish Time) via Zoom. (*see page 2*)

Zoom - Meeting ID: 830 9870 7989

Passcode: 670945

Right of Admission Strictly Reserved

IRISH HISTORY with Davy Holden



For the month of July, I have set myself a goal to travel to a new county each week and cover as much history in that area as possible. The idea behind this goal is to see as much of this country as I can. I think in Ireland, we are slightly hesitant to jump into the car and drive for a few hours just to explore an area. I think a lot of

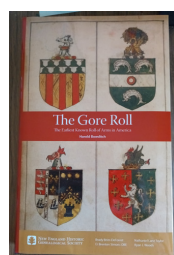
us feel like we need an important reason, or pre-made plans in order to go somewhere. My eyes were opened up to this last August when I was spending some time in the Midwest of the United States. My friends would nonchalantly jump in the car and drive for four or five hours without a second thought – I thought this was crazy at the time! But I travelled with them and realised, well it really isn’t that big of a deal at all, and if I did this back in Ireland, a four or five hour drive would take me to basically any corner of the country, and there’s still so much I haven’t seen. For example; a great grandfather and great grandmother of mine were from Cootehill, Cavan and Rosmuc, Galway respectively. I have never stepped foot in either of those areas in my life. As I write this article, I have just arrived home from county Cork. A simple 145kms (90 miles) from where I live but would have seemed like a task in the past. I’m looking forward to seeing some new places and hope you enjoy the upcoming videos on my channels.

Check out my short videos on various aspects of Irish history on my Instagram account below:

https://www.instagram.com/davy_holden

THE GORE ROLL OF ARMS

The Gore Roll and the Committee on Heraldry’s Roll of Arms by Harold Bowditch with this volume by **Nathaniel Lane Taylor** was published by NEHGS in association with **Palfrey Press—Antiquarian Tomes** in May 2024. It is very reasonably priced at US\$59.95 plus postage see: <https://www.americanancestors.com>



This beautifully produced volume has a foreword by **Brady Brim-DeForest**, who very kindly provided the patron support for this important publication; a preface by **Ryan J. Woods** with an introduction by **D. Brenton Simons OBE**.

The *Gore Roll of Arms*, the earliest known roll of arms in America, was the work of **John Gore (1718–1796)**, a coach painter of Boston. During the nearly 70 years that the *Gore Roll* was lost or missing, copies of it were created by **Isaac Child** in 1847 and **Harold Bowditch** in 1926.

The original roll and these two copies are reproduced together for the first time, in full colour, in this volume. The pages of the *Gore Roll* are accompanied here by relevant artwork from *The Book of Coates and Crests: The Promptuarium Armorum*, a roll of arms created between 1602 and 1616 by **William Smith, Rouge Dragon Pursuivant of Arms in Ordinary**.

Dr. Bowditch’s insightful monograph, published by the **Rhode Island Historical Society** in 1936, is presented alongside the *Gore Roll* paintings, for the first time.

This special edition provides fresh perspectives on heraldic traditions in North America and it is a lavishly illustrated production with high quality images of the original roll that has some wonderful information on Irish armigers.

Also included, as an appendix, is **Bowditch’s 1944 Colonial Society essay, ‘Early Water-Color Paintings of New England Coats of Arms’**.

Published in collaboration with **Palfrey Press** for the **36th International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences** which will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, USA from September 24th to 28th 2024. **Cathaoirleach John Goggins, MGSI**, will represent the Genealogical Society of Ireland at this prestigious event – the first time it is being held in North America. See: <https://www.americanancestors.com>

ERRATUM

In the June 2024 issue of this newsletter, the date given for **International Heraldry Day** was Tuesday 11th June 2024, Apologies this should have been Monday 10th June 2024. **Editor**

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. (*proof required*) Full details on the *Membership Package* were published in the November 2022 issue of this newsletter. For back issues of the 'Gazette' please see the Society's website.

Barry O'Connor, FGSI,
Director of Membership Services.
Email: membership@familyhistory.ie

GSI OPEN MEETINGS

Society's Monthly Open Meetings are held via **ZOOM** to allow the fullest access by Members from Ireland and overseas.

Tuesday July 9th —Evening Open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) - Speaker: Patrick Abbott—*Outcast—A Mother & Baby Home Survivor.*

Wednesday July 25th —Morning Open Meeting—11.00hrs (Zoom)—Informal discussion on family history and related matters.

