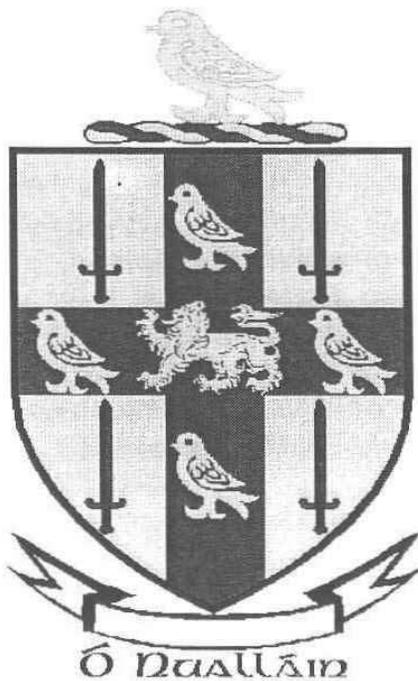


**NEWSLETTER No. 4 April 1998**

**(RN: remastered edition - March 2005)**

*Nolan Clan*  
*Clann Ó Nualláin*

*includes the families of O'Nolan, Nolan, Nowlan, Nowlin,  
Nolin, Nowland, Noland, Knowlan, Knowland,  
and any other variant.*



## **Clan Gathering 10th - 12th July 1998**

The 1998 Nolan Clan Gathering will be the third Nolan Clan Gathering.

The activities will take place at "The Lord Bagnal Hotel" Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow.

Mai Nolan, Ardattin, Co. Carlow (0503 55666) is co-ordinating the sale of tickets for the dinner and social. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

### **Message From The Chairman.**

The Clan is now at the end of its third year in existence. Progress is slow but steady. With our A.G.M. in July a new Chief, Tanaiste and committee will be elected. I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and input into Clan business and success to the new Clann Ó'Nualláin officers.

Sean Nolan

### **Our Clan Chief**

Sean Nolan was appointed a Peace Commissioner in 1968 by the Minister for Justice. He earns his crust as a Revenue Collector for Carlow Co. Council. Married Mai in 1953 and lives in that beautiful area of the county, Ardattin. A noted Gaelic footballer both for his club Tullow and County. An untiring worker for the Clan and its aims.

### **The Nolan's of 1798**

This being the bicentenary anniversary of the 1798 insurrection it may be of interest to know how the Nolan's participated.

At the battle of Carlow town on the 25th of May 1798, 650 men were killed in the Main St. 70 Nolan's from Conaberry were part of the contingent that marched into the town on that day.

A Captain Nolan led 275 Pikemen from Benekerry, Rutland, Johnstown, Killerig and Pollerton.

James Nolan, Knockindrane, Co. Carlow. Captain of the Myshall rebels 1798. The Myshall rebels took part in the battle of Borris and the taking of Bagnalstown. Success did not crown their efforts in either case but James Nolan got his men back safely.

Bernard Nolan of Ballaughmore told the present writer that James Nolans family were believed to be the direct descendants of the chief of Clan Ui Nuallain.

1798 came just 200 years after the decline of the Gaelic Clan system and residual memories of that culture may have disposed the rebels to choose James as Captain and leader.

The inscription on the Nolan headstone in Drumpea graveyard reads as follows:

Erected by Richard and Robert Nolan in memory of their parents, James Nolan who died April 21st 1858 aged 112 years. Elizabeth Nolan died June 17th 1827 aged 60 years.

