

CONCISE ENGLISH-IRISH DICTIONARY

FOCLÓIR BÉARLA-GAEILGE

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Foras na Gaeilge

Baile Átha Cliath

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Ingénierie Diffusion Multimédia, Thomas Widmann, Ronan Doherty

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Caomhán Ó Scolaí

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Gach ceart ar cosaint. Ní ceadmhach aon chuid den fhoilseachán seo a atáirgeadh, a chur i gcomhad athfhála, ná a tharchur ar aon mhodh ná slí, bíodh sé sin leictreonach, meicniúil, bunaithe ar fhótachóipeáil, ar thaifeadadh nó eile, gan cead a fháil roimh ré ón bhfoilsitheoir.

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Dictionary website | *Suíomh gréasáin an fhoclóra*
www.focloir.ie

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Dictionary team

Foireann an Fhoclóra

Chief editor | *Príomheagarthóir*

Pádraig Ó Mianáin

Senior editors | *Eagarthóirí sinsearacha*

Joe Ó Labhraí, Seosamh Ó Murchú

Project managers | *Bainisteoirí tionscadail*

Cathal Convery, Cormac Breathnach

Editors | *Eagarthóirí*

Pól Mac Fheilimidh, Róisín Ní Mhianáin, Tadhg Ó Bric

Editing and proofreading | *Eagarthóireacht agus profléitheoireacht*

Aifric Mac Aodha, Eoghan Mac Mathúna, Cáit Nic Fhionnlaoich, Aisling Ní Churraighín, Lorna Ní Fhaogáin, Máire Ní Fhinneadha, Jenny Ní Mhaoileoin, Fionnuala Ní Ráinne, Donncha Ó Cróinín, Liam Ó Cuinneagáin, Pádraic Ó Farachtáin, Muiris Ó Raghallaigh

English-language consultants | *Comhairleoirí Béarla*

Rosalind Combley, Valerie Grundy

IT consultant | *Comhairleoir ríomhaireachta*

Michal Boleslav Měchura

Administration | *Riarachán*

Conor O'Dowd

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Introduction

Réamhrá

The *Concise English-Irish Dictionary* is the third offering from Foras na Gaeilge as part of its New English-Irish Dictionary project. The project's main work, the dictionary website www.focloir.ie, has been available online since 2013 and, in addition, the dictionary has been available in app form since 2015. While dictionaries, in general, have moved inexorably towards digital platforms since the beginning of the millennium, it was recognised in the case of the New English-Irish Dictionary that there would be demand for a print version—to meet the needs of those who prefer to have a dictionary in book form, those who are not adept at using computers and electronic devices, and those who do not have the appropriate access to broadband to enable them to make full use of the dictionary website or app. Accordingly, when the New English-Irish Dictionary became available online in its entirety in 2017, it was decided to embark upon a print version and thus began the compilation of the *Concise English-Irish Dictionary*.

The New English-Irish Dictionary is the first major lexicography project in contemporary Irish since Ó Dónaill's *Foclóir Gaeilge-Béarla* was published in 1977. When Foras na Gaeilge was established in 1999, work commenced on planning a new English-Irish dictionary as successor to de Bhaldraithe's *English-Irish Dictionary*, the last major such dictionary, which was published in 1959. Digital versions of those two dictionaries were made available at www.teanglann.ie as a by-product of the current project.

Is é an *Concise English-Irish Dictionary* an tríú táirge atá curtha ar fáil ag Foras na Gaeilge mar chuid de thionscadal an Fhoclóra Nua Béarla-Gaeilge. Tá príomhtháirge an tionscadail, an suíomh foclóra www.focloir.ie, ar líne ó 2013 agus tá an foclóir ar fáil mar aip chomh maith ó 2015. Cé go bhfuil foclóirí i gcoitinne ag aistriú go tréan i dtreo na n-ardán digiteach ó thús na mílaoise, aithníodh i gcás an Fhoclóra Nua Béarla-Gaeilge go mbeadh éileamh ann le haghaidh leagan clóite—daoine ar maith leo foclóir i bhfoirm leabhair a bheith acu, daoine nach bhfuil inniúil ar ríomhairí agus gairis leictreonacha, agus daoine nach bhfuil rochtain chuí acu ar leathanbhanda chun lánleas a bhaint as suíomh nó as aip an fhoclóra. Dá thoradh sin, nuair a bhí an Foclóir Nua Béarla-Gaeilge ina iomláine ar líne in 2017, cinneadh tabhairt faoi leagan clóite agus cuireadh tús le tiomsú an fhoclóra seo.

