The National Library of Ireland

“Remembering 1916, Recording 2016”

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Introduction

• An introduction to the NLI
• History of Web Archiving at the NLI
• Ireland’s Decade of Centenaries
• “Remembering 1916, Recording 2016”
• Outreach
• Challenges
• Going Forward
The National Library of Ireland

- Founded in **1877**
- **Legal Deposit** since 1927
- National Cultural Institutions Act 1997
- **1+ million** manuscripts
- 250,000 visitors each year
- Exhibitions
- **100,000** digitised items available online
- Born Digital Collecting
Web Archiving at the NLI

• Began in **2007** - First domain crawl
• **Selective and Event** based web archiving since 2011
• Over **1800** instances of websites captured to date
• **11 TB** of data
• Significant Political, Social and Cultural Collections
The Decade of Centenaries

• 1912-1922 - Political unrest in Ireland
• 1916 - Easter Rising and Irish in the First World War
• 1919-1921 - The Irish War of Independence
• 1921-1922 - The Irish Civil War
Commemorations and the NLI

• Inclusive and open commemorations
• Unique role of the NLI
• Exhibitions, Podcast Series, Talks and Collaborative projects
• Role of the NLI to capture the living memory of Ireland
Remembering 1916, Recording 2016

Aims

• January 2016- April 2017
• State funding
• Archive and make available 400 websites
• Promote the web archive
• Engage with Stakeholders
Building the Collection

- Official State Programme - Ireland 2016
- Easter Rising & Battle of the Somme
- Countrywide events
- Irish language
- Diaspora
- State of the Nation Collection - Did we meet the aims set out in the Proclamation?
“Wild and wicked”

The Irish Times on Symphony for the Restless
Engaging with Stakeholders

• Strong tradition of collaboration in the NLI
• Early 2016- First community collecting project
• 85 Stakeholders
• 125 suggestions received
Outreach- First Steps

• **Social Media** - The power of Twitter & Facebook

• **New branding and promo material** - Giving the Web Archive a recognisable brand

• **Talks and Lectures** - Introducing the concept of the Web Archive, encouraging discussion
Public Call

• Community collecting
• What websites do you think best remember the events of 1916?
• What websites do you think best record life in Ireland in 2016?
• Web Archive featured in National media & Trending on Twitter!!
Public Call
Did the NLI meet the aims?

- **455** websites archived & available freely online
- Outreach & publicity: **42% increase** in access to Web Archive page
- **Challenges** & obstacles
- Groundwork for **new initiatives**
Challenges

- No Digital Legal Deposit legislation:
  - NLI is lobbying for a change in copyright legislation

- Resources:
  - NLI is under resourced & under staffed
  - 1 full time archivist on contract
Plans for the Future

- Domain Crawl 2017
- Annual domain crawls from 2018
- Publicity and outreach work
- Curated Collections with specialists
- Ingesting WARCS to repository
Conclusion

- **Formative** stages of the web archive
- The NLI is **committed** to web archiving
- Consolidated web archiving in the NLI
- Exciting plans for the **future**
Thank you!

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Find out more: