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# Consulate General of Ireland for the North of England

*July 2022*

## **A WORD FROM CONSUL GENERAL SARAH MANGAN**

A chairde

With today's newsletter, we are marking our one year anniversary of operations in Manchester. On 1 July 2021, Vice Consul Carina O'Brien and I officially took up post at Ireland's new diplomatic mission for the North of England. We were joined subsequently by locally recruited staff Dean Cavanagh and Catherine Smith.

Of course a particular highlight of the last year was our official opening on 1 October with Minister Simon Coveney, Mayor Andy Burnham, and Minister Wendy Morton. Ireland's official relationship with the region was further enhanced by the visit of Mayors Andy Burnham and Steve Rotherham to Ireland at the end of March. Working closely with our colleagues at the Enterprise Ireland office in Manchester, and with Tourism Ireland, we were able to help deliver a programme that celebrated the many links between Ireland and the North of England.

As we reflect on the first year of our operations perhaps the greatest highlight has been the warm welcome we have received from the Irish community across the region. The remit set for us at the outset was that the Consulate, though based in Manchester, was very much Ireland's diplomatic mission for the whole of the North of England. And we have been doing our best to visit as many parts of the region as possible. Though we have managed to get to many cities and towns over the last twelve months, there are still quite a few that we haven't made it to yet. We will be prioritising visits to these in the coming months.

We have also been impressed by the wide range of Irish community organisations across the North of England reflecting the rich diversity of our diaspora. The work undertaken by these organisations ranges from supporting the most vulnerable members of our community, to celebrating our musical, dance, literary, and cultural traditions, and preserving and promoting our national language. To celebrate the great work being done, and to reflect on how to sustain our connections going forward, we are planning to hold a Conference of Irish community organisations at the Irish World Heritage Centre in Manchester on 30 September. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

While we are still in temporary offices, progress has been made on the search for a permanent Ireland House space, and I am hopeful of some decisions on our new

permanent Ireland house space, and I am hopeful of some decisions on our new home in the near future.

Sadly we are losing Catherine Smith who finishes with us today, as she is returning to Australia to take up an exciting new role with the Australian public service. Catherine has been a wonderful colleague and instrumental in getting the Consulate up and running efficiently and effectively. We will greatly miss her.

However, that also means we are recruiting for Catherine's replacement. The role is an exciting opportunity for anyone interested in a career in international relations, protocol, public relations, and/or community development, and I would ask you to bring it to the attention of friends and family who might be interested. The link to the job description and application form can be found in the newsletter below.

As always we would love for our newsletter to be shared with as many people as possible. You can sign up to receive our periodic updates here: <https://www.dfa.ie/irish-consulate/manchester/contactus/>

Wishing you all a lovely summer, especially those visiting Ireland for their holidays. I hope the sun shines!

Is mise le meas

Sarah Mangan  
Consul General



## PASSPORT ONLINE SERVICE

The Passport Service is now directing all Irish citizens to use the online system to complete their passport applications for both first time applications and renewals.

The expanded online service now includes:

- First time applicants - Adults, minors, and renewals/replacements over 5 years outdated
- Renewing a passport that expired within the last 5 years
- Renewing a passport to change your name
- Replacing a passport that is lost/stolen/damaged/visa pages are full.
- To access the online system, please visit: [www.dfa.ie/passportonline](http://www.dfa.ie/passportonline)



**PASSPORT ONLINE**

Passport Online is the cheapest, fastest and most convenient way to apply for an Irish passport!

Apply for your first passport or renew from anywhere in the world.

[www.dfa.ie/passportonline](http://www.dfa.ie/passportonline)

 Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

### SAVE THE DATE - CONFERENCE OF COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

We are pleased to announce that the Consulate General of Ireland for the North of England will be hosting a Conference of Irish Community Organisations on **30 September 2022** taking place over one day at the Irish World Heritage Centre, Manchester.

The Conference, which will be the first of its kind to take place in the region, aims to bring together a range of organisations operating here in the North of England, both those who have received funding through the government's Emigrant Support Programme (ESP) and many others with whom we do not have a funding relationship.

For now please save the date and we will send you more information in the very near future.

### WE ARE HIRING

The Consulate General of Ireland, North of England (Manchester) is seeking applications from suitably qualified candidates to fill the position of Executive Assistant/Public Diplomacy Officer.

For more information and to apply please see [Job Opportunities - Executive Assistant/Public Diplomacy Officer - Department of Foreign Affairs \(dfa.ie\)](http://www.dfa.ie/job-opportunities)

### BLOOMSDAY 2022

A special thank you to all who attended our first Bloomsday event here in the North of England. In collaboration with the International Anthony Burgess Foundation we were delighted to spend the evening celebrating Joycean readings, music and victuals. Bloomsday 2022 marks the centenary of the publication of Ulysses in February 1922.

