



Nuachtlitir Ard Chonsalacht na hÉireann

Newsletter of the Consulate General of Ireland

Deireadh Fomhair – October 2012

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Consul General's Memo Teachtaireacht an Árd Chonsul

- **Fáilte - Welcome** to the October edition of the Consulate's newsletter which focuses on recent visits as well as some planned events. Within the last month we have welcomed the Tánaiste and Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade, Eamon Gilmore & Minister Leo Varadkar to New York & more recently the Taoiseach, Enda Kenny to Philadelphia. The focus of our input to their visits was very much on promoting increased tourism, trade & investment between Ireland & the US.
- Economic promotion is at the heart of the Consulate's work, and we are very grateful for the support of so many individuals & organisations in the New York & tri-state region for their help in promoting Ireland. We are ready to work with you to help bring mutual benefits to both Ireland & the US – whether through initiatives such as 'the Gathering' or 'Succeed in Ireland' which are referenced in this newsletter. If there are opportunities which you believe would be of interest to Ireland, I would encourage you to get in touch with one of the team here in the Consulate or the agencies in Ireland House.
- Make sure to keep in touch with us via our website, **LinkedIn** group or **Twitter** & encourage your colleagues, friends & family to do likewise. As always, if there is something you would like to see included in an upcoming edition, please let us know.
- *Noel Kilkenny, Consul General*

Ard Chonsalacht na hÉireann, Nua Eabhrac

An Taoiseach in Philadelphia

- The first visit by a serving Taoiseach to Philadelphia took place on Friday, 12 October. The Taoiseach was very warmly greeted by **Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett** who told the Taoiseach of his Galway/Mayo roots. There was a detailed discussion of the potential to enhance business between Ireland & Pennsylvania. The Taoiseach invited Governor Corbett to come to Ireland with a trade & investment delegation.
- The Taoiseach spoke at the second annual **US-Ireland Legal Symposium** hosted by the Brehon Law Society. In his remarks he addressed the challenges & positive developments in the Irish economy, referencing the fact that investment from the US continues to be strong, as does exports. The Taoiseach also took the opportunity to invite the Brehon Law Society & their friends to visit Ireland next year for **'the Gathering'**.
- The Taoiseach also officially opened the Philadelphia office of **Zenith Automation**, an Irish company. This brings to 149 the number of Irish companies with offices in Pennsylvania.



An Taoiseach with Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett



An Taoiseach addressing US-Ireland Symposium

An Taoiseach in Philadelphia

- An Taoiseach also met with a range of Irish & Irish-American business & community groups in Philadelphia.
- The meeting with supporters of the **American Ireland Fund** offered an opportunity for the Taoiseach to thank them for their work & commitment. He also briefed them on the progress being made to restore the Irish economy & encouraged them to look to expand trade & investment with Ireland.
- The Taoiseach was also briefed by the local **GAA** on the development at Limerick, a suburb of Philadelphia which is the first permanent home for gaelic games in the city.
- He also met with the organisers of the **Continental Youth Championships**, the largest GAA event in the world, which will be held in Chester, Philadelphia next year. He encouraged all in the Irish community to support this important event which would serve as a platform to promote Ireland in the Philadelphia region.



An Taoiseach with Brehon Law Society's Senator Rocks



An Taoiseach & Ambassador Collins with supporters of the American Ireland Fund

Tánaiste promoting trade, investment & tourism during visit to New York

- **An Tánaiste & Minister for Foreign Affairs & Trade, Eamon Gilmore** visited New York to take part in the UN General Assembly week from 24 September – 1 October. In addition to a busy schedule of United Nations-related meetings, his focus was on promoting trade, investment & tourism with the US.
- During his visit, he joined **Minister Leo Varadkar** to launch ‘The Gathering’, which is an invitation to all friends of Ireland around the world to visit Ireland with friends & family in 2013. For more information visit www.thegatheringireland.com
- The Tánaiste briefed a large number of **key business leaders** on the progress of the Government’s efforts to rebuild Ireland’s financial position. He also announced details of the ‘**Succeed in Ireland**’ initiative & encouraged the NY business community to continue to seek out investment and trade opportunities in and with Ireland.
- The Tánaiste also undertook a series of briefings for the New York media on the economic & financial situation in Ireland.



Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore, Minister Leo Varadkar with Niall Gibbons, Tourism Ireland & CG Kilkenny



Tara McCabe with Terry Clune, Taxback & ‘Succeed in Ireland’

Tánaiste announces Government funding for Irish community

- During his visit to New York, An Tánaiste & Minister for Foreign Affairs & Trade, Eamon Gilmore confirmed the level of funding to be provided to the centers working with the Irish communities across the United States.
- In his comments he said “I am delighted that the Government’s support ensures that Irish organisations, particularly those providing frontline services, can continue to provide the exceptional level of service that has become a hallmark. I am very conscious of the significant efforts your organisations are making to provide value for money and to strengthen and develop capacity, ensuring that you can respond effectively to the needs of the vulnerable Irish.

Although we have experienced difficulties due to the global economic crisis, our commitment to the global Irish remains strong. We wish to ensure that services to the most vulnerable members of our community are maintained. Approximately USD 2 million is being allocated to Irish organisations in the United States under the Emigrant Support Programme for 2012. **These grants are a clear indication of our resolute commitment to supporting our emigrant communities throughout the US”.**

The Tánaiste also met with the representatives of the **New York GAA**, who briefed him on the progress of the project at Gaelic Park.

Ard Chonsalacht na hÉireann, Nua Eabhrac



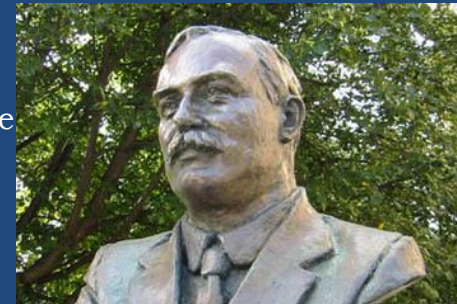
Tánaiste with representatives of the Irish immigration centers & New York GAA

Comóradh – Commemoration

- 2012 is the first year in a decade of very important centenaries. The years from 1912–22 saw a series of momentous events in Ireland, & beyond, which changed the course of Irish history & led to the foundation of the state. Over the coming years, the Government will be working at home & abroad to commemorate these events & to honour those who were part of them.
- During his recent visit to New York, An Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore convened the first meeting of the **James Connolly Commemoration Committee** which next year will mark the anniversary of the Great Dublin Lockout of 1913.
- 1912 saw the introduction in Westminster of the Third Home Rule Bill, which set the stage for the conflict of the following years. It also saw the mass mobilisation against Home Rule in Ulster, led by Edward Carson, culminating in the signing of the Ulster Covenant. And, of course, it was also the year of the most famous maritime disaster in history, the sinking of the Titanic, built in the Belfast shipyards.
- There will be other anniversaries too. Next year, the 50th anniversary of the visit to Ireland by **President John F. Kennedy** will be an opportunity to celebrate more recent links between Ireland & America.
- We will remember those times not just in exhibitions, books and lectures but also through art, music & storytelling. It is important that commemoration of the past is something which engages the global Irish family. The first in a series of regular newsletters intended to highlight some of the events taking place in the course of the decade can be accessed on the Consulate website.
- The Consulate will also provide additional information on any local events.



Statue of James 'Big Jim' Larkin, Dublin



Bust of James Connolly, Troy, NY

Comhgairdeachas – Al Smith IV

- At the end of September, the Consulate hosted a special event to for the New York St Patrick's Day Parade organizers at which they announced **Al Smith IV as the Grand Marshal of the 2013 Parade.**
- Smith is the great-grandson of the legendary Al Smith, Governor of New York & presidential candidate. He runs the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation, & has acted as Master of Ceremonies at the annual Alfred E. Smith Foundation Dinner for the past 25 years. This year's dinner was attended by President Obama & Governor Romney.
- In addition to his work with the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation he serves as Chairman of the Irish Chamber of Commerce of the USA, Director of the Center for Hope & the board of St. Vincent's Hospital in Manhattan.
- Next year's parade will be the 252nd consecutive St Patrick's Day Parade in New York & will involve c.250,000 marchers & two million spectators. Visit <http://nycstpatricksparade.org>



CG Kilkenny welcomes Al Smith IV to Ireland House

Sláinte for Irish whiskey

- At the end of September, the Consulate collaborated with Tullamore Dew to re-launch the Irish whiskey brand in New York.
- The event highlighted two significant investments in Tullamore by William Grant. Firstly, the recent revamping and reopening of the Tullamore Dew Visitor Centre is expected to attract over 40,000 visitors annually. Secondly, William Grant have announced details of their plans to build a new distillery in Tullamore, bringing whiskey making back to Tullamore for the first time in over 60 years. Both of these investments are welcomed given the direct spin-off in terms of jobs created in the region.
- One of the highlights of the evening was the contribution of Patrick Williams, a New York-based direct descendent of Daniel E. Williams (his initials form the 'Dew' in Tullamore Dew) who spoke about his family's role in the development of the brand.
- See www.tullamoredewvisitorcentre.com for further information.



