Would you like to become a Friend of the Centre?

Though not a high-cost initiative, The Centre currently operates on limited resources and this is a problem not least for ensuring the upkeep of the book collection and looking after our premises.

One major aim of The Centre is to promote the knowledge and appreciation of Platonism in the wider community, and it is our purpose to provide public lectures and a series of workshops bringing a Platonic perspective to issues of everyday life.

In these regards some external funding is necessary and donations would be greatly appreciated.

Bank Details:
Centre for the Study of the Platonic Tradition
Bank of Ireland
2 College Green
Account #: 17913375
Branch Code: 90-00-17
BIC: BOFIIE2D
IBAN: IE38 BOFI 9000 1717 9133 75

Phone: +353 1 896 1214
Email: obyrnebr@tcd.ie
Web: www.tcd.ie/classics/cspt
What We Are

The Plato Centre organizes and directs a variety of activities in the area of the history of Platonism and contemporary philosophy in the Platonist tradition, which include weekly reading seminars and regular postgraduate & postdoctoral workshops, visiting speakers’ colloquia and public lectures.

Although based in Trinity College the centre draws its members from all the major universities in the Dublin area. It combines several subject areas in addition to its two core disciplines: Philosophy and Classics.

The Dublin Centre for the Study of the Platonic Tradition

Library and Seminar Room

On October 21, 2004, there took place the formal opening by the Provost, Professor John Hegarty, of the library and seminar room of The Centre, located in the 1937 building in front square of Trinity College – and we, originally founded in 1997, at long last had a permanent home.

These premises in which we conduct our activities also house the largest collection of books relating to Platonism in the republic of Ireland: some 2,500 volumes donated to the centre and to Trinity College by John Dillon.

What We Do

The Weekly Reading Seminar goes back to the original founding of The Centre and its aim is to bring together scholars and students to engage in close readings of core texts from Plato and Plotinus among others.

The Postgraduate & Postdoctoral Workshop is a recent introduction with the aim of providing a forum in which advanced students can present their work-in-progress on a regular basis for the scrutiny of each other and of scholars.

The Visiting Speakers’ Colloquium attracts distinguished scholars from around the world and has for many years been a lively venue for discussion and debate – typically extending into convivial evenings.

The Annual Stephen Mackenna Lecture is named in commemoration of the great Irish translator of Plotinus and is designed to honour distinguished contemporary scholars working in the field of Plato and the Platonic Tradition.

The Public Lecture Series was conceived of by John Dillon and inaugurated with his memorable talk ‘Platonism and the world crisis’, for the purpose of bringing a Platonic perspective to problems of everyday life.