

## Réamonn

16/Mí na Samhna/1955

An Dr Liam SS Réamonn

### A] The Name

**Réamonn**, with variants like Réamann, Remund or Reymund, is a Cambro-Norman name, derived from the French personal name Raimond (or Raymond). The name spread widely as Ramón, Roman, Romanov, Raimund. The Cambro-Normans were those who had settled in southern Wales, and Welsh Marches, after the Normans invaded. **Cambria** is the Latinised form of the Welsh name for the country, *Cymru*. The **Welsh Marches** is an area along the border between England and Wales.

Réamonn has Viking and therefore Germanic origins, as in the Frankish ‘Raginmund’. The Old German or Old Norse roots *ragin* (decision, advice, counsel) and *mund* (protection – Vormund = guardian) are evident. Old Norse was a north Germanic language spoken, from **800-1200 AD**, in Scandinavia, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, and in parts of Russia. The intervocalic consonant ‘g’ of *ragin* disappeared to give the German name **Reinmund**, in which the nasal ‘n’ became less common, to give the names Raimund, Reymann and Raymond. Using the Old English *ræd* or Old Saxon *rād* (counsel), the Anglo-Saxon name is *Raedmund* or **Redmond**.

On the street furniture in Dublin, is a sign ‘Redmond’s Hill’ or ‘Cnoc Réamainn’. A fluidity in linguistic practice shows an inflection in the name Réamonn.

### B] Cultural Background from Anglo-Saxon to Viking times in Britain

The **Anglo-Saxon** invasion of England spans approximately the six centuries from **410-1066AD**. Anglo-Saxon invasions were slow and had begun even before the Roman legions departed. When the Roman legions did leave, the Germanic-speaking Angles, Saxons, Jutes and Frisians began to arrive in increasing numbers. They met with little resistance from the weakened Britons.

The various Anglo-Saxon groups settled in different areas of the country. They formed several kingdoms, constantly at war with one another. By 650AD there were seven separate kingdoms.

According to **St. Bede the Venerable**, the Jutes had settled in Kent, the Isle of Wight, and parts of Hampshire. In Kent their name soon died out. Their presence in Hampshire is confirmed by place-names. The name **Kent** is the corrupted Jutish version of the Romano-British Cantiaci/**Cantii** (post-Roman **Ceint**) and means ‘Kent people’ – Iron Age Celts from before the Roman conquest. The name Kent was taken from a common Brittonic place-name, *Cantium* (‘corner of land’ - ‘**Ceanntar**’ in Irish).

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/vikings-most-powerful-city-uneearthed-in-northern-germany-848767/>

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/humanities/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/angles-saxons-and-jutes>

<https://www.historyextra.com/period/angles-saxons-and-jutes/> <https://theconversation.com/what-does-the-word-viking-really-mean-75647>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zr46nrd/articles/zr7kxyc> [https://www.uni-due.de/IERC/IERC\\_Dublin\\_English.htm](https://www.uni-due.de/IERC/IERC_Dublin_English.htm)

**Sloinnte Gaedheal is Gall**, Rev Patrick Woulfe, M. H. Gill & Son, Ltd., **1923**, et alia.

Like many of their neighbours in the south-east, the **Cantii** came from the North Sea and the Baltics. The Celts of Gaul had similar customs. The name **Britain** comes from the Brittonic term **\*Pritanī**. The earliest written reference to the British Isles was by the Greek explorer Pytheas of Massalia; later Greek writers such as Diodorus of Sicily and Strabo, who quotes Pytheas’ use of variants such as Πρεττανική (*Prettanikē*): “\**Pretani* (Britons) means ‘Those Painted’”. Celts were wont to die their skins with **blue woad**, to look more terrifying in battle. [The Woad plant (*Isatis tinctoria*), produces a natural dye, used for several thousand years in Europe and the Middle East.]

Tribes from northern **Germany and Estonia** moved into Scandinavia around **750-1100 AD**, taking the German language and culture with them. They had the name ‘**Viking**’. *Viking* has the same root as the Old Norse *vika* (a ‘sea mile’ — the distance rowed between two shifts of rowers - from the root *\*weik* or *\*wīk*, as in the Proto-Germanic verb *\*wīkan* - to recede). Archaeologists in northern Germany found one

of the most important cities in Viking history – **Sliasthorp**. Vikings — Norsemen — were so of the North German family. ‘Viking’ describes an occupation - not ethnicity. Originally, a *Vikingr* was a neutral term, for a sea rover, someone who sailed off on expeditions, with other *Vikingar* (plural). The activity of *viking* could include adventure and, of course, raiding.



