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Údarás Radio Telefís Éireann

text to come

Radio Telefís Éireann Authority

text to come

Patrick J Wright *Cathaoirleach*

Lá deiridh na bliana 2000, thosaigh Raidió RTÉ ar a cheiliúradh 75 bliana de sheirbhís phoiblí. Ní amháin go ndeachthas siar go sultmhar ar bhóithrín na smaointe sna cláir cheiliúrtha ach thugadar éachtaint ar ról lárnach an chraolacháin i saol na hÉireann ó bhlianta tosaigh an Stáit. Beart misniúil a bhí ann sa bhliain 1926 nuair a craoladh na cláir dhúchasacha ba thúisce in Éirinn ar stáisiún beag raidió 2RN. Anois féin, trí RTÉ, tá ceithre sheirbhís náisiúnta raidió, trí chainéal teilifíse agus raon bisiúil de láithreáin Idirlín tagtha i gcomharbacht ar 2RN..

Is é gnó RTÉ seirbhísí Éireannacha raidió agus teilifíse, agus seirbhísí nua-mheán a sholáthar do mhuintir na tíre le raon agus caighdeán ábhar nach mbeadh ar fáil in aon chor dá mba é an critéar lom tráchtála an t-aon bhonn dár saothar. Faoi réir an phrionsabail sin a ghlacann Údarás RTÉ gach aon chinneadh. Tháinig comhaltaí nua an Údaráis in oifig ar an 1 Meitheamh 2000 agus tuigimid go bhfuil dualgas ar an Údarás, sna cúig bliana romhainn, ár gcraolachán seirbhíse poiblí a thabhairt isteach sa ré dhigiteach go muiníneach, fuinniúil, samhlaíoch. Sin é an dúshlán do RTÉ. Táim suite de go bhfuil an eagraíocht ag díriú ar an dúshlán sin agus é ina rún daingean a dheimhniú gurb é RTÉ a bheidh ina chéadrogha ag lucht éisteachta is féachana na hÉireann mar chraoltóir is mar léiritheoir.

Bunriachtanas é siúráil chistiúcháin sna blianta romhainn. Is mó an iomaíocht i ngach réimse den chraolachán agus de na meáin leictreonacha le himeacht gach bliana. Tá sé seo ríshoiléir as ráiteas airgeadais RTÉ. Sa bhliain a chríochnaigh 31 Nollaig seo caite, mhéadaigh an t-easnamh craolacháin go £23.213m, easnamh dofhulangtha ar fad mar atá ráite agam áit éigin eile. Nuair a áiríodh an t-ioncam uile, bhí easnamh £11.23m i gceist do ghrúpa RTÉ ag deireadh na bliana. Le heasnamh dá leithéid, caithfear costais a laghdú agus fáltais a mhéadú. San am chéanna, caithfidh RTÉ infheistiú i gcláir ardchaighdeáin chun lucht éisteachta a ghnóthú le feabhas buan ár gcuid sceideal. Is chuige sin a bhunaigh an tÚdarás Ciste Forbartha Clár a infheisteoidh £25m i léiriúchán dúchasach clár sna cúig bliana romhainn. Gníomh muiníne as scil agus talann léiritheoirí na tíre é seo agus ní bheidh aon chraoltóir eile in Éirinn inchomórtais linn sa tslí seo.

Patrick J Wright **Chairman**

On the last day of the year 2000, RTÉ Radio began its celebration of 75 years of service to the public. While the programmes marking that anniversary were nostalgic and entertaining, they also pointed to the central part that broadcasting has played in Irish life since the early years of the State. A brave beginning was made in 1926 when the small wireless station 2RN broadcast the first indigenous Irish programmes. Today, its descendants include four national radio services, three television channels, and a growing range of Internet sites.

RTÉ exists to give the people of this country Irish radio, television and new media services with a quality and range of content that simply would not be provided if a strictly commercial approach was the only basis for what we do. This principle guides all the decisions taken by the RTÉ Authority. The new Authority members came into office on 1 June, 2000 and we know that in the next five years the Authority must set a course to bring our public service broadcasting into the digital era with confidence, vigour and imagination. This is the challenge facing RTÉ. I am convinced that the organisation is stepping up to that challenge with the determination to ensure that RTÉ will continue to be the broadcaster and producer of first choice for Irish listeners and viewers.

Secure funding is the essential requirement for the future. Each sector of broadcasting and electronic communications becomes more competitive with every year that passes. That reality is starkly clear from RTÉ's financial statement. In 2000, the broadcasting deficit rose to £23.213 million, a figure that is, as I have said elsewhere, simply unsustainable. When all income is considered, the RTÉ group ended the year with a deficit of £11.23 million. The response to such a deficit demands that we reduce costs and increase revenues. At the same time, RTÉ must invest in high quality programmes to win audiences by guaranteeing the excellence of our schedules. That is why the Authority has created a Programme Development Fund to invest £25 million in indigenous programme-making over the next five years. This is an act of confidence in the talent and skill of Irish producers, and also a commitment which no other broadcaster in Ireland will rival.

1 Pictured at the National Concert Hall marking 75 years of Irish broadcasting on New Years Eve, 31 December 2000, is the legendary Seán Óg Ó Ceallacháin (left) with Radio 1 presenters Maxi and Derek Mooney and Helen Shaw, Director of Radio.
Seán Óg Ó Ceallacháin (ar clé) le léiritheoirí Raidió 1, Maxi agus Derek Mooney agus Helen Shaw, Stiúrthóir Raidió, sa Cheoláras Náisiúnta ar ócáid cheiliúrtha 75 bliana craolacháin in Éirinn.

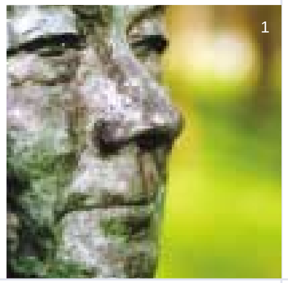
RTÉ

Ar leanúint

Agus mé á scríobh seo, tá iarratas RTÉ ar tháille méadaithe ar cheadúnas teilifíse á mheas ag an Aire. Léirigh RTÉ, sa chás a deineadh ar son méadaithe, conas a chaithfí an t-airgead breise d'fhonn caighdeán ár seirbhísí clár a fheabhsú. Chun go bhfaigheadh an pobal an luach is fearr as táille méadaithe ar cheadúnais, is gá na buntáistí a leanfaidh athruithe eagraíochta a bheith faoi réir. Mar thaca le léiriúchán breise is feabhsaithe do lucht éisteachta na hÉireann a chaithfear an bhreis iomlán sna fáltais ó chistí poiblí.

Laistigh de RTÉ, tá dul chun cinn maith déanta in athstruchtúrú na heagraíochta. I rith an dá mhí dhéag seo caite, deineadh comhaontuithe le costais a laghdú agus éifeacht a fheabhsú. Trí chomhoibriú agus trí chomhchainteanna, tá an fhoireann agus an bhainistíocht ag díriú go stuama ar na dúshláin agus tá mórchlaochlú á dhéanamh ar RTÉ. Gabhaim buíochas go poiblí as na hiarrachtaí atá á ndéanamh ag gach aon duine in RTÉ chun na haidhmeanna, a cheapamar dúinn, féin a bhaint amach. Is annamh a aimsítear réiteach i leith athruithe gan bráca, ach dheimhnigh comhoibriú fiúntach go bhfuil cuid mhaith den mbóthar atá le cur dínn, siúlta againn.

Dhein an tAcht um Chraolachán, 2001, soláthar do thosú na teilifíse talmhaí digití (TTD). I rith na bliana 2000, nuair a bhíothas ag feitheamh leis an acht nua, deineadh bunobair thábhachtach d'fhonn a chinntiú go mbeifí in ann dul chun cinn a dhéanamh go tomhaiste faoi bhráid thosú TTD. Caithfidh an tÚdarás a pholasaí a cheapadh agus a bheachtú anois do thosú seirbhísí nua digiteacha. Beidh moltaí do chainéil bhreise le scrúdú agus cinní le déanamh maidir le cathain a thosófar ar chraoladh na gcainéal – ach iad a bheith faofa. Cuirfidh tosú na seirbhísí digiteacha brú ar gach gné den eagraíocht – cruthaíocht, teicneolaíocht agus riarachán – agus rachaidh na hathruithe fairsinge atá á ndéanamh in RTÉ anois chun sochair don phobal. Tráth spreagúil é seo i gcúrsaí craolacháin agus táim deimhin de go n-éireoidh linn ionad lárnach a chinntiú do mheáin na seirbhíse poiblí sa raon leathnaithe seirbhíse atá geallta dúinn ag an teicneolaíocht dhigiteach.



