

July-August 2011 Newsletter

Hello everyone,

Welcome to another installment of the Wellington Irish Society newsletter.

It's been a while since our last Newsletter, but better late than never!

In this Newsletter, we find out what's happening in the Irish club over the next few weeks and months. We continue with our "whats in a name" series with a study of the Fitzgerald name and its impact in Irish and Worldwide history.

Since our last newsletter, we've held the club AGM, thanks to everyone who made it along on the day and contributed to a lively debate. Margaret continues as president for another year.

We'd like to give a special thank you to Lilian Mackey who stepped down from the committee this year, she has been invaluable over the last few years at the club and will continue to give us valuable advice from the sides over the coming year.

The Rose of Tralee in NZ was another success this year and congratulations to Ailbhe Ryan, the Hutt rose on winning the NZ National Title, best of luck to her in the competition in Tralee later this month.

We have our, now regular article from Brian O'Sullivan on Irish Heritage and this month he focuses on Irish Surnames and Family Crests; many thanks for that Brian.

You'll also be interested in knowing that Polar Bears are actually Irish! Yes it's true, read on for more!

I hope you enjoy this Newsletter and if you have any feedback, please send it to secretary@wellingtonirishsociety.com

Rgds
David Rynne
Secretary



Coming Events

Dylan Moran - Yeah, Yeah

Dylan Moran, star of 'Black Books', 'Shaun of the Dead' and 'Run Fat Boy Run', is about to spread a little happiness when he returns to New Zealand with a brand new tour for 2011.

Second show added - see Dylan Moran in Wellington for two shows only on Tuesday 23 August and Saturday 27 August at the Michael Fowler Centre.

Tickets for the show on 27 August go on sale from Ticketek on 30 June. The show on 23 August is now sold out.

Date	23 Aug 2011 (Tue) - 27 Aug 2011 (Sat)
Time	Tue 23 Aug 8pm SOLD OUT Sat 27 Aug 8pm
Venue	Michael Fowler Centre
Address	111 Wakefield Street , Wellington Central
Cost	\$76.90
Bookings	Ticketek www.ticketek.co.nz (04) 384 3840. Please note: Ticketek booking fees apply.

Supporting the Boys in Green

Ireland will be playing in the rugby world cup in New Zealand during the months of September and October.

They are playing against USA, Russia, Australia and Italy in the group stages (See schedule for more details).

The Club will be open on the following evenings to let you drop in to support the Irish team. **We'll have a few spot prizes for the kids with the best supporters gear and of course some hot food for all there.**

See you there on the following nights

Sun 11th Sept	Ireland V USA	6.00pm	open at 5.00pm
Sat 17th Sept	Ireland V Australia	8.30pm	open at 7.30pm
Sun 25th Sept	Ireland V Russia	6.00pm	open at 5.00pm
Sun 02nd Oct	Ireland V Italy	8.30pm	open at 7.30pm

The club will also be open when! We make the quarter-finals too!!



All-Ireland All-Ireland Finals



Join us at the wellington Irish Society for coverage of the closing stages of the All-Ireland series.

We're down to the last 2 in Hurling where we've got a repeat of last year's final where Kilkenny will be looking for revenge on Tipperary after last year's defeat!

In Football, we're at the semi final stage with a possibility of a first title in 60 years for Mayo, or even a repeat of the magnificent 70's finals between Dublin and Kerry, Donegal could upset it all and win their first since '92!

Football:

Semi-Finals

Monday August 22nd 02.30am

Mayo V Kerry

Monday August 29th 02.30am

Dublin V Donegal

All-Ireland Final

Monday September 19th 02.30am

Mayo/Kerry V Dublin/Donegal

Hurling:

All-Ireland Final

Monday September 5th 02.30am

Tipperary V Kilkenny

On all nights, the doors will be open from 2am!

No Charge for Semi-Finals but \$10 contribution to Wellington GAA on Finals nights.