<https://pixabay.com/images/search/vikings/?page=6>

Mediæval Icelandic sagas, written down in the 13 and 1400s, described *Vikingar* as ill-intentioned pirates, who raided, pillaged, slashed and burned their way across Europe, to leave fear and destruction in their wake. Whatever about the **News Media** of the time, Norse society was governed by strict laws. These were decided at a meeting called a ‘**Thing**’.

The Vikings settled in Dublin, before the 10<sup>th</sup> century. In England, the **Vikings**, from **865 AD**, settled in East Anglia, Northumbria and much of Mercia in the Midlands. Areas of Viking settlement have many place-names which have the Scandinavian elements ‘by’ (a village) and ‘thorpe’ (an outlying farmstead) ~ Appleby, Kirkby, Scunthorpe, Skellingthorpe. There was intermarriage between Anglo-Saxons and ‘Vikings’. Old Norse and Anglo-Saxon speakers were probably **mutually intelligible**.

Importantly, Vikings settled in **Normandy, in the 10th and 11th centuries** and became very powerful. They adopted French culture. ‘**Norman**’ in French means ‘Northman’. No more than 10,000 of them sought their fortune in neighbouring England. Their small force conquered the Anglo-Saxons. These latter had taken out the Jutes {see **G**) Addendum. The term ‘Britons’ was introduced into Middle English as ‘brutons’ (Old French *bretun*) in the late 1200s. **The rebranding** aligned them with the inoffensive Celts.

<https://www.historyfiles.co.uk/KingListsBritain/BritainCantii.htm>; [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom\\_of\\_Kent](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Kent);  
<https://brill.com/view/book/edcoll/9789004392472/front-6.xml?language=en>; <https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/456984.pdf>;  
<https://www.historyfiles.co.uk/KingListsBritain/BritainCantii.htm>; <https://www.historyfiles.co.uk/KingListsBritain/EnglandKent.htm>;  
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/vikings-most-powerful-city-unearthed-in-northern-germany-848767/>  
<https://www.encyclopedia.com/humanities/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/angles-saxons-and-jutes> <https://www.historyextra.com/period/angles-saxons-and-jutes/> <https://theconversation.com/what-does-the-word-viking-really-mean-75647> <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zr46nrd/articles/zr7kxyc>  
[https://www.uni-due.de/IERC/IERC\\_Dublin\\_English.htm](https://www.uni-due.de/IERC/IERC_Dublin_English.htm) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Britain\\_\(place\\_name\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Britain_(place_name))  
<https://ga.atomiyme.com/cen-teanga-ata-a-labhairt-san-isiltir-teanga-naisiunta-ollainnis/>  
<https://www.history.org.uk/primary/resource/3865/anglo-saxons-a-brief-history> <https://heritagecalling.com/2022/08/18/how-the-vikings-came-to-england/>  
**Sloinnte Gaedheal is Gall**, Rev Patrick Woulfe, M. H. Gill & Son, Ltd., **1923**, et alia.

## **C] The Return of the Vikings to Ireland — as Normans**

A Norman, called **Raymond le Gros**, invaded Ireland in **1167**, with knights and archers. Alexander Redmond was the first person of the Anglicised name in Ireland. As one of the early Norman settlers, he was granted the Hook area of Co Wexford. It is likely that the name was used in Ireland, in several versions, coming both from Old English/Anglo-Saxon and Norman-French origins.



Raymond le Gros

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/133547109/raymond-fitzwilliam-fitzgerald>

Certain lesser Norman nobles, based in Wales, had been invited to Ireland to rebalance local relationships. They did not leave. Everywhere unbeaten in battle, Normans wanted to live a good life, in lands under their control. They did not necessarily seek to subjugate. French-speaking **Raymond le Gros** was one of the first.

The name 'le Gros' (the fat fellow) was not locally adopted. The Norman lord's new followers took the Gaelicised name Réamonn, a worthy mispronunciation of Raymond. Not being of Celtic stock, there is no 'Mac (Son of)' or 'Ó (Grandson of)' attached to the name. It is so clearly foreign. The new Normans had no long, noble lineage to which to point. This must have been a disadvantage in Gaelic society. In those days, lineage meant everything about a person and **what was expected of him**. [Today, the Irish of Gaelic stock, have the oldest family names in Europe.]

Certain connections to Irish Brehon Law were had with all known bodies of Aryan law, from the Tiber to the Ganges (Hindu law especially) – and with Roman, Scandinavian, Slavonic, and old Germanic law. (These last had a tort-like system of fines to replace criminal law.) **Sir John Davies**, the Elizabethan jurist, confessed: "there is no nation or people under the Sunne that doth love equall... justice better than the Irish...". Brehon Law was ultimately extinguished by the English in every part of Ireland. So soon as they conquered a territory, they stamped it out, banished or slew the Brehons, and governed the land by English law.

