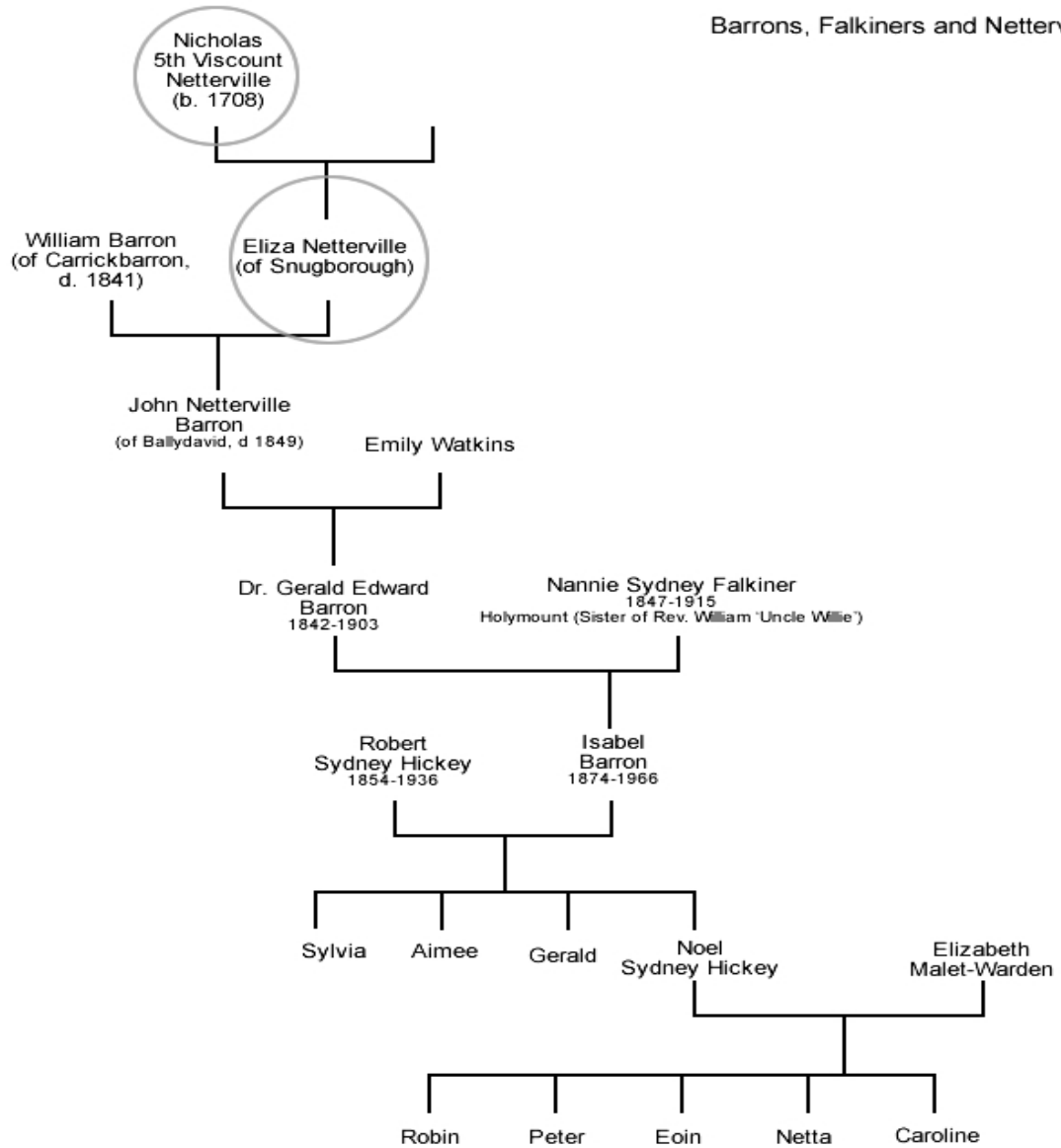


The Barrons, Falkiners and Nettervilles

Barrons, Falkiners and Nettervilles



Where do these three ancient families fit into our family tree. They are all long established Irish families, well documented, they feature prominently in our archives and they have each given us a great ~ grandfather. To start with, our father’s mother was born Isabel Barron, her mother was Nannie (or Annie) Sydney Falkiner and Nannie’s grandmother was Eliza Netterville of Snugborough More about the Nettervilles and the notorious Nicolas Netterville later.

The Falkiners and ‘Uncle Willie’

Nannie Falkiner, our father’s grandmother and her brother William (known to us as Uncle Willie) were the children of Richard Daniel Falkiner, a first cousin of Sir. Frederick Richard Falkiner, QC, Recorder of Dublin.

'Uncle Willie' was the Reverend John William Frederick Falkiner M.A., M.R.I.A. elected in 1888 a member of the Society of Antiquaries of Ireland (b. 1847), Rector of Kilmessan, a parish adjoining Skryne and Tara and later Rector at Killucan, Co. Westmeath. Our nephew Rodhan has a good photograph of him in his workshop. Willie was very skilled with his hands, working with wood, metal and silver. Our grandmother must have inherited this from him because when she came to live with us in Skryne Castle in 1948 she brought with her many of his craft works which still remain with various members of our family. Included in these are a highly polished coconut shell bowl with a silver rim and three silver claw legs. A large copper jug complete with weights and measures stamp of 'four gallons' from J. Newman, scales makers, 15 Capel St, Dublin and a copper, two pint container with wooden handle stamped by Baird and Tatlock (London, LTD., London). Netta has a beautiful beaten brass tray – postcard size with two birds either side of a bell on which the letters ISA inscribed. This was a gift to our grandmother Isabel from her Uncle Willie. The two hand carved hall chairs from the front hall in Skryne are his and with Rodhan today. The 1911 census includes Willie, aged 61, a visitor in the house of his relative in Derry, George Patterson. George's son George, then aged 15, later married our father's sister Aimee. Willie died in 1915.

Willie and Nannie's first cousin once removed was Frederick Richard Falkiner, The Recorder of Dublin.

He was born in Tipperary in 1831 and died in March 1908 in retirement in Funchal, Madeira. He was knighted in August 1890, and became Sir Frederick Falkiner and lived for some time in Ballybrack.

The Recorder of Dublin was a judicial position established in 1564 and ceased in 1933. The Recorder presided as judge in the Local and Mayor's court and at the Sheriffs court and 'caused' a salary of £1,600 p.a. in 1830. Falkiner is mentioned in James Joyce's Ulysses – in chapter 12 (Cyclops) and in chapter 15 (Circe).

Sir Frederick was a member of the Board of Governors of The King's Hospital and wrote a history of the school. There is a bust of Jonathan Swift in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, presented by Frederick Richard Falkiner and nearby is a plaque to the memory of his second son Caesar Litton Falkiner, erected in 1910.



Rev. William Falkiner, our grandmother's 'Uncle Willie' in his workshop, probably at Killucan

The Barrons

So to the Barrons. Our grandmother, as we have said, was Miss. Isabel Barron. She, as you grandchildren, has a most impressive pedigree. We are grateful here for much information passed on to us by our grandmother and also to our father's second cousin, Harry Barron who pulled together a great deal of the Barron genealogy. We are further grateful to our father's first cousin Prue Fairclough for all the information on the South African Barrons.

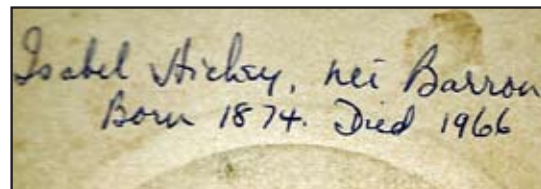
Isabel Barron's father was Dr. Gerald Edward Barron (G.E.) born at Hollymount in Co. Mayo, between Clairmorris and Ballinrobe. Our father told us that G.E.'s father was a clergyman. However the Barron pedigree describes him as just John Netterville Barron, of Ballydavid (Tipperary).

G.E., who died in 1903, was a medical doctor. At some stage he moved to Cranbourn Corner, Ascot and that is where our grandmother Isabel was brought up. Gerald was Physician to the household of Prince and Princess Christina of Scholsburg [Schulenburg]-Holstein. Princess Christina was the daughter of Queen Victoria. The Prince and Princess had two daughters, Victoria and Marie Louise. The latter fell in love with Gerald's son Willie (our grandmother's brother) who subsequently succeeded his father as doctor. The Royal Family frowned upon this liason and sent the princess on a long voyage to Ceylon, in order to forget about him. G.E. Barron was also personal physician to H.M. King Edward VII (Grandfather of Queen Elizabeth II).

G.E., as we have said earlier, married Nannie Falkiner (our father called her Aimee) and they had five children – Harold, Ethel, Isabel, Willie and Dick. Isabel married R.S. Hickey, our grandfather. Ethel married Richard Fairclough in England in 1910, she died in 1945 and Richard in 1955. They had two children who lived in South Africa, Jimmy (d. 1981) and Prue who was unmarried. Prue was very good to Aiden and Niall when they visited South Africa in 1992. Jimmy had two children, Wendy and Joan. Wendy at the age of eighteen married Alan Worsnip and had two children Janice and Lawrence. They live in Umptentwini near Durban (coincidentally the same small town as Ian Malet-Warden, our first cousin on our mother's side lives in, and they know each other!). Eoin and Nora met up with Wendy when they visited with Ian and his then wife Ingrid in the mid 1990s. Aiden and Niall went deep sea fishing with Lawrence, then a full time fisherman.

William Netterville Barron, Isabel's brother, mentioned with the Princess above, was a World War One medical doctor, married and had no children.

Dick, 'Uncle Dick' to our father, married Nora in South Africa and had no family.



Photograph of our grandmother Isabel Barron, c1895, and the note accompanying the picture.



Burnchurch Castle with (below) Harry Barron's note, 1952

And so to Isabel's other brother Harold. Harold married Mary Livingstone, in 1908 and lived in South Africa, he died in 1960. Harold and Mary had four children. The eldest Patrick Harold Falkiner (b. 1911) known as Paddy. Rosemary (b. 1913). Anthony Livingstone (b. 1916 the same year as our father, his first cousin) known as Tony.

Richard William (b. 1918) known as Bill.

