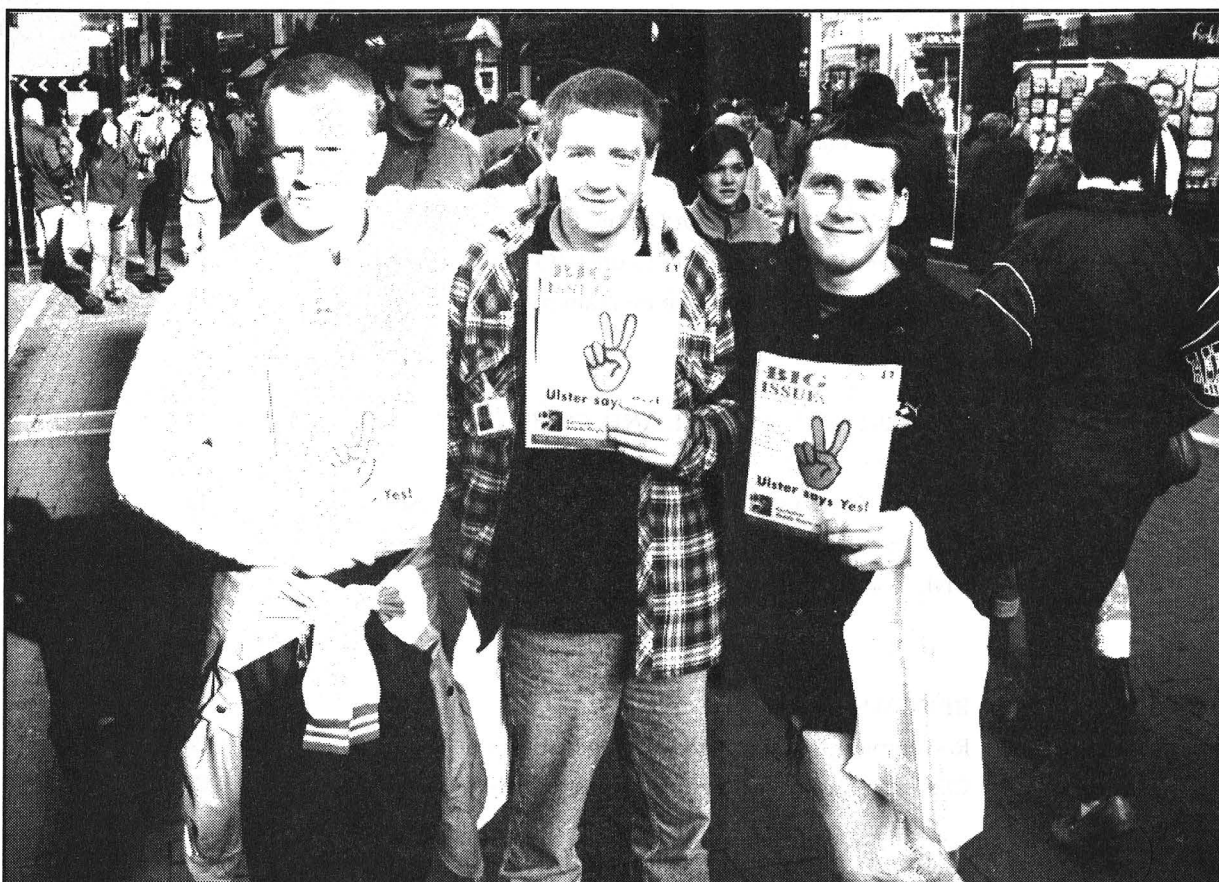


British Association for Irish Studies

Newsletter

Issue No 7 Summer 1995



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- Mature Students' Experiences in Irish Studies
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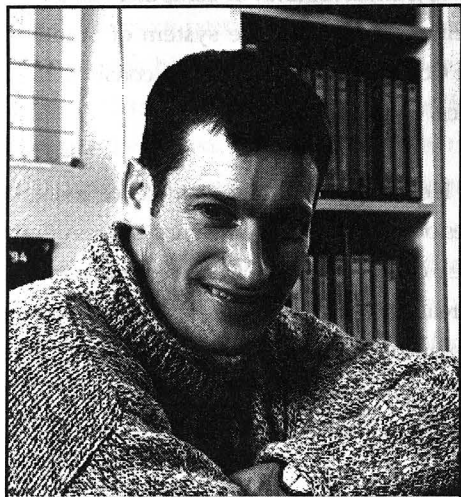
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The British Association for Irish Studies Newsletter exists to provide a voice for, communication between and information to the membership. Apart from Reports by the Officers of the Association, the views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the BAIS.

The Association is a Registered Charity: No. 298192

A New Editorial Partnership



We hope you enjoy reading this issue of the *Newsletter*. Putting it together has been easier this time because of the prompt arrival of material and the fact that Madeleine Casey has joined me in the editorial process. We would like to thank all those who contributed pieces by the deadline and especially those who sent in discs. On behalf of the Association we would especially like to thank Ian Mitchell of the Learning Resources Centre at St. Mary's University College for layout and Sarah Briggs at the *Irish Studies Review* at Bath College for liaison and distribution. Seán Hutton kindly proof-read Caít Thompson's article for us.

We had planned to keep the *Newsletter* at twenty-eight pages but you have sent in enough quality material for a thirty-two page issue. It is important to keep sending us articles, reports and items for a steady level of content across a range of material. In this issue we feature articles on initiatives by the homeless and long-term unemployed of Dublin, the experiences of mature students doing Irish Studies in Britain and the results of a survey on Irish language courses in London. Caít Thompson also provides us with an article *as Gaeilge*. The middle section of the *Newsletter* covers all the activities of the BAIS committees and we print the programme

of the Sunderland Conference to whet your appetite. Other sections provide short review articles, items on conferences, festival and Irish centre developments, plus information about the BAIS accounts and membership information.

In the next issue, due at the end of this year, we will carry reports of the summer conference season, a follow-up feature on the homeless Irish in north London, as well as all the other news and developments in Irish Studies in Britain. We will also carry a report on the AGM of the Association held on September 9th at the Sunderland Conference.

Deadline for the next issue is **Monday 30th October**. Text should be typed (preferably on disc in Word for Windows, or as ascii file. The basic text and point size for our layout is Palatino 9 if you have the facilities) Crisp photo prints to accompany items are very welcome. Discs and prints returned. Items should be 1,500, 1,000 or 500 words in length.

Enjoy the summer.

Lance Pettitt and Madeleine Casey

Chair's Report

It is my pleasant duty to thank Lance Pettitt and Madeleine Casey on your behalf for editing and overseeing the production of the Association's *Newsletter* and to congratulate them on its continuing improvement. In addition, I wish to thank Tom Dooley for his informative Financial Report and the Annual Accounts published in this *Newsletter*. His handling of the Honorary Treasurership is exemplary and he continues to play a key role in the restructuring and development of the Association.

During this year we are focusing on a programme designed to offer a range of services to members and to maintain the profile of the Association and of Irish Studies. These include the BAIS Biennial Irish Studies Conference, a series of lectures to commemorate the foundation of the Queen's Colleges in 1845, and a Famine Pack. Publication of the BAIS Newsletter, distribution of the *Irish Studies Review* and support for teachers of the Irish language in Britain represent continuing activities. These matters are dealt with in more detail in the items by Eleanor Burgess, Bob Bell, John Woodhurst and Caít Thompson. Our sincere thanks are due to them also for their commitment of time and effort to the affairs of the Association.

A BAIS information and recruitment brochure has now been drafted and is available for dissemination. Copies were distributed at the 12th Annual Conference on Irish Dimensions in British Education at Soar Valley College, Leicester, on 9 April, where the BAIS Council was represented by Caít Thompson, John Woodhurst and myself, and at the conference on 'Language Policy and Planning in the European Union' at the Institute of Irish Studies, Liverpool University, on 28-29 April, where the Council was represented by Caít Thompson.

One of the results of Tom Dooley's article on the BAIS Committee Structure in Newsletter 6 has been that a member, Dan Downing, offered to assist with the development of a strategy for the recruitment and retention of members. In addition, membership data and procedures have been overhauled under the Honorary Treasurer's supervision, and we hope to offer members a better service in terms of benefits of membership and notice of renewal of membership - and to improve the financial position of the Association - as a result. Further to Tom's request in that article, if any

member(s) with PR, journalistic and/or computer skills wish to volunteer their assistance via the system of Standing Committees, the Council will be willing to consider their offers of assistance.

Finally, the BAIS Biennial Irish Studies Conference is one of the main activities of the Association. Eleanor Burgess, Tony Hepburn, and their colleagues on the Conference Committee are devoting a great deal of thought and energy to making this an enjoyable and stimulating event. Help ensure the success of the 1995 Conference by your participation. We look forward to meeting you in Sunderland in September!

Seán Hutton

Dublin's Big Issues

Dublin's skyline is not currently the unhurried idyll of bohemian poetry and Celtic folk harmonies. On the contrary, the horizon is a string of rude interruptions by cranes, hoists and scaffold - far removed from the promises made by the writers, the singers and the Irish Tourist Board. And, naturally, it's all courtesy of development.

Yet such surgery is incongruous to the face of the Irish capital. It appears sporadic and uncommitted and as such, futile and meaningless. Gleaming modern office blocks stand adjacent to derelict red brick facades. These, in turn, line up next to shabby, outmoded shop fronts. The rejuvenated just seems to highlight the decayed.

Perhaps it is for similar reasons that people remain somewhat sceptical about the objectives of media-social initiative, *The Big Issues*, which is backed, like much architectural rehabilitation, by government, corporate business and a variety of local 'Irish culture' luvvies. Why buy a magazine to help the unemployed and homeless, surely that could only amount to little more than a gesture? And who are the likes of U2 and Christy Moore to say there's a poverty crisis in Ireland?

Based on the British magazine, *The Big Issue*, which is sold on the streets only by homeless people, *The Big Issues* is now sold throughout Ireland with vendors who may also be long-term unemployed.

The Big Issue was set up in London in 1991 by John Bird, an Arthur Daley-type with a militant political line and a dogged approach that has guided *The Big Issue* from right place, right time, to every street corner in London and now much of Britain. With the backing of eco-capitalists Gordon and Anita Roddick (of the *Body Shop*), Bird's drive and commitment to the plight of the homeless soon reaped the rewards of a monthly magazine, later going fortnightly and then weekly.