IRISH TRUE



Irish fashion showcase at Ireland House

- At the end of September, the Consulate was delighted to work with IIBN and Arthur Cox to showcase the inspiring and beautiful work of a number of Irish fashion designers based in Ireland and New York.
- The Consulate was transformed for the evening with a runway where models wore the work of Irish fashion designers Jennifer Rothwell, Sinead Lawlor, Joanne Hayes, Polly McGettigan, Sandra Murphy (panel drawing), Jacqueline Quinn, and Jen Kelly (panel photo) – the latter three being New York-based.
- Irish Designer Jen Kelly, who is taking a lead role in the initiative, added *“Having been instrumental in the coordination of the firm’s successful event last year in London, I jumped at the opportunity to get involved again this year. This is a fantastic opportunity for top Irish designers to showcase our designs to new audiences both in Dublin and in key fashion hotspots of London and New York. It is exactly this type of support that the fashion industry needs at the moment”*. See www.iibn.com for further information.



Consular Update



Certified copies of Irish documents

If you need a Consulate-certified copy of your Irish passport, birth certificate or other Irish official document, please give us a call at (212) 319-2555 to make an appointment. Do remember that you can order original Irish birth, marriage or death certificates online from www.certificates.ie

- **Travelling soon?**

Please note that it's currently taking a minimum of eight weeks for passport applications to be processed. If you're travelling during the coming months, please check your passport's validity and make sure to submit any applications for new passports to us in plenty of time. For more information on applying for passports, please visit <http://www.consulateofirelandnewyork.org/home/index.aspx?id=40076>

- **Applying online for Irish citizenship through descent**

If you are entitled to Irish citizenship through descent (for example, through a grandparent born on the island of Ireland) you can now apply for citizenship online! Visit <http://www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=88045> for further information.

Cultural News – An tÚll Glas

- **First Irish Festival** - Powered by Origin Theatre Company during the month of September, 1st Irish 2012 brought to New York yet another eight U.S. premieres from Irish playwrights. The month long event has become a corner stone of Irish theatre celebrating contemporary Ireland with a variety of cultural events at 12 venues across the city. In five years the festival has presented work by 72 Irish writers & worked with 57 organizations on both sides of the Atlantic.



- The growing popularity and demand of Irish literature in New York has made this festival a booming success with Irish President Michael D. Higgins calling 1st Irish “extraordinary” and “an important landmark in New York’s cultural calendar.” Minister for the Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht Jimmy Deenihan T.D. says of 1st Irish, “The Festival...plays a hugely important role in continuing to present the work of Irish artists [in the U.S.]”



- This year the inaugural Origin Theatre 1st Irish Special Achievement Award went to **Irish actress Jo Kinsella**. The Consulate General is honoured to support this valuable & creative showcase of Irish culture.

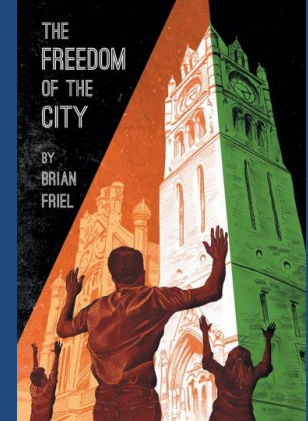
- Congratulations to **Darragh Carr’s dance company** which was nominated for a Bessie Award. You can see them perform ModERIN with special guest choreographer Seán Curran from 16-18 November at the Irish Arts Center. Photo shows dancers at the famous Apollo Theatre!



Ard Chonsalacht na hÉireann, Nua Eabhrac

Sin scéal eile - An tÚll Glas

- **Irish Repertory Theatre – Freedom of the City by Brian Friel** opened to excellent reviews, including from the New York Times which stated that “The play’s emotional impact is especially noteworthy. Those three lead performances — Ms. Seymour’s the most quietly wrenching — put a haunting human face on the Troubles in Northern Ireland.” The play runs until 25 November & details can be found at <http://www.irishrep.org/>



- Ardal O’Hanlon (from ‘Father Ted’) will headline the 3rd annual **Craic Comedy Festival** November 16th at 116 MacDougal & supported by Tullamore Dew Irish Whiskey. The opening act will be Irish American headliner Kevin Flynn (Comedy Central). For more information contact Terence Mulligan at www.thecraicfest.com



- The **Limerick Association of New York** will host a “Fall Social Afternoon” on Sunday, October 28, 2012 at The Irish Rogue, 356 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036 – for details, get in touch with Maurice Landers mauricelanders@yahoo.com