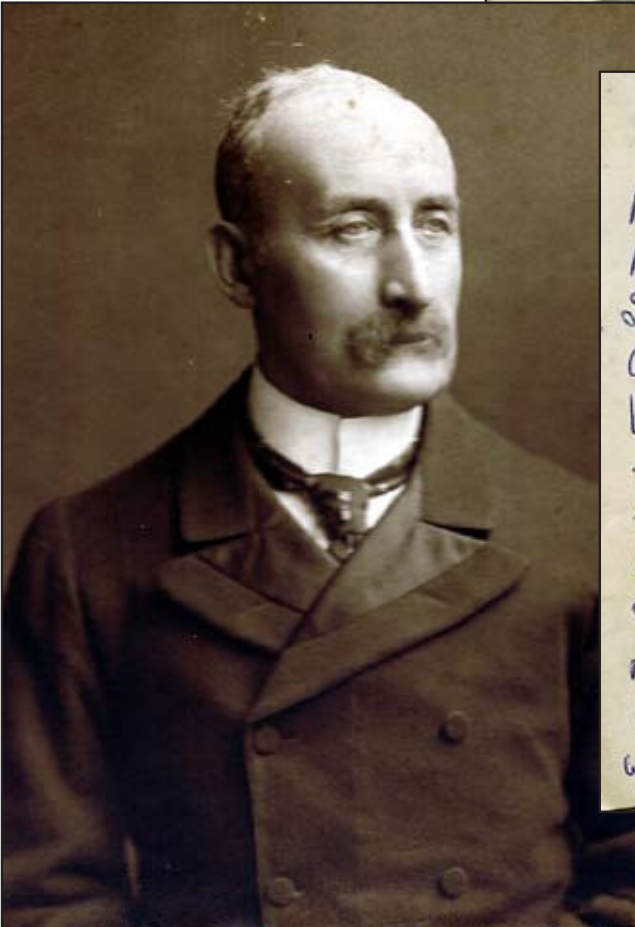
Paddy and his wife Catherine Larter married in 1941 and have three children (we have all their names and addresses) and after ordination went on to become the Bishop of George, a diocese near Capetown. Our father told us that it was Paddy who ordained Bishop Tutu and our mother, when told, said: "God will never forgive him." Paddy died in 1991 and his wife Mary lived well on into her nineties.

*Burnchurch Court
all that left in 1952!
Tipperary - near Gowran*



Ethel and Bill Barron, our father's aunt and uncle, with (below) note on the reverse

*Had
uncle
Maximus Scully
At Sandhurst*



Gerald Edward Barron
Physician to the Household of
Prince & Princess Christian of
Schleswig-Holstein - Princess
Christian was a daughter of Queen
Victoria. They had two daughters
- Victoria & Marie Louise. The
latter fell in love with G.E.B.'s son,
Willie, who succeeded his father.
The Royal Family frowned on this
& sent her on a long voyage to
Ceylon in order to forget about him.
G.E.B.

Dr. G. E. Barron, our father's grandfather, with our fathers note on the reverse

Rosemary became a nun (presumably Protestant), Sister Magdalene Mary – in Lesotho, South Africa.

Tony married Mein Halberstadt in 1945. They lived in Johannesburg and they have two girls. He spent three years in a prison of war camp during the Second World War. The two girls are Jill (b. 1946) and Diana (b. 1948). Tony and Mein called to our father in Maynooth in the mid eighties.

Bill married Theodora Byde Martin in 1947 and they lived in Rhodesia for sometime. Their two children are Martin (b. 1948) and Deborah (b. 1950). All this information comes from Prue, in an undated letter to our Aunt Sylvia probably in the late 1980s.

Prue came to visit Ireland regularly and stayed with our Aunt Aimee in Glasnevin. On one trip along with her niece Wendy, they visited Peter and Geraldine, while they were living in Newry.

We have many cousins in South Africa and we do have addresses should you ever think of visiting.

Dr. G.E. Barron, (our father's grandfather) was, as we have said, the son of John Netterville Barron. John Netterville Barron had twelve children between 1832 and 1851 (one Maria Anne Caroline lived on until 1936).

G.E. was the seventh child and his brother Albert Henry, (b.1843, d.1929) the eight. Albert Henry had six children including Albert Henry Darley Barron (1888-1946) and he in turn had three children. The eldest Charles Henry Netterville Barron (b.1916 again the same year as our father). He died in 2006. This must be Harry Barron who gave our father his research work. In a letter to our father in 1985, he writes 'Dear Cousin', in fact they would be second cousins. Harry lived and worked in London and his envelope is postmarked 'Barron and Shepherd Ltd, 134 King St., Hammersmith., Materials Handling Engineers'.

Harry gave us the Barron pedigree, although our mother had been given it previously by Isabel Barron. He also gave us 'Gleanings on the Netterville Family' and 'Gleanings of Burnchurch, Co. Kilkenny' together with photographs of the remains of Burnchurch Castle taken in 1952 which was the ancestral home of the Barrons-FitzGerald from the 14th to the 17th century (grandchildren, your ancestral home).

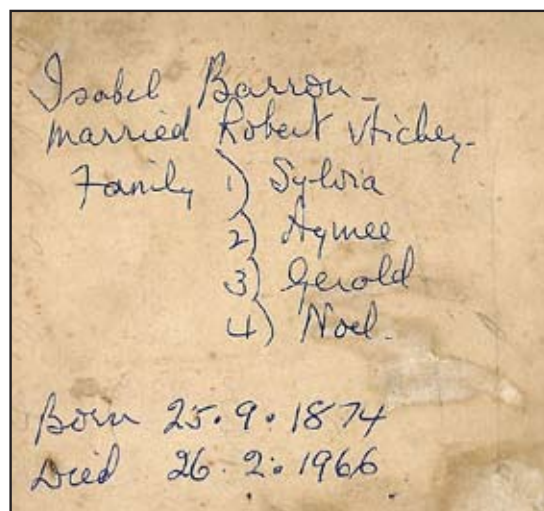
Harry has one child, a daughter Louissette Jane Barron (b.1942). She married Lewis Braithwaite and as far as we know lives in England. We are thankful to thepeerage.com for some of this information.

Another brother of Dr. G.E. Barron was Percy, born 1835 and died 1904. Percy was, strange as it seems coming from a Protestant family, a monk in Mount Melleray Abbey, Cappaquin, Co. Waterford.

Percy, obviously a devout Catholic, has written a long and informative letter to his niece, Isabel (our grandmother) replying to her request for family information. The letter is dated November 20th 1894 and encloses the pedigree of the Barrons. He invites Isabel and her sister to visit and stay at the Abbey. One would suspect that there had been some 'coolness' within the family and that Isabel, then just twenty years old, was 'breaking the ice'.



Photograph of our grandmother Isabel Barron, c1895, and (below) the accompanying note. Facing page: The Lineage of Isabel Barron our grandmother, passed on to us by Harry Barron, goes back to 910 AD.



He goes on to say, that as well as sister Ethel, “you may bring all and any of the Big Brothers with you, they will all be welcome”, and later adds: “I don’t say a word about your father’s coming, because he knows, as of old, he has nothing to do but to walk in whenever he thinks fit.”

The pedigree Percy and Harry refer to is very detailed and covering every generation, many with wives names included, back to William FitzMaurice, Baron of Burnchurch (d. 1375) and beyond.

In the seventeenth century the family were known as FitzGerald, Barons of Burnchurch, or ‘the Barons’. It was often the case, in order to retrieve or retain their lands, that families brought up some of their children Protestant and some Catholic. Hence in this case, they became two families, the FitzGerald and the Barrons. The pedigree further traces from William FitzMaurice (d. 1375) back to pre Norman invasion, Gerald FitzWalter – Constable of Pembroke (d. 1135) - and before. The pedigree goes back through Walter FitzOtto and back to 910. These are some of your direct ancestors for a millennium or more.

Hollymount, Co. Mayo, seems to have played a big part in the lives of your Barron and Falkiner great ~ grandfathers.

The Barrons were of Tipperary yet our grandmother’s father Dr. G.E. Barron was born in Hollymount in 1854 – his father John Netterville Barron is of Ballydavid, Co. Tipperary. G.E. Barron becomes a doctor and moves to Ascot where our grandmother is born.

Separately we find that the Falkiners, all originally all from Mount Falcon, Borrisokane, near Ballina, near Killaloe, Tipperary turn up in Hollymount. Richard Daniel Falkiner (b. 1818) father of Nannie Sydney (Isabel’s Mother) is born in Tipperary and died in Kilmaine, Mayo and is buried in Hollymount Churchyard. Nannie Sydney was born in Hollymount in 1847.

The coming together of these two Tipperary families, settled in Hollymount, Co. Mayo, occurred when Annie (Nannie) Sydney Falkiner, marries Dr. G.E. Barron on 9th April 1867 in Hollymount Church, Par Hollymount, Co. Mayo.

Our father, Noel Sydney Hickey, told us that G.E. Barron’s father was a clergyman (i.e. John Netterville Barron of Ballydavid, Co. Tipperary). We wonder what brought Annie Sydney’s father, Richard David Falkiner (b. 1818 in Tipperary) to Hollymount (was he a Clergyman?). There seems to be a Kilmaine connection, Brownes were the Barons of Kilmaine and perhaps one of the Barrons from Tipperary married a Browne and so came to Mayo. We will leave this to some of you grandchildren to look further into. A visit to the graveyard in Hollymount would reveal a lot.

LINEAGE OF ISABEL EMILY BARRON. m. Robert Sydney Hickay.

Gerald Edward Barron m. Nannie Sydney Falkner

John Netterville Barron of Ballydoard
m. Emily Watkins
d. 1849.

William Barron of Carrickbarry
m. Eliza Netterville of Sneyd
d. 1841.

John Barron of Ballydoone
m. Martha Donovan
d. 1820.

Pierce Barron of Carrakillarsh
m. Mary Fitzgerald

Capt. James Barron (alias Fitzgerald) of Fohagh.
b. 1660. m. Shary ni Brian of
Cummeragh & Abbeyside Castles.

Edward Fitzgerald

Roland Fitzgerald, Baron of Burnchurch,
m. Anastace Rothe of Kilkenny.

Richard Fitz Gerald, Baron of Burnchurch.
High Sheriff, 1597
m. Ismay Brown of Mulcarkin.
d. 1602.

John Fitzgerald, (alias Baron) Baron of Burnchurch.
murdered 1552.

Roland Fitz Gerald, Baron of Burnchurch,
High Sheriff 1535.
m. Anastasia St. Ledger of Tullyhanbrooge.
d. 1545

Richard.
Baron of Burnchurch.
d. 1502

Richard.

Roland Fitz Maurice, Baron of Burnchurch
1374-1448

William Fitz Maurice, Baron of Burnchurch.
d. 1375

Maurice Fitz William, First Knight of Kerry
m. dau. of William Outlawe.

William Fitz Maurice, Baron of Burnchurch.
d. 1326

Maurice Fitz Maurice

Maurice Fitz William
d. 1304

William Fitz Maurice, Baron of Kiltany,
m. Alicia, sister of Strongbow.
d. 1247.

Maurice Fitz Maurice, Baron of Kiltany.
d. 1218.

Maurice Fitz Gerald, Baron of Naas & Wicklow
Built Maynooth Castle.
m. Alice de Montgomery.
Became Earl of Chester, Arundel
and Shrewsbury.
d. 1177.

