



THE EMERALD DRAGON

The official newsletter of the Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society

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"Otho, With John Larkin Up", by George Stubbs, 1768. © Tate, London, 2024. Painting of the Earl of Upper Ossory's horse. Note the green livery worn by jockey, John Larkin.

The Emerald Dragon
Newsletter

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Editors:

Ryan Fitzpatrick

Tamara Endicott-
Delafuente

Contributors:

Ronan Fitzpatrick

Andrew Akroyd

Fee Berry

Andrew Wallace

Peter FitzPatrick

Ryan Fitzpatrick

Kate Lancor

Mike Lancor

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8th International Fitzpatrick Clan Gathering Announced: Kilkenny, 4-6th October 2024!



– By Peter FitzPatrick, International Gatherings Committee

Dear Fitzpatrick Clan Members, Fitzpatrick Researchers, & Friends,

Following up on previous e-mails and surveys, we are delighted to inform you that following months of research and discussions the 2024 Fitzpatrick Clan International Gathering is confirmed to take place in **Kilkenny, Ireland from Friday 4 October to Sunday 6 October 2024**. The venue will be the beautiful **Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel**. (See link for hotel details.)

We have block-booked hotel rooms for Friday/Saturday/Sunday nights and are currently finalising rooms rates with the hotel and further details in relation to how you should book a room(s) for one, two or three nights (or more if you wish to stay longer and explore this great city and its surroundings in the heartland of Ossory) – so no need to rush to book a room right away as they are being reserved for Clan members.




While the Gathering events such as the various presentations, banquet, and socializing (on the Friday and Saturday evenings) will take place in the hotel, you may prefer not to stay in the Ormonde, but to stay elsewhere in the vicinity in alternative accommodation, or with friends and family; and that is entirely your choice, but we do hope that many Clan members will stay in the hotel to help build the social aspect of the Gathering. The hotel will shortly give us a cut-off date by which time any rooms not booked by Clan members will be released for booking by the general public – though we anticipate that you will have at least a month or two to reserve your rooms.

Note that all payments must be made by you directly to the hotel for room bookings – full details will be provided in due course on the List. Additional charges will apply for the optional Friday and Saturday evening events, and for additional hospitality and facilities (as well as an optional bus tour of Fitzpatrick sites on Sunday) – but the more Clan members attending these events, and availing of the hotel rooms, will strengthen our position in relation to getting the best possible deal on the room(s) for the presentations on the Saturday (and Sunday morning) of the Gathering – a critical mass of members will encourage the hotel to provide these conference type rooms at either greatly reduced rates or free of charge.

A full itinerary of presentations and events will be finalised in the coming months, so perhaps you might consider if you would like to present at the Gathering and to share your Fitzpatrick family story, research (whether it is amateur or academic in nature), anecdotes, memorabilia etc. For those not in a position to travel to Ireland next October, we intend on live streaming as many elements of the Gathering as possible, so you will not miss out (too much!). In order to gauge numbers that do intend to arrive, we have issued a short online survey to let the hotel know the likely ballpark number of rooms required, and to help plan some of the other logistics for the Gathering. Thanks to all who participated in completing our online survey.

Thanks for your time and looking forward to meeting many of you in Kilkenny in October 2024!

Peter FitzPatrick
Dublin, Ireland 

A Lion & Dragon in Ampthill: Fitzpatrick Livery Button Discovered in Bedfordshire, England!

– With contributions from Andrew Akroyd; Andrew Wallace & Ryan Fitzpatrick, History Go-To Advisory Team Members

Sometimes it's the little things in life which carry great significance when shown to the right people. This past May, metal-detector hobbyist, Mr. Andrew Akroyd, was scanning the grounds slated for development around Ampthill Park in Bedfordshire when he chanced upon a unique Fitzpatrick artifact: a livery button bearing the Fitzpatrick's highly distinctive lion and dragon clan crest on a torse of twisted silk, beneath a coronet, as seen below:



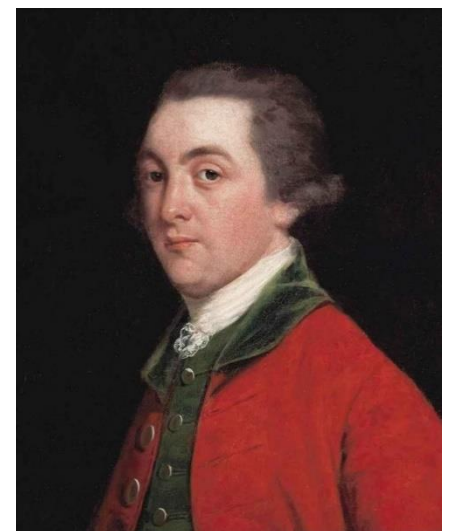
Livery buttons are a very common find in the UK, with many of them bearing a crest or house badge symbolic of the landed family whose hired servants and grooms wore household uniforms while working. This livery button is one such example of a small discovery which could have otherwise been considered mundane like so many other livery buttons before it, and perhaps put to storage in a drawer or box somewhere to be forgotten again. Yet wanting to see it appreciated in good hands, Akroyd reached out to us at the Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society via our [Facebook page](#) to see if anyone was interested. And were we, indeed! It's discovery location near Amptill Park in Bedfordshire was where the Fitzpatrick Earls of Upper Ossory held estates in the 18th and 19th centuries. We took immediate interest in his find, recognizing its unique historical value as the only known example of its kind. Here's what Andrew Akroyd said regarding its discovery:

"I was metal detecting close to Amptill when I found the button in a farm field. I would like the button to go to a museum or someone with the family connection. ... I've only been metal detecting as a hobby a few months, and [am] pleased I've been able to find something that will be saved from being under a future housing development. ... I would love to get this button to you so the story will live with it. For me, metal detecting is about putting a little piece of history where it belongs. I would love it to be displayed and hope it helps in some way with the research you have done ... I'm pleased the button is not lost under a housing estate and keeps a little piece of history alive to be enjoyed."

The symbol of the lion conquering a dragon is unique to the Fitzpatrick clan and was also recently discovered to be [carved into the Trinity College Harp, Ireland's national icon](#). Like nearly all clan emblems, its exact origins are shrouded in history, but very likely is a symbolic reference to good overcoming evil; as Christ, the Lion of Judah overcoming Satan, the great serpent. Above the crest is an Earl's heraldic coronet, corroborating the association with the Earls of Upper Ossory. The button is a rare artefact from Amptill's history when the Earls' patronage encompassed their love for thoroughbred racing, with Upper Ossory's jockeys and household retainers clad in green livery with gold trim. As there were two Earls of Upper Ossory, the question arose to which one of them did this livery button originate? Depending on the button's date of origin, there were two candidates: either John Fitzpatrick (1719-1758), the 2nd Lord Gowran and 1st Earl of Upper Ossory; or his son, John (1745-1818), the 2nd and last Earl of Upper Ossory. On the corroded reverse side, our historical advisor Andrew Wallace was able to discern who fabricated the button and thus narrow down which Earl commissioned it: The button was crafted by Walter Williams of St. Martin's Lane, London who was in business from the early 1800's. Therefore, it must relate to John Fitzpatrick, the 2nd Earl of Upper Ossory, who died in 1818; the 1st Earl having died in 1758.



