



THE NOLAN

The Newsletter of the O'Nolan Clan Family Association

March 2018

Issue 28

From the Mists of Time, the land of Patrick

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Moon Rising over Haroldstown Dolmen, Co. Carlow – photo by Fergal Gleeson

*Happy St. Patrick's Day to All,
Beannachtaí na Feile Padraig*

*Catherina (Nolan) O'Brien
- Nolan Clan Chief*



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views expressed in this
publication are not
necessarily those
of the Clan association.

In Brief...

Cover Photo & Main Article

The dolmen depicted on the cover of the Newsletter is located in Haroldstown, a short distance to the east of Tullow, Co. Carlow. Based upon my recent research findings, I believe that this dolmen, originally at the centre of a large burial mound known to archaeologists as a portal tomb, marks the spot where Feidhlimidh Reachtmar (the law-giver), ancient king of Leinster and also Ard Ri (167-174 AD) responsible for maintaining law and order throughout all of Ireland, was buried.

As Nolans, we also recognize him as the father of Conn of the Hundred Battles, Eochaidh Fionn Fuathairt (the 2nd century ancestor of the Carlow Nolans) and Fiacha.

In the main article, “Our Ancient Nolan Roots”, I go deeper into the distant past of Feidhlimidh Reachtmar, going as far back as around 5,500 BC in the Black Sea area when his ancestor, a Scythian, left as the sea level kept on rising year after year flooding vast areas before attaining its current-day level.

This was the beginning of a long journey which eventually would bring a descendant of that ancient Scythian, a tribesman of the Tuatha De Danann, to the shores of Ireland, sometime around 550 BC.

Piecing together this story, based upon years of research, has not been easy but, in the process, I have been blessed with new insight as to how mental “work”, as I have experienced myself, can be done better. In a thought-provoking article, entitled “Work – Do we have it all wrong?” I share with you my new-found insight.

Last Gathering

Our new Chief, Catherina O’Brien of Ballytarsna, Co. Carlow, reports on the last Gathering.

For those who may not know Catherina I would say that she is more of a shy retiring nature but nonetheless very effective at getting things done, an all-round good person. In preparing for this newsletter the only picture I could find of her was the one below. She is the second person from the right. I am the third person from the right, next to her.



Clan at Ballykealey Manor in 2011

Following Catherina’s report are a few pictures from the Gathering taken mostly by Chris Nolan, the outgoing Clan chief, and a few from Catherina.

Membership and Dues

Members are reminded that clan dues should be forwarded to the Clan Treasurer at the beginning of each calendar year, prior to St Patrick’s Day.

For anyone wishing to join the clan or to renew their membership a copy of the membership application/renewal form is provided at the end of this newsletter. Contact information for the Clan Treasurer is provided in the boxed column on the left side of this page.

Roger Nowlan, Editor

Last Nolan Clan Gathering held September 9-10-11, 2018

The Nolan Clan held its 12th Biannual Gathering on 10 and 11 September 2017 in Carlow. The Gathering began with a meet-and-greet on Friday 9 September together with our AGM in the Seven Oaks Hotel. Christopher Nolan welcomed guests and outlined the Clan's plans for the weekend. A discussion took place about the future of the Clan, its direction, objectives etc.

On Saturday 10 September the Clan met in Ballon, County Carlow, homeland of many Nolans, where we enjoyed a tour of [Ballykealey Manor Hotel](#). We then travelled to the [Templepeter Cemetery](#) where a number of Nolans are interred. We had an enjoyable lunch in the [Fighting Cocks country pub](#). We then returned to the [Seven Oaks Hotel](#).

The Clan Gala Dinner and Awards ceremony was held on Saturday evening. Christopher Nolan, Outgoing Chief of the Clan, welcomed everybody. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Nolan Clan Achievement Awards. The Clan honoured the achievements of -

NAOMI O'NOLAN

The Hunt Museum, Limerick, County Limerick

Naomi O'Nolan joined the Hunt Museum in 1996 while it was located in the University of Limerick. She was part of the team involved in the installation of the Hunt Collection in the former Custom House which opened in Limerick City in 1997. She has extensive experience in all aspects of museum management and arts administration. Naomi is Head of Collections and Exhibitions at this important regional museum and continues to bring curatorial excellence to Limerick with the Hunt Museum's permanent collection and special exhibitions.

