BAIS NEWSLETTER - JUNE 1990

As most of you will be aware, this duplicated newsletter appears occasionally during the year to supplement the printed Newsletter, which appears twice yearly. As the editor of that Newsletter, Eamonn Hughes, is furiously completing his Ph D thesis, there will be some delay in the appearance of that publication - for which the editor apologises.

EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

As avid students of the BAIS Constitution will be aware, elections take place every second year - and this is an election year. Forms for the first part of the election procedure - the nomination of candidates - are enclosed with this post.

RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

The subscription year begins in June each year. The Executive has decided to move to a system of direct debit and the Treasurer is setting that procedure in place at the moment. The system is administratively more convenient than the system we have used to date, especially with the increase in membership of the Association; and we would encourage members to assist us by adopting the new system. If, therefore, those members, who have not already paid the subscription for 1990/91, can restrain their enthusiasm for approximately one month, we hope to distribute the direct debit forms in the same post as the ballot forms for the Executive elections.

IRISH LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

There has been a slight hiccough regarding the numbers of the current and previous issues of the ILSs being sent from the USA. I have spoken to Bob Lowry and this matter has now been rectified. Some members will receive the current issue of the ILS a little later on this occasion; and we hope to receive sufficient numbers of the previous issue to supply those members who have not already received them. We apologise to members for this inconvenience. It is one which we will do our best to avoid in the future.

USIT

Seona Mac Reamoinn of USIT, specialising in youth and student travel, whose programme of Study Breaks in Ireland was launched earlier this year, has informed us that she will be in Britain in September and is keen to meet individuals or groups who might be interested in utilising USIT's services. She can be contacted at USIT, Aston Quay, Dublin 2 - tel.: 0001-778117.

GAEL-LINN

Gael-Linn is an Irish-language organisation the main activities of which include: pioneering work in the promotion of Irish in the community in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland; the promotion of entertainment in Irish through concerts, cabarets, Gael-Linn films, videos, etc.; Gael-Linn records, cassettes and CDs of the best traditional and modern Irish music, song and story; and an Irish language teaching

institution that organises courses for adults, professional groups, examination students and young people. Again, this year, it is providing an innovative series of scholarships, in co-operation with BAIS, enabling adult learners of Irish in Great Britain to attend an Irish language course in a gaeltacht area. The scheme, when introduced last year, was welcomed by the Republic's then Minister of State for the Gaeltacht, Donncha ó Gallchobhair, and the Irish Press commented editorially: "Gael-Linn deserves praise for the initiative it has shown in providing Gaeltacht scholarships to people living outside Ireland..." We again extend our thanks to Gael-Linn, which has now introduced its own scheme of Irish courses at Gaoth Dobhair, in the Donegal gaeltacht. Further information on Gael-Linn's activities from: Gael-Linn, 26 Cearnóg Mhuirfean, Baile Atha Cliath [Dublin] 2 - tel.: 0001-767283.

SERVICES

Storyteller: Patrick Ryan, 2 Hogsters Farm Cottages, Stroude Road, Egham, Surrey TW20 6UY - Tel.: (0784) 37420. Born and educated in America, Pat Ryan now lives in England. He has taught in primary schools in both places and has collected folklore, told tales in concerts for both adults and children, and also lectured on the subject.

"Across the Water" - Open Space, BBC2 May 1990. An information sheet about services for young Irish people in London and Britain. This provides information on organisations which provide services for both recently arrived and longstanding members of the Irish community in the U.K. Contact: Open Space, Community Programme Unit, BBC TV, 39 Wales Farm Road, London W3 6UP - tel. 081-743 8000 Ext 3511.

EVENTS

Lynx Theatre and Poetry takes plays and poetry to schools, colleges, polytechnics, community centres and theatres. Two plays available at the moment, "Sylvia", a dramatisation of the life of Sylvia Pankhurst, and "Rebels and Friends", about Constance Markievicz and her sister Eva Gore Booth. Further information from Lynx, 1 Queen's Gate Villas, Victoria Park Road Hackney, London E9 7BU.

Irish Summer Festival, Southwark Park, 13-15 July 1990. Further details: Southwark Leisure, 186 Walworth Road, London SE17 1JJ.

COURSES AND CONFERENCES

Traditional Music, Whose Music? with Co-operation North, Oct 5th/6th 1990. (See enclosed brochure.)

