Abstract
The progeny of diaspora Irish in New Zealand could be pretty well up with literary life in Ireland in Ireland in the earlier part of the 20th century. Reports of publication of new poetry by Yeats from the Cuala Press were run on the book pages of a few daily newspapers. English theatre troupes with Irish players did tours, one in 1916 with Sara Allgood in the title role of Peg O’ My Heart. Taking the beginning of the golden era of modern Irish literature as being in the 1890s, following the fall of Parnell, Douglas Hyde's founding the Gaelic League, and Yeats's springing into action, then the end marked by the death of Yeats in 1939, this paper offers a unique, kiwi’s-eye view of the Dublin literary scene in 1935 drawn from an unpublished journal record of conversational interviews with leading figures of the Dublin scene by a New Zealand journalist Ann Elder is a journalist with interest in Irish diaspora history who has presented papers at three previous Irish Studies Association conferences (2009, 2010 and 2011) on aspects of her Irish ancestors' settlement. She updated a 1950s' history degree from Canterbury and Auckland with helpful recent papers from Auckland University history department on elements of re-thinking New Zealand settlement history and straight Irish history since 1789. As a section of a biography, Scapegoat of Fortune, she has just completed of journalist Ian Donnelly, she made use inter alia of the Dublin interviews in unpublished journal records made available from family archives now mostly deposited at the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington.