



# na Sióga agus na Sióg

Conair draíochta trí thailte  
Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann - Saol na Tuaithe

# of Fairies and Fairy Folk

A magical trail through the grounds of the  
National Museum of Ireland – Country Life

## Fuinseog

Fraxinus excelsior

Speiceas dúchasach in Éirinn is ea an Fhuinseog, siombail chríonnachta, ríogachta agus eolais mhistiúil. I gCríoch Lochlann tugtar Yggassril, nó Crann na Beatha ar an bhFuinseog.

**Dhéantaí Fuinseog a dhó tráth chun ruaig a chur ar an Diabhal agus chosnódh maide déanta as fuinseog an t-iompróir ar olc. Faightear crainn fuinseoige go minic ag fás ag taobh Toibreacha Naofa.**

De réir an bhéaloidis a bhailigh Coimisiún Béaloideas Éireann, bhaintí úsáid as sú fuinseoige óig chun tinneas cluaise a leigheas (Co. Uíbh Fhailí) agus chreidtí go raibh an toit as cipíní fuinseoige a bhíodh ag cnádú ina leigheas ar Bhorrhéist (Co. Aontroma).

## Ash

Fraxinus excelsior

Ash is a native Irish species, a symbol of wisdom, kingship and mystical knowledge. In Scandinavia the Ash is known as Yggassril, or the Tree of Life.

**Ash wood was once burned to banish the Devil and a staff made of ash protected the bearer against any evil. Ash trees are often found growing beside Holy Wells.**

According to folklore collected by the Irish Folklore Commission, the sap of a young ash was used to cure earache (Co. Offaly) and the smoke from smouldering ash twigs was believed to be a cure for Ringworm (Co. Antrim).



Bhaintí úsáid as ‘lomán buin’ na Fuinseoige (an áit a dtagann an stoc agus an fréamh le chéile) go traidisiúnta chun camáin a dhéanamh – mar sin ‘Lascadh na gCamán’. Bhí níos mó tóra ar an bhfuinseog mar gheall ar a chumas suaitheadh a ionsú, agus mar gheall air sin chomh maith bhí sé foirfe le haghaidh cosa uirlisí, agus trealamh spóirt eile, cabhlacha carranna agus spócaí agus fiollaí rothaí cairte adhmaid.

The ‘butt log’ of Ash (where the trunk meets the root) was traditionally used to make hurls – hence ‘The Clash of the Ash’. Ash wood was preferred because of its ability to absorb shock, which also made it ideal for tool handles, other sports equipment, motor car bodies and the spokes and fellows of wooden cart wheels.

