



the CAIRDE CONNECTION

IRISH CULTURAL CENTER OF WESTERN NEW ENGLAND

AUGUST 2016 VOLUME 17 ISSUE 2

1916 Irish Rebellion Documentary Screening and Panel Discussion

Please join us for this special event – a screening of the feature-length (86 minutes) version of the documentary *1916 The Irish Rebellion*, followed by a panel discussion. **Wednesday, September 28** from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at Elms College in Chicopee, MA. **This event is free and open to the public, but reservations in advance are required – please RSVP at our website at www.IrishCenterwne.org.**

Narrated by Liam Neeson, *1916 The Irish Rebellion* tells the dramatic story of the events that took place in Dublin during Easter of 1916. The documentary features a combination of rarely seen archival footage, new segments filmed on location worldwide, and interviews with leading international experts. The documentary is an initiative of the Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame.

Panelists include:

- Christopher Fox (Executive Producer for Notre Dame of the documentary), Professor of English and Director, Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame.
- Bríona Nic Dhíarmada (Originator, Creator, Producer and Executive Producer of the documentary), Thomas J. and Kathleen M. O'Donnell Professor of Irish Studies and Concurrent Professor of Film, Television and Theater, University of Notre Dame.
- Dr. Damien Murray PhD (Associate Professor of History at Elms College).

This event is hosted/sponsored by: Elms College, Irish Cultural Center of Western New England, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, and the Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade Committee.



Mark Your Calendars

The Irish Cultural Center will be presenting our signature events this fall/winter, including Irish language classes, Annual Breakfast and our mass, Christmas with an Irish Touch. Check the back page for all the details.

Stay Up to Date

If your email, phone number or address has changed, please let us know so we can ensure that you don't miss any news from the ICC.

E-News

If you are not on our email list, you can easily subscribe on our website, www.IrishCenterwne.org. Be sure to check your spam folders if you are not receiving our emails! Make sure you receive the latest news and updates on events from the ICC.



SPECIAL THANKS

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IRISH cultural center

OF WESTERN NEW ENGLAND

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CONTACT US

The ICC office is now located
in our new building.

429 Morgan Road
West Springfield, MA 01089
413-333-4951
irishcenterwne@gmail.com
www.IrishCenterwne.org

From the Director's Desk

WE'VE MOVED!



The ICC office has now officially moved
to our new home at 429 Morgan Road
in West Springfield, MA.

Please note our new email address and
phone number: irishcenterwne@gmail.com
and **413-333-4951**. We are not yet open to
the public as we are continue construction
and renovation of the building, but we will
keep our members posted of our projected
schedule. Please call ahead if you need to
visit the office.

For the latest updates, visit our website at
www.IrishCenterwne.org and Facebook page
at **www.facebook.com/IrishCulturalCenter**. Please "like" our page and share
with your Facebook friends!

We sincerely appreciate your involvement and support during this process.
We are always looking for volunteers to help with office activities and to sit
on committees. If you are interested, please contact me at 413-333-4951.

– Ellen Gallivan

Our Mission

The mission of the Irish Cultural Center is to cultivate a connection
with Ireland, through the arts, culture, history, language, and heritage.
The Center offers opportunities to engage in educational, travel, and
social events that promote Irish culture.

The Irish Cultural Center is a leading Irish/American cultural
non-profit organization in Western New England. We strive to:

- offer our members the highest quality programs, with well-known,
respected guest speakers
- provide unique opportunities to actively participate in aspects
of Irish culture
- promote ties between the Center and educational and cultural
organizations in Ireland
- establish links with Irish organizations throughout New England
- develop programs for all ages to learn about Irish arts and culture
- maintain a collection of literature, films, music and archival
materials available for use

Bus Trip to Boston this September

PLEASE JOIN US ON SEPTEMBER 10!

The Irish Cultural Center is sponsoring a bus trip to Boston on **Saturday, September 10. It's Boston on your own!** Perhaps visit Fenway Park for a tour, or follow the Freedom Trail, or stroll around Fanueil Hall Marketplace. Plenty of time to visit Boston's favorite places and have lunch or dinner! A list of things to do in Boston will be provided.

The bus will depart from the ICC at 429 Morgan Road in West Springfield at 8:30 am. There will be two stops in Boston: Prudential Center and Quincy Market. The bus will leave Boston at 6:00 pm from Quincy Market. **To reserve your seats**, please call Ellen Gallivan at 413-333-4951 or Rose Baker at 413-519-2135, or email irishcenterwne@gmail.com. Cost of the trip is \$40 for members and \$43 for non-members. Gratuity to bus driver is included in the cost.

