



IRELAND アイルランド

Embassy of Ireland in Japan  
Ambasáid na hÉireann  
駐日アイルランド大使館



No. 2-15 JUL 2015

# NEWSLETTER

## Message from the Ambassador



As we head in to the hot Japanese summer, we can look back at a very busy quarter for the Ireland House team, in terms of science diplomacy and economic and cultural promotion. In May and June, the Embassy hosted two Science Foundation Ireland-funded ISCA (International Strategic Cooperation Award) seminars on medical devices and connected health respectively. From 12 to 16 May, four representatives from CÚRAM, the Centre for Research in Medical Devices based at NUI Galway, visited on a mission to strengthen collaborations with leading Japanese academic researchers and companies. The five day visit to Tokyo and Osaka included a series of seminars and meetings. Then, from 15 to 19 June, a group of five

leading Irish Connected Health researchers visited Japan. The group, led by Professor Brian Caulfield of UCD and Insight, sought to introduce exciting new Connected Health research being conducted in Ireland to a Japanese audience. Also, on 17 June, I visited the offices of Fujitsu Laboratories in Kawasaki, to learn about their strong RD&I links with Ireland.

Moving to economic promotion, on 26 June, the Embassy hosted an Irish Dresden Showcase at the Residence in collaboration with the department store, Mitsukoshi, which is a key retail buyer of Irish Dresden in Japan. Their wonderful porcelain range, which is produced entirely in Dromcollogher, Co. Limerick, is very much appreciated in Japan. The event was also a good opportunity to introduce Ireland to a new Japanese audience.

In the field of culture, we celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of WB Yeats in June, with an event at Theatre X Cai. The event was organised by the Embassy, with the support of Culture Ireland, and included music and dance by the ensemble Everlasting Voices/Guthanna Binne Síoraí. This was followed by the premiere of a new composition by Irish composer, Paul Hayes.

All of this work helps to showcase Ireland to a Japanese audience, in particular our vitality as a hub for innovation and creativity. At home, the Irish economy continues to strengthen, with unemployment below 10% for the first time in 6 years. While political and economic risks remain in the EU, there remain many opportunities for the Irish economy with 4% growth predicted this year.

Finally, welcome to Mr. Pat O'Riordan, Director Japan for Enterprise Ireland, who succeeds Mr. Eddie Hughes who has returned to EI HQ in Dublin. My thanks to Eddie for his contribution to our mission here and my best wishes to Pat as he embarks on this exciting and challenging role.

Anne Barrington  
Ambassador of Ireland to Japan

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## Yeats 150th Anniversary Celebrations in Tokyo

A full house marked the opening night of the Yeats 150 Celebration at Tokyo's TheaterX Cai on 12 June. The event, which was organised by the Embassy, with the support of Culture Ireland, included recitations, music and dance by the young, talented members of the ensemble Everlasting Voices/Guthanna Binne Síoraí, followed by the premiere of a new composition by Tokyo-based Irish composer, Paul Hayes. On the days that followed, Tetsunojo Kanze, a famous Noh actor gave a talk and performance and the Japan Ireland Society ran a symposium, 'Japan and Yeats', which was well attended.

A second event by Guthanna Binne at Seijo University for students of the Literature and Arts Faculty was also well received. Many thanks to all who attended and helped to make the Yeats celebration in Japan such a great success. There will be another opportunity to celebrate Ireland's great poet in this anniversary year in October, when Waseda University will host a Yeats 150 Keynote Lecture. Details to be announced on: <https://www.facebook.com/YeatsDayJapan>



*Clockwise from left, the Ambassador with Cathal Quinn, Director of Guthanna Binne; Cathal, with Noh Actor, Kanze Tetsunojo; Guthanna Binne performing at*



*Seijo University; Members of the ensemble, Guthanna Binne, with composer Paul Hayes.*