Is é an Foclóir Nua Béarla-Gaeilge an chéad mhórthionscadal foclóireachta sa Ghaeilge chomhaimseartha ó foilsíodh *Foclóir Gaeilge-Béarla* Uí Dhónaill in 1977. Nuair a bunaíodh Foras na Gaeilge in 1999, tosaíodh ag pleanáil foclóir nua Béarla-Gaeilge mar chomharba ar *English-Irish Dictionary* de Bhaldraithe, an mórfhoclóir Béarla-Gaeilge deiridh a cuireadh i gcló in 1959. Cuireadh leaganacha digitithe den dá fhoclóir sin ar fáil ag www.teanglann.ie mar sheachtháirge de chuid an tionscadail reatha.

Is foclóir comhaimseartha é an Foclóir Nua Béarla-Gaeilge ó thaobh ábhair, leagan

The New English-Irish Dictionary is a contemporary dictionary in terms of content, lay-out, and search functions. There are 48,000 entries and 145,000 meanings in the online and app versions, as well as grammar and sound files. The digital platform provides worldwide access to the dictionary and use of the site is increasing annually: during 2019, for example, 2.2 million individual users visited www.focloir.ie, a third of whom accessed from overseas.

When it was decided to embark upon the print version of the New English-Irish Dictionary, it was clear from the start that the project would entail much more than simply printing the online content. Had that particular path been followed, there would have been approximately 4,500 pages in the print version, thus requiring more than one volume. Such an approach could have diminished the usability of the dictionary and added greatly to the publishing costs. In order to provide a single-volume dictionary which would be easy to read and to use, the number of pages needed to be reduced to fewer than 2,000. With all of this in mind, it was decided to focus on two key actions: significantly reduce the content of the online version (of the 48,000 online entries, 31,000 remain in the print version); and carry out a complete reformatting of the layout and appearance of the entries.

The publication of the *Concise English-Irish Dictionary* is a source of satisfaction and pride as is the bringing to a close this challenging project. Unlike the major Irish-language dictionaries of the past, however, the publication of this print dictionary is a milestone rather than an end in itself. In the digital age, work on all dictionaries is on-going and the task of supplementing, maintaining, and correcting their online content never ceases.

amach, agus feidhmeanna cuardaigh. Tá 48,000 iontráil agus 145,000 brí sa leagan ar líne agus san aip, chomh maith le comhaid ghramadaí agus fuaime. Cuireann an t-ardán digiteach an foclóir ar fáil do chách i gcéin agus i gcóngar, agus tá ag méadú bliain ar bhliain ar úsáid an tsuímh: le linn 2019, mar shampla, thug 2.2 milliún úsáideoir uathúil cuairt ar www.focloir.ie, trian díobh sin ó thíortha thar lear.

Nuair a cinneadh tabhairt faoin leagan clóite seo den Fhoclóir Nua Béarla-Gaeilge, ba léir ón tús go raibh i bhfad níos mó i gceist leis ná go díreach an méid atá ar líne a phriontáil amach. Dá ndéanfaí é sin, bheadh timpeall 4,500 leathanach sa leagan clóite, rud a d'éileodh cúpla imleabhar. Bhainfeadh sé sin d'inúsáidteacht an fhoclóra agus chuirfeadh sé go mór le costas a fhoilsithe. Chun foclóir aon imleabhair a chur ar fáil, ceann a bheadh soléite agus so-úsáidte, ba ghá an líon leathanach a laghdú go dtí faoi bhun 2,000. Chuige sin, díriodh ar dhá phríomhbheart: laghdú suntasach a dhéanamh ar chion ábhair an leagain ar líne (as an 48,000 iontráil atá ar líne, tá 31,000 sa leagan clóite) agus athfhormáidiú ó bhonn a dhéanamh ar eagar agus ar chuma na n-iontrálacha.

Ábhar sásaimh agus bróid é an *Concise English-Irish Dictionary* a chur ar fáil agus an tionscadal dúshlánach seo a thabhairt chun críche. Ní hionann agus na mórfhoclóirí Gaeilge roimhe seo, áfach, ní ceann scríbe ach cloch mhíle é foilsiú an fhoclóra chlóite. Sa ré dhigiteach, is obair idir lámha é gach foclóir agus ní stadfar in am ar bith de bheith ag breisiú, ag cothabháil agus ag ceartú a bhfuil ar líne iontu.