

PRESS/PHOTO CALL

At the
National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology
Kildare Street, Dublin 2

When?

Tuesday, 7th June 2011

Time?

5.30pm

Where?

Exhibition Space; The Treasury – Celtic and Early Christian Ireland
National Museum of Ireland - Archaeology
Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Photo Opportunities

The Fadden More Psalter was a chance find made in a Tipperary bog in 2006 which has been skilfully conserved and preserved in the National Museum's conservation laboratory at Collins Barracks by John Gillis (*Senior Conservator*) and Rolly Read (*Head of Conservation*). Its papyrus-lined cover is direct evidence for contact between Ireland and the Mediterranean region over one thousand years ago. This was the first ever discovery of its kind in Ireland and indeed anywhere in the world. It is of international importance and is now on display to the public for the first time since being found and will be a highlight of this new exhibition.

The exhibition also contains major pieces of ecclesiastical metalwork associated with the church in the 11th and 12th centuries including St Patrick's Bell and its shrine and the Cross of Cong. On display for the first time ever is a unique ivory crozier from Aghadoe, Co. Kerry on loan from the Statens Historiska Museum in Stockholm.

Meet with:

Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht - Jimmy Deenihan T.D

Director of the National Museum of Ireland – Dr Patrick Wallace
Head of Conservation at the National Museum of Ireland – Rolly Read
Senior Conservator (Worked on the Faddan More Psalter)– John Gillis
Keeper Irish Antiquities at the National Museum of Ireland – Ned Kelly
Assistant Keeper Irish Antiquities at the National Museum of Ireland – Maeve Sikora

Notes to the Editor:

This new exhibition opens to the public on **Wednesday 8th June 2011.**

Admission to the National Museum of Ireland is Free

Open Tuesday – Saturday 10.00am – 5.00pm

Sunday 2.00pm – 5.00pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT Maureen Gaule, Marketing Department, National Museum of Ireland, Collins Barracks T: 01 648 6429 | M: 087 9031690 | E: mgaule@museum.ie