In any event, most Gaelic Chieftains had accepted the Norman adventurers, recognizing them as **Hiberniores Hibernis ipsis** - 'More Irish than the Irish themselves'. At the fall of our civilization, with the Flight of the Earls in **1603**, the **Letres de Noblesse** of the fleeing nobles (which recounted their lineage) opened all the royal doors of Europe to them. <https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/02753a.htm>

## **D) The Redmonds – 1798**

The last stand of the 1798 Rebellion by the United Irishmen (Catholic, Protestant and Dissenter) was on June 21<sup>st</sup>, on Vinegar Hill, in the County Wexford. Archaeologists have found mass graves, which contain the remains of women and children and the elderly, who were **massacred on the battlefield**. Large such pits have been found on the north side of the Hill. Up to 2,000 women, children and elderly people, had gathered there before the battle. They were being protected by about 2,000 rebels.

Altogether, the rebels numbered some 20,000 men, women and children. They faced a Crown Force, of some 15,000 troops, led by four generals and 16 officers. The pattern of musketballs, in the fields surveyed, indicates a firing line of Crown Forces taking up position and discharging their guns indiscriminately. Evidence suggests that more mass burials are likely to be found.

<https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-20458678.html>

**Betrayed by informers**, the leaders of the United Irishmen were captured. The disorganised uprising came to an end when the greatest military force seen in Ireland, for a century, methodically mopped up the ragged remnants of the rebels. In Wexford, the advance of murderous Government troops had driven a terrified civilian population before them, to Vinegar Hill. The commander, General Gerard Lake, had said unarmed people were to be seen as the enemy. His force included both cavalry and infantry, with some 26 artillery pieces and a baggage train almost 7km long.

The rebels on Vinegar Hill were armed mainly with pikes (farm instruments). They had only two rounds for their cannon. Their leaders included **Anthony Perry, Miles Byrne and the charismatic Fr John Murphy** of Boolavogue (later savagely killed). General Lake used new anti-personnel weapons, designed to explode above the enemy or seconds after landing. This shock-and-awe warfare had never been seen before. Bombardment was combined with an infantry assault. Contemporary accounts talk of the rebel defenders, their women and children, being slaughtered where they stood.

The rebel command began to contemplate a general retreat and had noticed a gap which was supposed to have been closed by the English Major General Needham. Rebels began to flood through this, making an extraordinary and successful fighting retreat. Protected by their comrades, holding the bridge across the River Slaney, and by an effective rearguard action led by **Fr Thomas Clinch**, many made it off the hill. However, the rear-guard led by Fr Clinch was over-run and he himself was killed.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/books/a-wet-winter-a-dry-spring-a-bloody-summer-and-no-king-vinegar-hill-uncovered-1.4670372>

By July of 1798, General Lake had quelled the rising around the country. His disregard for human life had so distressed the people that men, women and children had willingly faced and met with their death. My father, **Seán Réamonn** (RIP), told me that many of our kinsmen perished on Vinegar Hill. Our family was centered around the town of Ballygarret. I saw a photograph of the first four Redmonds of our family, who came to Dublin from Wexford, but it was lost.

## **Ei) Redmond Hall**

The Redmonds are one of the oldest Anglo-Norman families in County Wexford. Dispossessed of their lands in the 1650s, for keeping to their religious principle, the family became involved in commerce and shipping in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. They set up a private bank in 1770, which withstood the major banking crisis of 1820. *The noble lineage of the Redmonds is not exceptional.*

Otterus or Othoer (son of Mathias, son of Cosmus, the great Duke of Florence), **an Italian Baron**, of the Gherardini of Florence, Lords in Tuscany, passed from Florence into Normandy, and from thence into England and Wales, about the time of King Canute's marriage to Emma, widow of King Ethelred, who had died in **1016**.

Fast forward to Gerald FitzWalter de Windsor, who was Lord of Carew, *jure uxoris* (by right of his wife) and therefore surnamed *de Carew*. He was governor of the county of Pembroke and chamberlain to King Henry I, who granted to him the manor of Moulesford, in Berkshire. He married **Nesta**, daughter of Rhys-ap-Tewdor Mawr, Prince of South Wales, who brought with her to marriage eg seven manors in Pembrokeshire. She was the widow of Stephen de Marisco, constable of Aberteivy and by him was mother of Robert FitzStephen, Lord of Cork, the premier invader of Ireland. Nesta, previous to her marriage with Stephen, had been a concubine of **Henry I**, by whom she had two sons—Robert, Earl of Gloucester and Henry FitzHenry, father of Robert and Meyler FitzHenry, from whom descend the FitzHenrys of Ireland. Robert and Meyler accompanied their second cousin, **Raymond le Gros**, to Ireland in **1170/1171**.