Reverse side of the button, where the words "Walter Williams + London+" are still legible through the patina. Akroyd added a protective layer of coin wax to preserve it from further corrosion.



John Fitzpatrick, 2nd Earl Upper Ossory, (1745-1818) held estates at Amptill Park in Bedfordshire, England.

This line of Earls of Upper Ossory were politically active landowners in Bedfordshire, England. John Fitzpatrick, 1st Earl of Upper Ossory, had inherited Ampthill from his mother, and later purchased the manor of Houghton Conquest, also in Bedfordshire, in 1741. In 1753, he was put up for election by his brother-in-law, John Russell, 4th Duke of Bedford, as MP for Bedfordshire, which he represented until his death, on 23 Sept. 1758. His son John, 2nd Earl, was elected MP for the county in the House of Commons from 1767 to 1794 and was also Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire from 1771 to 1818. His Irish title barred him from a seat in the British House of Lords, so in 1794, he was given the title of "Baron Upper Ossory, of Ampthill in the County of Bedford, in the Peerage of Great Britain", which then admitted him. His brother, the Whig statesman and general Richard Fitzpatrick, represented Bedford from 1807-1812. The 2nd Earl's daughters were philanthropists in nearby Brigstock, Northamptonshire, [which can be read about in Issue #1](#).

But the button wasn't all Akroyd discovered this year. Two other items he unearthed are worth noting in connection with the Fitzpatrick clan. Firstly, in addition to the livery button, he also discovered a hammered Irish coin from the same period in the same vicinity in Ampthill. Akroyd noted that while the coin itself is not a rare Irish coin, it is a rare item to be found in that part of England. This suggests an ongoing exchange of people, goods, and currency imported from Ireland to Upper Ossory's estates in Bedfordshire. Another nod to the Earls' Irish origin can be seen in that they decked their household staff in green livery colours with gold trim. This is evident in the multiple portraits of the Earls and their beloved racehorses, where Upper Ossory's jockeys rode stud to victory, most memorably, the famous steed *Otho*, jockeyed by John Larkin (on cover; note the Irish surname), as well as Dormant, pictured below:



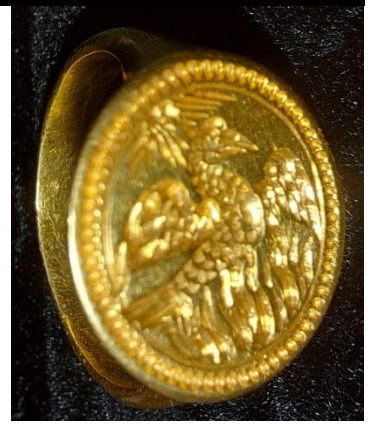
"A Chestnut Racehorse with Jockey Up on Newmarket Heath" by B. Killingbeck, 1780. Image of Upper Ossory's Dormant. ([Christie's](#))

Secondly, and most impressively, Akroyd at another location this spring, also unearthed a gold signet ring bearing the image of a phoenix rising from flames. The gold ring has a narrow diameter, suited for a woman's finger and was ostensibly used to stamp soft wax with the phoenix badge when sealing documents. Akroyd's signet ring is especially intriguing because the rising phoenix has two major English royal implications, who each share a coincidental Fitzpatrick connection: Queen Jane Seymour and Queen Elizabeth I.

Amphill was a site of frequent royal Tudor visitation under Henry VII and Henry VIII. It was where Catherine of Aragon was detained during her annulment proceedings in 1533. Henry VIII visited there annually with rare exception, and likely Jane Seymour would have acquaintance with Amphill. As queen, Jane Seymour used the rising phoenix crest within a castle of roses as her personal badge (bottom, right), as the rising phoenix by itself is the heraldic crest of her Seymour lineage. The line of Seymour Dukes of Somerset still use it today. Tragically, like the mythological bird whose perishing body is consumed in flames from which emerge new offspring, Jane died from complications shortly after the birth of her son Edward VI, the only male heir of Henry VIII. Jane's post-partum death thus gave rise to a Tudor heir, preserving the dynasty at a critical moment. Anne of Cleves was later granted lands in Amphill as part of her divorce settlement, and from 1542, it became the administrative head of a new royal site. Years later, Queen Jane's stepdaughter Elizabeth I came to adopt the rising phoenix as a personal badge during her own reign, using it in a variety of ways, including on [struck medals](#), paintings, and jewelry, such as on the underside of another ring, the mysterious [Chequers Ring](#). Elizabeth passed through the Bedford area in 1572 during a [royal visit to Woburn](#) when she lodged with Lord Russell, Earl of Bedford. Thus, it is a real possibility the ring Andrew Akroyd found could have belonged to either queen Elizabeth I, queen Jane Seymour, or perhaps another lady of the Seymour household, such as someone like [Catherine Fillol](#).

Both queens Elizabeth I and Jane Seymour interestingly share a Fitzpatrick connection through Sir Barnaby Fitzpatrick, 2nd Baron Upper Ossory who was the best friend of Jane Seymour's son and Elizabeth's half-brother, Edward VI. Jane Seymour never lived to see her son Edward become best mates with young Sir Barnaby; and despite being half Seymour himself, it seems that Edward VI never used the Seymour phoenix badge during his reign as did his mother and older half-sister Elizabeth. Yet it is a striking icon that Barnaby Fitzpatrick might have been very familiar with due to Elizabeth's later use of it as queen.

