Archives & Records Association
Cumann Cartlann agus Taifead
Ireland/Éire

CUARDAIGH DO CHARTLANN
EXPLORE YOUR ARCHIVE

Welcome to the Winter Issue of the ARA Ireland newsletter.
This issue is all about Explore Your Archive which runs this year from November 28th until December 6th. Keep reading for more information and see how to get involved.



Caption: Communications and Campaigns officer for ARA Ireland, Niamh Ní Charra with EYA 2022 ambassador, Liz Gillis at the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. Photo © Julien Behal

Explore Your Archive 2022

Niamh Ní Charra, Communications and Campaigns Officer

28th November - 6th December

Days are getting shorter and while the weather is very mild for November, the Christmas lights have been turned on which can only mean one thing - it is time to start planning for "Explore Your Archive". This is a special year for two reasons. It will be the first time in 3 years that an in-person event will take place to launch the year-long campaign, and this year marks its 10th year, which we hope you will help us celebrate with lots of events.

To mark this milestone, the ARA UK,I Explore Your Archive Committee have come up with some minor changes which ARA Ireland will be observing. Since the emphasis has been shifting from the week long campaign in November/December to a year-long campaign with a special Explore Your Archive day on the 10th of every month, we will no longer be calling this upcoming week a campaign or launch-week, but a focus-week. We still can't count though (!) so the focus week takes in nine days altogether, with the starting day moving to a Monday. The 2022 focus week will run from Monday 28th November to Tuesday 6th December. More details on the launch itself can be found later in this article.

For those not familiar with ARA's Explore Your Archive annual campaign , it aims to showcase the best of archives and archive services across Ireland and the UK and to make the public aware of the phenomenal array of archival collections held by organisations, both public and private, whatever their size and scale, and wherever their location.



Caption: Communications and Campaigns officer for ARA Ireland, Niamh Ní Charra with EYA 2022 ambassador, Liz Gillis at the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. Photo © Julien Behal

We are thrilled to announce that ARA Ireland's Explore Your Archive ambassador for 2022/2023 is historian, author and Liberties native Liz Gillis. She is the author of six books about the Irish Revolution including, 'The Fall of Dublin', 'Women of the Irish Revolution', 'The Hales Brothers and the Irish Revolution' and 'May 25: The Burning of the Custom House 1921'. Liz is the Historian in Residence for South Dublin County Council for the Decade of Centenaries, she works as a Researcher for the History Show on RTE Radio and lectures at Champlain College Dublin. We are delighted that she will be joining us for our official EYA launch on Thursday 24th November.

As in previous years, there are many ways to participate.

1) Events – whether in-person, online or a hybrid of both, options may include online talks, presentations, or exhibitions. These can be shared on our EYA events page, where previous submissions can be seen here.

2) Featured Archives – specific projects which have already taken place or which are ongoing can be promoted
through our "Featured Archives" page on our website. You may find those submitted previously to be of use, and these can be seen here.

3) Social media – a strong social media campaign can be highly effective in promoting our sector and its work. As in previous years, Explore Your Archive have introduced daily themes. We would love you to share your work, collections and experiences online to give your followers a sense of the work that goes on behind the scenes and the fabulous archives that you care for. You can use these themes to inspire your tweets, but don't forget to tag us at @araireland and to use the #ExploreYourArchive hashtag each day. (You can also tag us and/or use #ExploreYourArchive on any archives related tweet throughout the year.)

EYA 2022 Themes:

Monday 28th Nov	Maps and Plans
Tuesday 29th Nov	Time
Wednesday 30th Nov	Beards
Thursday 1st Dec	Throwback
Friday 2nd Dec	Party
Saturday 3rd Dec	News
Sunday 4th Dec	Languages
Monday 5th Dec	Humour
Tuesday 6th Dec	Your Archive

The Launch

We are also delighted to announce that our launch will take place at Conradh na Gaeilge headquarters, on 6 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2. One of the lesser-known buildings in Dublin, it is nonetheless a hugely significant building historically. For those of you interested in finding out more, this fantastic documentary on the history of 6 Harcourt Street is well worth a view. Subtitles are available.

Please note that this building is an old Georgian building that is awaiting a long-promised upgrade, and currently has no lift. There will be a single flight of stairs down to the Conradh na Gaeilge Club where the launch will take place.

If you have any questions about the Explore Your Archive campaign, or wish to submit events or material for the featured archive please do not hesitate to contact me on niamhnicharra@gmail.com

Have fun planning!
Niamh