"Young People Together", Three International Youth Conferences in the Shannon Region of Ireland - Lisdoonvarna and Limerick. Organised by the Centre of International Co-operation in association with The Irish Peace Institute, Co-operation North, Clare Youth Council and Limerick Youth Service. The main purpose of the conferences is to provide a forum for discussion between young people from different parts of the world on issues like

global relations, international conflict, etc. July 1 - 13, July 22 - Aug 3, Aug 12 - Aug 24. Contact: Centre for International Co-operation, No 1 Tower Block, Shannon Airport, Co Clare, Ireland - tel.: 061-363352. Telex 70709; Fax 061-62349.

The Hopkins Society of Ireland Annual International Summer School, in Monasterevin, Co. Kildare Aug 2 - 6 1990. Lectures; international poetry reading; poetry competition; poetry workshop. Contact: Desmond Egan (Director), Annual International Summer School, Monasterevin, Kildare, Ireland - tel. 045-25601.

"Turning to the Lanscape": Third John Hewitt International Summer School 1990, 30th July - 5th August, St MacNissi's College, Garron Tower, Co Antrim. The school will consider the variety of ways in which landscape can be interpreted - by the naturalist, the geographer, the local topographer, the archeologist, the painter, and, of course, the poet. Contact: The Director, John Hewitt International Summer School, Garron Tower, Carnlough, Co Antrim - tel.: 0504-265621.

Oideas Gael Summer Courses for Adults in Irish Language and Culture. The language courses are on three levels and consist of intensive tutorials morning and afternoon. There will also be courses on culture and heritage. Accommodation will either be with a Gaeltacht family, or sharing a modern house with other course participants, or in local hotels. Costs for the different courses range from £70 self-catering to £175 full board. Contact: Oideas Gael, 2 Mulláin Harlech, Baile Atha Cliath 14, Tel 0001- 213566 or 0001-984774, or Oideas Gael, Gleann Cholm Cille, Co. Dhún na nGall.

PUBLICATIONS

Belinda Loftus, William III & Mother Ireland (Publication: Picture Press, 177 Main Street, Dundrum, Co Down, July 1990 @ £9.95). This this book sets the history of the William III and Mother Ireland images in the context of European and American cultural history, discussing images ranging from paintings and sculptures to murals, banners, cartoons, tattoos amd tea-towels.

Roger Swift / Sheridan Gilley (eds.), The Irish in Britain 1815 - 1939 (Pinter Publishers, 1989). Price: £27.50 hardback, £8.95 paperback. This collection of essays explores a range of major themes relating to the Irish experience in Britain, including discussion of Irish communities and the degree of ghettoisation; the place of the Irish in British society and the historical importance of Irish nationalist political organisation in Britain.

Carmel Gallagher, Christine Kinealy and Trevor Parkhill (eds.) Making Sense of History: Evidence in Ireland for the Young Historian (ISBN: 0 901905 43 7). Publisher: Ulster Historical Foundation, 68 Balmoral Avenue, Belfast BT9 6NY. Price: £4.00; school packs (over 20) £2.00. This book provides teachers with detailed information on the range and nature of sources available for the study of Irish History. An explanation of each source is

accompanied by practical examples and questions which have been chosen with the secondary school pupil aged 12 - 16 in mind. The aim is to give an outline of the different forms of evidence from pre-Christian times to the present day, which historians of Irish history must research.

Northern Ireland Political Literature on Microfiche, Phase 1: Periodicals 1966 - 1987 (price £6000) is available from The Linen Hall Library, 17 Donegall Square North, Belfast BT1 5GD. Further information from John Gray (Librarian). The Linen Hall Library has tried to collect all printed material relating to the "troubles" and has ammassed some 35,000 items. Many of these items are held by the Linen Hall alone. The literature ranges from the ephemeral to substantial publications and covers the activities and views of all sides. Phase 1 has runs of 771 titles covered on 2,363 fiches.

Kenny's Bookshop and Art Gallery Ltd., High Street, Galway, Ireland: A Catalogue of New Books of Irish Interest. Other sample catalogues include: Irish Poetry, Sport in Ireland, Irish Economic History, etc.

The Northern Ireland Bibliography lists books and articles relating to life in Northern Ireland and is published four times a year. A joint publication of the five Public Library Services in Northern Ireland, it is available through branch libraries in the province or by subscription (£8.00 per annum). Contact: Patricia Webb 0238-562639 Ext. 237, or The Editor, Northern Ireland Bibliography, Area Reference Library, Demesne Avenue, Ballymena BT43 7BG.