Recipe Corner

Recipe Corner

Blackberry & Cinnamon Ice Cream



Ingredients:

Ice Cream base (adapted from Saveur)

Ingredients:

2 cups milk

5 teaspoons corn starch

1 1/4 cups heavy cream

2/3 cup sugar

2 tablespoons light corn syrup

1/4 teaspoon kosher salt

3 tablespoons mascapone cheese, softened 1/2

teaspoon vanilla extract

Berry mixture

Ingredients:

1 cup blackberries

1/2 cup sugar

Directions

Ice Cream base (adapted from Saveur)

In a small bowl, whisk together 1/4 cup of the milk and the corn starch until blended. Set aside.

In a medium sized saucepan, mix together the remaining milk and the cream, sugar, corn syrup, and salt. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat and cook for four minutes. Stir in the milk and corn starch mixture, return to a boil and cook for an additional three to four minutes until thickened.

In a medium sized bowl, place the mascarpone cheese and 1/4 cup of the hot milk mixture. Whisk until the cheese has melted. Then, whisk in the remaining milk mixture. Place the milk mixture into a zip top bag, seal, and submerge the bag in a bowl of ice water. Leave to chill.

Berry mixture

Place the berries and the sugar in a medium saucepan. Over medium-high heat, stir the berries and sugar frequently until boiling. reduce heat to medium and continue to cook for six to eight minutes, until thickened. Strain the berry mixture to remove the seeds. leave the strained berry mixture to cool.

Making the Ice Cream

Place the chilled ice cream base mixture into to the fitted bowl of an ice cream maker and follow the manufacturer's directions for processing. Add 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon to the mix as it begins to stir. About 15 minutes into the processing, add half of the berry mixture and continue to process. Once finished processing, place half the ice cream mixture into a container. Drizzle the remaining berry mixture on top and, if desired, use a knife to swirl the mixture in to create a ripple effect. Cover with the remaining ice cream mixture and freeze.

Note: I mixed my ice cream for thirty minutes and the mixture was still quite loose and liquid after thirty minutes, but froze to a nice consistency after about thirty minutes in the freezer.

From: <http://www.irishabroad.com/Culture/Kitchen/Recipe.asp?RcpID=307>



Gaelic Games News

Gaelic Games News

Hi everyone,

Hope everyone is keeping well and keeping warm in this cold spell.

On the GAA front, things are beginning to heat up again in Wellington, we are coming to the end of our off season and plans are already underway for the various 7-side competitions leading up to Christmas.

On the 23rd/24th July Christchurch GAA organised a very successful 7-side competition with 8 men's teams and 3 ladies teams taking part. Wellington sent down 2 men's teams and a ladies team to the competition.

In the Men's competition, Wellington Men's made it to the final but were beaten on the day by the Christchurch Fletchers combination in a pulsating final.

The wellington ladies team went one better and retained their title as the best 7's team in New Zealand. They had good victories over Christchurch and Auckland in the round robin stage and had a tight win over Christchurch in the final.

It was a very enjoyable weekend in Christchurch and many thanks must go to the Christchurch GAA community for organising such a wonderful weekend.

On the 7th October coming up, Wellington GAA are organising a 7 a-side competition to take part in Island Bay to co-inside with the Rugby World Cup Quarter finals in which Ireland should be playing in Wellington. We'll have more information on this on our website www.wellingtongaa.com, we'd love to see you there to support our teams.

On a final note, the club is looking at starting up a Hurling tournament in the spring when the 7-side competitions kick off in earnest. Keep an eye on our club website www.wellingtongaa.com for more details.

David Rynne
Vice President – Wellington GAA

Check out the latest fixtures and results at www.wellingtongaa.com
Wellington Gaelic Football & Hurling Association

Polar Bears are from Ireland – Yes



Everything and everyone is Irish in the end - and now it turns out the that great-great-great-etc grandmother of today's polar bears were in fact from Ireland. This is not some desperate attempt by Ireland to enter a territorial dispute over Arctic resources (we have Rockall, after all) or to distract the populace from the grinding financial crisis.

