

# ITS NEWSLETTER Nuachtlitir

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## Membership of ITS - Ballraíocht den Chumann

- ITS is a membership organisation.
- The Annual Subscription is payable on 1 January.
- Payment by Standing Order is the preferred method of payment.

The Annual Subscription is £15/€ 19 per year, but those paying by Standing Order will benefit from a discount and pay £9/€ 12 in view of the lesser administration costs on subscriptions paid by Standing Orders. The Honorary Treasurer can supply you with the necessary form to set up a standing order.

If you have not already paid your Annual Subscription this year, please do so now. Income from membership subscriptions covers the cost of the annual printing and despatch of the List of Publications and routine communications to members.

## Pricing - Praghasanna na leabhar

A revised List of Publications will be published and circulated at the beginning of 2002. Until then, publications may be purchased at the prices listed in the List of Publications issued in 2000.

## New publication - Leabhar nua

The most recent publication in the ITS Subsidiary Publications Series, *Fled Bricrenn: Reassessments* (SS 10), edited by Pádraig Ó Riain, was launched at the 2nd ITS/UCC Seminar on 11 November 2000. The publication, which contains the proceedings of the 1st ITS/UCC Seminar, focuses on the text which forms volume 2 of the Society's Main Series, *Fled Bricrenn - The Feast of Bricriu*, edited by George Henderson. Henderson's edition of this important tale of the Ulster Cycle was first published for the Society in 1899 under the imprint of the publisher, folklorist and Celticist Alfred Nutt, a founder of this Society.

*Fled Bricrenn: Reassessments* consists of five chapters:

- 'Comparing *Fled Bricrenn* with Classical Descriptions of Continental Celts: Parallels, Problems and Pitfalls', by Bernhard Maier.
- '*Fled Bricrenn*'s Significance within the Broader Celtic Context', by John T Koch.
- '*Fled Bricrenn* and *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*' by Nicolas Jacobs
- 'The Role of Cú Roí in *Fled Bricrenn*', by Petra S Hellmuth.



- 'Notes on the Structure and Syntax in *Fled Bricrenn*', by Proinsias Mac Cana.

The publication also contains a foreword by Pádraig Ó Riain, a bibliography and a general index.

This publication is available at a cost of £15 stg./€ 19.

## Gift Sets - Ábhar Bronntanais

The Society has prepared a number of special boxed sets of volumes. These attractively bound and boxed sets make excellent gifts/presentations and are available to members at a special price. The following volumes are available in this format:

Volumes 4, 8, 9, 15 *Foras Feasa ar Éirinn/The History of Ireland*

This work, described as "the most influential of all works of Gaelic historiography", was written by Geoffrey Keating between c 1618 and 1634. Drawing upon the annals, medieval texts such as the *Lebor Gabála* and the Ulster, Fionn, mythological and historical story cycles, it provides an account of the history of Ireland from the earliest times to the coming of the Normans and the death of Rory O'Connor in 1198. Speaking of this work, Professor Breandán Ó Buachalla writes: "Not only did Keating successfully assimilate in one continuous narrative the various strata and components of traditional lore..., but he masterfully recast that narrative in an intelligible modern idiom."

Price: £150 stg./€195 (Special price to members: £80 stg./€104.)

Volumes 42, 45 *Beath Aodha Ruaidh Uí Dhomhnaill/The Life of Aodh Ruadh Ó Domhnaill*

This work was written by Lughaidh Ó Cléirigh, who succeeded his father Maccon as Ollamh to the O'Donnells in 1595, in about 1616. It narrates the events of Red Hugh's

life, from his capture and imprisonment in Dublin Castle in 1587 to his death in Spain in 1602. It focuses particularly, however, on the period of the 'Nine Years War', including the battle of Kinsale (1601), seeing in the latter the loss of "the authority and sovereignty of the Gaels of Ireland to the end of time."

Price: £60 stg./€80 (Special price to members: £40 stg./€52.)

Volumes 30, 31, 32, 33 *Cinnlae Amhlaoibh Uí Shúilleabháin/The Diary of Humphrey O' Sullivan*

The author of this diary was a hedge-schoolmaster, antiquarian, manuscript-collector and shopkeeper, living in Callan, co Kilkenny. The diary was written between 1827 and 1835.

Tomás de Bhaldraithe has noted, "the struggle for Catholic Emancipation, the Tithe War, the secret societies, evictions, famine and cholera plagues...are frequently mentioned in the diary. [He] gives regular accounts of markets, prices and wages. He mentions many festival customs, games, sports meetings, patterns, wakes, dances, dinner parties et cetera, in addition to his daily notes on the weather, the crops, bird, animal and plant life, which were among his principal interests."

Price: £120 stg./€156. (Special price to members: £70 stg./€91.)

## AGM of the ITS - Cruinniú Ginearálta Bliantúil

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place at The Irish Centre, Blacks Road, Hammersmith, London W6 9DT, on Saturday, 9 June 2001 at 2.45 p.m.

The Agenda will be as follows:

- Minutes of last meeting
- Annual Report: President

- Financial Statement & Auditor's Report
- Reports of Honorary General Editor & Honorary Secretary
- Election of Officers & Council
- Appointment of Honorary General Editor
- Appointment of Honorary Auditor
- Votes of thanks & Any Other Business

### Public Lecture

At 3.45 p.m., following the AGM, Professor Máire Herbert will deliver a public lecture on the subject: "*Identity and Exile: Colum Cille and Irish-Scottish relationships before 1200.*"

## 3rd ITS/UCC Seminar/Seimineár a Trí

The third in this series of annual seminars will take place at University College Cork on 10 November 2001. The seminar will focus on Volumes 42, 45 of the ITS main series, *Beatha Aodha Ruaidh Uí Dhomhnaill/The Life of Aodh Ruadh Ó Domhnaill*. Topics to be addressed include:

- Paul Walsh as editor
- the 'Life' as a Renaissance work
- the style of the text
- the historical background
- Lughaidh Ó Cléirigh

Fuller details of the seminar will be available from the ITS/UCC Seminar Committee, Combined Departments of Irish, University College, Cork, Ireland, closer to the event.

Book orders/Membership renewals to Michael J Burns, Hon Treasurer, ITS, 'Elsemere', Tibbradden Rd, Rockbrook, Dublin 16, Ireland.

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