



Bí bródúil as do theanga

# An Fhuinneog Ghaelach

Cumann Gaeilge na  
hAstráile

Samhradh 2008/9

1-12-2008

## Daonscoil 2009 ag teacht !

**T**á súil agam go raibh sibh ag tabhairt aire don mhúinteoir agus ag déanamh bhur obairbhaile?

Mar sin beidh sibh ullamh chun tabhairt faoi na teistiméireachta. Nílím ach ag magadh.

Bíonn sibh ar sceitimíní áthais san am seo den bhliain agus níl cuimhneamh dá laghad againn ar teistiméireacht a thabhairt daoibh.

I bhfad úainn an t-olc! San am céanna má tá fonn oraibh teist bheag a dhéanamh tá go leor acu le fáil ar an idirlín, agus iad ar gach leibhéal ón mBun Rang go dtí an Ard Rang.

Tiocfaidh na torthaí ó obair chruaidh na bliana ar an Máirt 09 Mí na Nollag ar 7.00pm go dtí 9.30pm sa Seomra Fheidhmeach ar an gcéad úrláir.

Beidh muintir na hAlban, slua na mBreataine Bige agus na nGael ag teacht le chéile chum scléip agus éirí in airde a bheith againn agus má tá ceol nó amhrán no scéal le hinsint agat fíú

amháin, beidh cluas le héisteacht againn. Beidh togadh gach bídh agus rogha gach dí ann, an bia saor in aisce agus deochanna le fáil ar chostas réasúnta. RSVP roimh meán-oíche ar 02 Nollaig le bhur dtoil.

Tá Bróisiúirí na nDaonscoile scaipithe cheana féin agus beidh mór-sheachtain ag gach éinne leis an bhfoghlaim agus an gcaidreamh ach, tá áiteanna teoranta agus ní mór duit an t-iarratas a bheith istigh agat go sciopa chun áit a chuir in áirithe duit féin.

Muna bhfaighfeá aon bhróisiúir uainn fós beidh ort dul i dteagmháil linn anois díreach.

Más tosnaitheoir tú [ní bheidh tu in ann é seo a léamh ar ndóigh!] ach is cuma, má tá aithne agat ar daoine gan puinn Gaeilge abair leo nár gá leo a bheith buartha ná aon imní a bheith orthu, mar go mbeidh a ndóthain cúnamh acu taobh amuigh



Aimsir go deas agus craic go leor !

de na ranganna agus beidh Uinsíonn i láthair chun ciorcal comhrá neamhoifigiúil a eagrú.

Luaigh mé i nuachtlitir eile go rabhamar ag smaoineamh ar chuairt a thabhairt ar an nGaeltacht in 2010.

Tá roinnt daoine áirithe le spéis sa thuras seo tar éis teagmháil a dhéanamh liom agus má tá suim ag aon duine ann ba cheart dó nó di glaoch a chuir ormsa ar 0423 080 677 chun a thuille eolais a fháil.

Is mise le meas,  
Deirdre

## San Eagrán Seo..

Daonscoil 2009 ag teacht !	1
Iora Rua	2
What's on the special liftout	3
President's year-end message	3
M.A. Sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach	4
David McWilliams - cé hé ?	5
EasyIrish from RTE	6
Des Bishop	6
GCSE Gaeilge le cloisint	7
Gaeilge le Mark Daly	7
Cad atá ar siúl anseo ?	7

## Cúrsa páirtaimseartha le fáil

**I**n a recent edition of an *Fhuinneog Ghaelach* we explained the Common European Framework and what it means for students of all European languages, including Irish. (see issue 23, page 2 - ed)

Some readers have asked if a course exists

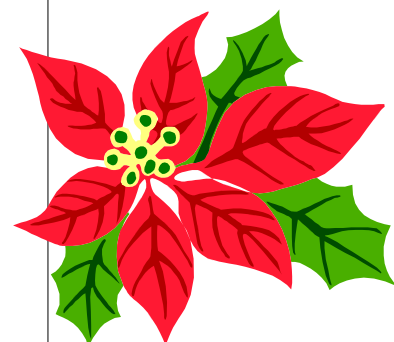
anywhere that could take you to level C2 and what kinds of jobs would be open to someone with this level of proficiency.