Raymond 'le Gros' (the fat) Fitzgerald (Fitz/fils = the son of and Gerald = the Normanised form of Gherardini) *or* (fitzWilliam – *surnames were fluid*) himself was the son of William Fitzgerald of Carew and the younger brother of Odo de Carew. He came to Ireland from Wales in 1170. With ten men-at-arms and seventy archers, he landed at Baginbun Beach, south of Fethard-on-Sea, in the Hook Peninsula of the

County Wexford - named after his two ships La Bague et La Bonne. After fighting off a combined Ostman (Hiberno-Norse) and Irish army, he took possession of the land and built his castle, called **the Hall**. He advanced on Waterford, where he played a leading rôle in its capture. Over the next few years Raymond was a firm ally of Richard de Clare, 2nd Earl of Pembroke ('Strongbow'). The two fell out when Strongbow refused to give his sister **Basilea** to Raymond as his wife. A Robert de Quincy was granted an Anglo-Norman manor and he married Basilia. Then he died and Basilia could marry Raymond, the famous Anglo-Norman warlord.



<https://pixabay.com/images/search/vikings/?page=6>

**Robert and Walter Redmond** built the castellated mansion known as **Redmond Hall** in about **1350**, during the time of the **Black Death** or Great Pestilence. Transported by rats and fleas in the trading vessels plying between Ireland, England, and France, the plague appeared in Dublin and Drogheda in the summer of 1348. Penetrating many regions, it wiped out whole communities.

The Hall remained with the Redmond family until the mid-1600s when the Irish Confederate Wars (1641 – 1653) saw the castle repeatedly attacked and eventually seized as part of the **Cromwellian confiscations**. Cromwell had superiority in weaponry: the streets of Drogheda ran red with blood as he used unconstrained murder and pillage as weapons of war. In one remarkable display of defense on July the 20<sup>th</sup>, 1642, **Alexander Redmond**, who was 68 at the time, managed to protect The Hall from around 90 invaders, loyal to **Charles I**, with just the help of his two sons, some tenants, two soldiers, **and a tailor**. The English Captain Aston, in a lengthy gun battle, discovered that his cannon were too small to make much impression on the main door. To add to this, about half of his men left, to pillage the countryside. Several more attacks were staved off, after which, it is said, Cromwell allowed Alexander Redmond to stay at the Hall until he died. So in 1651, the surviving **Redmond family were evicted**. In 1666, Henry Loftus, originally from Yorkshire, England, acquired the confiscated lands and the mansion was renamed **Loftus Hall**.

## F) Swopping Identity for Soup

It was during the Famine of **1845-50** that the ordinary people fell from Irish culture in numbers. Because they had nothing to eat (except grass and nettles) and because of changing land-use patterns (from crops to grazing), they were easily evicted from their little farms, most often to die on the side of the road. At times, they could seek a bowl of soup, in a soup kitchen. It is said that, for the soup, they had to surrender their Gaelic names for Anglicised names. So they surrendered their lineage and dropped the hallowed 'Mac' or 'Ó' in their surnames. Traumatized, they turned to the English language and culture. Those who must adopt the Protestant religion for a bowl of soup were called 'Soupers'. If any people were perchance still called Réamonn, they all did adopt the Anglo-Saxon version of the name, **Redmond**, becoming **Angliciores Anglicis ipsis** [more English than the English themselves - Anglo-Saxon was no longer spoken].

A note recorded of the Famine by one **William Redmond**, of No 7 Kinsealy Lane, Malahide (first names properly remain in families):

“The great Irish famine occurred in the years '46, '47 - caused by the blight which destroyed the potato crop in the years '45, '46.....The people were **so famine-stricken around Kinsealy** that one could see them eating grass. They drew blood from cattle and drank it. They killed the donkeys, which had served them for years on their little farms. When the ships left Malahide and Baldoyle, **with dying passengers on board**, they were thrown overboard. These ships were called **coffin ships**...

*It is the universal practice of mankind, if exempt from punishment, to dehumanize and kill the vulnerable, to obtain benefit. A subject for psychological analysis.*

Any wandering Bards, who had survived Queen Elizabeth's instruction to Lord Barrymore, 'to kill them all', might just perhaps have been able to laud a Norman Réamonn, when visiting his farm. Surrendering their Gaelic identity, for a bowl of soup, was overpowering and traumatizing and would not be understood today, when names are, by times, just seen as nice sounds.

## **Eii) Loftus Hall**

The Hall became the family's principal residence, in 1666, when Henry Loftus moved in. In 1684, he carried out extensive repairs. The Loftus family rose in the peerage over the following centuries. In 1800 the then owner of the Hall, the first Earl of Ely, previously Baron Loftus of Loftus Hall, was created Marquess of Ely. It was his descendant, the 4th Marquess who, between 1872 and 1884, again refurbished the Hall. He kept the existing structure, evident in the present house.



Gfox228 via commons.wikimedia CC BY-SA 3.0

It was during that renovation that they made a gruesome discovery. Inside the walls of the Tapestry Room, the skeletal remains of an infant were discovered.

### **A mysterious Stranger and a Card Game**

Loftus Hall was previously owned by Charles Tottenham, who had become Lord of the Manor by marrying the Honourable Anne Loftus. Anne died and Charles then married his cousin, Jane Cliffe. The last of the six children to live at Loftus Hall was named Anne after her mother. In a heavy storm in 1775, a ship was stranded nearby. The sole survivor of the stranded ship was welcomed into the home (as was the practice). He stayed awhile. One night, the family was playing a game of cards. The stranger dealt three cards to each. Anne only had two cards but she saw that one had fallen on the floor. When she went to pick up the card, she noticed the man had a cloven foot. She screamed. At that moment, the visitor went up through the roof, leaving behind a large hole in the ceiling.

Anne lost her mind and was locked away in the Tapestry Room. She was said to have gazed from the window all day long, to have later stopped eating and drinking and to have died. Infant remains were found with her, said to be those of a child she had carried for the stranger. Some say that she and her parents were convinced this was the devil's child. Fanciful accounts to one side, the vulnerable Anne apparently had a child for a commoner and could not have been married to a member of the peerage.

Anne's ghost is said to wander the halls and her image has sometimes showed up in photographs. A priest named Father Thomas Broaders was hired to perform an exorcism at Loftus Hall in the 18th century. It

may well be believed that such evil as was wrought did linger. Some people reported strange noises and voices and others suffered panic attacks whilst they visited.

The **Loftus Hall Hotel** was closed in the late 1990s. Recent reports (27/10/22) indicate that it will be fitted out for business again in the near future, with many attractions to speak of.



Jeremy Polanski via commons.wikimedia CC BY-SA-2.0

**Cover photo:** Gfox228 via commons.wikimedia CC BY-SA 3.0

**Sources:** wikipedia, waterfordvisitorcentre.com. irishexaminer.com, allthatsinteresting.com and ghosts.fandom.com/wiki/Loftus\_Hall **Address:** Hook Head, New Ross, Co. Wexford, Ireland.

### G) Ballytrent House

With a resurgence of the Redmond Family fortunes, **William Archer Redmond (1825-1880)** was one of Ireland's first Home Rule MPs, elected for Wexford Borough in 1872. He married Mary Hoey of Dunganstown, Co. Wicklow. They lived at near Rosslare Harbour, Co Wexford. Their sons, John Edward Redmond (1856-1918) and William (Willie) Hoey Kearney Redmond (1861-1917), served as Irish Parliamentary Party MPs.



**Ballytrent House** (*Wexford Library Services*)

The times in which Redmonds lived in Ballytrent House may be set out. In a 1656 survey, **Patrick Synnot** was shown as owner of 96 acres 24 perches at Ballytrent. **Cromwell** gave Ballytrent to Abraham Deane. His daughter was Sarah Hughes. **Patrick Walter Redmond** purchased Ballytrent from Henry Hughes, remarkable in the **repossession of property** from Cromwellian invaders. His second son was William Archer Redmond (MP) - father of **John Edward Redmond** MP (who represented North Wexford and succeeded Parnell as leader of the Nationalist Party).

**John Redmond's** son, William Hoey Kearney Redmond MP (**Willie Redmond**) was MP for Wexford and Fermanagh. **John H. Talbot** (the younger) inherited Ballytrent from his sister Matilda Seagrave. **William Ryan** was the grandson of Sir James Power, who purchased Ballytrent from Emily Talbot (née Considine). A grandson of William Ryan, **James Edward Power Ryan** is the present owner.

In the grounds of the house is located a Ráth or earthen mound dating back to pre-Christian times and, measuring 650 yards in circumference, is **reputed to be the largest in Europe**.

The Redmond family, in one way or the other, are everywhere all related to the famous and most brave 12<sup>th</sup> century Norman, Raymond le Gros. In Ballygarrett alone, there are many Redmond families and most are not related. In fact there were so many with the same first and second name, that they retained the old Gaelic naming system up until recently, where one would be identified with one's father's first name. For example, there are names like Pat 'Ned' Redmond, Mary 'Jim' Redmond etc. One could also be differentiated by physical appearance or occupation ie 'Red Pat' Redmond (in an Irish name, a colour describes hair, not skin).

