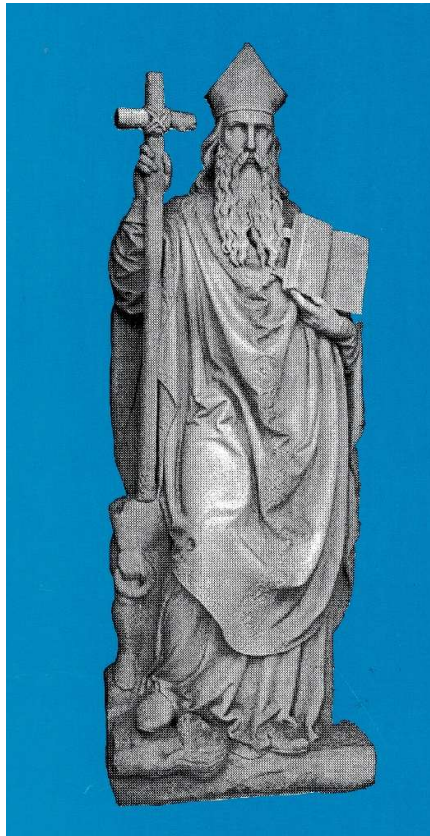


Greystones Archaeological & Historical Society

JOURNAL



Volume 3: 2000

Remastered 2026

Acknowledgements

Cover From a photograph of a statue of St. Kilian taken in Würzburg, by Colin Short.

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Published in 2000, this was the Society's third journal. Just click on a title to access the full paper.

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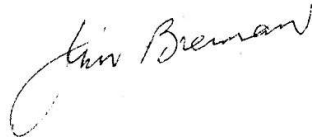
Introduction

I am extremely pleased to be able to introduce to you the third journal produced by the Greystones Archaeological and Historical Society. When the Society was founded in December 1988 we had hoped to be able to publish an issue of local interest every other year. It is indeed a great pity that it has not been possible to do so, entirely due to financial considerations. We will indeed, with your support, try to do better in the future, as there is no shortage of suitable and interesting material available to us.

The Society continues to thrive, and we have maintained a programme of interesting lectures during the winter months and a series of outings and day trips for the rest of the year. A particularly popular feature of our activities has been our four-day trips each April for the past seven years, when we have based ourselves in towns and cities throughout Ireland, and with the help of local guides have explored places of historical and cultural interest in each vicinity.

I would like to thank sincerely the contributors to this millennium journal, all of whom throughout the years of the Society's existence, have proved themselves in the tremendous support they have given unstintingly to our activities.

Finally, I would like to thank our committee members who have run the Society down through the years, most of whom were first elected at our inaugural meeting on the 5th December 1988 - twelve years ago. A word of thanks is due to the La Touche Legacy Committee for their sponsorship of our October outing, and to the management and staff of the La Touche Hotel for making their facilities readily available to us on so many occasions. A sincere word of thanks to our Honorary Auditor, Joe Hayes for his continued and much valued support.



Jim Brennan – Chairman
GREYSTONES ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

They Answered the Call

By James Scannell

A lecture given to the Greystones Archaeological and Historical Society on Wednesday January 19th 2000 in the La Touche Hotel, Greystones, Co. Wicklow.

Background

This lecture arose through researching a brief comment made at a Bray public meeting held in September 1939, to recruit volunteers for Bray Urban District Council's voluntary Air Raid Protection (A.R.P.) Scheme by B.U.D.C. chairman Mr Peter Ledwidge, who introduced Dr. G.P.G. Beckett as the man largely responsible for the Greystones A.R.P. Scheme. A study of the 1939 A.R.P. Act revealed that in Co. Wicklow, Wicklow County Council was the body which had the responsibility for preparing an approved A.R.P. Scheme for the county, excluding Bray. Here the Bray Urban District Council was the responsible body and so the question arose - what was the Greystones A.R.P. scheme referred to and who operated it, since there were no references to it in *The Wicklow People* of the period. While researching another project, I read an account of the Greystones branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade AGM in a January 1940 edition of *The Wicklow People* which had references to the Greystones A.R.P. scheme, and from it I have been able to assemble this lecture which deals with a piece of little remembered Greystones history.

The First World War or Great War (1914- 1918) was called " the war to end all wars", and following the establishment of the League of Nations in 1919 to resolve international disputes and conflicts, it was hoped that Mankind would never again witness a conflict on the scale of the 1914-18 war. But the victorious allies, Britain and France, assisted by America, flushed with success over a defeated Germany, imposed very harsh and draconian penalties on that country in the Treaty of Versailles which formally signalled the end of the conflict and the surrender of Germany. Far from preventing the outbreak of a future conflict, they were instead unwittingly sowing the seeds of German bitterness, which erupted 25 years later on with the outbreak of the Second World War, and which had a far greater loss of life than the First World War 1.

World War I was a conflict fought around the globe, involving many nations and embracing new technology and tactics. This conflict saw the era of the dominance of the large surface warship replaced by the submarine, and the introduction of unrestricted submarine warfare in which ships were sunk without warning - this concept is still contrary to International Law but is an accepted naval practice/tactic. Aircraft which entered the conflict as mere devices for aerial observation of the ground evolved into fighters and bombers. The machine gun, poison gas and barbed wire transformed the face of the battlefield, while armoured cars and tanks which replaced cavalry roamed over it and wireless became the new important communications medium.

For the first time the civil population behind the front lines was exposed to bombardment by long-range artillery, as well as air raids from airships and bombers, and had to endure rationing of food and other essential items due to naval blockades.

German air raids on London showed that local authorities were unprepared for this development in warfare. They had great difficulties in trying to cater for the needs of the civil population affected by this new type of warfare, but from their experiences evolved the idea of civil defence or protection from air raids, which later became Air Raid Precautions or A.R.P., but the conflict ended before anything was done on this matter.

In the 1930's, Germany embarked on a policy of militarisation following the election to office of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party, and began to expand her territorial boundaries and break

the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, without opposition from France and Britain. Some



First ever air raid in Britain

measures were introduced in Britain to protect the civil population from the threat of air raids which it was expected would be part of the coming war. These A.R.P. schemes were partly funded by the British Government and were aimed at protecting the civil population from the perceived dangers of:-

- a. Air Raids
- b. Poison Gas

Many people still remembered the wide spread use of poison

gas in the First World War and the way it still effected those ex-servicemen exposed to the various gases used during that conflict. A steady stream of books and films in which poison gas was featured as the principal weapon of war, convinced people that this was how wars would be waged in the future; and massive resources were allocated to the production of gas masks, anti-gas creams, the development of decontamination equipment, and the planning of the necessary drills and procedures to be followed. Ironically, poison gas was not used in World War 2 as a weapon of war and instead was used in German concentration camps during the Holocaust to exterminate upwards of 6 million people of the Jewish faith.

In Ireland, Military Intelligence estimated in 1936 that war in Europe was likely towards the end of the decade, and the Government sent a number of officers to observe British A.R.P. developments and to report back as necessary.

Generally speaking, people in Britain and Ireland were convinced that expenditure on A.R.P. measures was a waste of money, as it was felt that the money could be used in other areas, such as fighting tuberculosis. This attitude was due to the belief that the politicians would resolve international problems without the need to go to war.

In Britain one of the organisations to become pioneers in the training of people in A.R.P. matters and to prepare for war was the St. John Ambulance Brigade.



Anderson air raid shelter

St. John Ambulance Brigade

The St. John Ambulance Brigade in Ireland is a voluntary organisation, non-sectarian and non-political, and exists for the purpose of maintaining a body of trained men and women in readiness for First Aid assistance to the sick and injured on public occasions. It is a permanent organisation in time of Peace, ready and available in time of Emergency.

The primary purpose and aim of the St. John Ambulance Brigade is to provide a uniformed voluntary First Aid Service committed to the assistance of the general public wherever crowds gather and accidents and illnesses may be expected to occur. This role has been faithfully performed by generations of dedicated St. John Ambulance Volunteers for over 90 years.

THEY ANSWERED THE CALL

The St. John Ambulance Brigade in Ireland was formed in 1904 in St. James's Gate Brewery, and it was not long before others Divisions for male and female members were established. The 1907 International Exhibition held in Dublin's Herbert Park, Ballsbridge, was the first opportunity for the Brigade to show publicly what it could do when it undertook public duty



Dr John Lumsden, St James's
Brewery's Medical Officer

by establishing a First Aid and Rest Hut in the Exhibition grounds. During World War 1 many members of the Brigade volunteered for active service on the battlefronts, while at home there was a rapid expansion of the organisation, and over succeeding decades the Brigade won recognition from the Government and the general public as an organisation which provided first aid services. Its members were seen frequently in their first aid role at a vast array of public events, in theatres, cinemas and places where large crowds gathered.

In 1935, 2 Officers of the St. John Ambulance Brigade of Ireland, Superintendent G.W. Belton and Lady Superintendent Miss Burroughs, completed a course as A.R.P. instructors in London and on their return were examined by Comdt. M. Nolan, OIC Chemical Warfare Department of the Army, and were passed as qualified Grade 1 A.R.P. Instructors - the first in Ireland. In 1936, 36

Brigade officers were given an A.R.P. Course in Dublin by Comdt. Nolan, during which they were brought to the Curragh, where they received practical demonstrations in the use of gas. Following examinations, 36 Grade I Certificates were awarded and these instructors began giving lectures to Brigade personnel, who in due course qualified for Certificates. When the Government Civil Anti-Gas School opened at Griffith Barracks, Dublin, 12 members of the Brigade attended, 6 receiving Special Certificates and 6 the 1st Class Instructor's Certificate.

When the Air Raid Precautions Act (1939) was implemented, Dublin Corporation recognised that the St. John Ambulance Brigade was the only organisation which could hope to establish an A.R.P. Casualty Service and the organisation was placed by the Commissioner, Sir John Lumsden, at the disposal of the Corporation. A similar offer was made to Dun Laoghaire Corporation which was accepted by them, and in all the Scheduled Areas where A.R.P. Schemes had to be implemented and members of the organisation were available, they became part of the local A.R.P. organisation. Members of the organisation were involved in every aspect of A.R.P. work, and also worked closely with the Irish Red Cross Society which was not established until 1939, and assisted in the training of their personnel.

Greystones

In 1939 Greystones was a quiet residential town with a population of not more than 1800 people in the Winter and in excess of 2000 in the Summer, as many Dubliners opted to rent houses in the town for that period, with heads of households commuting to and from Dublin by railway. While there had been attempts by various development and civic groups over the years to obtain township status for Greystones so that residents would have a greater say in the development of the town as it was at that time, nothing happened, and it was until 1984 that this long cherished aim became a reality with the establishment of the Greystones Town Commissioners. Greystones was a town which had a large number of organisations and strong community spirit, and as the clouds of war gathered over Europe, residents decided that they would initiate measures to protect themselves and the town from the threat of war damage should it occur as they lacked confidence in Wicklow County Council to protect them. Some residents held the view that Wicklow County Council had no interest in the town and that was one of the principal reasons why residents decided that they would 'go it alone', irrespective

of any plans that Wicklow County Council might have. Wicklow County Council had none and was not unusual in that respect as many local authorities had adopted a 'wait and see' approach, seeing little point in devoting time and energy and scarce resources to the preparation of plans and schemes which might never be needed.

In March 1939, a number of residents came together and formed a branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Society, and began with a short course of 6 lectures in first aid, which were held in afternoons and evenings. Dr. R.S. Mitchell was the tutor for the afternoon classes and Dr. Louis Finnegan tutor for the evening classes. There was an excellent response to these classes, with the average attendance at each class being 86. In May 68 members obtained their first aid certificates following examination. This was considered a great success.

Throughout the summer of 1939 the international situation deteriorated rapidly, but many county councils and scheduled cities and towns in the annex to the A.R.P. Act (1939) simply watched the situation. In Bray, Co. Wicklow, the only scheduled town in Co. Wicklow which had to prepare its own scheme, the councillors and Town Clerk sought out a number of people who indicated that they would be prepared to serve and administer the town's A.R.P. scheme if called upon when the need arose, and there the matter was allowed to rest. Wicklow County Council took no action, like many other county councils, seeing no need to prepare for a scheme that might never be needed or used.

On 1 September 1939, Germany invaded Poland, thus precipitating World War 2, and this led to the introduction of the period known in Ireland as the 'Emergency', under which the Government had wide ranging powers to administer the country for the duration of the period of international hostilities without recourse to the normal legislative process.

The outbreak of war and start of the 'Emergency' encouraged the people of Greystones to establish an A.R.P. scheme, and following a general meeting of the Branch in September, it was decided that classes in A.R.P. would be held, and the Greystones branch after contact with the Society's H.Q. was able to avail of the services of Robert Waters as chief instructor. The



Local Defence Force, State of Emergency

response was very large - 118 people signed on for classes, with the average attendance being 101.

Reference to what was happening in Greystones surfaced at a public meeting in Bray, where the Urban District Council, having decided to operate a voluntary scheme, and having appointed people to administer it, held a public meeting to recruit people for the various A.R.P. services on Thursday 28 September, 1939. One of the specially invited speakers at this meeting was Dr. G.P.G. Beckett, the Co. Wicklow

Medical Officer for Health, who was also chairman of the Greystones branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. He made reference to the voluntary scheme that had been established in Greystones and its importance to the community there. In Bray too, the local branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was operating special first aid courses for volunteers, as all members of the A.R.P. services were required to hold a first aid certificate before they could enrol.

Uniquely, the St. John Ambulance Brigade was one of the few organisations to have prepared for the eventuality of war and so had trained A.R.P. instructors, training programmes and all the necessary skill and expertise to hold courses in A.R.P. and first aid.