This summer she curated the exhibition [Jack B. Yeats and Paul Henry: Contrasting Visions of Ireland](#). From Tipperary, Naomi married into the illustrious O'Nolan family that includes author Brian O'Nolan and artist Micheál Ó Nualláin.

ADAM NOLAN

An Garda Síochána, Bray, County Wicklow

Adam Nolan, a Garda in Bray Co. Wicklow since 2008, has distinguished himself in public service, volunteerism and as an athlete. He represented Ireland in the 2012 Olympics.

He won the senior Irish National Boxing championship five times. Adam has represented Ireland at several World Boxing Championships. In 2015 he won the gold medal at the Gee Bee Tournament in Helsinki Finland and was awarded the Boxer of the Tournament Award. In 2016 Adam retired from boxing and returned to hurl with his club, [Oulart the Ballagh](#) in Co. Wexford having not hurled since 2008. He will be joining us after a 9 September afternoon match!

KEVIN NOLAN

Nolan Farming, Grangeford, County Carlow

[Nolan Farming](#) is a progressive farming operation, involved in cereal production using high tech and GPS precision auto-guided machinery to achieve maximum output.

Kevin Nolan started farming full time in 1997 and since then in addition to speaking at many industry forums, he has been:

- 2006 Host of the World and Irish National Ploughing Championships
- 2009 Winner Syngenta Sprayer operator of the year.
- 2012 Tillage & Overall winner of FBD Tidy Farmyard Awards
- 2014 Winner of the Zurich Tillage & Overall Farmer of the Year Awards

In 2015 Kevin also began a project to install 48,800 m² of solar panel.

Each recipient was presented with a crystal bowl inscribed with the Nolan Clan crest. A video of the award ceremony at last September's Gathering can be viewed on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1314731821884826/permalink/1668709729820365/>

Christopher thanked all Clan Members for supporting him as Chief and welcomed the incoming Chief Catherina O'Brien. In turn, on behalf of all Clan Members, Catherina thanked Christopher for all his hard work and dedication as

Clan Chief and presented him a cut-glass crystal bowl inscribed with the crest of the Nolan Clan.

On Sunday the 11th the Clan were invited by Kevin Nolan to a site visit to his farm in Bennekerry in Carlow during which Kevin explained the many aspects of his farming enterprise and his plans for the future.

The afternoon included a visit to Moone Co Kildare to view its [High Cross](#).

Catherina (Nolan) O'Brien, Clan Chief

Clan News

The Clan executive would like to invite all Nolans wherever they may be to join the Clan, a voluntary organisation dedicated to preserving the history and tradition of Nolan families spread throughout the world **while at the same time promoting kinship and goodwill within the worldwide Nolan diaspora.**

In the spirit of this ethos (*guiding ideals*) the Clan executive extends to all Nolans everywhere a heartfelt invitation to join its Clan O'Nolan association and its Facebook group of which you will find particulars on page 2 of the newsletter along with the particulars for its clan executive members.

Plans for the next Clan Gathering are currently underway and details will be circulated shortly.

A Fond Farewell to Mai

A few months prior to the last Gathering the Clan learnt of Mai Nolan's passing on June 17, 2017. For many years she, together with her husband Sean Nolan, the 2nd chief of the modern-day Nolan Clan, served as co-treasurer to the Clan.

We, the Clan collectively, would like to express our deepest sympathy and let Sean know that our thoughts are with him and his family.