No, it turns out that modern polar bears have carried a particular sequence of DNA via the female line - mitochondria, which they share with prehistoric Irish brown bears - this DNA is absent from other species of brown bear alive today. The international research, published in Current Biology suggests that the two species crossed paths during colder period in Irish prehistory, allowing the two breeds to cross paths. Even today, modern brown bears can interbreed with polar bears, despite physical differences between the species.

So there you are. Polar bears are Irish. Stick that in yer pipe and schmoke it.

References with much more details:

[Guardian: Polar bear ancestors came from Ireland](#)

[Irish Times: Polar bears descended from extinct Irish female ancestors](#)

[Current Biology: Ancient Hybridization and an Irish Origin for the Modern Polar Bear Matriline](#)

The New Zealand Rose of Tralee

The 2011 New Zealand Rose of Tralee is **Ailbhe Ryan**.

Ailbhe represented the Hutt Valley Irish Society.

Ailbhe Ryan is a 25 year old who was born in Dublin and is a customer services officer with CIGNA Insurance. Her father was originally from Tralee and her mother from Cavan.

She has a Bachelor Arts Honours degree majoring in history and politics and has a Masters in International Relations.

Ailbhe moved to NZ 4 years ago and has made Wellington her home enjoying the harbour and café culture. With her current role she is doing a Certificate in Financial Services and hopes to make a career in this field.

She does Irish dancing and loves to cook and bake. In 2007 she volunteered at a school in Haiti and has spent time in Israel and Palestine for her thesis in Arab/Israeli conflict. Longer term she would like to live on a self sufficient farm and take trips back to Israel and other exotic places.

As the New Zealand Rose of Tralee, Ailbhe will represent the entire New Zealand Irish community at the International contest in Tralee.

She leaves for Ireland on Tuesday August 9th. The International Festival is on 19-23 August.

You can send her a message from <http://www.roseoftralee.co.nz/sendamessage.html>, and there are a couple of short videos on the same page, and there are quite a number of photos from the NZ Final at <http://www.roseoftralee.co.nz/2011-slideshow.html>

Show your support by sending her a message, and pass this on to all your contacts and friends so they can do the same.

And don't forget to keep an eye on RTE.ie for details of the streamed broadcasts.

Keep your fingers crossed

Bryan Mulligan
Rose of Tralee, New Zealand



wellington gaa Rugby Carnival Day

\$10 Themed Breakfast from 10am-1pm

A BBQ all day

Plus Irish Tea and scones

Football, ice hockey, Aussie rules games

Between Rugby matches

OCTOBER 8TH & 9TH

ALL DAY TRUE OR FALSE QUIZ



Come in and play for prizes

Poker Darts

Rings Toss

Joker poker

Face Painting for the game in town

Plus much much more

*come and join us in
the establishment
on courtney place
from 10am*

Join the GAA lads at the Establishment Bar during
the 8th/9th October for a weekend of fun, craic
and all things Irish!



Notices

Congratulations

Huge congratulations to Clare man Donal McNamara who captained the Oriental Rongotai rugby team to win the Jubilee cup last weekend. It was Ories first win in the competition since 1910.

Deepest Sympathies

Our deepest sympathies to the family of Neassa Scanlon who passed in July, She will always be remembered by all who knew her and is sadly missed.

Thank You

A special word of thanks to all of you who contributed to the fundraiser for the family of Owen McKenna. We raised an impressive \$4,900 for his wife Sarah and two children.

Sarah was amazed at your generosity and says that they will use the money to bring the family back to Ireland in the New Year.

Thanks again for your efforts.

If you want to have any announcements for this page, please send them to secretary@wellingtonirishsociety.com



Riddle Me This?