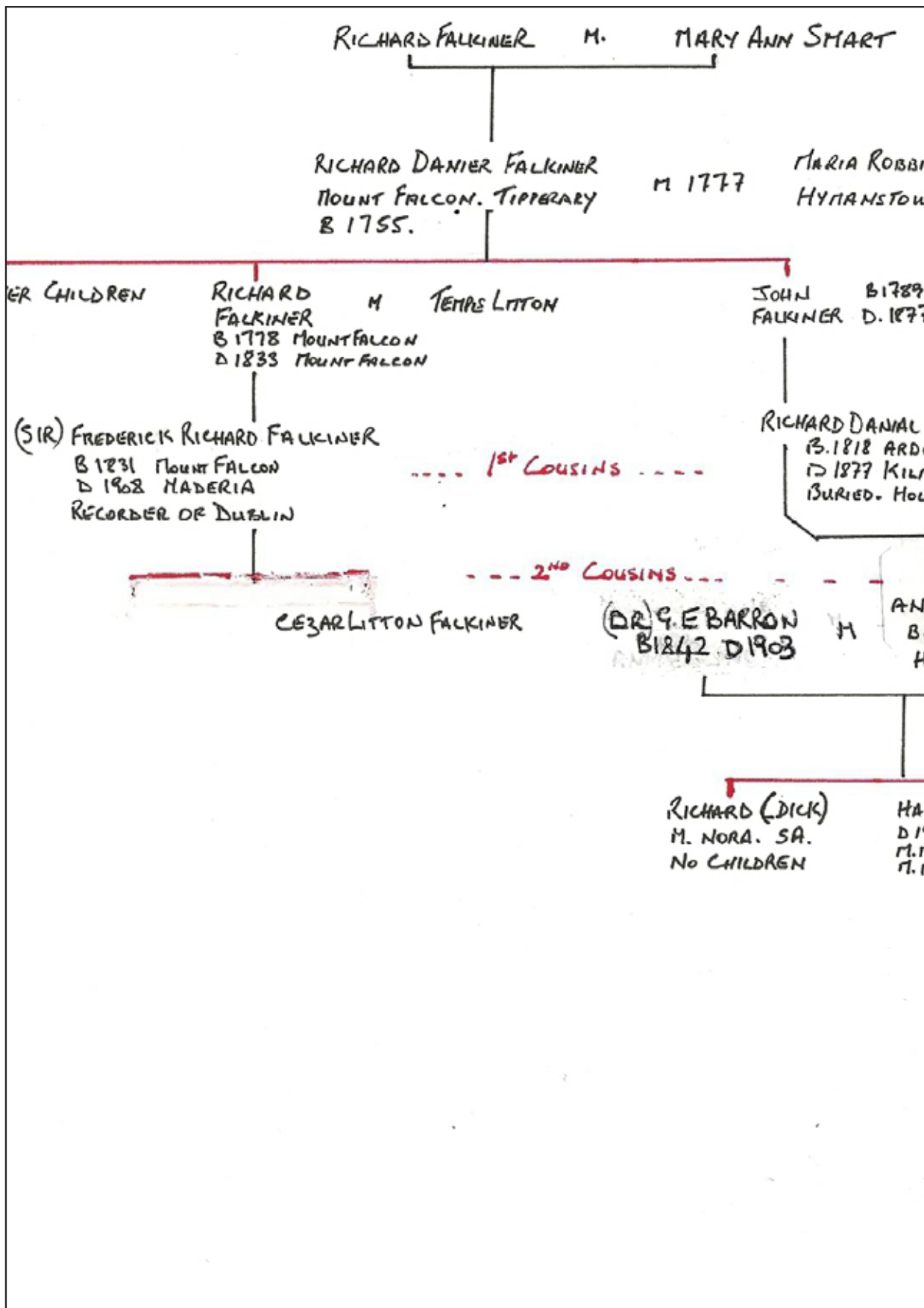
Gerald Fitz Walter, Constable of Pembroke.
b. circa 1070.
m. 1095 - Nesta, dau. of Rhys ap
Iowdur Mawr, Prince of S. Wales.
(He was also mistress of Henry I.)
d. 1135.

— // —
And before? — // —

From The Earls of Kibbora and their Ancestors, Dublin, 1858, we learn that:— The Fitz Gerald, or Barablines, were descended from Dominus Otto, who was an honorary Baron of England, and was said to be one of the family of Charandisi - or Geraldini in the later form, Barons of Florence. Otto, by way of Normandy, arrived in England, probably with Edward the Confessor, and was presented with 35 lordships in 8 English counties.

Walter Fitz Otto, mentioned in Domerday Book, 1075.
m. Gladys, dau. of Rhicort, son of
Gwyn, Prince of N. Wales.

- Gherardo 1020
- Rainerio 970
- Ramberto 950
- Rainerio 910



Latter-day Falkiner pedigree

FALKINER PEDIGREE

MS B 1755
N. TIPPERARY

WILLIAM
HEMSWORTH

MOUNT FALCON . . . M 1817 DORA HEMSWORTH B. 1787
HOLLYMOUNT Co Mayo

FALKINER
CRONEY, TIPP
MAINE, MAYO
LYMOUNT, MAYO

ISABELLA WRIGHT
B 1825 DROMORE HOUSE
D 1907 KILLUCAN

--- M 1846 TYHOLLAND Co MONAGHAN ---

HIE SYDNEY ISABELLA (REV) JOHN WILLIAM FREDERICK FALKINER
1847 B.C. 1849 'LINDIE WILLIE' B 1847 at BALLYHAYES, Co CANAN
OLLYMOUNT, MAYO D 1915

OLD BARRON
160
MARY LIVINGSTONE
108

ETHEL . D 1945
(FAIRCLOUGH)

R.S. HICKEY
M 1903

ISABELL
B 1874 . D 1966

DR WILLIAM NETTERVILLE
D. 1928

NOEL
B 1915.
M 1941
D 1989

SYDNEY FALKINER

GERALD ROBERT
B 1909 M. 1939
D 1973

VOIUST AMIEG
B 1905. D 1973
M 1927 GEORGE PATTERSON

SYLVIA ETHEL
B. 1904 D 198?

