



- A Main Series of 61 volumes
- A Subsidiary Series of 19 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.; €23; \$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 two 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% (1/3<sup>rd</sup>).
- 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](http://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% (1/3<sup>rd</sup>) discount on the retail price.

- In addition, the Royal Irish Academy's online book shop is now facilitating our society for online purchasing. Purchases henceforward 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 will be delighted to receive any comments, suggestions or observations you wish to make in regard to these arrangements by emailing our Honorary Treasurer.

Any additional changes will be notified on our website as the need arises. The aim of the Locus project is to produce a new dictionary of Gaelic place- and tribal names to replace

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## THE LOCUS PROJECT - TIONSCNAMH LOCUS

Fr Edmund Hogan's *Onomasticon Goedelicum* of 1910. This ongoing project has produced three volumes thus far of the *Historical Dictionary of Gaelic Placenames / Foclóir Stairiúil Áitainmneacha na Gaeilge*, all published by the Irish Texts Society (Fascicle 1 'Names in A-' [2003], Fascicle 2 'Names in B-' [2005] and Fascicle 3 'C-Ceall Fhursa' [2008]). The President of the Society, Prof. Pádraig Ó Riain, is the director of the Project and his co-editors are Dr Diarmuid Ó Murchadha and Dr Kevin Murray. The project aims to document and, if possible, to locate all Gaelic placenames recorded pre-1800.

In addition to the ongoing support of UCC, through the Department of Early and Medieval Irish, Locus has received support from various external funding bodies, including Toyota Ireland, the Higher Education Authority, and subsequently from the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

As reported by Professor Ó Riain in the Foreword to Fascicle 2, the work of preparation and publication of the fascicles has involved "the deployment of a formidable range of resources, human and electronic" including:

- the preparation and proofing of an electronic copy of Hogan's *Onomasticon*;
- the setting up and maintenance of a database containing all the new materials

- collected by the excerptors;
- the checking and updating of all of Hogan's references to sources;
- the extraction of contexts;
- the gathering of material toward identifications;
- the sifting and editing of all entries;
- the checking of draft texts of entries by editors, and their transfer to electronic format.

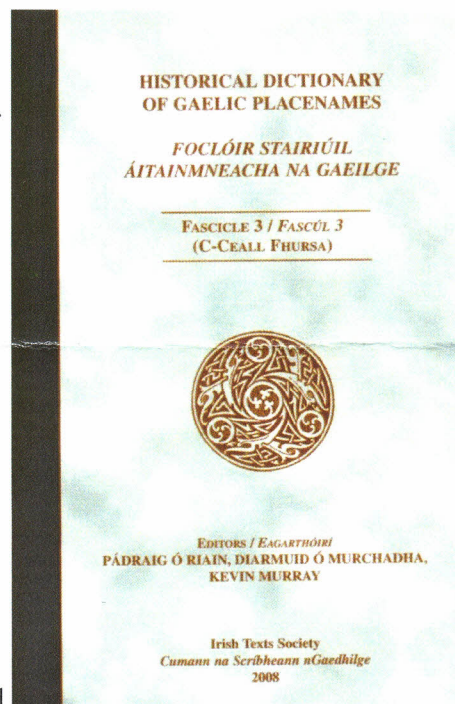
The publication of three fascicles to date is a tribute to the work of the collaborators in the project, including: the

the organising principles of the project are set out.

Reaction to the first two volumes has been enthusiastic: for example, Prof. Pádraig Ó Macháin has said that "when the final volume is issued, it should mark the completion of a monument of Irish scholarship" (*Éigse* 35, 161); Dr Paul MacCotter believes that it "promises to be the greatest Irish onomastic project undertaken to date" (*Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society* 109, 229), and the volumes have also received a very warm welcome from Prof. Karl-Horst Schmidt (in *Zeitschrift für celtische Philologie*, 54-56), from Dr Mícheál Ó Mainnín (in *Éigse* 36) and from Prof. Gregory Toner (in *Cambrian Medieval Celtic Studies* 55).

The projected publication date for the next volume of 'C' (three fascicles in all) is 2010/11. When the third fascicle for C has been published, the project will have reached the half-way mark.