(Extract from the Carloviana, Author Br. P.J. Kavanagh)

# Ireland

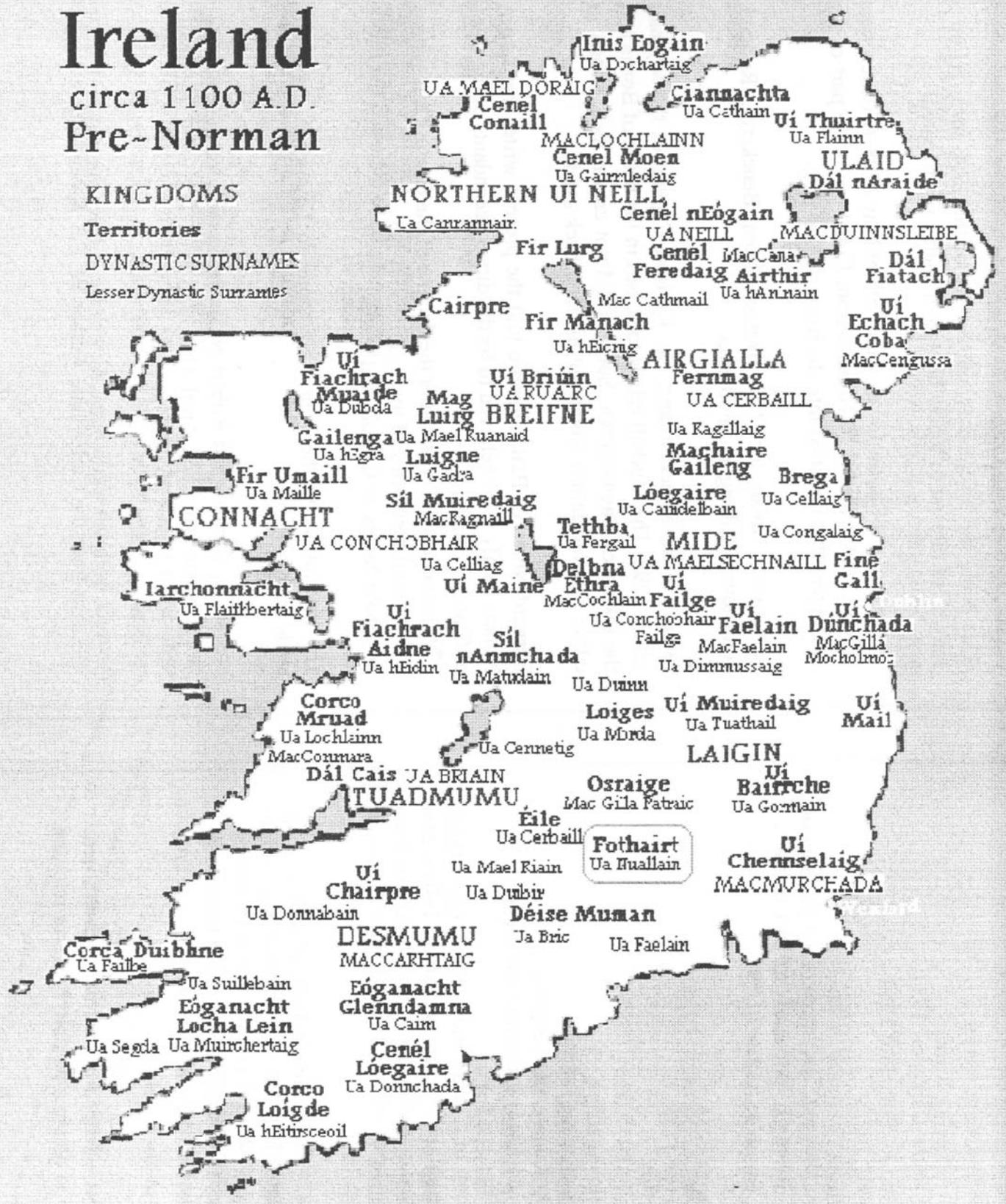
circa 1100 A.D.  
Pre-Norman

**KINGDOMS**

Territories

DYNASTIC SURNAMES

Lesser Dynastic Surnames



The Nolan name has always been associated with the barony of Forth in Co. Carlow. In pre-Norman days their chiefs, who held high hereditary office under the Kings of Leinster, were known as Princes of Fothairt (modern Forth).

## Willie Nolan - Ballon

A poet and author of the following works.

**Poem** Thoughts on Carlow Cathedral 1954

**Poem** Battle of Carlow 1798.

**Book** "They First Arose"

## Theigue Nowlan. Crannpursheen

An ancestor of **Fr. Peadar Mac Suibhne M.A.** (Fr. Swaine), Author of “**98 in Carlow**”.

## Nolans in the Church.

Fr. Dan Nolan P.P Clonegar 1733.

Fr. Nowlan P.P Ballon 1798.

Fr. P.C. Nolan P.P Rathvilly.

Fr. Daniel Nolan P.P. Kill 1804-23.

Fr. P.F. Nolan ADM Tullow 1883

Fr. Thomas Nolan P.P. Abbeyleix 1880's

Dr. Edward Nolan Bishop Kildare and Leighlin.

Rev. Frederick Nolan (1784-1864) Protestant theologian.

**Dr. Edward Nolan Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin** (died 1859) is buried in Carlow Cathedral. Dr. Nolan was born in Tullow 21st April 1793. His father James was descended in a direct line from Cahir O'Nolan from Ballykealy (died 1592). (Source “Commerford Collections”).

A school in Ardristan 1824: Schoolhouse built of sods of clay. Martin, Paul, William and Mary Nowlan attended this school which operated from May to October (source “98 in Carlow”).

Laurence Nolan of Ballon Hill who died 1919 told of three brothers of his grandfather killed in the battle of Carlow.

A Nolan from Rathoe got a letter from a local catholic farmer to bring to Carlow in order to obtain a pardon, he never returned.

There is a tradition held that Fr. John Murphy on his retreat from Castlecomer to Scollagh Gap (in the Blackstairs mountains), became separated from the main body and decided to cross county Carlow to join up with rebels in county Wicklow. On his way he stayed overnight at the house of Jacob Nolan, Kilmaglin near Kilconner.

**Fionn MacCumail** was leader of the Fian (Fenians) - a great standing army of picked and specially trained, daring warriors, whose duty was to carry out the mandates of the high King - "To uphold Justice and put down injustice". The best stories of the Fian are preserved to us in the poems of **Oisín**, the son of Fionn, the chief bard of the Fian.

*Oisín!* two thousand years of mist and change surround thy name  
Thy Finian heroes now no longer range the hills of fame  
The very names of Fionn and Goll sound strange yet their the  
same.  
By miscalled lake and desecrated grange - remains, and shall  
remain

In 177 A.D. **Cathair Mor**, King of Ireland was killed and buried at Enach Ailbhe or Ballon Hill. The **ancient games of Leinster** were held at Enach Carmen on the river Burren. These activities were in the Barony of Forth, O'Nolan Clan territory. Sean Nolan our Chief investigated the hill and found the 20th century destroyer was there before us, the bulldozer.

The O'Nolans were one of the Leinster Clans to fight the Danes at the Battle of Clontarf 1014.

<p><b>If you have any items of interest, concerning the Clan, we are always pleased to hear from you.</b></p>
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Clan O'Nuallain includes families of O'Nolan, Nolan, Nowlan, Nowland, Noland and any other Variant.

We thank all our members for their support and hope to see a big turn out on our weekend clan gathering Fri 10th July to Sun 12th July.

Encourage other Nolans to come and meet their clan cousins in historic Leighlinbridge and renew the bonds of blood and kin.

As Clan O'Nolan is a voluntary and non profit making organisation, we are mainly dependant on annual subscriptions to survive and pay expenses. So we would expect members to be our recruiting agents and help swell the clan numbers.

**For present members, the renewal of membership fee £5 (\$10) is now due.**

### **A.G.M 11<sup>th</sup> July 1998**

We would welcome all members to make an input at this meeting and nominations for election to the committee will be most welcome. (See membership list enclosed.)

We wish to thank most sincerely all our members in U.K., U.S.A. and Canada for their efforts this year in promoting the Clan.