Mai, a resident of Ardattin, Co. Carlow, leaves behind her loving husband Sean, son Sean Jnr and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Mai Nolan (-2017)

A Few Pictures from the Gathering – September 9-10-11, 2017



Four attendees met up in Dublin before the Gathering; shown are Anne Smith Haugh and Kathy Smith of Washington DC, and Maureen Nolan Williams and Marcia Nolan of Boston



Chris Nolan. (2nd from left) our outgoing Clan Chief speaking to attendees on the Ballon tour



Michael Nolan, Madeleine Nolan Salter and Mary Nolan Fitzsimons in Ballon on Saturday tour



[Ballykealey Manor](#) in Ballon



Lunch at the [Fighting Cocks Pub](#)



A happy Nolan descendant finds her many times great forebears in the [Templepeter cemetery](#)

More Pictures from the Gathering



At the [Altamont Gardens](#) looking up to the big house



The tempietto and trail leading towards the River Slaney at the Altamont Gardens



Kevin Nolan, honoured at the Clan's gala dinner is shown here with Gathering attendees



[Kevin's farm](#) hosted the 2006 National Ploughing competition; Kevin is shown here with Pa Nolan



Kevin with his kids in the grain storage building on his farm



Two Fathers Nolan honoured Gathering attendees with their presence at the gala dinner

Work – Do we have it all wrong?

What if you could work while you sleep and, while awake, have a leisurely breakfast with the kids, socialize, exercise, play more with your children, grandchildren, etc. Sounds too good to be true you say! Well, let me explain.

The key which opens the door to this magical world is a simple discovery first made by Dr. Edward de Bono, a well-known professional speaker who specializes in teaching people how to be more creative and is best known for his concept of [lateral thinking](#).

One simple but yet quite significant discovery which he made was that our minds are [self-organizing-entities](#), creating order out of disorder i.e. making sense of all the disjointed pieces of information in our minds while we sleep. That's the key! Couple that with social interaction (live and otherwise) and you have all the makings of a [supercomputer](#), scratch that, a “Superhuman organism”, a collective. I don't think that anybody likes to be compared to a machine. We are sentient beings, able to respond to whatever comes our way in the moment, guided by human judgement and open to the needs of others as they occur, not necessarily guided by pre-programmed actions done “like clockwork”. We are not machines, we are better than that.

We have a massive amount of:

- [distributed long-term memory](#)
(the long-term memories of all humanity, stored with all of humanity and also that left to us by our predecessors, stored in our collective sub-conscious)
- [distributed fast-access memory](#)
(our collective short-term memories which we share with each other during our waking hours)
- [distributed processing power](#)
(our human brains which respond to the needs of every waking moment using human judgement and; our collective [sleeping brains](#) which self-organise our memories and yield new insights each time we wake up or sometime during the day if we take time to relax).

From my vantage point as a **retired** long-time IT manager and technology forecaster, I have the luxury of experimenting with new ways of doing

things (mental work that is). However, for those still in the regular workforce, I don't think that your boss would take too kindly to you saying “Let me sleep on it” when you are asked about progress on an urgent deliverable.

Nonetheless, with the current trend towards social media and *be-friending* people all around the world, the vision of a “Superhuman organism” may be just around the corner.

Capitalizing on the power of the sleeping brain, I believe that it is possible to restructure our work-day such that we have more time for family and friends during our waking hours.

My dream of a “Superhuman organism” is just that, a dream, and may never be realized but what is a man if he can't dream of a brighter future. Certainly, others before me have done so, such as:

- Friedrich Schiller in his 1785 poem "[An die Freude](#)", later set to music by Ludwig van Beethoven, the famous “[Ode to Joy](#)” advocating the “**Brotherhood of Man**”
- The United Nations with its charter outlining a broad set of principles relating to achieving “**higher standards of living**”
- The “[Green Peace](#)” movement wanting to “**ensure the ability of the Earth to nurture life in all its diversity**”.

With all of these good thoughts in mind, I wish everyone in the Clan and within the wider Nolan diaspora a very enjoyable St Patrick's day celebration with family and friends and good cheer throughout the coming year.

Roger Nowlan, Editor



Our Ancient Nolan Roots

Introduction

In this article, I invite you to journey with me as I retrace the journey of our distant Nolan ancestor and his descendants through Europe.

The journey begins in the area of the Black Sea around 5,500 BC when the sea began overflowing its banks eventually doubling in size forcing many to flee.

Writing the story also has been for me a story in itself leading me to new insights about how I go about doing work.