The idea is not new, America has long had its share of well-intended yet terminally dull street papers, but it is simple. The magazine is published much the same as any other, but is not sold from shop shelves but on the streets by homeless vendors who keep 60% of the magazine's cover price. The effect is therefore immediate. Beyond that, profits are

ploughed back into expansion, campaigns and projects to benefit the homeless.

After three years *The Big Issue*'s bubble looks less like bursting than enveloping the globe. The London edition now sells in excess of 100,000 copies per week, also selling in the South West and Wales. Manchester has its own regional edition following the precedent set by the fortnightly sister paper sold in Scotland. Now Ireland's *Big Issues* has increased frequency to fortnightly and circulation has reached around 40,000. Such figures demonstrate some public weight behind an initiative that attempts to uncover social injustice where most other regular publications follow the media rules: homelessness never changes, and things that don't change aren't news.

In 1993, John Bird won the media's own, respected "Editors Editor of the Year Award". In 1994, the British Government moved in on *The Big Issue* alleging that many, if not most, of its vendors were earning and claiming dole. It is thought likely that pressure from the state has already subsided.

In Dublin, editor of *The Big Issues*, Niall Skelly is looking to consolidate not only *The Big Issues* in Ireland but across the international network of regionals including mainland Europe.

"We are campaigning for political change which will affect homeless people and unemployed people. It makes more sense for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to campaign together because you are under one law there. But we hope, through *The Big Issue International*, we will be able to campaign for a charter of rights for the homeless and unemployed through the bureaucracy of Brussels. That is something that all street papers can do under that heading.

"We could be a strong lobbying group for the homeless or the unemployed in Europe, because of the number of magazines we've sold and the number of people reading it, y'know. Combined, it must be near on a million copies sold a month now between England, Scotland and Ireland. That's a lot and we should use it. We have strength in unity but we should recognise the diversity and that that is also our strength."

There's some kind of self-fulfilling prophecy going on within *The Big Issue*. *Big Issue* by name and through sheer self-belief (and the belief in their own hype) *Big Issue* by nature. It's no wonder *The Big Issue* makes governments feel uneasy.

"Our relationship with the Irish government has been very good," Niall continues, "even despite the fact that we do condemn a lot of their policies."

"In London the DSS were targeting vendors at *The Big Issue* and it got a lot of adverse publicity with the media going against the government. They shot themselves in the foot. John Major said, 'Why don't beggars get off the street?', now, so-called beggars are doing something to get themselves off the street and they are being hammered - that's the way it's being seen."

"The minister for social welfare here was approached by the Irish Times and was asked whether the same thing would happen here. She said 'No. Number one, there wasn't vast sums of money involved. Number two, she thought it was a very positive step that people were doing - using enterprise as opposed to begging or charity.'"

Asked whether political support might ever establish a conflict of interests, Niall is typically confident that it won't. Indeed, he is affronted that anyone might challenge the integrity of *The Big Issues*.

"We'll align ourselves with anybody who will do something positive for unemployed and homeless people and we'll also go against anybody who does the opposite. We always make it clear to anybody that is willing to sponsor us that we are independent and in no way will our editorial be influenced by whatever group that is sponsoring us."

"We live in a world where politics changes and decides the way we live, you can't escape it. We are definitely non-party political because if you align yourself with one or other political group then you're just going to be seen as a left wing magazine or a right wing magazine and the only people who are going to buy it are going to be left or right wing. You have to keep a balance and a broader based appeal so you are affecting more change."

Running through *The Big Issues* in Ireland, as in the other editions in Britain, are two major influences. One,

unconsciously, is the ethic of the minority press. It has the integrity and tenacity of a non-corporate, able to exploit cheap, reasonably inexperienced young journalists, in return for experience and the opportunity to write about things important to them and not their publishers, sponsors or advertisers. Indeed, the staff of *The Big Issues* is largely comprised of unemployed people on government schemes.

The other inspiration is founder, John Bird. Respect is frequent and genuine about this "incredible support and inspiration", who "shoots from the hip but gets things done" and "cuts through the bullshit red tape and tries to adapt."

The Big Issues is regularly provocative, more so than any of the British magazines. When it started up it featured a column by Fr Pat Buckley which covered homophobia in the Catholic church, divorce, remarriage, celibacy in the church and false religion, issues always vehemently contentious. Indeed, "Genuine Spirituality V False Religion", which featured in the first *Big Issues* alongside an article by Roddy Doyle, was more than a taste of things to come: "At social gatherings of Irish priests I've heard the boys say: 'Treat the lay people like mushrooms. Keep them in the dark and throw plenty of shit at them.'"

"So down with religion - especially false religion. I'm after true spirituality. And I'll find it among the homeless, the alcoholics, the drug addicts, the prostitutes, the gays, the divorced and all the other 'lepers' in Irish society quicker than I'll find it among the Sunday morning worshippers at Mass in the leafy suburbs with their fur coats, their *Armani* suits and their rule book Christianity."

Niall Skelly, however, refutes the charge of sensationalism. "It's not for the sake of being controversial, but we will highlight issues as they arrive."

"Well, we would criticise the church for the hypocrisy. They preach to people about abortion and contraception and yet on the other hand they will hide child abusers in their own midst. This has recently come up through Father Brendan Smyth. He abused countless children throughout Ireland and when it was brought to the attention of the church, was he arrested? Was he charged? No, he was just moved to another parish where he abused more children."

"So that's hypocrisy and we always condemn it."

Such rhetoric is all the more alarming in the context of contemporary Ireland. It's almost as if the papers in Ireland actually are as free and independent as their British counterparts allude to being.

So onward marches *The Big Issues*. Not batting an eyelid for the current diplomacy in which the Northern Irish ceasefire is swathed. In November, the *Issues* ran an interview with loyalist ex-paramilitary Eddie Kinner. Frank and disturbing, the piece dived head first into the fray and asked what the loyalist response would be if the British government were to "sell out" in favour of a united Ireland. Would the Ulster Volunteer Force bomb London and Dublin?

"In London? No, not really... In Dublin? Yes. That's how I would see it."

"By and large, Irish people tend to be very interested in politics", explains *The Big Issues'* editor, "because of the daily effect of the war in Northern Ireland. It affects people's lives not only in the north of Ireland but down here as well." By contrast, he argues, London has "such a vast cosmopolitan group of people" that nothing seems to affect a significantly large proportion of people. Exceptions, such as the Poll Tax and the Criminal Justice Bill, seem to prove the rule.

A stark reminder of exactly how immediate Irish politics is to the lives of Irish people comes from *The Big Issues'* circulation boost due to the ceasefire in Northern Ireland. With offices in Derry and Belfast, vendors now find themselves free to pitch themselves on whichever street corner they choose, and shoppers are no longer afraid to hang around looking for change and a brief exchange of words.

"There was always that wariness of standing on a street corner and if you're standing on a corner of the Falls Road, in Belfast, it's more likely you're a Catholic, so you're a great target for the loyalists. If you're standing on the corner of the Shankill Road, more than likely you're a protestant, so it's a great opportunity for a republican group to shoot you."

It becomes evident that *The Big Issues* should be accepted as the committed, potentially ground-breaking publication that it is. Unlike the sketchy reconstruction work taking place along the quays, on either side of the *Issues'* base - the *Ormond Multi-Media Centre*, the site is disappointingly less grand than its title suggests. But it is part of a movement that is

uncompromising and provocative while remaining dynamic and proactive.

Meanwhile, the *Issues* has the security of *The Big Issue* network which will doubtless remain a source of support and positivity for some time yet. John Bird certainly has no intention of fading away and nor has Niall Skelly and his Irish contingent. They, I suspect, look forward to the day when they will have cause to celebrate their redundancy. In the meantime, Niall sums up the buoyant mood that takes *The Big Issue(s)* right now:

"What we are trying to do is not only to get people to think about social issues but to get them thinking in a way that will bring about a solution, or at least address the problem - other than just moaning. If you moan you get to be called *The Big Tissue*, not *The Big Issue*."

You've got to be positive in your attack... "

Mitchell

Pathfinders

The Experiences of Mature Irish Studies Students

Returning to study as a mature student is like taking a leap into a void. The leap is made after many weeks or months of self doubt which has been overtaken by the need to pick up your education from where you let it drop anywhere from a couple of years to decades ago. The void is what you imagine your academic abilities to be: a limitless empty space which no amount of tutoring can actually fill. So the leap is a blind one because you don't know where you will land or how you will be changed by the experience. The only certainty is that you will be changed. Education is empowerment and what you find when you take that leap is not a void but a path strewn with change, choices and stumbling blocks. I took the leap in 1989 when I began two years of A-level evening classes. My first result was an 'E' in English Literature. Tearfully disappointed but not bowed, I signed up for Psychology A-level the following September and re-sat English Lit. in the November. With extra tutoring from a friend, I gained a 'C' at the re-sits and went on to take a 'B' for Psychology. I had found the path which, bordered with support from partner, friends and academic staff, led to the successful completion of a BA Honours degree at St Mary's last summer. What will make or break a mature student's resolve to study is not their academic ability but whether or not they have a good network of support. Without this, many an 'oldie' comes to a dead end. Here are some of the experiences of a few mature students undertaking Irish Studies at a variety of levels, who have taken the leap and are currently negotiating the path.

Siobhan McFaul is a second generation Irish woman who always felt "aware of [her] Irish connections despite an upbringing which was typically English." She dropped out of sixth form college at seventeen as she was not enjoying it and became "anti the whole idea of university and education in general."

A year or so later, while training as a nurse, Siobhan noticed an advert for a ten week evening course in Irish Studies at Newark and Sherwood College. It was a year before she felt confident enough to apply. Through the course, Siobhan discovered the possibility of taking Irish Studies to degree level. She tentatively applied to the University of North London, feeling that being twenty-one and without A-levels

was a distinct disadvantage, but was pleasantly surprised to be accepted on the basis of her maturity and her RGN qualification.

Despite her fears that she would feel out of place in an academic institution, worries about being older than most of the other students, and doubts about the wisdom of what she was embarking on from "friends back home", Siobhan discovered that students come in a variety of ages and abilities and that she fitted in without problems. The confidence she had lost in the education system was regained through finding a subject she could relate to and have genuine interest in. Siobhan had been wary of claiming her "Irishness", feeling her "Englishness" to be an integral part of her identity, but through the course of her degree, she has found that her name and Irish connections have "opened doors and removed barriers" which previously stood in her way.

