



Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating “The Genie Gazette”)

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Bealtaine : Geguzé : May 2024

Second Annual Heraldry Ireland Lecture

Heraldry Ireland : Araltas Éireann is one of two Specialist Branches of the Society, the other one is **Vexillology Ireland** dealing with the related topic of flags and emblems.

In Ireland, this Society is only one of two membership organisations promoting an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of our heraldic heritage, the other organisation is our good friends in the **Clans of Ireland**.

In other countries the link between genealogy and heraldry is widely recognised with many organisations using citing both subjects in their names. The link between heraldry and vexillology is obvious, but unfortunately overlooked by many organisations.

This Society's interest in heraldic matters dates back to its foundation in October 1990 and, indeed, it was very heavily engaged in the provision of amendments, securing around thirty-three amendments, during the passage of what became the **National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997**. This is the only piece of legislation (commenced in May 2005) governing the delivery of heraldic services in the State, unfortunately Section 13 of the 1997 Act is fundamentally flawed. (see page 4).

In May 2023, the Society held the **Inaugural Annual Heraldry Ireland Lecture** via Zoom with **Mr. Martin Goldstraw, JP, FSA, Scot.**, the registrar and director of **The Armorial Register—International Register of Arms**. (see www.armorialregister.com)

Mr. Goldstraw spoke of the ways people can assume arms and have such registered and indeed, how one goes about having your coat-of-arms designed professionally. He outlined the ways to obtain a grant of arms from a State

heraldic authority, like the office of the **Chief Herald of Ireland** or the **College of Arms**.

The inaugural meeting was co-hosted by the Honorary Herald of the Society, **Dr Antonio Salmerón Cabañas, SHA, FGSI**.



The **Second Annual Heraldry Ireland Lecture** will be delivered by our **President, Amb (ret) Francis Martin O'Donnell, FGSI**, on Tuesday 14 May 2024 via Zoom at 20.00hrs (UTC+1).

The title of this lecture is intriguingly **‘Heraldic Heritage: Heuristics or Hermeneutics’**. (see page 2)

Meeting ID: 822 7818 2384 : Passcode: 835792

IRISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT



The Cathaoirleach of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, **Clr. Denis O'Callaghan**, will mark the 125th anniversary of the first elections held in 1899 under the **Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898** and the 30th anniversary of the establishment of **Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council** in 1994, at a special event in the County Hall, Dún Laoghaire, on Monday 13th May 2024.

The County Council received a grant of arms from the **Chief Herald of Ireland** in 1994 which combined elements of the arms of **Dún Laoghaire Borough Corporation** and the seal of the **Rathdown No. 1 Rural District Council**.

The “ancient crown” represents the 5th century High King Laoghaire Mac Niall remembered in the name of the town, Dún Laoghaire (*Irish Dún = fort*). This is the High King that St. Patrick is said to have met at the Hill of Tara.

Photo: Clr. O'Callaghan visiting **An Daonchartlann** at the **DLR Leisure Centre** Loughlinstown 30th August 2023 with **Fiona Tipple, MA, FGSI**, the Society's Director of Archival Services & Education.



AN DAONCHARTLANN



Fógra : Notice

Beidh an t-Ionad Cartlainne agus Taighde an Chumainn, **An Daonchartlann**, dúnta ar na dátaí seo a leanas: Dé Céadaoin 8ú, 15ú agus 22ú Bealtaine 2024

The Society's Archive and Research Centre, **An Daonchartlann**, will be closed on the following dates: Wednesday 8th, 15th and 22nd May 2024

MONTHLY MEETINGS

EVENING OPEN MEETING

(via Zoom)

Tuesday 14 May 2024 —20.00hrs

Tuesday 11 June 2024 —20.00hrs

MORNING OPEN MEETING

(via Zoom)

Wednesday 23 May 2024 —11.00hrs

Wednesday 27 June 2024 —11.00hrs

Free of Charge—Donations Welcome!

(Donations via www.familyhistory.ie)

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



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GDPR & GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

The Icelandic Data Protection Authority rejected a complaint of a data subject who demanded the enforcement of the data subject's right to erasure against a controller's genealogical database.

