

The Curtin Clan

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# Press Release

## **Curtin Clan Gathering, April 21-23, 2017 at the Temple Gate Hotel in Ennis**

“You can’t know where you are going until you know where you’ve been”, Old Irish Proverb

**Ennis, County Clare, Temple Gate Hotel:** The Curtin Clan will celebrate their 10th Gathering at the Temple Gate Hotel in Ennis on April 21-23, 2017. We are a group of people with a connection to the Curtin surname that are curious about how generations before lived in Ireland. The Curtin surname is found in counties Clare, Cork, Kerry and Limerick. We are an international community for genealogy, research and fellowship.

Our Gathering will include speakers on the impact of the Penal Code on late 19th century Ireland, history of Curtins in Clare, Cork War of Independence, Clan DNA update, Rambling House, Gala Dinner, dancing, traditional music, Mass at the Franciscan Friary, and a tour of the Cliffs of Moher and the Burren. For registration information, visit our website at <http://www.curtin.org>

Following is a detail program listing:

### **Thursday, April 20**

- 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm **Early Registration**
- 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm **"Older than Ireland"** Documentary Screening

### **Friday, April 21**

- 9:00 am - 10:00 am **Registration**
- 10:00 am - 11:15 am **Welcome and Introductions**
- 11:30 am - 12:45 pm **DNA Update** by Dan Curtin, DNA Project Coordinator
- 12:45 pm - 2:00 pm **Lunch** soup, mixed sandwiches, tea and coffee at 10 EUR per person--collected in the morning.

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- 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm **Clare History** Paddy Waldron, Chairman of the Clare Roots Society, will share his in depth knowledge of Clare history. He will include poets Aodh Bui Cruitin and cousin Andreas, who lived in late 1600s. Aodh was jailed for challenging British history of Clare.
- 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm **Local Studies Center Tour** sponsored by the Clare County Library, which has rich resources to locate Clare relatives. This includes an interactive map that shows a family name's geographic distribution over three timeframes.
- 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm **Dinner on Own** Temple Gate will provide 3 course meal for 25 EUR
- 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm **Rambling House** Join us with your favorite story, song or dance! The Rambling House seeks to recreate how generations before us entertained themselves in days gone by. Back then, long nights in Ireland were passed by ceilidhing (or aimeal/scorafocht) in what was known as a rambling house. This was where people congregated for gossip, storytelling - and perhaps the odd song and dance late into the night.

### Saturday, April 22

- 9:00 am - 9:45 am **Curtins in Clare** Margaret Curtain will discuss Curtins in Clare. She is a founding Clan member and presented the insignia appointing her as a Companion of the Order of Clans of Ireland (CIOM).
- 10:00 am - 11:30 am **Penal Code Impact on 19th Century Ireland** Mike Moylan will use objects from the **Irish History Museum** to describe the ordinary lives of people in late 19th century
- 11:30 am - Noon **World War I Memorial Wreath for Lawrence Curtin** at Peace Park
- Noon - 1:15 **Lunch** same arrangements as Friday
- 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm **Set Dancing** caller Aibhin Holden, local set dance instructor
- 2:30 - 3:15 **Cork War of Independence Fighters** Curtin Clan member Joe Curtin will talk about his father, who fought in the War of Independence Joe's cousin is Tomas Mac Curtain, Lord Mayor of Cork assassinated by the British Empire.
- 3:30 pm - 3:45 pm **Biennial Election for Curtin Clan Board**
- 3:45 pm - 4:45 pm **Traditional Music** Colm Nestor will lead musicians from Cois na hAbhna, a center for traditional Irish studies.
- 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm **Gala Cocktail Hour**
- 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm **Gala Dinner**
- 9:00 pm - 1:00 pm **Gala Entertainment** The Kings of Connaught is a six- piece folk/ballad group from Galway, Ireland

### Sunday, April 23

- 10:30 am - 11:30 am **Mass** at the Franciscan Friary
- 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm **Burren and Cliffs of Moher Tour** 20 EURO/ 25 USD