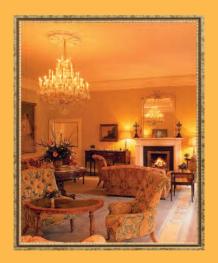


PROMISING IRELAND CAMPAIGN

Our belief in her future



# The Art of Graceful Living.

The Merrion is unique.

Behind the refined exterior of four lovingly restored Georgian townhouses, Dublin's most luxurious 5 star hotel has revived a 200 year old tradition of gracious living amidst elegant surroundings.

At The Merrion, the spirit of hospitality is as unquenchable as it was when Lord Monck entertained in these great rooms two centuries ago. Expect a welcome as warm as its roaring log fires. And attentive service as detailed as the exquisite Rococo plasterwork above you.

A stay here redefines relaxation with the shimmering infinity pool and state-of-the-art gym as well as the treatment rooms of The Tethra Spa. And as home to the renowned Restaurant Patrick Guilbaud, overlooking authentic 18th century formal gardens, and Ireland's largest, private contemporary art collection, at every turn, The Merrion exudes the unmistakable air of timeless excellence.

There is nowhere finer to stay.

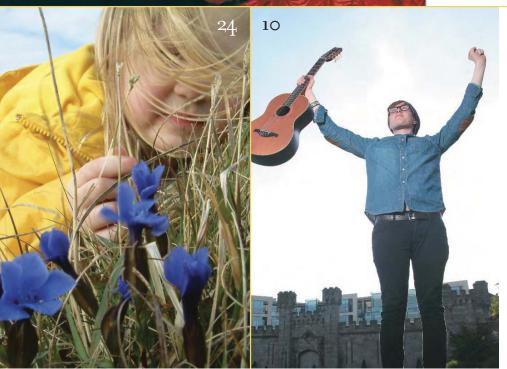






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Read *Connect* magazine online at www.theirelandfunds.org









#### Dear Fellow Donors,

This edition of Connect is coming to you at a crucial time with Ireland driving to restore her fortunes. Together, we have the privilege of being part of this great endeavor and supporting the people of Ireland as they rebuild their economy. In this edition, you will read about the difference and change you are enabling across Ireland and in Irish communities around the world. Your support is being channeled directly to those who are meeting needs in the most imaginative and effective way possible. They are doing valiant work as Ireland recovers its economic stability.

Projects such as Pieta House, Irish Men's Sheds, and Barretstown are strengthening and sustaining Irish families. Projects such as Speedpak, Music Generation, and Kids in the Kitchen are creating jobs and caring for the next generation. Projects such as the Burrenbeo Trust are conserving Ireland's cultural and environmental treasures. You will see the impact of your support for these and other projects in this issue. We hope that this brings to life the very real change your investment is bringing.

Please plan to visit Ireland and see this great work for yourself. We at The Ireland Funds would be delighted to help you in making any plans to visit. Equally, you might join us for our annual Conference in June and join the community of donors in witnessing on the ground the difference you are making. I am privileged to work with you at this crucial time and thank you for all that you do.

Kind regards,

Loretta Brennan Glucksman Chairman The American Ireland Fund

# Connect

The Worldwide Ireland Funds are a philanthropic network that supports worthy causes in Ireland and around the world. Our mission is to be the largest network of friends of Ireland dedicated to supporting programs of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development throughout the island of Ireland. Founded in 1976, The **Worldwide Ireland Funds currently** operate in 12 countries and have raised over \$380 million for more than 1,200 outstanding organizations.



The Worldwide Ireland Funds have launched the Promising Ireland Campaign to raise \$100 million by the end of 2013 on behalf of Irish charities. Charities across the island of Ireland are experiencing an increased demand for their services at a time of a major reduction in resources. The Campaign's title - Promising Ireland - reflects The Worldwide Ireland Funds' pledge to these groups as well as a belief in Ireland's future. Thanks to your generosity, over 200 outstanding organizations have already received support from the Promising Ireland Campaign.

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For copies of The American Ireland Fund's audited accounts, go to www.theirelandfunds.org or contact us at 1-800-IRL-FUND. We welcome your comments about The American Ireland Fund and Connect magazine. Please send all correspondence to the Editor.

Our deepest appreciation to the staff of The Ireland Funds for their ongoing assistance with Connect magazine.



#### Dear Friends and Supporters,

Never has the mission of The Ireland Funds been as vital as it is now. The Irish are stepping up and meeting the challenge of the worst economic phase in recent history. Ireland's economic fortunes will be restored. As has been said, the era of the Celtic Tiger may have passed but the era of the Celtic Comeback has arrived. Nonetheless, the not-for-profit sector in Ireland is working intensely to meet increased demand and to maintain Ireland's social fabric at a time of decreasing resources. This is where The Ireland Funds are of such relevance in transferring the care of Ireland's diaspora to support their work.

Your response has been spectacular. At the end of 2011, our Promising Ireland Campaign was a full year ahead of its fundraising target. This is a remarkable tribute to you and your fellow donors in such a difficult economic period. Your generosity is making a profound difference on the ground in Ireland.

On page 7, you will see the names of just some of the over 200 organizations the Promising Ireland Campaign has helped so far. The stories in this issue of Connect bring you some of those men and women who extend their thanks and are examples of the change you have delivered. Yet so much more remains to be done.

As well as delivering for Ireland, the Fund is growing with increased activities around the world and especially among our Young Leaders who recently gathered in NYC for their first International Summit. It is inspiring that these young people are willing to commit such time and generosity to the future of this great organization. So for all your decency, generosity, commitment, and care, may I thank you so much. You are ensuring that we keep our promise to Ireland.

Kind regards,

Kieran McLoughlin President and CEO The Worldwide Ireland Funds



# THANKS TO YOU, THE IRELAND FUNDS HAVE NOW RAISED OVER \$80 MILLION TOWARDS OUR \$100 MILLION GOAL

The Worldwide Ireland Funds have launched the *Promising Ireland* Campaign to raise \$100 million by the end of 2013 on behalf of Irish charities. Charities across the island of Ireland are experiencing an increased demand for their services at a time of a major reduction in resources. The Campaign's title—*Promising Ireland*—reflects The Ireland Funds' pledge to these groups as well as a belief in Ireland's future. We are on our way to meeting this ambitious goal thanks to your generosity. Here is just a sample of the over 200 outstanding organizations that have already received support from the *Promising Ireland* Campaign.



#### THANK YOU!





174 Trust Abbey School An Cosan—The Shanty Adult Literacy and Basic Education Alzheimer Society of Ireland An Taisce—The National Trust for Ireland Anam Beo Ardoyne Boxing Club Aware—Northern Ireland Ballina/Killaloe Sports & Community Facilities Ballinglen Arts Foundation Ltd. Bantry Inshore Search and Rescue Association Barnardos Barretstown BeLonG To Youth Services Belvedere Youth Club Boardmatch Bray Area Partnership **Brothers of Charity Services** Burrenbeo Trust Ltd. Camara Ireland Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) Care Local Chicago Irish Immigration Support Children's Medical and Research Foundation Children's Sunshine Home-Laura Lynn House Cinemagic Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers Concern Worldwide Console Co-operation Ireland Clondalkin Travellers **Development Group** Cill tSeandan Teo Comharchumann Forbartha Community Focus Learning Cope Galway Cork Counselling Services Crumlin Children's Hospital

Cystic Fibrosis Association of Ireland

Darndale/Belcamp Integrated

Childcare Service

Depaul Ireland

**DCU Educational Trust** 

Don Bosco Teenage Care House Association Donegal Teen Parent Support Programme Drogheda & District Support 4 Older People Druid Theatre **Dublin Jewish Board of Guardians Dublin Simon Community** Dublin SPCA Dublin Talmud Torah Eiru Trust **Emerald Isle Immigration Center** Enable Ireland FACE Fermoy Action Children's Education Families First Fighting Words First Step Centre Foróige Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship NFTE Foyle Search & Rescue Front Line Gaelscoileanna Gaelscoil Longfoirt **Gate Theatre** Generations in Action Giants Community Foundation Glenstal Abbey GOAL Haven Helium Arts IFI Irish Film Archive Independent Age INKEx Inspire Ireland Iorras Le Cheile CDP Integrated Education Fund Intercom Enterprize Irish Ancestry Research Centre (IARC) Irish Arts Center Irish Charities Tax Research (ICTR) Irish Deaf Kids Irish Dogs for the Disabled Irish Georgian Society Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind Irish Mens Sheds Association Irish Stammering Association Irish Youth Foundation Irish Immigration Center Irish Museum of Modern Art

Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Jack and Jill Children's Foundation Jewish Home of Ireland Keltic Dreams Kerry Diocesan Youth Services Kids in the Kitchen Le Cheile Learmount Community **Development Group** Letterkenny IT Lewis Glucksman Gallery Lifestart National Office Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership (LEDP) Lyric Theatre Mary Immaculate College Music Generation Macnas Meath Youth Federation Midlands Simon Community Mind Wise New Vision Monaghan Integrated Development Moy Cosy Club National Gallery of Ireland Native Woodland Trust Newbridge Family Resource Centre New York Irish Center-Forgotten Irish Appeal Northern Ireland Children's Hospice North Kerry Older Persons Services Northside Learning Hub **NUI** Galway Offaly Dyslexia Group Open Heart House Origin Theater Our Lady's Boys Club PeacePlayers International Philanthropy Ireland Pushkin Prizes Trust Peter McVerry Trust Pieta House Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA) Railway Preservation Society Right to Sight Royal Hibernian Academy Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers Regimental Museum Rothar RUA RED South Dublin Arts Ruhama Rural Resettlement Ireland Samaritans

Show Racism the Red Card Special Olympics Ireland Springboard Opportunities Smock Alley Theatre Ltd Speedpak Limited Spun Out Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Society of Vincent de Paul St. Brigid's Family Resource Centre St. Johns Amateur Boxing Club, Fermoy St. Michael's Estate Family Resource Centre St. Patrick's College—Teachnet St. Bernadette's Primary School St. Mary's School St Ultan's After School Project Sticky Fingers Suas Educational Development Tara Centre Temple Street Children's Hospital The Ark The Blue Box The Corrymeela Community The Educational Trust The Nexus Institute The Playhouse The Terry Enright Foundation The Wheel The WOW Group—Winners on Wheels Trinity College Dublin Tuesday's Children University College Dublin UCD Michael Smurfit Business School University College Cork University of Limerick UMASS—Derry Cities in Transition Program **Upper Springfield Development Trust** VOICE (Voice of Irish Concern for the Environment) Walk with You Washington Ireland Program Waterside Women's Centre West Cork Chamber Festival Wexford Festival Opera Whitegates Community

#### The priority areas of The Worldwide Ireland Funds are:

Irish Repertory Theatre

Irish Seed Saver Association

of Cruelty to Animals

Irish Society for the Prevention

- Investing in Ireland's Communities
- Supporting a shared future in Northern Ireland
- Promoting Philanthropy in Ireland
- Providing Access to Education
- The Promotion of Irish Culture and Heritage
- Assisting Disadvantaged Youth
- Assisting the Elderly 'Forgotten Irish'



Saplings School for Children

with Autism

Learn more about how you can support the Promising Ireland Campaign by scanning the code, visiting www.theirelandfunds.org or calling 1-800-IRL-FUND (1-800-475-3863)

Youth Work Ireland Galway



The Promising Ireland Campaign is helping Irish charities now, when they need it most. Your generosity to The Ireland Funds is bringing services to people in need all across Ireland.

# THANK YOU!

"I have told you in the past about the magnificent work this, the largest organisation helping Ireland in the world, does for charities both here and abroad. The Ireland Funds remain a resource of incomparable benefit to Ireland..."

- Enda Kenny, An Taoiseach (Prime Minister) of Ireland



"Our attitude towards ourselves has changed dramatically because of The Ireland Funds. Before, we saw ourselves as a charity. We don't see ourselves as a charity anymore. We like to ask people to invest."— Joan Freeman, Pieta House

"We were delighted to receive support from The Ireland Funds. The grant means that we can run our Stand Up! Don't Stand for Homophobic Bullying Campaign into every school in Ireland for another year. It makes all the difference." — Michael Nanci Barron, BeLonG To Youth Services

> "This significant donation will greatly assist the work atthe centre in what are clearly very challenging times for the Irish health service. I would like to thank The Ireland Funds for their support."— Michael Greene, CRY

"The Ireland Funds helped us establish our dedicated service for children and adolescents across the country. We have made a real difference and the funding we have received from The Ireland Funds has saved lives." — Paul Kelly, Console

> "A project like this is unlike anything the club has undertaken in the past and the grant from The Ireland Funds has helped immensely. Funding from The Ireland Funds gives us a level of respect and status because of their rigid review process before giving money." — Tom Kenny, Our Lady's Boys' Club

"When Lagan College opened 30 years ago, 28 children were able to attend the first planned integrated school in Northern Ireland. Since then, The Ireland Funds have supported the integrated education movement by improving facilities in existing schools, supporting the opening of new schools and expanding access to integrated education to early childhood education. Thanks to the supporters like The Ireland Funds, 21,000 children and young people across Northern Ireland are enrolled in one of 61 integrated schools and the movement continues to gain momentum." - Paul Caskey, Integrated Education Fund



"Thanks to the ongoing support from The Ireland Funds, the Pushkin Trust has been enabled to maintain both its Schools' Programme and its Partners in Education Programme in both parts of Ireland. Even in this year of financial uncertainty for many, The Ireland Funds' commitment to our essential work with children and educators has provided us with a singular endorsement that we value deeply. " - Alan Boyd, The Pushkin Trust





MUSIC EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN ACROSS IRELAND

A Music Network initiative, funded by U2 and The Ireland Funds





WHAT IS MUSIC GENERATION?

IRELAND'S NEW NATIONAL MUSIC PERFORMANCE MUSIC EDUCATION IT IS A FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMME (2010 - 2015), WHICH IS LOCALLY

MUSIC GENERATION, the U2 and Ireland Funds' supported National Music Education Programme—is in full swing and helping children and young people throughout Ireland access vocal and instrumental tuition in their local area. Thanks to your support, this unique program is fully underway and already making a difference in Ireland.

The results so far? In just the first year of this ambitious five year initiative, €3.3 million has been awarded to the first six counties selected for participation, 30 jobs have been created, and tuition has reached more than 1,000 children.

#### Louth, Mayo, and Sligo: Music In the First Three Counties

In Louth, Mayo and Sligo—the first three counties selected to roll out the programme—job opportunities have been created for local co-ordinators and musicians practicing in all musical genres, who will deliver a range of tuition to children and young people up to 18 years.

Tuition recently commenced in Sligo with the county's ambitious Discovering Music programme, which aims to open the door to music for every one of Sligo's 16,500 young people.

Tuition will commence in Louth and Mayo in spring 2012 and will see the establishment of choirs, orchestras, kinder music programmes, bands, rock schools, music labs, and much more.

Cork City, Laois, and Wicklow, the second round of counties selected for participation, will kick-start 2012 with a recruitment drive for musicians and put plans to place to establish a locally based workforce that will give thousands more children and young people the choice of access to high quality music education in their local area.

#### Partnerships: Making it Sustainable

Partnerships are central to Music Generation's approach. Nationally, the programme works closely with Government in strategically planning and developing a national framework necessary to achieve a long term sustainable approach. Ruairi Quinn TD, Minister for Education and Skills, recently announced that "...Government remains committed to developing and sustaining the Music Education Partnerships with Exchequer funding in future years when the donations cease."

Locally, Music Generation is incentivising the establishment of Music Education Partnerships across the country in an effort to develop a better infrastructure for music education in Ireland. The Partnerships are comprised of local agencies, organisations, expert and interest groups that work to plan for a co-ordinated music education service in the local area. Within Music Generation's first six months over 75% of the country set up these new Partnerships resulting in local and national structures for vocal and instrumental music education being established the first time on the history of the state.

"WHAT WE WANT TO DO IS REALLY SIMPLE. WE JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE, WHATEVER THEIR BACKGROUND, GETS ACCESS TO MUSIC TUITION. THAT'S THE IDEA." -Bono





"MUSIC GENERATION
HAS CHALLENGED
OUR NATION TO
MAKE MUSIC
EDUCATION FOR
ALL A REALITY IN
IRELAND."

— Chairman of Music Generation. Dr. Tony Ó Dálaigh

"MUSIC GENERATION
IS ONE OF THE
MOST SIGNIFICANT
DEVELOPMENTS FOR
MUSIC EDUCATION
IN IRELAND IN
RECENT TIMES."

Dr. Patricia Flynn & Rhona
Clarke of Irish Music Education

"VERY WORTHY AND ADMIRABLE CAUSE."

— Gay Byrne, RTE Lyric FM

"MUSIC GENERATION
......IS A FANTASTIC
BREAKTHROUGH."

Richard Pine,The Sunday Time



Above: The first program graduates with Declan Kelly and Kieran McLoughlin

Below: Special award received by the US Northern Ireland Mentorship Graduates



### Creating Opportunities for Northern Ireland's Youth The U.S. Northern Ireland Mentorship Program

#### The Ireland Funds Support and Congratulate the First Program Graduates

The U.S. Northern Ireland Mentorship Program was established in June 2010 in Belfast by the former U.S. Economic Envoy to Northern Ireland Declan Kelly in partnership with the Northern Ireland Science Park and The Ireland Funds. After resigning as Economic Envoy, Declan Kelly agreed to personally sponsor and support the program on an ongoing basis in partnership with The American Ireland Fund. The program is designed to provide young people from Northern Ireland the opportunity to gain valuable business experience by spending one year working for a U.S. corporation.

The program is a one-year work placement program for young citizens of Northern Ireland, to work in a multinational corporation based in the United States. The objectives of the program are to develop the future business leaders and entrepreneurs of Northern Ireland by improving the essential business, management and leadership skills of the participants.

In November 2011, the first group of young people from Northern Ireland "graduated" from their placements with U.S. companies. Their graduation ceremony in NYC was bittersweet as they gave testimony to the importance of the experience in the U.S. and the valuable skills they would bring back to Northern Ireland.

The success of the program has been confirmed by the number of companies who have indicated they will participate in 2012. Follow up support by The Ireland Funds and by Joanne Stuart in Belfast for the graduates will include career advice, an opportunity to connect with The Ireland Funds Young Leaders Society and, where possible, interviews for placements with leading companies in Northern Ireland.



Above: Victoria Gass, Emma Bleakely

Below: David Bell, Declan Kelly

Above: US Northern Ireland Mentorship graduates in New York

Below: Kieran McLoughlin, Gemma Rafferty, Declan Kelly



#### In Their Own Words: The Graduates

"In this job I have been exposed to the highest level of professional standards. The work ethic of my colleagues has really struck me. As a graduate in my first full time job since leaving university, I can't think of a better organization to begin my career."

— Andrew McMaster (US—NI Mentorship Participant 2010 - UBS)

"The mentorship program has provided me with a tremendous opportunity. I intend to take full advantage of my time in the US to learn as much as I can and to develop a new network of business contacts."

— Gemma Rafferty (US – NI Mentorship Participant 2010 - Credit Suisse)

"This program has given me so much more confidence in my own ability than I ever had before. The opportunity to work with such skilled and enthusiastic colleagues has been enormously valuable, and this attitude towards work is one I will carry with me throughout my career."

— David Bell (US – NI Mentorship Participant – 2010 AXA)

"The US-NI mentorship program has provided me with an incredible opportunity to be emerged in a world of expertise and challenge, and to be involved in incredible projects that truly humble me. The value of my time here is priceless and my skills and knowledge are growing every single day. I know the experience I am gaining here will open up so many doors in the future."

-Emma Swift (2011 US-NI Mentorship Program), placed with Teneo (Declan Kelly's office)

#### In Their Own Words: The Host Companies

"The caliber of students we have access to is exceptional and the support of the program in matching the right candidates with the right firm's is very valuable. A tribute to that success is that we are doubling our participation in the program this year."

Robert MacGoey (PricewaterhouseCoopers)

"It has been truly rewarding to have had the opportunity to host and interact with such a fantastic ambassador for Northern Ireland. This experience has significantly added to the international dynamic that we have in our company.

- Barbara Evanchick (UBS)

"One of the US—NI Mentorship participants joined our team earlier this year. We have honestly been so impressed with the skills, attitude and dedication exhibited. It has been a pleasure getting to know and work with such a driven and entrepreneurial individual."

Michael Brewster (Credit Suisse)

#### Participating Companies

**HBO** Allstate **HSBC** Almac

AXA Keefe, Bruyette & Woods

BNY Mellon **KPMG** 

Bank of America Moet Hennessy USA CIBC NY E-Health Collaborative

Targus

Credit Suisse PricewaterhouseCoopers

Cowen and Company Teneo

Coca-Cola

First Derivatives Sesame Street

**UBS** Fitzpatrick Hotels

# BARRETSTOWN Rebuilding Lives Affected by Childhood Cancer

At Barretstown camp in County Kildare, children who have known the pain and trauma of cancer and other serious conditions transcend their illness in a magical Irish setting.





#### "If it's too touchy-feely....we'll just go home,"

whispered Patricia to her husband Damian as they came through the gates of Barretstown in County Kildare. Their daughter Niamh had been diagnosed with cancer and they had been told about the camp at the foot of the Wicklow Mountains where not just ill children but their siblings and families could come for a break.

Patricia and Damian explained the reluctance they had about the unknown. "We had just vacationed as a family elsewhere and Niamh had gotten so many stares with her bald head. It was heartbreaking. We weren't sure what Barretstown was all about, but we decided to come as a family. When your child has cancer, you live in another world. But it turned out that Barretstown was also a different world - a safe environment where they let kids go at their own pace, and that includes their siblings, with no talk of sickness. Cancer takes many things and it took some of the fun out of our family. Barretstown brought us back to finding that fun again. We left our troubles at that gate."

Founded by Paul Newman as part of his Hole in the Wall camps in the US, Barretstown opened in 1994. and has received supported from The Ireland Funds since its beginning. Children from all across Europe come, free of charge, to enjoy transformative fun at a time when they and their families need it most. Through Barretstown's unique, medically supervised program offering family, summer, and teen sessions, these children are given back their childhood and encouraged to rediscover their confidence and joy.

In its first year, Barretstown welcomed 124 campers. Today, they welcome 1,800 campers and families and have a volunteer base of 700 people each year.

As Barretstown reaches its 18th year, The Ireland Funds talked to two grown campers, to see how Barretstown has touched their lives.

# KAREN

**Karen O'Neill** was a camper at Barretstown when she was 16 years old. She was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia and underwent grueling treatments as a child before coming to Barretstown. Her father Andrew said, "The support from The Ireland Funds has enabled Karen to achieve today what she has reached. Three years ago when she was ill, we had no expectations...."

Here's how Karen recently expressed her feelings about her time at Barretstown:

"It's impossible to describe the impact Barretstown has had on my life. There's no combination of words that could fully describe it. I arrived at camp a shy and apprehensive teenager, just six months after finishing my treatment.

I remember before I went I met a family who'd experienced the camp before. They told me that Barretstown was the Hogwarts of the real world, where magic really did happen. 'Yeah right, magic!' was about all I could manage to say.

Driving through the wrought iron gates towards the idyllic castle set by the glistening lake, it felt like entering into a new world, and I was overwhelmed by the warmth that embraced me. Some friends I'd made in hospital were campers too. It was nice for us all to make the transition back to normal teenagers together; to share our experiences and strengthen our friendships. I have since returned to Barretstown on two occasions, the most special of which was when I got the chance to share the experiences with my family. I feel Barretstown offered me a chance to regain all the confidence I lost due to my illness. Barretstown inspired me to stand up and make a difference. It gave me back my independence. And allowed me to explore my creative side and overcome fears. (I arrived terrified of heights — I left with the will to go skydiving, which I did last year, jumping out of a plane at 10,000 ft!) But most importantly . . . Barretstown taught me to smile and laugh no matter what happens. It taught me to embrace the world in all its glory. To realize there is life after cancer."





Karen today

A college student studying medicine at Trinity College Dublin.





The Ireland Funds have supported Barretstown with over \$4 million in grants since they opened.

Barretstown welcomed only 124 1994 campers. Today, I'm glad to tell you that we welcome over 1,800 campers. The support from The Ireland Funds over the years has allowed Barretstown to grow and develop into the wonderful place it is today." - Dee Ahearn, CEO Barretstown



Declan Molloy Over a decade ago, The Ireland Funds visited Barretstown and took this photo of children at Barretstown. Who would have thought that in 2012, **Declan Molloy**, one of the boys in the photo, would reach out to The Ireland Funds with words of thanks for our donors'support. Today, Declan Molloy is a 20 year old student in Trinity College. Here he tells of how Barretstown has influenced him so many years later: "I went to camp back in 2001 -2003 as a camper. I had battled Acute Myeloid Leukaemia for the year prior to camp and to say the least, was left drained from the roller coaster journey that finally brought me into remission. I was left a very self-conscious young boy always worrying about my appearance. Post-treatment I was always nervous and even embarrassed by the fact that I was bald and pale all the time. Barretstown replaced something in me that had been missing since I met Leukaemia and it's only now as an adult I realise that as corny as it sounds, Barretstown gave me back my childhood.

Barretstown instilled a level of confidence in me that had vanished for a while since Leukaemia made an appearance. I realised as a camper that I could do anything I wanted while at camp and no disease or amount of drugs I was on could stop me. I climbed 40 foot poles at the high ropes course; hit bull's eyes at the archery range, caught fish at the lake and so much more. At camp, I realised that Leukaemia shouldn't affect my daily life and so I changed for the better

and took this way of life into the real world. My mother to this day still says she collected a different child after my attending Barretstown!

Today, I am a confident young man and I am sure that if I hadn't experienced the magic of Barretstown as a child, I wouldn't be half the man I am today. I feel having conquered the mountain that is childhood cancer, nothing can stand in my way. I regularly volunteer at Barretstown's weekend camps and fundraise whenever I can to try and show my gratitude for this inspirational place.

I hope my story can help inspire the donors of The Ireland Funds to realise by donating to Barretstown how much of an impact they are having on the lives of not only the children brought to camp but also the families affected by childhood cancer.

On behalf of all the campers I sincerely thank you from the bottom of my heart for your continued and much needed support. Words cannot describe how truly grateful we are."





One Ireland Funds' donor who has made a commitment to Barretstown is National Board Director John Fitzpatrick. John continues to honor his late parents, Eithne and Paddy Fitzpatrick, through his annual golf tournament named in their honor. To date, the tournament has given over \$1 million to assist Irish charities including Barretstown. An ampitheatre and a cottage where families stay on the Barretstown property have also been established in their honor. John was recently featured in the Irish television series Secret Millionaire and is known both in Ireland and the US for his interest in Irish charities that focus on peace and children.

"My parents were a tremendous influence on me and I wanted to do something to make sure they would always be remembered. Through The American Ireland Fund, I honor them by supporting the work of the Corrymeela Community and Barretstown Camp, advancing two causes that were important to them: peace and children."

> The Ireland Funds have continued to support Barretstown with a grant in 2011. Our donors' support allows The Ireland Funds to offer assistance to this magnificent Irish project that brings care and comfort to the lives of children and their families so that the gate will always be open and troubles can be left there.



THE IRELAND FUNDS ARE HELPING THE BURRENBEO TRUST PRESERVE AND PROTECT THIS UNIQUE AND FRAGILE IRISH LANDSCAPE.



# On the mid-western coast of Freland,

straddling County Galway and County Clare, there is a place of great natural beauty rich with ecological and cultural significance. The Burren is an area of Ireland comprising some of the country's most unusual and rich ecological landscape. Endowed with 70% of Ireland's native flora, the Burren, with its gray limestone rock and caves, exists in stark contrast to the typical green rolling hills seen in other parts of Ireland. The Burren-or Boireann, meaning "place of stone" in Irish—is home to many familiar sights to those touring Ireland. The iconic Poulnabrone Dolmen, for example, one of 90 'Mega-lithic' (giant stone) tombs that date back over 4,000 years, lies in the centre of the Burren.

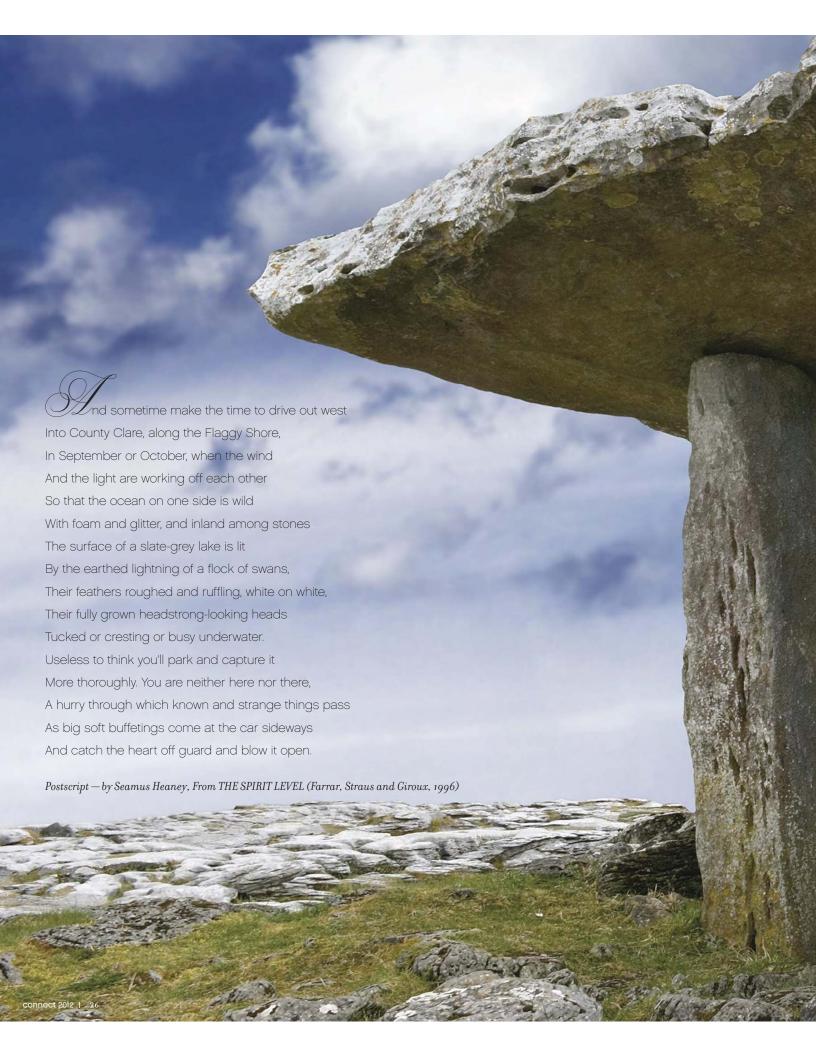
The Burrenbeo Trust is a nonprofit organization that is made up of over 500 members and 120 volunteers who have channeled their love for this special landscape into a commitment to preserve it. As Ireland's first-and only-landscape charity, the organization promotes education and awareness of the Burren by supporting the local farming community, teaching children about the importance of the landscape, and working with volunteers to conserve it. The Trust also promotes the Burren as a center of eco-tourism, something which strengthens the local economy and provides numerous benefits for the Galway and Clare counties. However, like many of Ireland's most iconic landscapes, the Burren stands in danger of being over-developed and under-maintained without purposeful care.

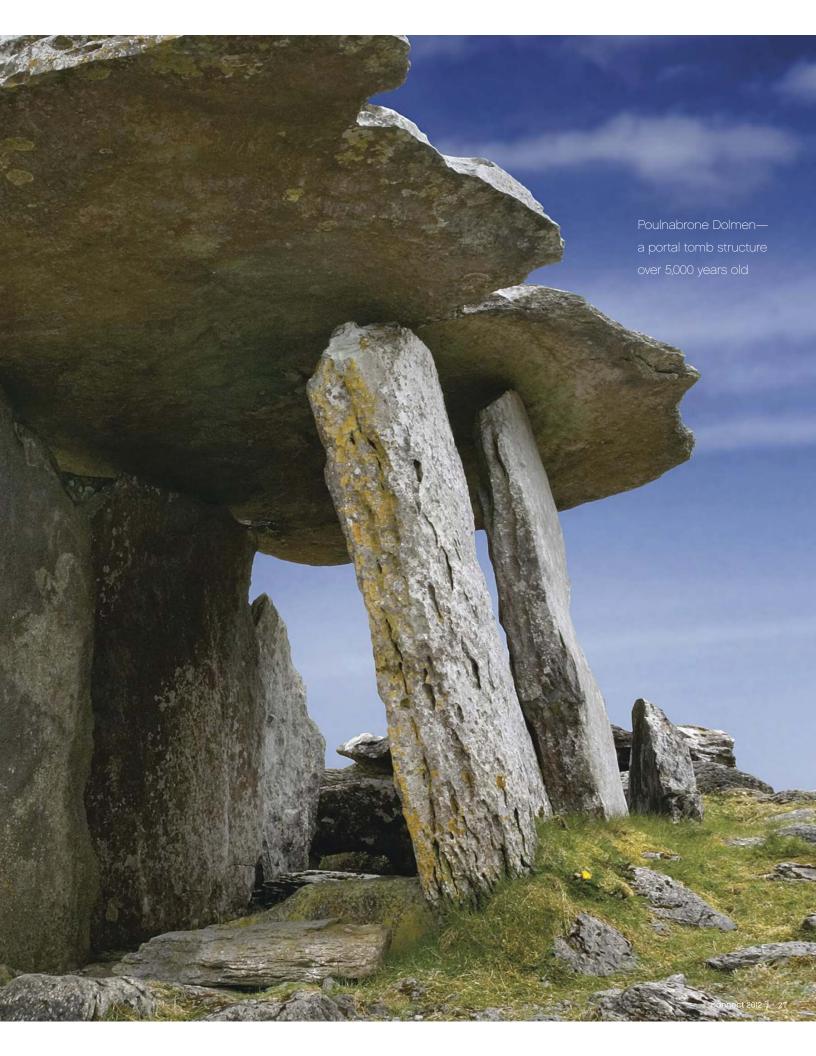
Brigid Barry, Burrenbeo Trust Coordinator, spoke of how first impressions can be misleading when it comes to this area of Ireland. "When you first come to the Burren, all you see is rock. But amongst these stones is found the most diverse selection of plants anywhere in Ireland, featuring rare orchids, as well as Arctic, Alpine, and Mediterranean flowers growing side by side, the only place in the world where you see this." Brigid went on to explain the farming systems that sustain the Burren, "One of the things that is unique to the Burren, is its dependence on a farming system known as 'winterage' that has existed for thousands of years in the area. Local farmers bring their cattle to the uplands of the Burren in the winter where they eat back the rank grasses, herbs, and scrub. Then in spring and summer, once the animals are removed, unique plant combinations can flourish because of lack of competition and the absence of livestock. Today, with Burrenbeo's help, Burren farmers are being recognized, and supported, as custodians of this special place. Other landscapes in Europe are now looking to what happens here and are seeking to adapt it as a model of farming for biodiversity and for conservation."

