Centre *news* – April 2004

Centre for Irish-German Studies

Neues aus dem Zentrum für deutsch-irische Studien an der Universität Limerick



This is issue number six of centre*news*. We hope that you will find it interesting reading. Our newsletter is published for members and friends of the Centre and for all those with an interest in relations between Ireland and the German-speaking world. For updates on our work please visit our homepage at http://www.ul.ie/~lcs/irish-german.html.

Conferences – The Centre will present three conferences on very different aspects of the relationship between Ireland and the German-speaking countries this year: "Ardnacrusha 75: An interdisciplinary conference" (15-17 April 2004, Limerick, organised jointly by Dr J. Fischer, ESB, Siemens Ireland and the Hunt Museum); "Intercultural Connections within German and Irish Children's Literature" (23-24 April 2004, MIC/UL, organised by Dr S. Tebbutt); "German-speaking Exiles in Ireland 1933-1945" (10-12 June 2004, UL, organised by Dr G. Holfter). Keynote speakers include Dr Emer O'Sullivan, Prof Wolfgang Benz and Prof Dermot Keogh. Three weeks of events around the conference marking the 75th anniversary of the Shannon Scheme in Ardnacrusha will also feature an exhibition of Sean Keating's Ardnacrusha paintings (Hunt Museum in Limerick, 7-28 April), film showings and musical events (for more information about conference programmes see below).

New Centre members - The Centre welcomes its new members Dr Helen Kelly-Holmes, Research Scholar at the Dept of Languages and Cultural Studies, University of Limerick (UL), and Dr Susan Tebbutt, Head of Dept of German Studies, Mary Immaculate College (MIC), UL.

MIC Irish Studies Centre – We look forward to future co-operation with the new research centre on Irish Studies in Mary Immaculate College. Its director is Dr Eugene O'Brien, Dept of English, MIC.

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New members

Helen Kelly-Holmes graduated with a BBS in Marketing and German from the University of Limerick (UL) in 1991. It was her cooperative education work placement during her studies at UL, which she spent working in an export company on the then East-West German border, that sparked her research interests. She was awarded a three-year doctoral scholarship by Aston University, Birmingham, UK, where she completed her thesis in 1995 under the supervision of Prof N. Reeves. Her doctoral research involved an investigation of bank advertising as a new discourse in the new *Bundesländer*. Helen worked as a lecturer in German and European Studies in Aston University from 1995 to 2002, before joining the Dept of Languages and Cultural Studies at UL as a Research Scholar. Her main research interests concern intercultural and inter-lingual aspects of market and media discourses, with particular reference to the German language. Her work on constructions of "Irishness", "Britishness" and "Germanness" in media and market discourses between these countries, which she has published in a number of articles, is of particular relevance to the Centre.

Susan Tebbutt, Senior Lecturer and Head of German Studies at MIC, completed her MA in German Language and Literature at the University of St. Andrews in 1972 and her PGCEd (Tech) at the University of Leeds in 1976. Her Ph.D. on socially critical German children's literature was completed at the University of Sheffield in 1994. In 2001 she held a Charles H. Revson Foundation Fellowship for Archival Research at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington DC. She is co-editor of *The Role of the Romanies* (2004). Dr Tebbutt is particularly interested in cultural representations of ethnic minorities in Europe and her publications revolve round the Romanies, intercultural issues and children's literature (1998; transl. into German 2001), she is at present working on a monograph on *Gypsies/Romanies and Genocide*. She organises a conference on "Intercultural Connections within German and Irish Children's literature" to be held at UL and MIC from 23-24.4.2004 and will edit a volume of papers on this theme (see below).

Patrick Studer is the new *Embassy of Switzerland Lektor* at UL (2003-05). Patrick studied English and European Ethnography in Zurich, Switzerland. He previously worked as a Linguistics Assistant in the English Dept, University of Zurich, and as a College Lecturer in Linguistics in UCC, Ireland. He shares his time between MIC and the main UL campus, introducing students to various aspects of Swiss culture through the teaching of German as a foreign language, as well as co-ordinating projects in the area of Swiss-Irish relations. On 12 March he organised a symposium, "Swiss Presence in Ireland", hosted by the Dept of German Studies, MIC (see below). He is the contact person for any queries and projects regarding Swiss-Irish relations (e-mail: patrick.studer@mic.ul.ie). The creation of the position was made possible by the support of the Swiss Embassy in Dublin and Presence Switzerland.