Long before the creation of the later Earldom of Upper Ossory and the arrival of future Fitzpatricks in Bedfordshire to possess Amphill, Sir Barnaby Fitzpatrick had been sent to the Tudor court to be schooled with a select cadre of nobles, including his first cousin and future adversary, Thomas Butler, later the 10th Earl of Ormond. Despite having many elder half-brothers, young Sir Barnaby Fitzpatrick was the legal heir of Brian Mac Gilla Pátraic, 1st Baron Upper Ossory, owing to his place as the eldest son from Brian's most prominent wife, Margaret Butler. As Edward VI and Barnaby were schoolmates and as close as brothers, it is well-known that Barnaby was also personally acquainted with Edward's elder half-sister Elizabeth; likely before, but certainly after she ascended the throne. While Thomas Butler's relationship as Elizabeth's cousin is much highlighted by modern historical writers, it is often overlooked that Barnaby Fitzpatrick was just as much Elizabeth's cousin as she was Thomas Butler's; all three were united as descendants from the Butlers of Ormond: matrilineally for both Elizabeth Tudor and Barnaby Fitzpatrick, and patrilineally of course, for Thomas Butler. Elizabeth's mother was famously Anne Boleyn, granddaughter of Margaret Butler, daughter of Thomas, the 7th Earl of Ormond; Fitzpatrick's mother was another Margaret Butler, daughter of Piers, 8th Earl of Ormond. Therefore, Queen Elizabeth I and Sir Barnaby Fitzpatrick shared a distant common ancestor in James, 3rd Earl



Akroyd's ring (top/middle). Phoenix crest of the Seymour Dukes of Somerset (artist: Sodacan), and the castled phoenix badge of Queen Jane (bottom). Note the orientation of the crest faces left; hence the signet ring is carved to the viewer's right, the mirror image needed to properly stamp the correct impression in wax.

of Ormond, making them 5th cousins. Thomas Butler and Barnaby Fitzpatrick were 1st cousins, each hailing from close parts of Ireland to be schooled in London with Edward VI. While most of Edward's fellow pupils rotated in or out over the course of time, these two cousins remained enlisted until the school group was formally disbanded in the autumn of 1552 - five years after Edward VI ascended the throne and while Fitzpatrick was serving abroad as ambassador in France to king Henri II. After Edward VI's death, each distinguished themselves in military service (notably Wyatt's Rebellion under Queen Mary) before returning home to Ireland. As Sir Barnaby was heir to his father's title as 2nd Baron, he became a prominent figure in Irish politics, where he engaged in multiple hostilities with his cousin and former classmate Thomas Butler; as well as with yet another cousin through the house of Ormond, the famous Rory Oge O'More. The turbulent history of these cousins, however, must be saved for another newsletter!

Returning to Andrew Akroyd's discoveries: These small artifacts he revealed and brought to our attention are indications of a larger history; a testament to the history of Amptill and Bedfordshire and to remind us about the different lines of Fitzpatricks active in England at different periods. First, Sir Barnaby in London with his Butler relatives and personal friendships in the courts of Henry VIII, Edward VI, and Elizabeth I, who visited Amptill. The later Earls of Upper Ossory came to possess Amptill Park where they were politically prominent as MPs for Bedfordshire for decades. Amptill Park eventually passed out of their hands; yet the Fitzpatrick presence is still remembered in Bedfordshire today. For his discovery of the ring, Andrew Akroyd was featured in the August 2023 edition of *The Searcher* online magazine. He generously donated his Fitzpatrick livery button discovery to the Clan Society, where it will be treasured and valued for generations to come. Small as the livery button is, it's huge to us; and is a rare and therefore valuable treasure. His efforts ensure the button will therefore be rediscovered again and again. On behalf of our Clan Society: Go raibh míle maith agat, Andrew!



Top: Andrew Akroyd holding the rising phoenix ring. Middle: "Earl and Countess of Ossory and their Children at Amptill Park" (with horse Otho) by Benjamin Killingbeck, 1777. (Public domain, Wikigallery.org). Left: John Fitzpatrick's lion & dragon crest carved at his grave at St James the Apostle Church, Grafton Underwood; front & rear of Upper Ossory livery button.

Finding Honora: Connecting relatives with the help of the Clan Society

– By Fee Berry



Although I had been researching my family history for decades, I had a big gap in my knowledge. My father was eight years old when he was one of the first group of children to be evacuated from London in September 1939. He went to many homes in the course of the Second World War and was evacuated when news of his mother's death aged 42 came through. He had only seen her twice in the years since evacuation, and he was not permitted to go to her funeral. Her maiden name was Honora Fitzpatrick. In my ignorance, I thought this would be an easy name to research, as it seemed unusual....

My father, Theodore Richard Clarke, believed that two of his mother's sisters came over from Ireland to deal with the formalities of his mother's possessions when she died in 1942, and they took with them all traces of her - photographs and documents. His father had been admitted to a long-stay hospital some years before the war. When he left the orphanage for a hostel, he didn't know where his sister was, or anything about his mother except that she was dead and that she was born in Ireland. He had one blurry photograph of his mother. I didn't know until a few years ago that my grandfather was alive until 1973. I never met him, and he remained in hospital until his death, and there were no documents or information about my grandmother to be had there. I obtained the marriage certificate for my grandparents, but the father of the bride was shown as James Fitzpatrick, Farmer, in Ireland, which wasn't a lot of help.

My father adored his mother, and the need to know where she came from got stronger, for him and for my Aunt Phyllis. I discovered in the course of my research that each had thought the other had been allowed to be at their mother's funeral, although in fact neither had been. I tried every avenue I could think of. I asked for evacuation records and was shocked to find none were kept centrally. I asked to see the records for my father, who was sent to a really bad orphanage once his evacuation came to an end. The authorities said he had to see a social worker before they would allow him to see the records, which he refused to do. I got a pretty long lecture on the lines of: *"The time I needed a social worker was when I was eleven years old, and my mother had died and my sister was evacuated somewhere else and my father was in hospital. Not now I am 84!"* (I did receive them after his death in 2015, but they would not have helped with locating Honora.) I left messages all over the internet: on boards, websites, in blogs, on forums, letters, articles, anything and everything.



Photo of Honora Fitzpatrick. Courtesy Fee Berry.

I joined the [Fitzpatrick clan message group on email \("The List"\)](#) and posted my research interests. While most people are struggling with 19th century and earlier ancestors, it seemed a bit strange to say that I was researching my grandmother, and I didn't know where in Ireland she came from though she died in 1942. I began to reconcile myself to the fact I might never know where she came from, and I was going to have to make peace with that. I write music as a hobby, and wrote a piece for my Irish grandmother, and posted it to the clan and explained that I was searching for my lost grandmother, and that all I knew was that she was a Fitzpatrick. I wrote another piece, connected with it, which I called *The Fitzpatrick Fanfare*, and posted the link to the Clan mailing list, and more or less as an afterthought, I put a message about my research interests at the bottom of that email. I got quite a lot of nice responses to the music, and then quite a lot of suggestions about things. Ronan Fitzpatrick started phoning the Ruths in the Dublin phone book, because the death of my grandmother was registered by her sister, Mrs. B(ridget) Ruth. Colleen Fitzpatrick suggested I should look at the baptism associated with a family in Kilkenny that looked promising on the census as the details I had coincided with this family, except for the fact that their daughter was called *Hanoria*, and not Honora.