Bloomsday celebrates Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 1904, the day depicted in James Joyce's novel Ulysses. The day is named after Leopold Bloom, the central character in Ulysses. The novel follows the life and thoughts of Leopold Bloom and a host of

other characters – real and fictional – through Dublin from 8am on 16 June 1904 through to the early hours of the following morning.

The first Bloomsday celebrated in Ireland was in 1954, the fiftieth anniversary of the original Bloomsday, when writers Patrick Kavanagh and Flann O'Brien visited some of the locations in the novel, reading parts of *Ulysses* and drinking a great deal as they went. Today, Bloomsday is celebrated by Joyceans across the globe with readings, performances, and re-enactments.

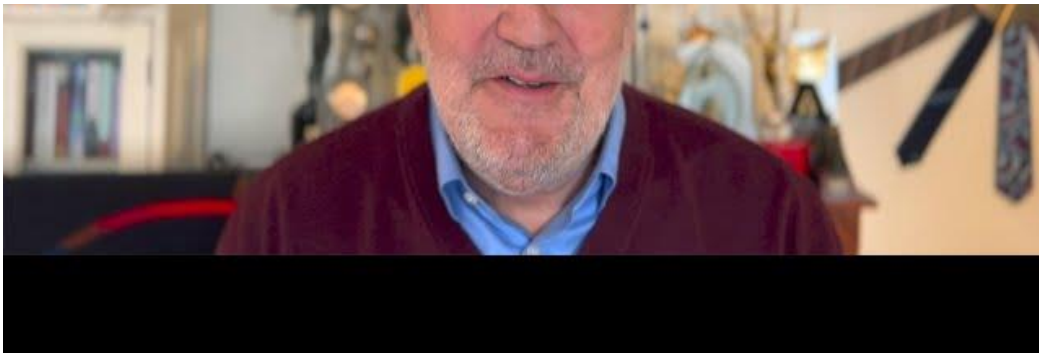
Manchester-born Anthony Burgess, novelist, playwright, composer, poet (whose grandmother was from Co. Tipperary), was a life-long fan of James Joyce, and committed to bringing Joyce's work to a wider audience, even writing a musical version of *Ulysses*, extracts of which were performed during our event.



Since James Joyce's *Ulysses* was published 100 years ago, people from all over the world have read his words. We were thrilled to have Manchester featured in the Irish Foreign Ministry's original short film 'Hold To The Now' which explores the themes of time, history, and human connection through the world of *Ulysses*.

Manchester's feature is performed by Hannah Donelon of Hawkeed Theatre, outside the International Anthony Burgess Foundation here in Manchester. The short film has already been viewed over 11 million times across all platforms. Below is a link to the short film for you to watch and enjoy.





## IRISH DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE GREAT BRITAIN

Consul General Sarah Mangan was delighted to attend the quarterly get-to-together of the Irish Democratic League of Great Britain. Thank you to the Bolton Irish Centre for the warm welcome.



## GAA NORTHERN GAMES

It was a beautiful sunny day for the children competing in the GAA Northern Games held at Broughton Park Rugby Club on the weekend of 14/15th May. Gaelic Games continue to have a strong following amongst the Irish community in the North of England, with ten clubs in Greater Manchester and Liverpool City regions alone, all fielding female, male and underage teams. In addition to catering to the Irish community and assisting in maintaining the cultural and sporting links to Ireland, the Association's vision is that everyone has the opportunity to be welcome and participate in Gaelic games and culture. They also provide a vital role in health and well-being.

Saturday 14 May saw some future stars on the pitch supported by some legends on

Saturday 14 May saw some future stars on the pitch supported by some legends on the sidelines, including former Dublin All Ireland winner (and Ireland soccer international) Kevin Moran. Thank you to Mayor Andy Burnham, Councillor Eamonn O'Brien & Jeff Smith MP for joining in and saying hello to all involved. Find out more about the GAA in Great Britain, and details for your local club at [Provincial Council of Britain - Cumann Na Breataine na Gaeil Tarlear \(gaa.ie\)](http://Provincial Council of Britain - Cumann Na Breataine na Gaeil Tarlear (gaa.ie)).



## IDAHOT DAY

Together with our Embassy, Consulate, and Enterprise Ireland colleagues across Britain, we're proud to have marked International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOT) Day on May 17th.

Ireland strongly supports the promotion and protection of the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons.

For anyone visiting Scotland, we recommend taking time to visit the 'Out in the World' exhibition at the Scottish Storytelling Centre, organised by our colleagues at the Consulate General of Ireland in Edinburgh.