The DPA decided the controller's processing was justified pursuant to Article 6(1)(f) GDPR and that it was within its rights to refuse the erasure request pursuant to Article 17(3) GDPR.

For the full details on this very interesting case see <https://gdprhub.eu—Persónuvernd - Case no. 2021010248> of December 5th 2022.

“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

IRISH HISTORY with Davy Holden



In last month's edition, given the time of year, we spoke about the lead up to the 1916 Easter Rising. Following up on that, let's speak about the aftermath. On 29th April, the sixth day of the uprising, Patrick Pearse issued orders for an unconditional surrender. The loss of life of Dublin's innocent civilians was getting out of hand and Pearse made the call to lay down arms and bring the fight to an end. The message was delivered to Brigadier-General William Lowe on Parnell Street by Elizabeth O'Farrell of Cumann na mBan. General Lowe demanded that she return with Patrick Pearse within thirty minutes for him to sign a document of surrender. A total of 485 people were killed, and Dublin City was in ruins. Approximately 3,500 men and women were arrested and sent to British prisons. Most of the leaders of the uprising were detained in Irish prisons. 1,800 men were sent on cattle boats to Frongoch, North Wales, where they were detained in a WWI internment camp. Among the 1,800 were names such as Michael Collins, Richard Mulcahy, Dick McKee and Terence MacSwiney – just to name a few. It was here in Frongoch that the prisoners reorganised the secret, oath-bound revolutionary organisation known as the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB). Between 3rd May and 3rd August 1916, sixteen men were executed for their involvement in the uprising. In the next two years, after the execution of the sixteen men and after the attempt to introduce conscription in Ireland, the popularity of the Irish Parliamentary Party (Home Rule Party) would go into massive decline as Irish people's ideals would now swing in favour of Sinn Féin

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

https://www.instagram.com/davy_holden



36th International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences

Boston | 2024

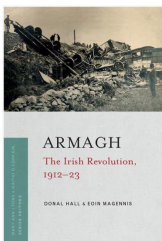
September 24-28
Boston, MA

<https://www.americanancestors.org/icghs-2024>

We'll All Stay Connected Each Week via Zoom

Armagh and The Irish Revolution, 1912-23

'Armagh and The Irish Revolution, 1912-23 by Donal Hall and Eoin Magennis and published by Four Courts Press (ISBN: 978-1-80151-080-6 : P/b : 176 pps. Ills. Price: €24.95 : Web Price: €22.45) in May 2024. The fifteenth volume in this excellently researched and wonderfully presented series of county histories of the Irish revolutionary, Armagh, is of particular importance to our understanding not only of the period, but of a tumultuous era in the living memory of most of the residents of the island of Ireland over forty years of age, the “Troubles” in Northern Ireland from 1969 to 1998.



Parts of County Armagh and, especially south Armagh, were described as “bandit territory” by the security forces on both sides of the border during the “Troubles” and, indeed, during the revolutionary period 1912-23 the county was one of the most controversial theatres of political and military conflict as it had been for centuries. The county was planted with English protestant and Scottish presbyterian colonists during the early part of the seventeenth century, although, the less favourable lands in the south of the county remained largely populated by the native Irish Catholics, although, like the rest of the country, subjected to colonial landlordism. The county was rife with bitterly opposing political, agrarian, and sectarian organisations and secret societies from the mid eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries which, eventually evolved into the nationalist and unionist organisations of the revolutionary period. The authors provide a comprehensive overview of the complexities underpinning the divisions within the county at all levels of society, charting the developments and events that shaped the Armagh of 1912 with the enemies and adherents of home rule. For the local historian or genealogist, the clarity of these explanations helps us piece together various family or local narratives. The first two chapters help to contextualise the situation to fully understand how the revolutionary period played out in this county which ended up with communal violence following partition in 1921 and the deep feelings of bitterness and isolation amongst the nationalist community when the Boundary Commission left them on the “wrong side” as a deliberately constructed permanent minority in Northern Ireland. The county's long-standing antipathy between unionism and nationalism intensified as unionists mobilized politically and militarily to oppose home rule and demanded a partitioned Ireland to preserve their hegemony in Ulster. Using both official and private archives, this study offers new perspectives on the continuities, changes and wider social and economic dynamics which shaped County Armagh during a tumultuous decade.