Aunt Phyllis & Theo. Courtesy Fee Berry.


At that time, I had very little in my bank account.

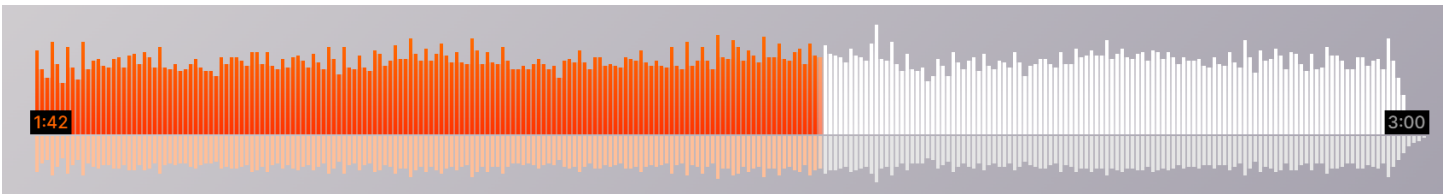
I thought it was possible that I'd look up the baptism and still wouldn't know if it was my grandmother. But I followed up and looked at the 1911 census return (which is free for Ireland) and saw that the person who filled out the census form had also mis-spelled Michael, and so I wondered if "*Hanoria*" might be a misspelling. I am not sure that if I had found this information on my own, I would have been convinced; but Colleen encouraged me to buy the baptismal record access for €5 euros. I was wary of this really, because you can spend an awful lot of money looking up people who aren't related to your family history. But I did - mostly because of her encouragement - and on the baptismal record, miraculously, someone had recorded that she married William Edward Clarke in 1930. My grandfather. None of the genealogists I have talked to has ever come across this before - a note about a marriage on a baptismal record. I must say that in 33 years I never have either, although I have found the baptismal and birth records for hundreds of my and other people's ancestors. I just could not believe what I was seeing. Of course, it confirmed that the family was her family.


I spent a bit more money on finding her mother's parents and her father's parents and had her ancestry back to 1829. My father was amazed that suddenly, after all this time, I managed to track her down. Her father was a blacksmith in the Rower, in Kilkenny. Her mother died when she was only five years old, leaving her father with seven living children from twins of three months to a boy of 12... life must have been hard. One of my grandmother's sisters emigrated to America and worked in the Waldorf Astoria hotel (although they couldn't offer me any information - I tried them!). One brother went to Canada and another to New York. I have made contact with the New York cousins. But while parts of the family spread across the world, another part of the family remained in the farmhouse in Ireland, in Kilkenny. And with Ronan's help, I made contact with the cousin who still lives in the house where my grandmother was born and with younger cousins who still live in Ireland.

I can't explain properly what a difference this information has made to me. I had a big gaping hole in my family history and as a genealogist I almost felt ashamed that I didn't know where my own grandmother came from, even though I understood the reasons why. I also wanted to be able to tell my father before he died where he came from, and was able to do that. And to know where a big part of my ancestry came from too. I was so happy, I wrote a third piece of music, which is dedicated to Colleen and Ronan, to celebrate the finding of my grandmother, and which intertwines the themes from the previous two pieces. I am eternally grateful. I had hoped to meet Ronan at the Clan reunion that year, with my aunt Phyllis, who is still alive but lives in South Africa, but she couldn't face the journey after all. I have never yet been to Ireland but hope that I may be able to do that and meet my Irish Fitzpatrick cousins at some time in the future.


"I'm permanently indebted to both of them, they helped me SO much. Through them, I have made contact with my Fitzpatrick cousins and learned about my grandmother." -Fee Berry

You can listen to the music that Fee has composed on SoundCloud. She's created an *Irish Trilogy* of commemorative music, honoring her grandmother Honora Fitzpatrick, the Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society, and specifically Ronan and Colleen for their efforts towards her success. Thank you, Fee, for sharing this with our Clan! 




- 

1 Part 1: My Irish Grandmother

▶ 100
- 

2 Part 2: Fitzpatrick Fanfare

▶ 109
- 

3 **Part 3: Ronan and Colleen (Honora Found)**

♥ ↺ ↻ 🔗 ⋮

Click on the image to link to Fee Berry's SoundCloud page to listen to her three musical tributes to the Fitzpatrick Clan. Click on the banner below to go to the Clan Society's website for more information.



THE FITZPATRICK -
MAC GIOLLA PHÁDRAIG
CLAN SOCIETY



WWW.FITZPATRICKSOCIETY.COM



2024 Fitzpatrick Scholarship Contest Announced!

– By Andrew Wallace, Contest Organizer



The Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society was founded in Dublin, Ireland in 1993 and has since grown to be a worldwide community of individuals who are interested in all things Fitzpatrick (<https://fitzpatrickssociety.com/>). Communication is mainly online and is the largest Fitzpatrick surname community on the Internet. The Society annually recognises a scholar based on an outstanding recently written contribution submitted in competition. The purpose of this recognition is to encourage the study of the history, heritage, culture, and tradition of the Fitzpatrick nation. Each year the recognised scholar will be referred to as the *Fitzpatrick Society Scholar* or simply the *Fitzpatrick Scholar* and will receive a purse of US **\$500.00**.

The Rules:

1. Entries must be received by 15th August, 2024, and the result will be announced on or about 15th September 2024. The prize will be presented at [the 8th International Fitzpatrick Clan Gathering \("The Gathering"\) in Kilkenny, October 4-6th 2024](#).
2. The competition will be adjudicated by Senator David Norris acting as single judge supported by a panel selected by the Board of the Clan Society. In the event that Senator Norris is unavailable, an alternative judge will be appointed by said Board.
3. An entry should consist of no less than 2000 typed words on any of the four themes listed above, demonstrating scholarly research, reporting and understanding, and must not have been previously published. Entries should be of a publishable standard and fully cited and referenced.
4. The competition is open to all members of the Society and free membership is open to all interested persons, regardless of ancestry. In the case of jointly authored submissions, at least one of the authors must be a member of the Society; however, only one prize shall be awarded for the winning entry.
5. The panel will retain discretion to determine if the standard is acceptable and may decide, as circumstances dictate, to announce more than one, or indeed, no scholar.
6. An unsuccessful submission may be resubmitted for competition in the first year following its initial submission.
7. A condition of the competition is the right of the Society to publish any of the entries in the Society publications with due acknowledgement. All entries will remain the intellectual property of the author.
8. Separate from the competition for the Fitzpatrick Scholar, should a meritorious contribution be submitted by a scholar aged under 19 on 15th August 2024, the panel may recommend that a special award be made in recognition of a Fitzpatrick Junior Scholar.


