



Bi bródúil as do theanga

An Fhuinneog Ghaelach

Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile

Samhradh 2013-14
1-12-2013

Bliain Imithe agus Bliain ag Teacht

Tá súil agam go mbeidh Nollag Shona agaibh go léir. Is deacair é a chreidiúint ach tá an bhliain imithe agus beidh 2014 ag teacht go luath.

Ba é 2013 *"Bliain na Gaeilge"*, an raibh tú ábalta do chuspóir féin a shroiceadh? Is dushlán mór é teanga nua a fhoghlaim, níl morán ama againn na laethanta seo agus bíonn rudaí eile le déanamh gach lá.

An freagra? Déan iarracht freastal ar an Daonscoil, fiú amháin ar feadh cúpla lá. Is maith an rud a bheith tumtha ins an chultúr agus an teanga - beidh tú ag smaoineamh i nGaeilge nuair a bhíonn tú ann!

Ádh mór ar Val agus a bhean chéile ar an turas



Cad a tharla anseo? Féach ar leathanach 2

stairiúil go hÉirinn nuair a bronnfar céim dochtúireachta onórach air in Ollscoil na hÉireann.

Chuala mé ó runaí an Uachtaráin Micheál D. Ó hUigín go bhfuil ár gcuireadh ag dul faoin a

bhráid.

Tá súil agam go bhfuil gach rang ag ullmhú rud éigin le haghaidh an chóisir Nollag ar an 17ú de Nollag.

Greg

San Eagrán Seo..

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Key Dates for Dec, Jan, Feb 2013-14

5th Dec	Committee meeting
10th Dec	Last class for term 4
17th Dec	Year end party
5th-12th Jan	Daonscoil at Lake Dewar
14th & 21st Jan	Summer break
28th Jan	First class of term 1
6th Feb	First committee meeting for 2014

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

www.gaeilgesanastrail.com

Irish Language classes each Tuesday during school terms 7:30 pm in the Celtic Club Melbourne

An Cruinniú Mór in Éirinn, Mí Iúil 2013

Bhí mo chlann agus mé féin in Éirinn do mhí Iúil ar fad. Bhíomar ar muin na muice mar bhí an aimsir go hálainn agus nuair a bhíonn a leithéid sin d'aimsire ann, caithfear a rá go bfuil an oileán beag glas sin ar ceann de na tíortha is áille ar domhan.

Feictear na radharcanna cáiliúla, mar Aillte an Mhothair /Cliffs of Moher, i gContae an Chláir agus Sliabh Liag/Slieve League i nDún na nGall, go soléir ach ceapaim go bhfuil siad álainn freisin i measc na scamail agus an ceo.

Bhí fáilte Uí Cheallaigh romhainn nuair a shroicheamar Baile Átha Cliath, an áit inar tógadh mé agus bhuaill mo thuisti linn ag an aerfort. Ba é seo an chéad uair a bhí mo chlann Astrálach go léir ar ais in Éirinn le sé bliana anuas!

Chaitheamar cúpla lá ag iniúchadh baile m'óige. Chonaiceamar an Leabhar Cheannais agus an Seomra Fada (leabharlann iontach, stairiúil i gColáiste na Tríonóide). Chonaiceamar an chruit/chláirseach is sinne in Éirinn (deirtear gur ó ré Brian Ború í).

Bhí athás mór ar m'iníon Laura. Cheap an bheirt chailíní go raibh cuma den Scoil Hogwarths i scéalta Harry Potter ar na háiteanna! Thaitin an "Viking Splash" go mór linn freisin. Sin turas i gcarranna a d'úsáid na saighdiúirí Meiriceánacha i rith an Dara Cogadh Domhanda nuair a bhí siad ag tuirlingt ar na trána i Normandy ar D-Day. DUKW an t-ainm atá orthu.

Deirtear gur tógadh iad ag na mná mar bhí na fir thar lear ag troid! Is féidir iad a thiomáint ar an mbóthar nó dul mar bhád san uisce. Bhunaigh na Lochlannaigh an chathair, Baile Átha Cliath, Dubh Linn an t-ainm a tugadh uirthi ag an aois sin.

Turas stairiúil agus greannmhar ar fud na chathrach ab ea é. Bhí orainn na hataí Lochlannaigh a chaitheamh i rith an turais- na cinn leis na hadharcanna! Chuamar ar abhainn an Life freisin. Chonaiceamar stiúideonna fuaime de U2 ón uisce. Ní thacamar Bono ag siúl trasna an uisce, afách!