A few months back, reviewing some of my DNA test results I discovered that, according to results, a distant relative of mine had died in Hungary at about the same time as the flooding in the Black Sea area. An interesting coincidence, but I wouldn't be able to produce an article for the next Newsletter on such little information

A short while later as I was preparing for the upcoming Newsletter, as editor and chief contributor, I re-read the account of the arrival in Ireland of the Tuatha De Dananns (supposedly our distant Nolan ancestors) trying for the nth time to make sense of it. Suddenly it came to me. I could now make sense of it. For your illustration purposes I present here a condensed, somewhat simplified version of the account:

*The Tuatha De Danann came to Ireland from **Four Islands in the North Atlantic**, making a brief stopover in **Lochlainn** before moving on to their destination.*

After some reflection and sleeping on it (as I explain in my companion article "Work - Do we have it all wrong?") I realized that the story related to us in the Lebor Gabala Erenn (LGE) had over time been somewhat altered by biases and the retelling of the story over and over again. Nonetheless I believe I saw through all the distortions. What I now saw as the original real story goes something like this:

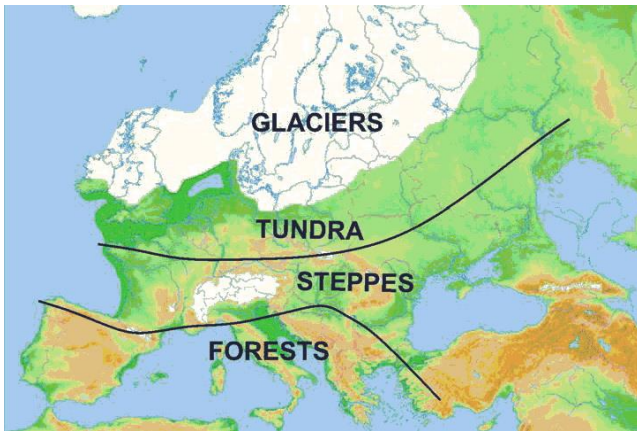
Craftsmen and artisans originally from the Danube river system came to Ireland from four islands at the mouth of the Rhine (Rotterdam area). After making a brief stopover in the Leighlin area (Leighlinbridge area in Co. Carlow before the bridge was built) they moved on to their final destination.

I now had a fourth point along the itinerary of our ancestors' European journey, the starting point, the end point and two in between, Hungary and the Rotterdam area). All this had happened in a matter of weeks. At that point I decided to base my article for the next newsletter on these new discoveries. Was I taking on too much? Time would tell. In the end I was successful but somewhat humbled by the fact that it took me longer than I initially anticipated.

The body of the article is broken up into two pieces, "Our Story in Europe" and "Our Early Story in Ireland". This is then followed by a few "Conclusions" and "Closing Remarks".

Enjoy the story!

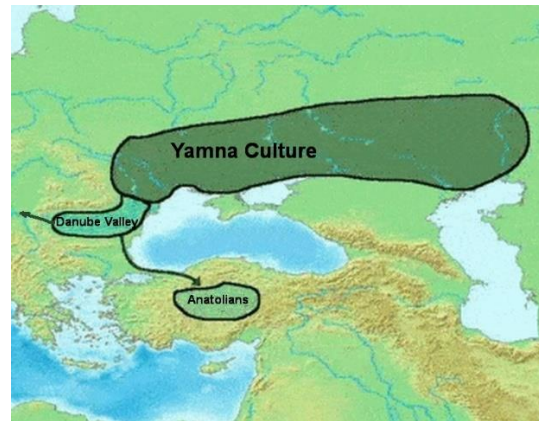
Our Story in Europe



Prior to the end of the last ice age, northern Europe was covered with ice and people were mostly concentrated in localized areas where the climate and access to food sources and shelter was readily available.

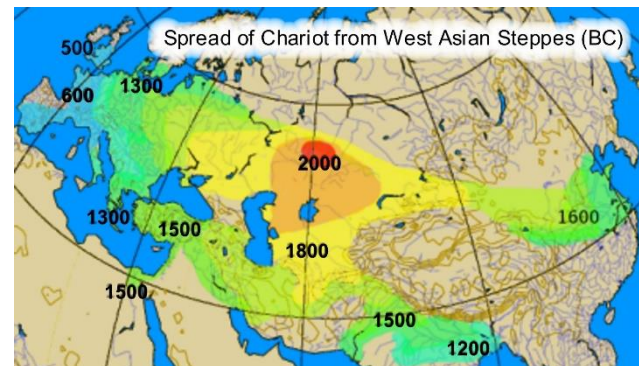
The better known refugia were in central France, the Balkans, the area above the Black Sea and the Russian steppes but lesser known ones of Celtic interest were in the area of Lusitania on the Iberian Peninsula (where later the Celtic and Iberian languages mixed yielding the Celtiberian dialect) and possibly a few others in the areas of Ballydavis, Co. Kerry, and County Sligo.

As temperatures rose dramatically towards the end of the Ice Age (circa 10,200 BC), nomadic hunter-gatherers, until then confined to the more southerly regions of Europe and Asia, began to explore farther afield. Following herds of large animals, some moving to the east towards America, some moving westward towards Europe. Our ancestors were part of the latter group, the branch of the human family known as the **R1b haplogroup** moving from the Russian steppes to the Pontic steppes, the area to the north and east of the Black Sea.



This is where lived a culture known to archaeologists as the **Yamna culture** being among the first peoples to domesticate wild horses and aurochs (wild cattle).

At some point the Yamna culture also invented the wheel and chariot and began wandering farther afield becoming involved in early trade with other peoples, reaching as far away as northern China.



Over time, as trade increased, the Scythians, the dominant member tribe of the Yamna culture, became rich and built large memorials to their dead known as **Kurgans** (similar in construction to the Newgrange monument in Ireland). One of their chief trading partners were the Greeks who established trading posts and communities all around the Black Sea.

Over time the Greeks with the help of their Scythian allies extended their trade into the Mediterranean and into the northern frontiers of Europe.

Known for their horsemanship and ability to quickly attack and retreat in battle, some Scythians also became sought-after warriors in military campaigns. Becoming famous they soon became the ruling class for the Scythians, most of which were farmers, but very good ones.

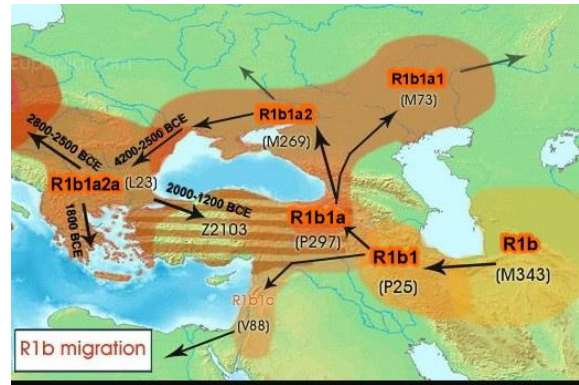
By the time of Alexander the Great, Scythia was producing grain for the whole of the ancient Greek empire. They had become the breadbasket of the Ancient world.

Needless to say, at this point, that the Scythians and Greeks worked well together, a partnership which would endure over time involving our Nolan ancestors.

Now before we go any further, I must alert you to the fact that those supplying the grain to the Ancient Greek empire did not include your ancestor but were distant cousins. Our ancestor had already left the scene having been forced from his home by rising water levels in the Black Sea.



Our ancestor, belonging to the R1b1a2a haplogroup (*see top of the page at right*), had fled up the Danube river (*as revealed by my own DNA test results, a distant relative having died in Hungary around the time of the flooding*).



Some of his relatives, i.e. other members of the R1b1a2a haplogroup, went into northern Greece.

Despite having left the area of the Black Sea our ancestor and his descendants returned to visit their relatives who by now had re-settled in northern Greece assimilating much of what the ancient Greek culture had to offer, possibly volunteering to help them with establishing trade routes to the northern frontiers of Europe.

As trade grew up and down the Danube a descendant of our distant ancestor in the area of the Black Sea would eventually settle in Heuneburg, a hill fort and trade complex in southern Germany, possibly being its chief trader (*given what we know about his descendants in Ireland i.e. king, Ard Ri, etc*).



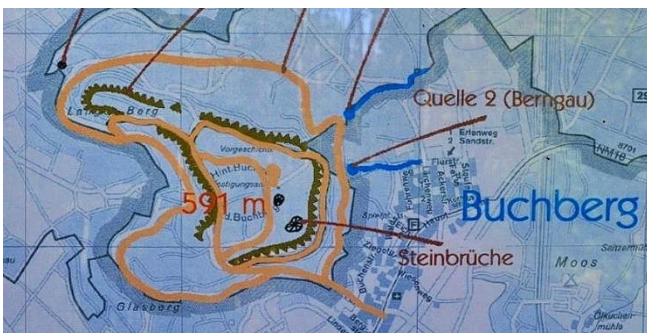
This large Celtic hillfort complex built around 700 BC supported long-distance trade and provided employment and shelter for 5,000 to 10,000 people.

The Celtic tribesmen, women and children at the hillfort were no doubt descendants of refugees who had fled the Black Sea area, and surely longed to find a homeland they could call their own.

Some of the Celtic inhabitants of the hillfort worked in the fields around the hillfort, some looked after defense, others occupied themselves as craftsmen making various goods which could be traded, others went out on trading expeditions to sell the goods made in the hillfort and to search for new trading opportunities.

For whatever reason, this well-organized self-contained community abandoned the hillfort after only a few centuries. By 400 BC the large Heuneburg complex had been completely abandoned. Some say that the inhabitants of the hillfort were driven away by local hostile forces but perhaps they had found a better home elsewhere, a new homeland. I would rather think the latter, choosing at this point to move closer to their ultimate destination, their dream of a new homeland.

Where did these 5 to 10 thousand people go. My best guess at this point is that they resettled to the area of Neumarkt in der Oberpfalz just south of Nuremberg where, around 450 BC, a new hillfort and long-distance trade complex was built.



It was certainly a better trade location providing access not only to the Black Sea market via the Danube river but also to the North Sea market via the Rhine-Main river system. Speaking from the present, I would say that they were simply moving closer to their ultimate destination and sustaining themselves through trade as they went.

From amongst the inhabitants of the hillfort, I believe that our ancestor was a long-distance trader possibly as I suggested earlier, the chief trader, called the “prince” as was already the practice in Celtic Gaul (France) at the time. As a Scythian, with a long history of trade to places as far-away as China, our ancestor would not have shied away from exploring the areas further to the north, following the Main to the Rhine and then on from there to the North Sea.

This is likely how, on one of his voyages of exploration, our ancestor or one of his descendants discovered Ireland, reporting back to his fellow tribesmen the wonderful land he had discovered, lush with vegetation and relatively uninhabited.

From their Buchberg base of operations the Celtic Menapii tribesmen likely planned their re-settlement to Ireland in detail.

Some would go directly to Ireland (*the Menapii who first settled in Leinster*) to prepare the land for others who would follow, others would settle at the mouth of the Rhine (*the Menapii who settled in the Flanders area of Belgium*) and support a few chosen ones (*the Tuatha De Danann*) living on the nearby Four Islands at the mouth of the Rhine river (*a long-time trading centre catering to the needs of the North Sea market*) who would master the most advanced arts and sciences that the ancient world had to offer before moving on to Ireland.



On the four islands at the mouth of the North Sea, the chosen few had access to all the available knowledge of the ancient world and applied themselves to mastering all the arts and sciences.

Eventually these chosen few of the Menapii tribe or their subsequent generations, having come to full mastery of all known arts and sciences decided to push forward to Ireland to join their fellow tribesmen already settled there.

Our Early Years in Ireland

Coming from the Four Islands (the chosen few, the educated ones) and neighbouring Flanders (the farmers supporting the chosen few), the new arrivals of the Menapii settled in the area of present-day Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow (locate **Menapii** on map below).



Their arrival and presumption of authority because of superior knowledge was not readily accepted by the other Belgae tribes (i.e. other than the Menapii) and soon the new arrivals were challenged in battle.

Eventually both sides came to an agreement. The Belgae tribes who had settled on the western side of the island would continue ruling over that side but the newcomers would rule over the eastern side of the island where their tribe, the Menapii, had earlier settled.

A couple of centuries later, a descendant of our first Tuatha De Danann ancestor in Ireland, Ugaire Mor, owner of a fleet of merchant ships and married to a daughter of the king of Gaul, was chosen as the new Ard Ri (330-300 BC) being tasked with settling disputes amongst the tribes and countering any hostile take-overs.