M. 1941 ELIZABETH MALET WARDEN
B. 1917. D 1999

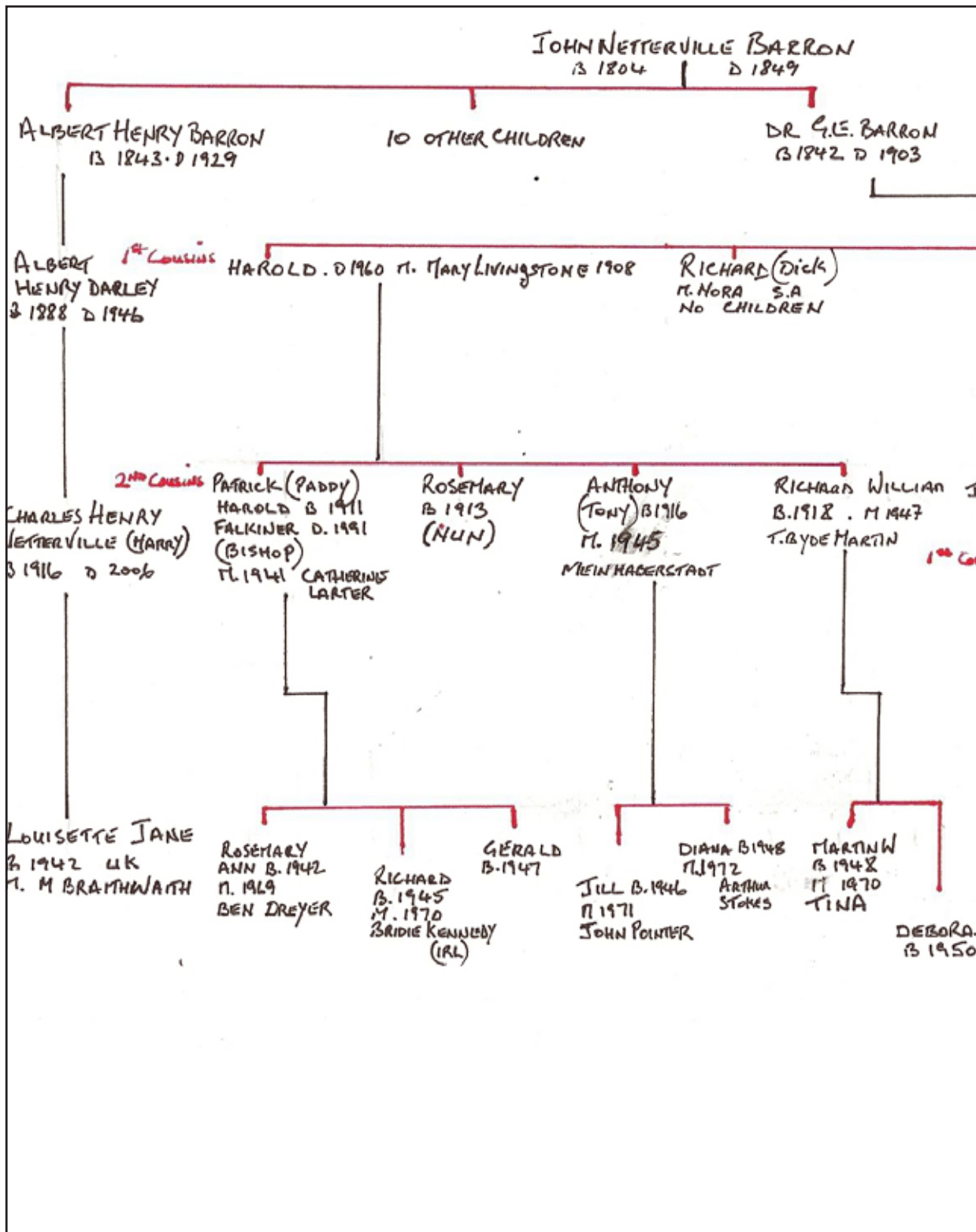
ROBIN
B. 1944
D. 2008

PETER
B. 1944
D 2008

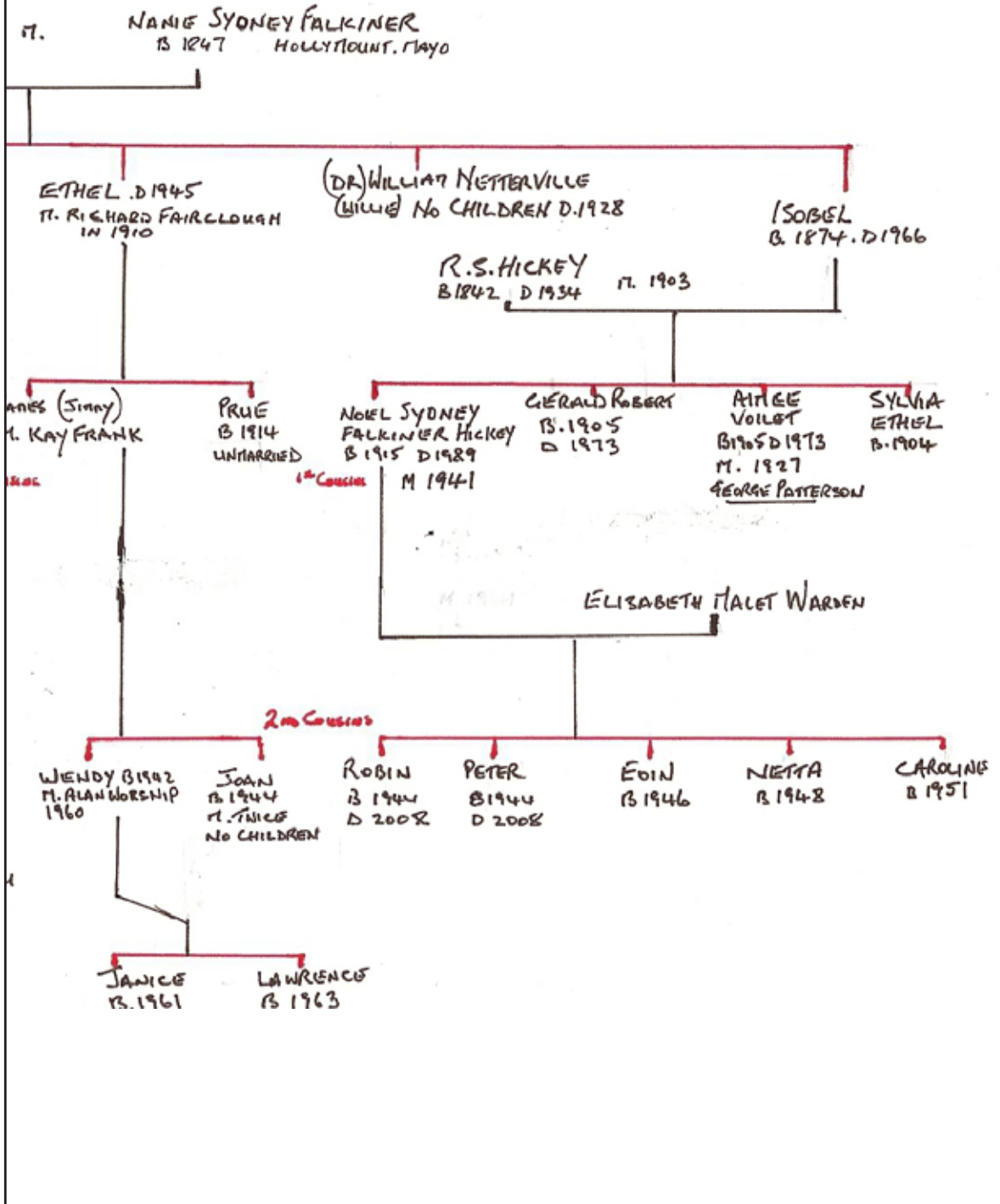
EOIN
B. 1944

NETTA
B. 1948

CAROLINE
B. 1951



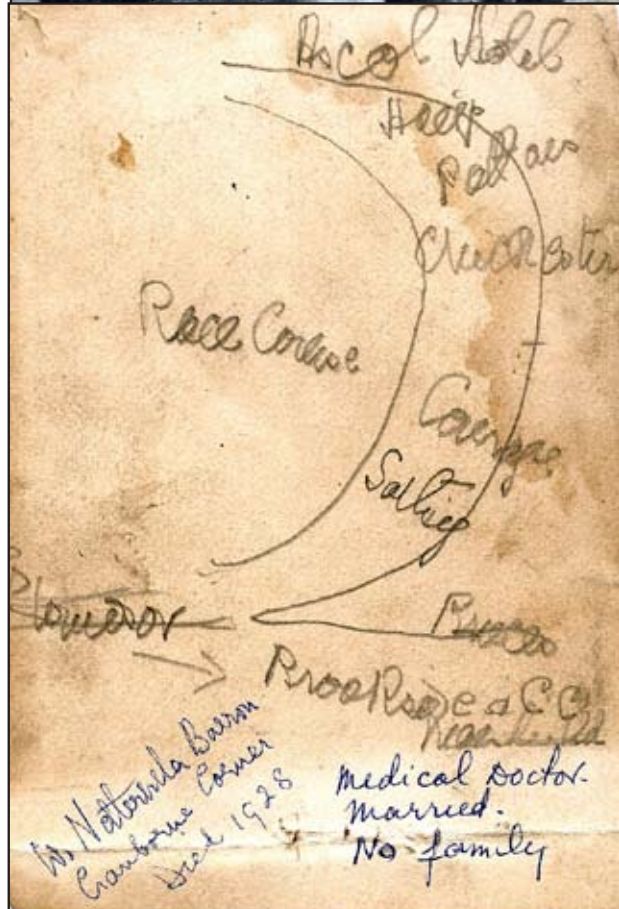
BARRON YEDIGRELE



The Nettervilles

Netta was christened Elizabeth Netterville, Elizabeth after our mother and Netta after our ancestors, the Nettervilles.

The Nettervilles, as we have said, were connected to us through our father's mother, Isabel Barron. Isabel was descended from the Viscounts Nettervilles of Dowth. They were an Anglo-Norman Catholic family. In the pedigree which we have, passed on to us by Harry C. Netterville Barron, (as we have said, our father second cousin) he tells us that Nicholas de Netterville owned Dowth, Co Meath in 1381. Harry's notes explain that, the first Viscount Netterville was raised to the peerage of Ireland on 3rd April 1622. This title died out in 1882. Isabel was descended from Elizabeth Netterville of Snughborough, Co Meath who married William Barron. We are descended through the female line. Elizabeth's father was Nicholas, the fifth Viscount Netterville. Born 1708/9. Died 1750 and buried at Dowth. Nicholas seems to have been an interesting fellow. He was instrumental in popularising the Masonic Order in Meath and held the office of Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1732. He was also indicted for murder in August 1743. This trial for murder is well recorded in an extract taken from 'The Irish Bar' by James Roderick O'Flanagan, where we get the following:



William (Bill) Barron, our grandmother's brother, of the story of the princess, with notes and map on the reverse. Latter-day Barron pedigree

**Netterville Coat
of Arms**



NETTERVILLE

Creation: 3rd April 1622

Motto: Cruci dum spiro fido

Arms: Arg., a cross, gu. fretty, or.

Crest: A demi-lion, rampant, gu., bezanty.

Supporters: Dexter, a sea-horse, per fesse, gu. and ppr. mane, legs, fins and tip of the tail, or; sinister, a lion, guardant, gu., bezanty.

The Lord Chancellor had again to assist at the trial of a Peer charged with murder. This time as President. He received the Commission of Lord High Steward during the trial of Nicholas, fifth Viscount Netterville, who was indicted for the murder of Michael Walsh, in the county of Meath. The trial took place in 1743. Very much the same course and ceremonies were observed as during the trial of Lord Santry. The Crown was represented by Prime Sergeant Malone, the Attorney-General (Bowes), and Solicitor-General. As Spiritual Peers were exempt from attending in all matters of blood, leave was given them to withdraw, but owing to the death of the two principal witnesses, whose depositions were rejected in evidence, the prosecution failed, and the Lord High Stewart said, "The House having heard all the evidence, the question was, whether Nicholas Lord Viscount Netterville is guilty of the felony treason and murder whereof he stands indicted, or no guilty?" The Peers, seriatim, were then called, beginning with the youngest Baron, when stood each in his place, uncovered, and laying his right hand on his breast declared, "Lord Netterville not guilty, upon my honour;" The Lord Steward then broke the wand and adjourned the House.-

Nicholas, your great (five times) grandfather, was honourably acquitted. Poor Mr Walsh... We were told a great story by Terry Trench of Slane. He was an author, local historian and founder

member of An Oige and a friend of our mother's. On finding out that Netta's name came from Netterville he told her that Lord Netterville's trial for murder had caused the postponement of the premier of Handel's Messiah in Dublin. This was to allow Lord Netterville to attend after his trial - and acquittal presumably –

However, we cannot get the dates to match this story as Handel's Messiah was first performed on April 13th 1742. It may have been a later performance.

In the written account by Harry Netterville Barron taken from Gilbert's 'History of Dublin' we have the following story:

“When Oliver Cromwell went with his army into Ireland, Aug. 14th of 15th 1649, he was accompanied by Nicholas Netterville, son of the 1st Viscount, a Jesuit priest, who taught philosophy in France for many years and was regarded as one of the best speakers and divines among the Irish Jesuits. The story runs that Netterville was billeted with William Nulty, a marine tailor, then living in Fishamble Street, near the conduit, his billet being signed by Oliver Cromwell's own hand. Nulty was challenged by Nathaniel Foulkes, Captain of the City Militia, for entertaining a priest who daily said Mass in his house. Nulty, who was surprised at the information, challenged Netterville, who replied: “I am so and my lord general knows it; and tell all the town of it and that I am here and will say Mass every day”. Netterville was Oliver Cromwell's great companion and dined frequently with him. Netterville took a prominent part in the debates relative to the adoption of the Irish Remonstrance in 1666, at which period, it is said, he was in the habit of going through Dublin dressed as a cavalier, with a sword by his side. He was appointed Chaplin to the Duke of Tyreconnel, when Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and died shortly afterwards at Dublin, where he had been Superior of the Jesuits”.

The sixth Viscount Netterville built Dowth Hall, Co Meath about 1770. He also built a tower house, a chapel, now in ruins and a red bricked Netterville Home for Orphans – now owned by an American religious sect. The chapel is the burial place of the Nettervilles. The sixth Viscount is recorded as being somewhat eccentric and used to attend Mass by sitting on top of the pre-historic burial mound of Dowth and training his telescope on his distant chapel.

Elizabeth Hickey - The Latter Years

After a twenty-year teaching career, Elizabeth Hickey retired from Dunshaughlin Community School, while in her late fifties. “I have too much to do” was her explanation for the early retirement. She did stay on for a few years giving adult, evening history classes. These were a great success with people coming from all over Co. Meath to participate. Local field trips played a big part of the tuition but each year the highlight was an ‘away excursion’. Peter, Geraldine, Cathal and Andrew, variously joined with these groups.

One such journey was to York. The Historic City of York was established by the Romans in 71 AD, later taken over by the Anglo-Saxons, then taken over by the Vikings, who were displaced by the Normans and later besieged by Oliver Cromwell in 1664.

Another year the class went to Ludlow, in Shropshire, close to the English-Welsh border, described as “An Archaeological Gem with its Castle and Medieval and Georgian buildings”. You can imagine how our mother was in her element leading these groups.

Retirement allowed more time for the garden and it was during these years that her garden was at its best, and all self done. Her delphiniums, six feet tall, a blaze of colour on both sides of the central pathway were her pride and joy. One summer Saturday in the mid 1990s she opened the garden along with other County Meath gardens to the public in a fundraising day in aid of the restoration of St. Mary’s Church, Navan.

The maintenance of Skryne Castle was a constant battle. The landlord did nothing but it must be said that the rent was small. It was a big three story house with a high roof. There were always leaking gutters, slates off and water tank problems along with rotting window sashes and even some dry rot.