Last Month's Answers:

1. Darkness, 2. A penny, 3. Bookkeeper, 4. Charcoal, 5. An ear of Corn, 6. Fire
7. Iron Ore, 8. Few, 9. Stove, Fire, Smoke, 10. A frog

This Month's Teasers

1. When young, I am sweet in the sun.
When middle-aged, I make you gay.
When old, I am valued more than
ever.

2. If you break me
I do not stop working,
If you touch me
I may be snared,
If you lose me
Nothing will matter.

3. Until I am measured
I am not known,
Yet how you miss me
When I have flown.

4. I drive men mad
For love of me,
Easily beaten,
Never free.

5. When set loose
I fly away,
Never so cursed
As when I go astray.

6. Lighter than what
I am made of,
More of me is hidden
Than is seen.

7. Each morning I appear
To lie at your feet,
All day I will follow
No matter how fast you run,
Yet I nearly perish
In the midday sun.

8. My life can be measured in hours,
I serve by being devoured.
Thin, I am quick
Fat, I am slow
Wind is my foe.

9. Half-way up the hill, I see thee at last,
lying beneath me with thy sounds and
sights -- A city in the twilight, dim and
vast, with smoking roofs, soft bells, and
gleaming lights.

10. Which letter comes next in the series?

S, M, H, D, W, M, ?

Pick from: L,V,Y,T,D

Rugby World cup 2011 match dates

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time (NZ)</i>	<i>Pool</i>	<i>Match Details</i>	<i>Locations</i>	<i>Stadium</i>
Fri Sept 9	20.30	A	New Zealand v Tonga	Auckland	Eden Park
Sat Sept 10	13.00	B	Scotland v Romania	Invercargill	Rugby Park Stadium
Sat Sept 10	15.30	D	Fiji v Namibia	Rotorua	Rotorua International Stadium
Sat Sept 10	18.00	A	France v Japan	Auckland	North Harbour Stadium
Sat Sept 10	20.30	B	Argentina v England	Dunedin	Otago Stadium
Sun Sept 11	15.30	C	Australia v Italy	Auckland	North Harbour Stadium
Sun Sept 11	18.00	C	Ireland v USA	New Plymouth	Stadium Taranaki
Sun Sept 11	20.30	D	South Africa v Wales	Wellington	Wellington Regional Stadium
Wed Sept 14	14.30	D	Samoa v Namibia	Rotorua	Rotorua International Stadium
Wed Sept 14	17.00	A	Tonga v Canada	Whangarei	Northland Events Centre
Wed Sept 14	19.30	B	Scotland v Georgia	Invercargill	Rugby Park Stadium
Thurs Sept 15	19.30	C	Russia v USA	New Plymouth	Stadium Taranaki
Fri Sept 16	20.00	A	New Zealand v Japan	Hamilton	Waikato Stadium
Sat Sept 17	15.30	B	Argentina v Romania	Invercargill	Rugby Park Stadium
Sat Sept 17	18.00	D	South Africa v Fiji	Wellington	Wellington Regional Stadium
Sat Sept 17	20.30	C	Australia v Ireland	Auckland	Eden Park
Sun Sept 18	15.30	D	Wales v Samoa	Hamilton	Waikato Stadium
Sun Sept 18	18.00	B	England v Georgia	Dunedin	Otago Stadium
Sun Sept 18	20.30	A	France v Canada	Napier	McLean Park
Tues Sept 20	19.30	C	Italy v Russia	Nelson	Trafalgar Park
Wed Sept 21	19.30	A	Tonga v Japan	Whangarei	Northland Events Centre
Thurs Sept 22	20.00	D	South Africa v Namibia	Auckland	North Harbour Stadium
Fri Sept 23	20.30	C	Australia v USA	Wellington	Wellington Regional Stadium
Sat Sept 24	18.00	B	England v Romania	Dunedin	Otago Stadium
Sat Sept 24	20.30	A	New Zealand v France	Auckland	Eden Park
Sun Sept 25	15.30	D	Fiji v Samoa	Auckland	Eden Park
Sun Sept 25	18.00	C	Ireland v Russia	Rotorua	Rotorua International Stadium
Sun Sept 25	20.30	B	Argentina v Scotland	Wellington	Wellington Regional Stadium
Mon Sept 26	19.30	D	Wales v Namibia	New Plymouth	Stadium Taranaki
Tues Sept 27	17.00	A	Canada v Japan	Napier	McLean Park
Tues Sept 27	19.30	C	Italy v USA	Nelson	Trafalgar Park
Wed Sept 28	19.30	B	Georgia v Romania	Palmerston North	Arena Manawatu
Fri Sept 30	20.30	D	South Africa v Samoa	Auckland	North Harbour Stadium
Sat Oct 1	15.30	C	Australia v Russia	Nelson	Trafalgar Park
Sat Oct 1	18.00	A	France v Tonga	Wellington	Wellington Regional Stadium
Sat Oct 1	20.30	B	England v Scotland	Auckland	Eden Park
Sun Oct 2	13.00	B	Argentina v Georgia	Palmerston North	Arena Manawatu
Sun Oct 2	15.30	A	New Zealand v Canada	Wellington	Wellington Regional Stadium
Sun Oct 2	18.00	D	Wales v Fiji	Hamilton	Waikato Stadium
Sun Oct 2	20.30	C	Ireland v Italy	Dunedin	Otago Stadium
Sat Oct 8	18.00	TBA	QF1: C1 v D2	Wellington	Wellington Regional Stadium
Sat Oct 8	20.30	TBA	QF2: B1 v A2	Auckland	Eden Park
Sun Oct 9	18.00	TBA	QF3: D1 v C2	Wellington	Wellington Regional Stadium
Sun Oct 9	20.30	TBA	QF4: A1 v B2	Auckland	Eden Park
Sat Oct 15	21.00	TBA	SF1: W QF1 v W QF2	Auckland	Eden Park
Sun Oct 16	21.00	TBA	SF2: W QF3 v W QF4	Auckland	Eden Park
Fri Oct 21	20.30	TBA	Bronze Final	Auckland	Eden Park
Sun Oct 23	21.00	TBA	Final	Auckland	Eden Park