"From London taxi driver to full-time Irish Studies student was a big step" for thirty-something **John Ronane**. The transition from a financially independent lifestyle to living on a grant in halls is not an easy one but John has no regrets - except that he should have done it sooner. Two years into a BA Hons degree at St Mary's University College, John realises that the only person who worried about the age gap between himself and other students was himself, and now finds his social and sports life never busier.

Of Irish parentage, John has always had an interest in things Irish which has been honed to a sharper edge by his degree studies. Extracurricularly, John has taken up Irish Language classes at St Mary's and has extended his interest in the language to taking intensive courses during summers in the Gaeltach. Now two-thirds through his degree John is setting his sights to postgrad study and beyond that, teaching. He sees "being receptive to new challenges and the opening up of different opportunities" as essential ingredients for a successful return to study.

Fellow Simmarian, **Liz Mitchell**, is nearing the end of her degree. A Dubliner, Liz has lived in London since 1987 after seventeen years working for a semi-state company in Ireland. With a young son to care for, Liz found the return to education

attractive as it fitted in with school terms. She was apprehensive about returning to study after such a long break but overcame this through absorption in the degree and finding that she "enjoyed the lively company of younger fellow students."

As an Irish woman, Liz has found the opportunity to study Ireland from the outside has been "thought provoking and inspiring", giving her a "different perspective" of her home, history and culture. She sees these days as "a valuable time" to be an Irish Studies student as Ireland "undergoes rapid cultural change", making the degree "lively and controversial".

Donegal man, **Shane McGuinness**, used to take umbrage at Londoners telling him he didn't "really come from the North" until he decided to find out more about that political entity known as Northern Ireland. He enrolled at the Working Men's College (for men and women) in London, after seeing an advert in the Irish Post for their Modern Irish History A-level. That the course was run by a Welshman was an "initial shock" which proved to be "refreshing and enjoyable as Jon [Parry] approached the subject as someone without the traditional Irish familial prejudices."

For Shane, a valuable aspect of taking this course has been gaining "an understanding of the strong affinities second and third generation Irish people have for things Irish." Through learning of the hardship endured by early immigrants to this country, his attitude towards their descendants changed greatly: "I began to appreciate that being Irish was always easy for me, however, others had to struggle to maintain their Irish identity."

Carol Purcell came to a late appreciation of her Irish identity. Despite being born of Irish parents and schooling in West London where "90% of [her] year were second generation Irish"; the education system in this country does not teach the history of its closest neighbour and first colony. Growing up in this country can make one "completely ignorant of Irish culture and history." Taking the course at the Working Men's College has radically changed Carol's perceptions of her identity and she is now a student on the Irish Studies degree at the University of North London.

Andrina Boyle and **Howard Hughes** are both students at the Institute of Irish Studies at the University of Liverpool.

Like many who return to study after several years, Andrina started with evening classes followed by an Access course. Married to a Northern Irish man, Andrina's interest in studying Ireland was further stirred by a visit to the North with her husband. She was intrigued to find how reluctant people were to discuss the Troubles "as it was either a taboo subject or they refused to acknowledge there was a problem." Returning home, she began to realise how people in Britain "had very little idea of the complexities of the problems of Northern Ireland, and for the most part do not care." After five years of Irish Studies, Andrina is cautious about the extent of her knowledge of the current situation. She feels her mature student status has helped her bring a more balanced approach to her own views on Northern Ireland.

Andrina enjoys "mixing with the younger generation" and "broadening her knowledge on a wide range of subjects through reading for a combined honours degree. She is not complacent though, and as she approaches forty is made more keenly aware that "the more I learn the more I realise how little I know." Despite feelings that her knowledge of the "Irish situation is still frighteningly superficial", she is proud to have "made the effort to redress [her] own ignorance." She feels strongly that Irish Studies should be part of the National Curriculum, enabling future generations to "make informed comments based on empathy and common sense and not on the lines of racial and sectarian bias."

Howard Hughes returned to formal education when in his early forties. Now forty-six and in the final year at Liverpool, it has been a long but rewarding haul from international truck driver to Irish Studies undergraduate. Tired of long absences from his home and family, Howard cast about for a career change. He soon realised the jobs he was interested in required degree level education. After twenty-five years out of education, he turned to adult education college and GCSEs. After battling with reluctant tutors to be allowed to join courses over half way through, Howard was finally admitted with twelve weeks to go before exams. With the determination common to mature students, Howard not only passed the three GCSEs he had chosen but took an A and two Bs for good measure. He is saddened that he encountered resistance from those in the education system who should have been the most supportive of someone with the determination to take that leap into the void which entailed "many personal sacrifices."

Being unemployed, Howard was able to gain a fee-free place on an Access course on the strength of his GCSE passes, which led to his acceptance onto the degree at Liverpool. Access courses are notoriously tough, being a stumbling block for many an aspiring undergraduate, but do offer excellent preparation for university study.

Initially choosing two Irish Studies components as part of his combined English and History degree in his first year, Howard soon discovered he "had to find out more about a variety of Irish issues" touched on by those introductory components. By the start of his second year, he "had no hesitation in dropping English and History and [is] now engrossed in an Irish Studies degree." With his future thoughts turned to an MA at the Institute, Howard is clearly set for a career in academia.

Phoebe Madden studied at Birkbeck College Centre for Extra Mural Studies. Phoebe attended Irish Studies classes as part of an Access course. This was her first experience of studying since leaving school at sixteen in 1960. Although she got on well with her younger fellow students, she felt "self-conscious and nervous about speaking up and giving [her] point of view in a formal class in front of the tutor." She felt the other students would see her as something of a curiosity: "I was not really one of their generation, so I feel I was more conscious about saying the wrong thing and didn't want to show myself up in front of them."

It was not easy for Phoebe to return to study. The academic environment is not one she immediately felt at ease in. She

stressed the need for "encouragement and re-assurance" from staff which was not always forthcoming: "When I felt I wasn't doing well, it really pulled me down and made me anxious, and there were times when I wondered would I be able to stick with it."

Like many a mature student embarking on Irish Studies, Phoebe chose the subject because she "wanted to learn more about [her] own Irish identity... and about the Irish who had been forced to emigrate to Britain over the years", although her choice to emigrate had been an unforced one. Phoebe did not seek out a home from home when she came to London. She did not feel she had much in common with the Irish community over here. It was not until she started the course that she began to identify with the experience of other Irish in Britain: "I got a great deal from the Irish Studies class and it was a rare opportunity to get students talking about being Irish in Britain in a deeper way than they would ever do in a normal social setting." Phoebe feels many more of the Irish community could benefit from a course such as this, as many of them probably feel as "out of touch" with Irish issues as she did: "the average Irish person in Britain doesn't have easy access to this sort of up to date information and I suspect many of them feel apathetic like I did, feeling that they have nothing in common with the Irish community because they don't get an opportunity to see behind the old image. I feel there is a real need for people to be brought up to date."

Madeleine Casey

Note: A range of Irish Studies related courses are listed on Page 17

The BAIS presents
THE 3rd LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CONFERENCE
Coventry

14th -15th October 1995

Speakers include: Declan Kiberd (University College, Dublin), Bernardine Nic Giolla Phádraig (Dublin/Oideas Gael), Nóirín Ní Nuadháin (University of Limerick), Seosamh Ó Guairin (Connemara poet), plus many more.

All welcome.

For further details contact:

Caít Thompson, BAIS Irish Language Convenor, 36 Evenlode Crescent, Coventry CV6 1BP.

The Irish Language in London

A French postgraduate student presents a summary of a sociological profile of students attending Irish Language evening classes

The survey was carried out in London during March and April 1994, visiting thirteen evening classes and interviewing 97 people using a self-completion questionnaire with 27 questions. Although those interviewed make up only a part of those registered in the classes, it is likely that the overall picture is a valid scientific pointer of the situation. We can draw these conclusions because, to begin with, the students still assiduous in Spring are the more motivated ones and, secondly, we estimate the total number of students at this time of the year to be around 150. This figure is close to a previous survey, conducted by Micheal O Domhnallain of Conradh na Gaeilge in November 1981 (171 students).

THE STUDENTS' VIEWS ON THE LANGUAGE

Although all the teachers we met had a neutral approach to Gaelic, this was not necessarily true for the students. On the one hand we discovered a close association between those who professed a Catholic faith and the opinion that the language is a symbol of national identity. However, as soon as those polled chose to distance themselves from religion, they tended to consider the language purely as a symbol of cultural distinctiveness.

Moreover, women seem to have a different perception of the course, notably in terms of the relationship with Irish. When asked to identify the most important thing they will have gained, women claim the classes intensify their awareness of their Irishness, whereas men have a much more utilitarian view on their learning. Most of them think they have acquired a good basic knowledge of the language, but they do not expect any change in their perception of it.

It is clear that speaking Irish in an English-speaking context, in principle causes little or no apprehension. Rather, poor

fluency was the most cited reason for not practising the language outside the classes. However, it is important to point out that the offer to fill in the questionnaire was turned down by some students, and access to a class was refused by one teacher. Therefore, studying Irish in London is not simply a hobby, it is a cultural activity that gives clues to the position of the Irish community in Britain.

THE STUDENTS AND THE BRITISH STATE

The responses to the more political questions, e.g. 'Which British political party are you most likely to vote for?' (45.4% Labour Party) and 'Which Irish political party most closely represents your views?' revealed a marked emphasis towards socialist and Republican attitudes among the students, especially those who were born in England. Evidence of the latter is suggested by the fact that although there was only a small percentage of people from Northern Ireland in the sample, 34% of the total responses regard Sinn Féin as the party that most closely represents their views. Could it be that turning to the party that embodies the resistance to the British state results from a general distrust of that state, acquired through the experiences of life in a minority community?

On the whole, the conclusions from the survey provide us with clear evidence that there is a strong desire among the educated part of the Irish community for cultural and political recognition.

[Copies of the questionnaire and the full results can be obtained from Luc Giraud-Guigues c/o L'Officier Conseil, BA 921, 95155, Taverny Cedex, France.]

