



- A Main Series of 63 volumes
- A Subsidiary Series of 20 publications
- Annual Seminar in partnership with the Combined Departments of Irish UCC
- Publication of the Locus Project's Historical Dictionary of Gaelic Placenames
- Discounts on ITS and RIA publications for ITS members
- The Noel O'Connell Memorial Lecture (London)

MEMBERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS AND BENEFITS - SOCRAITHE AGUS BUNTÁISTÍ BALLRAÍOCHTA

Membership subscriptions, which are now due for renewal, are as follows: £15 stg.; €23a; \$25 US. The rates for subscriptions which are paid by Banker's Order are: £9; €12; \$15 US. It is worth noting that the cost of membership which is paid for by Banker's Order has not changed since 1987.

We wish to remind members, and other readers of the Newsletter, of the arrangements - concerning purchase of ITS publications and benefits of membership - which were introduced three years ago:

- The two back volume restriction which previously applied has been removed and the discount for members on purchases of all books of the society is now 33% (1/3rd).
- The special prices (normally 50%) for new main series publications will be announced each year and will be available to members for a limited period following publication.
- Arrangements are in place with the Royal Irish Academy (website www.ria.ie) whereby all of their publications will be available to members

of the Irish Texts Society at the same preferential prices which are available to their own members i.e. 33% (1/3rd) discount on the retail price.

- In addition, the Royal Irish Academy's online



book shop is now facilitating our society for online purchasing. Purchases may be made online by members and non-members of the Society. As a member you are authorised to purchase at the discounted price. However, it is necessary for your membership to be up to date and you will be required to use a password "Texts" before you make

purchases online. This password (Texts) will identify you as a member of the Irish Texts Society and your name will then be verified against the list of members for the year on which the transaction takes place.

- Members who do not use the internet or credit cards or who for any other reason wish to purchase books by applying directly to the Honorary Treasurer as heretofore may continue to do so.
- These arrangements are also available for Library Members; however, some adjustments will be agreed with Subscription Agents, and Library Circulation Members.

We welcome any comments, suggestions or observations you wish to make in regard to these arrangements by emailing our Honorary Treasurer.

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AR THÓIR AN DUINNÍNIGH - IN DINNEEN'S FOOTSTEPS



We (Michael Burns, Dr Brendan Bradshaw, and myself - your Honorary Secretary) were on our way from Dublin to Sneem, co. Kerry, in

advance of our attendance at the November 2009 Council Meeting of the ITS at University College, Cork. It was Michael who sug-

gested that we should make a detour to locate the family home of Father P S Dinneen, editor of the Society's renowned Irish-English Dictionary. As we travelled south-westwards, the weather pattern of the next few days established itself: overcast skies, with showers and occasional sunshine.

To assist us in locating our destina-

tion, we had a copy of *An Duinníneach* by Proinsias Ó Conluain and Donncha Ó

Céileachair, with its end-paper maps of Sliabh Luachra. Of the meanings of the word 'sliabh' in Dinneen's own dictionary, "a heathy upland or plain" or "a moor, a piece of moorland" best describe Sliabh Luachra; and it was to common land in this area that the Dinneen family resorted in the early 1850s, having been evicted by a relative - a 'middleman' - from a holding on the Cork side of the Cork-Kerry border.

From our first sighting of the mountains south of Sliabh Luachra, so vividly and eloquently described by the authors (pp. 45-48) - partly reminding one of George Thomson's use of the term 'prose poem' in *Island Home* in relation to the Blasket literature - we knew we were approaching our goal. We knew also, from *An Duinníneach*, that the Irish-language name of the townland to which Dinneen's parents had relocated was An Carn, and that it was situated some three miles south west of Rathmore. So it was in Rathmore that we began to seek directions. Here, in the rain, we initially drew a few blanks; but when, brandishing our lexicographer's biography, we enquired at the well stocked, spick and span hardware emporium, the owner directed us to the house of a member of the Dinneen family, who had been active in the initiative to erect a local memorial to Dinneen. We found her residence without difficulty. The rain had abated; and when we had established that there was no one at home, a friendly black and white collie, who had adopted us, accompanied us as we tried unsuccessfully to rouse someone in any of the three bungalows across the road.

Back on the main road again and travelling westwards, we

came to a left-hand junction which might possibly lead to the Dinneen homestead, and decided to give that a try. We had not gone far when we came to another junction and a complex of sheds and out-buildings. Michael got out of the car into the rain and began to search for someone who might help with directions. Soon he rejoined us in the car with the good news that we were very close to the site, and the bad news that the house had been largely demolished.

First visible evidence that we were close to our goal were two memorials built into a wall where a narrow road, or lane, joined the road on which we were travelling. These were memorials to P S Dinneen and to his brother Joseph, a local folk poet. Turning into this road, or lane, we had not travelled far before we came to the remains of the Dinneen home. Here we were greeted with enthusiasm by a frisky little brindle terrier, from a bungalow on the other side of the lane, who had to be deterred from climbing into the car. Thankfully the rain now ceased once more, so that we were able to take some photos to record our visit, not only of what remained of the house, but of the Paps, Dhá Chích Dhanann, described by Ó Conluain and Ó Céileachair - with some exaggeration - as being "fá urchar méaróige, beagnach, de dhoras an tí" [within almost a stone's throw of the house], as well as of the memorials, still marked by the rain.

Our mission in the footsteps of Dinneen completed, and our curiosity satisfied to a degree, we continued on our journey to Sneem as darkness set in.



11th ITS/UCC SEMINAR, BOOKLAUNCH, BOOKSTALL, PARTNERSHIPS/SEIMINEÁR 2009, LAINSEÁIL LEABHAR, STALLA LEABHAR, COMHPHÁIRTÍOCHT



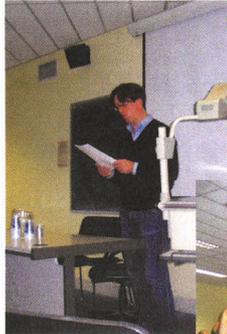
The 11th annual ITS/UCC seminar took place at UCC on 7 November 2009, drawing an excellent attendance. The seminar volumes were Main Series 22-3, *The Bardic Poems of Tadhg Dall Ó hUiginn/ A Bhfuil againn dár chum Tadhg Dall Ó hUiginn*, edited by Eleanor Knott.

Six speakers addressed related aspects of these volumes:

- Dr Marc Caball, 'Politics and identity in 16th century Ireland: the case of Tadhg Dall'
- Dr Eoin Mac Cárthaigh, 'Tadhg Dall's editor and her approach to editing'
- Dr Wilson McLeod, 'Tadhg Dall and Scotland'
- Professor Pádraig Ó Macháin, 'Tadhg Dall Ó hUiginn: sources and subject matter'



- Dr Michelle O Riordan, 'Craft and creativity in Tadhg Dall's poetic persona'
- Dr Katherine Simms, 'The transition from medieval to modern in the poems of Tadhg Dall Ó hUiginn'



It is hoped that the proceedings will, as usual, be launched at the 12th seminar in UCC this November.

Three new ITS publications were launched by Professor Máire Herbert, Honorary General Editor, ITS (see p. 4) at a lunchtime reception, and the Honorary Treasurer, Michael J Burns, ran the customary ITS bookstall.

The seminar represents only one of a number of partnerships and linkages



by which the Society seeks to widen its reach and usefulness. Others referred to in these pages are: the arrangement with the RIA regarding on-line purchase of volumes and member discounts; collaboration with the Locus Project in the publication of

the *Historical Dictionary of Gaelic Placenames/ Foclóir Stairiúil áitmeacha na Gaeilge*, and with the London-based Irish Literary Society around the annual Noel O'Connell Memorial Lecture. On

this page also we have news of an exhibition to take place at the National Library of Ireland to which, thanks to the initiative of Dr Marc Caball, the ITS will contribute on its own history and influence. The Society is also exploring similar possibilities in a number of areas.

Grianghraif ó Sheimineár 2009/
Photos from the 2009 Seminar:

1. Díreach thuas/Immediately above: An Dr Diarmuid Ó Murchadha agus an t-Ollamh Pádraig Ó Riain.
2. Ar aghaidh amach/Opposite—Cainteoirí/Speakers: An Dr Marc Caball, an Dr Wilson McLeod, an Dr Katherine Simms.
3. Thuas ar dheis/Above right: Seolann an t-Ollamh Máire Herbert foilseacháin nua de chuid an Chumainn/ Professor Máire Herbert launches three new ITS publications.
4. Thíos /Below: Stalla leabhar an Chumainn agus Cisteoir Oinigh an Chumainn i mbun díolaíochta/The ITS bookstall - the Honorary Treasurer, Michael J Burns in charge.

Leathanach a 2/Page 2

1. Leachta cuimhneacháin i gcuimhne ar an Athair P S Ó Duinnín agus a dheartháir Seosamh.
2. Michael J Burns ag fothrathigh mhuintir an Duinnínigh/ Michael J Burns at what remains of the Dinneen family home.
3. An radharc ar Dhá Chích Dhanann ón mbóthar ar aghaidh an tí amach/View of the Paps/ Dhá Chích Dhanann from the road running by the family home.

URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER: We regret to announce that, owing to a sudden surge in charges, we shall no longer be able to accept payments for members and volumes by Visa card. We are pleased however to remind you of the facility that exists with The Royal Irish Academy where ITS and RIA books may be obtained at the full membership discount.

Planned Exhibition of interest at the National Library of Ireland September 2010 – February 2011

This exhibition at the NLI will centre on Irish cultural and literary history. A section devoted to the ITS will showcase its achievements and its impact on both Celtic scholarship and more generally. It will provide an overview of the cultural history of the ITS. Further details will be published in due course on the 'events' section of the NLI's website and on that of the ITS.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - DON DIALANN

ITS Noel O'Connell Memorial Lecture (London)

The 2010 Noel O'Connell Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Dr. John Carey, Department of Early and Medieval Irish, University College Cork. Among Dr Carey's publications is *A New Introduction to Lebor Gabála Érenn/The Book of the Taking of Ireland* (ITS 1993). He is the editor of *Lebor Gabála Érenn: Textual History and Pseudohistory* (ITS 2009).

The subject of his lecture will be

"A London Library, an Irish Manuscript, a British Myth? The Wanderings of The Battle of Moytirra." (The Battle of Moytirra, set in the chronological framework of Irish pseudo-history, stands at the centre of Irish mythology and is the subject of volume 52 of the ITS's Main Series of publications.)

This lecture is being organised in conjunction with the Irish Literary Society & will be hosted by the ILS.

It will take place at the Hotel Hesperia, 2 Bridge Place, Victoria, London SW1V 1QA

www.hesperia.com/hotels/Hesperia-London-Victoria/#

on Thursday, 29 April 2009, at 7.45 p.m.

ITS AGM (London)

The 2009 AGM of the Society will take place in London on Saturday, 22 May 2010, at the Offices of the Federation of Irish Societies, 95 White Lion Street, London N1 9PF, at 3.00 p.m. Further details, including an agenda and papers, will be published on the ITS website in advance of the meeting.

ITS/UCC Annual Seminar (Cork)

The 'Joint Twelfth Annual ITS/UCC Seminar/ Third International Conference on the Early Medieval Toponymy of Ireland and Scotland: Hogan's Onomasticon: 1910 - 2010' will take place on Saturday 6 November 2010 at University College, Cork. This year's seminar takes a slightly different form, in terms of a wider partnership, arising from its focus on Irish placenames.

Full details of the programme plus a downloadable application form will be posted on the ITS website, and that of the Locus Project at University College, Cork, later in the year. The proceedings of previous seminars form volumes 10-14, 16-20 of the Society's Subsidiary Series.

NEW PUBLICATIONS / NUAFOILSITHE

Volume 62 *Lige Guill The Grave of Goll: A Fenian Poem from the Book of Leinster*, edited by Diarmuid Ó Murchadha, 2009 (ISBN: 978 1 870166 62 1). *Lige Guill* is the last to be edited of a number of Fenian poems brought together by the compiler of the Book of Leinster. Described by the editor as a 'somewhat bloodthirsty literary work', the poem nonetheless represents an important and welcome addition to the corpus of edited *Fianaigeacht* texts, not least because of its large onomastic content. Diarmuid Ó Murchadha is an authority on Irish personal and place names, and in this edition he has used his vast experience of dealing with often perplexing onomastic problems to the full.

Price: £27 stg., €30, US \$40.50 (Members: £18 stg., €20, US\$27)

Volume 63 *Lebor Gabála Érenn: The Book of the Taking of Ireland*, Part 6, Index of Names, compiled by Pádraig Ó Riain, 2009 (ISBN: 978 1 870166 63 9). R.A.S Macalister's five-volume edition of *Lebor Gabála Érenn*, published by the Irish Texts Society (vols 34, 35, 39, 41, 44) has traditionally been regarded as both unsatisfactory and incomplete, not least because the editor was no longer alive to see the final volume through the press. It is no more than proper, therefore, that the Irish Texts Society should respond to a long-felt need by providing an Index of Names. The index of personal names is limited in character, being confined to names of primary persons, animals and some inanimate objects mentioned in the text, accompanied, wherever appropriate, by patronymics or metronymics, which are also indexed separately. Subject to the omission of such repeatedly cited names as *Ére* (Ireland), the section on placenames is designed to be complete.

Price: £27 stg., €30, US \$40.50 (Members: £18 stg., €20, US\$27)

Subsidiary Series 20 *Lebor Gabála Érenn : Textual History and Pseudohistory*, edited by John Carey, 2009 (ISBN 1 870 166 78 2). The twentieth volume of the Subsidiary Series contains the proceedings of the 10th Annual ITS/UCC Seminar. It is devoted to the largest, and perhaps longest running, multi-volume edition in the Society's Main Series. Previously consisting of five volumes, published between 1938 and 1956, a sixth volume has been added to Macalister's edition of *Lebor Gabála Érenn* in 2009. John Carey already placed the Society and scholars in his debt by providing a New Introduction to *Lebor Gabála Érenn* in 1993, the inaugural volume of the Subsidiary Series. The five contributors to the present volume, R Mark Scowcroft, Pádraig Ó Riain, Bart Jaski, Joseph J Flahive, and volume editor John Carey, cover an impressive range of ground, from the earliest manuscript version of the text to the latest. Also covered are several hitherto unexamined sources. In addition to the texts of the lectures, the volume contains a foreword, bibliography and general index.

Price: £19 stg., €21, US \$28.50 (Members £13 stg., €14, US \$19)