ITA/131 Jimmy O’Dea Collection

Irish Theatre Archive at Dublin City Archives

Descriptive List by Ruth Bryan
June 1998
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JIMMY O’DEA and URSULA DOYLE COLLECTION:
DESCRIPTIVE LIST

Contents

Introduction .................................................. 5

Programmes .................................................. 7
Introduction .................................................. 7
First deposit .................................................. 9
Second deposit ............................................. 21

Playbills ................................................... 31
Introduction .................................................. 31
First deposit .................................................. 32
Second deposit ............................................. 34

Press Cuttings ............................................. 38
Introduction .................................................. 38
First deposit .................................................. 40
Second deposit ............................................. 52
Relating to Jimmy O’Dea’s last years and obituaries .............. 52
Relating to Ursula Doyle’s career ............................ 60
Miscellaneous .............................................. 73

Photographs ................................................. 75
Introduction .................................................. 75
First deposit .................................................. 77
Second deposit ............................................. 111
Second deposit ............................................. 112
Jimmy O’Dea alone ......................................... 112
Ursula Doyle’s early career ................................. 117
Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea .................................... 122
Production photos ......................................... 125
Ursula Doyle’s later career ................................ 137
Miscellaneous photographs ............................... 145

Recordings .................................................... 151

Memorabilia ................................................. 153
Introduction .................................................. 153
First deposit .................................................. 154

Miscellaneous .............................................. 161
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Second deposit</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Correspondence</strong></td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First deposit</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second deposit</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td> Relating to films</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td> Relating to Jimmy O’Dea or Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td> Relating to Ursula Doyle</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td> Miscellaneous</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Production Files</strong></td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First deposit</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second deposit</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financial Files</strong></td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Printed Materials</strong></td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First deposit</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second deposit</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td> Sheet music</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td> Books</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

Jimmy O’Dea is remembered as Ireland’s most famous comedian, and this collection chronicles his career, from early successes and tours in the 1930s through his long run as top billing at the Gaiety Theatre in Dublin and on tours internationally until his death in early January 1965. He was born on 26 April 1899 to parents who owned a toy and drapery shop and was apprenticed to an ophthalmologist to learn the trade and eventually opened his own shop. Throughout his youth and early adulthood in the 1920s he took part in “straight” amateur theatre productions and also acted in several early Irish films produced by John MacDonagh, who was later to give O’Dea his first small but well-received comic role in the play The Irish Jew in 1921 and then again in the all-Dublin revue Dublin Tonight, 1924, which propelled O’Dea into the comic limelight.

He met entertainer and writer Harry O’Donovan around this time, and they formed O’D. Productions, the company which produced most of O’Dea’s pantomimes and revues and for which he was not only principal actor but also producer. They began their career in the early 1930s by touring England and Northern Ireland under contract with the Stoll Empire Theatres, returning to Dublin often to play to their “home” crowd. They also toured the Republic. In the late 1930s O’Dea and O’Donovan were brought into the Gaiety Theatre by its manager, Louis Elliman and played there until O’Dea died.

Throughout the 1940s, ‘50s, and ‘60s O’Dea continued to tour, most notably to Australia and New Zealand in 1961, act in films, the most well-known being John Ford’s The Rising of the Moon (1957) and Walt Disney’s Darby O’Gill and the Little People (1959), and perform occasionally in “legitimate” theatre.

The collection was given to the Irish Theatre Archive in two deposits. The first deposit was a donation to the Irish Theatre Archive from Ursula Doyle, his second wife, Rita O’Dea, his sister, and Vernon Hayden. Initially, these materials were lent to the ITA for the O’Dea Retrospective Exhibition held in 1985 to mark the 20th anniversary of his death. The success of the exhibition prompted an outright gift of these materials to the ITA from each of the above depositors. The second deposit consists of material on loan to the ITA from the estate of Ursula Doyle, and was received shortly after her death in January 1997.
The first deposit relates mainly to O’Dea and his professional life while the second is primarily concerned with Ursula Doyle’s early and late career, as well as the time from 1959 to 1965 when O’Dea and Doyle were married. For convenience, Ursula’s surname is “Doyle” when referring to her career and “O’Dea” when referring to her marriage. The content of the two deposits touch upon other well-known performers and personalities, with the most extensive coverage relating to Maureen Potter and Vernon Hayden. Others mentioned frequently are Harry O’Donovan, Micheál Mac Liammóir, Milo O’Shea, Danny Cunmins, Noel Purcell, Fred O’Donovan, and Norman Maen. Political figures appear as well, including Éamon and Sinéad de Valera and Seán (Jack) Lemass who lived close to the O’Dea family and in the 1910s and 1920s joined O’Dea in the amateur theatre circuit.

Each deposit contains the same categories of documents, so this descriptive list is arranged accordingly. The categories are programmes, handbills and playbills, press cuttings, photographs, recordings, memorabilia, Irish Theatre Archives exhibition, correspondence, production files, financial files, printed material and costumes. Each category is represented by a number (“1” is programmes, “2” is handbills and playbills, “3” is press cuttings and so on), and within each category, each item receives its own individual number (so that ITA/131/1/01 is the first programme within the programme category of the O’Dea collection at the Irish Theatre Archives). The first and second deposit materials are numbered consecutively, and a division between the two is marked in the text within each category. Duplicates of any item are marked A, B, C etc. after the item number. Except for those who appear constantly throughout and thus are assumed to be the subjects of the collection (Jimmy O’Dea, Harry O’Donovan, Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Ursula Doyle, Fred O’Donovan, the Gaiety Theatre, O’D. Productions, and Éamonn Andrews Studios), all performers, personalities, production companies, and venues are indexed. Also indexed are show, film, and sketch titles, as well as the names of two of O’Dea’s famous characters, Biddy Mulligan and Napoleon. These are all in italics in the text as well as in the index. Where mentioned in the descriptions, museums, archives, and other locations are also indexed.

The collection, both first and second deposits, is particularly strong in its 306 photographs, especially those relating to productions at the Gaiety Theatre. It also features 76 programmes, spanning the years 1921-1981 and including some of O’Dea’s early performances and Doyle’s later directing career. The press cuttings, correspondence, memorabilia, and production and financial files help to flesh out the framework supplied by the programmes, handbills, and photographs, including many reviews of O’D. Productions early 1930s tours, information about his film career, and connections with well-known performers and political figures. The press cuttings also contain interviews and retrospectives which provide a good deal of background information, while the text of the Irish Theatre Archive exhibition is also a source. While almost all of the collection is of a professional nature, a window onto O’Dea’s personal feelings can be found in the three letters he wrote to Rita O’Dea (ITA/131/9/01A-C) from the United States while there filming Darby O’Gill.
Programmes

Introduction

The 46 programmes in the first deposit span the years 1928 through 1964 (some are duplicates) and are numbered from 1 to 38 in chronological order, with the undated ones at the end of the series and the duplicates numbered A, B, etc. There are only two programmes in the collection in which O’Dea does not appear at all (ITA/131/1/10 and 33A). His absence in the earlier one (no. 10), for a production of *Cinderella* in December 1944, was owing to illness. He returned to the production in early 1945 to take over the role of “Buttons,” which had been played by Wilfred Brambell. Brambell later had a starring role in television’s *Steptoe and Son* [information supplied by Matt Murtagh.] Although programme ITA/131/1/04 is undated, this may be that 1945 production of *Cinderella*. The other programme in which he does not appear is for *Sinbad the Sailor* in December 1964; he died in January 1965.

The programmes also trace parts of the careers of other famous Irish actors, including Maureen Potter, Noel Purcell, Ursula Doyle, Vernon Hayden, Milo O’Shea, Hal Roach, and Micheál Mac Liammóir, some of whom were also members of O’D. Productions. In addition to acting, Vernon Hayden was General Manager, while Ursula Doyle, having graduated from being “Little Ursula Doyle” in *Jimmy and the Leprechaun* (December 1939, ITA/131/1/03A-B) lent a hand as Assistant Producer. Micheál Mac Liammóir appears in two productions during 1956, *Gateway to Gaiety* (ITA/131/1/21A-B), in August, and *Cinderella* (ITA/131/1/22A-C) in December. As well as acting, he wrote several sketches and designed the settings and costumes for *Gateway*. Cecil Sheridan also wrote for this production. The programme includes caricatures of O’Dea and Mac Liammóir on the front (B) and first page (A) and an advertisement on the back page for the “Irish Premiere of Paul Vincent Carroll’s *The Wayward Saint*...with Liam Redmond, Micheál MacLiammóir” at the Globe Theatre in Dublin.

Other programmes include “New Records of Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan in their Pantomime Successes” on “Parlophone” (ITA/131/1/36, undated) and photographs and biographies of some key players (ITA/131/1/20, 32-33A). Several programmes are either not from productions at the Gaiety or do not follow the Gaiety’s general programme design (see ITA/131/1/37-38). One of these is ITA/131/1/26 titled *The Gaelic Athletic Association presents Jimmy O’Dea* (1961) which may have been a benefit. Finally, ITA/131/1/25, titled *Look Back in Laughter: 21 Years of Gaiety* appears to have been a retrospective, and the programme includes the dates and production names from which each sketch on the programme was taken.

For two other programmes, one of *Little Red Riding Hood*, produced at Queen’s Theatre, Dublin in [the 1930s] and *Irish Smiles*, produced at the Belfast Empire Theatre, March 1930, see ITA/131/7/13, pp. 14 and 16 respectively.
The 30 programmes in the second deposit cover a wide range of years, from 1921-81, and relate mainly to the career of Ursula Doyle. They are numbered in chronological order, with the first and oldest programme (ITA/131/1/39) following in numerical order the last and newest programme (ITA/131/1/38) from the first deposit. Duplicates are listed as A, B, C, etc.

These programmes can be divided into three categories. The largest, from 1967 to 1977, chronicles Doyle’s career as a director of revues and pantomimes mainly at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. It also demonstrates part of the range of the production company Éamonn Andrews Studios (of which team she was a member), established by Fred O’Donovan (the producer of most of the shows represented here) and Éamonn Andrews. The second category shows O’Dea and Doyle acting together in productions from 1957-60, as well as a programme from O’Dea’s tour of Australia. The third category is a mixture of programmes from 1921-45, including a Fete for the Irish Republican Prisoner’s Dependant’s Fund (which includes the names of Harry O’Donovan and James A. O’Dea as performers) and a “Operetta and Variety” show in which Doyle and her brothers appear as child performers.

Like the first deposit, other key players are tracked throughout the programmes including Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Danny Cummins, Hal Roach, Eugene Lambert, and James (Jim) Bartley.

See also memorabilia for some programmes, souvenir programmes, and handbills.
First deposit

ITA/131/1/01

Copy

October 1928

*Now We’re Here*, a revue by Harry O’Donovan at [The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin]. Production company is [O’D. Productions]. Produced by Jimmy O’Dea.

**Key players** include Harry O’Donovan and Jimmy O’Dea.

**Notes:** Mounted on board

ITA/131/1/02

Copy

September 1939


**Key players** include Harry O’Donovan and Jimmy O’Dea.

ITA/131/1/03A

Copy

December 1939


**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

**Notes:** Ursula Doyle is “Little Ursula Doyle” in this production.

ITA/131/1/03B

Copy

December 1939


**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

**Notes:** Ursula Doyle is “Little Ursula Doyle” in this production.

ITA/131/1/04

Original
[undated]


**Key players** include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, and Noel Purcell.

**ITA/131/1/05**  
Copy  
August 1940

*Gaiety Revels of 1940*, a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is O’D. Productions.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Noel Purcell, and Vernon Hayden.

**ITA/131/1/06**  
Copy  
December 1940

*Babes in the Wood*, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

**ITA/131/1/07**  
Copy  
August 1941

*So What?*, a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea and Vernon Hayden.

**ITA/131/1/08**  
Copy  
August 1942

*And So To Laugh*, a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

**ITA/131/1/09**  
Copy  
July 1944
Walk Up, a revue at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is O’D. Productions.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

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**ITA/131/1/10**

Original

December 1944

*Cinderella*, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Maureen Potter and Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Written on a piece of paper included with the programme: “Jimmy O’Dea did not appear in the Dec. 1944 production of *Cinderella* owing to illness. In mid-January 1945 he took the part of ‘Buttons’ in this production. This part was relinquished by Wilfrid Brambell, who later had a starring role in the television production of *Steptoe and Son*. Information kindly supplied by Matt Murtagh [Theatre Historian].”

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**ITA/131/1/11**

Copy

August 1945

*Let’s Go*, a revue.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

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**ITA/131/1/12**

Original

August 1948

*Happy Holiday*, a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by Jimmy O’Dea.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers. P. J. Bourke designed the uniforms used in the production. Vernon Hayden was also manager.

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**ITA/131/1/13**

Original

December 1948

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers. Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

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<th>ITA/131/1/14</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>December 1950</td>
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</table>

*Happy As Can Be*, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/1/15</th>
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**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers. Vernon Hayden is also General Manager.

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<th>ITA/131/1/16A</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 1953</td>
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</table>

*What Next!*, a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is O’D. Productions. Produced by [Sonnie Allan].

**Key players** include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers. Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

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<th>ITA/131/1/16B</th>
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<td>August 1953</td>
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</table>
Key players include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

Notes: Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers. Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

ITA/131/1/16C

Original

August 1953

*What Next!*, a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is O’D. Productions. Produced by [Sonnie Allan].

Key players include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

Notes: Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers. Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

ITA/131/1/17

Original

December 1953

*The Spice of Life*, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is O’D. Productions.

Key players include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

Notes: Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers. Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

ITA/131/1/18

Original

August 1954


Key players include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.
Notes: Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers. Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

ITA/131/1/19

Original

December 1954

Date With Laughter, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is O’D. Productions. Produced by Jimmy O’Dea.

Key players include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

Notes: Includes advertisement for Ging’s Theatrical Costumiers. Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

ITA/131/1/20

Original

December 1955

Puss In Boots, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [Charles Ross].

Key players include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

Notes: Book rewritten by H. O’Donovan by arrangement with Howard & Wyndham, Ltd. Programme includes photos and biographies of major players.

ITA/131/1/21A

Original

August 1956

Gateway to Gaiety, a revue at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [T. R. Royle].

Key players include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Milo O’Shea, and Micheál Mac Liammóir.
Notes: Revue is divided into sketches, with each sketch having a different author. Harry O'Donovan, Micheal Mac Liammòir, and Cecil Sheridan are among those who wrote sketches. Mac Liammòir also designed the settings and costumes. Also includes an advertisement (back page) for “Next Production, Dublin Globe Theatre Co. Present The Irish Premiere of Paul Vincent Carroll’s The Wayward Saint, an Irish comedy, with Liam Redmond, Micheal MacLiammòir. Production by Hilton Edwards.” Programme includes caricatures of O’Dea and Mac Liammòir on first page.

ITA/131/1/21B  Original

August 1956

Gateway to Gaiety, a revue at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [T. R. Royle].

Key players include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Milo O’She, and Micheal Mac Liammòir.

Notes: Revue is divided into sketches, with each sketch having a different author. Harry O’Donovan, Micheal Mac Liammòir, and Cecil Sheridan are among those who wrote sketches. Mac Liammòir also designed the settings and costumes. Also includes an advertisement (back page) for “Next Production, Dublin Globe Theatre Co. Present The Irish Premiere of Paul Vincent Carroll’s The Wayward Saint, an Irish comedy, with Liam Redmond, Micheal MacLiammòir. Production by Hilton Edwards.” A different programme cover than ITA/131/1/21A, it includes caricatures of O’Dea and Mac Liammòir on cover and does not include advertisements.

ITA/131/1/22A  Original

December 1956

Cinderella, a pantomime by Harry O'Donovan and Micheal Mac Liammòir at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [T. R. Royle].

Key players include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Milo O’She, and Micheal Mac Liammòir.

Notes: By arrangement with Howard & Wyndham Ltd.

ITA/131/1/22B  Original

December 1956

Cinderella, a pantomime by Harry O'Donovan and Micheal Mac Liammòir at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [T. R. Royle].

Key players include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Milo O’She, and Micheal Mac Liammòir.

Notes: By arrangement with Howard & Wyndham Ltd.
December 1956

_Cinderella_, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan and Micheál Mac Liammóir at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [T. R. Royle].

Key players include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Milo O’Shea, and Micheál Mac Liammóir.

Notes: By arrangement with Howard & Wyndham Ltd. This version of the programme has a different, picture cover with the title “Howard and Wyndham’s Cinderella.”

July 1957


Key players include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, and Milo O’Shea.

Notes: By arrangement with Chappell & Co. Ltd. [For photo, see ITA/131/4/70.]

December 1958

_Robinson Crusoe_, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [T.R. Royle].

Key players include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Ursula Doyle, and Hal Roach.

Notes: By arrangement with Howard & Wyndham Ltd.

February 1959


Key players include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

Notes: A [retrospective], including the dates and production names from which the various scenes on this programme originated.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/1/26</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 14, 1961</td>
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*The Gaelic Athletic Association presents Jimmy O’Dea,* at Eaton Auditorium.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

**Notes:** [A one-time production, perhaps a benefit for the Gaelic Athletic Association].

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<tr>
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<td>December 1961</td>
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*Mother Goose,* a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [Louis Elliman].

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Ursula Doyle, and Milo O’Shea.

**Notes:** Vernon Hayden was also Production Manager. Ursula Doyle was also Assistant Producer.

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<tr>
<th>ITA/131/1/28</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 1962</td>
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*The Merrier We Will Be,* a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

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<thead>
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<th>ITA/131/1/30A</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 1963</td>
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*We’re Joking, Of Course,* a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

**Notes:** Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

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<th>ITA/131/1/30B</th>
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<td>August 1963</td>
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</table>

*We’re Joking, Of Course,* a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

**Notes:** Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

**ITA/131/1/30C**

Original

August 1963

*We’re Joking, Of Course*, a revue by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

**Notes:** Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

**ITA/131/1/31A**

Original

December 1963

*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [Louis Elliman].

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

**Notes:** Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

**ITA/131/1/31C**

Original

December 1963

*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [Louis Elliman].

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

**Notes:** Vernon Hayden was also General Manager.

**ITA/131/1/31D**

Copy

December 1963

*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [Louis Elliman].
**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, and Ursula Doyle.

**ITA/131/1/32**  
Original  
July 1964  


**Key players** include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Ursula Doyle, and Milo O’Shea.

**Notes:** Programme includes photos of some key players. By arrangement with Chappell & Co. Ltd.

**ITA/131/1/33A**  
Original  
December 1964  

*Sinbad the Sailor*, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Produced by [Louis Elliman].

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Ursula Doyle, Milo O’Shea, and Hal Roach.

**Notes:** Programme includes photos and biographies of key players. Jimmy O’Dea does not appear in this production [owing to his final illness]. By arrangement with Howard and Wyndham Ltd.

**ITA/131/1/35**  
Copy  
[c. late 1920s-early 1930s]  


**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea and Noel Purcell.

**ITA/131/1/36**  
Copy  
[c. late 1920s-early 1930s]  

No title, by Harry O’Donovan at [The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin]. Production company is [O’D. Productions].

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea and Noel Purcell.
Notes: Includes advertisement in upper left hand corner: “Enjoy the Panto. Hits at Home. New Records of Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan in their pantomime successes are now ready on Parlophone.” [See ITA/131/8/2J3 for more information on Parlophone recordings.]

ITA/131/1/37 Copy

[undated]

No title, no venue or production information available.

Key players include Harry O’Donovan and Jimmy O’Dea.

Notes: Possibly early in career. H. O’Donovan listed as “entertainer,” and is not writer/producer.

ITA/131/1/38 Copy

[undated]

No title. Production company is O’D. Productions

Key players include Harry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, and Noel Purcell.

Notes: Possibly early in career.
Second deposit

ITA/131/1/39 Original

29 September-9 October 1921

Fete in Aid of Irish Republican Prisoners’ Dependants’ Fund.

Notes: Programme includes “a foreword by the President,” Éamon de Valera, in English and Irish (“The dependants of our soldier dead, and of our prisoners, are a sacred charge.”); members of the executive committee (including Mrs. M. Pearse [mother of Pádraig and Willie], Mrs. K. Clarke [widow of Tom Clarke], and Andrew S. Clarkin [one of Dublin’s Lord Mayors]); a dialogue in Irish advertising the fete, stalls named after patriots, other amusements, and “Concerts” by many including James A. O’Dea, Tom Dunne, Harry O’Donovan, William Lemass, and J. F. Larchet [from the Academy of Music].

ITA/131/1/40 Original

October 1929


Notes: Includes “Hal Roach presents ‘Our Gang’ in ‘Bouncing Babies,’ featuring the infant prodigy, Wheezer. (A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer All-Talking Comedy.).” Also includes a printed photograph (back cover) of Buster Keaton in costume, production shot. Caption reads, “Buster Keaton, one of the twenty-five stars, in a comedy scene from ‘The Hollywood Revue.’”

ITA/131/1/41 Original

Sunday, 27 May 1945

Programme of Operetta & Variety Entertainment, a revue at the Queen’s Theatre.

Key players include Ursula Doyle.

Notes: Cast includes “Ursula, Noel & Jimmy Doyle, Ireland’s Greatest Juvenile Entertainers.” Programme has “E. Byrne” handwritten in pencil on the front.
November 1959

*Phil Raymond Presents*, a revue at the Metropolitan, London’s Irish Music Hall, Edgware Road. Produced by Jack Raynes.

**Key players** include Ursula Doyle, Vernon Hayden, and Jimmy O’Dea.

**Notes:** Programme is a series of numbers, and includes the sketches *Seeing him off, Getting a rise, Question time, and Dog days.* [See ITA/131/7/43 for cartoon of O’Dea from “London’s Irish Music Hall.”]

---

ITA/131/1/43  
Original

December 1957

*Dick Whittington*, a pantomime (additions to book by Harry O’Donovan) at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Ursula Doyle, Vernon Hayden, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, and Micheál Mac Liammóir.

---

ITA/131/1/44  
Original

December 1960

*Babes in the Wood*, a pantomime by Harry O’Donovan at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is O’D. Productions. Directed by Jimmy O’Dea.

**Key players** include Ursula Doyle, Vernon Hayden, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, and Danny Cummins.

**Notes:** Vernon Hayden is General Manager and Ursula Doyle is Assistant Producer. Includes advertisement: “Commencing Feb. 20th: Micheál Mac Liammóir in ‘The Importance of Being Oscar.’”

---

ITA/131/1/45  
Original

[1961]
Ireland Sings, in [Australia]. Production company is G. & L. Mennie.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden and Jimmy O’Dea.

**Notes:** Includes biographies of O’Dea, with printed photograph in costume as King of the Leprechauns, and Vernon Hayden; three sketches out of the “12 items” on the programme in which Hayden and O’Dea play, and story about filming *The Rising of the Moon* with John Ford. [See ITA/131/11/2 for financial files relating to Australia and New Zealand tour. See also photographs and Irish Theatre Archive section (ITA/131/8/2E1) regarding *The Rising of the Moon.*]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/1/46</th>
<th>Original</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[summer] 1967</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Gaels of Laughter ‘67, a revue at The Gaiety Theatre. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, and Hal Roach.

**Notes:** Includes handwritten notes on quality of production and printed photographs and biographies of major players, including Potter, Roach, Cummins, and Doyle.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/1/47</th>
<th>Original</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1967</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The Golden Years*, a musical by Donal Giltinan at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Productions. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden and Milo O’Shea.

**Notes:** Based on the life of Percy French.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/1/48</th>
<th>Original</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1967</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Odd Couple, a comedy by Neil Simon at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Directed by Fred O’Donovan.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Vernon Hayden was Company Manager. Ursula Doyle was Assistant Director. Includes ad “Commencing December 26th Éamonn Andrews Studios presents Maureen Potter in a Spectacular New Comedy Pantomime, Magic Prince. A Fred O’Donovan Production.” Includes biographies of major players. [For photo of cast, see ITA/131/4/233.]

---

ITA/131/1/49

[summer] 1968

Gaels of Laughter ’68, a revue by Harry O’Donovan, Jack O’Leary, Warren O’Connell, Fergus Linehan, and John Molloy at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, and Hal Roach.

**Notes:** Includes printed photographs and biographies of major players.

---

ITA/131/1/50

November 1968

Crystal & Fox, a play by Brian Friel at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Edwards-MacLiammóir Dublin Gate Theatre Productions in association with Éamonn Andrews Studios. Directed by Hilton Edwards.

**Key players** include Cecil Sheridan and Maureen Toal.

**Notes:** Includes “From 19th November ‘Crystal and Fox’ will be transferred to the Gate Theatre.”

---

ITA/131/1/51

July 1969

Key players include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, and Danny Cummins.

Notes: Programme includes printed photographs and biographies of major players. [For photo of Potter used in programme, see ITA/131/4/232.]

**ITA/131/1/52**  
Original

October 1969

*Man and Superman*, a play by George Bernard Shaw at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios and Keep Films Ltd. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Nat Brenner.

Key players include Peter O’Toole.

Notes: Programme includes printed photographs and biographies of major players.

**ITA/131/1/53**  
Original

October 1969

*The Pied Piper of Hamelin*, December 1969, a pantomime by Frank O’Donovan (with Jack O’Leary and Warren O’Connell) at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

Key players include Vernon Hayden, Danny Cummins, and James Bartley.


**ITA/131/1/54**  
Original

June 1970

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Hal Roach, and James Bartley.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies. [For photo of Potter used in programme, see ITA/131/4/232.] Also includes separate leaflet, “Book by post - and jump the Q” which includes layout of the seats at the Gaiety.

---

**ITA/131/1/55A**

Original

June 1970

*Humpty Dumpty*, December 1970, a pantomime by Frank O’Donovan (with Jack O’Leary and Warren O’Connell) at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Jim Bartley, and Cecil Nash.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies. Also includes a signature on first page, [James Myers, booking manager].

---

**ITA/131/1/55B**

Original

December 1970

*Humpty Dumpty*, a pantomime by Frank O’Donovan (with Jack O’Leary and Warren O’Connell) at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Jim Bartley, and Cecil Nash.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies.

---

**ITA/131/1/56**

Original

March 1971


**Notes:** Costumes were supplied by P. J. Bourke.
June 1971

*Gaels of Laughter* ‘71, a revue by Fergus Linehan, Cecil Sheridan, Harry O’Donovan, Warren O’Connell, and Jack O’Leary at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Hal Roach, Jim Bartley.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies.

---

ITA/131/1/57B

June 1971

*Gaels of Laughter* ‘71, a revue by Fergus Linehan, Cecil Sheridan, Harry O’Donovan, Warren O’Connell, and Jack O’Leary at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Hal Roach, and Jim Bartley.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies.

---

ITA/131/1/58

November 1971

*A Season of Gilbert & Sullivan Operas*, operettas by Gilbert and Sullivan at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Rathmines and Rathgar Musical Society. Produced by Beryl Dixon and directed by Terry O’Connor.

**Notes:** Programme includes advertisement for pantomime *Robin Hood* with Maureen Potter, directed by Ursula Doyle. Costumes supplied by Ging’s of Dame Street.

---

ITA/131/1/59

December 1971

*Robin Hood*, a pantomime by Warren O’Connell (Jack O’Leary wrote M. Potter’s script) at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Eugene Lambert, Jim Bartley, and Cecil Nash.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies.
July 1973

_Gaels of Laughter_ ‘73, a revue by Warren O’Connell, Cecil Sheridan, and Fergus Linehan at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Hal Roach, and Jim Bartley.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies. [See ITA/131/4/200A for photo of Doyle used.]

December 1976

_Jack and the Beanstalk_, a pantomime by Warren O’Connell at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Maureen Toal, and Cecil Nash.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies. [See ITA/131/4/209 for photo of Doyle used.] Also includes advertisement for “Opening March 7th, 1977 for two weeks only, Noel Pearson presents Niall Tóibín in Green and Chaste and Foolish, a new one-man show.”
December 1976

*Jack and the Beanstalk*, a pantomime by Warren O’Connell at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Maureen Toal, and Cecil Nash.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies. [See ITA/131/4/209 for photo of Doyle used.] Also includes advertisement for “Opening March 7th, 1977 for two weeks only, Noel Pearson presents Niall Tóibín in *Green and Chaste and Foolish*, a new one-man show.”

August 1977

*Gaels of Laughter ’77*, a revue by Warren O’Connell, Raymond Allen, Austin Steel, and Peter Vincent at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, and David Kelly.

**Notes:** Programme includes printed photographs and biographies. [See ITA/131/4/209 for photo of Doyle used.]
Tom Foolery, a musical by Tom Lehrer at the Gate Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Edwards-MacLiammóir Productions, Noel Pearson, and Cameron Mackintosh. Produced by Noel Pearson.

Notes: Programme includes printed photographs and biographies. Also included are drawings by Mike Carroll and information on the founding of the Gate Theatre and Edwards-Mac Líammóir company.
**Playbills**

**Introduction**

The 7 playbills (for 5 different productions) in the first deposit are numbered in the same manner as the programmes, including the duplicates, and advertise shows from 1930-31, 1961, and the 1940s. Except for one, the 1961 production of *Mother Goose* at the Gaiety (ITA/131/2/05A-B, see programme ITA/131/1/27), all the playbills refer to venues in England and the North of Ireland. They include variations on statements such as these from the playbill for the 1930 *Irish Smiles: A Visit to Ireland Without Crossing the Channel* (ITA/131/2/01) which played at the Hippodrome in [London]: “Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan present the only all-Irish revue...Jimmy O’Dea is “Ireland’s Most Popular Comedian.” Like the programmes, the playbills also refer to other key players, including Harry O’Donovan, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Ursula Doyle, and Milo O’Shea.

The 13 playbills and handbills in the second deposit cover the years 1971 to 1973, and, like the programmes, are numbered in chronological order, with the first and oldest (ITA/131/2/06) following on from the last and newest handbill (ITA/131/2/05B) in the first deposit. Again, any duplicates are marked as A, B, C, etc.

Other than one playbill, ITA/131/2/06, which is undated but refers to performances of the Distin family in Cork sometime in the 1800s, the other playbills and handbills relate to Ursula Doyle’s career as director at the Gaiety and as a member of Éamonn Andrews Studios. This includes a handbill for the *Gaels of Laughter ’72* for which there is no programme and two “straight” plays for which she was Assistant Director.”

Like the programmes, key players include Vernon Hayden and Danny Cummins, but Milo O’Shea, Eugene Lambert, Anna Manahan, and James (Jim) Bartley are also present.
**Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O'Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:**

First deposit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Handbill</th>
<th>Copy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ITA/131/2/01</strong></td>
<td>October 1930</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Irish Smiles: A Visit to Ireland Without Crossing the Channel*, by Harry O’Donovan. Produced at the Hippodrome, [London].

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Harry O’Donovan, and Noel Purcell.

**Notes:** Text reads: “Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan present the only all-Irish revue.” Jimmy O’Dea is billed as “Ireland’s Most Popular Comedian.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Handbill</th>
<th>Original</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ITA/131/2/02</strong></td>
<td>February 1931</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Harry O’Donovan, and Noel Purcell.

**Notes:** Text reads: “See Jimmy O’Dea in ‘Crossing the Border’ (repeated by request). The Greatest Laughter Show on Tour.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Handbill</th>
<th>Original</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ITA/131/2/03A</strong></td>
<td>[c. 1940s]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All Blarney*, by Harry O’Donovan. Produced by O’D. Productions at the Shepherds Bush Empire.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Harry O’Donovan, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Handbill</th>
<th>Original</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ITA/131/2/03B</strong></td>
<td>[c. 1940s]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All Blarney*, by Harry O’Donovan. Produced by O’D. Productions at the Shepherds Bush Empire.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Harry O’Donovan, Maureen Potter and Vernon Hayden. Mounted on board.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Handbill</th>
<th>Original</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ITA/131/2/04</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
[c. 1930s]

*A Date With Laughter: Three Big New Spectacular Comedy Productions.* Produced by O’D. Productions at the Shakespeare Theatre of Varieties, Liverpool.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Harry O’Donovan, Maureen Potter, and Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Text reads: “Stupendous Attraction! For three weeks only--with an entirely new show each week...with Liverpool’s great favourite Jimmy O’Dea, Ireland’s national comedian of ‘Mrs. Mulligan’ fame.” Maureen Potter is “The Brilliant Personality Girl.” Mounted on board.

**ITA/131/2/05A**

Handbill

Original

December 1961

*Mother Goose,* by Harry O’Donovan. Produced at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Harry O’Donovan, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Ursula Doyle, and Milo O’Shea.

**ITA/131/2/05B**

Handbill

Original

December 1961

*Mother Goose,* by Harry O’Donovan. Produced at The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

**Key players** include Jimmy O’Dea, Harry O’Donovan, Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, Ursula Doyle, and Milo O’Shea.
**Second deposit**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ITA/131/2/06</th>
<th>Playbill Original</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 April [year not given; in the reign of Queen Victoria 1839-1901]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farewell Benefit of the Distin Family, at the Theatre Royal, Victoria, Cork.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notes:</strong> May be copy. Programme includes two plays, the “new Comedietta,” titled “Queen’s Own or Irish Promotion” and the “laughable Farce” of “The Spectre Bridegroom.” Also includes advertisements for a performance of Shakespeare’s Richard III and a “Grand Morning Concert,” “when the Distin Family will positively make their last appearance in Cork.”</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/2/07</th>
<th>Handbill Original</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 1971</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Hood, by Warren O’Connell at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key players</strong> include Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Vernon Hayden, and Eugene Lambert.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notes:</strong> Includes “postal booking form” on reverse, including prices of admission.</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/2/08A</th>
<th>Handbill Original</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaels of Laughter ’72, at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key players</strong> include Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Vernon Hayden, and Jim Bartley.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notes:</strong> Includes “postal booking form” on reverse, giving prices of admission to the Gaiety.</td>
<td></td>
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**ITA/131/2/08B**  
**Handbill**  
**Original**  

June 1972

*Gaels of Laughter ‘72* by at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Vernon Hayden, and Jim Bartley.

**Notes:** Includes “postal booking form” on reverse, including prices of admission.

**ITA/131/2/08C**  
**Handbill**  
**Original**

June 1972

*Gaels of Laughter ‘72* by at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Production company is Éamonn Andrews Studios. Produced by Fred O’Donovan and directed by Ursula Doyle.

**Key players** include Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Vernon Hayden, and Jim Bartley.

**Notes:** Includes “postal booking form” on reverse, including prices of admission.

**ITA/131/2/09A**  
**Handbill**  
**Original**

October 1973


**Key players** include Milo O’Shea and Anna Manahan.

**Notes:** Includes biography of Simon on reverse. Ursula Doyle was assistant director.

**ITA/131/2/09B**  
**Handbill**  
**Original**

October 1973


**Key players** include Milo O’Shea and Anna Manahan.

**Notes:** Includes biography of Simon on reverse. Ursula Doyle was assistant director.
ITAB/10A

October 1973


**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, James Bartley, Milo O’Shea, and Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Includes biography of Simon on reverse. Ursula Doyle was assistant director.

ITAB/10B

October 1973


**Key players** include Vernon Hayden, James Bartley, Milo O’Shea, and Vernon Hayden.

**Notes:** Includes biography of Simon on reverse. Ursula Doyle was assistant director.

ITAB/11A

[c. 1979-1980s]

*Summer Revue*, at Lahinch, Milltown Malbay, Kilkee, and Kilrush. Production company is O’Dea Productions Ireland Ltd. Directed by Ursula Doyle.

ITAB/11B

[c. 1979-1980s]

*Summer Revue*, at Lahinch, Milltown Malbay, Kilkee, and Kilrush. Production company is O’Dea Productions Ireland Ltd. Directed by Ursula Doyle.

ITAB/12A

[c.1979-1980s]

*Summer Revue*, at Lahinch, Milltown Malbay, Kilkee, and Kilrush. Production company is O’Dea Productions Ireland Ltd. Directed by Ursula Doyle.

ITAB/12B

[c. 1979-1980s]

*Summer Revue*, at Lahinch, Milltown Malbay, Kilkee, and Kilrush. Production company is O’Dea Productions Ireland Ltd. Directed by Ursula Doyle.
Press Cuttings

Introduction

The 36 cuttings in the first deposit are numbered chronologically, with the duplicates subdivided into A, B, etc., and fall into these types:

Advertisements--for shows or for recordings
Announcements--of future shows
Reviews--of current shows
Photographs--reproductions
Scene lists--for a show
TV. listing
Short description
Article

The cuttings can be divided into three distinct periods. The first, from 1928 to c. 1930, detail O’Dea’s first revue successes in collaboration with Harry O’Donovan, especially abroad in England and Northern Ireland. Most are copies of leaves from a scrapbook [kept by Eileen Marmion, an extremely popular child entertainer during that time who appeared in many of the productions]. Others are copies from another scrapbook, [kept by O’Dea’s sister, Rita O’Dea] (ITA/131/7/13), and are cross-referenced accordingly. These advertisements, articles, and announcements often include references to the “all-Irish” content of the revues, and can be used to trace O’D. Production’s hectic touring pace. Often, two, three, or four of the cuttings appear on one page. Where this is the case, each is described in a separate paragraph, while each page (or numbered item) is separated by a line. The [Rita O’Dea] scrapbook is discussed in more detail in the section on memorabilia. It contains many more press cuttings from the same time period as well as some programmes and one photograph and includes two articles which detail the process by which O’D. Productions came to have such an extensive tour of the British Isles.

The second period, from 1952-1965, is not so uniform in content. While one is a review, the others announce a new television storytelling programme and show a reproduction of a painting of O’Dea. The third period of cuttings, from 1985, are articles focusing on his career (film, stage, and television) and his contribution to Irish theatre. These were written to mark the 20th anniversary of his death, and some announce a documentary on his life, which includes interviews with some of the people who knew and performed with him. They also include information on Ireland’s early motion picture industry. Many of these cuttings contain photographs of O’Dea in and out of costume, on the stage or on the screen. Key players mentioned throughout include Harry O’Donovan, Noel Purcell, Maureen Potter, Milo O’Shea, and Micheál Mac Liammóir.
The 63 press cuttings in the second deposit are numbered consecutively following the last clipping of the first deposit, and are described by the same types as the first deposit (i.e. advertisement, article, review, printed photograph), with the addition of obituary and masthead. However, the majority are either printed photographs with or without captions or articles. They are arranged into three, mostly chronological, categories. The first, covering the years 1960-1965, relates to Jimmy O’Dea’s last years and obituaries, including tributes to him after his death. The second covers Ursula Doyle’s career and span the years 1964-1986. This section includes two interviews with Doyle regarding O’Dea and her career (ITA/131/3/54, 62). ITA/131/3/62 also includes reminiscences by Rita O’Dea. The third category covers the years 1965-7 and consists of miscellaneous cuttings, including the last-ever issue of the *Evening Mail* (ITA/131/3/65). Key players mentioned throughout include Noel Purcell, Fred O’Donovan, Maureen Potter, and Norman Maen.
### Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O'Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

**First deposit**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Document Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>ITA/131/3/01</td>
<td>Mounted copy</td>
<td>1 sheet/1 page</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**July [1930]**

**Advertisement** for production of *Irish Smiles*, written by Harry O’Donovan, at the Wood Green Empire Theatre, [England]. Jimmy O’Dea headlines “the famous Irish Revue,” which features “real Irish humour by the best of Ireland’s Artistes.” Key players mentioned include Noel Purcell.

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** N/A

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**16 April [1928]**

**Announcement** for production of *We’re Here*, written by Harry O’Donovan and produced by Jimmy O’Dea, at the Queen’s Theatre, Dublin [now the Olympia]. *We’re Here* is a “venture unique...in the modern history of the ‘Queen’s’--an all-Irish show under the auspices of an all-Irish management.” Jimmy O’Dea is working hard to make the first production under his control “something outstanding...”

**Title:** Jimmy O’Dea at the Queens  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** None given

Page also includes three cuttings relating to Eileen Marmion (“Children’s Fancy Dress Ball,” Juvenile Dancers at Clery’s,” and “A Grand Concert and Variety Entertainment...”)

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[1928]

[Unpublished and typescript] **Scene List** for production of *We’re Here*. Page also includes clipping relating to Eileen Marmion (“Juvenile Dancers at Clery’s”).

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** N/A  
**Author:** N/A

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[1928]

Two advertisements of similar content for production of *We’re Here* at the Empire Theatre in Belfast. *We’re Here* is “The Revue of 1,000 Laughs” featuring “The Greatest Irish Cast ever presented in Revue, including Ireland’s Own Comedian [Jimmy O’Dea].” Key players mentioned include Harry O’Donovan.

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** None given

[1928]

Also includes announcement for production of *We’re Here* at the Empire Theatre in Belfast. *We’re Here* is “one of the brightest revues of the year” having “a fine Irish flavour about it.” “In the hands of Jimmy O’Dea, the humorous side takes on a sparkle which transforms every word and action into a huge joke, and every one of his comedy scenes becomes a burst of laughter.” The scenes are summarised. Key players mentioned include Harry O’Donovan (“is a good baritone...who has a pleasing repertoire...”). *We’re Here* was O’Dea and O’Donovan’s first show. See ITA/131/8/2J1 for more information.

**Title:** Empire Theatre  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** None given

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**Article** about production of *Now We’re Talking* playing in Waterford. Jimmy O’Dea is well-received by the packed house attending the show. The laughing commences with his first scene and “Thereafter, it is a continuous roar.” The show itself is a “clean, healthy Irish production staged to modern settings...Irish wit and humour, homely Irish scenes...are dished up as palatable as any similar foreign production, and rarely has an audience here appreciated any more thoroughly.” The scenes are summarised, and key players mentioned include Harry O’Donovan.

**Title:** Great Waterford Welcome for Jimmy O’Dea at the Theatre  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** None given

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Article about Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan’s popular pantomime Little Red Riding Hood at the Lyric Theatre in [Limerick] which is playing to packed houses. “Jimmy O’Dea has a style all his own, and [can] be claimed as Ireland’s best comedian, [whilst] Harry O’Donovan is on of Ireland’s [?] authors, and knows what the public [wants] and just what suits Jimmy O’Dea’s [style] of humour.” The show is summarised, and several key players are applauded.

Title: Lyric Theatre Popular Pantomime  
Publication: Not given  
Author: Not given  

20 April 1930

Also includes announcement for Alive, Alive O!, written by Harry O’Donovan and produced by Jimmy O’Dea, which will be presented at the Olympia Theatre, [Dublin]. This is “their first appearance since their record Pantomime success on Easter Monday,” and “we are promised many new ideas and big laughs from this clever pair, who have so often proved their ability to give the public real value in entertainment.” Some of the scenes are briefly listed, and key players are mentioned.

Title: “Alive, Alive O!”  
Publication: Irish Independent  
Author: Not given

Page also includes photograph of Eileen Marmion appearing in Alive, Alive O!.
Advertisement for *Home Again* by Harry O’Donovan with Jimmy O’Dea, “Direct from London,” which will be presented at the Olympia Theatre, [Dublin] the week of August 4th, 1930. The show is “the biggest and funniest yet,” and has had many bookings throughout the country. Quotations from the English press are listed and key players mentioned include Noel Purcell.

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** *Saturday Herald*  
**Author:** Not given

26 July 1930

 Also includes announcement for *Home Again* by Harry O’Donovan with Jimmy O’Dea, which will be presented at the Olympia Theatre, [Dublin] the week of August 4th, 1930. The company is “winding up a very successful English tour” during which they have “been playing to crowded houses. The success of the tour “has far exceeded anticipations.” They are booked in various venues before and after they play in Dublin. Includes photograph of Mary Merrall, cellist.

**Title:** Olympia Reopening  
**Publication:** *Saturday Herald*  
**Author:** Not given

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**Photograph** captioned “The Sharin’ O’ The Green--Members of the ‘Irish Smiles’ Company, now at the Ardwick Empire, turn from the boards to bowls.” [See ITA/131/7/13 for original.]
26 August 1930

Also includes review of production at the Olympia Theatre, [Dublin], where “Jimmy O’Dea, the idol of Dublin,...brought down a house so Irish in its composition that they were shouting ‘Areesh’ (the Irish for encore) in the gallery by a verse in a topical song pleading for the union of North and South.” [See ITA/131/7/13, p. 19 for original.]

[1930]

Also includes article discussing “two Jimmy’s--one before the scenes and the other behind them. Jimmy O’Dea was once a tragic actor.” He likes the Bristol accent. [See ITA/131/7/13, p. 19 for original.]

August 1930

Review of Irish Smiles presented by Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan and playing at the Royal Hippodrome in Belfast. Jimmy O’Dea and the rest of the cast’s “infectious jollity” kept the house “r[inging] with laughter all the time he was on the stage.” Particularly successful sketches are summarised, especially one about the North South border, and other
key players are mentioned, including Harry O’Donovan and Noel Purcell. [See ITA/131/7/13, p. 20 for original.]

Title: Royal Hippodrome
Publication: Not given
Author: Not given

August 1930

Also includes review of Irish Smiles presented by Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan and playing at the Royal Hippodrome in Belfast. “Last night large audiences gave the show a rousing reception. A charming mixture of Irish mirth, melody, and dancing, it is ‘put over’ with vim and artistic taste. Jimmy O’Dea, Ireland’s own comedian, is a ‘star’ who shines in no uncertain manner...The laugh of the evening is when he solves the border question in his own inimitable way.” Other “clever sketches” are listed while key players are mentioned, including Harry O’Donovan (author and “able confederate”) and Noel Purcell. [See ITA/131/7/13, p. 20 for original.]

Title: “Irish Smiles at the Hippodrome
Publication: Not given
Author: Not given

August 1930

Also includes announcement for “Harry O’Donovan’s all Irish revue” Irish Smiles playing at the Hippodrome in Belfast. All the scenes will “vie with each other in holding the attention or provoking the laughter of the audience,” who are sure to get their “‘money’s worth.’” Jimmy O’Dea is fast becoming an institution. “His genius, while amusing and entertaining, also demonstrates the fact that there is a vast fund of Irish humour which need neither offend even the most scrupulous nor annoy the most patriotic. ‘Jimmy’ is cleanest of the clean, and his antics and cross-talk are healthy and true to life, not parodies...” The supporting cast includes Noel Purcell. [See ITA/131/7/13, p. 20 for original.]

Title: Jimmy O’Dea visits the Hippodrome
Publication: Not given
Author: Not given

ITA/131/3/09A (continued)

28 August 1930

Also includes review of Jimmy O’Dea’s revue Irish Smiles playing at the Royal Hippodrome in Belfast. He “drew two good houses on Monday,” and “so long as he occupies the stage there are roars of laughter.” There is a good supporting cast, including Harry O’Donovan and Noel Purcell. [See ITA/131/7/13, p. 20 for original.]
Advertisement for Irish Smiles, presented by O’D. Productions [at the Ardwick Green Empire Theatre], “[t]he first entirely Irish revue to tour England.” Harry O’Donovan is the author and Jimmy O’Dea, the principal comedian, and they have been extremely successful. “Breaking away entirely from the conventions of Irish entertainment, this clever partnership has concentrated on the presentation of speedy up-to-the-minute shows which nevertheless, bear the unmistakable imprint of their Celtic origin.” The revue is “Irish first, last and all the time...” “Just as in real life Irish smiles, by their irresistible magnetic appeal, always compel a response, so will ‘Irish Smiles’ on the stage spread a sunshine of smiles around amongst all who are fortunate enough to see this unusual attraction.” “It will be “an experience to English audiences as refreshing as it is welcome.” Photographs of Jimmy O’Dea and Tom Dunne, “Little” Eileen Marmion, and Hugh [sic] O’Donovan are included. [Note: An original is found in ITA/131/7/13, p. 10, and is pp. 2-3 of a booklet, The Stoll Herald, announcing upcoming attractions at the Ardwick Green Empire.]

Review of Irish Smiles in two sections, the first detailing “one or two of the fourteen wonderful scenes in this great show!” and the other introducing some of the key players. Jimmy O’Dea is a “quaint comic” and “leading laughter-maker.” “There seems to be a perpetual mischievous twinkle in his eye that is most attractive, while his soft Irish brogue always fascinates his listeners.” The “grand cast for a ‘great’ show” is “Irish--every one of them: from the Author to the Chorus.” Includes a photograph of O’Dea. Also includes some half-visible reviews of Irish Smiles [from various publications]. [Note: An original is found
in ITA/131/7/13, p. 10, and is p 4 of a booklet, *The Stoll Herald*, announcing upcoming attractions at the Ardwick Green Empire.]

**Title:** Gems of Entertainment from the Emerald Isle  
**Publication:** *The Stoll Herald*  
**Author:** Not given

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[1930]

Published **scene list** for *Irish Smiles*, including members of the cast playing in each sketch. Also includes a **photograph** of Jimmy O’Dea captioned, “Jimmy O’Dea, Principal Comedian in ‘Irish Smiles’ at the Queen’s Theatre.” Handwriting next to photograph begins “To Eileen Marmion,” continues illegibly, and ends with the dates [1930-1931].

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** Not given  
**Author:** Not given

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[1930]

**Advertisement** for *Micky Tries Matrimony*, presented by Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan and written by O’Donovan, at the Coliseum, [London], the fourth act on the programme. Little Eileen Marmion and Noel Purcell “will appear between Scenes One and Two in an excerpt from the O’Dea-O’Donovan Revue, *Irish Smiles.*

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** Not given  
**Author:** Not given
Also includes **advertisement** for “10-inch Double-sided Records” of “some of [the] recent successes” of “Ireland’s Greatest Laughter Makers, Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan.” Ad is cut off at the bottom. [See ITA/131/8/2J3 for more information on O’Dea and O’Donovan’s recording career.]

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** Not given  
**Author:** Not given

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Sunday, 9 November 1930

**Announcement** for Eileen Marmion, dancing with Jimmy O’Dea at the Coliseum in London. Also includes two **valentines** to Marmion.

**Title:** Only Twelve, But--  
**Publication:** *The People*  
**Author:** Not given

ITA/131/3/15  
Original  
1 sheet/1 page

[1956]

**Review** of *Cinderella* at the Gaiety, Dublin, where “[t]he piquant O’Dea-Mac Liammóir partnership blossoms...into pantomime...this Christmas season.” Although “[t]he current presentation is imaginative, brightly staged and excellently dressed,” it is “long-winded” and “does not call very seriously upon the talents” of the performers. However, Maureen Potter is “in great form throughout,” and other key players, including Micheál Mac Liammóir and Milo O’Shea, are entertaining. Other scenes are summarised.

**Title:** Imaginative ‘Cinderella’ at Gaiety  
**Publication:** Not given  
**Author:** Not given

ITA/131/3/16  
Original  
10 pages/20 sheets

Friday, 28 September 1962

**Announcement/cover story** for “inimitable storyteller and comedian” Jimmy O’Dea’s new series of Teitifís Éireann children’s programmes titled *Once Upon a Time*, a selection of folk tales from around the world. “All...are told in Jimmy O’Dea’s personal idiom, full of elfin nuance, spontaneous gaiety and the melancholy of the clown.” Also includes a **photograph** of O’Dea captioned “Jimmy O’Dea...King of the fairy-talers.” **Cover photograph** is captioned “It’s Jimmy O’Dea--The Happy Storyteller.”

**Title:** Jimmy in Fairyland...or the return of O’Dea, Storyteller  
**Publication:** *RTV Guide*  
**Author:** Not given
May 1963

Photograph of a painting of Jimmy O’Dea by Prof. Seán Keating, on view at the Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts Exhibition. Caption reads in part, “Prof. Keating has a special liking for the XVII-century Dutch painter Frans Hals and he has shown Dublin’s best-loved comedian lifting off the face by which we know him and revealing himself as a hearty, boisterous character of out Hals’s world.” [See ITA/131/4/51.]

Title: Royal Hibernian Academy Exhibition
Publication: *Hibernia*
Author: Not given

Sunday, 10 January 1965

Article and 6 photographs (all captioned) describing “his early years as a film actor.” Interview with Charlie McConnell who was chairman of Irish Photo Plays Ltd. which financed three all-Irish films in the 1920s. Jimmy O’Dea acted in all three, and “[h]e revealed great talent even at that early stage.” Harry O’Donovan was the property master with the company. Also includes one photograph of O’Dea as an older man.

Title: Jimmy: Remarkable pictures from his early years as a film actor
Publication: *Sunday Independent*
Author: Gus Smith

[1985]

Announcement of a documentary film titled *Remembering Jimmy O’Dea* being screened by RTÉ television to mark the 20th anniversary of his death in 1965. His career is summarised. “Jimmy O’Dea was at the top of the bill for nearly forty years, the most popular Irish comedian of the century.” Also includes a photograph of O’Dea in costume.

Title: Remembering Jimmy O’Dea
Publication: Not given
Author: Not given

Sunday, 6 January 1985
Article chronologising the whole of Jimmy O’Dea’s career, including his film appearances. He “was simply Ireland’s greatest [comedian],” and “[d]uring the Thirties, Forties and Fifties he was virtually an institution, a national treasure...” “[L]ooking back now, he seems more than ever to represent a particular place at a particular time.” But, “[u]nfortunately during the last two decades, very little has been done to keep his memory alive.” Other people he worked with are include Harry O’Donovan and Noel Purcell. The documentary Remembering Jimmy O’Dea will be shown on RTÉ 1. Also includes 8 photographs, with captions, of O’Dea in film stills, rehearsing with Milo O’Shea and Vernon Hayden, in costume, and as painted by James Le Jeune.

Title: Top O’The Bill on cover: The Great O’Dea: Our Comic Hero
Publication: The Sunday Tribune (Magazine)
Author: Donald Taylor Black

Article remembering Jimmy O’Dea, “Dublin institution” and “founding dame of Irish pantomime,” and previewing the documentary Remembering Jimmy O’Dea which will be shown on RTÉ to mark the 20th anniversary of his death. Producer-director of the documentary Donald Taylor-Black remarks that “‘this is downright disgraceful...that a man who has had a huge influence on Irish theatre, particularly in the area of comedy, should be literally ignored by the theatre historians.’” Although some people Taylor-Black interviewed for the documentary were not completely complimentary towards O’Dea, “both fellow performers and the audiences loved the comedian who...brought Dublin characters to brilliantly graphic stage life.” Also includes 2 photographs of O’Dea, one a portrait and the other in costume in Finian’s Rainbow.

Title: Jimmy O’Dea--memories of a great comic
Publication: Irish Press
Author: Michael Sheridan
TV. Listing for “documentary tribute” Remembering Jimmy O’Dea, “who died twenty years ago today [sic].” Will include recollections from Maureen Potter and Noel Purcell among others. Also includes a photograph portrait of O’Dea with caption, “Jimmy O’Dea...tribute to the great variety performer on RTÉ 2 at 8:10 p.m. on Tuesday.”

Title: Aidan Dunne Previews the week
Publication: The Sunday Press
Author: [Aidan Dunne]
Relating to Jimmy O’Dea’s last years and obituaries

**ITA/131/3/24**

[c. 1963-4]

**Article** describing tribute at Metropole Ballroom, [Dublin] to Jimmy O’Dea. “They gave the great comedian a pair of suitably inscribed cuff-links and many were the nice things said about one who not only made the nation laugh at itself but carried Irish humour far from these shores...” People attending included Louis Elliman, Harry O’Donovan, Noel Purcell, Hal Roach, and Eugene Lambert.

**Title:** Great-Hearted  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** N/A

**ITA/131/3/25**

[c. 1963-4]

**Printed photograph** of Noel Purcell and Jimmy O’Dea. Caption reads, “Jimmy O’Dea (right) and Noel Purcell at the reception in the Metropole Hotel.”

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** N/A

**ITA/131/3/26**

[c. 1963-4]

**Printed photograph** of Jimmy O’Dea and Louis Elliman. Caption reads, “At the rehearsals for Finian’s Rainbow last night in the Molesworth Hall...Louis Elliman and Jimmy O’Dea.”

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** N/A
Review of “[t]he annual concert at Mountjoy Prison,” which “was an outstanding success.” “Jimmy O’Dea, who was making his thirtieth appearance at this function, presented a comedy sketch, Question Time, with Harry O’Donovan and Ursula Doyle.” Others mentioned include Cecil Sheridan and Noel Purcell.

Title: Prison Concert Jimmy O’Dea’s 30th Appearance
Publication: None given
Author: None given

ITA/131/3/27
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Original
undated

Printed photograph captioned “Jimmy in one of his rare film roles [c. 1930s] with Noel Purcell and Harry O’Donovan.” [See ITA/131/3/20 and ITA/131/8/2A-J for more information on early film roles.]

Title: N/A
Publication: None given
Author: N/A

ITA/131/3/28
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Original
[c. 1960s]

Printed photograph captioned “[a] recent candid camera shot from the other side of the Iron Curtain, showing Mr. B. and Mr. K. enjoying a casual chat in the latter’s shooting lodge at Voronezh. At first glance it almost could be; it is, of course, Messrs. O’Dea and [Hilton] Edwards in a scene from The Man Who Came to Dinner at the Gaiety Theatre.”

Title: N/A
Publication: [Pictorial]
Author: N/A

ITA/131/3/29
1 sheet/1 page
Original

Saturday, 5 December 1964

Title: Miscellaneous Musings
Publication: Gaelic Weekly
Author: Dennis Franks

ITA/131/3/30A 1 sheet/1 page Copy
January 1965


Title: N/A
Publication: Waterfront
Author: N/A

ITA/131/3/30B-D 1 sheet/1 page Copy
January 1965

Obituary for Jimmy O’Dea. “No one mourns the passing of Jimmy O’Dea more deeply than the true-born Dubliner, because part of the essence of old Dublin itself has died with him...His death closes an era.” Also includes review of Sinbad The Sailor at the Gaiety Theatre, [in which Milo O’Shea replaced O’Dea. See ITA/131/1/33A for programme.]

Title: The Passing of Jimmy O’Dea
Publication: Waterfront
Author: Elizabeth Faye

ITA/131/3/31 1 sheet/1 page Original

[January 1965]
Printed photograph announcing O’Dea’s death. Caption reads, “Jimmy O’Dea, acknowledged to be Ireland’s greatest comedian, died yesterday in Dr. Steevens’s Hospital, Dublin, after an illness of three months. During the last weeks of his illness he surprised his friends by leaving the hospital to attend a function paying tribute to Micheál MacLiammóir and also to complete a television series to which he was committed. His self-imposed duties to the theatre completed, he then returned to the hospital to die. His body will be removed from the hospital to-day at 5:30 p.m. to St. Mary’s Church, Haddington Road.”

Title: N/A
Publication: None given
Author: N/A

ITA/131/3/32
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Original

[January 1965]

Caption announcing O’Dea’s death. “Jimmy O’Dea dies after 40 years on the Irish stage: Irreplaceable master of comedy and mime.”

Title: N/A
Publication: None given
Author: None given

ITA/131/3/33
1 sheet/1 page
Original

[January 1965]

Printed photographs captioned, “The marks of the years: Jimmy as he looked in Finian’s Rainbow and as he was in his thirties.” [See ITA/131/1/32 for programme.]

Title: N/A
Publication: None given
Author: N/A

ITA/131/3/34
1 sheet/1 page
Original

[January 1965]

Printed photograph captioned, “The last picture taken of Jimmy’s last stage appearance, in Finian’s Rainbow on September 5. The picture was taken by Mick Loftus, just before the
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

curtain fell on Jimmy’s last words: ‘Farewell my friends, I’ll see you all one day in Glocca-Marra.’

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Printed photograph captioned, “The funeral cortege of Jimmy O’Dea passing the Gaiety Theatre on the way to Glasnevin Cemetery to-day.”

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Printed photograph captioned, “President de Valera arriving at St. Mary’s Church, Haddington Rd, Dublin, to-day for the funeral of Jimmy O’Dea.”

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Printed photographs of Jimmy O’Dea in costume. Each contains caption describing the role he played. Main caption for O’Dea as Biddy Mulligan reads, “The character with which Jimmy O’Dea was most closely identified for many years was Mrs. Mulligan, the ‘pride of
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O'Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

the Coombe’ (above). But O’Dea was a man of many parts and of many faces. These are some of the disguises in which he has appeared over the years.”

**Title:** Many Tributes to a Comedian “of quite exceptional talents”  
**Publication:** *The Irish Times*  
**Author:** None given

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**ITA/131/3/38**  
1 sheet/1 page  
Original  
[January 1965]

**Printed photograph** captioned, “Mourners stand by the graveside [of Jimmy O’Dea] in Glasnevin Cemetery to-day. Included are Mrs. O’Dea and Maureen Potter.”

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** N/A

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**ITA/131/3/39**  
1 sheet/1 page  
Original  
[January 1965]

**Printed photograph** captioned, “Pictured at the graveside [of Jimmy O’Dea] are The Taoiseach, Mr. Lemass, Mrs. Ursula O’Dea (widow), Miss Rita O’Dea and Mrs. Nellie O’Nolan (sisters), Lal and Joe O’Dea (brothers), and on extreme right are Maureen Potter and Mr. J. P. Doyle, brother of the widow.”

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** N/A

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**ITA/131/3/40A**  
1 sheet/1 page  
Original  
Monday, 1 February 1965

**Mast head** of *The Irish Times*, newspaper in which ITA/131/3/40B-C appeared.

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** N/A  
**Author:** N/A

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**ITA/131/3/40B**  
1 sheet/1 page  
Original  
Monday, 1 February 1965

**Article** summarising the comments of Most Rev. Dr. G. O. Simms, Archbishop of Dublin, at the annual service of the Actors’ Church Union in St. Mark’s Church, Pearse Street, Dublin, regarding Jimmy O’Dea’s “work for unity among Christians.” “As president of the Catholic Stage Guild, he went out of his way to establish good relations with our Actors’ Church
Union...” In addition, “[i]t has only been revealed since his death how, by stealth, he helped less fortunate people.”” Vernon Hayden, vice-president of the union, is also mentioned.

**Title:** Jimmy O’Dea worked for Christian Unity  
**Publication:** The Irish Times  
**Author:** None given

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**ITA/131/3/40C**  
1 sheet/1 page  
Original  

Monday, 1 February 1965

**Advertisement** for Sinbad the Sailor at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, with Milo O’Shea and Hal Roach, [production in which O’Shea replaced O’Dea on short notice. See ITA/131/1/33A] Also includes ads for the Olympia, the Gate, the Eblana (with Cecil Sheridan in The Good Old Days), and the Abbey Theatres, Dublin and the Gas. Co. Theatre, Dún Laoghaire.

**Title:** Theatres  
**Publication:** The Irish Times  
**Author:** N/A

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**ITA/131/3/41**  
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Original  

undated, [1960s]

**Article** regarding RTÉ’s decision to erase and reuse video tapes. “Many noteworthy television programmes about Irish artists, including recordings of the late Jimmy O’Dea’s vintage programmes over the years by RTÉ, are being scrubbed...” They are “desperate for video tape to record new programmes.” Already erased are 20 of the 24 fairy tales programmes and 21 of the 27 O’Dea’s Your Man programmes. “The criteria used to decide what should go in to the archives was: ‘Will this person be able to make further broadcasts?’ and ‘Is this a unique event?’”

**Title:** Now RTÉ rub out Jimmy O’Dea  
**Publication:** None given  
**Author:** None given.

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**ITA/131/3/42A**

15 January 1965

**Mast head** for RTV Guide in which ITA/131/3/42B appeared.

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** RTV Guide  
**Author:** N/A

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15 January 1965

Articles, tributes to Jimmy O’Dea, by Gabriel Fallon and Micheál Ó hAodha. Fallon discusses his mix of his experience as a “legitimate actor” and his comedic talent. “There was only one Jimmy.” He was also humble, “a Dubliner of Dubliners,” and “a deeply religious man.” Ó hAodha announces the documentary The O’Dea Story, narrated by Harry O’Donovan, which will be broadcast on Radio Éireann, and summarises his early stage career. “It is only now that he has gone, we fully realise the rich imaginative creation and the profundity behind O’Dea’s art...” Also includes 8 printed photographs by RTV Guide photographer Roy Bedell of O’Dea “in scenes from the Teilifís Éireann programmes in which he featured.” These include The Life and Times of Jimmy O’Dea, Tales of Wonder, The Jimmy O’Dea Christmas Show (1963), and O’Dea’s Your Man. Maureen Potter appears in two of the photographs.

Title: Jimmy O’Dea  
Publication: RTV Guide  
Author: Gabriel Fallon and Micheál Ó hAodha

Monday, 27 August 1962

Article describing the Requiem Mass said for actor Anew McMaster at Star of the Sea Church, Sandymount. List of mourners include Michael O’Herlihy, Milo O’Shea, and Joseph O’Dea. Also includes 3 printed photographs, including one of Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea captioned, “Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy O’Dea are seen at the Star of the Sea Church, Sandymount, where Requiem Mass was offered for the late Anew McMaster.”

Title: Last tribute to Anew McMaster  
Publication: Evening Press  
Author: None given

Tuesday, 4 June 1963

Mast head for the Evening Herald in which ITA/131/3/44B appeared.

Title: N/A  
Publication: Evening Herald  
Author: N/A
Tuesday, 4 June 1963

**Article** regarding the Requiem Mass and funeral for John Stephenson, actor and producer. Those attending included “Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy O’Dea,” Micheál hAodha (a representative for Radio Éireann) and Niall Tóibín (a representative for the Radio Éireann Players).

**Title:** Actor’s Funeral  
**Publication:** *Evening Herald*  
**Author:** None given

**Relating to Ursula Doyle’s career**

Wednesday, 9 September 1964

**Article** discussing the rehearsals for the plays and musicals for the Dublin Theatre Festival, particularly *Sir Buccaneer*, a musical based on the life of Sir Henry Morgan and directed by Norman Maen. “For pretty blonde Ursula Doyle--wife of veteran Irish comedian Jimmy O’Dea--it’s her first-ever festival role. She explained: ‘I play the part of captain of the lady pirates. There is a lot of jumping around and I have had to learn fencing for the role.’” Also includes 2 **printed photographs**, one of the cast and director captioned, “Director Norman Maen rehearses: (back) Derry O’Donovan, Godfrey James; (center) Gay Brophy, Ursula Doyle; (front) Eileen Murphy, Angela Vale.” [See ITA/131/3/46C.]

**Title:** Polishing Up Sir Buccaneer: Nine World Premiers for Dublin  
**Publication:** *Daily Express*  
**Author:** Jack Kenealy (photo: Clifford Bedell)

13 September 1964

**Mast head** for *The Sunday Press* in which ITA/131/3/46B-C appeared.

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** *The Sunday Press*  
**Author:** N/A
By-line for “Niall Carroll’s Showpage,” in which ITA/131/3/46C appeared.

Title: N/A
Publication: The Sunday Press
Author: Niall Carroll

13 September 1964

Article discussing the various plays on offer at the Dublin Theatre Festival, including Eugene McCabe’s *King of the Castle* at the Gaiety Theatre, and *Sir Buccaneer* by Gerry Sullivan, with music by George Meredith and directed by Norman Maen. [Ursula Doyle played the “captain of the lady pirates.” See ITA/131/45.] Also includes four printed photographs, of which two relate to *Sir Buccaneer*.

Title: Hot dogs and strong meat by Mr. McCabe
Publication: The Sunday Press
Author: Niall Carroll

Monday, undated, [early 1970s]

Printed photograph captioned, “Maureen Potter pictured with Urusula [sic] Doyle and Dympna Cafferky, after she had received the Variety Club Award for her outstanding contribution to the theatre and charity, at the annual ball held in the Glenworth Hotel, Limerick.”

Title: N/A
Publication: Evening Press
Author: N/A
Article discussing “a truly ecumenical occasion” at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, in which “more than 200 young students, Catholic and Protestant, from Dublin and Belfast,...[sang] a short programme of spirituals.” The event was organised by Schools Community Co-operation. Also includes a printed photograph of “Gaiety pantomime director Ursula Doyle” with three of the participants.

**Title:** Girls from North and South sang together  
**Publication:** Sunday Press  
**Author:** None given

Duplicate of ITA/131/3/48A.

**Title:** Girls from North and South sang together  
**Publication:** Sunday Press  
**Author:** None given

Review of Molly Malone lunch and cabaret at Jury’s ballroom. The lunch and “dress show” are described. The cabaret was “directed by Ursula Doyle and put over by the artists as if they were enjoying it as much as we were. It’s a very good show indeed. The script, by Paddy [Fahey], leans backwards from stage-Irishness, and includes, for example, Donagh MacDonagh’s fine poem: *Dublin Made Me...*” Some of the songs and players are mentioned. Nessa Doyle was Molly Malone. Also includes a printed photograph of Ursula Doyle.

**Title:** An Irishman’s [?]  
**Publication:** The Irish Times  
**Author:** None given
Saturday, 13 March 1971

**Article** listing biographies of some of the players in *The Golden Years*, a musical based on the life of Percy French, produced by the Cecilian Musical Society, Limerick, [and directed by Ursula Doyle. See ITA/131/1/56 and ITA/131/3/51-2.]

**Title:** The Golden Years  
**Publication:** Limerick Leader  
**Author:** None given

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Monday, 22 March 1971

**Printed photograph** of “the railway engine made famous by Percy French.” Caption includes, “*The Golden Years*, a sparkling musical production based on the life of Percy French, opened in the Crescent Hall last night and received a great ovation from a packed house at the final curtain.” [See ITA/131/1/56 and ITA/131/3/50, 52.]

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** Limerick Leader  
**Author:** None given

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23 March 1971

**Review** of *The Golden Years*, “a musical play by Donal Giltinan, based on the life of Percy French during the period he composed songs and travelled all over Ireland entertaining as he went.” Key players are mentioned and the plot outline is discussed. “The play is colourful, most entertaining and lively.” [Ursula Doyle directed the musical. See ITA/131/1/56 and ITA/131/3/50-1.]

**Title:** “The Golden Years” is a hit  
**Publication:** Limerick Chronicle  
**Author:** None given
Advertisements for productions at the Gaiety Theatre, including *1871-1971 Centenary Celebration* (“A once in a lifetime week of theatre”) and *Maureen Potter and ‘Gaels of Friends’* (including Jim Bartley, Danny Cummins, Hal Roach, directed by Ursula Doyle and produced by Fred O’Donovan). [See ITA/131/3/53B-F. For photographs, see ITA/131/4/191-6, 222-5, for production files, see ITA/131/10/5, and for memorabilia, see ITA/131/7/24A-B.]

**Title:** N/A

**Publication:** *Evening Press*

**Author:** N/A

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Advertisements for productions at the Gaiety Theatre, including *1871-1971 Centenary Celebration* (“A once in a lifetime week of theatre”) and *Maureen Potter and ‘Gaels of Friends’* (including Jim Bartley, Danny Cummins, Hal Roach, directed by Ursula Doyle and produced by Fred O’Donovan). [See ITA/131/3/53A, C-F. For photographs, see ITA/131/4/191-6, 222-5, for production files, see ITA/131/10/5, and for memorabilia, see ITA/131/7/24A-B.]

**Title:** N/A

**Publication:** *Evening Press*

**Author:** N/A

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**Title:** N/A

**Publication:** *Evening Press*

**Author:** N/A
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**Advertisements** for productions at the Gaiety Theatre, including *1871-1971 Centenary Celebration* (“A once in a lifetime week of theatre”) and *Maureen Potter and ‘Gaels of Friends’* (including Jim Bartley, Danny Cummins, Hal Roach, directed by Ursula Doyle and produced by Fred O’Donovan). [See ITA/131/3/53A-C, E-F. For photographs, see ITA/131/4/191-6, 222-5, for production files, see ITA/131/10/5, and for memorabilia, see ITA/131/7/24A-B.]

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** Evening Press  
**Author:** N/A

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**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** Evening Press  
**Author:** N/A

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**Advertisements** for productions at the Gaiety Theatre, including *1871-1971 Centenary Celebration* (“A once in a lifetime week of theatre”) and *Maureen Potter and ‘Gaels of Friends’* (including Jim Bartley, Danny Cummins, Hal Roach, directed by Ursula Doyle and produced by Fred O’Donovan). [See ITA/131/3/53A-E. For photographs, see ITA/131/4/191-6, 222-5, for production files, see ITA/131/10/5, and for memorabilia, see ITA/131/7/24A-B.]

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** Evening Press  
**Author:** N/A
Article about Ursula Doyle. Although she appears “fragile,” she is clearly quite capable of being “in charge of the whole roomful of actors, comedians, singers, dancers and musicians.” The productions with Fred O’Donovan (producer), Thelma Ramsay (musical director), and Mavis Ascott (choreographer) are a “group effort.” She has directed the Gaiety revues and pantomimes since 1965, and appeared on stage in Jimmy O’Dea’s shows during their marriage (five years) and for three years before that as a member of the company [See ITA/131/1/24-32]. She does not miss acting, although in one show, shortly after O’Dea’s death, she did both but could not concentrate on either one. She began her stage career at the age of seven and was a member of Connie Ryan’s dancing school. She played on the Gaiety stage in one of O’Dea’s revues [See ITA/131/3/03A-B]. She then became a double act with her younger brother Noel, and while in still in school performed all around Dublin. They left school at the earliest age they could, and toured all over Ireland with various fit-up companies. They were then in England for four years and returned to Dublin for the next three or four, playing at the Queen’s and the Royal Theatres. After a tour of Canada, Ursula returned to Dublin by herself. “I got back just as they were about to start rehearsing the Gaiety Christmas panto. As luck would have it, they were still looking for the fairy queen. I was so happy and grateful to be offered the part [See for example ITA/131/1/44]. I met James A. [Jimmy O’Dea] again then and things developed from there.” She describes the process of putting together a show and the skills needed for a director. She feels “that you really have taken the weight and worry and loneliness from people for a few hours...If you can do that with every performance, you can’t ask for a more worthwhile job.”

Also includes 3 printed photographs, including Ursula and Noel Doyle while on tour in Canada 1955/56, Doyle age five, and Doyle and O’Dea in evening dress. This last photograph includes, in the background, a set of fire irons and brushes, [the handles of which are in the shape of the King of the Leprechauns from Disney’s *Darby O’Gill and the Little People* [1959]. See ITA/131/7/22A for table brush which O’Dea holds in this photograph]. [See also ITA/131/4/149 for another photo taken at the same time and showing more *Darby O’Gill* memorabilia.]

**Title:** Full Time Entertainer  
**Publication:** *Woman’s Way*  
**Author:** Kate Kennelly
Monday, 30 June 1975

Three articles related to the *Gaels of Laughter* productions at the Gaiety Theatre.

**A. Title: Gaels of Laughter in the making**
Producer Fred O’Donovan discusses the “‘the tension and the strain’” of putting together the show. For a show like “Gaels” there is no script beforehand, so the scenes must be written as well as rehearsed and polished. “‘Somehow the production gets together, Maureen and the artists start in on the job. Ursula gets into her stride, and the picture takes shape.’” His career in theatre is discussed. Comedy is a difficult job. He has great admiration for the “‘late Harry O’Donovan. His scripts are timeless.’” The first “Gaels” show was in 1965 and this is the 10th year. Ireland is fortunate to possess comedians such as Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, and Hal Roach “and such versatile drag people as Cecil Sheridan...”

**B. Title: Ursula moved in the right direction**
Director Ursula Doyle “is the able director of the seasonal ‘Gaels,’ and the annual pantomime for Éamonn Andrews Studios, and a Director of the long-running Jury’s Cabaret.” She appeared in the first ‘Gaels,’ and then had the opportunity to direct for Éamonn Andrews Studios. There is great teamwork involved in the productions. “‘Rehearsals for shows here and in Jury’s take toll of time. And, as Fred says, there is enormous tension and strain before a show gets underway.’” However, discipline and cooperation are a principal ingredients in making a show successful. “She is also nerve-ridden before each opening night,” when she sits in Box No. 4 [in the Gaiety Theatre] with O’Donovan and notes everything about the show, including additions, cuts, or changes.

**C. Title: A show that even politicians patronise: Joe is proud of success**
Joe Kearns, manager of the Gaiety Theatre, reminisces about productions and actors. “‘Gaels’ has been a success from the day and hour is began,’ he admits. Joe adds that this is one of the shows that attracts an amazing cross-section of individuals...” His whole family is connected with the theatre, and he has learned to handle sensitive situations capably. He has endured many crises, and mentions many favourite performers and acts. As well as manager, he is also a director of the Éamonn Andrews Studio. “Joe loves the Gaiety...’It’s a beautiful house. Do you know that it was built as a theatre in 28 weeks? The ceiling is magnificent and even it alone wouldn’t be done these days in twice that time’’” [see ITA/131/4/30A-I].

Also includes 2 printed photographs of Fred O’Donovan and Ursula Doyle.
[See ITA/131/4/209 for copy of printed photograph of Doyle.]

**Title:** The theatre scene--its lovely people  
**Publication:** Evening Herald  
**Author:** Joan Tighe
4 June 1976

**Announcement** for amateur variety competition *Tops of the Town*. Running since the early 1960s, it will be televised for the first time this year. The groups competing are mentioned. The judges in the grand final include Ursula Doyle and Niall Tóibín. Also includes 10 **printed photographs**, including two head shots of Doyle and Tóibín.

**Title:** All Set for the Top  
**Publication:** RTÉ Guide  
**Author:** Ultan Macken

Thursday, 17 June 1976

**Article** describing Galway City, including a mention of a room in Cross Street where Micheál Mac Liammóir spent “his young days with the Tabhdearc” and a once magnificent house at the intersection of Cross and Middle Street called the Mayoralty House. Also includes 8 **printed photographs**, which include one of Ursula Doyle and Barry Cassin, the director of *The Matchmaker* by John B. Keane playing at the Folk and Comedy Theatre in Galway.

**Title:** Galway on a Sultry Night in June  
**Publication:** Evening Press  
**Author:** Terry O’Sullivan

3 September 1976

**Television listing** for the programme *Password* for which Christine Patterson and Ursula Doyle are the “guest celebrities.” It is compered by Brendan Balfe and associates of the programme include Fred O’Donovan. Also includes 2 **printed photographs**, including a head shot of Doyle.

**Title:** N/A  
**Publication:** RTÉ Guide  
**Author:** N/A
Article describing the “mystery portrait” which Fred O’Donovan has found in the cellars beneath the Gaiety Theatre. He thinks it may have been painted in the early 1920s, and brought to the Gaiety by Louis Elliman from the old Theatre Royal. It has been restored by Jennifer Leslie and framed by Gary Peller. Although O’Donovan has presented it to Ursula Doyle, he would like “to give it pride of place in a theatre museum which Sam Stephenson is designing for the Gaiety’s dress circle tea room” [never realised]. Also includes a printed photograph of the painting.

Title: Jimmy O’Dea lives on--in paint
Publication: Sunday Independent
Author: None given

Monday, 27 April 1981

Nine printed photographs on page 9, including 5 relating to the Burlington cabaret [of which Ursula Doyle was director.] One is captioned, “Singer Des Smyth, with Joe Fitzgerald, musical director of the Burlington cabaret.” [For other photos of Smyth, see ITA/131/4/212-4, 248.] Also includes, on page 10, another printed photograph, captioned, “Tony Graham, production director, O’Dea Productions [which Doyle formed in 1979, see ITA/131/3/62B-C]; and Michael Higgins, stage director, at the Burlington.” Also includes, on page 10, advertisement for Tom Foolery at the Olympia Theatre [see ITA/131/1/63].

Title: Dubliner Diary
Publication: Evening Press
Author: Michael O’Toole (photos: Pat Keegan)

undated, [1980s]

Printed photograph captioned, “Maureen Potter being welcomed back to the Gaiety by Joe Dowling, managing director, when she attended last night’s show with Ursula Doyle widow of Jimmy O’Dea.”

Title: N/A
Publication: None given
Author: (photo: Brian Farrell)

Article interviewing Rita O’Dea, Jimmy O’Dea’s sister, and Ursula Doyle and announcing the documentary, directed by Donald Taylor-Black on O’Dea which will be shown on RTÉ. Topics covered in the interviews include Doyle’s dilemma over what to call O’Dea (she settled on “James A.”); O’Dea’s beginnings as an optician and Rita’s eventual take over of the business (she was the “second qualified optician in Ireland in 1933 and ‘a woman optician was even more difficult to comprehend,’” she remembers); reminiscences about the “play-acting” that “had naturally been a characteristic of the O’Dea family childhood;” O’Dea’s first two acting companies, the Kilronan Players and the Drama League and how he was a serious actor first; Doyle’s early career, including her “enduring friendship” with Maureen Potter (who addressed O’Dea as “The Guvvie”) and the various places she and her brother Noel played as a duo in the late 1940s-50s (including England and Canada); Doyle’s return to Dublin October 1957 and the beginning of O’Dea’s courtship of her and eventual engagement in 1959; stories about O’Dea’s hospital stays; and Doyle’s career since O’Dea’s death (through Éamonn Andrews Studios and O’D. Productions Ireland Limited). [See ITA/131/3/54B-D for other information regarding Doyle’s marriage and career.]

Also includes 3 printed monochrome photographs and 1 printed colour drawing of O’Dea captioned, “With Noel Purcell in feature film Blarney in 1930. Jimmy in Dame costume (below) with Vernon Hayden on stage. In the film Jimmy Boy with (l-r) Harry O’Donovan, Noel Purcell, Jimmy O’Dea.” Also includes 2 printed colour photographs of Ursula Doyle and Rita O’Dea respectively.
Article describing a tribute to Jimmy O’Dea at the Trinity College Drama Studio, on the same day that “his great friend” Noel Purcell was buried. Joe Dowling, Abbey Theatre director, spoke at the event, saying that “Jimmy O’Dea, Jack Cruise, Noel Purcell and Danny Cummins ‘were significant features of the social and cultural life of Dublin who have a very special place in its folklore...’” Ursula Doyle, “stage ‘sidekick’ Vernon Hayden,” and Cyril Cusack (chairman of the Irish Theatre Archive) attended. An exhibition of Jimmy O’Dea photos, posters and costumes was also present and “Christopher Murray, vice-president of the Irish Theatre Archive, remarked on the “urgent need to collect and document material relating to the history of the theatre in Ireland.” Also includes a printed photograph captioned, “Times past...Joe Dowling with Ursula Doyle, widow of Jimmy O’Dea.”

Title: Tribute to ‘king of comedy’
Publication: Evening Herald
Author: None given

Duplicate of ITA/131/3/63A.

Title: Tribute to ‘king of comedy’
Publication: Evening Herald
Author: None given
Friday, 4 July 1986

A. Title: Maureen as you’ve never seen her! (p. 1)
Article summarising “showbiz” events discussed in more detail later on in publication, including Maureen Potter and others playing in *Juno and the Paycock*, “the first Seán O’Casey play ever staged at the Gate Theatre and a birthday party for Cecil Nash. Also includes a *printed photograph* of Maureen Potter with John Kavanagh in costume for *Juno and the Paycock*.

B. Title: Curtain goes up on Gate ‘first’ (p. 2)
Article on the first Gate Theatre performance of a Seán O’Casey play, *Juno and the Paycock*, directed by Joe Dowling. “Maureen Potter will take the role of Maisie Madigan.”

C. Title: Veterans roll back the years (p. 3)
Review of a show at the Braemor Rooms titled *A Royal Occasion*, produced by Brendan Balfe and including “[m]any stars of the old Theatre Royal.” Although the show runs for two weeks, last night was special because it was also Cecil Nash’s 84th birthday party (he came out of retirement of the show). Also includes 2 *printed photographs*, one of Cecil Nash and the other of Ursula Doyle.

Publication: *Evening Herald*
Author: (p. 3 only) Thomas Myler
Miscellaneous

**ITA/131/3/65**

Thursday, 19 July 1962

Last issue of the *Evening Mail* (see “The Mail suspends publication,” p. 1). Also includes advertisement for P. J. Bourke, “greatest name in dress hire” (p. 10).

Title: N/A
Publication: *Evening Mail*
Author: N/A

**ITA/131/3/66A**

16 January 1964

Mast head for *The Stage and Television Today* in which ITA/131/3/66B appeared.

Title: N/A
Publication: *The Stage and Television Today*
Author: None given

**ITA/131/3/66B**

16 January 1964

Article regarding Dublin Corporation’s refusal to grant a London-based organisation the ballroom licence it needed to convert the Olympia Theatre, Dublin [newspaper is English] into a ballroom and restaurant. The group had bought the theatre for a reported £80,000, but “[t]he refusal may well have stemmed from a belated recognition of what the City stood to lose if the conversion were to take place.” The Streets Committee is “considering a proposal to buy the building for preservation as a theatre and concert hall...It is the only stage in Dublin large enough to accommodate a full symphony orchestra.”

Title: Reprieve for the Dublin Olympia
Publication: *The Stage and Television Today*
Author: None given
A. Title: Pick of the Year’s Pictures: Top Awards for *Evening Press* Photographers (p. 11)
Three printed photographs including one by Colman Doyle titled “Action in Cyprus” which won Third Prize, News section, in Ireland’s Press Picture of the Year competition.

B. Title: Ask the Experts: Armour for hire (p. 12)
Article suggesting P. J. Bourke and Ging’s Costumiers as two companies “with considerable experience in the world of theatre costumes” who will rent armour.

Publication: *Evening Press*
Author: None given
Photographs

Introduction

The 138 unframed and 6 framed photographs in the second deposit are numbered as chronologically as possible, with the caveat that many are undated. All the framed photos are in one group from ITA/131/4/92-97. Where there is a series of photographs of similar or duplicate content, these are numbered A, B, C, etc. The photographs can be grouped into four categories. The first, and most numerous one, comprises Jimmy O’Dea in costume, whether in stage or film productions (usually with other actors), or alone in a head shot or publicity photo. The second includes O’Dea alone or with family; friends and colleagues in “street clothes.” These shots can be candid or posed; head shots or group shots. The third is a small category of family photos, mostly from O’Dea’s childhood, and the fourth is a series of photos of the Gaiety Theatre.

Several terms are used throughout this descriptive list. To designate a photo of a scene in a movie, “film still,” is used, while “production shot” refers to a stage scene. “Head shot” is used for any photo that is a close up of a face, either in costume or out of it. “Street clothes” is the opposite of being in costume, and “publicity photo” is any that was taken specifically for publication and distribution to the press (this category is mostly for the movie Darby O’Gill and The Little People.) Using the words “production shot” and “film still” assumes that O’Dea and others are in costume. Elsewhere, the assumption is that people in the photographs are in street clothes unless otherwise described.

Wherever possible, the photographs are cross-referenced, in the description, to the relevant programmes, playbills, press cuttings, other photographs, memorabilia, etc. in both the first and second deposits, in order to have available the most complete information. This is especially useful for photographs of the same or similar content, as they are not necessarily numbered consecutively (e.g., the production Babes in the Wood and O’Dea in costume as Napoleon). The captions are transcribed verbatim (except for the addition of some punctuation where needed), although no distinction is made between those that are on the front (typed) and the back (handwritten), as their content for each individual photograph is usually the same. In the few occasions where there are several captions from different periods of time or in different handwriting, these have been denoted by the numbers 1., 2., 3. etc. Photographer information is included in a separate section.

Key players include Maureen Potter and Vernon Hayden, who are well-represented in a variety of roles. Danny Cummins, Harry O’Donovan, Milo O’Shea, and Micheál Mac Liammóir appear, as well as Walt Disney, John MacDonagh, John Ford (producer), and Ursula Doyle. The photos also provide information on the stage, scenery and costume design for many of O’Dea’s productions from the 1930s-1960s, including a series of nine showing the house, stage, lounge and bar of the Gaiety Theatre.

A word about provenance: ITA/131/4/98A-M is a “sub-collection” of 13 photographs donated by Robert Dawson Studios.

The 162 photographs in the second deposit are numbered consecutively following the last photograph in the first deposit. Duplicates are numbered A, B, C, etc. The terms used to
describe each photograph correspond to those used in the first deposit: head shot, production shot, street clothes, etc. The word “portrait” has been added to denote a posed photograph, usually from the waist up, in street clothes. Where the “caption” on the back is only a negative number, it is not included. Unlike the first deposit, the organisation of the photos is more systematic, so they are cross-referenced only to other sections of collection, not within the photographs of the second deposit. However, those photographs in frames have been interspersed throughout the list according to their content rather than lumped in one group. Those that came apart from their frames are noted in the text. Items in [ ] are pieces of information which have been added from the archivist’s knowledge of the collection. The reader will recognise that the description of each photograph is also the archivist’s.

The photographs are divided into six categories. The first, from c. 1920s-1965 is O’Dea alone, including several photos of him in costume, off the stage. The second, from c. 1940s-60s shows Ursula Doyle’s early career, including several of her as a child. The third, from 1959-1964 relate to the O’Dea’s together, including photos of their wedding and honeymoon. The fourth, from c. 1960s-1970s is production photos. This category includes boxes of production photos from shows from the 1960s. The fifth, from c. 1970s-1991 shows Ursula Doyle’s later career, while the sixth, from c. 1950s-1980s is a miscellaneous category. Photos of key players including Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Milo O’Shea and Fred O’Donovan can be found throughout, but photos of Jack Benny, Fred Astaire, Chicago, USA Mayor Richard Daley, and Queen Elizabeth are arranged in the miscellaneous category.

For an additional sepia photograph captioned “London Coliseum, Sept. 1930. 1st engagement” see ITA/131/7/13, p. 21, and see ITA/131/10/3L for a photograph of the Punchestown Races in 1897.
First deposit

<table>
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<th>ITA/131/4/01</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Mounted</th>
<th>Size: 202x253</th>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
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c. 1896

Caption: James and Martha O’Dea. c. 1896

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/02</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Mounted</th>
<th>Size: 252x202</th>
<th>Mounted Size: 282x221</th>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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[c. October-December 1899]

Caption: Jimmy O’Dea at 6-8 months with his sister Ellen

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/03</th>
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<th>Mounted Size: 230x176</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

[undated]

Caption: Jimmy O’Dea’s father

Description: Portrait of James O’Dea in his later years.

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<th>ITA/131/4/04A</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[c. 1901]

Caption: Jimmy O’Dea (second from right) with his mother and brothers Lal and Ken.

Description: For fuller description, see ITA/131/4/04B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/04B</th>
<th>Size: 150x150</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1901

Caption: Mrs. Martha O’Dea with three of her boys about 1901. Ken, the baby on her knee, became [a] pianist; Lawrence on the right became well known as Lionel Day of the Radio Éireann Repertory Players; Jimmy, in the middle, already at 18 months has the face of the great comedian he was to become. From "Dublin from Old Photographs."

Description: Photocopy on photographic paper.
<table>
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<th>ITA/131/4/05</th>
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<th>Size: 252x202</th>
<th>Mounted Size: 268x216</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[c. 1910-20]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caption:</strong></td>
<td>The young Jimmy O’Dea, in spectacles.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea [c. 13-16 years old].</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<th>ITA/131/4/06A</th>
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<tr>
<td>[c. 1930s]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Portrait of Jimmy O’Dea in his [30s].</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
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<th>ITA/131/4/06B</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
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<td>[c. 1930s]</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Portrait of Jimmy O’Dea in his [30s]. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/107B.</td>
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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[c. 1920s]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea, to the left, [in a film still].</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/09</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Mounted</th>
<th>Size: 253x202</th>
<th>Mounted Size: 277x215</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[c. 1920s]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caption:</strong></td>
<td>The dashing young man.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea in his [20s]. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/101A-C.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
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<th>ITA/131/4/10A</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Size: 202x253</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[c. 1920s]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea, on a horse, [in a film still]. [See ITA/131/4/08.]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Size</td>
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<td>202x252</td>
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<td>ITA/131/4/11</td>
<td>Monochrome Mounted</td>
<td>221x169 Mounted Size: 238x186</td>
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<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>202x252</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/13</td>
<td>Sepia Mounted</td>
<td>252x202 Mounted Size: 284x222</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/14</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>202x252</td>
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</table>

[c. 1921]

**Description:** London c. 1921. J. O’Dea and John McDonagh (Actor-Producer-Film-maker). Donated to ITA by Liam O’Laoghaire Film Archives.

**Caption:** Laughter at Eight with Jim Jonson, Jimmy O’Dea, Vernon Hayden

[c. 1922]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea and [Nan Fitzgerald, a Limerick actress, in a film still from The Casey Millions.] [See ITA/131/3/18.]

[c. 1930s]

**Caption:** Laughter at Eight with Jim Jonson, Jimmy O’Dea, Vernon Hayden

[c. 1930s]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea, second from right, [acting in a revue]. Production shot.
20 May 1931

**Caption:** The Popular Irish Comedian. A new photograph of Jimmy O’Dea, taken specially for _Talkie Topics_. Supplement to _Talkie Topics_, May 20th, 1931.

**Description:** Printed photograph on cover of [magazine], _Talkie Topics_.

---

1936

**Caption:** Jimmy O’Dea Collection: photographs. Finale of pantomime _Ali Baba_. Olympia Theatre, 1936

**Description:** Empty envelope.

---

1938

**Caption:** [Jimmy O’Dea] in _Penny Paradise_ (1938), British comedy film.

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/108-9.

---

[c. 1950s-60s]

**Caption:** _Lady Siochana_ Jimmy O’Dea, Danny Cummins, Maureen Potter

**Description:** Production shot.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ITA/131/4/20A | Monochrome Mounted  
Size: 202x252 Mounted Size: 236x280  
Photographer: Harry Braine  
[1940]  
**Caption:** *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Jimmy O’Dea as Bottom [second from left], with (left to right) Tyrell Pine, Cecil Monson, Christopher Casson.  
**Description:** Production shot [at the Gate Theatre, Dublin, 1940, see ITA/131/8/2F]. |
| ITA/131/4/20B | Monochrome  
Size: 202x253  
[1940]  
**Caption:** *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Jimmy O’Dea as Bottom [second from left], with (left to right) Tyrell Pine, Cecil Monson, Christopher Casson.  
**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/20A, including caption. |
| ITA/131/4/20C | Monochrome  
Size: 202x253  
[1940]  
**Caption:** *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Jimmy O’Dea as Bottom [second from left], with (left to right) Tyrell Pine, Cecil Monson, Christopher Casson  
**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/20A, including caption. |
| ITA/131/4/21 | Sepia Mounted  
Size: 193x254 Mounted Size: 232x271  
c. 1940s  
**Caption:** *The Hospital*. Harry O’Donovan, Derry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea [in wheelchair], Denis Brennan. 1940s.  
**Description:** Production shot. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Caption</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/23</td>
<td>[1940]</td>
<td>Monochrome Mounted 202x252 Mounted Size: 234x271</td>
<td><em>The Gaiety Revels.</em> 15 dancers in costume in a half-circle on stage in front of [scenery] which includes a painting of [Jimmy O’Dea’s] laughing face. Rays shoot out from his head as if he were the sun. [See ITA/131/1/05.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/24</td>
<td>[c. 1950s-60s]</td>
<td>Monochrome 239x303</td>
<td>? a sketch?</td>
</tr>
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</table>
**ITA/131/4/26**

**Sepia**
**Size:** 199x251
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan. 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin

c. 1940s

**Caption:** *Napoleon.* Jimmy O’Dea & Company. Summer show, end 1940s. From Vernon Hayden.

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea as Napoleon, [with far left, Milo O’Shea, and left, Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter may be to far right]. Production shot. [See ITA/131/4/64, 65A-B.]

