

Two new collections digitised and available on dúchas.ie: Acetate disc recordings and photographs

UCD's **National Folklore Collection (NFC)** holds a collection of approximately 1,750 acetate disc audio recordings made by the Irish Folklore Commission (1935-1970) in the period 1940-1955. The collection as a whole amounts to more than 700 hours of speech, song and music, and since 2022 efforts have been underway to digitise the entire collection, sampling the recordings to the highest digital audio standards, and preserving them as uncompressed WAV files.

Following digitisation of these discs, staff of the NFC have prepared this material for publication, and we are now glad to announce the launch of the first [300 discs](#) worth of recordings of **folk tradition**, **oral narrative** and **song**, recorded between 1947 and 1955, on dúchas.ie. There are 650 individual items in this collection and it contains approximately 33 hours of audio.

The recordings feature seven different languages (Irish, English, Scots Gaelic, French, Brazilian Portuguese, Danish and Icelandic). The oldest person in this collection is [Micheál Ó Donnchú](#) from Ballyvaghan, Co. Clare who was born in 1867. The notable musician [Róise Mhic Ghrianna](#) from Árainn Mhór, Co. Donegal can also [be heard](#).

We are excited to be in a position to launch this material, and particularly grateful to **Coimisiún na Meán** for their generous **BAI Archiving Scheme** grant support which has allowed us to bring this important material to broader public awareness, to **RTÉ Archives**, who have been our partners on this initiative, and to the **Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht**, funders of the Dúchas project.

All of this material can be found at www.duchas.ie/en/cbef.



[500 more photographs](#) from the Photographic Collection have now been published. These photographs relate to the landscapes and feature parts of Galway, Leitrim and Mayo. The photographs were taken during the period from the 1930s to the 1990s.

All of this material can be found at www.duchas.ie/en/cbeg.



An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht



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GHAELIGE 2010-2030
Ár dTeanga, Ár bPobal



Notes for the editor:

The Audio Collection is the most recent collection being digitized by the duchas.ie team, and material from it is published quarterly. This collection consists of 12,000 hours of material collected from 1935 onwards. This material was mostly collected by fulltime and part-time collectors under the umbrella of the Irish Folklore Commission (1935-1971). The material in Irish and English includes every element of the Irish oral tradition.

Dúchas.ie is the result of a partnership established in 2012 between the National Folklore Collection in UCD, the UCD Digital Library, and Gaois, Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge, DCU. The aim of this project is to digitize and make available online to the public all collections of the National Folklore Collection. The project is co-funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht with support from the National Lottery, and by University College Dublin with financial assistance from the Irish Folklore Foundation.

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