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As Limerick was the host town for the **Austrian team** during the **Special Olympics**, the Centre hosted, together with the Austrian Embassy, a reception for the Austrian athletes on 17 June 2003.

Swiss and Austrian Events

1st Swiss Day, University of Limerick, 1 May 2003, with speakers from Dublin, Cork and Limerick, among them Michel Failletaz, representing the Swiss Embassy, Dublin, J. Barkhoff (TCD), T. Theiler (NUI Dublin) F. Sutter (Novartis Ireland) and M. Gwerder (UL/MIC). The event was organised by Gisela Holfter. During the week Swiss films in German, French, Italian and Rhaeto-Romanic were shown by the *Embassy of Switzerland Lektor*, Michael Gwerder.

2nd Swiss Day, Mary Immaculate College, 12 March 2004. The current Swiss Embassy Lektor, Patrick Studer, organised a one-day event, "Swiss Presence in Ireland". This included a reading of the Swiss author Gabrielle Alioth, followed by papers and presentations by Ernst Balzli, Swiss Embassy, Dublin ("Schweizer Kultur in Irland"); G. Holfter, UL ("Die Rolle der Schweiz am Zentrum für Deutsch-Irische Studien"; B. Dreike, NUI Cork ("Der 'Fall Schweiz' in der deutschsprachigen Literatur der Schweiz"; V. Heffernan, NUI Maynooth ("Robert Walser"); A. Stuhlmann, NUI Cork ("Rafael Urweider – eine neue Stimme in der Schweizer Gegenwartslyrik"); H. Hauser, MIC (UL) ("Auf der Suche nach der Insel: Schweizer Schriftsteller und ihre Beziehung zu Irland"); S. Tebbutt, MIC (UL) ("Zum Umgang der Schweiz mit Minoritäten: Die Jenischen"); I. Brunhart, MIC (UL) ("Liechtenstein – ein Kanton der Schweiz?"). In the evening, the participants enjoyed a Swiss *Raclette*, prepared by Ernst and Alice Balzli. During the week, MIC students heard guest lectures on Swiss art and culture and readings by G. Alioth. The papers presented on the Day will be published in a volume.

Publications

Books

Holfter, G. / Dickel, H.: *Ireland beyond the troubles*, Berlin: Cornelsen 2003 (and teacher's book).

Coming out soon:

Holfter, G. / Krajenbrink, M. / Moxon-Browne, E. (eds): *Identitäten und Beziehungen – Irland, Österreich und die Schweiz* (Wechselwirkungen vol 6), Bern: Peter Lang (publishing date May 2004).

Articles / Contributions to books

Conlan, P.: "EC Free Movement of Persons: From Messina to Amsterdam and beyond, via Rome, Luxembourg and Maastricht", in*: "In einem vereinten Europa dem Frieden der Welt zu dienen…" Liber amicorum Thomas Oppermann*, Classen et al (eds), Berlin: Duncker & Humblot, 2001, pp 551-569.

Egger, S.: "Bertolt Brecht: 'Die Lösung' (1964)", in: *Poetry Project. Irish Germanists Interpret German Verse* (British and Irish Studies in German Language and Literature vol 25), F. Krobb / J. Morrison (eds), Oxford et al: Peter Lang, 2003, pp 201-206.

Egger, S.: "Volker Braun: 'Das innerste Afrika' (1984)", in: *Poetry Project. Irish Germanists Interpret German Verse* (British and Irish Studies in German Language and Literature, vol 25), F. Krobb / J. Morrison (eds), Oxford et al: Peter Lang, 2003, pp 245-254.

Egger, S.: "Relativising Images of Self and Other in the Intercultural Literature Classroom", in: *Teaching Social Justice. Intercultural and Development Education Perspectives on Education's Context, Content and Methods*, R. Tormey (ed.), Limerick: Centre for Educational Disadvantage Research, 2003, pp 91-108.