Wicklow County Council, at their October 1939 meeting, decided to establish an A.R.P. scheme for the county, in line with their statutory requirement, but were less than pleased with the

THEY ANSWERED THE CALL

go it alone ' approach of Greystones. However, they did not interfere with the Greystones scheme. The Co. Wicklow Scheme, after many delays due to funding difficulties between the Wicklow County Council and the A.R.P. Branch of the Department of Defence, was not adopted until November 1941.

In September 1939 first aid classes resumed with 73 people joining, with Miss Jeffreys acting as class secretary. Dr. Mitchell was the surgeon instructor while Miss Lydia Figgis and Miss Murna Peacocke were the practical work instructors. In November 35 candidates presented themselves for examination - 33 passed. The low number going forward for examination was due to the fact that some of the class had already obtained first aid certificates.

In November 74 candidates from the Greystones A.R.P. classes presented themselves for examination - 63 passed.

In addition to these activities the Greystones branch also organised a ' Home Nursing ' course which was divided into 3 classes administered by Miss Olive McGee, Mrs C. Meldon and Mrs C. West, who acted as class secretaries. Classes were held in Mrs Meldon's house 'Beaconsfield ', Mrs W. Beer's house ' Glenart ' and Mrs West's house ' Mount Offally '. In November, 58 presented themselves for examination - 56 passed.

On Thursday, 18 January, 1940, the AGM of the Greystones Branch of the St. John Ambulance Society was held in the Grand (now called La Touche) Hotel, chaired by Dr. G. P.G. Beckett at which the attendance included –

Mr. A.L. Agnew	Hon. Secretary
Mr. R.G.C.Oulton	Hon. Treasurer
Miss Jeffreys	Secretary of Women's Section
Miss Pavis	District Officer of the Society
Mr. Padgett Haffield	District Officer of the Society

and the following members –

Mrs G.F. Beckett	Mrs R. Huet
Mrs R. Agnew	Mr V. Hamilton
Mr N. Oulton	Mrs B. G. Cashel
Miss R. Long	Mr W. Beare
Mrs V. C. McVettie	Miss F. Hinde
Mrs C. V. Meldon	Mrs E. MacGrath
Mr E. Archer	Mrs R. Freeman
Mrs I. Magner	Mrs Scully
Miss Walker	Mr R. Huet



Irish Red Cross Nurses, 1939

The meeting began with a special presentation to Miss Leslie Le Toler and Master Derek Ferris in appreciation and recognition of their work at Irish Red Cross Society first aid classes where they acted as 'patients'. The Irish Red Cross Society had been established by law in December 1938, with the organisation holding its first meeting in July 1939, though the Greystones branch of the organisation was not formed until July 1940 following the creation of the Co. Wicklow branch of the Society, which was an essential requirement before local branches could be formed, and it is likely that the Irish Red Cross Society ran its own first

aid classes in the Greystones area sometime in the latter half of 1939.

At the inaugural meeting of the Irish Red Cross Society in September 1939, 2 members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade were appointed as members of the Executive Committee. Instructors of the St. John Ambulance Brigade were placed at the disposal of the Irish Red Cross Society to assist with the training of their personnel, and this spirit of co-operation in the Greystones area was demonstrated by the local branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade providing 2 members who were prepared to undertake the role of patients at the Irish Red Cross Society's first classes.

The presentation of special gifts to Miss Le Toler and Master Ferris was made by Mrs. Beckett.

The Hon Treasurer, Mr. R. G. C. Oulton, was able to inform the meeting that financially the branch was in a sound position, while the Hon Secretary, Mr. A. L. Agnew, gave a review of the branch's first year. In 7 months those who had attended classes run by the branch had managed to obtain -

101	First Aid Certificates
063	Air Raid Precautions Certificates
056	Home Nursing Certificates

The meeting ended with a discussion on the suggestion to form a Division of the Society. Miss Pavis pointed out that a Division required 12 women and 1 Lady Superintendent in order to form it, and that all the women needed to have first aid and home nursing certificates. She pointed out that there were certain obligations that members had to meet - Members had to attend parades during the year; be inspected annually; to turn out when called for public duty, and when volunteered for duty, must undertake it. Miss Pavis also spoke of how busy members were at the beach huts at Merrion, Killiney and Bray, and of the vast array of injuries they had to treat on the spot. The meeting decided to hold over a decision on the matter and to discuss it again at a future meeting of the branch.

In May 1941, when the Co. Wicklow Board of Health adopted an emergency hospital scheme for the county, it was decided to establish first aid stations in Bray, Enniskerry and Greystones, under the control of the Irish Red Cross Society, with a request that the Greystones branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade work with the Society to this end.

So the A.R.P. classes conducted by the Greystones branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was the unofficial A.R.P. scheme adopted in Greystones, which as a result of this course, had

THEY ANSWERED THE CALL

large numbers of people trained in this vital area of civil defence should the need have arisen, which thankfully it did not.

Others in Greystones who 'Answered the Call' were those who enlisted in the Irish Defence Forces for the duration of the Emergency following the Government's national appeal for volunteers launched in June 1940. Nor should one forget those who served in the 'A' and 'B' Groups of the Local Security Force, raised in June 1940, which became the Local Defence Force and Local Security Force respectively in January 1941. Greystones people were also to be found serving in the Coastwatch Service and Maritime Inscription Corps. Nor should we overlook those who served on Irish ships during the Emergency or on ships of other nations; and those who fought for the Allies - Richard Doherty's Irish Men and Women in the Second World War, published by the Four Courts Press, is well worth reading as there are at least 2 specific references to Delgany people in it.

Greystones can be proud of the great community spirit that existed in the town during the Emergency and the many organisations that flourished and operated, which in the main were disbanded or allowed to lapse at the end of the Emergency. The activities of some of these organisations will be the basis for a further article on this subject.

Acknowledgements and Sources

In compiling this paper I wish to thank the following for their assistance -

- Ms Joan Egan, St. John Ambulance Brigade of Ireland, Lumsden House, Dublin.
- Ms Margaret Fogarty, St. John Ambulance Brigade of Ireland, Lumsden House, Dublin
- Comdt. V. Laing, Military Archives , Dublin.
- Mr Gerry Maher, LLB (Hons) DLIS, formerly County Librarian, Wicklow County Council
- The late Comdt. R. J. Smyth, FCA (retired), Shankill, formerly on the staff of the Bray District Command Local Defence Force 1941 - 1946
- The Late Comdt. Peter Young, Director, Military Archives, Dublin.

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- The Wicklow People

Greystones in Cartographic Sources:

the Wicklow county Maps

By Pat Power

Introduction

Before the Petty Survey of 1655 local maps presented the Greystones and Delgany areas in little or no detail. Early maps depicting the area now covered by County Wicklow were almost always part of a larger scheme, dwelling on such political features as the lands controlled by the O'Byrnes, O'Tooles, the House of Ormond or the Earldom of Kildare, (where it intruded into Wicklow). These early efforts occasionally depicted a strategic feature like the 'New Castell' or the 'Old Court'. Offshore obstacles might also be noted like sand shoals and hazardous rocks. References to prominent topographical features that one might expect to see like the Wicklow Mountains, the Sugarloaf or Bray Head are surprisingly scarce. When such features were taken note of, they were usually indicated by a few crudely drawn rounded humps and perhaps a pithy comment like 'bogge' or 'uninhabited'. This was not the case in estate maps, however, and local topographical features appear in some detail, even in the earliest land maps drawn up in the late 17th century. I hope to deal with this aspect in Greystones map history in a future article.

Down Survey

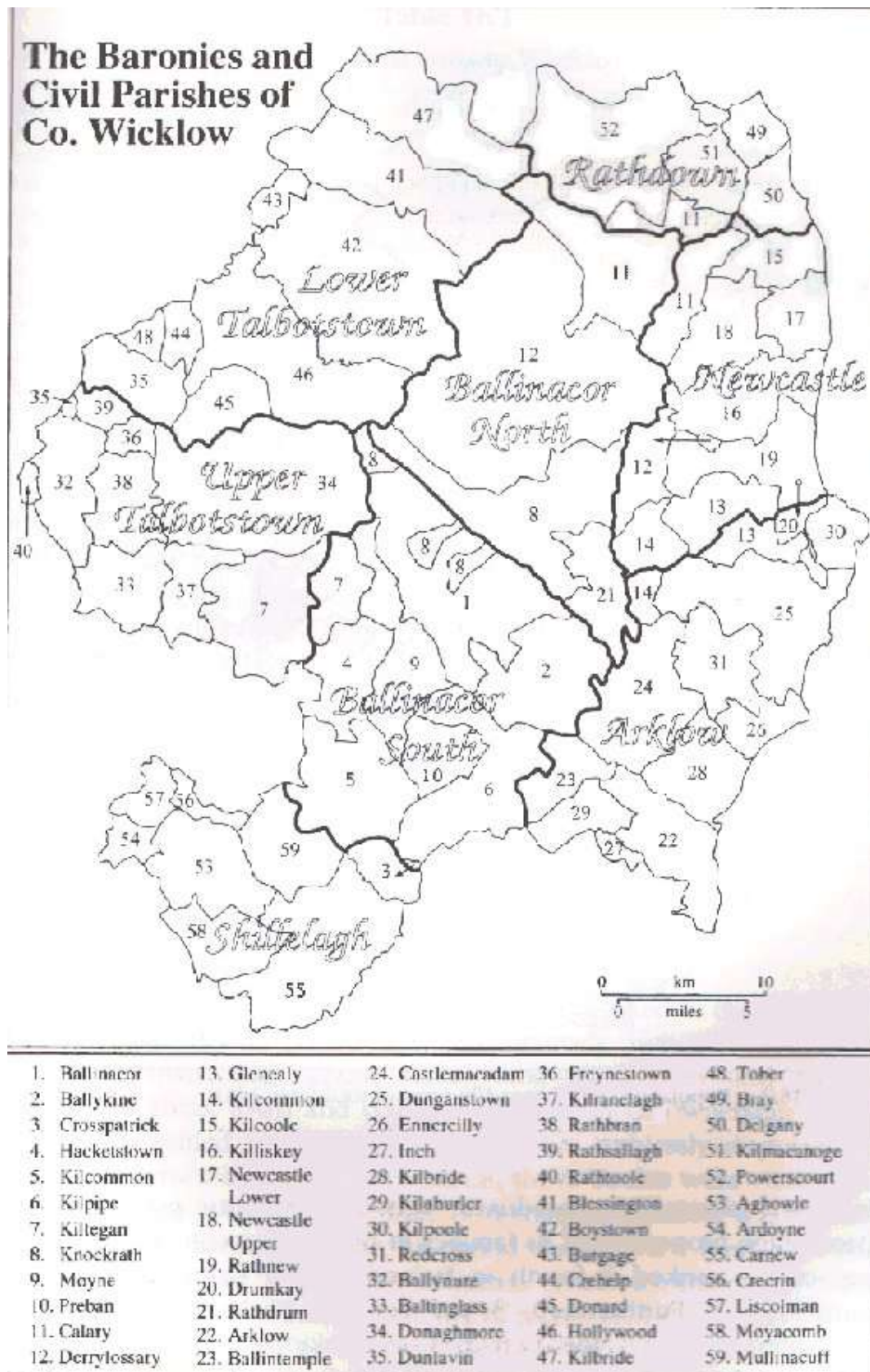
The famous "Down Survey" overseen by Sir William Petty has had an unfortunate history. All the detailed, and thus important, County Wicklow parish maps and their explanatory 'terriers' (accompanying notes), have long been destroyed, where the Wicklow sections of the Down Survey are concerned. Baronial maps for the county did survive, however, and though the indicated features are limited, there are some useful sources as to the evolution of Greystones and Delgany. The area is covered by two baronial maps, that of Rathdown and Newcastle.



William Petty

On the former map, Killruddery House is shown as well as the ruined castle of Bray. No other habitations are shown in Bray, unlike Wicklow town, which has its Black Castle, depicted, surrounded by several little houses. Roads were not shown on the Petty maps, unfortunately. Surprisingly, the dominant feature of Bray Head made no impression on the surveyor and is not shown.

The map of Newcastle Barony depicts "Delaney Parish" (Delgany) in a slightly inland situation. There is no mention of "the Grey stones". The northern section of Delgany is described as 'unprofitable' while the rest of that section is marked as 'wood'. This land would be the southern slope of Bray Head around Windgates. The woodland must have been extensive to attract the attention of the surveyors so as to give it a special mention. The only place name recorded on the map within Delgany parish is Druminstown. Where modern Greystones is sited shows no detail whatsoever, Ballynoran, Ballyganan and Ballydoonarea are shown extending along the coast stretching southward. Lands around Delgany parish are described as 'unforfeited'. This shows there was little change in ownership for large tracts of land in this part of Wicklow, arising out of the Cromwellian wars.



Old Wicklow Baronial Map (not Perry's)

While the Down Survey lacks visual detail, the inference can be drawn that the general population of landowners remained in conformity throughout the wars of the Confederation of Kilkenny and Cromwell's conquest.

Jacob Nevill's Map

Over one hundred years were to elapse before the next county survey, by Jacob Nevill in 1760. Nevill was a Dublin mathematician and cartographer. His mapping commission for the County Wicklow Grand Jury was the first true county map to show fine detail. It is a document of great interest.

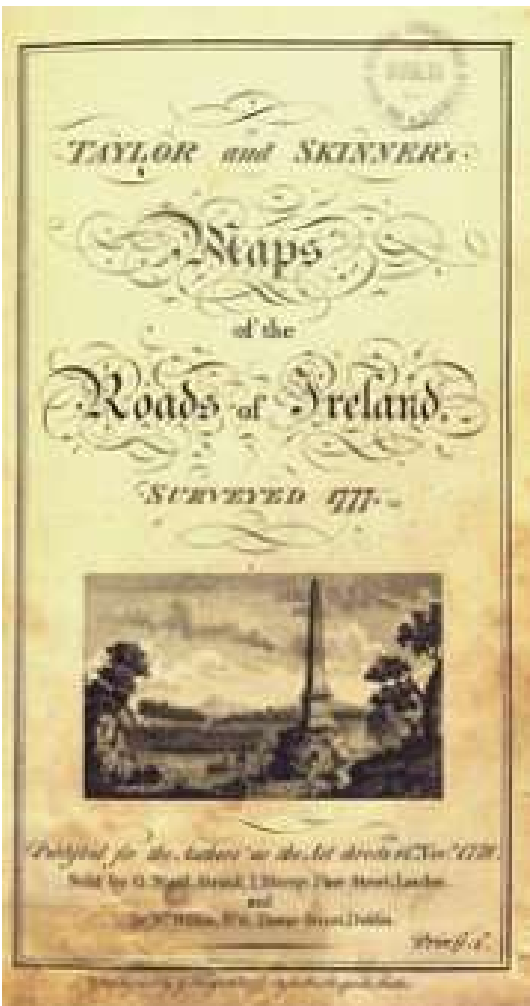
The map's main purpose was its use by the Established Church and other clergy, county officials, military officers and the members of the Grand Jury, which were the forerunners of county councils. Detail on the map tend to concentrate on roads and gentlemen's 'seats', with the names of the more prominent landowners recorded. Churches ruined and in service, Protestant and Catholic were included, reflecting the then preoccupation with religion and tithe collection. Water mills, graveyards and land usage i.e. whether it was in pasture or fallow was shown in many instances.

In all, Nevill's 1760 map is a valuable record of a Wicklow as it was 240 years ago. The name "The Grey-Stones" is shown applied to a headland, and this is one of the first, if not the first

recording of the name. While no access to the headland is depicted on the map, a scattered fishing community was probably already established, but as these were not the things Nevill choose to record, there is no indication on the map of any habitations of, as they were described "the Lower Orders".

The hub of the populated area was still centred on Delgany. The local road system was well defined, as it should be, for this was one of the main purposes of the map. Lord Meath's extensive deer-park is given prominence, extending down as far as Templecarrig. A corn mill is located at Killincarrig. The then secondary coach road is recorded as 'Down Glen' road. The substantial houses of Templecarrig, Coolegad, Kindlestown and Rathdown are given prominence. The famed mansion later to become known as "Bellevue" is still recorded under its old name Ballydonagh as it was known when under the ownership of the Dean of St Patrick's, (not dean Jonathan Swift, however, who did not reside in this part of the country).

Jacob Nevill's map does not give any indication to the reality of the largely hidden population of labours, fishermen, artisans, farm workers, gardeners and their families who lived in small vernacular cabins scattered all over the landscape. Nor does it give any indication of the embryonic tourist industry, which even then was beginning to make itself felt in the scenic areas around Bellevue



Cover of Taylor and Skinner's Maps

and the Glen of the Downs. A good replica of Nevill's Wicklow map is included in the end paper of Wicklow History and Society published in 1994 and available in the local library.

Taylor and Skinner's Maps

Taylor and Skinner's "Maps of the Roads of Ireland" published in 1778 continued to focus exclusively on 'gentlemen's seats' and on roads. It was best used in conjunction with another publication, "The Post Chaise Companion", which described in words the landscape visible from the coach. Greystones is not shown on the T and S map, but the rising ascendancy of Bellevue and the La Touche family is marked. Other notable residences of the area are named along with their owners, Wilsons of Kindlestown, Scotts of Ballygannon, Edwards of Charlesland, and O'Brien of Mountemple. Miss Moore of Rathdown is the rare notice of a female proprietor in what was then a very male dominated society. Half a dozen residences within 6 miles of Greystones were owned or rented by military officers. This reflected a trend when half pay officers could live twice as cheaply in Ireland as in England; thus there was a Captain Tarrent in Rathdown, a Captain Ransoms in Templecarrig and a cluster of military retirees centred on Newtownmountkennedy. Delgany's old Church of Ireland was depicted simply because it was a coaching landmark and mileage reference point.

Abraham Nevill issued a revised Grand Jury map in 1798. It contains no new detail on the Greystones area. The usual imagery for the grand houses of the area is included and Bellevue is mentioned by name.

First Ordnance Survey

The first Ordnance Survey was undertaken to provide Ireland with an accurate assessment of its land for rating purposes and taxation. Special attention was made to accurately survey the smaller townlands, those below 300 acres. This was a formidable task when it is taken into account that Ireland has approximately 60 000-townland units. Such measurement called for a particularly accurate type of map hitherto not seen. The six inch (to the mile) maps which was the format eventually adopted, are works of rare beauty and show the landscape in magnificent detail, as it was before the cataclysmic effects of the Great Famine altered settlement patterns. The changes before the establishment of the railway network are also surveyed, as was the evolution of urbanism following in the wake of the railway. Wicklow's great estates are especially emphasised, as the owners were the customers for the O.S maps: certain leeway was taken to depict estates attractively in order to appeal to the potential buyer.

Delgany and Greystones are depicted on the survey down to their smallest dwelling houses. The actual survey was conducted through 1838/9. In tandem with the physical map survey was a project to collect information on the antiquities and folklore of each parish. Delgany proved a rich harvest, and the "Ordnance Survey Letters" collected by the scholar Eugene O Curry fill five pages, covering such subjects as the fabled dual-bodied 'Bo Deilginis Cualann' that lived in the year 727, to a brief description of the village as it appeared to the survey in December 1838. "The present town of Delgany consists of about thirty houses with one shop for the sale of bread and meat, one harness maker's shop, and one shop in which the baking of bread and the selling of whiskey are carried on. There is an old graveyard on the south side of the town with the portions of the ruins of a church apparently of no great antiquity. This old church was used as a place of public Protestant worship until about the year 1789, when the new church was erected a short distance to the east of it ". O'Curry says no more about this old church other than "I have no reference to this old church touching its original erection or subsequent occupation. "

O'Curry had very little to say about what Greystones actually looked like 162 years ago. His brief was to report the antiquities and folk memory of the place. The description he gave of Saint Crispin's and other old churches, along with the abundance of Rathes and moats in the immediate area of Greystones, only reflects the wholesale loss of the local heritage and antiquities from the time of his survey and this Millennium year.

The Six-Inch map itself depicts Greystones as a lonely rocky headland. The only buildings of note are its coastguard station and a small school. Scattered through the fields and along the roadside leading to the headland are individual cottages, but these would not constitute even the nucleus of a village. There was no appreciable harbour, but the coastguard would have had a slipway to launch their inshore boat. The school might make a subject for future research, and it was probably for the use of the coastguard children. The prominent marking of the flagstaff and lookout attached to the station on the map indicates the importance of the siting of such an object. It was a vital device for the complex signalling by flag, pendants and semaphore used by the guards to transmit information around the Irish coasts. (So efficient was it that a coded message could be transmitted from Dublin back to Dublin right around the coast of the country, in less than three hours). In tandem with the general mapping of the county was a secondary project to map the geology of County Wicklow.

Greystones and Delgany parishes are covered by the sheets 120 and 121 produced in 1855. Like the Ordnance Survey Letters, the geology is written up in a series of 'memoirs' which convey an interesting account of the local topography and underlying land usage in those years.

Although the information is long superseded, the "geological memoirs" and occasional illustrations by the great Irish artist George Victor Du Noyer provide fascinating insights on the area, with the odd nugget of local history such as the location of old quarries, roads and curious geological features. As this essay is to do with the subject of maps, the interesting topic of who is the founder of Greystones must be battled out between the local historians, but maps do show, in dramatic form, the nub of the controversy. In 1838 there was no appreciable village of Greystones nor anything to suggest a full-fledged coastal town would rise on the barren shoreline, yet by 1888 the date of the next 6 Inch Ordnance Survey revision, modern Greystones had arrived.

Greystones on the Map

A founding father for the community (by default) could be William Brabazon, 11th Earl of Meath. He could not bear the thoughts of a railway crossing over his beloved vistas of Kilruddery and so would not give the Railway Company a way leave there. Instead he gave a free passage by the inaccessible foot of Bray Head (not much of a sacrifice on his part really, for the cliff was only available to goats). Out of this diversion the rail route passed by the "Grey Stones", and the rest as they say, is social history. Thanks to the foresight of Mr Dargan, "the Railway King", who recognised the location as a splendid residential one, and the provision of a small harbour pier by the Board of Works, County Wicklow's last fully-fledged town came into being.

The Ordnance Survey revision map of 1888 shows the small Victorian town in great detail. By that year Greystones was a fashionable "watering place", having given up the notion of being a completely residential upper class enclave as was its original purpose. It now had two fine hotels and numerous residential "villas". Infrastructures such as schools and churches had also been built to serve the many Dublin based professional and middle class families who made up the bulk of the towns permanent residents, and whose breadwinners were regular commuters to the city on the DW&WR steam railway. This is a historical curve that is now repeating itself in Greystones but on a much wider scale.

As the 20th century progressed, the line between maps and actual photographic images with map like characteristics became finely drawn. Modern technology has mapped Greystones in different aspects for a variety of reasons. Indeed, this diversity would make a separate subject in itself, which will no doubt receive attention from a future generation of geographers.

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A Brief Summary of the Life of Colonel Fred Burnaby

By Jim Brennan

FREDRICK GUSTAVUS BURNABY (1842-1885), traveller and soldier, was born at Bedford, Leicestershire on 3 March 1842, being the son of the Rev. Gustavus Andrew Burnaby of Somersby Hall, Leicestershire. He was educated at Bedford Grammar School and Harrow, and afterwards privately in Dresden, Germany.

At Harrow he was distinguished for aptitude in French, and in Germany he became fluent in French, German and Italian. He had indeed a gift for languages, acquiring in later life a very good knowledge of Spanish and Russian, and a traveller's acquaintance with Turkish and Arabic.

At the age of sixteen, being the youngest of 150 candidates, he passed his examination for the army, and was gazetted a cornet in the 3rd regiment of cavalry of the Household Brigade in 1859. He became successively lieutenant in 1861, captain in 1866, major in 1879, lieutenant colonel in 1880, and received the command of the regiment in 1881, which he retained till his death.



The younger Fred Burnaby

His strength and stature were enormous; he stood 6ft 4in in height, was 45 in. round the chest, and must have been, when young, one of the strongest men in Europe. Feats of his, such as using a dumbbell of one and a half cwt. and carrying a small pony under his arm, seem to be well authenticated. But in his passion for gymnastics he developed his muscular system at the expense of his general well being and was compelled to travel for the good of his health.

Half the year being practically at his disposal as leave, he was enabled to gratify his strong taste for adventure by extensive and daring travel. He visited Central and South America

early in his military life. In 1868 he went to southern Spain and Tangier, contributing letters to the Journal 'Vanity Fair'. In 1870, while cholera was raging, he went to Odessa, via St. Petersburg, in Russia, but was recalled by news of his father's illness. His father died on 15th July 1872. In 1874 he went as correspondent of the 'Times' to the Carlist camp, where he began a lasting friendship with Don Carlos, Pretender to the Spanish Throne, then engaged in civil war in Spain. His contributions to the 'Times' began 12 Aug. 1874, and continued on till October at frequent intervals.

At the end of the year he was despatched by the 'Times' to join Colonel Gordon in the Soudan [Sudan], with whom he penetrated far up the Nile towards the equator, and acquired experience which afterwards proved of use during the English operations of 1884.

Accidentally learning in Khartoum that the Russian Government had refused entrance to Europeans into Central Asia, he at once decided to resume his former design of going there; and after spending some time in preparation and methodical study of the subject, started on

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE LIFE OF COLONEL FRED BURNABY

30 Nov. 1875. He travelled as usual with little baggage (only 85 lbs.) and at great speed crossed the steppes unimpeded by the Russian officials. The winter was unusually severe, and he suffered much from intense cold and frostbite. He succeeded in reaching Khiva, which is situated east of the Aral Sea, but before he could press on further he received a summons from the commandant of the fort at Khiva, and on-going there was then handed a telegram from the commander-in-chief of the British Army, the Duke of Cambridge, recalling him to England. The Russian government would probably have stopped him at the frontier had he endeavoured to reach Khiva from the south.

Burnaby accordingly returned, and wrote his "Ride to Khiva" which at once became highly popular. In a year it reached its eleventh edition, which was published in 1877; it was translated into several foreign languages, and a new edition appeared in 1884. The 'ride' however, was not remarkable for its dangers or difficulties of exploration. The real feat was the ride in an exceptionally hard winter across the three hundred miles of steppe, from Kazala to Khiva.



Colonel Charles Gordon

Encouraged by his success he spent his winter leave in 1876 in a five months' tour of Asia Minor and Armenia, with the object of seeing the Turks, in their natural state, away from European influences. The Russian government watched his movements to Constantinople, and on their losing sight of him disseminated photographs of him along the frontier, and gave instructions that he should be turned back if found. On his return he published his "On Horseback through Asia Minor", which passed through seven editions. £2,500 was paid to him as a first instalment for his book. It is a more important book than the 'Ride to Khiva', with some useful military appendices and extreme anti-Russian sentiments.

Being anxious to see the Russo-Turkish war, he joined General Baker at Adrianople, Romania, November 1877, nominally as the agent of the Stafford House committee. (Red Cross of its day). Actually however, he was frequently under fire, and at the fight of Tashkesan on 31 Dec. he commanded the fifth Turkish brigade. His great desire, which he did not accomplish, was to have crossed the Balkans and to have slipped through the Russian lines.

On his return to England he took to politics in the same spirit of adventure as he had travelled, professing extreme conservative and Pro-Turkish views, and advocating industrial protection, purchase of commissions in the army, and military law for Ireland. He was invited on 5 June 1878 by the Birmingham Conservative Association to contest Birmingham, and after many stormy meetings and a controversy with Mr. Gladstone about the latter's use of phrases attributed to him by Burnaby, the election of 1880 resulted in his defeat, though he polled a large number of votes, 15,735 to be exact.

In 1879, a busy year of political campaigning, Burnaby, as well as carrying out normal regimental duties, also found time to get married. His bride was Elizabeth Hawkins-Whitshed, only child of the late Sir St. Vincent Bentinck Hawkins-Whitshed of Killincarrig, Greystones, County Wicklow, who was therefore what the papers would refer to as an heiress.

Her estate comprised the townland of Killincarrig containing 560 acres and a further 1310 acres in West Tallaght – Jobstown, Springfield, Brookfield, Whitestown, Whitefield and Fettercairn. After her marriage the Hawkins-Whitshed estate came to be known as the Burnaby Estate.



Elizabeth Hawkins-Whitshed

She was eighteen years old and a ward in Chancery, a determined young lady who, having read Burnaby's books, expressed a wish to meet the dashing author. A mutual friend introduced them at a dance, and by the end of the 1878 season, her first, they were engaged. Fred at the time was thirty-six. The wedding took place on 25 June 1879 at St. Peter's, Cranley Gardens, London. Her cousin Arthur Bentinck, later Duke of Portland, gave the bride away.

A Guard of Honour was formed by the troopers in the Blues, and later the guests repaired to Bailey's Hotel in Gloucester Road for a fork luncheon and an inspection of the presents, which were, in the words of a contemporary account, "considerable in number and of the costliest character. Among the most important was a magnificent silver service presented by the bride's Irish tenantry; from his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales a curious Benares smoking service; and from the

bride-groom's brother officers two large double-handled bowls of silver, exquisitely chased and embossed." Don Carlos Duke of Madrid sent a pearl-inlaid revolver.

It was a sad marriage. Mrs Fred was found to be suffering from lung trouble, of which there was a long history in her mother's family. That winter they travelled down to North Africa for the warm climate, the train was snowed up in France and by the time they reached their hotel at Algiers she was suffering with a bad attack. She was able to return home to Greystones in May, for the birth of her first and only child, Harry St Vincent Augustus. But the damp spring brought on a further relapse and the doctor ordered her to Switzerland, then the latest cure for consumption. She continued to live there for some years, and became a familiar figure among the English who were beginning to take up winter sports. Her unfortunate complaint did not prevent her from skating, skiing and scaling mountains with the best of them. She herself did much to popularise the Alps, being the author of a number of enthusiastic descriptive works – *The High Alps in Winter*, *My Home in the Alps*, *Hints on Snow Photography* – and a novel entitled *The Story of an Alpine Winter*.

Master Harry St Vincent Augustus was left in the care of his maternal grandmother, and Fred was left all alone in his bachelor chambers in Charles Street, London. He continued however, to interest himself in politics, and on 23 July 1884, at the annual conference of the National Union of Conservative Associations, was elected third on the list of the council.

He was now approaching the period of compulsory retirement from the army. He was suffering severely with heart and lung disease. In 1882 he was much disappointed that he did not receive the command of the detachment of the Blues which went to Egypt. However, on 10

THE
HIGH ALPS IN WINTER;
OR,
MOUNTAINEERING IN SEARCH OF
HEALTH.

BY
MRS. FRED BURNABY,
MEMBRE CLUB ALPIN FRANÇAIS, SECTION DU MONT-BLANC.

London:
SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, SEARLE, & RIVINGTON,
CROWN BUILDINGS, 18, FLEET STREET.
1883.

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A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE LIFE OF COLONEL FRED BURNABY

Jan. 1884, he started without leave for Egypt as a volunteer, joined General Baker at Suakim, and commanded a detachment at Trinkitat. He served also with the intelligence department under General Graham, and on 21 February was wounded at El Teb, where he engaged in so much activity, "clearing out a stone building with his double-barrelled shot-gun" as to provoke an indignant criticism in the House of Commons. For this service the Khedive of Egypt gave him the Soudan [Sudan] medal and clasp and the Khedivial star.

He was very anxious to join the Khartoum relief expedition to rescue General Gordon, having decided, in case no expedition had gone out, to penetrate to Khartoum himself; but, knowing that if his plan became known, he would be forbidden by headquarters to go, he indicated that he was going to Bechuanaland, and with great secrecy and despatch made his way to Korti on the Nile, which he reached on 9 Jan. 1885. He was sent up in charge of a convoy to Gadkul, and joined the intelligence department.

On the 17th, at Abu Klea, he was in command of the left rear of the square, performing a brigadier-general's duty, and while rallying he men he was killed by a spear-wound in the throat. It was said, but perhaps without foundation, that he was the cause of the great hazard in which at one time the square was placed, by incautiously and impetuously calling on the "heavies" to charge. It was also said that Sir Herbert Stewart named him as first in command in the event of his own death, but this has not been confirmed.



Burnaby in later life



Fred Burnaby memorial window

Besides his travels Burnaby published a lecture on "Practical Instruction of Staff Offices in Foreign Armies", delivered on 8 July 1872, and was keenly interested in the development of military ballooning. He had made nineteen balloon ascents, often alone, and was a member of the council of the Aeronautical Society. His first ascent was with M. Godard in a Montgolfier balloon of novel form, which burst in mid air, but acting as a parachute fortunately broke his ascent; and prompted by the failure of Wright, the aeronaut, he attempted, on 23 March 1882, to cross the Channel alone in the balloon Eclipse from Dover, and succeeded after considerable perils and an ascent to the height of 10,000

feet. He landed at the Chateau de Montigny, Envermeu, Normandy. He published an account of this under the title 'A Ride across the Channel'.

He was lord of the manor of Somerby, Leicestershire. A window to his memory has been placed in St. Mary's Church, Bedford, and an obelisk with a medallion portrait in St. Philip's churchyard, Birmingham.

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-

One Page Quiz

Just a little quiz, to get your juices flowing. Some local questions and some are not so local but we know you like them. For answers float your mouse over the questions. Good Luck!

1. Where is
 - (a) Jink's Hill
 - (b) Pigs Hollow
2. Who designed Greystones Railway Station and what was the builder's name?
3. Who paid for the library to be built and in what year?
4. Who or what was Pennycooks ?
5. Where was the bon bouche?
6. Where in Greystones would you find original cobblestones?
7. Of what benefit were Sarah Tancred and Richard Brown to Greystones?
8. St. Crispin is the patron saint of what?
9. Which Bavarian artist was responsible for the statute of St. Kilian at Blacklion Church?
10. Which three local golfers have gained Ryder Cup status?
11. The Earl of Meath lives in Kilruddery. What does Kilruddery mean?
12. What building in Greystones has a number of impressions of the Union Jack incorporated in its structure?
13. Where is the Motte stone?
14. A Greystones man was the first chief scout of the Catholic Boy Scouts of Ireland. Who was he?
15. Captain Halpin of Wicklow Town was famous for what?
16. What did Mr. H McIlhenny of Philadelphia give to the Irish nation in 1981?
17. Over the gate of which Irish town was written Turk, Jew, Heathen, atheist, all may enter here except a papist"?
18. Whose head was blown off at the battle of Aughirm?
19. In 1692 the groom was Hopton Scott who was the bride?
20. Name two Viking towns in County Wicklow?

Searching For Your Ancestors

By Pamela Bradley

Introduction

I have a young nephew, who says to me, "Why do you bother with all those DEAD people?"

I have yet to convince him that the people who walked down our streets, and farmed our fields before us, are of vital interest. We are all closely linked with the past - our personal building blocks are the genes of our ancestors.

Many of us are more closely related to each other than you may realise. Perhaps you share some of the genes of the girl sitting opposite to you in the DART or the boy at the supermarket checkout.

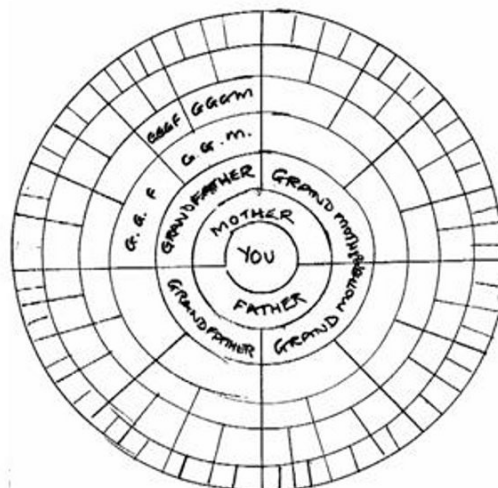
Once you start moving backwards in time among your ancestors the number of your past relations increases amazingly. You have two parents, four grandparents, eight great-grandparents, and so on. But have you considered that by the time you list your ancestors of the 1700s, there will be about 250 of them? I say "about", because of course some of them have probably intermarried, reducing the number.

In my own family research I have gone back along one line for thirteen generations, to Edmund Devenish, a Dubliner who lived 1530-1578. What a triumph to find him! - until I remind myself that he is one of 8192 possible ancestors at that level of time. You think that your ancestor came over with Strongbow, or that you are descended from Brian Boru? Yes, but don't forget that the potential number of ancestors so far back in time, runs to several million. Of course in reality repeated intermarriages mean that the number will have been considerably reduced, but is still large enough to indicate that you may well share ancestral genes with that crotchety old man next door.

There are various systems for recording your family pedigree – the pie chart, the horizontal chart and the family tree.

Pie Chart

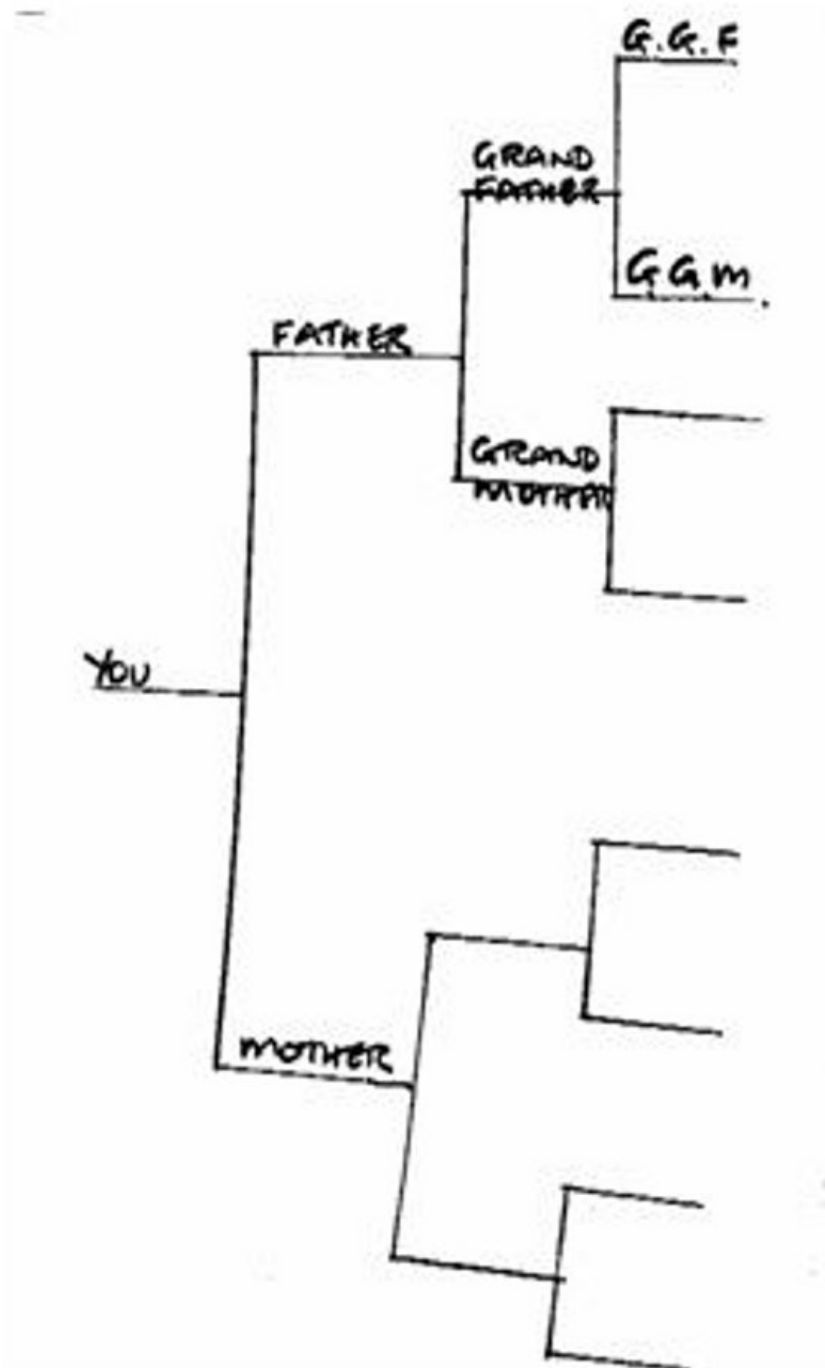
Here you put yourself in the centre, and divide the concentric circles for earlier generations, this is visually clear, but I think it has the disadvantage of omitting siblings.



Pie Chart

Horizontal Chart

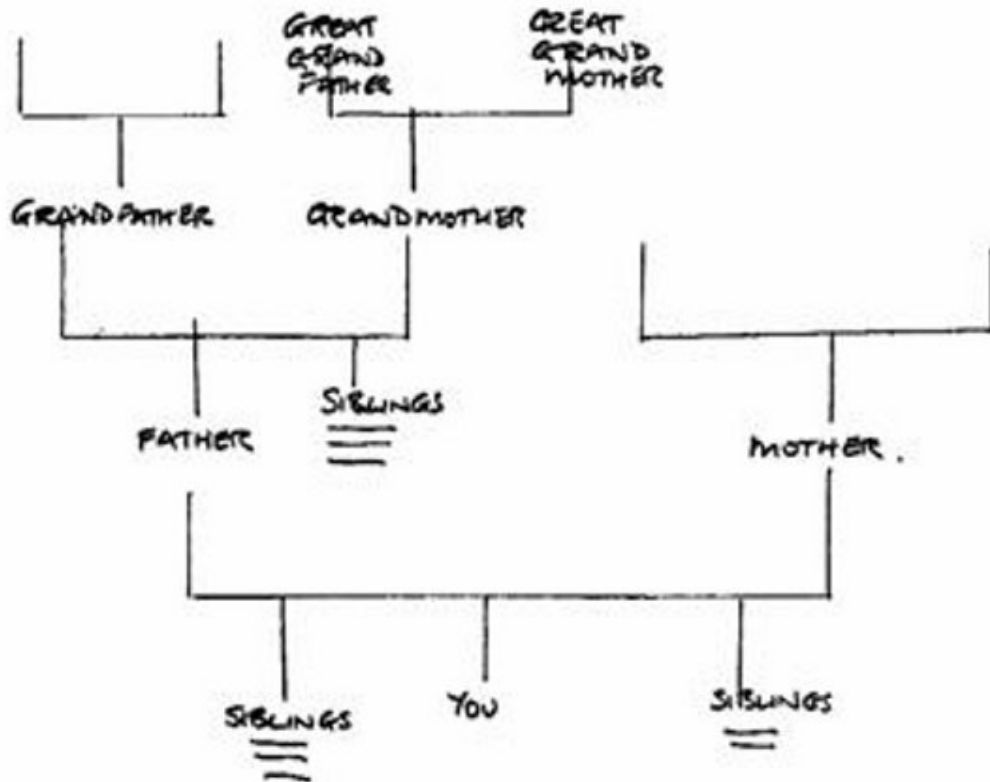
This is a system much favoured by Americans and Australians, and computer software is available to provide this framework. You put yourself on the left of the page and increasing numbers of forbears towards the right.



Horizontal Chart

Family Tree

I prefer the more old fashioned system of the family tree, with you at the bottom of the page, and generations of ancestors soaring into the upper distance. This form allows for brothers and sisters to be slotted in, and if a particular line runs off the top, a further page may be allotted to this branch. It is customary to place males on the left and females on the right of each marital conjunction on the page.



Family Tree

Where do you start the search for your Irish ancestors?

General Register Office

The General Register Office in Lombard Street is probably your first stop. Civil registration of births, marriages and deaths started in Ireland in 1864 (Protestant marriages from 1845). In the early days of registration there were omissions, perhaps as many as 10%. Upstairs in the Research Room you may consult the indexes for a modest fee. After the first few years, the volumes are divided into four quarters, so be sure that you have checked all sections. When you have identified an entry in the index, complete a form, pay your fee of IRE 1.50, and wait for a photocopy of the full certificate. This office is sometimes busy, space is limited, and it becomes very hot. Be prepared to strip off, and have patience: your turn will come.

From the certificates obtained in the General Register Office, much useful information can be gained. A birth certificate gives the mother's maiden name, and the address, among other details. A marriage certificate provides the names of groom and bride, as well as addresses and occupations. A death certificate gives age at death (not always accurate), as well as cause, and place.

SEARCHING FOR YOUR ANCESTORS

A large Marine Register gives the details of those who died at sea in Irish waters, and makes sad reading when boatloads were drowned. A common cause of death years ago was "falling from aloft".

Parish Records

Parish Records may well be your next source when you think you have found all available details in the G.P.O.

There is a plan afoot to index and computerise all church records for the whole of Ireland - the Irish Genealogical Project. Heritage Centres in each county, with the help of FAS students, are working their way through the records, and may be able to help if you know the relevant parish. The centre for Co. Wicklow is situated in the Court House in Wicklow town, and will be a valuable asset. Claire Crowther in Bray has indexed all the Bray records, and for a small fee, she will look up entries for you.

In the mean time, you can look up Catholic parish records on microfilm in the National Library, once you have armed yourself with a Reader's Ticket, available during office hours. Some dioceses are 'Closed'; i.e. you must first obtain written permission from the parish priest or the bishop, before you can consult the microfilm. These baptismal and marriage records provide the minimum of information, and can be very hard to decipher - but persist, and you will grow accustomed to the vagaries of each different set of records. The Church of Ireland records are in various different centres. The National Archives have some of them on microfilm. Some parish records are with the Representative Church Body in the library in Braemor Park. Unfortunately some Church of Ireland registers have been lost forever, blown up in 1922 by the explosion in the Four Courts, where they had been lodged for safe keeping.

Christ Church, Delgany, is fortunate in having registers that are among the earliest in the whole country, from 1666, and of course these early records cover Greystones parish that was carved out of the Delgany parish in the middle of the last century.

Memorials of the Dead

We are also fortunate in Co. Wicklow in having Brian Cantwell's remarkable Memorials of the Dead, a comprehensive index of the inscriptions on graves and church plaques. This series of volumes is available in Greystones library, together with Brian Cantwell's volumes covering Co. Wexford. Other counties also have some indexed grave memorials, and local Heritage Centres would advise on the availability of these.

Census

You may find the Census of 1901 and 1911 very useful. These records are housed in the National Archives, on the site of the old Jacob's factory. You will also need a Reader's ticket for the National Archives, available from the staff at the counter.

There were earlier censuses taken in Ireland for the years, 1813, 1821, 1831, 1841 and 1851, but tragically these records were lost in the Four Courts fire. The repository of the National Archives was considered one of the best in Europe at the time of its destruction.

Six floors of stacks ran round an open centre. During the Troubles this building was used as a munitions factory for three months, until one day a shell from across the Liffey ignited the whole store of munitions, and a myriad charred pieces of paper showered over the streets of Dublin. A request was made to return any documents that might be found, but practically nothing came back. At the time there was a strong sense of 'good riddance to Imperial rubbish', but the great loss to the people of Ireland is now understood. The census records gave details of every adult, every child, over a period of nearly forty years. A wonderful storehouse it was, with all the names of your ancestors then living.

There were later censuses in 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891, but these were destroyed by order of the government of the day, as it was felt that the material they contained was of too personal a nature to be kept. So, you must make do with the two censuses taken at the beginning of this century, to obtain a full picture of each family of the time, with names, ages and other details. Remember that someone shown as 76 years of age in the 1901 census was born about 1825, long before the famine. In past centuries people were not as concerned with dates and ages as we now are, and you will find that the dates given for a particular event, such as a birth- date, often do not tally from one source to another.

Griffith's Primary Valuation

During the 1850s and 1860s Griffith's Primary Valuation was taken across Ireland. This was a survey for Poor Law tax purposes, based on property, and it lists all lessors and lessees of holdings, together with brief details of the property.

Tithe Applotment

During the 1820s and 1830s the unpopular Tithe Applotment survey was taken, listing those liable to tithes, mostly in country areas and not as comprehensive as Griffith's.

Index of Surnames

The Index of Surnames covers these two surveys, an invaluable series of volumes based on counties. You can consult the full range of the Index of Surnames in either the National Archives or the National Library. Having identified the probable parish of residence of your ancestors from this index, you can then look at the printed Griffith's Valuation Books and the original Tithe Applotment Books in the National Archives. These records help to confirm names and places.

Estate Papers

Checking the landlord from Griffith's Valuation may lead you to Estate Papers, mainly in the National Library. The Fitzwilliam estate papers which cover large tracts of land in Co. Wicklow, round Coolattin and Shillelagh, give various details of tenants and their families.

Wills

Wills are so very useful in filling in family gaps, and yet they can be so very difficult to find. Many were stored in the Four Courts in 1922, and most of these went up in smoke. One box of wills which I examined in the National Archives were chocolate-brown, dry as toast, apparently unopened since the blaze.

Testamentary Card Index

In the National Archives is a Testamentary Card index, which catalogues all the wills that do exist there. Wills of the past were more individual than now, and an old will can give an insight into the character of the person making it. One that I checked started:

"I, John Trousdell being in sound mind blessed be God and about to have an operation on my leg"...

This John Trousdell made various allocations, ending with a bequest:

"to pay my poor wife.. (who will endeavour to maintain her offspring)... At her death [the bequest] to be divided share and share alike amongst the unfortunate children of our union."

John Trousdell lived for many years after his leg operation. A descendant commented that John T. sounded a bit of an old misery when he referred to his 'unfortunate' offspring, and that it was really Mrs. T. who was unfortunate, for she had 19.

Registry of Deeds

Up to 1858 wills came under the jurisdiction of the various dioceses, and were therefore indexed in separate volumes in the National Archives. Wills and references to wills are found in diverse locations. Some are to be found in the Registry of Deeds, and these have been summarised in three volumes of printed abstracts. The Registry of Deeds in Henrietta Street is another storehouse of intriguing documents. The old Kings' Inns, it houses deeds from 1708.

Put on your oldest garb, and go there when you are feeling strong, for the memorials are stored in large, leather and linen bound volumes, some nearly ceiling height, and you must climb the spindly ladder to haul them down for yourself.

Most of the memorials concern land transactions, although there are some marriage settlements and wills. There is a surnames index, and a land index by county and townland, both in equally large and heavy volumes. Of course these records are only of use when researching a family of some substance. It was a matter of whim whether or not a family registered documents. Some families registered innumerable transactions, others did not bother to do so.

Some of the memorials in the Registry of Deeds are very complicated, and not always easy to decipher, but you never know what enlightening details you may find about your forbears. One search I undertook on a Queen's Co. (Leix) family, showed that there existed disaffection between husband and wife, a problem which was apparently dealt with satisfactorily in the following way:-

During the eighteenth and earlier part of the nineteenth centuries divorce or dissolution of a marriage were beyond the means of most people. Even for Protestants, adultery did not constitute grounds for divorce at that time. When an extra-marital liaison was well enough established to have an air of permanency, the three persons involved - husband, wife and lover - might resort to an ingenious custom, which was used fairly widely in Britain and occasionally in Ireland. The husband sold his wife publicly to the lover, hoping to avoid further legal responsibility for her, or for her children by the second man.

The lover publicly took on the wife, and presumably she was pleased with the new arrangement.

A deed of 1731 which I found in the Registry of Deeds referred to just such an arrangement, and in this case the husband and the lover registered the transaction, hoping thus to give it the semblance of legality. The two parties were named as Anthony Deverell of Derrycloney, Queen's county, farmer, and Thomas Dugdill of Drinagh, Queen's county. The deed refers to differences between Anthony Deverell and his wife Sarah. In resolution of the problem, Thomas Dugdill gave Anthony Deverell five shillings. Anthony gave Thomas, specifically for Sarah's use:

"2 cows with sucking calves; 5 heifers; 1 chest of drawers; 1 feather bed; 1 iron pot; 3 pewter dishes and plates; 3 oak and 3 white chairs; 1 press with other small goods; 1 house, and ½ the cow house with yard. We can only hope that Sarah was happy."

There are many other sources which might yield information - old directories, old newspapers, journals, letters, family bibles, and thousands of documents in the various repositories - once started there is no end to your search, for you may be sure there is something more to be found.

The National Library in Kildare Street runs a free Family Research Advisory Service where you can consult a genealogist and study CD-ROMS, books and microfiche records. You may find a visit to this service very helpful in planning your search.

To find your ancestors, you need to combine curiosity about people with the attributes of a fine detective. I wish you good hunting!

An April trip to Cork

By Edith Cairns

We set off for Cork on Monday, April 17th. The weather was both wet and chilly but by the time we reached our first comfort stop in Enniscorthy the sun was beginning to shine. We had a nice coffee break and then off to Youghal, where we were met by the Town Clerk, Ned Brennan, who had kindly arranged a light lunch at the Walter Raleigh hotel. After which we had a most interesting tour of the old walled town, guided by Sheila Loughnan. Who was a very knowledgeable person and made every effort to satisfy our thirst for the data of the town on our 'Historical Trail', taking in the Water Gate, the Clock Gate and the Benedictine Priory on North Main Street.

Near the Clock Gate is Tynte's Castle, a much-altered fifteenth century tower-house. Across the road from Tynte's Castle we were able to obtain a view of the outside of Myrtle Grove, for



Whiskey testing

some years the home of Sir Walter Raleigh. Lastly we visited St. Mary's Collegiate Church, one of the most interesting ancient parish churches in the country still in use. It was completed in the 15th century, incorporating portions of an 11th century predecessor. It contains many interesting tombs.

Back on the coach again we travelled on to Midleton to visit the Distillery, where three of our members got their 'whiskey tasting' certificates. The Distillery was opened in 1825; the buildings were previously used as a woollen factory. After this visit we set off for Cork City and our stay at the Imperial Hotel where after a quick change we were welcomed by our Chairman and had an aperitif and a very welcome dinner.

Up bright and early on our second morning, having had a hearty breakfast, we set off for Cobh Heritage Centre, a feature that should not be missed out by anybody visiting the area. It is excellently put together with very graphic scenes from the famine years, showing the awful conditions suffered by those travelling to Australia and America. After lunch we visited the Cathedral of St Colman, a very beautiful work of architecture. French Gothic, it took 47 years to build. After this visit it was back to the hotel for dinner and later a little singsong in the lounge.