The name Redmond found other applications throughout Ireland. A branch of the Burkes of Connaught took the name MacRedmond. The MacDavymore clan, mainly of north Wexford, took the name Redmond in the early 1600s. They were descendents of Dermot MacMurrough, King of Leinster, who had originally invited the Normans to Ireland - and found they would not leave. Taking the name seems to have been an attempt to keep their lands by association with the Anglo-Irish family of that name - a family which subsequently was itself stripped of its possessions. Another application of the name is Baile Mhic Réamainn – Redmondstown in the County Tipperary.

### **F) An Association with 1916**

Some of the Redmonds joined with the **Wild Geese**, from the 16th to the 18th centuries, and served in foreign armies, most notably that of France. Others of the family were involved in banking and politics, and became a prominent local political dynasty in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in support of the Irish Party of Isaac Butt (whose father was the rector of the Anglican parish of Stranorlar) and Charles Stuart Parnell. The most famous of these was **John Edward Redmond**, below:



An Irish nationalist politician, barrister, and MP in the House of Commons, he was best known as the leader of the moderate Irish Parliamentary Party (IPP) from 1900 until his death in **1918**.

My family have an association with the 1916 Rising, through No 131 Morehampton Road, Donnybrook, now owned by my cousin, **Marie Thérèse Joy**. The house was first built on land leased in 1884 from a Captain Lewis Riall, of Old Conna, Bray. In 1918, the house was sold to **Andrew Woods Esquire**, for £450, where he lived with his wife **Molly** and their children.





She gave a Witness Statement of her experiences in the Rising to the Bureau of Military History in **1951**. She was a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and of Cumann na mBan (a republican women's paramilitary organization). Her house was raided frequently –‘morning, noon and night’ - but unsuccessfully: she had her own informants. Rebels met and hid there and she kept arms for officers and men. The house was the headquarters of **Liam Mellows**, an Irish republican and Sinn Féin politician. His secretary, Úna Daly, described him as ‘very witty and with a great sense of humour’. He played the violin and his brother Barney the piano.

He was active with the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) and Irish Volunteers, and participated in the Easter Rising and the War of Independence. Elected as a TD (Member of Parliament) to the First Dáil (Parliament), he rejected the Anglo-Irish Treaty. During the Civil War, he was captured by Pro-Treaty forces and was one of four senior IRA men executed by the Provisional Government, in a fratricidal act. Molly recounted that Free Staters (Pro-Treaty soldiers) did not like raiding No 131, because they had so often had food and shelter there, before the political split over the Treaty.

Mr Woods died in 1930. His funeral went from the Sacred Heart Church, Donnybrook, to Glasnevin Cemetery, where ‘Protestants, Quakers, Jews, Free Staters, Republicans and Indians’ attended. Amongst the pall-bearers was **Éamonn de Valera**, a leader in 1916 and, until 1973, President of Ireland.

Amongst the many messages received was one of appreciation and friendship from **Sr Agnes Morrogh-Bernard**, a Sister of Charity. She had worked in schools, a laundry and an orphanage. In **1891**, she founded a convent in Foxford, Co Mayo, providing education and relief from poverty for the poor. With unrivalled determination, she then set up the Foxford Woolen Mills. It received universal acclamation for the excellence of its woolen products. **Not stopping there**, Sr Agnes organized instruction in dairying, poultry breeding and horticulture and even road-building.

Mr Woods was described by Molly as a **Home Ruler**, believing in **Redmond and his party**, until the brutal, savage murder of Kevin Barry - and other political prisoners and ‘all the excesses perpetrated on a helpless people by the soldiery of the British King and his Ministers – changed his mind.

Mr Woods had high regard for **Micheal Collins**, the **Minister for Finance** in the First Dáil of 1919. He was also the Director of Intelligence for the Southern IRA, and a member of the Irish delegation during the Anglo-Irish Treaty negotiations. After that he was both Chairman of the Provisional Government and Commander-in-chief of the National Army. Collins was shot and killed in August 1922, during the Irish Civil War, a matter never since explained.