---

**ITA/131/4/27**

**Monochrome**
**Size:** 252x200
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street. Phone: Dublin 680679

[1960]

**Caption:** *Babes* Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter. From Vernon Hayden.

**Description:** Production shot. [ITA/131/4/41, 43, 45, 55, 59, 81, 169. For programme for *Babes in the Woods*, 1940, see ITA/131/1/06. For 1960, see ITA/131/1/44.]

---

**ITA/131/4/28**

**Sepia**
**Mounted**
**Size:** 202x258
**Mounted Size:** 238x291
**Photographer:** [S. L. Fry]. [Photographer name is on back of photo. Because of the mounting, the information is difficult to read.]

c. 1940s

**Caption:** Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, and O’Dea, early 1940s. [Back of photo may include other information].

**Description:** O’Dea in costume as [Biddy Mulligan]. Production shot.
Caption: Ursula Doyle?

Description: [Ursula Doyle,] in [a nightgown,] sits on the lap of a man [dressed as the dame.] A person in an animal costume half-lies to their left. Production shot.

---

Caption: Photo shows the almost-empty stage at [The Gaiety Theatre], looking onto it from the left side of the house.

Description: Photo shows the almost-empty stage of [The Gaiety Theatre], looking from the middle of the house. A group of men stands to the left side of the stage.

---

Caption: Photo shows the empty house of the [Gaiety Theatre].

Description: Photo shows [the lobby] of the [Gaiety Theatre].
Description: Photo shows a bar in the [Gaiety Theatre].

Description: Photo shows the empty house in the [Gaiety Theatre], looking down from the top seats.

Description: Photo shows the empty stage and part of the house of the [Gaiety Theatre].

Description: Photo shows an empty lounge in the [Gaiety Theatre].

Description: Photo shows the empty house of the [Gaiety Theatre], from the stage.

Description: Candid shot of Jimmy O’Dea walking on a street. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/111.
**ITA/131/4/31B**  
Sepia  
Size: 120x165

[c. 1940s-50s]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea in the centre of a smiling group of people, not in costume, some of whom have drinks in their hands.

**ITA/131/4/32**  
Monochrome  
Size: 209x273  
Mounted  
Mounted Size: 248x329

[c. 1950s-60s]

**Caption:** As Harry Lauder. From Vernon Hayden.

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea, in Scottish costume, [takes a bow] with a young woman, also in Scottish costume.

**ITA/131/4/33**  
Monochrome  
Size: 202x252

[c. 1950s-60s]

**Description:** A cast dressed in Arabian garb is assembled on stage. One woman with chains on her wrists stands on a platform which has a banner on it saying, "Sale of Slaves at 3:30." Production shot.

**ITA/131/4/34**  
Monochrome  
Size: 201x253  
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street. Phone Dublin 680679

Late 1940s or 50s

**Caption:** *Holes in the Road* Jimmy O’Dea, Marie [Conmee] & Company. Late 1940s or 50s. From Vernon Hayden.

**Description:** Production shot.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/35</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>The Stationmaster in Ballygobackwards, 1949. [Also, on back], Last train?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mounted</td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea in costume.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size: 252x181</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mounted</td>
<td>Production shot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size: 202x253</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/38A</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>Micheál Mac Liammóir has a stern word for Jimmy O’Dea, who makes a face,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mounted</td>
<td>while Milo O’Shea looks on in dismay. Production shot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size: 253x203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/38B</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>Duplicate of ITA/131/4/38A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size: 252x202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1949

Caption: The Stationmaster in Ballygobackwards, 1949. [Also, on back], Last train?

Description: Jimmy O’Dea in costume.
ITA/131/4/38C  Monochrome  
Size:  252x202  
[c. 1950s]  
Description:  Duplicate of ITA/131/4/38A.

ITA/131/4/39A  Monochrome  Mounted  
Size:  179x256  Mounted Size:  218x288  
[c. 1950s]  
Description:  Jimmy O’Dea, in ballgown and headdress, curtsies to [Edwards], while [Mac Liammóir, on the right] and [Harry O’Donovan, on the left], as well as the whole company in costume, look on. [See ITA/131/1/25.]

ITA/131/4/39B  Monochrome  
Size:  176x230  
[c. 1950s]  
Description:  Duplicate of ITA/131/4/39A, including the caption.

ITA/131/4/39C  Monochrome  
Size:  141x204  
[c. 1950s]  
Description:  Duplicate of ITA/131/4/39A, not including caption.  [See photograph 39A for description.]

ITA/131/4/40  Monochrome  Mounted  
Size:  250x197  Mounted Size:  267x207  
[c. 1950s-60s]  
Description:  Production shot.
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<td>ITA/131/4/45</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
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<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size: 200x252</td>
<td>Mounted Size: 292x266</td>
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</table>

[1960]

**Caption:** *The Schoolroom.* Vernon Hayden, Maureen Potter, Jimmy O’Dea. From Vernon Hayden.

**Description:** Production shot from [*Babes in the Woods*, 1960]. [See ITA/131/4/59. See also ITA/131/4/27, 41, 43, 55, 81, 169. For programme see ITA/131/1/44.]

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<th>ITA/131/4/46</th>
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<td>Size: 201x252</td>
<td>Mounted Size: 241x269</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

C. 1950s

**Caption:** *Where’s the Body?* Derry O’Donovan, Jimmy O’Dea, Frank O’Donovan. 1950s.

**Description:** Production shot.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/47</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Size: 245x203</td>
<td>Mounted Size: 277x216</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. 1950s

**Caption:** *The Laundry.* Madeleine Corval, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter. 1950s. From Vernon Hayden.

**Description:** Production shot. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/98M.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/48</th>
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<td>Size: 202x253</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[c. 1950s]

**Caption:** *The Charmaid.* Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter.

**Description:** Production shot. [See ITA/131/4/58.]
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

**ITA/131/4/49**

Monochrome
Size: 202x253 Mounted Size: 237x271
Photographer: O’Callaghan, Dublin

[c. 1950s-60s]

**Caption:** *Mrs. Mulligan’s Party.* Danny Cummins, Maureen Potter, Jimmy O’Dea

**Description:** Production shot.

---

**ITA/131/4/50A**

Monochrome
Size: 215x167
Photographer: Howe Studio, Specialist Wedding and Industrial Photography. 81-82 Aungier Street (corner of Georges Street), Dublin. Phone: Studio 55311

[c. 1960]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea in street clothes, looking pensive in a [restaurant or lounge]...
[See ITA/131/4/80.]

---

**ITA/131/4/50B**

Monochrome
Size: 158x201 Mounted Size: 190x224
Photographer: Lensmen, Press Photo Agency. 9 Westmoreland St., Dublin. Phone, Grams: Dublin 71603

[c. 1960]

**Caption:** Visiting a hospital

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea, in street clothes, hands a bottle of orange to a young boy in a dressing gown being held by a nurse, while another nurse looks on. [See ITA/131/4/80.]

---

**ITA/131/4/50C**

Monochrome
Size: 155x203
Photographer: Lensmen, Press Photo Agency. 9 Westmoreland St., Dublin. Phone, Grams: Dublin 71603

[c. 1960]

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/50B, but better quality print.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| ITA/131/4/50D | Monochrome  
Size: 151x200  
Photographer: Lensmen, Press Photo Agency.  
9 Westmoreland St., Dublin.  
Phone, Grams: Dublin 71603  
[c. 1960]  
Description: In a grocery store, Jimmy O’Dea, surrounded by a group of smiling men and women, [puts some groceries into a shopping basket] being held by two of the men in the group. [This is the same basket and food items that appear in ITA/131/4/50C, 50B. See also ITA/131/4/80.] |
| ITA/131/4/51 | Monochrome  
Size: 252x201  
Mounted  
Mounted Size: 281x235  
[1963]  
Caption: Showing Seán Keating’s picture of O’Dea as the Laughing Cavalier.  
Description: O’Dea dressed in [Dutch cavalier outfit]. [Prof. Keating painted O’Dea as a character out of the 17th-century world of the Dutch painter Frans Hals.] [See ITA/131/3/17.] |
| ITA/131/4/52 | Monochrome  
Size: 252x202  
[c. 1920s]  
Description: [Harry O’Donovan.] [See ITA/131/3/10 for comparison.] |
| ITA/131/4/53 | Monochrome  
Size: 195x249  
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin.  
[c. 1950s-60s]  
Description: Production shot. |
ITA/131/4/54
Monochrome
Size: approx. 246x195
[c. 1960s]
Description: Cut-out head shot of Jimmy O’Dea with a hat.

ITA/131/4/55
Monochrome
Size: 201x252
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679
[1960]
Caption: Maureen & Jimmy, panto.
Description: Maureen Potter and Jimmy O’Dea in costume as [nurses], [Babes in the Wood]. Production shot. [See ITA/131/4/81. See also ITA/131/4/27, 41, 43, 45, 59, 169. For programme, see ITA/131/1/44.]

ITA/131/4/56
Monochrome
Size: 203x151
Photographer: Basil Henry, 54, South King St., Dublin. Phone: 72083
c. 1950s
Caption: Jimmy O’Dea as Dame in Cinderella. 1950s. From Vernon Hayden.
Description: Head shot. [See ITA/131/1/15, 22A-C.]

ITA/131/4/57
Monochrome
Size: 254x205
[c. 1950s-1960s]
Description: Head shot of Jimmy O’Dea in woman’s costume.

ITA/131/4/58
Monochrome
Size: 202x253
Mounted
Photographer: O’Callaghan, Dublin.
Mount Size: 231x261
[c. 1950s]
Description: Production shot. [See ITA/131/4/48.]
ITA/131/4/59  
Monochrome
Size: 201x252
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[1960]


ITA/131/4/60  
Monochrome
Size: 250x196
Mounted
Mounted Size: 312x230

[c. 1960s]

Description: Head shot of Jimmy O’Dea, smiling, with finger to temple.

ITA/131/4/61  
Monochrome
Size: 202x252
Mounted
Mounted Size: 223x273
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[c. 1960s]


Description: Production shot.

ITA/131/4/62  
Monochrome
Size: 164x217
Mounted
Mounted Size: 231x239

c. 1950s

Caption: Jimmy O’Dea as Hamlet in Gateway to Gaiety summer show, 1950s.

Description: [See ITA/131/1/21A-B.]
ITA/131/4/63  Monochrome
Size: 253x205

[1963]

**Caption:** Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter, David Kelly, Derry O’Donovan. 1950s. From Vernon Hayden.

**Description:** Production shot from *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, December 1963. L to R: Potter, Kelly, O’Donovan, O’Dea. [See ITA/131/4/179 for photo from same sketch. See ITA/131/1/31A-D for programme.]

ITA/131/4/64  Monochrome Mounted
Size: 241x201 Mounted Size: 257x206

[c. 1940s-50s]

**Caption:** 1.(on front) [Jimmy O’Dea] a Napoleon in a summer show, late 1940s. 2.(on back) *Look Back in Laughter* Gaiety 1954-5.

**Description:** Head shot. [See ITA/131/4/26 and ITA/131/1/25.]

ITA/131/4/65A  Monochrome
Size: 252x204
Photographer: *Irish Times* Photo

[c. 1940s-50s]

**Caption:** [from] Vernon Hayden

**Description:** Head shot of Jimmy O’Dea as Napoleon. [See ITA/131/4/26, 64.]

ITA/131/4/65B  Monochrome
Size: 252x162

[c. 1940s-50s]

**Caption:** *Look Back in Laughter* Gaiety 1954-5

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea in costume as Napoleon. [There is some confusion with regard to dates. *Look Back in Laughter* was produced in 1959 (see ITA/131/1/25). Moreover, see ITA/131/4/26, 64, 65A for Napoleon photos with dates in the 1940s.]
### Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O'Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

#### ITA/131/4/66A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monochrome</th>
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**[1957]**

**Description:** John Ford [director] and Jimmy O'Dea working on “A Minute’s Wait.” from *The Rising of the Moon* (1957) [“A Minute’s Wait” was based on a farce by Martin J. McHugh (1914). The film was also called *Three leaves of a Shamrock*. See ITA/131/4/65B, 68. See also ITA/131/1/45 and ITA/131/8/2E1 for more information.]

#### ITA/131/4/66B

<table>
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<th>Monochrome Mounted</th>
<th>193x250 Mounted Size: 230x278</th>
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</table>

**[1957]**

**Caption:** "Minute’s Wait.” John Ford directing O'Dea

**Description:** From *The Rising of the Moon* (1957). [“A Minute’s Wait” was based on a farce by Martin J. McHugh (1914). The film was also called *Three leaves of a Shamrock*. See ITA/131/4/65A, 68, 69A-G. See also ITA/131/1/45 and ITA/131/8/2E1 for more information.]

#### ITA/131/4/67

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**[c. 1960s]**

**Caption:** Rita O’Dea, 10 Duke St., Dublin 2

**Description:** [Film still.] [Jimmy O'Dea to the far right] holds out his hat to two nuns walking through an iron gate, held open by a [soldier] in a beret.

#### ITA/131/4/68

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>249x303</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**1957**

**Caption:** [Jimmy O'Dea in] "One Minute’s Wait," in *The Rising of the Moon* [film] (1957). Director is John Ford (back to camera).

**Description:** [“A Minute’s Wait” was based on a farce by Martin J. McHugh (1914). Film was also called *Three leaves of a Shamrock*. See ITA/131/4/66A-B, 69A-G. See also ITA/131/1/45 and ITA/131/8/2E1 for more information.]
1957

**Caption:** [Jimmy O’Dea in] *The Rising of the Moon*--John Ford 1957

**Description:** Film still from [“A Minute’s Wait,” based on a farce by Martin J. McHugh (1914). Film was also called *Three leaves of a Shamrock*. See ITA/131/4/68, 66A-B, 69B-G. See also ITA/131/1/45 and ITA/131/8/2E1 for more information.]

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/69B</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Size: 200x255</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

[1957]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea in a film still from [“A Minute’s Wait,” based on a farce by Martin J. McHugh (1914) in *The Rising of the Moon* directed by John Ford, 1957. Film was also called *Three leaves of a Shamrock*. See ITA/131/4/66A-B, 68, 69A, C-G. See also ITA/131/1/45 and ITA/131/8/2E1 for more information.]

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/69C</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Size: 200x256</th>
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</table>

[1957]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea, right with an unidentified woman and man [involved in *The Rising of the Moon*, 1957]. [See ITA/131/4/66A-B, 68, 69A-B, D-G. See also ITA/131/1/45 and ITA/131/8/2E1 for more information.]

<table>
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</table>

[1957]

**Caption:** Rita O’Dea, 10 Duke St., Dublin 2

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/69C.
[1957]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea in a film still from [“A Minute’s Wait,” based on a farce by Martin J. McHugh (1914) in *The Rising of the Moon* directed by John Ford, 1957. Film was also called *Three leaves of a Shamrock.* See ITA/131/4/66A-B, 68, 69A-D, F-G. See also ITA/131/1/45 and ITA/131/8/2E1 for more information.]

**ITA/131/4/69F**

Monochrome
Size: 201x256

1957

**Caption:** [Jimmy O’Dea in] *The Rising of the Moon*--John Ford 1957

**Description:** Film still from [“A Minute’s Wait,” based on a farce by Martin J. McHugh (1914). Film was also called *Three leaves of a Shamrock.* See ITA/131/4/66A-B, 68, 69A-E, G. See also ITA/131/1/45 and ITA/131/8/2E1 for more information.]

**ITA/131/4/69G**

Monochrome
Size: 254x201

[1957]

**Description:** Film still from [“A Minute’s Wait,” based on a farce by Martin J. McHugh (1914) in *The Rising of the Moon* directed by John Ford, 1957. Film was also called *Three leaves of a Shamrock.*] Jimmy O’Dea to the right. [See ITA/131/4/66A-B, 68, 69A-F. See ITA/131/1/45 and ITA/131/8/2E1 for more information.]

**ITA/131/4/70**

Monochrome
Size: 246x184

Mounted
Mounted Size: 281x199

1958

**Caption:** [Jimmy O’Dea] in *Finian’s Rainbow* in 1958.

**Description:** Head shot. [See ITA/131/1/23 (programme from 1957). For other productions of *Finian’s Rainbow*, see ITA/131/1/32, ITA/131/4/71-2, 117, and ITA/131/4/8/2G.]
**ITA/131/4/71**

Monochrome  
Size: 216x165  
Photographer: *Irish Times* photo 
[c. 1960s]  

**Caption:** [not readable]  

**Description:** [Press photo for *Finian’s Rainbow*, 1960s]. Jimmy O’Dea holds two telephones while [Milo O’Shea] cuts one of the phone cords. [Maureen Toal] looks on. [See ITA/131/1/32 for programme from 1964 and ITA/131/4/70, 72, 117. For more information from the Irish Theatre Archive exhibition, see also ITA/131/8/2G.]

---

**ITA/131/4/72**

Monochrome  
Size: 302x238  
Mounted Size: 332x250  
[c. 1960s]  


**Description:** [Duplicate of ITA/131/4/117. See also ITA/131/4/70-1 for more photos and ITA/131/1/32 for programme from 1964. For more information from the Irish Theatre Archive exhibition, see ITA/131/8/2G.]

---

**ITA/131/4/73A**

Monochrome  
Size: 253x206  
Photographer: © Walt Disney Productions  
[1958-9]  

**Caption:** 1.(front) Walt Disney presents *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*. Albert Sharpe, Jimmy O’Dea, Janet Munro, Seán Connery, Kieron Moore, [etc.]. © Walt Disney Productions, World Rights Reserved. 2. (back) *Darby O’Gill & the Little People*. Jimmy O’Dea with Michael O’Herlihy. From Vernon Hayden.  

**Description:** Publicity photo. Jimmy O’Dea as King of the Leprechauns. [For other publicity photos, see ITA/131/4/73B, 84, 93-97, 155. For O’Dea’s thoughts on the filming of the movie, see ITA/131/9/01A-C.]
Caption: Walt Disney presents *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*. Albert Sharpe, Jimmy O’Dea, Janet Munro, Seán Connery, Kieron Moore, [etc.]. © Walt Disney Productions, World Rights Reserved.

Description: Publicity photo. Jimmy O’Dea as King of the Leprechauns runs away from a cat. [See ITA/131/4/73A, 84, 93-7, 155. For O’Dea’s thoughts on the filming of the movie, see ITA/131/9/01A-C.]

Caption: 20-2-1959

Description: Jimmy O’Dea [as Biddy Mulligan]. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/25--the date on that photo is c. 1940.

Caption: [c. 1960s]

Description: Jimmy O’Dea in street clothes, centre, with a nun. [Ursula O’Dea to right?]. Others look on. [For similar photo, see ITA/131/4/151.]
### ITA/131/4/77A

**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 096x119  
**Mounted Size:** 105x125

[c. 1960s]

**Caption:** 6. Pic - Studio - 45° To Left

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea [in railroad cap] talks on a telephone. [Proof for publicity photo or to perhaps to test lighting]. [From *O’Dea’s Your Man*, a weekly comedy sketch on RTÉ scripted by Flann O’Brien. See ITA/131/4/77B-E and ITA/131/8/2E2.]

### ITA/131/4/77B

**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 095x117  
**Mounted Size:** 104x125

[c. 1960s]

**Caption:** Studio - as is

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea sitting at a table holding tea things [in railroad cap]. [David Kelly] sits to his right. [Proof for publicity photos or possibly to test lighting]. [From *O’Dea’s Your Man*, a weekly comedy sketch on RTÉ scripted by Flann O’Brien. See ITA/131/4/77A, C-E and ITA/131/8/2E2].

### ITA/131/4/77C

**Monochrome**

**Size:** 1.) 095x118  
2.) 096x117

**Mounted Size:** 104x247

[c. 1960s]

**Caption:** 1.) 7. Slide - 45° Right  2.) 8. Pic - Cap. Scanner - 45° Left

**Description:** Two photographs on one mount. In the first, Jimmy O’Dea, [in railroad cap] pulls a train switch. The second is a close up of the same. [Proofs for publicity photos or possibly to test lighting.] [From *O’Dea’s Your Man*, a weekly comedy sketch on RTÉ scripted by Flann O’Brien. See ITA/131/4/77A-B, D-E and ITA/131/8/2E2].
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O'Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

ITA/131/4/77D
Monochrome Mounted
Size: 1.) 097x117
2.) 097x117
Mounted Size: 110x247

[c. 1960s]

Caption: 1.) [unreadable] 2.) Studio - 45° To Right

Description: Two photographs on the same mount. The first is a closeup, side view, of Jimmy O’Dea looking off camera while looking [surprised]. The second is a closeup of O’Dea talking on the telephone. In both he is wearing a [railroad cap]. [Could be proofs for publicity or to test lighting.] [From O’Dea’s Your Man, a weekly comedy sketch on RTÉ scripted by Flann O’Brien. See ITA/131/4/77A-C, E and ITA/131/8/2E2].

ITA/131/4/77E
Monochrome Mounted
Size: 1.) 089x117
2.) 095x117
Mounted Size: 103x252

[c. 1960s]

Caption: 1.) [no caption] 2.) 14. Studio -

Description: Two photographs on the same mount. The first is a view of a [sound stage] with scenery, lights, and cameras, etc., with Jimmy O’Dea sitting at a table in the centre of the scene while other men stand around. This is the setting where photos ITA/131/4/77A-E are taken. The second shows O’Dea, wearing [a railroad cap], speaking to [David Kelly], also in costume. [Proofs for publicity or perhaps for testing lighting.] [From O’Dea’s Your Man, a weekly comedy sketch on RTÉ scripted by Flann O’Brien. See ITA/131/4/77A-D and ITA/131/8/2E2].

ITA/131/4/78
Monochrome Mounted
Size: 302x229
Mounted Size: 321x243

c. 1960


Description: All wearing street clothes.
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

**ITA/131/4/79**

Monochrome Mounted
Size: 193x248 Mounted Size: 244x270
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

c. 1960

**Caption:** "Waiting for ????"  The Tramps sketch, about 1960. [Jimmy O’Dea] with Denis Brennan

**Description:** Production shot.

**ITA/131/4/80**

Monochrome Mounted
Size: 167x215 Mounted Size: 195x225
Photographer: Howe Studio, Specialist Wedding and Industrial Photography. 81-82 Aungier Street (corner of George’s Street), Dublin. Phone: Studio 55311

[c. 1960]

**Caption:** Opening a supermarket, about 1960

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea cuts a ribbon while others look on. [Same series as ITA/131/4/50A-D.]

**ITA/131/4/81**

Monochrome Mounted
Size: 252x200 Mounted Size: 291x214
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

1960

**Caption:** Babes in the Wood, in 1960. [Jimmy O’Dea] with Vernon Hayden

**Description:** Production shot. [Same costume as ITA/131/4/55. See also ITA/131/4/27, 41, 43, 45, 59, 169. For programme, see ITA/131/1/44.]
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

**ITA/131/4/82**
Monochrome
Size: 205x252
Mounted Size: 241x267

c. 1961

**Caption:** Reaching the television screen, 1961?

**Description:** Head shot of Jimmy O’Dea as [Biddy Mulligan] on a TV. screen. See ITA/131/4/83 and, for more information about O’Dea on television, see ITA/131/8/2E2.

**ITA/131/4/83**
Monochrome
Size: 205x253

[c. 1961]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea as [Biddy Mulligan], with a man behind him, both on a TV. screen. [See ITA/131/4/82 and, for more information about O’Dea on television, see ITA/131/8/2E2.]

**ITA/131/4/84**
Colour
Size: 253x203

[1959]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea in costume as the King of the Leprechauns in Disney’s *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*. [See ITA/131/4/73A-B, 93-7, 155. For O’Dea’s thoughts on the filming of the movie, see ITA/131/9/01A-C.]

**ITA/131/4/85**
Monochrome
Size: 241x254
Photographer: With the compliments of the *Evening Press*

[c. 1960s]

**Caption:** Jimmy O’Dea c/o Gaiety Theatre

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea smiling at another man, who has his hand on O’Dea’s shoulder.
<table>
<thead>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>Caption:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Goody Two-Shoes</em>, Gaiety 1962</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Description: Jimmy O’Dea in woman’s costume, wearing a long hat made of masks. [See ITA/131/4/176 for similar photo and ITA/131/4/ for box of production of photos.]</td>
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<td>c. 1963</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>As the story-teller in <em>Once Upon a Time</em>. RTÉ Television, about 1963</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Description: Production shot, close-up, of Jimmy O’Dea blowing out a candle. [See ITA/131/3/16 and ITA/131/7/42 for cartoon.]</td>
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<td>[December] 1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/90</td>
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<td>181x245</td>
<td>Photograph: Photographer is marked on back of photo, but is unreadable. Caption: Hansel &amp; Gretel is now on its second month at the Gaiety. With Maureen [Potter] is Martin Dempsey and Jacinta (&quot;Annie&quot;) White. Description: Production shot.</td>
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<td>ITA/131/4/92</td>
<td>Framed Monochrome</td>
<td>218x171 (Framed) Size: 218x171</td>
<td>Description: Jimmy O’Dea in street clothes and hat, head shot.</td>
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<td>Reference</td>
<td>Description</td>
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| ITA/131/4/93 | Framed Colour  
(Framed) Size: 133x133  
[1958-9]  
Description: Jimmy O’Dea in costume as King of the Leprechaun’s from *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*. Colour photograph is faded. [May be a cropped duplicate of ITA/131/4/84. See also ITA/131/4/73A-B, 94-7, 155. For O’Dea’s thoughts on the filming of the movie, see ITA/131/9/01A-C.]

| ITA/131/4/94 | Framed Monochrome  
(Framed) Size: 215x260  
Photographer: © Walt Disney Productions.  
[1958-9]  
Caption: Walt Disney presents *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*. Albert Sharpe, Jimmy O’Dea, Janet Munro, Seán Connery, Kieron Moore, etc. © Walt Disney Productions, World Rights Reserved.  
Description: Publicity Photo. "Little" Jimmy O’Dea in costume as King of the Leprechauns, stands on a wall with one hand upraised to protect himself against the stick of the angry [Darby O’Gill]. [See ITA/131/4/73A-B, 84, 93, 95-97, 155. For O’Dea’s thoughts on the filming of the movie, see ITA/131/9/01A-C.]

| ITA/131/4/95 | Framed Monochrome  
(Framed) Size: 262x203  
Photographer: © Walt Disney Productions.  
[1958-9]  
Caption: Walt Disney presents *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*. Albert Sharpe, Jimmy O’Dea, Janet Munro, Seán Connery, Kieron Moore, etc. © Walt Disney Productions, World Rights Reserved.  
Description: Publicity Photo. "Little" Jimmy O’Dea in costume as King of the Leprechauns stands on top of a wall. [See ITA/131/4/73A-B, 84, 93-4, 96-7, 155. For O’Dea’s thoughts on the filming of the movie, see ITA/131/9/01A-C.]
Caption: Walt Disney presents *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*. Albert Sharpe, Jimmy O’Dea, Janet Munro, Seán Connery, Kieron Moore, etc. © Walt Disney Productions, World Rights Reserved.

Description: Publicity Photo. "Little" Jimmy O’Dea in costume as King of the Leprechauns, rides on and waves from a small steam engine pulling several wagons. Walt Disney sits on the first wagon, also waving. [See ITA/131/4/73A-B, 84, 93-5, 97, 155. For O’Dea’s thoughts on the filming of the movie, see ITA/131/9/01A-C.]

Caption: With Janet Munro [handwritten, on back].

Description: Publicity Photo for *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*, [1959]. "Little" Jimmy O’Dea in costume as King of the Leprechauns rides on the handle bars of a bicycle ridden by [Janet Munro] outside an [apartment complex]. [See ITA/131/4/73A-B, 84, 93-6, 155. For O’Dea’s thoughts on the filming of the movie, see ITA/131/9/01A-C.]

Caption: Jimmy O’Dea in [ancient Greek] costume. [Production shot]. Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne's Lane, Dublin 2.

Description: Jimmy O’Dea in street clothes leaning on a mantle over a fireplace. On the mantle is a many-handled vase inside a glass container. Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2.
ITA/131/4/98C  Monochrome
Size:  193x244

[c. 1960s]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea in [dressing room] in costume as [Biddy Mulligan]. Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2

ITA/131/4/98D  Monochrome
Size:  245x192

[c. 1960s]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea, sitting, and [Harry O’Donovan] leaning on mantle by a fireplace, same setting as ITA/131/4/98B. Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2.

ITA/131/4/98E  Monochrome
Size:  241x194

[c. 1960s]

**Description:** [Harry O’Donovan] in a [dressing room]. Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2.

ITA/131/4/98F  Monochrome
Size:  248x184

[c. 1960s]

**Description:** Man in [tuxedo] wearing glasses and smoking a cigar. Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2.

ITA/131/4/98G  Monochrome
Size:  219x165
Photographer:  G. W. Vanston, 17, Bushy Pk. Rd., Rathgar, Phone:--95026

1949

**Caption:** [all on back in three different scripts:] 1.) Rita O’Dea, 10, Duke St., Dublin 2 2.) The late Máire O’Neill I think but do not know what part 3.) in *Saints & Sinners* by Leslie [Arliss] 1949

**Description:** Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2.
<table>
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/98H</td>
<td>Monochrome&lt;br&gt;Size: 253x205&lt;br&gt;[undated]&lt;br&gt;Caption: O’Dea, Ophthalmic Optician, 10, Duke Street, Dublin, 2, Phone 772012&lt;br&gt;Description: Head shot of a woman. Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/98J</td>
<td>Monochrome&lt;br&gt;Size: 186x245&lt;br&gt;[c. 1950s]&lt;br&gt;Caption: Robert Dawson Studios&lt;br&gt;Description: Production shot of [Maureen Potter], [Harry O’Donovan], [Vernon Hayden], Jimmy O’Dea (in woman’s costume), and another man. [See ITA/131/4/98I, K.] Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Description:** Production shot, [in front of a curtain] of two men and Jimmy O’Dea wearing a loud tie and bowler hat. Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2.

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/47. Caption on that photo reads, *The Laundry*. Madeleine Corval, Jimmy O’Dea, Maureen Potter. 1950s.” Photo donated by Robert Dawson Studios, 38 Anne’s Lane, Dublin 2.
Second deposit

Jimmy O’Dea alone

| ITA/131/4/099 | Monochrome  
| Size: 086x060 |

[c. 1920s-30s]

Description: Jimmy O’Dea, right, and another man each hold a front paw of a [spaniel] standing on its hind legs on a chair. Both are in street clothes and the setting is a [garden].

| ITA/131/4/100 | Monochrome  
| Size: 129x077 |

[c. 1930s]

Description: Head shot [for publicity] of Jimmy O’Dea in street clothes, 45 items.

| ITA/131/4/101A | Monochrome  
| Size: 135x083  

[c. 1920s]

Caption: Jimmy O’Dea. [Other caption is unreadable.]


| ITA/131/4/101B | Monochrome  
| Size: 135x083  
| Photographer: [Moss Empires Ltd.] |

[c. 1920s]

Caption: [In O’Dea’s handwriting, in ink, on front of photograph]: Best Wishes Jimmy O’Dea.


| ITA/131/4/101C | Monochrome |
### Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O'Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

Size: 135x083  
Photographer: [Moss Empires Ltd.]

[c. 1920s]

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/101A-B, 25 items. Also duplicate of ITA/131/4/09.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/102</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size: 136x084</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[c. 1920s-30s.]

**Description:** [Publicity photo.] Head shot of Jimmy O'Dea in costume as a solider, including [gold] braiding and buttons and busby worn at an angle with the strap also at an angle across O'Dea’s mouth. O'Dea peers around a corner, smiling. 8 items.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/103</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size: 084x069</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[c. 1920s-30s.]