AN APRIL TRIP TO CORK

Day three and we were off to Kinsale; our first stop was at Charles Fort, a 17th century fortification situated on the approach to Kinsale Harbour. Unfortunately, it was a seriously wet day and those who ventured for a tour of the Fort got very wet and cold but nonetheless were quite happy. In Kinsale we were met at 'The Spaniards Inn' by our guide, Dermot Ryan, who after lunch showed slides and gave us a talk on the history of the area. From here we set off on the route taken by Michael Collins to Beal Na Blath where our Chairman, Jim Brennan, gave us a most touching and descriptive talk on the Ambush, which took place there when Michael Collins was assassinated. Then it was back to our hotel for dinner, after which we entertained each other with song and verse.



Jameson's Water Wheel

Day four arrived only too soon, and we were on the coach for our final trip homeward. Our first stop was at Barry's Castle, which is being magnificently restored and we feel sure it will be well worth making a visit when it is finished. We travelled on to Birr for a nice lunch, after which we went to Birr Castle and were given a demonstration of the workings of what was for over 70 years the world's largest telescope, constructed at Birr Castle by the third Earl of Rosse in the 1840's. The telescope looks and moves as it did 150 years ago. After this we toured the gardens for an hour or so, then, having enjoyed afternoon tea, we set off for our return to Greystones, tired but very happy



Group in Kinsale

Places of Worship in Greystones

A Heritage-Day Itinerary

Commentary by Séamas Ó Saothraí

Sunday 11 September 1994: revised July 2000

St Patrick's Church of Ireland

St Patrick's Church of Ireland was the first place of worship in Greystones, though there had been from early times a chapel in Rathdown, about half-a-mile away. The original part of the edifice we are looking at was erected in 1857 on a site presented by the La Touche family of Bellevue, Delgany, who also bore a large share of the construction cost. But the building, for want of an endowment to support a rector, remained unconsecrated until 1864. It was with the extension of the railway line to Greystones in 1856 (one-source gives 1855) that the population of the area began to increase. St Patrick's church had to be extended in 1875, in 1888 and again in 1898. In the Church of Ireland division Greystones was now a separate parish, independent of Delgany, of which it had been a part. I don't feel competent to describe the building - or any building, for that matter - architecturally; but it is plain to ah who look at it that its fabric is in remarkably good condition, considering that the earliest part of it dates from 1857.



St. Patrick's Church, Church Road

A building such as this becomes a church only when worshippers frequent it - by the people of God. So a church is really about people, isn't it? And this church has a large congregation, as has the neighbouring Christ Church in Delgany. One family who worshipped God here just over a hundred years ago and whose descend- ants are still here was that of the Doyles. Try to picture the heart-rending scene when the bodies of John, William and Herbert Doyle, all three of them belonging to the one family, were received here by the then rector, whose sad duty it was to preside at their obsequies. They were drowned in the harbour during a storm on Friday night, 14 October 1892, while on an errand of mercy. An anonymous broadside ballad of the time described them as 'The Heroes of Greystones'.

A former rector of Greystones, the Revd Dr Edward Francis Butler Moore, who was later archdeacon, was raised to the episcopate and consecrated bishop of Kilmore. He and his wife, formerly Miss Olive Scott of the Bray clerical family, retired to Kilcoole, but still worshipped

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here. Mrs Moore, who died on 17 January 1997, was the last surviving daughter of Canon George Digby Scott (1865-1950), rector of Bray. His history of this entire district, *The stones of Bray and the stories they can tell of ancient times in the barony of Rathdown* (1913; reprinted 1983) has never been superseded. Mrs Moore's mother, Charlotte Jessy Scott (1862-1951), was a daughter of Sir William Barrington, Bart. Her grandfather, Chancellor James George Scott, who died in 1912, was 'the last vicar of Bray'. Her maternal great-grandfather was the Revd William Cleaver, rector of *Delgany*, whose father Euseby (himself the son of a clerical schoolmaster and younger brother of an English bishop) was archbishop of Dublin. William's son, Euseby Digby Cleaver, was born in Delgany, graduated at Oxford and took orders in the Church of England. He was a Gaelic enthusiast and a generous benefactor of the language movement, and he was first vice-president of the Gaelic League in 1893. Bishop Moore did not long survive his wife. Their elder son James is now bishop of Conner and their younger daughter Audrey is a Greystones resident.

A Greystones rector of earlier date, the Revd Edward Stephen Daunt, who died in 1928, laboured here for forty-six years. Described as 'a man of great brotherliness and evangelical spirit', he gave the infant Presbyterian congregation the use of what is now the old but was then the new schoolhouse in 1885, while their meeting-house was at no more than planning stage. Just over a century later the present rector, the Revd Edgar John Swann, afterwards canon and now archdeacon of Glendalough, and his select vestry, gave the Presbyterians the use of their church for over an hour each Lord's Day for several weeks, while their own place of worship was being refurbished, about the time of their centenary (1987). These acts of Christian kindness are not readily forgotten.

The rectory, a substantial family residence, is in the church grounds. I don't know the date of its erection. There is a memorial plaque on the inside south wall of this church to those Greystonians who served in the two world wars - 1914-18 and 1939-45. To commemorate the centenary of the consecration of the church a booklet by Samuel Alien French, solicitor, whose residence was Orahova on Church Road and who died on 29 April 1978, was printed locally, with a foreword by the then rector, the Revd Leslie Aiden Elliott, afterwards canon. Entitled *Greystones 1864-1964*, it is long out of print. This booklet contains much local as well as parish history; but we still await a comprehensive chronicle of the parish, as well as a general history of the town and its environs. Samuel French's interesting booklet may be consulted in Greystones library, where facsimile copies are available for inspection.

Hillside Evangelical Church

Hillside Evangelical Church is a modern place of worship joined onto an edifice dating from the early years of the last century. Let us deal with the older and more historic building first, prefixing a few facts about the origin and history of the Brethren. The Christian Brethren were originally known as Plymouth Brethren or Darbyites, after John Nelson Darby (1800-1882), a Dublin University graduate and a barrister who took orders in the then Established Church and who served as curate of Calary, Co. Wicklow, until doubts about the scriptural nature of church establishments caused him to demit his charge.

Darby (who, I've heard, was given his second name Nelson in honour of the Great Horatio) became acquainted with Anthony Norris Groves (1795- 1853), a dentist who had also studied general surgery and who was attending Trinity College, Dublin, with a view to entering the ministry. Groves is said to have been then in the act of founding a worshipping society called 'The Brethren', whose *tenets* were based on the rejection of all ecclesiastical forms and denominational distinctions. He openly stated his views respecting Christians meeting together in brotherhood with no other doctrinal belief than faith in Christ.



Hillside Evangelical Church

Darby joined with *Groves* and others in the movement and in 1828 issued his first pamphlet, *The nature and unity of the church of Christ*. The publication made quite an impact, swelled the ranks of the Brethren and eventuated in the opening at Aungier Street, Dublin, in 1830 of a public 'assembly'. To promulgate the Brethren's views Darby visited Paris, Cambridge and Oxford, proceeding thence to Plymouth (where the Brethren's first meeting place was Providence Chapel): from this circumstance seems to have derived the name 'Plymouth Brethren'. The Brethren gained numerous converts, many of them of high social position; but divisions and controversy led to a separation of the 'Open' from the 'Exclusive' Brethren. The movement continues strong in several countries, including Ireland. The Christian Brethren stand for a simple, world-renouncing piety, regard the Bible as infallible, look for the speedy second coming of Christ, reject a professional ordained ministry and 'break bread' together weekly, in *memory* of the death of Christ. Each local 'meeting' is regarded as autonomous under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Brethren were established in Greystones in 1905. Very much to the fore *in* that work was Charles Louis Matheson, KC, of 20 Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin, and Nirvana, Greystones. His name is perpetuated in that of the Dublin legal firm Matheson Ormsby Prentice. Matheson became *recorder* of Belfast and, dying there on 20 May 1921, was buried in Redford cemetery, Ennis's Lane. He was a near-relation of Cherrie Matheson*, one-time sweetheart of John Millington Synge (1871-1909), the playwright, poet and prose writer. The young people met in Greystones, where Synge spent much of his childhood and adolescence. They parted because of Synge's youthful agnosticism, Cherrie afterwards becoming Mrs Kenneth Houghton.

Other leading Greystones members of the Brethren in the first decade of last century were William Digby Evans, who owned all the farmland on the present Hillside housing estate and whose son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren still worship here; Alexander Buckley, father of A Ross Buckley, retired veterinary surgeon, and of Mrs Joan Orr; the brothers Rochfort and Edwin Doyle; Samuel Kane, whose daughter Mrs Phoebe Pollock still lives in Greystones; another Evans and two men named Watson. A small group at the outset, they built Ebenezer Hall by their own labours in 1907. It served as the Brethren's place of worship until December

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1984, when the new Hillside Evangelical Church was opened. The old building, which is in good condition, is still used: there is, of course, access to it from the new church. Indeed I recall that at the funeral of Eric Barrington, an elder of this church who was highly thought of by all classes here in Greystones and further afield, the old edifice was used to accommodate the large overflow attendance. Later that afternoon it served as a tea-room, where those people who had travelled a distance to the funeral were fed and refreshed.

The Church of the Holy Rosary

The Church of the Holy Rosary on La Touche Road is the Roman Catholic parish church. Consecrated in 1908 (Samuel French says 1909), it was built to replace a temporary galvanised iron structure, which was destroyed during a storm on 26 February 1903. Some accounts say that the temporary building was on the seafront. An unpublished paper on the history of Greystones by the late Noel William Kennedy, MA (1913-1987), a classics master and British army wartime major who was reared in Killincarrig, says that the present edifice was built on the site of the building that was blown down. The late Very Revd Patrick L O'Sullivan, PP, states quite plainly in his 1966 parish booklet that 'the site of the present church in Greystones was obtained in 1894 and a temporary chapel, dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, was built there'.



Holy Rosary Church

The loss of their temporary place of worship was the second blow suffered by the small Catholic population of Greystones at the beginning of the last century. Their priest, the Revd Arthur Moore, had died exactly five months before the storm. A former Wicklow county librarian, the late Brigid Redmond, MA, HDipEd, records that the temporary structure was erected in 1895 and that the first priest came to Greystones at that time. Would we be right in assuming that that priest was the Rev Arthur Moore, I wonder? There is a wall-plaque to his memory (it's the only such plaque in the church) on the right-hand side as you proceed up the main aisle. The inscription is as follows: 'A.M.D.G./In memory of the/ Rev. Arthur Moore C.C./Greystones/who died 27th September 1902. /His many friends have raised/a fund which in his name/they have devoted to the erection/of the apse of this church./ May he rest in peace'. We will return to the matter of the first resident priest when we get to St Kilian's church.

The editor of *Holy Redeemer Church 1792-1992: a Bray parish*, Brendan ÓCathaoir will allow me to quote from the 'List of Parish Priests' on p.74 of his excellent book:

Bray and Greystones:

1859	John Joseph Miley
1861	Walter Lee
1894	Nicholas Donnelly
1904	Timothy O'Gorman

So it appears that the parish priest of Bray had charge of Greystones too until the first decade of the twentieth century. I think Father Michael Flood may have been the first resident parish priest here. Father Flood was a friend of the first Presbyterian minister of Greystones and Kilpedder, the Revd Samuel Lundie, a native of Co. Cavan who laboured here from 1890 till 1911, when he emigrated to Canada. These two pastors used to meet socially and play the occasional game of golf together, we're told.

Before my wife and family and I moved to this area in 1964, I happened to mention to a Dublin friend, the late John M Chichester, that, our old house in Bray having been sold and the purchase of a new house in the town having fallen through, we were going to settle in Greystones. 'You'll be meeting Father John Fennelly', said he: 'he's one of the country's leading authorities on Plain Chant'. And so he was. He was a poet too and he became Canon Fennelly in his late years. A plain-spoken man and country-bred, he called to our house when we were only a short time here and my wife asked him if she might offer him some refreshment. 'No, thank you', he replied: *'I naither ait, drink nor smoke in me parishioners' houses'*. She knew where she stood with him then!

Canon Fennelly was a great man for publications and for the printed word. He brought out two, if not three, parish booklets during his pastorate here. I have two of them: one priced at six [old] pence and the other at a shilling. There is a third one dating from the same era in the County Library's special collection, but I cannot say for certain that it was issued in Father Fennelly's time. Brigid Redmond (mentioned above) contributed a local history article to the 1962 sixpenny booklet. She called it 'The Heritage that is Ours'. Miss Redmond records no firm date for the consecration and dedication of this church. Here is what she says: *'...Before (sic) 1908 the temporary church was replaced by the present Church of the Holy Rosary and the modern parish of Greystones and Blacklion was formed'*. A diligent local historian, Eva Ó Cathaoir, records in the bicentenary book on the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Bray, that Greystones became a separate parish (from Bray) in 1903.

An outstanding feature of this church is its two stained-glass windows by Evie Hone (1894-1955). These windows were completed in 1948 and their subjects are 'The Good Shepherd' and 'Our Lady of the Rosary', the latter relating to the naval battle of Lepanto fought on 7 October 1571, with a papal contingent taking part. Are any of you old enough to remember Chesterton's poem 'Lepanto' in the schoolbooks sixty years ago, with its catchy opening line 'Dim drums throbbing in the hills half-heard'?

This edifice originally had a spire, but a local builder, William R Lendrum - in what year is not recorded, removed it. (See the two pictures on p. 22 of the first volume of Derek T Paine's four-volume Pictorial history of Greystones 1993). In the grounds of the church is the fine parochial house, which according to Father O'Sullivan's 1966-parish booklet dates from 1886. Also in the grounds, on the south side of the church, are the imposing new buildings completed only last year (1999). These are the commodious Kilian House Family Centre and the detached residence of one of the curates. The exterior of the church has recently been cleaned and painted and, as I write, the floor and interior are being attended to. All the work is going ahead under the pastorate of the Rt Revd Monsignor Patrick Wallace, PP, and his assistant priests, Fathers John McDonagh and Denis Quinn, while the church grounds continue to be creditably maintained. This Church of the Holy Rosary boasts a splendid choir, which is under the direction of Mr Brendan Kelly.

The Presbyterian Meeting-House

As we stand at the entrance gates on Trafalgar Road, we can see the year '1887' carved low down on the east wall of the building. But, in fact, Presbyterianism took its rise in Kilpedder, just four miles from here, about thirty-five years before Greystones congregation came into being - in 1851, to be precise. The founders of Kilpedder mission station were John Clark and

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his wife Helen. John was one of the Clarks of Paisley thread fame and collateral ancestor of Kenneth, Baron Clark (1903-1983), the celebrated critic and patron of the arts. The story of Kilpedder, fascinating though it is, must not detain us here. My assignment is to deal with Greystones places of worship; so I'll be brief and state the fact: Greystones congregation grew out of Kilpedder and in course of time the two became one charge.



Presbyterian Meeting House

How did the necessity for a Presbyterian place of worship arise in Greystones? In the same way as the need for St Patrick's Church of Ireland arose at a somewhat earlier date, except of course that the Scots who settled here - Scottish land stewards were a common phenomenon then - wanted to worship in the Presbyterian form to which they had been accustomed. We have evidence that at the very beginning of the 1880s the Dublin Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland had begun to interest itself in the growing watering-place of Greystones as a likely centre in which to plant a congregation, or at least, as a beginning, a mission station. So Greystones in fact began as a mission station, but it did not long remain so.

A committee of Presbytery having reported favourably in 1884 on the matter of forming Kilpedder and Greystones into one charge, a deputation went to see William Robert La Touche, DL, of Bellevue, Delgany, and he gladly gave a free site for the erection of a meeting-house in Greystones. He also compensated the occupier of the site, John Evens or 'Jack the Post', who was destined to become first sexton here and whose portrait, painted by E J Rogers for the Royal Hibernian Academy, is reproduced in the 1993 volume of Derek T Paine's Pictorial history of Greystones. The late Helen Reid, whose husband Charles Henry Reid sang in the choir of St Patrick's Church almost until the day he died (he was chairman of the Greystones Literary Society and first president of the Probus Club of Greystones), was related to John Evans. John died in 1936.

Another Evans built the meeting-house. Thomas Evans and his men began work on 3 March and had the building erected by 1 July 1887. The architects were Young and Mackenzie of Belfast and the foundation stone was laid by Mr La Touche. The formal opening took place and divine service was held here for the first time on 3 July 1887. The Moderator of the General Assembly, the Rt Revd Dr Robert Ross of Derry, led the service, at which were present the

rector of the parish, the Revd Mr Daunt, already mentioned, and the Revd James Craig Bass representing the Methodist Church: the congregation has since its foundation been joint Presbyterian/Methodist.

The original building, of which there exists a drawing, was a small rectangular one, without transepts and with seating for only about a hundred hearers. (Hearers is the old Presbyterian term for worshippers, presumably because in this Church the sermon - the preaching and elucidation of the Word of God - is the focal point of the service). As the end of the century approached, the congregation having grown under the Revd Samuel Lundie's leadership, it was found necessary to enlarge the meeting-house. Transepts were added in 1899, as were a church hall and vestry, or minister's room, so that the building became much as it is today, with seating for two hundred and fifty, if the tip-up seats along the walls are used. There is a kitchen at the north end of the hall and a toilet at the south end of it. And there is a recently acquired prefab in the back garden which takes the overflow of the Sunday Club children - a temporary measure pending the erection when funding permits of a much-enlarged hall and suite of rooms.

Among the ministers who served the Presbyterian congregation here we may mention: (1) The Revd Arthur William Neill (1915-1919), who in 1948 was elected moderator of the General Assembly and became DD, but died aged only sixty while he was still occupying the moderatorial chair; (2) Mr Neill's successor, the Revd William Speers Kirkpatrick (1919-1927), a brilliant student at Campbell and Queen's Colleges, Belfast, and afterwards in Glasgow and Assembly's College, Belfast, who founded the Literary Society here (still going strong!) and who was aged only forty when he died; and (3) Mr Kirkpatrick's successor, the Revd Robert Knox Lyle (1927- 1952), who is still remembered with affection by older members as 'the scholar-saint' and who, as well as setting down much of its history, ministered to the congregation with distinction for a quarter of a century.

Photographic likenesses of all ten former ministers, of whom three are still living, have been preserved and are reproduced in the congregational history, published by the Kirk Session and Committee for the centenary in 1987 under the guidance of the then minister, the Revd Alistair R Bill, who, still a young man, now holds the important and polulous charge of Saintfield Road, Belfast. The present minister, the Revd James Carson, has served the growing congregations of Greystones and Arklow with much acceptance since 1989.

St Kilian's Church

Samuel French says in his local history booklet that 'formerly St Kilian's Roman Catholic Church at Blacklion served Greystones...'. This, the earliest place of Catholic worship in the Greystones area in modern times, is in the townland of Kindlestown Lower. One Thomas Phelan bequeathed the site in 1857. He was, almost certainly, the Thomas Phelan who according to the Valuation of Sir Richard John Griffith, Bart (1784-1878), held land and a plantation in the townlands of Kilmurry North and Kilmacanogue South in 1852. It is recorded in Father O'Sullivan's 1966 booklet that a two-room schoolhouse was built on the half-acre site. I wonder what ever became of that little building?

The lease on the site was for five hundred years, subject to an annual payment of one shilling. It was Thomas Phelan's wish that a chapel be built upon the site before 14 August 1867 - within ten years of his demise, presumably. The parish priest of Kilmacanogue and Bray, Father Alexander Roche, under whose pastoral care this district was at the time, felt that the area was sufficiently well served by the recently established Carmelite convent [chapel] in Delgany: there was besides the difficulty of collecting money to build a chapel. However, Dean Walter Lee, who in 1865 was (according to the bicentenary history of the Church of the Holy Redeemer in Bray) parish priest of Bray and Greystones, was asked by Archbishop (afterwards

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Cardinal) Paul Cullen to build a chapel, in order to fulfil the testamentary wishes of Thomas Phelan and secure the use of the site.



St. Kilian's Church

By 20 September of that year (1865) three hundred pounds had been subscribed, including a one-hundred-golden gold coin from the Empress of Austria - a gesture, it is thought, in memory of the seventh-century missionary St Kilian, to whom the proposed place of worship was to be dedicated. Included too was a ten-pound donation from the owners of twelve Greystones fishing boats, and what was then the munificent sum of one hundred and fifty pounds from a single subscriber, P McMullan.

Work commenced in 1866, the foundation stone having been laid by Father Lee, the parish priest (variously titled dean, canon, monsignor and doctor) on 10 October. The deadline for completion was met and the chapel, which consisted of the nave portion only of the present edifice, was opened for public worship on 14 August 1867, Mass having been first celebrated in it by Canon Lee on the fifth of that month. At Canon Lee's sole expense was erected over the high altar a statue (or stone effigy) of St Kilian by an eminent Bavarian artist, Arnold Fussengang.

In the two decades that followed the opening of the chapel the population of the area continued to increase, so that it was found necessary to enlarge the building. In August 1886 Archbishop William Joseph Walsh presided at a meeting in Greystones at which it was decided to enlarge St Kilian's chapel: the archbishop laid the first stone of the new extension. The sum of one thousand pounds was spent on the building, which was soon to have transepts east and west, and a choir (in the architectural sense). The altar was moved to the new small chancel. On 1 August 1887 the extended building, now officially designated St Kilian's Church, was blessed by Archbishop Walsh in the presence of the apostolic nuncio, Monsignor Persico.

We're told that two years later (that is to say, in 1889) Father Edmund Looby, assistant priest in Bray, was sent to reside in Greystones and give the people two Masses on Sundays in St Kilian's. The Very Revd Bernard Brady, PP issued a booklet commemorating the enlargement of St Kilian's, during celebrations held in November 1986. From Father Brady's booklet has

been drawn some of the information for this talk. It is to be hoped that when the full history of the parish based on primary sources comes to be written, many of the conflicting statements met with in the several publications which I have consulted will be thoroughly investigated and evaluated, and the record set straight. A complete succession list of clergy, with their dates, would of course be essential, so that we would know at least whether it was Father Looby or Father Moore who was the first curate to come here as resident priest.

You may wonder why the statue of St Kilian is now on the outside north wall of the church and not above the altar as it originally was. The statue was moved in Canon Fennelly's time and a new inscription slab affixed underneath. The piece of ground to the east of the church was cleared recently and a curate's house built on it. So for the first time in the history of the parish, as far as we can ascertain at any rate, there is a resident priest here at St Kilian's.

Church of the Nazarene

The Church of the Nazarene is, I believe, the newest worshipping society in Greystones, having begun in 1987 over a shop on Church Road, the town's main thoroughfare. After eighteen months this venue proved too small for the number of worshippers and they moved to the Young Women's Christian Association conference hall in the grounds of Coolnagreina on Trafalgar Road. But, once again because of increasing numbers, another move was made about two years ago to Newcourt School in Bray, pending the completion of a new place of worship on a site close to the Tennis Club on Mill Road, Greystones, where building work is proceeding apace.

The Church of the Nazarene is an international church, which began in Britain, Canada and the United States. Eleven denominations all sharing the Wesleyan heritage came together in a series of unions between 1896 and 1958. One of those unions in 1908 is taken as the official beginning of the Church. Nazarenes are most like early Methodists. They tend to be simply Bible believing Christians. Their doctrines come within the framework of classical Christian evangelicalism and are in essential harmony with the Christian faith of all ages. They believe that the provision of redemption through Christ ensures salvation 'for all men from all sin'. The Church stresses the importance of a holy life and of a positive Christian witness before the world.

Fifty years after the Church's official beginning (that is to say, in 1958), a worshipping society was established in Dublin. It survived till the late 1970s when, the lease of its place of worship having fallen in, it moved to house-church here in Greystones. This was suspended at the decease some fifteen years ago of Mr James Hogan. The Revd Henry A Stevenson, who had been a missionary of the Church in Bolivia and Spain, on coming home on furlough from the latter country, was asked to re-establish the Church in the Republic of Ireland. He did so in 1987 and served as pastor here till his removal to Israel some little time ago. No successor to Mr Stevenson has yet been chosen.

The Church of the Nazarene caters for many young families in the Greystones area with a varied programme for children and young people of all age groups (below adult). Young people outside the immediate Church fellowship are also ministered to with a variety of clubs. In this Church special emphasis is placed on building forms of worship with the entire family in mind.

Concluding Note

In the early 1970s the Cooneyites, or Dippers, as they are often called because of their belief in adult baptism by total immersion, used to meet in one of the rooms of what was then a large private dwelling house in Kindlestown Lower; but they did not long continue there. The latest account I heard of them is that they are, or were until recent times at any rate, strong in the Redcross area of Co. Wicklow.

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I am grateful to those members of all the local churches who so helpfully supplied information for, and verified statements contained in the updated version of, the foregoing paper. I also thank most heartily the living historians whose works I have consulted The President and Committee of Greystones Archaeological and Historical Society, before whose members the paper was originally read, deserve my gratitude too for making the material available to the public in permanent, printed form. My object has been to make the article as accurate as is humanly possible within my limitations, and at the same time studiously to avoid any statement which might be construed as giving offence or causing hurt to any denomination of Christ's followers. Such mistakes as the paper contains are my sole responsibility.

The Hodson/Adair Family of Hollybrook

By Eva Ó Cathaoir

Introduction

The funeral of Sir George Frederick John Hodson from Hollybrook to Delgany Church of Ireland in April 1888 was, according to the Wicklow News-Letter, "very largely attended". He was buried in a double plot to the left of the graveyard entrance, overlooking the road into Delgany village. Although regretted by his widow Meriel, his heir Sir Robert Adair Hodson, his younger sons and unmarried daughter Meriel Anne, his death was hardly unexpected. He had been eighty-two, after all. As a landlord in North Wicklow, a magistrate for counties Wicklow and Dublin and a member of several committees, Sir George had been an active presence for over fifty years.

The social status of this prominent resident was second only to Lord Powerscourt, Lord Monck and Lord Meath, but as the latter were often busy elsewhere, Sir George found himself consulted by government commissions and taking a leading role in the proceedings of the Wicklow Grand Jury.

Energetic and blessed with good health, he had also been most fortunate. Sir George's life could have been very different, for Ann Adair and Sir Robert Adair Hodson seemed destined for central roles in their family circle, but both died in early adulthood.

Adair of Hollybrook

Captain Forster Adair of Hollybrook claimed descent from the legendary Robin Adair. He was a nephew of Dr Forster, Bishop of Raphoe. Retiring on half-pay in 1748, he served as M.P. for Philipstown, King's County. Unlike others among the Wicklow gentry, the Adair estate was not in debt and their home, although old-fashioned, was comfortable. Captain Adair's annual income in 1740 was over £1,000. Ann, his only surviving child from his marriage to Anne Ribton was likely to be his heiress.

North Wicklow became an increasingly fashionable place for gentry families in the eighteenth century, partly because it was considered a "healthy" location, partly because romantic scenery was beginning to be appreciated. The Tighes, the Synges, the La Touches and the Hodsons fell into this category. Many of them had other income besides their Wicklow estates, which probably made them less demanding as landlords.

The Adairs owned lands in counties Dublin, Longford and Westmeath as well, but preferred Hollybrook. The Hodsons were large landlords in the midland counties, but William Hodson of Tuitestown (born 1721) rented Oldcourt from the Edwards family and married Eleanor Adair of Hollybrook. Besides their son Robert, he had two further sons by a second marriage: William, who became a barrister, and Hartley, who rented Old Connaught House and was buried in St. Paul's Graveyard, Bray.

Marrying an Heiress

But it was his eldest son Robert who carried off the matrimonial prize, when he married his first cousin Ann (born 1757). She inherited Hollybrook on her father's death in 1786.

A copy of his will, which is a curious document, has survived among the Hodson papers. After a conventional start with "in the name of God, Amen", Forster decided to be buried very quietly, the cost not to exceed twenty guineas. Should he die in either Wicklow or Dublin, he would like to be buried in Bray graveyard "and brought there by the poor inhabitants of the neighbourhood about Hollybrook - without either hearse or mourning coach and that what remains of the twenty guineas be distributed amongst said poor for their trouble."

While Forster repeatedly expresses affection and respect for his wife, confirming her marriage settlement and adding to it, he appears downright suspicious of his son-in-law. He leaves some of the decisions to his wife, probably to strengthen her hand: she may leave the income of a Longford estate either to nephew Robert Holmes or to Robert Hodson, but only "for the life of his present wife Ann Hodson and no longer". Mrs Adair also inherits "the furniture of the Great Room, Drawing Room, Dining Parlour, and Bed Chamber at Hollybrook together with my books, china, linen, her wearing apparel, ornaments, watches, jewels, trinkets etc. and all my plate..."

While there are no expressions of love for his only child, Forster seems to have intended to leave as much as possible of his property away from his son-in-law. His friends John Roberts of Old Connaught and Rev. Verschoyle are appointed executors together with Mrs Adair. The formers receive a large silver cup and a silver pitcher respectively and are instructed to act as trustees for a Longford property worth £140 per annum. This is to be paid to "my daughter Ann Hodson for her sole and separate use during her life". Only Ann's own signature on the receipt will be valid. This estate is to go to her children someday, and failing that, to the poor "for ever".

Her father left further annual income from county Longford to the poor of Delgany, Bray and Powerscourt parishes, which was still distributed forty years later. These parishes were to elect a committee of parishioners to select and assist "the sick and industrious poor...I do not mean to support the idle". Forster Adair also instructs that accounts should be kept regularly and inspected by the vestry.

Forster leaves handsome sums to his niece Mrs Jane Heppenstall and to John Roberts "hoping and not doubting he will see this my last will faithfully executed as I desire and be a true friend to my wife and daughter."

Captain Adair has not forgotten that his son-in-law signed a bond to obtain £500 from him and wants his executors to call it in, £100 to go to his wife and daughter each, another £100 to the parish and the remaining £100 with interest to Rev. Verschoyle.

Finally, he leaves overdue rents in Wicklow to his servant Mrs Rose Fagan "for her great care and attention to me during my last long illness".

Robert became a baronet in 1789, but we don't know for what achievements or services.

Invisible Women

It takes considerable detective work to piece together the lives of ordinary people before the Victorian era, when census taking and newspapers flourished. Many estate records, Church of Ireland registers and wills perished in the Four Courts in 1922, providing another formidable obstacle for the historian. Information on the aristocracy and gentry is usually more readily available.

There is an exception, however: daughters, who were often treated as almost non-existent. To give an example: Charlotte Wright of Nottingham, a relative of the present Duchess of York, and wife of Col. John Edwards of Oldcourt (1751-1832), whose "prudence, courage and humanity" during the 1798 Rebellion was praised by nationalist historian Luke Cullen and who suffered much at the hands of Dublin Castle, is passed by in Burke's *Landed Gentry* in the phrase "with seven daughters".

Similarly, Hodson daughters of several generations are barely acknowledged. Daughters often had to make suitable marriages to become visible: the first Sir Robert Hodson had three sisters, but only Mary's name is known, as she married Garrett Neville of Marymount, Co. Kilkenny.

Marriage settlements, to provide for a lady in case of widowhood, were customary among the upper classes by the eighteenth century. Ladies feature in these documents hedged in by male relatives. Fathers and brothers invariably represent them, the settlement is protected by further prominent relatives acting as trustees. Any property brought into the marriage by her usually passed to her husband's control. The widow's income, which depended on what her relatives and in-laws had agreed to on her behalf, was charged on her husband's estate. It was not unknown among the Anglo-Irish to cut back on this maintenance during difficult times. Payments ceased with the widow's death. She had only personal property to bequeath and no need to make a will in her own right.

Last of the Adairs

Forster Adair's will treated his wife as an equal, but it is still unusual to hear a woman's voice in a legal document of the period. As the last of the Adairs in the direct line, Ann, Lady Hodson, made her will on 19 June 1789. She was only thirty two. None of her children had survived infancy. We don't know the state of her health, but it was probably already poor. Her will survives in the Registry of Deeds, Henrietta St. In it Anne confirms that her husband and cousin Sir Robert Hodson will inherit Hollybrook. But in a tone of considerable confidence, she also secures her widowed mother's position and outlines her own wishes:

"By indenture of 10 February 1786 made between Robert Hodson, of Green Park, Co. Westmeath and Ann Hodson, otherwise Adair his wife...a power is reserved to me, Ann Hodson, to dispose of the towns and tenements of Glencormick, Kilmurry and Kilmacanogue in the Co. Wicklow, formerly the estate of Robert Adair, esq., my grandfather and lately the estate of Forster Adair, esq., my father and now mine as their sole heiress, to my mother for life subject to certain charges after my death and the death of my husband said Robert Hodson, and after her decease to the son or sons of Robert Hodson by any after taken wife; in default of such heirs I assign said lands in trust for my much beloved friend Caroline Lyons otherwise Degennes, wife of said John Lyons, with provision for my friend and kinsman William Glascock, esq."

We don't know whether the Hodson-Adair marriage settlement had previously agreed to some of the above provisions, but Anne clearly demonstrates affection for her two friends.

Elsewhere she describes William Glascock as "my esteemed friend and kinsman". Strangely enough, no term of endearment is used to describe her husband and mother.

Trustees were members of the Rochfort family of Co. Westmeath, John Lyons, her brother-in-law, Hartley Hodson and Peter La Touche, who is described as "of the city of Dublin".

Lady Hodson died the following year, her mother, Mrs. Anne Adair in 1797. They were buried in the same grave in Old Shandonagh graveyard, Rathconrath, Co. Westmeath. This graveyard was in a very overgrown state fifteen years ago, when the present writer discovered the grave inside a ruined church, underneath a stone roof, half-covered by dead leaves and debris. The roof looked as if it might come down during the next storm and the large headstone was only partly decipherable.

Ann's widower, who "commanded the town of Wicklow during the rebellion of 1798", remarried in 1799. The bride was Jane, daughter of Brent Neville of Co. Dublin.

She was almost certainly related to Robert's sister Mrs. Mary Neville. We must imagine Irish eighteenth century upper class society very much like a goldfish bowl. It was customary to socialise within the extended family circle, as the Riall/Roberts of Old Connaught correspondence demonstrates, family visitors transported gossip, letters and even fresh garden produce from country estates to town. Country life could be monotonous and idle for ladies. Marrying within a group of families, which were related or well known for generations guaranteed that both parties knew the score.

Related to Republicans and a Spy

Almost certainly Hartley Hodson and his family were in regular contact with Sir Robert and the new Lady Hodson. It is, however, rather doubtful whether Hartley's brother William and his wife, the former Margaret Armstrong, were equally welcome after 1798. Margaret was a relative of Captain Warneford Armstrong of the King's Co. Militia, who had been stationed in North Wicklow. His main claim to notoriety, however, was to have lured John and Henry Sheares into believing him to be a fellow conspirator. Only when Armstrong had extracted sufficient information, in the course of which he ingratiated himself with Mrs Henry Sheares and the children, did he report to Dublin Castle and became the star witness at the subsequent trial of the Sheares brothers. They were executed, but even in circles opposed to the United Irishmen it was felt afterwards that Captain Armstrong's conduct had been sneaky and unbecoming to a gentleman.

Sir Robert and Lady Hodson's position was made worse by the fact that Mrs Henry Sheares was none other than Sarah Neville of Marymount, Co. Kilkenny. She was Sir Robert's niece. It is unclear whether the Hodsons also knew that Sarah's unmarried brother-in-law, John Sheares, had a natural daughter at school in Bray. The conservative Hodson family was therefore related to both the Sheares brothers, who died extreme Republicans, and to Captain Armstrong, who continued to enjoy his government pension well into the middle of the nineteenth century. He could go nowhere without his armed guard, while the ordinary people had no intention to forget by dubbing him "Mr Sheares Armstrong".

Death of Youthful Baronet

Sir Robert Adair Hodson, the second baronet, was born in 1802 and inherited in 1809. His glowing opportunities were cut short when he died unmarried aged twenty nine.

His younger brother George, born in 1806, was suddenly catapulted into a large inheritance. With 1,211 acres in Co. Wicklow, 4,349 in Co. Cavan, 729 acres in Co. Meath, 502 acres in Co. Westmeath and 26 acres in Buckinghamshire, England, Sir George joined the ranks of the great Irish landowners. He had the old Adair home demolished and employed William Morrison as architect for the new, baronial style Hollybrook in 1834. He himself executed some murals and ceiling decorations and is said to have had considerable design input. The interior contains dark oak staircases and ceilings, gilding and wainscoting. He was also interested in new inventions, lighting Hollybrook by gas in 1859. Hollybrook's beautiful setting, attractive gardens, lake and splendid hall with stained glass, depicting Hodson family history - an ancestor had been bishop of Elphin - made it a popular venue for visitors well into the twentieth century. In the grounds a viewing tower modelled on ancient Irish round towers and erected during the Great Famine (probably as a local employment scheme) has survived to the present day. An ancient Irish doorway and carved head were inserted into some stone work in the farmyard.

As an amateur architect Sir George also designed the ornamental dairy in Kilruddery, which "is complete with black marble shelves inside where milk and butter were stored. Water sprayed out from the vent at the top, keeping the dairy cool."

An Eminent Victorian

Sir George Hodson excelled as a committee man. His paternalistic, but benevolent attitude was eminently Victorian. He was honorary secretary of the Delgany Dispensary Committee under the Medical Charities Act of 1852 continuously for thirty years, keeping the minute book in excellent order. Meetings were held at Hollybrook, in Delgany Glebe and in Peter La Touche's Glen of the Downs Cottage. Matters discussed often lacked in excitement. Sir George's finest hour came during the Great Famine, when he served on the Bray Famine Relief Committee, drew up petitions to Dublin Castle, lobbied for support for the poor from Little Bray to the

Glen of the Downs and supervised the distribution of Indian corn and oatmeal. In an age, which rarely appreciated the social history contained in such documents, Sir George preserved both Bray and Delgany Minutes in Hollybrook. These valuable sources are now among the Hodson Papers in the National Library of Ireland.

Sir George became the first chairman of the Rathdown Board of Guardians at Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin, which regulated the workhouse admissions of, e.g., the people of Delgany and the emerging Greystones. He remained in the chair for almost fifty years, being presented with an address of gratitude by the workhouse children in 1883. When the stigma of the poorhouse reduced employment prospects for girls in the 1850s, some were taken on in Hollybrook.

He was also the chairman of the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland. In 1879 Disraeli, then British Prime Minister, invited Sir George to serve on a royal commission of inquiry into the depressed state of agriculture, but he declined. His reasons were "failing health consequent upon advanced years and the depression caused by the recent death of my son in South Africa."

In 1852 he had married Meriel Neville. Despite their Republican connections, the Hodsons were firmly in the Victorian imperialist tradition: the couple's second son, George Frederick John, served in Gibraltar and was killed in the Zulu War in South Africa in 1879.

After Sir George's death in 1888, Sir Robert Adair Hodson continued serving on the Rathdown Board of Guardians for some time, but never achieved his father's prominent position. In 1898 the new Wicklow County Council democratised and superseded this power base of the landlord class. Although their political influence was on the decline, Hodsons held on in Hollybrook until well into the 20th century, when they left for Britain.

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- Ms 21,610 Letter from Prime Minister Lord Beaconsfield; Burke's Peerage op. cit.
- There is a memorial tablet to Sir Robert Adair Hodson in Kilbride C of I near Hollybrook.

Answers to the Quiz

For those who don't know everything. The answers to the One Page Quiz

1. (a) Rathdown Road
(b) Right of way through the Golf Club
2. Designer: George Wilkinson
Builder: Messrs Crowe & Son
3. Carnegie in 1910
4. A small talk away at Greystones Harbour
5. | A small cafe where Vino Pasta is today
6. At the junction of Church Road and Hillside Road at Hills Garage
7. Both were lifeboats that were housed in the anchor lifeboat house between 1871 and 1896
8. Shoemakers
9. Arnold Fussengang
10. Jimmy Martin, Eamonn Darcy & Harry Bradshaw
11. Errant or wandering knight
12. La Touche Hotel
13. Avoca
14. Mr John O'Neill "father of Nancy O'Neill"
15. Helped lay the first transatlantic telegraph cable
16. Glenveagh National Park Co. Donegal
17. Bandon Co. Cork
18. St Ruth's
19. Randalia O'Byrne of Ballygannon Kilcoole
20. Wicklow & Arklow

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ISSN 1393-2756