This is an important work that is highly recommended, as is the series, to any student of modern Irish history. Donal Hall and Eoin Magennis have written and lectured extensively on the 1912-23 period. Donal's first contribution to this series, *'Louth: The Irish Revolution, 1912-23'*, (2019), while Eoin published widely on the eighteenth and twentieth centuries. Donal published a volume in the *Irish Genealogical Sources* series with his late brother, Brendan Hall, RIP, *'The Louth Rifles, 1877-1908'* (2000) and had several articles in the Society's Annual Journal.

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!!

GSi BOARD NEWS

The meeting of the Board of Directors was held on **Thursday May 2nd 2024** at 11.00hrs via Zoom. The meeting was chaired by the Cathaoirleach, **John Goggins**, MGSi, with eight of the nine directors in attendance.

The General Secretary presented the final text of a draft Bill (*National Cultural Institutions (Heraldic Services Amendment) Bill, 2024*) to the Board and the text, including the *Explanatory Memorandum*, was endorsed by the Board under **Res: 24/05/1828**.

Two other Bills were briefly discussed, *Civil Registration (Electronic Registration) Bill, 2024*, and the *Research and Innovation Bill, 2004*, both of which, are of considerable interest and very welcome.

Lua Ó Scolaí, MGSi, Director of Finance, presented the **Monthly Accounts** for P.E. 30.04.2024. The **annual audited accounts** will be submitted to the **Companies Registration Office** before the ARD of May 8th 2024. Copies of the accounts will be publicly available on www.cro.ie for a small fee.

Last month the Board undertook the **allocation of portfolios**, however, the position of **Deputy General Secretary** remained vacant. The Board agreed, pending the co-option of a member to fill that vacancy, that some of the duties should be distributed to existing directors on a pro tempore basis.

Therefore, under **Res: 24/05/1832** (amending **Res: 24/05/1820**) the following allocations were made. The administration of the **Irish DNA Atlas** project, including the processing of the genealogical data and liaising with the RCSi, goes to **Fiona Tipple, MA, FGSi, Leas-Chathaoirleach and Director of Archival**

Services & Education. The position of **Deputy General Secretary**, deputising from time to time as the occasion requires, goes to **Laura Price, MGSi, Director, Special Collections, Research & Specialist Groups** who will liaise with the Director of Finance in such circumstances.

The Board carefully considered the possibility of the **Outreach Team** having a GSi Stand at the **O'Donnell Clan Association (ODCA)** event in Donegal Town on June 8th and 9th 2024. But regrettably the logistics involved made attendance on this occasion extremely difficult. Normally for events outside the greater Dublin region and the surrounding counties the Outreach Team relies on train travel. By the way, more volunteers for the Outreach Team are sought and always welcome.

Gerard Corcoran, MGSi, Director of Digitization & Genetic Genealogy, advised the Board on upcoming **Dargan Forum** in Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, and on the **Festival InterCeltique** in Lorient, Brittany / Breizh. GSi representation at the **36th International Congress of Genealogical & Heraldic Sciences** in Boston, Massachusetts, in September 2024 by **An Cathaoirleach, John Goggins, MGSi**, was considered a possibility.

The next Board Meeting will be held on **Thursday 6th June 2024** at 11.00hrs via Zoom. **General Secretary**

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

GALWAY'S GRAVEYARD HERITAGE

Many thanks to **Senator Victor Boyhan** for alerting us to this item from the *'Connacht Tribune'* of the 23rd April 2024.

Galway County Council has been given national recognition for its innovative digital project that mapped over 40,000 graveyard memorial records and made them publicly available online. The project, named *"Digitising Galway's Graveyard Heritage"*, won the Community Engagement category at ESRI Ireland's Customer Success Awards. Working with various organisations, the council provided funding to local groups to employ experts and train communities to use mobile technology and undertake drone mapping of graveyards. This is the second national award for the project, which was funded by the Heritage Council, the Open Data Engagement Fund and the council's own resources. See: www.galwaycoco.maps.arcgis.com

GSi 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

REMINDER OF DEFINITIONS

Heuristics: mental shortcuts for solving problems and to make judgements quickly and efficiently.

Hermeneutics: methods or theories of interpretation.