Run in the Dark

- Mark Pollock is an adventure athlete from County Down whose life story is inspiring. While studying at Trinity College Dublin Mark suddenly lost his sight at the age of 22. His world was turned upside down as he redefined his identity and his capabilities both physically & mentally. Mark had always been an athletic person, having represented Ireland in rowing competitions, & he decided to challenge conventional norms & became a world class adventure athlete despite his blindness.
- Over the next 10 years Mark proved an inspiration to many & undertook amazing feats of endurance, including racing to the South Pole; completing the Mount Everest Marathon, the world's highest altitude race & winning silver & bronze medals for rowing in the able-bodied 2002 Commonwealth games.
- In 2010 tragedy struck again and Mark nearly died after a terrible accident in which he fell from a second story window. He fractured his skull, had bleeds on his brain & broke his back which has left him paralyzed. After 18 months in hospital Mark is taking back control of his life & he is currently undertaking his biggest trial yet, that of learning to walk again against the odds.

Mark is currently working closely with Esko Bionics specialists in California to develop a functional form of robotic legs. A special 'Run in the Dark' will be held in Dublin, Cork, Belfast, London & New York on 14 November to raise funds for the blind & disabled.



www.runinthedark.org

Daragh Muldowney exhibition at Consulate General



Daragh Muldowney's 'Jewellery Box - Ireland's Hidden Gems' is currently exhibiting at the Consulate General of Ireland until October 31st.

An exploration of the Irish coast showcasing exquisite photographic images of rock pools from 17 coastal counties. This is the first stop for 'Jewellery Box' on its American tour before it heads to Atlanta, with an opening on November 8th. Daragh will give a slideshow presentation on Monday, 29th of October at 6pm. This is a rare opportunity to gain a deeper insight into the collection. Daragh will expand on the entire journey and highlight some of the challenges that faced him in completing the collection. You will also learn about the flora and fauna of the pools in both a factual and a whimsical way.

You can see more images on www.dulra.com.

Irish American Writers & Artists

- On 15 October, the IAWA presented the prestigious Eugene O' Neill Award to Judy Collins, the legendary singer, activist, author & Sixties icon. The event in the Manhattan Club was memorable for everyone lucky enough to have been present. Everyone who took to the microphone performed well - from Pete Seeger & Tom Paxton, Tom Moran, Malachy McCourt , Charles Hale & Larry Kirwan. But pride of place went to Judy who spoke & sang beautifully.
- The IAWA is a very welcoming network & manages to do an amazing job considering everyone is working on a voluntary basis. If you haven't been along to a Salon yet – make sure you do so. You simply never know who you might meet and at the very least you can be assured of a great evening.
- Special thanks to everyone involved in the Manhattan Club event and a particular mention for John Lee who did an amazing job getting the word out on social media.
- For information on the next Salon & other activities - www.iamwa.com



Judy Collins with Tom Paxton, and Pete Seeger



New York GAA is proud to present
**2012 GAA/GPA
 Football All Stars Game**

Sponsored by Opel

Saturday November 17th 2012 @ 6:00pm

2011 All Stars vs **2012 All Stars**

Manager - Pat Gilroy

vs

Manager - Jim McGuinness

4:00pm - NYPD vs FDNY

Admission: Adults: \$20 Seniors: \$10

Gaelic Park, 201 West 240th Street, Bronx (corner of Broadway)

www.newyork.gaa.ie



Seanfhocal i nGaeilge

- **Seanfhocail i nGaeilge** – Irish sayings are a great way to use your Irish everyday and below are four new ones for your collection;
- Ni thuigeann sách seang – a well-fed man does not understand a hungry one;
- Mar a chiurfeas tú, bainfidh tú – as you sow, so shall you reap;
- Nil costas ar chineáltas – kindness costs nothing;
- An rud atá ag teacht, tiocfaidh sé – what must be must be.
- **Daltaí na Gaeilge will organise a Gaeltacht weekedn from 9-11 November in Pennsylvania for all levels of Irish language speakers.** For information on the weekend and on other events breathnaigh ar www.daltai.com

Ireland House, New York – Áras na hÉireann, Nua Eabhrac



www.consulateofirelandnewyork.org

Ireland House New York was the first in the world to bring together all of Ireland's key agencies and is home to the Consulate General of Ireland & the investment, trade & tourism promotion agencies - Bord Bia (The Irish Food Board) - IDA Ireland – Enterprise Ireland – Tourism Ireland & CIE Tours.

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