Tuesday August 13th —Evening Open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) - Speaker: James Scannell, FGSI—*A Dangerous Occupation—Working on the Railways in the Bray Area.*

Wednesday August 22nd —Morning Open Meeting—11.00hrs (Zoom)—Informal discussion on family history and related matters.

Tuesday September 10th —Evening Open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) - Speaker: Ashwini Shanmugam (RCSI) - *Demographic History of Ireland & Britain.*

Wednesday September 26th —Morning Open Meeting—11.00hrs (Zoom)—Informal discussion on family history and related matters.

Tuesday October 8th —Evening Open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) - Speaker: TBA

Wednesday October 24th —Morning Open Meeting—11.00hrs (Zoom)—Informal discussion on family history and related matters.

Tuesday November 12th—Evening Open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) - Speaker: TBA

Wednesday November 28th —Morning Open Meeting—11.00hrs (Zoom)—Informal discussion on family history and related matters.

Talks will be posted on YouTube.

ZOOM MEETINGS

Membership Director, Barry O'Connor, FGSI, will email Members to log in to Zoom for the Open Meetings. The lectures are open to the public and the access details are available on request from Membership@Familyhistory.ie

Suggestions on the Monthly Lecture Programme to: eolas@familyhistory.ie

Members may send their research queries in advance for the Morning Open Meeting by email to Archivist@familyhistory.ie

The Lecture Programme is recorded for the GSI YouTube Channel as a free, publicly accessible educational resource. We endeavour to have each lecture up as soon as possible.

IRISH DNA ATLAS

Check out the short videos and lectures on the *Irish DNA Atlas* project on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/c/GenerationalSocietyOfIrelandGSI>



www.eneclann.ie



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

James Scannell Reports...

THE OLD DUBLIN SOCIETY

The Old Dublin Society is delighted to share its good news with everyone who has an interest in local history and heritage in Ireland.

The **Heritage Council** has agreed to award a grant, under the **Community Grant Scheme**, towards the cost of cataloguing a collection of c.700 books. This enables them to be made widely available for reference by historians, students and everyone who is interested in finding out more about an aspect of their heritage and surroundings.

The Old Dublin Society was founded in 1934 - the first local history society in Dublin - to promote the study of history and archaeology, particularly relating to the City and County of Dublin. One of its principal objects has been to assemble a collection of books, documents and other records which have a historical interest.

For many years the Society was based in the former City Assembly House in South William Street - many of you will remember the Civic Museum there, which was a joint venture with Dublin Corporation.

The City Assembly House had become structurally unsound by the early 2000s; the Civic Museum was closed and the Old Dublin Society had to make new arrangements. The Royal Dublin Society agreed to house the library collection and the catalogue was upgraded to international professional standards.

In the intervening years, donations of suitable books have been accepted from members of Old Dublin Society and, in 2020, a very substantial donation was accepted from one particular donor. Work has now started on the cataloguing of all these donations and the creation of an integrated catalogue of about 1,500 books. This catalogue will be completed and made available online by autumn 2024, enabling them to be within reach of everyone.

The result will be a unique collection of books mainly relating to the history and heritage of Dublin - all in one catalogue and under one roof i.e. The Old Dublin Society Collection, housed in Royal Dublin Society library.

Access to the collection will be available to everyone through the **RDS Library & Archive** catalogue which is freely available to the public via the RDS website <https://library.rds.ie> or through a link in the Library & Archive section of <https://olddublinsociety.ie/>.

The Old Dublin Society is grateful to the Heritage Council for this funding award. The Old Dublin Society will announce when the work has been finalised.

CABRA LIBRARY

Historian in Residence Dr. Mary Muldowney will present *'Spreading their wings - work for Irish women in Britain'* at 18.30hrs on Thurs. 11 July. Admission free. Booking essential. 01-228 8317 or cabralibrary@dublincity.ie.

DUBLIN CENTRAL LIBRARY

Historian in Residence Elizabeth Kehoe will present *'Grave Robbing in 19th Century Ireland'* at 14.30hrs on Tues. 16th August. Admission free. Booking essential. 01-2228300 or by email to centrallibrary@dublincity.ie.

RAHENY LIBRARY

Historian in Residence Katie Blackwood will present *'Four Wells in North Dublin'* at 18.30hrs on Tues. 30 July. Admission free. Booking essential. 01-222 8322 or rahenylibrary@dublincity.ie.

MEDAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

A *'Medal, Militaria and Collectables Fair'* will take place from 10.00hrs to 14.00hrs on Saturday 03 August in the Knox Memorial Hall, Monkstown Village, Co. Dublin. All are welcome - Admission is €2.00 for members and €4.00 for non-members.

PUBLICATIONS



'History Ireland Magazine July/August 2024', Editor **Tommy Graham**, published by **Wordwell Ltd.**

Featured articles in this issue of this excellent magazine include *'Egyptian hermits and Irish high crosses'* by Meredith Culter and Colleen M. Thomas; *'Extremes of weather recorded in the Annals of Connacht, 1224 - 1562'* by Charlotte Murphy; *'Afterlives of the "Brehon laws"'* by John Biggins; *'John Tyndall's Belfast Address, 1874'* by Brian Smyth; *'The Rise and fall of the "Winged Fist"'* by Patrick R. Redmond; *'Not a weapon for soldiers to use - Gerald Boland and the Republican hunger strike'* by Stephen Kelly; *'J.J. Keane - "the hot-headed Limerick man" and the 1924 Paris Olympics'* by Gerry O'Sullivan; *'The end of an era - the auction at Johnstown Castle, 1924'* by Matt Wheeler and Duncan Laurence.

Regular features include: *'Kindred Lines' (Records of the courts of petty sessions, c. 1822-1924)* by Fiona Fitzsimons, MA, FGSI; 'Letters', 'Bite-Sized History', 'Artefacts', 'Gems of Architecture', 'IFI Film Eye', 'Local Archives', 'Radio Ear', 'Seen on TV', 'What's on Stage', 'Museum Eye', 'Bookworm', 'The Big Book' and individual book reviews, and 'Ireland 100 Years Ago.'

James Scannell, FGSI

TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS

by **John Grenham, MA, MAGI, 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 JUNE LECTURE

On Tuesday June 11th 2024 at our Evening Open Meeting we were delighted to welcome as our Guest Speaker, **Davy Holden**, a south County Kilkenny based Local Historian, Video Creator, Author, Musician and Public History Educator, who explored the subject *'Irish History and the Genealogist'*.

He very succinctly brought us through the subject by reference to his own work and how he decides what to cover, what period and what aspect of the event or period to highlight in each video or podcast. Davy's YouTube videos have received over 15 million views since 2014. His YouTube channel (see page 2) has around 600 videos and short reels on a range of subjects including, Irish history, placenames, historical events, local history - the townlands - history all around us - in the names of places, in our surnames and in our folklore, music and song. With a lifelong interest in Irish history inspired by his own father's love of history, Davy has researched and presented videos and short reels on many aspects of our history to address, as he sees it, the possible waning of the intergenerational understanding, appreciation, and knowledge of our past.

He strongly believes in the use of social media to connect and, possibly reconnect, people with the history of our country, our local history, our language, our music and, of course, our genealogical heritage. His approach to each subject in his videos, given the restrictive nature of the medium, is a fact-based contextualisation of the event or period. These "bite-sized" segments provide a very useful overview to both inform the audience and to instil a curiosity to learn more about each subject. This is the essence of public history education.

He has written two eBooks - *'The Ambush in New York City'* and *'The Top 10 Irish Rebel Songs'* - the latter was also published in hardcopy. Recently Davy was a guest of **Dr. Elizabeth Stack** on her podcast from the **Irish-American Heritage Museum**. This podcast is now available on the museum's YouTube Channel. Davy is also a monthly columnist with *'Ireland's Genealogical Gazette'* on the same subject—history and the genealogist.

This very interesting and thought-provoking presentation has been uploaded to the Society's YouTube Channel (see bottom of this page for the link).

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY—DID YOU KNOW?

- ☘ Did you know that Membership of this Society is open to all with an interest in family history, heraldry, vexillology (study of flags and emblems) and related subjects?
- ☘ Did you know that Membership is open to anyone living in Ireland or overseas and with Irish ancestry or with ancestors from anywhere in the world? All are most welcome.
- ☘ Did you know that Student Membership is also available at 50% off the subscription?
- ☘ Please checkout: www.familyhistory.ie ☘ Email: membership@familyhistory.ie

NEW CATHAOIRLEACH AT DLR

The national HQ of this Society is located in the area of Dublin covered by **Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council**. The County Council has been a wonderfully consistent and generous supporter of the Society since the Council was established in 1994.