### The Emerald Wind Book Launch

A new edition of Yutaka Oshima's guide to Irish Music, 'The Emerald Wind', was launched at the Embassy Residence on 2 July in conjunction with publishers, Artes, and music promoters, the 'Tokyo Irish Company'. The talk was attended by a wide range of people interested in performing Irish music and was followed by a great seisiún (see photo

on left). <http://artespublishing.com/books/86559-118-7/>

## Embassy Cultural and Economic Promotion

### Irish School Lunch at Yagumo Dai elementary school

Ambassador Barrington visited Yagumo Dai Elementary school on 4 June to talk about Ireland and join in an Irish school lunch. All the food was prepared at the school and based on Irish recipes. On the menu was Irish soda bread, colcannon and delicious salmon in cream sauce. The 3<sup>rd</sup> year class also joined in a storytelling session by a Japanese harpist and seanchaí, Takahata-san. Local newspapers covered the visit which was organised as part of Chofu's outreach to embassies, as part of its preparations for being an Olympic venue in 2020.



By the way, if you are in Tokyo and missing Irish food, you may wish to sample Tokyo's only authentic Irish restaurant, Kyojin no Stewhouse <http://www.kyojin-stewhouse.com/>

### Internationals High School Arts Competition/ Texaco Children's Art Contest

Every year, the winner of Ireland's best known children's art contest is invited to Japan by IFAC (International Foundation for Arts and Culture), organisers of Japan's most prestigious High School Arts Competition in Japan. This year's Texaco winner, Frances Treanor from Monaghan, currently a student at NCAD travelled to Japan to receive her award from IFAC, pictured on right with the Ambassador and her winning artwork.



On 17 June, the Ambassador visited Fujitsu Laboratories in Kawasaki. She was welcomed by Dr Tatsuo Tomita (Chairman), Dr Hideyuki Saso (CEO) and Mr Shigeru Sasaki (Corporate Executive Officer) (see photo on right), and given a presentation on Fujitsu's objectives, operations and "human-centric innovation in a hyper-connected world".



## Message from Enterprise Ireland



Med in Ireland is Enterprise Ireland's **largest medical technologies event** and is a high-profile showcase for the entire spectrum of the Irish Medical Technologies Sector - medical devices, medical devices sub-supply, precision engineered components, diagnostics, connected health, healthcare providers, clinicians and research & development professionals.

Top medical technology and healthcare companies, clinicians and healthcare systems from around the world will congregate at **Dublin's Convention Centre on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2015** to develop strategic relationships with Irish companies exhibiting at the Enterprise Ireland 'Med in Ireland' event.



Med in Ireland has been running biennially since 2005 and attracts significant interest from the international community. The Irish MedTech sector has grown strongly over the last 20 years demonstrating sustained innovation and growth in international markets. Ireland hosts more than 350 medical technology companies, including 13 of the top 15 global MedTech companies, employing 25,000 people and exporting almost €8bn. Ireland is now the second largest exporter of high tech medical products in the EU and is internationally recognised as a location of choice for development and manufacture of high tech products.



At Med in Ireland 2015 a range of Irish MedTech companies will exhibit and be available for one to one meetings. Enterprise Ireland Tokyo office will be inviting delegates from Japan and assisting with business itinerary support. For further details please contact Enterprise Ireland Tokyo office:

[Reiko.hiruma@enterprise-ireland.com](mailto:Reiko.hiruma@enterprise-ireland.com) T: 03 3263 0611

The Web Summit is the leading Tech conference in Europe and takes place in Dublin from 3-5 November 2015. Web Summit has been called the 'best technology conference on the planet' with over 22,000 participants ranging from Fortune 500 companies to the world's most exciting tech companies.

Enterprise Ireland will have a presence at the Web Summit and will facilitate Japanese participants to meet with innovative Irish tech firms with an interest in Japan and Global markets. For further details please contact Enterprise Ireland Tokyo office.

[pat.oriordan@enterprise-ireland.com](mailto:pat.oriordan@enterprise-ireland.com) T: 03 3263 0611

## Messages from IDA Ireland and Embassy



IDA Ireland in conjunction with SFI's ISCA (International Strategic Co-operation Award) program hosted a number of seminars/meetings in Tokyo/Osaka in the area of Medical Devices in May, and in Connected Health in June. The purpose was to demonstrate Ireland's attractiveness for Research, Development and Innovation in these areas leading to companies establishing research centers in Ireland. The events were quite successful with a num-

ber of companies planning to visit Ireland over the next couple of months to undertake a closer look at Ireland's offering.

