National Library of Ireland **News**
Nuacht Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann

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Library acquires Sean O'Casey archive

Cartlann Sean O'Casey faighte ag an Leabharlann

The National Library has acquired a 5,000-item archive of original manuscripts and papers of Sean O'Casey, widely regarded as one of the world's leading 20th century playwrights. The papers were purchased from the family of the playwright by the EBS Building Society and donated to the Library under the tax credit scheme.

They were formally received by the Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern TD on behalf of the Library at a reception attended by the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, Ms Síle de Valera TD; representatives of the EBS Building Society; by guests from the literary and academic world and by members of the O'Casey family, including the playwright's daughter, Shivaun O'Casey.

An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern T.D., with Pat McGovern of EBS Building Society, Shivaun O'Casey and NLI Director, Brendan O Donoghue

The acquisition of this extensive archive is a major boost for the Library, which already holds manuscripts of works by other important Irish writers including George Bernard Shaw, W B Yeats, James Joyce, Austin Clarke, Michael Hartnett and Brian Friel.

The archive relates to almost 50 years of Sean O'Casey's writing career. Although it primarily comprises correspondence, it also contains scripts, notebooks, music, proofs, posters, programmes, reviews, newspaper cuttings and memorabilia.

Up until now it had been a matter of concern for the Library that few Sean O'Casey manuscripts were available for study in Ireland, many of them being held in libraries in the United States. The donation by the EBS redresses that situation and it constitutes a major boost for O'Casey studies. The important new information that the archive provides will enable researchers to reappraise the contribution of this illustrious Dublin writer to world literature.

The archive, which covers the period 1917 to 1964, reveals O'Casey as being of truly international stature as a playwright and as an advocate for social justice. His wide popularity is attested in posters, programmes, reviews and newspaper coverage, which recall performances at theatres ranging from Liverpool to Ljubljana and from Belfast to Baton Rouge.

The correspondence is unusually informative as it includes not only the letters received by him, but also in many instances filed copies of

Tá an Leabharlann Náisiúnta tar éis cartlann 5,000 ítim a fháil ina bhfuil lámhscríbhinní agus páipéir bhunaidh de chuid Sean O'Casey, a meastar ina leith gur duine de na drámadóirí ab fhearr é dá raibh ann sa 20ú haois.

Cheannaigh Cumann Foirgníochta an EBS na páipéir ó mhuintir an drámadóra agus bhronn an Cumann ar an Leabharlann iad faoin scéim chreidiúna cánach.

An Taoiseach, an tUas. Bertie Ahern TD, a ghlac leis na páipéir go foirmiúil thar ceann na Leabharlainne le linn fáiltithe a raibh an tAire Ealaíon, Oidhreachta, Gaeltachta agus Oileán, Síle de Valera TD, i láthair aige mar aon le hionadaithe de chuid Chumann Foirgníochta an EBS, aíonna as an saol liteartha agus as an saol acadúil, agus daoine de mhuintir O'Casey, agus iníon an drámadóra, Shivaun O'Casey, ina measc.

Beart tábhachtach a bhí ann don Leabharlann an chartlann leitheadach sin a fháil; tá lámhscríbhinní ag an Leabharlann cheana féin de shaothair de chuid scríbhneoirí tábhachtacha Éireannacha eile lena n-áirítear George Bernard Shaw, W B Yeats, James Joyce, Austin Clarke, Micheál Ó hAirtnéide agus Brian Friel.

Baineann an chartlann le tuairim is 50 bliain de shaol scríbhneoireachta O'Casey. Cé gur comhfhreagras is mó atá ann tá scrioptanna, leabhair nótaí, ceol, profaí, póstaeir, cláir, gearrthóga nuachtáin agus ábhair chuimhneacháin ann freisin.

Go dtí anois, ba ábhar imní don Leabharlann é gur beag lámhscríbhinn de chuid O'Casey a bhí ar fáil in Éirinn le staidéar a dhéanamh orthu agus mar tá cuid mhór díobh ag leabharlanna sna Stáit Aontaithe. Tá an staid sin leigheasta mar gheall ar bhronnadh na cartlainne seo ag an EBS agus is ionann é agus spreagadh do lucht staidéir O'Casey. Tríd an eolas tábhachtach nua a sholathróidh an chartlann, cumasófar do thaighdeoirí athmheasúnú a dhéanamh ar shaothar an scríbhneora cháiliúil seo as Baile Átha Cliath i gcomhthéacs litríocht an domhain.

Clúdaíonn an chartlann an tréimhse 1917 go 1964, agus taispeántar O'Casey mar dhrámadóir a bhfuil stádas idirnáisiúnta aige agus mar dhuine a chuir ceartas sóisialta chun cinn. Is léir an dúil a bhí ag daoine ann nuair a bhreathnaítear ar phóstaeir, ar chláir, ar léirmheasanna agus ar thuairiscí nuachtáin ina ndéantar cur síos ar léiriúcháin in amharclanna ina áiteanna ó Learpholl go Ljubljana agus ó Bhéal Feirste go Baton Rouge.

Is iontach an méid eolais atá le fáil sa chomhfhreagras mar ní amháin go bhfuil

the letters he sent out, so that it is possible to read both sides of an exchange.

The correspondence reveals him as an extremely busy, productive and engaged writer, much of it being concerned with the business of stage productions; the publication of plays and their translation into various languages, and the incessant demand from literary editors for essays, articles, interviews and reviews of the work of other writers.

In addition, there is extensive correspondence of a political flavour arising from his involvement in various left-wing organisations and his support for a wide variety of humanitarian causes such as civil liberties, world peace, and the campaign for nuclear disarmament.

Shivaun O'Casey with Pat McGovern of EBS at the reception in the National Library in December.

It is a major new source for literary, social and political history over a period of half a century. A most notable feature of the collection is its international range, with perhaps one-third of the letters relating to Britain, and the remainder to the US and, to a lesser extent, the USSR.

In addition to papers documenting O'Casey the public figure, there are memorabilia of a personal nature. Of outstanding interest is a file of more than 90 letters exchanged between the writer and his wife Eileen over the years between the beginning of their courtship in 1926 and his death in Torquay in 1964. The unpublished correspondence has considerable academic significance as it provides a background and context for much of his day-to-day work.

an litir a fuair sé ann ach, freisin, tá cóipeanna ann ina lán cásanna de na litreacha a chuir sé amach, rud a fhágann gur féidir an dá thaobh den chomhfhreagras a léamh.

Léiríonn an comhfhreagras gur scríbhneoir gnóthach, rafar, dícheallach a bhí in O'Casey agus baineann cuid mhór de le léiriúcháin stáitse, le foilsiú drámaí agus le haistriúcháin orthu i dteangacha éagsúla, agus leis an éileamh leanúnach ó eagarthóirí liteartha ar aistí, ar ailt, ar agallaimh agus ar léirmheasanna ar shaothar scríbhneoirí eile.

Ina theannta sin, tá comhfhreagras leitheadach ann de chineál polaitíochta a bhaineann lena ról in eagraíochtaí éagsúla de chuid na heite clé agus lena thacaíocht do chúiseanna éagsúla daonchairdis mar shampla saoirsí sóisialta, síocháin dhomhanda agus an feachtas ar mhaithe le dí-armáil núicléach.

Is foinse mhór nua an chartlann seo i dtaca le stair litríochta, stair shóisialta agus stair pholaitíochta thar thréimhse leathchéad bliain. Gné thar a bheith suntasach den bhailiúchán is ea a réimse idirnáisiúnta, is é sin le rá, baineann tuairim is an tríú cuid de na litreacha leis an mBreatain agus baineann an chuid eile go formhór leis na Stáit Aontaithe agus, go feadh méid is lú, le APSS.

I dteannta na bpáipéar ina bhfaightear cur síos ar O'Casey mar phearsa phoiblí, tá earraí cuimhneacháin de chineál pearsanta ann. Is díol mór spéise é comhad ar leith ina bhfuil os cionn 90 litir idir an scríbhneoir agus a bhean chéile Eileen sna blianta ó thús a gcumainn sa bhliain 1926 go tráth a bháis i Torquay sa bhliain 1964. Tá tábhacht shuntasach acadúil ag an gcomhfhreagras neamhfhoilsithe mar go soláthraíonn se cúlra agus comhthéacs do chuid mhaith dá shaothar ó lá go lá.

Leslie family papers

The National Library has purchased an extensive archive of papers generated over three centuries by the Leslie family of Glaslough, Co Monaghan.

The collection's main strength lies in its social and literary content.

For well over a century, distinguished artists and writers figured prominently in a family which enjoyed unique access to important artistic, literary and cultural circles in Ireland, Britain, the US and further afield. In addition, the Leslies were related by blood, or connected by marriage, to a number of Irish and British aristocratic families, including the Churchills.

Over the years, various members of the family were involved in political life. Three successive patriarchs named Charles Powell Leslie were MPs for Co Monaghan. They were also involved in the Irish militia and the Irish Volunteer movement.

The Glaslough estate was acquired in 1665 by John Leslie, Bishop of Clogher. The archive recalls the vicissitudes of the estate and the Leslie family from those turbulent times down to the present day. It includes title deeds, leases, rentals, maps, surveys and correspondence documenting the routine business of administering the family's estates in counties Monaghan, Donegal, Fermanagh and Tyrone, which by the late 1880s totalled 44,000 acres.