Interestingly, in the downturned economy there is a new appreciation for the Burren. Brendan Dunford, co-founder of Burrenbeo (with his wife Ann) offered his theory, "The recent changes we've had in the economy are serving to show people that there is more out there to appreciate—things that are quintessentially Irish and unique to us are once again growing in importance, like our heritage and our landscape, but they need looking after. People are increasingly anxious to re-connect with their place and their past and the Burren is the ideal landscape in which to do this."

The Ireland Funds are helping the Trust as they develop their first volunteer program. "We have many people here that cannot give money but are happy to give their time and energy. The grant from The Ireland Funds is helping us harness that energy into a structured volunteer program. Thanks to this grant, we have over 100 people meeting monthly to volunteer and learn how to give back to the Burren," said Brendan.

"The Burren is the soul of Ireland. It is like a book written in stone. It has the most amazing music and culture; it is of huge significance for its archeology, botany, and ecology. But we have to create the awareness and help people to appreciate these special and irreplaceable values."

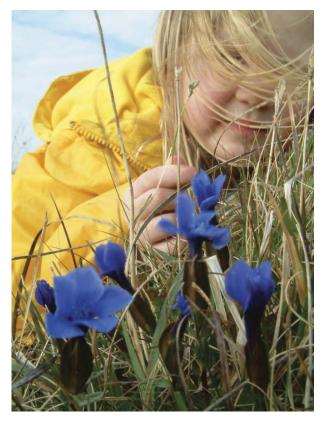






"The people, the culture and the heritage are what make us special. We have 6,000 years of history and you can just walk out into it and immerse yourself in it. The Ireland Funds give us a sense of belief in what we do. The support shows us that what we're doing is valued by people beyond the Burren. With these resources, we are going to realize the potential of this place."

 $-{\it Brendan \, Dunford-co-founder \, of \, the \, Burrenbeo \, Trust}$ 



"The people, the culture, and the heritage are what make Ireland special. We have 6,000 years of history and in the Burren you can just walk out into it and immerse yourself in it. The Ireland Funds give us a sense of belief in what we do. The support shows us that what we're doing is valued by people beyond the Burren. With these resources, we are determined to work hard to realize the potential of this place."

Brigid spoke about the importance of the program, "Our volunteers are made up of all different types of people: from university students, to local community members who know they are living somewhere important and want to contribute. The assistance from The Ireland Funds enabled us to put together the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers. We help elderly farmers maintain their land; because there are thousands of miles of stone walls that need constant rebuilding and maintenance. The Ireland Funds have also made it possible for us to develop courses for volunteers, building their skills as they assist archeologists, geologists and botanists in the collection of important data that will be used to sustain the long term future of the Burren. This isn't just a living landscape; we also see it as a learning landscape."

The Ireland Funds' help creates awareness and allows Burrenbeo to confidently build a structure of care for this, a very special and uniquely Irish landscape.

#### BURRENBEO TRUST CO-FOUNDER BRENDAN DUNFORD EDUCATES CHILDREN ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BURREN



The Ireland Funds' support will continue to create awareness and build a structure of care for this most-Irish of landscapes so that the treasure can be enjoyed by generations to come.

# OESPAIR DESPAIR HOPE

# PIETA HOUSE

is preventing self-harm and suicide in Ireland



The Ireland Funds continue their commitment to addressing the issue of suicide and self-harm across the island of Ireland. Over \$700,000 has been given to organizations that are addressing the issue and shaking off the stigma of a topic that touches so many Irish families. According to a recently published Global Health Survey 2011, almost a quarter of Irish people have had personal experience with mental illness or been affected by suicide in their age group. In any one week, 10+ people will die by suicide in Ireland and even more will self-harm.

Pieta House is one organization addressing the issue of suicide and self-harm that has received support from The Ireland Funds' 2011 Grant Round enabled by the Promising Ireland Campaign. Founded in 2006 by Joan Freeman, a practicing psychologist who has dedicated her career to working with those who are suicidal, the organization has helped nearly 4,000 people in Ireland. Pieta House now has almost 60 therapists and staff and in 2011 opened two new Centres in Ballyfermot and Limerick.

#### What Makes Pieta House Unique?

By focusing on the immediate needs of people who are in crisis, Pieta House provides key care to families and individuals who once had only their local hospital to turn to. Pieta House is not a long-term counseling service although they ensure that clients who need these longer term resources can access them. Whether referred by a doctor, family member, or friend, clients receive intense counseling and one-to-one therapies. Clients in crisis can often be seen the same-day they contact Pieta House. Once engaged, the pace of the treatment is highly individualized for each client though a typical engagement would be between four to six weeks. Most importantly, services are entirely free of charge. The cost to Pieta House to provide these services at their five centres across Ireland is over €1.3 million annually. Over 80% of their operating costs must be covered by fundraising and donations. This is why funding from sources such as The Ireland Funds is so vital.

#### Addressing the Stigma and Changing Ireland

Founder Joan Freeman explained how difficult it has been in Ireland to talk about suicide.

"Historically, Ireland has had a particularly complicated and difficult relationship with suicide. Despite an improved awareness of suicide in Irish society through personal experience and National Office of Suicide Prevention research, there still appears to be an unwillingness to openly discuss or debate the issue. In the past, a stigma attached to suicide led to under-reporting in coroner reports. Every day more people die through suicide than road traffic accident, yet suicide prevention budgets do not reflect this. With suicide in Ireland on the rise, it is very clear that there is a need for services like Pieta House. In 2009 there were 527 reported deaths by suicide, an increase of 24 per cent on the previous year. I feel that attitudes need to change if Ireland is to properly deal with the issue of suicide.

One of the obstacles to Pieta House is getting people to see that behind suicide is not always a psychiatric issue but is a reaction to a very human experience. We see that most people who come to us have no psychiatric history but are reacting to a life event such as bereavement, or a relationship break up, bullying, all those sort of things. It's trying to get that message across because there is still a stigma attached. Once people start realising what it is, then we can do something concrete about it."

The Ireland Funds have assisted Pieta House with a grant focusing on providing one-to-one counseling services for children and adolescents under the age of 18 at their Dublin location. This grant is enabled by our donors' gifts to The Ireland Funds Promising Ireland Campaign. But more than just the grant, The Ireland Funds have helped Pieta House look at itself in a new light. Joan Freeman said of this support, "The wonderful news is that the Promising Ireland Campaign is actually saving lives. Our attitude towards ourselves has changed dramatically because of The Ireland Funds. Before we saw ourselves as a charity, we no longer think of ourselves as a charity. Now we like to ask people to invest."

PIETA HOUSE ULTIMATELY AIMS TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL REGIONAL CENTRES THAT WILL ALLOW THE ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE SERVICES WITHIN 60KM TO EVERY PERSON IN IRELAND.

"The wonderful news is that the Promising Ireland Campaign is actually saving lives. Our attitude towards ourselves has changed dramatically because of The Ireland Funds. Before we saw ourselves as a charity, we no longer think of ourselves as a charity. Now we like to ask people to invest." —  $\it Joan Freeman, Pieta House Founder$ 







## It is often said that "Men don't talk face to face; they talk shoulder to shoulder."

The Irish Men's Shed Association works on the premise that many men, particularly Irish men, come from a culture that emphasizes care for family, but not necessarily for their own health or well-being. Often, they do not ask for help and as a result can suffer from unchecked health decline, loneliness, and depression. In Ireland, this is compounded by a high unemployment rate and many men living in rural areas who can be quite isolated.

Based on the successful Australian Men's Shed movement, the Irish Men's Shed Association is a community-based, non-profit organization that creates spaces for men of all ages to gather in a safe, friendly environment where they can work on interesting projects. While the projects can vary from reassembling a vintage motorcycle to doing charity work for another organization in need, in the end it is about welcoming men from all walks of life to be productive, valued, and active in a collective space. Some simply come for a cup of coffee and conversation. Others come and bring projects from home that they want other men's input on. There can be five or six projects happening simultaneously but in the end, the Men's Shed movement is strengthening Irish communities by addressing underlying social, health, and educational issues faced by men today.

#### WHEN IS A SHED NOT A SHED?

John Evoy, CEO at the Irish Men's Sheds Association, explained it best, "If we called it a men's health centre, men wouldn't come. If we called it a men's education program, men wouldn't come. If we called it a men's suicide prevention initiative, men wouldn't come near it. But all of that happens here. It is never forced, it simply happens when men understand the resources that are available to them." John took *Connect* magazine for a visit to the Gorey Men's Shed, which is an enormous work room in the VEC Adult Learning Centre in County Wexford. The space hums with activity and amidst the toolboxes, gears, and motorcycle grease we met over a dozen men that gather every Thursday to work, weld, repair, and drink endless cups of coffee and tea.

"Men's Sheds aren't always a physical shed, it's more of a concept of coming together," said John. "Most of the guys here tonight would not have come to this VEC Adult Learning Centre before the Shed was established in the work room. But once they are here, they learn about all the other opportunities that are available to them and they see other guys taking advantage of those opportunities. In fact, 76% of our guys have now gone back to school or taken courses."

We asked John about the distinct focus on men, and whether that is ever perceived as exclusionary to women. "The Men's Shed movement recognizes the role that women play in supporting the growth of the program. Egalitarianism of the genders underpins everything we do, even though we focus on men. The problems we deal with here are also shared by women," said John, "but we've found that most women are much better at dealing and talking openly about their problems. These problems have an effect on the community. While we don't promise to fix everything, we are doing our part to strengthen families by working with the men."





#### **HOW HAVE THE IRELAND FUNDS HELPED?**



"People come to us and say they want to implement the model in their local area and the demand far outweighs what we've been able to do," said John.

"Funding from The Ireland Funds Promising Ireland Campaign is going to start up sheds in smaller towns across Ireland. At least five Men's Sheds will be established thanks to the help from The Ireland Funds."

Men's Sheds in Ireland are now established in 19 counties across Ireland and Northern Ireland. The positive effects on men and communities have been documented in Irish Government's Men's Health Policy of 2009 and the demand for more sheds is high. The Ireland Funds believe that positive things will continue to come from this innovative and simple program as men stand shoulder to shoulder across Ireland.

- ALMOST 300,000 MEN ARE OUT OF WORK IN IRELAND TODAY
- HALF OF THE JOBS FOR MEN AGE 18-25 IN IRELAND ARE GONE
- 76% OF THE MEN IN THE GOREY MEN'S SHED HAVE GONE BACK TO ADVANCE THEIR EDUCATION
- FOR SOME MEN IN THE GOREY MEN'S SHED, THE NEED FOR MEDICATION HAS BEEN REDUCED OR ELIMINATED ALTOGETHER

The Ireland Funds are assisting Springboard, a Belfast-based organization that works with Protestant and Catholic unemployed young people from areas that were at the heart of the conflict, as well as with young people from inner city areas of Dublin.

# SPRINGBOARD

# Celebrating an International Day of Peace in Northern Ireland





"We are enormously grateful to The Ireland Funds for supporting this 'Imagine' mural which links the Falls and Shankill communities and affirms the interdependence of its people as they move towards a shared future. Springboard looks forward to continuing its crucial role in peace-building in Ireland, north and south..." — Angila Chada, Executive Director of Springboard

"The Peace Day mural is a symbol of how far our two communities have travelled. We share the same hopes as we continue our journey and working together for a better future for all."

-Stuart Kennedy - Manager, Upper Springfield Development Trust Youth Team





The Directions Project is a key Springboard program which targets young people, often struggling with issues such as substance abuse, family breakdown, violence, self-harm, and dislocation from society, compounded by the legacy of conflict. The Ireland Funds, provided a grant to their Art in Diversity project. The special initiative brought together Protestant and Catholic youth from areas impacted heavily by sectarian conflict to create a platform for engagement and dialogue through art, sculpture and music.

Workshops were held with over 100 young people who came from the disadvantaged areas, including the Unionist Shankill and the Nationalist Falls communities that are often in sectarian conflict with each other. The young people discussed the upcoming United Nations International Day of Peace and debated what peace meant to them both visually and through words. This feedback was then brought into the design of the mural.

In September of 2011, on the United Nations' International Day of Peace, thousands of people around the world paused to observe a day of nonviolence. It was on this day that the result of The Ireland Funds' support was unveiled. The Peace Day Mural that is now located between the peace-line gates in Northumberland Street was designed by Springboard. The mural contains past and present images of the Shankill and Falls, as well as general images on peace and conflict. The centerpiece, which is a mosaic of smaller images, makes up the word IMAGINE. The central message of the mural affirms the interdependence of the Shankill and Falls communities as they move forward into the future.

The Ireland Funds salute the work of Springboard as they continue to bring opportunities to the young people of Northern Ireland and work towards strengthening the mutual understanding that will be the core of Northern Ireland's future.



With help from The Ireland Funds, Speedpak is bringing valuable training and support to unemployed people.

Life can feel bleak for some people living with unemployment. "I never finished school because I had a baby when I was 16," says Marlena. "When I learned he was very sick at birth, I stayed home. By the time I came to Speedpak, I hadn't worked for a very long time."

**Speedpork** is a social enterprise in Coolock, Co. Dublin that has been recognized for their innovative approach to a community that has struggled with unemployment and all of the social challenges associated with it. Speedpak has two commercial businesses. It offers contract packing services to industry and is Ireland's leading manufacturer of rosettes, sashes, and badges for events ranging from sporting competitions to horse shows. However, many of their corporate clients don't even realize the truly transformative work that Speedpak is doing behind the scenes with their workforce.



While Speedpak hires people to work in the company's product packing and finishing warehouse, they are simultaneously offering training and education to that same workforce-made up primarily of long-term unemployed people—so they can eventually leave the company for employment elsewhere.

"Most employers hire only the best people, and then work to keep them. We are the opposite," explained Edel Moloney, Change and Development Manager at Speedpak. "We intentionally hire the people that need employment training the most. People who are single mothers, people who are long-term unemployed, ex-drug users, and ex-offenders. Then we work with them to be ready for bigger opportunities."

Speedpak was established in 1995 by a local development company, the Northside Partnership, with the involvement of the local business community and support of Government agencies. Since then, they have had over 500 people come through their workplace and training program. achieving. A person's journey may be three steps or three hundred, but we're here to help them conquer their fears and change their mindset."

**Changing mindsets** and instilling a sense of possibility is a key component of Speedpak's ethos. Andrea left school at 16. "With six brothers and sisters there just wasn't much extra money in our house," she explained. "I took a summer job at a meat factory to earn money and I never went back to school. Later in life, I was raising my two children."

Andrea learned about Speedpak from her sister who worked there. "I came for an interview and they took me on. Now I'm getting my equivalent of a Leaving Certificate and my confidence is lifted. In my next job, I'm going to be a manager. Because of my training here, I know now that I can do more than just work at a till."