Ba í an bhliain seo caite an céadú comóradh de himeacht an Titanic go tóin na farraige ar an cúigiú lá déag d'Aibreáin, míle naoi gcéad is a dó dhéag. Ní raibh sí ar an bhfarraige (an chéad turas) ach ar feadh ceithre lá nuair a cailleadh í. Tógadh í i longcheárta Harland & Wolf i mBéal Feirste.

Chuaigh an cúigear dinn ann ar an traein - mo bhean chéile, an bheirt iníonacha agus an mac óg agus mé féin. B'é seo mo chéad turas go Béal Feirste...cé gur tógadh mé síos an chósta beagnach dhá uair ar an traein! Bhí "Na Trioblóidí" ar siúl nuair a bhíos ag fás aníos agus de thoradh bhí sinne sa Deisceart drogallach dul ann. Ó tharla go raibh an ócáid seo chóngrach don "12th of July", i rith an Séasúr Máirseála/ Marching Season, chuamar ar an traein ó stáisiún Connolly. Dúradh linn go raibh baol ann a





bheith i ngluaisteáin le plátaí uimhreacha ón Deisceart!

Taispeántas an shuimiúil ar fad a bhí ann.

Cúpla fírinne faoin long mór sin:

- Bhí sí ar an long is mó sa domhan a tógadh ag an am sin.
- Bhuail sí le cnoc oighir ar an slí go Nua Eabharc.
- Bháigh nó d'éag tar éis an tubaiste idir 1,490 agus 1,600 daoine. Tháinig níos lú ná an tríú cuid de na paisinéirí slán.
- Ní raibh a ndóthan báid tarrthála ann.
- Tá a lán de na daoine a bháigh adhlactha i Halifax i gCeanada.
- Bhí ceithre simléir ar an long. Tháinig gal as trí cinn ach ní raibh an ceathrú ceann ann ach chun cuma níos galánta a chur ar an long! Ach lig sé an ghaoth tríd, saghas aerú a bhí ann.
- Ar bord bhí Bruce Ismay stiúirtheoir White Star Line an comhlacht gur leo an Titanic. Sa scannán is deireanaí léirítear gur chaith sé éadaí mná chun éalú ar bád tarrthála. Chaith sé an chuid is mó dá shaol faoi náire agus faoi cheilt ón bpobal i gConnamara! Ní fheadar ar fhoghlaim sé cúpla focal as Gaeilge!?!?

Chuamar go dtí an Ionad Fionnachtain W5 in aice le foirgneamh an Titanic freisin. Bhí cluichí eolaíochta ann. Mar shampla bhí léasair agus scátháin draíochta ann. Bhí m'ínion is sinne Laura ag seinm na cláirsí le léasair gan streanga ann!

An lá ina dhiaidh sin chuamar go Cóbh i gCorcaigh. Bhí mé ag tiomáint charr m'athair. Táim an bhuíoch dó.

Is beag nár thit na daoine i gCóbh i laige nuair a chuala siad go rabhamar i mBéal Feirste an lá roimhe sin – sin ar an taobh eile den tír, i bhfad uainn anseo a dúirt siad! In intinn mhuintir na hÉireann tá trí chéad míle cosúil le b'fhéidir míle míle san Astráil!

Queenstown an sean ainm a bhí ar Cóbh. Tagann an t-ainm Cóbh ón Béarla "Cove" mar sin níl ann ach béarlachas ar aon chuma.



Is í Queenstown/Cóbh an cuan deireanach a d'fhág an long sular chuaigh sí go tóin an Aigéin Atlantach.

Chonaiceamar an cé ón ar fhág na Báid Phoist ar a mbealach go dtí an Titanic a bhí ar ancaire in aice le Haulbowline Island (Inis Sionnach). Bhíomar ag smaoineamh eadrainn féin...san lá atá inniu ann le ríomh-phoist ní bhéadh gá ann ar cor ar bith don iomarcha sin málaí phoist agus de thoradh bhéadh níos mó spás ar bórd le haghaidh báid tarrthála breise! Tá ceanncheathrú de Chabhlaigh na hÉireann suite ar Inis Sionnach. D'fhan Mossie ann nuair a bhí sé ag traenáil chun a bheith ina mhairnéalach.

Chuamar go taispeántas faoi na heisimircigh. Bhí dealbh ann de Annie Moore agus a beirt pháistí. Ba í Annie an chéad duine a ligeadh isteach go dtí na Stáit Aontaithe nuair a bhunaíodh ionad na hinimircigh ag Ellis Island.

Is é Cóbh an baile inar rugadh Sonia O'Sullivan, an reathaí cailiúil, agus Jack Doyle – "The Gorgeous Gael" – an dornálaí a chuaigh go Hollywood sna daithidí. Bhí a iar-bhean, Movita, pósta le Marlon Brando nuair a scar sí le Jack. Bhí sé bocht agus alcólach agus gan pingin rua aige i Londain, nuair a d'éag sé b'fhéidir tríocha bhlian ó shin. Tá dealbh ar a shon ann i bpáirc i gCóbh.

Thóg an tAthair Brown, Íosánach, go leor grianghraif ar bord an Titanic agus is iad na grianghraif sin na cinn is deireanaí den long atá le fáil. Bhí sé féin chun dul ar an turas go Nua Eabharc ach níor thug an tEaspag cead dó! Tá an tádhrá orainn gur mhair sé níos faide mar tá bailiúchán saibhir de grianghraif tógtha aige i rith a shaol...go mór mór faoi gnáth mhuintir na hÉireann. Aithneodh an chuid is mó daoibhse iad ins na leabhair faoi amhráin tíre na hÉireann (imleabhar amháin go dtí a ceathair) "Ireland the Songs".



Thiomáineamar go Killorglin i gCiarraí agus go dtí an Daingean. Bhuail mé le Mossie Ó Scanlán agus an dochtúr óg Andrias Ó Regán a bhí ag freastal ar an Daonscoil 2013 ar feadh dhá lá. Bhí an bheirt acu an-chineálta dúinn agus bhí siad mar treoraithe turasóireachta dúinn ar feadh cúpla lá. Bhain na páistí an-sult as bualadh le Fungie an deif mar bhí mo bhean chéile Sandy ag snámh leis beagnach fiche bliain ó shin!

D'fhanamar ar feadh oíche i gCeann Trá sa Ghaeltacht in aice le teach tábhairne Páidí Ó Sé, an iar-pheileadóir cailiúil

a fuar bás go tobann le déanaí, ar dheis Dé a anam. Bhí seans agam mo chuid Ghaeilge a cleachtadh le bean an tí agus an teaghlach!

Chuamar trasna an Sionnain i mbád farantóireachta ó Tarbert i gCiarraí go Killimer i gContae an Chláir. Thiomáin muid go Doolin. D'fhanamar ar fheirm in aice le Aillte an Mhothair, luaite thuas, agus an lá ina dhiaidh chuamar go dtí Inis Thoir. Is é an oileán is lú de na hOileáin Árann agus an cheann is chóngrarái don mhórhír.



Bhí trá álainn ann le gaineamh bán. Chuamar ag snámh. Fuaireamar síob timpeall an oileáin i gcarráiste beag a bhí tarraingthe le pónaí.

Bhí seans ag beirt m'ínionacha an carráiste a thiomáint freisin agus las a naghaidh suas agus bhí mionghaire leathan orthu ar feadh an lae le gliondar chroí. Cainteóir dúchais ab ea an tiománaí, Criostóir, a rugadh ar an oileán. Bhí comhrá deas eadrainn as Gaeilge chomh fada is nach raibh sé ag labhairt ró-tapa!

Chaitheamar an chuid is mó d'ár gcuid ama le mo thuisti agus mo chlann i Mullaghmore i gContae Sligeach. Sin an áit inar chaith mé an chuid is mó de mo laethanta saoire agus mé im' bhuachaill óg. Bhíomar ag seoltóireacht agus ag rásaíocht agus ag iascaireacht beagnach gach lá. Chuamar ag marcaíocht ar chapail ar an trá lá amháin. Bhí capall beag ag mo mhac óg leis an t-ainm "Leprechaun". Tá tigh samhraidh ann ag mo thuisti agus ag mo dheirfiúr is sinne agus iad in aice a chéile. Is é an áit is fearr domsa sa domhan. Bhí cruinniú mór ann le m'aintín, m'uncail, colceathracha, mo triúir dheifíuracha agus mo dheartháir agus a bpáistí féin. B'é an chéad uair riamh a bhíomar bailithe le chéile i seomra amháin. Tar éis



cóisir mhór ar oíche áirithe bhí puball mór curtha in airde ag m'athair ins a ghairdín ar cúl an tí agus chaitheamar an oíche ag canadh agus ag scéalaíocht ann. Am an speisialta ab ea é. Is annamh a tharlaíonn ocáidí mar sin i saol an duine. D'imigh formhór de muintir na háite ón Lord Palmerston Estate i Mullaghmore go Quebec i gCeanada tar éis an Gorta Mór. Bhí sliocht na ndaoine sin i Mullaghmore nuair a bhíomar ann mar bhí taispeántas faoin nGorta Mór ar siúl. Tógadh an cuan i Mullaghmore de thoradh scéim faoisimh ghorta. B'é sean athair den t-údar Robert Louis Stephenson a scríobh "Treasure Island", "Kidnapped" srl. a bhí mar phríomh innealtóir ar an scéim.

Lá amháin chuamar go Ghleann Cholm Cille i nDún na nGall. Bhí samplaí de tithe ceann tuí ann ins an "Folk Village" ón seachtú aois déag, an t-ochtú aois déag agus an naoiú aois déag. Rud suimúil a d'fhoghlamar ann... cé go raibh na gnáth mhuintir ní ba ghiorra fadó, mar ní raibh a ndótháin de bia folláin le nithe acu, bhí a leabacha ana-ghearr ar fad. Ba é an chúis le sin ná go raibh an eitinn TB (tuberculosis) forleathan agus d'fhan daoine in a shuí sa leaba ina gcodladh chun anáilú níos éasca. Bhí baol ann dá bhfhanfadh siad sínte amach cosúil le corp marbh nach ndúiseodh siad! Nach an-bhrónach é sin agus rian den saol cruaidh a d'fhulaing siad? Bhí seans eile



agam mo chuid Gaeilge a chleachtadh. Thug mé cuairt ar Oideas Gaeil agus cheannaigh mé feadóg stáin, t-léine agus cúpla leabhar.

Bhí áthas mór orm go raibh seans agam cultúr mo shinsir agus áilleacht na tíre a thaispeáint do mo chlann Astrálach. Bhí áthas orm chomh maith bualadh le mo chlann Éireannach arís agus iad sláintiúil agus áthasach d'ainneoin an cúlú eacnamaíochta. Fanfaidh na laethanta sin inár gcuimhne go deo!

Ed Sheeran – ag dul abhaile ?

Tá an ghruaig is deirge a chonaic tú riamh ag ealaíontóir gradambhuaigh Ed Sheeran agus is dócha gur leor é sin chun saoránacht Éireannach a fháil fiú gan a sheantuismitheoirí Éireannacha.

Fiú sin, ardaíonn sé a dhintiúr le tattoo ar a lámh dheis a léann “Nuair is gá dom fháil abhaile is tú mo réalt eolais”.

Tá leaganacha eile le fáil agus níl aon amhras ann go bhfuil siad scríofa ag morán lámh ar fud an domhain, ach sin é an leagan atá úsáidte ag Ed.

Má tá suim agat sa cheol agus tusa sa mhargadh le haghaidh giotár nua a cheannach, féach ar an “LX1E Ed Sheeran” déanta ag Martin Guitars agus le feiceáil anseo sa ghrianghraf. Téann sciar Ed de na fáiltais chuig Ospís Leanaí Anglia Thoir www.each.org.uk

Award-winning artist Ed Sheeran has the reddest hair you ever saw and that alone would probably be enough to get him Irish citizenship even without his Irish grandparents.

Even so, he boosts his credentials with a tattoo on his right arm that reads Nuair is gá dom fháil abhaile is tú mo réalt eolais. When I need to get back home you're my guiding light.

Other versions of this do exist and no doubt appear on quite a few arms around the world but that's the version our Ed has used.

If you are interested in music and are in the market for a new guitar check out the Ed Sheeran signature edition model LX1E



made by Martin Guitars and seen here in the photo. Ed's share from the proceeds goes to the East Anglia Children's Hospice www.each.org.uk

Daonscoil 2014 - all your question answered

Daonscoil is our big annual event that takes place in January with attendees from around Australia and even some overseas visitors. We recently caught up with our secretary Mary Kelly who was keen to tell us all about what goes into making Daonscoil happen.

What exactly is Daonscoil ?

It's week-long residential summer camp for learning or improving your Irish. We have different classes available from absolute beginner upwards.

Are the classes similar to what we do during the year ?