Páipéir mhuintir Leslie

Tá cartlann leitheadach páipéar a thiomsaigh muintir Leslie as Glasloch, Co. Mhuineacháin, thar thrí chéad bliain ceannaithe ag an Leabharlann Náisiúnta. Is é an ghné is tábhachtaí den bhailiúchán ná an t-ábhar atá ann a bhaineann le cúrsaí sóisialta agus liteartha.

Le níos mó ná céad bliain, bhí daoine den teaghlach seo ina n-ealaíontóirí agus ina scríbhneoirí clúiteacha agus bhí teacht ag an teaghlach ar chuid thábhachtach den saol ealaíne, den saol litríochta agus den saol cultúrtha in Éirinn, sa Bhreatain, sna Stáit Aontaithe agus in áiteanna níos faide i gcéin. Ina theannta sin, bhí gaol fola, nó gaol cleamhnais, ag muintir Leslie le roinnt teaghlach uasaicmeach de chuid na hÉireann agus na Breataine, lena n-áirítear muintir Churchill.

Thar na blianta, bhí daoine éagsúla den teaghlach páirteach sa saol polaitíochta. Bhí triúr ceann teaghlaigh i ndiaidh a chéile, darbh ainm Charles Powell Leslie, ina bhFeisirí Parlaiminte do Chontae Mhuineacháin. Bhí baint acu leis an Irish Militia agus le gluaiseacht na Irish Volunteers.

Fuair John Leslie, Easpag Chlochair, eastát Ghlaslocha sa bhliain 1665. Déantar cur síos sa chartlann ar na cora a bhain don eastát agus do mhuintir Leslie ón aimsir chorraitheach sin go dtí an lá atá inniu ann. Áirítear inti gníomhais teidil, léasanna, cíosanna, léarscáileanna agus comhfhreagras ina luaitear an gnáthghnó a ghabh le riaradh eastáit an teaghlaigh i gcontaetha Mhuineacháin, Dhún na nGall, Fhear

Among the household papers are invoices furnished by butchers, bakers and haberdashers; receipts for hotel expenses at home and abroad; estate visitors' books; details of salaries for indoor and outdoor servants; diaries of shooting and fishing expeditions; marriage settlements and wills.

An outstanding treasure among the estate documents is a fine leather-bound volume of coloured manuscript maps '*divided into the different farms and qualities in each townland, with a representation of all the principal roads, woods, bogs, loughs and rivers, surveyed and mapped by James Ashmur in 1765*'.

The National Library already has some hundreds of family and estate archives, among the more notable being those of the Butlers of Kilkenny, O'Briens of Inchiquin, Co Clare, the St Legers of Doneraile, Co Cork, the Domvilles of Santry, Co Dublin, and the Balfours of Townley Hall, Drogheda.

Manach agus Thír Eoghain ar eastáit iad ina raibh 44,000 acra ag deireadh bhlianta na 1880-idí.

Áirítear i measc na bpáipéar teaghlaigh sonraisc ó bhúistéirí, ó bháicéirí, agus ó dhíoltóirí mionéadaí; admhálacha le haghaidh caiteachas óstáin sa tír seo agus thar lear; leabhair chuairteoirí eastát; sonraí faoi thuarastail na searbhóntaí istigh agus amuigh; dialanna faoi thurais seilge agus iascaireachta; socraíochtaí pósta agus uachtanna.

Seoid shuntasach i measc na ndoiciméad eastáit is ea imleabhar breá leathar-cheangailte de léarscáileanna daite lámhscríbhinne agus iad 'divided into the different farms and qualities in each townland, with a representation of all the principal roads, woods, bogs, loughs and rivers, surveyed and mapped by James Ashmur in 1765'.

Tá roinnt céadta cairteacha teaghlaigh agus eastáit ag an Leabharlann Náisiúnta cheana féin agus is iad na cinn is suntasaí ná ábhar a bhaineann le muintir Butler as Dún ar Aill, Co. Chorcaí, le muintir Domville as Seantrabh, Co. Áth Cliath, agus le muintir Balfour as Townley Hall, Droichead Átha.

New books classification system introduced

Regular users of the National Library's main Reading Room, through their use of the catalogues and familiarity with Library Call Numbers, will be familiar with the Dewey Decimal classification system in use in the Library since its foundation. For material catalogued under the Dewey system the Call Number is generally a combination of letters and numbers in the following format: Ir 823 j 9 or 941 h 30 or P 7291.

The Library's equivalent of the €uro changeover took place in September 2001 when a new classification system, which facilitates more efficient management of collections and storage areas, was brought into operation. Printed material catalogued since that date has a Call Number in the following format:

- a number indicating year of cataloguing,
- a letter indicating size/collection
- a running number.

