

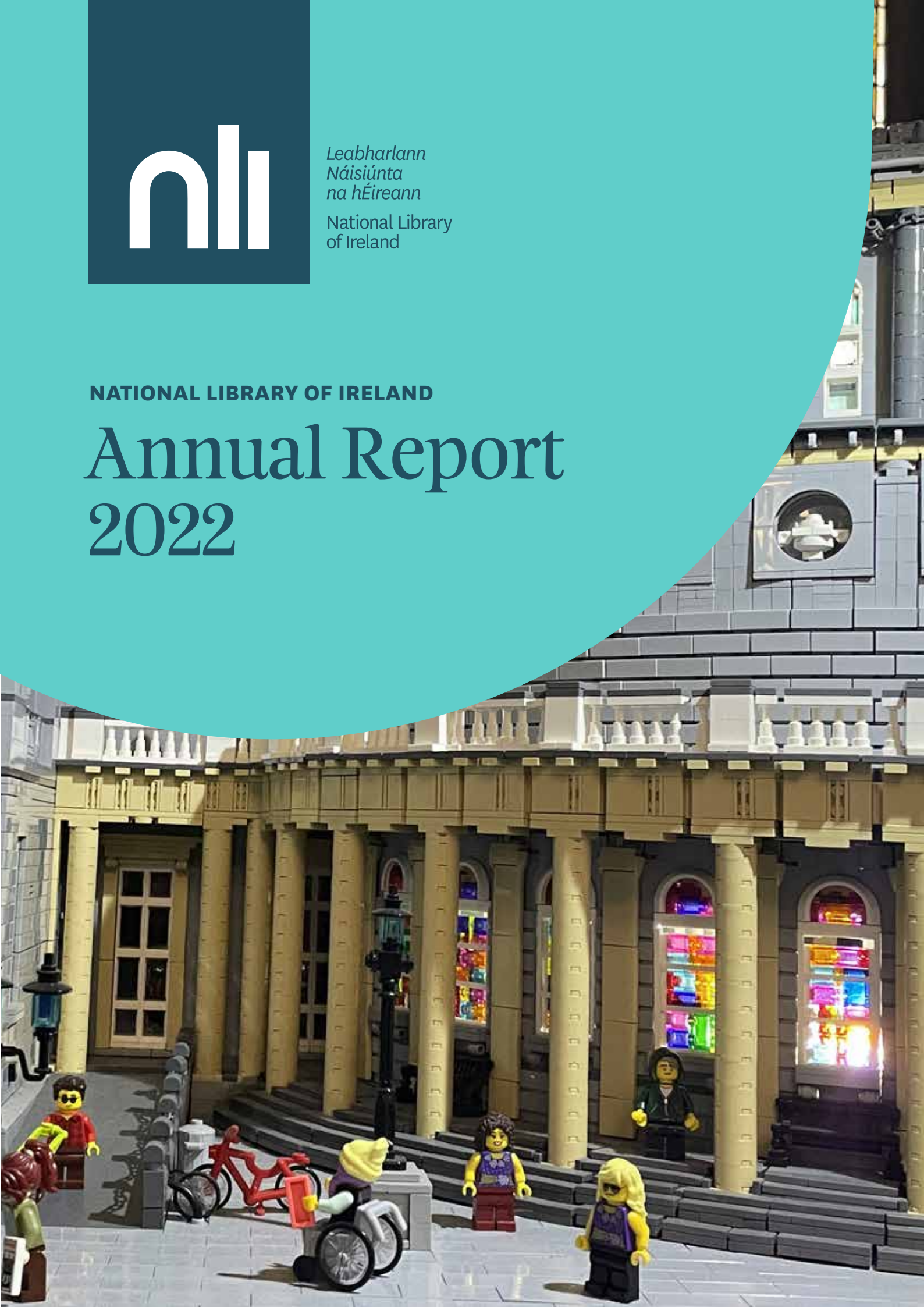


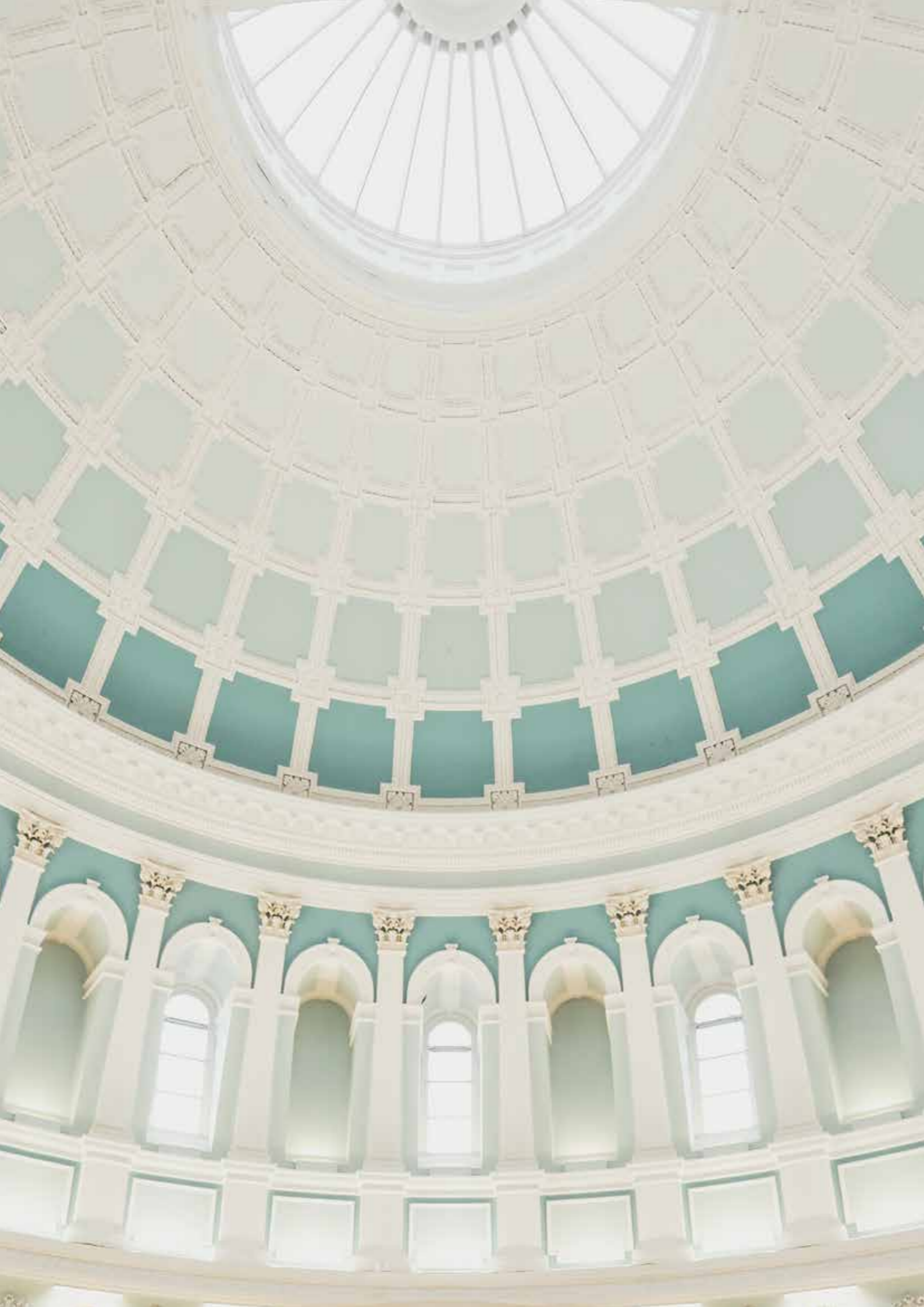
*Leabharlann  
Náisiúnta  
na hÉireann*

National Library  
of Ireland

**NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND**

# Annual Report 2022





NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND

# Annual Report 2022



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Cover Image: Lego Model created by David and Breda Fennell

Inside Image: © Myles Shelly

## Chairperson's Remarks

2022 saw the launch of the National Library of Ireland's (NLI) five-year (2022-2026) strategy which sets out key priorities to deliver our mission under each of the five strategic pillars: collect, protect, reveal, engage and innovate. Throughout last year progress was made in each of these areas.

As COVID-19 conditions eased, we were delighted to welcome the public back to our reading rooms and exhibitions. Onsite activities resumed including later opening events supported by the Government's Night-Time Economy scheme. The experience of having to adapt to online engagement during COVID-19 has given us new expertise and audiences that we continue to develop alongside the physical delivery of services.

Important acquisitions enhanced the collections, including the acquisition of the earliest-known Irish grant of arms in existence and additions to our Civil War materials. Our commitment to recording all aspects of Irish life was reinforced with the donation of the personal papers of the renowned HIV/AIDS activist and former priest, Bernárd Lynch.

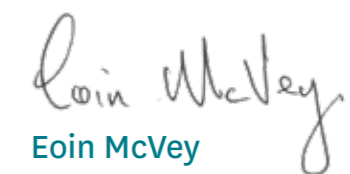
Our digital collections continue to grow. In 2022, we digitised over 22,000 items from our collections making them accessible to more people throughout Ireland and the world. We archived over 700 Irish websites, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to collecting the story of contemporary Ireland. I would like to thank all of our donors, who play such an important role in supporting the NLI.

We continued our significant contribution to the Decade of Commemorations with the launch of *Revealing History*, a digital campaign highlighting material that relates to the political and social upheaval of 1922, and the lives of four individuals who played important roles during that time.

Work progressed on our vital capital development programme, a partnership with the Office of Public Works (OPW) and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (DTCAGSM). This will bring about the complete transformation of the West Wing of the Library's main building into an exciting cultural experience – creating a major new public space for future generations of visitors.

I would particularly like to thank Catherine Martin, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and her officials for their strong support of the National Library of Ireland. I would also like to express appreciation of the contribution of fellow Board colleagues and the commitment and dedication of everyone in the National Library.

Finally, I wish to record our thanks and appreciation to Acting Director, Katherine McSharry, who left us to take up the position of Director of Cultural Heritage at University College Dublin. I welcome our new Director, Dr Audrey Whitty, who joined us in February 2023 and brings a wealth of valuable expertise and experience to the NLI.

  
Eoin McVey





# 2022

at a glance



**200 countries**  
Visitors from more than 200 countries onsite and online



**6.1**  
terabytes of Irish website data collected



**20.5 million**

Combined online interactions

**104,020**

Social media followers

- 33,968
- 23,329
- 46,723



### FLICKR VIEWS THIS YEAR

**7,847,549**

### TOTAL FLICKR VIEWS

**100 million**

Milestone of total views reached on Flickr



**1 Lego model**

### ITEMS DIGITISED THIS YEAR



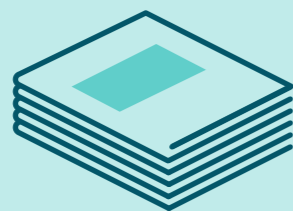
**22,363**  
digitised items added to the online catalogue

### TOTAL NUMBER OF ITEMS DIGITISED



**160,000**  
digitised items now available online

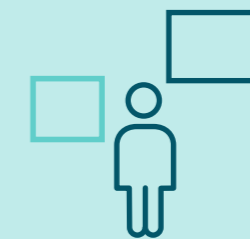
**15,093**  
new books, newspapers and periodicals received



**33,319**  
records were added to our collection



**7,323**  
**Online attendance**  
7,323 attended exhibitions, tours and events online



**178,409**  
people attended exhibitions, tours and events in person



**12,045**  
**Readers and researchers**

## Collect

The National Library of Ireland is the library of record for Ireland. We care for over twelve million items including books, newspapers, photographs, maps, ephemera, drawings, manuscripts and digital-born material.

The national collection continues to grow through a combination of purchased and donated materials, and our expansive legal depository. As a legal deposit library, we are entitled to a copy of everything published in the State. We receive and collect a vast number of newspapers, periodicals and books with an average of 300 items per week.



Our Digital Collections now include more than 160,000 digitised items available through our online catalogue and we increasingly collect material created entirely in digital format such as websites, social media and emails.

Throughout 2022 we continued to enhance the national collections through donation and acquisition. A notable addition was the Stanyhurst Grant of Arms dating from 1554. Purchased at auction, the 468-year-old Tudor manuscript is the earliest known Irish grant of arms in existence and is remarkably well-preserved.

The NLI cares for the largest collection of WB Yeats material in the world, and recent additions include a hand-captioned holiday photo album belonging to Elizabeth (Lolly) Corbet Yeats.