Entries, or queries, should be submitted to: The Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society at:

fitzpatricksscholar@gmail.com Contact: Andrew Wallace.

Note Rule #4. To join the Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society mailing list, send an email to:

listserv@listserv.heanet.ie with the message:

subscribe fitzpatrick-clan your_firstname your_lastname

Leave the Subject Line blank. Sign-up is free and can be unsubscribed at any time. 



Recent Clan Society Events

– By Andrew Wallace, Ronan Fitzpatrick, Peter FitzPatrick, Ryan Fitzpatrick

2023, the Clan Society's 30th anniversary, held quite a few events around Ireland and abroad for our members, some of which are documented here in text and photographs. If any member of the Clan Society wishes to get more involved and participate either at a scheduled Local, Regional, or International Gathering, or if you want to learn more about how you can represent the Clan Society at an event, please contact us on [the List](#). If you want to see even more photos of these and other events, you'll find them on our website, on the [Gatherings page](#).

2023 Fitzpatrick Scholarship Award at Granston Manor



Left to right: Andrew Wallace (host), Ursula & Peter FitzPatrick, Hannah Mac Auliffe, John Fitzpatrick, Hannah's partner Thomas Pool, Vincent & Mary Fitzpatrick, John & Catherine Fitzpatrick.

It was with great pleasure that I, greatly assisted by my son & daughter-in-law, Tim & Mai, and with my granddaughter Amelia acting as Chief Meeter & Greeter, was able to host the 2023 [Fitzpatrick Scholarship Prize](#) presentation at Granston Manor, previously home to [Bernard Edward Barnaby FitzPatrick](#), the Last Lord Castletown on Saturday, the 22nd of July. In attendance were Hannah Mac Auliffe, our 2023 Fitzpatrick Scholar who is a doctoral candidate at Trinity College Dublin; her partner Thomas Pool; John Fitzpatrick (Dublin); John & Catherine Fitzpatrick (Rathdowney); Terry Smeaton (Rathdowney); Peter & Ursula FitzPatrick (Dublin); and Mary & Vincent Fitzpatrick (Coolcashin). Regretfully, Ronan & Marie were unable to attend, but Ronan was most ably represented by John Fitzpatrick who delivered the following address on his behalf and then presented Hannah with her prize:

"Apologies for my absence. If I am not attending, it's because of some unfortunate health issues that have arisen in the past two weeks or so. I was particularly looking forward to attending this presentation ceremony, but once again I've had to step back.

I would like to start with some words of thanks. First, I want to thank all of you for being here today and for taking time out of your own schedule to be part of ours. While we might be a small gathering today the event is very big in our calendar. Honouring a person as a Fitzpatrick Scholar is very important to us. Next, I want to thank our sponsor. He wishes to remain anonymous at this time and cannot be here because he lives in America. The prize is all his initiative and is sponsored for 5 annual awards at \$500 each year. It is extremely generous of him, and we send greetings and our sincere thanks.



We are very fortunate to be able to list David Norris as one of us. He has been a great supporter of the Clan Society since day one and has been our judge since the start of the Scholar Prize. He is unable to join us at this time, so we send our best wishes and say thanks to him for his contributions.

I would also like to thank Andrew's son and daughter-in-law, Tim and Mai, for their hard work in preparing for today, and for looking after us so well. And the last of these 'thank you' words are to Andrew. He has already welcomed you to Granston Manor and I want to thank him for making his home available for this event. It goes without saying that this is an ideal setting to make the presentation and I can see the ghost of a previous owner shaking hands with everyone, saying, "I'm Barnie FitzPatrick and you're very welcome." Barnie would have enjoyed being here. Thanks are also due to Andrew for being the one who has promoted and managed everything to do with our Scholar's Prize since we launched it. In the academic world of history and Irish studies, he has spent many hours searching out potential contributors and their supervisors and encouraging them to submit papers. The high measure of success reflects Andrew's efforts, so a special word of thanks to Andrew for all of that.

Now, many thanks to Hannah who has submitted the paper adjudged by David Norris to be the best of 2023. Thank you for engaging with the competition, and for taking the time out of your studies at Trinity College to write your winning paper: *A survey of the relationship between Dál Birn of Osraige and the kings of Déisi Muman in the early medieval period*. My area of interest is more recent and begins around 1540. At this point, my poor old brain is full, so having an extensively researched paper that is well written up with scholarship and authority is of great benefit to me. More importantly, the level of scholarship and authority is befitting of a Fitzpatrick Scholar. I very much enjoyed reading your paper and it brought to mind the saying that the Fitzpatricks fought for everyone and against everyone, and when there was nobody left to fight with, they fought amongst themselves. So, on behalf of everyone who will read it, many, many thanks.

And now it is my great pleasure to congratulate you and declare you the Fitzpatrick Scholar of 2023, and to present you with this award. Congratulations and every best wish in your future career.

~ Ronan"





At seven, this was the largest gathering of Fitzpatricks at Granston since at least 1940 when Geoffrey Skeffington-Smyth FitzPatrick sold his inheritance. The chimney piece in the background of the group photo dates from 1654 and was formerly in Grantstown Castle. I look forward to welcoming more of you in the future, especially so if you are visiting from overseas.

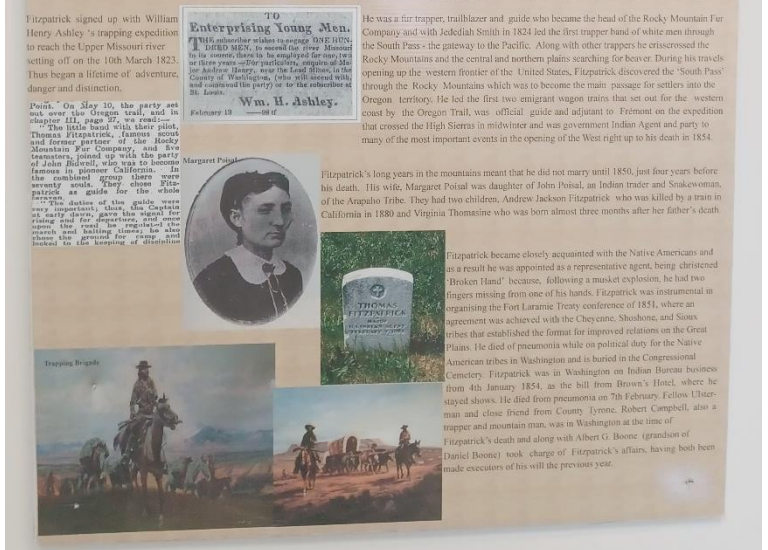
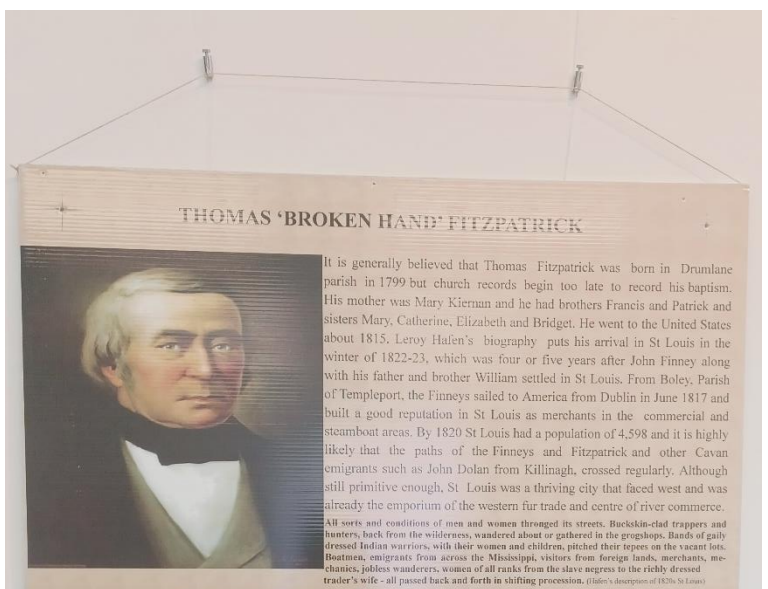
~Andrew

Cavan Calling 2023

The *Cavan Calling* homecoming festival took place at various locations across County Cavan from 27th - 30th July 2023. Hosted by the Cavan County Council, the worldwide Cavan diaspora was invited home for a celebration of the county, its people, culture, history, and landscape. Activities included lectures, displays, on-street concerts, exhibitions, culinary events, music, song, dance and more. The Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society was on the scene, led by Peter FitzPatrick who delivered a presentation on 27th July at the Johnston Central Library in Farnham Centre, promoting the Clan Society and introducing the range of our activities, genealogical resources, gatherings, website, and the international community we've built over the past thirty years.

Peter spoke with many people, with approximately 40+ in attendance that day, including making a great connection with Cavan County Council Historian-in-Residence Brendan Scott.





Clockwise from top: Clan Society materials, wall displays inside the Johnston Central Library on Farnham Street, where the local memory of Cavan-born American Mountain Man, Thomas "Brokenhand" Fitzpatrick, is kept alive (right); attendees at the library lectures that day (image credit: Cavan Calling Facebook page).



2023 Capital District Scottish Games



The year 2023 marked five years since our Clan Society began a presence at this annual local event, with our Clan Tent being one of the larger in the Clan Village receiving visitors all day long on Saturday, September 2nd. The weather was warm and sunny, with an approximated twelve thousand people in attendance for day filled with Scottish and Irish (and some Welsh!) culture. The day included competitions and activities of all types: Highland and Irish dancing, piping and drumming, harping, many bands playing modern and traditional music, a dog show, and most of all, the Gaelic heavy athletic competitions for men and women. Our tent was a hotspot for all Irish surnames, as we brought books, maps, and heraldic resources to discuss family history all day with diasporans. The Fitzpatricks marched again the Parade of Clans, joined by a band of "hired mercenaries" (a gang of friends who assisted in the tent set-up, marching with Fitzpatrick banners, and enjoying great whiskey): Gregory, Suzie, & Emily Soloviev, Nicholas Jackson, Jake Benninger, Shawn Nicholas Pinnette, and Marie & Sean Fitzpatrick. At the Games, we commemorated our late Clan Society member, Bill Fitzpatrick in the Flowers of the Field Ceremony (who recently reposed, I had only learned that very morning) where his name was read aloud to the sound of mournful pipes, as a circle of clansmen in regalia holding swords high paid tribute to fallen members of various clan societies present. The day was marked by visitation of several Fitzpatricks and those with ancestral, marriage, or genetic Fitzpatrick connections. Several visitors from Ireland were also warmly welcomed, refreshed and fortified with fine spirits against the heat of the day. The event is a great vehicle for raising awareness of our Clan Society amongst like-minded people. If you want to represent the Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society at a suitable cultural event near you, please reach out to Ryan and Ronan on the List. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿



Cuimhne Shíoraí (Memory Eternal)

Preserving the memory of the departed.

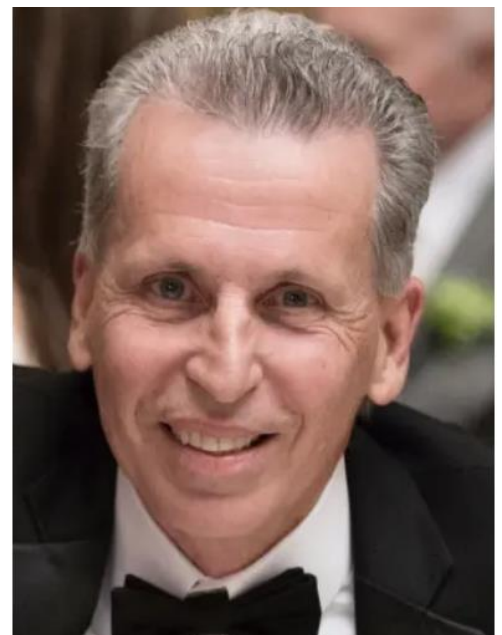
Anyone wishing to commemorate a person or loved one or may email text details & photos to the Editor (editoremeralddragon@gmail.com); entries need not be recent, and can include general remembrance, anniversaries, or significant events. The Clan Society may note the repose of bearers of the surname, or related surnames, whether Society members or not. May God grant rest and eternal memory to all named herein, in a place of verdure, and comfort their families in their grief.

William "Bill" Fitzpatrick, Jr.

William "Bill" James Fitzpatrick Jr., 72, of Hudson, MA, passed away suddenly on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at Emerson Hospital in Concord, MA. Born on October 9, 1950, Bill grew up in Peekskill and Mahopac, NY until he attended Merrimack College in North Andover, MA where he met the love of his life, best friend, and wife of 49 years, Rosemary.

Bill worked at Kraft Foods for 28 years, before retiring as a Senior Director of Global Information Systems in 2008. His years at Kraft saw him relocate from the east coast to Libertyville, IL where he lived with his family for 12 years. Bill and Rosemary called several towns home during their years together and made many friends wherever they lived. After spending 12 years enjoying retirement in Southport, NC, they spent 2 years in Elmhurst, IL to be closer to their daughter, son-in-law, and two grandchildren. They only moved to Hudson, MA a month ago to be closer to their other 2 daughters and grandchildren.

In retirement, Bill enjoyed cycling, traveling, genealogy, and sharing a nightcap at the local watering hole with his bride. Bill inherited his deep



passion for genealogy from his father. Never missing an opportunity to make a detour on a road trip to visit a cemetery or local genealogical society, he saw it as one of his life's missions to document and share his family's legacy.

Most of all, Bill's pride and joy in life was his family. He was a devoted and doting spouse, son, brother, father, father-in-law, uncle, and grandfather. He was incredibly proud of his three girls and never missed a dance recital, tennis match, or softball game. Later in life, he found tremendous joy in being a grandparent, or "Daideo." Whether it was playing dress up or telling "spooky stories," he could play with his grandkids for hours and they adored him for it.



Bill leaves behind his wife Rosemary of Hudson MA; his daughters, Erin Shelp and her husband Andy of Elmhurst, IL, Megan Wood and her husband Scott of Concord, MA, Katie Fitzpatrick and her husband Sean Bratton of Salem, MA; his grandchildren, Addie and Hank Shelp and Romy and Silas Wood; his brother Kevin Fitzpatrick and wife Colleen of Mt. Arlington, NJ; his sister Barbara Pinney of Broken Arrow, OK; his beloved granddogs Mabel and Wrigley; and many other dear family members and friends. Bill was predeceased by his parents William James Fitzpatrick Sr. and Margaret, his father and mother-in-law Emil and Helen Romanowicz, and his brothers-in-law Rob Pinney and Paul Romanowicz.

Contributions in Bill's memory can be made to the [Davis Phinney Foundation for Parkinson's](#) or the [New York Genealogical and Biographical Society](#). Bill was a much beloved member and frequent contributor to the Clan Society's online presence. He will be sorely missed. Many thanks to Clan Society member Cindy Paige (pictured) for informing us of his passing. As mentioned above, Bill's name was commemorated aloud in the Flowers of the Field Ceremony at the Capital District Scottish Games event, where fellow Fitzpatricks saluted his memory. (A [tribute video celebrating his life can be viewed here.](#)) May God rest his soul and comfort his family. Ceart Láidir Abú!

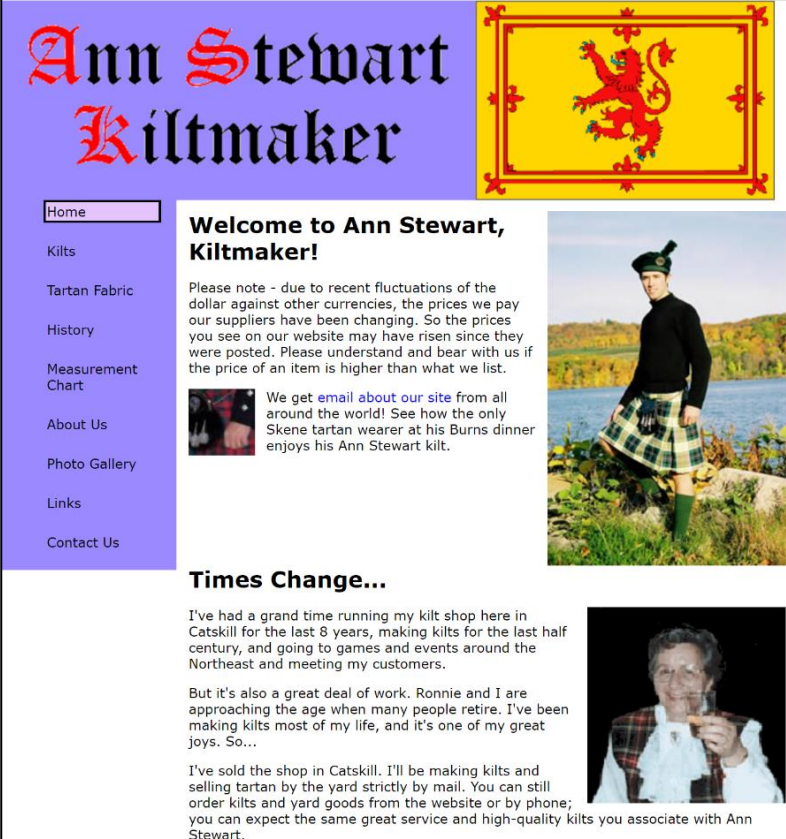
Ann Stewart

It is so hard to put into words the loss of the skilled hands and creative talents of [Ann R. \(Lambert\) Stewart](#) 84, of Winchester, NH and formerly of Leeds, NY and Burghead, Scotland. She will be greatly missed with her passing on November 30, 2022, by so many beloved friends and family. While not a Clan Society member, Ann Stewart was a kiltmaker who was a great admirer of the handsome Fitzpatrick clan tartans, promoting them through her business and featuring Fitzpatrick dress tartan prominently on her website for several years; introducing them to greater awareness.



Ann was welcomed into the world on January 16, 1938, by her parents, Martin James and Jessie Ann (Main) Lambert, in Burghead Morayshire, Scotland. Her family made their home in Burghead, a fishing village in the north of Scotland. No matter where life's journey took Ann, her heart was always back in Burghead. At the age of 15, Ann began serving her apprenticeship as a custom tailor at Davidson's Tailor Shop in Elgin, Scotland. She learned the fine skill of creating men's clothing, and ladies' dresses. She continued her career as a kiltmaker where her hand sewn kilts were known to be of the best quality. The pride that she had in creating not only a fine garment, but a legacy that could be passed down through generations was evident. Every time she attended a Scottish Games or gathering, Ann would be recognized by many who cherished the kilts that they were wearing, of which, were made by her.

She also taught others the skill of kiltmaking, starting her own apprenticeship for others to learn these skills. She had seven apprentices, the last one being her daughter, Hazel, teaching her the required skills to carry on this family tradition. Ann successfully operated her business for sixty years. Ann and her husband Ron came to the United States with their daughters in 1968, making their new home on Long Island, NY. They eventually moved to Upstate NY, Leeds, where they built their home in the woods. Ann and Ron welcomed their friends into their home and hosted many parties and gatherings. Friends were very important to them, and they found joy in sharing their home, good food, and great stories together. She will be greatly missed by her children, Hazel A. Stewart of Walworth, NY, Aileen Pulcrano of NY State, Jane Stewart Cardinale and her husband, Jason, of Winchester, NH, her grandson, Ian Stewart Cardinale of Winchester, NH, a brother, Martin James Lambert and his wife, Yvonne, of Corby, England; and many extended family members in Scotland, Australia and New Zealand. Her husband of 58 years, Ronald Stewart, predeceased her.