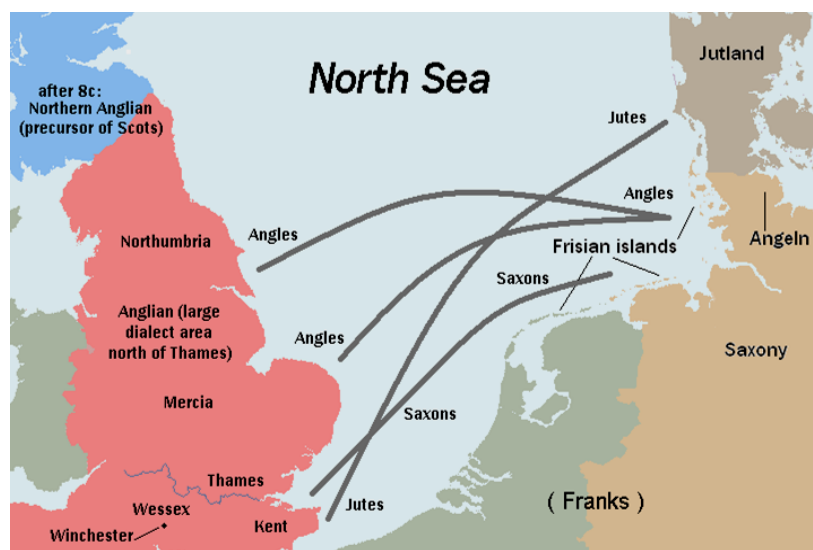
[https://books.google.ie/books?id=OTxTEAAAOBAJ&pg=PT106&lpg=PT106&dq=the+streets+of+drogheda+ran+red+with+with+blood&source=bl&ots=xEqsnCzb-D&sig=ACfU3U3\\_sedDI\\_neK5\\_UsdwYyYYkyJeT4g&hl=ga&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjPj-Xz34P7AhVwSEEAHer8AG8Q6AF6BAGJEAE#v=onepage&q=the%20streets%20of%20drogheda%20ran%20red%20with%20blood&f=false](https://books.google.ie/books?id=OTxTEAAAOBAJ&pg=PT106&lpg=PT106&dq=the+streets+of+drogheda+ran+red+with+with+blood&source=bl&ots=xEqsnCzb-D&sig=ACfU3U3_sedDI_neK5_UsdwYyYYkyJeT4g&hl=ga&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjPj-Xz34P7AhVwSEEAHer8AG8Q6AF6BAGJEAE#v=onepage&q=the%20streets%20of%20drogheda%20ran%20red%20with%20blood&f=false)  
<https://www.geraldini.com/content/13/-the-gherardini-and--other--connections.html> <http://www.patrickcomerford.com/2019/03/loftus-hall-is-fine-house-without.html>

### G) Addendum est: The Jutes - the Venerable Bede knew his Craft

A possible reason for the Jutes and Angles to leave the Jutland was over-cultivation, when crops are grown continuously, depleting the soil's nutrients. One ancient source mentioned a tribe of 'Eotenas' which was involved in conflict between the Frisians and the Danes. This was described too in the Old English poem **Beowulf**. It is thought that these Eotenas were Jutes. **The Venerable Bede** recorded that the Angles, Saxons, Frisians and Jutes settled in the British Isles after Rome left. The Jutes were one of the three most powerful Germanic peoples of their time in the Nordic Iron Age, together with the Saxons and the Angles.

Historians by times express doubt about Bede's account of the Jutes. He says, for example, that the Jutes (or Iutae) came from Jutland, which seems logical, except that language experts long insisted that the two names came from different roots. As archaeological evidence grew, it became clear that Bede was right. However analysis of grave goods, of the time, provided a link between East Kent, south Hampshire and the Isle of Wight - but little evidence of any link with Jutland. There is evidence that the Jutes who migrated to England came from northern Francia or from Frisia. Historians have posited that Jutland was the homeland of the Jutes, but when the Danes invaded the Jutland Peninsula, in about AD 200, some Jutes were absorbed by into Danish culture and others may have migrated to northern Francia and Frisia.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Jute-people>



In the late twentieth century, historian Barbara Yorke suggested there was a Jutish kingdom on the Isle of Wight and south Hampshire (described by Bede as the 'land of the Jutes'). She was challenged for saying that the history of the Jutes had been lost, after their conquest by the West Saxons. [https://www.uni-due.de/SHE/HE\\_GermanicInvasions.htm](https://www.uni-due.de/SHE/HE_GermanicInvasions.htm) <https://www.historyfiles.co.uk/FeaturesBritain/EnglandJutes01.htm>

Some historians have still questioned whether the Jutes ever came from Jutland or ever formed a homogeneous group in Europe or indeed in England. Other historians say that the Jutes were close relatives of the Franks, since the areas traditionally regarded as 'Jutish' (Kent, the Isle of Wight, and south Hampshire) were closer to Frankish territory than Jutland. In the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> centuries, a distinct (more Frankish culture) did exist in eastern Kent.