Speedpak's investments in the community and the positive results have been recognized. In 2010 they received a coveted Arthur Guinness









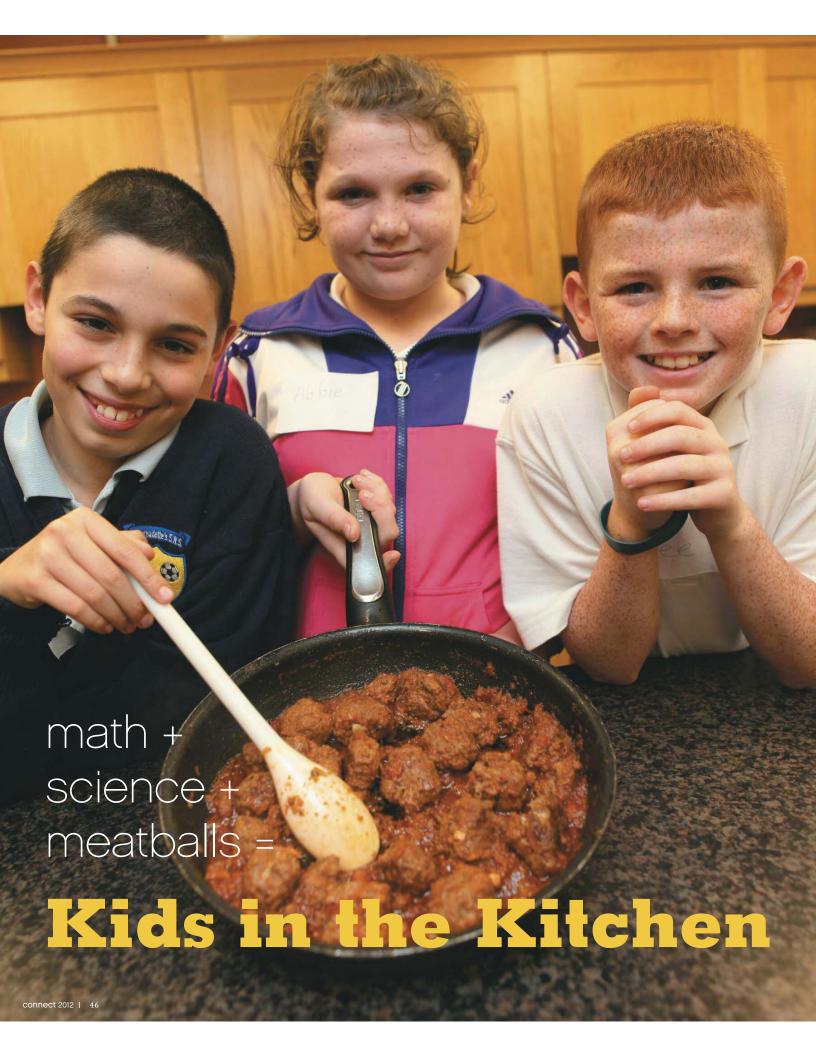
Clients work on a six-month contract and for no longer than three years and take accredited classes to convert workplace learning to earn the equivalent of a Leaving Certificate (high school diploma) while they are gainfully employed. More importantly, they leave with manufacturing work experience that is valuable to employers and a new sense of confidence in their ability.

Edel spoke of the challenges that the community faces and the methods Speedpak uses to address them. "There is a culture of early school leaving and unemployment in this area of Ireland and in some cases it goes on for generations. Once someone leaves school, it can be very scary to go back. We teach them the skills that they will need to survive in the workplace: even basic things like how to work with someone that you don't like, or how to communicate with your employer when things aren't going well at home. By teaching these communication skills in addition to teaching work skills, we see the improvements in people. We see the changes in their work habits and behavior. We see people Fund Award for their Workplace Accreditation Model that translates the workplace learning experience into an accredited Irish educational qualification. In 2011, they also received a grant from The Ireland Funds Grant Round thanks to the Promising Ireland Campaign. "I sometimes think that the job that we do and the impact we're having on the community is not always seen in its fullness," said Edel. "When the economy is not good, it's difficult to give to programs like this. The grant from The Ireland Funds is a real vote of confidence. It will allow us to carry out valuable research to measure the progress that employees make during their time with Speedpak and identify which interventions are most effective."

The long term goal of Speedpak is to take their work experience and training model and expand it across Ireland to other areas affected by unemployment where there is a need for job skills training. The Ireland Funds recognize the quiet and positive work that Speedpak is doing and are proud to support this innovative program.









"So what does the water do when it's boiling? Does anyone know at what temperature water boils?"

Kids in the Kitchen works with healthy ingredients that can be easily accessed at markets so that the children can replicate the recipes later at home with their families. This becomes particularly important in disadvantaged neighborhoods where often children have not been exposed to lessons about nutrition. "The majority of children I work with would not be very familiar with fresh ingredients. I am often surprised at how little they know about fresh food. Many have only been exposed to food that comes out of a freezer, a tin, or a fast-food shop."

The enthusiasm that children bring is obvious from watching the cookery class in Clondalkin. The children break out into teams of three and take turns measuring, chopping, grating, and correcting each other on their techniques. Ingredients are passed around, explained and discussed. This enthusiasm ripples back to families according to Victoria. "The support we've had from parents has been fantastic. Families have expressed to me feelings of guilt that they sometimes don't have the time or resources to make healthy meals for their children. We hear this from families all across the economic spectrum, not just in disadvantaged areas. Yet after these courses, kids are going home and showing their parents new ways to cook and easy, healthier choices."

"Leanne cut the carrots and I got to peel the onions. I love peeling onions. I really do." - Liam

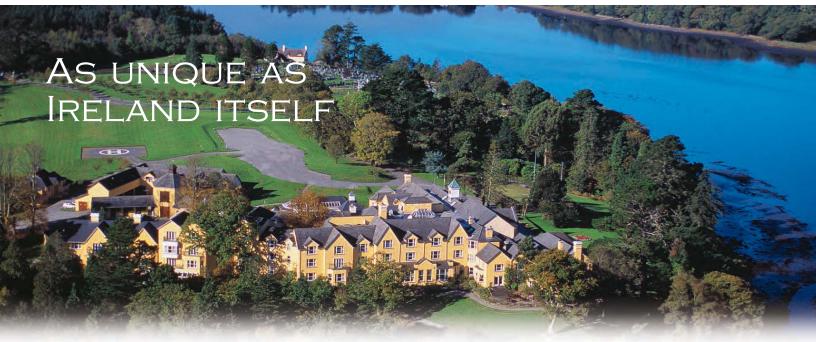
Studies indicate that the number of children who are overweight or obese has tripled in the last decade







The Ireland Funds have assisted Kids in the Kitchen through the Grant Round enabled by the Promising Ireland Campaign. Thanks to this funding, over 100 additional children will be able to participate in the Kids in the Kitchen program.



# SHEEN FALLS LODGE

Experience one of Ireland's finest hotels nestled in 300 acres with stunning views over Kenmare Bay making Sheen Falls the ideal location for touring the South West of Ireland. Once the summer residence of the Marquis of Lansdowne, now a member of Relais and Chateaux, as an hotel Sheen Falls Lodge lives up to all your expectations: outstanding service, friendly staff, delicious food and wines, privacy, luxury and instant attention.

The elegant country house hotel is nestled against a backdrop of hazy mountain panoramas and overlooking the falls of the sheen river as they tumble into the Kenmare estuary; there's a promise of discovery, of renewal in the pure, clean air. Stroll through the tropical gardens, woodland walks or take an historical walk around the grounds and imagine life in a bygone era.

For guests seeking the ultimate 'home away from home' within the estate there are seven secluded cottages and villas with unrivalled settings available for rental.

Sheen Falls Lodge is on the edge of the Ring of Kerry, with its stunning scenery and lush green and blue landscapes and skies. It is also near the Ring of Beara, its narrow roads and its wild, rugged beauty a scene for connoisseurs of wild places.

There is so much to do and see: watching the deer and other wildlife on the estate; taking 'old world' walks by the sea, along the river banks, in the woodland and along the lanes; visiting Ireland's magnificent gardens; taking unbelievably scenic drives or cycle rides; enjoying the local salmon and trout fishing or sea angling; riding around the gorgeous countryside and by the sea; exploring Kenmare, a mile or so away - a real local village, not just fabricated for tourists.

With an array of unique events; Classical Weekends, Wine Weekends and many more activity breaks, we've created the perfect experiences to allow you all the time in the world with the people you love the most – your family.

Visit: www.sheenfallslodge.ie

Sheen Falls Lodge, Kenmare, Co Kerry, Ireland

Tel: 00 353 64 6641600

Email: info@sheenfallslodge.ie











# The Ireland Funds website has a brand new home

(and a new address!)



- · find an upcoming event in your area, or around the world
- · see examples of projects and people you have assisted with your generosity
- $\cdot \quad \textit{check out what is happening in your local chapter} \\$

# insuring, investing and protecting

Ecclesiastical was established 120 years ago by churchmen to insure church buildings, but it doesn't stop there...

As an ethical insurer offering specialist cover in the care, charity, education, faith and heritage sectors, we understand the individual needs of our customers, that's why we tailor our insurance so that you only pay for the cover you need.

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# LauraLynn House—Ireland's First Hospice for Children Officially Opens

Ireland's first Children's Hospice: The LauraLynn House at the Children's Sunshine Home, was officially launched by former President Mary McAleese in September, 2011. Until now, Ireland has never had a dedicated hospice for children. As families face the most difficult moment imaginable, they have traditionally had two options: for a child to spend their last days in a hospital or at home. The LauraLynn House now has eight bedrooms along with living facilities as well as four family apartments to enable relatives to be close to their children. The Ireland Funds supported the opening of the House and it is now able to support over 300 families across Ireland a year.

Former President Mary McAleese at the official opening of the LauraLynn House





# Irish Arts Center's Spirit of Ireland Award Gala honors Dolores McCall and Bill Whelan.

Dolores McCall, a Board Director and longtime supporter of The Ireland Funds, and Riverdance composer Bill Whelan, were honored by the Irish Arts Center in New York. Each year, the Center celebrates the contributions made to the Irish and Irish American cultural community by leaders from the artistic and business worlds. Previous honorees and special guests include Bono, Ralph Fiennes, Jimmy Fallon, Jim Sheridan, Terry George, Pierce Brosnan, Maureen O'Hara, Michael Flatley and Ronnie Drew. Longtime patrons and Irish Arts Center Honorary Board Chairs Liam Neeson and Gabriel Byrne were on hand to present the awards on an evening which raised over \$500,000 to support programming in performance, exhibition and education at the Center. The star-studded event was attended by over 350 supporters of Irish arts, including New York City Speaker Christine Quinn.



# Global Irish Economic Forum brings Diaspora to Dublin



The Global Irish Economic Forum in October, 2011 was hosted by Ireland's Taoiseach (Prime Minister) and Tánaiste (deputy Prime Minister). It brought together 300 leaders from Ireland's diaspora around the world to discuss what they could do to support and assist Ireland's recovery. The American Ireland Fund was represented by its Chairman, Loretta Brennan Glucksman; President & CEO of The Worldwide Ireland Funds, Kieran McLoughlin; Director of The Ireland Funds' Caitriona Fottrell and some 40 AIF Board Directors and supporters. Prior to the event opening, participating Directors of The Ireland Funds gathered to discuss shared concerns and proposed solutions. Loretta Brennan Glucksman sat on the closing panel with former US President Bill Clinton, the Taoiseach, the Tánaiste, Bono and American Ireland Fund Board Director Declan Kelly. She spoke of the importance of philanthropy in addressing Ireland's needs, especially in the area of education. The meetings were a great success and practical solutions were discussed. The Funds had the largest representation at the event of any group and will play their part in implementing these ideas and delivering the support of the Ireland's diaspora.

# The American Ireland Fund Marks the 9/11 Anniversary with the World Premiere of Termon



Ireland's solidarity with the United States and the tragic loss of almost 3,000 lives on 9/11—over one third of whom were of Irish descent —was marked with the world premiere of a poignant Irish lament in Dublin on the anniversary of 9/11. Performed by the Irish Chamber Orchestra in front of a distinguished audience at an event hosted by US Amb. Dan Rooney, the unique composition, titled *Termon*, was commissioned by The American Ireland Fund from renowned Irish composer, Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin. Derived from the Gaelic word "tearmann" meaning place of sanctuary, Termon featured the uniquely Irish wind instrument, the uilleann pipes. One month later, the US premiere of Termon was held at Lincoln Center in New York City as part of Imagine Ireland, Culture Ireland's year of Irish arts in America. It marked the first time the full 38 member Irish Chamber Orchestra appeared in the US and was part of their 8-venue tour across the country.

# The American Ireland Fund Board of Directors Retreat

Below, Left: The American Ireland Fund **Board of Directors** Below, Right: Host Bob Reynolds of Putnam Investments The Board of Directors of The American Ireland Fund met for a special planning session in November, 2011. Board Director Bob Reynolds of Putnam Investments graciously hosted the all-day meeting which covered major issues affecting The American Ireland Fund and the island of Ireland. Most importantly, the gathering began discussions around the role of The American Ireland Fund in the post-Promising Ireland Campaign phase. Directors traveled from around the country to join the Retreat bringing ideas and energy to the key conversations. Planning for a follow-up session is underway.



# Tom Kennedy

Tom Kennedy, former East Coast Director of The American Ireland Fund, died peacefully at home on October 21, 2011. Tom held his position with The American Ireland Fund from 1985-1999 and remained involved with the Fund until his passing. Known as a true gentleman, he was born in Co. Kerry and made New York City his home in 1947. He came to The American Ireland Fund after a long career with Aer Lingus in PR and Advertising. Tom and his wife Valerie remained friends of the Fund, attending both the New York Dinner Galas and The Worldwide Ireland Funds June Conferences held annually. Tom's memory will be treasured by his many friends at The Ireland Funds. May he rest in peace.



#### THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND | GOLF

#### Philadelphia 10th Annual Philadelphia Golf Classic

#### SEPTEMBER, 2011 THE 10TH ANNUAL PHILADELPHIA GOLF CLASSIC WAS HELD AT THE PHILADELPHIA

CRICKET CLUB. At the event, Temple University Men's Basketball Coach Fran Dunphy was presented with the 2011 Leadership Award. The coach has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of players in his career and also dedicates his time and energy to Coaches Versus Cancer. The outing was chaired by Patrick Laphen, senior vice president at Susquehanna Bank. Ward Fitzgerald, a former chair and active committee member, was recognized for his years of outstanding service and dedication. Patrick Tully, AIF New York Regional Director and National Director of the Young Leaders, gave an update on the Fund and also served as auctioneer for the live auction.



Committee member Michael Gallagher and his foursome



John Kent, Steve Perrone, Joel Klock, John Daly



John Toukatly, Amy Fadule, Ward Fitzgerald, Mike Cuneen, Brian Ford, Matt Brodnik

# The American Ireland Fund Ninth Annual New Jersey Golf Classic

#### OCTOBER, 2011 THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND HOSTED ITS NINTH ANNUAL NEW JERSEY GOLF

CLASSIC at Baltusrol Golf Club, one of the nation's premier golf courses and home to 16 national championships including seven US Opens and one PGA Championship. The Fund wishes to thank the Golf Committee chaired by Thomas Ryan of ING who worked diligently to secure sponsorship for the outing. The committee paid tribute to longtime supporter John "Chuck" T. Dolan of Gibbons, P.C., who has graciously hosted the outing at Baltusrol since its inception. Gibbons P.C. was also the Event Sponsor. President and CEO of The Worldwide Ireland Funds, Kieran McLoughlin and Anthony Callaghan presented him with a Waterford Crystal bowl in appreciation of his commitment.



**New Jersey Classic Tournament Committee** with Sen. Martin McAleese



Angus Miller, Thomas Ryan



Jason Lynch, Matthew McBride, Shane Naughton, **Anthony Callaghan** 



## You Are Invited to Join

# The American Ireland Fund Golf Society

Members come together around the mission of The American Ireland Fund while enjoying the game, friendly competition and camaraderie.

#### BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Special rates and privileges at top courses in the U.S. and Ireland.

The roster of courses will grow and currently includes:

- The K Club
- · Philadelphia Cricket Club
- The European Club
- Whitemarsh Valley Country Club
- Portmarnock
- Baltusrol
- Doonbeg
- · Ocean Edge
- Concierge services when planning golf tours in Ireland, including preferential rates at top hotels
- Invitations to purchase foursomes and preferential placement in each of the standing American Ireland Fund golf events
- Exclusive Golf Society gatherings
- More benefits to come

For more information on membership contact: The American Ireland Fund Boston office, 617-574-0720

# You're Invited to Join The Ireland Funds Young Leaders Society

The Ireland Funds Young Leaders Society enables young professionals ages 25-40 to network and support the philanthropic work of The Ireland Funds, while connecting to their heritage and Ireland in a meaningful way. The Young Leaders Society provides a forum for emerging philanthropists to become closely involved with the work of The Ireland Funds and with prominent business and civic leaders involved in the organization.

The Young Leaders have created signature fundraising events around the world benefitting the work of The Ireland Fund's support across Ireland. The Young Leaders have recognized some of the most famous and influential Irish and Irish American personalities who have made significant contributions to their fields. Denis Leary, Conan O'Brien, Jimmy Fallon, Holt McCallany, Colum McCann, Margaret Brennan, Shaun O'Hara, John Duddy, and US Ambassador Dan Rooney are among those who have have addressed or been honored by the Young Leaders Society.

For more information on how to become a member: US contact: Patrick Tully, ptully@irlfunds.org Australia contact: Teresa Keating, tkeating@irlfunds.org Canada contact: Jane Noonan, jnoonan@irlfunds.org Ireland contact: Caitlin Duffy, cduffy@irlfunds.org



#### WELCOME PATRICK TULLY

Pat Tully has been appointed National Director of The American Ireland Fund's Young Leaders Society, as well as the New York Regional Director. Pat has been a dedicated member of the New York Young Leaders since its relaunch in 2003.

Pat's background is in public relations and marketing and he recently ran his own firm, Pat Tully Inc. He is now applying those skills to connecting and building the brand of the Young Leaders Society across the country and around the globe.