Fischer, J.: "August Heinrich Hoffmann von Fallersleben: 'Lied der Deutschen' (1841)", in: *Poetry Project. Irish Germanists Interpret German Verse* (British and Irish Studies in German Language and Literature, vol 25), F. Krobb / J. Morrison (eds) Oxford et al: Peter Lang, 2003, pp 59-66.

Fischer, J.: "Georg Weerth: 'Deutscher und Ire' (ca. 1845/46)", in: *Poetry Project. Irish Germanists Interpret German Verse.* (British and Irish Studies in German Language and Literature, vol 25), F. Krobb / J. Morrison (eds), Oxford et al: Peter Lang, 2003, pp 81-88.

Fischer, J.: "The eagle that never landed: a history of uses and abuses of the German language in Ireland", in: *Languages in Ireland*, M. Cronin / C. Ó Cuilleanáin (eds), Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2003.

Fischer, J.: "Aspects of the Irish reception of German culture: Goethe Schubert et al.", in: *Goethe and Schubert: Across the Divide.* L. Byrne / D. Farrelly (eds), Dublin: Carysford Press, 2003, pp 37-50.

Fischer, J.: "Kenny Dodd goes mad: or, Charles Lever's unsentimental journey through Germany", in: *Festschrift für Eoin Bourke*. H. Rasche and C. Schönfeld (eds), Stuttgart, 2004

Holfter, Gisela: "Hilde Domin: 'Exil'", in: *Poetry Project. Irish Germanists Interpret German Verse.* (British and Irish Studies in German Language and Literature, vol 25), F. Krobb / J. Morrison (eds), Oxford et al: Peter Lang, 2003, pp 185-188.

Holfter, Gisela: "'...traditionell freundschaftlich und ohne Probleme?' Die deutschirischen Beziehungen früher und heute", in: *Zeitschrift für KulturAustausch* (Journal for Culture Exchange), April 2003.

Holfter, G./ Rasche, H.: " 'Was ausgewandert sein heißt, erfährt man erst nach Jahrzehnten'. John Hennig im (irischen) Exil", in: *German Monitor*, I. Wallace (ed.), Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2003, pp 55-87.

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Holfter, G. / Rasche, H.: "German travel literature about Ireland – the saga Continues", in J. Conroy (ed.), *Cross-Cultural Travel*, New York et al: Peter Lang, 2003, pp 459-468.

Kelly-Holmes, H.: "Innocence Lost: Texts, economics and relocating German-Irish relations", in: *Debatte*, vol 10, No 2, 2002, pp 179-199.

O'Regan, V.: "Swiss Media Representation of the Irish Rejection of the Nice Treaty", in: *Proceedings of the 3rd Limerick Conference of the Centre for German-Irish Studies*, UL, 2002.

The *Yearbook* aims to provide all those interested in Ireland and the Germanspeaking countries with up-to-date information on current affairs, trends and new perspectives in Irish-German relations, covering matters political, social, economic, cultural and academic.

Yearbook 2001/2002

The *Yearbook of the Centre for Irish-German Studies 2001/02* is finally at the printers and is due to come out in April 2004. Edited by Joachim Fischer, Pól Ó Dochartaigh (University of Ulster) and Helen Kelly-Holmes, it will feature articles on German connections with the Celtic countries, most of them presented at a conference at Magee College in September 2001. The Yearbook will appear in slightly altered format and under the new main title *Irish-German Studies 1*. The publisher has remained the Wissenschaftliche Verlag Trier with whom the Centre has collaborated on several projects.



Centre for Irish-German Studies Lecture Series "Questions of Identity in the German-speaking Countries"

Speakers included Dr Matthias Müller Wiefering, Director of the Goethe-Institut Dublin (19 March 2003), Dr. Herbert Herzmann, University College Dublin (3 April 2003) and Dr. Jürgen Barkhoff, Trinity College Dublin (1 May 2003).

Centre for Irish-German Studies Business Lecture Series

Speakers included Dr Claire O'Reilly, Universität Chemnitz (13 March 2003) and Franz Sutter, Managing Director Novartis Int. Pharmaceutical, Ringaskiddy (1 May 2003).

Further Lectures hosted by the Centre

Prof Elisabeth Wåghäll Nivre, University of Växjö, Sweden: "What is a Woman? The Representation of 'Woman' in 16th-century German Popular Literature" (14 April 2003, Centre for Irish-German Studies together with the Women's Studies Postgraduate Seminar Series).