At work, our mother in 1991, aged 74

It was impossible but she persisted and did very well. We all contributed but she worked consistently at it herself. At one stage Eoin had a bungalow in Ballsbridge which he offered her to live in. She said she would look at it. She did and wrote to Eoin a nice letter saying “thank you” but she preferred her castle, draughts and all, but if available, the Ballsbridge house would make a very useful pied-a-terre!

On the occasion of Eoin’s fiftieth birthday party, our mother collaborated with Mary Wilkinson, a good friend and neighbour in Skryne, to give Eoin a collage of photographs of contemporary Skryne. The centrepiece was our mother, 79 years old, a top a high ladder, cleaning the gutters, a definite hint!

During these later years Aunt Bryda, our mother’s sister, then widowed and living alone in a large house, with a wonderful garden, near Bath regularly visited Skryne and similarly our mother made trips to Bath. Each spring they had a standing invitation from Lady Dunsany of Dunsany Castle nearby Skryne, to go and see the shows of snowdrops, reputed to be some of the finest in the land.

Bryda and Elizabeth decided after many bird watching excursions to the Burren, Derrygooney, Swords,

Wexford and other parts of Ireland that it was time to spread their wings and go further afield. On seeing an advertisement in a Bird magazine they decided to go to Romania. At this time Romania had just emerged from the harsh Ceausescu regime (1989) and was a country struggling to survive. It was a deliberate choice on their part with their consideration being that Romania could do with any tourist money it could get.

It was definitely not a luxurious experience and for the main part they travelled down the Danube in a very small boat on which they slept. They were fed on board by the same few men who crewed the boat. The basic conditions consisted of an on deck toilet which required a second person to go along and hold a curtain if one wanted any privacy. It appears that they took these conditions in their stride and recorded having seen pelicans, ibis, whiskered terns and storks nests. The trip took them from Tulcea on the Danube down to the Danube Delta. Here they had to get into small boats and were punted into the delta in order to get a better view of the birds.

Geraldine has the photos from this adventure. These illustrate village life, a Romanian funeral, the boat, the birds, old wrecked machinery, local children – in essence a very poor but beautiful country.

All in all it was quite an undertaking for two old birds who were then both in their seventies.

One evening in the mid nineties, Eoin called to Skryne to find the two elderly sisters in the kitchen preparing for dinner. They were seated abreast a large white basin on the floor and together plucking a hen which they had just caught and killed. Around the same time Eoin met up with both ladies at Williamstown, Co. Clare. They boarded Eoin's small boat complete with woollen rugs and six cairn terriers and headed across the lake to Drumineer for supper. Trips to the Burren to see the flowers in May or June were an almost annual event for as long as they were able.

Our mother wrote the following contemporary history of Skryne for the Tara Newsletter, published in 1991:

No More Sausage Man

By Elizabeth Hickey

The closing of SEAN FOX's grocery store on the Hill of Skryne has prompted thoughts on the rise and fall of towns and thoughts of other days and other ways. Skryne, in medieval times, was a borough town, its houses grouped round its parish church of Saint Colmcille and spreading down the hill towards the castle and the Augustinian monastery. Through the town passed one of the roads from Dublin running northwards. The importance of Skryne declined when it was bypassed in the 18th century by the new turnpike road constructed in the valley between Skryne and Tara.

Aoife Begley, who has been studying statistics relating to Skryne, tells me that as late as 1841 the census return listed 41 houses in the 'town' Skryne. By 1861 the census officials had dropped the word 'town' and Skryne was listed merely as a townland. Even so, when we came to live here in 1948, the Hill still had a commercial life of its own. There were three shops: Tony Waters ran a butcher's shop, Tommy Halligan had a licensed premises and an extensive grocery and hardware business; Jimmy O'Connell also ran a licensed premises and grocery and hardware store delivering within a wide radius on four days a week.

After Tony Waters closed, the place was refurbished and Mick and Nellie Griggin came to live there. He opened up a sweet and mineral store. Mick was the first man on the Hill to have a television set and charged one penny to watch. We all crowded into his kitchen to watch special events. Nellie Griffin is remembered as kindness itself by all who knew her and Mick is remembered for his stories and for the beautiful garden he created beside his house.

bered for his stories and for the beautiful garden he created beside his house.

The grocery store closed in the seventies. Jimmy O'Connell, the Yank, as he was known because he was born in the U.S.A., died in 1984 aged eighty three years. Happily Mrs. O'Connell still runs the pub. Its old fashioned comfort and Mrs. O'Connell's interest and kindness to her customers, attracts a wide variety of Meath characters and many others from far afield.

When Mr. T. Halligan died, Mrs Halligan continued to run the shop on the Hill and their shop at Oberstown. Sean Fox came to work there in 1959 and eventually when Mrs Halligan retired, took over from her in 1972. Since then he has virtually rebuilt premises and the yard. Mr. Jimmy Swan's house has also been largely rebuilt.

All who appreciate the charm of the Hill of Skryne must be grateful to Sean Fox and Jimmy Swan that, in rebuilding, they yet retained the traditional appearance of their properties and indeed enhanced the view between them up to the hill to the old tower.

Some more personal recollections of the hill forty years ago may be of interest and may prompt others to recall those days. There was no mains electricity in Skryne. We had electricity from a windcharger as had Halligans. This gave us light, but no power. If it did not rain, water was pumped up from a well by hand. It took an hour to pump sufficient water for a bath. Ironing was done with a box iron, the iron heated in the fire or with a flat iron, fitted with a steel shoe to keep the clothes clean. Washing was all done by hand. Radios were powered by acid batteries. If the windcharger failed, which it often did, paraffin lamps were used to give light.

All milking was done by hand and in the winter the byres and sheds were lit by paraffin lamps. There was no delivery of milk from the dairies. Most people kept a cow, or if they did not keep a cow they went to a neighbour with a can for milk. Most people also kept a pig or pigs and some still killed and cured their own bacon. Farmers' wives kept poultry. The ruins of the higgler's store still stood on the hill and the higgler was remembered as collecting the eggs weekly. Up the hill between the higgler's store and the Reilly's cottage ran the "Back Lane", the only street name to survive from the old town.

Down from Skryne crossroads lived two old Skryne families. The Tobin family on the left and opposite the Calaghan brothers. They well remembered the horse and sheep fairs of Skryne and much else besides. The Bundy and Stephen Callaghan worked for the County Council keeping the roads in repair with a horse and cart and a barrel of boiling tar. The roads seem to have been in better condition then.

On the road down towards the Priest's Cross the Oakes family lived and beyond them, in the next house and on the left lived Master Smyth, the schoolmaster and his young family. Then came the Parochial House where Fr. Cooney and Fr. Fox lived. The phone number of the Parochial House was 'Tara 1'. Our phone number was 'Tara 5'. To ring out one twisted a handle and asked Mrs Manley to get the number one required. Mrs Manley knew everybody and if she was unable to get an incoming call through to the recipient she would often ring around until she found where she was.

Returning to the top of the Hill and going down towards Navan one passes the Critchley's house, and then the Farnan's to reach what once had been the Protestant Rectory and where the Talbots then lived. It was called Skryne Court. Very few houses had names of their own; one just used the name of the townland. Here may I make a plea to newcomers to Skryne to retain, in their address, the name of the townland in which they live. The townland names are very ancient and it would be sad if they were forgotten.

I have, in order not to be too lengthly, mentioned only those who lived near the top of the hill forty years ago. There were of course many others who travelled to Skryne to do their shoppings; The Duignans, Flemings, Mr. Jock Wilkinson who was so kind to the young people. One must also remember some of the characters who used to turn up from time to time. Paddy Smith was “the man with the dancing doll”. He carried a jointed wooden puppet and requested a piece of pliant wood and on this made his little finger perform a lively dance while he played a tune to her. There was also a fine looking old woman who used to come with a little grand-daughter or even perhaps a great grand-daughter. Both, when requesting a sixpenny bit, had the most exquisite manners.

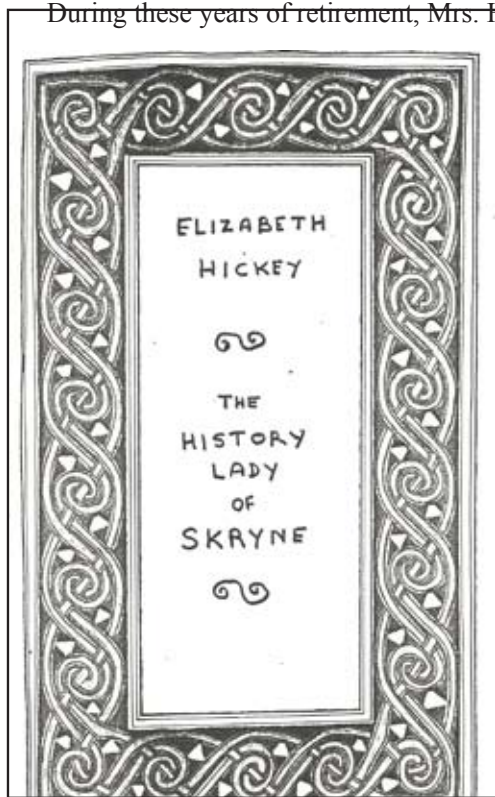
Creatures were more plentiful everywhere; farming was less intensive; rabbits and hares abounded; the streams were full of pinkeens; owls nested in the barns. I am sure some of you will remember the big owl at Corbalton which used to use the lights of a car at night to skim across the road. Suddenly appearing out of the woods and swooping silently across the car he was rather frightening. In spring one listened to the sound of the first cuckoo; in the summer the corncrake called all day and night. In winter there were rafts of green and golden plover on the fields.

Hunting in winter was a universal sport. When the hunt met at Skryne work stopped and everyone, on foot, by bicycle, by car followed the horses and hounds.

So much for the creatures of the past. More recently the dogs on the Hill of Skryne have made friends with the man from O’Neills who delivers the sausages and, upon his arrival, have been rewarded with some of his special sausages. It is not only Sean Fox’s customers who regret the closing of his grocery shop; today a bunch of hopeful dogs sits gazing down the hill waiting for the sausage-man to arrive. One cannot explain to them that even though two pubs remain, the last shop on the Hill has closed.

No more sausage man, dogs!

During these years of retirement, Mrs. Hickey, as she was known to the many school children who be-



Cover of the schoolchildren's project; Elizabeth Hickey - The History Lady Of Skryne

friendly her, welcomed them all to the castle. Primary school and secondary school alike, as well as some third level. Often they were researching projects. She willingly helped all and enjoyed it, as you will gather from the detail included in an essay of two girls from fourth class at Skryne National School. Una Begley and Karen Gallagher wrote “Elizabeth Hickey, The History Lady of Skryne”. They gave a complete description of her life from birth in Scotland to Alexandra College to Nairn Academy and Trinity College Dublin. They cover her life in St. Stephen’s Green, Skryne Castle, family, catering and Meath Archaeological and Historical Society. They finish up with a beautiful paragraph of advice from her to them as future historians.