Pat is also an active board member of Jeremy's Heroes, and the Kate Shea Foundation. He is involved in many other foundations, acting in the role of auctioneer for events including: Russell Simmons Art For Life and the Diamond Empowerment Fund, Petra Nemcova's Happy Hearts Fund, and The Jorge Posada Foundation, among others. Mr. Tully holds a B.A. in Communications/Public Relations from Marist College.



# The American Ireland Fund Young Leaders Society Membership Levels

#### FRIEND OF THE FUND - \$100

- Complimentary and discounted admission to exclusive Irish cultural and philanthropic events throughout the year
- Discounted invitation to the Annual Dinner Gala in your home city
- Subscriptions to publications including Connect – the magazine of The Worldwide Ireland Funds & Young Leaders news updates
- Invitation and discounted admission to the annual Worldwide Ireland Funds Conference in Ireland

ASSOCIATE - \$250 or \$500 (fee dependent on city) All of the benefits of the Friend level plus these additional benefits:

- Admission for one to the local signature Young Leaders event in your home city
- Access to The American Ireland Fund's Board Directors, a group including top executives in finance, government, the arts, and communications
- Discounts at Fitzpatrick Hotels, NYC & Dublin
- The opportunity to join The American Ireland Fund Golf Society at a special Young Leaders rate of \$500 (regularly \$1,000)
- Admission for one to the Annual Young Leaders Global Summit
- Invitation and discounted admission to the annual Worldwide Ireland Funds Conference in Ireland

#### GLOBAL PATRON - \$1,000

All of the benefits of the Friend and Associate levels plus these additional benefits:

- Admission for one to an Ireland Funds Dinner Gala in the city of your choice
- Listing on Host Committee for the signature Young Leaders event in your home city
- Selected access to The American Ireland Fund's Board Directors, a group including top executives in finance, government, the arts, and communications
- Discount at London's Grosvenor House Hotel



# Membership

AS OF THIS WRITING, THE IRELAND FUNDS'
WINEGEESE SOCIETY HAS 120 MEMBERS
AND 63 HONORARY MEMBERS.

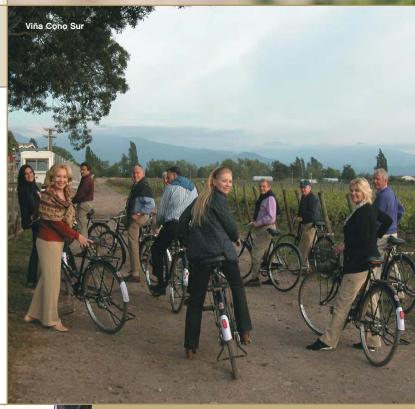
HONORARY MEMBERS ARE PRIMARILY THE

OWNERS OF VINEYARDS THAT HAVE BEEN

VISITED BY THE SOCIETY, OR DIGNITARIES

SUPPORTING SOCIETY EVENTS.







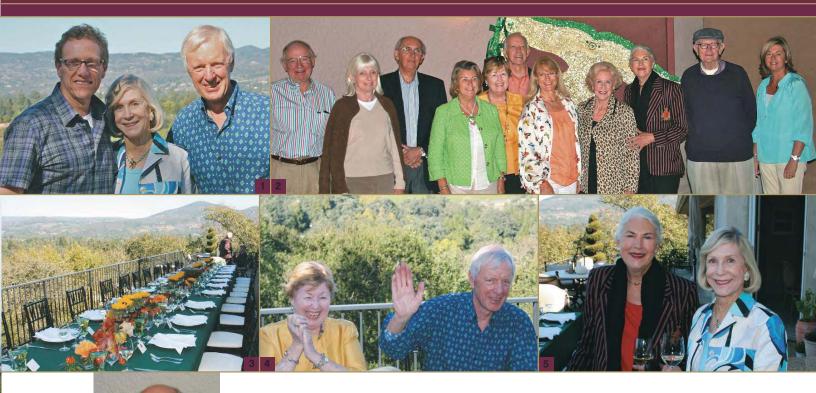
# Save the Date

THE WINEGEESE WILL BE TOURING
BURGUNDY WITH CLIVE COATES MW
IN JUNE 2012. IF YOU WISH TO
RECEIVE INFORMATION PLEASE
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WINEGEESE@IRLFUNDS.ORG

Members of The Ireland Funds' WineGeese Society represent some of The Ireland Funds' most generous donors. The Society celebrates wine, food, and art of Irish provenance from around the world while raising support for the work of The Ireland Funds.

#### SAN FRANCISCO NAPA VALLEY WINEGEESE TOUR





- Marc Lhormer, Pepper & Michael Jackson
- The Jarvis cave ballroom **Back Row: Jack** Kavanaugh, John Ryan, **Barbara & Cliff Miercort** Front Row: Ginny Kavanaugh, Pauline Ryan, Nola Masterson, Margaret Hayhurst, Bobbie Sue & Phill Williams, Marjorie Muldownev
- Luncheon at the Jackson residence
- Barbara Miercort, Michael Jackson
- Bobbie Sue Williams. Pepper Jackson
- John Ryan in tasting mode

OCTOBER 2011 It was a classic Indian-summer morning in San Francisco as we crossed the Golden Gate Bridge into Marin and made our way north for A Day of Art & Wine in Napa.

We arrived at Jarvis Winery where the wines are produced from estate vineyards, located high above Napa. Jarvis Winery is noted for its ultra-premium, estate-grown Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, and Petit Verdot. Jarvis was the first in the United States to tunnel a cave so large that it could hold all the winemaking operations. The facility is totally contained within 45,000 square feet of cave tunneled into the scenic Vacas Mountains four miles east of the town of Napa. It is not only a visual masterpiece, but a technical masterpiece as well. We were treated to the Vintage Tasting Tour which included a tour of this unique underground winery followed by a sit-down tasting with six Jarvis wines in the private tasting room beside the Crystal Ballroom. From there, we headed back towards Napa. On arrival at Pepper & Michael Jackson's beautiful home, we were greeted by a lively jazz band and breathtaking views from the terrace. Michael Jackson is the West Coast WineGeese Chair, as well as being a member of The American Ireland Fund Board of Directors. The table was festively decorated by Pepper. We sat down for lunch with special wines from Chappellet, Twomey and Flora Springs. Guest Speaker, Marc Lhormer (producer of the movie Bottleshock) of the inaugural 2011 Napa Valley Film Festival, was there to give a presentation. We were also joined by winemaker David Mahaffey, currently working on his 31st harvest, who shared his exquisite Olivia Brion Pinot Noir. Guests included Joanne DePuy, Kerry Egan of The Villagio Hotel who was there with Jamie Hamm, Sheila Kelly, Pat Garvey of Flora Springs, Tom Faherty of Valley Architects, Donal O'Briain, and Courtney Santry.

Our next stop was The Hess Collection, part of the Hess Winery. This was the "art" part of our day and we went through the outstanding modern art collection in the winery's museum, one of the finest in the world The winery is best known for its flagship Mount Veeder Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay wines, and single vineyard designates from their estate vineyards in Napa Valley. Following our tour, we found ourselves in the barrel room and enjoyed an artisan cheese sampling, paired with several interesting wines. The day was a delight for the senses. We had a wonderful group of WineGeese who enjoyed a superb day among friends during crush season. It will be interesting to taste the 2011wines that are being produced during this challenging growing season that we were there to witness. We returned to The Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco, with much talk of the  $next\ Wine Geese\ trip\ to\ France-Burgundy\ 2012.-Marjorie\ Muldowney-San\ Francisco\ Regional\ Director$ 



#### GALA LAUNCH OF NEWLY DISCOVERED IRISH TEXAS WINERY





- Sean Brennan, The Bennett Family: Alayna, Archie, June and Jory
- Sean Brennan, **Cliff Miercort**
- Mike Corboy, Cliff Miercort, Rick Bush
- Host Archie Bennett getting ready for the tasting
- Sean Brennan, Waymon Levell, John Tillotson
- Dallas Young Leaders: Page Tucker, Brian Geraghty, Caitriona Ryan

DECEMBER, 2011 Comanche Texas, location of Brennan vineyards, certainly does not initially bring to mind vineyards and good wine but neither did Napa California in the seventies. Many know what happened to Chateau Montelena in 1976 at the blind tasting in Paris and we expect a parallel success from this young Texas vineyard.

The Texas WineGeese gathered at the home of WineGeese patrons Archie and June Bennett for their introduction to the Brennan wines. The tasting took place in the Bennett cellar. Sean Brennan, son of vineyard owner Dr. Pat Brennan, conducted the tasting and held the attention of all as he told us the Brennan story and described the wines. The wines received many favorable mentions

Upstairs, several WineGeese wines were on display and available for tasting and comparison. Wines such as Chateau Montelena, Concannon and Murphy-Goode were enjoyed. Archie and June were the consummate hosts and two of their children, Alayna and Jory, pitched in to make this a stellar evening. WineGeese founder John Tillotson commented that he had carried two bottles of Brennan wines to Glenstal Abbey in Limerick last summer to be tasted at his grandson's baptism. Next spring a Texas WineGeese trip to the Brennan  $\label{lem:vineyards} \mbox{Vineyards is planned.} - \mbox{\it Netta Blanchard} - \mbox{\it Texas Regional Director}$ 



To find out how we can help your business please contact:

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#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND I DALLAS









- 1 George Moore, Dolores McCall, Lady Maebeth Fenton Martin, Elizabeth Connaughton, Rosaleen Agnew, Angela Moore
- 2 The children of Braniel Primary performing at the opening of the Lyric Theatre
- 3 Susan Morrice, Richard **Croxford Artistic Director** of the Lyric, and Jane Morrice
- 4 Lisa Burnett, Dolores McCall, and Melinda Gibbs of Midland Texas

## Texas at the Lyric Theatre

MAY, 2011 SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1951, THE LYRIC HAS NURTURED THE TALENTS of many of Northern Ireland's finest artists, writers, and performers, including Seamus Heaney, Liam Neeson, TP Flanagan, Gladys Maccabe, Denis Johnston, Ciarán Hinds, Stella McCusker, and Adrian Dunbar. After several years of renovation, supported in part by The Ireland Funds, Texas Patron of the Lyric Theatre Dolores McCall, attended the Theatre's gala opening in Belfast. The celebration included performances from actors Adrian Dunbar and Simon Callow, and concert pianist Barry Douglas. Braniel Primary School also performed an excerpt from one of the Creative Learning projects that the Lyric has delivered in partnership with local schools. Even in the darkest days, the Lyric kept alive the love the Irish have for the spoken word. In this beautiful new building made possible by the donations of people like Dolores McCall, Angela & George Moore, and Susan Morrice, this passion finally has a worthy home.







- 1 Standing: Kevin Curley Jr, Kevin Hanrahan, Rachel Gaffney, Netta Blanchard, Camilla Ballard, Culley Barragan, Eddie Geraghty Seated: Ryan Hanratty, Page Tucker, Mike Corbov, David Devlin, Geraldine Doran
- 2 Mike Corboy, Page Tucker, David Devlin, Kevin Curley Jr
- 3 Eddie Geraghty, Rachel Gaffney, Geraldine Doran, Kevin Hanrahan

# Dallas Young Leaders' Inaugural Luncheon

OCTOBER, 2011 GATHERING AT THE PARK CITY CLUB, Dallas to participate in the launch of the Dallas Young Leaders were Mike Corboy, Kevin Hanrahan, Netta Blanchard, Page Tucker, Amy Camp, Rachel Gaffney, Culley Barragan, Kevin Curley Jr, David Devlin, Geraldine Doran, Eddie Geraghty, and Ryan Hanratty. The guest speaker was Camilla Ballard, Youth Director of the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, whose young members are partnering with Integrated Education Northern Ireland (IEF) and in particular, Blackwater College in Co. Down. The Dallas Young Leaders have pledged to help Camilla in fundraising for IEF.

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND I NEW YORK







## New York Young Leaders—Summer in the City

JULY, 2011 THE NEW YORK YOUNG LEADERS CELEBRATED THEIR SUMMER IN THE CITY EVENT AT THE DUBLINER in downtown Manhattan. They were joined by AIF Chairman Loretta Brennan Glucksman and Board Director & Patron of the Young Leaders Bob McCann. They spoke about the importance of the group as the Fund moves into this next generation of leadership. Guests enjoyed live music by up-and-coming Irish quitarist and vocalist, Eric McGrath. The evening also included a live and silent auction as well as special raffle prizes. The American Ireland Fund New York Young Leaders thank their generous sponsors: Mary Beth Glaccum of Lucas Capital Management and Castle Brands Liquor for their donations of Boru Vodka and Clontarf Whiskey. Thank you also to auction donors Orla Kiely, Edun, Duncan Quinn, and John Murray.

- Guests Mingling
   Maddy and Bob McCann
- 3 View from outside the Dubliner







# The Launch of the Shamrock Fund for the Jack and Jill Foundation

OCTOBER, 2011 JONATHAN IRWIN and his wife, Senator Mary Ann O'Brien, Founders of the Jack and Jill Foundation, visited New York City to launch the Shamrock Fund. The Shamrock Fund is an appeal to the Irish diaspora to support the Jack and Jill Foundation as it provides care and support for children with severe neurological development issues, as well as offering some respite to the parents and families. The launch was held in Lily O'Brien's Chocolate Café and attended by Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Chairman of The American Ireland Fund, Board members, and Young Leaders.

- 1 Kieran McLoughlin. Senator Mary Anne O'Brien, John Fitzpatrick, Jonathan Irwin
- 2 Joe Madden; Margaret Dorgan; Liadain Conlan: Peter Ryan, Deputy Consul General-Economic & **Public Affairs**
- 3 Senator Mary Anne O'Brien, Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Jonathan Irwin







#### Patrick Murphy, Pat Tully, Michael Lynch, guests

- Rob Fox, John Duddy
- Thomas Holmes and John Duddy get fitted by Chris Quick of Joseph Abboud

### Joseph Abboud Cocktail Reception

#### OCTOBER, 2011 THE WELL-DRESSED NEW YORK YOUNG LEADERS WERE INVITED

to the Joseph Abboud showroom, high above 5th Avenue and 52nd St., to be fitted by the expert tailors of Joseph Abboud and to enjoy cocktails compliments of our friends at Jameson, Absolut, and Avion. Former middle weight champion and 2011 "Irish Spirit" award winner, John "The Derry Destroyer" Duddy was on hand and was fitted to make him look like a champion outside the ring as well. Thanks to our good friends at Joseph Abboud who provided the Young Leaders with VIP pricing and select fabrics to choose from. A portion of the evening's sales were donated to The Ireland Funds Promising Ireland Campaign which has already benefited over 200 organizations.







#### 1 Rob MacGoey, Dan O'Connor, Tara McCabe, Tom Kennedy, Mary Beth Glaccum, Pat Tully, Suzanne O'Sullivan Walters, Joe Tully, Kevin Murray, Rob Fox, Caitlin Murray, Bernadette McCabe Kelly

- Tom Kennedy, Suzanne O'Sullivan Walters
- 3 Stephen Griffin, Lillian Wall, Darragh O'Flaherty, Eibhin McLoughlin, Patrick Murphy

# The New York Young Leaders Celtic Christmas Celebration

DECEMBER, 2011 THE NEW YORK CHAPTER OF THE YOUNG LEADERS GOT TOGETHER AT ROSIE O'GRADY'S MANHATTAN CLUB to kick off the holiday season at their annual Celtic Christmas celebration. Traditional Irish music was performed by Christy McNamara of County Clare along with friends from New York City on the harp and fiddle. The 2010 Young Leader of the Year, Tom Kennedy, introduced the 2011 recipient of the award, Suzanne O'Sullivan Walters. The Young Leader of the Year award goes to the individual who has gone over and above the call of duty in carrying out the mission of The American Ireland Fund. Suzanne has been committed to raising funds for the work of The American Ireland Fund and has co-hosted the hugely successful St. Patrick's Day celebration. The program concluded with a live auction highlighted by a VIP experience to see Irish actor Cillian Murphy's new play "Misterman" (Written by Enda Walsh) followed by a meet and greet with the actor himself. Proceeds from the event supported The Ireland Funds Promising Ireland Campaign.

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND I NEW YORK













# Ireland's Tánaiste meets the AIF Board of Directors and Young Leaders

SEPTEMBER, 2011 Eamon Gilmore, Ireland's Tánaiste (Deputy Prime Minister) and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, met with the Board of The American Ireland Fund and Young Leaders during his visit to New York as he represented Ireland at the UN General Assembly. The Tánaiste spoke of the growth that is returning and the confidence the investment community is showing in Ireland, not least through the private investment in Bank of Ireland, participated in by Wilbur Ross, a supporter of The American Ireland Fund and recipient of The American Ireland Fund Business Leadership Award at the Palm Beach Gala in February 2012. The Tánaiste praised the work of the Fund in delivering real help to those in great difficulty across Ireland during this phase. He also expressed his great gratitude for the Fund's long standing support for peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland. The Tánaiste said that he was focused on ensuring that the Ireland that emerges from this crisis would be fairer, more inclusive and more stable than before.

