



Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann
Royal Irish Academy

Annual Review 2021





The Royal Irish Academy, founded in 1785, is Ireland's leading body of experts supporting and promoting the sciences and humanities. As an all-island independent forum of peer-elected experts we recognise world-class researchers and scholars, and champion Irish academic research.

We make a significant contribution to public debate and policy formation on issues in science, technology and culture. We bring together academia, government and industry to address issues of mutual interest by providing an independent forum.

We lead important national research projects, particularly in areas relating to Ireland and its heritage.

We represent the world of Irish learning internationally, have a unique globally recognised library and are a leading academic publisher.

Front cover design: As part of the Academy's Colm Cille 1500 celebrations we commissioned seven different artworks in the fields of visual art, music, poetry, drama and fiction in Irish and Scottish Gaelic to reflect the richness, diversity and dynamic quality of Columban tradition.

Róisín de Buitléar, an award-winning artist created this artwork in glass titled 'Bró na nOileán' ('Quern of the Islands'), which draws on the Irish saying 'Is mall a mheileann muilte Dé' ('The mills of God grind slowly'). The form suggests ideas of planting grain, sharing bread that draws attention to Colm Cille's influence on local communities. The colours and reflected light conjure up images of turbulent seas and the landscapes of the islands of Ireland and Iona.

Photo credit Phillip Lauterbach

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...the intellectual and cultural reach of the Academy and its relevance to key policy challenges continued to grow and to be in demand across the island of Ireland and beyond. ”

Mary Canning, President

Mary Canning



The Academy's position on the importance of independent scientific advice in Ireland as well as its concern to support the United Kingdom's association with Horizon Europe was widely disseminated

In spite of the obstacles to meeting in person, 2021 was a busy year for the Academy. Members continued to participate in numerous meetings, webinars and workshops, most of which took place online. Discourses, Council meetings, Stated General Meetings and committee meetings were almost all conducted remotely, as was most of the Academy's business. Nonetheless, the intellectual and cultural reach of the Academy and its relevance to key policy challenges continued to grow and to be in demand across the island of Ireland and beyond.

The Academy has developed excellent working relationships with both Minister Simon Harris, T.D. and the Department of Higher and Further Education Research and Innovation and Science. It has further broadened its involvement and contacts within government, notably with the Shared Island Unit in the Department of the Taoiseach and with the Department of Foreign Affairs. Members and staff contributed their expertise and time to the public consultation on the future of research in Ireland led by Science Foundation Ireland. The Academy's position on the importance of independent scientific advice in Ireland as well as its concern to support the United Kingdom's association with Horizon Europe was widely disseminated. Internationally, Academy members continued their work with numerous networks such as ALLEA and the Seven Academies as well as the Celtic Academies Alliance, which was launched by the RIA in March 2021.

Seven Discourses were held on a wide range of subjects and disseminated online to impressively large national and international audiences. Webinars on topical policy issues continued to attract engaged audiences. Notable exceptions to remote events were our Hamilton activities in October 2021; the Hamilton Lecture was widely appreciated by its live audience as were the awards ceremony and masterclass for the outstanding students of mathematics from universities across Ireland, with all activity enthusiastically sponsored by Ibec.

President



The Annual Review covers in more detail the work that Academy members and staff engaged in throughout 2021. I wish specially to note:

- The Higher Education Futures Taskforce who worked continuously and completed their work in November with the launch of five key documents focussing on the challenges that confront the higher education sector on the island of Ireland. Academy members freely contributed considerable time and expertise to this work, which was welcomed and noted by policy makers north and south of the border;
- The Irish Research Council and the Academy cooperated in a series of seminars that were held over the course of the year. The seminars culminated in a paper on the topic of 'Research for public policy', which offers a framework for the future development of informed discussion on evidence-based research;
- A diversity review was commissioned in May 2021 and carried out by an international group of academics. Their report was approved by Council and published in November 2021. Implementation of its recommendations, many of which are already in hand, will be one focus of the Academy's 2022 work programme. Together with the development of the Young Academy, these measures are expected to broaden the diversity of Academy membership;
- The Academy Gold Medal in the Humanities was awarded to Mary Daly MRIA and the Academy Gold Medal in the Life Sciences was awarded to Daniel Bradley MRIA;
- The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) financed, and the Academy supported the development of seven outstanding art works across a range of disciplines for Colm Cille/Columba 1500 commemorative celebrations;
- As part of the Ireland and France Joint Plan of Action, the DFA declared its ongoing commitment to the RIA's Michel Déon Prize for non-fiction until 2025;
- In December, the Academy rounded out the year with a conference on the Treaty Debates, which was held online in cooperation with the Houses of the Oireachtas;
- The Office of Public Works undertook extensive conservation of the Meeting Room and also worked to improve facilities in other parts of Academy House, and will commence works to improve access to the building during 2022.



I wish to acknowledge the continued financial support of the Department of Education and the HEA and to thank members, friends and corporate partners who have made generous donations to support the work of the Academy.

Once again, I pay tribute to the professionalism of Academy staff led by the Executive Director, the senior management team and the IT team, who worked tirelessly throughout the year to observe government regulations and to keep Academy House and the Library open whenever possible.

The strategic direction of the Academy was guided by Council and undertaken through the work of the Science Secretary, Catherine Godson; the PL&A Secretary, Daniel Carey; the Policy and International Secretary, Brian Norton; the VP for Research, Jane Conroy; the VP for Diversity, Anita Maguire; and VP, Eucharia Meehan. I thank them all for their commitment and contributions.

I continue to be grateful for the invaluable advice and ongoing support of the Senior Vice President, Gerry McKenna; Secretary, Mary O'Dowd; Treasurer, Patrick Honohan; and Executive Director Tony Gaynor.



Ray Conroy



“

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff who have worked tirelessly in 2021 to maintain and enhance our services to members, the research community and the general public. ”

Tony Gaynor, Executive Director

Tony Gaynor



Based on our experience of providing online events in 2020 and 2021, we have plans to develop a 'Digital Academy' in 2022, that will allow for the continuation of high-quality online and hybrid events in the post-COVID-19 landscape and will complement our activities in Academy House. ”

2021 was another challenging year for the Royal Irish Academy due to COVID-19, but our staff rose to the challenge of providing our services on a virtual basis. We continued to provide high-quality online seminars and academic discourses, produce beautiful publications, support researchers through continued access to our first-class Library, to contribute to public policy making through initiatives such as the Higher Education Futures Taskforce, and to progress the Academy's research projects.

We undertook a mid-term review of our strategic plan, which provided an opportunity to consult with internal and external stakeholders about the type of activities that we should be pursuing over the remainder of the plan. In response, we have committed to a number of recommendations, including the development of a regional engagement strategy and a continued focus on diversity in the future.

We have also made considerable progress towards some exciting initiatives that are planned for 2022. Based on our experience of providing online events in 2020 and 2021, we have plans to develop a 'Digital Academy' in 2022, that will allow for the continuation of high-quality online and hybrid events in the post-COVID-19 landscape and will complement our activities in Academy House. This will ensure that we continue to make Academy events as widely accessible as possible.

We will also be establishing the Young Academy of Ireland in 2022. This initiative will target early career researchers and innovators (ECRIs) across the island of Ireland and provide a forum for ECRIs to exchange information and ideas, to network on a national and international basis, to collaborate across disciplinary areas and to inform policy. The Young Academy will also form part of a global network of similar organisations across the world.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff who have worked tirelessly in 2021 to maintain and enhance our services to members, the research community and the general public.

Executive Director

Diversity Review

Anita Maguire, VP for Diversity

Over the past 18 months the Academy's Diversity Committee has been working assiduously, producing a **Diversity and Inclusion Statement for the Academy**, developing many of the policies and approaches that will reinforce the culture of equality and inclusion outlined in the statement, and generally raising awareness of equality, diversity and inclusion within the Academy.

In early 2021 concerns were raised about the diversity of the Academy's membership, particularly the slow pace of change in the gender balance of the membership and in the diversity of new members appointed annually. At the 2021 Stated General Meeting, the President announced that the Academy would hold an independent review of the diversity and inclusion practices within its membership process. An international panel of experts was convened to carry out this review:

Professor Lesley Yellowlees (Chair), chemist and former Vice Principal at the University of Edinburgh. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, where she chaired its **Tapping all our Talents 2018 report**. She also chaired the first Senior Academic Leadership Initiative expert panel in Ireland.

Professor Veronica van Heyningen, geneticist and Honorary Professor at University College London.

She is a Fellow of the Royal Society and chairs its Diversity Committee.

Professor Knut Liestøl, informatician at the University of Oslo. He is a member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters and chairs the expert panel for BALANSE, the gender balance initiative of the Norwegian Research Council.

Professor Andrea Pető, historian, gender studies expert at Central European University, Vienna, Austria. She is a research affiliate of the CEU Democracy Institute, Budapest and a Doctor of Science of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.


Whilst increasing female participation within the membership was an acknowledged driver for the review, the panel was also asked to consider how to increase more broadly the diversity of the membership to reflect Irish society at large.



Professor Lesley Yellowlees



Anita Maguire MRIA



The panel's report and recommendations was approved by Council at their meeting in November. Professor Yellowlees also made a presentation to the Stated General Meeting of 30 November. An implementation group, chaired by the Chair of the Diversity Committee, Anita Maguire MRIA, Vice President, has been established to consider each of the recommendations in detail. It will bring proposed actions to Council in February 2022, in advance of the March 2022 Stated General Meeting. A number of the panel's recommendations had already been suggested by the Diversity Committee, agreed by Council, and have been implemented in time for the 2021 membership cycle.

Following on from the proactive steps in 2020 in relation to gender representation in nominations for the Gold Medals, in 2021 the Diversity Committee welcomed the all-female calls for Honorary Membership and Council Recommended Membership as first steps towards achieving gender balance in the Academy's membership. The Diversity Committee looks forward to the establishment of the Young Academy as a key step in broadening inclusion within the Academy overall.

Throughout 2021 proactive engagement in relation to equality, diversity and inclusion has been evident across a number of the multidisciplinary committees; the Diversity Committee warmly welcomes the interest and activity in this area from the broader RIA community.



COLM CILLE 1500

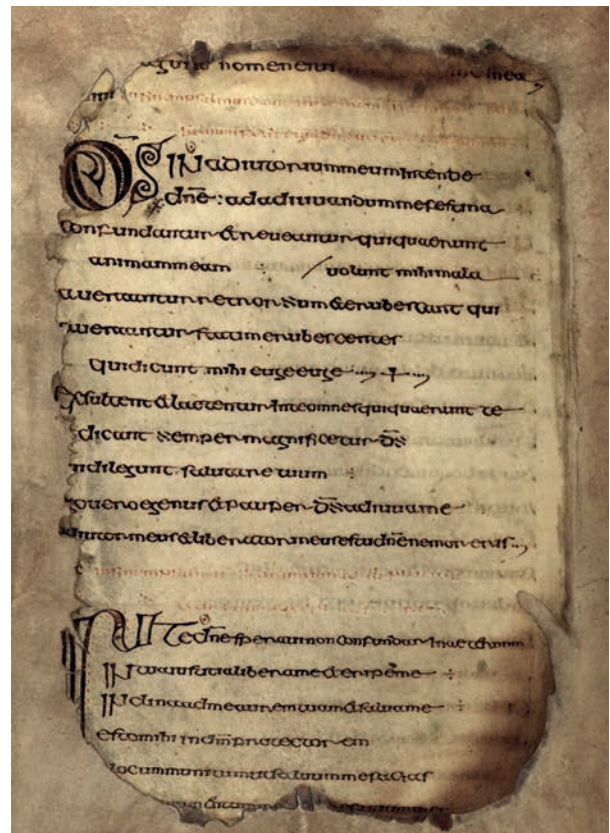
/ Columba 1500: a year of celebration



2021 marked the 1500th anniversary of the birth of Colm Cille. To celebrate the occasion, a multifaceted collaboration took place between the Library, the Academy's research project Foclóir Stairiúil na Gaeilge and Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach (the Irish Language, Literature and Celtic Cultures Committee).

In March the Library crafted a wonderful digital exhibition titled '**The Cathach of Colum Cille: The story of an ancient Irish manuscript**', and a supporting **video** was also produced. These works explored how *The Cathach / Psalter of St Columba* survived as a relic from early Christian Ireland into modern times and how through conservation and digitisation it is accessible to a modern audience more than 1,400 years after its production. The exhibition covers the materiality of the sixth-century manuscript, exploring the use of vellum as a writing surface and detailing the steps involved in preparing the animal membrane, analysing the composition of the iron-gall ink, presenting an overview of decorated initial letters, and discussing the majuscule script and the technique of 'diminuendo'. It provides an interesting overview of the manuscript's history and how it was used as a talisman by the O'Donnells in medieval Ireland. It references other manuscripts in the Academy's collections such as the

Book of Fenagh, the oldest text to link *The Cathach* with St Colum Cille, and *Leabhar Chlainne Suibhne*, which contains a story of the Battle of Cúil Dreimhne. The exhibition ends with the later history of *The Cathach* in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries and its conservation at the British Museum Bindery and by Roger Powell and Dorothy Cumpstej in the early 1980s. The exhibition has received over 45,000 views to date.



The Cathach / Psalter of St Columba, f. 30v

In April the Royal Irish Academy, with the support of the Department of Foreign Affairs, commissioned seven new artworks.

The commissions were organised by Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach, and the resulting artworks – in the fields of visual art, music, poetry, drama and fiction in Irish and Scottish Gaelic – reflect the richness, diversity and dynamic quality of Columban tradition.

Timothy O'Neill

The artwork 'Cruinne Cholm Cille' ('Columba's World'), by master calligrapher Timothy O'Neill, is a tribute to Colm Cille's contribution to the manuscript tradition within a composition that reflects his Irish-Scottish world. Produced on vellum and mounted on linen, the artwork incorporates lines from an Early Irish poem in praise of Colm Cille and employs a version of majuscule script and images from the four most famous manuscripts associated with the saint.



Róisín de Buitléar

Róisín de Buitléar, an award-winning artist, drew inspiration from Colm Cille's belief that there are 'three ways to draw people to faith'. The artwork in glass, titled 'Bró na nOileán' ('Quern of the Islands'), draws on the Irish saying 'Is mall a mheileann muilte Dé' ('The mills of God grind slowly'). The form suggests ideas of planting grain, sharing bread that draws attention to Colm Cille's influence on local communities. The colours and reflected light conjure up images of turbulent seas and the landscapes of the islands of Ireland and Iona.





Biddy Jenkinson

Biddy Jenkinson, a prominent Irish-language poet and dramatist, has written a drama titled *Í (Iona)*. Based on preparations for a theatrical production, it draws on aspects of Colm Cille's life and features a dialogue between characters interrogating the nature of cultural heritage, training, fidelity, belief and unbelief. In a combination of comedy, pathos and the surreal, the play does not seek answers but rather poses questions that encourage creative audience responses.



Proinsias Mac a' Bhaird

Proinsias Mac a' Bhaird, a prolific Irish-language writer, has written a novel, *Flaitheas*, that sympathetically reimagines Colm Cille's youth in Ireland and explores the combination of character traits and external circumstance that provide his motive for leaving Ireland for Iona. The title refers both to political power and sovereignty and the Christian concept of Heaven.



Sandy NicDhòmhnaill Jones

Sandy NicDhòmhnaill Jones, the 2021 Crowned Gaelic Bard in Scotland, has produced a suite of poems in Scottish Gaelic, in the form of seventeen *canti*, entitled 'An Naomhsgeul as Buaine – Sgàthan Cinne-Daonna is Aiteal Dhè'. This work has been translated into English by the author as 'The Most Enduring Saint's Fable – Mirror of Humanity and Glimpse of God'. The sequence has a complex formal structure that follows the documented course of Colm Cille's life in Ireland and Scotland, interwoven with free additions and revisions by the poet.

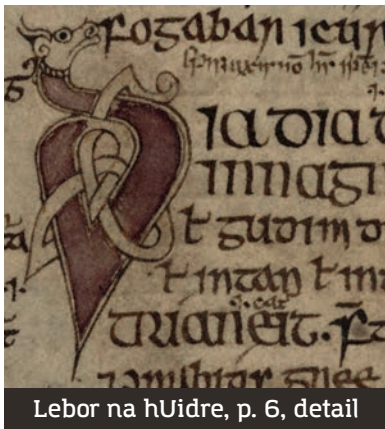


Simon Ó Faoláin

Simon Ó Faoláin, an accomplished Irish-language poet, has written a series of fifteen poems in sonnet form, 'Colm Cille cecinit', in which he explores the complex layers of identity that have been projected onto Colm Cille over the centuries. The series imagines the exoticism and novelty of Christianity in Colm Cille's time and draws on historical, literary, hagiographical and folklore sources to explore the Columban tradition from a creative and critical contemporary perspective.



Internationally celebrated musicians and singers, Julie Fowlis, Éamon Doorley, Zoë Conway and John McIntyre came together as a music collective and composed a song based on a text from Alexander Carmichael's *Carmina Gadelica*, a multi-volume collection of Gaelic prayers, incantations, charms and songs collected in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland over one hundred years ago. The group also wove into the text of their song some words from a blessing from the Middle-Irish period. The piece is titled 'Caim Chaluim Chille Chaoimh' ('The Encompassing of Columba the Gentle'). In the **video** that they made to accompany their composition, artist Ellis O'Connor responds in paint to the music they have created.



Lebor na hUidre, p. 6, detail

The Library carries a wealth of Columban manuscript material, spanning a period of over 1,000 years and including most notably the earliest surviving and dateable Irish manuscript book, *An Cathach*, as well as valuable recensions of the ninth-century poetic lament *Amrae Coluimb Chille*, the sixteenth-century biography *Beatha Cholaim Chille*, and Early Irish poems ascribed to or associated with the saint. Curated by the Library, in collaboration with Foclóir Stairiúil na Gaeilge, an **online exhibition** highlighted these rich treasures through a series of images and associated commentary. This exhibition was related to a series of lunchtime lectures, **Colm Cille 1500: Téacsanna agus Traidisiúin / Columba 1500: Texts and Traditions**, organised in collaboration with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach. The exhibition covers the themes of '*Amrae Coluimb Chille* and its manuscripts in the Royal Irish Academy' by Jacopo Bisagni, '*Beatha Cholaim Chille: Borradh, Scaipeadh agus Síoraíocht*' le Colm Ó Cuaig, and '*Colum Cille and the Poetic Tradition*' by Charles Dillon. Featuring content from *Lebor na hUidre*, *Leabhar Breac* and *Leabhar Chlainne Suibhne*, as well as images from the Westropp collection and the Library's print holdings, and a recording and transcription from the Doegen web archive, the exhibition was launched in August during National Heritage Week.

An Cathach was recently digitised by the Irish Script on Screen Project at the Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies (DIAS) in collaboration with the Library and was launched in early December to commemorate the 1500th anniversary of the birth of St Colum Cille. The manuscript was also featured in the TG4 documentary *Colmcille - An Naomh Dána* in early December.

Policy and International Relations

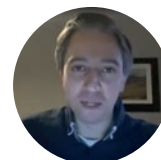
21 January

'Research for public policy and society: building a stronger architecture for Ireland' discussion paper, in partnership with the Irish Research Council



28 January

'Research for public policy: opportunities for Ireland' webinar, in partnership with the Irish Research Council



30 January

'Museums in Ireland 2020: reflections from the coalface', a discussion paper by the RIA Culture and Heritage Working Group



11 February

'Research for public policy: developing the architecture for dialogue' webinar, in partnership with the Irish Research Council



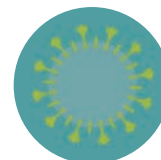
21 February

'Libraries and archives: guardians of the word hoard', a discussion paper by the RIA Culture and Heritage Working Group



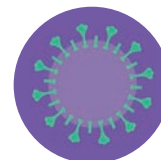
25 February

'COVID-19 and the future of the arts': a webinar in the *Pathways and Perspectives in a Time of Crisis* series



26 February

'Vaccine acceptance: Ireland, Europe and beyond' a webinar in the *Pathways and Perspectives in a Time of Crisis* series



1 March

'Research for public policy: the vital role of leadership to make it happen' webinar, in partnership with the Irish Research Council



5 March

Future Earth Ireland Higher Education 'building forward better' sustainability webinar series; session 1: Research and innovation



8 March

RIA response to the updating of the HEA legislation, 2021



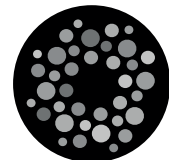
9 March

Survey of Early Career Researchers on the launch of a Young Academy



21 April

Report from the RIA roundtable discussion on the topic of the 'PEACE PLUS Programme and Higher Education and Research', supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs Communicating Europe Initiative



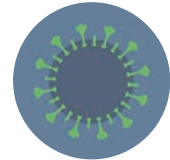
26 April

Future Earth Ireland Higher Education 'building forward better' sustainability webinar series; session 2: Engaging with society



19 May

COVID-19: the crisis in India: a webinar in the Pathways and Perspectives in a Time of Crisis webinar series



20 May

Future Earth Ireland Higher Education '**building forward better**' sustainability webinar series; session 3: Teaching and learning



21 May

'**Biodegradable plastics: how do we engage with consumers and society?**' webinar, in partnership with Science Advice for Policy by European Academies



26 May

'**PEACE PLUS, Higher Education and research**' webinar, supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs Communicating Europe Initiative



2 June

'**Decarbonisation of buildings: for climate, health and jobs**' EASAC policy report. WG co-chaired by RIA Secretary for Policy and International Relations



5 July

RIA submission to the consultation on the National Equity of Access Plan 2022 - 2026



7 July

'Learning from COVID-19: how science can help build global resilience' webinar. British Embassy Glencairn Conversations, in partnership with the Royal Irish Academy



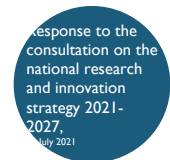
12 July

Celtic Academies Alliance explainer note



22 July

RIA response to the consultation on the national research and innovation strategy 2021 - 2027



15 September

'Research for public policy: an outline roadmap' discussion paper by the Royal Irish Academy and Irish Research Council



15 September

Research for public policy discussion paper online launch with the Irish Research Council



13 October

Celtic Academies Alliance response to the UK review of research bureaucracy



14 October

'The legacy of the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty' panel discussion by the RIA, British Academy and the Irish Embassy in London



22 October

'Climate change and biodiversity interlinkages and policy options' InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) statement and briefing paper on **'Relevance to Ireland'** by Yvonne Buckley MRIA



9 November

'Re-imagining research and innovation in higher education in Ireland and Northern Ireland': a discussion paper by the RIA Higher Education Futures Taskforce



9 November

'The role of regions and place in higher education across the island of Ireland': a discussion paper by the RIA Higher Education Futures Taskforce



9 November





'Equality, diversity and inclusion in higher education in Ireland and Northern Ireland': a discussion paper by the RIA Higher Education Futures Taskforce



9 November

'The future landscape of higher education': a discussion paper by the RIA Higher Education Futures Taskforce



- 9 November** ● **'Higher education on the island of Ireland in 2035: a values-based vision of institutions advancing society, culture and the economy'**: a discussion paper by the RIA Higher Education Futures Taskforce 
- 9 November** ● Higher Education Futures Taskforce: **Executive Summary** 
- 9 November** ● **Livestream launch** of the Higher Education Futures Taskforce papers and panel discussion 
- 29 November** ● **Livestream conversation** with Professor Emile Pine, Creating Our Future Ambassador for the Arts and Humanities. In partnership with Science Foundation Ireland 

Higher Education Futures Taskforce

The Royal Irish Academy Higher Education Futures Taskforce was established in September 2020 to debate, identify and present a bold but viable vision for the higher education (HE) sector on the island of Ireland in the years ahead.

The taskforce work has delved copiously into the collective wisdom and experience of many individuals. Members of the taskforce came from a wide range of disciplines: senior professors and academics across the island, the European University Association, Irish Universities Association, Technological Higher Education Association, the Union of Students in Ireland, sister national academies and members of the Academy. It was chaired by Gerry McKenna MRIA, Senior Vice President RIA.

The taskforce paid special attention to the development of the HE ecosystem over the longer term and how its development may affect and change the policy and structural framework for higher education on the island of Ireland, and how HE can be reshaped to meet changing societal needs and urgent global challenges.

Informed by the recommendations and analysis provided by over 100 organisations, stakeholders, interested parties and individuals in response to an extensive consultation exercise, the taskforce produced five papers on the future of HE in Ireland and Northern Ireland. The titles of the five papers are:

'Higher education on the island of Ireland in 2035: a values-based vision of institutions advancing society, culture and the economy'

'The future landscape of higher education'


'The role of regions and place in higher education across the island of Ireland'

'Equality, diversity and inclusion in higher education'

'Re-imagining research and innovation in higher education in Ireland and Northern Ireland'



The taskforce launched the series of discussion papers on 9 November 2021 in Academy House and livestreamed the event on **YouTube**. The papers, which are a timely and valuable exploration of HE across the island of Ireland, present a comprehensive and forward-looking vision of HE that highlights the priorities needed in the face of unprecedented global trends and rapidly changing societies. In addition, the papers provide clear discussion points on the centrality of research and innovation for the entire island, addressing regional disparity and inequality concerns in a holistic manner and present a nuanced approach to the challenges ahead for the higher education sector. It is evident that expectations must meet outcomes where HE Institutions have the power to transform lives and play an instrumental role in the growth and development of the island. The taskforce outputs will be discussed and disseminated through a variety of forums over the coming months.



Research for Public Policy -

Bridging the gap between researchers and policymakers

Over the course of the year, the Royal Irish Academy joined forces with the Irish Research Council to shine a light on the need to bridge the gap between expert research and policymaking. We aimed to be a catalyst for important conversations about why evidence-based policy matters and to create a space to ask how we can harness the diverse expertise of Ireland's researchers for the common good.

The project kicked off with three discussion webinars, held in consecutive months, in order to allow a broad range of stakeholders to discuss the various aspects of this topic. The webinars focused on distinct areas such as the opportunities in this space for Ireland, the vital role of leadership in making it happen and the architecture and systems for change that need to be built. A **final report** was released in September at a launch webinar and has been brought to the attention of all relevant stakeholders.

The Academy remains committed to strengthening and sustaining relationships between researchers, policymakers and research funders beyond the series, so that together we can build and implement a highly effective national framework for integrating relevant and cutting-edge research into policy development across government.

Access the report and the three discussion webinars

International Activities

This year the Academy's international engagement programme continued to deliver a wide range of collaborative opportunities for Ireland's research and higher education system including participation in global policy programmes, new international partnerships and funding for international research collaboration.

March 2021 saw the formal launch of the Celtic Academies Alliance (CAA), which brings together the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Learned Society of Wales and the Royal Irish Academy. The CAA provides a forum for researchers, policymakers, industry and the arts and cultural sectors on the island of Ireland and in Scotland and Wales to connect, communicate and collaborate, while working to strengthen understanding at UK level of issues facing the devolved nations. The CAA draws on the expertise of the members and fellows of the three academies to provide independent expert advice on higher education and research and other shared issues; to support the evolution of more effective intra-UK and UK-Ireland governance, especially in the post-Brexit context; and to ensure that the UK government and its bodies take proper account of the needs and differing situations of the devolved nations. During 2021, the CAA produced a joint response to the UK review of research bureaucracy and held several engagements with the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy on the development and implementation of the new UK research and development strategy.



Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann
Royal Irish Academy



In 2021 the Royal Irish Academy was pleased to accept an invitation to attend meetings of the UK Academies Human Rights Committee (UKHRC), a collaboration hosted by the **Royal Society**, with participation by the **Royal Academy of Engineering**, the **Academy of Medical Science**, the **British Academy**, the **Learned Society of Wales**, and the **Royal Society of Edinburgh**. The UKHRC acts in support of academic freedom around the world through information-sharing, awareness-raising and advocacy, both in general and through responding to individual alerts issued by the **International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies** and **Scholars at Risk**.

The Academy continued its range of international engagement activities despite the pandemic having a major impact on international travel as we use mobilised below this year. We mobilised the insights and expertise of Academy members and researchers from across the island to help shape global policy debates through their participation in international working group on issues including:

tackling scientific disinformation
(Professor Jane Suiter and Maria Baghramian MRIA)

ocean circulation (Frederic Dias MRIA and Dr Gerard McCarthy)

climate and biodiversity crises
(Yvonne Buckley MRIA and Michael Jones MRIA)

health inequalities (Brian Nolan MRIA)

energy transition in Europe
(Professor PJ Rudden)

predatory practices in academic journals and conferences (Diane Negra MRIA)

the decarbonisation of buildings and its impacts for climate, health and jobs (Brian Norton MRIA)

science and ethics (Dr Maura Hiney)

the future of scientific publishing
(Luke Drury MRIA)



ARINS - Analysing and Researching Ireland North and South

Research articles and responses

Article Paper Title

'Editorial: Introducing ARINS - Analysing and Researching Ireland, North and South' by John Doyle, Cathy Gormley-Heenan and Patrick Griffin

Response Paper Title

-

'The hermeneutics of the Good Friday Agreement' by Christopher McCrudden MRIA

'Getting ready: the need to prepare for a referendum on reunification' by Brendan O'Leary Hon. MRIA

'On the sanctity of borders' by Fionnuala Ní Aoláin Hon. MRIA

'Borders: a reply to Christopher McCrudden and Fionnuala Ní Aoláin Hon. MRIA' by Brendan O'Leary Hon. MRIA

'Unionism, identity and Irish unity: paradigms, problems and paradoxes' by Jennifer Todd MRIA

'Traditions, lives and new identities in a dynamic political landscape' by Máire Braniff

'The Good Friday Agreement and a United Ireland' by Rory Montgomery MRIA

'Configuring Irish unification processes' by Oran Doyle

'Irish unification: a reply to Oran Doyle' by Rory Montgomery MRIA

'Cross-border cooperation health in Ireland' by Deirdre Heenan

'A crowded stage' by Anne Matthews

'Who is better off? Measuring cross-border differences in living standards, opportunities and quality of life on the island of Ireland' by Adele Bergin and Seamus McGuinness

'Thoughts on quality of life, north and south' by John Fitzgerald MRIA

'Quality of life: a reply to John Fitzgerald MRIA' by Adele Bergin and Seamus McGuinness

'The perils of referendums: a review' by Matt Qvortrup

'The rules for holding referendums on Irish unity' by Eileen Connolly

Article Paper Title

'The franchise in Irish unification referendums' by Christopher McCrudden MRIA, Oran Doyle and David Kenny

'Obstacles to public health that even pandemics cannot overcome: the politics of COVID-19 on the island of Ireland' by Ann Nolan, Sara Burke, Emma Burke, Catherine Darker, Joe Barry, Nicola O'Connell, Lina Zgaga, Luke Mather, Gail Nicolson, Martin Dempster, Christopher Graham, Philip Crowley, Clíodhna O'Connor, Katy Tobin and Gabriel Scally

'A modest proposal: building a deliberative system in Northern Ireland' by Jane Suiter

'Why the 'subvention' does not matter: Northern Ireland and the All-Ireland Economy' by John Doyle

'The British-Irish relationship and the centrality of the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference' by Etain Tannam

'Comparing social security provision north and south of Ireland: past developments and future challenges' by Ciara Fitzpatrick and Charles O'Sullivan

'Let 'the People' decide: reflections on constitutional change and 'concurrent consent' by Colin Harvey

Response Paper Title

'Setting the franchise for a Northern Ireland referendum on unification: discretion, determination and the common good' by Conor Casey

'A historic referendum - but who are the people?' by Cheryl Saunders

'Beyond the path of least resistance: constructing a referendum franchise that reflects the people of Northern Ireland' by C.R.G. Murray

'Tracking the wave of a calamitous failure' by Ivan J. Perry MRIA

'Calamitous failure: a reply to Ivan J. Perry MRIA' by Christopher D. Graham and Ann Nolan

'Deliberating across the divide' by Clodagh Harris

'Deliberating on the constitutional future' by Colin Harvey

'The constitutional future: a reply to Colin Harvey' by Jane Suiter

'Debating the cost of Irish reunification' by Alan Barrett MRIA

'The long history of hard-won agreements' by Mary E. Daly MRIA

'Can British-Irish cooperation be revived?' by Rory Montgomery MRIA

'Challenges or opportunities?' by Fiona Dukelow

'Brexit: the 'bread and butter' implications' by Madeleine Leonard

'Constitutional change' by Jennifer Kavanagh

'Thinking seriously about Irish unity' by Colm O'Coinneide

Article Paper Title**Response Paper Title**

'The rise and fall and rise of academic selection: the case of Northern Ireland' by Martin Brown, Chris Donnelly, Paddy Shevlin, Craig Skerritt, Gerry McNamara and Joe O'Hara

'A problem of policy paralysis' by Tony Gallagher

'Nothing of benefit' by Joanne Hughes

'Collaborating on healthcare on an all-island basis: a scoping study' by Deirdre Heenan

-

'One island, two peoples: ethical perspectives on Ireland's constitutional future' by Liam Kennedy MRIA

-

'Establishing a new laboratory' by Charles O'Sullivan and Ciara Fitzpatrick

'A new welfare imaginary for the island of Ireland' by Mary P. Murphy

'Converge or diverge? One island, two regimes' by Fred Powell

'Welfare: a reply to Fred Powell and to Charles O'Sullivan and Ciara Fitzpatrick' by Mary P. Murphy

'Shaking ideologies' by Philip McDonagh

'Pulpit to public: church leaders on a post-Brexit island' by Gladys Ganiel

'The role of Christian Church leaders, past and present' by Margaret M. Scull

'The churches' role in articulating 'essential values': a reply to Philip McDonagh's and Margaret M. Scull's responses' by Gladys Ganiel

'Implications for the protection of human rights in a united Ireland' by Brice Dickson


'Nation-making and re-making' by Fiona de Londras

'The road not (yet) taken: a charter of rights for the island of Ireland' by Suzanne Egan

'Drivers and barriers of cross-border ecosystems: the pharmaceutical sector' by Chris van Egeraat and Declan Curran

'The wealthiest region in these islands? A vision for Northern Ireland' by Dermot Diamond MRIA

Events & Outputs

7 January	ARINS blog: 'The Good Friday Agreement and a united Ireland'	
11 January	Launch of ARINS project	
13 January	ARINS blog: 'Unionism, identity and Irish unity'	
20 January	ARINS blog: 'Fighting the scourge, two ways or one?'	
22 February	ARINS blog: 'Who is better off?'	