Prof Volker Neuhaus, University of Cologne: "Die Kriegsbriefe als Grundlage für Heinrich Bölls Gesamtwerk" (9 March 2004).

Representing the Centre

Fischer, J.: "Wagner, Bayreuth and the Irish Image of Germany", *Wagner and Wagnerism: Contexts – Connections – Controversies*, UL, 08/2002.

Fischer, J.: "The Irish image of Germany", German-Irish Society Bonn, Nov. 2002. Fischer, J.: "Ardnacrusha: The German perspective", Limerick City Library,

03/2003.

Fischer, J.: "Aspects of the Irish image of Germany, 1890-1939", SOCRATES Programme, University of Erlangen, 07/2003.

Fischer, J.: "Aspects of Irish travel writing about Germany in the 1920s and 1930s", Graduate Studies seminar, SOCRATES programme, University of Paderborn, 07/2003.

Fischer, J.: " 'Ó Chill Áirne go Berlin': Micheál MacLiammóir's travels through post-war Germany", *IASIL 2003*, University of Debrecen, Hungary, 07/2003.

Hofter, G. / Rasche, H.: "German Travellers in Ireland, Irish Travellers in Italy", Research colloquium, *Seminar on Travel Writing*, NUI Galway, 04/2002.

Holfter, G.: "German Studies in the English-speaking world – a selective overview", *Perspectives on the Profession*, Washington University, St. Louis, 05/2002.

Holfter, G.: "The Irish economy – a German perspective", Univ. of Jena, 06/2002.

Holfter, G.: "Die Beziehungen zwischen Deutschland und Irland aus der Sicht.

interkultureller Kommunikationsprobleme", University of Regensburg, 10/2002.

Holfter, G. / Rasche, H.: "German perspectives on Ireland – the 20th century", *29th Annual Research Symposium of the Royal Irish Academy (Travel Literature)*, NUI Galway, 11/2002.

Holfter, G.: "'Nordirland hat ein Superklima', The Rhetoric of Agression – The Representation of Violence in German Literature and Other Textual Media from 1945 to the present", Oxford, 04/2003.

Holfter, G.: "Aspekte der deutschen Literatur der letzten 10 Jahre", Master class on German literature, University of Växjö, Sweden, 05/2003.

Holfter, G. / Rasche H.: "The German-speaking exiles in Ireland 1933-1945 project", 30th Annual Research Symposium of the Royal Irish Academy (Intercultural Spaces), DCU, 11/2003.

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Holfter, G.: "The Business German in Ireland Working Group", *German in Career and Business*, Goethe Institut, Dublin, 01/2004.

O'Regan, V.: "Swiss Media Representation of the Irish Rejection of the Nice Treaty", *3rd Limerick Conference of the Centre for Germ.–Irish Studies*, UL, 04/ 2002.



5th Limerick Conference in Irish-German Studies – "Ardnacrusha 75: An interdisciplinary conference", Limerick, 15-17 April 2004

The hydro-electric power scheme, built by the Berlin firm of Siemens Schuckert from 1925-29, was the beginning of the electrification of the Irish Free State. The conference is one of the events to mark the 75th anniversary of the official opening of the Shannon Scheme in Ardnacrusha. Three weeks of events around the conference will also feature an exhibition of Sean Keating's Ardnacrusha paintings (Hunt Museum in Limerick City, 7-28 April), film showings and musical events.

At the conference, speakers from a number of academic disciplines, history, anthropology, engineering, art history and cultural studies will contribute to what promises be an exciting new and comprehensive look at the impact of the Shannon Scheme with a particular focus on the Irish-German connection. The conference will take place in various venues: in Ardnacrusha Power Station (Thursday), the Hunt Museum (Friday) and the University of Limerick (Saturday).

"Ardnacrusha 75" is organised jointly by the Centre for Irish-German Studies, the ESB, Siemens Ireland and the Hunt Museum.

Further information:

Dolores Hanly, Business Development Manager/Conferences & Events, Limerick Conference & Sports Park, University of Limerick, Limerick;

Tel. 061 202064; Fax: 061 202188; Email: Dolores.Hanly@ul.ie.