**Ann Stewart
Kiltmaker**

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Tartan Fabric
History
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Welcome to Ann Stewart, Kiltmaker!

Please note - due to recent fluctuations of the dollar against other currencies, the prices we pay our suppliers have been changing. So the prices you see on our website may have risen since they were posted. Please understand and bear with us if the price of an item is higher than what we list.

We get [email about our site](#) from all around the world! See how the only Skene tartan wearer at his Burns dinner enjoys his Ann Stewart kilt.

Times Change...

I've had a grand time running my kilt shop here in Catskill for the last 8 years, making kilts for the last half century, and going to games and events around the Northeast and meeting my customers.

But it's also a great deal of work. Ronnie and I are approaching the age when many people retire. I've been making kilts most of my life, and it's one of my great joys. So...

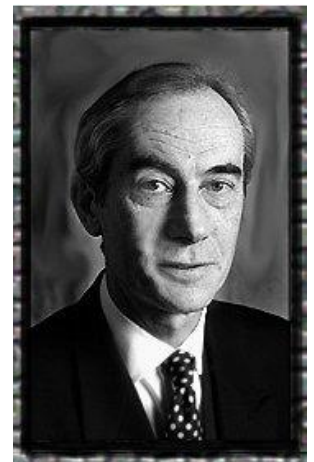
I've sold the shop in Catskill. I'll be making kilts and selling tartan by the yard strictly by mail. You can still order kilts and yard goods from the website or by phone; you can expect the same great service and high-quality kilts you associate with Ann Stewart.

(Above page) Ann and daughter Hazel visit the Fitzpatrick Clan Tent in 2022; (directly above) Fitzpatrick tartan kilt on the front page of Ann's website for her kiltshop. (ca. 2005-closing).

Sir Conor Myles O'Brien, The O'Brien, Prince of Thomond, 18th Baron Inchiquin, 10th Baronet of Leamaneh

The Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society honors the passing of 18th Lord Inchiquin, died aged 79, descendant of Brian Boru and modern Chief of Clan O'Brien. He worked to maintain his family's link with its historic estates in Co. Clare and led the first O'Brien clan gathering in 400 years and was formerly the Chairman of the Standing Council of Irish Chief and Chieftains.

The Rt. Hon. Conor Myles John O'Brien was born in Surrey on July 17, 1943, the son of Fionn O'Brien, third and youngest son of the 15th Baron Inchiquin and Josephine, née Bembaron, and brought up at the family seat of Dromoland Castle, Co Clare. The 36ft-long pedigree of the Dromoland O'Briens is reportedly kept in a vault at Lloyd's in London, and Conor could trace his ancestry back 32 generations in a direct male line to Brian Boru, King of Thomond before he took the title *Imperator Scotorum* ("Emperor of the Irish") in 1002. On Good Friday, 1014, Boru famously drove the Danes from Dublin at the Battle of Clontarf, only to be slain in his tent the same evening by an enemy soldier as he gave thanks to God for his victory. As is



Credit: O'Brien Clan.

well-known, the king of Osraige at that time, Gilla Patraic mac Donnchada was a strenuous opponent of Brian Boru, as the Osraige and Dál gCais were geopolitical enemies. The famous Cogad Gáedel re Gallaib sets a scene where the returning wounded Dalcassians pass through Osraige, where they are harassed and pursued after a staunch defense by staking themselves to the ground; however, historians are doubtful, given the propagandistic nature of the text.

After leaving the British Army in 1975 in the rank of Captain, O'Brien ran his own trading company in the Far East and worked in financial services in Hong Kong. On the death of his grandfather, the 15th Lord Inchiquin, in 1929, the title had passed to his father's oldest brother, Sir Donough O'Brien. When he died in 1968 with no direct male heir, the title passed to his uncle Phaedrig who, though married, had no children. When he died in May 1982, Conor inherited as the 18th Baron of Inchiquin (along with the title of Prince of Thomond, and 10th baronet of Lemeneagh), his father having died in 1977.

He returned to live in Ireland, but not to Dromoland Castle, which had been sold in 1962 by the 16th Baron Inchiquin to an American businessman who turned it into a luxury five-star hotel. Instead, he moved into Thomond House, a Georgian-style manor 200 yards from the castle which the 16th Baron built after selling the castle and furnished with family antiques. In 1988 Lord Inchiquin married Helen O'Farrell. From 1984 (and from 1988 with wife Helen) Lord Inchiquin ran Thomond House as an exclusive guest house to take overflow from Dromoland Castle. He still owned a sizeable residual estate, part of which he farmed and part of which he ran as a sporting and leisure venue.

As chief of the clan, he kept in touch with O'Briens (estimated at 750,000 worldwide) via the internet and established the [O'Brien Clan Association](#), which held its first Clan Gathering for 400 years in 1992. He also formed the [O'Brien Clan Foundation](#), a worldwide concern launched in the US in 1998 with a focus on charitable causes, arts and culture. It would, he suggested, operate rather like the Rotary clubs, "with little chapters of O'Briens all over the world."

The O'Brien's funeral service took place in Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Newmarket on Fergus, Co. Clare, on Saturday 10th June at 2 pm. His cousin Conor John Anthony O'Brien, 19th Baron Inchiquin succeeds him for the title. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Helen, and his two daughters, Slaney and Lucia; an immense loss to sons-in-law Peter and Reinaldo, grandsons Conn and Jack, cherished brother to Fiona, adored uncle to Isabelle, Patrick and Sophie and their spouses David, Nessa and Paul, brothers-in-law Frank, Matthew, Michael, Noel and Owen, sisters-in-law Mary, Geraldine, Bride, Faustina, Anne and Julie, nephews, nieces, grandnieces and grandnephews, extended family and friends. May God receive his gentle soul in eternal memory.

(With some excerpts from the [Telegraph](#).)



Above: arms of the O'Brien Barons of Inchiquin. (Credit: MostEpic); (Below) The O'Brien as painted by his mother.



Remember our friends Mike & Kate Lancor at Old Friends Genealogy, LLC! Click on the poster below to see their website! 🏰

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In the Next Issue...Progress on Grangefertagh's Preservation!

– By Tamara Endicott-Delafuente



On a blustery, beautiful day this past September, I headed out to acquire some footage and photographs (top & bottom) of Grangefertagh. When I arrived, it was a little surprising to see it under scaffolding and tarps. Stonemasons were working on the integrity of the outer walls that day and shared their process. For additional details, please look for the full article in the next *Emerald Dragon*. 