



CEANN FINE NEW YEAR STATEMENT 2016.

A Cháirde,

It is with great pride that I have continued to represent the Clan McGrath of Ulster as Ceann Fine throughout 2016. We have achieved much in 2015 and I look forward to even further developments in the coming year. Our Society has grown to almost 50 members, representing our Clan right across the globe. Our new website is a resource for many of our kin to explore their heritage and keep up to date through our bi-annual newsletter THE TERMNER.

During the past year our social media presence has also grown and we now have almost 650 followers on our Facebook page and the Clan is interacting with other Irish and Scottish Clans through our Twitter. I myself have also adopted social media and am posting regularly through my own Twitter account named @ChiefMcGrath1. Links to our Facebook and both the Clan and Chief Twitter accounts can be found on the Home page of this website. Please take the time to follow the Clan and myself. Our Facebook page is updated daily and provides some wonderful articles.

The coming year will see some further developments in our Clan structure and the Clan Council will keep you updated on these developments through this website and through THE TERMNER newsletter. I encourage you to take part in these developments by joining the Clan Society and becoming an active participant. Details of how to join can be found on this website. In April I will be representing the Clan McGrath of Ulster at the Clans of Ireland AGM in Dublin along with the Ceann Fine of Thomond, Mr Dan McGrath. Together we have undertaken to work closely to promote the interests of our Septs through the good works of Clans of Ireland and I look forward to working ever closer with Dan.

In June, the McGrath Clan Gathering will take place in Dungarvan, Co. Waterford and will be hosted by the Clan McGrath of Thomond. If you have not already registered, please do so as soon as possible. Details of how to register can be found on this website or on our regular Facebook posts. This promises to be a wonderful opportunity to meet with our kin and exchange stories and information on our heritage. Please also consider joining the McGrath tour which will take place directly after the Gathering. The coming year will also mark the 400th anniversary of the death in Rome of the Great O'Neill, Hugh Earl of

Tyrone. I look forward to working with our O'Neill kin in marking this important event in the history of Ulster and of Ireland.

Finally, during the past year the Clan McGrath of Ulster has been honoured to have been invited to the unveiling of a commemorative plaque to mark the site of the McGrath Castle in Dungarvan, Co. Waterford. I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Clan McGrath of Thomond for the chance to represent the Ulster McGraths at this event, it truly was a memorable experience. During the event we presented Fr. Paddy Ryan the author of Archbishop Miler Magrath - The Enigma of Cashel with a certificate of appreciation from the Clan McGrath of Ulster and Thomond. His acclaimed work has brought a deeper understanding of our most enigmatic ancestor and of this turbulent period of Irish history. May I recommend his book to you and encourage you to obtain a copy for yourself.

With best wishes in kinship and friendship.

Seán Alusdrann Mac Craith

Ceann Fine