Following the Local Elections held in Ireland on June 7th 2024, the County Council held its Annual General Meeting on Friday June 24th 2024, at which, **Cllr. Jim O'Leary** (Fine Gael) was elected as Cathaoirleach (Chairperson) and Bangladeshi born, **Cllr. Kazi Ahmed** (Fine Gael) as

Leas-Chathaoirleach (Vice-Chair).

At the AGM glowing tributes were deservedly paid to the previous Cathaoirleach, **Denis O'Callaghan** (Labour) who retired after thirty years of public service as a very active and dedicated Councillor. We wish Denis a long, happy, healthy and active retirement—maybe family history research is on the cards? As the Council has a number of important policy documents up for review, amendment and adoption in this term, the Board wishes the new Cathaoirleach, Leas-Chathaoirleach and all of the County Councillors, newly elected and returning, every success.

Maybe one of the issues the new "first citizen" of the County should address is the apparent absence of the **coat-of-arms** of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown on the

Council's **website**—more than likely an oversight.

The arms, granted by the **Chief Herald of Ireland** in 1994, represent the new county established in that year, its people and their democratically elected local government (Article 28A of the Constitution).

However, the logo introduced in 2005, has now apparently completely replaced the arms on the website, which wasn't the original intention of the Council management. Indeed, at a **Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)** meeting held in September 2005, the stated reason for the introduction of a new corporate logo was to "reflect the modern, professional approach of the local authority" and that, the status of the arms would be unchanged.

Councillors and SPC representatives said the arms represented the Council and local democracy and that the logo "appeared to represent the delivery of services by the Council". (see *'The Genie Gazette'* Vol. 10, No. 9, September 2005 on the GSI website)

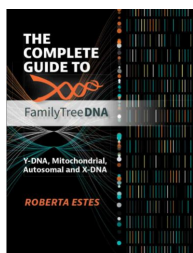
The citing of the **Official Languages Act, 2003** as a reason for the logo's introduction was totally debunked by a simple reference to the Act.

The issue arose again during the design phase of the new chamber, which finally opened in late 2018, with Councillors insisting that the arms be used instead of the logo in the design and the furnishings. As an organisation devoted to the promotion an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of our heraldic heritage, the Society would urge the new Cathaoirleach to ensure that the County Arms are prominently and appropriately displayed on the Council's website and in its publications.

Check out the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie

FamilyTreeDNA

'The Complete Guide to FamilyTreeDNA—Y-DNA, Mitochondrial, Autosomal and X-DNA' by **Roberta Estes**, published by the **Genealogical Publishing Company**, Baltimore, Maryland, USA (2024), is essential reading for all with an interest in genetic genealogy.



Genetic genealogy is fast becoming the most popular route to genealogical research, however, like all experienced genealogists, we too stress the need for this wonderful resource to be accompanied by the traditional research methods for verification.

The above statement underlines the need for a publication like this guide. In

many respects, it is long overdue. It is written in plain language, textbook style, with clear explanations provided for each step to a broad understanding of FamilyTreeDNA. It has an 18 page glossary too!

This excellent 264 page publication is available in paperback (US\$37.50) or as an eBook (US\$24.95) from <https://genealogical.com> Highly recommended.

GSI ON YOUTUBE

The Society's lectures and some informational short videos were uploaded to our YouTube Channel. To view the videos and hopefully, to 'Like' and 'Share' them, and to 'Subscribe' to our YouTube channel—please checkout:

www.YouTube.com/c/GenealogicalSocietyOfIrelandGSI

GSI ON INSTAGRAM

The Society has been expanding its presence across all social media platforms and we're on Instagram! Please checkout this link:

www.instagram.com/GenSocIreland

DONATIONS This Society is a **Registered Charity in Ireland** and it is funded largely by its Membership Fees and the very kind donations received from Members and friends at home and overseas. The Society simply couldn't exist without such help from our Members and friends. If you would like to make a donation to help the Society with its work, please visit the Society's website on <https://www.familyhistory.ie> **Thank You Very Much.**

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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.

The past issues of the Society's newsletter from 1996 to 2016 had been fully indexed by the late **Brendan Hall, MGSi**. The "Hall's Index" now includes all issues up to date—please see 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 of the "Gazette" at www.familyhistory.ie)

GENEALOGY HELP CENTRE

An **Daonchartlann**, the Society's Archive and Research Centre is located at the **DLR Leisure Centre, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin**.

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

The facility is normally open each Wednesday from 11.00hrs to 15.00hrs contact the GSI Archivist on Archivist@familyhistory.ie