Luc Giraud-Guigues

'Labhair i agus mairfidh sí'

Ó cheann ceann na Breataine agus na hÉireann sa bhliain speis alta seo tá imeachtaí á reachtáil mar chuimhneacháin ar na blianta 1845, '46, '47 nuair a d'ídigh na prátaí in Éirinn agus fuair na milliúin bás don 'Ghorta Mór' mar a tugadh air. Blianta thubaisteacha, náireacha i stair na tíre seo a bhí iontu - ní amháin óg is aosta ar lár ach tús leis an imirce atá ar siúl go fóill. Scaipeadh Éireannaigh ar fud na cruinnne - thugadar leo a gcultúr uasal, a gcuid ceoil traidisiúnta, agus a saibhreas litríochta ach go háirithe thugadar leo a dteanga dhúchais. Cé go ndearnadh iarrachtaí an teanga a chur faoi chois níor éirigh leo agus nuair a bunaíodh Conradh na Gaeilge in 1893 tháinig athbheochan láidir in úsáid na Gaeilge. Ó shin i leith tá an Ghaeilge le cloisteáil go forleathan ar fud na hÉireann, tá méadú tagtha ar an uimhir foghlaimeoirí agus cainteoirí Gaeilge.

Anseo sa Bhreatain tagann dornáin daoine le chéile go rialta in ionaid éagsúla len a dteanga a labhairt is a chleachtadh. Le blianta beaga anuas tá méadú a teacht ar an uimhir foghlaimeoirí agus dá bhrí sin tá láidriú tagtha ar staid na Gaeilge sa Bhreatain. Tráth bunaithe Chonradh na Gaeilge bhí pobal na Éireann in ísle brí agus an Ghaeilge tréithe ag a bhformhór. Throid an Conradh go dian, leanúnach le go nathródh an scéal agus cinnte gur tharla sin.

Tá cúrsaí 'sna Gaeltachtaí i rith na bliana ach go háirithe sa Samhradh nuair a thugann na mílte a naghaidheanna siar, ó thuaidh agus ó dheas le snas a chur ar a dteanga. Bíonn craic is ceol chomh maith le teagasc den scoth le fáil ar chúrsaí 'Oideas Gael', in 'Aras Mhaírtín Uí Chadhain', ar Inis Oírr, sa Daingean, i Rath Chairn agus eile. Cuirtear cáirdis daingne ar bun imeasc an lucht freastail ionas go bhfillleann siad bliain i ndiaidh bliana as Meiriceá, as Ceanada, as an tSeapáin, as an Astráil agus ar ndóigh as an mBreatain.

Tá Gaelscoileanna in Éirinn anois ina bhfuil an mhúinteoireacht ar fad déanta trí Ghaeilge. Tá Meánscoil Fheirste mar shampla breá dúinn go léir, áit a bhfuil 100 dalta agus a sé múinteoir ag obair go díograiseach gan aon deontas ón Rialtas. Mar a dúirt tuairisc sa nuachtán Béarla - an 'Guardian' - le déanaí, 'Can you imagine an inner city school with no discipline problems or truancy, where pupils take the GCSE at eleven?' agus mar sin de.

Maidir le todhchaí na Gaeilge, tá sé aitheanta go forleathan go bhfuil tacaíocht na teilifíse riachtanach. Buíochas leis an Aire, Michéal D. Ó hUiginn, agus leis an Rialtas beidh Teilifís na Gaeilge ar an aer roimh deireadh 1996. Tabharfaidh T. na G. misneach do phobal na Gaeilge agus spreagadh do chainteoirí, d'foghlaimeoirí agus do mhúinteoirí idir óg is aosta. Dhá uair an chloig in aghaid an lae atá i gceist mar thús ach níl aon dabht ná gur cúis áthais, bróid agus ceiliúradh é go mbeidh an tseirbhís ann agus cinnte go bhfuil géarghá len a leithéid sa lá atá inniu ann. Mar sin ba chóir dúinn a bheith dóchasach faoi thodhchaí ár dteanga agus í a labhairt go hard is go fonnmhar fiú sa tír iasachta seo. Dar liom féin ismar seo a bhéas an scéal amach anseo:

Is iomaí bliain fhada a chaith mise thall
A' scaipeadh mo theanga ansiúd 'measc na nGall
Ach beidh Teilifís na Gaeilge a' teacht chugainn ar ball
Is ní cloisfear ach Gaeilge as seo go Whitehall'

Le cúnamh Dé!

Carl Thompson

BAIS Famine Project

Since my last report on the Education Committee work continues to be dominated by developing the Famine Documents Pack and associated Travelling Exhibition being compiled by Christine Kinealy. The Association has been very fortunate in gaining some funding from the Irish Youth Foundation for which it is very grateful, and it awaits responses from other charities/trusts to which applications have been made.

A wide range of publishers have also been contacted in both Britain and Ireland, and the Documents Pack is currently under serious consideration by some well-known publishers in the field. Given the time scales and associated publication deadlines it is now intended to go ahead with publication in 1996 rather than this year. The Association has a quality product compiled by the leading author on the Famine, and rather than rush things for a publication date this year the Association is of the view that in many ways 1996 as a commemorative year would be more appropriate.

1846 was when the effects of potato blight first began to assume famine proportions, and it was also the year which saw the first waves of emigration to Britain as a direct result of the famine. There is therefore some logic in waiting awhile and not necessarily joining the welter of events and commemorations to come over the next few years and the Association feels that Christine Kinealy's work, and the Irish in Britain as an audience, would best be served by taking the longer view.

Interest in the Documents Pack and Travelling Exhibition has been expressed by Famine Commemorative Associations as far afield as London, Liverpool, Coventry and Cardiff. In

addition a number of educational establishments offering Irish Studies have requested the Travelling Exhibition when it becomes available. These include The Institute of Irish Studies at Trinity College, Dublin, and St Mary's University College, Strawberry Hill, as well as institutions in Manchester, Liverpool and Coventry.

Because of this concentration upon the Famine Documents project other aspects of the Committee's work have necessarily been given less priority. However, as the Association's revised broad Education Strategy (focusing more on Further and Continuing Education) depends to some extent on a successful outcome to this project, this prioritisation makes sense.

Other areas of work have nonetheless continued including:

- dealing with general enquiries and queries either directly or by referring on
- assisting in preparations for the Association's Conference at Sunderland in September
- the Microfilm project looking at publishing appropriate collections of papers with an Irish interest appears to be developing some momentum again. Dr Bob Bell of the Open University and a member of the Education Committee has agreed to act as General Editor
- there are also interesting developments taking place regarding a lecture series based around the anniversary of the foundation of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland. Bob Bell is co-ordinating these initiatives.

John Woodhurst

LIFE IN COUNTY CLARE, 1916 TO 1935 DOMINIC REMEMBERS

by John Greene

'a fascinating and well-written insight into pre-war rural life' (A.C. Hepburn)

Copies available from 18 Welland Court, Cheltenham, GL52 3HS Tel: 01242 238810 (65 pp.)

Price £2.00 (plus 50p postage)

Proceeds from sales of the book will go to the Bosnian Medical Relief Fund in gratitude for many happy holidays in Yugoslavia.

150 Queens BAIS Lecture Series Planned for Autumn 1995

Following the success of the lecture series commemorating the 400th anniversary of the founding of TCD, BAIS now feels it would be appropriate to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding in 1845 of the Queen's University of Ireland. This of course consisted of the three Queen's Colleges in Cork, Galway and Belfast from which the present university establishments in those cities sprang.

The present proposal is to hold four early evening lectures on successive Thursdays, September 21st and 28th, October 5th and 12th, 1995 at the British Academy. The four speakers are all people linked with those three centres but it's planned that the subject matter on each occasion will be of general interest and likely to entertain and inform anyone concerned with Irish affairs. Professor John A. Murphy, of University College, Cork, has agreed to give the first lecture. Subsequent lectures will be given by Professor Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh, University College, Galway, Professor Marianne Elliot, University of Liverpool and Dr Art Cosgrove, President of University College Dublin. At the end of each evening it's hoped to hold a reception at which wine will be served, thus following the highly successful formula of the TCD series.

While the BAIS has taken responsibility for the general arrangements it is receiving considerable assistance from the alumni associations of the colleges themselves and an organising committee has been formed consisting of three chairmen of these associations, plus three representatives of the BAIS. In addition, the alumni organisations of both UCD and TCD have pledged their support for the lectures which form part of a year-long London celebration of the anniversary. The proposal does of course offer an opportunity for a unique form of North-South co-operation appropriate to the times.

Further details will be available in late summer.

Contact: Bob Bell ,
The School of Education,
Open University,
Milton Keynes MK7 8AA
or from any of the Irish University
Alumni Association Secretaries.

Bob Bell



Photo: Lance Pettitt

BAIS Council and Standing Committee Members

CHAIR

Seán Hutton, 69A Balfour Street London SE17 1PL Tel: 0171-916 2733

SECRETARY

Dr James McAuley, The University of Huddersfield, Queensgate, Huddersfield HD1 3DH
Tel: 0484 422288 Fax: 0484 472794

TREASURER

Dr Tom Dooley, 142, Rydal Crescent, Perrivale, Middlesex, UB6 8EQ

MEMBERSHIP

Ms Valerie Smith (*Convenor*), 16, Glenpark Drive, Churchtown, Southport, Merseyside, PR9 9FA
Dr James McAuley (*address as above*)

IRISH LANGUAGE STANDING COMMITTEE

Ms Caít Thompson (*Convenor*), 36 Evenlode Crescent Coundon Coventry CV6 1BP

EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr John Woodhurst (*Convenor*), Newark and Sherwood College, Friary Road, Newark, Notts NG24 1PB
(Tel. 01636 705921)

Dr Bob Bell, School of Education, The Open University, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA

Dr Mervyn Busteed, Department of Geography, University of Manchester

Mr Nessian Danaher, Soar Valley College, Gleneagles Ave., Leicester, LE4 7GY

Dr Christine Kinealy, University of Liverpool.

CONFERENCE AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE

Ms Eleanor Burgess (*Convenor*), Mulberries, Boreham, Chelmsford, Essex

Dr Paul Stewart, Business School, College of Cardiff, University of Wales, Cardiff

Dr Mary Hickman, Irish Studies Centre, University of North London

Dr J McAuley (*as above*)

PUBLISHING

Dr Lance Pettitt (*Convenor*), St Mary's University College, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham TW1 4SX
Tel: 0181-892 0051 Ext. 301

Dr Paul Stewart, Business School, College of Cardiff, University of Wales, Cardiff

Dr Neil Sammells, Department of English, Bath College of HE, Newton Park, Bath BA2 9BN

Dr J McAuley (*as above*)

Dr Graham Davis, Bath College of Higher Education

BAIS Biennial Conference

Representing and Re-Presenting Ireland

8th - 10th September 1995
at the University of Sunderland

The BAIS's Biennial Irish Studies Conference provides an opportunity for the presentation of recently completed or work in progress to an interested audience. It also offers a forum in which debate can take place across a variety of subject areas and issues. In addition, and in no way least important, it offers an occasion where those with specific and generalist interests in Irish Studies can meet over a weekend in convivial atmosphere and pleasant surroundings.

The BAIS Council and the conference committee have given considerable thought to making this an enjoyable conference with something of interest for everybody. Don't miss this opportunity. Reserve your place now. We look forward to seeing you there.



Eleanor Burgess, Conference Co-ordinator

The Programme

Friday 8th September

- 2.30 (onwards) **Arrival and Registration**
3.30 AGM of the Association (*Members only*)
4.30 Tea

5.00 **Sunderland's Irish Neighbours**

Chair: Tony Hepburn, University of Sunderland

Post-Famine Irish Communities in North-East England

Frank Neal, University of Salford

Principle, Party and Protest: the Language of Victorian Orangeism in the North of England

Don Mac Raild, University of Sunderland

Researching the Tyneside Irish in the First World War

Pamela Armstrong

- 7.00 Bar
7.30 Evening Meal
8.15 Irish Guitar Playing Styles,
Gerry Smyth
9.00 Live Music in Wearmouth Hall

Saturday 9th September

- 9.00 Three concurrent sessions,
A. History, B. Social Sciences, C. Literature.

A. History

Imagining the early Diaspora

Steve Mills, Keele University

Different Documents - Different Story?

A Gendered Perspective on Irish History,

Margaret Ward, Bath College of Higher Education.

Colonialism in Irish and Australian Art 1788-1945

Cyril Barrett, Campion Hall, Oxford.

Irishmen or English Soldiers:

Waterford City and the Recruitment into the British Army during the First World War

Tom Dooley, London.

The Representation of Post-Famine Ireland 1852-60,
Glen Hooper, University College, Dublin.

B. Social Science

Ulster Protestant Identities

Ulrich Kockel, Máiréad Nic Craith and Andrew Everitt,
University of Liverpool

The Silence of the Lambs: British Sociology, Social Policy, Criminology and the North of Ireland Problem

Paddy Hillyard, University of Bristol

Where is the Multi in Cultural Studies? A Case Study of Irishness in the Community

John Gabriel and Julie Nugent, University of Birmingham

Playing 'the Other': Mediation of the the 1994 football World Cup and the construction of Irish cultural identity in Birmingham

Marcus Free, University of Wolverhampton.

Beyond male and state boundaries: Stretching Irish national narratives

Breda Gray, Lancaster University.

C. Literature

Hubert Butler: From Leningrad to Lilliput,

Kate Bateman and Eleanor Burgess

Re-presenting the Male:

Contemporary Fictions of Irish Masculinity

Tim Middleton, University College of Ripon and York St John

In name only: Joyce in the Institution

Gerry Smyth, Liverpool

11.15 Coffee

1.00 Lunch

2.15 The Peace Process in Northern Ireland

Chair: Mervyn Busted, University of Manchester

Loyalism and the Peace Process

Jim McAuley, University of Huddersfield and

Paul Stewart, University of Wales, Cardiff.

A Nationalist Perspective

Mark McGovern, Edgehill College

The Political Economy of the Peace Process

Peter Shirlow, Queen's University, Belfast.

4.00 Tea

4.15 Drama

Chair: Eleanor Burgess

The Lyric Theatre: Austin Clarke and Verse Drama in 1940s Dublin

Mary Thompson, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra.

5.00 Dramatic Reading of an Austin Clarke Play

Hugh Keegan et al, Newcastle Upon Tyne.

7.00 Reception

8.00 Conference Dinner

10.00 Live Music

John Burnett, University of Sunderland (bagpipes),

Peter Kirby, University of Sunderland and

Liam Webster (fiddle and concertina).

Sunday 10th September

9.30 Famine Studies

Chair: John Woodhurst, Newark and Sherwood College

Re-presenting the Famine

Christine Kinealy, University of Liverpool

10.00 Paddy, the Potato and Mr Punch

Kevin Whelan, University College, Dublin

10.30 The Connaught District Lunatic Asylum 1845-50,

Oonagh Walsh, LSU College, Southampton

11.00 Coffee

11.15 Women and the Great Famine

David Fitzpatrick, Trinity College, Dublin.

11.45 The Famine World-wide: the Irish Famine and the International Development of Famine Theory

Patrick O'Sullivan, University of Bradford.

12.15 Open Forum

1.00 Lunch and Disperse.

BOOKING INFORMATION

Total cost of the conference will be:

£83 for members

(to include all fees, meals and accommodation at the University)

£93 for non-members (as above).

Pro-rata adjustments can be made for those not requiring accommodation.

BOOKING ENQUIRIES

Professor A.C. Hepburn,

School of Social and International Studies,

University of Sunderland,

1-4 Thornhill Park, Sunderland SR2 7JZ

Tel: 0191-5152000

Cheques payable to "BAIS" please.

Irish Dimensions in British Education

The 12th Annual Conference
Soar Valley College, Leicester - April 1995

*'An enjoyable and informative conference with lectures
and workshops of the highest academic quality'.*

These kind words are from one of several similar letters received by the organisers of this recent (and now long-standing) event, hosted by the Irish Studies Workshop at Soar Valley Community College, Leicester. The Workshop is rooted in both Adult-Community and Secondary education. It reaches out, deliberately and regularly, to other sectors, such as Primary and Higher education. Our commitment is to make quality academic material available to the widest possible audience, in a relaxed but organised format. To this end, speakers and workshop leaders are approached not only for their knowledge and intellect, but also with due regard to their communication skills.

Going on both formal and informal feedback, the 150 or so participants at this year's one day conference went home with their hopes fulfilled. Given our diasporic situation it is policy always to embrace some aspect of the Irish experience outside Ireland whatever their tradition. Steven Fielding (University of Salford) investigated Irish Catholics in England 1880-1939, probing the question: did they have a 'A Viable Identity'? Contrary to much popular and received wisdom, Fielding indicated clearly the subtleties and complexity of an ongoing Catholic Irish identity in England across this period.

This topic received further useful consideration in a number of the participatory workshops. Joe Bradley (Caledonian University, Glasgow), explored the Irish in Scotland in terms of their 'hidden identity' (see his forthcoming book *Ethnic and Religious Identity in Modern Scotland*, Avebury Press). The geographical spread of topics was enhanced by an illustrated examination of 'Ireland Through the Eyes of the World', especially in Chicago (1893) and New York (1939) by Steve Mills (University of Keele).

Two further explorations of the Irish experience in Britain were also offered. Josephine Feeney, a Leicester school-teacher and successful new author, looked at modern second-

generation Irish fiction, using her own recent publication, *My Family and Other Natural Disasters* (Viking Press £8.99; Puffin £3.50 [suitable for KS3 and KS4 English NC]). This was complemented by a fascinating and unusual presentation, employing visual and artefact evidence, on the importance of the 'Archaeology of the Irish Clay Pipe' regarding Irish settlement patterns in Britain in the 19th century. This neglected topic was introduced to us by Peter Hammond, an east Midlands-based doctoral researcher.

The direct needs of 11-16 year old pupils and their teachers were addressed by two workshops, offered by Shelagh Lewis (Adult Education lecturer, Bucks LEA) and by Kevin Anderson. Respectively, these inputs tackled 'Celtic Ireland and Roman Britain', aimed at KS2 of the NC, and the Anglo-Irish relationship as experienced through the development of the Mapping Project, which involves schools in London and Warrington.

Contemporary political concerns were not ignored. A splendidly researched and wide-ranging audio-visual presentation was delivered as a main lecture by Belinda Loftus (Arts and Cultural Officer, Down District Council). Her theme was 'Mirrors: Orange and Green: Popular Art in Northern Ireland'. This was based on her book of the same title (Picture Press, 1994, £9.95). A breath of fresh air, in terms of Irish historiography was provided by Liz Curtis, who based her workshop on her recent publication, *The Cause of Ireland* (Beyond the Pale Publications, 1994, £12.95). Entitled, 'Women, Workers and Peasants in the Cause of Irish Independence' her workshop provoked extensive debate and thoughtful discussion. The current Anglo-Irish 'Peace Process' featured in Kevin Bean's analysis of recent developments in the strategy and ideology of Republicanism.

Other workshop topics included studies of Irish women suffragettes (Louise Ryan, University of Central Lancashire), recent writing in Irish (Gabriel Rosenstock of An Gum publishing) and the painted carts and wagons of the travellers (David Smith, Traveller Research Project). John Kelly, the Belfast-based poet, read from his recent collection *Grace Notes and Bad Thoughts* (1994).

On the 'active learning' front, our gratitude is due to those who led the traditional music and dance workshop sessions: Carmel Commins (button accordion), Theresa Coleman (flute, violin, sean nos), Marie O'Reilly (harp, keyboards and vocals) and Maureen Danaher (set dancing).

As far as we could tell, the organisation, programme and catering arrangements met with general approval. For the obvious reasons, our gratitude goes especially to our major

sponsors: Leicester City Council, East Midlands Arts, the British Association of Irish Studies, Bank of Ireland and the Department of Foreign Affairs. The Workshop runs the Irish Studies Programme throughout the year with classes in Irish Studies, the Irish language and set/ceili dancing. Telephone 0116-2669625 for further information.