1 Gay Byrne Sculpture.
Dealbh Gay Byrne.

RTÉ

Continued

As I write, RTÉ's application for an increased television licence fee is under consideration by the Minister. In arguing the case for an increase, RTÉ has demonstrated how the additional income will be used to raise the quality of our programme services. If the public is to receive maximum value in return for paying a higher licence fee, the benefits that flow from organisational change will have to be in place. All increased revenue from public funds will support more and better production for the Irish audience.

Within RTÉ, much progress has been made in restructuring the organisation. During the last twelve months, agreements have been reached to reduce costs and increase efficiency. Through collaboration and negotiation, staff and management have taken a rational approach to the challenges and RTÉ is, truly, undergoing a transformation. I want to record my appreciation of the efforts being made by everyone in RTÉ to achieve the goals we have set for ourselves. Reaching agreement on change is rarely trouble-free, but good co-operation has already advanced us far along the road we have to travel.

The Broadcasting Act, 2001 provides for the means of introducing digital terrestrial television (DTT). In the year 2000, much important groundwork was done in anticipation of the new act to ensure steady progress towards the start up of DTT. Now the Authority must decide and finalise its policy for the introduction of new digital services. This will call for examination of proposals for additional channels and for decisions about when the channels – once approved – can begin broadcasting. Every aspect of the organisation – creative, technological and administrative – will be tested by the introduction of digital services, and the public will derive the advantages of the far-reaching changes now being made in RTÉ. It is an exciting time in broadcasting and I am sure that we can secure a central place for public service media in the extended range of service that digital technology promises.

1 Television programmes building (detail).
Foirgneamh na gclár teilifíse (cuid de).

Ar leanúint

Táim buíoch de chomhaltaí an Údaráis, ar chríochnaigh a dtéarma Bealtaine 2000, agus dá gCathaoirleach, an tOllamh Farrel Corcoran, sárshaineolaí i gcúrsaí na meán. Tá acmhainní luachmhara tallainne agus taithí ag comhaltaí an Údaráis nua agus iad ag dul i mbun a gcúraim. Tá siad ag teacht in oifig ag am cinniúnach agus dealbhóidh a gcinní craolachán na seirbhíse poiblí in Éirinn go ceann i bhfad sa chéad seo romhainn. Gabhaim buíochas leo as a ndúthracht fhial go dtí seo agus táim ag tnúth leis an obair a dhéanfaimid as láimh a chéile feasta. Tá dírithe ag an bPríomh-Stiúrthóir, Bob Collins, mar aon lena fhoireann feidhmiúcháin, ar na hathruithe a thabhairt i gcrích a chuirfidh ar chumas RTÉ bláthú mar an fórsa cultúrtha is mó tionchar in Éirinn sa ré dhigiteach. Táim ag tnúth le leanúint den chomhoibriú le Cathaoirligh agus comhaltaí Chomhairle Raidió na Gaeltachta agus Theilifís na Gaeltachta ina saothar le seirbhísí raidió agus teilifíse i nGaeilge a fheabhsú. Bhí an tAire Ealaíon, Oidhreachta, Gaeltachta agus Oileán, Síle de Valera, buanseasmhach ina tacaíocht do chraolachán na seirbhísí poiblí, agus dá ionad ar leith i saol an chomhluadair, le linn na n-athruithe agus na héiginnteachtaí go léir a bhain leis an tréimhse seo i stair an chraolacháin. Gabhaim buíochas ó chroí leis an Aire agus le hoifigigh a Roinne.

Ar deireadh, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil arís le bainistíocht agus foireann RTÉ as a ngairmiúlacht agus a ndúthracht i leith an chraolacháin seirbhíse poiblí. Mar aon le comhaltaí an Údaráis, táim ag tnúth le torthaí na dílseachta buaine sin.