Please make checks payable to the Irish Cultural Center. Mail to: Irish Cultural Center, 429 Morgan Road, West Springfield, MA 01089.
We hope you can join us!



Irish Language Classes Start This Fall

In cooperation with Elms College, the Irish Cultural Center is pleased to offer a range of Irish classes for the 2016/2017 academic year. In addition, this partnership is again successful in bringing to campus our seventh consecutive Irish Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant, Anna Ní Choirbín from County Galway. She brings a great deal of talent and enthusiasm, and will help us showcase the language in our community.

To enroll for all classes, please **download the registration form on our website at irishcenterwne.org** or **call the Registrar's office at 413-265-2314**. ICC members receive a \$50 discount on language classes!

First Year Irish

This class focuses on all four language skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening in an interactive, enjoyable experience for those with little or no prior study of the language. Cost is \$150.

- Mondays, 6:45 – 8:45 pm | Sept. 12 – Dec. 12, 2016
Taught by Gerald Costello.
- Tuesdays, 6:45 – 8:45 pm | Sept. 6 – Dec. 6, 2016
Taught by Kathleen Gilhooly.

Second Year Irish

For students who have had one year of prior study, who are not yet ready to enroll in the Intermediate class. Cost is \$150.

- Tuesdays, 6:45 – 8:45 pm | Sept. 6 – Dec. 6, 2016
Taught by Gerald Costello.

Third Year Irish

For students who have had two years of prior study, who are not yet ready to enroll in the Intermediate class. Cost is \$150.

- Saturdays, 10 am – 12 pm | Sept. 3 – Dec. 3, 2016
Taught by Kathleen Gilhooly.

Intermediate Irish: Advanced

For advanced students who have had three or more years of prior study, and who wish to increase their ability to read, write, and converse in Irish. Cost is \$175.

- Wednesdays 6:55 – 9:25 pm | Aug. 31 – Nov. 30, 2016.
Taught by FLTA Anna Ní Choirbín.

Enroll today! “Beatha teanga í a labhairt.”

(*Life of the language is to speak it.*)

Learn more at our website at www.IrishCenterwne.org

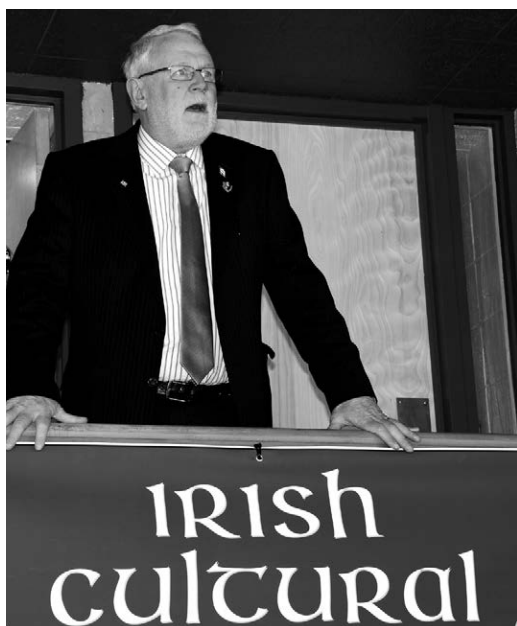
Recent Happenings



Congressman Richard Neal at the 1916 Gardens of Remembrance Ceremony at Forest Park in Springfield, MA on May 15, 2016.



ICC Board members at the 1916 Gardens of Remembrance Ceremony.



On a visit to the US, Martin Ferris TD toured the new ICC building on March 17, 2016.



The Elders performed on April 9, 2016 at the Portuguese American Club in Chicopee, MA, to a very enthusiastic crowd.



ICC Board and members with House of Hamill after their performance on February 20, 2016 at the Collegian Court in Chicopee, MA.



Following his recent retirement, Jim Sullivan graciously donated all of his old collector's item records from his Irish Hours radio show to the ICC Library and Museum.

May 2016 Ireland Tour: Dingle to Galway

by Rose Baker

The Irish Cultural Center's May 2016 Ireland Tour, led by Rose Baker and Pat Baker, was an unforgettable journey to beautiful Dingle and Galway. With 46 passengers, we landed in Shannon Airport on May 11, and were greeted by our driver/guide, James Finn. We travelled to Dingle where we spent five amazing nights at the lovely Dingle Skellig Hotel. Some of the highlights from our stay in Dingle included a drive along the beautiful coast of Sleah Head with visits to the Gallarus Oratory, Kilmalkedar Church and the Blasket Centre. At the Blasket Centre, we learned about what life was like for the people who lived on the Blasket Islands and the families who immigrated directly to the Springfield area.

After the Sleah Head drive, we made a visit to Ballydavid for a fun afternoon at Begley's Pub, with musical entertainment provided by Noreen Finn (James Finn's wife). At Begley's Pub, we spoke to locals and others on the tour and enjoyed the camaraderie of sharing good memories of our days in Dingle over pints of the "black stuff." On another day, we travelled to Blarney Castle in Co. Cork where many of us kissed the famous "Stone of Eloquence" and engaged in some shopping at the Blarney Woolen Mills. After our visit, we stopped for lunch at the South County Pub in Douglas, Co. Cork, and enjoyed the craic of an afternoon session of traditional Irish music. We also had the opportunity to visit the Dingle Brewery and savor a pint of Tom Crean's Lager, Brian De Staic's jewelry workshop and Sean Daly's Dingle Crystal workshop.

After Dingle, we travelled to Galway. On our way there, we made a visit to the Cliffs of Moher where we stood 700 feet above the ocean. We spent three lovely evenings



in Salthill at the Galway Bay Hotel. We shopped at Standun's in Spiddal, and then went on to Moycullen to visit Celtic Crystal and Connemara Marble. We also attended the Irish show called "Trad on the Prom" where we enjoyed an electrifying evening of traditional Irish music, song and dance that showcased Ireland's amazing culture and talent. We enjoyed a free day in Galway City to shop or independently explore the "City of the Tribes." Some of us were even able to practice our Irish language skills in many of Galway's pubs over a pint!

The weather was perfect and many new friendships were formed. Every day was a full experience and we learned so much about Ireland and its history, culture, and language from our guide, James. Leaving Ireland was bittersweet at the end of our 10-day trip. We were tired, but full of wonderful memories that will forever be in our hearts.

We (Rose and Pat) send a heartfelt thank you to those who travelled with us to experience the best of the Emerald Isle, Dingle and Galway, and for making the 2016 Spring Ireland Trip a success. We are already planning our 2017 journeys (May and October) to Ireland offering special and fun-filled itineraries. We hope to see you again and thank you for all of your support and interest in our tours!

Mark your calendars for our next Spring Ireland Tour, May 8–18, 2017!

We will visit Killarney, Dingle and Galway. More details will be coming soon, as well as the date for our first information session. For the latest updates, visit our website at www.IrishCenterwne.org. ICC members receive first notice of information sessions through our email list, and additional benefits on our tours!

Encouragement and Enthusiasm Highlight Lá na Gaeilge

by Chip Costello

Irish language enthusiasts in our area mark the first Saturday in May as a time to renew old friendships and to make new ones through the medium of the Irish language. In addition, the ICC invites and encourages new students to participate and use whatever they learn during the day. By all accounts, fifty five language learners experienced challenging workshops, conversation circles, Irish language films, classes, céilí dancing, a lecture, and a concluding seisiún.

Irish language instructor, Katherine Gilhooly, summarized her thoughts about the day by saying that there was “an atmosphere of mutual support and fellowship that permeated all the activities of the day.” Similarly, John Sheehan, a student and ICC member, noted that it was “heartening to see so many people working to preserve and learn about our language, music, and culture.” John’s fellow student, Sue Ashe, said she “really enjoyed the classes, conversation, and seisiún.” All agreed that active participation enhanced the overall experience for the participants.

The language community at the Center has developed relationships that encourage mutual support among other groups in the area. The language day attracted members from the Fairfield Gaelic American Club, the New Haven Club, Ár dTeanga Féin in Worcester, a Brattleboro conversation circle, Cumann na Gaeilge I mBostún, and the Amherst Irish Association. These experienced speakers helped create an energetic and positive atmosphere where all participants were encouraged to use whatever amount of Irish they had, regardless of how long they had previously studied. The Irish proverb was the cornerstone of the day: “Beatha teanga í a labhairt.” (*Life of the language is to speak it.*)

Special thanks must be given to Síle Dolan, this year’s Elms College/ICC Fulbright teaching assistant, who served as teacher, workshop facilitator, and singer at the seisiún. She provided the support that was critical to making the day a success. Tom Moriarty’s lecture on the language and its influence on the thinking of the 1916 leaders was thoughtful, and enabled us to reflect on what had happened one hundred years ago.

We started the day with a prayer for Irish speakers. By day’s end, the group did its best to experience the core

of the prayer. “Soisigh ár n-aighe chun urraim a thabhairt don oidhreacht uasal a thainig chugainn tríd an dteanga sin, agus neartaigh ár dtoil chun í a shlanú.” (*Enlighten our minds to give respect to the noble tradition that comes to us through that language and strengthen our will to preserve it.*) As in any other goal we set for ourselves, it takes time to master its complexities. Based on the enthusiasm of this group, there are many people heading in the right direction.



Our group of Irish language learners.



Participants learned some new dance steps.



FLTA Síle Dolan and Kathleen Gilhooly led the end-of-day seisiún.

Show Your Support Today!

YES! I would like to **support** the Irish Cultural Center at the following level (see listing below):

☐ Single ☐ Family ☐ Junior ☐ Patron ☐ Lifetime

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I would like to become a **corporate sponsor** of the Irish Cultural Center at the following level (see listing below):

☐ Green Sponsor ☐ White Sponsor ☐ Gold Sponsor

BUSINESS NAME

- ☐ I would like to make an **additional donation to support the ICC**: \$_____
- ☐ I am enclosing my employer's matching gift form.
- ☐ I am interested in sponsoring an event at the ICC. Please contact me.
- ☐ I would like more information on including the ICC in bequests. Please contact me.

Please cut along dotted line, and send with payment to:

Irish Cultural Center of Western New England, 429 Morgan Road, West Springfield, MA 01089

Make checks payable to: Irish Cultural Center of Western New England

Show Your Support for the Irish Cultural Center

The Irish Cultural Center is devoted to keeping the Irish arts alive. We work to preserve, share, and promote Ireland's cultural heritage, so that all people will have the opportunity to appreciate its rich legacy.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, your support is vital to the ICC's continued success. Your generosity allows us to maintain operational expenses, develop new programs for all ages, expand and exhibit our collection of cultural artifacts, and continue to provide high quality events for the community.

We invite you to support our mission. Whether you are Irish or not, love the language or the music, or you just want to support the preservation of art and culture, your contribution is greatly appreciated. If an opportunity exists for you to tell a friend or family member about the ICC, please do so!

Now you can easily make your contribution online at www.IrishCenterwne.org

A donation to the Irish Cultural Center makes a great gift. Or honor your loved one by requesting a memorial donation in lieu of flowers or other gifts.

Membership Levels

- Single \$50
- Family \$80
- Junior \$15 (high school – college)
- Patron \$250
- Lifetime \$1,000

Corporate Sponsorship Levels

- Green Sponsor \$1,000
- White Sponsor \$3,000
- Gold Sponsor \$5,000

Supporters receive free admission or discounted pricing for events such as concerts, Irish language classes, and Celtic Adventures for Kids, advance notice of events, and our printed newsletter.

Membership lasts for one calendar year (January – December).

For detailed benefits, please visit our website at www.IrishCenterwne.org.

**Irish Cultural Center
of Western New England**

429 Morgan Road
West Springfield, MA 01089

TEL: 413-333-4951

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keeping the IRISH ARTS alive



Irish Cultural Center Calendar of Events

Ongoing

Irish language classes offered each semester; please call the Registrar at 413-265-2314 or visit our website for more details.

Classes start this September

September 10, 2016

Bus Trip to Boston

September 28, 2016

1916 Film Screening and Panel

October 2016 TBA

Annual Breakfast

October 13 – 22, 2016 (SOLD OUT)

ICC Ireland Tour: Visiting Dingle, Killarney and Bunratty

October 15, 2016

Irish Author Aideen Henry

December 1, 2016

Bus Trip: Musical "Once" at UMass Fine Arts Center

December 3, 2016

Mass: Christmas with an Irish Touch

May 8 – 18, 2017

ICC Ireland Tour: Visiting Killarney, Dingle and Galway

Visit our website and like our

Facebook page for news and the most current information on our programs and events.

Visit our YouTube channel for interviews and event videos.

Links on www.IrishCenterwne.org

For information on the ICC's affiliate Irish organizations, check out their websites.

AOH

www.AOH-Holyoke.com

John Boyle O'Reilly Club

www.jbo-club.com

Sons of Erin

www.sonsoferin.com

St. Patrick's Parade Committee

www.holyokestpatricksparade.com

"You should keep up the good work because there are so many lessons to be learned from Irish history, and Irish culture is beloved to so many people."

Christine Kinealy, Professor of History and Irish Studies at Quinnipiac University