Club Contacts

The following are the contact details of the Committee in 2011-12

Role	Name	Phone Number	Email
Club Patron	Colleen O'Donovan		colleen@ihug.co.nz
Club President	Margaret Grealish		margaretgrealish@yahoo.com
Vice Presidents	John Whitty		johnwhitty@paradise.net.nz
	Jim Henderson		plastercoat@paradise.net.nz
Treasurer	Conor Healey		conor.healy@paradise.net.nz
Secretary	David Rynne	04-3890426	secretary@wellingtonirishsociety.com
Committee Members	Kerry Dwyer		greenink@xtra.co.nz
	Tony O'Riordan		
	Paul Murray		
	Jim Maguire		Jm.flooring@xtra.co.nz
	Jim McMeekin		

**For details of hall hire please ring the club on 384-8535 and leave a message with your number. We will ring you back with details.
Alternatively, check the club website for online bookings.**

Please send any Newsletter details to Secretary@wellingtonirishsociety.com

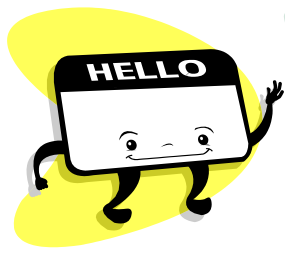
Club Contact Details

Phone Number **04-3848535**

Address: 10 Fifeshire Avenue
 Cambridge Terrace
 Wellington

Postal Address Wellington Irish Society
 PO Box 449,
 Wellington

Email Address Secretary@wellingtonirishsociety.com



Whats in a Name?

FitzGerald

-Mac Gearailt

They've been Dukes of Leinster, Taoiseach of Ireland and President of the United States, by Shauna O'Halloran.

Arriving in Ireland first during the 12th century, the Fitzgeralds (meaning literally 'Son of Gerald'), were thought to have originated in Italy. Otho Geraldino, hailing from Florence, was one of the chief commanders of William the Conqueror and was later made a baron.

He travelled with Strongbow to Ireland during the Anglo- Norman invasion, bringing his name, Geraldino, with him, along with the Stronbownian tradition of pre-fixing patrynomic names with 'Fitz', from the Latin 'filius' meaning son. Two generations later, Maurice Fitzgerald continued making history with the family name, as the first Earl of Desmond, ruler of Munster, and also Lord Justice of Ireland.

The Desmond branch of Fitzgeralds are as notable as the Kildare branch. Kilkea Castle in Athy, County Kildare, is a place often associated with the name, as it was the home of the Fitzgeralds who held the titles of Dukes of Leinster.

In modern history too, the Fitzgerald name has proved to be one of great leaders.

Indeed, one of the most prominent and popular presidents of the United States, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, was proud of his Irish heritage. His maternal grandfather, whom he was named after, was a prominent Boston politician called John 'HoneyFitz' Fitzgerald, and was the son of two Irish immigrants – Thomas Fitzgerald of County Limerick, and Rosanna Cox of Cavan.

Of course, Ireland had its own leader with the name Fitzgerald. The late Garret Fitzgerald was Taoiseach (prime minister) of Ireland, serving two terms in office from 1981 – 1987. He worked for many years in Aer Lingus before entering politics, and lectured in economics at University College Dublin. George Francis Fitzgerald was a noteworthy scientist of the late 1890s, who is credited with being one of the first to consider the theory of relativity between space and speed, one which was later to become known as the Fitzgerald-Lorentz contraction, and was a significant step towards Einstein's theory of Special Relativity. Another renowned namesake, F. Scott Fitzgerald, is widely regarded as one of the greatest American writers of the 20th century. The author of *The Great Gatsby* and *Tender Is The Night*, among other novels, he was born to Irish Catholic parents in Minnesota.

Shauna O'Halloran Courtesy of <http://www.irelandofthewelcomes.com>

Things They Don't Tell You About Irish Family Crests

By Brian O'Sullivan

When we were kids growing up in Cork, one of my Da's favourite possessions was a cheap, mass-produced copy of the O'Sullivan coat of arms which held a prominent position in the hall of our house. Whenever we received an overseas visitor, my Dad would go out of his way to point it out and proudly informed them that this was the coat of arms for the O'Sullivan clan.

There's a real sense of bragging rights associated with d'oul family crest. With its tenuous aristocratic associations, it has great potential snob value and it's a bit like being able to claim you belong to an extremely exclusive club. To understand the whole "*Irish family crests*" business, however, there's a few basic things you should know.

Where do Irish Family Names Come From?

Generally speaking, the majority of Irish family surnames come from one of these loose groupings:

1. Gaelic Irish – surnames derived from Celtic names up to the 12th century (almost all of those that are prefixed by an 'O' or a Mac and many others besides)
2. Cambro-Norman – surnames introduced from 12th century onwards as a result of the Norman invasion (many prefixed with 'Fitz' or 'De' - Fitzgerald, Fitzpatrick, De Lacy, De Burgh etc.) but many others as well
3. Anglo-Irish – surnames introduced by immigrants to Ireland as part of the colonisation process in the 16th and 17th centuries (Browne, Bagenal, Edgeworth, Fleetwood, Gwynn, etc.)

Gaelic Irish Family Septs and Sub-septs:

When Gaelic Irish family populations grew larger, they often argued (what's new?) and split up into a number of distinct septs. The O'Brien sept, for example, had at least two major septs splitting off from it - the MacConsidines and the MacLysaghts. These septs were usually led by an original family head member and dominated particular locales in the Irish countryside. This sept system was a key part of Gaelic society and was even taken on by the Norman invaders. The system, however, did not survive the English colonisation from the early 1600s onwards when it became a disadvantage to have a Gaelic sounding name and many Irish names were anglicized.

The Crackpot Science of Heraldry

The whole concept of heraldry (the allocation of coats-of-arms), originated in Europe during the late medieval period. Symbols were placed on shields so that during various battles, you were able to work out who to hit (or not). When peace finally broke out, these were used as a kind of administrative system to identify property or to attest documents.