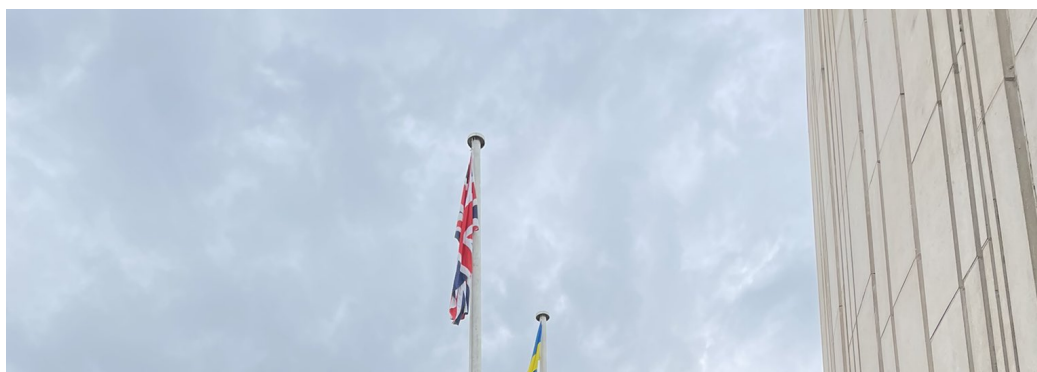
[Latest News - Celebrating the the Hidden History of Irish Emigration - Department of Foreign Affairs \(dfa.ie\)](https://www.dfa.ie/latest-news/celebrating-the-hidden-history-of-irish-emigration)



## VISIT TO NEWCASTLE AND DURHAM WITH AMBASSADOR O'NEILL

It was a pleasure to accompany Irish Ambassador Adrian O'Neill on a visit to Newcastle and Durham in May. The full two-day program saw the Ambassador meet with various key political stakeholders, Durham University, and the vibrant Irish community.

Ambassador O'Neill received a warm welcome from the Lord Mayor of Newcastle arriving to see the national flag flying in the Civic Centre Square.





A meeting with Metro Mayor Jamie Driscoll included a stimulating discussion on the achievements of the North Tyne Combined Authority with strong plans for the future.



The day was then followed by a heartfelt night remembering Jack Charlton at a special event in the Tyneside Irish Centre. Ambassador O'Neill presented John Charlton with the Presidential Distinguished Service Award conferred on his father posthumously in 2020. A special thank you to Tony Corcoran for his support and for organising such a wonderful event.







### **CELEBRATING 25 (+1) YEARS OF LEEDS IRISH HEALTH AND HOMES**

It was great to join Leeds Irish Health and Homes to celebrate their 25th (+1) anniversary on Saturday 11th June. Last year Leeds Irish Health and Homes were unable to celebrate their silver anniversary due to the pandemic. It was wonderful to be able to gather again to celebrate all that the organisation has contributed and accomplished over the past 26 years.



### **COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS**

Monday:

10:30am- Walk n Talk/ Monthly litterpick  
6:30pm- Comhaltas Irish music class

Tuesday:

11am Cuimhne: 2nd Tuesday of the Month  
11am Community Coffee Morning: Last Tuesday of the Month  
1pm Sequence dancing

Wednesday:

12pm Lunch club  
2:30pm Weigh 2 wellbeing  
6pm Yoga  
6pm Readers group  
8pm Liverpool Irish Flute Band  
8pm Lowlands Adult Trade Fiddle Group  
8:30pm Last Wednesday of the month - Supper Ceili

Thursday:

10am Mum & baby exercise group  
1pm Tea, chat and bingo or tea dance  
5:45pm Liverpool Irish Rovers  
6:30pm Thursday thoughts  
6:30pm Cnag Irish Language  
6:30pm Bolger Cunningham Irish Dancing

Saturday:

9am Liverpool Irish Rovers Parkrun at Croxteth Park & Princes Park  
10am Bolger Cunningham Irish Dancing

For more information contact Clodagh/ Maureen PH: 0151 263 1808  
OR [www.liverpoolirishcentre.org](http://www.liverpoolirishcentre.org).

**The Brian Boru Irish Club**, Wigan has continued their Friday to Sunday Programme. Each Friday they have a regular in-house Karaoke party from 2pm, Saturdays are now an exciting mix of Ceili, Soul nights, Live music, and the new 'Take it easy Saturday' where there will be background music, and some 'down time' for you to bring a book or crossword have a great pint and relax.

Please take a look at the Facebook page or website and come along. This is the oldest Irish club in the UK and everyone is very welcome to join  
<https://www.facebook.com/Brianboruirishclub/> OR <https://brianboruclub.com/>

### **Irish Community Care Manchester - Scam Awareness Talk with Age UK**

26th July- St Mary's Levenshulme

28th September- Irish World Heritage Centre

Irish Community Care Manchester have been serving Manchester's vibrant Irish community since 1987. As part of our mission we run three lunch clubs across Manchester, reaching around 200 people, reducing social isolation among the elderly & vulnerable. Over the next three months we will be linking in with Age UK to provide Scam Awareness information sessions to give people the tools to help protect themselves from fraud. The sessions are free and aim to give people the tools they need to deal with potential scams.