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 May 14th—Evening Open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) - *'Heraldic Ireland Annual Lecture - 'Heraldic Heritage: Heuristics or Hermeneutics'* by Frank O'Donnell, FGSI

Wednesday May 23rd —Morning Open Meeting—11.00hrs (Zoom)—Informal discussion on family history and related matters.

Tuesday June 11th—Evening Open Meeting—20.00hrs (Zoom) - Speaker: Davy Holden—*Irish History & the Genealogist.*

Wednesday June 27th —Morning Open Meeting—11.00hrs (Zoom)—Informal discussion on family history and related matters.

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.

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://https://www.youtube.com/c/GenealogicalSocietyOfIrelandGSI>



www.eneclann.ie



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

James Scannell Reports...

BALLYWALTRIM LIBRARY

Clair Bradley will present *'Using DNA Testing for Family History'* at 15.00hrs on Saturday 11 May. Admission free. Booking is required 01-2723205 or email: ballywaltrimlibrary@wicklowcoco.ie

CLONTARF HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mairead McLoughlin will present *'History & Archaeology of St. Doulagh's Church, Balgriffin'* at 19.30hrs on Monday 13 May, and Collette Gill *'The artist Patrick Leonard and his Clontarf connection'* at 19.30hrs on Monday 10 June. Both lectures take place in St. John's Parish Centre, Clontarf Road, Dublin 3. All welcome - admission is €5.00 for each lecture.

KILMACANOGUE HISTORY SOCIETY

Marc McMenamin will present *'Did explorers Mallory and Irvine conquer Mount Everest nearly three decades before Hilary and Tensing in 1953?'* at 20.00hrs on Monday 13 May in Kilmacanogue Parish Hall, adjacent to St. Mochoonog's R.C. Church, Kilmacanogue, Co. Wicklow. All welcome - admission €3.00 members and €5.00 non-members.

MALAHIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Brian Dooley will present *'Images from Malahide Historical Society Archive'* at 20.00hrs on Tuesday 14 May in St. Sylvester's Church Parish Centre, Malahide, Co. Dublin. All welcome - admission €5.00

ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY

There will be a lecture *'Reading and collecting books in early modern Ireland and Europe'* at 13.00hrs on Weds 15 in 19 Dawson Street, Dublin 2. Admission free. Booking required 01-609 0600 or info@ria.ie.

THE OLD DUBLIN SOCIETY

John Healy will present *'Devlin's Pub and the Army Mutiny'* at 18.00hrs on Wednesday 15 May in the Conference Room, Dublin City Library & Archive, 139-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. All are welcome - admission free. No booking required.

RATHMINES LIBRARY

Historian in Residence Dr. Cormac Moore will present *'Dublin-Monaghan Bombings 50 Years'* at 18.30hrs on Wednesday 15 May. All welcome - admission free - seats allocated on a first-come first seated basis.

DUN LAOGHAIRE BORO HIST SOC

Hal Sisk will present *'Developments in transforming Dún Laoghaire Harbour'* at 20.00hrs on Weds 15 May in the Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Rd., Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. All welcome - admission is €5.00

BRAY CUALANN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Gerard White will present *'A WW2 Maritime Disaster with Bray Connections'* at 20.0hrs on Thursday 16 May in the Royal Hotel, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All welcome - admission is €8.00 for non-members.

WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION

James Scannell will present *'Infantry Weapons of the First World War'* at 14.00hrs on Saturday 18 May in the Conference Room, Dublin City Library and Archive, 139-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. All welcome. Admission free - donation appreciated.

BRAY LIBRARY

Robert Butler will present *'The International Hotel Remembered in History and Song'* at 11.30hrs on Mon. 20 May. All welcome. Free. No booking required.

FOXROCK LOCAL HISTORY CLUB

The Society will hold *'A Night of Artefacts - 5 minute talks by members on historical artefacts they have in their possession'* at 20.00hrs on Tuesday 21 May in the Foxrock Parish Pastoral Centre, Foxrock, Co. Dublin. All welcome. Admission €5.00 for visitors.

WICKLOW LIBRARY

Isabel Clissman will present *'Fionn MacCumhaill Folklore in the Wicklow Mountains'* at 18.00hrs on Thursday 23 May. Admission free. No booking required.

CLONDALKIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Freddie O'Dwyer will present *'A Flying Visit in 1938: the day the Luftwaffe landed at Baldonnel 'by mistake'* at 20.00hrs on Monday 27 May in Aras Chronáin Irish Cultural Centre, Watery Lane, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin. All welcome. Admission €5.00 for non-members.

PHIBSBORO LIBRARY

Historian in Residence, Elizabeth Kehoe, will present *'Servants in the Big Houses in Ireland'* on Wednesday 29 May. All welcome. Admission free. Booking required 01-2228333 phibsborolibrary@dublincity.ie.

INCHICORE LIBRARY

Catherine Scuffil will present *'Down by the River Poddle'* at 11.30hrs on Thurs. 30 May. All welcome. Admission free. Booking required inchicorelibrary@dublincity.ie.

RATHMINES, RANELAGH & RATHGAR HS

Lawrence Byrne will present *'A History of St. Mary's Church, Mary Street, Dublin'* at 20.00hrs on Thursday 30 May in Rathmines Town Hall, Rathmines Road, Dublin 6. Members free / visitors €4.00. Swan Car Park Evening Rate: €4.00 from 19.00hrs to Midnight.

PUBLICATIONS

'Ballyheigue In Arms - Portrait of a Kerry Parish 1914-1923' by Bryan MacMahon, published by Ballyheigue Heritage Group, and available from www.omahonys.ie at €20.00 plus p+p.

This is the latest book from Bryan MacMahon in which he relates the events of the years of the revolution in Ballyheigue and the surrounding area. It profiles those involved, including Volunteer John Lawlor executed by Free State forces in October 1922. New information from Military Archives sheds light on the men and women of the Irish Republican Army and Cumann na mBan whose roles in the foundation of the state have faded from public memory over the last century. Remarkably testimonies by eye-witnesses and participants are published here for the first time, including those of Ellen O'Connor and Bride Gleeson. The micro-study describes the burning of the Coastguard Station in 1920 and of Ballyheigue Castle in 1921. It also covers the three-month occupation of Ballyheigue by Free State troops during the Civil War, Michael Pierce's decision to lay down arms in February 1923 and the tragic events at Clashmealon Caves in the final days of that eventful period. This book also pays tribute to soldiers who fought in World War I from the Western Front to Gallipoli, including Brigadier-General James D. Crosbie of Ballyheigue Castle, and five men who lost their lives - Michael Reidy, James Low, Stephen Leen, Gerald Cullen and Michael Lynch.



History Ireland magazine, May/June 2024, Volume 32 No.3. Editor Tommy Graham, published by Wordwell Ltd. A subscription to *'History Ireland'* makes an ideal gift and is an excellent way to ensure never to miss an issue. For on-line subscription go to www.historyireland.com or contact 01-2933568 carol@wordwell.ie.

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 APRIL LECTURE

Our April talk saw **Paula Jones, MA, MGSi** discuss her research of *Living in a Dublin Docklands Community, North Wall, 1911*. Analysing the lived experience of over 2,500 people, Paula looked specifically at household structure, mortality and fertility among the dockland community. Explaining the extensive sources that she used,



Paula gave us an overview of North Wall, at the time including a reconstruction of the area using the valuation records of Tailte Éireann, OSI maps and census records as well as accommodation rent and rates of pay. Her study showed that this was a hard-working community where economic pressures determined the survival of families, and the choice of accommodation was determined by the level of poverty. While the area was not considered to be the worst slum in Dublin, the density of the community coupled with poor housing meant the inevitable easy spread of epidemic diseases which took their toll on young children. An analysis of mortality of the children under the age of five showed that where parents were from, how educated they were, and their cultural background all played a part in determining the survival of their children at their most vulnerable stage in life. One interesting finding was the evidence around fertility which showed how couples but particularly women were determining when they were having children and for how long with women stopping having children much earlier than expected. A very detailed and fascinating study.

This 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

IRISH HERALDIC SERVICES—A TIMELINE

Some significant events to contextualise aspects of the delivery of Irish heraldic services from 1552.

1552 – King Edward VI established the office of “*Ulster King of Arms*” to deliver heraldic services on behalf of the Crown in the Kingdom of Ireland.