For example, the item classified as 1 A 10 means a book which

- was catalogued in 2001 (1)
- was assigned to collection A (books or pamphlets under 24cm. in measurement) (A)
- was the tenth item catalogued in that year, within collection A (10).

On the spine of the book this will appear as:

1A
10

In the catalogues this will appear as:

Dynix terminal:	A 1 A 10
WebPac:	1 A 10 Collection: A

Classifications which remain in use include:

'LO': This indicates material from the 'Librarian's Office' collection. This material is issued only under the authority of the Duty Librarian. Readers requesting access to LO material must hold a full Reader's Ticket.

'RR': This indicates that the material is reference material on open access in the Reading Room.

Conservation Note:
Dust Jackets are no longer pasted into the back of the books. Under the new system, they are stored separately by classification number and by collection code. They can be made available for consultation, by request.

Córas nua aicmithe leabhar tugtha isteach

Igcás úsáideoirí rialta phríomhSheomra Léitheoireachta na Leabharlainne Náisiúnta, beidh a fhios acu, tríd an leas atá bainte acu as na catalóga agus trína gcuid eolais ar Ghlao-Uimhreacha na Leabharlainne, go bhfuil córas aicmithe deachúil Dewey in úsáid sa Leabharlann ó bunaíodh í. Le haghaidh ábhair atá catalógaithe faoi chóras Dewey ba é a bhí sa Ghlao-Uimhir de ghnáth ná litreacha agus uimhreacha le chéile san fhormáid seo a leanas: Ir 823 j 9 nó 941 h 30 nó P 7291.

Dála an athraithe go dtí an €uro, rinne an Leabharlann athrú i Meán Fómhair 2001 arbh é a bhí ann tabhairt isteach córais nua aicmithe a fhágann gur féidir bailiúcháin agus limistéir stórála a riaradh ar shlí níos éifeachtúla. Is mar a leanas atá formáid Ghlao-Uimhir aon ábhair a catalógaíodh ón dáta sin i leith:

- *uimhir a thaispeánann an bhliain ina ndéantar catalógú,*
- *litir a thaispeánann méid/bailiúchán,*
- *uimhir shraithe.*

Dá bhrí sin, i gcás ítime a aicmítear mar 1 A 10, ciallaíonn sé gur leabhar atá ann

- *a catalógaíodh sa bhliain 2001 (1)*
- *a cuireadh isteach i mbailiúchán A (leabhair nó paimfléid ar lú ná 24cm. a dtomhas) (A)*
- *a catalógaíodh sa bhliain sin, laistigh de bhailiúcháin A (10).*

Taispeánfar sin mar a leanas ar dhroim an leabhair:

1A
10

Sna catalóga, taispeánfar mar a leanas é:

Teirminéal Dynix:	*A* *1 A 10*
Webpac:	*1 A 10 Collection: A*

Gheobhaidh tú na haicmithe seo a leanas a bheidh á gcoimeád in úsáid:

'LO': *Taispeántar leis seo gur ábhar as bailiúchán 'Oifig an Leabharlannaí' atá ann. Ní eisítear an t-ábhar seo ach amháin le húdarás ón Leabharlannaí ar dualgas. Ní mór do léitheoirí a lorgaíonn an t-ábhar seo Ticéad Léitheora iomlán a bheith acu.*

'RR': *Taispeántar ábhar tagartha leis seo (ar fáil ar na seilfeanna oscailte sa Seomra Léitheoireachta).*

Nóta Caomhnóireachta:
Ní dhéantar Clúdaigh Dheannaigh a ghreamú isteach ar leathanach cúil na leabhar a thuilleadh. Faoin gcóras nua, stóráiltear iad ar leithligh de réir uimhreach aicmithe agus de réir cóid bailiúcháin. Is féidir iad a chur ar fáil lena léamh, ach iad a iarraidh.

Actively collecting ephemera

Ever since it was founded in 1877, the National Library has maintained an active policy of acquiring heritage items and other materials including ephemera.

In the context of the National Library's current collection of some six million items overall, this ephemera comprises transient publications such as brochures, pamphlets, theatre programmes, invitations, hand bills, leaflets, fliers, press releases, political memorabilia (including political cartoons), trade union material, collections of cigarette cards, menus, trade catalogues, autograph letters, community and parish newsletters, junk mail and other materials, usually created for some immediate purpose, and which are likely to be thrown away. There are also items such as non-photographic postcards and newspaper clippings in the print collection of the National Photographic Archive.

An analogous category to 'ephemera' is 'grey literature'. This is difficult to define but is generally considered to be material such as report literature. In the context of current Library collections, grey literature mainly comprises conference proceedings and pre-prints, and trade publications.

Increasingly, ephemera is recognised as a valuable primary source for a wide range of researchers, including those who work in the fields of history, biography, the social sciences and the visual arts.