- 1 John Fitzpatrick, Carol Hanney, Loretta Brennan Glucksman
- 2 Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Minister Eamon Gilmore
- 3 Board members
- 4 Tom Meagher, Tom O'Leary, Sheila O'Malley
- 5 Anthony Callaghan, Ken Gorman
- 6 Dean Thomas, Peter McNally, Patrick Tully, Mary Beth Glaccum, John Sharkey

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND I BOSTON



- **Cape Cod Event Committee**
- 2 Scott & Nancy Powers, Gentry & Roger Hoit, John Grady
- 3 Bob & Jean Sheridan, Joe Kennedy





#### An Irish Night on Cape Cod

#### AUGUST, 2011 THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND HELD THE SECOND ANNUAL IRISH

NIGHT ON CAPE COD on the Ocean Terrace at Ocean Edge Resort and Golf Club in Brewster, MA. The event was once again hosted by American Ireland Fund National Director and long time supporter Joe Corcoran, Chairman of Corcoran Jennison Companies and his wife Rose. It was a wonderful night on the terrace with 200 friends and supporters of AIF enjoying Irish music and a beautiful sunset. Among the guests attending were Scott Powers, CEO of State Street Global Advisors and his wife Nancy; Peter Eastwood, President & CEO of Chartis US and his wife Reyna; Bob Sheridan, President of SBLI and his wife Jean; Tom O'Neill III, CEO of O'Neill and Associates and his wife Shelly; Joe Kennedy, Assistant District Attorney of Barnstable County; John Hailer, President & CEO of Natixis; and Steve Greeley, Executive Director of The American Ireland Fund and his wife Jan.

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND I BOSTON









#### 30th Annual Boston Gala

NOVEMBER, 2011 MORE THAN 1,100 GUESTS GATHERED FOR THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND'S 30TH ANNUAL BOSTON GALA at the Westin Boston Waterfront. Over \$2.3 million was raised for the work of The American Ireland Fund. Among those who attended the event were Bob Reynolds, President & CEO, Putnam Investments and Des Mac Intyre, President & CEO, Standish. Other guests included Jack Sebastian, Managing Director, Goldman Sachs & Co.; Mike Sheehan, Chief Executive Officer, Hill Holliday; Karen Kaplan, President, Hill Holliday; Robert Kraft, Chairman & CEO, The New England Patriots. The 2011 Gala was chaired by James R. Boyle, President of John Hancock Financial Services and Peter Eastwood, President and CEO of Chartis U.S. served as Vice Chairman. The 2011 Gala honored David McCullough, a Boston resident with Irish roots, and two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award and recipient of Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award. McCullough addressed the capacity crowd and received a standing ovation. "The event was at capacity and we were pleased to welcome guests from around the world who came to celebrate with us. It is an honor for the Boston Irish-American community to be able to give back to Ireland at a time when our support is needed there now more than ever," said Steve Greeley, Executive Director of The American Ireland Fund.

- 1 Steve Greeley, Honoree David McCullough, Dinner Chairman Jim Boyle
- 2 Matthew & Margaret Power 3 Miceal Chamberlain.
- Michael McKeigue, Derek Maguire, Dave Visco
- 4 David Fitzgerald, Dick Galvin, Andrew Maher
- 5 Steve Greeley, David McCullough,
- Robert Kraft, Bob Reynolds
  6 Kieran McLoughlin, President
  and CEO of The Worldwide
  Ireland Funds
- 7 Bob Popeo, Nancy Sterling, Steve Tocco
- 8 Alissa & Jack Sebastian, Carol Hudson, Rachel Gubbay
- 9 Peter & Yvette Mulderry, Devin & Erin Condron
- 10 George Hornyak, David McCullough, Kathy Murphy, Steve Greeley
- 11 Kim & Drew Conway
- 12 Peter & Reyna Eastwood, Rosalee & David McCullough, Dotty & Jim Boyle











#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND I BOSTON







#### Nantucket Celebration

JULY, 2011 OVER 150 PEOPLE GATHERED AT THE NANTUCKET HOME OF BOB AND PAULA BUTLER for The American Ireland Fund Nantucket Celebration. Among the guests attending were Bob and Laura Reynolds; Maureen Orth of Vanity Fair; Jack and Suzy Welch; Jack Manning and Lyle Howland; Bart Grenier and Lesley King Grenier. This year's Nantucket Celebration was chaired by Bob and Paula Butler, Chris and Ann Quick and Bob and Laura Reynolds. The honorees were Tom and Leslie Bresette of the Nantucket Golf Club Foundation.

- 1 Bob & Paula Butler, Laura & Bob Reynolds
- Tom Bresette, Dede Snowden, Leslie Bresette
- 3 Chris Ward, Jack & Suzy Welch, Ben Barnes, Steve Greeley







#### Boston Young Leaders Fall Social

- 1 Rvan Chamberlain. John Cronin, Bret Kelly, Conor Chamberlain
- 2 Brian Heavey, Victoria Gass, David Walsh,
- Abby Reynolds
  3 Allen Potts, Chris Hagan, Colin Whitney, Tommy Greeley, Corey Griffin

OCTOBER, 2011 A SPIRITED BOSTON YOUNG LEADERS GROUP ENJOYED A GREAT NIGHT OF GUINNESS, HORS D'OEUVRES AND SOCIALIZING at the Boston Young Leaders Fall Social held at The North Star. Thank you to host Bret Kelly, Boston Young Leader and owner of The North Star. Executive Director Steve Greeley spoke briefly about two projects that benefited from the 2011 Boston Young Leaders St. Patrick's Celebration: Our Lady's Boys' Club in Galway and the Dorchester Boys & Girls Club in Boston. Looking ahead, many new Young Leaders have joined the St. Patrick's Celebration Committee and the Boston Young Leaders are looking forward to another great St. Patrick's Celebration in March of 2012.



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#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND I SAN FRANCISCO







#### A Celtic Christmas Celebration

#### DECEMBER, 2011 A CELTIC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION HELD AT THE ST.

FRANCIS YACHT CLUB was a beautiful evening kindly sponsored by AIF Board Director Michael Jackson and his wife, Pepper. In attendance were Board Directors Bart Murphy and his wife, Eileen, and Craig Sullivan with his wife, Maureen, as well as Regional Advisory Board Members, John McDonnell, and Kevin O'Brien. Trustees included Maryon Davies Lewis, Tom Jordan, and Bill Walsh. Kevin White from Woodside will be the recipient of the 2012 AIF Distinguished Leadership Award and he was joined at the party by Mary & Jeff Hiller. Dinner committee members included Sally Ann Flood, Mary Toboni, and Kathleen Ryan. We were delighted to greet Consul-General Gerry Staunton and his wife, Mary, as well as Vice-Consul Barry O'Brien. Other special guests included California State Librarian emeritus and USC Professor Kevin Starr and his wife, Sheila, Ginny & Jack Kavanaugh, Clare & Jim McGovern, Erin Doyle Ebeling, Sheila Kiernan, Cecilia McGraw, Monsignor Robert Sheeran, and Nancy & Bill Murphy. Bonhams' auctioneer Patrick Meade was also there with his wife, Dr. Jennifer Hoblyn. There was a great group of Young Leaders at the party including Candice & Ryan Murray, Kate Johnston & Kalan McGinley, Neil Sands, Mike McGrath, Kerry Egan & Jamie Hamm, Edward Galvin, and Ian Casey.

- Maureen Sullivan, Pepper Jackson
- 2 Bart Murphy, Marjorie Muldowney, Consul General Gerry Staunton
- 3 Ian Casey, Kalan McGinley, Kate Johnston







#### Young Leaders—Christmas Cheer

DECEMBER, 2011 THE SAN FRANCISCO YOUNG LEADERS CAME TOGETHER FOR AN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS CHEER. Guests gathered to celebrate the season at

The Republic, a wine bar and grill in San Francisco's Marina District. Guests included key supporters Jacqueline Paulin, Ryan Murray, Mike McGrath, Neil Sands, Sarah Smith, Steven Jacobs, Ryan Fox, Kathryn West, Kyle Jenke, and Andrew Hartman. Special thanks to Jacqueline Paulin of William Grant and Sons for her terrific donation of cocktails and appetizers and for creating a signature drink for the party.

- 1 Jacqueline Paulin & Steven Jacobs
- 2 Neil Sands & Sarah Smith,
- Mike McGrath
- 3 Kyle Jenke, Ryan Murray, Andrew Hartman

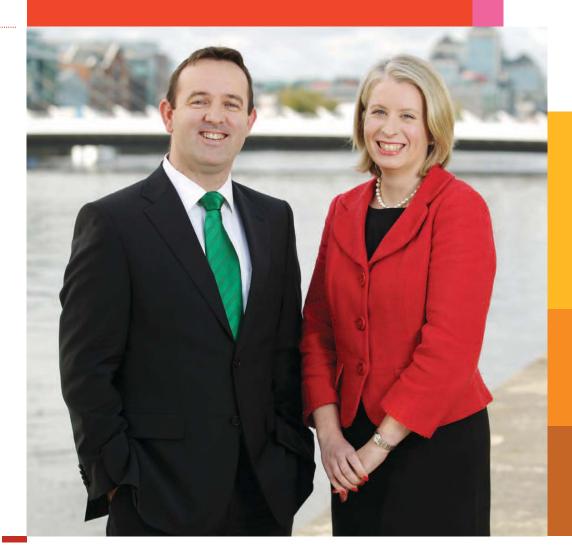
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#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND I WASHINGTON. DC







# Washington D.C. Young Leaders Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Blarney Ball

#### SEPTEMBER, 2011 OVER 200 GUESTS GATHERED FOR DANCING, MINGLING AND

COCKTAILS. Guests were greeted by talented young Irish step dancers from The Culkin School of Irish Dance on the grand staircase of The Carnegie Institution for Science. Reilly O'Connor, DC Young Leaders' Chair; Kevin Conmy, Embassy of Ireland's Deputy Chief of Mission and Pat Tully, National Director of the Young Leaders, discussed the importance of the Young Leaders program and impact of the Fund's support during this great time of need in Ireland. This was the most successful event to date with over \$20,000 raised towards the Promising Ireland Campaign and the Washington Ireland Program (WIP). Thanks to our Event Chairs: Oldcastle Stone Products, Prudential Financial and Aer Lingus; our Benefactors: The Walt Disney Company, and Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America.

- 1 Reilly O'Connor; Kevin Conmy, Deputy Chief of Mission; Martin McDonald, the Embassy's Justice & Home Affairs Counsellor; Pat Tully
- 2 Brian Frederick, Kelly Dragelin, Tim Curry
- 3 Kevin, Comny, Dani DeWitt, Kyle Lierman







Washington D.C. Young Leaders — Samhain: An Irish Halloween

#### OCTOBER, 2011 THE DC YOUNG LEADERS AND FRIENDS GATHERED FOR AN EARLY

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION. "Samhain: An Irish Halloween" was generously hosted by the Irish Ambassador, H.E. Michael Collins at the Irish Embassy. Ambassador Collins thanked them for their support for Ireland. Over 100 guests wore their most festive Halloween masks and judges chose the favorites to take home prizes. The Embassy was covered in Halloween décor, from spider webs to pumpkins, and the masks added to the Samhain ambiance.

- Megan Cloherty,
   Ambassador Collins,
   lan Fitzgerald
- 2 Angelle Smith, Jessica Moore, Holly Merbaum, Jenny Cabrera
- 3 Jenn Root, Drew Walsh, Teagan Knapp, Kevin Murphy

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#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND I CHICAGO







#### Chicago Young Leaders Evening Boat Cruise

#### AUGUST, 2011 THE CHICAGO YOUNG LEADERS HAD A BEAUTIFUL SUMMER'S

**EVENING** to enjoy their third annual Lake Michigan boat cruise aboard the Innisfree. It was one of the last times to view the City of Chicago's special fireworks display. This active group of young people host several unique events and enjoy a close camaraderie while being committed to philanthropic work in support of The American Ireland Fund.

- 1 Dina Searle, Shannon Smith, Shannon Kenny, Mallory Cook
- 2 Orla Castanien, Maureen Glascoe, Edward Hannon
- 3 Meghan Lee, Chad Richardson







# Leadership Forum: John McDonough, President and CEO of the Chicago Blackhawks

SEPTEMBER, 2011 JACK O'CALLAHAN, Olympic Gold Medalist-1980 USA Hockey, star of the Miracle on Ice game, and a member of the Chicago Regional Advisory Board introduced the Leadership Forum Speaker, John McDonough, to the guests of the Regional Advisory Board and the Young Leaders at a luncheon held at the United Center in Chicago. John McDonough is President & CEO of the Chicago Blackhawks and has been credited by Forbes Magazine with "The Greatest Sports-Business Turnaround Ever." He spoke about his career with the Blackhawks; the changes in the team under the leadership of Rocky Wirtz; and growing up in an Irish-American household in the city of Chicago. At the conclusion of the remarks, attendees were treated by Mr. McDonough to a behind the scenes tour of the Blackhawks' stadium.

- 1 Jack O'Callahan introducing John McDonough
- 2 John McDonough addressing the crowd

















- Brad Archibald, Meghan O'Halleran, Loretta Cooney, Mike O'Halleran
- Pat Lynch, Suren Gupta
- Monsignor Ken Velo, Denis Healy, Tom Meagher, Jr., Pat Lynch
- Sondra and Denis Healy & Family
- Michael Flatley and Kieran McLoughlin
- Michael Flatley
- CeCe and Tom Ricketts, Michael Flatley
- Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Tom Meagher, Sr., Tom Meagher, Jr., Kieran McLoughlin

#### 27th Annual Chicago Gala Dinner

NOVEMBER, 2011 THE 27TH ANNUAL AMERICAN IRELAND FUND DINNER WAS HELD AT THE FOUR SEASONS HOTEL. A record crowd of 450 came together to pay tribute to three outstanding Chicago honorees. Denis J. Healy, Co-Chairman, Turtle Wax, Inc and one of the founders of The American Ireland Fund in Chicago received the 2011 Leadership Award. Allstate was the recipient of the 2011 Corporate Social Leadership Award. And Michael Flatley, world-renowned dancer, creator, producer, and director, was honored with the 2011 Performing Arts Award. Denis Healy, surrounded by wife Sondra, three children, and eleven grandchildren, talked about what his Irish heritage has meant to him. He noted that his work on the Korean War Museum allows him to honor both the country of his birth and his ancestors as hundreds of the soldiers who served were sons of Ireland. Michael Flatley acknowledged his parents as his heroes. He credits his father with instilling in him a tireless work ethic and drive. Michael began his career as a construction worker on Chicago's South Side and has become one of the world's most accomplished artists. He treated the guests to an impromptu song on his flute. The program then segued into an electrifying performance by one of Ireland's top bands, Frankie Gavin and De Dannan. It was, however, more than just an evening of Irish fun. It was about raising funds to support the worthy programs that promote peace, advance reconciliation, preserve Irish culture, strengthen community development, and support those in need.



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#### AROUND THE WORLD | DUBLIN



#### The Ireland Funds Grants and Fundraising Workshop

FUNDS' GRANTS & FUNDRAISING WORKSHOP, which was hosted by Partner Sponsors Mason Hayes & Curran in Dublin. The workshop offered tips to Irish nonprofits for strengthening their message and navigating the complexities of fundraising. Mason Hayes & Curran Partner Niamh Callaghan's presentation on Transparency and Governance for charities in Ireland included invaluable advice for charities on complying with best practice. Neal Newman, Executive Director of Philanthropia International, provided an entertaining and highly informative overview of Developing a Fundraising Strategy. Following these two sessions, Jordan Campbell of The Ireland Funds gave an update on the 2011 Grant Round and advice for developing strong proposals when applying for funding. The workshop concluded with a panel discussion that involved the presentation of funding programmes managed by The Community Foundation for Ireland (Helen Beatty), FundIt (Andrew Hetherington) and Fiona Murphy (Genio). The Ireland Funds extend thanks to the Young Leaders Chairman John Crimmins for chairing the workshop and to Hugo MacNeill, Chairman of The Ireland Funds, for his excellent opening address. The generous support of Mason Hayes & Curran allowed The Ireland Funds to offer the workshop free

FEBRUARY, 2011 OVER 80 ORGANISATIONS GATHERED FOR THE IRELAND

- 1 Niamh Callaghan, John Crimmins, Hugo MacNeill
- John Crimmins 3 Neal Newman
- 4 Jordan Campbell, Programme Manager of The Ireland Funds
- 5 Over 80 staff of non-profit organisations attended the workshop

of charge.













