



*Happy October friends
of the Cruinniú!*

The Criú is working to finalize our 2025 instructor lineup. To date the following have been secured. I am happy to share that more names will be added to this list.

Michael McGoldrick
Irish Flute

Máirtín de Cógáin
*Storytelling and
Concert Emcee*

John Doyle
Int-Adu Guitar

Caitlin Warbelow
Int-Adu Fiddle

Colin Farrell
Int-Adu Whistle

Paul McClure
Int-Adu Bodhran

Therese Honey
Int-Adu Harp

Robert Shaddox
Bodhran Fundamentals

Katie Geringer
Fiddle Fundamentals

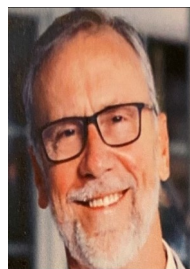
A reminder that the dates for 2025 are Thursday, June 5th - Sunday, June 8th.

We are actively planning a fundraising mid year *Céili* for early December 2024. Our first céili we held in June during GCC '24 was so well-received, attended by students and the community we have decided to have another! The dance, the music, the people all made it great family fun! Watch for details coming soon! A reminder the O'Flaherty Retreat is

just weeks away, they are still accepting registrations. If you are not familiar with this event, it is held every October south of Dallas at a conference center campus in Midlothian, and they provide class instruction, concert, seminars, céili, etc. It is arguably one of the finest camps in North America and it is one of my favorite weekends of the year. They also have a great lineup of instructors!

Watch your e-mail and the GCC FB page for announcements coming soon!

*On behalf of the Cruinniú
Criú*



*Shawn
Cayson
Director*

Welcome Dillon Hennessy, the new Vice Consul, the Consulate General of Ireland, Austin



"A chairde,

I'm delighted to take up my first diplomatic posting at the Consulate General in Austin as Vice Consul. I'm from Dublin and practiced as a barrister before starting my career with the Department of Foreign Affairs. I join the Consulate from the Department's Legal Division, where I worked on various issues in public international law and primarily treaty law.

I couldn't have asked for a better first posting than at the Consulate here in Austin. It's a privilege to have the chance to support Irish citizens and serve the Irish diaspora in the southern central United States. I am particularly excited to meet as many of you as I can over the coming months and to learn how I can contribute to the amazing work you do to keep growing our community. I am also looking forward to the opportunity to build on the Consulate's mission to support trade,

Contd.....on pg 2



A 501c(3) non-profit organization led by volunteers with a passion for Irish traditional music. All financial donations are tax deductible.



GCC is a project of



**Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme**



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

FACULTY CONNECTIONS A COLUMN DEDICATED TO CRUINNÍÚ INSTRUCTOR NEWS AND INFORMATION..... by Laura Michaelides

Happy October to you all! Each month, we bring you news of our faculty, past and present. Can you imagine taking a tour of Ireland with **Kevin Crawford** (2020, 2021, 2022, 2024) and Colin Farrell? These two friends, both incredible musicians, are again joining forces to offer their "Wild Atlantic Way Tour" on April 12-19, 2025. Music galore, camaraderie, sightseeing through Clare, Galway and Kerry - what a blast that would be! For more info, go to WildAtlanticMusicTours.com.

Faculty member **Caitlin Warbelow** (2022, 2023) is also offering music-infused tours. These will take participants to her beloved home state of Alaska for off-the-beaten-path travel. The first tour is scheduled for June 9-20, 2025. There are only a few slots left at this point. Other tours are scheduled for August 1-8, & August 10-22. Go to www.alaska.supply for more info.

New music releases and announcements!

Lúnasa has released their most recent live recording, "Live in

Kyoto." The album captures Lúnasa playing at the famous live music venue called Taku Taku in Kyoto, Japan. Our faculty members, Kevin Crawford (2020, 2021, 2022, 2024) and Cillian Vallely, (2022) are both members of this amazing band. The album is available on Lunasa's website, lunasamusic.com.

Eamon O'Leary (2022, 2024) and **Nuala Kennedy's** (2020, 2021, 2024) "Hydra" and Open the Door for Three's **Liz Knowles** (2021, 2024), **Kieran O'Hare** (2024) "A Prosperous Gale" are now available from Bandcamp. Both are stellar albums, and I highly recommend them.

Finally, **Marla Fibish** (2020, 2021) has announced her new album "Playdate" with Bay Area fiddler and friend Rebecca Richman. The project developed out of the pandemic period, which was a creative time of tune writing for Marla. It will be released January 17, 2025, and will be available on Bandcamp.



~ Laura M.



Contd..from pg.1

Welcome Dillon Hennessy, the new Vice Consul, at the Consulate General of Ireland, Austin

.....innovation and cultural exchange between our two countries.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor Niamh Clarke for her tireless efforts over the past three years to further all of our shared goals - I hope to carry things forward with the same level of energy and enthusiasm.

Professionally, it will be my great pleasure to support, however I can, everything you do to promote Ireland and its unique story.

Personally, I look forward to getting to know all of the best BBQ spots in the region. All suggestions welcome!

~Dillon

EDUCATION University of St. Thomas Houston

The Flynn Center for Irish Studies sponsors several Irish-related events and classes each year.

Www.stthom.edu
use search and enter
Center for Irish Studies



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SESSIONS

In YOUR AREA

ARLINGTON, TX

Tuesday nights beginning 7pm at J. Gilligan's Bar & Grill at 400 East Abram Street, Arlington

Hooligans Pub session meets **monthly** on the 1st **Sundays**, 3-6pm. at 310 E. Abram St., #150, Arlington

AUSTIN TX

BD Rileys **Thursdays** 7-10pm
Kelly's **Sunday** starts at 7pm
Suds Monkey **Tuesdays** 7-8:45pm

BOULDER, CO

Sunday @ 2pm East Simpson Coffee House, Louisville,
Sunday @ 6pm Wheelhouse, Niwot.