1922 – **Irish Free State** was established. The office of Ulster King of Arms remains in Dublin Castle as an office of the Crown. (*Monarch Head of State*)

1936 – **Executive Authority (External Relations) Act, 1936**, limits the Crown domestically to matters specifically requested by the Irish government. Ulster King of Arms remains in Dublin Castle as a Crown Office, but not at the request of the Irish government. The operations of Ulster's office in the State were placed in an anomalous legal position under the Act.

1937 – **Bunreacht na hÉireann** (Constitution of Ireland) comes into force. “*A Republic in all but name*”. Ulster's office remains in Dublin Castle as an office of the Crown in an anomalous position.

1938—Dr Douglas Hyde, first **President of Ireland**. In effect ‘*Head of State*’ within Ireland (note 1936 Act) under the 1937 Constitution.

1943—The contents, including all the registers of arms etc, of the office of Ulster King of Arms were transferred to the custody of the Irish State.

1943 – Ulster's role was transferred by the Crown to the **College of Arms** in London and united with *Norroy King of Arms*. This is its lawful successor.

1943 – The contents of Ulster's office were assigned to the new **Genealogical Office** (Chief Herald's office). No legislative basis for its functions, including granting of arms, existed between 1943 and 1997.

1944/45—**Gaelic chiefs** recognised by Chief Herald.

1949—“**Republic of Ireland**” declared (1948 Act). Ireland leaves the British Commonwealth.

1949—UK enacts **Ireland Act, 1949**—the 26 counties of the republic are declared by UK legislation to be no longer a part of “*His Majesty's Dominions*”.

1997 – Minister of Arts, Culture & the Gaeltacht, Michael D. Higgins, TD, brought in the **National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997**, covering the National Museum of Ireland and National Library of Ireland, including the Genealogical Office.

2003 – Courtesy recognition of Gaelic Chiefs ended on legal advice and following the “*bogus chiefs*” scandal involving some latterly recognised “*chiefs*”.

2005 – Minister, John O'Donoghue, TD, **belatedly commences the 1997 Act** giving a legislative basis for the State's delivery of heraldic services.

2006—**Genealogy & Heraldry Bill, 2006** (drafted by M. Merrigan of this Society) aimed to rectify the fundamentally flawed sections of the 1997 Act. Debated in Seanad Éireann in December 2006. Not progressed after Minister John O'Donoghue, TD, promised to examine matters raised by the Bill.

2007 – Heraldic services suspended for circa seven months by the Board of the National Library of Ireland. NLI Chairperson proposed legislative amendments to rectify Section 13 of the 1997 Act.

2007 – October – Minister Séamus Brennan, TD, in Dáil Éireann accepted the **State had no power to grant arms** between April 1943 and May 2005.

2008—The ‘**National Cultural Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2008**’ was introduced but it wasn't progressed and the Bill lapsed.

2024—The **1997 Act remains flawed** leaving the status of grants of arms made by the Chief Herald of Ireland between 1943 and 2005 in a **legal limbo**.

2025—**20th anniversary** of the commencement of the 1997 Act. Will Section 13 ever be rectified?

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

O'Donnell Clan Association



Calling all O'Donnells at home and overseas. The O'Donnell Clan Association will be relaunched at a Special General Meeting to be held in Donegal Town on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th June 2024.

The O'Donnell Clan Association (ODCA) was originally established in 1954 during the nationwide cultural and tourism festival of ‘*An Tóstal*’ which was held annually from 1953 to 1958. It was the template for the 2013 tourism initiative ‘*The Gathering Ireland*’.

The ODCA hosted events in County Donegal over the years until quite recently and in an endeavour to revive these important cultural events, **Amb (ret) Francis M. O'Donnell, FGSi**, author of the magisterial work ‘*The O'Donnells of Tyrconnell—A*

Hidden History’, re-registered the ODCA with the Clans of Ireland, founded in 1989, and planned the launch in Donegal next month.

A very interesting programme has been developed for the ODCA event and if you are an O'Donnell or have O'Donnell ancestry, you may like to check out this event on www.odomhnaill.com/clan-association

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/GeneraleologicalSocietyOfIrelandGSI

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