Nessan Danaher

Irish Studies-Related Courses

FURTHER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

(Note: not all these lead to examinations)

Centre for Extra-Mural Studies, Birkbeck College, London

Contact: *Sein Hutton 0171 916-2733*

Hammersmith Irish Centre, Blacks Rd.,

Hammersmith, London W6

Contact: *Ros Scanlon 0181 563-8232*

Irish Studies Workshop, Soar Valley College, Leicester

Contact: *Nessan Danaher 01533 669625 ext 246*

Kensington & Chelsea College, Wornington Rd.,

London W10 5QQ

Contact: *Ivan Gibbons 0171 351-7127*

Newark & Sherwood College, Friary Rd., Newark,

Nottingham NG2 IPB

Contact: *John Woodhurst 01636 705921*

The Working Men's & Women's College, 44 Crowndale Rd,

London NW1 ITR

Contact: *Jon Parry 0171 387-2037*

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES IN IRISH STUDIES

ARE CURRENTLY OFFERED AT:

Centre for Irish Studies, St Mary's University College,

Strawberry Hill, Twickenham TW1 4SX

Contact: *Jim O'Hara 0181 892-0051 ext 301*

Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool,

1 Abercromby Sq., Liverpool L69 3BX

Contact: *Dr Patrick Buckland 0151 794-3831*

Irish Studies Centre, University of North London,

1 Prince of Wales Rd, London NW5 3LB

Contact: *Jackie Harnett 0171 753-5018*

FROM AUTUMN 1995, NEW UNDERGRADUATE

PROGRAMMES IN IRISH STUDIES WILL BE

OFFERED AT:

Irish Studies Centre, Bath College of Higher Education,

Newton Park, Bath BA2 9BN

Contact: *Dr Graham Davis 01225 873701*

University of Luton, 75 Castle St., Luton LU1 3AJ

Contact: *John Brannigan 01582 34111*

Birmingham Irish Festival

Birmingham had a St Patrick's Day to remember this year, with the launch of its first Irish festival. A diverse range of cultural events packed the four day festival, making history in this first major celebration of Irish culture in the city since the notorious Birmingham Pub Bombings of 1974.

Highlights included an Open Day of Irish culture featuring displays and workshops on everything from set dancing to making soda bread! There was also a series of exhibitions that included the re-creation of an Irish kitchen from the 1940s, a day of Irish film and a host of traditional and contemporary music acts.

New Irish drama was also previewed with performances from a locally-based, second-generation theatre company. There was also the Midlands launch of 'Working Lives', a book published by *The Irish Post*, which looks at the life of the Irish in England. Anne Houlohan, editor of the collection, and contributors Eileen O'Boyd, a Manchester actress, and Donal Ruane, a young Irish film maker led a lively discussion on Ireland's contribution to the English arts scene.

Birmingham has one of the largest Irish communities in England and the Festival was a successful celebration of Irish culture in the Midlands. The Festival committee looks forward to planning bigger and even better events for next year.

Julie Nugent

A New Irish Centre for Hammersmith and Fulham

The newly built Irish Centre in Blacks Road, Hammersmith now has an Events Organiser. Rosalind Scanlon is an ex-St Mary's University College graduate and second generation Irish. She is eager to put the Centre on the Irish social and cultural map.

Her background includes working as a playwright and as an Arts consultant and producer on Irish projects throughout Britain and Ireland. She organised the major festival, 'A Sense of Ireland' at the Riverside Studios in 1988, and last year she was responsible for their Irish film festival. She also won the Irish Post Award for her contribution to Irish Arts.

Rosalind intends to make the Centre the heart of the Irish community and cultural activity in west London. She will offer a balance of traditional and contemporary events, making use of the flexible design of the building to present theatre, concerts, exhibitions, lectures and much more. She has already begun by setting up a wide range of Irish Studies classes on history, literature and language.

The Centre is funded by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

For further information contact Ros on Tel: 0181-563 8232 or Fax: 0181-563 8233

Editors

IRISH STUDIES CENTRE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH LONDON Occasional Papers Series

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Ellen Hazlekorn ISBN 1 85377 1139

Working Wives and Working Mothers: A Comparative
Study of Irish and Eastern European Jewish married
women's work and motherhood in East London 1870-1914
Lara Marks ISBN 1 85377 1147

The Housing of the Irish in London
(Updated and revised edition)
Christopher Bennett ISBN 1 85377 118X

Ireland and the Iconography of Rape: Colonisation,
Constraint and Gender *Sabina Sharkey* ISBN 1 85377 1686

(Continued on next page)

NORTHERN IRELAND. WHAT NEXT?

The Irish Studies Centre at the University of North London has hosted the first major conference on Northern Ireland since the publication by the British and Irish governments of the Framework Documents. The two-day conference, 'Northern Ireland. What Next?', took place on 3rd and 4th March and brought together academics, politicians, journalists and members of the Irish communities in Britain.

In the autumn of 1994 Dr Mary Hickman, Director of the Irish Studies Centre, took the initiative to arrange a conference in the atmosphere created by the two cease fires of August and October last. Her aim was two-fold: to enable the Irish communities in London to have access to and participate in the debates about the future for Northern Ireland; and to create a forum in Britain to bring together in public debate a wide range of academics, politicians, journalists and others who have a contribution to make about what happens next in Northern Ireland. The conference was organised because Northern Ireland is an issue of concern for Irish communities in Britain, a fact often neglected in the coverage of the Irish-American response to the peace process, and especially in London where a quarter of a million people from either Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland now live.

The conference was a unique occasion and successfully brought together speakers from across the political spectrum in Northern Ireland. As speaker after speaker pointed out it was a conference which would have been impossible less than a year ago. The Irish Ambassador and over 200 people were present to hear a wide range of opinions expressed both in plenary sessions and on workshop panels. The accent

throughout was on creating space for audience participation and this produced many fascinating debates. The point of all the discussion was to consider what next for Northern Ireland if the current peace is to be turned into a lasting one?

Among the speakers were John Hume, the SDLP leader, Chris McGimpsey, the Ulster Unionist who represents the Shankill Road area of loyalist West Belfast, David Ervine, Progressive Unionist Party, Mitchel McLaughlin, Sinn Féin, Gregory Campbell, Democratic Unionist Party, Marjorie Mowlam, the Shadow Minister for Northern Ireland, Dr Martin Mansergh, Head of Research, Fiánna Fáil and former advisor to Albert Reynolds, Mary Banotti, MEP, Paul Bew, Tom Hadden and Eamonn Hughes of Queen's University, Brendan O'Leary, LSE, Alpha Connelly, UCD, Antony Alcock, University of Ulster, Ellen Hazelkorn, Dublin Institute of Technology, Calum MacDonald, MP, Michael Maguire, associate, Touche-Ross, Belfast, Suzanne Breen, Irish Times, Ronan Bennett, author, Paul Bradford, Fine Gael, Larry Robinson, US embassy, London.

'This conference has become a part of history and we must learn from it,' Mo Mowlam said. The Irish Studies Centre intends to produce a Conference Report as soon as possible.

Jackie Harnett

Details of the date of publication and the price can be obtained from: Jackie Harnett, Administrator, Irish Studies Centre, University of North London, 1, Prince of Wales Road, London NW5 3LB. Tel: 0171-753 5018 Fax: 0171-753 7069

Occasional Papers Series (Continued)

Historical and Recent Irish Emigration: A Critique of Coreperiphery and Behavioural Models *Jim Mac Laughlin*
ISBN 1 85377 166X

The Irish Community in Britain: Discrimination, Disadvantage and Racism: An Annotated Bibliography
Cathie Lloyd ISBN 1 85377 1694

New Titles (1995)

Ethnic Identity amongst Young Irish
Middle Class Migrants in London *Mary Kells*

The Irish Community in Britain: Myth or Reality?
Mary J. Hickman

Changing the Tune

Recent Publications on Irish Music

It is unlikely that anyone except a musicologist would nowadays use the term 'Irish music' in the way that 'English music' is understood ie, the works of English composers of symphonies, operas and chamber music or for that matter, French, German or American music. The implication being that outside of Irish 'folk' or 'traditional' music, there is no other kind of 'Irish' music, and that therefore any other music produced within Ireland is i) not Irish, or ii) not of interest to those outside of specialist circles, or iii) more identifiable as general 'European' music. And yet, how does one classify or otherwise identify the work of Irish composers, or the distinctive blend of continental, British and Irish repertoires which characterised so much of Irish concert-hall and theatre life of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, as well as in the present?

This is not a problem of mere terminology but one of attitude consciously developed within Ireland by leaders of nationalist movements whereby all cultural capital, such as music, dancing, 'folklore', sports and language, was mobilised as symbol in the cause of independence and the establishment of an identity separate and distinct from that of what was perceived as dominant English culture.

One of the many consequences of this legacy has been the erection of artificial barriers to a broader more inclusive approach in studies of Irish society. In the case of music, as in other areas of creative activity, it has tended to create a false dichotomy, a bipolar opposition between expressions of artistic imagination within Ireland, as though in emphasising the relative uniqueness of the one (rural, oral-tradition, ancient, 'native', separate, therefore properly 'Irish'), the other (urban, courtly, European, international) had to be denied its birthright.

For a very different perspective, one has only to look to accounts of music performed in the homes of the nobility and the upper classes, for example, as described by Turlough O'Carolan (1670-1738), or to the recollections of John O'Keeffe from the 1820s, and the many observations of the repertoires of urban street musicians of the past two hundred years, to recognise that Irish expressions in music, past and present, have always manifested an easy accommodation of many

different styles and traditions, and that attempts to drive a wedge between them do not have anything to do with trying to understand their history, or Irish history, for that matter.

While certain more enlightened members of the scholarly community have resisted overly neat classifications, there has been little possibility of introducing debate, whether in publications or through teaching or broadcasting. But there are signs of change of which one of the most enterprising has been the launching of the series *Irish Musical Studies*, under the general editorship of Gerard Gillen and Harry White. Two volumes have now been published: one on *Musicology in Ireland*, (1990); and a second on *Music and the Church*, (1993). The third in the series, entitled *Music and Cultural History in Ireland*, is shortly due to appear.

Irish Musical Studies Volume 1 contains sixteen contributions of which six relate primarily to Irish source materials: a history and analysis of the symphonic poem, *The Children of Lir* by Belfast-born composer, Hamilton Harty (1879-1941), by David Greer; two essays on topics in Irish traditional music: an analysis of rhythm, pitch and structure as insight into the creative process in Irish dance music, by Mícheál Súilleabháin, and of the history of the ballad, *The Lass of Aughrim*, by Hugh Shields; and two on aspects of the history of music instruments and their use in Ireland (a subject generally referred to as organology); a review of instruments in medieval Ireland based on archaeological finds and iconographic representations, particularly from the ninth/tenth century high crosses and twelfth-century metalwork, by Ann Buckley, and makers and repertoires for the flageolet in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Ireland, based on a survey of holdings in the National Library in Dublin, by Barra Boydell. The latter is nicely complemented by Brian Boydell with a survey of repertoires and changing tastes in music performed at the Rotunda Gardens in Dublin during the period 1771-91, based largely on documents held in the Rotunda archives.

