

Swords native's book focus on folk history of Liberties

A SWORDS native has joined the world of publishing, with his book detailing the lives and times of a historic part of Dublin over the last century.

'Heirlooms & Hand-me-downs' is the final part of a public art commission undertaken by Chris Reid, a former student of Colaiste Choilm. He grew up in Swords, living there from 1970 to 1989 and graduated from the CBS in 1981. He then went on to study at the National College of Art and Design and now lives and works in Dublin.

The book is a history of the last 100 years as told through the memories of people who live or who have lived in a small corner of the Liberties in Dublin 8.

This residential area centres around the distinctive red brick Victorian three and four storey flats on Nicholas Street, Bride Street, Bride Road and the Ross Road. Made up of 158 stories and memories this history is based primarily on audio recordings made by Chris with over 40 people who agreed to participate by sharing their memories of this local area and also by contributing to decisions regarding the content of the

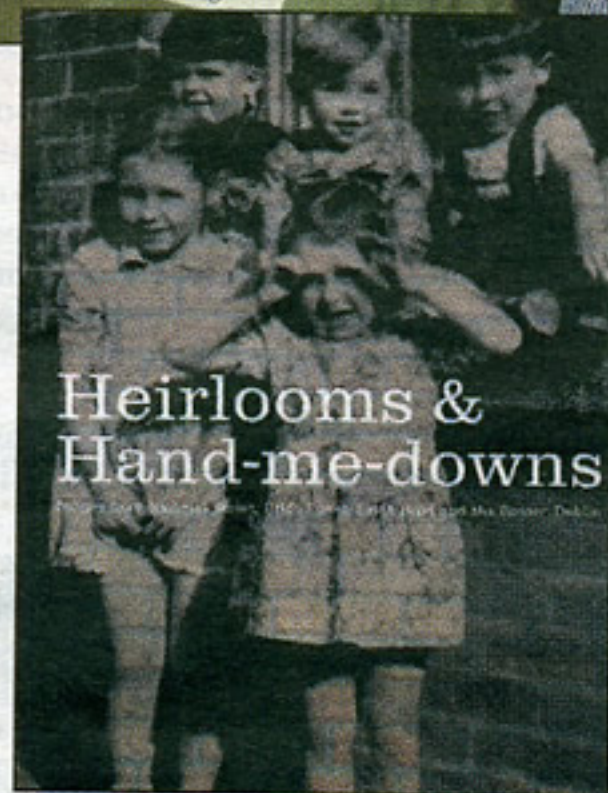


■ Christopher Reid and Elmer Moore at the Colaiste Choilm Class of 81 reunion. Right: Christopher's book.

book.

The book is part of a larger Dublin City Council Public Art commission whereby 20 of the 158 stories were selected and edited in collaboration with each contributor. Each of these texts were typeset in the form of heritage plaques, cast in bronze and affixed to the external walls of the flat complex. These can be viewed at any time.

The work has culminated in an open ended insightful history based on a process of engagement



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