6th Limerick Conference in Irish-German Studies – "Intercultural Connections within German and Irish Children's Literature", University of Limerick / Mary Immaculate College, 23-24 April 2004

Following in the footsteps of *Kinderliterarische Komparatistik* (Comparative children's literature studies) published in 2000 by internationally acclaimed Irish children's literature scholar Emer O'Sullivan, the aim is to highlight the intercultural aspects of Irish and German-language children's literature and the intersections between the children's literature of the two nations. The focus is not only the image of Ireland in German children's literature and the image of Germany in Irish children's literature, but also the wider issue of intercultural and multicultural issues in Irish, German, Austrian and Swiss children's literature.

Keynote lectures will be given by Dr Emer O'Sullivan, University of Frankfurt, Dr Celia Keenan, St. Patrick's College, Dublin, and Dr Stefan Neuhaus, University of Oldenburg. The aim is to draw together scholars from round the world, provide a forum for discussion, and establish a small group of researchers who will continue to develop this branch of Irish-German Studies. An edited volume on *Intercultural connections within German and Irish children's literature* (internationally refereed articles based on selected papers) is planned for 2005.

The conference is supported by University of Limerick and Mary Immaculate College Research Funding.

7th Limerick Conference in Irish-German Studies - "German-speaking Exiles in Ireland 1933-1945", University of Limerick, 10-12. June 2004

This conference will bring together exile scholars from Ireland, England, Austria and Germany and former refugees. It is part of the "German-speaking Exiles in Ireland 1933-1945 Project" which examines the situation of German-speaking refugees coming to Ireland in the 1930s and 40s, supported by the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Science (IRCHSS). The project builds upon the extensive research undertaken on one such refugee, John Hennig, who came to Ireland in 1939 and became the leading researcher in Irish-German relations (see G. Holfter/H. Rasche, *Exil in Irland - John Hennigs Schriften zu deutsch-irischen Beziehungen*, Trier: WVT 2002).

The Exiles in Ireland project aims to establish who came to Ireland, how these refugees managed to overcome the restrictive immigration policy and how their lives turned out to be in Ireland. The results will be placed in the context of research on exiles coming to Great Britain and other countries, therefore adding a hitherto unknown Irish perspective to international exile studies. It is the first ever attempt to look closely at the impact the German speaking exiles had on Ireland as the first larger group of immigrants to Ireland in the 20th century. In the case of some of the German speaking exiles the impact and importance seems self-evident – one only has to think of the Nobel Prize winner Erwin Schrödinger, Director of the newly founded Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies; of Dr. Ludwig Bieler, eminent palaeographer and mediaeval historian at University College Dublin who wrote The Life and Legend of St. Patrick among other studies; or of Dr John Hennig. But there are many others for whom Ireland provided a refuge and they in turn provided Ireland with expertise, public service and ongoing gratitude. Professor Wolfgang Benz, President of the German Society for Exile Research and Director of the Centre for Anti-Semitism Research, and Professor Dermot Keogh, Head of the History Department University College Cork, have agreed to give the keynote lectures.

The conference is supported by the Austrian and German Embassies, the Goethe-Institut, the College of Humanities, University of Limerick Research Funding, Bord Failte and the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS).

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Research projects

The **"German-speaking Exiles in Ireland"** project is one of the few projects selected by the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS) for funding in 2003. Dr G. Holfter is project leader, the team includes Dr H. Rasche, NUI Galway and S. O'Connor-Semahedi, who received a bursary through the IRCHSS for her first year of PhD research on "Policy and Public Opinion towards German-speaking exiles in Ireland 1933-1945". As part of the project we gave a paper at the Royal Irish Academy conference in November 2003. A launch of a national and international network on this topic is planned at the 7th Limerick Conference "German-speaking Exiles in Ireland 1933-1945" in June 2004. Dr Horst Dickel, author of *Die deutsche Außenpolitik und die irische Frage von 1932 bis 1944* (1983) and collaborator on the Cornelsen school book project has joined the project as a German research partner.

As part of the ongoing research project on **"Heinrich Böll and Ireland"**, G. Holfter organised a lecture series by Prof V. Neuhaus in Trinity College, University College Cork, NUI Galway (and UL) on Böll's letters written during the Second World War as basis of his literary oeuvre.