23 April

ARINS video series: Rory Montgomery MRIA, former Irish diplomat, on **'The Good Friday Agreement and a united Ireland'**



27 April

ARINS video series: Matt Qvortrup, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University, on the **'The perils of referendums: a review of the interim report of the Working Group on Unification Referendums on the Island of Ireland'**



28 April

ARINS video series: Deirdre Heenan, School of Applied Social and Policy Sciences, Ulster University, on **'Cross-border cooperation health in Ireland'**



29 April

ARINS blog: **'Does our use of social media influence our voting choices?'**



5 May

ARINS video series: Jennifer Todd MRIA, Geary Institute for Public Policy, University College Dublin, on **'Unionism, identity and Irish unity: paradigms, problems and paradoxes'**



7 May

ARINS video series: Adele Bergin and Seamus McGuinness, Economic & Social Research Institute, Dublin; Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin, and IZA Institute for Labor Economics, Bonn on **'Who is better off? measuring cross-border differences in living standards, opportunities and quality of life on the island of Ireland'**



26 May

ARINS blog: **'On the politics of public health in Ireland'**



3 June



ARINS podcast episode 1: **'Cross-border cooperation health in Ireland'**



9 June



ARINS blog: **'Why the 'subvention' does not matter?'**



16 June



ARINS blog: **'Divided lives: how to build a deliberative democracy for Northern Ireland'**



1 July



ARINS podcast episode 2: **'Who is better off?'**



6 July



ARINS blog: **'Rethinking social security for a new Ireland'**



7 July



ARINS blog: **'New research on cross border co-operation in health'**



19 July



ARINS blog: **'Sinn Féin is biggest obstacle to Irish unity'**



20 July



ARINS blog: **'Let 'the People' decide'**



30 August

ARINS blog: **'The morass of academic selection'**



2 September

ARINS podcast episode 3: **'Who should be allowed to vote?'**



13 September

ARINS blog: **'A new welfare imaginary for the island of Ireland'**



27 September

ARINS blog: **'Human rights in a united Ireland'**



7 October

ARINS podcast episode 4: **'What exactly is the Northern Ireland subvention?'**

4 November

ARINS podcast episode 5: **'Pulpit to public'**

1 December

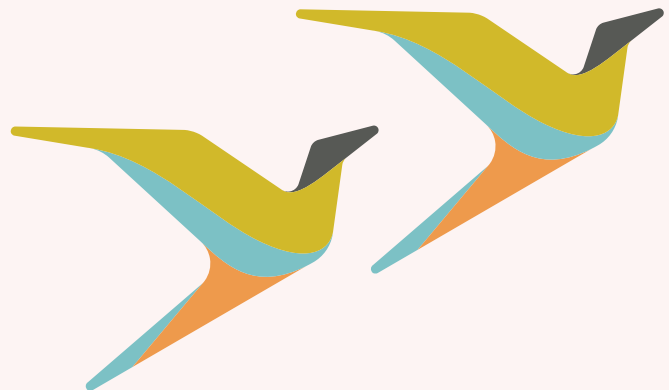
ARINS podcast episode 6: **'Let 'the People' decide'**

The ARINS project was launched in January 2021 at an Academy Discourse ‘Northern Ireland after Brexit’, with the publication of five research papers in the journal *Irish Studies in International Affairs* and opinion pieces in the *Belfast Telegraph* and *The Irish Times*.

ARINS brings together experts to provide evidence-based research and analysis on the most significant questions of policy and public debate facing the island of Ireland, north and south. The article by Adele Bergin and Seamus McGuinness ‘Who is better off’ was the most downloaded. Deirdre Heenan’s article prompted a commission by the Shared Island Unit in the Department of the Taoiseach to investigate health co-operation on the island. Twenty articles were published in 2021.

Each article has at least one accompanying response, as research on the matters discussed is not intended to strengthen or weaken any conviction or aspiration, but rather to help create the conditions for better quality debate and decision-making. All articles are published open access, often with a blog. ARINS contributor Rory Montgomery MRIA presents a monthly podcast where the authors of the articles and responses debate the issues.

The project has commissioned a report ‘The future of cross-border co-operation in the arts’, led by Ruth Hegarty at the RIA and Catherine Wilsdon, Notre Dame with funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Reconciliation Fund. The Audience Agency led by Professor Steven Hadley spent the year mapping current practice and interviewing those in the sector and delivered a report with recommendations for policy change and further research, which will be published in 2022.



Four other projects were approved as ARINS projects:

Thirty years after: comparing German reunification with possible Irish reunification

led by Brendan O'Leary Hon. MRIA (University of Pennsylvania) and Patrick Griffin (University of Notre Dame) and funded by Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies with applications pending for other funding.

Giving voice to diversity: plural perspectives on constitutional change

led by Jennifer Todd MRIA (University College Dublin), Joanne McEvoy (University of Aberdeen), Dawn Walsh (University College Dublin) and funded by the DFA, Reconciliation Fund and the Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies.

Gendering constitutional debates in Northern Ireland: the case of Irish unification

led by Fidelma Ashe (Ulster University) and Eilish Rooney (Ulster University) and funded by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

Constitutional conversations: gendering cross-border debates on the question of Irish unification

led by Fidelma Ashe (Ulster University) and Eilish Rooney (Ulster University) and funded by the DFA, Reconciliation Fund.

The ARINS advisory group meet in January 2022 to review progress and to identify gaps in the research to set the direction of the project. Research questions to be explored range from constitutional and institutional issues to options for economic, fiscal and social policy, to the accommodation of diverse cultures, identities and symbolism and the impact of climate and contagion on cooperation across jurisdictions.

The founding partners are the RIA and the Keough Naughton Institute for Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame's Keough School of Global Affairs.

Everything is accessible at arinsproject.com

Publications

17 March

'Patrick's words and worlds: a St Patrick's Day event' -
University of Liverpool



17 March

'Fadó, Fadó: a celebration of Irishness' - El Arpa Media,
Madrid



4 May

Publication of *How linguistics can help the historian* by
Anthony Harvey



25 May

'A history of Ireland in 100 words: language into lives'



7 June

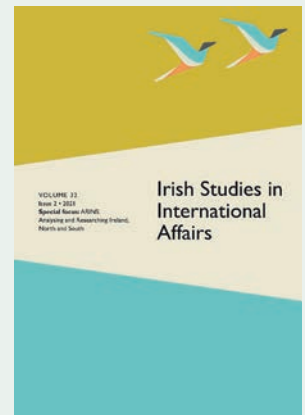
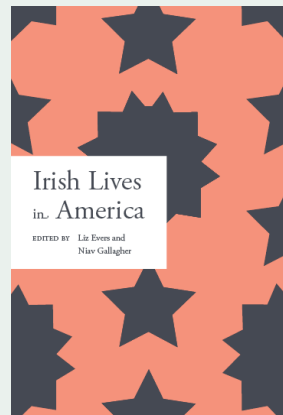
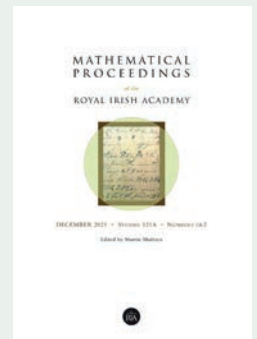
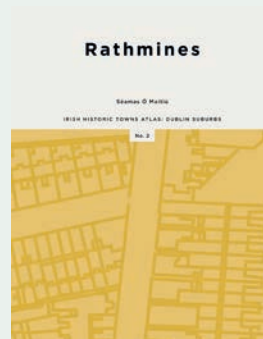
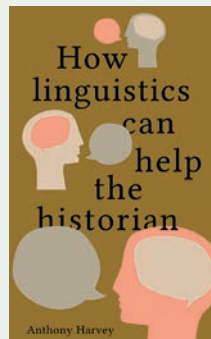
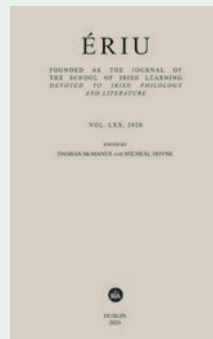
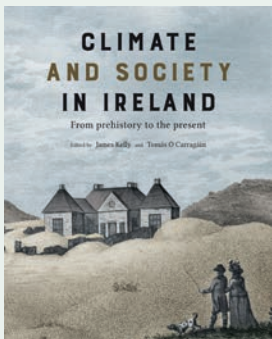
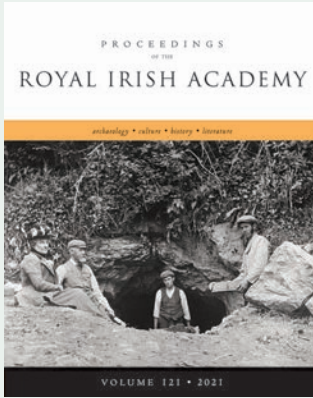
Publication of *Climate and society in Ireland*, edited by
James Kelly and Tomás Ó Carragáin



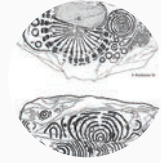
8 July

How linguistics can help the historian, book launch with
Anthony Harvey and Dónal Byrne





- 18 August** ● **'Megalithic Art of the Passage Tombs at Knowth'** by Elizabeth Shee Twohig, a video for Heritage Week: Knowth vol. 7
- 26 August** ● Climate and society blog. A new blog series focussing on *Climate and society in Ireland*
- 1 September** ● Climate and society blog: **'Climate change and hunter gatherers in Ireland'**
- 8 September** ● Climate and society blog: **'Did climatic change play a role in the introduction of farming in Neolithic Ireland?'**
- 15 September** ● Climate and society blog: **'How did environmental change influence human activity in Irish bogs?'**
- 17 September** ● Culture Night: a special episode of the Shelfmarks podcast
- 22 September** ● Climate and society blog: **'How did past drought phases impact upon human perception of their environment?'**
- 26 September** ● Shelfmarks podcast episode 1: Kerri ní Dochartaigh
- 29 September** ● Climate and society blog: **'On the brink of Armageddon? Climate change, the archaeological record and human activity across the Bronze Age–Iron Age transition in Ireland'**



6 October

Climate and society blog: **'To what extent did climate change steer the trajectories of early societies?'**



10 October

Shelfmarks podcast episode 2: Amanda Bell

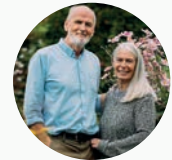


13 October

Climate and society blog: **'Climate, disease and society in late-medieval Ireland'**

17 October

Shelfmarks bonus podcast episode 1: **Niall Williams and Christine Breen**



20 October

Climate and society blog: **'Climate, weather and social change in seventeenth-century Ireland'**



24 October

Shelfmarks podcast episode 3: **Jane Clarke**



27 October

Climate and society blog: **'Climate, weather and society in Ireland in the long eighteenth century'**



31 October

Shelfmarks podcast bonus episode 2: **Conor W. O'Brien**



3 November

Climate and society blog: **'Poetry and climate change in Ireland 1600–1820'**



7 November

Shelfmarks podcast episode 4: **Manchán Magan**



10 November

Dublin Book Festival and RDS Library Speaker Series event: **Ireland 1922: Women in Independence**



10 November

Climate and society blog: **'Seeing the natural world: Comhbhá an Dúlra'**



13 November

Dublin Book Festival event: **Rathmines: A Walking Tour with Dr Séamas Ó Maitiú**



17 November

Publication of *Irish lives in America*, edited by Liz Evers and Niav Gallagher



17 November

Climate and society in Ireland podcast: **introduction**



17 November

Climate and society blog: **'Reconstructing hydrological drought in Irish catchments (1850–2015)'**



21 November

Shelfmarks podcast episode 5: **Siobhán Mannion**



24 November



Irish lives in America, book launch and panel discussion
'Irish lives in America: underdogs or overlords'



24 November



Climate and Society in Ireland podcast episode 1: **John Sweeney**



24 November



Climate and society blog: **'Climate and society in modern Ireland: past and future vulnerabilities'**



1 December



Climate and Society in Ireland podcast episode 2: **Lucy Collins**



8 December



Climate and Society in Ireland podcast episode 3: **Bruce Campbell and Francis Ludlow**



15 December



Climate and Society in Ireland podcast episode 4: **Graeme Warren**



Access to Research

As the pandemic continued, the importance of making our publications more visible and accessible in different formats was a major objective in 2021. Two new Read and Publish deals with IReL and JISC mean that almost half of our journal articles published in 2021 were made available open access. We established three podcast series, ran events digitally and made regular contact with our readers. Over 300,000 downloads of journal articles were recorded this year.

The publication of the Dictionary of Irish Biography online open access has transformed the usage of the resource and the Academy has now established a paperback series. The first of these, *Irish lives in America* edited by DIB researchers Liz Evers and Níav Gallagher was launched at EPIC: The Irish Emigration Museum by Neville Isdell, former CEO and Chair of Coca-Cola on 24 November with a panel discussion '**Irish lives in America: underdogs or overlords?**'.

Authors spoke regularly at events in the UK, in the EU and in the US, and at several local festivals including the Dublin Book Festival.

Ruth Hegarty, Managing Editor, was appointed the independent chair of Words Ireland and in that capacity chaired a series of webinars that launched research into the pay, conditions and diversity in the literature sector and the development of a Charter of Inclusion.

Climate Change

Climate and society in Ireland, edited by Tomás Ó Carragáin and James Kelly, was published in June 2021. The accompanying blog posts and podcast series presented by Gill Plunkett were released to coincide with COP26 and explored the long view of Ireland's relationship with climate and its effect on society.



Shelfmarks Podcast

Zoë Comyns joined the Academy as its podcaster-in-residence and researched the Library's collections and our publications and created a six-part podcast series titled 'Shelfmarks', in which various writers explore our relationship with the natural world. The podcast series featured contributions from writers Amanda Bell, Kerri Ní Dhochartaigh, Manchán Magan, Siobhán Mannion, Jane Clarke and Neil Hegarty.

Each contributor read a specially commissioned work exploring their own relationship with nature in response to a prompt from the Academy's collections. This approach produced wide-ranging meditations on such diverse topics as the walks and works of R.L. Praeger, the dragonflies collected by Cynthia Longfield, birds by ornithologist RM Barrington, and—most intriguingly—an origin story of the Irish people, Noah's granddaughter Cessair. Each episode gives listeners a sense of the people who have passed through the Academy and how their work and the natural world still inspires writers today. 'Shelfmarks' was launched in collaboration with the Library for **Culture Night 2021**. It was funded by the Arts Council of Ireland.

Decade of Centenaries

Ireland 1922: independence, partition, civil war, edited by Darragh Gannon and Fearghal McGarry, was published in December 2021. The year 1922 marked the beginning of the final phase in Ireland's revolution: it saw the ratification of the Anglo-Irish Treaty; the establishment of the Irish Free State; the outbreak of the Civil War; and the consolidation of partition as Northern Ireland opted out of the Free State settlement. In fifty short essays by leading scholars, the contributions to this volume capture the breadth of events, issues and debates that marked a year that remains controversial a century on. A collaboration between the Academy and Century Ireland will release the articles online via their website throughout 2022.



Educational resources in Irish and English for Leaving Certificate students along with A-Level materials were produced in collaboration with the History Teachers of Ireland Association and the History Teachers of Northern Ireland Association and a series of events are planned to support the Ireland 1922 project. The project was funded by the government's Decade of Centenaries.



The handover, by John Gibney and Kate O'Malley, illustrates the 1922 handover of power by the outgoing British administration to the provisional government of Ireland led by Michael Collins. The handover fell between the Treaty split of January 1922 and the outbreak of the Civil War in June 1922 and is usually overshadowed by both. The book bridges this gap by telling a relatively unfamiliar but hugely important story. It was produced in collaboration with the OPW at Dublin Castle and the Decade of Centenaries. All proceeds go to **Focus Ireland**.

Membership News

5 January

Members' research series - **Stefano Sanvito MRIA: Computational materials scientist**



26 January

Members' research series - **Richard English MRIA: Politics**



18 February

Members' research series - **Alan Smeaton MRIA: Computer scientist**



9 March

Members' research series - **Nuala Johnson MRIA: Geographer**



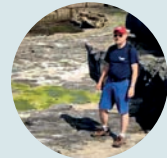
16 March

Stated General Meeting



1 April

Members' research series - **Frédéric Dias MRIA: Applied mathematician**



29 April

Members' research series - **Michael Cronin MRIA: Linguist**



21 May

Admittance Day – 27 new members admitted



2 July

Members' research series - **Ruth Barton MRIA: Film scholar**



15 July

Members' research series - **Derek Jackson MRIA: Coastal geomorphologist**



12 August

Members' research series - **Meidhbhín Ní Úrdail MRIA: Irish-language scholar**



30 August

Members' research series - **Christine Casey MRIA: Architectural historian**



21 September

Members' research series - **Nicholas Canny MRIA: Historian**



1 October

Members' research series - **Bashar Nuseibeh MRIA: Software engineer**



4 November

Members' research series - **Helene McNulty MRIA: Human nutritionist**



30 November

Stated General Meeting



13 December

Members' research series - **Michael Morris MRIA: Chemist**



Members' Research Series

2021 marked the second year of the Members' Research Series, which forms part of the Academy's Strategic Plan to support scholarship and promote awareness of how science and the humanities enrich our lives and benefit society. In the series of blogs, members talk about their research fields in order to raise awareness of their work and to facilitate collaboration within the wider academic community. The blog pieces are varied in content and are written in a format that aims to inform non-specialist readers about new advances in a number of interesting fields. To date, the blogs have been very well received and any members who wish to contribute their research to the series should contact communications@ria.ie



New Members

Honorary Members



Joseph Bergin is professor emeritus of Early Modern History at Manchester University. The contribution of his research and publications to the understanding of early modern French history has been transformative. Elected a fellow of the British Academy in 1996, he was conferred with a DLitt (Manchester) for published work in 2004. His life's achievement was saluted in 2019 with the award of Doctorat-ès-Lettres honoris causa by the Sorbonne.



