

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **‘Who Do You Think You Are?’ fans offered opportunity to explore Irish history and genealogy at 21 free lunchtime lectures in National Library of Ireland**

**21 June 2013:** The National Library of Ireland (NLI) is holding a series of 21 lunchtime lectures for people interested in Irish history and genealogy. There’s something on offer for everyone – from advanced researchers to those who are just getting started tracing their family tree.

Want to learn more about the Irish roots of Jackie Kennedy, dating family photographs, crowdsourcing your family tree and much more? Then come along to one of the 30-minute lectures given by some of the country’s leading genealogy experts, which will take place in the NLI Seminar Room in Kildare Street at 1pm on dates throughout July and August.

All events are free and no booking is required.

The series begins on Tuesday 2 July and continues until 29 August. The first lecture – to be given by Henry Healy, distant cousin of US President Barack Obama and Community Activation Leader with Ireland XO – is entitled ***Connections, relationships and opportunities when Ireland reaches out.***

Details of other events in the series as follows:

Thursday 4 July: Padraic Kennedy, Director of the Military Archives in Rathmines, Dublin. Lecture title: ***Sources for family research at the Military Archives***

Tuesday 9 July: Christopher Moriarty, Dublin Quaker Library. Lecture title: ***Ireland’s Quakers and their records***

Thursday 11 July: Harriet Wheelock, Archivist, Royal College of Physicians in Ireland. Lecture title: ***Is there a doctor in your house? Family history records in the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland***

Tuesday 16 July: Maeve Mullin, genealogist. Lecture title: ***The Valuations Office - a colourful treasure trove!***

Thursday 18 July: Jim O'Callaghan, genealogist. Lecture title: ***The Irish roots of Jackie Kennedy***

Tuesday 23 July: Claire Bradley, genealogist. Lecture title: ***Crowd-sourcing your family tree: how social media can help with tracing ancestry***

Thursday 25 July: Mervyn Colville, Deputy CEO, Glasnevin Cemetery Museum. Lecture title: ***Ireland's history carved in stone***

Tuesday 30 July: Jane and Maurice O'Keefe, Irish Life and Lore. Lecture title: ***Sense of place through Irish life and lore***

Thursday 1 August: William Roulston, Research Director, Ulster Historical Foundation. Lecture title: ***Emigrant records***

Tuesday 6 August: Susan Hood, historian and archivist, Church of Ireland Representative Church Body Library. Lecture title: ***Gathering Church of Ireland records***

Thursday 8 August: Ciaran Reilly, NUI Maynooth. Lecture title: ***The Roscommon Famine diaspora***

Tuesday 13 August: John Grenham, author of the Irish Roots column in *The Irish Times* and creator of *The Irish Times* Irish Ancestors website. Lecture title: ***Irish records: what's online?***

Thursday 15 August: Phillip Martin, Irish Newspaper Archives. Lecture title: ***Irish newspaper archives – opening up the nation's newspaper archives***

Monday 19 August: Conchubhar Ó Cruaíaoich, author and researcher. Lecture title: ***Aspects of surnames in Irish placenames.***

Tuesday 20 August: Máire MacConghail, Vice-President, Association of Professional Genealogists in Ireland. Lecture title: ***Roman Catholic parish registers: a vital 19<sup>th</sup> century source***

Wednesday 21 August: Elizabeth Craven and Margaret Bonar, founder members, Old Killester Society, Dublin. Lecture title: ***Homes for Heroes Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust***

Thursday 22 August: Catriona Crowe, Head of Special Projects, National Archives of Ireland and Manager of the Irish Census Online Project. Lecture title: ***New genealogical resources from the National Archives***

Friday 23 August: Orla Fitzpatrick, historian and blogger. Lecture title: ***Dating Irish family photographs***

Tuesday 27 August: Glynn Kelso, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI). Lecture title: ***Key sources for family history at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI)***

Thursday 29 August: Derek Neilson, genealogist. Lecture title: ***Audio and family history as sources for genealogy***

As part of the NLI Summer 2013 genealogy service, Eneclann and Ancestor Network will be providing a team of genealogists, with two genealogists present in the NLI every day to support the NLI's genealogy team from now until end September. The NLI's genealogy service is free to everyone who is interested in tracing their family tree. The service is available from 9.30am to 5.00pm (Monday to Wednesday); from 9.30am to 4.45pm (Thursday and Friday) and from 9.30am to 12.45pm (Saturday).

Ends

For further information, contact Brenda O'Hanlon on 087 258 3292 or Ciara Kerrigan on (01) 603 0302. Email: [ckerrigan@nli.ie](mailto:ckerrigan@nli.ie)