- 1 John Crimmins, Prospectus Consulting, Chair of the Ireland Fund Young Leaders; Kieran McLoughlin; Caitlin Duffy; Ambassador Rooney; Hugo MacNeill; Mrs Patricia Rooney; Fergus Finlay, CEO
- 2 Dessie Farrell, Gaelic Players Association GPA; Dara McGarty, GPA; Donal Og Cusack, GPA
- Paul Kennedy, Dillon Eustace; Shane Geraghty, Dillon Eustace; Tom Lynch, El Comandante Wines
- **Guests at Young Leader Events**
- 5 Patricia Rooney and Peter Rooney
- The Honorable Daniel M. Rooney, United States Ambassador to Ireland addresses the crowd

#### Young Leaders Christmas Reception

DECEMBER, 2011 THE IRELAND FUND YOUNG LEADERS AND FRIENDS GATHERED TO KICK OFF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON. US Ambassador Daniel M. Rooney and his wife Patricia graciously hosted the Young Leader Christmas Reception at their home in Phoenix Park. Over 100 guests were greeted by Christmas carols performed by the Carabells, a Mayo-based bell ringing choir supported through Music Generation. Ambassador Rooney reflected that the crowd gathered was similar in age to what he and Sir Anthony O'Reilly had been when they began The Ireland Funds several decades ago. Kieran McLoughlin, the CEO of The Worldwide Ireland Funds, spoke of the importance of The Ireland Funds Promising Ireland Campaign. He acknowledged the contribution of the Young Leaders and their peers around the world as it not only represented the future of the Funds, but was motivating established donors who had noted the Young Leaders' energy and generosity. He then introduced the guest speaker of the evening, Fergus Finlay, the CEO of Barnardos. As a recipient of a grant in The Ireland Funds' 2011 Grant Round, Fergus spoke of the impact that The Ireland Funds have on organizations such as his and the need that still exists throughout Ireland. The Ireland Funds Young Leader Chairman, John Crimmins, spoke about the potential for all to become involved with the Young Leaders at a membership level; playing a role in shaping the group during a very exciting growth phase.

Since 1996, the cost of The Ireland Funds' operation in Ireland has been met by some of the country's leading blue chip companies. The companies and indviduals that are so generously backing The Ireland Funds include:

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We are so grateful for this critical support. It means that we can make grant payments to worthy projects in an amount equal to the value of these sponsorships. These companies have shown an exceptional commitment to The Ireland Funds and we are happy to suggest them as your preferred contacts in Ireland.





















#### Annual John Dunne Golf Cup Classic

#### SEPTEMBER, 2011 A NEAR SELL-OUT CROWD JOINED THE 15TH ANNUAL JOHN DUNNE GOLF CUP

CLASSIC. This tournament, named for one of the Patrons of the Fund, is always a tremendous success. Guests had the opportunity to golf at one of Toronto's most prestigious courses—Thornhill Golf and Country Club. Thornhill is a Stanley Thompson designed course. Tourism Ireland sponsored Hugh O'Neill, the pro at the Connemara Golf Club, to join for the day. Special thanks to supporters and sponsors and especially to presenting sponsor CIBC.

#### Reception in St. John's Newfoundland and Labrador

SEPTEMBER, 2011 THE IRELAND FUND OF CANADA HOSTED A RECEPTION IN ST. JOHN'S to introduce Newfoundlanders to the Ireland Fund of Canada. Irish author Tim Pat Coogan has described Newfoundland as, "the most Irish place in the world outside of Ireland." Over 50 people joined in the historic Yellow Belly pub, named after the Irish immigrants who entered Newfoundland between 1750 and 1830. It was a grand night and a base of support was established for the 2012 St. Patrick's Day lunch.



John Spears, Kim Spears, Hubert Hutton, Terry Smith, Michael Smith, Tracie Penfound, Scott Penfound

#### Blas-A Taste of all things Irish

#### NOVEMBER, 2011 THE IRELAND FUND OF CANADA HOSTED ITS INAUGURAL CULTURAL EVENT -

**BLAS.** Blas is the Irish word for flavour, taste and style. This intimate evening was peppered with performance vignettes highlighting Irish culture. Guests were entertained by choral renditions of classic Irish compositions, introduced to baroque music and captivated by the words of **Seamus Heaney**. Throughout the performances guests enjoyed classic Irish cuisine with a modern twist. **Sean McCann** from **Great Big Sea** performed at the end of the evening with the whole room joining in to his rendition of I'm a Rover.

#### The Launch of the Young Leaders program in Toronto

**DECEMBER**, **2011** The Young Leaders program was officially launched in Toronto. Over 75 young professionals joined at the **Quinn Steakhouse** to learn more about The Ireland Fund of Canada and how they can get involved. The group was a great mix of recent and fourth generation immigrants. One attendee had arrived in Canada just the week before. A great start was made and the program looks forward to future growth.

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE IRELAND FUND OF GERMANY

















#### The Ireland Fund of Germany Trip to Belfast and Queen's University Dinner

- Kathryn Walls, Mary McLaughlin, Ciara Lagan, Ciara Lee and Anne Skeggs
- Barry Hogan; Alban Maginness, MLA; Frank Hewitt, Honorary Consul for the Federal Republic of Germany; Wendy Hewitt, TV-presenter
- 3 Minister David Ford, Dr. Ursula Hassel, IFoG committee member. Anne Ford and Elmar Conrads-Hassel, IFoG Chairman
- 4 David Ford, Northern Ireland's Minister of Justice, MLA
- 5 David & Mary Casey with Elmar Conrads-Hassel
- 6 Elmar Conrads-Hassel, IFoG Chairman
- 7 Gabi Scholz, Lothar Köhl, Kathryn Walls, David Casey, Anne Skeggs, Ciara Lee and Ciara Lagan
- 8 Dr. Susan Eckerle. Martin Schlotter and Marcus Metz

JUNE 2011 FOR THE FIRST TIME, MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE IRELAND FUND

OF GERMANY (IFOG) CAME TOGETHER for a three day trip to Belfast and held their annual dinner in Northern Ireland. After two interesting days of talks with various members of the Northern Ireland Legislative Assembly, a visit to the Stormont Parliament Building, and an intense interchange of ideas about "German-(Northern) Irish Economic and Trade Relationship-Situation and Chances" with experts from Northern Ireland, Ireland, and Germany at the Law Society of Northern Ireland, the group held their Charity Dinner on Saturday, 25th June at the magnificent Great Hall of Queen's University Belfast. The Chairman of IFOG, Elmar Conrads-Hassel, and his wife, Dr. Ursula Hassel, hosted the evening and were pleased to welcome David Ford, Northern Ireland's Minister of Justice, MLA and Frank Hewitt, the German Honorary Consul to Northern Ireland, as quests of honor and speakers at the Dinner. During the evening, Elmar Conrads-Hassel thanked Kieran Dowling, the Irish Joint Secretary of the British-Irish Intergovernmental Secretariat (BIIGS), and Dr. Colin Harvey, Professor of Human Rights and Head of the Law School at Queen's University Belfast for their support of IFOG's trip to Belfast. The proceeds of the event were once again donated to Barretstown Gang Camp, based in Co. Kildare in Ireland. The Camp gives seriously ill children from 20 European countries, an opportunity to experience the joy of a typical summer camp-free of charge and with round-the-clock medical care.

#### No more kisses for Oscar Wilde's Grave



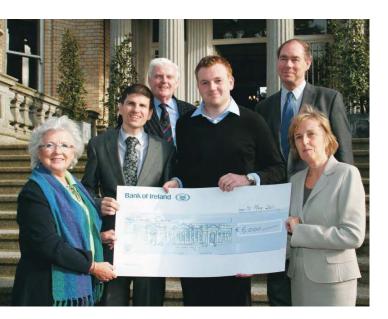
The ceremony on November 30, 2011 at Père Lachaise Cemetery

The famous and controversial writer who is buried in the equally famous Paris Cemetery Père Lachaise continued to agitate visitors for years after his death in 1900, in spite of a bronze plaque placed at the bottom of the tombstone which said: "Respect the memory of Oscar Wilde and do not deface this tomb." It is protected by law as a historic monument and was restored in 1992. It has been a cult pastime of Paris visitors for years to place a lipstick kiss on the monument up to the point that cleaning the tomb stone became almost impossible. Merlin Holland, Oscar Wilde's grandson,

the Irish Government, the Irish Cultural Centre of Paris, and The

The newly restored grave of Oscar Wilde

Ireland Fund of France decided to protect this historical Monument, which is classified as such by the French Ministry for Cultural Affairs. After months of tedious work, the renovated and newly protected tomb was unveiled in Père Lachaise Cemetary on 30 November, the 111th anniversary of Wilde's death, in the presence of the Irish Minister of State at the Dept. of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Mr. Dinny McGinley TD, the Irish Ambassador and high-ranking French officials. Merlin Holland spoke eloquently of the history behind the tomb, and the actor Rupert Everett read from the works of Oscar Wilde. Merlin Holland thanked The Ireland Fund of France for supporting this project from the outset. "The fact that The Ireland Fund of France believed in the importance of the project galvanised the French into action and with a measure of Irish magic all round, all the bits fell into place just when they needed to."



#### The Ireland Fund of France Research Scholarship

Now in its second year, The Ireland Fund of France Research Scholarship is a combined initiative of University College Dublin's Master of Engineering Programme, The Ireland Fund of France, and environmental services group Veolia Environment. Continued...

Aine Ades, President of The Ireland Fund of France; Mark Coyne Energy Director and sponsor of the project from Dalkia; Liam Connellan, Chairman Véolia Ireland; Donal Costello, student; Brian Brennan, Managing Director Véolia Transport; HE Emmanuelle d'Achon, French Ambassador to Ireland

#### The Ireland Fund of France Research Scholarship Continued



Dr. David Timoney, Dean of Engineering at UCD said: "This support from The Ireland Fund of France and the environmental services group Veolia is critical to the professional development of our students. It provides them with practical and applied experience as they pursue their research projects, and ultimately their professional career in engineering. We encourage all of our Masters in Energy Systems Engineering students to work with industry partners."

Winning students Olivier Neu and Donal Costello with Liam Connellan and HE Emmanuelle d'Achon, French Ambassador to Ireland

#### The Ireland Fund of France pays tribute to Charles de Gaulle's Irish retreat



Charles de Gaulle in Sneem, 1969

An exhibition was launched at the Irish Cultural Centre in Paris presenting twenty-five new images from the Kennelly Archive. Padraig and Joan Kennelly, owners of a small photographic studio in Tralee, followed Charles de Gaulle during his 1969 visit to Sneem and immortalised the excitement amongst the local community. This series of photographs were presented to the public for the first time in the exhibition "A Quiet Holiday." In addition to the 25 photographs taken at the time, a selection of press clippings, a history of the McCartan clan of which de Gaulle was a descendant and more recent photographs of the same locations taken by Padraig Kennelly, were on display. Fondation Charles de Gaulle and The Ireland Fund of France

funded this project which attracted more than 2000 visitors to the Irish Cultural Centre during 15 days. The exhibition is due to travel to other French cities and possibly to Ireland and was curated by Isabelle Galy-Aché, General Secretary of The Ireland Fund of France. The event was launched by the Minister for European Affairs, Lucinda Creighton, T.D., H.E. Paul Kavanagh, Ambassador of Ireland in France; Jacques Godfrain, President of the Charles de Gaulle Fondation; and Aine Adès President of The Ireland Fund of France.



The debut of 'A Quiet Holiday'

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE IRELAND FUND OF GREAT BRITAIN









#### The Ireland Fund of Great Britain's 10th Annual Winter Ball

THE WINTER BALL EXCEEDED ITS GOAL AND RAISED £113,000 ON THE NIGHT, FOR IRISH PEOPLE IN NEED IN THE UK. Over 350 guests enjoyed a champagne reception in the River Room followed by a fabulous dinner and dancing in the enchanting Lancaster Ballroom, in the iconic Savoy Hotel. Guests were welcomed by IFGB Co-Chair Ruth McCarthy who was delighted to extend a special welcome to celebrity and VIP guests including—Comedian and TV Presenter Graham Norton, former featherweight boxing champion Barry McGuigan, designers Orla Kiely and Paul Costelloe, and Irish Ambassador HE Bobby MacDonagh and his wife, Mary. Ruth introduced Kieran McLoughlin President and CEO of The Worldwide Ireland Funds; who told guests of the remarkable strength of relationships between the different Ireland Funds and he introduced a DVD of the Queen's historic visit to Ireland earlier this year cementing the special relationship between Britain and Ireland. Comedian and TV Presenter Graham Norton, who hails from Bandon in County Cork, received the Ireland Fund Award for his contribution to Irish cultural life in the UK. He treated the guests to a hilarious account of his childhood in Bandon, where he always knew he was different. He spoke about how he felt at home the minute he got to London; and how many years later he finds himself inexplicably drawn back to West Cork. He praised the work of The Ireland Fund of Great Britain in continuing to raise funds and awareness in difficult economic times. Grant Ford of Sotheby's Auction House then hosted the live auction—the amazing lots included a weekend in a Monaco villa once owned by Coco Chanel, a box

at the Ireland v. England rugby match on St Patrick's Day, and two tickets to the X Factor Live Final—which Louis Walsh turned up to personally deliver. Special thanks to headline sponsor—San Leon, champagne sponsor—DSM Demolition,

Orla Kiely, Lir Chocolate, Jameson Whiskey, Conde Naste, Hodder & Stoughton, and Niche Group.

DECEMBER, 2011 THE IRELAND FUND OF GREAT BRITAIN IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT











- 1 Winter Ball Committee—Mike Maye, James Healy, Jeremy Eakin, Eileen Herlihy, Louise Furber, Deirdre O'Sullivan, Zachary Webb (Chair), Raymond Hickey, John O'Brien
  2 Ruth McCarthy
  3 Linda McBride, Pat Kelly, Eileen Kelly & James McBride of DSM Demolition
  4 Kiely Bros. and guests
  5 Caitlin Duffy and Young Leaders from Dublin
  6 Barry McGuigan, Kieran McLoughlin, Elizabeth McCullough
  7 Ambassador Bobby McDonagh, Emer Hunt
  8 Zachary Webb, Louis Walsh
  9 Jim Kelly of DSM Demolition, Ambassador Bobby McDonagh and his wife Mary McDonagh and his wife Mary McDonagh
  10 John McKeon of Niche Group and guests
  11 Oisin Fanning of San Leon and Pearl Roche
  12 Zachary Webb presenting Graham Norton with the award







#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE IRELAND FUND OF GREAT BRITAIN













#### The Ireland Fund of Great Britain's Annual Golf Tournament

#### OCTOBER 2011 ONCE AGAIN THE BEAUTIFUL ST GEORGES HILL GOLF CLUB WAS

THE SETTING for The Ireland Fund of Great Britain's Golf Tournament. Players were thanked by Golf Committee Chair Ruairi Conneely for their loyal support to the IFGB and its ongoing work to help vulnerable Irish living in the UK. After dinner, Basil Geoghegan, IFGB Co-Chair, spoke to the guests about his wonderful achievement of climbing Mount Everest in May. Basil has raised over £90,000. This money will be used to fund groups that help survivors of institutional abuse who now live in the UK. The winning teams on the day were Devine Homes Group led by Jim Devine. The Paul Hastings LLP team captained by Christian Parker came in 2nd place and Quinn London led by Seamus Quinn was placed 3rd. Special thanks to Kiely Bros who sponsored the Tipperary Crystal prizes. These were presented to the winners by Basil Geoghegan. Draw prizes were kindly donated by Sheen Falls Lodge, Dromoland Castle, St Georges Hill Golf Club, London Irish Rugby, Callaway, and Golf Monthly Magazine. We also said goodbye to our Events Manager Elaine Meade Hill at the golf event. We would like to thank Elaine for her dedication, loyalty, and enthusiasm over the last four years and for organising some of the best events ever at The Ireland Fund of Great Britain.

- 1 Winning team Devine Homes Group with IFGB Executive **Director Sheila Bailey**
- 2 Prize Sponsors—Kiely Bros
- 3 Elaine Meade Hill, Liam Meade 4 IFGB Co Chair Basil Geoghegan, Jim Devine
- 5 Golf Chair Ruairi Conneely (far right) with the Sunlight Project Finance team
- 6 Sloan Kelly from the Katten team teeing off













#### Ireland Fund Grants-2011

Grants have been distributed to groups in cities such as, London, Birmingham, Coventry and Liverpool. Grants were given to projects that support elderly and vulnerable Irish living in the UK, Survivors of institutional abuse and youth projects. Here is a selection of projects supported in 2011.

BIRCHFIELD RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP This grant will be used for the new allotment sanctuary project. An allotment has been secured for isolated Irish men, it will become a meeting place where many of them can use their skills and perhaps develop new ones.

IRISH SUPPORT AND ADVICE SERVICE (ISAS) This grant will provide a Pensions Worker, and ensure that Irish pensioners receive all benefits and advice that they are entitled to, such as Disability Living Allowance & carers allowance.

ST JOHN BOSCO YOUTH CLUB This youth club operates in a deprived area of London. The club runs two afterschool clubs and takes care of around 100 children.

IRISH ELDERLY ADVICE NETWORK This grant will be used to reach out to elderly and vulnerable Irish in East London where there is currently a lack of Irish services. This will be done through newsletters and home visits and liaison with GPs.