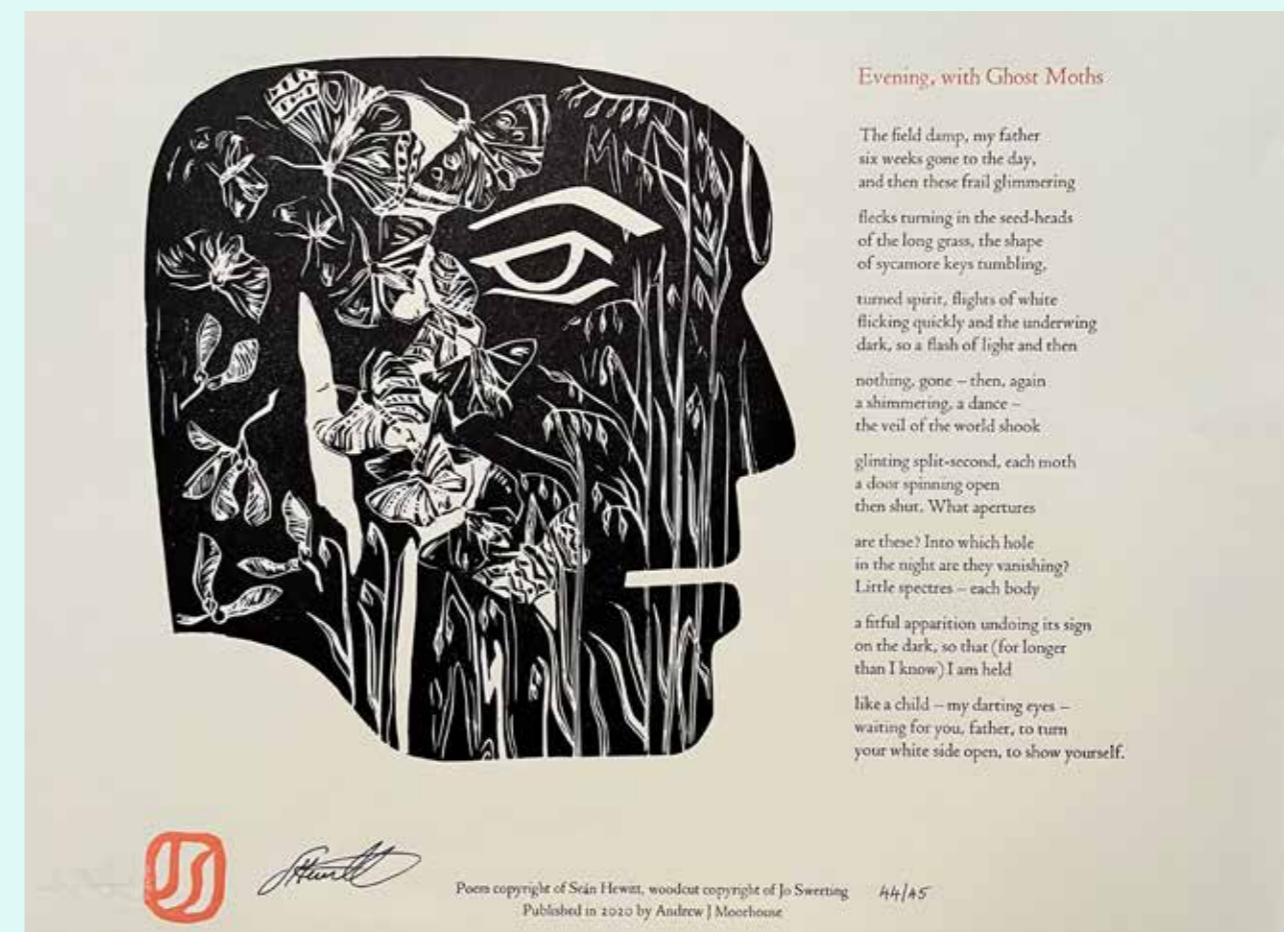
Additions to our expansive collection of Irish Civil War items include: standing orders from an internment camp where anti-Treaty Irregulars were held; letters from the IRA Waterford Brigade to Edmund Downey, editor of *The Waterford News*, attempting to censor reports in that paper, 1922; and five photos of Michael Collins' funeral procession down Grafton Street.

Letters and correspondence acquisitions ranged from the donation of two love letters dated 1752 to correspondence from Kathleen Keyes McDonnell lobbying for her husband's release from prison post-1916 Rising and a series of letters (2010-2015) by Brian Friel.

Contemporary illustrated texts and prints acquisitions included *Evening, with Ghost Moths*, a poem by Seán Hewitt and work by illustrator Tatyana Feeney from the Irish language children's book *Cillian agus an Rón*.



Actors dressed in Tudor costume for a media photocall featuring the newly acquired Grant of Arms to Nicholas Stanyhurst, December 2022



*Evening, with Ghost Moths*, a poem by Seán Hewitt with illustration by Jo Sweeting

Other notable acquisitions to the published collections included: a 1969 manuscript of Eavan Boland's *The Winning of Etain* signed by Boland with compliment slip signed by Allen Figgis; and *Short Stories in Print*, a limited edition collection featuring unpublished work by some of Ireland's leading writers and published by the National Print Museum.

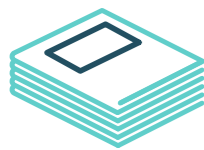
## Digital Collections

Our goal is to capture and preserve the recorded memory of Ireland in all its forms, which increasingly means born-digital formats; from video streams to digital documents and websites. The NLI has been engaged in archiving websites of interest to Irish life since 2007, with an active selective archiving programme in place since 2011.

Collecting representatively and inclusively is a key objective for the NLI. This year, we welcomed the acquisition of the personal papers of the renowned HIV/AIDS activist and former priest, Bernárd Lynch and the Traveller Family Tree archive in collaboration with Mincéirí Port Láirge (Waterford Traveller Community Development Project).

This year, work progressed on collecting digital material that explore: biodiversity and the Environment, Diaspora, LGBTI+ and areas of cultural interest such as music and sports. Highlights of digital-born archives added to the collection include Census 2022 and Ireland + the EU.

## 2022 Acquisitions



7,472

Newspapers



3,130

Serials



4,491

Books acquired



736

Irish websites collected and preserved



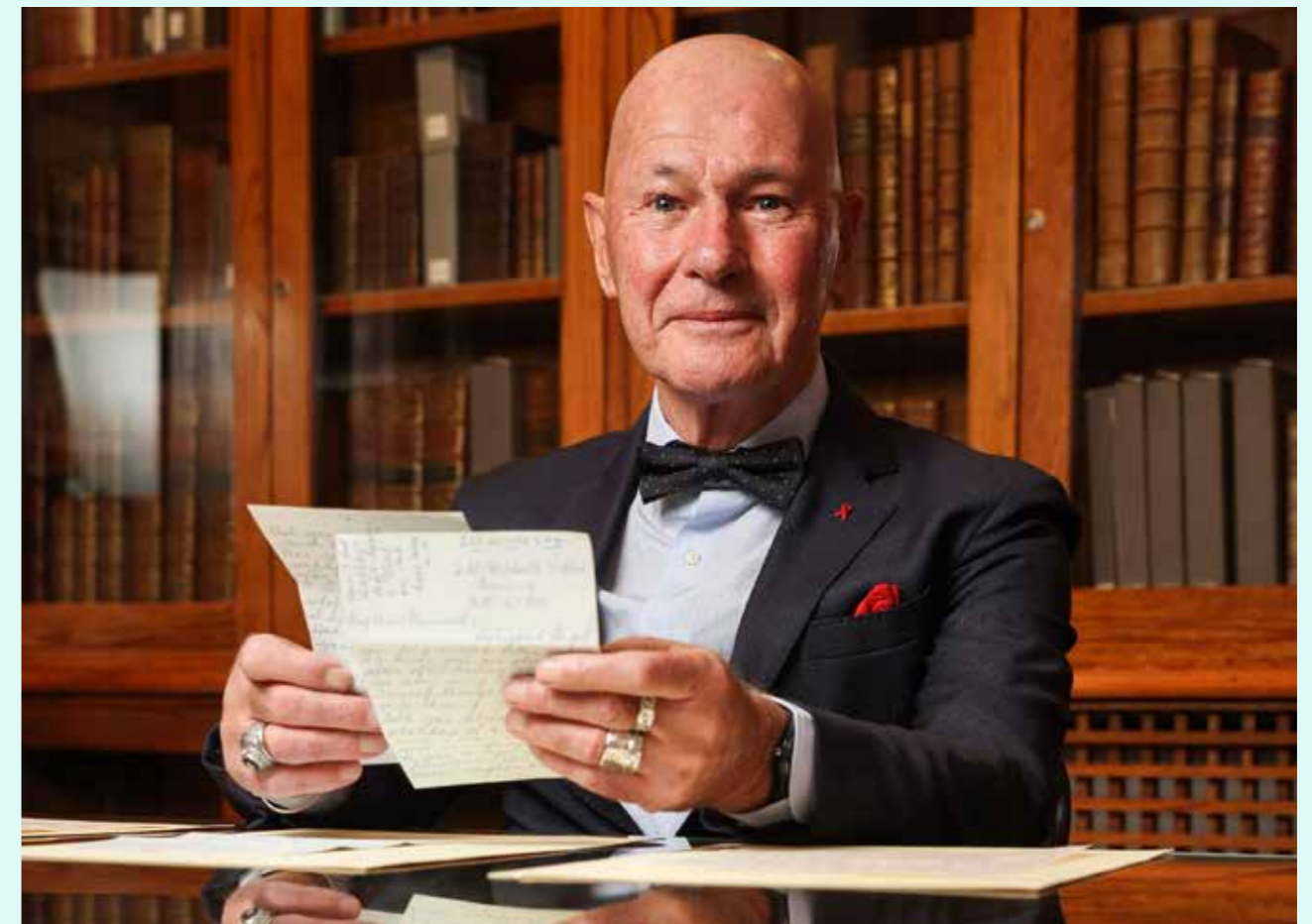
220

More than 220 Special Collections acquisitions\*

\*This includes individual items and collections



Genealogist Tony Hennessy presenting, on behalf of Mincéirí Port Láirge, Traveller family trees to Bríd O'Sullivan from the NLI, July 2022



Former priest and activist Bernárd Lynch at a reception to mark the donation of his papers to the NLI, December 2022

## Protect

Protecting and safeguarding the national collections continues to be an enduring priority for us. Collection care is a core function of the National Library. This work necessitates a range of specialist preservation actions and conservation treatment, from the provision of fit-for-purpose collection storage to digital preservation, and security and disaster recovery planning. These critical tasks underpin all we do and ensure we keep the national collections safe and accessible for today's users and generations to come.



### Conservation and Preservation

The Conservation Department preserves and conserves the national collections, improving their condition and preventing damage. The collections in our care range from fragile glass photographic plates and 12th century deeds on vellum, to web archives and 40km of books. Conservators advise on how to handle objects safely, assess the condition of material and rehouse it.

Conservation work on over 1,500 items was carried out over the course of the year. This included material from Manuscript, Photographic and Printed collection areas, and items from the Sheehy Skeffington collection and Band Aid collection.

The Conservation Department hosted a conservation scientist from The National Archives of the UK (TNA), collaborating on projects such as the investigation of colourants on unique heraldic manuscripts and the 17th century collection of manuscript maps by Richard Bartlett.

Additional conservation highlights include: a rare 18th century printed book by Giovanni Battista Piranesi prepared and exhibited in *For the Love of the Master* (Dublin Castle), Joyce-related items were prepared and installed for display at the National Library of Luxembourg and a selection of 50 volumes from the *Clóliosta* book collection were prioritised for conservation.



Member of staff examining the pigment layer of unique illustration on 17th century heraldic manuscripts



Glass plate negatives being inspected in the National Photographic Archive



## Reveal

The National Library has been revealing the story of Ireland for almost 150 years. We have family history services and research spaces for Published and Special Collections, and we reach out beyond our physical buildings, as cataloguing and digital access makes our collections available to an unprecedented number of users. Cataloguing remains a core function which makes the holdings of the National Library visible to people across the world and digitisation allows users to access materials wherever they are.

Items digitised in 2022 **22,363**

Records added to our collections in 2022 **33,319**



### Digitisation Highlights

Through our digitisation programme in 2022, we digitised 22,363 items. This included 21,470 manuscripts, 665 photographs, 140 prints and drawings and 76 books.

Work continued on a project to digitise the *Clóliosta*, a published bibliography of pre-1871 Irish language printings in the NLI's collections.

### Building Programme

Our multi-year 'Reimagining the National Library' capital development project is our most important reveal since we opened our doors in 1890. With an emphasis on improving the range and quality of public services within the main library building, this major redevelopment of the NLI's West Wing will create new, free and accessible public spaces in Dublin's city centre. Sustainability and accessibility are cornerstones of the project. Ongoing work this year included detailed design development, investigative surveys, reports and pre-planning consultations with Dublin City Council, with a goal to submitting a planning application in 2023. We also saw significant progress on the refurbishment of the Manuscripts Reading Room and a new Art Room, both due to open to the public in 2023.

The NLI's capital development project is progressing with the support of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (DTCAGSM) and the Office of Public Works (OPW). During the year, we welcomed Minister Catherine Martin (DTCAGSM) and Minister Patrick O'Donovan (OPW) for tours of the West Wing building.



A book being digitised in the Digital Studio by a member of staff



Minister Catherine Martin on a tour of the capital development site in Kildare Street, June 2022

### Studentships Programme

Each year, the NLI offers a limited number of studentships and internships to share practical insights into a career in librarianship or other departments in the NLI. We have partnered with a number of bodies and organisations since the programme commenced in 1999. The University College Dublin (UCD) School of Library and Information Studies, the UCD School of History, the Irish Committee of Historical Sciences and the Heritage Council of Ireland are integral to running this valued offering each year.

### Launch of New Five-Year Strategy

May saw the publication of our five-year strategy. Developed by the Board, the Director and the Leadership Team, the strategy was created with a framework of five strategic pillars. They continue the work of the strategic period 2016-2021 which highlighted enduring priorities for the NLI such as collecting and protecting.

These five pillars set forth an ambitious strategic programme for the period 2022-2026 that will see the NLI transformed and reimagined through a substantial capital redevelopment programme and extensive work across all our services and functions.

The NLI's five strategic priorities for 2022-2026 are to 'Collect, Protect, Reveal, Engage and Innovate'.



Consultations in the Family History research room



The NLI's Five-Year Strategy was published in May 2022

## Engage

The National Library's tradition of welcome underpins everything we do and public engagement is a vibrant and central part of our work. Exhibitions, events, tours and learning activities help us to promote inclusive engagement with the collections we hold in trust.

The rapid and necessary development of our digital outreach in previous years has produced valuable new platforms to engage with users across the country and internationally. The new methods we developed of connecting with our online audiences remained in place and helped to grow our reach and further our mission to share the national collections with the world.

With over a million website visits from 200 countries and 10.4% annual growth in social media followers we continued to programme online as well as in-person activity to meet demand. The NLI's tradition of partnership underpins our achievements and some of the highlights from 2022 are showcased on the following pages.

### Onsite Visitor Numbers

#### Researchers

Main Reading Room	8,069
Manuscripts Reading Room	2,268
Family History Room	1,708

#### Exhibitions and Events

<i>Seamus Heaney: Listen Now Again</i>	57,388
National Photographic Archive	22,418
<i>Yeats: The Life and Works of WB Yeats</i>	49,933
Museum of Literature Ireland (MoLI)	36,625

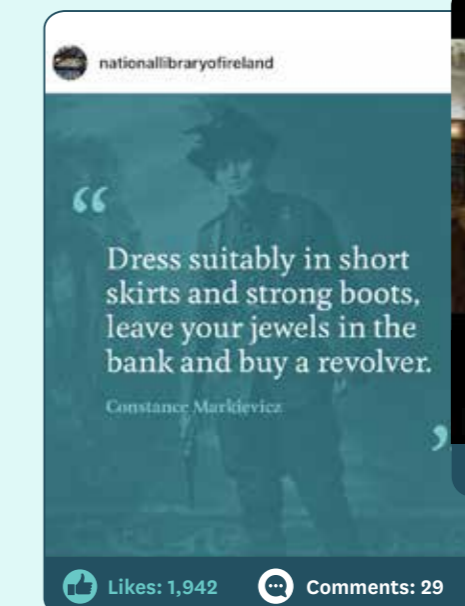
#### Restoration of Services Post COVID-19 Pandemic:

From May, late mid-week opening hours for our Main Reading Room and Manuscripts Reading Room were reintroduced followed by a return to biweekly Saturday openings from October. The popular individual consultation services with the Family History department were also resumed in-person.