FELLOW CITIZENS
AND
IRISHMEN!
The Enemies of Ireland—the base Orange Faction, have triumphed.
They have carried their ends by the basest
Bribery and Corruption.
But blessed be God, their triumph has given a greater impulse to the darling object of my life—REPEAL! Be not daunted, my friends, A PETITION will unseat the Exterminators of yourselves and your
HOLY AND SACRED RELIGION!
Your faithful Friend and Servant,
Daniel O'Connell

It is, for example, a particularly invaluable resource for research into areas such as:

- Social groupings whose interests and ethics are not represented by mainstream publishing
- Events including political demonstrations, concerts, meetings, lectures and exhibitions which are not documented elsewhere
- Changing political and social imagery
- Trade catalogues which describe and illustrate items for sale (and which also feature price details). These catalogues are a useful source of information for publications such as histories of business, technology or advertising.
- Publications on the history of graphic design which illustrate changing trends in the design of popular cultural artefacts i.e. advertising material, posters and so on
- Material for exhibitions
- Illustrative material for publications.

The National Library has recently set up a new project to survey and process uncatalogued ephemera. It is estimated that the first phase of this project will take about two years. At that point, the Library will be in a position to decide which parts of its collections should be developed and what gaps, if any, should be filled.

It is hoped that at a later stage a separate section of the Library's website will be devoted to ephemera, with an online guide listing details of the various ephemera collections in each Library department.

Catherine Fahy - Assistant Keeper

Bailiú gníomhach ephemera

Oireachtas na Saeòilse
Féile na Samhna
an Cuirm Ceóil
Tuéit Ceóil:-
Céilidhe Mór

Ón tráth a bunaíodh an Leabharlann Náisiúnta sa bhliain 1877, tá polasaí gníomhach aici maidir le hítimí oidhreachta agus nithe eile, lena n-áirítear ephemera, *a fháil.*

I gcomhthéacs bhailiúchán reatha na Leabharlainne Náisiúnta ina bhfuil tuairim is sé mhilliún ítim ar fad, áirítear san ephemera *seo foilseacháin ghearrshaolacha ar nós bróisiúr, paimfléad, clár amharclainne, cuirí, bileog eolais, preasráiteas, cuimhneachán polaitíochta (lena n-áirítear cartúin pholaitíochta), ábhar ceardchumainn, bailiúchán cártaí toitíní, biachlár, catalóg trádála, litreacha sínithe, nuachtlitreacha pobail agus paróiste, bruscarphostas agus ábhar eile ar nithe iad a cruthaíodh de ghnáth le haghaidh ócáide áirithe agus a bhí le caitheamh amach is dócha. Sa bhailiúchán priontaí sa Chartlann Náisiúnta Fótagrafaíochta tá ítimí ann freisin ar nós cártaí poist neamhfhótagrafacha agus gearrthóg nuachtáin.*

Tá earnáil ann atá analógach leis an earnáil 'ephemera' *is é sin le rá 'litríocht liath'. Is deacair sainmhíniú a thabhairt ar an earnáil seo ach meastar i gcoitinne go mbaineann sí le hábhair ar nós litríocht tuarascála. I gcomhthéacs bhailiúcháin reatha na Leabharlainne, is é atá i litríocht liath go príomha ná imeachtaí agus réamhphriontaí comhdhála agus foilseacháin trádála.*

Níos mó ná riamh, meastar gurb ionann ephemera *agus foinse phríomha do réimse leathan taighdeoirí, lena n-áirítear taighdeoirí a ghabhann do chúrsaí staire, beathaisnéise, eolaíochtaí sóisialta agus amharc-ealaíon.*

Mar shampla, tá tábhacht ar leith ag baint le ephemera *maidir le taighde ar réimsí den sórt seo a leanas:*

- *Grúpaí sóisialta nach léirítear a n-ábhair spéise ná a gcuid eitice in ábhar a fhoilsítear i gcoitinne*
- *Imeachtaí nach bhfaightear tuairisc ina leith in áiteanna eile, mar shampla léirsithe polaitíochta, ceolchoirmeacha, cruinnithe, léachtaí agus taispeántais*
- *Íomhánna athraitheacha polaitíochta agus sóisialta*
- *Catalóga trádála ina dtugtar tuairisc agus léiriú ar ítimí atá ar díol (agus ina dtugtar sonraí faoi phraghsanna). Is foinse úsáideach eolais na catalóga seo le haghaidh foilseachán ar nós staire gnó, teicneolaíochta nó fógraíochta.*
- *Foilseacháin a bhaineann le stair na dearthóireachta grafaí agus ina léirítear treochtaí athraitheacha maidir le déantáin chultúrtha a mbíonn dúil ag daoine iontu i.e. ábhar fógraíochta, póstaeir agus mar sin de.*
- *Ábhar le haghaidh taispeántas*
- *Ábhar léaráide d'fhoilseacháin*

Chuir an Leabharlann Náisiúnta tionscadal nua ar bun le déanaí chun suirbhé a dhéanamh ar ephemera neamhchatalógaithe agus chun ephemera neamhchatalógaithe a phróiseáil. Meastar go dtógfaidh an chéad chéim den tionscadal seo tuairim is dhá bhliain. Beidh an Leabharlann in ann cinneadh a dhéanamh ansin i dtaobh cé na codanna dá bailiúcháin is ceart a fhorbairt agus cé na bearnaí, más ann, is ceart a líonadh.

Táthar ag súil go ndéanfar cuid ar leith de láithreán gréasáin na Leabharlainne a chur ar leataobh, amach anseo, le haghaidh ephemera agus go mbeidh treoir ar-líne ann ina liostófar sonraí faoi na bailiúcháin éagsúla ephemera atá ann i ngach roinn den Leabharlann.

Catherine Fahy *- Coimeádaí Cúnta*

Digitizing of Gaelic Medical Manuscripts

There's been a new arrival in the Department of Manuscripts. It's a cradle. It's here to support the Gaelic medical manuscripts as they're digitised for ISOS. The Meamram Páipéar Ríomhaire / Irish Script on Screen (ISOS) project is funded by the School of Celtic Studies of the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies and is directed by Dr. Pádraig Ó Macháin. Research in Irish manuscripts is a statutory function of the School of Celtic Studies, and the School views the ISOS project as an important element of that research. ISOS produces high-resolution digital images of Gaelic manuscripts, on the World Wide Web. The images are accessible in two sizes, one about 20% of the original size (150-500KB) and the other at a much larger resolution (1.5-5MB), to which registered specialist users may have access. The ISOS website (http://www.isos.dcu.ie/) is hosted by the School of Computer Applications at Dublin City University. Libraries currently in partnership with ISOS include the National Library of Ireland, the Royal Irish Academy (RIA) and Trinity College Dublin (TCD). Libraries already digitised include Mount Mellary Abbey and Coláiste na Rinne, both in Co. Waterford. By 2002, about 10,000 images will have been digitised.

And the new arrival? The cradle was designed by David Cooper in consultation with Conservators Sabina Pugh and Chris Clarkson. It was designed to cradle manuscripts that can't open more than 100 degrees. The cradle has gone through two prototypes and currently about fifteen are in operation worldwide. As well as two cradles in Dublin, one at the NLI and the other at TCD, others are operational at the British Library, the National Libraries of Scotland, Wales, Iceland and Japan and at St. Catherine's Monastery in Sinai. David, who is digitizing the NLI Gaelic medical manuscripts, has worked previously on the Celtic and Gaelic manuscripts digitizing projects at Oxford, the RIA and in Reykjavik and has advised on many others. The digital camera specifications and information on digital watermarking, processing techniques, image storage and retrieval are detailed on the ISOS website.

The National Library holds about 1,295 Gaelic manuscripts, 10 of which are medical manuscripts. By digitizing the medical and some of the non-medical manuscripts, ISOS intends making them accessible worldwide virtually. Fragments of manuscripts that have been long separated and that are currently in different libraries can be reunited virtually on the web. In many cases, manuscripts can be read more easily, scribal hands in different manuscripts can be compared and the laying out of vellum and paper prior to being worked on by scribe and illustrator, can all be rendered more visible by digital camera, on the web. As well as aiding the preservation of our Gaelic manuscripts, the digitizing project encourages and facilitates new areas of research and knowledge.

Elizabeth M. Kirwan
Assistant Keeper

NLI MS G 11, p.441
This illustration is from a 15th century vellum manuscript called The Rose or Treasurer of Health, written mainly by Donnchadh Ó Bolgaidi. G11 consists of late translations of Latin medical, philosophical, alchemical and medico-legal works. This page is the beginning of a law tract on othrus (sick-maintenance), an Irish customary law dating to the early eighth century.

