

About the Council of Irish Chiefs (*Buanchomhairle Thaoisigh Éireann*)

The Council was formed to promote the following objects:

- (a) To consider matters affecting the Irish Chiefs, Chieftains and the Clans they represent;
- (b) To submit its views and interests to Government, to Departments of State, to local authorities, to Press and Public and to Associations connected with Clan and Family in Ireland and overseas;
- (c) To educate the general public in matters connected with the rights, functions and historical position of Irish Chiefs and Chieftains;
- (d) To take such steps as may seem expedient to protect the titles, armorial bearings and other appurtenances of Chiefs and Chieftains from exploitation or misuse in trade or otherwise;
- (e) To promote and preserve the Gaelic heritage of Ireland;
- (f) Any other objects related to the above objects.

Members of the Council are:

Joyce of Joyce's Country
MacDermot Prince of Coolavin
The McGillicuddy of the Reeks
The O'Brien of Thomond
The O'Callaghan
The O'Carroll of Eile
O'Conor Don
The O'Dochartaigh of Inishowen
The O'Donnell of Tirconnell
The O'Donoghue of the Glens
The O'Donovan of Clan Cathail
The O'Grady of Kilballyowen
The O'Kelly of Gallagher and Tycooly
The O'Long of Garranelongy
The O'Morchoe
The O'Neill of Clannaboy
The O'Ruairc of Breifne

About Clans of Ireland (*Finte na hÉireann*)

Clans of Ireland is an independent permanent authority established in 1989 to:

- Authenticate and register Irish Clans and historical families
- promote the interests of Irish Clans and historical families
- provide authentic and scholarly information related to Irish Clans and historical families.

The Patron of Clans of Ireland is the President of Ireland.

Clans of Ireland is regularly consulted by government agencies, embassies, historical and cultural groups, the media and members of the general public.

Clans of Ireland maintain a very strong and positive relationship with the Council of Irish Chiefs and Chieftains who represent the hereditary Chiefs and

has also signed a memorandum of understanding with the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs.

Membership of Clans of Ireland is restricted to those Irish Clans and historical families whose surname is of Irish origin or who have a historic presence in Ireland. As such the Register of Clans of Ireland includes families of Irish, Norse, Anglo- Norman, Scots, Gallowglass, Huguenot, and Quaker origins.

About the competition:

Dr Katharine Simms, retired Senior Lecturer in Medieval History and presently Research Associate of the Centre for Research in Medieval History in the School of Histories and Humanities, Trinity College Dublin has been asked to judge the essays submitted to this competition, with such volunteer help as she may see fit, and her decision is to be final.

Essays should represent a piece of original research on a topic falling within the fields of interest advertised above, and should be fully footnoted, giving reference to all the sources used, and accompanied by a full bibliography. The recommended word-length of 2,000 words applies to the main text of the essay, and does not include the footnotes and bibliography. Copyright remains with the author. *However, it is the intention of the Council of Chiefs and Clans of Ireland, with the agreement of the respective authors, ultimately to publish the collected prize-winning essays from this competition in the form of a book of original research on Gaelic Ireland, perhaps also to include the works of runners-up from successive competitions where these are judged to be of a sufficient standard.*

The prize of €500 will be awarded to the essay that Dr Katharine Simms and her advisors judge to be the best of those submitted, provided this is considered to have reached publishable standard. If none of the essays reach a sufficiently high standard, the prize will be reserved for the following year's competition. It is expected that the winner of the competition will be announced in the November/December issue of *History/Ireland* 2024. Given that the winning essay will be of publishable standard, it is anticipated that it would appear in this or a subsequent issue of *History/Ireland*. However, the editor of *History/Ireland* has reserved the discretion not to publish it if the piece, however intrinsically meritorious, does not fit in with the needs of his magazine. His decision will not affect the award of the prize itself.

About publication in the magazine *History/Ireland*:

If the winning essay is accepted for publication in *History/Ireland* some adaptation to the format will be necessary as the magazine articles do not have footnotes, and only short book-lists of 'further reading' at the end.

As mentioned above, Clans of Ireland and the Council of Chiefs themselves purpose to publish the fully-referenced version in time as part of a book of collected essays.

The suggestions below as to visual aids such as pictures, maps or genealogical charts are not pre-requisite for the Chiefs' competition, though competitors are reminded that accompanying maps or genealogical tables are often necessary to a full understanding of certain topics.

For your further information regarding the editor's preferred format for History/Ireland, relevant extracts are given below from:

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS to History Ireland

Style ('As simple as possible but no simpler')

We at History Ireland are dedicated to view that the highest academic standards are not incompatible with witty, pithy, well-written prose. We love our history, as does our diverse, worldwide readership. But they are demanding - they want to be entertained, challenged, provoked; they have a low tolerance for boring, badly written or jargon-laden material.

Word limits

The editor will advise on the appropriate word limits depending on the topic. Where these are breached he is not afraid to wield the axe (on the text, not the contributor!). Final drafts will be sent to contributors for approval. Contributors are encouraged to condense material on subthemes into one or two 2-300-word sidebars or 'boxes' (to be included in the overall word count) where appropriate.

Visuals

Remember that History Ireland is an illustrated magazine. It jostles for attention on the newsstands with all the other glossy magazines. Submissions should be accompanied by illustrations (at least 1 per 500 words), including as much top quality colour as possible, or suggestions for illustrations.

Images downloaded from the internet are usually not suitable for printing. Scanned images should be supplied at 300dpi at 190mm wide (for landscape images) or 300dpi at 190mm high (for portrait images). If you are providing images to be scanned from previously printed material (books, magazine or newspaper articles) please consult us first before scanning yourself.

Further reading & bio

History Ireland is a magazine not an academic journal so we dispense with the usual academic apparatus of footnotes and extensive bibliographies, etc., apart from a 'further reading' list of not more than four general works (i.e. not unpublished theses or articles in obscure journals): author, title, year, place of publication and a 1-line bio of the author (e.g. Joe Bloggs lectures in Irish history at University College Dublin). Contributors may, if they wish, submit longer, fully annotated versions of their submissions for inclusion on our web site.

Maps and graphics

To ensure consistency in presentation all maps and graphics will be redrawn by our cartographer. Contributors can, therefore, submit this material in any form, including hand-drawn on the back of an envelope, as long as it is clearly executed.

Submissions in Irish

Submissions in Irish should be accompanied by a summary translation in English c. 1/4 the length of the article itself, exclusive of word limits.

Payment and copyright

Payment (apart from the honour and glory of appearing in Ireland's only mass-circulation history magazine) is in the form of a 1-year subscription (6 issues) + 5 copies of the issue in which the article appears. Copyright remains with the author.