**Description:** [Publicity photo.] Head shot of O'Dea in soldier’s uniform [same as ITA/131/4/102], but a different pose. 2 items.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/104</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size: 159x114</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[c. 1920-30s]

**Description:** Jimmy O'Dea in costume as a pantomime dame. [Modern copy of old photograph.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/105</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size: 159x114</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ITA/131/4/106**

Monochrome  
Size: 159x114  
[c. 1920s-30s]

**Description:** Jimmy O’Dea in costume as a little girl. [Modern copy of old photograph.]

**ITA/131/4/107A**

Monochrome  
Size: 086x069  
Photographer: Imperial Repro Studio, 46 [?] St., Liverpool.  
[c.1940s]

**Description:** [Publicity photo.] Head shot of Jimmy O’Dea in street clothes, including hat. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/6B.

**ITA/131/4/107B**

Monochrome  
Size: 086x069  
Photographer: [Imperial Repro Studio]  
[c. 1940s]

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/107A and ITA/131/4/6B. 8 items.

**ITA/131/4/108**

Monochrome  
Size: 086x069  
[c. 1940s]

**Caption:** [In O’Dea’s handwriting, in ink, on front]: Best Wishes, Jimmy O’Dea

**Description:** [Publicity photo.] Head shot of Jimmy O’Dea in costume as Biddy Mulligan. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/18.

**ITA/131/4/109**

Sepia  
Size: 085x136  
[c. 1940s]

**Caption:** Jimmy O’Dea

**Description:** [Publicity photo] consisting of two photographs of Jimmy O’Dea in costume as the soldier and as Biddy Mulligan. Duplicates of ITA/131/4/18, 103, 108. 2 items.
**ITA/131/4/110**

Monochrome  
Framed  
Size: 345x397  
Photographer: John Arigho & Sons, Ltd., Christchurch Place, Dublin. Artistic Picture Framers. Show Card Framing a Speciality. Established 70 Years.

[1939]

**Description:** L to R: Jimmy O’Dea, Douglas Hyde [President of Ireland], and unidentified cast member in [the Gaiety Theatre]. Poster for *Jimmy and the Leprechaun* is in background. [See ITA/131/1/03A-B.]

**ITA/131/4/111**

Monochrome  
Size: 138x087

[c. 1940s-50s]

**Description:** Candid shot of Jimmy O’Dea walking on a street, wearing his hat and holding his coat over his arm. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/31A.

**ITA/131/4/112A**

Monochrome  
Size: 139x087  
Photographer: Basil Henry, Artist & Photographer, 54 South King St., Dublin  

[c. 1940s-50s]

**Description:** [Publicity photo.] Head shot of Jimmy O’Dea in street clothes.

**ITA/131/4/112B**

Monochrome  
Size: 139x087  
Photographer: [Basil Henry]

[c. 1940s-50s]

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/112A.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Image Reference</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/113A</td>
<td>Monochrome 139x088</td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea in costume as a woman dancer, with top hat, tails, cane, stockings, and high-heeled shoes. [From <em>Aladdin</em>, December 1959.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/113B</td>
<td>Monochrome 139x088</td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea in costume as a woman dancer, with top hat, tails, cane, stockings, and high-heeled shoes. [From <em>Aladdin</em>, December 1959.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/115</td>
<td>Colour 126x089</td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea, in street clothes, dances with an unidentified woman [in a costume]. O’Dea holds a pair of spectacles. [Photograph is faded.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/116</td>
<td>Monochrome 235x182</td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea, in street clothes, poses next to a bust of himself.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:**

**ITA/131/4/117**  
Monochrome  
Size: 216x165  
[c. 1960s]  
**Description:** [Duplicate of ITA/131/4/72.] Publicity photo for *Finian’s Rainbow* with Milo O’Shea, Jimmy O’Dea, and Maureen Toal. [See ITA/131/1/32 for programme and ITA/131/4/70-71 for photos.]

**Ursula Doyle’s early career**

**ITA/131/4/118**  
Sepia  
Framed  
Size: 177x221  
1943  
**Description:** Class picture. According to sign in Irish held by one of the girls in the photo, it is the “Scoil Muire [gymnastics] class, first place in the Rathmines feis, 1943.” Ursula Doyle is fourth from the right in the second row.

**ITA/131/4/119**  
Sepia  
Size: 088x148  
Photographer: "Movie Snaps" Skeffintons, 62 Upper O’Connell St., Dublin.  
[c. early 1940s]  
**Description:** Ursula Doyle with two unidentified children.

**ITA/131/4/120**  
Monochrome  
Size: 158x209  
[c. early 1940s]  
**Description:** Ursula Doyle (left) and unidentified girl in a [dance] costume. [See ITA/131/4/121A-B for Doyle in production shot in the same costume.]
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O'Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/121A</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>Ursula Doyle, (right, in centre of stage), in costume, with other dancers in costume on stage. [See ITA/131/4/120 for Doyle in same costume.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/121B</td>
<td>Monochrome Mounted</td>
<td>Duplicate of ITA/131/4/121A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/122</td>
<td>Colour</td>
<td>Production shot with a variety of [dancers] on stage in costume. [Ursula and Noel Doyle], also in costume, are sitting down in centre of stage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/123</td>
<td>Monochrome Framed</td>
<td>Ursula Doyle receives a bouquet of flowers on stage while [Noel Doyle] looks on. Two adults are also in the picture.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:

ITA/131/4/124  Monochrome  Mounted
Size: 201x253  Size: 225x276
Photographer: Reeves & Lamport, Ltd. [manager], [Empire House], 175, [?], [London], W.1. Telegrams: “Formerly, Piccy London.” Telephones: Regent 2171-2-3. [For correspondence between Reeves & Lamport and Jimmy O’Dea, see ITA/131/9/05-6.]

c. 1940s

Caption: Doyle Kids

Description: [Publicity photo] of Ursula and Noel Doyle in top hats and white jackets.

ITA/131/4/125  Sepia
Size: 086x140

1944

Caption: Olympia Theatre, Pantomime "Babes," [1944].

Description: Production shot of company waving goodbye on stage. Ursula and [Noel] Doyle are to the right and left of centre, respectively.

ITA/131/4/126  Monochrome
Size: 120x167

c. 1940s

Description: Portrait of Noel and Ursula Doyle.

ITA/131/4/127  Monochrome
Framed
Size: 221x171

c. 1940s

Description: Portrait of Noel Doyle. [See ITA/131/4/126 for portrait of both Doyle kids taken at the same time.]

ITA/131/4/128  Monochrome
Size: 085x134

c. 1940-50s

Description: Ursula Doyle with [brother Jimmy Doyle].
**Description:** Production shot with a cast on stage in Scottish costumes. Ursula Doyle stands in centre on left. [Noel Doyle is third from left.] [See ITA/131/4/130 for production photo with the same actors in it.]

**Description:** Production shot. Ursula Doyle sits on bench in centre while three women stand behind her. [These women also appear in ITA/131/4/129.]

**Description:** Noel and Ursula Doyle, not in costume, do a dance move with another man.

**Caption:** [J Doyle, ?]

**Description:** Portrait of Noel Doyle.

**Description:** Noel and Ursula Doyle stand with another man. All three are looking off to the right.
**ITA/131/4/134**  
Sepia  
Framed  
Size: 203x263  
[c. 1940s-50s]

**Description:** Production shot. Ursula Doyle sits on a table on stage in a spotlight while another man in a [bellhop uniform] sings or talks to her.

**ITA/131/4/135**  
Monochrome  
Size: 205x252  
[c. 1950s]

**Description:** Wearing evening clothes, Noel Doyle, standing, and Ursula Doyle and Joe Lynch, sitting, pretend to eat $1 and $5 bills out of trays which include the word "Schaefer" on the rims. Two other men are also in the photo.

**ITA/131/4/136**  
Monochrome  
Size: 137x086  
[c. 1950s]

**Description:** Head shot of Ursula Doyle.

**ITA/131/4/137**  
Monochrome  
Size: 237x192  
[c. 1950s]

**Caption:** 1. Take my Word, 12-3-64. 2. Please Return: Ursula Doyle, 75, Pembroke Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin.

**Description:** Head shot of Ursula Doyle, in costume.

**ITA/131/4/138**  
Monochrome  
Size: 138x089  
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, Photographer, 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin.  
[c. 1950s-60s]

**Description:** Ursula Doyle, [in fairy queen costume], is clutched by man in a gorilla costume on the landing of a set of stairs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/139</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>[c. 1950s-60s]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
<td>Head shot of Ursula Doyle. [Used to be framed.]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>Framed</td>
<td>Size: 241x185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographer:</td>
<td>Richard Sealy, A.I.B.P., (Studio One), Switzers’ Building, Wicklow Street, Dublin 2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/140</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Framed</th>
<th>[c. 1950s-60s]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
<td>Portrait of Ursula Doyle in evening dress.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>Framed</td>
<td>Size: 187x173</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/141</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Framed</th>
<th>[c. 1950s]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
<td>Production shot of [Ursula and Noel Doyle] dancing.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>Framed</td>
<td>Size: 199x247</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/142</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>[1959]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
<td>Ursula and Jimmy O’Dea, seated, with a group of people. All are dressed up.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>Size: 117x162</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Description:**  Maureen Potter, [maid of honour], and Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea toast at the O’Dea’s wedding.

**ITA/131/4/144**  Monochrome  
Size: 152x208  
Photographer: Lensmen, Press Photo Agency, 9 Westmoreland St., Dublin.

[1959]

**Description:**  Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea greet people outside after their wedding. Some throw confetti. Maureen Potter is in background.

**ITA/131/4/145**  Monochrome  
Size: 167x215

[1959]

**Caption:**  4213W proof

**Description:**  Ursula and Jimmy O’Dea greet people outside after their wedding. Some throw confetti.

**ITA/131/4/146**  Monochrome  
Size: 167x215

[1959]

**Caption:**  4212W proof

**Description:**  [Maid of Honour] Maureen Potter addresses Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea at their wedding.

**ITA/131/4/147**  Monochrome  
Framed  
Size: 196x247

[1959]

**Description:**  Ursula and Jimmy O’Dea leave church after the wedding
**Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Image Reference</th>
<th>Monochrome Type</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/148</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>207x153</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea wave before getting into an aeroplane [for their honeymoon].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/149</td>
<td>Framed</td>
<td>219x295</td>
<td>c. 1960s</td>
<td>Ursula and Jimmy O’Dea, in evening clothes, smile in front of [Darby O’Gill memorabilia.] [See ITA/131/3/54D for printed photo taken at the same time showing a set of commemorative King Brian fire irons and brushes. See ITA/131/7/22A for table brush from this set and ITA/131/7/54A-B for ceramic plates shown in photograph.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/150</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>115x177</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Ursula and Jimmy O’Dea sitting at a table. Ursula smiles at the camera while Jimmy smiles at her. [See ITA/131/7/11 for Jimmy O’Dea’s passport including immigration stamp into Mallorca, 1959.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/151</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>120x167</td>
<td>c. 1960s</td>
<td>Jimmy O’Dea stands in front of a building with a group of people, including four nuns, Ursula O’Dea, and Maureen Potter. All are smiling. [See ITA/131/4/76 for similar photo.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/152</td>
<td>Monochrome Mounted</td>
<td>140x190</td>
<td>December 1964</td>
<td>Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea [at home].</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Description:** Portrait of Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/88A-B.

**Production photos**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Framed</th>
<th>Size: 209x263</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/153</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>Framed</td>
<td>Size: 209x263</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[1964]

**Description:** Portrait of Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea. Duplicate of ITA/131/4/88A-B.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Sepia</th>
<th>Size: 202x252</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/154</td>
<td>Sepia</td>
<td>Size: 202x252</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[c. 1950s-60s]

**Caption:** return

**Description:** Production shot. Jimmy O’Dea in a woman’s bathrobe, sits on a bed while a young man in a suit looks on. [Duplicate of ITA/131/4/24.]

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Size: 205x253</th>
<th>Photographer: © Walt Disney Productions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/155</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
<td>Size: 205x253</td>
<td>Photographer: © Walt Disney Productions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[1959]

**Caption:** 1. (on front) Walt Disney presents "Darby O’Gill and the Little People," Albert Sharpe, Jimmy O’Dea, Janet Munro, Seán Connery, Kieron Moore. © Walt Disney Productions, World Rights Reserved. 2. (on back) At Disneyland

**Description:** Publicity shot. "Little" Jimmy O’Dea in costume as King of the Leprechauns dances on a stage with four young women in music hall costumes. [See ITA/131/4/73A-B, 84, 93-7.] For O’Dea’s thoughts on the filming of the movie, see ITA/131/9/01A-C.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
<th>Size: 089x138</th>
<th>Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

[1957]

**Description:** Production shot [from *Dick Whittington*, December 1957.] Photo includes, from left, Vernon Hayden, [cat], Ursula Doyle, [Louis Elliman], Jimmy O’Dea, [principal girl, principal boy,] and Maureen Potter. [See ITA/131/1/43 for programme.]
ITA/131/4/157
Monochrome
Size: 087x140
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin.

1957


Description: Production shot. Includes Jimmy O’Dea in woman’s costume. [See ITA/131/1/43 for programme.]

ITA/131/4/158
Monochrome
Size: 089x140
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin.

1957

Caption: Property of Mrs. O’Dea, Gaiety, *Dick Whittington* 1957/58

Description: Production shot. Includes Jimmy O’Dea in woman’s costume. [See ITA/131/1/43 for programme.]

ITA/131/4/159
Monochrome
Size: 089x140
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin.

1957

Caption: Gaiety Panto 1957/8 *Dick Whittington*

Description: Box of production shots, 44 items. [Box may contain photos from other shows. See ITA/131/1/43 for programme.]

ITA/131/4/160
Monochrome
Size: 088x140
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin.

1958


Description: Production shot of Jimmy O’Dea and Maureen Potter in costume as American Indians. [See ITA/131/1/24 for programme.]
| ITA/131/4/161 | Monochrome  
Size: 088x140  
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>[1958]</strong></td>
<td><strong>Caption:</strong> Property of Mrs. O’Dea, as Biddy Mulligan [sic].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong> Production shot of Jimmy O’Dea and Maureen Potter in costume as American Indians, <em>Robinson Crusoe</em>, December 1958. [See ITA/131/1/24 for programme.]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| ITA/131/4/162 | Monochrome  
Size: 088x140  
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong> Production shot of Jimmy O’Dea in a woman’s costume with a guitar and Vernon Hayden in a [naval officer’s] costume. [See ITA/131/1/24 for programme.]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| ITA/131/4/163 | Monochrome  
Size: 090x140  
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[1959]</td>
<td><strong>Caption:</strong> [P. Bradford 1/1 &amp; Pc &amp; 1/1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong> Production shot of [Ursula Doyle] and an unidentified man dancing and singing, <em>Look Back in Laughter</em>, February 1959. [See ITA/131/1/25 for programme.]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/164</td>
<td>Monochrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size: 088x140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[1959]

**Caption:** Property of Mrs. O’Dea.

**Description:** Production shot, including Jimmy O’Dea in top hat and tails in spotlight in front of dancers, [*Look Back in Laughter*], February 1959. [See ITA/131/1/25 for programme.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/165</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Size: 090x139</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, photographer, 95 Upper Leeson St., Dublin.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1958


**Description:** Box of production shots, 104 items. [Box may contain photos from other shows. First 11 photos in the box have names and some addresses of actors handwritten on the backs. See ITA/131/1/24-5 for programmes.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/166</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Size: 156x106</td>
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</table>

[1960]

**Description:** Production shot of Ursula Doyle and Danny Cummins, [*Cruise Show*, Theatre Royal, December 1960].

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/4/167</th>
<th>Monochrome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Size: 200x251</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[1960]

**Description:** Production shot of cast taking a bow, [*Cruise Show*, Theatre Royal, December 1960]. Includes, beginning third from the left, Vernon Hayden, Danny Cummins, and Ursula Doyle.
1959

Caption: Gaiety Panto *Aladdin* Dec 1959. Also Royal Show.

Description: Box of production shots, 27 items. [Box may contain photos from other shows.]

1960

Caption: Pantos Xmas 1960/61: Royal [Theatre], *Cruise Show*; Gaiety [Theatre], *Babes in the Wood*; Olympia [Theatre], *Dick Whittington*.

Description: Box of production shots, 82 items. [Box may contain photos from other shows. For *Babes in the Wood* programme see ITA/131/1/44.]

1961

Caption: Property of Mrs. O’Dea, Gaiety, *Mother Goose*.

Description: Production shot of Jimmy O’Dea in woman’s costume, a person in a goose costume, and Maureen Potter, [December 1961]. [See ITA/131/1/27 for programme.]
[1961]

Caption: Property of Mrs. O’Dea, *Mother Goose*.

Description: Production shot of Jimmy O’Dea in costume as a [champagne bottle], [December 1961]. [See ITA/131/4/114 for same costume in colour and ITA/131/1/27 for programme.]

[1961]

Caption: Property of Mrs. O’Dea, Milo O’Shea & O’Dea, *Mother Goose*.

Description: Production shot of Jimmy O’Dea in costume as a little girl, and Milo O’Shea wearing top hat and tails, [December, 1961]. [For programme, see ITA/131/1/27.]

[1962]

Description: Production shot, *Goody Twoshoes*, December 1962. Includes, from left, Danny Cummins, Ursula Doyle, and Jimmy O’Dea in woman’s costume with tartan and tam o’ shanter.
### ITA/131/4/174

**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 089x139  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[1962]

**Description:** Production shot, *[Goody Twoshoes]*, December 1962. Includes, sixth from the left, Vernon Hayden, Jimmy O’Dea (in ballgown with a headdress of candles), [Babs de Monte], Ursula Doyle, Milo O’Shea, and Danny Cummins.

### ITA/131/4/175

**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 089x138  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[1962]

**Description:** Production shot, *[Goody Twoshoes]*, December 1962. Includes Ursula Doyle, left, as [fairy queen].

### ITA/131/4/176

**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 139x090  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[1962]

**Description:** Production shot, *[Goody Twoshoes]*, December 1962. Includes, left, Milo O’Shea, and right, Jimmy O’Dea wearing headdress of three masks. [See ITA/131/4/86 for similar photo.]

### ITA/131/4/177

**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 090x149  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

1962


**Description:** Production shot. Jimmy O’Dea wears a woman’s costume in plaid.
ITA/131/4/178  Monochrome
Size: 089x139
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

1962

Caption: Panto--Dec 1962, *Goody Two Shoes*

Description: Box of production shots. [Box may contain photos from other shows.]

ITA/131/4/179  Monochrome
Size: 139x090
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[1963]


Description: Production shot, [*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, December 1963]. [For photo from same sketch, see ITA/131/4/63. For programme, see ITA/131/1/31A-D.]

ITA/131/4/180  Monochrome
Size: 090x139
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

1963

Caption: Gaiety Panto Dec 63. *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*

Description: Box of production photos, 34 items. [Box may contain photos from other shows. For programme, see ITA/131/1/31A-D.]

ITA/131/4/181  Monochrome
Size: 090x139
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[c. 1960s]

Caption: Property of Mrs. O’Dea.

Description: Production shot of Jimmy O’Dea in costume as Biddy Mulligan in a sketch with Vernon Hayden and others in a pub.
ITA/131/4/182  Monochrome
Size: 090x138
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679
[c. 1960s]

**Caption:** Property of Mrs. O’Dea, [Jimmy O’Dea] as Biddy Mulligan.

**Description:** Production shot.

ITA/131/4/183  Monochrome
Size: 089x138
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679
[c. 1960s]

**Caption:** Property of Mrs. O’Dea, [Jimmy O’Dea] as Biddy Mulligan.

**Description:** Production shot.

ITA/131/4/184  Monochrome
Size: 138x090
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679
[c. 1960s]

**Caption:** Property of Mrs. O’Dea.

**Description:** Production shot of Jimmy O’Dea as Biddy Mulligan.

ITA/131/4/185  Monochrome
Size: 089x139
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679
[c. 1960s]

**Description:** Production shot of Maureen Potter (in sailor suit and sun hat), Jimmy O’Dea (in [satiny] dress and a hat with a long feather), and [David Kelly], ([in a cavalier costume]).
**ITA/131/4/186**  
**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 090x140  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[c. 1960s]

**Description:** Production shot of Jimmy O’Dea (in evening gown), Vernon Hayden (in double-breasted suit), Ursula Doyle (in evening dress), and Maureen Potter (in evening gown) at a table with a wine bottle and glasses.

**ITA/131/4/187**  
**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 090x140  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[c. 1960s]

**Description:** Production shot, same sketch as ITA/131/4/186, including the same actors. In addition, Milo O’Shea appears [as a waiter].

**ITA/131/4/188**  
**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 139x090  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[c. 1960s]

**Description:** Production shot of Maureen Potter and Jimmy O’Dea in riding habits.

**ITA/131/4/189**  
**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 139x090  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. Phone 680679

[c. 1960s]

**Description:** Production shot of Milo O’Shea and Jimmy O’Dea. O’Dea wears a blonde wig and leopard-skin trousers and sash.
### ITA/131/4/190
**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 138x090  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S.,  
95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin.  
Phone 680679  

[c. 1960s]

**Description:** Production shot, same sketch as ITA/131/4/189 with O’Shea and O’Dea.

---

### ITA/131/4/191
**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 205x253  
**Photographer:** Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S.,  
46 Clonkeen Road, Dean’s Grange, Co. Dublin. Phone: 895139  

[1971]

**Description:** Production shot, *Gaiety Centenary 1871/1971*. Ursula receives a kiss from [Éamonn Andrews]. Also on stage are, from left: Brian Byrne, Barbara Brennan, Danny Cummins, Maureen Potter (hidden), Patricia Cahill, Vernon Hayden, and Jim Bartley.  [See ITA/131/3/53A-F for advertisements for show, ITA/131/10/5 for production files, and ITA/131/7/24A-B for memorabilia.]

---

### ITA/131/4/192
**Monochrome**  
**Size:** 252x371  
**Photographer:** [Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 46 Clonkeen Road, Dean’s Grange, Co. Dublin. Phone: 895139]  

[1971]

**Description:** Production shot, *Gaiety Centenary 1871/1971*. Those on stage waving goodbye include: (from left) Milo O’Shea, Brian Byrne, Barbara Brennan, [?], Danny Cummins, Fred O’Donovan and Éamonn Andrews (both behind Cummins), [?], Peter Sellers, Maureen Potter, [?], Ursula Doyle, [Lorcan Bourke], Patricia Cahill, Vernon Hayden, and Jim Bartley.  [Used to be framed. See ITA/131/3/53A-F for advertisements for the show, ITA/131/410/5 for production files, and ITA/131/7/24A-B for memorabilia.]
ITA/131/4/193

Monochrome
Size: 089x139
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 46 Clonkeen Road, Dean’s Grange, Co. Dublin.
Phone: 895139

[1971]

Description: Production shot, duplicate of ITA/131/4/192.

ITA/131/4/194

Monochrome
Size: 089x138
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 46 Clonkeen Road, Dean’s Grange, Co. Dublin.
Phone: 895139

[1971]

Description: Production shot, duplicate of ITA/131/4/191.

ITA/131/4/195

Monochrome
Size: 089x138
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 46 Clonkeen Road, Dean’s Grange, Co. Dublin.
Phone: 895139

[1971]

Description: Production shot, Gaiety Centenary 1871/1971. Those on stage waving goodbye include (from left) Brian Byrne, Barbara Brennan, [?], Danny Cummins, Maureen Potter, Patricia Cahill, Vernon Hayden, and Jim Bartley. [See ITA/131/3/53A-F for advertisements for the show, ITA/131/10/5 for production files, and ITA/131/7/24A-B for memorabilia.]

ITA/131/4/196

Monochrome
Size: 089x138
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 46 Clonkeen Road, Dean’s Grange, Co. Dublin. Phone: 895139

[1971]

Description: Production shots, Gaiety Centenary 1871/1971, 9 items. [For actor identification, see ITA/131/4/191-5. See ITA/131/3/53A-F for advertisements for show, ITA/131/10/5 for production files, and ITA/131/7/24A-B for memorabilia.]
Ursula Doyle’s later career

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Image Reference</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/197</td>
<td>Production shot of three women, including Ursula Doyle, having tea in a sitting room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/198</td>
<td>Ursula Doyle receiving flowers from an unidentified man on a stage. A banner over the stage (cut off by the edge of the photograph) reads “Ireland,” and includes a large shamrock. [Bord Fáilte?]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/199</td>
<td>Ursula Doyle, Fred O’Donovan, and another woman sit at a table drinking fizzy drinks and [watching a rehearsal]. [Duplicate of ITA/131/4/227.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/4/200A</td>
<td>Cropped duplicate of ITA/131/4/199, 227 showing Ursula Doyle only. [Photo is damaged slightly. See programmes ITA/131/1/53, 60 where this photo is used with Doyle’s biography.]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ITA/131/4/200B**

[c. late 1960s]

**Description:** Card attached to ITA/131/4/200A: "With Compliments, Ann Douglas" from Public Relations Practitioners Ltd., 1 Holles Street, Dublin 2, Telephone: 64351, A subsidiary of Arrow Advertising.

**ITA/131/4/201**

Monochrome
Size: 182x244
Photographer: Lensmen, Press & [PR Photo] Agency,
Lensmen House, Essex [Street], Dublin, 2.

[c. 1970s]

**Caption:** *Lovers* By Brian Friel. Picture shows (from left) Ruby Murray, the Singer, Lorcan Bourke and Ursula Doyle at the press conference. With the Compliments of Éamonn Andrews Studios/P.R.P. No Reproduction Fee.

**ITA/131/4/202**

Monochrome
Size: 215x165

[c. 1970s]

**Description:** Portrait of Ruby Murray, singer. [See ITA/131/4/201 for more information.]

**ITA/131/4/203**

Monochrome
Size: 165x215

[c. 1970s]

**Description:** Ursula Doyle (holding clipboard) and Ruby Murray. [See ITA/131/4/201 for more information.]

**ITA/131/4/204**

Monochrome
Framed
Size: 177x221

[c. 1970s]

**Description:** Ursula Doyle (holding clipboard) and Ruby Murray. [See ITA/131/4/201 for more information.]
ITA/131/4/205  
Monochrome  
Framed  
Size: 215x265  
[c. 1970s]

**Description:** Left to Right: Fred O’Donovan, Ursula Doyle, and Tomás Mac Anna [President, Irish Theatre Archives].

ITA/131/4/206  
Monochrome  
Framed  
Size: 210x265  
Photographer: [Lensmen]  
6 August 1970

**Caption:** Happy Birthday. Maureen Potter wishes Ursula Doyle (right), Director of Gales of Laughter a Happy Birthday at a party in the Gaiety Theatre last night, Thursday, 6.8.70. Issued on Behalf of Public Relations Practitioners. No Reproduction Fee. 7.8.70.

ITA/131/4/207  
Monochrome  
Size: 244x191  
Lensmen House, [Essex Street], Dublin 2.  
No reproduction fee.  
[6 August 1970]

**Description:** Maureen Potter, Ursula Doyle, and [Billy Dainty] [celebrating Doyle’s birthday in the Gaiety Theatre, 6 August 1970]. [See ITA/131/4/206. See also ITA/131/7/25A for other printed photo of Dainty.]

ITA/131/4/208A  
Colour  
Mounted  
Size: (approx.) 164x113  
Photographer: [Cusack Photography], 2 [Killakee] Close, Tallaght, Co. Dublin. Phone--Home 694601  
[c. 1970s]

**Description:** Ursula Doyle and [artist] Liam C. Martin sit at a stand surrounded by Martin’s drawings. Another woman stands to the left.
ITA/131/4/208B  
**Colour**  
Size: (approx.) 164x113  
Photographer: [Cusack Photography], 2 [Killakee] Close, Tallaght, Co. Dublin, Phone--Home 694601  
[c. 1970s]

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/208B

ITA/131/4/209  
**Monochrome**  
Size: 207x161  
Photographer: This photograph is the copyright of Independent [Newspapers] Ltd., Independent House, Dublin 1. [Reproduction in any form must be authorised by the Company.]  
[c. 1970s]

**Description:** Portrait of Ursula Doyle with clipboard [watching a production]. [See programmes ITA/131/1/61-2 where this photo is used with Doyle’s biography and press clipping ITA/131/3/55B where photo is used with story about Doyle.]

ITA/131/4/210  
**Monochrome**  
Framed  
Size: 221x273  
[c. late 1970s]

**Description:** Ursula Doyle, Danny Cummins (in stage makeup), and [Joe Kearns, Manager, Éamonn Andrews Productions] toast with [champagne glasses].

ITA/131/4/211A  
**Monochrome**  
Framed  
Size: 178x261  
[c. 1980s]

**Caption:** [handwritten, in green ink on glass of frame] Sincerely--Richard J. Daley.

**Description:** Ursula Doyle, Richard Daley [Mayor of Chicago, Illinois, USA], and Chris Curran stand in the centre of a group of young people in [Daley’s office]. They wear buttons containing a shamrock with the name “Daley” printed over it.
| ITA/131/4/211B | Monochrome  
<table>
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<td>Size: 160x246</td>
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[c. 1980s]

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/211A.

| ITA/131/4/211C | Monochrome  
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<td>Size: 161x246</td>
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[c. 1980s]

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/211A.

| ITA/131/4/211D | Monochrome  
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<td>Size: 160x246</td>
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[c. 1980s]

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/211A.

| ITA/131/4/212  | Monochrome  
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<td></td>
<td>Size: 202x252</td>
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</table>

[c. early 1980s.]

**Description:** [Publicity photo] of singer Des Smyth holding [sheet music] on the cover of which is Bing Crosby. On either side of him are two unidentified women. [Related to Ursula Doyle’s Burlington Hotel cabaret. [See ITA/131/3/60 for press clipping showing printed photo of Smyth.]

| ITA/131/4/213  | Monochrome  
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size: 253x202</td>
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</table>

[c. early 1980s]

**Description:** [Publicity photo] of Des Smyth and two unidentified women holding sheet music, on the cover of which is Bing Crosby. [Part of Burlington cabaret show of which Ursula Doyle was director.] [For a printed photo of Smyth, see ITA/131/3/60.]
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| ITA/131/4/214 | Monochrome Framed  Size: 209x272  
[c. early 1980s]  
**Description:** Des Smyth, far left, and Ursula Doyle, far right, with two unidentified people, all holding drinks at the [Burlington cabaret]. |
| ITA/131/4/215 | Monochrome Framed  Size: 170x217  
[c. early 1980s]  
**Description:** Ursula Doyle, far right, sits at a table with two unidentified young people. [Burlington cabaret?]. |
| ITA/131/4/216 | Monochrome  Size: 215x164  
[c. early 1980s]  
**Description:** Ursula Doyle with an unidentified woman, [Burlington cabaret]. |
| ITA/131/4/217 | Monochrome  Size: 088x125  
[c. early 1980s]  
**Description:** Production shot of a group of girls on stage in front of an audience sitting at [long tables], [Burlington cabaret]. |
| ITA/131/4/218 | Colour  Size: 151x101  
[c. early 1980s]  
**Description:** Two unidentified women wearing [American frontier] costumes, [Burlington cabaret]. |
| ITA/131/4/219 | Monochrome  
|              | Framed     
| Size: 138x190 |

[c. early 1980s]

**Description:** Ursula Doyle, holding a bouquet of flowers, stands with two other women (also holding bouquets) and two men, [Burlington cabaret].

| ITA/131/4/220 | Monochrome  
|              | Framed     
| Size: 222x272 |

[c. early 1980s]

**Description:** A group of women in [Medieval costumes sing] on a stage set designed like a castle in front of an audience in chairs. [Burlington cabaret.]

| ITA/131/4/221 | Monochrome  
|              | Framed     
| Size: 175x257 |

[c. early 1980s]

**Description:** Same stage set and group of women as ITA/131/4/220, now joined by others not in costume wearing dark suit jackets and [name tags.] All clap or wave goodbye. Ursula Doyle is at far left hand side. [Burlington cabaret.]

| ITA/131/4/222 | Monochrome  
|              | Framed     
| Size: 172x226 |

[1971]

**Description:** [Singer] Austin Gaffney and Maureen Potter hold a [glass vase]. [Gaiety Centenary event, 1971.] [See ITA/131/7/24A-B for memorabilia including commemorative programmes.]
[1971]

**Description:** Maureen Potter, Ursula Doyle (both centre), and Austin Gaffney (behind Doyle) stand in a group of people. [Same event as ITA/131/4/222, the Gaiety Centenary, 1971.] [See ITA/131/7/24A-B for memorabilia including commemorative programmes.]

---

**ITA/131/4/224**

Monochrome  
Framed  
Size: 212x261

[1971]

**Description:** Austin Gaffney, Ursula Doyle, and Hal Roach, [Gaiety Centenary event, 1971]. [See ITA/131/7/24A-B for memorabilia including commemorative programmes.]

---

**ITA/131/4/225**

Monochrome  
Framed  
Size: 212x261

[1971]

**Description:** L to R: Joe Lynch, Austin Gaffney, [?], Hal Roach, and Ursula Doyle, [Gaiety Centenary event, 1971]. [See ITA/131/7/24A-B for memorabilia including commemorative programmes.]

---

**ITA/131/4/226**

Colour  
Size: 173x126

[c. 1991]

**Description:** Candid shot of Ursula Doyle dressed up, [at Burlington cabaret.] Date on photograph is 26 April 1991.

---

**ITA/131/4/227**

Monochrome  
Size: 164x215  
Mounted  
Size: in 2-page/4-sheet folder, 181x228

[c. late 1960s]

**Description:** Ursula Doyle, Fred O’Donovan, and another woman sit at a table drinking fizzy drinks and [watching a rehearsal]. [Duplicate of ITA/131/4/199.]
Miscellaneous photographs

ITA/131/4/228  Monochrome
Size: 098x159
Photographer: This photograph is the copyright of Independent Newspapers Ltd., Independent House, Dublin 1. Reproduction in any form must be authorised by the Company.

[c. 1960s]
Description: [Louis Elliman], Maureen Potter, and Milo O’Shea (still in costume) having a conversation.

ITA/131/4/229  Monochrome
Size: 103x153
Photographer: This photograph is the copyright of Independent Newspapers Ltd., Independent House, Dublin 1. Reproduction in any form must be authorised by the Company.

[c. 1960s]
Description: Maureen Potter holds a bouquet of flowers and [speaks into microphones], while three other women look on.

ITA/131/4/230  Monochrome
Size: 210x155
Photographer: “Daily Express” (Copyright Photograph), Great Ancoats Street, Manchester.

[c. 1960s]
Description: Portrait. Maureen Potter, glasses askew and eyes half-closed, holds a glass of [tomato juice].
| ITA/131/4/231 | Monochrome  
Size: 215x167  
Photographer: Copyright Irish Press |
<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[c. 1960s]</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Maureen Potter straightens the bow tie of a clown.</td>
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</tbody>
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| ITA/131/4/232 | Monochrome  
Framed  
Size: 228x183 |
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<tr>
<td>[c. 1960s]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Head shot of Maureen Potter holding glasses and looking upwards. [Photo used in programmes ITA/131/1/51, 53-4.]</td>
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| ITA/131/4/233 | Monochrome  
Size: 166x215  
Photographer: Echo Photo Service – Finn Bros.  
Photographers – 19 Sarsfield St., Limerick. |
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<td>[1967]</td>
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| ITA/131/4/234 | Monochrome  
Framed  
Size: 221x274 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[c. 1960s]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caption:</strong></td>
<td>[Handwritten, in red ink] Best from Fred Astaire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Portrait of Fred Astaire in cap, scarf, suit and tie and leaning on a car.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ITA/131/4/235  Monochrome  
Framed  
Size:  212x264  
[c. 1970s]  
**Description:** Norman Maen receiving a [Jacob’s Award] from an unidentified woman. [See memorabilia ITA/131/7/25A. See also ITA/131/7/33A for memorabilia regarding the Jacob’s Awards.]

ITA/131/4/236  Monochrome  
Framed  
Size:  289x232  
[c. 1950s]  
**Description:** Front of the Theatre Royal, [Dublin].

ITA/131/4/237  Monochrome  
Framed  
Size:  221x272  
[c. 1980s]  
**Description:** [Norman Maen] takes the hand of Queen Elizabeth [after a Royal Variety Performance] while two other people look on. [See memorabilia ITA/131/7/28 for similar printed photo.]

ITA/131/4/238  Monochrome  
Size:  116x090  
**Description:** [Maureen Potter?] in [18th century costume including long-haired wig].
ITD/131/4/239  Monochrome  
Size: 089x139  
Photographer: Jas. D. O’Callaghan, A.R.P.S., 95 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin, Phone 680679

[c. 1960s]

Description: Production shot of [Maureen Potter?] and unidentified man in [The Tramps sketch made famous by Judy Garland].

ITD/131/4/240  Monochrome  
Size: 090x128

[c. 1960s]

Caption: [Handwritten, on back] Me sitting in Monaco on the wall of “yer womans” [Princess Grace] castle!

Description: Candid shot of unidentified woman. [See ITD/131/7/29A-C for invitations to the O’Deas from Taoiseach Seán Lemass to a banquet for the Prince and Princess of Monaco, 1961.]

ITD/131/4/241  Monochrome  
Size: 253x202

[c. 1970s]

Description: Head shot of unidentified clown.

ITD/131/4/242  Monochrome  
Framed  
Size: 371x291

[c. 1970s]

Caption: [Handwritten, in ink on front]: To Ursula all the best Jack Benny

Description: Jack Benny is playing the violin. [See ITD/131/7/34A-D for tickets to a Jack Benny performance, 7 March 1970.]
| ITA/131/4/243 | Monochrome  
|               | Framed  
|               | Size: 272x221  
| [undated] |  
| **Description:** Production shot. Unidentified bearded man in bowler hat, waistcoat with large buttons, cape, and dark pants. |  
| ITA/131/4/244 | Sepia  
|               | Size: 191x258  
| [c. 1940s] |  
| **Description:** A group of children posing beside a long table on which tea cups and saucers and plates of food can be seen. Ursula Doyle is third from left, bottom row, while [Noel Doyle] is fourth from right, top row. [Photo was in a frame.] |  
| ITA/131/4/245 | Monochrome  
|               | Framed  
|               | Size: 260x211  
| [c. 1950s] |  
| **Description:** [Publicity shot] of Noel Doyle in costume as a [vaudeville banjo player], including striped shirt and garters, straw hat, and banjo. |  
| ITA/131/4/246 | Monochrome  
|               | Size: 141x088  
| [c. 1950s] |  
| **Description:** Ursula Doyle with an unidentified man. |  
| ITA/131/4/247 | Monochrome  
|               | Size: 200x251  
| [1976] |  
| **Description:** L to R: [Lorcan Bourke], [managing director, Éamonn Andrews Studios], Ursula Doyle, and Fred O’Donovan looking at a handbill for *Jack and the Beanstalk*. [Photo was in a frame. For programme see ITA/131/1/61A-C.] |  

149
**Description:** [Members of the Burlington cabaret], on stage, in costume. Includes members of the band Shamrog, singer Des Smyth (in white coat standing to the left of bodhrán-playing man), and Joe Fitzgerald, [musical director of the cabaret], far right. [See press clippings ITA/131/3/60 for more information.]

**Description:** Duplicate of ITA/131/4/248A.
### Recordings

These items are all from the first deposit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITA/131/6/01</td>
<td>3 items</td>
<td>[1948/1960s]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. 126 (diameter)</td>
<td>Record of a representative of Star Sound Studios, London, personally offering to record Jimmy O’Dea’s “Music Hall” broadcast on BBC (1948 radio programme).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. 042x081</td>
<td>Envelope [which at one time contained a phonograph needle.] Printed caption reads, “This sketch shows correct use of ‘Star’ Needles,” and includes a descriptive figure with printed directions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. 227x152</td>
<td>Envelope with handwritten note by RTÉ presenter Brendan Balfe which reads, “This is actually a disc of a representative of Star Sound Studios, London addressing a personal message to Jimmy O’Dea offering to record his “Music Hall” Broadcast on BBC, so that it may be preserved (O’Dea doesn’t appear). A curiosity, nonetheless, and I’ve put it on tape. Many [Thanks], Brendan Balfe RTÉ.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| ITA/131/6/02 | 1 sheet/1 page 1 item | 11 January 1965 | Note from Al Byrne to Ursula O’Dea. Handwritten text reads, “Ursula, This was broadcast on the Guinness Radio programme from Radio Eireann tonight. Please accept it as a very small token of my personal love and admiration for a very great man, Jimmy. Al Byrne.” |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/6/02 A</th>
<th>Tape-recording referred to by Al Byrne, above. Includes the following sketches:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Biddy Mulligan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- The Tram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Non Troppo Largo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Football and Wives parts 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Mrs. Mulligan records her vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- B.B.C. takes over Radio Eireann</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sixpence each Way
Fresh Fish
Crossing border north side
Crossing border south side
Mrs. Mulligan, Smuggler
The next tram
Sweet daffodil Mulligan

ITA/131/6/02 B

Tape-recording referred to by Al Byrne, above. Includes the following sketches:

- The Dublin Fusilier
- Mrs. Mulligan & Charlie
- A Shakespearian 6 pence each way
- After the Bell
- Danny Dooger’s Jubilee
- Mrs. Mulligan’s Sheiks
- The Irish Navy
- The Mayor Proposes, part 1
- The Mayor Proposes, part 2
- Orange & Green
- Double Crossing the Border, 1
- Double Crossing the Border, 2
- Mrs. Mulligan buys a Turkey
- Mrs. Mulligan in Court, 1
- Mrs. Mulligan in Court, 2
- Mrs. Mulligan in Pawn Shop
- Reprise of Mrs Mulligan
- The Pride of the Coombe
Memorabilia

Introduction

Memorabilia from the first and second deposit are numbered consecutively and include three dimensional items. Wherever possible, they are cross-referenced with photographs, press cuttings, correspondence, etc. Duplicates or similar items are numbered A, B, C, etc., but ITA/131/7/24A-D is arranged as a sub-group, although not all of the souvenir programmes contained therein are the same. The collection includes Christmas cards and invitations from Éamon de Valera and Seán Lemass from the 1960s, advertisements and spectacles relating to O’Dea’s optician career, a scrapbook of press cuttings from the early 1930s kept by Rita O’Dea (ITA/131/7/08), a witness summons that O’Dea received in 1923 to identify the eyeglasses of the murdered Noel Lemass (Seán Lemass’ brother, ITA/131/7/10), Darby O’Gill memorabilia, a souvenir programme from the Gaiety Theatre Centenary celebration in 1971 which includes a history of the Gaiety Theatre (ITA/131/7/24B), stationery for O’D. Productions (ITA/131/7/39B-C), prompt lists of topics for speeches in O’Dea’s handwriting (ITA/131/38A-B), and a telegram and scroll relating to the Apostolic Benediction granted by the Pope to O’Dea and his first wife Bernadette Fagan, 1925 (ITA/131/7/40, 45A).
**First deposit**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/7/01</th>
<th>129x206</th>
<th>45 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[undated]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Advertising bill** for *We’re Still Here*. Voucher that “is not worth tuppence much less Five Pounds” to be drawn on “The Bank of Laughter” and signed “for the O’Dea Comp.” by “Jimmy O’Dea” and “Harry O’Donovan.” “But you’ll find the ‘O’D’ Show *We’re Still Here* worth a visit.” “Produced under protest by Joseph O’Dea & Co. 11 Hume St. Dublin.” Includes printed *caricature* of O’Dea as Napoleon, with caption “N.G. Two-two-two-two.” [For photos of O’Dea as Napoleon see ITA/131/4/26, 64, 65A-B].

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/7/02</th>
<th>138x104</th>
<th>5 sheets/10 pages</th>
<th>1 item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 September 1961</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Certificate of vaccination** (World Health Organization [in association with Aer Lingus]), a booklet, issued to Jimmy O’Dea to prove revaccination against smallpox. Stamp from Chief Medical Officer, Dublin Health Authority is dated 3 October 1961. Includes [incorrect] caption on small piece of paper inserted into booklet which reads, “Vaccination certificate Nedded [sic] for trip to Hollywood to make *Darby O’Gill* (1959).” Back cover includes two addresses in [O’Dea’s handwriting], the first for Mike Walsh, in Willowdale, Ontario, the second for Al Best, Supervisor Radio Publicity, 111 Gerrard St. East.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/7/03</th>
<th>2 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>228x176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Christmas Card** from President Éamon de Valera. Includes de Valera’s printed signature.

| B. | 228x176 | 4 sheets/2 pages |
| 1963 |         |                    |

**Christmas Card** from President Éamon de Valera. Includes de Valera’s printed signature.

Advertisement for O’D. Productions, Ltd. Theatrical Costumiers, 81-82 Grafton Street, 2nd Floor, Dublin. Manager and Designer is Albert Rayson. Top of ad reads, “All the costumes in this production were designed and made by O’D. Productions, Ltd.”


Advertisement for “Spectacles sell at 6d.”

Advertisement for “Spectacles sell at 6d.”
9 April 1957

Irish **Passport** issued to Jimmy O’Dea, valid until 9 April 1962. Includes immigration stamps from France (1959), Australia (1961), Spain (1959), Mallorca (1959), and Canada (1961) and two non-immigrant visas for “unlimited applications for admission into the United States,” valid from 25 February-14 May 1958, and 27 September 1961-27 September 1965, respectively. Also includes two “foreign exchange for travelling expenses” stamps from the Munster & Leinster Bank Ltd., Dublin, dated 1 April 1958 for £200, and 5 October 1961 for £280, respectively.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/7/08</th>
<th>24 numbered pages out of 100 total 1 item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[c. 1930s]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scrapbook** kept by [Rita O’Dea]. Mostly newspaper cuttings, some advertisements and programmes, one photograph. The label on the inside cover (p. 1) reads “Pantomime and English Tour. 1930.” while “Property of Rita O’Dea, 10, Duke St., Dublin 2” appears on p. 2. The pages are numbered up to 24, where the contents end.

Many of the cuttings are, similar to the press clipping section above, announcements or reviews of a variety of Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan productions in [the early 1930s] on tour in England and Northern Ireland, including **Irish Smiles** (pp. 3-10, 15-22), **Red Riding Hood** (pp. 11-14), and **Home Again** (pp. 17). Some examples of this include, “[**Irish Smiles**] is brimful of Hibernian dances, songs, and native humour…” (**Shepherd’s Bush Empire**, p. 4); “**Irish Smiles**, the revue at the Leeds Hippodrome this week, strikes a novel and original note, the cast being entirely Irish” (**Irish Smiles.** “Bright Revue at Leeds Hippodrome.”, p. 6); “We have frequently experienced attempts at Irish humour in pseudo-native brogue, but here is a native cast, whose mannerisms and quaint inflections of speech slip out unconsciously to increase the comedy of already entertaining situations.” (**Hippodrome**, p. 8); “There is nothing of the neurotic or exotic in **Irish Smiles**, a delightful revue which holds the stage at the Royal Hippodrome. If the vivacity, charm, and humour displayed by the cast are typical of the new Ireland then the Emerald Isle will soon lose its character as a ‘distressful country.’...Jimmy O’Dea fires off quip and jest with all the zest and joy that distinguishes his countrymen.” (**Irish Smiles.**” p. 18); and “He has a delicious Irish brogue which is just sufficient to indicate his nationality.” (**Birkenhead Hippodrome**, p. 21).
The scrapbook, used in conjunction with the press cuttings (especially ITA/131/18, 20, 21, and 23 and see ITA/131/8/2C) and the exhibition text (ITA/131/8/2A-J), fleshes out the development of O’Dea’s (and O’D. Productions) early career. For example, between pp. 23 and 24 can be found three reviews and one advertisement from newspapers in [Detroit, Michigan, USA, from Monday, 24 September 1923] of John MacDonagh’s Irish Jew, the production where O’Dea acted in his [first comic role], Councillor Woods. However, in all three of the reviews, Thomas Shearer is listed as playing that part. (And see back of “Irish Jew” Opens Here for article titled Pickaninnies Employed as ‘Gator Bait: Lure of Child, Rented for Two Dollars, Always Wins.) Also, pages 17, 21-22 contain two articles (Birkenhead Hippodrome, p. 21, and New Comedian at the Hippodrome, p. 22) which detail Mr. D. J. Clarke’s “discovery” of Jimmy O’Dea in Dublin, Clarke’s “introduction” of O’Dea to Sir Oswald Stoll, and O’Dea’s subsequent engagement by Stoll on an “extended tour.” See also a four-page programme (the original of ITA/131/10, 11), p. 10, titled Stoll Attractions (at the Ardwick Green Theatre) which details the production and players of Irish Smiles. The programme was “Published by the Stoll Companies from their Head Office, Coliseum Buildings, London…” In addition, O’D. Productions’ Little Red Riding Hood was extremely successful in Dublin, but as an article (Queen’s Record Pantomime) on p. 12 remarks, the run at the Queen’s Theatre cannot be extended because of engagements which the company had already made several months ago. The article goes on to detail the show’s “provincial tour” of Ireland.

The scrapbook also includes an article on Harry O’Donovan and Jimmy O’Dea (and others) and stories from their professional lives (p. 3); a review of Irish Smiles titled Where did you sleep last night? Comedian who is an optician by day (p. 5) detailing some of the scenes; a review of O’Dea on a record (“After all, who would read a book when he can turn a handle and listen to Jimmy, O’Dea?” p. 15, [see ITA/131/8/2J3]); a programme for Little Red Riding Hood at the Queen’s Theatre, Dublin (p. 14) and another for Irish Smiles playing at the Belfast Empire, March 1930 (p. 16); an advertisement for Irish Smiles appearing at the Hackney Empire, July [1930]; several printed photos and a caricature of O’Dea (p. 15, and 18), O’Dea and O’Donovan (p. 12), Tom Dunne (p. 11), and Lily Denville (p. 13); a sepia photograph with [a caption titled “London Coliseum, Sept. 1930. 1st Engagement.”] (p. 21, [see ITA/131/8/2C]); and a review of Irish Smiles which states, “There are many unusual ideas exhibited in the production, including, a woman musical conductor” (Birkenhead Hippodrome, p. 21).
Advertisement, monochrome, for Capstan cigarettes, “made in Dublin Entirely from Pure Virginia Tobacco.” Ad includes a cartoon drawing of a little man in bow tie, who offers a pack of cigarettes to a photo of Jimmy O’Dea in costume as Biddy Mulligan. The words in a bubble coming from the cartoon man’s mouth read, “Have an O’Dea--Jimmy Capstan!”

Summons for a Witness to “Jimmy O’Dea, Esq., Optician, 7 Nassau St., Dublin” to “give evidence on behalf of our Sovereign the King...touching the death of Noel Lemass” at 11:00 on 22 October, “then and there to give evidence and be examined on His Majesty’s behalf...” Typed caption attached to summons reads, “Jimmy O’Dea was required to identify spectacles found near the body of Noel Lemass, who was murdered in the Dublin mountains. Note-- ‘Our Sovereign the King.’” [Noel Lemass was Seán Lemass’ anti-Treaty younger brother, who was executed during the Civil War by the pro-Treaty side. The Lemass’ were the O’Dea’s neighbours, and Jimmy had made Noel’s glasses. See ITA/131/3/20: “In Capel Street, [O’Dea] became friends with Jack (later Seán) Lemass, the future Taoiseach, whose family had a drapery establishment diagonally opposite at numbers two and three. They shared a common interest in the theatre, regularly going to see plays together at the Abbey, then forming their own amateur company, the Kilronan Players.”]

Envelope with handwritten caption, “Jim Summons to inquest on Noel Lemass, R.I.P. for identification of lenses found.”
Penn American Top of the World Certificate. “Be it known that Jimmy O’Dea having crossed over the Top of the World on a Pan Am Polar Flight from Europe to the U.S.A., is hereby recognized as a Pioneer Polar Traveler.”

B. 176x247 1 sheet/1 page

[17 April 1958]


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/7/12</th>
<th>1 item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>116 (from hinge to hinge across front) x 099 (from hinge to longest section of earpiece)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[undated]

Pair of spectacles made by Jimmy O’Dea for use as a prop. Round lenses are highly magnified. Metal, silver-coloured frame with [plastic], [faux tortoiseshell] earpieces ending in flexible, silver-coloured loops made to bend back under the ear.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/7/13</th>
<th>1 item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>123 (from hinge to hinge across front) x 130 (from hinge to end of earpiece)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[undated]

Pair of spectacles made by Jimmy O’Dea for use as a prop. Round lenses are slightly magnified. [Plastic], [faux tortoiseshell] frame and earpieces.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/7/14</th>
<th>1 item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>170 (from wingtip to wingtip across front) x 131 (from front to end of earpiece)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[undated]

Pair of sunglasses made by Jimmy O’Dea for use as prop for pantomime dame. [Plastic], [faux tortoiseshell] frame and earpieces with inset [rhinestones] and scalloping along the
earpieces. Narrow oval lenses are [blue-tinted]. The frame extends in wingtips to each side and rises in scalloping across the bridge.

**ITA/131/7/15**

1 item

028 (diameter of smaller end) increasing to 035 (diameter of larger end)

c. 1920s

**Optician’s magnifying glass** in the shape of a tube made of bone with a round glass lens at one end, open on the other. [Used by Jimmy O’Dea.] Top unscrews to remove lens for [cleaning or changing]. Body has small round hole cut in the side, perhaps [for a chain to pass through]. Bottom is more oval-shaped than perfectly circular. The edge is jagged as if broken off from a larger piece or purposefully shaped [to fit O’Dea’s eye socket]. [See ITA/131/8/2A.]

**ITA/131/7/16**

1 items

091 (approximate length of whole item) x 031 (widest diameter of whole item)

[undated]

**Nested shot glasses** used by Jimmy O’Dea [as props]. Consists of four small, [nickel with yellow plating] shot glasses nested one within the other in a leather carrying pouch. A cork stopper topped with [nickel] nests inside the smallest glass. The carrying pouch includes one strap which is stitched down on one side, passes over the top of the nested glasses, to snap on the other side. [As there is space between the top of the strap and the stopper, there may be a glass or bottle missing.] The snap’s lettering reads “Lebham Newey Brothers” and on the bottom of each glass is imprinted the word “foreign.” The largest glass also contains some hand-scratched numbers and letters, “2683/51 [Shot] [unreadable].”

**ITA/131/7/17**

2 items

A. 156 (length) x 075 (approx. widest width)

c. 1959

**Table brush** with figure of Jimmy O’Dea as Brian, King of the Leprechauns from *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*. Cast in [bronze with white plastic bristles]. Lettering on handle reads, “Lucky King Brian,” while back of handle bears the inscription “© WDP” [Walt Disney Productions]. Five small holes, also on the back of the handle, [may once been a
serial number.] [See ITA/131/3/54B-D for press clipping of a printed photograph showing the table brush and other Kind Brian fire irons in the background. See also ITA/131/4/149 for a photograph showing the same fire irons and brushes plus other Darby O’Gill memorabilia.]

**B.** 188 (height) x 160 (width of base) x 077 (length of base)

c. 1959

**Stand for table brush**, bronze. Inscription on bottom reads, “Peerage, Made in Ireland.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/7/18</th>
<th>4 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

largest size: 044x075

**Cards** with “Jimmy O’Dea” printed on them in various fonts and sizes. Three bundles and one loose card.
Second deposit

| ITA/131/7/19 | 127x158 | 4 sheets/8 pages |
| Christmas 1961 |  |
| **Christmas card** from Seán Lemass. Includes Lemass’ printed signature. |  |
| ITA/131/7/20 | 113x176 | 2 sheets/8 pages |
| Christmas 1961 |  |
| **Christmas card** from Éamon de Valera. Includes de Valera’s printed signature. |  |
| ITA/131/7/21 | 244x183 | 2 sheets/3 pages |
| [undated] |  |
| Hand drawn **Christmas card** from Jim Plunkett and others to Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea. [See ITA/131/9/24 for correspondence from Plunkett.] |  |
| ITA/131/7/22 |  |
| 25 September 1960 |  |
| **Programme** for *Royal Jubilee: a 25th Birthday Celebration* for the Theatre Royal, Dublin (1935-1960). Key players include Cecil Sheridan, Danny Cummins, and Cecil Nash. Includes, on back, a handwritten list of town names in two columns, some with pluses or minuses next to their names. |  |
| ITA/131/7/23 | 2 sheets/3 pages |
| 31 December 1961 |  |
| **Menu** for Radio Teilifís Éireann’s Inauguration Dinner, Gresham Hotel, Dublin. |  |
| ITA/131/7/24A1 |  |
| ITA/131/7/24A2 |  |

162
Duplicate of ITA/131/7/24A1.

**ITA/131/7/24A3**

Duplicate of ITA/131/7/24A1. Includes manuscript addition to the “Operatic Concert” by the Dublin Grand Opera Society on Monday, 25 October 1971 which reads “Rigoletto, La Donna Mobile (Verdi), Lino Savoldi (Tenor).” [This same excerpt is also a part of the printed programme.]

**ITA/131/7/24B1**

20 sheets/40 pages

October 1971

**Souvenir programme** for the Gaiety Centenary. Recounts the history of the Gaiety Theatre from 1871 to 1971, including Louis Elliman’s decision as managing director in the 1930s to bring in Jimmy O’Dea and Harry O’Donovan, Maureen Potter’s rise to comedic fame, O’Dea’s death, and Éamonn Andrews Studios’ taking on the lease at the Gaiety in the 1960s. Includes an introduction and foreword by Maureen Potter; other forewords by Micheál Mac Liammóir, Cyril Cusack, and Milo O’Shea; and **printed photographs** of Éamonn Andrews, Lorcan Bourke, Fred O’Donovan, Joe Kearns, Maureen Potter, Noel Purcell, Harry O’Donovan, Micheál Mac Liammóir, Hilton Edwards, Anew MacMaster, Cyril Cusack, Jack Benny, Milo O’Shea, and the casts of Goody Twoshoes and Neil Simon’s *The Odd Couple*.

**ITA/131/7/24B2**

20 sheets/40 pages

October 1971

Duplicate of ITA/131/7/24B1.

**ITA/131/7/24C**

1 sheet/1 page

[c. 1980s]

**Stationery** for O’D. Productions Ltd., Office at 75, Pembroke Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. Directors are Rita O’Dea and Ursula Doyle. [Located inside front cover of ITA/131/7/24B1.]

**ITA/131/7/24D**

24 sheets/48 pages

2 August 1977

**Souvenir programme** for the Gala Opening of *Gaels of Laughter ’77*, for the benefit of the Royal Hospital, Donnybrook, Dublin. Includes various articles about the theatre and music in Ireland, the Royal Hospital, the Royal Dublin Society, and Dublin city and a **printed photograph** of a stage design by Micheál Mac Liammóir.

**ITA/131/7/24E**

10 sheets/20 pages

29 October 1984

**ITA/131/7/24F**
1 sheet/1 page

Monday, 29 October 1984

Programme for the Northern Ballet Theatre’s production of *Sleeping Beauty* at the Gaiety Theatre. [Found inside ITA/131/7/24E.]

**ITA/131/7/25A**
52 sheets/104 pages
A gold cord ending in tassels runs through the centre.

Monday, 17 November 1980

Programme for the Royal [Variety] Performance, in Aid of the Entertainment Artistes’ Benevolent Fund at the London Palladium, London. Directed and staged by Norman Maen and to be held in the presence of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother [a patron of the Fund] as a salute to her on her 80th birthday. Includes a greeting from the Grand Order of Water Rats [their stationery does not include Jimmy O’Dea’s name, but see ITA/131/9/16] and printed photographs of Norman Maen [see ITA/131/4/235 for similar photo] and Billy Dainty [see ITA/131/4/207 for comparison].

**ITA/131/7/25B**
13 sheets/13 pages
Enclosed in a white, [vinyl-covered] cover with embroidery on the front. A gold cord with tassels runs through the centre of the cover holding the pages in place.

17 November 1980

Souvenir programme for the Royal Variety Performance in aid of the Entertainment Artistes’ Benevolent Fund at the London Palladium, London. Directed and staged by Norman Maen and celebrating the 80th birthday of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother [a patron of the Fund]. Programme is in a white cardboard box lined with tissue paper. On the front of the box is written “Mr. Norman Maen” in block letters.

**ITA/131/7/26**

May [1981]
**Handbill** for *Golden Days*, a cabaret, at the Shelbourne Hotel, Monday, 4 May. “A nostalgic evening of songs from the popular musicals and light operas.” Key players include Austin Gaffney. Includes ticket information and a list of upcoming shows.

**ITA/131/7/27**

June 1981

**Handbill** for *Summer Serenade*, a cabaret, at The Shelbourne Hotel, commencing 11 June and running through August 1981. Key players include Austin Gaffney. Includes ticket information.

**ITA/131/7/28**

50 pages/100 sheets

A gold cord ending in tassels runs through the centre.

Monday, 8 November 1982

**Programme** for the *Royal [Variety] Performance*, in Aid of the Entertainment Artistes’ Benevolent Fund at the London Palladium, London. Directed and staged by Norman Maen and to be held in the presence of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother [a patron of the Fund]. Includes a greeting from the Grand Order of Water Rats [their stationery does not include Jimmy O’Dea’s name, but see ITA/131/9/16] and a printed photograph of Norman Maen [see ITA/131/4/237 for similar photo].

**ITA/131/7/29A**

1 sheet/1 page

June 1961

**Invitation** from “The Taoiseach [Seán Lemass] and Mrs. Lemass” to “Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy O’Dea” to a reception in St. Patrick’s Hall, Dublin Castle, Dublin on Tuesday, 13 June 1961, “in honour of Their Serene Highnesses Prince Rainier of Monaco and Princess Grace.” White tie and decorations are to be worn. [See ITA/131/4/240 for candid photograph of an unidentified woman in Monaco.]

**ITA/131/7/29B**

1 sheet/1 page

June 1961

Typescript “notes for persons invited” to a reception in honour of Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco. Includes instructions regarding appropriate dress, parking (of “chauffeur-driven” and “other” cars) and taxi cabs, entrance and exit locations, and telephone numbers where guests may be reached. “The enclosed invitation is strictly limited to the person/s named therein and is not transferable.”

**ITA/131/7/29C**

133x209

[June] 1961
Envelope sent to “Jimmy O’Dea, Esq., and Mrs. O’Dea,” Dublin from the [Department of the Taoiseach] [which contained ITA/131/7/29A-B]. Includes purple stamp with a harp in the centre and the words “Roinn an Taoiseach” above and below.

ITA/131/7/30A 1 sheet/1 page
June 1961

Invitation from “The President [Éamon de Valera] and Mrs. de Valera” to “Mr. and Mrs. James A. O’Dea” for a reception in Áras an Uachtaráin [the President’s House, the Phoenix Park, Dublin] on Saturday, 24 June 1961.

ITA/131/7/30B 1 sheet/1 page

[June 1961]

Notes for guests to the reception in Áras an Uachtaráin, the Phoenix Park, Dublin, including entrance locations and parking information.

ITA/131/7/31A
June 1962

Ticket to Royal Finale, at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, Saturday, 30 June 1962, [the last performance at the Theatre].

ITA/131/7/31B 079x113

[June 1962]

Card from the Theatre Royal, Dublin with caption, “With the Management’s Compliments.” [Attached to ITA/131/7/31A.]

ITA/131/7/32 2 sheets/1 page
August 1964

Invitation from “Mr. and Mrs. Seán Lemass” to “Jimmy & Ursula” for a reception and supper to celebrate the Lemass’ 40th wedding anniversary, Wednesday, 19 August 1964, Grangemore, Raheny [the residence of their son-in-law, Charles J. Haughey]. “Informal dress.”

ITA/131/7/33A 1 sheet/1 page
December 1965
**Invitation** from “the Chairman and Directors of W. & R. Jacob & Co. Ltd.” to “Mrs. James A. O’Dea” for the “Presentation of Jacob’s 1965 Television Awards” at a “reception and banquet on the company’s premises,” Dublin, on Wednesday, 8 December 1965. “Black tie.” [See ITA/131/4/235 for a photo of a Jacob’s Awards event.]

**ITA/131/7/33B**
8 November 1965

**Envelope** addressed to Mrs. James A. O’Dea, Dublin from Frankie Byrne (Public Relations) Limited, [which contained ITA/131/7/33A].

**ITA/131/7/34A**
Saturday, 7 March 1970


**ITA/131/7/34B**
Saturday, 7 March 1970


**ITA/131/7/34C**
Saturday, 7 March 1970


**ITA/131/7/34D**
089x151

[7 March 1970]

**Envelope** from the Gaiety Theatre [box office] “Carrolls Number 1.” Includes the caption “Jack Benny” in [Ursula Doyle’s] handwriting on front and “Box 4 Box 5 Thurs & Fri” also in [Doyle’s] handwriting on back. [Envelope contains ITA/131/7/34A-C.]

**ITA/131/7/35**
largest size: 060x097

[c. 1950s-1980s]

Miscellaneous **business and membership cards.**


G. Membership card. Canadian Council of Authors and Artists. “This is to certify that Peggy Doyle...is...a member in good standing of Assoc. of Can. Radio & T.V. Artists,” 1 October 1957.

H. Business card. Ursula Doyle, director, O’D. Productions Ireland Ltd. [Not dated.]

ITAL/131/7/36

1964

Small plaque with caption “Variety Club of Ireland, Tent 41, Tribute to Jimmy O’Dea, 1964” done in calligraphy. [See ITA/131/7/35A for Jimmy O’Dea’s membership card. Plaque is enclosed in a plastic sleeve which used to contain Hallmark stationery.]

ITAL/131/7/37

1 sheet/1 page

8 August 1958

“New rules and regulations of Fatima Mansions. Effective Aug. 8th 1958 (Black Friday).” Nine typescript items, including, “#1 - Room #32 shall remain closed for a period of at least three months, in commemoration of the recent occupancy of King Brion [Jimmy O’Dea?]”; “#3 - “All present or past citizens of Belfast shall bow their Old Ned as they pass this sacred door [to #32];” “#6 - A beaker of ‘Black Velvet’ shall be consumed every April 18th marking the date of the Irish invasion of Fatima Mansions;” “#7 - The words...’ROMPO!’ and ‘TAXI!’ shall be deleted from all conversations in honor [sic] of the original author;” “#8 - When discussing ‘Jimmy,’ Mrs. Murdoch will confine herself to a period not exceeding three hours...,” and “#9 - The host and hostess have only three words for you, Sir James - WE LOVE YOU.” The phrase WE LOVE YOU is underlined in blue ink and an exclamation point added after the words. The names “Bob” and “Ruth” are written in the bottom right hand corner.

ITAL/131/7/38A

2 sheets/4 pages

[1963]

“Humour,” “(Border Incident),” and [last line], “The Irish will be in on Friday.” Also includes cost list, in O’Dea’s handwriting, headed “Pd, £. S. D.” Items Include “E.S.B., 10, 6, 8;” “Printing, 20, 5, 8;” and “Flora, 16,16,0.”

Both found on the back of a programme for the “Four Kovacs, World Famous Spring Bed Stars...with Snip en Snap--Nederlandse Revue.” Programme goes on to list their tour locations and dates throughout The Netherlands and Switzerland, 1962-3. Also includes a printed photo [of the Four Kovacs] with the caption “A Great Act with Quality.”

ITA/131/7/38B 1 sheet/2 pages

[1963]

Handwritten prompt list of topics for a speech by Jimmy O’Dea. Many items similar to ITA/131/7/38A. Includes [first line] “Honour - Dinner-not 75% Kosher, forgetting the visas. U.S.A.,” “Born 1899-Still Living-Elmer J. Murphy,” “My mother had a toy shop,” “Moved to Capel St. Talk on Seán Lemass,” “Optician (Joe Briscoe’s father.),” “Daily Mail (Comedian Optician who makes people see),” “Creeping into entertainment,” “Jack [Seán] Lemass played with us,” Irish Theatre Hardwick St. Checkov, Ibsen, Shaw,” “The Irish Jew,” “Revival while Bob [Briscoe] was still Lord Mayor,” “Meeting with Harry,” “First Irish Tour,” “Border incident x Orange and Green, Bullet in letter,” and [last line] “The Irish will be in on Friday.” Also includes more topics on reverse, including “War,” “Met every known artist in B.B.C. then,” “Important R O’Dea,” “Seance,” “Funeral,” Bud Flanagan (Belfast digs).” Written on stationery from the Sheraton-Atlantic Hotel, New York, NY, USA.

ITA/131/7/39A 1 sheet/1 page

[c. 1940s-50s]

Stationery with letterhead, “Jimmy O’Dea, 10, Herbert Avenue, Merrion, Dublin, Telephone: 684183.”

ITA/131/7/39B 1 sheet/1 page

[c. 1930s]


ITA/131/7/39C 1 sheet/1 page

[c. 1930s]
Stationery. Duplicate of ITA/131/7/39B.

**ITA/131/7/40**
139x205
Mounted
Size: 225x289

[11 April 1925]

**Telegram** from Rev. O’Carroll, Castleknock College. “Holy Father sends Bernardette [sic] Fagan and James O’Dea occasion their marriage apostolic benediction. [See ITA/131/7/ for benediction.]

**ITA/131/7/41**
1 sheet/1 page

[c. 1950s]

Newspaper **cartoon** captioned “Michael O’Nolan’s impression of Maureen Potter and Jimmy O’Dea in a scene from *Cinderella* at the Gaiety.” Potter is shown wearing a short skirt and jacket, long hair, and a pinafore covered with medals (one of which is bouncing off). She [marches] with one foot lifted very high, to O’Dea playing bagpipes and also wearing a short skirt and jacket, with a tie and beret. [See ITA/131/1/04, 10, 15, 22A-C for *Cinderella* programmes. See also ITA/131/4/165 for photographs of Potter in a similar costume.]

**ITA/131/7/42**
1 sheet/1 page

[c. 1960s]

**Cartoon** captioned “This is Saturday. --And children can you guess what ‘Red Riding Hood’ was bringing her granny?--Your [sic] right--. O’Dea on T.E.” Jimmy O’Dea’s face wearing small round glasses [in costume as the Storyteller on RTÉ’S *Once Upon a Time* and *Tales of Wonder*] is shown on a TV. screen, while a mother and three children watch. The boy is holding a package of sweets marked “Lemons.” [See photograph ITA/131/4/87. See also press cuttings, for example, ITA/131/3/42B, for information regarding O’Dea’s television programmes and printed photographs of his storyteller character.]

**ITA/131/7/43**
Framed
Size: 355x278

[c. 1959]

**Cartoon** of Jimmy O’Dea’s face wearing a bowler hat with a [ticket] stuck in the hatband. The ticket reads, “Return Ticket, Edgeware Rd.” Also includes a shamrock with caption, “to Jimmy from his friends at London’s Irish Music Hall” [the Metropolitan Theatre]. Underneath O’Dea’s face is a card with several signatures on it. [See ITA/131/1/42 for programme of a revue from the Metropolitan, November 1959.]

**ITA/131/7/44**
Framed
Size: 298x235
Cartoon of Jimmy O’Dea with a large face and small body wearing a hat, jacket, tie and looking unshaven. [Drawn] by [Collis] and captioned “‘O’Dea Bespoke.’”

ITA/131/7/45A approx. 490x291 [very tightly rolled]

[17 April] 1921

Scroll containing [a coloured photograph] of the Pope and [pictures of engravings] of buildings and saints interspersed with flowers and other decorations. Underneath the photo of Pope are these words in calligraphy, “Most Holy Father, James O’Dea and Bernadette Fagan, humbly prostrate at te [sic] feet of Your Holiness, beg the Apostolic Benediction on the occasion of their Marriage.” Also includes, in manuscript, Latin words at the bottom, the date, and [the Pope’s printed signature]; an imprinted seal; and a stamp on the reverse for “Nazzareno Beretti, Negoziante in Articoli de Religione” in Rome. [See ITA/131/7/40 for telegram regarding this benediction.]

ITA/131/7/45B diameter: 058
length: 324

[1921]

Cardboard tube and top addressed to “Mrs. O’Dea, 21 Grosvenor Place, Rathmines, Dublin, Irlanda” from Nazzareno Beretti, Chapelets et Objects Religieux, Rome. Includes two 1-lira stamps and a postmark. [Contains ITA/131/7/45A.]

ITA/131/7/46 length: 315

[undated]

Cigarette holder, [used as a prop.] Black wood with a silver, metal tip.

ITA/131/7/47 length: 479

[undated]

Baton which [belonged to Jimmy O’Dea’s music director.]

ITA/131/7/48 (unzipped) 259x411

[undated]
Zippered leather writing case, with initials “J. O’D..” in the bottom right-hand corner. Includes a pocket calendar for 1966. [The case contained some of the correspondence and memorabilia described herein.]

ITA/131/7/49

heart: (approx.) 100x073 at longest points
chain: (approx.) 600 length

1958

Heart-shaped metal medallion and chain, with caption “Inkblots V Crackpots 1958.”

ITA/131/7/50

buddha: (approx.) 033 at base x036 length
cord: 300 length

[undated]

Gold-coloured metal buddha and orange [satin] cord. The two ends of the cord are knotted in a fancy bow and then enclosed in a small [metal] sheath, beyond which the cord is frayed into a tassel. “China” is imprinted on base of buddha.

ITA/131/7/51

043 diameter of base x065 length

[undated]

Small ceramic mug in the shape of a man’s head, including a triangle mouth, diamond eyeglasses, rectangular ears, and red hair. [Painted] on the “back” of the man’s head is “Can you hear me mother, Sandy Powell” in manuscript. Fieldings is stamped on the bottom.

ITA/131/7/52

diameter of base: 099
diameter of top: 173

1966

Ceramic bowl inscribed “Juno and the Paycock, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, 1966”. On base is stamped “Chelsea Pottery England.” [Production was to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1916 Rising.]

ITA/131/7/53

275x208

1968

Oval, [white] ceramic plate with a black shamrock painted on a red background in centre. Inside shamrock are the words “Gaels of Laughter ’68.” In an oval circling the shamrock are names of the main actors in the show (counter-clockwise from top), “Maureen Potter, Hal Roach, Patricia Cahill, John Molloy,” and “Rosaleen Linehan.” Each of the names is in black paint in a white “bubble.” In a second oval circling the actors’ names is painted, in white,
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea Collection: Memorabilia


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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITA/131/7/54A</th>
<th>diameter: 166</th>
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<tr>
<td>[c. 1959]</td>
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Cream-coloured ceramic plate with painting of King Brian’s head from *Darby O’Gill and the Little People* in the centre and one [leprechaun] each at 12-, 3-, 6-, and 9-o’clock. Caption underneath the painting reads, “Lucky King Brian by Walt Disney.” Base of plate contains a green shamrock which contains the words, “Carrigaline Pottery from Walt Disney’s Darby O’Gill and the Little People.” Made in the Republic of Ireland. [See ITA/131/4/149 for photograph showing a King Brian commemorative plate.]

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<th>ITA/131/4/7/54B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[c. 1959]</td>
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</table>

Cream-coloured ceramic plate with painting of King Brian standing next to the crock of gold from *Darby O’Gill and the Little People.* in the centre and one [leprechaun] each at 12-, 3-, 6-and 9-o’clock. Caption underneath the painting reads, “Lucky King Brian by Walt Disney.” Base of plate contains a green shamrock which contains the words, “Carrigaline Pottery from Walt Disney’s Darby O’Gill and the Little People.” Made in the Republic of Ireland. [See ITA/131/4/149 for photograph showing a King Brian commemorative plate.]

Introduction

The Irish Theatre Archive’s exhibition materials are all from the first deposit, and include the text of the exhibit, which includes a large number of biographical details regarding both O’Dea and others. Where possible, other items in the collection have been cross-referenced to relevant sections of the exhibition text.

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**ITA/131/8/01**

2 items

A. 1 sheet/1 page

**Circular letter** inviting members to opening of exhibition, on 26 April 1985, from Muireann Ni Chonaill, PRO.

B. 8 sheets/16 pages


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**ITA/131/8/02**

14 items

A-I. Mounted **text** of exhibition prepared by the Irish Theatre Archive, previewed at Trinity College Dublin Lombard St. Theatre in March 1985, and shown at Dublin Civic Museum April to August 1985.

J. Mounted **text** of biography of Harry O’Donovan by [Matt Murtagh, Theatre Historian].

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**ITA/131/8/03**

98 sheets/196 pages

1 item

Correspondence

Introduction

The correspondence from the first and second deposits is numbered consecutively and items that are similar or related to each other are numbered A, B, C, etc. Where possible, items are cross-referenced to programmes, photographs, press cuttings, etc. The first deposit includes handwritten letters from O'Dea in California, USA to Rita O’Dea in Dublin during the filming of *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*.

The second deposit is divided into four categories. The first, from 1957-9, relates to O’Dea’s film career, and includes the contract between Walt Disney and O’Dea for *Darby O’Gill*, 1958 (ITA/131/9/10A-B). The second, from 1961-5, relates to O’Dea or Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea and includes manuscript letters from Hilton Edwards and Micheál Mac Liammóir. The third, from 1965-71, relates to Ursula Doyle alone and includes another manuscript letter from Mac Liammóir (ITA/131/9/25). The fourth category is miscellaneous, from 1964-1985, and includes manuscript letters from Sinéad de Valera (ITA/131/30-31).
Letter from Jimmy O’Dea, in California during filming of *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*, [1959], to sister Rita O’Dea, in Dublin, written on stationery from the Bel-Air Palms Motel. “You will appreciate how home news and thoughts are so much welcomed when the [receiver] is 6000 miles away.” Includes thoughts and criticism of the US (“the US forces you to be statistically minded”); [Irish] Actors Equity Association (“It was interesting news about Actors Equity, but I am afraid that apart from MacAnally and the secretary I just go there annually for a laugh.” [But see photos ITA/131/4/89A-B]); “our Catholic Stage Guild” and the “Catholic population...here” (“I enclose one of our weekly bulletins, which are handed to us after mass.”); working (“My work here is slow as they were not at all ready for my shots, having had to build a million dollar special studio...”); and the people he has had dinner with (“Arthur Shields, Eithne Dunn, The O’Herlihys etc. My hosts are the most charming people...” [see photo ITA/131/4/73A]).

Letter from Jimmy O’Dea, in California during filming of *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*, [1959], to sister Rita O’Dea, [on holiday in Brittas Bay, Co. Wicklow], written on stationery from the Bel-Air Palms Motel. “Glad to get your correspondence with all the noose [sic].” Includes thoughts on the US (“...it’s hard to escape the impact of the English language massacred by cromium [sic] plated savages.”); working (“The picture is not leaping but progressing. It may be a classic, It may be a flop. As far as your brother is concerned, I am not fully extended mentally or artistically, but physically, more than.”); people he has had dinner with (including Ella Logan who “is, of course, a divorcee, but in her garden...she has a shrine to the Little Flower and St. Francis of Assisi with perpetual light.”); and Catholicism (“Laurie Shields married to Arthur Shields (Protestant) whom I have visited twice is president of the Holy Name Society and frequently twits me about my position. She of course is a militant R.C. There are no other kind.”).
**ITA/131/9/01C**

1 sheet/2 pages

29 June [1958]

**Letter** from Jimmy O’Dea, in California during filming of *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*, [1959,] to sister Rita O’Dea, [on holiday in Brittas Bay, Co. Wicklow], written on stationery from the Bel-Air Palms Motel. Includes thoughts on working (“They have built a special stage (studio) for this picture alone, or for one sequence, I understand. The lighting is of the greatest intensity yet in a picture. It blacked out the city of Burbank (80,000) last week. We can only shoot 3 mins at most at time.”); publicity (“...there have been so many publicity hounds after me out here...”); and the US (“Jimmy O’Dea will get plenty publicity in England and Ireland but believe it or not, they are selling me over here as Brian Conners King of all the Leprechauns. So much for primitive mentality. It will all come out in the wash. They really believe in ‘The little people.’”).

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**ITA/131/9/01D**

business size

16 June 1958

**Envelope** postmarked from Burbank, California, 16 June 1958. Return address is the Bel-Air Palms Motel, 2920 West Olive at Alameda, Burbank, California. Receiver’s address is Miss Rita O’Dea, 10 Duke street, Dublin, Ireland, but this is crossed out and c/o Rockfield House, Brittas Bay, Co. Wicklow written to the right. The stamp has been [steamed off].

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**ITA/131/9/02**

138x220

[May to July 1958]

**Postcard** sent by Jimmy O’Dea from Laguna Beach, California, to sister Rita O’Dea, Dublin, [during a break from filming *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*, 1959]. “An Irishman, Michael Gibson, runs the stock company here, calls it the Irish Players...Michael O’H[erlihy] helps him with scenery etc. Hoping to get home soon (early August).” Stamps attached.
Second deposit

Relating to films

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<tr>
<th>ITA/131/9/03A</th>
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<tr>
<td>28 March 1957</td>
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Typescript letter from [Michael Scott], Four Provinces Films Limited, Dublin, to Jimmy O’Dea, Dublin. He is enclosing an extract from a cable Lord Killanin, [producer and also a member of Four Provinces Films Ltd.], received from John Ford, [also producer and member], and a cable Killanin sent to Ford today [both regarding The Last Hurrah with Spencer Tracy, 1958].

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<th>ITA/131/9/03B</th>
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<td>[28 March 1957]</td>
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</table>

Two cables to and from John Ford and Lord Killanin, [both of Four Provinces Films Limited] regarding [The Last Hurrah]. Cable from Ford to Killanin asks Killanin to tell Jimmy O’Dea that it will be “impossible to finish picture before July 3...Awfully sorry if Jimmy cannot make it as his part is wonderfully serious comic role and one of the main parts in the picture[.] [I]s there any chance of [Louis] Elliman postponing [sic] his starting date.”

Cable from Killanin to Ford says Killanin spoke with O’Dea, and that there seems to be confusion regarding dates as O’Dea is free until 19 July and is “most anxious [to] play part.” Could Ford please cable O’Dea with start and end dates?

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<tr>
<th>ITA/131/9/04</th>
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<td>22 April 1957</td>
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Typescript letter from Harry Cohn, Columbia Pictures Corporation, Hollywood, CA, to Jimmy O’Dea, Dublin. Cohn and Columbia pictures “regret the postponement of The Last Hurrah,” but they have had casting difficulties. They hope to rectify the problem by January of 1958, and “look forward to discussing this again with you at that time.”
ITA/131/9/05 1 sheet/2 pages

23 April 1957

Typescript letter from Robert Swash of Reeves & Lamport, Ltd., London (“The International Theatre Exchange), to Jimmy O’Dea, Dublin. He has had a meeting with John Baxter, and while there are several possibilities open to them, a lot depends on O’Dea’s availability. As soon as O’Dea has heard from America about his picture, then they can arrange a meeting. Mr. Baxter will be writing to O’Dea.

Also includes manuscript reply from O’Dea to Swash on reverse. “Dear Mr. Swash, I thank you for yours of the 23rd. Hollywood has been postponed owing I believe to the illness of Spencer Tracy. I am committed here now to play Finian’s Rainbow and after that an August revue—as I see it I shall be free late Sept. Would love to be associated with you and my old friend John Baxter. Kindest Regards.”

ITA/131/9/06 1 sheet/1 page

15 May 1957

Typescript letter from Robert Swash, Reeves & Lamport, Ltd., London to Jimmy O’Dea, Dublin. John Baxter will be contacting O’Dea with his suggestions and will be coming over to see him.

ITA/131/9/07 1 sheet/1 page

20 February 1958

Typescript letter from Lee Traver, Walt Disney Productions, Burbank, CA, to Jimmy O’Dea, Dublin. “Congratulations and best wishes for a happy stay in our Country!” He is sending a script under separate cover [for Darby O’Gill and the Little People, 1959]. O’Dea’s start date is 28 April, meaning that O’Dea would report to the studio on 14 April to get ready. The London office will contact O’Dea regarding transportation, but Traver would like O’Dea to make decisions regarding living arrangements (in Burbank or Hollywood). O’Dea’s work in the picture is scheduled for 7-10 weeks. With the addition of the two weeks for makeup, the total period is 9-12 weeks.
ITA/131/9/08A

26 February 1958

Typescript letter from Helen Gunnis, Christopher Mann Ltd. [management], London, to Jimmy O’Dea, Dublin. Gunnis responds to a letter from Lee Traver [see ITA/131/9/5] sent to her by O’Dea. She encloses her reply to Traver. “You do appreciate that we must keep these people in line now or they will take advantage of us.” The first paragraph of the reply [see ITA/131/9/6B] “refers to the ABC film and I have informed Bob Lennard that you will not be available, I thought fit to put it this way to Traver so that we may retain our strength of renegotiation. I may say, that from Traver’s letters, I find him inexperienced in the business pertaining to the actual contracts.” According to “the Letter Agreement,” O’Dea’s start date is 19 April.

ITA/131/9/08B

26 February 1958

Copy of typescript letter from Helen Gunnis, Christopher Mann Ltd., London, to Lee Traver, Walt Disney Productions, CA. She acknowledges the receipt of a cable from Traver (text “‘Gunnis impossible O’Dea accept other picture [ABC film] explanatory letter follows’”), but tells him that since it does not answer her query, she must withhold information on O’Dea’s availability until Traver follows through with his “extension of the original five week period.” She also informs Traver that, although his letter to O’Dea [see ITA/131/9/5] gives O’Dea’s start date as 28 April, the latest date, “in accordance with the option letter,” that he starts on salary is 19 April. O’Dea, however, “is ready, willing and available to present himself two weeks in advance of this date, as set out in Clause 3 of the Letter Agreement, prior to the starting date.”

ITA/131/9/09A

31 March 1958

Typescript letter from Helen Gunnis, Christopher Mann Ltd., London, to Jimmy O’Dea, Dublin. She thanks him for returning the documents and looks forward to meeting him. Although “it wouldn’t be a bad idea at all to at least acquaint yourself with sitting on a horse before you leave...,” “...don’t try any heroics--just tell the producer you have not ridden for twenty-five years and ask for a double.” She is also “returning a copy of the Personal Agreement accepted by Mr. Christopher Mann” for O’Dea’s files [see ITA/131/9/7B].
Formal **Personal Agreement** between Jimmy O'Dea, Dublin and Christopher Mann Ltd., London regarding the terms of Christopher Mann’s management and representation of O'Dea. Includes an additional, typescript Clause 6 stating that Christopher Mann would not represent O'Dea in the Republic of Ireland nor Northern Ireland. Also includes the signatures of Jimmy O'Dea, Maureen Potter (as witness), and Christopher Mann (Director).

Formal “**free lance weekly contract**” between “Walt Disney Productions, a corporation, hereinafter called ‘Producer,’ and Jimmy O'Dea, hereinafter called ‘Player.’” Includes name of character (“King Brian”) and “photoplay” (“Leprichaun Hunt” [*Darby O’Gill and the Little People*], salary ($1400 per week plus $250 per week for expenses), royalties, term of employment (1 August 1958 [but see ITA/131/9/7-8]), players’ address and telephone number (Bel-Air Palms Motel [see ITA/131/9/1 for letterhead]), and wardrobe. Signed by Jimmy O'Dea and John F. Baur, Executive Casting Director.

**Rider** attached to contract between Walt Disney Productions (Producer) and Jimmy O’Dea (Player). Player agrees to “conduct himself with due regard to public morals and conventions” and to not do anything which will bring him or the Producer into scandal or ridicule. In such an event, the Producer may terminate this agreement and “may fail to give the Player any credit, screen or otherwise, in connection with his services hereunder.” Initialled by [Jimmy O’Dea] (“J. O’D.”) and [John F. Baur] (“JFB”). Also includes “Lee Traver” handwritten in pencil in top left hand corner and “LT” in ink in bottom centre.

**Cheque stub** from the Screen Actors Guild for a residual payment for Jimmy O’Dea for a second run of “I Captured a Leprechaun” [*Darby O’Gill and the Little People*] in the amount of $99.75 gross and $66.33 net.
5 November 1959

**Letter** from W. L. Sutherland from the Treasurer’s Department of Walt Disney Productions to Jimmy O’Dea c/o Christopher Mann, London. Enclosed is a royalty statement and check for $12.59, “payment...made in accordance with the contract for the use of your likeness in the Darby O’Gill comic book...”

3 October 1959

**Royalty statement** from Walt Disney Productions for Jimmy O’Dea, listing a cheque for $12.59 based on royalties of $1511.17 at the rate of .008333, for “Darby O’Gill Comics.”

25 January 1961

Manuscript **letter** from Hilton Edwards to Jimmy and Ursula O’Dea. “Dear Jimmy & Ursula, This is just to thank you for inviting me to your party & to say how much I enjoyed it. I’d have written before but a visit to my native village over the weekend intervened. Thank you my dears, Micheál [Mac Liammóir] send [sic]his love [Love], Hilton.”

20 March 1961

Manuscript **letter** from Micheál Mac Liammóir, Dublin to Ursula Doyle, Dublin. “Dearest Ursula--Jimmy handed to me to-night the exquisite present from you both: how can I hope to find words to thank you? Its elegance and beauty will always remind me of ye both and God bless ye for the sweet thought that prompted the gift and for the sheer loveliness of the gift itself--Your grateful and loving friend Micheál.”
5 March 1961

**Envelope** addressed in manuscript to “Miss Ursula Doyle--(Mrs. James A. O’Dea.), c/o Gaiety Theatre--Dublin.” from Micheál Mac Liammóir.

ITA/131/9/15

28 May 1963

**Postcard** addressed “To Brother Jimmy O’Dea, Worshipful Master of Neary’s, True Blue Defenders, Neary’s Bar, Chatham Street, Dublin, Ireland.” “From a man who’d drink it out of a ‘trough’.” Postcard is painting by Sir John Lavery, *The Twelfth of July, Portadown, 1928*, in the Belfast Museum & Art Gallery. Stamp is from Northern Ireland.

ITA/131/9/16

[June 1963]

Typescript **letter** on Grand Order of Water Rats stationery from Harry Morris, Scribe Rat, to Brother Rat, [Jimmy O’Dea]. “Dear Brother Rat, King Rat requests you to attend Lodge...” Also includes manuscript addition, “Kindest wishes to you Jimmy and thanks for your telegram, which is appreciated. Yours Harry.” “Headquarters: Eccentric Club, Ryder Street,” [London]. Members include Charles Chaplin, Maurice Chevalier, and Danny Kaye.

ITA/131/9/17A

Saturday, 22 February 1964

Typescript **letter** from Warren O’Connell, Dublin to Jimmy O’Dea. “Dear Jimmie [sic] Am writing to acknowledge (with thanks) the receipt from you of Ten Pounds (£10) as my fee for dialogue between you and Maureen Potter in “Goldilocks and the Three Bears” Yours truly.” Includes O’Connell’s signature. [See ITA/131/1/31A, C-D for programme.]

ITA/131/9/17B

22 February 1964

Typescript **letter** from Warren O’Connell, Dublin to Jimmy O’Dea. “Dear Jimmie [sic] Just an extra line in addition to the receipt to thank you for your generosity in giving me more than I asked. Its [sic] always a great pleasure to write for your and I hope I can give you many more scripts. My regards to Ursula. yours sincerely” Includes O’Connell’s signature, first name only.
13 April, 1964

Typescript letter from Helen Muir, Kenmore, New York, to Jimmy O’Dea, c/o Radio Éireann, Dublin. Muir writes to “Mr. O’Dean [sic]” that she is writing three books on American and European folk music. She requests O’Dea’s help in particular regarding a song he made famous, “The Charlady’s Ball” and in general regarding any folk songs or other old songs that he may know. She is collaborating with Olivia Robertson, an Irish author, who suggested that she contact O’Dea. She encloses two International Reply Coupons for O’Dea’s reply [see ITA/131/9/18B-C].

11 April 1964

Two International Reply Coupons, stamped with the date, “Buffalo, N.Y.,” and “Kenmore [RR].” Valid postage in any country of the Universal Postal Union in order to send an international letter.

2 September 1964

Typescript letter from [A. Heinzl], Bailey Gibson Limited, Dublin to Jimmy O’Dea, Dublin, regarding a “series of 36 cards printed in colour and illustrated with pictures of Ireland’s outstanding singers and entertainers. The cards will be distributed free as enclosures with children’s sweet cigarettes manufactured by Liam Devlin & Sons Ltd., Dublin.” “Only top grade solo artistes will be included in the series and, a high standard of presentation is aimed at with a view to arousing the interest of a younger generation in our great heritage of National music and song. Because of the great distinction which you have achieved in this field we feel that the series would be incomplete without the inclusion of your good self.” The artist’s picture would be on the front, while a verse of a song or “other feature by which the artiste is best known” would be printed on the back. If this extract has been recorded, the company and disc number would also be printed. An album of a complete set of cards is proposed at a later stage. “It is our aim that these cards should provide useful and favourable publicity for the artistes featured and we shall welcome your association with the project. To protect your copyright a reasonable fee would be paid.” If O’Dea does not have a good colour photograph, then they can arrange to have one taken. A sample from an earlier series is enclosed [see ITA/131/9/19B].

Typescript letter from A. Heinzl, Printing Sales Supervisor for Bailey Gibson Limited, Dublin, to Jimmy O’Dea, Dublin thanking O’Dea for his letter of 4 September and for his participation in their picture card series. “Undoubtedly, your card will become a treasured possession of many thousands of the children you have entertained over the years.” Heinzl will arrange for a photograph to be taken, but must wait to give O’Dea the details until the plans for all 36 of the artistes, many of whom will also need their photographs taken, are completed.

Picture card of Jimmy O’Dea, manufactured by Bailey Gibson Limited for inclusion in a package of children’s sweet cigarettes. Front is colour, printed photograph of O’Dea. Back is caption “TOPS in entertainment, Irish Theatre and Showband Stars.” “Jimmy O’Dea was born a stone’s throw from the Coombe in Dublin, where his mother kept a toy shop, and one of the last memories he left, in the winter of 1964, was of the whimsical toymaker of Teilifís Éireann, telling his fairy stories for children from the age of one to 101...He left his bed, a few days before his death, to have the picture on this card taken, because he knew that it would be withdrawn from a packet of sweets by the fingers of a child. The laughter of children and adult tears mingle in his requiem.”

Manuscript letter from Br. Anthony [Moloney], St. Patrick’s College, Rome, to Jimmy O’Dea, c/o Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. “Please forgive me for writing [sic] to you this letter but I feel sure you will not be offended.” Following a suggestion from a student from Dublin, Moloney writes to request any “little sketches” which he, as the president of the entertainment committee for the college, could use for enjoyment. “Noel Purcell’s ‘Nedser & Nuala’ sketches have been a great success with us and I was wondering if you had anything likes [sic] those or knew where we could get similar ones. I would be very grateful to you if you would let me know.”
8 December 1964

Envelope [from Br. Anthony Moloney], St. Patrick’s College, Rome, addressed to “Mr. Jimmy O’Dea, c/o Gaiety Theatre, Stephen’s Green, Dublin.” That address is crossed out and “75 Pembroke Rd, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4” is substituted. Includes Italian stamp and postmark.

ITA/131/9/21 1 sheet/2 pages

31 December 1964

Telegram from Joan Littlewood to Jimmy O’Dea, St. Stephens [sic] Hospital, Dublin. “Get well soon we need you greetings = Joan Littlewood.” Also includes, on reverse, advertisement for Irish Sweeps (£50,000 sweep prize), Ballsbridge, Dublin.