The organisation and progress of the project point to the qualities of leadership, commitment, enthusiasm and professionalism associated with it. All of these have added immense value to the relatively small, but welcome, funding received to date.



groups of undergraduate students employed as excerptors, the series of postgraduate students employed since 1995 to check references and gather fresh materials, and the other supporters thanked by Professor Ó Riain in his Foreword to Fascicle 2; furthermore, in the Introduction to that fascicle,

### ITS SS18: AMHRÁIN CHEARBHALLÁIN / THE POEMS OF CAROLAN: REASSESSMENTS

#### Corrigendum

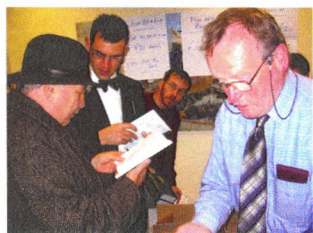
p. 25, at 'Egan Royal Portable'. Add the following footnote: 'See Simon Chadwick's helpful website: [www.earlygaelicharp.info](http://www.earlygaelicharp.info) for a wealth of information, sources and links on the wire-strung as well as the neo-Irish harp'. The Society wishes to apologize to Emily Cullen and Simon Chadwick for the inadvertent omission of this footnote.



## CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF THE ITS/UCC SEMINAR DEICH mBLIAIN AG FÁS



This year we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the ITS/UCC seminar. For some time before the initiation of the seminar, the Society had begun to commission new introductions to those Main Series texts "in which the original introductions needed updating in line with developments in the field since they were written" and "as a means of making the texts more accessible to students and non-specialists by situating them within their literary genre and their historical context." Numbers 1-4, 7, 8 of the Subsidiary Publication Series were published with these purposes in mind, and the first contribution was Dr John Carey's concise and informative new introduction to *Lebor Gabála Éirenn* (1993).



In 1998, a related but more ambitious proposal was adopted by ITS Council: that a seminar should be held focusing, each year, on a particular publication in the ITS Main Series. The first seminar took place at UCC in October 1999, hosted by the Combined Departments of Irish. It fo-

cused on an early publication of the Society, Main Series Volume 2, *Fled Bricrend*, first published in 1899. The conference proceedings were published in 2000, in time to be launched at the second seminar.

Since then this pattern has been maintained with the focus for each seminar being as



follows:

- 2000: volumes 11, 13, 18, *Duanaire Dháibhidh Uí Bhruadair*;
- 2001: volumes 42, 45, *Beatha Aodha Ruaidh Uí Dhomhnaill*;
- 2002: volumes 7, 28, 43,



*Duanaire Finn*;

- 2003: volumes 30-33, *Cinnlae Amhlaoibh Uí Shúilleabháin*;
- 2004: *Foclóir an Duinnínigh / Dinneen's Dictionary*;
- 2005: volumes 6, 38, *Imtheachta Aeniasa* and *Stair Ercuil ocus a Bás*;
- 2006: volume 17, *Amhráin Chearbhalláin*;
- 2007: volumes 4, 8, 9, 15, *Foras Feasa ar Éirinn*.

Numbers 10-14 and 16-19 of the ITS Subsidiary Publication Series contain the proceedings of the seminars published to date.

The proceedings of each seminar are edited by a member of the UCC-based organising committee, and consist of an editor's foreword, the texts of the 5-6 lectures, a bibliography and a general index.

This year's seminar focused on volumes 34-35, 39, 41 and 44, *Lebor Gabála Éirenn*. It opened with a complex but fascinating paper by Professor R. Mark Scowcroft on the structure of R. A. Stewart Macalister's much criticised edition of this text and of his editorial policy. Professor Ó Riain and Drs Bart Jaski and John Carey discussed other



sources of the Irish Origin Legend and their significance. In addition, a paper from Dr Joseph Flahive - drawing on ITS Minute Books and extant correspondence - threw light on the progress of the Macalister edition and the controversy surrounding it.



It is hoped that the proceedings, as usual, will be launched at the 11th seminar in UCC this November.

Grianghraif ó Sheimineár 2008/  
Photos from the 2008 Seminar:

1. Osclaíonn an tOllamh Pádraig Ó Riain an Seimineár/Professor Pádraig Ó Riain opens the seminar
2. An Dr Bart Jaski i mbun léachta/ Dr Bart Jaski speaks on 'Eight Unexplored Sources of the Irish Origin Legend'
3. Caife, té agus comhrá/Coffee, tea and conversation
4. Seolann an t-Ollamh Máire Herbert foilseachán nua de chuid an Chumainn/ Professor Máire Herbert launches SS19 *Geoffrey Keating's Foras Feasa ar Éirinn: Reassessments*
5. Seastán leabhar an Chumainn agus Cisteoir Oinigh an Chumainn i mbun díolaíochta/The ITS bookstall - the Honorary Treasurer, Michael J Burns in charge
6. Cur i láthair Power Point ón Ollamh Ó Riain/A Power Point presentation from Professor Ó Riain on '*Scottorum Origines Fabulosae*: A Metz version of *Lebor Gabála*'



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THEIR E-MAIL ADDRESS AND  
INFORM HIM PROMPTLY OF ANY  
CHANGES.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - DON DIALANN**

**ITS Noel O'Connell Memorial Lecture (London)**

The 2009 Noel O'Connell Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Dr. John Carey, Department of Early and Medieval Irish, University College Cork and author of ITS SS1, *A New Introduction to Lebor Gabála Éirenn/The Book of the Taking of Ireland*, on a subject relating to the *Lebor Gabála* (title to be confirmed). This lecture is being organised in conjunction with the Irish Literary Society and will be hosted by the ILS. It will take place at the Rubens Hotel, 39 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PS, on Tuesday, 31 March 2009, at 7.45 p.m.

**ITS AGM (London)**

The 2009 AGM of the Society will take place in London on Saturday, 9 May. Full details will be published on the ITS website and communicated to members of the Society in advance of the meeting.

**ITS/UCC Annual Seminar (Cork)**

The 11th Annual Seminar in this series will take place at University College, Cork, on 7 November 2009. The focus of this year's seminar will be *A Bhfuil Aguin Dár Chum Tadhg Dall Ó Huiginn / The Bardic Poems of Tadhg Dall Ó hUiginn*, which forms ITS Main Series volumes 22-23. Full details of the 2009 seminar plus a downloadable application form will be posted on the ITS site, and that of the Locus Project at University College, Cork, later in the year. The proceedings of previous seminars form volumes 10-14, 16-18 of the Society's Subsidiary Series.

**NEW PUBLICATIONS / NUAFOILSITHE**

**HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF GAELIC PLACENAMES / FOCLÓIR STAIRIÚIL  
ÁITAINMNEACHA NA GAELIGE**, Fascicle 3 (Names in C-Ceall Fhursa) / Fascúil 3

(Ainmneacha i C-Ceall Fhursa). Editors / Eagarthóirí: Pádraig Ó Riain, Diarmuid Ó Murchadha, Kevin Murray. The third fascicle of the Historical Dictionary of Gaelic Placenames, produced by the Locus Project in the Department of Early and Medieval Irish, University College Cork, runs to over 2,000 placenames. As in previous fascicles, this fascicle is accompanied by a reverse index of anglicised forms of names, designed for easy consultation of the Dictionary. **Price: £22 stg., €24, US\$31.50 (members £14 stg., €16, US\$21) (Parts 1 and 2 are also available.)**

GEOFFREY KEATING'S *FORAS FEASA AR ÉIRINN: REASSESSMENTS*, edited by Pádraig Ó Riain (ITS SS 19). The subject of the ninth annual seminar of the Irish Texts Society, held in conjunction with the Combined Departments of Irish at University College, Cork, on the 10th November, 2007, was the History of Ireland by Geoffrey Keating (Seathrún Céitinn), better known as *Foras Feasa ar Éirinn*, which was edited for the Society in four volumes (4, 8, 9, 15) by David Comyn and Patrick S. Dinneen. Since one of the earliest surviving copies of the History was made in the 1630s, in part by Míchéal Ó Cléirigh, for the use of the Franciscans of the Irish College in Louvain, the Organising Committee felt that its choice as the subject of the 2007 Seminar would be an appropriate way of marking the 400th anniversary of the the foundation of the college in Louvain. It is hoped that the contents of the six papers read at the Seminar by Brendan Bradshaw, Marc Caball, Bernadette Cunningham, Meidhbhín Ní Úrdail, Tadhg Ó Dúshláine and Diarmuid Ó Murchadha, and published in this volume, will stimulate renewed interest in the *Foras Feasa*, which can be fairly described as one of the most influential works ever written in Irish. **Price: £19 stg., €21, US\$28.50 (members £13 stg., €14, US\$19).**

**Presentation to Dr. Pádraigín Riggs marking her contribution  
to the success of the ITS/UCC Seminar/Bronnadh leabhar ar  
an Dr. Riggs mar chomhartha buíochais**



A surprise presentation to Dr Pádraigín Riggs was one of the events of this year's seminar. It was made by Professor Pádraig Ó Riain and included a boxed set of *Lebor Gabála Éirenn/The Book of the Taking of Ireland*. The presentation was made in recognition of Dr Riggs's

outstanding contribution to the success of the ITS/UCC seminars, as a key member of the UCC-based organising committee undertaking responsibility for important aspects of their organisation, including enrolments, and as the editor of the proceedings of two seminars, SS 11 and