It would be useful to have as many languages as possible, particularly Latin and Irish for working in this country. Mrs. Hickey also thinks that the most important qualities for a historian are to be critical and not sentimental and to try not to be one- sided in your views. She feels that the best way for children to keep historical information alive is to talk to old people and listen to their stories and ask plenty of questions. She is very kind and is always willing to help people who come to her for information.

The girls have included a “List of Articles by Mrs. Elizabeth Hickey” covering all her publications from 1952 to 1990. This is a wonderful work and you can see how the subject “gelled” completely with the authors.

One morning at Skryne Castle, just like any other our mother had fed the hens and was ready to go to work in her garden. There was a loud knocking on the middle hall door. A tall thin distinguished looking gentleman said ‘Good Morning, Mrs. Hickey?’, in a rich French accent. He explained that he was researching a book on ghosts and he wished to communicate with the ghosts of Skryne Castle. She brought him up to the drawing room. The visitor was fascinated with the huge infinity gilt framed mirrors, he took in the thickness of the walls at the gothic style, heavily shuttered windows and discovered for himself that the tower with its blocked up entrance door must have been in the corner of this room. She left him to communicate with the ghosts.

Later he walked down to meet her in the garden and complimented her on the show of colour, particularly the delphiniums. They chatted and he opened up some more on exactly who he was. In fact while he seemed French and lived in Paris, it turned out that he was born in Italy and was actually Greek.

She invited him back to lunch one Sunday and he came. They remained good friends for the rest of her life. He published his book and sent her a copy, which Kay now has. The book was ‘Living with Ghosts, Eleven Extraordinary Tales’ by Michael of Greece, Prince, published in 1996. Prince Michael is a cousin of Prince Philip and both are the grandsons of King George I of Greece.

When our father died in Dublin in 1988, our mother sympathised with each of us ‘on the death of your father’. A neighbour in Skryne upon hearing the news of Noel’s death called up to the castle, not quite sure how to approach the subject, expressed his sympathy and said ‘I remember him well, he was quite a pet’, whereupon our mother immediately replied ‘Yes, but in those days I couldn’t afford to keep such a pet’.

Having insisted there be no celebrations Elizabeth nevertheless marked her 80th birthday on the 30th August 1997 in her own way. A weekend in Rooskey, Co Roscommon to further research her Farrell ancestors was on the agenda, so accompanied by Peter and Geraldine she headed west on a Friday evening. They stopped for dinner at Mother Hubbard’s near Kinnegad and eventually arrived at the farmhouse bed and breakfast that she had pre booked. The next day was spent exploring church yards in the locality and a visit to Strokestown House. Later on an evening meal had been arranged with the lady of the B & B. They dined well, joining in with the other guests and when nearly finished our mother disappeared to her room and returned, much to everyone’s surprise, with a birthday cake. This was a cake she had made herself and was beautifully decorated for the occasion. To complete the celebrations the lady of the house treated everybody to Irish Coffees.

The next morning, with the news of Princess Diana’s death ringing in their ears they headed back home with a stop for lunch at Crookedwood House and Restaurant, near Mullingar. Crookedwood House was originally the rectory, Taughmon, that Rev. Noah Sydney Hickey (our great grandfather) had lived in and where many of the Hickey family are buried in the nearby Stonehall graveyard.

All in all she was probably very happy with her eightieth birthday celebrations.

To become the grand old lady, living alone and holding court in her castle was her plan. While in her seventies, as part of this plan, she put the car away, cancelled the motor tax and insurance and took out the bicycle for three months. This was a practice run to see how she would manage in later years if she wasn’t able to drive. She walked the one and a quarter miles to the main road, took the bus to Dublin and Navan and managed very well.

So when, in the spring of 1998, on a visit to the doctor she discovered that there was something wrong, it came as quite a shock. It didn’t however stop her from going on a trip to Northern France with Netta, Peter and Geraldine to see the Bayeaux Tapestry. The tapestry, which is on display in a museum in Normandy, gives a vivid pictorial record of the invasion of England by William I (The Conqueror). She had used an image from this tapestry on the cover of her book ‘Skryne and the Early Normans’.

They returned from France and our mother went for medical tests. These proved the worst, she was terminally ill. We visited her in Navan hospital and she bravely remarked ‘life’s a lottery and I’ve had more than my fair share’. Our mother decided to stay at home for as long as possible and alone. She did and died three months later in her castle on January 12th 1999. Those three months were quite traumatic and at the

same time often quite funny. Well wishers came from far and near. We took it in turns to stay day times. She would become very tired, but still there was a constant stream of callers in person, by telephone and by post. 'Tell them I can't see them, I'm too busy dying' she would say in exasperation, but always did meet everybody.

One old couple arrived from North Meath; they had had their wedding reception at Skryne Castle in the early fifties. Our mother recalled them well. He had become very drunk and had fallen asleep. All of the guests and staff had departed with only a distressed bride and our mother to deal with him. They had no transport so she managed to get the couple upstairs to the Tower Room to spend the first night of their married life. The next morning she gave them breakfast and drove them to the bus. Now half a century later they had heard she was ill, and were returning to say 'thank you'.

There was 'so much to be done'. She decided not to go back into the garden, told friends and family to take what they wanted and we all did. Clonard, The Story of an Early Irish Monastery was with the printer, Mr. Funge of Elo Press in Rialto, and had been for some time. Eoin brought his mother to visit him to try to hurry him up. 'Take your time' said Mr. Funge, an old man himself 'sure there's plenty of time'. 'No' she replied, 'I'm dying'. 'Not at all' he replied, 'you'll have lots of time, I know someone that the doctors told they were dying, long ago and they lived on for years and you're looking grand, there's no hurry.'

She put a bomb under him and he did produce the final proofs and the finished cover which she approved before she died. Clonard was finally published a few weeks later. We launched it with Government Minister, Noel Dempsey T.D. later that spring at Clonard.

Elizabeth Hickey passed away in her own bed, as was her wish, on a Tuesday morning. Geraldine, Netta, Eoin and Christina were with her. Afterwards Geraldine opened the window to allow the spirit away.

We waked her in the dining room where she had entertained so many to those glorious lunches. Charles and George, Aunt Bryda's sons came from England. We carried her remains out through the front hall for the final time, a truly emotional moment, to a large crowd of friends and neighbours who had gathered to say farewell.

John Clarke, the young clergyman in Navan had come to visit our mother before she died and together they arranged the funeral service. This was to be the first large gathering in St. Mary's Church in Navan since the renovations – which our mother had supported earlier by opening her garden.

Skryne Castle as we have said was a rented property and now without an occupier had to be returned, after fifty years, to the landlord. We, all the extended family, set about the task immediately. Granny Elizabeth had carefully prepared a list and had diligently placed stickers on the bottom on most of her heirlooms around the castle. These were for the grandchildren and they had been told 'When I'm gone, just walk in and take whatever has your name on it' and they did just that. There was also much much more. Fifty years of hoarding, including a back room set up for 'in the event of a nuclear bomb', which contained boxes of batteries, a radio, dry biscuits, tinned foods and numerous plastic drums of water.

There were her papers which included manuscripts, notes and research, letters, unpublished plays and short stories. 'Instructions to Mrs. Saunders in care taking Skryne Castle 1965', 'Iron age notes, guide books and pamphlets from Russia, Romania, South Africa visits 1965-96' and much more.

In the final months our mother had carefully put much of this together in well marked boxes. Peter and Eoin later completed the documentation and boxing and in November 1999 Dr. Bernard Meehan, Keeper of the Manuscripts at Trinity College Dublin came in his estate car and 'took the lot'. We have kept a full list of the papers that went to Trinity.

After her death there were many tributes. To Elizabeth Hickey, the local lady, the historian, the writer, the animal lover and bird watcher. Perhaps the most poignant tribute was the most local.

First let us explain that our mother was a prolific letter writer. For fifty years the postman had left the post and collected the outgoing letters. The front hall door at Skryne Castle was always open, there was a pair of 'Uncle Willie's' hand carved chairs on either side of the hall, these chairs were part of the furniture that came to Skryne with our grandmother over half a century earlier.

It was from one of these chairs that the final post was collected. The evening before she died, she had left a letters for the postman on the chair, who would have picked them up just as she died. One letter was to Mr. Gerard Perry, editor of the Rathfaigh, Skryne, Tara newsletter. The letter was published in her own handwriting just two days later and read as follows.

*Skryne Castle
Tara
Co. Meath*

8th January 1998

Dear Mr. Perry,

I have been very ill lately. I feel I must thank the kind neighbours for their prayers and thoughts during my illness and would be grateful if you could do it through the Skryne Newsletter. Their good wishes and thoughts have comforted me greatly and I pray for all.

*Yours,
Elizabeth Hickey*

The following week, the Rathfaigh, Skryne, Tara Newsletter published a lovely tribute; ‘Her friends and family will never forget this remarkable woman....’.

The Meath Chronicle published a poem by Thomas Murray:

Elizabeth

*We guessed early on
That this was not the regular run
As far as the next bend and back
Hot on the trail
Of some warrior bard
Or crouched in ambush
At the entrance to some ancient mound
Pen, ready to pounce*

*As wrapped in myths and legends
You didn't even wait
Until the last drops had danced
On the hard pavement
Outside the old stone church
With the varnished pews
And the Gothic ceiling*

*Before setting out
For galaxies still sulking
In their own oblivion
Centuries, still uncontaminated by history*



Peter and (below) Geraldine at the John Boyle O'Reilly memorial in Boston



Muintir Mhathuna, Mr. Diarmuid O'Mhathuna in Muintir Mhathuna, the O'Mahony Journal, Number 22, 1999, paid a wonderful tribute to "Elizabeth Hickey – A remarkable woman... Meath has lost one of its foremost local historians... a remarkable woman, of independent mind, with a passionate interest in history and nature as well as being an inspired cook, lace maker and dressmaker".

Shortly before our mother died, she asked Netta to write to Prince Michael of Greece telling him of her death. Netta received back a very sincere letter of sympathy.

Rioch Na Midhe, the journal of the Meath Archaeological and Historical Society published a four page tribute by Fr. Gerard Rice, President of the MAHS.

Fr. Rice writes:

"... she was one of the formidable women who, with Fr. Callary ..., in 1955 founded our society, began the publication of the Journal... They were an ecumenical quartet, Mrs. Conway and Mrs. McGurl being Catholic and Dr. Beryl Moore and Mrs. Hickey being members of the Church of Ireland ... Mrs. Hickey was by far the most junior of the quartet. As she was very definite in her views and robust in expressing them, one would need to have thought deeply about the matter in controversy and be equally robust in expressing ones ideas if there was any chance of their being adopted..."

Sister Carmel Smith, a neighbour and life long friend in "Elizabeth Hickey, A Personal Tribute" published in the Meath Chronicle on 6th February 1999 wrote "Modern Ireland has little time for heroes or heroines of an earlier era, but my memories of Mrs. Elizabeth Hickey date back fifty years and I unashamedly acknowledge her as one of my heroines and role models....".