Of the thirteen contributions in the second volume, eleven are addressed directly or indirectly to religious music and its environs, and include: the search for the Celtic Rite (Patrick Brannon), nationalism and the debate on the origins and

nature of Irish music (Joseph J. Ryan), religious songs in Irish (Nóirín Ní Riain, Breandán and Madagáin), the musical experiences of Hugh O'Neill and his party on their way to Rome following the Flight of the Earls in 1607 (Noel O'Regan), the Cecilian Movement in Ireland (Harry White and Nicholas Lawrence), Victorian organs in Ireland (Gerard Gillen), repertoires of organists at St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (Andrew Johnstone); and a review of Gerard Victory's work, *Ultima Rerum* (Anne Murphy).

The study of institutions and repertoires of music in urban society of the eighteenth to early twentieth centuries is beginning to take a clearly distinctive form. This is highlighted in particular by Irish Academic Press's publication of two books of Brian Boydell's, *A Dublin Musical Calendar 1700-1760* (1988) and *Rotunda Music in eighteenth-century Dublin* (1992) as well as Oxford University Press's recent posthumous issue of T.J. Walsh's study of *Opera in Dublin 1798-1820* (1993) (complementing an earlier volume covering the period 1705-1797 (Dublin 1973). The journal *Eighteenth-Century Ireland* also contains regular contributions on the topic of music.

Boydell and Walsh, together with Anne Beedell (*The Decline of the English Musician 1788-1888. A Family of English Musicians in Ireland, England Mauritius and Australia*, 1992), offer surveys of Irish theatrical and concert life based on a gathering of primary source materials in library holdings, newspapers and journals. They are each in their own way rich in statistical information and narrative detail, and together represent a solid and long-needed survey of documents. Hugh Shields provides a rich account in his *Narrative Singing in Ireland. Lays, Ballads, Come-all-yes and other Songs* (1993), where there is considerable focus on performers, their lifestyles, opinions and activities, and a concluding chapter on a whole complex of topics concerning social change, urbanisation, folk revivalism, and more.

We look forward to more titles and to a continuing development of research and discussion on all aspects of music in Ireland, a subject where broader and more inclusive approaches are long overdue.

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Ann Buckley

Re-Vamping Dracula?

The arrival of Neil Jordan's *Interview with a Vampire* on cinema screens earlier this year marked another resurfacing of the Gothic in film. This reinvention of the vampire myth followed in the wake of Francis Ford Coppola's *Dracula* and Kenneth Branagh's *Frankenstein* to name just two. Adapted for the screen by Anne O'Brien Rice from her cult-status book, *Interview* sought to disrupt the hegemony of Bram Stoker's *Dracula* by dismissing it as 'the vulgar fictions of a demented Irishman'.

Despite this, *Interview* shares many tropes in common with it. The pagan/Christian dichotomy of *Dracula* is replaced in *Interview* with a dialectic concerning (in)humanity and remorse. A strain of Catholicism informs the Rice/Jordan collaboration whereby Stoker's basic sin on the soul is replaced by guilt in the mind. The panorama of good versus evil is overthrown in favour of the intimate relationships between a gender-unspecific family of blood junkies. The innocence and experience of Stoker's Mina and Lucy coalesce in the natural born killer Claudia (Kirsten Dunst). This child-woman is visual testimony to the potency of her Victorian antecedents. The complex sexuality found in *Dracula* is also to be found in *Interview* but questions of homosexuality and homoeroticism are ignored despite literally staring us in the face.

In the stylish and sensual Rice/Jordan universe the androgenous blood-suckers continually strive to explode the cult of the vampire expounded by Stoker. The priest, garlic, stake and mirror are dismissed in favour of dead youths, Cajun alligators and pyromania. The effects of sunlight and decapitation are retained so that we are left with the lore of a demented Irish-American mixed with the more traditional remedies of the famed demented Irishman.

Jordan's film also deals with the theme of colonisation found in Stoker's masterpiece. In both the vampire is the coloniser, immuring victims in images of itself, but is simultaneously the Wandering Jew, the dispossessed Melmoth, in effect the colonised. The difference between Jordan and Stoker lies in the fact that Stoker's Euro-vamps embody ancient allegories, primordial struggles and notions of Empire biting back, whilst Jordan depicts Rice's vampires as secular, sanitised and American. The plantation owner Louis (Brad Pitt) is created anew by the decadent Lestat (Tom Cruise) and, in one uplifting moment, the master is transformed into the slave of his undead seducer. The responsibility of the creator for his creations and the ensuing usurpation of the originator's power by his progeny inverts the construct found in Stoker where the threat comes from the exterior powers of light and not from inside the undead family group. Jordan's stateside vampires, however erotic and intriguing they may be, do not exude the primal historicity of Stoker's arch-revenant, Count Dracula.

Whilst it is impossible to cover the extensive scope and vision of *Interview* here, it is possible to show some of the debt it owes to *Dracula*. Form, however, the most interesting aspect of Rice, Jordan and Stoker is the uniting factor of Irishness. From Le Fanu's *Carmilla* and Boucicault's *The Vampire* to Rice's *Vampire Chronicles* there seems to be an Irish interest in the life-imbibing revenant. Now, with this Hollywood blockbuster from a director who claims that Ireland informs all he does, the relationship between Irish experience and the vampire legend is once again asserted.

Kathleen McGillycuddy

Treasurer's Report

Accounts for the 1995 financial year have been prepared, audited and a statement sent off to the Charity Commission. The statement has been re-formatted for publication in the *Newsletter*, and appears on the following pages.

BAIS now operates a total of three accounts: two Allied Irish Banks (AIB) accounts, managed centrally by the Treasurer, and a Lloyds Bank account, managed by Caít Thompson on behalf of the Irish Language Committee. As at 31 March 1995, the central accounts were £18,482 in credit, and the Irish Language account was £1,731 in credit. This amounts to a total credit balance of £20,213.

An Irish government grant, and two grants from the Irish Embassy's Cultural Relations Committee, ensured this relatively healthy financial state.

The main activity during the year was that of furthering the Irish language, and organising the annual Irish language conference in October 1994. The organiser, Caít Thompson, generates her own income and manages her own finances. As can be seen from the Irish Language committee's financial statement, she has been extremely effective in doing this. It also keeps her very busy.

BAIS also sponsored the Soar Valley Irish Studies workshops in March 1994 and April 1995, to a total cost of £1,000.

Four editions of the high quality journal, *Irish Studies Review*, and two editions of a greatly improved and enlarged BAIS *Newsletter*, were circulated to each member. The high cost of the *Irish Studies Review* resulted from unpaid 1994 invoices being carried over to 1995.

A number of cost-reducing measures were taken during the year. The central office was vacated and equipment sold off, the charity now being managed on a voluntary basis by trustees and co-opted committee members working from home. A free venue for council meetings has been arranged, eliminating room hire charges. And expenses claimable by officers have been restricted, reducing the cost of council meetings. Arrangements have also been made for accounts

to be audited free of charge, while still meeting the requirements of the Charity Acts.

The charity's financial management structure has also been rationalised. Petty Cash and Conference accounts have been closed and the funds transferred to the centrally managed accounts. AIB have waived future bank and interest charges, and have refunded some charges retrospectively.

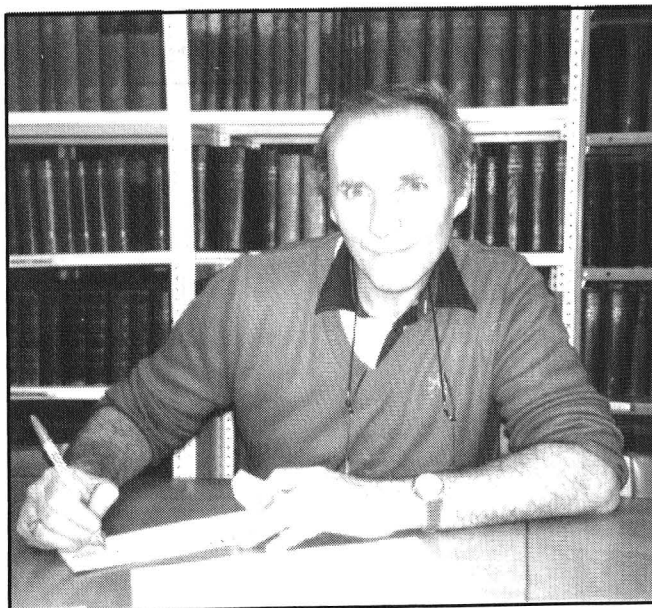
Membership currently stands at around 260. Approximately 15 new members were recruited during the year. Membership fees have been increased to £20 for waged members, £12 for unwaged members and £40 for corporate members.

However, the number renewing membership subscriptions has been low, a probable result of administrative procedures being disrupted when the central office was vacated. As a result, income from this source did not cover the basic costs of membership. Increasing membership numbers and establishing an effective membership database and an administrative mechanism which ensures prompt requests for subscription renewal is a priority for 1995-6.

Three income-generating projects, the biennial BAIS conference at Sunderland University, a lecture series at the British Academy in London, and a Famine Education Pack, are planned for 1995-6. Sponsors for the two latter activities are being sought.