Heavily involved in foreign trade, Ugaire Mor, like his forefathers, had maintained good relations with the Greek merchants everywhere in the known world and, in ancient texts, he (Hugonius Maximus) is recorded as having come to the aid of those Greek merchants when they began establishing themselves in the western Mediterranean. This evident from an ancient text which records that “Hugonius Maximus” came to the aid of the Greeks when they set up a new trading post on the isle of Sicily.

According to tradition, Ugaire’s seat in Ireland was at Dun Aillinne (Co. Kildare) named after his grandson Aillill Aine, son of Laoghaire Lorc.

Ugaire and Ceassair, a daughter of the King of Gaul, supposedly had altogether 25 children, his two oldest sons being Cobhthach Caol Breagh and Laogaire Lorc.

Upon Ugaine's death all his children were allotted parts of his kingdom.

Cobhthach (Ard Ri, 284-267 BC) received the area around the Hill of Tara and Laogaire Lorc (300-284 BC) received the area around the river Liffey.

This concludes my story of our ancient Nolan roots but I am sure that you are anxious to know how all this relates to you who has some sort of Nolan family connection today.

The answer you seek lies in a better understanding of St Brigid of Kildare's ancestry. As many may know, according to popular belief, St Brigid was "related to the Nolans".

On the surface this is quite an innocent statement but if you dig deeper (*I did using an online database given in the References!*) you will find that her father was a direct male descendant of Ugaine Mor, a known distant ancestor of the O Nuallains (Nolans) of Co. Carlow.

Ugaine Mor, at the top of the O Nuallain family tree "is" the link between St Brigid and the O Nuallains. St Brigid is descended from Cobhthach Caol Breagh, a son of Ugaine Mor.

The O Nuallains are descended from Laoghaire Lorc, Cobhthach's brother.

What the foregoing suggests is that, towards the end of the Middle Ages, when the use of English surnames became obligatory in order to have your land grant approved by the king, "related to the Nolans" automatically meant that you were a descendant of Ugaine Mor.

Thus, when in 1584 Tomhas O hUllachain, later of Ballinrobe, gave Nolan as an English rendering of his Irish surname he wanted to ensure that his descent from Ugaine Mor would not be forgotten.

Thomas Nolan of Ballinrobe was indeed a descendant of Ugaine Mor but via Cathair Mor, Ard Ri (174-177 AD) and king of Leinster and further up the tree Laoghaire Lorc, son of Ugaine Mor, which is a common ancestor to the O hUllachain and the O Nuallains.

Another interesting piece of information linking the Carlow Nolans to the Ballinrobe Nolans is the fact that, according to local tradition, Cathair Mor, ancestor to the Ballinrobe Nolans, was reputedly buried atop Ballon Hill, at the very heart of current-day Carlow Nolan country.

Cathair Mor's burial atop Ballon Hill would also suggest that his seat was in the area, perhaps even on the Ballykealey townland. One must remember that, before the arrival of the Normans, the Carlow Nolan seat was in Tullow so it is quite possible that Ballykealey was once the seat of Cathair Mor.

There are also other branches of Nolans like the O Niallains (O Neylan) and O hUltachains (Holohan) who, for the very same reason as used by Tomhas O hUllachain, in the course of their history, chose the Nolan surname to remember their link back to Ugaine Mor. That mystery I will leave for others to solve.

That pretty well wraps up my story. If you have gotten lost a few times in reading the story, don't worry. You can always re-read the article after you've "slept on it".

Conclusions

Having successfully peered through the mists of time, I now know that I am:

- a Carlow Nolan descendant,
- a descendant of Feidlimidh Reachtmar, a 2nd century AD Ard Ri of Ireland, married to a **Danish** princess.
- a descendant of Ugainne Mor, a 4th century BC Ard Ri of Ireland, married to a daughter of the king of Gaul/**France**.
- a descendant from a pre-Scythian farmer/trader of the 6th millennium BC

I believe that I have gone as far back in time as I can!

Having read through my article, I am sure that, by now, you must be feeling that you are related to pretty much everybody else in the world and you are.