In her column “Archaeology” in the Irish Times, Eileen Battersby wrote on 7th February 2001

“Since its revival in 1954 the Meath Archaeological and Historical Society has been among the most active and productive in the country. Academics invariably defer to the immense contribution by the local historians and archaeologists. The late Elizabeth Hickey of Skryne Castle typified this through her long and rewarding passion for the rich history of County Meath, producing valuable books, articles and insights.”

“Among the society’s most distinguished former members, Hickey, an engaging and candid original and mother of five who died on January 12th 1999, at 81 – a couple of days after her last book, Clonard – The Story Of An Early Irish Monastery 520-1202 arrived back from the printer – combined the finest qualities of a working archaeologist; imagination, curiosity and meticulous research.”

We are not fully sure who his sources are, perhaps the Meath historian Brian Nugent, but Roy Garland, the Northern Ireland newspaper columnist in his Irish News, Monday column, May 3rd 1999, wrote:

“A friend recently told me how a Protestant mother of five children in Navan could not afford to educate her children in a Protestant school. She approached the local Catholic priest who arranged for them to attend the local Catholic school but he excused religious instruction.

The mother was the late Meath historian Elizabeth Agnes Hickey, who later became advisor to the Catholic Bishop of Meath. She died early this year and on her funeral service leaflet there is a quotation from John Boyle O’Reilly who was born near Drogheda and became a member of the IRB.

He carried his memories of the Boyne Valley to Australia and the USA.”

It was fitting that a book marker was chosen by the family as a memorial card and the words to remember our mother by are those of John Boyle O’Reilly, author, poet and editor of the Boston Pilot. Our mother used the same words of John Boyle O’Reilly to open her book – ‘I Send My Love Along The Boyne’.

John Boyle O’Reilly was born at Dowth Castle on the Boyne in 1844. He was sentenced to twenty years exile in Western Australia for revolutionary activities.

Having escaped he made his way to the United States never to be able to return to his beloved County Meath again. Shortly before his death he wrote to his friend in Ireland. His words are worthy of repeating because this is the very same countryside that was so beloved to Elizabeth Hickey:

“I may never go to Drogheda but I send my love to the very fields and trees along the Boyne from Drogheda to Slane. Sometime for my sake, go out to Dowth alone, and go up to the moate, and look across the Boyne, over to Rossnaree to the hill of Tara and Newgrange and Knowth and Slane, and Mellifont, and Oldbridge and you will see there the pictures that I carry forever in my brain and heart...”

Peter and Geraldine, while visiting Boston went with Cathal, who was working there, to visit the John Boyle O’Reilly memorial completed in 1896 and set in ‘Black Bay’ near the Boston Red Sox’s Fenway Park. The memorial by Daniel Chester French, is quite large and consists of two castings, one with representations of Erin, the other a bust of O’Reilly.

O’Reilly is buried in Massachusetts but in 1903 a Celtic cross was erected in his memory above the

Trinity College Library Dublin



University of Dublin

Mr Eoin Hickey
Rathenree
Esker Lane
Lucan
Co Dublin

Mr Peter Hickey
224 Ryevale Lawns
Leixlip
Co Kildare

8 November 1999

Dear Eoin and Peter

Many thanks to you both for the kind donation of your mother's papers to the College Library, and for your help this morning. We are delighted to add them to our collections, and have accessioned them as MS 11096. After a period we propose to arrange and list the papers for the use of researchers. We shall transfer ephemeral printed material to the care of our Department of Early Printed Books and Special Collections. There is likely to be a residue of material which we shall not wish to retain, and we shall return that to you.

As Peter is the copyright holder, we shall direct to him any future enquiries regarding publication or copying.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding your mother's photographs of monuments, inscriptions etc presently with your sister Netta. We should appreciate the opportunity of adding these to the archive. The same would apply to her diaries, now with her sister-in-law, as we generally work to the principle of preserving the integrity of a single collection to as great an extent as possible.

I look forward to hearing from you again when you are ready.

With renewed thanks.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Bernard'.

Bernard Meehan
Keeper of Manuscripts

Trinity College Library College Street Dublin 2 Ireland
Telephone (+353 1) 677 2941 Telex 93782 Fax (+353 1) 608 2690
Librarian: W. G. Simpson, MA, ALA, FRSA

Letter from Trinity College Library Dublin, November 1999 acknowledging the items deposited with the library. These include: Plays and Stories, Telltown; notes and cuttings, Skryne and the Early Normans; manuscripts and proofs; notes, cuttings and papers on Skryne Castle, Thomas Cusack notes, Russian/ Russ notes, Francis Stewart, Earl of Kildare, Kilcarne and The Boyne Bridge notes; notes on William Nugent; Board of National School (Skryne) notes; Skryne Brooch, British Museum; Monument to Sir. Robert Cusack by Elizabeth Hickey B.A.; notes of lecture given in T.C.D. on William Nugent and other Green Cockatrice notes and proofs; Survival - Nuclear War handbook and own notes; Clonard research, South African visit; Baltic cruise, Romanian and Danube delta notes and cuttings and others

One sunny Sunday afternoon in September 1999, all the family gathered at the lake at our mother's beloved Derrygooney, probably about thirty souls. After a grand picnic lunch, we launched Granny Elizabeth's Yak, her small, plastic boat. Grandchildren, Deirdre and Aiden set sail for the centre of the lake where they cast her ashes along with a basket full of coloured flowers, some from the garden at Skryne. We watched from the shore while the flowers glistened in the sun and the current took Granny Elizabeth to the other side of the lake and beyond.

As our mother's ashes had been spread on the lake and Derrygooney, we didn't have a grave or memorial to visit or remember her by. The Castle still stands at Skryne but is now home to a French family. She wouldn't have wanted a marble mausoleum but perhaps would have approved of a high cross. After a decade of wondering what to do and perhaps prompted by the deaths of Robin and Peter we finally erected a very fitting memorial stone, beautifully carved by the Dublin sculptor, Benedict Byrne. It is a limestone plaque with a bronze insert erected in the churchyard, on top of the hill in Skryne, beside the tomb of her good friend, Sir. Robert Dillon and overlooking her beloved Tara and the Boyne Valley.

Treasure Hunt

Our ancestors have left much after them not least ourselves and yourselves and all our cousins in South Africa, India, America, France, Jersey and elsewhere including for some, the throne in Sweden. They have left us a treasure trove of artefacts and places of interest, which you may wish to seek out in your own good time:

Derrygooney Lake, Co. Monaghan.

Hickey gravestones in St. Mary's Church, Mary Street.

Bust of Jonathan Swift presented to St. Patrick's Cathedral by R.F. Falkiner.

Paintings on display in the National Gallery by Thomas Hickey.

Portrait of George, IV Viscount Townshend, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in the Mansion House drawing room by Thomas Hickey.

The portrait by Thomas Hickey in Kilmainham Goal.

Marble monument to David LaTouche in Delgany Church by John Hickey.

Rowan Tree planted in 2009 at Rathinree in memory of Robin and Peter.

Hamish Malet Warden's grave in Jonkersbosch War Cemetery , Nijmegen, Netherlands. Plot 12, Row B.

Grave no 1 – 3.

The Woodhead family vault in the the Extra Mural Cemetary, Woodvale, Brighton.

The Pennycuick grave at All Saints Episcopalian Church, Challoch, Newton-Stewart, Scotland.

Memorial to the Battle of Chillianwallah erected in front of the Royal Chelsea Hospital in London, which has Lt. Col. John Pennycuick's name on it.

Tombstone erected by Sarah Pennycuick above her husband's and son's graves in Chillianwallah, Punjab..

Burnchurch Castle, Co. Kilkenny.

The view of Skryne from the Hill of Tara.

Grace and Favour Apartments in Hampton Court Palace where Sarah Pennicuick lived out her days.

Castlecomer Discovery Park, formerly Castlecomer House, home of Sir Christopher Wandesforde.

The memorial stone erected to memory of Elizabeth Hickey and Robin and Peter Hickey in the

The view of Skryne Castle from the south side of The Hill of Skryne.

The Old Rectory at Taughmon, Crookedwood, Co. Westmeath, former hotel and restaurant.

Ambrose Hickey's grave in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Los Angeles.

Hickey Gravestone at Stonehall Churchyard, Crookedwood, Co. Westmeath.

"The very fields and trees along the Boyne from Drogheda to Slane" as memorised by John Boyle O'Reilly.

The papers of Elizabeth Hickey at the Meath County Library, Navan.

The papers of Elizabeth Hickey in The Library at Trinity College Library.

Reading Choices

I Send My Love Along The Boyne by Elizabeth Hickey.

Skryne And The Early Normans by Elizabeth Hickey.

The Legend Of Tara by Elizabeth Hickey.

Clonard by Elizabeth Hickey.

The Life Of St. Finain by Elizabeth Hickey.

The Green Cockatrice by Elizabeth Hickey.

Désirée by Annemarie Selinko.

Ulysses by James Joyce's – References to Frederick Falkner in chapter 12 (Cyclops) and in chapter 15 (Circe)

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de Carteret, Guy 5
de Carteret, John, Earl of Granville 5
de Carteret, John, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland 5
de Carteret, Sir Phillip 5
de Netterville, Nicholas 11
Delgany Church 4
Derby 4
Derrygooney 12
Diana, Princess 12
Dowdh Hall 11
Dublin University Missions 3
Duignan's house 12
Dunsany Castle 12
Dunsany, Lady 12
Dunshaughlin Community School 12
East India Company 4
Edwards, Hilton 3
Elizabethville, New Jersey 5
Elliot, Herb 2
Emmerson, Terry 5, 8
Emmett, Mary 4
Emmett, Robert 4
Emmett, Dr. Robert 4
Fairclough, cousins 4