Tom Dooley

Treasurer



BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR IRISH STUDIES

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1995

Balances brought forward

	£
AIB Summit account	2,871.93
AIB Current account	486.18
Lloyds Treasurers account	4,397.85
	<u>£7,755.96</u>
Irish Government grant (Irish Sailors' and Soldiers' Land Trust Fund)	20,191.21
Irish Embassy grants (Cultural Relations Committee)	1,469.00
EU Lingua grant	3,088.60
Irish Language Committee	3,055.18
Interest	66.82
Membership subscriptions	1,948.11
Sale of office furniture/equipment	130.00
Refunded office deposit/ rent	529.38
Refunded telephone payment	43.16
Balance of closed Petty Cash account	7.80
Balance of closed Conference account	108.45
Refunded AIB Bank charges/interest	331.74
Refund: printing of BAIS Newsletter payment	108.00
Sundries	20.80

£38,854.21

	£
Office rent	393.74
Electricity	7.87
Telephone/fax	329.60
Postage	99.00
Stationery	14.00
Photocopying	28.01
Refreshment/hospitality	123.38
Bank charges/interest	129.07
Account/audit charges	517.00
Remove filing cabinets to storage	80.00
Room hire	388.00
Travel expenses	1,217.44
<i>Irish Studies Review</i>	3,754.00
<i>BAIS Newsletter</i>	1,112.39
Soar Valley Conference	1,000.00
Irish Language Committee	9,363.65
BAIS Conference '95	54.79
Sundries	29.00
	<u>£18,640.94</u>

Balances carried forward

AIB Summit a/c	18,423.09
AIB Current a/c	59.18
Lloyds Treas. a/c	1,731.00
	<u>£20,213.27</u>
	<u>£38,854.21</u>

The Irish Language Committee accounts, although included in the general BAIS statement of accounts above, are, for the benefit of those who may be interested, separated out below:

IRISH LANGUAGE COMMITTEE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1995

Balances brought forward

	£		£
Lloyds Treasurers account	4,397.85	Fees, accommodation & lecturer expenses	4,947.00
Closed Building Society a/c	605.18	Travel expenses	955.35
EU Lingua grant	3,088.60	Conference hotel costs	3,066.30
Cultural Relations grant	494.00	Refreshment/hospitality	10.00
Conference attendees fees	2,450.00	Projector hire	23.26
Interest	59.02	Conference badges	8.52
		Printing	27.38
		Photocopying	4.00
		Stationery	4.30
		Postage	22.54
		Word processor	295.00
			<hr/>
			£9,363.65
		Balance carried forward	
		Lloyds Treasurers a/c	1,731.00
			<hr/>
	<hr/>		£11,094.65
	£11,094.65		<hr/>

Membership and Subscription Rates

New membership fees for the Association were agreed at the June 1994 Council Meeting which took effect from 1st January 1995. They still represent exceedingly good value for money for an Association of this size and nature.

Membership runs from January to January:

Students/Unwaged	£12
Waged	£20
Corporate/Institution	£40

All Overseas Applications should include a £2 supplement to cover our postage costs. If you are sending remittances from outside the UK please make sure that you send it in the form of sterling money order only.

Only Cheques or standing order arrangement are acceptable (no cash) to:

Dr Tom Dooley (Honorary Treasurer)
British Association of Irish Studies
142, Rydal Crescent
Perivale, Middlesex UR6 8EQ
England

Benefits

- 4 issues of Irish Studies Review (worth £12) posted to you
- 2 issues (January, July) of a 32 page BAIS *Newsletter* posted to you
- Institutional Membership now includes two copies of each *ISR* and *Newsletter* issue
- Biennial Conference to be held this September (8-10th) at University of Sunderland
- Communication with a network of nearly 300 members with Irish Studies interests

Dates of Forthcoming Council Meetings and the Annual General Meeting

19th August (Council) London
8th-10th September (Council/AGM) Sunderland
25th November (Council) London

Application Form for BAIS

1 (a) New member (tick box) ☐

Please enrol me/my institution as a member of the BAIS or

(b) Renewing Membership (tick box) ☐

Please renew my membership of the BAIS.

I enclose a cheque/order for (tick one box below)

Individual Waged £20 ☐

Student/Unwaged £12 ☐

Institution £40 ☐

2 Preferred title (eg Ms, Dr, Mr, Mrs)

Surname Initials

Address

.....

.....

Town Postcode

Please make cheques or orders (no cash) payable to **BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR IRISH STUDIES.**

4 **STANDING ORDER PAYMENT FOR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION TO BAIS (Fill in your details below)**

Surname Initials

Address

.....

.....

Town Postcode

To: The Manager Bank plc Branch

Address

.....

.....

Town Postcode

Please pay to the BAIS Deposit Account (No.40196-154) of the AIB Bank, City Branch, Cavendish House, Waterloo Street, Birmingham, B2 5PP, Bank Sort Code 23 / 84 / 87, the sum of £

1st January each year beginning on the 1st January 1995 at debit of my account

at Bank plc

Address

Postcode Bank Sort Code

This order cancels any previous order which you may hold payable to BAIS.

Signed Date

Send this completed form to:

Dr Tom Dooley, Honorary Treasurer, BAIS, 142, Rydal Crescent, Perrivale, UB6 8EQ England

For Office Use Only: Date Received / / 95

Obituary

NINA HELWEG (HUTCHISON)

Nina Helweg, who died on 18 November 1994, was a member of the Association over a number of years until the progress of illness made her, in her own words, "careless about such things". Born on 2 April 1943, she was the daughter of Laurence Gilliam, Head of the Features Department in the BBC, and his wife Marianne Helweg. In 1953, following W R (Bertie) Rogers' marriage to Marianne, Nina acquired the Ulster poet and ex-Presbyterian minister as a stepfather. She was educated chiefly at Sudbury High School and Trinity College, Dublin, and she was briefly married to a fellow TCD student, Robert Hutchison.

In New York in the late '60s and early '70s she was influenced by the ideas and practice of the American 'New Left' and following her return to London in 1975 she was active in the libertarian socialist Big Flame movement. Her involvement with Irish issues began in New York and was deepened by her research for Irish Women Speak - which contained contributions from women in the nationalist and loyalist communities of Northern Ireland. Back in England, she was active in Troops Out, in campaigns against strip-searching, and in organisations for the support of Irish political prisoners in Britain and their families.

Nina had trained as a teacher, and worked in schools in New York and London. She was concerned with the cultural appropriateness of school curricula, and had a special empathy with disadvantaged pupils, including those whose race or ethnicity were inadequately

represented in the curriculum. As a teacher in the London borough of Southwark, she was involved in securing the provision of materials for Black and Irish pupils; and was co-ordinator of the Education Group of the Southwark Irish Forum, a body she helped to set up in 1989. She was also an organiser of the 'Now We're Talking' Irish oral history project and exhibition, based on the experiences of Irish people in North Southwark and Lambeth.

The achievements and exploits of that talented group of broadcasters including her father, Bertie Rogers, Louis MacNeice, and David Thomson (author of the incomparable *Woodbrook*), were of abiding interest to her, and she was one of the chief organisers of the memorial for David Thomson in Dublin in 1989. Irish music and traditional singing were among her enthusiasms and she was a regular attendee at the Derry Festival. Latterly, she had begun to spend holidays at Southwold, which held memories of her Suffolk childhood.

Despite a strenuous life of commitment, Nina had kept a wide range of friendships in repair and the attendance at her funeral and memorial was representative of the varied aspects of her life. Her death at a time when developments within Ireland and in Anglo-Irish relations create the possibility of new beginnings and relationships between communities - provided opportunities are nurtured with generosity and imagination - represents an especially sad loss.

Seán Hutton

Contributors to this Issue

Bob Bell is a Lecturer in the School of Education at The Open University and a member of the BAIS Education Standing Committee

Ann Buckley lectures at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge

Eleanor Burgess is the BAIS Conference Co-Ordinator

Madeleine Casey is a postgraduate student at Birmingham University and co-editor of the BAIS Newsletter

Nesran Danaher is a Lecturer at Soar Valley College, Leicester, Co-ordinator of the Irish Studies Workshop and Organiser of the Annual Soar Valley Conference.

Tom Dooley is a Senior Lecturer at Ealing Tertiary College and BAIS Honorary Treasurer

Luc Giraud-Guigues was a postgraduate exchange student at the University of North London and is now completing his National Service in France.

Seán Hutton is the BAIS Chair, Community Care Development Co-Ordinator at the Federation of Irish Societies and writes "Seo agus Siúd" in *The Irish Post*.

Jackie Harnett is the Administrator at the Irish Studies Centre, University of North London.

Kathleen McGillycuddy is currently studying for an MA in Anglo-Irish Literature at University College, Dublin.

Mitchell writes for *The Big Issue* in Bath

Julie Nugent is a postgraduate student and Part-Time Lecturer in Cultural Studies at Birmingham University.

Lance Pettitt is a Lecturer in Irish Studies at St Mary's University College, Strawberry Hill and Convenor of the BAIS Publications Standing Committee.

Carl Thompson is an Irish language teacher and Convenor of the BAIS Standing Committee on Education.

John Woodhurst is a Lecturer at Newark and Sherwood College, Nottingham and Convenor of the BAIS Standing Committee on Education.

Errata: Jon Stallworthy article Issue 6

The editors wish to apologise for the errors appearing in this item. Louis MacNeice died in 1963 not 1986; 'Carrowdore' should have appeared not 'Carrowdale'; 'rag-and-bone shop' should have appeared instead of 'rag and bone yard' and the line from Autumn Journal should have read 'This is no river of the dead, or Lethe'.

New Undergraduate Programme in Irish Studies at Bath College of Higher Education

Bath College of Higher Education is planning to extend its provision of Irish Studies programmes. The College currently offers an MA in Irish Studies, on a full-time and part-time basis. Following the popularity of courses in Irish history and Irish literature in the humanities undergraduate programmes a new Irish Studies half-degree programme is due to start in **October 1995**.

Courses available

**CONQUEST, FAMINE AND CULTURAL RENEWAL
LITERATURE AND SOCIETY IN MODERN IRELAND
SWIFT IN THE AGE OF SATIRE
NINETEENTH-CENTURY IRELAND: NATIONALITY AND EXILE
GENDERED PERSPECTIVES: IRELAND SINCE THE FAMINE
IRELAND IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: CONTINUITY AND CONFLICT
THE IRISH IN BRITAIN SINCE 1815
IRISH WRITING IN ENGLISH
OSCAR WILDE
IRISH STUDIES PROJECT
IRISH STUDIES DISSERTATION**

Attractive features of the new Irish Studies programme will be a student exchange scheme with the University of Limerick and an annual study visit to one of the major cities of Ireland.

Supporting the undergraduate and postgraduate provision in Irish Studies at Bath is the annual lecture series hosted by the Irish Studies Centre and the publication of Irish Studies Review, produced and edited by the Humanities faculty at the College and published four times a year.

For further information please contact:

**Dr Graham Davis,
Irish Studies Centre,
Bath College of Higher Education,
Newton Park,
Newton St. Loe,
Bath BA2 9BN**

Tel: 01225 873701

Fax: 01225 872912.