DNA results confirm that. As members of the R1b haplogroup most Nolans are related to 80% of males in Ireland and to 70% of males in Europe. That's a lot of relatives.

All kidding aside, I believe it's truly time for me to turn my attentions to other things, it's time for me to explore new worlds, to be more present to my local community or simply to enjoy the moment fully appreciating all that God has given me. I am pleased. I hope He is too!

It's time to move on to others things!



Closing Remarks

Although the reconstructed story I have presented to you is essentially an "educated guess" I believe that it does hold value in that it provides a somewhat clearer picture of our distant Nolan past as opposed to the one presented in the Lebor Gabala Erenn, especially as it relates to our ancestors, the Tuatha De Dananns. I also hope that it will serve as a stepping stone for others to follow in my footsteps.

For those wishing to further explore the ancient world of their Nolan ancestor, I invite them to read the references given at the end of the article. You may also wish to pay a visit to my own personal website <http://NolanFamilies.org>.

For those readers who had time to read my companion article "Work – Do we have it all wrong?" and would want to reflect further on the ideas presented in that article, I invite them to meditate on the lyrics of "Morning has broken" substituting "sleeping brain" for the word "blackbird" (*herald of the dawn, bringer of light*). Another good reflection would be to ponder the lyrics of "Make Me a Channel of your Peace".

Before signing off on possibly the last article I write for the Newsletter, I would like to thank my wife Rosie for sticking by me for those many years I served as Newsletter Editor for the Clan (2004-2018) for, as of this issue, I am relinquishing my duties as editor, having reached a point in my life where I sense a need to take life a bit easier. I am not getting any younger.

In the course of my tenure as Newsletter editor I have come to know myself better, discovering my strengths and also my weaknesses. That, in itself, has made the journey worthwhile. I have matured and, at this point, I feel a real need to be more present to my local community, to my family, to my friends and especially to my long-time partner and soul-mate, Rosie.

Without her guidance over many years I would not be the man I have come to be, not only able to peer into the distant past and into the distant future, but also able to be present to others, especially to her as we grow old together.

Roger Nowlan

past, present and future

unofficial bard of the Nolan Clan

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-for Cathair Mór mac Feidlimid - King of Leinster

O'Nolan Clan Ò Nuallàin



Membership Application / Renewal Form

I wish to join (or /renew my membership in) the O'Nolan Clan, a voluntary, non-profit organisation, relying upon its members for fund-raising, organizing clan activities and recruiting new members.

I understand that membership is open to anyone who supports the goals and aspirations of the clan:

- To organize a Clan Gathering every second year
- To publish a Clan Newsletter at least once a year
- To create and maintain, for current and future generations, an archive of historical and anecdotal information of interest to Nolans everywhere.

I also understand that membership dues are to be paid upon joining and, thereafter, at the beginning of each calendar year, prior to March 17th. The yearly membership fee per household, in known **local currencies** of interest, is currently: set at 10 Euros, \$13 USD, \$15 CAD or \$17 AUD. For other local currencies, the membership fee is the equivalent of 10 Euros in that currency. To save on postage and service charges, I may also choose to pay for more than one year at a time (ideally 2, 3 or 5 years).

Enclosed is a **personal cheque in my local currency made out to "Pa Nolan - Nolan Clan"** in the amount of _____ as payment for _____ year(s) membership in the clan.

For clan records and to help with administration, my particulars (*or revisions thereto*) are:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Co./State/Prov. _____ Country/Postal/ZIPCode _____

Age _____ Telephone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Other family members _____

Indicate whether this application is a renewal or not: Yes ___ or No ___

Your Contact Details for General Data Protection Regulations [GDPR] are solely used to distribute O'Nolan/Nolan Clan information, for example the Clan Newsletter, informational/promotional material pertaining to the biennial Clan Gathering and other such material related to Clan activities. Contact Data is retained (as amended) for the duration of your Clan membership, plus one year after the expiry of that membership.

Signature : _____

Post To:

**Pa Nolan, Nolan Clan Treasurer
Mopoon Villa, Sydenham Road
Dundrum, Dublin 14.
D14 X7P9.
Ireland**