The School of Languages in Dublin Institute of Technology now offers a two year part time course leading to

an M.A. in Applied Irish.

This is aimed at those who wish to use Irish in a professional role eg translators, proof readers, teachers, public servants etc .

Full details are on page 4 of this issue.



## [www.iorarua.com](http://www.iorarua.com)

Our friends in NSW must be nuts about Irish. That's the only possible conclusion after looking at the great new website and merchandise available from Iora Rua.



The site is the brainchild of Elke Watson and Craig (the Fintan) Batty who will be well known to attendees at our annual Daonscoil. It is primarily designed to encourage and assist learners but goes beyond the normal listings of classes and resources and invites people to make use of whatever Irish they have.

For example, you can take part in the monthly contest to put a caption on a picture, add your favourite recipe, upload a video clip for all the world to see or even

throw in a few ideas for discussion about new words or phrases that would be useful in Irish.

And of course, in the spirit of global co-operation the site also invites translations for idioms found in Australian, American and Canadian English as well as in Japanese.

But coming up to year end, the big news right now is the availability of two newly designed Irish language calendars for 2009. One is suitable for wall mounting, A4 size, in full colour and featuring a series of original oil paintings of Irish scenes by artist Caoimhghín Ó Croidheáin.

Or you can go for the handy desktop sized calendar entitled "Tuigim Anois" (Now I get it) which comes with its own CD sized case/stand and featuring learning material and activities. It is also supported by its own dedicated companion website which features translations of the content in the calendar, games and activities, and more...

Either of these would make a fine Christmas present, so if you want to have yours in plenty of time for the festivities, then get in quick and order direct from [www.iorarua.com](http://www.iorarua.com)

The website also has information on other merchandise currently available.

The calendars are priced at \$29.95 (wall) or \$24.95 (desk) plus postage & handling. Please contact the team directly by email to [eolas@iorarua.com](mailto:eolas@iorarua.com) if you require any further information.

Alternatively, as a special bonus offer for Daonscoil attendees this year, you can arrange to pick up your calendars in person at the camp for the special discounted prices of \$28/\$23 or \$50 for both. But you must place your order now. A bargain indeed !



Iora Rua = Red Squirrel for the uninitiated.

Ever wondered how a website like this works ? We hope to feature an interview with Elke in our next issue and go behind the scenes to see how it all came together. Féach ar an spás seo !



## Special liftout in this issue

**M**any students are using the textbook "Progress In Irish" but are sometimes confused by the lack of a subject index.

The special lift-out in this edition of *An Fhuinneog Ghaelach* will help you find your way through the various topics covered in the book.

If you are using a different grammar book, see if you can make your own "roadmap"

and then compare it with this one. Where are the differences? Where are the similarities? You will soon start to see the big picture emerging.

And if you are reading the e-mail version of this newsletter, the special liftout section can be downloaded as a pdf document directly from our cumann website

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

Just look for issue 25 of *An Fhuinneog Ghaelach* and you'll see the liftout

In our next issue..... we talk with our hard working teachers about learning Irish.

How long will it take to become proficient? How do you know if you are getting anywhere? How much effort do you need to put in? What are the best textbooks for adults?

Answers to all this and more are coming in issue 26.

## President's year-end message

**H**ave you been paying attention to your teacher and doing your homework?

Then you're ready to sit your exams.

Only joking! I'm sure you're all tired at this time of year and exams would be the last thing we'd inflict on you.

However, if you did want to test your competence there is a site that has real exam questions ranging from Bun Rang right through to Ard Rang levels, and based on the school syllabus used in Ireland.

The site can be found at [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)

Check it out and bring all your questions to the teachers next year!

Our reward to you for all your hard work this year comes on Tuesday

9<sup>th</sup> December from 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the Function Room on the first floor of the Celtic Club.

There'll be a get together with our group and the Welsh, Scottish and Cornish groups.

If anyone plays an instrument, sings or tells a good yarn we would love to hear it!

Finger food will be available and drinks at bar prices. You will need to RSVP me by Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at the latest.

The Daonscoil brochures have now now been distributed. It's a great week of learning, sharing and socializing but places are limited so get your applications in fast. If you did not receive a brochure please let me know and we'll

soon have you fixed up.

Don't worry if you're an absolute beginner there will be loads of help at hand and Uinsíonn will have informal comhrá sessions to assist you.

Finally, I mentioned in a previous newsletter about the possibility of a trip to the Gaeltacht in 2010.

I've had several enquiries about it which is promising.

Don't forget to ring me on 0423 080 677 or email us here at

[Daonscoil@gmail.com](mailto:Daonscoil@gmail.com)

if you want any further information on this.

Regards, Deirdre

## M.A. sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach Cúrsa páirtaimseartha dhá bhliain

**M**ás spéis leat a bheith ag obair go gairmiúil trí mheán na Gaeilge, seo an iarchéim duitse.

### Beidh an clár nua MA seo sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach oiriúnach do:

- fostaithe de chuid na hearnála poiblí atá nó a bheidh ag obair trí mheán na Gaeilge
- céimithe ar mian leo teacht i dtír ar na deiseanna fostaíochta a bheidh ar fáil in Éirinn agus san Eoraip sna blianta atá romhainn
- daoine ar mian leo poist a bhaint amach mar aistritheoirí, teangairí, dlítheangeolaithe, léitheoirí profaí agus rúnaithe
- múinteoirí scoile, daoine atá ag obair sna meáin, i gcúrsaí gnó, sa turasóireacht chultúrtha agus i réimsí gaolmhara eile

### Aidhmeanna an chlár

Beidh sé mar aidhm ag an MA sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach ardoiliúint teanga a chur ar fáil chun freastal ar an éileamh atá ann ar chéimithe a bhfuil caighdeán sármaith Gaeilge scríofa agus labhartha acu.

Agus an cúrsa MA críochnaithe go sásúil acu, beidh mic léinn tar éis leibhéal inniúlachta a bhaint amach sa Ghaeilge a chuirfidh ar a gcumas feidhmiú ar bhonn proifisiúnta i dtimpeallachtaí Gaeilge agus dátheangacha san earnáil phoiblí agus san earnáil phríobháideach (leibhéal C2 den Fhráma Tagartha Comónta Eorpach do na Teangacha).

### Eolas ginearálta

- Is cúrsa páirtaimseartha dhá bhliain thar ceithre sheimeastar é an MA sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach.
- Tosóidh an cúrsa i mí Eanáir.
- Beidh na ranganna ar siúl tráthnóna amháin sa tseachtain, 6.00 - 9.00 p.m., le linn Sheimeastair 1-3. Beidh ar mhic léinn freastal ar thrí cheardlann Sathairn i ngach seimeastar (ceithre huairé an chloig an ceann).
- Beidh rogha i Seimeastar 4 idir miontráchtas traidisiúnta a scríobh agus punann atá bainteach le riachtanais ghairmiúla nó le sainréimsí spéise an mhic léinn sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach a thiomsú.
- Foireann ITBÁC, Gaelchultúr Teoranta

([www.gaelchultur.com](http://www.gaelchultur.com)) agus aoi-léachtóirí ó earnáil na Gaeilge Feidhmí a mhúinfidh an cúrsa.

- Cuirfear scoláireacht ar fáil dóibh siúd a n-éireoidh leo áit a fháil ar an gcúrsa.

### Riachtanais iontrála

Beidh iarrthóirí ar an gcúrsa seo ina gcéimithe le honóracha (grád 2.2 nó níos airde), nó a chomhionann, le Gaeilge nó le disciplíní eile atá in ann a léiriú go bhfuil leibhéal cumais sa Ghaeilge acu ar ionann é agus B1 ar an bhFráma Tagartha Comónta Eorpach do na Teangacha. Beidh ar gach iarrthóir dul faoi thástáil teanga.

### Foirm iarratais agus tuilleadh eolais

Suíomh:

**gailgefheidhmeach.dit.ie**

Ríomhphost:

**gfheidhmeach@dit.ie**

Teileafón: 01-402 2828

Seoladh:

MA sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach,  
Scoil na dTeangacha,  
DIT, Sráid Chaoimhín,  
Baile Átha Cliath 8



**HEA**

Higher Education Authority  
An tÚdarás um Ard-Oideachas



## David McWilliams - cé hé?

**F**ear atá ar theanga gach Éireannach ná David McWilliams. Bhuel is eacnamaí an-thábhachtach é.

Thuar sé (deirtear) an Boom a tharla in Éirinn 'sna 90's. D'oibrigh sé i mbancanna thar lear go speisialta san Eoraip. Tá go leor le rá aige agus scríobh sé dhá leabhar ar an gCeltic Tiger- *All the Pope's Children* agus *The Generation Game*. Fiú amháin, thug RTÉ an seans dó chun clár faisnéise a dhéanamh bunaithe ar an ábhar sin.

Sa chéad leabhar, *Pope's Children*, tugann sé ainmneacha suimiúla do ghrúpaí daoine chun idirdhealú a dhéanamh mar shampla - Kells Angels - daoine ó Bhaile Átha Cliath a bhog go Co. na Mí toisc go bhfuil na tithe níos saoire. RoboPaddy-Éireannaigh a cheannaíonn tithe agus estáit réadach chun iad a ligint ar cíos. *Pope's Children* ná an grúpa a rugadh 9 mhí

tar éis an chuairt ón bPápa i 1979. In aon chor, is scéal an-suimiúil atá le fáil ann.

Cuireann sé na fíoraíocht le chéile agus go simplí. I slí greannmhar, is féidir leat tú féin a fheiceáil ann nó daoine ó do chuid chlann sa leabhar!

Sa dara leabhar, *Generation Game*, leanann an scéal ar aghaidh, ach anois, toisc go bhfuil an leabhar níos déanaí, níl an scéal chomh gre-

annmhar. Anois tá pictiúr nua in Éirinn le daoine ann ó thíortha éagsúla - an Phólainn, an Nigéir agus an tIonchar a chuir a gcuid cultúir ar an gcultúr Éireannach.

Is é seo an leabhar leis an clár faisnéise. Molaim duit na leabhair seo a léamh chun pictiúr d'Éirinn nua aimseartha a fháil.

Níos mó eolas le fáil ar [www.davidmcwilliams.ie](http://www.davidmcwilliams.ie)



### Key Dates for December-January-February

<b>2 Dec</b>	<b>Last class of fourth term for 2008</b>
<b>9 Dec</b>	<b>Year end party (first floor Celtic club)</b>
<b>16 Dec</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>23rd Dec</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>30th Dec</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>4-11 Jan</b>	<b>Daonscoil at Bacchus Marsh, Vic</b>
<b>13 Jan</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>20 Jan</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>27 Jan</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>3rd Feb</b>	<b>Teacher meeting</b>
<b>10th Feb</b>	<b>First class of first term for 2009</b>

Information given here about term dates is for students in Victoria only and Interstate students should always check with their local teacher.

## EasyIrish!

**E**arlier this year RTÉ commissioned a new Irish language instruction series in six parts entitled EasyIrish!.

It was published to coincide with *Seachtain na Gaeilge* in March and the audio files were distributed free on CD with the RTÉ Guide.

Irish language students living outside Ireland can now access the entire course including the audio files via the internet. The website is [www.rte.ie/easyirish](http://www.rte.ie/easyirish)

The course is designed for people who already have a little knowledge of Irish and who wish to brush up.

Once you have completed the course they recommend *Turas Teanga* as an intermediate level continuation course.

Each of the six lessons in EasyIrish! covers a different topic and contains three sample dialogs and four activities which can be done either individually or as a group.

**Aonad 1**  
Meeting people

**Aonad 2**  
The family

**Aonad 3**  
Eat your dinner !

**Aonad 4**  
Would you like to go to a film ?

**Aonad 5**  
Do you like your job ?

**Aonad 6**  
I was in Italy

The sound files on the website are in mp3 format and are quite large so these may be slow to download if you do not have a broadband connection. (*but some audio CDs may be available here, ask your teacher for details*)

As well as the course material the website also contains a useful directory of Irish language organizations, publications and other online resources for learners at all levels.

**C**omedian Des Bishop (pictured below) was born in New York but came to Ireland as a teenager.

Recently Des set himself the task of learning Irish completely from scratch for his TV series "In The Name of The Fada" which was broadcast earlier this year on RTE

Des took himself off to Leitir Mor and eleven months later he re-emerged as a fully fledged Gaeilgeoir.

How did he manage it inside a year ? Was his Irish good enough for the leaving cert ? Is there now such a thing as a NY dialect ? The answers to all these and more are revealed in the DVD of the six part series which is now available from -

RTÉ Commercial Enterprises Limited,  
Registered Office:  
Donnybrook,  
Dublin 4, Ireland.

