

Thursday 1st October - Saturday 31st October, 2015

Linen Hall Library, 17 Donegall Square North, Belfast BT1 5GB

Tel: 028 9032 1707 | info@linenhall.com | www.linenhall.com



Linen Hall
Library
Established 1788

From Home to Here

Stories of Migration, Old and New



1815/3.
*My dear sister write
these few lines hoping
to find you in good health
as this leaves me at present
Dear sister I promised
to you that I would
send you the way
that sister Ellen is situated
her husband is a middle
aged man and has five
children four daughters
and one son three of the
girls are hired out and
the youngest of them
which is 14 years of age
which stays at home
and makes her fathers*

Free Public Events and Workshops for Children

These events introduce migration stories from three different sources. Extracts from letters of the late 18th to early 20th centuries describe what life was like for Irish emigrants who were forging new lives in North America and for the families and friends they left behind. These letters are compared with interviews collected from 2012-2014, recording conversations with young people from both local and migrant families in Armagh, Belfast and Donaghmore. School children from across Northern Ireland have also contributed by creating shoe boxes of objects that migrants might carry with them to represent "home". The materials were collected as part of the *Múin Béarla do na Leanbháin* ('Teach the Children English') project, which seeks to better understand the relationship between identity, language and migration in Northern Ireland.



"Múin Béarla
do na Leanbháin"

"Teach the Children English"

website: <https://irishmigration.wordpress.com>

email: ni.language.migration@ncl.ac.uk

Gael Linn



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Images: *The Beacon of Hope*, Belfast, by Andy Scott (2007), image by Sophie Villerot (2013 CC BY-NC-ND); *Suitcase* by Wilerson S. Andrade (2013 CC BY-SA); 19th C emigrant letter, courtesy of the Deputy Keeper of Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland; detail from *Letter from America* by James Brennan (1875), courtesy of Crawford Art Gallery, Cork; *The National Famine Memorial*, Murrisk, by John Behan (1997), image courtesy of Emily Mark-Fitzgerald; *Belfast Mural*, image by Michal Osmenda (2006 CC BY-SA).