Deirdre Curtin is professor of European Union Law at the European University Institute, Florence. She is a world-leading scholar in EU law, renowned for her erudite scholarship on EU law and governance, particularly in the areas of accountability, transparency and secrecy. She is a laureate of the Spinoza Prize—the highest Dutch academic honour—and is a member of the Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences.



Anne Magurran is professor of Ecology and Evolution in the Centre for Biological Diversity and Scottish Oceans Institute at the University of St Andrews. She is an expert in the measurement and assessment of trends in biological diversity and has held European Research Council Advanced and Proof of Concept grants in this area.



Patrick Sims-Williams is emeritus professor of Celtic Studies at Aberystwyth University, and fellow of the British Academy. He is an expert in early Celtic languages and literatures and has led major research projects on the study of inscriptions in Britain and in continental Europe. His pioneering monograph, *Irish influence on medieval Welsh literature* (OUP, 2010), was awarded the Vernam Hull Memorial Prize.



Polite Literature and Antiquities

Frank Barry is professor of International Business and Economic Development at Trinity College Dublin. He is a specialist in foreign direct investment and the modern economy, and has been working in recent years on the role of large businesses in shaping the historical economic and political environment. His most recent journal publication is 'Business establishment opposition to Southern Ireland's exit from the United Kingdom', published in *Enterprise and Society* in March 2021.



Ruth Barton is associate professor in Film Studies and head of the School of Creative Arts in Trinity College Dublin. She is widely acknowledged as the world expert on Irish cinema in both the silent and sound eras. She was principal investigator for the research project on career construction in Irish film and television, and is a regular contributor to RTÉ radio's arts programme, 'Arena'.



John Brannigan is professor of English and head of the School of English, Drama and Film at University College Dublin. He is the author of seven monographs and many articles and book chapters on writers from Brendan Behan to Virginia Woolf and has led innovative research projects on literature and the sea. His most recent book is *Archipelagic modernism: literature in the Irish and British Isles, 1890–1970* (Edinburgh University Press, 2014).



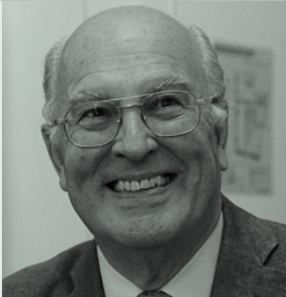
Janice Carruthers is professor of French Linguistics at Queen's University Belfast. She is internationally renowned for her research on the different varieties of oral French, on temporal phenomena and their wider significance for the evolution of the French language, and for her development of two cutting-edge digital corpora. As a leadership fellow for the Arts and Humanities Research Council, she has made an invaluable policy contribution both in Northern Ireland and in the wider UK context to the promotion of modern languages.



Philip Dine is professor of French in the NUI Galway. He has been a pioneering figure internationally in the cultural history of French sport and the cinematographic representations of colonial conflict. He is the author of *Images of the Algerian war: French fiction and film, 1954–1992* (Clarendon Press, 1994), *French rugby football: a cultural history* (Berg Publishers, 2001) and *Sport and identity in France: practices, locations, representations* (Peter Lang, 2012).



Gerard Hogan had a distinguished career as an influential and prolific judge in Ireland before his appointment as Advocate General in the Court of Justice of the European Union. His appointment to the Supreme Court means his significant role in shaping Ireland's constitutional imagination will reach new heights.



Pierre Joannon is a lawyer, historian and Honorary Irish Consul. He is a leading figure in Franco-Irish relations through his influential publications on Irish history and literature, and his active support for research and for writers. He has been appointed advisor to the John & Pat Hume Foundation, and his honours include Irish citizenship, an NUI honorary doctorate, the Presidential Distinguished Service Award and the Légion d'honneur.



Rory Montgomery is a former Irish diplomat who was involved in the Good Friday Agreement negotiations and later was Ireland's permanent representative to the European Union and ambassador to France. From 2014 to 2019 he played a central role in the government's response to Brexit. He holds honorary appointments at Queen's University Belfast and Trinity College Dublin, and has published articles on Northern Ireland, the EU and Irish foreign policy.



Meidhbhín Ní Úrdail is head of Modern Irish at University College Dublin. Her extensive dossier of learned publications in three languages (Irish, English and German) consistently exhibits high excellence in the depth and originality of its research, the range and versatility of its subject matter, and the meticulous quality of its presentation. She is an outstanding scholar of Modern Irish with an international profile.



Brian O'Connor is full professor in Philosophy at University College Dublin. He holds a DLitt from the National University of Ireland and is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. He has gained international renown for his distinctive contributions in critical social theory and the history of German philosophy. He is the author of three monographs and over 30 articles, and editor of three volumes. His books are cited by the most prominent scholars and researchers and feature on university teaching curricula world-wide. His 2018 book *Idleness: a philosophical essay* (Princeton University Press) was greeted enthusiastically by the international scholarly community and was also widely discussed in journals, print media and podcast interviews.



Richard Schoch is professor of Drama at Queen's University Belfast. He is a leading figure internationally in theatre studies, with expertise in Shakespeare in performance, theatre historiography and practice-based research. His scholarly reputation is anchored in four major monographs and in his 2017–20 Arts and Humanities Research Council project, 'Performing Restoration Shakespeare', which investigates Restoration versions of Shakespeare's work in their own time and today.

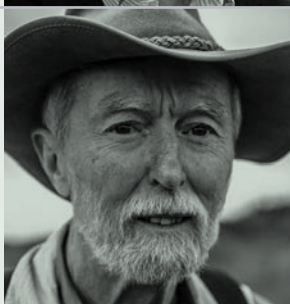


Science

Frank Barry is professor of Cellular Therapy at NUI Galway's Regenerative Medicine Institute. His research focuses on the development of new repair strategies in cell and gene therapy in orthopaedics. He has contributed to the advancement of innovative and successful therapies for acute joint injury and arthritis and is the recipient of the Marshall R. Urist Award for excellence in tissue regeneration research from the Orthopaedic Research Society.



John Crown is professor of Translational Cancer Research at Dublin City University and clinical research professor at University College Dublin. He has published widely on clinical and translational research in breast cancer therapy. He was the founding chair of the Irish Cooperative Oncology Research Group. His pioneering research is renowned internationally for advancing pathways to overcome resistance to cancer treatment and to improve outcomes through molecular understanding of exceptional cancer responses.



John Feehan is an environmental scientist who has made an outstanding contribution to the raising of public awareness of the environment through several books and in his outreach through television and YouTube. The television series 'Exploring the landscape' won the prestigious Jacobs Award in 1987. His work is especially well known in rural Ireland and in farming circles, most notably in the Burren, on Clare Island and in the Midlands.



Derek Jackson is a professor of Coastal Geomorphology at Ulster University. He is a leading international expert in beach and dune systems, coastal storm impacts and longer-term environmental system dynamics, publishing extensively in these fields. He also studies Martian windblown landform processes and holds funding to help in terrain hazard mapping for the European Space Agency's 2022 ExoMars rover mission.



Joseph Keane is professor of Medicine at Trinity College Dublin. He is a leading figure internationally in tuberculosis research and author of numerous high-profile and highly cited publications. He is the recipient of awards from the Health Research Board, Science Foundation Ireland, and the Irish Research Council, which support his investigations of host response to lung infection towards generating better treatments, diagnostic tests and vaccines.



Ed Lavelle is professor in Immunology at Trinity College Dublin. He is a leading figure internationally in the field of vaccine adjuvants. He has a strong track record of publishing high-impact papers, attracting competitive research funding from Science Foundation Ireland and other sources. He has previously been president of the Irish Society for Immunology and head of the School of Biochemistry and Immunology at Trinity College.



Noel G. McElvaney is professor of Medicine at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. He is a leading figure internationally in the area of inflammatory lung disease. He is a board member of the Alpha-1 Foundation in the US, president of the Irish Academy of Medical Science and is on the steering committee of the European Alpha-1 Research Collaboration. He is a 2021 recipient of the Health Research Board Impact award.



M.A. Morris is the director of the SFI Advanced Material and Bioengineering Research Centre (AMBER) and chair of Surface and Interface Chemistry at Trinity College Dublin. He is part of the ISO 323 drafting team for developing standards for the circular economy. Amongst other research, he leads a major AMBER-Intel project on innovative self-assembly based patterning methods for semiconductor manufacture.



Philip Nolan is a distinguished educator and administrator. He has received several prestigious awards including the President's Teaching Award at University College Dublin. He has provided outstanding leadership to Maynooth University since his appointment as president in 2011. Most recently, he has chaired the Irish Epidemiological Modelling Advisory Group, which has played a vital role in informing the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) on their advice to government on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic virus.



Bashar Nuseibeh is chief scientist of Lero, the Irish software research centre based at the University of Limerick. He is internationally recognised as one of the world's foremost software engineering researchers, with award-winning contributions to software requirements and design, systems security and privacy, and engineering adaptive systems. He is a recipient of a Royal Society-Wolfson Merit Award, a Philip Leverhulme Prize and a European Research Council Advanced Grant.



Lorraine O'Driscoll is professor of Pharmacology and Biomedicine at Trinity College Dublin. She is a leading figure in cancer research and a pioneer in the field of extracellular vesicles. She is a recipient of an Irish Research Council Advanced Laureate Award and the Eurolife Distinguished Lecture Medal and is a fellow of the Royal Society of Biology. She is board director of the International Society for Extracellular Vesicles, and acts as chair of its annual meeting.



Desmond John Tobin, an internationally recognised skin and hair follicle biomedicine researcher, is professor of Dermatological Science at University College Dublin. He is immediate past president of the British Society for Investigative Dermatology and a member of a UK REF2021 sub-panel. He returned to Ireland in 2018 and was recently awarded a Science Foundation Ireland Frontiers-to-the-Future award to explore how healthy melanocytes transform into melanoma cells.

Bereavements

Crothers, Derrick. BA, MA(Oxon), PhD(QUB). Hon FTCD.
Emeritus Professor of Theoretical Physics, QUB. Elected in: 1991

Cruickshank, Don William. MA(Aberdeen 1965), PhD(Cantab 1969).
Emeritus Professor of Spanish, UCD. Elected in: 2004

Deane, Seamus Francis. BA, MA(QUB), PhD(Cantab), DLitt(hc Ulster).
Keough Emeritus Professor of Irish Studies, University of Notre
Dame. On Council 1984-85. Elected in: 1981

Eogan, George. BA, PhD, DLitt, LittD(hc Dubl). Emeritus Professor of
Celtic Archaeology, UCD. 59 Brighton Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6. RIA
Gold Medal for Humanities (2007). On Council and in Office: 1972-76,
1977-78, VP 1978-79, 1979-81, 1982-84, VP 1984-85, 1985-86.
Elected in: 1969

Neary, James Peter. BA, MA(NUI 1970, 1971), BPhil, DPhil(Oxon
1976,1978). Professor of Economics, University of Oxford. RIA Gold
Medal for Social Sciences (2006). Elected in: 1997

Sevastopulo, George. BA, MA(Cantab), PhD(Dubl). FTCD. Emeritus
Professor of Geology, TCD. On Council and in Office: 2000-03,
VP 2003-04, 2015-17. Elected in: 1988



Science Committees

Climate Change and Environmental Sciences Committee (CCES)

Engineering and Computer Sciences Committee (ECS)

Geoscience and Geographical Sciences Committee (GGS)

Life and Medical Sciences Committee (LMS);

Physical, Chemical and Mathematical Sciences Committee (PCMS)

94 volunteers make up these committees; 59% of the committee members are male and 41% are female. They drive the programme of work in the Academy and give of their time and expertise freely to do so.

Events & Outputs

28 January

Kathleen Lonsdale Young Chemist Prize announced



3 February

Vaccine questions podcast, episode 2: **'Crunching the numbers'** with Philip Nolan MRIA



19 February

Climate change blog: **'The role of the ocean in global climate: Interplay of natural oscillations and global warming'** by Professor Peter Croot



25 February

'Achieving Ireland's climate action ambitions', a conference showcasing cutting-edge thinking on efficiency, decarbonisation and sustainability in electricity, transport and heating



26 March

Climate conversation No. 4: **'Climate change and land in Ireland'**



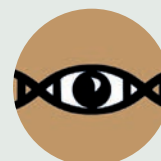
29 March

Vaccine questions podcast episode 3: **'Getting the jab'** with Dr Lucy Jessop



15 April

Symposium on **'The role of Irish bioethics: (re)building trust and reasonable discourse in medicine, science and technology'**



21 April

Vaccine questions podcast episode 4: **'Trust and reliability'** with Emer Cooke



13 May

Climate change blog: **'Water is a public health issue'** by Professor Fiona Regan



21 May

Vaccine questions episode 5: **'Inoculation against misinformation'** with Professor Jane Suiter



28 May

Climate conversation No. 5: **'Peatlands: a climate solution'**



3 June

Symposium: **'Better together: knowledge co-production for a sustainable society'** and Workshop: **'Scaling research impact for sustainability through co-production of knowledge'**



14 June

Vaccine questions podcast, episode 6: **'Vaccine solidarity'** with Dr Siobhain O'Sullivan



25 June

Computer science profile No. 2: **'A financial analyst's love of fashion leads to a new career as a software engineer'**, by Olga Minguett



5 July

Vaccine questions podcast, episode 7: **'Understanding human behaviour'** with Professor Pete Lunn



8 July

Kathleen Lonsdale Young Chemist Prize ceremony



12 July

Expert statement: **'Vaccines: a life-saving choice'**, by Kingston Mills MRIA, Bert Rima MRIA and Dick Ahlstrom



30 July

Vaccine questions podcast, episode 8: **'Looking to the future'** with Professor Christine Loscher



15 October

Hamilton Lecture 2021: **'Glimpses into hyperbolic geometry'** by Professor Caroline Series



15 October

Hamilton Day 2021: Prize winner masterclass with Professor Caroline Series

15 October

Hamilton Day 2021: An **'In conversation'** session with Professor Caroline Series and STEM education expert and science broadcaster, Dr Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin



12 November

'Live! From San Francisco and Vienna: an extraordinary concert for Climate Action' followed by a panel discussion with climate and arts experts



24 November

Climate conversation No 6: **'Ireland's grasslands and carbon'**



Vaccine Podcasts and Expert Statement

The Medical and Life Sciences Committee, like most of the Academy's committees, was looking for ways to respond to the pressures and concerns associated with the emerging COVID-19 pandemic. The committee wanted to help people by providing useful and relevant information in the earliest days and came up with a way to do this by producing a podcast series called 'Vaccine questions'.

The series included eight episodes, each one based on an interview with a 'newsmaker', people in senior positions in, for example, the HSE or NPHET, who were making decisions that directed government policy on how to respond to the pandemic.

The series model, based on an interview of between 35 and 50 minutes after editing, worked very well. It allowed these newsmakers to discuss their decision-making while at the same time delivering relevant information to the public.

The **eight episodes** represent a resource that listeners can visit and return to whenever they like. In this way the listenership figures have slowly grown to approximately 5,000 listens. The podcast series was run in partnership with the Health Research Board.

The committee also decided to tackle a related issue: updating of the **Academy's Expert Statement on Vaccination**. The original statement was published in April 2019 to coincide with World Immunization Week. This represented a major resource for members of the general public who wanted to understand what vaccination offered. It also contributed to overcoming any 'vaccination hesitancy' driven by anti-vaccine misinformation campaigns.





Following the outbreak of the pandemic, committee members agreed to undertake a major rewrite of the statement and to bring it up to date with all the latest information related to COVID-19. The revised statement is even more relevant now and helps to lay out the reasons why vaccination offers the correct choice.

The committee has played an important role in helping people make decisions about vaccinations, and the podcasts and the **Expert Statement** will continue to help people understand the issues involved into the future.

The role of Irish bioethics: (re)building trust and reasonable discourse in medicine, science and technology

The one-day symposium on the role of Irish bioethics took place on 15 April 2021 via Zoom. The symposium focussed on the need to develop a sustainable framework in Ireland for deliberating bioethical responses to future developments in healthcare, science and technology. The President of the Royal Irish Academy opened the event that consisted of three panels covering public health responses to COVID-19, the opportunities and challenges in genomics in Ireland and vaccines and public trust. The panels sought to fill a vacuum in Irish discourse on bioethics through robust ethical discussions, highlighting the need for bioethics to feed into public policy, enhance public engagement and better support researchers, clinicians, patients and others in the areas of science, medicine and technology. While COVID-19 created the backdrop to the event, the discussions and panels focused on broader themes as well as issues directly related to responses to the pandemic itself. It was a very well-attended event, with engaging discussions by chairs, panellists and special guests. In addition, much discussion was generated amongst attendees via the online chat function. The audio-video recordings of the **panel discussions** are available on the RIA YouTube channel. There has been coverage of the event by the **Medical Independent** and the **Irish Medical Times**. The report of the event is available on the **RIA website**.

Humanities and Social Sciences Committees

There are five multidisciplinary committees and two standing committees under the Humanities and Social Sciences umbrella. These committees are:

Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach;

Ethical, Political, Legal and Philosophical Studies Committee;

Historical Studies Committee;

Social Sciences Committee;

Study of Languages, Literature, Culture and Communication Committee;

Standing Committee for Archaeology;

Standing Committee for International Affairs.

128 volunteers make up these committees. 50% of the committee members are male and 50% are female. They drive the programme of work in the Academy and give of their time and expertise freely to do so.