#### IRISH WOMEN'S SURVIVORS SUPPORT NETWORK

This group was created to help female survivors of institutional abuse, who now live in the UK. It empowers these women through information and the support of other women who have had similar experiences.

ST MICHAELS IRISH CENTRE This grant will be used to extend the information and advice service in Liverpool by offering a drop in centre, where pensioners can drop in for a cup of tea and get advice on housing and pensions, etc. at the same time.



# 2012 WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

US: Contact The American Ireland Fund at 212-689-3100 Monaco: Contact The Ireland Fund of Monaco at irelandfund@monaco.mc Ireland: Contact The Ireland Fund at 353-1-662-7878

#### The Ireland Fund of Monaco Residential Bursaries

The Ireland Fund of Monaco Residential Bursaries were established to enable writers born or living in Ireland to pursue a current project during a one-month residency at the Princess Grace Irish Library in Monaco. We are pleased to present excerpts from the personal reflections of three recent recipients about their experience in Monaco. Their full essays can be read on our website at www.theirelandfunds.org

# Robert O'Byrne

Although the event was not due to take place until some four months after I had departed, the wedding of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco and Charlene Wittstock was a constant presence during my residency at Monaco's Princess Grace Irish Library.

Prince Albert's summer wedding likewise seemed to dominate many of the conversations one had with both residents and other visitors to the area, the occupant of Monaco's Palace apparently being a source of endless fascination to native and tourist alike. The only person who gave the impression of being impervious to this anticipatory excitement was the groom: at a gathering in the



library to mark St Patrick's Day he remained calm and courteous even when quizzed about his impending marriage.

Those same qualities were presumably required by him the following day when it was announced that his aunt, HSH Princess Antoinette of Monaco, had died at the age of 90. Prince Albert duly declared two weeks' mourning for his aunt's death in Monaco which introduced an uncustomary air of solemnity to the place, at least until after the Princess's funeral, a day on which I temporarily absented myself from the library since its propinguity to the Palace would have rendered access well-nigh impossible.

Monaco does not suit the serious however and before too long the customary focus on fun had returned, aided by the advent of another wedding, princely in spirit if not in fact. A young Indian couple, 'deux jeunes héritiers de riches familles indiennes' as they were described in subsequent press reports, chose to hold their wedding in the Principality and in doing so, it was declared, had transformed 'Monte Carlo en Bollywood.' Well, not exactly: there were no lines of synchronised dancers and singers on the streets but the groom arrived to claim his bride on a white horse and an elephant was led into the Place du Casino. Yet one more colourful occasion, in other words, although in a location where colour is the norm it scarcely seemed unusual.

Two weddings and a funeral: not quite enough for a Richard Curtis film but plenty to engage one's attention over the course of a month. And between these distractions, there was the necessity for work to be done in the Princess Grace Irish Library, hardly a challenging task in such agreeable surroundings except for one almost irresistible temptation. I packed a number of books in my luggage, and on crossing the library's threshold immediately realised this had been unnecessary. The problem was not what to read first, but how to stop reading and start writing instead. Somehow, aided by support from Judith Gantley and Géraldine Lance, the temptation was overcome and a gratifying amount of work accomplished. And, as can be seen in the photographs taken to mark my stay in the Principality, over the course of my month there I would like to believe I even managed to bring a little colour to Monaco.



# Turtle Bunbury

Every time I walked back to the apartment, I went a different way. I'd learnt that it doesn't matter which way you go in Monte Carlo. You'll still get there. So long as you know the approximate location of the place you are heading to, all you need to do is fasten onto an angle and walk with dogged persistence in that direction. You may have to walk through a tunnel or a shopping mall, or whoosh up a cliff encased in a metal box, or clamber up a thousand steps. But you will get there.

Apart from once when I found myself face to face with an elderly lady in a pinstriped suit who was filling a bright red kettle. She smiled, even as her eyelashes fluttered wearily. I was evidently not the first to spin off piste and wander into her kitchen.

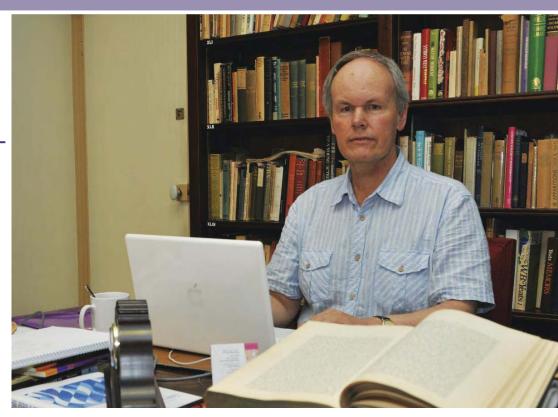
There is a profound joy to walking in Monaco. My preferred commute from my quarters in Beausoleil to the Princess Grace Irish Library took me past the Casino de Monte Carlo, down

the hill towards Eglise St. Devote, then westwards around the bay to the ancient steps running up from Fort Antoine. And then, ruddy-cheeked and wet-kneed, I would pile into the Princess Grace Irish Library and do my best to distract fair Judith, gentle Geraldine, kindly Síle and courtly Claudine from whatever tasks they were otherwise engaged in.

I am presently writing a history of the world as it was back in the year 1847. I actually addressed the friends of the PGIL on this peculiar subject in 2010. And that was the crux of what I was writing during my four wonderful weeks in Monaco in the sun-drenched autumn of 2011.

I think it important that my kind patrons at The Ireland Fund of Monaco understand just how far their generous bursaries can sometimes go. In one particularly eventful stretch, I managed to elope with a Jesuit priest across Argentina, climbed the Great Pyramid of Giza with Werner Siemens, started and finished the Swiss Civil War, killed Mendessohn, slept with a Swedish soprano, enjoyed a circus for the Benefit of Mr. Kite, beheaded a Kazaki Sultan, and established a jewellery shop in Paris in the name of Louis-Francois Cartier.

# ames Harpur



Monaco is a theatre of dreams and fantasies and nothing could be better for a writer. It is a unique place, grounded on medieval history but insistently modern, its tower blocks surging towards the sea like a standing ovation. I had in fact visited the Principality before, way back in 1976, when I was Inter-railing around Europe with a school friend. Returning in 2010 was like walking into a déjà vu-a sense of the familiar blending with the new. And this time I glimpsed what it was like to be an insider—thanks to the warmth, friendliness and sage advice of Judith and her back-up team of Géraldine and Síle, a triumvirate of quardian angels whose practical help and sense of fun made the month a constant delight.

Writers, they say, need a room of their own, or a room with a view, and the view I had in the First Editions' Room was of the spines of more books I wanted to read than I could shake a stick at. The daily danger was the lifting of the head from my own writing to think a thought and inadvertently spot the first edition of Ulysses or some other bibliographic treasure: my writing would grind to a halt while I investigated the volume in question. The task I'd set myself for the four precious weeks was to progress a long poem inspired by the Book of Kells. And of course the library contained that most valuable of tomes—the 1990 facsimile of the book published by Faksimile-Verlag Luzern, a most extraordinary work that even reproduces the holes in the original vellum. I felt like a medieval scribe, poring over Kells and scratching away at my notepad. It was pure joy!

It was a wonderful four weeks of serious endeavour and new friendships and I'd like to thank the Ireland Fund of Monaco for their generosity in making it a month to remember, as well as Judith, in particular, for all her support and good humour. I returned home to the grey October mists of West Cork but the fierce sunlight, tanned faces, magical book spines and reflecting surfaces of Monaco turned, and still turn, like a revolving door in my mind.

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AUSTRALIAN IRELAND FUND







#### Sydney Supporters Luncheon

JULY, 2011 THE EVENT WAS AGAIN HOSTED BY MR. DAVID WIADROWSKI OF PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS and attended by over 60 generous supporters. Chairman Alan Joyce welcomed fellow Directors, Corporate Governors and major supporters present including Brett Chenoweth, CEO of APN News & Media and Chris Knaap, Corporate Manager of Mercedes Benz. He also welcomed special guests John O'Neill, CEO of the Australian Rugby Union and a former Chairman of the Fund; Orla Tunney, Deputy Head of Mission at the Irish Embassy; Siobhan Kelly, Ireland's Vice General Consul in Australia and Andrew Penfold, CEO of the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation. Updates were provided on support for integrated education in Northern Ireland as well as indigenous education in Australia.

- 1 Australian Ireland Fund Board Members
- 2 Ross Malone, David Woodward, Yvonne Le Bas, Aine O'Hare, Alan Joyce
- 3 John O'Neill, Paul O'Brien, Ted Johnson, Mary Waldron, Kerry Morrison







#### Brisbane Gala Luncheon

- Guido Salomone, Andrew Hogg, Judy Densley, John Hall, Katrina Robinson, Fiona Hands
   Alan Joyce, Dr. Frank
- 2 Alan Joyce, Dr. Frank Cunningham, Dr. Ailbhe Cunningham, Andrew Hogg, Sallyanne Atkinson AO
- 3 Teresa Keating, Donna Smith, Bruce Smith, Dr Tom Moore

AUGUST, 2011 THE EVENT TOOK PLACE AT HILLSTONE ST. LUCIA, overlooking the scenic St. Lucia Golf Links. Australian Ireland Fund Director, Sallyanne Atkinson AO was the luncheon chair and Master of Ceremonies for the day. Special guests included Chairman Alan Joyce, Brett Chenoweth Chief Executive Officer of the APN News & Media, and Former Ambassador of Ireland to Australia Richard O'Brien, Australian Ireland Fund Directors Tom Moore and Peter Ryan. The Chairman provided an update on support for integrated education along with further grants for Habitat for Humanity, The Star ABC Boxing Club in Belfast, and the indigenous scholarships at Queensland's Marist College Ashgrove and St. Peter's Lutheran College. The Fund has given a five year commitment to the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation, for both of those schools. Two students from Marist College Ashgrove, Nathan Bassani and Jerome Pang shared how support assisted them. Thank you to our major sponsors: Qantas, APN News & Media, Australian Radio Network, Hyatt Regency Collum, Tourism Ireland, Avis, Sean Prendergast and Briege Tuite.







#### Sydney Young Leaders Reception

SEPTEMBER, 2011 THE AUSTRALIAN IRELAND FUND YOUNG LEADERS NETWORK RECEPTION WAS HELD AT THE QANTAS BOARDROOM in Sydney's CBD. Over 50 young professionals heard talks from Alan Joyce, CEO of Qantas and Chairman of The Australian Ireland Fund; Irish Minister of State for Small Business, John Perry TD and Young Leader Fiona Tuite. Sponsors of the event were Brian Conroy, IDA Ireland, Yvonne le Bas of Westpac and Brendan Sheehan of WhiteSquires. Minister John Perry TD thanked Directors, Young Leaders and supporters on behalf of the Irish Government and the people of Ireland not only for their financial support but for their concern and friendship from the other side of the world. A special thanks to Qantas for hosting this intimate networking evening.

- Eion O'Sullivan, Prof. Rónán McDonald
- Kevin Sherry, /vonne Le Bas, Alan Dixon
- 3 Damien Murphy, Padraig Harrington, David Creaven, Siobhan Tuite, Adam Coonan







#### Young Leaders Christmas Drinks

- Fiona Tuite, Kate Sykes
- Clare Foley, Kerry Morrison, Simon Fallon
- 3 Emer Byrne, Simon Fallon

DECEMBER, 2011 THE AUSTRALIAN IRELAND FUND YOUNG LEADERS WRAPPED UP

THE YEAR with their Christmas Celebration at the spectacular Opera Bar. The venue treated 100 guests with stunning views of the Opera House and Sydney Harbour, and the impromptu fireworks added to the great atmosphere. The event gave The Australian Ireland Fund Young Leaders and their guests the opportunity to catch up, network and celebrate the Christmas season while supporting the philanthropic work of The Australian Ireland Fund. The Celebration was an indication of the great potential of The Australian Ireland Fund Young Leaders Network .

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE AUSTRALIAN IRELAND FUND







- Charles Curran AC;
   Andrew Penfold;
   Lady Mary Fairfax AC, OBE
- 2 Alan Joyce, Kieran McLoughlin
- 3 Alan Joyce, Mary Lee, Teresa Keating
- 4 Boys in the Band
- 5 Bernard Curran, Georgie Curran, Alan Joyce, Charlie Aitken, Ellie Aitken
- 6 Andrew Penfold, Nahdia Noter
- 7 Peter and Tony Ryan

#### Sydney Garden Party

#### NOVEMBER 2011 THE AUSTRALIAN IRELAND FUND'S SYDNEY O'CHRISTMAS FESTIVE GARDEN

PARTY took place at the breathtaking private residence of Lady Mary Fairfax AC OBE, with many of the 500 guests getting into the theme and dressing up with their finest Baubles and tinsels. Kieran McLoughlin, President and CEO of The Worldwide Ireland Funds was Master of the Ceremony. A special presentation was made to Chairman, Alan Joyce of Waterford Crystal Governor glasses for his wonderful support and in recognition of becoming a Governor of The Australian Ireland Fund. A presentation was also made to Director Jane Cosgrove for all her support and to Executive Director Teresa Keating for all her hard work putting the event together. The success of the day could not have been achieved without the generous support of table captains, supporters and sponsors, individuals and companies. Particular thanks to major sponsors including Qantas Airways represented by Alan Joyce, APN Outdoor represented by Richard Herring, Mercedes Benz represented by Chris Knaap and Australian Radio Network represented by Ciaran Davis.

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE IRELAND FUND OF SINGAPORE















#### Singapore Gala Ball

#### OCTOBER, 2011 THE ANNUAL GALA BALL OF THE SINGAPORE IRELAND FUND

(TSIF) was held at the iconic Fullerton Hotel, Singapore, attended by some 350 guests, including Irish Ambassador to Singapore HE Joseph Hayes and his wife, Deirdre along with Dr. Stanley Quek and his wife, Bebe. Other special guests included the President & CEO of The Worldwide Ireland Funds, Kieran McLoughlin. Guests enjoyed a full programme of entertainment including performances by the Irish Inspirational Dance Group, Irish traditional music by CRAN and a special Sean-nos performance by a talented young member of the Irish diaspora, Emma Reilly. It was hard to pick an outstanding performance from the evening but most guests would agree that, following a fanfare entrance provided by the St. Joseph's Pipers, the performance by a group of drummers at the beginning of the evening from the Down Syndrome Association of Singapore (DSA) was special. The DSA was one of the beneficiaries of the Ball proceeds along with the VIVA Foundation which provides services to those involved in providing care to children with cancer. Micheal Smith took to the podium and raised a record \$\$202,000 during the charity auction. With the help of volunteers from the recently launched Farmleigh Fellowship in Singapore, the raffles raised close to \$\$23,000 on the night. These amounts combined with donations and tables sales from the Gala ball resulted in a record breaking \$\$650,000 being raised for the DSA and the VIVA Foundation in 2011—money that will make a real difference to the lives of wonderfully worthy recipients. Speaking after the event, Dr. Stanley Quek thanked all sponsors and volunteers who helped make the 2011 Ball possible, in particular Exco members Sheila Lim and Deirdre Hayes.

- 1 Cheque Presentation to Down Syndrome Association: Monica De Silve-Lim, Dr. Stanley Quek, Kieran McLoughlin, HE Joseph Hayes
- 2 Cheque Presentation to VIVA Foundation: Dr. Sally Blair, Assoc. Prof. Allen Yeoh, Dr. Stanley Quek, Kieran McLoughlin, HE Joseph Hayes
- Dr. Lee Sze Min, Dr. Ong Hean Yee
- Emma Reilly
- Drummers from Down Syndrome Association
- John McIlroy, Hazel McIlroy, Jeanny Kim McIlroy, Gareth McIlroy
- Dancers from the Irish Inspirational Dance Group

#### AROUND THE WORLD I THE IRELAND FUND OF CHINA



#### The Ireland Fund of China Luncheon

#### OCTOBER, 2011 THE IRELAND FUND OF CHINA HELD A HIGH PROFILE LUNCH AT

THE FOUR SEASONS HOTEL IN HONG KONG. Present were senior business officials, Chinese dignitaries and various members of the Irish Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong. The lunch was hosted by The Ireland Fund of China Chairman and CEO, Kenn Joyce and guest of honour was President & CEO of The Worldwide Ireland Funds Kieran McLoughlin. Several initiatives were proposed at the lunch including The Ireland Fund's sponsorship of Chinese language learning in Ireland.

Left to Right: William Drake, Legal Consultant

Conor O'Meara, Hedge Fund Manager

Andrew Leung, Chinese advisor to US Gvt.

Robert Agnew, M&A Partner Marlin & Associates

Agee Leung, Time Out Magazine

Kieran McLoughlin, President & CEO The Worldwide Ireland Funds

Kenneth Joyce, Chairman & CEO The Ireland Fund of China & Ulysses Investments A.P.

Bill Condon, CEO Multitude Art Fund

Jean-Charles de Peretti, CEO By-Pure.com



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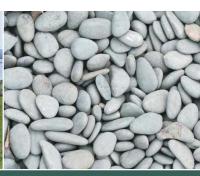
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