Perhaps fancifully, it was said that one branch of a Proto-Iranic-speaking tribe, called 'Gut' or 'Got' (an Iranian root for 'warrior'), migrated to India, where they became known as Jats. And another branch migrated to Europe, where they became known as Jutes - and by various other names. It was claimed that

Jat Blood flows in Celts, Jutes, Angles, Saxons and Danes. <https://www.jatland.com/home/Jutes>  
<https://www.jatland.com/home/Saxons> <http://jatistan.blogspot.com/2010/11/glorious-gutians.html>

Versions of the Anglo-Saxon story in England can tend to write the Jutes out of history. As sources for their immigration are few, some historians now even see a distinction between Angles and Saxons as myth. 'Angle' (later English) is said to have been the name used by Anglo-Saxons themselves - and 'Saxon' to have been used by Romans and Britons. It is hardly credible that, whilst continental Angles formed a small tribe, they were such leaders in the migration and that all Germanic tribes wanted their name. The language of the Anglo-Saxons evolved into English only, in any event. The extant records of 'Angle' and 'Saxon' languages do show them to be almost identical; all the indications are that all of the Anglo-Saxons called themselves and their language Angle, or English. Historians do not say that the name Saxon may just have implied that meeting Anglo-Saxons once meant **a lethal meeting with their short swords** – or Seax. 'Saxon', in the names of kingdoms just so served as a warning.

Ecgbert became King of Wessex's in 802: in the 820s he started his conquest of what became England. The Kingdom of Kent was conquered by the West Saxons - by King Ecgbert and his son Æthelwulf - in 825. The kingdom was annexed by King Æthelberht (son of Æthelwulf) in 860 and remained under Wessex's and then England's authority.

After breaking Mercian power at the Battle of Ellandun in 825, Æthelberht turned to Mercian subkingdoms in the South-East, placing his son as King of Kent (Jutes), Sussex (Saxons) and Essex (Saxons). Ecgbert then went on briefly to rule over Mercia (Angles, Saxons and Britons).

At the start of the 7th century, Kent was a powerful kingdom, but by the end of the century, and for the rest of the Anglo-Saxon period, it was a small subkingdom and then a province of Wessex or Mercia, depending which of them was ascendant at the time. The Isle of Wight Jutes were conquered and assimilated into Wessex in the 680s.

The ***Time Team*** produced historical programmes, on the English **Channel 4**, aired from **1994-2014**. They published more scientific papers than all university archaeology departments at that time and supported independent archaeology. Propositions by historians that the Jutes did not feature in England or abroad, to any extent, had eased explanations as to how they disappeared. *Time Team Robin Bush* could argue that the West Saxons carried out **ethnic cleansing of the culturally different Jutes** (not many place-names are left and no personal names). It is now certain that the Jutes had a more prominent rôle in early Anglo-Saxon England than was admitted until recently. [The Venerable Bede knew what he was about.]

<https://www.historyfiles.co.uk/FeaturesBritain/EnglandJutes01.htm>; <https://iwhiddenheroes.org.uk/king-arwald-686ad/> ;  
<https://ga.atomiyme.com/cen-teanga-ata-a-labhairt-san-isiltir-teanga-naisiunta-ollainnis/>  
<https://books.google.ie/books?id=0R9aAQAAQBAJ&pg=PA238&lpq=PA238&dq=jutes+%22exterminated%22+in+kent&source=bl&ots=H7sokKCFRD&sig=ACfU3U3R3FIGJ-h0BZUfLymfgA0JEEZ3SQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj-povBhv7uAhUHURUIHd9IC1YQ6AEwF3oECCsQAw#v=onepage&q=jutes%20%22exterminated%22%20in%20kent&f=false>  
<https://www.houseofnames.com/redman-family-crest>; <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/lrc/general/IE.html>;  
<http://www.hum.uit.no/a/svenonius/lingua/history/histgerm.html>; <http://www.thephora.net/forum/archive/index.php/t-36202.html>; [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Redman\\_%28speaker%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Redman_%28speaker%29); <https://www.houseofnames.com/Redmayne-history?A=54323-292>; <https://www.houseofnames.com/redmayne-family-crest>; <https://www.tuatha.ie/enniscorthy-castle/>  
<http://forebears.co.uk/surnames/redman#meaning> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loftus\\_Hall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loftus_Hall) <https://www.ancient-origins.net/unexplained-phenomena/loftus-hall-most-haunted-house-ireland-has-not-revealed-all-its-dark-secrets-021750>  
<http://celtic2realms-medievalnews.blogspot.com/2014/11/raymond-le-gros-and-molana-abbey.html>  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7225208/> <https://www.libraryireland.com/Pedigrees2/redmond-1.php>  
<https://www.historyireland.com/raymond-le-gros-a-carew-not-a-fitzgerald/> <https://ga.glosbe.com/ga/ga/Sasanach>