Events & Outputs

11 February

'How should a liberal democracy react to conscientious objection claims?' Four panel sessions on conscientious objection from legal, philosophical, theological and religious perspectives, and a discussion on how legislators and governments in liberal democracies should react to claims of conscience



26 February

'Post-pandemic housing transformation and the value of home'. Opening address by Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor Hazel Chu. Keynote lecture by Professor Susan Smith, University of Cambridge with a response by Professor Manuel Aalbers, KU Leuven, followed by a panel discussion with Professor Mary Murphy, Maynooth University and Associate Professor, Declan Redmond, UCD, chaired by Professor Kenneth Gibb, University of Glasgow



19 March

Launch of History of emotions podcast series **'From grief to wonder: exploring emotions in Irish History'**, Associate Professor Katie Barclay



26 March

History of emotions podcast, episode 2: **'Detachment: The Bellfield Plantation'**, Finola O'Kane Crimmins MRIA



April 2021

The **commissioning of seven new artworks** to commemorate the 1500th anniversary of the birth of Colm Cille



1 April

History of emotions podcast, episode 3: **'Anger and public space'**, Dr Illan Wall



7 April

'Debating the future of the Defence Forces' seminar. In association with the Institute of International and European Affairs and the Commission on the Defence Forces



9 April

History of emotions podcast, episode 4: **'Belonging: feeling solidarity in the interwar world'**, Dr Maurice Casey



16 April

History of emotions podcast, episode 5: **'Grief and Glasnevin'**, Dr Georgina Laragy



23 April

History of emotions podcast, episode 6: **'Wonder: digital space'** by Dr Ciarán Wallace



29 April

'International politics in times of risk and uncertainty: the COVID-19 crisis and beyond' annual International Affairs conference



6 May







'The future of media: experience, models, practice' panel discussions with Q&A



17 June

'The Nuremberg Trials at 75: histories, legacies, lessons'. Keynote lecture by Philippe Sands followed by a multidisciplinary panel discussion and questions from the online audience



- 25 August** ● Lunchtime lecture: **'The Cathach, Colum Cille and the foundation of the manuscript tradition'** by Timothy O'Neill. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach 
- 1 September** ● Lunchtime lectures: **'The achievements of Adomnán'** by Máirín Ní Dhonnchadha and **'The Latin background of Amrae Coluimb Chille'**, by Jacopo Bisagni. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach 
- 7 September** ● **'The future of defence: 2030 and beyond'**. The second seminar in the series. In association with the Institute of International and European Affairs and the Commission on the Defence Forces 
- 8 September** ● Lunchtime lecture: **"Tír, tráig, tuile" / "Land, strand and tide": Colum Cille's voice and the poetics of place'** by Thomas Owen Clancy. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach 
- 15 September** ● Lunchtime lectures: **'Sciath Dé do nim umam: Lúireach Cholm Cille'** by Charles Dillon and **'Beatha Cholaim Chille: An téacs, a fhoinsí agus a údar'** by Colm Ó Cuaig. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach 
- 29 September** ● Lunchtime lectures: **'Colm Cille: An Oidhreacht Seandálaíochta'** by Brian Lacey and **'Colm Cille i dtraidisiún béil na Gaeltachta ó thus an 20ú haois i leith'** by Ailbhe Nic Giolla Chomhaill. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach 

6 October

Lunchtime lecture: **'Devotion to Colum Cille in the medieval liturgy'** by Ann Buckley. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach



14 October

'Revealing the past' biennial seminar presenting a selection of archaeology grants administered by the Standing Committee for Archaeology



2 December

'The Centenary of the Anglo-Irish Treaty Debates'. In association with the Houses of the Oireachtas, as part of the government's programme of commemoration



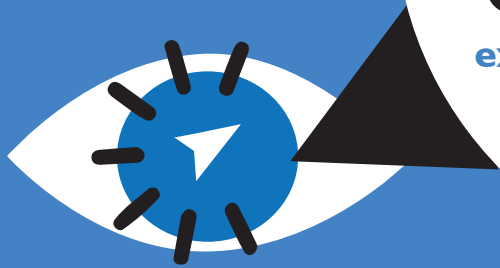
8 December

'Speranza: a scholar reclaimed'. Marking the 200th anniversary of her birth, Merlin Holland, scholar and grandson of Oscar Wilde, on the legacy of his great grandmother, the poet Speranza, Lady Jane Wilde



The future of media:

experience, models, practice



In September 2020 the government established the Future of Media Commission to investigate how public service aims in broadcast, print and online media can be delivered and sustainably funded over the next decade. Three key themes considered were: sustainable funding sources, changes in audience behaviour and changes in technology. The Royal Irish Academy, together with the Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dún Laoghaire and Film EU, held a seminar entitled 'The future of media: experience, models, practice' to examine these challenges in May 2021.

Three expert panels were convened. The first panel, chaired by Hugh Linehan of *The Irish Times*, explored the development of our modern Irish identity in parallel with the rise of public broadcasting, the need for media to embrace diversity and reflect a modern and inclusive Irish society, and the challenges facing the independent production sector. Public-interest journalism was positioned as a cornerstone of democracy, and the panel recommended that the difficulties facing traditional media in a digital age require investment and public funding support.

The second panel looked at the funding models that are currently in place for journalism and public service media. Speakers raised the attraction of social media, which leads to infinite scrolling through low-quality information, incentivising producers to chase audience clicks to generate advertising revenue. It was proposed that the role of public service media be reframed from content provision to value provision, measuring impact rather than market share. The need for newsrooms to reflect the communities they serve was also discussed within this context, in order to produce relevant and meaningful engagement.

A third panel looked overseas at international best practice. Examples of young people's programming, engagement with underrepresented groups, and regional and minority-language broadcasting were discussed.

As one of the speakers observed, while the funding model and structures of public service media might be outdated, the value of public service is not. This seminar, and the subsequent report that is available on the **RIA website**, express hope that the recommendations of the Future of Media Commission would herald some positive steps.



Grants and Awards

The Kathleen Lonsdale RIA Chemistry Prize

08 July

The Kathleen Lonsdale Chemistry Prize, sponsored by Henkel, is awarded each year by the Royal Irish Academy for the most outstanding Irish PhD thesis in the area of the chemical sciences. Dr Conor Crawford, who completed his PhD thesis at University College Dublin, was recognised for his transformative work developing vaccines against a major human pathogen and was awarded the 2021 prize in a virtual ceremony in July. As winner, Dr Crawford was also put forward by the Royal Irish Academy to represent Ireland in the prestigious IUPAC-Solvay International Award for Young Chemists competition.

Reacting to the news of his selection as the winner, Dr Crawford said:

“

'I am just delighted. I had been aware of the prize for a few years, and I felt it was a really good thing to aim for. I had seen some of the previous winners and was really impressed with their research, and with where their careers have taken them. So, for me to be considered in the same bracket as them is just amazing. It is really humbling to get this recognition from a prestigious institution like the Royal Irish Academy.'

”



Gold Medals

12 May

The Academy Gold Medals celebrate the achievements of leading scholars in Ireland whose work has made an international impact, demonstrating the global reach and recognition of expertise in Ireland. These awards recognise the exceptional research taking place in higher education in Ireland that impacts lives, benefits society and inspires the future generations of aspiring researchers. The Gold Medals have become the ultimate accolade in scholarly achievement in Ireland.

The President of the Royal Irish Academy, Mary Canning PRIA, presented the Academy Gold Medal in the Humanities to Mary E. Daly MRIA, and the Academy Gold Medal in the Life Sciences to Daniel Bradley MRIA. Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris, T.D., gave the keynote address for the event.

The Gold Medals were presented in a virtual ceremony, available to access [here](#).



RIA Gold Medallist in the Life Sciences

12 May

Daniel Bradley MRIA

Professor Daniel Bradley is a globally recognised pioneer in the areas of ancient livestock genomics, modern livestock genomics and ancient human genomics. His research has contributed to sequencing the samples that lead to the first ancient pig genomes and his work on sequencing of a complete dog genome from a Neolithic Newgrange sample generated the first published prehistoric domesticate genome.

Professor Bradley's research in modern livestock genomics contributed to the analysis of the first complete reference bovine genome sequence that allowed his group to make significant contributions to the genetics of infectious disease susceptibility in cattle. This work has impacted the Irish cattle genetic improvement programme through the estimation of sire breeding values for disease resilience.

Professor Bradley has collaborated closely with Orla Hardiman MRIA, School of Medicine, TCD to build genomic analysis of motor neuron disease in Irish patients. This analysis has contributed to the establishment of a thriving, globally connected research programme to combat the disease.

Professor Bradley has translated fundamental population genetics research into practical application through his role as co-founder and former director of the livestock genetic testing company, IdentiGEN Ltd. In 2013 IdentiGEN DNA testing first revealed the horse meat scandal in the European food supply.



RIA Gold Medallist in the Humanities

12 May

Mary E. Daly MRIA

Professor Mary E. Daly is an internationally recognised scholar whose pathbreaking research has had a transformative impact on Irish historiography. Her publications have broadened the scholarly account of Ireland's past from a traditional focus on high politics, nationalism, unionism and Anglo-Irish relations (while also making discerning contributions in those very fields).



A pre-eminent archives-driven historian, Professor Daly's publications display a consistent record of rich and extensive archival research. Her pioneering 1984 book *Dublin: the deposed capital: a social and economic history 1860–1914*, was the first major work on the urban history of nineteenth-century Ireland and the first to use the state records from the Chief Secretary's Office as a source for social and economic history. Professor Daly's more recent publications, *Sixties Ireland: reshaping the economy, state and society, 1957–73* (2016) and *The slow failure: population decline and independent Ireland, 1920–1973* (2006) are models of archival research that reach out far beyond their roots in debates within government departments, to transform our understanding of everyday lived experience in post-war Ireland and its UK diaspora.

In her research and writing Professor Daly has sought to examine, and often challenge, some of the more simplistic assumptions about modern Ireland, such as Irish exceptionalism or the exaggerated economic

and social revolution of the Lemass era. Consequently, her publications demonstrate a strong commitment to viewing Irish history in an international or trans-national context.

Professor Daly's major contributions to scholarship in Ireland include her leadership roles as founding director of the Humanities Institute of Ireland (now the UCD Humanities Institute) and in the Royal Irish Academy where from 2014 to 2017 she served as the first woman President of the Academy. She has served with distinction on state boards, most notably the Higher Education Authority, the Irish Manuscripts Commission and the Decade of Centenaries Expert Advisory Group. Most recently, her membership of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes brings together her knowledge of 20th-century Irish social history, her archival expertise and her deep commitment to public service.

The Hamilton Prize

The Royal Irish Academy awarded the distinguished undergraduate Hamilton Prize to the top mathematical students in their penultimate year of study as nominated by their university. Irish Business and Employers Confederation (Ibec), who sponsor the RIA prize and Hamilton Day activities, believe that developing STEM talent is core to safeguarding Ireland's economic future. The awards ceremony took place to mark Hamilton Day, the anniversary of famed Irish scientist, William Rowan Hamilton's discovery of quaternion algebra on 16 October 1843. Hamilton Day speaker, Emeritus Professor Caroline Series, presented the winners with their certificate and prize.

Edwina Aylward, Trinity College Dublin

Eoghan Murphy, Maynooth University

Isabel Cooke, Technological University Dublin

Ciara Murphy, University College Dublin

Aaron Cooney, Dublin City University

Ciara O'Keeffe, University College Cork

Emma Herd, Queen's University Belfast













Lijun Zou, National University of Ireland, Galway

Daniel Kelly, University of Limerick



Grants awarded in 2021

Total number of Awards

	NUMBER AND VALUE OF GRANTS			
	2020	2021	% Female	% Male
<i>Archaeology Research Excavation Grants</i>	3 €59,710	7 €93,127		
<i>Archaeology Research Grants</i>	6 €12,855	6 €12,451		
<i>Directed Research in World Heritage Sites</i>	2 €6,353	2 €5,583		
<i>Radiocarbon dates scheme</i>	2*	12		
<i>Archaeology Legacy Grants scheme</i>	- N/A	2 €53,481		
<i>Charlemont Grants (Humanities and Social Sciences)</i>	22 €38,826	9 €16,636		
<i>Charlemont Grants (Sciences)</i>	7 €15,481	6 €13,537		
<i>Ireland Scotland bilateral grants</i>	-	1 €14,600**		
<i>Praeger grants</i>	-	3 €5,198		
<i>Nowlan digitisation grants</i>	-	4 €39,546		
<i>Hunter Research Bursaries</i>	-	3 €2,832		
TOTAL	42 €133,225	55 €256,991		

**amount awarded in GBP equivalent (£12,500)

Ireland-Scotland bilateral network grants

The Ireland/Scotland bilateral network grants scheme was established following the development of the 2021 Irish-Scottish Bilateral Review.

The Royal Irish Academy (RIA) and the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) worked together with the support of the Scottish Government Office in Ireland and the Department of Foreign Affairs to create a new scheme with the aim of strengthening co-operation and learning between excellent researchers, academics and practitioners in Scotland and Ireland within the five thematic areas that were identified within the review.

The scheme invited applications that addressed the theme of 'Revival, resilience and recovery: cultural and arts sectors post COVID-19'. As part of a shared understanding that the arts and wider cultural sectors are vital to Scotland's and Ireland's revival, resilience and recovery applicants from any aspect of research and practice within the area of culture and arts were asked to create a joint proposal with a lead partner in one country and at least one partner organisation in the other country.

The objectives of the scheme were defined as follows:

to strengthen co-operation and learning between Scotland and Ireland through bilateral funding for joint projects

to foster partnerships/networks within and beyond academia

to encourage the initiation of new partnerships and/or the development of existing partnerships

to contribute to policy discussion in Ireland and Scotland in the specified thematic area

The scheme generated a strong response from across the sector and the RIA, on the recommendations of a specially convened assessment panel, was delighted to make an award of £12,500 to Dr Ciara Healy-Musson of IT Carlow, whose proposal, entitled 'The rural reimagined: connecting Irish and Scottish artists and writers with rural practices and narratives', will involve her working alongside Professor Mary Modeen of the University of Dundee to enrich connections and establish links between Irish and Scottish artists and writers, including selected members of four existing place-based research networks, whose creative practices focus on rurality.

The project has included the development of a number of discussion groups, web-based forum and a practicum, and there are also plans for a future exhibition and publication. Updates on the project can be found **here**.

The Royal Society of Edinburgh made a grant available to Dr Melanie Ramdarshan Bold of the University of Glasgow to work with partners in Maynooth University on their joint project 'Building a youth literature community resilience framework: children's and young adult literature and sustainable wellbeing post-COVID-19'.

The Academy looks forward to continuing this scheme in the years to come, in line with the remaining themes of the 2021 Irish-Scottish Bilateral Review.

Public Engagement

Access to Experts

11 January

Academy Discourse: **'Northern Ireland after Brexit'** with Fintan O' Toole MRIA and William Crawley MRIA



18 February

Academy Discourse: **'Brain mechanisms underlying flexible navigation'** with John O'Keefe Hon. MRIA



4 March

Academy Discourse: **'AI through the looking glass'** with Dame Wendy Hall and Barry O'Sullivan MRIA



23 March

Women in Leadership masterclass with Margaret Sweeney, CEO and Board Director of Irish Residential Properties REIT plc.



4 May

Academy Discourse: **'Celebrity culture up to and in the pandemic'** with Diane Negra MRIA



14 May

Women in Leadership masterclass with Louise Richardson Hon. MRIA



28 July

Women in Leadership masterclass with Professor Linda Doyle, Provost, Trinity College Dublin



28 September

Academy Discourse: **'Darwin's afterlives: recollection and the making of biography'** with Janet Browne Hon. MRIA



15 October

Hamilton Day 2021 with guest speaker Professor Caroline Series



21 October

Women in Leadership masterclass with Pamela Byrne, CEO, Food Safety Authority of Ireland



4 November

John Bell Day Lecture 2021: **'Spooky action at a distance'** by Professor Angelo Bassi, University of Trieste



25 November

Academy Discourse: **'Confessions of a disappointed Irish unificationist'** with Paul Bew MRIA



10 December

Women in Leadership masterclass with Dr Sinéad Walsh, Climate Director, Department of Foreign Affairs



15 December

Academy Discourse: **'Who were they? Conversations between genetics and archaeology'** panel discussion with Aidan O'Sullivan MRIA (Chair), Daniel Bradley MRIA, Dr Lara Cassidy, Professor Joanna Brück and Dr Neil Carlin



The Royal Irish Academy has a proud tradition of inviting subject experts to speak to the public through the Academy's Discourse programme or engage with audiences through its masterclass programmes and other annual events. This year most of these events were delivered online.

Discourses

Academy Discourses are the oldest and most renowned series of talks in Ireland. The first Discourses were presented in 1786. Historically, Academy Discourses were the occasion reserved for the most distinguished academics to first reveal and discuss their work in public. The Academy holds six Discourses each year and they are kindly sponsored by Mason Hayes & Curran LLP. In the past few years, we have had Nobel Prize winners, as well as internationally distinguished political figures, senior European public servants and internationally eminent scholars deliver a broad range of Discourses, most of which are available on the Academy's website.