Relating to Ursula Doyle

ITA/131/9/22 1 sheet/1 page

[1965]


ITA/131/9/23A 1 sheet/1 page

1 February 1965

Typescript letter on stationery from [Marion Lyons] of the Catholic Stage Guild, Dublin to Ursula Doyle. “I am enclosing Catholic Stage Guild membership card and badge. I hope we will have the pleasure of seeing you at the Guild get-together at the Capitol on Sunday 14th February.” Stationery includes listings of Past Presidents, including Gabriel Fallon, Joseph O’Dea, William O’Gorman, Cyril Cusack, Noel Purcell, and Jimmy O’Dea; Current President Charles Mitchell; and Vice-Presidents, including Gabriel Fallon and Rita O’Dea. The Patron is “His Grace Most Reverend Dr. [Charles] McQuaid [See ITA/131/9/1A-D and ITA/131/3/40B for more Catholic Stage Guild information.]”

186
Membership card to the Catholic Stage Guild in the name of Ursula Doyle, Dublin.

Manuscript letter on Radio Teilifís Éireann stationery from Jim Plunkett, [the novelist James Plunkett], to Ursula Doyle regarding an enclosed item from the magazine *Hibernia*. “It struck me as a very sincere tribute from a--perhaps--unusual source...” [The item is no longer attached to the letter, but see ITA/131/3/17 for another tribute to O’Dea from *Hibernia*. See also ITA/131/7/21 for Christmas card to the O’Dea’s from Plunkett.]

Typescript letter from Micheál Mac Liammóir, Dublin, to Ursula Doyle, Dublin. “Forgive this typed note. As you probably know I am unable to write properly or to do anything else but everybody is being very sweet to me and you the sweetest of all to send me those kind words of greeting. With all affectionate wishes. As ever,...” Includes, in manuscript, “dear Ursy From Micheál.”

Typescript letter on Irish Tourist Board stationery from Joe Malone, General Manager, North America, New York City, to Ursula Doyle, Dublin. “What a dear you are to write me at this very busy time for you! Your writing me brought back many pleasant memories of Tokyo. On behalf of all of us at the Tourist Board we wish you a very successful pantomime...” Includes Malone’s signature, first name only.

Envelope from the Irish Tourist Board, New York City, To Ursula Doyle, Dublin. Includes two postmarks from New York, NY.
30 March 1970

Envelope addressed in typescript to “Mrs. Ursula O’Dea,” Dublin. Postmark is from Dún Laoghaire.

19 August 1971

Typescript letter from Frederick O’Sullivan, Dublin to Ursula Doyle (“Mrs. O’Dea”). O’Sullivan thought Doyle would like to see a typescript copy of a review of the film Jimmy Boy which he came across in the National Library. In addition, he writes that “your husband was playing the Olympia in Jack and the Beanstalk at the same time as the film was showing in the Corinthian...A very juvenile Maureen Potter was also featured. It seems incredible that the career of this girl can reach back so far.” He will send on photostats, including a scene from the movie, from the Library when he receives them. He enjoyed his meeting with Doyle and her “very interesting conversation.”

Also includes the review of Jimmy Boy from the Evening Herald of Tuesday, 28 January 1936 which O’Sullivan mentioned in his letter. “Dublin is justly proud of it’s Jimmy O’Dea, but even in it’s most sanguine moments it would hardly have hoped that his first film effort could be so successful as Jimmy Boy. The movie is “a splendid effort.” Although the story “is slight,” the humour is rich and the dancing and singing are first-class. The casting and photography are also excellent. “We do not have to bear patiently the Englishman’s idea of Ireland and the Irish. One can see Jimmy O’Dea’s hand writ large, across the screen, and the film, as a result, is as truly Irish as himself.”

undated

Manuscript note on card. “Me Dear Now I know you’ll say--”I’m not the type”--!!--But tonight it’s orchids all the way to you--on these occassions (Bee-u-ti-ful spelling) one is inclined to sound trite & drop clichés all over the place--But from me--sincerely--Thank-you--you are a great girl & a true Blue. Keep Smiling!!! Affectionately [Clair].
Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection: Financial Files

Miscellaneous

ITA/131/9/30A  1 sheet/1 page
29 December 1964

Manuscript letter from Sinéad de Valera, the President’s House, Dublin, to Jimmy O’Dea, [Steeven’s Hospital], Dublin. “My dear Jimmy, Thanks from my heart for your generous kindness in sending those beautiful orchids. It was indeed good of you to remember me so. I will not weary you with a long letter but please read into this note all the good wishes my heart holds for you. With my prayers, dear Jimmy. Ever sincerely, Sinéad de Valera.”

ITA/131/9/30B  102x127
[29 December 1964]

Envelope addressed to “Mr. Jimmy O’Dea, Steeven’s Hospital” from [Sinéad de Valera] [which contained ITA/131/9/30A].

ITA/131/9/31A  1 sheet/2 pages
24 January 1966

Manuscript letter from Sinéad de Valera, President’s House, Dublin, to Ursula O’Dea, Dublin. “Dear Mrs. O’Dea, Many, many thanks for your kind thought in sending me those cards, I am indeed much pleased to have them. I have kind memories of your dear husband. He was very young when I first saw him but I knew at once that he had great talent. You have been asked to bear the sorrow of parting. May God and Our Lady help and sustain you. With renewed thanks, dear Mrs. O’Dea and fond remembrance of the dear friend who has gone from us. Very sincerely, Sinéad de Valera.”

ITA/131/9/31B  103x127
[24 January 1966]

Envelope addressed to “Mrs. O’Dea, 75 Pembroke Road, Dublin 4” from [Sinéad de Valera] [which contained ITA/131/9/31A]. Includes purple stamp with harp and two stars and the words “Uachtarán na hÉireann” [President of Ireland].
Typescript letter from Donall Ó Luanaigh, [Keeper of Printed Books], National Library of Ireland, Dublin, to Ursula Doyle, Dublin. He thanks her for her “kind gift of newspapers,” some of which the library did not have, and encloses “a photocopy of the tribute to your late husband” in the newspaper Waterfront. In addition, he is “photocopying the list of mourners [at Jimmy O’Dea’s funeral]” and will return the original soon after Easter. [See ITA/131/3/30A-D for masthead and article from Waterfront.]
Production Files

Introduction

Production files from the first and second deposit are numbered consecutively, with individual items relating to each show marked A, B, C, etc. The production name is in bold, while titles found on items relating to a particular production are italicised. The contents of each file vary, from rehearsal schedules to scripts to scenery designs, running orders, and memos. The dates of the shows stretch from c. 1950s-1977 and are mostly those with which Ursula Doyle was involved as director. However, see ITA/131/10/01-2 for files relating to O’Dea.
First deposit

ITA/131/10/01  8 sheets/8 pages  1 item

[1959]

Rehearsal Schedule for Finian’s Rainbow, 29 June to 25 July [1959]. Includes entry for Thursday 16 July “Complete Session for Mr. O’Dea and Miss Potter.” [See programme ITA/131/1/23 for Finian’s Rainbow from July 1957.]

Second deposit

ITA/131/10/2

[c. 1950s]

Typescript scripts for sketches for The Two Totties, with Maureen Potter, [Dolores] and Jimmy O’Dea [Rosie].

A. The Castaways. (The Two Totties)  1 p. [fragment]

B. Hot Cats on a Tin Roof  3 pp.


D. The Totties  For insertion if necessary  3 pp.
First and second page are duplicates. Third page is a similar sketch with manuscript additions. On back of third page is a different sketch titled Empty Holsters, which includes manuscript deletions.

E. Totties at the Races (“at the Races” is crossed out in ink)  3 pp.
Includes manuscript additions.

F1 and F2. The Totties in Le Touquet  F1 is 5 pp.; F2 is 4 pp.
Similar sketches with same title. F1 includes song lyrics to “Men!”

G. The Totties in the Bar  5 pp.

Scenery designs and one photograph [used as research] for The Golden Years by Donal Giltinan and based on the life of Percy French, produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, March 1967 and again for the Cecilian Musical Society, Limerick, March 1971. Both productions directed by Ursula Doyle [see ITA/131/1/47 and 56 for programmes].

A. Sc I [act 1, the grounds of Trinity College, Dublin] pencil drawing, 203x253

B. Sc 4 [act 1, at the roadside] pencil drawing, 203x253

C. Trains [scene 4, act 2, on the West Clare railway] pencil drawing, 203x253

D. Lincoln Gates [scene 2, act 1, the Lincoln street gate] watercolour with pencil additions, 201x327

E. Punchestown [scene 3, act 1, Punchestown races] watercolour with pencil additions, 201x327

F. Grafton St. [scene 5, act 1] watercolour, 201x327

G. Party Sc [scene 6, act 1, Dr. Quaid’s tennis party] watercolour with pencil additions, 201x327

H. Picnic Sc. [scene 1, act 2, the picnic] watercolour with pencil additions, 201x327

I. Jarvey [scene 2, act 2, “the Jarvey” office] watercolour with pencil additions, 201x327

J. Lake Sc [scene 3, act 2, countryside] watercolour, 201x327

K. [scene 5, act 2, the court room at Ennis] watercolour with pencil additions, 201x327

L. Sepia photograph Size: 201x291
   Caption: 1. (in pencil on back) Corner of Paddock, Punchestown, 1897. 2. (typescript on piece of paper attached to back) Fashions at Punchestown Races in April 1897 (34 years ago), [1931].
   Photographer: Lafayette Ltd., Outdoor Department, 82 Westmoreland St., Dublin.
Memo from Ursula Doyle to Fred O’Donovan, 8 October 1971 regarding the pantomime Robin Hood, including questions of dates for hanging, wardrobe and props, technical, stage, and dress rehearsals, and other suggestions.  [See ITA/131/1/59 for programme and ITA/131/2/07 for handbill.]  2 pp.


A. Typescript running order for Night of Poetry, 24 October 1971, [a part of the Gaiety Centenary Week].  Typescript on Éamonn Andrews Studios letterhead.  Includes timings and handwritten additions.    1 p.

B. Letter from Fred O’Donovan to Ursula Doyle dated 1 November 1971 thanking her for her contribution and wishing her continued success in her career.  1 p.

Scenery designs and stage manager’s running order for The Maureen Potter Show, [1972,] at the Gaiety Theatre, directed by Ursula Doyle and produced by Fred O’Donovan.  Key players include Maureen Potter, Danny Cummins, Vernon Hayden, and Jimmy Bartley.

A. Copy, marked “UD” for [Ursula Doyle], of [ink] drawings for scenery designs, sketch by sketch.  12 pp.

B. Stage manager’s running order, including cast and crew prospectus (cover page), lighting and curtain cues, entrances and exits, timings, and text for sketches.  25 pp.
Production notes for The Prisoner of Second Avenue by Neil Simon, produced at the Gaiety Theatre in October 1973. Fred O’Donovan was the director and Ursula Doyle the assistant director. Key players include Milo O’Shea. [See ITA/131/2/09A-B for handbills.]

A1-2. Typescript cast lists. A1 lists the play characters and their corresponding actor. A2 lists each actor’s name, address, and telephone number(s). 1 p. each

B. Typescript character descriptions [costume descriptions] by scene. 2 pp.

C. Typescript prop list by scene, including costumes. 2 pp.

D1-4. Typescript rehearsal schedules with similar information. D2-4 are on Éamonn Andrews Studios letterhead. While D1 is in a different format, the only variations among D2-4 occur at the bottom of each page. D2 includes “U. Doyle” handwritten in ink in top right-hand corner. 1 p. each

Production notes for The Sunshine Boys by Neil Simon, produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin in October 1973. Fred O’Donovan was the director and Ursula Doyle the assistant director. Key players include Milo O’Shea, Anna Manahan, Jim Bartley, and Vernon Hayden. [See ITA/131/2/10A-B for handbills.]

A1-3. Typescript cast lists. A1-2 lists the play characters and their corresponding actor. A1 is [the original] while A2 is a copy and includes “U. Doyle” handwritten in ink in top right-hand corner. A3 lists each actors’ name, address, and telephone number(s). 1 p. each

B. Typescript prop list. 2 pp.

C1-4. Typescript rehearsal schedules with similar information. C2-4 are on Éamonn Andrews Studios letterhead. While C1 is in a different format, the only variations among C2-4 occur at the bottom of each page. C2 includes “U. Doyle” handwritten in ink in top right-hand corner. 1 p. each
Production notes for *Gaels of Laughter* ‘77 at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, August 1977. Fred O’Donovan was the producer and Ursula Doyle the director. The majority of the production was written by Warren O’Connell, with additions by Raymond Allen, Austin Steel, and Peter Vincent. Key players include Maureen Potter, Vernon Hayden, and David Kelly. [See ITA/131/1/62 for programme.]

A. Typescript memos and minutes regarding *Gaels of Laughter*:
1. Minutes written by Fred O’Donovan on meeting held in “Davos,” The Dunes, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin on Thursday, 20 May, 1977. Persons attending were Jack O’Leary, Maureen Potter, Ursula Doyle, and O’Donovan. Possible artists, scripts, singers and dancers, and music are discussed. 2 pp.
2. Memo from Ursula Doyle to Fred O’Donovan, 10 June 1977. She summarises “Data on Musicians - from Birmingham” (Mr. Wood),’ including payment rates. 1 p.
3. Memo from Ursula Doyle, 10 June 1977 regarding the show *George M. Cohen*. She recommends getting the rights to it, gives her reasons for liking the production, and discusses casting. 1 p.
4. “Aide Memoire” from Ursula Doyle to Fred O’Donovan, 22 June 1977 regarding Alfo O’Reilly’s request to have entertainment “with a definite Irish flavour” for a conference in September. She believes it wouldn’t be “any great problem” and suggests a meeting with him. Also includes “B/F Friday” handwritten in ink on top right-hand corner. 1 p.
5. List of “artistes for consideration,” as well as stage director and manager. [May belong with ITA/131/10/6A1.] 1 p.

B1-2. Rehearsal schedules. Both contain the same information, but B1 is in manuscript, while B2 is in typescript. 6 pp. each

C1-2. Typescript lists of scripts. C1 lists all “Scripts in hand” for each writer ([including those that were not used in the final production]) and number of copies. It was typed on Éamonn Andrews Studios letterhead. C2 lists items submitted by Warren O’Connell. C1 is 4 pp.; C2 is 1 p.

D1-2. Typescript running order. D1 includes handwritten additions and notes in ink. D2 lists the numbers in more detail, including pencilled additions of timings for several. 1 p. each

E. Handwritten list of music for show. 1 p.

F1-2. Typescript [fragments of lighting cues]. F1 is for *Razzle Dazzle*, and includes handwritten note “I didn’t use all of Razzle Dazzle.” F2 is untitled, and includes handwritten additions. 3 pp. each
ITA/131/10/9 (continued)

G1-3. Typescript scripts of sketches.
   1. *ICA Special Branch or Merry Ploughgirl*, a parody written by Pádraic O’Farrell for Maureen Potter to be sung to the tune of “Off to Dublin in the Green” or “Merry Ploughboy.” Includes copy of O’Farrell’s signature. 3 pp.

H1-6. Song lyrics
   3. *The Pleasure of your Company*. Typescript, but including manuscript additions detailing the singing order of the lyrics by company and soloists. Also includes “Warren O’Connell” handwritten in ink in the upper left-hand corner. 1 p.

I1-2. Lists of instruments and musicians in manuscript. I1. is list of [needed] types of instruments. I2. is list of musician’s names, phone numbers, and the instrument(s) they play. 1 p. each

J. Typescript biography, with photograph, [for use in the programme], of the group Na Casaidigh. Includes handwritten additions. 1 p.

ITA/131/10/10A-C

Miscellaneous running orders, undated. Show is not given. Each includes a reference to “Ursula.” 9A-B are in manuscript. 9C is in typescript and includes the title “Programme Number 3.” 1 p. each
Financial Files

The financial files are numbered consecutively with similar items numbered A, B, C, etc. and are found in the second deposit only. Where possible, items are cross-referenced to other parts of the collection.

**ITA/131/11/1A**  2 sheets/2 pages

October-November, [c. 1930s-40s]

Manuscript *statement* by [Jimmy O’Dea] showing profits gained on a tour by town. Bottom of first page summarises “Banked £100. £677 approx. not yet banked.” Also lists towns and their rating, “Poor (P)” or “V. Good (VG).”

**ITA/131/11/1B**  090x151

[c. 1930s-40s]

Envelope with typescript label “Statement for first three weeks of tour,” containing ITA/131/11/1B. Also includes, in manuscript on back, “Ballymacoda, Killa, Castlemartyr,” “Tom Hayes,” and “Denny Murray.”

**ITA/131/11/2**  2 sheets/2 pages

1961

Typescript *balance sheet* for “New Zealand and Australian Tour 1961,” including monies received [for performances] in each country, itemised expenses, cash in hand and amount lodged, and money due by country. [See ITA/131/1/45 for programme from Australia.]
Printed Materials

Introduction
The printed materials include published sheet music, dramatic texts and some other books, most relating to the arts. The books and scripts all belong to the second deposit. There are a few items of sheet music from each of the deposits.

First deposit

<table>
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<th>ITA/131/12/01</th>
<th>2 pages/4 sheets</th>
<th>1 item</th>
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Sheet music, printed, for the song *Biddy Mulligan “The Pride of the Coombe”*. Written and composed by Séamus Kavanagh. Published by Walton’s Musical Instrument Galleries Ltd. Includes music and lyrics.

Second deposit

Sheet music

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[c. 1920s]

Sheet music for “The sensational Irish waltz song success” *Bridget Donohue* as “sung by Jimmy O’Dea.” Words and music by Tom Madden. Published by Herman Darewski Music Publishing Co., 122 & 124, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2., copyright 1923. Includes printed photograph on front cover of O’Dea with printed handwritten caption “Yours Sincerely, Jimmy O’Dea.” Photographer is “Moony, Dublin.” Also includes, [glued] onto last page, a lined piece of note paper with the typescript heading “Optician” and “Property of Mr. O’Malley, Messrs John Morgan & Sons, 36 Dawson St.” in manuscript.

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[c. 1940s]

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**ITA/131/12/04**

**Place of Publication**: London  
**Date of Publication**: 1906  
**Publishers**: Archibald Constable & Co.

**Author**: Shaw, George Bernard  
**Title**: *Captain Brassbound’s Conversion: An Adventure*.  
– No. 10 in The Dramatic Works of Bernard Shaw series.  
**Subject**: Irish drama. The play is set in Mogador, a seaport on the west coast of Morocco. The play involves the use of English, Scottish and American dialects, see p.216, pp. 304-308.  
**Inscription**: “To Vera from Pipsa, Dublin, Christmas 1906”  
**Condition**: delicate – damage to binding and cover – pages intact  
**Notes**: Text is marked M in pencil for role of the character Marzo, an Italian.

**ITA/131/12/05**

**Place of Publication**: Dublin  
**Date of Publication**: 1909  
**Publishers**: James Duffy and Co.

**Author**: Moran, James  
**Title**: *The Fenian’s Death: A Play in Three Acts*.  
**Subject**: Irish drama. The play features a Fenian called Donald O’Neill, an American Fenian and O’Neill’s lovers, one being the daughter of Mr Massy, a local magistrate.  
**Inscription**: none  
**Condition**: good  
**Notes**: The author was living in Askeaton, Co. Limerick in 1909. The book is dedicated to Mr T. B. Naughton. A portrait of the author appears before title page.
**ITA/131/12/06**

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**Author**: Moylan, Thomas King  
**Title**: Paid in his own Coin: A Comedy in Three Acts and Tactics: A Farce in One Act.  
**Subject**: Irish drama. Comedy.  
**Inscription**: none  
**Condition**: poor – back cover missing, damage to binding, inner pages intact  
**Notes**: none

**ITA/131/12/07**

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**Author**: Sheridan, Richard Brinsley  
**Title**: The Rivals & The School for Scandal  
**Subject**: Irish drama. The Rivals (written 1774), a comedy, and The School for Scandal (written 1777), also a comedy and regarded as Sheridan’s masterpiece.  
**Inscription**: “K. Wal[ch?]”  
**Condition**: fair. some damage to binding.  
**Notes**: Actor’s notes in The Rivals, pp. 77-80.

**ITA/131/12/08**

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<td>Samuel French</td>
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**Author**: Jennings, G. E. [Gertrude]  
**Title**: Five Birds in a Cage: A Play in One Act.  
**Subject**: English drama.  
**Inscription**: none  
**Condition**: good  
**Notes**: The play was first performed on March 19th 1915 at the Haymarket Theatre, London.
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<th>ITA/131/12/09</th>
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<td><strong>Publishers:</strong></td>
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**Author:** Rhys, Ernest  
**Title:** *The New Golden Treasury of Songs & Lyrics.*  
**Subject:** English literature. English music – songs and lyrics.  
**Inscription:** “K. & A. Murphy”  
**Condition:** good  
**Notes:** enclosure in pp. 162-3 – one sheet of O’Dea’s handwritten notes on Byron, Scott, Wordsworth and Coleridge.

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<td>1918</td>
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<td><strong>Publishers:</strong></td>
<td>Maunsel &amp; Company</td>
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**Author:** McCarthy, J. Bernard  
**Title:** *Crusaders: A Play in Two Acts.*  
part of the series Maunsel’s Irish Plays - Abbey Theatre Series  
**Subject:** Irish drama. The central characters are a young priest, Father Tom Moran, and his family.  
**Inscription:** none  
**Condition:** good  
**Notes:** The play was first performed on January 17th 1917 at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin.

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<th>ITA/131/12/11</th>
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**Author:** Dunsany, Lord  
**Title:** *Plays of Gods and Men.*  
**Subject:** Irish drama. Four plays written by Lord Dunsany, 1910-1913.  
A. *The Laughter of the Gods.* (1911)  
B. *The Queen’s Enemies.* (1913)  
C. *The Tents of the Arabs.* (1910)  
D. *A Night at an Inn.* (1912)  
**Inscription:** “Seán Lemass”  
**Condition:** good  
**Notes:** The book includes a portrait photograph of Lord Dunsany in military uniform. Some markings in *The Laughter of the Gods* for role of Harpagas. Enclosure (inside front cover) of a **programme** of The Dublin Drama League’s production of *The Laughter of the Gods* by Lord Dunsany, produced by Katherine.

Author: Shakespeare, William – edited by A. W. Verity
Title: A Midsummer-Night’s Dream.
Subject: English drama. The play draws on a wealth of Roman and Greek literature, including Pyramus and Thisbe.

Inscription: “[Trish?] Stephenson”
Stamp: Dublin Gate Theatre
Stamp: Fred Hanna Ltd., New & Secondhand Booksellers, 29 Nassau Street, Dublin

Condition: fair. stains on front and back pages. minor damage to cover.
Notes: The play was first published in 1600. The text is marked seemingly with time details (Act 1 starting at 7.58 and Act 5 ending at 11.6). Also love signs (heart and arrow) for the characters - Hermia loves Lysander (p. 44) and Demetrius loves Helena (p. 46). Also various other performance notes.

Author: Hickman, Charles D.
Title: Expecting Company: An Original Farcical Monologue.

Subject: English drama. Comedy. Monologue

Condition: poor. damage to binding and cover. rusted staples. pages intact.
Notes: none

Author: Hickman, Charles D.
Title: Robbing a Bank: An Original “Quick-Change” Dramatic Monologue.

Subject: English drama. Monologue.

Condition: good
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<td><strong>Date of Publication</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Publishers</strong></td>
<td>Samuel French</td>
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**Author**: Shazelle, G. H.
**Title**: *How Bill Adams Won the Battle of Waterloo.*
No. 1 in The Monologue Series.
**Subject**: English drama. Comedy. Monologue.
**Inscription**: none
**Condition**: good
**Notes**: none

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**Author**: unknown
**Title**: *My Dreadful Drama (Recitation-skrit) and This is only an Encore Piece.*
**Subject**: English drama. Comedy. Monologue.
**Inscription**: none
**Condition**: fair. rusted staples.
**Notes**: none

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**Author**: Brennan, M. M.
**Title**: *The Young Man from Rathmines: A Play in One Act.*
**Subject**: Irish drama. The play opens in a Dominick Street tenement. It features the Sullivan family (see ITA/131/12/18), the Dowd family and George Jackson (i.e. The Young Man from Rathmines).
**Inscription**: none
**Condition**: fair. rusted staples causing damage – some loose pages.
**Notes**: none
ITA/131/12/18  softback, 24 pages  1 item

Place of Publication: Dublin
Date of Publication: n.d. - c. 1925?
Publishers: The Talbot Press

Author: Brennan, M. M.
Title: One Hundred Pounds Reward: A Play in One Act.
Subject: Irish drama. The play is set in Dublin and features the Sullivan family (see ITA/131/12/17).
Inscription: none
Condition: good
Notes: none

ITA/131/12/19  hardback, 110 pages  1 item

Place of Publication: Dublin
Date of Publication: n.d. - c. 1925?
Publishers: Thomas Kiersey, Palmerston Gardens

Author: O’Hanlon, Henry B.
with a preface by Edward Martyn
Title: The All-Alone: A Play in Four Acts.
Subject: Irish drama. The first scene is at Castle Everard on the Atlantic coast of Ireland. “The All-Alone is a drama at sea. Its idea is the vague charm and longing which the sight of the ocean and the phantasmal life on board sailing-ships awaken in the human heart.” (E.M.)
              facing preface: “S. Lemass”
Condition: good
Notes: The play was first produced at the Irish Theatre, Dublin, under the direction of Edward Martyn in during the week of June 17-22 1918, the producer being John MacDonagh. The page marker is at pp. 56-57.

ITA/131/12/20  softback, 20 pages  1 item

Place of Publication: Cork
Date of Publication: n.d. - c. 1930?
(mention of Shannon Scheme)
Publishers: unknown - printed by Shandon Printing Works

Author: Healy, A.
Title: Shandon Chimes To Suit the Times.
Subject: Irish songs. Humorous songs, many about Cork and district.
Inscription: none
Condition: good
Notes: none
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<td><strong>Publishers</strong></td>
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**Author**: Dangerfield, Fred. and Howard, Norman  
**Title**: *How to Become a Film Artiste: The Art of Photo-Play Acting*.  
**Subject**: Film acting. This is a guide to the early world of film-making for prospective film actors. “Picture-acting is a life of health and interest, and, incidentally, good salaries for those competent enough to draw them.” It includes a directory of film studios and a chapter called ‘Stars Speak for Themselves.’

**Inscription**: None

**Condition**: Good

**Notes**: On p. 101 there is a promotion of an Odhams publication called *The Auction of Souls: The True Story of Aurora Mardiganian – The Christian Girl who survived the Great Massacres in Armenia*. Due to the settlement of a large number of Armenians in California, those in the film sector were far more aware than others of the genocide of over a million Armenians by the Turks in and around 1915.

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<td><strong>Date of Publication</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Publishers</strong></td>
<td>P. J. Bourke, 34 North Frederick Street</td>
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**Author**: O’Donovan, Harry  
**Title**: *O’Dea Laughs: A selection of sketches written by Harry O’Donovan and played by Jimmy O’Dea in the various O’D Production Revues which have appeared in Dublin Theatres*.  
**Subject**: Irish drama. Comedy. Texts of sketches featuring Jimmy O’Dea in a variety of roles. The sketches are:

A. Sixpence Each Way (Jimmy O’Dea as Mrs. Mulligan)  
B. The Overcrowded Hour (Jimmy O’Dea as Jim Blake)  
C. The Baby Elephant (Jimmy O’Dea as Maggie)  
D. East Lynne (Jimmy O’Dea as Little Willie)  
E. Drama at Kimmage (Jimmy O’Dea as Jem)  
F. Buying a Turkey (Jimmy O’Dea as Mrs. Mulligan)  
G. Curing him (Jimmy O’Dea as Billy)

**Inscription**: None

**Condition**: Good

**Notes**: There is a brief introduction by Harry O’Donovan. The book is intended strictly for use by amateur performers only.

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<td><strong>Date of Publication</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Publishers</strong></td>
<td>Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts</td>
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**Author**: Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts
**Irish Theatre Archive: Jimmy O’Dea and Ursula Doyle Collection: Financial Files**

**Title:** Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts Catalogue of the One Hundred and Thirty Fourth Exhibition, 1963.  
**Subject:** Irish art. Catalogue of an exhibition held in the National College of Art, 6th May - 8th June 1963. It includes illustrations of paintings by Maurice MacGonigal, Brigid Ganly, Harry Kernoff and Micheál de Burca.  
**Inscription:** none  
**Condition:** good  
**Notes:** none

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<td><strong>Date of Publication:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Publishers:</strong></td>
<td>The Savage Club, Whitehall Place, London, SW1</td>
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**Author:** The Savage Club  
**Title:** The Savage Club List of Members 1963.  
**Subject:** The arts in England – The Savage Club being a social club for those in the fields of Literature, Art, Science, Drama and Music.  
**Inscription:** none  
**Condition:** good  
**Notes:** Jimmy O’Dea is listed as a member on p. 29 and is said to have joined in 1943. There are two enclosures (inside front cover):  
i) Amendments to List of Members (1 sheet)  

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<td><strong>Date of Publication:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Publishers:</strong></td>
<td>Stagecast</td>
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**Author:** Stagecast  
**Title:** Stagecast Theatre Films Radio Television Directory 1964-65.  
**Subject:** Irish theatre. Irish media. The directory includes lists of actors, artistes, producers, directors, costumiers, etc. and also lists of films and plays produced in Ireland during the past year. The book contains a lot of photographs (black and white) of theatre, television and film stars in Ireland at that time.  
**Inscription:** none  
**Condition:** good  
**Notes:** Jimmy O’Dea is listed as a variety artiste on p. 47 - address: 75 Pembroke Road. He is also listed as a member of Irish Actors’ Equity, p. 78 - with some other members on the list marked in blue pen on p. 77, viz. Denis Brennan, Harry Brogan, Eddie Byrne, Edward Golden, Geoff Golden and Charles Mitchel. The list of plays of 1963 includes:  
i) Goldilocks and the Three Bears (Jimmy O’Dea and Maureen Potter, Gaiety, December 1963), p. 57  

Advertisement photographs of actors include the following: Patrick Bedford (p. 10), Barry Cassin (p.23), Edward Golden (p. 12), Vernon Hayden (p. 21), Micheál Mac Liammóir (p.22), Des Nealon (p. 23), Milo O’Shea (p. 17), Nora Lever (p. 33), Anna Manahan (p. 34), Derry O’Donovan (p. 35), Maureen Toal (p. 37). There is an enclosure in pp. 4-5: a playbill for Robin Hood by Cecil Sheridan, an Eamonn Andrews Productions presenting Maureen Potter and Milo O’Shea in “the spectacular comedy Pantomime !”, also featuring Hal Roach, Eugene Lambert, Austin Gaffney, Edmund Browne and guest star, Patricia Cahill as Maid.
Good Counsel : The Augustinian Quarterly, Volume XI, Number 9, Summer 1965

Subject: Irish Christianity – Roman Catholic Church – The Augustinians. This number of the journal contains an article called “Jimmy O’Dea” by Father P. K. O’Flynn. The cover photograph is of Jimmy O’Dea (inset) against the background of the Augustinian Church in Thomas St., Dublin, where he served Mass as an altar boy. The article includes nine photographs of O’Dea. It talks about his Augustinian links and his School days at John’s Lane National School and Belvedere College. It recounts the appearance of O’Dea at the John’s Lane Centenary Concert at the Rupert Guinness Hall in September 1962 where the compere introduced his piece as that of a former altar boy, the audience being then surprised not to see a pious performance but rather the appearance of Mrs. Mulligan! The article concludes describing O’Dea as “an artist whose kindly soul was always so close to the soul of a child.”

Inscription: none
Condition: good
Notes: There is an enclosure (pp. 6-7) of a press cutting of a photograph of O’Dea’s funeral. The caption reads “Old and young, famous and unknown, they stood at the graveside at Glasnevin Cemetery yesterday as Jimmy O’Dea was laid to rest. Included in the picture are Jimmy’s brother, Joseph (wearing glasses), and his lifelong friend, Seán Lemass.”