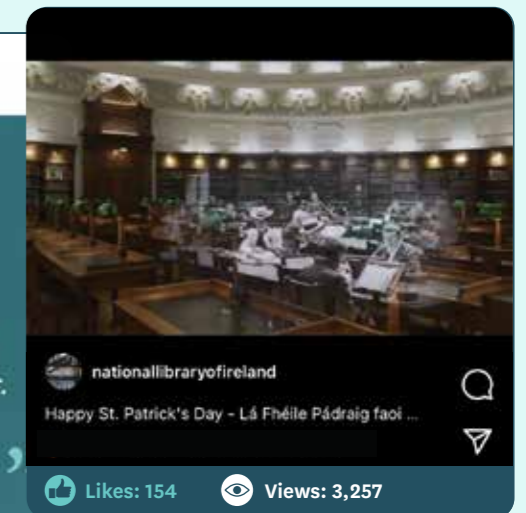


## Top Social Media Posts

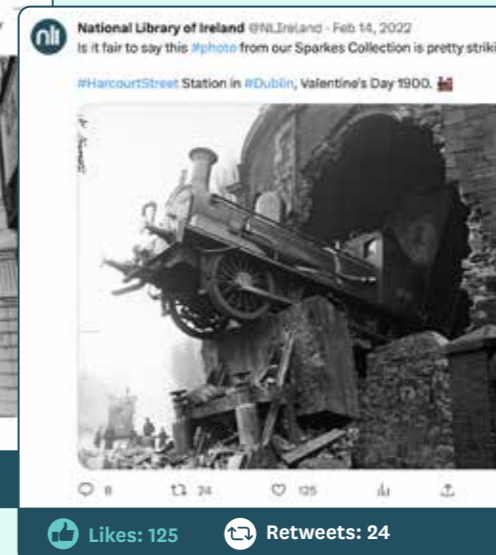
### Top Instagram Post



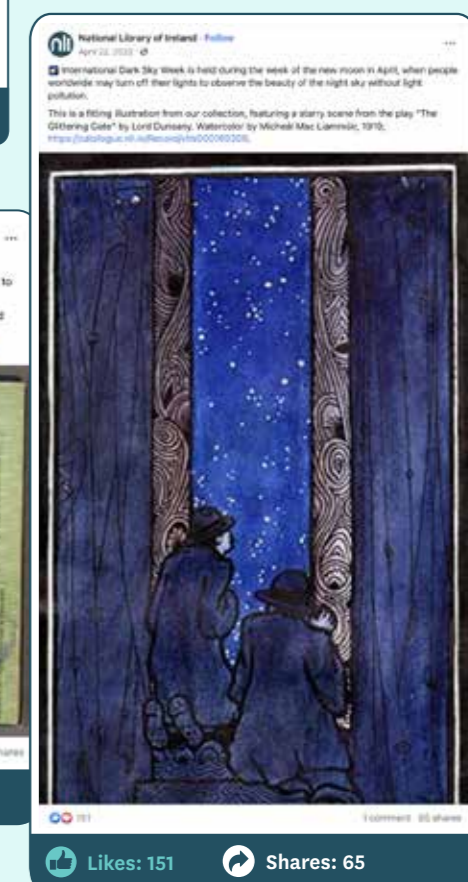
### Top Instagram Video



### Top Twitter Posts



### Top Facebook Posts



# 1. Our Locations and Exhibition Spaces

## OUR LOCATIONS

The National Library of Ireland is located at four buildings in Dublin. All of the buildings are open to the public free of charge.

### The National Library of Ireland

7/8 Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2, Do2 P638

### Manuscripts Reading Room and Office of the Chief Herald

2/3 Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2, Do2 TR76

### Seamus Heaney: *Listen Now Again*

Bank of Ireland Cultural &  
Heritage Centre, Westmoreland Street,  
Dublin 2, Do2 VR66

### The National Photographic Archive

Meeting House Square,  
Temple Bar, Dublin 2, Do2 WF85

## EXHIBITIONS



### Yeats: The Life and Work of William Butler Yeats

- ◆ Over the past fifteen years, the NLI's award-winning Yeats exhibition has established itself as one of our most popular attractions. The multimedia exhibition features our extensive collection of WB Yeats material and delves into the life of one of the most important and influential poets of the 20th century.
- ◆ In 2022, virtual tours continued with in-person tours resuming in March. Virtual tours including 'Yeats and Nature', 'Yeats, Fairytales and Folklore', 'Yeats and Theatre' and the 'Introduction to the Yeats exhibition' tour proved popular with online audiences in Ireland and beyond.
- ◆ From March onwards, there was a noticeable increase in the number of primary school and post-primary school in-person visits.



### Seamus Heaney: *Listen Now Again (SH:LNA)*

- ◆ Launched in 2017 and curated by Professor Geraldine Higgins, this well-attended, interactive exhibition draws on the extensive archive that Nobel Prize Laureate Seamus Heaney and his family donated to the National Library of Ireland in 2011. 2022 saw a reintroduction of onsite events and weekly guided tours. Virtual tours and lectures continued with participants attending from across Ireland, the USA, Canada, the UK and China.
- ◆ Collaboration with the Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT) Support Service to create a new teaching resource on Heaney's *The Burial at Thebes*.
- ◆ Collaboration with organisations such as First Fortnight, Positive Ageing and Dublin Festival of History to provide workshops and events onsite and online.



### The National Photographic Archive (NPA)

- ◆ Repository to over five million images, the National Photographic Archive in Temple Bar hosts the national photographic collections onsite in underground archives and offers, by appointment only, archive access and librarian support in the compact reading and photo research room.
- ◆ Typically open seven days a week in the heart of Dublin city centre, the NPA resumed public access to the exhibition space in January.
- ◆ Working in collaboration with RTÉ Archives to celebrate six decades of television in Ireland, the popular *'Ireland on the Box'* exhibition finished its run in November.
- ◆ Preparation of the space for the incoming 2023 photographic exhibition *'People and Places: Ireland in the 19th and 20th Centuries'* was underway in the later part of the year with the forthcoming exhibition scheduled to open to the public in spring 2023.

## 2. Public Tours, Talks and Events (Highlights)



### Children's Events

#### Time to Rhyme

*SH:LNA* introduced a recurring interactive workshop for 0-5 year olds with familiar stories and rhymes, songs, and poetry from Seamus Heaney.

#### Winter Saturdays: Deadly Dublin!

In collaboration with Fáilte Ireland's 'Winter in Dublin' initiative, we hosted events and workshops aimed at children aged between 8-12 featuring author and illustrator Alan Nolan (The O'Brien Press).

#### Summer Saturdays

Showcasing the new NLI Lego model with workshops including Dublin City South Lego Building and colouring workshops, WB Yeats activity trail and Children's History and Heritage Trail.

#### National Drawing Day

A children's creative trail around the *SH:LNA* exhibition.

### Night-Time Economy Autumn-Winter Programme

With support from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, the NLI launched a series of after-hours evening events with a programme of talks, tours and performances.

#### Highlights include:

#### Talk: The Irish Hallowe'en Experience: Dressing Up and Knocking on Doors

Artist and folklorist Michael Fortune explored the customs surrounding Hallowe'en/Samhain.

#### Director's Tours

Monthly guided tours (September-November) with the NLI's Acting Director.

#### Dublin Book Festival: Writing History

A partnership event with the Dublin Book Festival, writer Paul McVeigh led a discussion with historical fiction writers.



### Lego Model Launch

A fantastically detailed large-scale Lego model of the NLI Kildare Street campus was opened to the public. Located in our main hall, it is one of the largest Lego models in Ireland measuring: 180cm x 168cm and 60cm high.

Over four years, we worked with Lego hobbyists David and Breda Fennell to celebrate the much-loved features of our Victorian buildings, and to imagine the new public space that is being developed in our former book stacks.



### Joseph Hassett Yeats Annual Lecture

The 2022 Annual Hassett Yeats Lecture entitled 'WB Yeats: A Portrait of the Poet as a Joyce Critic' was delivered by Professor John McCourt.

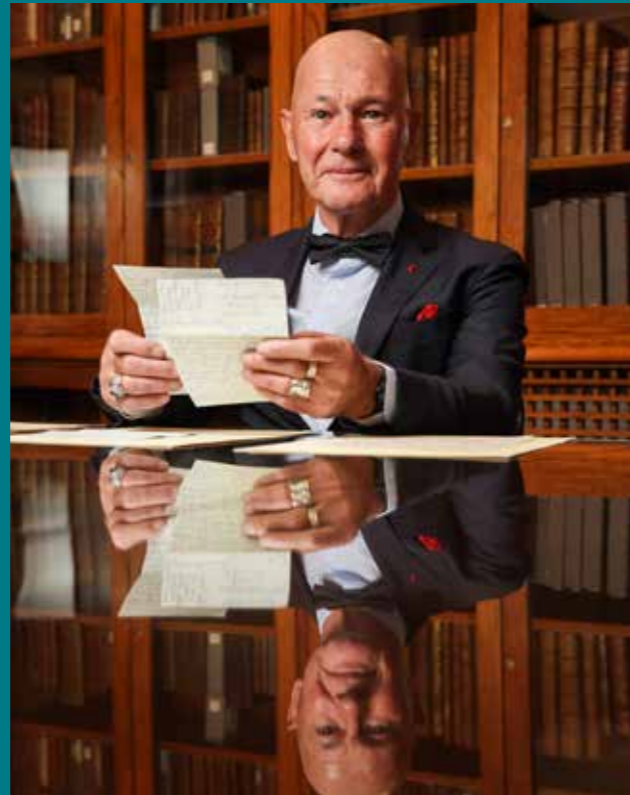
Each year, with the generous support of lawyer, literary scholar and philanthropist Joseph Hassett, the National Library offers a keynote lecture marking the birth of WB Yeats on 13 June 1865.

## 2. Public Tours, Talks and Events (Highlights)



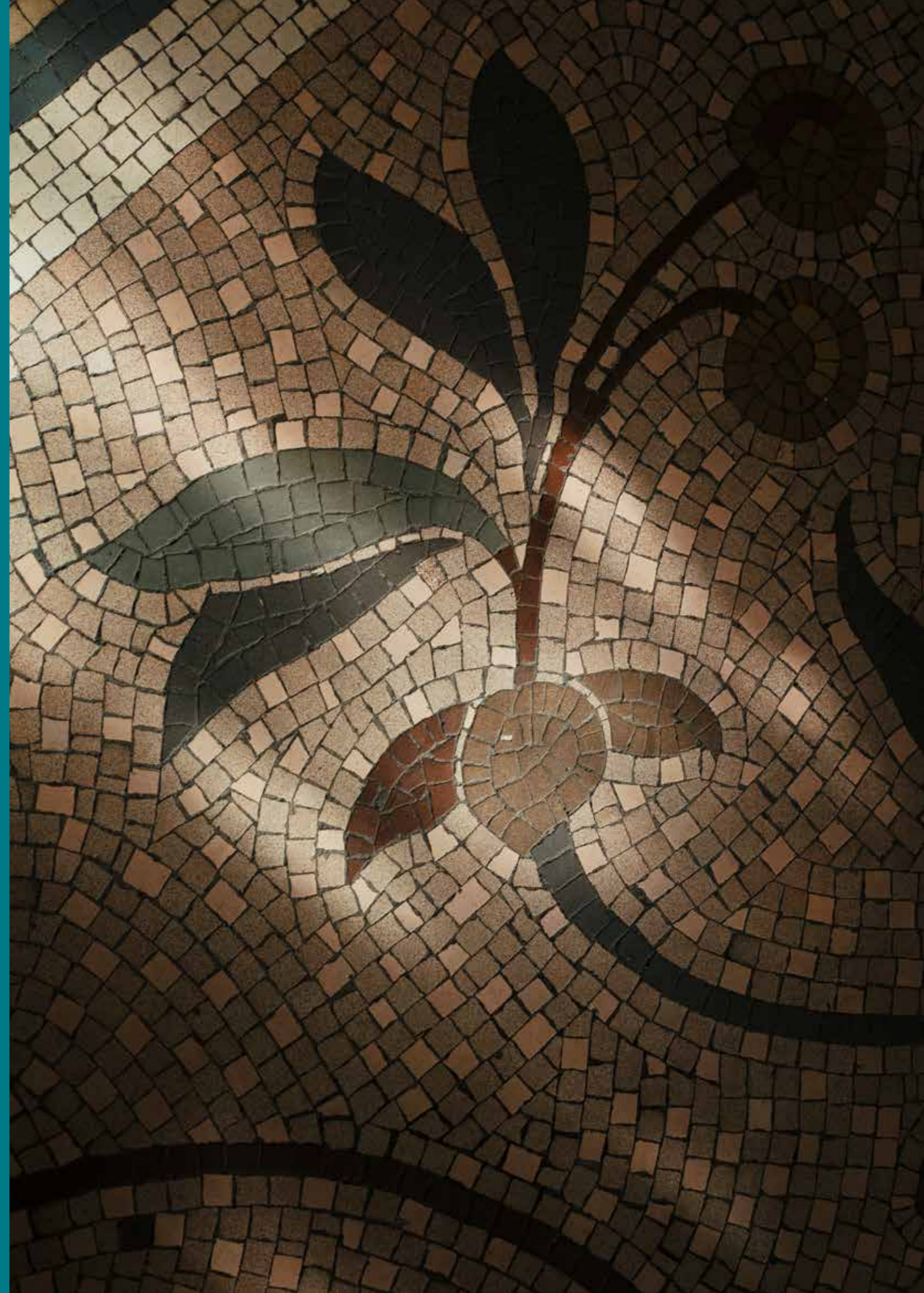
### Poetry Aloud

Organised with Poetry Ireland / Éigse Éireann and supported by University College Cork, the 2021 competition took place virtually as a result of COVID-19. In December 2022, the winners of the 2021 Poetry Aloud Competition attended for an in-person prize giving in the surroundings of the WB Yeats Library in the NLI.



### Acquisition Event: Bernárd Lynch

In November, the NLI announced the acquisition of the personal papers of the renowned HIV/AIDS activist and former priest, Bernárd Lynch. Dedicated to pastoral care and human rights advocacy in the LGBTI+ community in New York and London, Lynch came to prominence during the HIV/AIDS epidemic.



## 3. Our Online Programme (Highlights)

### Online Engagement

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEBSITE VIEWS

1,212,151

REGISTER VIEWS

2,126,627

FLICKR VIEWS

7,847,549

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

Facebook: 33,968

Instagram: 23,329

Twitter: 43,723

10.4%

Annual growth of 10.4% across our social media channels combined followers (from 94,137 to 104,020)

7,054\*

Events, tours and exhibitions online

\*NLI online events (excluding MoLI)



### Online Exhibitions

#### ***Don't Anticipate the Ending***

Presented in partnership with MoLI, this online exhibition documents a series of creative encounters with the archives of Irish playwright Brian Friel.

#### ***'Revealing History'***

In partnership with the Decade of Centenaries, we launched a new digital campaign highlighting materials that relates to the political and social upheaval of 1922.

#### **Virtual Exhibition Tour of *SH:LNA***

Monthly virtual tour that is ISL interpreted and has captions.

#### ***From Turmoil to Truce: Photographs of the War of Independence***

An online tour based on the exhibition *From Turmoil to Truce: Photographs of the War of Independence*.



### Online Events and Talks

#### ***History Ireland Podcast: 'Ulysses in History'***

In partnership with the *History Ireland* Hedge School series.

#### **Border Literature Series: *New Horizons***

A six-month online programme exploring diverse literary perspectives on the experiences of borders. Co-curated with Professor Nicholas Allen, the University of Georgia, the final session took place in March.

#### **Panel Discussion: *Why donate LGBT+ collections to Libraries?***

A lively panel discussion on why LGBT+ collections should be donated to libraries and archives and the issues around accessibility to these collections.



#### **Instagram Live: International Poetry Day reading with Julie Morrissy**

Lunchtime talk and reading on Instagram Live with the NLI Poet-in-Residence, Julie Morrissy.

#### **Annual Breandán Ó Buachalla Memorial Lecture**

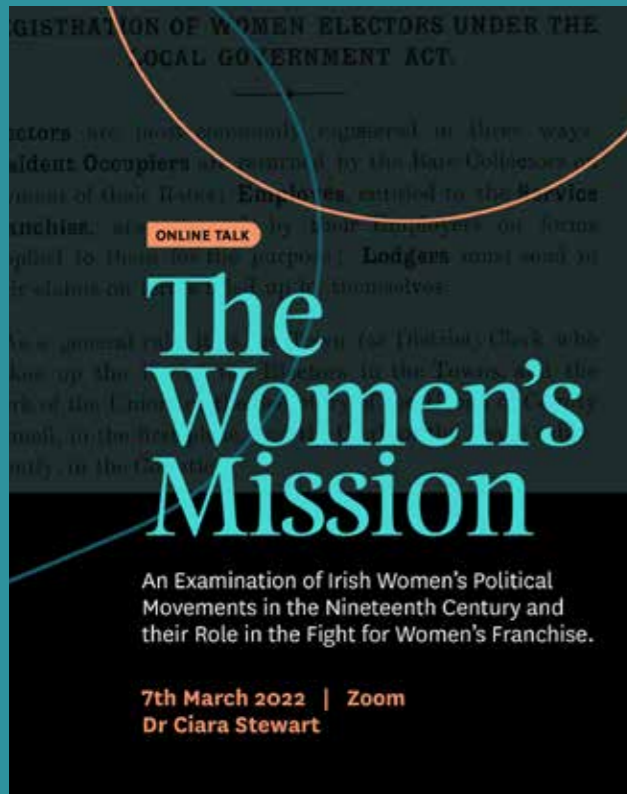
Online lecture in partnership with the Irish Texts Society. Dr Katharine Simms, Trinity College Dublin, spoke on 'Mixed Marriages in Medieval Ireland'.

#### **Monthly Poetry Book Club**

Introduced and led by the team at *SH:LNA*, this online group offers an accessible forum to read and discuss favourite poems.

#### **Online Lecture: *When the Music Stopped***

Exploring why the Irish Civil War is so often viewed through a lens of 'trauma' and the developing ideas of psychology in Ireland at the turn of the 20th century.



## Online Learning

### Online Talk: 'The Women's Mission'

An examination of Irish women's political movements in the 19th century, with speaker Dr Ciara Stewart.

### Online Talk: *Clóliosta* and the Irish language

As part of Seachtain na Gaeilge celebrations, this online talk was delivered by Máire Ní Chonalláin, Assistant Keeper in the NLI.

### Introduction to Research – Lunchtime and Evening Talks

An introduction to the NLI as a source for research.

### Introduction to Genealogy

Aimed at the complete beginner, this eight week online course demonstrated how to research your family history using the NLI's genealogy resources as well as other sources.

### Schools Workshops

Virtual School Workshops hosted by *SH:LNA* presented to students from both national and international schools.

## Creative Commissions



Working with creative people is an important way for the National Library to support the cultural life of the nation and to add to our collections.

### ***RADICAL! Women and the Irish Revolution***

A new pamphlet of poems, images, translation and research notes created by Julie Morrissy was published in July 2022. Translation to Irish by Ciara Ní É, and design, layout and typesetting by Shauna Buckley. The pamphlet is a result of Morrissy's time as the NLI's Poet-in-Residence, an initiative undertaken in partnership with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and the Decade of Centenaries Programme, which ran between June 2021 and June 2022.

### ***Postcards from Heaney Country***

In September the NLI partnered with the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Estate of Seamus Heaney on *Postcards from Heaney Country*, a suite of short films featuring four Heaney poems.

In December, a film screening of *Postcards from Heaney Country* was held followed by a discussion in response to the project.



# Innovate

The National Library of Ireland has a long-standing reputation as an innovator and is taking the lead in digital collecting and digitisation to ensure the evolving landscape of culture and history is conserved into the future and accessible to all. To date we have digitised over 160,000 items from the national collections.

## Selective Web Archiving

Every year, we selectively archive the Irish web on a permission basis, with public input. In the archive, the sites can be browsed exactly as a user would do on the web, and are safe even if the website is completely changed or has disappeared.

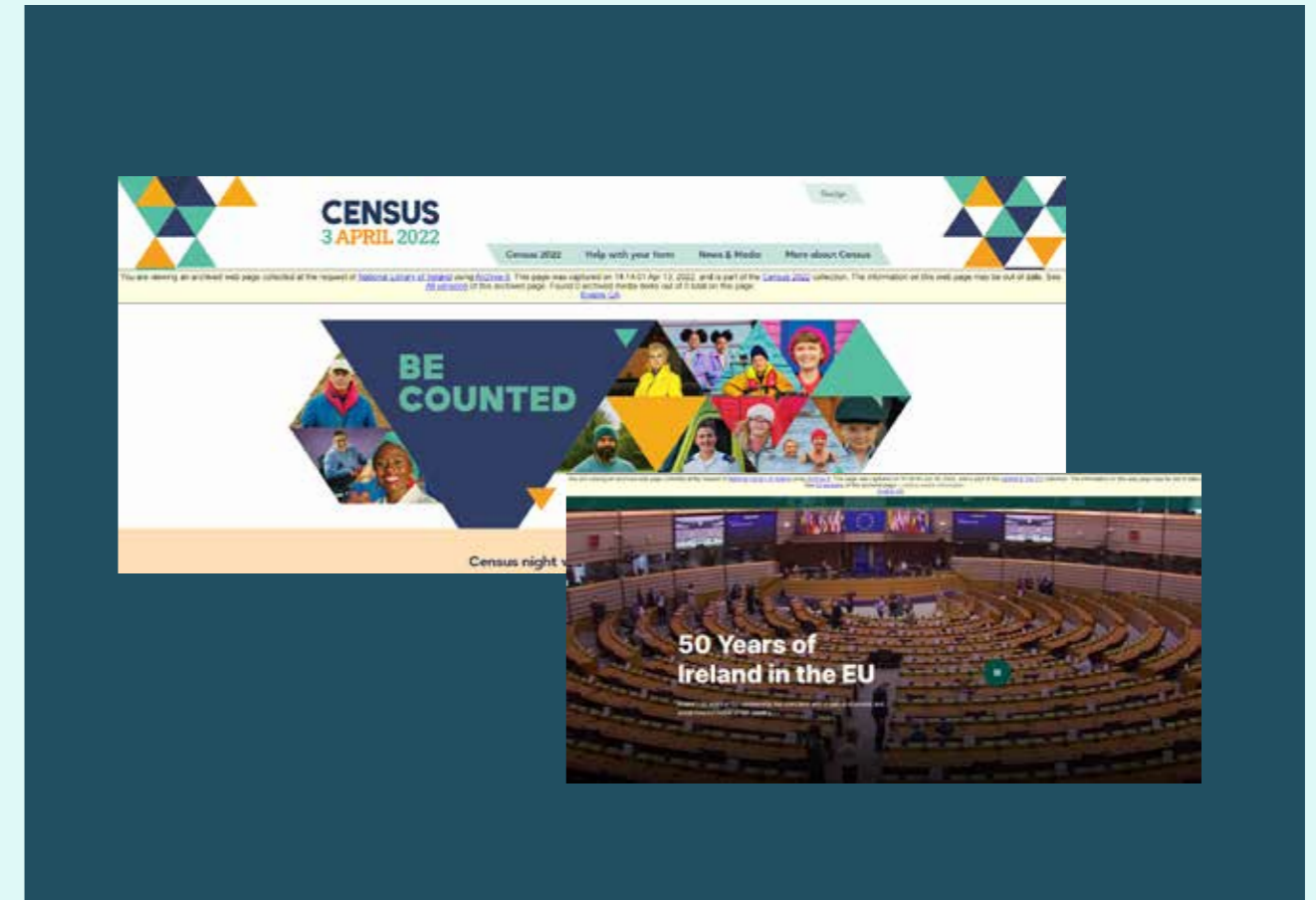
Our web archive collection preserves and makes Irish content websites from 2011 to the present openly available. During 2022 we crawled 736 websites, adding a further 6.1 TB of data to the NLI's Selective Web Archive. A large range of sites were covered from culture, diaspora and education to sport and social movements. Work to record the Irish response to COVID-19 also continued.

## Digital Highlights

In 1809, the British government appointed the Bog Commissioners to compile reports and large scale maps on bog land across 22 different counties in Ireland. In early 2022, the NLI digitised the collection of the enormous hand-drawn maps to create a valuable digital source of historic geo-spatial data and foster new partnerships. RePEAT is an interdisciplinary project at the crossroads of ecology, history and geography. Funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), RePEAT seeks to identify ways to reduce the management intensity of peatlands in Ireland and explore the re-wetting of Irish bog land.

## Conservation Internship

The NLI runs an annual conservation internship programme in collaboration with the Heritage Council. Conservation internships continued in 2022 and the project work undertaken included conservation of manuscript volumes for digitisation, as well as conservation of new accessions to our prints and drawings and ephemera collections.



Highlights from recent website archiving: Census, 3 April 2022 and 50 Years of Ireland in the EU



Detail of hand-drawn map from the RePEAT project in the Digital Studio

## Diversity and Inclusion

Diversity and inclusion is central to all we do, building on a long tradition of welcome for all. We continue to prioritise equality and incorporate diversity and inclusion in all aspects of our work, collections and working relationships. Highlights:

- Installation of hearing loops to assist readers and visitors with a hearing impairment.
- Active Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) working committee comprised of NLI staff continued its work.
- *SH:LNA* commissioned five videos interpreting Heaney's poems into ISL along with an accompanying poetry guide.
- JAM Card programme adopted to support people with a hidden disability in order to tell others they need 'Just A Minute' discreetly and easily.

## Digital Partnerships

Staff from the NLI served as committee members on the International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC), Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC), Digital Scholarship Network Ireland (DSN-IE), and iPRES Programme Committee for the iPRES 2022 conference on Digital Preservation in Glasgow. We were also invited to join DPC BitList Council.

In October, NLI collaborated with the Irish Film Institute (IFI) to co-present on the issue of language bias at the 6th annual 'No Time To Wait' conference in The Hague. For World Digital Preservation Day 2022, the NLI staff led an in-person workshop entitled: 'Focus on Digital: An introduction to working with born-digital photographic collections'.

## Complete Website Redesign

Planning and development work for the NLI website continued throughout 2022 with a launch scheduled for early 2023. The new bilingual website will offer a greater level of user accessibility and will help to develop our communications across multiple platforms.

## Online Catalogue Updated

Following essential upgrades to our online catalogue in November 2021, (<https://catalogue.nli.ie>) an increase of 11% engagement occurred in 2022. The updated interface offers greater accessibility for users. Using International Image Interchange Format (IIIF), ensures our digitised material is shareable and reusable. Further updates to the catalogue involved bringing NLI material from sources.nli.ie, registers.nli.ie and the old newspaper database into catalogue.nli.ie. This allows users to search across all catalogued material in one place for the first time.

## COVID-19

While access to our public spaces was reinstated during 2022, we remained committed to maintaining a safe and healthy working environment for all staff and visitors.

## Public Sector Climate Action Mandate

The mandate highlights the main climate action objectives for public bodies. In compliance with the mandate, the NLI report on the following:

### 1. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) monitoring and reporting report for 2022 shows energy savings of 52.4% for the NLI when compared to the 2009 baseline year.

### 2. Implementation of the mandate

The Board of the NLI approved the NLI Climate Action Roadmap 2022 in December.

### 3. Sustainability activities report

A number of sustainable initiatives occurred and were continued in 2022 including:

- Continuing the programme of replacement of light fittings with LED lights
- Replacement of gas boilers in National Photographic Archive
- Installation of secondary glazing to selected windows
- Participation in the 'Reduce Your Use' campaign

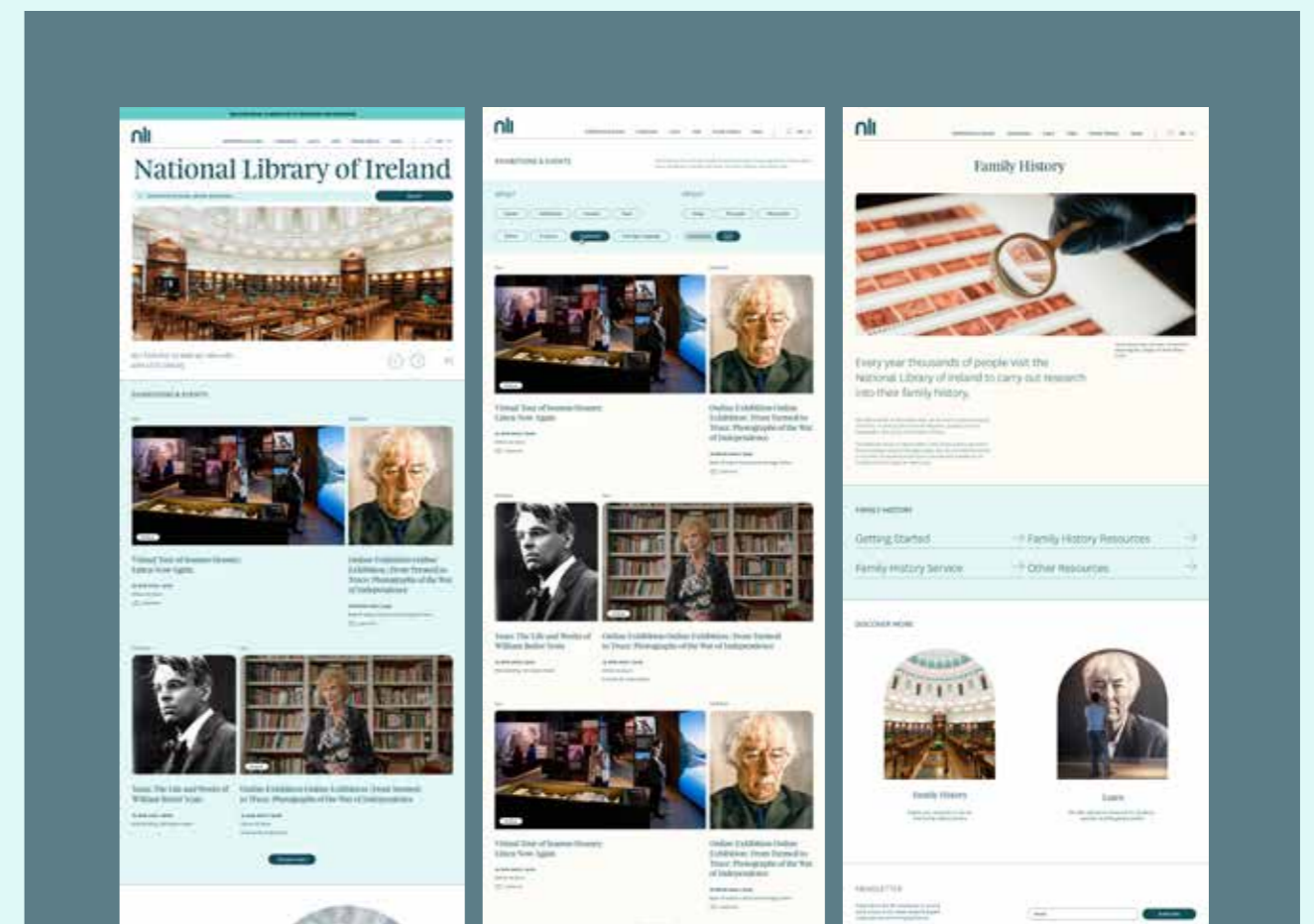
**4. The NLI confirms compliance with Circular 1/2020:** Procedures for offsetting the emissions associated with official air travel.



'No Time To Wait' conference in The Hague



Kieran O'Leary at the Preservations Awards in Glasgow



Website page designs in progress

**NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND**

# Financial Statements 2022

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# Governance Statement and Board Members' Report

For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

## Governance

The Board of the National Library of Ireland (NLI) was appointed in accordance with the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997. The functions of the Board are set out in Section 12 of the Act (Functions of Board of the Library). The Board is accountable to the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and is responsible for ensuring good governance and performs this task by setting strategic objectives and targets and taking strategic decisions on all key business issues. The regular day-to-day management, control and direction of the NLI are the responsibility of the Director and the senior leadership team. The Director and the senior leadership team must follow the broad strategic direction set by the Board and must ensure that all Board members have a clear understanding of the key activities and decisions related to the entity, and of any significant risks likely to arise. The Director acts as a direct liaison between the Board and management of the Library.

## Board Responsibilities

The work and responsibilities of all those associated with the operation of the Board are set out in the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) for Board members, Chairperson, Director and Secretary. The Code also sets out the matters specifically reserved for Board decision. Standing items considered by the Board include:

- ◆ Declarations of interests,
- ◆ Reports from committees,
- ◆ Financial reports/management accounts,
- ◆ Performance reports, and
- ◆ Reserved matters.

The National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997, Section 35, requires the Board of the NLI to prepare financial statements in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and to keep all proper and usual accounts of money received and expended by it.

### In preparing these financial statements, the Board of the NLI is required to:

- ◆ Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ◆ Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ◆ Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the NLI will continue in operation; and
- ◆ State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Board confirms that it has complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The Board is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the NLI and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 35 of the Act. The maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information on the NLI's website is the responsibility of the Board.

The Board is responsible for approving the annual plan and budgets. There is an on-going evaluation of the performance of the NLI by reference to its annual business plan and budget. The Board is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Board considers that the financial statements of the NLI give a true and fair view of the financial performance and the financial position of the NLI at 31st December 2022. The Board approved the signing of this statement and the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022 on the 29th June 2023.

## Board Structure

The Board consists of a Chairperson and 11 ordinary members, all of whom were appointed by the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. The Board members were appointed for a period of 3 or 5 years and meet 6 times per annum. The Table below details the appointment period of the Board members:

Board Members	Role	Date Appointed	Term Expiry Date	Additional Detail
<b>Eoin McVey</b>	Chairperson	Appointed as ordinary member on 8 February 2021, and appointed as Chairperson on 29 July 2021	7 February 2026	Royal Dublin Society Nominee
<b>Prof Maeve Conrick</b>	Ordinary Member	24 November 2020	23 November 2023	Reappointed in 2020
<b>Dr Conor Kostick</b>	Ordinary Member	24 November 2020	23 November 2023	Reappointed in 2020
<b>Jennifer Taaffe</b>	Ordinary Member	24 November 2020	23 November 2023	Reappointed in 2020
<b>Dr Marie Bourke</b>	Ordinary Member	8 February 2021	7 February 2026	Royal Dublin Society Nominee
<b>Katherine McSharry</b>	Ordinary Member	8 February 2021	Resigned: 12 January 2023	NLI Staff Nominee
<b>John Grenham</b>	Ordinary Member	29 July 2021	28 July 2026	
<b>Lisa Grimm</b>	Ordinary Member	29 July 2021	28 July 2026	
<b>Lorelei Harris</b>	Ordinary Member	29 July 2021	28 July 2026	
<b>Prof Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh</b>	Deputy Chairperson and Ordinary Member	29 July 2021	28 July 2026	
<b>Prof Kalpana Shankar</b>	Ordinary Member	29 July 2021	28 July 2026	
<b>Caitriona Sharkey</b>	Ordinary Member	29 July 2021	28 July 2026	

On 8 April 2022, Katherine McSharry withdrew as a member of the Board for the period in which she was serving as Acting Director and resigned from the NLI on 12th January 2023. The staff nominee Board position is currently vacant.

As at 31st December 2022, the Board had 8 (67 %) female and 4 (33 %) male members. The Board therefore does not currently meet the Government target of a minimum of 40% representation of each gender in the membership of State Boards. Board members' terms vary between 3 or 5 years. The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media are progressing the appointment of the vacant position and upcoming vacancies, by the Minister, and will consider the NLI's recommendations with regard to appointment of Board members with regard to the required skills, diversity and gender mix.

The Board completed an internal self-assessment effectiveness review in December 2021 and completed an external self-effectiveness review in September 2022.

There are three sub-committees of the Board of which two are statutory, namely the Readers Advisory Committee, the Genealogy and Heraldry Committee and one non-statutory committee, the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC).

- ◆ The Readers Advisory Committee is made up of two board members and four external independent members. The main function of the Readers Advisory Committee is to advise the Board on matters relating to the provision of services by the Library. This Committee met three times during 2022.
- ◆ The Genealogy and Heraldry Committee comprises four board members and four external non-board members. The main function of the Genealogy and Heraldry Committee is to advise the Board on matters arising from the Board's statutory powers and functions in the areas of genealogy and heraldry. This Committee met three times during 2022.
- ◆ The ARC comprises four board members and one independent external member. The role of the ARC is to support the Board in relation to its responsibilities for issues of risk, control and governance and associated assurance. The ARC is independent from the financial management of the organisation. In particular, the Committee ensures that the internal control systems including audit activities are monitored actively and independently. The ARC reports to the Board after each meeting and provides an annual report to the Board. There were six meetings of the ARC in 2022. The members of the ARC during 2022 were;

- ◆ Prof Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh (Chairperson)
- ◆ Prof Maeve Conrick
- ◆ Jennifer Taaffe
- ◆ Caitriona Sharkey
- ◆ Teresa Harrington (external independent member – a qualified accountant, appointed on 15th February 2021 and resigned on 4th August 2022)
- ◆ Prof Philip O'Regan (external independent member – a qualified accountant, appointed 14th August 2022)

## Schedule of Attendances, Fees and Expenses

A schedule of attendance at the Board and Committee meetings for 2022 is set out below including the fees and expenses received by each member:

Board Member	Board	Audit & Risk Committee	Readers Advisory Committee	Genealogy & Heraldry Committee	Board Fees €	Vouched Expenses €
<b>Number of meetings</b>	6	6	3	3		
Eoin McVey	6				-	185
Prof Maeve Conrick	6	5			-	279
Dr Conor Kostick	6			2	-	-
Jennifer Taaffe	6	4			-	-
Dr Marie Bourke	6				-	-
Katherine McSharry	2*		3		-	-
John Grenham	6			3	-	-
Lisa Grimm	5			3	-	-
Lorelei Harris	5		3		-	-
Prof Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh	5	6			-	541
Prof Kalpana Shankar	5			2	-	21
Caitriona Sharkey	6	5			-	-
						<b>1026</b>

\*On 8 April 2022, Katherine McSharry withdrew as a member of the Board for the period in which she was serving as Acting Director.

Teresa Harrington attended 4 Audit and Risk Committee meetings during 2022.  
Prof Philip O'Regan attended 1 Audit and Risk Committee meeting during 2022.  
The Library does not pay fees to Board members.

## Key Personnel Changes

Details of changes to the membership of the Board during 2022 are set out above under Board Structure. The Director resigned in March 2022 and the Deputy Director took up the role of Acting Director in March 2022 and resigned from the NLI in January 2023. The Head of Human Resources resigned in October 2022. In January 2022 the NLI appointed a new Head of Development and in August 2022 the NLI appointed a new Head of Service Delivery.

## Disclosures Required by the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016)

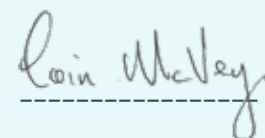
The Board is responsible for ensuring that the NLI has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (“the Code”), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in August 2016. The following disclosures are required by the Code:

- ◆ Employee short-term benefits breakdown – set out in note 5 (f) to the financial statements.
- ◆ Consultancy costs - set out in note 6 (b) to the financial statements.
- ◆ Legal costs and settlements – set out in note 6 (b) to the financial statements.
- ◆ Travel and subsistence expenditure – set out in note 6 (a) to the Financial Statements.
- ◆ Hospitality expenditure – there was no hospitality expenditure by the NLI in either 2021 or 2022.

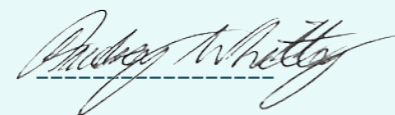
## Statement of Compliance

The Board has adopted the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) and has put in place procedures to ensure compliance with the Code. The National Library of Ireland operated in compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies for 2022.

On behalf of the Board of the National Library of Ireland.



**Eoin McVey**  
Chairperson



**Dr Audrey Whitty**  
Director

Date: 29th June 2023

## Statement on Internal Control

For the year ended 31st December 2022

### Scope of Responsibility

On behalf of the National Library of Ireland, we acknowledge the Board’s responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).

### Shared Services

Payroll and human resource functions are provided on a shared services basis by the National Shared Service Office (Vote 18). The Accounting Officer of the National Shared Services Office is responsible for the operation of controls within the Shared Service Centres.

The Accounting Officer for Shared Services has put in place an audit process to provide independent assurance on the operation of controls within shared services. This assurance is a combination of:

- ◆ Internal audit work performed by the National Shared Service Office’s Internal Audit Unit, and
- ◆ Audits conducted by a firm of accountants in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE 3402), designed to report to user departments and their auditors on the controls within shared services. These audits report on the effectiveness of controls operated in 2022.

The Accounting Officer for shared services has provided a letter of assurance on the internal control and audit arrangements and reports on the audits of the operation of controls during 2022.

The NLI takes assurance from the system of control within shared services as reported by the Accounting Officer for the National Shared Services Office.

### Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way.

The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform has been in place in the National Library of Ireland for the year ended 31st December 2022 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

### Capacity to Handle Risk

The National Library of Ireland has an Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) comprising four Board members and one external member, with financial and audit expertise. The ARC met six times in 2022.

The National Library of Ireland has an internal audit function as defined in the Board’s Charter for Internal Audit. The work of the internal audit function is informed by analysis of the risk to which the body is exposed, and annual internal audit plans are based on this analysis. The analysis of risk and the internal audit plans have been endorsed by the ARC and approved by the Board. The Internal Auditor provides the Board with reports of internal audit activity. The internal audit function has been outsourced to an external firm.

The ARC has developed a risk management policy, which sets out the NLI's risk appetite, the risk management processes in place and details the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to risk. The policy has been issued to all staff who are expected to work within the National Library of Ireland's risk management policies, to alert management on emerging risks and control weaknesses and assume responsibility for risks and controls within their own area of work.

## Risk and Control Framework

The National Library of Ireland has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks. The Library's Board has retained risk management as a standing item on its meeting agenda. The Board reviewed and updated its risk management policy and risk appetite statement for the Library during 2021.

A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks facing the National Library of Ireland and these have been identified, evaluated and graded according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the ARC on a half-yearly basis and is reviewed by the Board on an annual basis. The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibility for operation of controls assigned to specific staff. We confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- ◆ Procedures for all key business processes have been documented,
- ◆ Financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability,
- ◆ There is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under review by senior management,
- ◆ There are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the information and communication technology systems,
- ◆ There are systems in place to safeguard the assets, and
- ◆ Control procedures to ensure adequate control over grant funding so that it has been applied for the purpose intended.

## Ongoing Monitoring and Review

Formal procedures which have been established for monitoring control processes and control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action and to management and the Board, where relevant, in a timely way. We confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- ◆ Key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies,
- ◆ Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned, and
- ◆ There are regular reviews by senior management of periodic and annual performance and financial reports which indicate performance against budgets/forecasts.

## Procurement

We confirm that the National Library of Ireland has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines. Other than those contracts disclosed in the 'Internal Control Issues' paragraph below, the Library complied with its procedures during 2022.

## Review of Effectiveness

We confirm that the National Library of Ireland has procedures to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. The National Library of Ireland's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors, the Audit and Risk Committee (which oversees their work) and the senior management within the National Library of Ireland responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

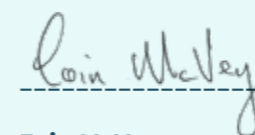
We confirm that the Board conducted an annual review of the effectiveness of the internal controls for 2022 on 23rd February 2023.

## Internal Control Issues

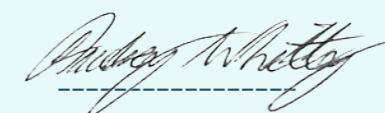
There were no internal control weaknesses identified during 2022 other than those disclosed below relating to expenditure in the amount of €145,176 (2021: €30,750):

- ◆ One contract (2022: €95,872, 2021: €30,750) relating to the provision of public relations, communications and marketing services, had been awarded under a competitive process, but was extended with Board approval, beyond its contract end date. A procurement competition for the provision of this service is concluded and a new contract was put in place in September 2022.
- ◆ One contract (2022: €49,304, 2021: €nil) relating to the provision of security services to the NLI, had been awarded under a competitive process, but was extended with Board approval, beyond its contract end date. A procurement competition for the provision of this service is concluded and a new contract was put in place in September 2022.

On behalf of the Board of the National Library of Ireland.



**Eoin McVey**  
Chairperson



**Dr Audrey Whitty**  
Director

Date: 29th June 2023

# Comptroller and Auditor General's Report



## Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste Comptroller and Auditor General

### Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

#### National Library of Ireland

#### Opinion on the financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of the National Library of Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2022 as required under the provisions of section 35 of the National Cultural Institutions Act 1997. The financial statements comprise

- the statement of income and expenditure and retained revenue reserves
- the statement of comprehensive income
- the statement of financial position
- the statement of cash flows, and
- the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the National Library of Ireland at 31 December 2022 and of its income and expenditure for 2022 in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 — *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland*.

#### Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of the National Library of Ireland and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Report on information other than the financial statements, and on other matters

The National Library of Ireland has presented certain other information together with the financial statements. This comprises the annual report, the governance statement and Board members' report, and the statement on internal control. My responsibilities to report in relation to such information, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

I have nothing to report in that regard.

Mary Henry  
For and on behalf of the  
Comptroller and Auditor General

06 July 2023

## Appendix to the report

### Responsibilities of Board members

As detailed in the governance statement and Board members' report, the Board members are responsible for

- the preparation of annual financial statements in the form prescribed under section 35 of the National Cultural Institutions Act 1997
- ensuring that the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with FRS 102
- ensuring the regularity of transactions
- assessing whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, and
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under section 35 of the National Cultural Institutions Act 1997 to audit the financial statements of the National Library of Ireland and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures.

- I conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, on whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the National Library of Ireland's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my report. However, future events or conditions may cause the National Library of Ireland to cease to continue as a going concern.
- I evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

#### Information other than the financial statements

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information presented with those statements, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, I am required under the ISAs to read the other information presented and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

#### Reporting on other matters

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. I report if I identify material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I report if I identify any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.



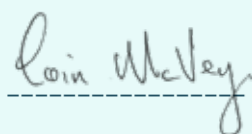
## Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves

For the year ended 31st December 2022

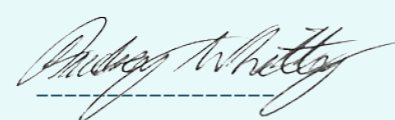
	Note	2022 €	2021 €
<b>INCOME</b>			
Oireachtas Grants	2	9,911,208	8,950,113
Donations (Materials and Cash)	3	49,000	98,296
Net Deferred Pension Funding	7(c)	1,511,000	1,066,000
Other Income	4	304,013	342,156
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>11,775,221</b>	<b>10,456,565</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Remuneration	5	7,821,059	7,150,557
Administration and Operations	6	1,521,408	1,319,748
Programmes	8	1,475,394	1,136,376
Depreciation	11	342,954	358,351
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>11,160,815</b>	<b>9,965,032</b>
Net Operating Surplus		614,406	491,533
Transfer to the Capital Account – Heritage Assets	10	(335,242)	(1,051,684)
Transfer to the Capital Account – Operational Fixed Assets	10	304,659	279,456
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for Year</b>		<b>583,823</b>	<b>(280,695)</b>
Balance Brought Forward at 1 January		1,004,913	1,285,608
<b>Balance Carried Forward at 31 December</b>		<b>1,588,736</b>	<b>1,004,913</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows and notes 1 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of the National Library of Ireland:



**Eoin McVey**  
Chairperson



**Dr Audrey Whitty**  
Director

Date: 29th June 2023

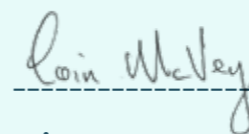
## Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31st December 2022

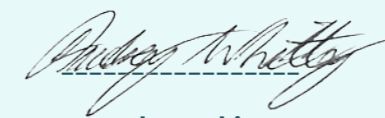
	Note	2022 €	2021 €
<b>(Deficit) / Surplus for Year</b>		<b>583,823</b>	<b>(280,695)</b>
Experience gains/ (losses) on retirement benefit obligations	7(b)	303,000	(1,382,000)
Change in assumptions underlying the present value of retirement benefit obligations	7(b)	18,981,000	(2,059,000)
<b>Total Actuarial Gain / (Loss) in the Year</b>		<b>19,284,000</b>	<b>(3,441,000)</b>
Adjustment to deferred retirement benefits funding		(19,284,000)	3,441,000
<b>Total Comprehensive (Expense) / Income for the Year</b>		<b>583,823</b>	<b>(280,695)</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows and notes 1 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of the National Library of Ireland:



**Eoin McVey**  
Chairperson



**Dr Audrey Whitty**  
Director

Date: 29th June 2023

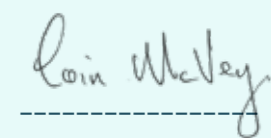
## Statement of Financial Position

As at 31st December 2022

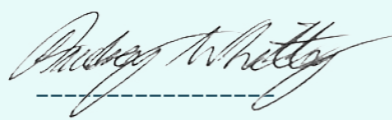
	Note	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	11	507,156	811,815
Heritage Assets	12	28,457,252	28,122,010
		<b>28,964,408</b>	<b>28,933,825</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Receivables	13	417,843	415,068
Cash and Cash Equivalents		1,909,261	1,356,231
		<b>2,327,104</b>	<b>1,771,299</b>
<b>Current Liabilities (amounts falling due within one year)</b>			
Payables	14	738,368	766,386
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>1,588,736</b>	<b>1,004,913</b>
<b>Retirement Benefits</b>			
Retirement Benefit Obligations	7(b)	(35,137,000)	(52,910,000)
Deferred Retirement Benefit Funding Asset	7(b)	35,137,000	52,910,000
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>30,553,144</b>	<b>29,938,738</b>
<b>Representing</b>			
Capital Account:			
Heritage Assets	10	28,457,252	28,122,010
Operational Fixed Assets	10	507,156	811,815
Retained Revenue Reserves		1,588,736	1,004,913
		<b>30,553,144</b>	<b>29,938,738</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows and notes 1 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of the National Library of Ireland



**Eoin McVey**  
Chairperson



**Dr Audrey Whitty**  
Director

Date: 29th June 2023

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31st December 2022

	Note	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Excess Income over Expenditure / (Expenditure over Income)		583,823	(280,695)
Donated Materials		(48,000)	(98,275)
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	11	342,954	358,351
Increase in Receivables		(2,775)	(37,080)
(Decrease) / Increase in Payables		(28,018)	17,272
Increase in Capital Account		30,583	772,228
Disposal of Fixed Assets	11	15,164	-
<b>Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities</b>		<b>893,731</b>	<b>731,801</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>			
Payments to acquire Fixed Assets	11	(53,459)	(78,895)
Payments to acquire Heritage Assets	12	(287,242)	(953,409)
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>		<b>(340,701)</b>	<b>(1,032,304)</b>
<b>Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>			
		<b>553,030</b>	<b>(300,503)</b>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at 1 January		1,356,231	1,656,734
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>1,909,261</b>	<b>1,356,231</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 1. Accounting Policies

The basis of accounting and the significant accounting policies adopted by the National Library of Ireland are set out below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the year and for the preceding year.

#### (a) General Information

The National Library of Ireland was set up under the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997, with a head office at Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

The National Library of Ireland's primary objectives as set out in Part 12 of the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997 are as follows:

*“... to conserve, restore, maintain and enlarge the National Library material in the collection of the National Library for the benefit of the public and to establish and maintain a record of library material (including material relating to the Irish language) in relation to Ireland and to contribute to the provision of access by members of the public to material relating to other countries.”*

The National Library of Ireland is a Public Benefit Entity (PBE).

#### (b) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of the National Library of Ireland (“The National Library”) for the year ended 31st December 2022 have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC).

#### (c) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities that are measured at fair values as explained in the accounting policies below. The financial statements are in the form approved by the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997. The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the National Library's financial statements.

As set out in Note 15, the National Library of Ireland Trust (the Trust) was established to aid the development of the National Library. These financial statements do not consolidate the results of the Trust on the basis that it is not required by Section 35 of the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997.

#### (d) Revenue

##### Oireachtas Grants

Revenue from Oireachtas Grants, Sub-head B.7, Reimagining the National Library – Capital Development, is recognised on a reimbursable basis in line with the expenditure incurred in the year. All other revenue from Oireachtas Grants is recognised on a cash receipts basis.

#### Other Revenue

Other revenue is recognised on an accruals basis.

#### Direct Costs

Direct costs relating to the generation of other revenue through the activities of the National Library, e.g. Heraldry, are shown gross on the face of Note 4, Other Income.

#### (e) Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation, adjusted for any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided on all property, plant and equipment at rates estimated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each asset on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

(i)	Furniture and Fittings	10% per annum
(ii)	IT Equipment	25% per annum
(iii)	Office and General Equipment	20% per annum
(iv)	Exhibitions Operating	20% per annum or over life of exhibition

Property, plant and equipment below the capitalisation threshold of €10,000 (prior to 1st January 2022, capitalisation threshold of €1,000 applied) are expended in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves in the year of purchase.

Residual value represents the estimated amount which would currently be obtained from disposal of an asset, after deducting estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of an age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

If there is objective evidence of impairment of the value of an asset, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Reserves in the year.

The fixed assets of the National Library are funded from a combination of capital grants and allocations from current revenue. Funding sourced from grants is transferred to a capital account which is amortised in line with the depreciation of the related assets.

#### (f) Receivables

Receivables are recognised at fair value, less a provision for doubtful debts, where applicable. A provision for doubtful debts is a specific provision, and is established when there is objective evidence that the National Library will not be able to collect all amounts owed to it. All movements in any provision for doubtful debts are recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves.

#### (g) Employee Benefits

##### Short-term Benefits

Short-term benefits such as holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the year, and benefits that are accrued at year-end are included in the Payables figure in the Statement of Financial Position.

### Retirement Benefits

The National Library previously established its own defined benefit pension scheme (“the Main Scheme”), funded annually on a pay-as-you-go basis from monies provided by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and from contributions deducted from staff members’ salaries. The National Library also operates the Single Public Services Pension Scheme (“the Single Scheme”), which is a defined benefit scheme for pensionable public servants appointed on or after 1st January 2013. Single Scheme members’ contributions are paid over to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER).

Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees, and are shown net of staff pension contributions which are retained by the National Library. An amount corresponding to the pension charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable, and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments.

Actuarial gains or losses arising on scheme liabilities are reflected in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

The financial statements reflect – at fair value – the assets and liabilities arising from the National Library’s pension obligations and any related funding, and recognise the costs of providing pension benefits in the accounting periods in which they are earned by employees. Retirement benefit scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method.

### (h) Heritage Assets and Library Collections

A Heritage Asset is defined as a tangible asset with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that is held and maintained principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture.

#### Initial Recognition

Purchased items are recorded at cost in the financial statements. Donation items are recorded at a current valuation ascertained by Keepers of the Library with reference, where possible, to commercial markets using recent transaction information from auctions. Donations, where the National Library avails of Section 1003 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 are recorded on the basis of the valuation of the Office of the Revenue Commissioners.

Donations are recognised as income with a corresponding transfer to the Heritage Fixed Assets capital account as follows:

- ◆ Donations that do not impose specified future performance-related conditions on the Library are recognised in income when the resources are received or receivable;
- ◆ Donations that do impose specified future performance-related conditions on the Library are recognised in income only when the performance-related conditions are met; and
- ◆ Where resources are received before the revenue recognition criteria are satisfied, a liability is recognised.

#### Valuation

The Board does not consider that reliable cost or valuation information can be obtained for all the items held in the collections of the National Library. This is because of the diverse nature of materials held, the number of items in the collections and the lack of comparable market values. The National Library therefore does not recognise all its collections as assets in the Statement of Financial Position other than acquisitions which cost or were valued at €5,000 or more and were acquired or donated since the Board was established in May 2005. These are classified as Heritage Assets at the recording date.

Heritage assets are initially recognised at the cost of acquisition as the value attributed for donated items. The items are carried at cost in the statement of financial position with reductions for impairment where relevant.

All acquisitions for the collection purchased for €5,000 or more are funded from the National Library’s capital funding allocation for the year while acquisitions which cost less than €5,000 are funded from the current funding allocation.

Web Archiving and Digitisation are capitalised at cost and where cataloguing and metadata is directly related to the Web Archiving and Digitisation projects, these costs are also capitalised.

#### Impairment

Heritage assets are not depreciated. If there is objective evidence of impairment of the value of a heritage asset, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves in the year. A heritage asset may be impaired, for example where it has suffered physical deterioration, breakage or doubts arise as to its authenticity.

#### Conservation Costs

Conservation expenditure which is required to conserve or prevent further deterioration of individual items is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves when it is incurred.

### (i) Critical Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the reporting date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The following judgements have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

#### Donated Heritage Assets

The values of collection items donated to the National Library are determined by using valuation techniques. The National Library exercises judgment in selecting a variety of methods as outlined in the accounting policy for Heritage Assets (h) above.

#### Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset’s carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset’s fair value less cost to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

### Depreciation and Residual Values

The Board have reviewed the asset lives and associated residual values of all fixed asset classes, and in particular, the useful economic life and residual values of fixtures and fittings, and have concluded that asset lives and residual values are appropriate.

