

BAIS NEWSLETTER AUGUST 1990

With this newsletter you will receive:

(1) the questionnaire for the 3rd Survey of Irish Studies in Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(2) a ballot paper for the 1990 Executive Elections + an instruction sheet + adhesive labels for use as per the instruction sheet;

(3) a subscription renewal form.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for the membership year 1990/1991 are now due. A standing order form is included for the use of members who wish to pay by that method.

PREMISES

Due to a change of policy on the part of the Rowntree Reform Trust, BAIS and the other organisations based at 9 Poland Street have to vacate the building. We are currently negotiating centrally located office space in a building which is being refurbished and which, it is estimated, will be available for occupation in September. In the meantime, I shall be working from home and can be contacted on 071-703 5275. Letters should be sent to:

73 Balfour Street
London SE17 1PL.

GAEL-LINN IRISH LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarships, provided by Gael-Linn and administered by BAIS, enable adult learners of Irish to spend a fortnight in an Irish-speaking area in Ireland studying the language. This year's scholarships have been awarded to Maureen Broderick of Leicester, Christine Cahill of London and Catherine Richards of Coventry. Although Maureen Broderick received her education through Irish, her fluency declined through lack of opportunities to speak the language during the years she has lived in England. She will use this opportunity improve her fluency and will, no doubt, pass on the benefits to the Irish class which she teaches in Leicester. Christine Cahill was born in Durham of Irish parents. She is currently studying Irish in London, where she is employed as a teacher. Catherine Richards is an English student who developed an interest in Irish, and began to learn the language by listening to tapes. She sat a GCSE examination in Irish this year and hopes to follow a degree course in Irish Studies in the future.

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS FROM IRELAND

This is the title of an exhibition of painting and sculpture, including works by Sean McSweeney, Eilis O'Connell, F E McWilliam, and Patrick Collins, among others. Running until 1 September at Austin/Desmond Fine Art, Pied Bull Yard, 15a Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2LP (Tel.:071-242 4443).

THE DESMOND GREAVES WEEKEND SUMMERSCHOOL

This event takes place at Kinlay House, Dublin 2, on 24-26 August. Speakers: Dr Declan Kiberd, "Democracy and Post-Colonial Culture"; Professor Donal McCartney, "Irish Historical Revisions - Good and Bad"; Dr Flann Campbell, "The Dissenting Voice - Irish Protestant Radicalism". Information, etc.: Cathal Mac Liam, School Director, 24 Belgrave Road, Dublin 6 (Tel.: 0001-973154).

NEW IRISH STUDIES DEVELOPMENT

Member John Woodhurst has organised 12-week evening course in Irish Studies at Newark and Sherwood College, centering on the patterns and experience of migration and the position of the Irish in Britain today, but also dealing with aspects of the culture and history of Ireland - north and south. The influence and assistance of the Irish Studies Workshop at Soar Valley College, Leicester, is acknowledged. Further information from: John Woodhurst, School of Adult Education, Newark and Sherwood College, Friary Road, Newark, Notts NG24 1PB (Tel.: 0636-705921).

BAIS BIENNIAL IRISH STUDIES CONFERENCE: PRELIMINARY NOTICE

This will take place at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham TW1 4SX, on 3-5 April 1991. The theme of the conference will be "New directions in Irish Studies". There will be sessions on history, literature, folklore, cinema, political violence and religion.

CALL FOR PAPERS: THE IRISH WORLD WIDE

A communication from member, Patrick O'Sullivan: He is to develop and edit a series of volumes under the general title The Irish World Wide: History, Heritage, Identity, for the Leicester University Press, England. Five volumes are planned, each volume built around a unifying theme. Working titles are: 1 Culture of the Irish Migrations; 2 Religion and the Irish Migrations; 3 Irish Women and the Irish Migrations; 4 The Meaning of the Famine; 5 The Irish in the New Communities.

It is expected that the series will push forward dramatically the study of the Irish migrations, and help make that study a genuinely inter-disciplinary force. The series will balance chapters on general themes with detailed case studies of the Irish migration experience. He has written a brief discussion paper about the series, which can be sent to interested BAIS members. He is also happy to receive proposals for chapters and to discuss possible contributions.

Contact address: Patrick O'Sullivan, Department of Applied Social Studies, University of Bradford, Bradford, Yorkshire, England BD7 1DP.