BRYAN, TX

Every **Wednesday** 6:30-9:00pm
Murphys Law, 107 N Main St.,

DENVER, CO

Tuesdays @ 6pm
Wednesdays @ 6pm at Clancy's in Wheatridge
Sunday @ 4pm, Celtic on Market Irish Pub
Sunday @ 3pm @ Abbey Tavern

DENTON, TX

Steve's Wine, session meets 2nd & 4th **Saturdays**, 3-5pm. at 111 Industrial Street

EDMOND, OK

Every **Monday** evening @ 7pm
The Patriarch Craft Beer House & Lawn, 9 E Edwards St, Edmond

FORT COLLINS, CO

1st Sunday @ 2pm
at Avogadro's Number, 605 Main Street
3rd Sunday @ 4pm at Equinox Brewing, 133 Remington St.,
Mondays @ 7pm at The Forge Publick House, 255 Old Firehouse Alley

GRANBURY, TX

3rd Saturday of each month from 6-9:00pm
at D'Vine Wine, 107 E. Bridge St.,

HOUSTON, TX

Sunday 4-6pm
Penny Whistle Pub, 1625 Richmond Ave.,
Monday 7:30-9:30pm
Chelsea Wine Bar 4106 E Nasa Pkwy, El Lago, TX 77586 (upstairs)
Wednesday 7:30-10:00pm
McGonigel's Mucky Duck, 2425 Norfolk St.,

LOCKHART, TX

Meets **monthly**. *November 10th*
Doors open at 4pm. Sessions runs 4:30-8pm. All ages and levels are welcome. Lockhart Arts & Craft, 113 North Main Street,

MANSFIELD, TX

Dirty Job Brewing, session meets on the **3rd Friday** 5-7pm, 117 N Main St,

McKINNEY, TX

Celt Irish Pub every **Wednesday** evening from 7-10pm
100 N Tennessee St,

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

4th Saturday of the month
2-4pm at The American Banjo Museum, 9 E Sheridan Ave.,

RICHARDSON, TX

Gillespie's Tavern, meets **first Monday** of each month, 7-10pm, 3500 Shire Blvd, Suite #112,

If you can not get to a session
The **McGonigel's Mucky Duck** Wednesday night session is now recorded and is available for viewing on YouTube. Go to:

[Irish Session/Live from Norfolk Street](#)

SESSIONS

In YOUR AREA

Chicago Area Sessions

CHICAGO AREA SESSIONS

Updated: June 18th, 2024

Venue	Addr	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Chief O'Neill's Pub	3471 N Elston Ave, Chicago 60618			8				5
Clancy's Pizza Pub	4624 W 103rd St, Oak Lawn 60453		7	7		7		
Corrib Irish Pub	5522 N Elston Ave, Chicago 60630				8			4
Gaelic Park Chicago****	6119 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452				7:30			
Galway Arms	2442 N Clark St, Chicago 60614		8	8	8			8
Galway Bay	500 W. Diversey Parkway, Chicago, IL		8					
Chicago Street Pub	75 N Chicago St, Joliet, IL	7:30						
Irish American Heritage Center	4626 N Knox Ave, Chicago 60630				7			
Lanigan's Pub *	3119 W 111 th St, Chicago 60655							5
McGonigal's Pub**	105 S. Cook St., Barrington, IL			7				
Mrs Murphy & Sons Irish Bistro	3905 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago 60613			7:30				1
Quigley's Irish Pub***	43 E Jefferson St, Naperville, IL			7:30				
The Celtic Knot	626 Church St., Evanston, IL							4
The Grafton	4530 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago 60625							5
The Harp & Fiddle	110 Main Street, Park Ridge, IL				8			
The Kerryman	661 N. Clark St, Chicago, IL							5
The Wolfhound Bar & Kitchen	3188 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, IL		7:30					

* Oldest continuous session in Chicago

** Alternate Wednesdays – check with the pub for any given week

*** 3rd Wednesdays

**** 1st & 3rd Thursdays



Tell us about a session in your area
email us at:- info@gulfcoastirish.org

IRISH WORD/ TRADITION

Probably the best known Irish Halloween tradition is the making of Barnbrack. This is a type of fruit cake which is eaten Halloween night. The tradition is that there is a ring, a coin, a piece of cloth, a stick, and a pea baked in the cake. Each member of the family gets a slice of the cake in the hope they might find the ring or the coin. The ring is said to be a sign that the person will find love and be married. The coin is a symbol of future wealth, and the piece of cloth is a sign poverty. The stick foretells a hard life. The pea predicts that you will always work off the land.

There are also many Halloween games which originated in

Ireland and are perhaps uniquely Irish. A lot of these involve apples! The first and probably the messiest is bobbing for apples. Apples are put in a basin of water. Each person has to dunk her head into the water and without using hands must try to retrieve an apple. The successful participants win a prize.

The other game played by children is Snap Apple. Apples are hung with string from the ceiling. The players are then blindfolded and not allowed to use hands. The object of the game is to take a bite from one of the apples – more difficult than it sounds! The first person to do so is the winner.

The goal of the night was to stay home, make noise, and have fun so as to ward off evil from your home.

Something a little bit scary: you could tell ghost stories. Ireland has some terrifying ghosts and spirits, like the banshee, a female spirit considered to be an omen of death announcing her arrival by her awful, piercing, shrill wailing.



AUSTIN'S
newest café is
Irish owned, just wait until
you taste their coffee!

Neighbourhood Café

204 E 6th Street, Austin, TX

THANK YOU STUDENTS FOR SHARING YOUR PHOTOS