\*\*\*\*\*





## Fancy trying your hand at examining?

You can actually listen to candidates in the GCSE Irish Language examinations held in Northern Ireland.

Below are 3 examples of the top band speaking tests performed by candidates in Summer 2005.

Go to the website below, download the candidate mark sheet in

the bottom left hand corner and then select the first recording you want to listen to.

Don't forget at the end to compare your scores with those of the actual examiner who marked the test and take a look at what they had to say about the candidate's performance

Each candidate has 3 sections of audio in the exam (namely Role play, Presentation, and Conversation)

**I**rish senator Mark Daly has announced on his website that he is taking weekly Irish lessons, and has compiled a useful page of words and phrases, entitled *Using Irish At Work*. Here are some samples for starting and ending letters/ emails

A Chara / A Chairde (*singl./ plur.*) - *Informal*

A Dhuine Uasail / A Dhaoine Uaisle - (*Sing./ plur.*) - *Formal*

A Thaoisigh Uasail, A Thánaiste Uasail, A Cheann Comhairle  
A Leas-Cheann Comhairle, A Aire \_\_\_ Uasail (Minister),

A Aire Stáit Uasail, A Sheanadóir, a chara, A Theachta, a chara

Is mise le meas - *Yours sincerely*

Le dea-mhéin - *With best wishes*

<http://www.senatormarkdaly.com/site/>

[www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/irish/gcse/speaking\\_tests/index.asp](http://www.rewardinglearning.org.uk/microsites/irish/gcse/speaking_tests/index.asp)

## Cad atá ar siúl anseo ?

**T**his year the Cumann committee has decided to try and re-establish contact with everyone who was ever a member or who came to our Daonscoil as a visitor.

This was done by organising a special mail-out of Christmas cards to everyone for whom we have a postal address.

It turned out to be a very big operation indeed and our volunteers needed to be refreshed periodically with something from the bar.

Some needed more refreshment than others but we got there eventually.

If you did not get a card in the post then it's because we don't have a

current postal address for you. Maybe you changed address and forgot to tell us.

Use the form on the back page of this news-



letter to let us know where you reside these days, and if you wish to join or renew your Cumann membership

then that's even better and our membership secretary will be delighted to hear from you. All memberships run from 1<sup>st</sup> January to

31<sup>st</sup> December 2009, so now is the time to get organised and make sure you are safely back on our membership list.

Our resident mathematician has worked that it costs only eight cents a day to be a member.

So don't be afraid of breaking the bank, go ahead and indulge yourself, and while you're at it check out our new range of merchandise that will be appearing in the new year.

But sadly, time catches up with everyone and six of our former members are now deceased.

Our condolences go to their families and please remember them in your prayers.

- and our seven hard working volunteers were (clockwise from left) Deirdre, Justin, Seán, Vincent, Maurice, Mark and Gerry

*Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile Teo*

Éarlamh: Máire Mhic Ghiolla Íosa

*IRISH LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.*

Patron: Mary McAleese, President of Ireland

Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile, the Irish Language Association of Australia is a non-profit organisation run entirely by volunteer tutors and a voluntary committee of management. Its aim is to promote the Gaelic language as a second language within the Australian community, and to form networks with other cultural, heritage and Gaelic-speaking groups.

Formally established back in 1992, the ILAA offers structured weekly language classes to students of all ages, nationalities, and walks of life, across a range of levels — absolute beginners, basic, intermediate, advanced — as well as the opportunity to practice and converse together in a supportive environment.

Members receive a quarterly newsletter; access to the library; and also enjoy weekly singing and informal conversation sessions; as well as participation in social events and residential language schools.

Irish Language Association of Australia Inc., 320 Queen Street, Melbourne VIC, 3000.

**Annual Membership Application or notification of change  
of address, telephone number, mobile, email.**

New Membership     Renewal     Update

Sloinne .....  
(surname)

Guthán bh) .....  
(phone)

Céad ainm .....  
(first name)

ah) .....

Seoladh .....  
(address)

Fón .....  
(mobile)

.....

Ríomhphost .....  
(email)

Membership fee is \$30 per annum and due each January. Class fee is \$4 per week.