Digitiú Lámhscríbhinní Gaeilge Liachta

Tá ábhar nua i ndiaidh teacht isteach i Roinn na Lámhscríbhinní. Cliabhán atá ann. Tá sé ann chun tacaíocht a chur ar fáil do na lámhscríbhinní Gaeilge liachta de réir mar a dhéantar iad a dhigitiú le haghaidh ISOS. Faigheann an tionscadal Meamram Páipéar Ríomhaire / Irish Script on Screen (ISOS) maoiniú ó Scoil an Léinn Cheiltigh d'Institiúid Ard-Léinn Bhaile Átha Cliath agus is é an Dr. Pádraig Ó Macháin atá á stiúradh. Feidhm reachtúil de chuid Scoil an Léinn Cheiltigh é taighde a dhéanamh ar lámhscríbhinní Gaeilge agus measann an Scoil go bhfuil tionscadal ISOS ina ghné thábhachtach den taighde sin. Táirgeann ISOS íomhánna digiteacha ard-taifigh de lámhscríbhinní Gaeilge ar an Líonra Domhanda. Tá na híomhánna ar fáil in dhá mhéid, is é sin, ceann amháin tuairim is 20% den mhéid bhunaidh (150-500KB) agus an ceann eile de réir taifigh i bhfad níos mó (1.5-5MB) a bhfuil rochtain ag úsáideoirí cláraithe speisialtóireachta air. An Scoil Feidhmiúchán Ríomhaireachta, in Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath, atá mar ósta do láithreán gréasáin ISOS (http://www.isos.dcu.ie/). Áirítear i measc na leabharlann atá i gcomhpháirtíocht le ISOS faoi láthair Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann, Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann (RIA) agus Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath (TCD). Áirítear ar na leabharlanna atá digitithe cheana féin, Mainistir Chnoc Mhellerí agus Coláiste na Rinne; tá an dá leabharlann sin suite i gContae Phort Láirge. Faoin mbliain 2002, beidh digitiú déanta ar thuairim is 10,000 íomhá.

Agus céard faoin ábhar nua atá tagtha? David Cooper a dhear an cliabhán i gcomhairle leis na Caomhnóirí Sabina Pugh agus Chris Clarkson. Dearadh é mar chliabhán do lámhscríbhinní nach féidir a oscailt níos mó ná 100 céim. Bhí dhá fhréamhshamhail den chiseán ann agus tá tuairim is cúig cinn déag díobh in úsáid ar fud an domhain. Chomh maith le dhá chiseán atá in úsáid i mBaile Átha Cliath, ceann amháin i Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann agus an ceann eile i gColáiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath, tá cinn eile in úsáid i Leabharlann na Breataine, i Leabharlanna Náisiúnta na hAlban, na Breataine Bige, na hÍoslainne agus na Seapáine, agus i Mainistir N. Caitríona in Sinai. Roimhe seo bhí David, a bhfuil lámhscríbhinní Gaeilge liachta Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann á ndigitiú aige, ag obair ar thionscadail digitithe na lámhscríbhinní Ceilteacha agus Gaeilge in Oxford, in Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann agus in Reykjavik agus tá comhairle tugtha aige maidir le cuid mhór tionscadal eile. Tá sonraí le fáil ar láithreán gréasáin ISOS faoi shonraíochtaí an cheamara dhigitigh agus tá eolas le fáil ansin freisin faoi uiscemharcáil dhigiteach, faoi theicníochtaí próiseála agus faoi stóráil agus aisghabháil íomhánna.

Tá tuairim is 1,295 lámhscríbhinn Ghaeilge ag an Leabharlann Náisiúnta agus is lámhscríbhinní liachta 10 gcinn díobh sin. Trí dhigitiú a dhéanamh ar na lámhscríbhinní liachta agus ar chuid de na lámhscríbhinní neamhliachta, tá sé beartaithe ag ISOS iad a chur ar fáil go fiorúil ar fud an domhain ar an idirlíon. Ina lán cásanna, dá bharr seo, is fusa lámhscríbhinní a léamh, is féidir stíleanna éagsúla scríbhneoireachta a chur i gcomparáid lena chéile agus, i dtaca le párpháipéar agus páipéar a leagan amach sula dtosaíonn an scríbhneoir agus an maisitheoir ag obair orthu, is féidir sin a chur ar fáil ar shlí níos sofheicthe trí cheamara digiteach ar an líonra. Chomh maith le cabhrú le caomhnú ár gcuid lámhscríbhinní Gaeilge, spreagann agus éascaíonn digitiú réimsí nua taighde agus eolais.

***Elizabeth M. Kirwan** - Coiméadaí Cúnta*

NLI MS G 11, lch.441
Seo léaráid as lámhscríbhinn phárpháipéir de chuid an15ú haois dar teideal An Rós nó Taisce Sláinte, arna scríobh go príomha ag Donnchadh Ó Bolgaidi. Is é atá in G11 ná aistriúcháin dhéanacha de shaothair Laidine liachta, fealsúnachta, ailceimice agus lia-dhlíthiúla. Ar an leathanach seo tosaíonn sliocht dlí maidir le othrus (cothabháil le linn breoiteachta), ar dlí gnáthaimh Éireannach é a bhaineann le tús an ochtú haois.

Staff Training
January – March 2002

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC EACH THURSDAY DURING THE PERIOD JANUARY 17TH 2002 TO MARCH 7TH 2002, BOTH DAYS INCLUSIVE. THIS CLOSING IS TO FACILITATE STAFF TRAINING. ANY INCONVENIENCE TO READERS IS REGRETTED.

Traenáil Don Fhoireann
Eanáir – Márta 2002

BEIDH LEABHARLANN NÁISIÚNTA NA hÉIREANN DÚNTA DON PHOBAL GACH DÉARDAOIN I RITH AN THRÉIMHSE 17 EANÁIR 2002 GO DTÍ 7 MÁRTA 2002, AN DÁ LÁ SAN ÁIREAMH. IS CHUN TRAENÁIL A CHUR AR FÁIL DON FHOIREANN ATÁ MAR CHÚIS LEIS AN DÚNADH SEO. IS OTH LINN AON MHÍCHAOTHÚLACHT DO LÉITHEOIRÍ.

Troubled Images exhibition

Imagine a wall plastered with the posters of all the parties to the Northern Ireland conflict. It is an impossibility in the Northern Ireland world of one-sided walls, except, that is, on the walls of Belfast's Linen Hall Library, where the '*Troubled Images*' exhibition opened to the public in October 2001 to great acclaim. The posters from this very successful and stimulating exhibition have now been brought to the National Library of Ireland in Dublin, where they will be on view from 17 January till the end of February.

The Exhibition
The 62 posters on display illustrate the Northern Ireland experience since the beginning of the Troubles, and reflect all sides in the conflict. Movements that have faded from view are there, along with all of today's main players. The great tragedies of our time feature alongside moments of hope. They are all there in impossible but revealing conjunction.

The Book
The exhibition is just the most immediately visible element of the much larger 'Troubled Images' project. It comes with a 124-page book with 140 full-colour illustrations and detailed accounts of the 62 exhibition posters. This is the first major published exploration of the posters of the Northern Ireland conflict. Price €25, it is available from the Library shop.

The CD-ROM
Far more extensive, however, is the 'Troubled Images' CD-ROM. This includes images of c. 3,500 posters and artefacts from the Linen Hall Library's Northern Ireland Political Collection. The images are supported by individual notes and 50 essays on important events and themes by leading experts in the field, with some 200,000 words of text in all. Also included are audio interviews with key poster designers for the various parties and poster campaigns. Price €40, it is available from the Library shop.

Taispeántas Troubled Images

Samhlaigh balla agus póstaeir na bpáirtithe go léir i gcoimhlint Thuaisceart Éireann greamaithe de. Ní bheadh a leithéid ann, le fírinne, i ndomhan bhallaí aontaobhacha Thuaisceart Éireann ach amháin ar bhallaí an Linen Hall Library i mBéal Feirste áit ar osclaíodh an taispeántas Troubled Images *don phobal i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2001 agus tá ardmholadh faighte ag an taispeántas. Tá na póstaeir ón taispeántas iontach spreagúil sin ar éirigh go hanmhaith leis i Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann i mBaile Átha Cliath anois agus beidh siad ar taispeáint ansin ón 17 Eanáir go dtí deireadh Feabhra.*

An Taispeántas
Léiríonn an 62 phóstaer atá ar taispeáint scéal Thuaisceart Éireann ó thús na dTrioblóidí agus tá gach taobh den choimhlint le feiceáil iontu. Tá gluaiseachtaí nach bhfuil ann a thuilleadh le feiceáil taobh le príomhpháirtithe go léir an lae inniu. Tá tragóidí móra na haimsire seo ann taobh leis na comharthaí dóchais. Tá na nithe codarsnacha sin go léir ann in éineacht a chéile.

An Leabhar
Níl sa taispeántas ach an ghné is feiceálaí de chuid tionscadail i bhfad níos mó dar teideal 'Troubled Images'. Chomh maith leis an taispeántas tá leabhar 124 leathanach ann ina bhfuil 140 léaráid lándaite agus mionchuntais ar an 62 phóstaer sa taispeántas. Is é seo an chéad scrúdú mór, i bhfoirm fhoilsithe, ar phóstaeir a bhaineann le coimhlint Thuaisceart Éireann.

An CD-ROM
Tá réimse ábhair i bhfad níos forleithne le fáil sa CD-ROM 'Troubled Images', áfach. Áirítear ann tuairim is 3,500 íomhá de phóstaeir agus de dhéantáin as Bailiúchán Polaitíochta an Linen Hall Library maidir le Tuaisceart Éireann. I dteannta na n-íomhánna, tá nótaí ar leithligh ann mar aon le 50 aiste ar ócáidí agus ar théamaí tábhachtacha le saineolaithe san ábhar seo agus tá tuairim is 200,000 focal ar fad sa téacs. Tá clos-agallaimh ann freisin ina labhraíonn na príomhdhearthóirí póstaeir do na páirtithe éagsúla agus do na feachtais phóstaeir éagsúla. Ta an CD-ROM as fáil i sigan na Leabharlainne, luach €40.

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