1 Unveiling of le Brocquy Táin Tapestry – Louis le Brocquy, Bob Collins, Director General, RTÉ, Síle de Valera, Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands and Patrick J Wright, Chairman, RTÉ.
Louis le Brocquy, Bob Collins, Príomh-Stiúrthóir, RTÉ, Síle de Valera, Aire Ealaíon, Oidhreachta, Gaeltachta agus Oileán, agus Patrick J Wright, Cathaoirleach, RTÉ, nuair a nochtadh Táipéis Tána le Brocquy.

1 24 June 2000 was a unique day for Irish radio. Radio Féile was the first time ever that the four RTÉ Radio stations came together.
Lá ar leith a bhí ann ó thaobh an raidió in Éirinn, 2000. Don chéad uair riamh, ar Radio Féile, tháinig ceithre stáisiún Raidió RTÉ le chéile.

2 Brenda Donoghue and Derek Mooney, celebrating Radio Féile.
Brenda Donoghue agus Derek Mooney, ag ceiliúradh Radio Féile.

Continued

I am grateful to the members of the Authority that completed its term in May, 2000 and to their Chairman, Professor Farrel Corcoran, a person of outstanding expertise in media matters. The members of the new Authority, I have personal experience of the dedication it brought to its work in the public interest. My new colleagues on the Authority draw upon a valuable store of talent and experience as they settle to their task. They come into office at a critical moment, and their decisions will shape Irish public broadcasting far into this new century. I thank them for the generosity of their commitment to date and look forward to working with them in the future. The Director-General, Bob Collins, and his executive team are focused on bringing about the changes that will equip RTÉ to flourish as the most influential Irish cultural body in the digital order. I look forward to continuing collaboration with the Cathaoirligh and members of both Comhairle Raidió na Gaeltachta and Teilifís na Gaeilge as they work to enhance television and radio services in Irish. Through all the changes and uncertainties of this period in the history of broadcasting, the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, Síle de Valera, has been consistent in her support for public broadcasting and its special contribution to the life of our community. To the Minister and the officials in her department, I express my sincere thanks.

Finally, I would again thank the management and staff of RTÉ for their professionalism and dedication to the ideal of public service broadcasting. Together with the members of the Authority, I look forward to the results of that continuing commitment.

Patrick J Wright
Cathaoirleach – Chairman
Márta 2001 / March 2001

Bob Collins *Príomh-Stiúrthóir*

Bob Collins **Director-General**

Ar leanúint

1 2fm presenters – from left to right: Damien Farrelly, Dave Fanning, Damien McCaul, Dusty Rhodes, Michael Cahill, Wes D'Arcy, John Power, Mark McCabe (April 2000).
Láithreoirí de chuid 2fm – ó chlé: Damien Farrelly, Dave Fanning, Damien McCaul, Dusty Rhodes, Michael Cahill, Wes D'Arcy, John Power, Mark McCabe (Aibreán 2000).

Continued

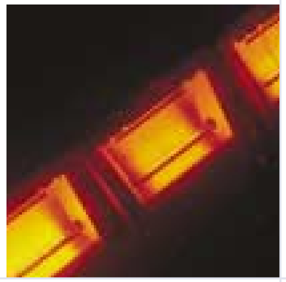
1 The RTÉ Concert Orchestra performing at the Rattlebag Listeners Choice with guest pianist Micheál Ó Súilleabháin, Prionnsías Ó Dúinn, conducting.
Ceolfhoireann Choirme RTÉ i mbun ceoil ag an Rattlebag Listeners Choice leis an aoi-phianadóir, Micheál Ó Súilleabháin; Proinnsias Ó Duinn á stiúrú.

1 Pat Kenny visiting Our lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin, Dublin prior to the late late toy Show.
Pat Kenny ar cuairt chuig Ospidéal Mhuire na Leanaí Breoite, Cromghlinn, Baile Átha Cliath roimh Late Late Show na mbréagán.

1 Network 2 presenters Mary Kingston, Louise Loughman and Bianca Luykx.
Láithreoirí de chuid Network 2 – Mary Kingston, Louise Loughman agus Bianca Luykx.

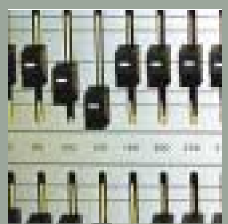
Ar leanúint

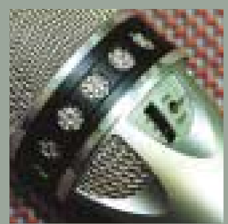
Continued



1 RTÉ Concert Orchestra string section.
Téada Cheolfhoireann Choirme RTÉ.

“ Focused on bringing about the changes that will equip RTÉ to flourish ”





EXECUTIVE BOARD / AN BORD FEIDHMEANNAIS

EXECUTIVE BOARD   AN BORD FEIDHMEANNAIS

RTÉ

Bob Collins
Director-General

Príomh-Stiúrthóir

Gerry Dunne
Managing Director, Commercial

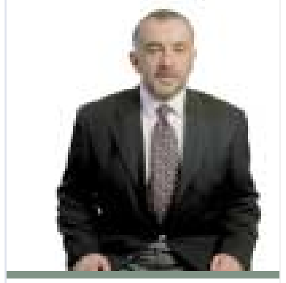
Stiúrthóir Bainistíochta, Tráchtáil

Cathal Goan
Director of Television

Stiúrthóir na Teilifíse

Ed Mulhall
Director of News

Stiúrthóir Nuachta



Liam Miller
Managing Director, Organisation and Development

Stiúrthóir Bainistíochta, Eagrúchán agus Forbairt

Gerard O'Brien
Chief Financial Officer

Príomh Oifigeach Airgeadais

Helen Shaw
Director of Radio

Stiúrthóir Raidió

Vacant
Director of Digital Media

RTÉ

Under the terms of the Broadcasting Act, 1960, and subsequent legislation, RTÉ is subject to the nine-member RTÉ Authority, appointed by the Government. The present Authority was appointed for a five-year term on 1 June, 2000.

Faoi réir fhorálacha Acht Croalacháin 1960, agus reachtaíocht eile ó shin, feidhmíonn RTÉ faoi Údarás RTÉ ar a bhfuil naonúr a cheapann an Rialtas. Ceapadh an tÚdarás atá anois ann do thréimhse cúig bliana ar a 1 Meitheamh, 2000.

Authority Meetings – 2000
Cruinnithe Údaráis – 2000

Total number of meetings held: 10
Líon iomlán na gcruinnithe: 10

	Attended / *Freastal*
■ Mr William Attley	**4**
† Mr Joe Barry	**5**
■ Prof Farrel Corcoran	**5**
† Ms Anne Doyle	**3**
■ Dr Garret FitzGerald	**4**
Mr Des Geraghty	**8**
■ Ms Anne Haslam	**5**
† Ms Maura Hayes	**5**
■ Ms Pat Hume	**4**
† Ms Garry Hynes	**5**
† Mr Stephen O'Byrnes	**5**
† Dame Mary Peters	**3**
■ Ms Betty Purcell	**5**
■ Ms Patricia Redlich	**5**
† Dr Mary Redmond	**4**
Mr Paddy Wright	**8**

■ *Term of office expired 31st May, 2000*
† *Appointed 1st June, 2000*

RTÉ

Chairman **Patrick J Wright**
is Director of Smurfit Group,
Director of Aer Lingus and
Director of Anglo Irish Bank Group

Cathaoirleach
Stiúrthóir Ghrúpa Smurfit,
Stiúrthóir Aer Lingus agus
Stiúrthóir Ghrúpa Anglo Irish Bank

Dame Mary Peters, CBE
Olympic medalist and retired business-woman

Buaiteoir boinn sna Cluichí Oilimpeacha agus iar-bhean ghnó

Maura Hayes
Solicitor

Aturnae

Dr Mary Redmond
Company Director and Solicitor

Rúnaí agus Aturnae Cuideachta

Joe Barry
ex-RTÉ Director-General

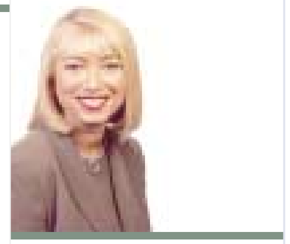
Iar-Phríomh-Stiúrthóir RTÉ

Stephen O'Byrnes
Business Consultant

Comhairleoir Gnó

Garry Hynes
Artistic Director, Druid Theatre

Stiúrthóir Ealaíne, Druid Theatre



Anne Doyle
Newscaster, RTÉ Staff Member

Léitheoir Nuachta, Ball Foirne RTÉ

Des Geraghty
General President of SIPTU

Ard-Uachtarán SIPTU