



# THE O'DOCHARTAIGH CLANN ASSOCIATION

Ár nDútčas

Newsletter July 2025

## ÁR NDÚTČAS (OUR HERITAGE)

We are excited to continue our mission of Gathering the Clann. Our vision of this mission includes supporting fellow Ó Dochartaighs.

Pat "Shan" Doherty from Doagh Famine Village expressed his gratitude for the generosity and well wishes he received, including from Association members.

Many individuals and organisations, including the Association, came together to raise funds to help Pat and his sister Majella rebuild their outdoor heritage museum after the recent tragic fire.

We also have a fundraising campaign to pool resources and purchase kits that will help support our Y-DNA study as we investigate our clann's history and individual relationships to our surname.

Our monthly Zoom classes have helped to gather the clann too. Topics covered recently included including Basic Genealogy, DNA Studies and Learning Irish.

And we will be meeting together in person with Ó Dochartaighs in Inishowen on 23 July, at McGrory's in Culdaff. I am really looking forward to it!

We've had a busy month - take a look inside to see our latest developments!

*Eva Doherty Gremmert, President*

Find us on Facebook!



### CLANN GATHERING & PUB QUIZ

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025  
7:30 PM DUBLIN TIME



- DOHERTY CLANN MEMBERS FROM THE USA, IRELAND, SCOTLAND ARE GATHERING
- PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD!
- EMAIL US FOR MORE DETAILS AT [INFO@ODOCHARTAIGHASSOCIATION.ORG](mailto:INFO@ODOCHARTAIGHASSOCIATION.ORG)

HOSTED BY:  
THE O'DOCHARTAIGH  
CLANN ASSOCIATION

HOLD US IN PERSON  
**McGrory's Hotel Culdaff**

Register to join on Zoom:  
<https://bit.ly/july2025gathering>



### In this Newsletter

**Official Store**  
Buy Ó Dochartaigh merch!



**Inishowen History**  
From 1800-1900

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**We are on YouTube!**  
New channel launched



**Our Board Members**  
Who we are

### GETTING IT RIGHT

LEARNING THE STYLE GUIDE FOR FAMILY HISTORY

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025 - ON ZOOM  
12 PM PACIFIC, 3 PM EASTERN, 8 PM DUBLIN

Irish Genealogical &  
Historical Society



HOSTED BY:  
THE IRISH  
GENEALOGICAL  
& HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



THE O'DOCHARTAIGH  
CLANN ASSOCIATION

REGISTER HERE FOR AUTO REMINDERS:  
[bit.ly/july2025research](https://bit.ly/july2025research)  
OR REGISTER VIA EMAIL  
[INFO@ODOCHARTAIGHASSOCIATION.ORG](mailto:INFO@ODOCHARTAIGHASSOCIATION.ORG)

- INCREASE THE ACCURACY OF YOUR RESEARCH
- ELIMINATE TIME-CONSUMING DUPLICATIONS IN FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH
- MARY'S BOOK IS RECOGNIZED BY ALL MAJOR GENEALOGY RESEARCH SITES



PRESENTED BY:  
MARY SLAWSON



## From the Archives

### Newsletter Excerpt: Vol I Number III, July 1982

Paddy Bogside travelled from Donegal in 1982 to visit Pat Dougherty in Michigan, to plan a 1985 clan gathering in Ireland. It then was our turn to visit Ireland and meet the local Reunion Committee. Patrick Dougherty reported our clan delegation's visit in Volume III of the clan newsletter, detailing a full agenda of visits around the Inishowen peninsula:

"It was such an honor to represent you and your Association in Ireland. Everywhere we traveled our name was met with respect. All three of us were asked to speak on several occasions."

Two memorable moments occurred during the trip: the Derry Council Dedications Ceremony and the Bunrana Proclamation Presentation. At the Derry ceremony, the cornerstone for Fort Ó Dochartaigh was laid, featuring the speaker's name. In Bunrana, the group received a proclamation, a tree planting ceremony, and a banquet

"Probably the two most thrilling moments for me, personally, took place at the Derry Council Dedications Ceremony and the Bunrana, Donegal, Proclamation Presentation. We three representatives of your Association spoke at the Derry Council Meeting and witnessed the passage of funds, by the Council, for the rebuilding of Fort Ó Dochartaigh.

"We then walked inside the Old Inner City Wall to the Fort's site. When the Mayor (William O'Connell) and I turned the Cornerstone over, for the laying ceremony, I was astounded to find that my name - "Patrick Dougherty of Michigan U.S.A." was inscribed, along with that of their new Mayor. It was a moment that I will never forget. At the city of Bunrana, Donegal, we met with the City Council at the White Sands Motor Inn, for what was to have been a dinner-meeting.

"When we arrived at the White Sands, how surprised and pleased we were to find the Stars and Stripes flying overhead. We were greeted by all of the members of the Council and local tribesmen and women, and presented with a lovely Proclamation inscribed to the members of our Association. While this was being presented to us, in front of the White Sands, the School Marching band, paraded into the parking lot, carrying the O'Doherty crest on a banner. They entertained us for about a half hour, during which time we planted a tree at that site. We were then further honored with a bountiful Bunrana Banquet."

## Inishowen History

### 1800-1900

In a previous article, we summarized Donegal history from the 1400s to the 1800s. In this issue we take a high level look at 1800 to 1900. Inishowen Peninsula and County Donegal experienced major social, economic, and political changes, shaped by both local and national events in Ireland.

#### **Early 1800s - Rural Poverty and Agricultural Dependence**

Donegal and Inishowen were predominantly rural, Gaelic-speaking, and Catholic.

Most people lived as tenant farmers on small plots, heavily reliant on the potato crop.

British landlords owned much of the land, and tenant rights were limited.

#### **1840s - The Great Famine (An Gorta Mór)**

The potato blight (1845-1852) devastated food supplies. Donegal, including Inishowen, was hard hit - thousands died from starvation and disease. Mass emigration began, particularly to North America, including New Brunswick and the U.S. Many communities were depopulated or permanently changed.

#### **Mid-1800s - Emigration and Land Struggles**

Emigration continued throughout the century as economic prospects remained bleak.

Many families in Inishowen sent relatives abroad to work and send money home.

**The Land War (1879-1882)** saw agitation for fair rents, fixity of tenure, and land ownership.

Donegal was active in the Irish Land League, and tenant farmers resisted evictions.

#### **Late 1800s - Cultural Revival and Political Shifts**

The Gaelic Revival renewed interest in Irish language and culture, especially in Donegal.

Nationalism grew, with increasing support for Home Rule (Irish self-government). Local support for Irish nationalist politicians expanded toward the end of the century.

#### **By 1900**

Donegal remained one of the poorest counties in Ireland. Large-scale emigration continued to shape family structures and local economies.

Traditional ways of life persisted, but political and cultural change was underway.

The 19th century in Inishowen and Donegal was defined by famine, depopulation, land struggles, cultural resilience, and stirrings of independence.

#### **More about our history.**



# Culture Corner

## Donegal Oatcakes

Made with just five ingredients, these traditional Irish oatcakes are outstanding topped with good, creamy butter and sweet jam.

### ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups stone-ground oatmeal, preferably Macroon's
- 1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour, plus more for dusting
- 3 tbsp. unsalted butter or lard, cubed and chilled, plus butter for serving (optional)
- 1/2 tsp. kosher salt
- 3/4 cup boiling water
- Jam, for serving (optional)

### Instructions

#### Step 1

- Pulse oatmeal, flour, butter, and salt in a food processor until pea-size crumbles form. Add water; pulse until dough forms. Transfer dough to a lightly floured baking sheet. Press a sheet of parchment paper over dough and using a rolling pin, roll dough into a 1/2" thick square; cover with a kitchen towel and let sit 1 hour to dry slightly.

#### Step 2

Heat oven to 250°F. Using a 3" round cutter, cut out cakes; gather and reuse scraps. Transfer cakes to a baking sheet; bake, flipping once, until golden and slightly crisp, 1 hour and 15 minutes. The more slowly it cooks, the better the flavor will be. Let cool slightly; serve with butter and jam, if you like. Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to a week.

**This recipe comes from [Darina Allen's Irish Traditional Cooking: Over 300 Recipes from Ireland's Heritage](#) (Kyle Books; 2012).**

## Resources and links

[Ireland and the Inishowen Today](#)

[Irish Genealogy and History](#)

Ó Dochartaigh (Doherty) Clann-related websites

- [odohertyheritage.org](http://odohertyheritage.org) - early history
- [odochartaigh.org](http://odochartaigh.org) - 100+ spellings of our name



We are delighted to announce that we have launched a channel on [YouTube](#)! We have uploaded recordings of our most recent events - "Beginning Irish with Mollie" and "Y-DNA Results Q&A". We will continue to upload recordings, so please do subscribe and share!

## Clann merchandise now available

We also now have an [official merchandise store](#)! You can purchase a range of products including t-shirts, caps and mugs. We set the prices to as close to the production costs as we could to make it affordable. The store ships worldwide, so wherever you are you can order something to display your Ó Dochartaigh connections with pride. Feel free to share photos of you and your merch on our [Facebook](#) page.

## Association Board Members

### Executive Board

President - Eva Doherty Gremmert, Washington, USA  
Vice President - Joe Doherty, Donegal, Ireland  
Secretary - Kathleen Travers, Scottish Borders, Scotland

### Directors

Brian Dougherty, Michigan, USA  
Daniel Doherty, British Columbia, Canada  
Marie Doherty Donegal, Ireland  
Michael D. Lacopo, Indiana, USA  
Rosie Doherty Gremmert, Utah, USA  
Will Dougherty III, Missouri, USA  
Zack Daughtery ((Doherty Surname Y-DNA Project Volunteer Administrator), Missouri, USA

**Contact us - [info@odochartaighassociation.org](mailto:info@odochartaighassociation.org)**