### Deferred Funding for Retirement Benefits

With reference to the Superannuation Schemes referred to in the “Employee Benefits” section above:

- ◆ The Board has recognised an asset corresponding to the unfunded liability for retirement benefits payable under the Main Scheme and the Single Scheme and has recognised deferred funding for retirement benefits recognised in the year ended 31st December 2022. In the judgement of the Board the funds required to meet these unfunded pension obligations will continue to be provided by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media or its successor entities.
- ◆ Pension contributions under the Single Scheme are remitted to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. For Single Scheme members, section 44 of the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012 provides for funding of pension payments as they fall due by way of payments out of the Central Fund or from funds provided by the Oireachtas for that purpose. The single scheme is a defined benefit scheme and is included in the 2022 FRS 102 disclosures.

### Retirement Benefit Obligation

The assumptions underlying the actuarial valuations for which the amounts recognised in the financial statements are determined (including discount rates, rates of increase in future compensation levels and mortality rates) are updated annually based on current economic conditions, and for any relevant changes to the terms and conditions of the pension and post-retirement plans.

The assumptions can be affected by:

- (i) the discount rate, changes in the rate of return on high-quality corporate bonds; and
- (ii) future compensation levels, future labour market conditions.

## 2. Oireachtas Grants

The Oireachtas Grants voted to the National Library from Vote 33 of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (“the Department”) as shown in the financial statements consist of:

		2022	2021
		€	€
	<b>Sub-head</b>		
National Library of Ireland – Current	B.11	9,205,000	7,695,000
National Library of Ireland – Capital	B.11	478,000	478,000
Cultural Infrastructure and Development – Capital	B.7	215,508	738,891
Regional Museums, Galleries, Cultural Centres and Project – Current	B.6	12,700	-
Decade of Centenaries 1912-1922 – Current	B.15	-	38,222
		<b>9,911,208</b>	<b>8,950,113</b>

Grants under Sub-head B.11 are the National Library’s annual grants for operational purposes including pay, pensions, administrative and programme expenditure, collections and minor capital improvements.

The National Library of Ireland - Current B.11 grant of €9,205,000 (2021: €7,695,000) is stated net of retirement benefits contributions totalling €236,000 (2021: €210,000), €139,000 (2021: €125,000) remitted to the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in respect of the National Library of Ireland’s staff retirement benefits scheme and €97,000 (2021: €85,000) remitted to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in respect of the single service retirement benefits scheme.

### Grants from the Cultural Infrastructure and Development Fund (Sub-head B.7) comprised:

	2022	2021
	€	€
Reimagining the National Library – Capital Development	118,832	107,295
Digitisation Fund	96,676	142,309
Edna O'Brien Archive (period 2009 - 2021)	-	450,000
Howth Castle Library acquisitions	-	39,287
	<b>215,508</b>	<b>738,891</b>

All grant funding provided under Sub-head B.7 is reimbursed in arrears based on the production of invoices, contracts and evidence of payment.

Income of €118,832 (2021: €107,295) was recognised in relation to the contribution provided towards the Westwing Development which will form part of our ongoing works with the Office of Public Works. An amount of €29,792 (2021: €14,501) was outstanding at year end and is included in Accrued Income in Note 13.

Grants under the Digitisation Fund are to support the National Library to digitise its collections to facilitate and support online access.

## 3. Donations

	2022	2021
	€	€
Donated Materials	-	-
Donations – Cash	48,000	98,275
	1,000	21
	<b>49,000</b>	<b>98,296</b>

Donations of collection items are capitalised if they are valued at €5,000 or more in accordance with the Collection Policy. During 2022, four donations were made to the National Library’s Special Collections valued at €5,000 or more and these are detailed in Note 8 (a). In 2021: four donations were made to the National Library’s Special Collections valued at €5,000 or more. There were no donations made under Section 1003 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 (as amended by the Finance Act 2002) during 2022 (2021: none).

## 4. Other Income

	2022	2021
	€	€
Copying Services	39,476	32,174
Royalties and Reproduction Services	22,680	10,074
Heraldry Income	51,453	66,110
Direct Costs of Heraldry	(47,632)	(47,912)
Genealogy Income	5,994	5,100
Research Data Alliance – European Grant	-	(1,704)
Heritage Council Grant	8,555	11,145
Irish Research Council Grant	4,625	18,500
Heaney Exhibition Retail Income	31,486	8,842
Heaney Exhibition Retail Costs	(18,983)	(4,307)
Sponsorship	206,000	244,000
Miscellaneous Income	359	134
	<b>304,013</b>	<b>342,156</b>

Income of €206,000 (2021: €244,000) was recognised in relation to sponsorship provided by Bank of Ireland. This represents the Bank's contribution towards the operation of the National Library's exhibition *Seamus Heaney: Listen Now Again*. The exhibition is housed in Bank of Ireland Cultural and Heritage Centre in its premises on College Green, Dublin 2. An amount of €206,000 (2021: €244,000) was outstanding at year end and is included in Debtors at Note 13.

## 5. Remuneration

### (a) Aggregate Employee Benefits

	2022	2021
	€	€
Staff Short-term Benefits	5,276,514	5,001,404
Termination Benefits	-	-
Retirement Benefit Costs	2,086,000	1,721,000
Employer PRSI	458,545	428,153
<b>Aggregate Employee Benefits</b>	<b>7,821,059</b>	<b>7,150,557</b>

The total number of staff employed (Full-Time-Equivalents or FTEs) at year end was 101 (2021:113).

### (b) Staff Short-term Benefits

	2022	2021
	€	€
Basic Pay	5,163,522	4,901,318
Overtime	9,491	116
Allowances	103,501	99,970
	<b>5,276,514</b>	<b>5,001,404</b>

The staff Additional Superannuation Contribution (ASC) for 2022 was €138,869 (2021: €125,380).

### (c) Termination Benefits

No termination benefits were paid in 2022 (2021: €nil).

### (d) Key Management Personnel

Key Management Personnel in the NLI consists of Members of the Board and the Leadership Team. The Leadership Team includes the Director; the Deputy Director and Head of Development; the Head of Human Resources; the Head of Published Collections; the Head of Estates; the Keeper of Special Collections and Chief Herald of Ireland; the Head of Exhibitions, Learning and Programming; the Head of Finance and Chief Risk Officer; the Head of Digital Collections and the Head of Service Delivery. The Library does not pay fees to Board members. The total value of employee benefits for key management personnel is set out below:

	2022	2021
	€	€
Salary	833,373	740,479
Allowances	7,364	15,307
	<b>840,737</b>	<b>755,786</b>

This does not include the value of retirement benefits earned in the period. The remuneration package for key management personnel also includes standard public sector pension arrangements and their entitlements in that regard do not extend beyond the terms of the model public service pension scheme.

### (e) Director Remuneration

The Director's remuneration package for the financial period was as follows:

	2022	2021
	€	€
Director (appointed August 2015, resigned March 2022)	34,688	124,778
Acting Director (appointed March 2022)	80,151	-
	<b>114,839</b>	<b>124,778</b>

This does not include the value of retirement benefits earned in the period. The remuneration package also includes standard public sector pension arrangements and the Director's entitlements in that regard do not extend beyond the terms of the model public service pension scheme. There are no bonuses or Benefits-in-Kind applicable to this position.

**(f) Employee Short-term Benefits Breakdown**

Employee short-term benefits in excess of €60,000 are categorised into the following:

Range of total employee benefits		Number of Employees	
From	To	2022	2021
€60,000	- €69,999	9	13
€70,000	- €79,999	14	9
€80,000	- €89,999	3	4
€90,000	- €99,999	2	0
€100,000	- €109,999	1	1
€110,000	- €119,999	0	0
€120,000	- €129,999	0	1

Note: For the purpose of this disclosure, short-term employee benefits in relation to services rendered during the reporting period include salary, overtime and other payments made on behalf of the employee but exclude employer's PRSI.

**6. Administration and Operations**

	Note	2022 €	2021 €
Travel and Subsistence Expenditure	6(a)	13,269	7,422
Staff Training and Development		26,682	62,444
Diversity and Inclusion Policy Expenditure		26,171	20,557
Electricity, Cleaning and Utilities		367,460	281,074
Communications and IT		361,164	332,165
Security		215,248	189,758
Consultancy Costs	6(b)	253,275	200,898
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses		26,304	24,886
Storage Costs		104,637	83,653
Office Expenses		53,460	29,040
Repairs and Maintenance		28,964	34,583
Foreign Exchange Rate Losses		7,513	13,838
Prompt Payment Interest		2,757	2,451
Outsourced Service Costs		19,340	18,214
COVID-19 Related Expenses		-	18,765
Loss on disposal of Fixed Assets		15,164	-
		<b>1,521,408</b>	<b>1,319,748</b>

**(a) Travel and Subsistence Expenditure**

Travel and subsistence expenditure is categorised as follows:

	2022 €	2021 €
Domestic Board Members	1,026	-
Staff	2,276	1,787
International Board Members	-	-
Staff	9,967	5,635
	<b>13,269</b>	<b>7,422</b>

**(b) Consultancy Costs**

Consultancy costs include the cost of external advice to management and exclude outsourced 'business-as-usual' functions.

	2022 €	2021 €
Consultancy	112,691	43,203
Financial	43,524	103,535
Audit	48,243	44,272
- External Audit	23,000	23,000
- Internal Audit	25,243	21,272
Legal (including provisions)	30,854	5,588
Translation	17,963	4,300
	<b>253,275</b>	<b>200,898</b>

No legal costs, settlements or conciliation and arbitration costs were incurred in the year relating to contracts with third parties.

**7. Retirement Benefit Costs****(a) Analysis of total retirement benefit costs charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves**

	2022 €	2021 €
Gross Current Service Cost	1,783,000	1,603,000
Interest Cost	651,000	432,000
Employee Contributions	(348,000)	(314,000)
	<b>2,086,000</b>	<b>1,721,000</b>

**(b) Movement in Net Retirement Benefit Obligations during the Financial Year**

	2022 €	2021 €
Opening Defined Benefit Obligation	52,910,000	48,403,000
Current Service Cost	1,783,000	1,603,000
Interest Cost	651,000	432,000
Actuarial (Gain) / Loss – Financial Assumptions	(18,981,000)	2,059,000
Actuarial (Gain) / Loss– Experience	(303,000)	1,382,000
Benefits Paid	(923,000)	(969,000)
<b>Closing Defined Benefit Obligation</b>	<b>35,137,000</b>	<b>52,910,000</b>

**(c) Deferred Funding for Retirement Benefits**

The Board recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for retirement benefits on the basis of the set of assumptions described above and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the retirement benefit scheme, and the policy and practice currently in place in relation to funding public service pensions including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process. The Board has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current practice.

The net deferred funding for retirement benefits recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves is as follows:

	2022 €	2021 €
Funding recoverable in respect of current year retirement benefit costs	2,434,000	2,035,000
State grant applied to pay retirement benefits	(923,000)	(969,000)
	<b>1,511,000</b>	<b>1,066,000</b>

The deferred funding asset for retirement benefits at 31st December 2022 amounts to €35.1m (2021: €52.9m).

**(d) History of Defined Benefit Obligations**

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2020 €'000	2019 €'000	2018 €'000
Defined Benefit Obligations	35,137	52,910	48,403	44,696	39,242
Experience (Gains) / Losses on Defined Benefit Scheme Liabilities	303	(1,382)	313	675	1,577
Percentage of Plan Liabilities	0.9%	(2.6%)	0.6%	1.5%	4.0%

**(e) General description of the schemes**

The Library's retirement benefit scheme is a defined benefit final salary pension arrangement with benefits and contributions defined by reference to current "model" public sector scheme regulations. The scheme provides a pension (being 1/80 per year of service), a gratuity or lump sum (being 3/80 per year of service) and spouses and children's pensions. Normal retirement age is a member's 65th birthday, and pre-2004 members have an entitlement to retire without actuarial reduction from age 60. Pensions in payment (and deferment) normally increase in line with general public sector salary inflation.

The Single Public Service Pension Scheme (Single Scheme) is also operated by the National Library of Ireland and it is a defined benefit pension scheme for pensionable public servants appointed on or after 1st January 2013 in accordance with the Public Service Pension (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012. The scheme provides for a pension and a retirement lump sum based on career-average pensionable remuneration and spouse's and children's pensions. The minimum pension age is 66 years (rising in line with State pension age changes). It includes an actuarially-reduced early retirement facility from age 55. Pensions in payment increase in line with the consumer price index.

The valuation used for FRS102 disclosures has been based on a full actuarial valuation performed in March 2023 by a qualified independent actuary, taking account of the requirements of the FRS in order to assess the scheme liabilities at 31st December 2022.

**The Principal Actuarial Assumptions were as follows:**

	2022	2021
Inflation	2.25%	2.00%
Rate of general long-term increase in salaries	3.25%	3.00%
Rate of increase in state benefits	2.75%	2.00%
Rate of increase in deferred benefits	2.75%	2.00%
Pension increases	2.75%	2.00%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.20%	1.20%

**Mortality**

The mortality basis explicitly allows for improvements in life expectancy over time, so that life expectancy at retirement will depend on the year in which a member attains retirement age. The table below shows the life expectancy for members attaining age 65 in 2022 and 2042.

<b>Year of attaining age 65</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2042</b>
Life expectancy – male	87.2	88.6
Life expectancy – female	89.8	91.4



## 8. Programmes

	Note	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Special Collections</b>			
Special Collection Acquisitions	8(a)	191,718	164,482
Cataloguing Project		123,364	129,479
Conservation		90,208	49,644
		<b>405,290</b>	<b>343,605</b>
<b>Published Collections</b>			
Published Collection Acquisitions	8(a)	124,138	121,913
Processing and Binding		4,915	3,624
		<b>129,053</b>	<b>125,537</b>
<b>Service Delivery</b>			
Reader Services		74,977	62,361
Family History Services		3,383	793
		<b>78,360</b>	<b>63,154</b>
<b>Exhibitions, Learning and Programming</b>			
Exhibition: <i>Seamus Heaney: Listen Now Again</i>		84,151	68,786
Other Exhibitions		54,306	24,267
Public Programmes, Communications, and Engagement		43,848	56,922
Exhibition: <i>Yeats: The Life and Works of William Butler Yeats</i>		9,430	-
<i>WW1 Ireland: Exploring the Irish Experience</i>		-	636
		<b>191,735</b>	<b>150,611</b>
<b>Heraldry</b>			
Heraldry Materials		5,507	-
		<b>5,507</b>	-
<b>Digital Collections</b>			
Digitisation		68,570	54,320
Born Digital Collections		15,946	21,911
Library Equipment and Maintenance		13,216	10,042
		<b>97,732</b>	<b>86,273</b>
<b>Development Office</b>			
Communications, PR and Promotion		448,766	260,101
		<b>448,766</b>	<b>260,101</b>
<b>Capital Development Building Project</b>			
Reimagining the National Library Refundable Expenses		118,951	107,095
		<b>118,951</b>	<b>107,095</b>
		<b>1,475,394</b>	<b>1,136,376</b>

## (a) Acquisitions

	Note	2022 €
<b>Special Collections acquisitions funded through Current Grant</b>		
♦ Antiquarian and Rare Books		84,888
♦ Manuscripts		59,130
♦ Ephemera		25,140
♦ Photographs		8,936
♦ Prints and Drawings		7,728
♦ Music Collection		5,896
		<b>191,718</b>
<b>Published Collections acquisitions funded through Current Grant</b>		
♦ Books		101,558
♦ Newspapers		13,879
♦ Periodicals		8,701
		<b>124,138</b>
<b>Special Collections acquisitions funded through Capital Grant</b>		
<b>Manuscripts</b>		
♦ Maurice and Louise Collis Archive		70,383
♦ Grant of Arms to Nicholas Stanyhurst of Dublin (1554)		36,894
♦ Letters by Lucia Joyce to Lucie Léon (1959-1970)		16,193
♦ Frank Fay letters (1901-1903)		13,530
♦ Letters by Theodore Roosevelt to John Quinn (1905-1917)		9,803
♦ Hugh Kennedy Archive (1879-1936)		8,118
♦ Fawsitt and Dowdall Archive		6,750
	12(f)	<b>161,671</b>
<b>Special Collections acquisitions funded through Capital Grant</b>		
<b>Visual</b>		
♦ George Victor Du Noyer watercolours (1857)		19,680
	12(f)	<b>19,680</b>
<b>Special Collections acquisitions funded through Capital Grant</b>		
<b>Printed</b>		
♦ McClatchie, Thomas (translator), A Translation of the I-Ching		13,379
♦ Bible in English, both Testaments (Dublin pr.)		10,178
♦ Luke Wadding: Annales Minorum. Lugduni 1625-1648 7V		6,500
	12(f)	<b>30,057</b>
<b>Special Collections acquired through donation</b>		
♦ Bernárd Lynch Collection		20,000
♦ Alan Shatter Collection		15,000
♦ Katherine Zappone and Ann Louise Gilligan Collection		7,000
♦ Brian Friel Letters (2010-2015)		6,000
	12(f)	<b>48,000</b>
<b>Digital Collections acquisitions funded through Capital Grant</b>		
♦ Web Archiving		75,834
	12(f)	<b>75,834</b>
<b>Total Acquisitions</b>		<b>651,098</b>

As outlined in Note 1(h) heritage assets acquired/donated since the Board was established in 2005 are included in the Statement of Financial Position. The existing collections of the National Library at establishment date were not vested in the Board - they remained vested in the State. The Board is of the view that valuing these collections or determining their original cost is impractical and would not, in any event, yield information that is relevant or useful in assessing its stewardship of the collections.

Most items acquired for the collections are individually of low value such as books, newspapers and periodicals. Materials published in Ireland are acquired through legal deposit in accordance with the provisions of Section 198 of the Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000 (as amended). Materials published elsewhere are acquired by purchase or donation in accordance with the National Library's Collection Development Policy. This includes materials published in Northern Ireland as well as materials published abroad of Irish interest in accordance with the requirements of Section 12 of the Cultural Institutions Act 1997.

Collections during 2022 are shown in the table above, distinguishing between expenditure charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves on items individually valued at less than €5,000 – which is shown by type – and expenditure on capitalised items or digital projects valued at €5,000 or more – which are itemised.

## 9. Commitments

There was no contractual commitments in place at 31st December 2022 (2021: none).

## 10. Capital Account

### (a) Heritage Assets

	2022	2021
	€	€
At 1 January	28,122,010	27,070,326
Transfer from/(to) the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves		
To fund Heritage Assets acquired	287,242	953,409
Heritage Assets donated	48,000	98,275
<b>At 31 December (Note 12 (f))</b>	<b>335,242</b>	<b>1,051,684</b>
	<b>28,457,252</b>	<b>28,122,010</b>

### (b) Operational Fixed Assets

	2022	2021
	€	€
At 1 January	811,815	1,091,271
Transfer from/(to) the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves		
To fund Fixed Asset purchases	53,459	78,895
Amortisation in line with asset depreciation	(342,954)	(358,351)
<b>Loss on disposal of Fixed Assets</b>	<b>(15,164)</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>(304,659)</b>	<b>(279,456)</b>
<b>At 31 December (Note 11)</b>	<b>507,156</b>	<b>811,815</b>

## 11. Property, Plant and Equipment

	IT Equipment	Equipment	Furniture	Exhibitions Operating or in course of Construction	Total
	€	€	€	€	€
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January	957,744	1,243,163	910,802	1,496,015	4,607,724
Additions	33,007	20,452	-	-	53,459
Disposals	-	(258,340)	(101,302)	-	(359,642)
<b>At 31 December</b>	<b>990,751</b>	<b>1,005,275</b>	<b>809,500</b>	<b>1,496,015</b>	<b>4,301,541</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January	914,665	1,118,278	810,957	952,009	3,795,909
Disposals	-	(258,340)	(86,138)	-	(344,478)
Charge for the year	18,921	38,632	13,398	272,003	342,954
<b>At 31 December</b>	<b>933,586</b>	<b>898,570</b>	<b>738,217</b>	<b>1,224,012</b>	<b>3,794,385</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
At 1 January	43,079	124,885	99,845	544,006	811,815
Net movement for the year	14,086	(18,180)	(28,562)	(272,003)	(304,659)
<b>At 31 December</b>	<b>57,165</b>	<b>106,705</b>	<b>71,283</b>	<b>272,003</b>	<b>507,156</b>

### (a) General Information Note

Cost or valuation at the beginning and end of the year include assets acquired for less than €10,000 prior to 1st January 2022.

### (b) Exhibitions Operating or in the Course of Construction

The balance of exhibitions operating or in the course of construction as at 31st of December 2022 relates to the Seamus Heaney exhibition that launched on 4th July 2018. This is a collaborative project between the NLI, the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and Bank of Ireland. The exhibition is in the Bank of Ireland Cultural and Heritage Centre on College Green and it is to operate until December 2023. The expected book value of these items will be €nil at the conclusion of the exhibition. The exhibition has a finite life and related assets are depreciated over their estimated useful lives or over the useful life of the exhibition, whichever is shorter.

## 12. Heritage Assets

### (a) General Information

In accordance with the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997 all Library Collections are the property of the State and are managed by the Board of the Library.

- ◆ The principal functions of the Board of the Library are to conserve, restore, maintain and enlarge the library material in the collection of the Library for the benefit of the public; to establish and maintain a record of library material (including material relating to the Irish language) in relation to Ireland; and to contribute to the provision of access by members of the public to material relating to other countries.
- ◆ The Board of the National Library of Ireland has the power to enlarge the collections of the Library.
- ◆ The Board of the National Library of Ireland also has the power to lend materials, subject to the provisions of Section 18 (1) of the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997.
- ◆ The Board of the National Library of Ireland also has the power to dispose of library materials subject to the provisions of Section 18 (2) of the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997.
- ◆ All acquisitions for the collection purchased in excess of €5,000 are funded from the Library's capital funding allocation for the year while acquisitions which cost less than €5,000 are funded from the current funding allocation.

### (b) Nature and Scale of the Collection

The National Library's holdings constitute the most comprehensive collection of Irish documentary material in the world and offer an invaluable representation of Ireland's history and heritage.

The National Library's management structure reflects three broad strands of collecting focus, each the responsibility of a Keeper or Head of Division, as follows:

- Special Collections
- Published Collections
- Digital Collections.

#### Special Collections

Special Collections comprises rare and unique material such as manuscripts, photographs, prints, drawings, ephemera, rare and antiquarian books, manuscripts, maps and music. It includes many millions of items with, for example, over 4.5 million items in the photographic collections and over one million items in the manuscript collection.

#### Published Collections

Published Collections comprises modern and new books, newspapers and periodicals. One of the main collections within Published Collections is the Legal Deposit Collection which includes all material – books, newspapers and journals published in Ireland – acquired under the Legal Deposit provisions of the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 (as amended).

### Digital Collections

Digital Collections comprises digital objects created by the National Library as a result of the digitisation of material from Special Collections and Published Collections (new assets) as well as the items described as “Born Digital”, such as websites that have never existed except in digital format.

### (c) Acquisition

The Board of the National Library has the power to enlarge the collections of the National Library and material is acquired in three ways: by legal deposit, donation, and purchase.

#### Legal Deposit

Legal deposit is a statutory provision which obliges publishers to deposit copies of their publications in certain libraries, usually in the country in which they are published. In the Republic of Ireland statutory provision for legal deposit is set out in the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 (as amended).

#### Donation

Each year the National Library receives important donations to the collections. Donations are subject to appraisal in line with the criteria set out the National Library's Collection Development Policy.

In certain instances - as provided for under section 1003 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 - donors may be allowed tax relief for donations of heritage items to the National Library. This relief may apply to gifts or “heritage items” such as archives, books, estate records, manuscripts and prints where the total value of the items donated exceeds €150,000.

#### Purchase

The National Library's acquisitions budget is used to further develop the National Library's collections, whether by direct purchase or by auction. Decisions to purchase antiquarian material and unique heritage items are made in accordance with the criteria set out in the National Library's Collection Development Policy. Current and new publications of Irish interest, not acquired under legal deposit, are purchased as a matter of course.

### (d) Preservation and Conservation

The Conservation Department works to preserve and conserve the collections of the National Library of Ireland. In general, preservation measures do not improve the condition of an object, but slow down degradation and prevent damage by passive methods. By contrast, conservation aims to prolong the life and accessibility of collections through interventive treatments, which improve the physical, chemical and often visual condition of an object.

As well as the conservation treatment of rare and unique objects, the conservators work on a diverse range of measures to reduce risks of damage to the collections. These activities include supporting and training staff in all aspect of collection care and management including handling, condition assessment, surveying, rehousing and phase-boxing. Conservators also prepare items for exhibition, digitisation and loan for exhibition.

### (e) Disposal

The Board of the National Library also has the power to dispose of library materials subject to the provisions of Section 18(2) of the National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997. The National Library does not normally dispose of material from the collections.

## (f) Analysis of Acquisitions

As outlined in the Accounting Policies (Note 1, (h)), the National Library recognises all Heritage Assets (with an individual value of more than €5,000) purchased or acquired since 2005. Such assets are carried at cost with adjustment for impairment where required. The transactions in relation to 2022 and the previous four accounting periods are set out below.

	Manuscripts	Digital	Visual	Printed	Total
	€	€	€	€	€
<b>Cost or Valuation:</b>					
At 1 January	20,068,305	3,301,235	3,018,164	1,734,306	<b>28,122,010</b>
Purchases	161,671	75,834	19,680	30,057	<b>287,242</b>
Donation Materials	6,000	-	42,000	-	<b>48,000</b>
<b>At 31 December</b>	<b>20,235,976</b>	<b>3,377,069</b>	<b>3,079,844</b>	<b>1,764,363</b>	<b>28,457,252</b>

## g) Five Year Financial Summary of Heritage Asset Transactions

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
	€	€	€	€	€
<b>Additions</b>					
Manuscripts	167,671	872,793	696,949	1,156,576	2,505,129
Digital	75,834	80,026	94,631	91,484	120,407
Visual	61,680	88,300	-	-	-
Printed	30,057	10,565	30,482	6,086	-
	<b>335,242</b>	<b>1,051,684</b>	<b>822,062</b>	<b>1,254,146</b>	<b>2,625,536</b>

## 13. Receivables

	2022	2021
	€	€
Prepayments	144,579	127,727
Accrued Income (Note 2)	29,792	14,501
Debtors	243,472	272,840
	<b>417,843</b>	<b>415,068</b>

## 14. Payables

	2022	2021
	€	€
Accruals and Deferred Revenue	367,518	489,751
Taxation and Social Welfare	171,244	179,562
Trade Creditors	199,606	97,073
	<b>738,368</b>	<b>766,386</b>

## 15. Related Party Disclosures

Please refer to Note 5 for a breakdown of the remuneration and benefits paid to key management.

The National Library adopts procedures in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform covering the personal interests of Board members. In the normal course of business, the National Library may approve grants or enter into other contractual arrangements with entities in which the National Library's Board members are employed or are otherwise interested.

The National Library of Ireland Trust (the Trust), a company limited by guarantee without share capital was established to aid the development of the National Library of Ireland and to acquire printed books, manuscripts, and other material, by Irish people or relating to Ireland. The National Library and the Trust are related parties as the majority of the Trustees are either current members of the National Library Board or management team. The National Library of Ireland exercises control over the National Library of Ireland Trust.

The Trust prepares annual financial statements which are audited by a firm of commercial auditors. The latest available audited financial statements are for the year ended 30 April 2022 which record expenditure of €5,295 (2021: €5,727); income of €nil (2021: €13,256); and year end retained revenue reserves/net assets of €464,894 (2021: €470,189). There were no transactions between the Trust and the National Library during 2022.

## 16. Comparatives

Certain comparative figures have been regrouped and reclassified on the same basis as the current year.

## 17. Contingent Liabilities

The NLI is involved in a personal injury claim which is being handled by the State Claims Agency. An amount has been provided within Accruals and Deferred Revenue in Note 14 relating to this claim. No further detail is provided so as not to seriously prejudice the NLI's position in the related claim.

## 18. Events After Reporting Period

There are no events between the reporting date and the date of approval of these financial statements for issue that require adjustment to the financial statements.

The Acting Director, Katherine McSharry resigned from the NLI in January 2023. Dr. Audrey Whitty was appointed Director of the NLI with effect from 7 February 2023.

## 19. Approval of the Financial Statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board of the National Library of Ireland on the 29th June 2023.



The National Library of Ireland (NLI) is the library of record for Ireland. Established in 1877, we share the story of Ireland with the world through our unique collections. We care for more than twelve million items, including books, manuscripts, newspapers, photographs, prints, maps, drawings, ephemera, music and digital media. The Library is open, free of charge, to all those who wish to consult the collections.

The five strategic priorities for the National Library of Ireland for 2022-2026 are to collect, protect, reveal, engage and innovate.

Further information is available at [www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie)

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