Finn, Mary (author) 4
 Finnstown House Hotel 4
 FitzGerald, Desmond 2
 FitzGerald, Garrett 2
 FitzGerald, Maurice, Baron of Naas 1
 Forest Lawn Cemetry 4
 Fox, Fr. 12
 Fox, Sean 12
 Fox, Charles James 4
 Franks, Miss Lucy 2, 3
 Freeman of City of Dublin 4
 Gahn, Murial 2
 Gate Theatre 3
 Gerald, Uncle 4
 Gibson, Mel 4
 Governor General of Ireland 1
 Grafton Academy 3
 Grammer School, Drogheda 2
 Granville, Sir Richard 5
 Green St. Court House 2
 H.M.S. Minotaur 5
 H.M.S. Saladin 5
 H.M.S. Vanity 5
 Halligan, Tommy
 Hampton Court Palace 8
 Handl's Messiah 11
 Hart, Kathleen 11
 Haw Haw, Lord 5
 Heatfield House 10
 Hickey, Frances, (artist's daughter) 4
 Hickey, Ambrose 4
 Hickey, Anna (m. Aiden) 4
 Hickey, Anna 4
 Hickey, Blaney 4
 Hickey, Charlotte 4
 Hickey, Edmund 4
 Hickey, Elizabeth (great aunt) 4
 Hickey, Elizabeth 1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
 Hickey, Geraldine 4, 8, 12
 Hickey, Isabella 4
 Hickey, John, Sculpture 4
 Hickey, Kay 1, 10, 11
 Hickey, Mary 4
 Hickey, Noah, b.1825. 4
 Hickey, Noel. S. 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11
 Hickey, Noah, b.1689. 4
 Hickey, Nora 7
 Hickey, Rev. Noah Sydney 4
 Hickey, Robert S. 4, 11,
 Hickey, Rosemary (baby sister) 5
 Hickey, Thomas, Artist 4
 Hickey, William (Noel's half brother) 4
 Hickey, William 4
 Hickey, William, d.1775. 4
 High School, Dublin 7
 Hogan, Kathleen 7
 Hogg, Maria 8
 Holloden , Bagnalstown 10
 Hollymount, Co. Mayo 11
 Horn Road, Brighton 10
 Hubert, Mrs. Ann 5
 Husband, Annie 5
 Hyde Park, Killucan 4
 I Send My Love Along The Boyne 9
 I.C.A. 2, 3, 7
 India 8
 Ingres, Jean-Auguste-Dominique 10
 Intel 7
 International League of Antiquarian Booksellers 9
 Irish Holiday Hostel Association 7
 Jackson, Michael 4
 Java 8
 Jersey 5
 Jonesboro 7
 Jonkersbosch War Cemetry, Netherlands 5
 Jury's Hotel 7
 Kats, Greg 7
 Kats, Ian 7
 Kats, Nicolas 7
 Kats, Tuckerman 7
 Kealy, Willie 7
 Kennedy, Jaqueline 7
 Kennedy, President J.F. 4
 Kent 3
 Kilashee Church 8
 Kilfree, Co. Sligo 8
 Killeen Castle 7
 Killucan, 11
 King's Hospital 11
 Kinnehan's Tobacco Merchants 2, 4
 Knight and Petch 3
 La Touche, David 4
 Larter, Catherine 11
 Le Maistre, Jane Anne 5
 Le Maistre, Phillip 5
 Lethbridge, Rev. W 4
 Linden Nursing Home 7
 Lismullen, Tara 10
 Livingstone, Anthony 11
 Livingstone, Mary 11
 London Zoological Society 10
 Ludlow 12
 Macartney, Lord George (Embassy to China) 4
 MacLiamoir, Michael 3
 Madeira 11
 Madras 4

Malet-de Carteret, Col. Edward Charles 5
 Malet-Warden, Agnes 3
 Malet-Warden, Bronwyn 5
 Malet-Warden, Charles, Uncle 3, 5, 8
 Malet-Warden, Edward (Teddy) 5, 7, 8
 Malet-Warden, Edward Cecil (E.C.) 3, 5, 8, 10, 11
 Malet-Warden, Elizabeth 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11
 Malet-Warden, Hamish, Uncle 5, 8
 Malet-Warden, Ian 5, 11
 Malet-Warden, Ingrid 5, 11
 Malet-Warden, Jo 5
 Malet-Warden, Margaux 5
 Malet-Warden, Marigold (Wendy) 5
 Malet-Warden, Michael 5
 Malet-Warden, Nicola 5
 Malet-Warden, Tracey 5
 Manley, Mrs. 12
 Mansion House 4
 Marie Louise, Princess 11
 Marzapore, P&O Steamer 4
 Mc Gurl, Mrs. 12
 McInerney, Amby, 7
 McInerney, Builders 7
 McLoud, Richard 7
 McLoud, Suli 7
 Meath Archaeological and Historical Society 9
 Meath Chronical 7
 Meath Chronicle 12
 Meath County Library 1
 Mecca 4
 Meehan, Dr Bernard, Keeper of Manuscripts, T.C.D. 12
 Michael of Greece, Prince 12
 Montreaux Palace Hotel 7
 Moore, Dr. Beryl 12
 Mount Falcon, Co. Tipperary 11
 Mount Temple School 5
 Mountjoy School 5
 Moydrum 4
 Moyne, Lord 7
 Murnane, Dr. 7
 Murray, Thomas 12
 Nairn 3
 National Gallery of Ireland 4
 Natta, Camille 5
 Natta, Gilbert 5
 Natta, Laurent 5
 Natta, Nicola 5
 Natta, Noel 5
 Netterville, Eliza 11
 Netterville, Nicholas, 5th Vicount 11
 New Jersey 5
 Newgrange 9
 Newgrange Hotel 7
 Newtown-Stewart, 3, 5
 Niven, David 7
 Norfolk Terrace, Brighton 10
 Nugent Family 2
 Nugent, William 9
 Oakes, children 2
 Oakes, family 12
 Oakes, Mr. 2
 O'Briens of Thomond 4
 O'Connell, children 2
 O'Connell, Jimmy 12
 O'Connell, Mrs. 11
 O'Connor, Kay 7
 O'Flanagan, James Roderick 11
 O'Grady, Cousin Esther 3
 O'Grady, Faith 10
 O'Grady, Phillip 10
 O'Grady, Standish 10
 O'Grady, The, Gerald 10
 O'Mahony, Eoin (Pope) 2, 4
 O'Mhathuna, Diarmuid 12
 Opus Dei Institute 10
 O'Reilly, John Boyle 9
 O'Riordan, Prof. Sean 2
 O'Sullivan, Billy, T.C.D. 2
 O'Sullivan, Nancy 2
 Patterson, George 4, 11
 Pearson, Peter 3
 Pennycuick, Agnes 3, 5, 8, 10
 Pennycuick, Alexander 8
 Pennycuick, Charles Edward Ducat 8, 10
 Pennycuick, James 3
 Pennycuick, John 8
 Pennycuick, Lt. Col. John 8
 Pennycuick, Mrs. 3, 5
 Pennycuick, parish 8
 Pennycuick, Sir. John 8
 Pepper Cannister Church 4
 Perry, Gerard 12
 Phillips, Geraldine 7
 Pope, Rome 7
 Porter and Irvine, Stockbrokers 7
 Portora School 4
 Potterton, Homan 7
 Powell, Enoch M.P. 9
 Preston School, Navan 2, 7
 QE2 7
 Queen Elizabeth II 4
 R.A.F. 5
 Raeburn Green, pupil of 8
 Rainier, Captain Peter 4
 Rathline, Co. Longford 8

Rathcormack - A Childhood Recalled 7
 Rathfeigh. Skryne, Tara Newsletter 12
 Rawlings, Commander H.C. 5
 Reid, Nanno 9
 Restaurant Drouant 7
 Rice, Fr. Gerard 12
 Rochester 2
 Roermond, Limburg, Holland 5
 Romania 12
 Rooskey 12
 Rose's Academical Institution, Nairn 3
 Royal Chelsea Hospital 8
 Royal Dublin Society Schools 4
 Royal Indian Marine 5
 Royal Naval Engineering College 5
 Royal Tara Golf Club 2
 Royce, Sir Henry
 Ryan, John, In Dublin Magazine 4
 Ryevale Lawns 7
 S.S. Historian 4
 Santry Stadium 2
 Santry, Lord 11
 Saunders, Mrs. 12
 Seigneur of Ouen 1
 Shakespeare 9
 Shanahan Desmond and Mrs. 2
 Shanahan's Stamp Auctions 2
 Sheridan, Monica 2
 Singer, Dr. Paul 2
 Skryne, Hill of 12
 Skryne 9, 11
 Skryne And The Early Normans 9
 Skryne Castle 1, 2, 4, 9, 11, 12
 Skryne Court 12
 Skryne National School 2, 12
 Skryne National School 7
 Sleive Gullion 7
 Smith, Master 12
 Smith, Paddy (dancing doll) 12
 Smith, Sr. Carmel 12
 South Africa 5
 St. Bartholomew's Church, Brighton 10
 St. Colmcille 12
 St. Columba's College 4
 St. Lo, Sir Edward 5
 St. Martha's College 7
 St. Mary's Church 4
 St. Mary's Church, Navan 12
 St. Michaelmas Church, Brighton 10
 St. Paddy 7
 St. Patrick 9
 St. Stephen's Green, No.18. 3
 St. Vincent's Hospital Nursing Home 7

Steptoe and Son 3
 Sterling, Charles 5
 Stewart, Sir. Harry 4
 Stonehall Graveyard 4
 Strokestown House 12
 Suez Canal 4
 Sunderland, Sophia Blaney 4
 Swale, Colin 7
 Swale, Rosie 7
 Swan, Jimmy
 Sweeden, King of 7
 Swift, Johnathan 11
 Swift. Dean 58
 Sylvia, Aunt 4
 T.C.D. Library 1
 Talbot, family 12
 Tara 2, 11, 12
 Tara Newsletter 12
 Taughman, Rectory 4, 12
 Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Fred 5
 The Country Shop 3
 The Green Cockatrice 9
 The Irish Life of Saint Finian of Clonard 9
 The Legend Of Tara 9
 Thessiger, Wilfred, explorer 10
 Townshend, George, IV Vicount 4
 Treasuer of Ceylon 1
 Trench, Terry 11
 Trinity College Dublin 3, 7, 12
 Truman, President Harry 7
 Tutu, Bishop 11
 U.C.D. 2
 United Servicemen's Club 7
 Valerie, Caroline's daughter 7
 Versailles Palace 5
 Victoria, Queen 10
 Vigers, Col. Phillip 10
 Vigers, Esther 10
 Vigers, Kathleen 10
 Wade's Folklore Collection 4
 Walsh, Michael 11
 Warden, Arthur, Royal Indian Marine 5
 Warden, Elizabeth 3
 Waters, Tony 12
 Watkins Emily 11
 Wemyss-Brown, Charles F. 5
 West Indies 10
 Wilkinson and Falkiner, Stockbrokers 7
 Wilkinson, Jock 12
 William the Conquerer 5
 Williamstown, Co Clare 12
 Wodehouse, Sir Armine 4
 Women's Royal Naval Service 3, 5

Woodhead, Ada Constance 10
Woodhead, Amy 3
Woodhead, Amy Christina 10
Woodhead, Capt' Henry Joseph P. 10
Woodhead, Clementina 10
Woodhead, Edith 10
Woodhead, Emily Alice 10
Woodhead, Grace Eyre 10
Woodhead, Henry Comber 10
Woodhead, Hilda 10
Woodhead, Joseph b1774 10
Woodhead, Margaret 10
Woodhead, Mary Josephine 10
Woodhead, Maud Helena 10
Woodhead, Thomas Wandesford 10
Woodruff, Charles 5, 12
Woodruff, George 5, 12
Woodruff, Henry 5
Woodruff, James 5
Worsnip, Alan 11
Worsnip, Janice and Lawrence 11
Worsnip, Wendy 11
York, City of 12