Ireland continues to attract foreign direct investment, with many recent announcements from Vodafone, DePuy, J&J, Shopify, Slack, Bausch & Lomb, Dell and many others. They comprise investments in Pharmaceuticals, Medical Devices, High Tech and ICT, and Financial Services.

<http://www.idaireland.com/newsroom/>



With regard to Japan, Aplix, a Shinjuku headquartered company that designs and offers easy-to-use and affordable wireless connectivity solutions for the Internet of Things has set up its sales office in Ireland to help with their global expansion plans

[http://www.aplix-ip.com/wp-content/uploads/20150604FDHJ32SC\\_PR.pdf](http://www.aplix-ip.com/wp-content/uploads/20150604FDHJ32SC_PR.pdf)

IDA Ireland wishes all our readers a very enjoyable summer break.

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### Job Announcements:

- Enterprise Ireland Japan is interested in hearing from bilingual professionals to undertake specific market-based consultancy. If interested, email [pat.oriordan@enterprise-ireland.com](mailto:pat.oriordan@enterprise-ireland.com)
  - Irish Distillers Pernod Ricard are currently seeking to hire a Jameson whiskey brand ambassador. If interested, please consult their website at [thevitalingredient.ie](http://thevitalingredient.ie)
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### Ireland 2016 Global Centenary Programme

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade launched the 2016 Global and Diaspora Programme on 30 June, which will involve a series of events across the globe to commemorate the Centenary, including in Japan. Further details can be found at <https://www.dfa.ie/our-role-policies/our-work/casestudiesarchive/2015/june/ireland-2016-global-diaspora-programme/>

## Message from the IJCC

Ireland Japan Chamber of Commerce (IJCC)



Ireland Japan Chamber of Commerce  
在日アイルランド商工会議所

The IJCC held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on May 28<sup>th</sup> at the Ambassador's Residence. Gerry Mulligan was reelected as President of the IJCC while Doire Myler was newly elected to the Board.

We wish them and the IJCC board every success in the year ahead.

The Board have set out the following as their objectives for the year ahead:

to grow our Corporate and Professional membership;

focus on delivering a broader selection of business oriented events;

develop more expertise in the trade, energy, education and tourism sectors;

continue to strengthen our relationship and involvement with our membership and other Irish groups in Japan.



### Update from the Secretariat

#### Events

The Chamber hosted a wide range of events between April and June. On 25 April, over 30 golfers headed to the Tsutsujigaoka Country Club for the **IJCC Spring Golf Challenge**, and enjoyed golfing and networking in beautiful spring weather.

The Chambers' Corporate and Professional members were invited to the **Irish Ambassador Breakfast Briefing on 24 June** to hear an update on Ireland's recovery, as well as an analysis of Irish trade and economic priorities in Japan.

#### Third Thursday Networking Event

In April and June, **Third Thursday Networking Events** were held at An Solas in Yoyogi, and, in May, at Slainte pub. Around 50 people participated each time and enjoyed an evening of Irish fun and networking.

#### Upcoming IJCC events – Mark your calendar!

16 July/ 17 Sep/ 15 Oct 2015 Third Thursday Networking Event

10 Sep 2015 The Joint Chamber Networking Event with the BCCJ at the Irish Ambassador's Residence

31 Oct 2015 Ireland Japan Golf Challenge, Ambassador's Cup at Haruna no Mori Country Club

19 Nov 2015 IJCC Business Awards Dinner 2015 at Roppongi Hills Club

#### Become A Member Of The IJCC

The Chamber always welcomes applications for membership from any company or individual with an interest in helping develop and foster more Japan-Ireland business relationships.

For more information, please visit our website [www.ijcc.jp](http://www.ijcc.jp) and our Facebook page.



## Message from Japan GAA and Airmail Exhibition



Japan

Japan GAA Women's team participated in the All China Gaelic Games 2015 in Hong Kong on June 20th.

This was the club's first time to attend and, while the result may not have turned out as we wanted,

battling against strong, fast and skilled players in incredibly hot and humid weather was a great experience for all of us!

Lady Legends of Asia GAA will take place on August 22nd in Yokohama. The "Legends" women players are all over 30 years old and this is also the first time to have this game in Japan. It has been a great success in Manila, Philippines during the last couple of years. Our Sponsor, Toyoko Inn, has kindly offered a great accommodation deal for overseas players for that weekend in Tennozu Isle. We can't appreciate enough the generous offer and continuous support provided by Toyoko Inn.

We are delighted to announce also that the biggest Gaelic games tournament in the world, the All Asia Tournament, will be held on October 24th and 25th in Shanghai.

Japan GAA, both men's and women's teams, will participate and play against great players from all over Asia!

Training will be held twice a week from July onwards and we will work as hard as possible, so that both the men's and women's team can bring home a great result in October.

We are always welcoming new friends whoever you are, wherever you come from. Sports doesn't have boundaries. If you are interested in sports, we assure you that you are going to like it! Experienced players or beginners – all are welcome! Upcoming trainings/events are on our website so please visit us there for more details.

<http://www.japangaa.org/>

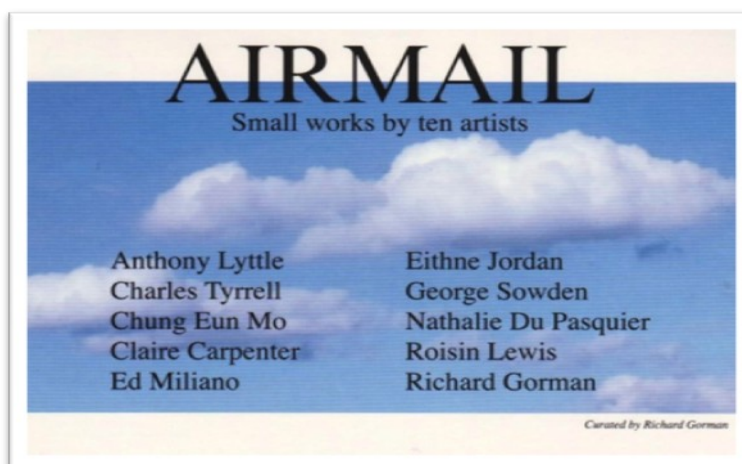
### Now On

#### Airmail

An Irish Art Show featuring work by 7 leading Irish artists takes place in Saitama this month, all works are reasonably priced and offer a real bargain for anyone interested in Art, not to be missed!

Date: Saturday 4 July-Saturday 18 July

Time: 11:00-18:30 (closed on Wednesdays)(Close at 17:00 on Sat. 18<sup>th</sup>



## Upcoming Events

### Coming up

#### ART

##### Suzanne Mooney

##### Exhibition “A Few Light Taps Upon The Pane, No One Turns, No Reply”

Date: Monday 27 July to Thursday 11 October 2015

Time: 11:00-21:00 (Mon-Fri), 10:00-20:00 (Sat & Sun)

Location: The Container Gallery Tokyo <http://the-container.com/>

Price: Free [www.suzannemooney.com](http://www.suzannemooney.com)

#### Hearn Related

##### Lafcadio Hearn and Ireland –The Beginning of Memory-

Date: Saturday 20 June 2015 – Sunday 3 January 2016

Time: 8:30-18:30 (April to September)

8:30-17:00 (October to March)

Place: Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum (Matsue, Shimane)

Price: Adult 300 yen, Child 150 yen, Foreigner 150 yen

<http://www.matsue-tourism.or.jp/yakumo>

##### “Soseki and Yakumo: writers linking Kumamoto and Shinjuku”

Date: Sunday 19 July – Sunday 30 August, includes a performance of Yuki-Onna in Bunraku and talks see links below:

Time: 9:30-17:30

Place: Shinjuku Historical Museum B1

Price: 300 yen for this exhibition (500 yen for all exhibitions)

Details: <http://www.regasu-shinjuku.or.jp/rekihaku/news/90300/>

#### Music

##### Ragús-The Irish Dance

Date/Time/Location:

Thursday 17 September 14:00 Yokohama Minato Mirai Hall

Saturday 19 September 12:30 Bunkamura Orchard Hall

Saturday 19 September 16:00 Bunkamura Orchard Hall

Sunday 20 September 14:00 Tokyo Operacity Concert Hall

Price: S Seat ¥8,000 A Seat ¥6,500 B Seat ¥5,000

Tickets <http://www.koransha.com/>

Details: <http://www.koransha.com/schedule/>

##### Paul Brady

Tokyo Date: Saturday 10 and Sunday 11, October 2015

Time: 1<sup>st</sup> show: Open 16:00 / Start 17:00

2<sup>nd</sup> show: Open 18:30 / Start 20:00

Location: Cotton Club <http://www.cottonclubjapan.co.jp/en/>

Price: ¥7,500

Kyoto Date: Tuesday 13 October 2015

Time: Open 18:00 / Start 19:00

Location: Takutaku <http://www.geisya.or.jp/~takutaku/>

## Upcoming Events & Hearn Tramore Garden

### Film

#### SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL 2015

**Selected Film from Ireland : ‘You’re Ugly Too’, dir : Mark Noonan, starring Aidan Gillen**

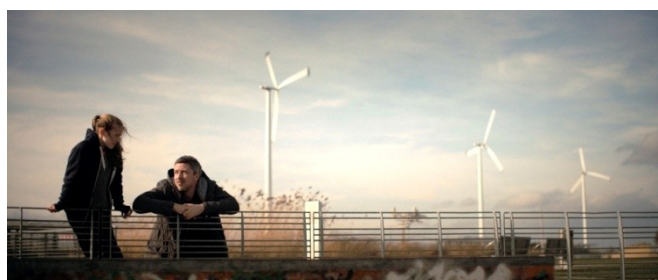
Date: Saturday 18 July – Sunday 26 July

Location: SKIP City, Kawaguchi <http://www.skipcity-dcf.jp/en/access.html>

Screening Timetable: <http://www.skipcity-dcf.jp/en/schedule.html>

Price: ¥800

Details: <http://www.skipcity-dcf.jp/en/index.html>



#### Japan Wildlife Film Festival 2015

**Selected Film from Ireland: ‘On a River in Ireland’- Crossing the Line Productions**

Date: Friday 28 – Monday 31 August

Location: National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan)

Time / Price: TBC

Details: <http://www.naturechannel.jp>

New information booklet : **Ireland in Brief** (アイルランド概説) has just been updated and republished in Japanese! Please contact us if you need copies for events, send your request and the number of copies you need to [tokyoembassy@dfa.ie](mailto:tokyoembassy@dfa.ie). Please state ‘Ireland Information request ‘in the subject line and whether you can pay postage or not (e.g. chakku-barai/着払い)

On 26 June, the 165th anniversary of the birth of Ireland’s most famous cultural export to Japan, Lafcadio Hearn, a Memorial Garden in his honour was opened in Tramore. Co Waterford by Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Mr. Brendan Howlin, T.D.. Pictured right is the Japanese Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency, Mr. Chihiro Atsumi, at the opening.



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The Embassy of Ireland is responsible for promoting and strengthening links between Ireland and Japan. It represents the interests of the Irish Government in Japan in politics, trade, economics and cultural relations. It looks after the welfare of the Irish community in Japan and provides support to Irish citizens. It is also responsible for issuing Irish visas. Please register with the Embassy at <http://www.irishembassy.jp/home/index.aspx?id=81055>.

### **The Ireland House Team**

**M. Anne Barrington (Ambassador)**

**Mr. Diarmuid O'Leary (Deputy Head of Mission)**

**Mr. Elliot Milton (Second Secretary and Consul)**

**Ms. Aisling Braiden (Press & Culture Attaché)**

**Mr. Shingo Tsuda (Office Manager)**

**Ms. Nobuko Hirai (Secretary to Ambassador)**

**Ms. Tomomi Nagoshi**

**Ms. Tomoko Kamimura**

**Ms. Chisato Fujimoto**

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**Mr. Pat O'Riordan (Director, Enterprise Ireland)**

**Mr. Derek Fitzgerald (Director, IDA Ireland, Japan)**



The Embassy is open to the public from 10:00 – 12:30 and 14:00 – 16:00 (and by appointment until 17:30), Monday to Friday.

The Embassy visa office is open each Wednesday from 14:00 – 16:00.

The Embassy is not responsible for external services and events or for the content of external websites, information on which is provided in good faith for information purposes only.