During 2021, the Academy organised a wide range of Discourses, commencing with a very popular discussion on 'Northern Ireland after Brexit' with Fintan O'Toole MRIA and William Crawley MRIA in January, which has now had over 8,500 views on YouTube. In February Nobel laureate John O'Keefe Hon. MRIA discussed one of the principal navigation systems of the brain with a response from Shane O'Mara MRIA. In March Dame Wendy Hall and Barry O'Sullivan MRIA discussed Artificial Intelligence, web science, data governance and diversity in computer science in a conversational style Discourse. In May Diane Negra MRIA explored the primacy, ubiquity and ambivalence of celebrity in the pandemic at a time when we are deprived of various modes of communal sociality and connectedness. The response was given by Dr Lucy Bolton.

The 2021/22 programme commenced in September with Janet Browne Hon. MRIA exploring the construction and reconstruction of Darwin's retrospective account of his life, with a response from David Livingstone MRIA. In November Paul Bew MRIA came to Academy House to deliver the first hybrid lecture of the series. He explored recent political developments relating to Northern Ireland from the perspective of a unionist and the response was given by Jennifer Todd MRIA. Finally in December a panel of archaeologists and geneticists, chaired by Aidan O'Sullivan MRIA, delivered a conversation-style Discourse exploring how best to align genetic and archaeological datasets and ways of thinking about them.

The logo for Mason Hayes & Curran is a blue square containing the text "MASON HAYES & CURRAN" in white, uppercase, sans-serif font, arranged in three lines.

MASON
HAYES &
CURRAN



Hamilton Day 2021

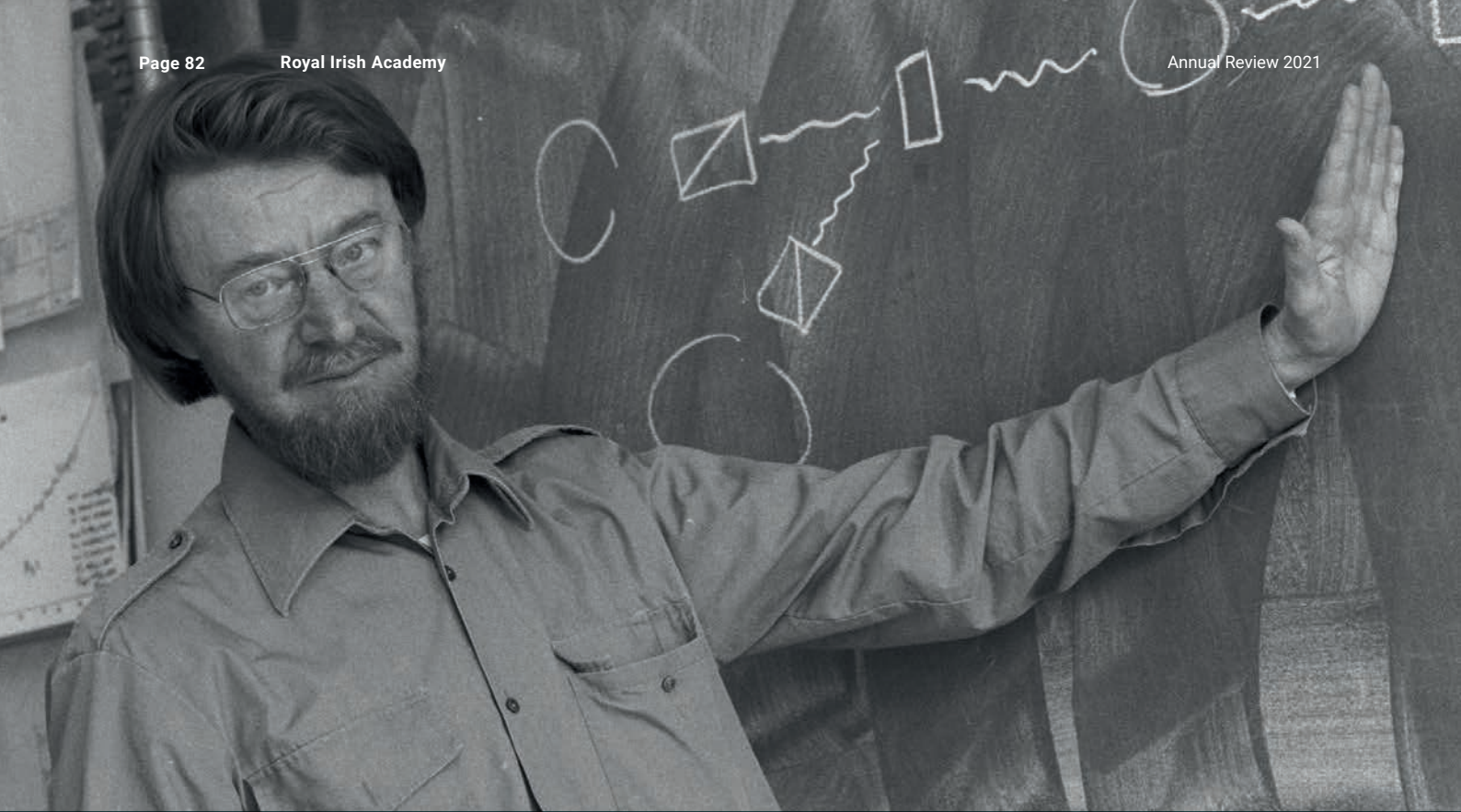
On 15 October as part of the Academy's celebrations for Hamilton Day, Caroline Series, Emeritus Professor of Mathematics at the University of Warwick (pictured above), delivered the Royal Irish Academy's 2021 Hamilton Lecture on the topic 'Glimpses into hyperbolic geometry'. It is some two hundred years since the discovery of non-Euclidean or hyperbolic geometry; geometry in which the angles in a triangle sum to less than two right angles. Hyperbolic geometry has seen great flowering in the last forty years, bringing it right into the mainstream of mathematics. The lecture offered some glimpses into these developments, particularly through some astonishingly beautiful computer graphics.

In a Q&A session moderated by Martin Mathieu MRIA, Queen's University Belfast, Professor Series responded to questions from Ireland's top mathematicians and members of the public. This first ever hybrid Hamilton Lecture was attended by invited guests (due to COVID-19 restrictions) and online by guests from all around the world.

Earlier in the day, at Ibec's offices, Professor Series gave a Masterclass to the Hamilton prize winners who had the opportunity to ask the esteemed mathematician her advice. This masterclass was followed by a prize giving ceremony with Professor Series; Mary Canning, President of the Royal Irish Academy; and Danny McCoy, CEO of Ibec. Professor Series was then joined by STEM education expert and science broadcaster, Dr Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin for an informal conversation style event. Our thanks to Ibec for their hospitality on Hamilton Day and to Trinity College Dublin for their use of the Burke Theatre for the Hamilton lecture.

The Academy's Hamilton Day activities are sponsored by Ibec and supported by *The Irish Times*.





John Bell Day

John Stewart Bell

On 4 November 1964 John Bell (1928–90) from Tate's Avenue, Belfast, changed the world of science by laying the foundation stone for quantum computing with his quantum theory. We want to make John Bell a role model for the young people of Northern Ireland, to inspire them to see education and science as a route through which they can fulfil their greatest ambitions as Bell did. Since November 2014 the RIA has worked with Queen's University Belfast to celebrate John Bell Day. On 4 November 2021 Professor Angelo Bassi, University of Trieste, joined us online to deliver the John Bell Day lecture 'Spooky action at a distance'. Professor Mauro Paternostro, Head of School of Maths and Physics, Queen's University Belfast, facilitated a Q&A session for the attendees. As a prelude to the lecture registered students had the opportunity to speak with 'The rebel physicist' Professor Angelo Bassi in a special online 'unplugged' session.



Women in Leadership Masterclass Series

The Academy runs a Women in Leadership masterclass series with the support of Accenture. In 2021 these masterclasses continued online and included participants from industry, academic and public bodies around Ireland. Our speakers for the 2021 series were:



Margaret Sweeney, CEO and Board Director of Irish Residential Properties REIT plc, one of Ireland's largest property companies;



Louise Richardson Hon. MRIA, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford and former Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of St Andrews;



Professor Linda Doyle, 45th Provost of Trinity College Dublin and former Dean of Research;



Dr Pamela Byrne, CEO of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland and former Director of Regulatory Policy and Intelligence with Abbott Nutrition;



Dr Sinéad Walsh, Climate Director, Department of Foreign Affairs and former EU Ambassador to South Sudan.

These Women in Leadership masterclass sessions are an ideal opportunity to inspire, motivate and mentor the next generation of women leaders and offer networking opportunities for the participants. As a follow on to this series our Publications department is working with Claire O'Connell, who moderated these masterclasses, to produce a short book capturing all the gems of wisdom from the four years of the series, which will be published in 2022.



Library

Events and Outputs

3 February

'In pursuit of Arthur Brownlow's Irish manuscripts' Library blog post



12 February

Academy Librarian, Barbara McCormack, interviewed for 'The Nerve' podcast by Dr Jenny O'Connor (WIT)



25 February

'Drawing from the well - the Irish Traditional Music Archive inspiring new art' Library blog post



4 March

Library user feedback survey launches

23 March

Barbara McCormack: 'Gabriel Beranger's rambles through the county of Dublin' as part of DRI event 'Using Digital Archives for Geographical & Archaeological Research'



27 March

'Pandora's box: the re-discovery of the Cathach of Colum Cille' Library blog post



30 March

Online exhibition: 'The Cathach of Colum Cille: the story of an ancient Irish manuscript'.



30 April

'Discover the Library's Special Collections' Library blog post



31 May

'The catalogue of Irish manuscripts in the Royal Irish Academy – an unfinished story' Library blog post



2 June

American Conference for Irish Studies (ACIS) keynote plenary session on '**The Cathach of Colum Cille**' by Professor Pádraig Ó Macháin with Ruairí Ó hUiginn MRIA and Anne Marie O'Brien (DIAS) and Barbara McCormack (RIA)



2 July

'My favourite item ...' Library blog post



16 August

Heritage Week Exhibition: '**Columban texts and traditions / Taispeántas: Téacsanna agus Traidisiúin Cholm Cille**' in association with Foclóir Stairiúil na Gaeilge



17 August

'George Boole celebrated at the Royal Irish Academy' Library blog post



25 August

Lunchtime lecture: '**The Cathach, Colum Cille and the foundation of the manuscript tradition**' by Timothy O'Neill. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach



1 September

Lunchtime lectures: **'The achievements of Adomnán'** by Máirín Ní Dhonnchadha and **'The Latin background of Amrae Coluimb Chille'**, by Jacopo Bisagni. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach



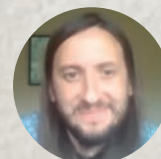
8 September

Lunchtime lecture: **"Tír, tráig, tuile" / "Land, strand and tide": Colum Cille's voice and the poetics of place'** by Thomas Owen Clancy. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach



15 September

Lunchtime lectures: **'Sciath Dé do nim umam: Lúireach Cholm Cille'** by Charles Dillon and **'Beatha Cholaim Chille: An téacs, a fhoinsí agus a údar'** by Colm Ó Cuaig. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach



17 September

Culture Night activities, including a virtual tour of Academy House and the launch with Publications of the Shelfmarks podcast series



17 September

Exhibition: **'Columban Texts and Traditions / Taispeántas: Téacsanna agus Traidisiúin Cholm Cille'** (Culture Night) in association with Foclóir Stairiúil na Gaeilge



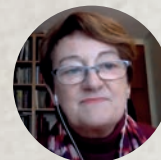
29 September

Lunchtime lectures: **'Colm Cille: An Oidhreacht Seandálaíochta'** by Brian Lacey and **'Colm Cille i dtraidisiún béil na Gaeltachta ó thus an 20ú haois i leith'** by Ailbhe Nic Giolla Chomhaill. In association with Coiste Leann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach



6 October

Lunchtime lecture: **'Devotion to Colum Cille in the medieval liturgy'** by Ann Buckley. In association with Coiste Léann na Gaeilge, Litríocht na Gaeilge agus na gCultúr Ceilteach



3 December

Library Association of Ireland Rare Books Annual Seminar: Writings in the Irish Language in Special Collections in Ireland: **'Irish Language Manuscripts in the Royal Irish Academy Library'** by Meadhbh Murphy, Deputy Librarian



American Conference for Irish Studies (ACIS)

The Cathach was the subject of a keynote address at the American Conference for Irish Studies in June 2021, which was hosted by Ulster University. The Academy's Librarian Barbara McCormack spoke at the event along with Ruairí Ó hUiginn MRIA and Anne Marie O'Brien from the Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies, and Professor Pádraig Ó Macháin, University College Cork. Barbara McCormack also participated in an invited panel discussion on the topic of 'Library collections and Irish Studies: the ineluctable modality of contemporary collecting', chaired by Professor Clóna Ní Ríordáin (Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle).



OS200: Digitally Remapping Ireland's Ordnance Survey Heritage

The Library, in collaboration with the Digital Repository of Ireland and the Irish Historic Towns Atlas, is participating in an exciting new cross-border digital humanities research project led by Professor Keith Lilley (Queen's University Belfast) and Dr Catherine Porter (University of Limerick) that will use new technologies to create a digital collation of historic Ordnance Survey (OS) records for the island of Ireland. The records held by the Academy Library include original OS Letters, OS Memoirs, OS Sketches and OS Extracts. The collection includes a large collection of manuscript correspondence between John O'Donovan (1806-61) and other researchers employed on the survey as well as manuscripts comprising descriptions of topographical details and antiquities. The OS200 project will culminate in an exhibition at the Royal Irish Academy and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland to mark the bicentenary anniversary of the Ordnance Survey commencing its survey and mapping of Ireland.



Discoverability

The Library continued to participate in the Digital Edgeworth Network, a collaboration between University College Cork, the University of Oxford and the National Library of Ireland that explores and analyses the manuscript archive of the celebrated author Maria Edgeworth Hon. MRIA (1768–1849). The Library also continued to participate in the Digital Framework for the Medieval Gaelic World, led by Maynooth University and Queen’s University Belfast, which explores the impact of digitisation on manuscript access and research. The Librarian participated in a roundtable discussion on the digitisation of Gaelic manuscript sources as part of the ‘Representing texts: from material to digital’ workshop on 22 February.

In February the Librarian was interviewed for an episode of **The Nerve podcast (Episode 34)** produced by the English Department at Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT) as part of a season dedicated to the Arts in Ireland. This episode focused on the role of the Special Collections Librarian and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on libraries; it also offered advice and support for those considering librarianship as a career path.

A large collection of pre-Famine Irish traditional music deposited in the Academy Library in 1910 was published by the Irish Traditional Music Archive in December 2021. *The Forde Collection: Irish Traditional Music from the William Forde Manuscripts* edited by Nicholas Carolan & Caitlín Uí Éigearthaigh contains over 900 pieces of music noted in the 1840s by the Cork classical musician William Forde.



Collaborations

The Library continued its collaboration with The Watercolour World (TWW), a not-for-profit UK trust-based foundation dedicated to the discoverability of pre-1900 documentary watercolours. Twenty-four images from RIA MS 3 C 32, a small album of watercolours by artist Gabriel Beranger, c. 1729–1817, were ingested to TWW in early 2021. The watercolours provide illustrations of scenery and ancient monuments, general views and details of castles and churches in the counties Dublin, Meath, Roscommon and Wicklow.

The Library continued to maintain the **Irish History Online** database, the national bibliography for Irish history that is published on an open access basis, free to end users worldwide.

The Library also continued its partnership with Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge and the Tyndall Institute at UCC on the 'Inks and Skins' project to explore the materiality of the late-medieval Gaelic vernacular manuscript (1100–1600). XRF spectroscopic analysis on the Book of Uí Mhaine (RIA MS D ii 1) took place in June and November 2021.

We also continued our involvement with the 'Beyond 2022' project, which aims to reconstitute the lost archive of the Public Record Office of Ireland. Image capture for the project took place onsite in September and November 2021.



Conservation

In 1993, with the assistance of Academy members, G.L. Huxley and D.M.X. Donnelly, the Library obtained funding from the Böhringer Ingelheim (Fonds) to bind chemistry journals and to conserve medical treatises held in the collections. The Academy's collection of medical treatises in Irish is the largest in existence and includes many recensions of medieval medical works translated into Irish from Latin. Of over thirty-three manuscripts covering the fifteenth to the eighteenth centuries, thirteen were selected for conservation and preservation. Conservation of the last of these manuscripts ***Lilium Medicinae* (MS 23 E 24)** was completed in 2021 with kind support from G.L. Huxley MRIA.

Library Blog

The Library published a number of blog posts throughout 2021 including two guest blog posts in February and August. Grace Toland of the Irish Traditional Music Archive (ITMA) wrote about the Drawing from the Well series, which connects artists with archival song, music and dance collections from repositories such as the RIA Library. The William Forde collection, containing up to 1,900 melodies, was used for **episode four** of the series that featured musicians Mary Bergin and Tony Linnane. In August, Emer Twomey (UCC Library) contributed a guest blog post on the topic of Academy celebrations to mark the 100th anniversary of Boole's *The laws of thought*, using material from a correspondence file on permanent loan from the RIA, which features letters from Felix Hackett (Academy Treasurer) to Sir Geoffrey Taylor (grandson of George Boole).

Donors of books and archives:

FUNDING AND DONATIONS

Funding was received from Irish Historical Studies Publications for the maintenance of Irish History Online.

The Library acknowledges all individuals and institutions for their support of our collections and connected activities.

Donors of books and archives 2021:

Members: N. Canny, L. Cullen, R. Gillespie, W. O'Brien, N. Ó Muraíle

Friends and institutions: Ballaghbeg Books; A. Breeze; B. Browne; Cavan County Council; U. Courtney; Department of Philosophy, Maynooth ; Dublin City Library & Archive; Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies; E.P. Egan; Estate of Mrs. M. Carney (Dr. M. Young); C. English; S. Fitzpatrick; R. Gageby; D. Hainsworth; Heritage Council; J. Hussey; International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group); Irish Archaeology Field School; Irish Traditional Music Archive; H. Jenkinson; G. Jones; G.L. Jones; C. Kenny; F.M. Larkin; D. Leedham; L. Mac Peaircín; P. Maume; J. May; T. Moylan; National Archives; S. Ó Mathúna; Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society; V. Pakenham; P. Pyne; G. Ronan; J. Scattergood; C. Series; Ulster Historical Foundation

Our Research Projects



DICTIONARY OF IRISH BIOGRAPHY

The Dictionary of Irish Biography (DIB) is Ireland's national biographical dictionary, covering all eras and aspects of Irish history. Its 11,000 lives of notable individuals provide a comprehensive, authoritative and accessible work of reference in both hard copy and electronic formats.

The project reached an important milestone in 2021 when the online DIB (previously hosted by Cambridge University Press as a subscription service) became freely available to all users. This was overseen by the then Managing Editor, Kate O'Malley, assisted by other members of the DIB project team and the Academy's IT staff. It was made possible by financial support from the Higher Education Authority, the Department of Foreign Affairs, and Dublin City Library. The new **online search facility** was launched on St Patrick's Day by Taoiseach Micheál Martin and Mary Canning PRIA and was widely publicised in national print and broadcast media. From 17 March, the Open Access Online DIB was hosted by the Academy and became a freely accessible resource for academic researchers and general readers alike.

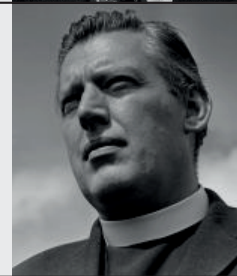
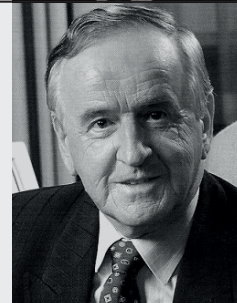
Although DIB research activities have been severely curtailed since March 2020 by the COVID-19 enforced closures of libraries and archives, the launch of the Open Access DIB was accompanied by the publication of five important new entries: Taoisigh Garret FitzGerald and Albert Reynolds; First Minister of Northern Ireland, Ian Paisley; the writer Dermot Healy and the social campaigner Christine Buckley.

With the partial re-opening of libraries and archives from May 2021 the project renewed its research activities and produced a substantial update of 30 entries for publication at the end of September. These included figures such as Savita Halappanavar, whose death in 2012 acted as a catalyst for change in Irish abortion laws; the rugby player and surgeon Jack Kyle; the property developer Tom Gilmartin; the hockey player Joan O'Reilly; and the stage school founder Billie Barry.

The DIB also continues to publish specialised thematic volumes aimed at the general reader. In November 2021 the RIA published *Irish Lives in America*, edited by the DIB's Liz Evers and Níav Gallagher, which features biographies of 50 Irish-born figures who have had a significant influence on American society.

Staff regularly contribute to conferences and lectures and publish DIB-related work in academic journals and essay collections. The project also publicises its work through social media, including thematic blog articles that illuminate the historical context and linkages of DIB entries. The DIB has also assisted the Grangegorman Histories Project by providing dozens of biographies associated with the Grangegorman area.

Such activities contribute to raising the public profile of the DIB which, with the publication of additional online updates and specialised hard copy volumes, continues to develop as a comprehensive and valuable chronicle of the lives of notable men and women who helped shape Ireland and the wider world.



Dictionary of Medieval Latin from Celtic Sources (DMLCS)

4 March

'St Patrick in the digital age', University of the Third Age (U3A), Bray Heads group. Online lecture by Anthony Harvey



16 March

Interview with Anthony Harvey about St Patrick shown on RTE Nationwide



17 March

St Patrick's Confessio Hypertext Stack received 7,636 visits, by far its largest single-day total since launch in 2011



10 May

'Venialia et Ventositas: Late-Latin vocabulary in medieval Ireland', *Journal of Medieval Latin* 31 (2021), 159–189. Peer-reviewed article by Joseph Flahive

13 May

'Medical vocabulary in early mediaeval Celtic Latinity', Conference on medicine in the medieval North Atlantic world, Maynooth University. Online lecture by Joseph Flahive



26 May

'Linguistic archaeology: how words reveal our history', Books Ireland. Feature article by Anthony Harvey



25 June

DMLCS provided input to collective report to International Union of Academies (UIA) on the Dictionaries of Medieval Latin projects of Europe

8 July

How linguistics can help the historian by Anthony Harvey (Dublin: RIA, 2021). **Launched online** by RTE's Donal Byrne in collaboration with Publications Department



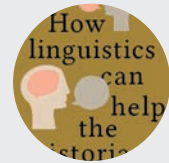
26-29 July

Four half-day online sessions of Scottish universities' Faclair na Gàidhlig Advisory Board. Attended, assisted and advised by Anthony Harvey and Charles Dillon, Eagarthóir, Foclóir Stairiúil na Gaeilge



25 August

DMLCS and *How linguistics can help the historian* booklet featured by NUI Galway's Moore Institute. **Blog post** by Sarah Corrigan



10 December

'**Scripts, scribes and status: the image of Armagh**', Conference on the Armagh scriptorium and Liber Ardmachanus, NUI and UCD Micheál Ó Cléirigh Institute. Online lecture by Joseph Flahive.



The role of a scholarly, historical dictionary is to describe and explain the meaning and usage of each of the words found in the corpus of texts that constitutes its domain. This is done by defining (and, where necessary, sub-defining) all of the relevant items of vocabulary, and by presenting a carefully selected, illustrative range of citations of each of them by way of evidence.



Modern scholarly dictionaries typically draw their illustrative, evidentiary examples from a full-text, searchable database of the texts in the corpus. This database will sometimes have been compiled by the dictionary staff themselves, as the first (and very substantial) task in their overall undertaking. That is certainly the case with the Royal Irish Academy's *Foclóir Stairiúil na Nua-Ghaeilge* as well as with DMLCS, the latter's database bearing the title *Archive of Celtic-Latin literature*. The digital resources in question have themselves gone on to be published online, as they may be of use to many researchers and other users apart from the dictionary-makers themselves.

The matter of digitising the resulting dictionaries themselves is an entirely separate matter. A conventional, hard-copy dictionary can only be searched by headword; but what if one wishes to search it by definition, or by etymology, or by a particular original author's use of vocabulary? A vast amount of such information will already have been compressed into the entries; what digitisation adds is the ability to retrieve it in a logical, comprehensive and useful way. In short, just as digitising their original textual sources makes dictionaries sounder and less subjective than was hitherto possible, so digitising the dictionaries that are compiled from those sources makes possible much more systematic and illuminating syntheses and surveys of the lexical treasures that those dictionaries contain.

The *Non-classical lexicon of Celtic latinity*, now approaching completion as the first module of the DMLCS dictionary, is being prepared in both hard-copy and digital form. Having the latter available, even in embryonic state, has already enabled the project staff to research and publish a wide range of interpretative analyses of the contents with an objectivity that could not otherwise have been achieved. Contributions appearing over the last five years, in the journals and books illustrated, have borne the following titles:

'Frankenstein in the scriptorium: bringing Latin to life in early medieval Ireland'

'Haunting vocabulary: towards a taxonomy of ghost words in Celtic lexicography' (Available Online)

'Hiberno-Latin *quantotus, tantotus*'

How linguistics can help the historian

'In *Pentateuchum Commentarii* on the Red Sea crossing: content, composition, and coherence'

'Languages and literacy in mid-first millennium Ireland: new questions to some old answers'

'Middle-Irish *turtur*' (Available Online)

'Muirchú and his *remi cymba*: whence his Latin and its wordstore?'

'Philological considerations set in stone: looking again at the early medieval inscriptions of Wales'


Spoken through: how scholarly dictionaries mediate the past (Part I: DMLCS)

'*Venialia et ventositas*: Late-Latin vocabulary in medieval Ireland'

Full bibliographical details may be found on the RIA website.

Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI)

2021	Publication: Persistent Identifiers and DOIs factsheet 2021 (Updated)
8 January	Publication: Recommendations on FAIR metrics for EOSC European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) FAIR Working Group (DRI Director Natalie Harrower is on the WG and is one of the authors)
8 January	Publication: Recommendations on certifying services required to enable FAIR within EOSC European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) FAIR Working Group (DRI Director Natalie Harrower is on the WG and is one of the authors)
12 January	Publication: DRI collection policy (Updated)
27 January	DRI virtual coffee morning: digital preservation of business records
17 February	New member training: preparing your collection
8-11 February	'Transforming archives: intersectional feminist approaches to the practice and reading of archives' : DRI was part of the programme committee for this four-part series of workshops hosted by the Intersections, Feminism, Technology & Digital Humanities network (IFTe)
22 February	Publication: Using digital archives for academic research

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- 23 February** ● **Using digital archives for historical research**
- 24 February** ● DRI virtual coffee morning: consent forms
- 16 March** ● National Open Research Forum (NORF) Open Research in Ireland webinar: **FAIRsFAIR Roadshow**
- 23 March** ● **Using digital archives for geographical and archaeological research**
- 30 March** ● NORF Open Research in Ireland webinar: **Infrastructures for Open Research**
- 31 March** ● DRI virtual coffee morning: open research
- 1 April** ● Publication: **Researcher identification with ORCID in the DRI**
- 13 April** ● NORF Open Research in Ireland webinar: **Skills, incentives and rewards for Open Research**
- 20 April** ● Using digital archives for social sciences research

20 April

Digitising our local heritage: Europeana in focus (Hosted by Waterford Libraries and Europe Direct Waterford in partnership with Waterford Archives, the Digital Repository of Ireland and Europeana)

20 April

The DRI facilitated the joint International Digital Curation Conference (IDCC) 2021/Research Data Alliance (RDA) Virtual Plenary 17 Unconference

21 April

The DRI organised and chaired the 'IG Science Communication for Research Data' session as part of the RDA 17th plenary meeting 'Opening data for global challenges'

21 April

The DRI organised and chaired the 'Establishing a community of practice for infectious diseases' session as part of the RDA 17th plenary meeting 'Opening data for global challenges'

22 April

The DRI organised and chaired the 'Community participation and the RDA Covid-19 recommendations and guidelines' session as part of the RDA 17th plenary meeting 'Opening data for global challenges'

23 April

RDA with OECD: Enhancing access to research data during crises: lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic

23 April

RDA with EOSC: EOSC at RDA VP17 – Open, trusted and digitally enabled science for an international community

28 April


DRI virtual coffee morning: institutional support for community archives

4 May

NORF Open Research in Ireland webinar: **Open Access**



7 May	RDA4EOSC webinar: Supporting the alignment of organisational research data management policies
25 May	RDA4EOSC webinar: Organisational approaches to enhancing skills and improving training
26 May	DRI virtual coffee morning: transcription tools
26 May	Publication: Fostering global data sharing: highlighting the recommendations of the Research Data Alliance COVID-19 working group
7-10 June	DRI on Open Repositories Steering Committee
10 June	RDA4EOSC webinar - Addressing organisational interoperability
14 June	DRI Membership training for UCC (half-day bespoke seminar aimed at the UCC research community)
16 June	Publication: Radical collaboration during a global health emergency: development of the RDA COVID-19 data sharing recommendations and guidelines
30 June	DRI virtual coffee morning: institutional support for community archives



1 July	Publication: When Ireland said 'Yes': digitally-preserving the campaign to Repeal the Eighth Amendment
12,14,16 July	The DRI with NORF, FAIRsFAIR and EOSC Synergy 'Data steward instructor training'
19 August	'Performing, promoting and preserving Ireland's intangible cultural heritage' (Heritage Week 2021)
25 August	Open Access and the Humanities: a dialogue on future directions for Ireland
26 August	Open Access and bibliodiversity in Irish scholarly publishing
7 September	DRI and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland 'Engaging communities with archives: video as a tool for activism, advocacy, and archival work'
9, 16, 23, 30, September 7, 14 October	Digital preservation for community archives
17 September	Dublin in the archives: digital collections exploring the city and county (Culture Night 2021)
29 September	DRI virtual coffee morning: open access publishing

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- 3 November** ● Digital preservation of community archives: **Breaking down barriers to digital preservation through training**
 - 4 November** ● World Digital Preservation Day workshop: **EU Copyright Directive training**
 - 8 November** ● In Her Shoes: **Digitally archiving feminist grassroots movements and sensitive research**
 - 18, 25 November** ● DRI on **Open Repositories Steering Committee**
 - 2 December** ●
 - 23 November** ● RDA4EOSC webinar - Addressing organisational interoperability
 - 24 November** ● DRI virtual coffee morning with DRI Director
 - 7 December** ● DRI and Dublin City Library and Archive (DCLA) hosting EnrichEuropeana+ follow-up Transcribathon training
 - 8 December** ● DRI virtual coffee morning: New 2021 members

The Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI) actively seeks out new research projects and partnerships to complement its core work as a trustworthy digital repository (TDR) for Ireland's humanities, cultural heritage, and social sciences data. In 2021, DRI was engaged in the following externally funded research projects:

Research Project	Project Description	Funding Body
Feminist Art Making Histories Full Stack Feminism in Digital Humanities OS200: Digitally Re-Mapping Ireland's Ordnance Survey Heritage (August 2021-present)	The DRI is a collaborator on three projects funded by the UK-Ireland Collaboration in the Digital Humanities Grants. The new projects will see Ireland and the UK bring together leading expertise in the Digital Humanities.	Irish Research Council (IRC) and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)
EnrichEuropeana+ (April 2021 to present)	DRI, along with DRI members Dublin City Library and Archive, are part of a pan-European consortium that is combining citizen science and artificial intelligence to digitise handwritten documents from the 19th century and make them available to researchers, students, amateur historians and the public.	European Commission
RDA4EOSC (Nov 2020-May 2021)	The DRI collaborated with the Research Data Alliance (RDA) and the Digital Curation Centre (DCC) to support the internationalisation and implementation of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC).	EOSC Secretariat Open Call
National Open Research Forum (NORF) (September 2020-present)	The National Open Research Coordinator is based at DRI and works with NORF to drive the agenda for Open Research in Ireland.	Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS)
Archiving Reproductive Health (June 2020-present)	The Archiving Reproductive Health project aims to provide long-term preservation and access to at-risk digital content generated by women's grassroots movements during the campaign to Repeal the 8th Amendment.	Wellcome Trust

DRI and Early Career Researchers

In 2021, the Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI) continued to serve the Irish research and cultural heritage sectors through national and international **collaborations** and support for best practice in **digital preservation, FAIR data sharing and open scholarly communication**. A particular focus for 2021 has been support for early career researchers. Access to brick-and-mortar archives has been limited throughout 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions, creating challenges particularly for humanities researchers who require access to archival materials. To aid early career researchers looking for access to archival material, in Spring 2021, DRI ran a three-part public lecture series called 'Using Digital Archives for Academic Research' to showcase the rich research resources available in DRI and in the wider collections of our member institutions. The series was also an opportunity to highlight the **DRI Early Career Research Award**, now in its third year, which grants a bursary of €500 for an original piece of research informed by collections deposited in DRI. The three webinars in the series covered the practicalities of using digital archives for academic research in three key areas: **Historical, Geographical and Archaeological** and **Social Sciences** research. We were delighted to welcome 918 registrants from higher education institutions across the island of Ireland to this timely series. The webinars were enthusiastically received by audience members and noted for being informative, professionally presented and for highlighting a diversity of archival collections such as Beyond 2022, the Inspiring Ireland project, collections from Dublin City Library and Archive (DCLA), the Royal Irish Academy (RIA) Library collections, material from the Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA), social sciences collections from the National Library of Ireland (NLI) and the Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA), and more. A new publication, '**Using Digital Archives for Academic Research**', was developed in collaboration with our members to support the series and to aid researchers in navigating digital collections.



20 April 2021 – Using Digital Archives for Social Sciences Research
Catherine Walshe, engineer

The educational events were followed up with a series of blog posts and the publication of the webinars on the **DRI Vimeo Channel**. Recordings of the events have also been preserved for long-term access—and retrospective study of this historical moment—in the **DRI Event Videos collection**. DRI has long been committed to supporting early career researchers, particularly those who want to work with archival materials, and these webinars are part of that commitment. To extend the reach of the series, we collaborated with DARIAH-EU to make the webinars available in the DARIAH-Campus discovery framework and hosting platform. We have continued to provide support for researchers throughout the year through our **collaborative work** on initiatives like the **National Open Research Forum's** (NORF) series of webinars and workshops covering topics such as Open Access publishing, FAIR data sharing, Open Research infrastructures and skills, and research data management. DRI's support for early career researchers through the 'Using Digital Archives for Academic Research' series, the DRI Early Career Research Award, and NORF outreach events ties into the larger Academy-wide strategic goal of developing a modern Academy for early career researchers and scholars.



20 April 2021 – Using Digital Archives for Social Sciences Research

Donkey, County Donegal, Digital Repository of Ireland [Distributor], Dublin City
Image Credit - Fáilte Ireland.



Documents on Irish Foreign Policy

14 January

History Ireland Hedge School podcast: **Kildare in the revolutionary decade**, with John Gibney



28 January

National Maritime Institute of Ireland lecture: **'The Dalkey coastwatchers'** by Michael Kennedy



14 February

Newstalk 106, Talking History: **DIFP XII**



26 February

National Archives lecture series: **'The destruction and preservation of the records of the Department of External Affairs during the Second World War'** by Michael Kennedy



11 March

The Diplomatic Pouch podcast: **'St Patrick's Day at the White House'** with Michael Kennedy



12 March

The Irish Times Inside politics podcast: **'Monarchies in modern times'** with John Gibney



12 May

Military Archives podcast: **'The destruction and preservation of Ireland's World War two lookout posts'** with Michael Kennedy



6 December

National Archives exhibition in partnership with the RIA: **The Treaty, 1921: records from the archives**

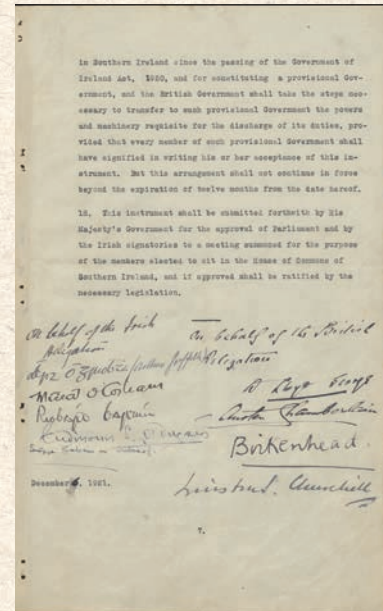


The production of each volume in the Documents on Irish Foreign Policy (DIFP) series operates on a two-year cycle. While 2020 was devoted to the editing and publication of DIFP Vol. XII, the research cycle for DIFP Vol. XIII began in earnest in 2021. Public health measures arising from the Covid-19 pandemic necessitated changes to the project work practices, and with the easing of restrictions from May onwards research for the next instalment of the series could continue.

The next volume will cover the Fianna Fáil administrations of Seán Lemass and Jack Lynch, from April 1965 to July 1969. This period saw a great deal of international upheaval, from the 'Prague Spring' to the Six Day War in the Middle East, the protests of May 1968 in France and the ongoing US war in Vietnam, which continued during a period marked by upheavals in US domestic politics. All registered in the reports sent back to Dublin by Irish diplomats from diplomatic missions overseas.

As well as offering a window into the world of the late sixties from an official Irish perspective, the documents uncovered in the process of researching DIFP XIII reveal how Irish foreign policy evolved in this period, which saw Ireland's diplomatic 'footprint' expand into the Indo-Pacific region, and the beginnings of the official Irish development aid programme, largely in response to the Biafran War in Nigeria. Internally, the traditional preoccupations of Irish diplomacy began to shift as the working-out of the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Area Agreement of 1965 brought trade issues and even domestic political considerations to bear on Irish foreign policy. Despite cross-border relations developing under Lemass and Lynch, Dublin had a somewhat limited understanding of the nascent tensions in Northern Ireland in the late 1960s. The period covered by the volume ends in July 1969, just before the outbreak of the Troubles in August of that year.

The COVID-19 pandemic has curtailed opportunities for project outreach but the ongoing 'Decade of Centenaries' saw DIFP become involved in a project to mark one of the key centenaries. DIFP operates as a partnership between the RIA, the National Archives and the Department of Foreign Affairs, and from March 2021 onwards DIFP staff have been involved in the development of the National Archives' landmark centenary exhibition 'The Treaty, 1921: stories from the archives', which is presented in partnership with the RIA under the auspices of the Decade of Centenaries to mark the centenary of the negotiation and signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921. The exhibition presents the documentary record of the negotiations that led to the creation of an independent Irish state through the holdings of the National Archives and other institutions, and opened in Dublin Castle on 6 December 2021, the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty, with a preview exhibition being hosted in London by the British Academy in October to mark the beginning of the negotiations themselves. A travelling version of the exhibition will be presented in collaboration with selected local authorities throughout 2022.



The cover of 5 November 1968 issue of *Éire Ireland*, the bulletin of the Department of External Affairs, depicts Mairín and Jack Lynch at the Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries shipyard in Yokohama on 15 August 1968, where Mrs Lynch launched the Universe Ireland supertanker. This was the first official visit to Japan by a Taoiseach (Reproduced by permission of the Director of the National Archives).

Foclóir Stairiúil na Gaeilge

18 January

Article by FNG Editor Charles Dillon on a selection of entries from latest FNG publication **Foclóir Uí Chadhain**



18 June

Foclóir Uí Chadhain / Ó Cadhain Dictionary launched by Minister of State Jack Chambers TD



26-29 July

Four half-day online sessions of Scottish universities' Faclair na Gàidhlig Advisory Board. Attended, assisted and advised by Anthony Harvey and Charles Dillon



16 August

Heritage Week Exhibition: '**Columban Texts and Traditions / Taispeántas: Téacsanna agus Traidisiúin Cholm Cille**' in association with the RIA Library



17 September

Exhibition: '**Columban Texts and Traditions / Taispeántas: Téacsanna agus Traidisiúin Cholm Cille**' (Culture Night) in association with the RIA Library



12 November

Colm Cille: Scéal a Bheatha. Plenary Lecture by Colm Ó Cuaig at Léachtaí Cholm Cille, Maynooth University



The foundation of our Historical Dictionary of Modern Irish is nearing completion, as the content of our digital database of Irish texts written between 1600 and the present day has passed 85 million words. This pioneering database, almost 20 years in the making, contains all the representative evidence needed to achieve the long-held aim of producing the first historical dictionary for modern Irish, to add to the Academy's *Dictionary of the Irish Language based mainly on Old and Middle Irish Materials*, published in 1976. Methods and strategies for extracting the data efficiently and accurately, for the compilation of dictionary entries, are currently being devised and trialled.

In addition to achieving this progress on the Academy's historical dictionary proper, the team marked the 50th anniversary of the death of the eminent author, activist and scholar Máirtín Ó Cadhain, with a project aimed at providing access for the first time to *Foclóir Uí Chadhain*, a dictionary he compiled of his native Irish dialect of Connemara. This vast unpublished work of lexicography, comprising over 1.1 million handwritten words of linguistic description and examples of word use, has been uncovered and edited by the Academy's research team and will be made available online. Ó Cadhain has enjoyed renewed fame in recent years with the translation to English of some of his most famous creative works, including the novel *Cré na Cille* for the first time, and the imminent publication of his lexicographical achievement will lend further critical insights into his writings. It is a unique glimpse into his world and serves as a linguistic time capsule for discovery of early twentieth-century rural Ireland before a time of societal change eliminated the conditions for much of the speech that he so richly observed around him. Ó Cadhain's dictionary will be made available both in modernised form and in a version preserving the original linguistic forms and spellings, thereby allowing multiple angles of access and research by historians, linguists, lecturers and teachers as well as interested readers. We wish to record our thanks to the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, and Iontaobhas Uí Chadhain for their support.





Ní fada anois go mbeidh bailchríoch curtha le dúshraith an Fhoclóra Stairiúil, óir tá breis agus 85 milliún focal curtha lenár mbunachar de théacsanna Gaeilge a scríobhadh ó 1600 anall. Tá an bunachar seo á réiteach le fada agus is údar mór sásaimh nach fada eile go mbeidh sé réidh, agus go mbeidh an fhianaise leordhóthanach ann ar an teanga stairiúil le gur féidir foclóir don Nua-Ghaeilge a tharraingt as. Beidh an saothar sin inchomparáide leis an *Dictionary of the Irish Language based mainly on Old and Middle Irish Materials* a d'fhoilsigh an tAcadamh in 1976. Is cóir anois díriú ar an bhfianaise sin a tharraingt as an mbunachar go héifeachtach slán, agus táthar ag ceapadh straitéisí lena dhéanamh sin i láthair na huaire.

Anuas ar an dul chun cinn seo a shlánú ó thaobh an fhoclóra stairiúil de, bhí foireann an tionscadail gafa chomh maith le comóradh a dhéanamh ar 50 bliain ó bhásaigh Máirtín Ó Cadhain, trína ollsaothar foclóireachta a chur ar fáil den chéad uair riamh. Réitigh Ó Cadhain foclóir dá chanúint féin, ina bhfuil breis agus 1.1 milliún focal de shainmhínithe agus de shamplaí úsáide nach bhfaca solas an lae riamh, agus tá an saothar sin le foilsiú anois ag an Acadamh ar líne. Cuirfear arís le clú an údair seo dá bharr, óir tá luach sa scríbhinn seo a théann thar a luach mar fhoclóir agus beidh léargas nua ar fáil do léitheoirí agus do lucht critice ar shaothar agus ar fhriotal Uí Chadhain. Tugtar léargas thairis sin ann ar an phobal a bhí thart timpeall air, pobal Gaeltachta thús na haoise seo caite sular athraíodh dálaí sóisialta na tíre as éadan. Cuirfear Foclóir Uí Chadhain ar fáil ina dhá leagan, idir leagan a léiríonn litriú agus foirmeacha na lámhscríbhinne féin, agus leagan ina bhfuil athruithe agus leasuithe eagarthóireachta curtha i bhfeidhm ar an teanga. Is í an tsúil atá againn go mbeidh idir scoláirí oilte agus an pobal i gcoitinne in ann sult a bhaint as an fhoilseachán nua seo dá réir. Ba mhaith linn buíochas a ghabháil leis an Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán Cumarsáide, agus le hIontaobhas Uí Chadhain, as a dtacaíocht fhlaithiúil sa tionscadal seo.

Grangegorman Histories

15 January

'**Change Minds**' Archives, Art and Mental Health: an online discussion exploring the UK '**Change Minds**' programme and potential for delivery in Ireland



19 June

Grangegorman Histories: Pre-recorded **interview with Dr Ivor Browne**, streamed online as part of the 2021 Stoneybatter Festival



17 September

Launch of '**Timepiece**' podcast detailing the history and significance of the turret clock (the oldest known flatbed clock in the world) in the Clock Tower in Grangegorman



21 October

'**Historical language and terminology and the history of mental illness**': an online panel discussion with Catriona Crowe MRIA; Professor Brendan Kelly, Consultant Psychiatrist; Alan Phelan, Artist and Rick Rossiter, Mental Health Advocate



Grangegorman Histories ‘Timepiece’

Grangegorman Histories celebrated Culture Night 2021 with the launch of **‘Timepiece’**, a podcast exploring the history of the turret clock in Grangegorman.

In developing the concept and motivation for this podcast, Grangegorman Histories wanted to explore the theme of time in the histories that unfolded in the Clock Tower in Grangegorman. While the function of the Grangegorman site has evolved over the past 200 years from its original purpose as the Richmond Penitentiary and later Grangegorman Female Prison and Transportation depot, where at least 3,200 women and girls were held before their transportation to Van Diemen’s Land (now Tasmania), several periods of use as a fever and cholera hospital and finally annexed to the then Richmond District Lunatic Asylum in 1897, the unique timepiece atop this historical structure has remained a constant.

The podcast explores the extraordinary history of the unique turret clock in the Clock Tower at Grangegorman. The James Waugh turret clock was installed in 1818 and it is the oldest known flatbed clock in the world. Historian of design and interior architecture, Megan Brien, was joined by celebrated horologists David Boles and Julian Cosby to explore the history of this clock.

The podcast is now available on six platforms and in the three months since its launch, it has recorded over 500 listens across Ireland, the UK, German, the US, Norway and Canada.

For more information on Grangegorman Histories visit www.grangegormanhistories.ie



Irish Historic Towns Atlas

8 February

Reprint of IHTA, **Dublin suburbs, no. 1 Clontarf** by Colm Lennon



23 February

IHTA **Galway/Gaillimh** released as part of IHTA Online



23 March

'Using digital archives for geographical and archaeological research' DRI webinar with Jennifer Moore



6 May

'Town and Country: perspectives from the Irish Historic Towns Atlas' online seminar 1: '**Monastic tenants, Viking raiders and Anglo-Norman townspeople**' by Howard Clarke (IHTA) and Ruth Johnson (Dublin City Council)



13 May

'Town and Country: perspectives from the Irish Historic Towns Atlas' online seminar 2: '**Town and country in later medieval Ireland**' by Michael Potterton (Maynooth University), Jim Galloway (Independent) and Margaret Murphy (Carlow College)



14 May

Carto Cymru Wales Map Symposium (online) 2021: '**From Speed to the OS: surveying the streets in the Irish Historic Towns Atlas**' by Sarah Gearty



20 May

'Town and Country: perspectives from the Irish Historic Towns Atlas' online seminar 3: '**Lawyers, merchants and peasants: town and country interaction in early modern Ireland**' by Raymond Gillespie (Maynooth University) and Brendan Scott (Maynooth University)



27 May

'Town and Country: perspectives from the Irish Historic Towns Atlas' online seminar 4: **'From outlying villages to townships: Dublin suburbs in the nineteenth century'** by Ruth McManus (Dublin City University), Séamas Ó Maitiú (independent) and Frank Cullen (IHTA); introduced by Colm Lennon (formerly Maynooth University)



27 May

'Town and Country: perspectives from the Irish Historic Towns Atlas' online seminar plenary: **'Medieval towns: Why we need to take account of the country'** by Chris Dyer (formerly University of Leicester); introduced by Mary Canning (President, RIA); chaired by Keith Lilley (Queen's University Belfast) and closed by Michael Potterton (Maynooth University)

21 June -
30 July

IHTA six-week research placement under MU SPUR programme: **blog by Ben Callan**



14 - 22 August

Heritage Week online exhibition **'From outlying villages to townships: suburbs in nineteenth-century Dublin'** by Colm Lennon, Séamas Ó Maitiú, Ruth Johnson and Frank Cullen

30 August -
28 September

Ballyshannon Historic Deeds and Newspapers research, under Co. Donegal Culture and Creativity Grants Scheme: **blog by Angela Byrne and Ben Callan**



17 September

Culture Night online exhibition **'From outlying villages to townships: suburbs in nineteenth-century Dublin'** by Colm Lennon, Séamas Ó Maitiú, Ruth Johnson and Frank Cullen



7 October

Dublin Festival of History online lecture: **'Rathmines through space and time: from medieval rath to flatland'** by Séamas Ó Maitiú



7 October

Publication of Irish Historic Towns Atlas, **Dublin suburbs, no. 2 Rathmines** by Séamas Ó Maitiú



17 September

'How Dublin's oldest suburbs lost – then rediscovered their identities', Irish Times article by IHTA Dublin suburbs editor Colm Lennon



21 October

'How Rathmines became the "Dublin Belgravia"', *Irish Times* article by IHTA author Séamas Ó Maitiú





Above and right: 'Discover what's on your doorstep'. Postcard (front and back) sent to local residents in November to mark the publication of the new IHTA of Rathmines



Above: Palace skating rink, Rathmines Road Lower, opened in 1909, replaced by public library by 1913.



Rathmines appeared in October as the most recent addition to the Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA) catalogue as no. 2 in the Dublin suburbs series, which is produced in association with Dublin City Council. Those familiar with the IHTA publications will recognise the large format, which follows that of no. 1 *Clontarf*, by Colm Lennon (published 2018). Detailed text (including a topographical gazetteer of over 1,000 sites), early views and photographs are combined with a sequence of thematic and historic maps allowing the reader or researcher to make their own discoveries and connections. The evolution of Rathmines can be traced as gradually shifting northwards, from its ancient core centred on the original Rathmines Castle (present-day Palmerston Park). Over time, farms gave way to country villas, before the Grand Canal, Portobello Barracks, fine terraces and grand squares from the nineteenth century left their lasting imprint. Well-known aspects of Rathmines topography, such as Rathmines Road and the Town Hall, have endured and transformed through time. While other once distinctive features such as the Swan River, the world-famous Grubb's astronomical works and two large skating rinks have disappeared.

The publication of *Rathmines* is the culmination of many years of research by historian and Rathmines native, Séamas Ó Maitiú, in collaboration with the IHTA team. Research is currently underway on *Drumcondra* (by Ruth McManus) and *Kilmainham/Inchicore* (by Frank Cullen), which will join *Clontarf* and *Rathmines* in our series that aims to provide a new understanding about suburbanisation by thinking comparatively about the phenomenon. The authors took this approach and presented 'From outlying villages to townships: Dublin suburbs in the nineteenth century' in one of the five online sessions that were run in May as part of the IHTA/British Historic Towns Atlas 2021 'Town and Country' seminar (full details in the events listing). An exhibition of the same name was subsequently launched during Heritage Week.

The day-to-day life of the IHTA continued to be impacted by COVID-19 as access to libraries and archives was restricted and meetings remained online. There were positive outcomes, however, with record attendance at the 'Town and county' seminar and a very productive summer research season with Maynooth University student, Ben Callan. The text and cartography on *Cork* (Howard Clarke/Máire Ní Laoi) progressed steadily towards publication (with support from Cork City Council) as no. 31 in the main series while research on *Ballyshannon* (Angela Byrne) and *New Ross* (Linda Doran) received boosts via grants from Co. Donegal Creative Ireland and Wexford County Council respectively.



Ben Callan and Angela Byrne outside Academy House, September 2021, during research being carried out under the Co. Donegal Culture and Creativity Grants Scheme on IHTA Ballyshannon.

The IHTA Digital Working Group reconvened in June with IHTA ingestion into the Digital Repository of Ireland high on the agenda and Rachel Murphy (UL) taking over as chair. The team welcomed Ruth McManus (DCU) and Jonathan Wright (MU) as new appointments to the IHTA board of editors in April and Michael Potterton (MU) took over as chair of the board in October.



Dr Ruth McManus, DCU



Dr Jonathan Wright, MU



Dr Rachel Murphy, UL



Dr Michael Potterton, MU

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