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The John Dunne Medal

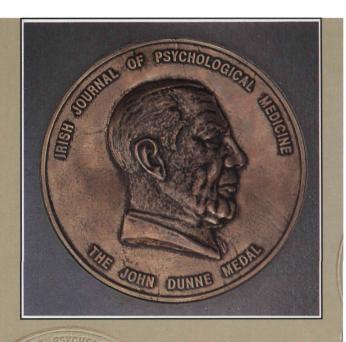
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The John Dunne Medal is awarded annually by the Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine. Trainees from Ireland, Northern Ireland and Great Britain are eligible. The trainee shall have contributed substantially, though not necessarily as the first author, to an original paper (exceptionally an article in another category) published by the Journal in the previous year.

The bronze medal is named after Dr John Dunne, the first psychiatry professor in Ireland and the president in 1955 of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association. The bronze medal was sculpted by Robin Buick, ARHA. It has been exhibited by the Royal Hibernian Academy.

The international panel of adjudicators selects the medal winner on the basis of the paper's originality, method, and relevance for future research or clinical practice.

The first authors of articles published in December 1994, March 1995, June 1995 and September 1995, are invited to submit a trainee's name into the competition for the 1995 prize. The winner will be announced in the December 1995



Our thanks to Eli Lilly for their continued support

Opening page of Saint Luke's Gospel Front cover description

From the Book of Kells, Kells, Co Meath. 8-9th Century AD. Reproduced courtesy of the Board of Trinity College Dublin.

The first historical indication of the existence of the Book of Kells is an account, in Irish, of a theft at Kells in the year 1006, it reads:

"The great Gospel of Columcille, the chief relic of the western world, was wickedly stolen during the night from the western sacristy of the great stone church of Cennanus on account of its wrought shrine. That Gospel was found after twenty nights and two months with its gold stolen from it, buried in the ground".

As a first record of its existence it is indicative of the treatment the book received over the subsequent centuries, passing as it did through several undetermined owners and loosing in the process many folios. A pages in the book were inscribed by various

hands with accounts of the granting of land to the Church of Colmcille. While in the 17th Century, in rather clumsy Latin, Richardus Whit recorded the Famine of 1586, the twelve year civil war in Queen Elizabeth's reign, the accession of James I and the plague of 1604. Even less considerate authors chose to pen their comments not on blank pages but superimposed on the actual text, and not in Latin but in English. On f. 334 one of these authors announced himself:

"I Geralde Plunket of Dublin wrot the contente of every chapter I meane where every chapter doth begyn 1568".

> After such treatment the book finally arrived at Trinity College Dublin, donated, it is believed, by Henry Jones (Scoutmaster General in Cromwell's army and Bishop of Meath in 1661). Initially, however, the treatment meted out by the college was hardly any better than that it had received prior to its

> The book was mislaid and ignored over the centuries, and when it was attended to, it was bound and rebound in less than respectful fashion, notably in the 18th century when the actual pages were trimmed by up to an inch. It was only in 1953 that the Book of Kells finally received treatment appropriate to its worth. Mr Roger Powell restored and rebound the book with an expertise which should at

last ensure that the book will remain intact and in good condition for many generations to come. The Book of Kells is currently on display in the Long Room at Trinity College

Dublin.

1: The Book of Kells. Peter Brown. London: Thames and Hudson, 1992.

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References: 1. Reimherr FW et al. J Clin Psychiatr 1990; \$1 (12 Suppl. B): 18-27. 2. Cohn CK et al. Ibid: 28-33. 3. Doogan DP & Caillard V. Br J Psychiatr 1992; 160: 217-222. 4. Doogan DP. Int Clin Psychopharmacol 1991; 6 (Suppl. 2): 47-56.

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