We are always delighted to see new people at the clubs, there is no need to book, just pop along.



**Women of Irish Heritage event  
Wednesday 6 July 6-8pm**

WIH's networking event is taking place next Wednesday (6 July) in Manchester from 6 pm – 8pm. We are honoured our guest speaker for the evening is Molly Harvey, a leading authority in the world of leadership development, who hails from County Waterford!

For more information on the network please see [Women of Irish Heritage \(frea.org.uk\)](http://frea.org.uk)

If you would like to join the network and attend the event please contact Dorothy Lynch, Sustainability Lead at Fréa [dorothy.lynch@frea.org.uk](mailto:dorothy.lynch@frea.org.uk)



**CULTURAL NEWS & EVENTS**

**Liam O'Maonlai concert  
St Kentigerns Irish Club  
Saturday 3rd September**

<https://www.wegotickets.com/routesmusic>  
<https://bluefunkclub.wixsite.com/blues>

**Craic by the Creek**  
**Festival of Irish & Country Music**  
**22nd-24 July 2022**  
**Whitebottom Farm, Greater Manchester**

For more information see <https://craicbythecreek.co.uk/>

**CRAIC BY THE CREEK**  
FESTIVAL OF IRISH & COUNTRY MUSIC  
22ND - 24TH JULY 2022  
WHITEBOTTOM FARM, GREATER MANCHESTER

**DEREK RYAN**  
**RYAN MCMULLAN**  
**ALL FOLK'D UP • FLOOK**  
**CLAUDIA BUCKLEY • CEOL**  
**JOE CASSERLEY & THE LAST DROP**  
**HONKYTONK ROADSHOW • LAMPA**  
**THE FATHER TEDS • MATT & DONAL • JOE KEEGAN**  
**ANDY MURPHY(DJ) • QUARE CRAIC • THE CRAIC INN**  
**MEGAN O'CONNOR • PERFECT FRICTION • IZZIE WALSH**  
**ANDY DINAN TRIBUTE • SEAN MAGEE • CULLAINN**  
**STACEY BREEN • PAUL HUNT**  
**LATE NIGHT TRAD SESSIONS**  
**HOSTED BY ALAN KEEGAN**

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM skiddle

SCAN ME TO WIN  
A £100 BAR TAB

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PART OF THE OCU GROUP

**Hawkseed Theatre**  
**Casting call**  
**Application deadline 3rd July 10pm**

<https://www.hawkseedtheatre.co.uk/castings>

We are delighted to be supporting Hawkseed Theatre's production of a new play highlighting the Irish migrant experience. Hawkseed will be touring the production in October 2022 – more details to follow.

hawkseed

# WE ARE CASTING

## MOTHER

Female. Playing age: 55+. Southern Irish accent.  
Desirable: actor-musician and comfortable singing.

## FATHER

Male. Playing age: 60+. Southern Irish accent.  
Desirable: actor-musician and comfortable singing.

## YOUNG CARE WORKER

Non-gender specific. Playing age: 18-28. Of Indian heritage.  
Desirable: actor-musician and comfortable singing.

## HUSBAND

Male. Playing age: 27-35. Actor-musician.  
Desirable: comfortable singing.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: 10pm, 3rd July**



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

### Sky 191

Watch the broadcast on Thursdays at 7:30pm

Repeated Tuesday at 1pm

[www.theirishintheuktv.com](http://www.theirishintheuktv.com)

**Keeping the Irish Community Connected in the UK and all around the world**

The purpose of the show is to highlight the Irish Community in the UK and the incredible success of so many Irish people who have made their home here.

Since the show was first launched in May 2017, we have travelled all around the UK promoting business, culture, tourism, sport and all kinds of entertainment.

The TV Show promotes Irish dancing, music, song, sport and a good story. Whether it's from up and coming young talent living in the UK or those with strong connections to Ireland.

If you would like us to promote your business, we would be delighted to hear from you. Martin Logan on 07808573142 or email [martinloganmanchester@gmail.com](mailto:martinloganmanchester@gmail.com)

The Irish  
in the UK

**FOREIGN BIRTHS REGISTER UPDATE**

The processing of Foreign Birth registration has resumed in Dublin on a phased basis. Applications that have been sent to the FBR team have been securely held and will now be processed in strict date order.

At present, due to the complex nature of the Foreign Birth Registration and the pause in the service due to the Covid-19 restrictions you should allow approximately 2 years for processing of Foreign Birth Registration applications at this time.

For more information on FBR please see <https://www.dfa.ie/citizenship/born-abroad/>



**Consulate General of Ireland for the North of England**

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