

Society of Archivists, Ireland



Press Release

Everyone has a history, and we've got a bit of yours

Tá stair ag cách agus tá chuid díotsa againne

Vincent Browne to launch Archive Awareness Campaign

August 2009 – Society of Archivists, Ireland will launch its sixth annual Archive Awareness Campaign on Thursday 20 August 2009 at GUINNESS STOREHOUSE®. Vincent Browne, renowned Journalist and Broadcaster, will launch the event. The Campaign, coinciding with Heritage Week, will begin that evening and will continue through to the end of September 2009.

The Archive Awareness Campaign encourages members of the public to discover the truth about Ireland's rich Archival heritage. Irish Archive Services nationwide will host a range of complimentary events for members of the public to enjoy, including exhibitions, story telling, lectures, information about research resources in Archives, including resources for researching family history.

The aim of the Campaign is to counter the perception that Archives hold nothing more than dusty and uninteresting files by encouraging people to witness at first hand the valuable heritage preserved in Archive Services around the country.

Highlights of Archive Awareness events taking place nationwide include: A Series of lunchtime talks at the Guinness Archive to celebrate 250 remarkable years of GUINNESS®; an Exhibition of Annie Brophy wedding photographs in Waterford City Archives; Stories of Dublin by Joe Lee, Film Maker in Residence at Dublin City Archives; on line accounts of the North Strand Bombing on <http://northstrandbombing.wordpress.com>; an Exhibition exploring the life of Séan Ó Riada in University College Cork. To find out more about events taking place during Archive Awareness, please log on to www.learnaboutarchives.ie , a website specifically designed for users of Irish Archives and www.archiveawareness.com.

Outlining the campaign, Deirdre Flood, Publicity Officer, Society of Archivists Ireland said: "The Archive Awareness Campaign seeks to promote awareness of Archives and the treasures they hold amongst the general public. Archives are a window into the past bringing history to life through documents, photographs, maps and countless other treasures. We're primarily targeting existing users of Archives but we also wish to encourage those who have never set foot in an Archive to do so and discover their own history and heritage."

The Archive Awareness Campaign is co-ordinated by Society of Archivists, Ireland, the professional body for archivists, records managers and conservators in Ireland.

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For a full schedule of events taking place during Archive Awareness Campaign, please visit: www.learnaboutarchives.ie, or www.archiveawareness.com

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