The research project on **"Intercultural competence for Irish exchange students in Germany"** (G. Holfter, project leader, together with Dr C. O'Reilly, Junior Professor for Intercultural Training, Chemnitz, and Prof A. Thomas, Regensburg), sponsored by the Royal Irish Academy and the German Academic Exchange service, resulted in lectures in both Limerick and Regensburg, as well as in an "Interkulturelle Leitfaden"/ "Intercultural Guide" for German and Irish SOCRATES students going to Ireland/Germany (both versions available at http://www.ul.ie/internationaleducation).

Dr Joachim Fischer's research project **"The 1798 Rebellion: The German Dimension"** which has been funded by the College of Humanities Research Fund is due to be completed this year.

We just received the good news of funding from *Cork2005: European City of Culture* for an anthology of European travel writing about Cork **"Cork through European eyes: A Multilingual anthology"** which Dr J. Fischer is editing jointly with Dr G. Neville, Dept. of French, UCC. The anthology is due to be published at the end of 2004.

As a member of the new Centre for Utopian Studies at UL (Director: Prof Tom Moylan), Dr J. Fischer researches on aspects of Irish utopianism in Irish travel writing and the German dimension in Irish utopianism. Under the joint supervision of Prof Moylan and Dr Fischer, D. Ní Chuanacháin is currently working on her PhD on "Irish utopian

thought in the 18th and 19th centuries".

Postgaduate research

PhD research

Under the joint supervision of Prof T. Moylan and Dr J. Fischer (UL), Deirdre Ní Chuanacháin, MA (UCC) is currently working on her PhD on "Irish utopian thought in the 18th and 19th centuries".

A German angle is also involved in Kate Uí Chiobháin's, MA (UL) PhD research on **"Distant familiarity: Travel writing in Irish from 1900 to the present day"** which Dr J. Fischer is supervising jointly with Dr R. Ní Fhrighil (St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra / DCU).

Siobhán O' Connor-Semahedi, MA (NUI Maynooth), supervised by Dr G. Holfter (UL) and part funded by the IRCHSS, works on a PhD on **"Policy and Public Opinion towards German-speaking exiles in Ireland 1933-1945"**. She is investigating Irish Government Policy toward German-Speaking refugees, in particular the development of the Aliens Act 1935. Her study focuses on the key protagonists in the development and implementation of this act, such as Ministers, senior civil servants and diplomats. It also involves research into Irish public opinion today with regard to non-nationals living in Ireland.

MA research

Fiona Maher, BA (NUI Maynooth), supervised by Dr J. Fischer, is due to submit her MA thesis on **"Ireland in the 1950s: Stagnation and Change trough Irish and German eyes"** in summer 2004.

Anne Marie O'Brien, B.Ed (MIC), supervised by Dr S. Tebbutt (MIC), is due to submit her MA thesis on **"Intercultural aspects of the teaching and learning of German in Irish primary classrooms"** in 2004.

Cornelia Wahly, jointly supervised by Dr A. O'Keeffe and S. Egger (MIC), is completing a comparative study on "Attitudes of Irish students of German at primary and secondary level toward the learning of German as a foreign language".

The Centre's book collection, situated in room GL035 in the Glucksman Library of the University of Limerick campus, has grown again, thanks to contributions from several publishers (particularly Piper and Diogenes), the Swiss Embassy, the Austrian Embassy and the Goethe-Institut. Thanks to all donors!

Book collection

Making the connection

It is the express aim of the Centre to initiate, moderate and further collaboration between people & institutions in Ireland and the German-speaking countries.

The centre is looking forward to another enterprising year.

We would very much like to welcome you here at UL - as a fellow academic, a visitor to one of our events, and as a Member or Friend of the Centre for Irish-German Studies.

Visit our homepage at <u>http://www.ul.ie/~lcs/irish-german.html</u>.

Contact us at <u>irish.german@ul.ie</u>, and see overleaf for further details.

Make the connection – and join the Centre for Irish-German Studies *today*

Centre for Irish-German Studies University of Limerick Att. Dr J. Fischer / Dr G. Holfter Limerick Ireland

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Neues aus dem Zentrum für deutsch-irische Studien 04/04