Over time, however, it sometimes happened that more than one individual used the same (or very similar) symbols. This created some confusion and a form of regulation known as 'heraldry' was introduced where specialists, known as *heralds*, were employed to keep the necessary records.

Heraldry comes to Ireland

Heraldry first came to Ireland around the 13th century with the Cambro-Normans. Having conquered much of the land, these knights used it as a means to outline their ownership claims from those of their peers. An official Herald Office– the Ulster King of Arms - was, therefore, created in Dublin by the English Crown in 1552. This was, however, an English institution.

It's probably relevant at this stage to point out that the Gaelic Irish septs didn't actually use the Herald Office, given that it was a uniquely English Crown mechanism. There were a few, minor, exceptions of course (i.e. a branch of the MacCarthys who had a coat of arms recorded during a pilgrimage to Rome at the end of the 12th century). Essentially, though, the whole 'family crest' thing was really only for the Norman families and some of the later English Tudor and Cromwellian settlers. Ironically, although the latter had access to coats of arms through the English system, many of them sought grants of arms from the Ulster King of Arms– to improve their 'new status' in the social hierarchy.

Ireland Gets its Mojo Back

Following Irish independence, the heraldic responsibilities for the Ulster Office-of-Arms were transferred to the Irish State in 1943 (the Genealogical Office of the National Library of Ireland) and a Chief Herald of Ireland (*Príomh-Aralt na hÉireann*) was appointed. They initially found themselves in a bit of a quandary given that it was really only an English institution. This was, however, quickly glossed over when they realised that overseas people of Irish heritage were willing to pay for family crests under the misconception that it was an Irish based tradition.

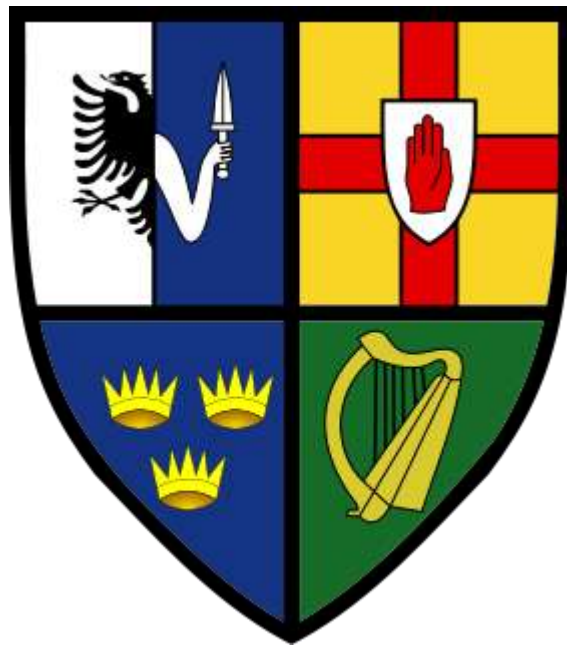
So what does it all mean?

If you do have a family crest hanging up on the wall somewhere there are a few things you should probably know.

- If you have a Gaelic Irish family name, the whole family crest system is probably not relevant for you
- In fact, there is no such thing as a 'family coat of arms'. Family crests are awarded to individuals and then on to their descendents. Therefore, a single surname such as Murphy (O'Murchada) might have a multitude of different family crests but none of them would be relevant to the others. If you don't know that the family crest on your wall was produced directly for someone in your ancestral line, you're probably using someone else's. You would in fact, be better off, getting the crayons out and drawing your own.

Down in Cork, there were several different O'Sullivan septs hanging out around the Beara and Kerry peninsulas, however, official crests (in the sense that some poor fool paid to have them made) only exist for two that I'm aware of. Although I learned all of this many years ago, I never actually told my Dad. Why ruin his fun when you got so much fun out of telling his story to our visitors? Sometimes, the story is more important than the facts.

Wellington Irish Society (Inc)



This Month's Quote

Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught.

Oscar Wilde