They are different in a number of important aspects and we believe this is what makes Daonscoil such a success.

Firstly, because we have a "resident population" of students for the week, the teachers can plan out the entire week in some detail so it follows a clear path and the students will see the big picture unfolding, so to speak.

Secondly, many people come from interstate so you will meet people other than your regular classmates and gain new perspectives.

And finally, the biggest bonus is that you can use your Irish all day every day if you want, and get lots of practice using what you just learnt.

How long has Daonscoil been running ?

This will be our 19th year, so it's been going almost as long as the Cumann itself. During that time we have used a few different venues around Victoria but Lake Dewar has everything we need and the cost is very reasonable.

What are the facilities like at Lake Dewar ?

Excellent. They recently extended the dining area and in the last few years have added an extra accommodation block. The camp itself encloses a large lake which is safe for swimming or canoeing and there are lots of interesting walks. The staff are extremely helpful if you need anything and of course the kitchen can handle any special dietary requirement. Just note it on your booking form.

Is it open to anyone and do I have to pay upfront ?

Yes, we will take bookings from anyone interested in the Irish language who wants to attend. Payment with booking is expected.

What does the cost include ?

You get 7 nights accommodation, all your meals including morning and afternoon tea, the Irish language classes, and all the afternoon and evening activities. There is absolutely no extra charge for anything.

Do we have to share the camp with other people ?

No, we have exclusive use of the camp for the entire week.

Are there books and learning materials for sale ?

Yes, there are books and other merchandise for sale.

Can I come for just a few days ?

Yes, there is a daily rate available. It runs from noon on your arrival day, to noon on your departure day. Attending outside these times counts as extra day(s)

Do I get a tax invoice that I can use to reclaim GST ?

As a non-profit organization we do not charge you any GST so there is none to reclaim. But you will get a confirmation letter containing a receipt number for your own records.

What about our spiritual needs ?

Mass is celebrated in Irish each morning, and there are local churches close by for other denominations.

I'm not sure what level I belong in, what should I do ?

Enroll for intermediate class, this will get your booking confirmed, and then speak to the teachers on arrival. They can advise you on the most suitable level. There are always last minute changes to classes, so don't worry.

Can we BYO ?

Yes, we have made a special arrangement with the camp that allows this, although if you run out at an awkward time they can still sell you a bottle from the winery next door.

Are bookings still being accepted ?

Yes, we will be taking bookings right up to January. The brochure and booking form is available on our website along with maps.

If anyone would like to try their hand at teaching what do they need to do ?

Talk to Siun or Stuart immediately, they are planning the classes and allocating the teachers so they can tell you how much work is involved.

Thank you so much Mary for taking the time give us this run-down. Look forward to seeing you and lots of other Gaeilgeoiri at Lake Dewar in January !

Slán agus beannacht ó Chrissie

Greg writes.....

I hope everyone has a happy Christmas. It's hard to believe it but the year has gone and a new one is almost on us.

2013 was designated year of the Irish language. Did you manage to reach your own personal objective ? It's a huge challenge to learn a new language with so little time these days and so much to do every day.

But there is an answer. Try attending our Daonscoil, even for a couple of days if you can manage it. It's great to be immersed in the language and culture, you'll even be thinking in Irish while you're there.

We send best wishes to Val Noone and his wife Mary, who are heading off to Ireland where Val is to be awarded an honorary doctorate from the National University of Ireland.

Recently we got a reply from the private secretary to Michael D. O Higgins saying that our invitation (for him to be our patron) was currently under consideration.

Finally I hope that all the classes are looking forward to our year-end party on December 17th. It would be great if everyone had a party piece in Irish, team up with classmate if you feel shy.

Beannachtaí

Cuirimid ár mbeannachtaí chuig beirt comhalta uaisle, Micheál agus Cristóir, agus tá súil againn go mbeidh sláinte an bhradáin acu sul i bhfad.

Is í seo m'óiche dheireanach le Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile anocht. Bhí mé ag foghlaim na Gaeilge leis an gCumann le dhá bhliain anuas anois. Nuair a thosaigh mé leis an gCumann, ní raibh Gaeilge agam.

Ach i rith na seachtainí sin, le bhur dtacaíocht, d'fhoghlaim mé a lán rudaí. Go raibh míle maith agaibh le haghaidh bhur dtacaíocht agus cairdeas.

Bhain mé sult as na seachtainí ag an gCumann. Bhuail mé le daoine deasa agus tá cairde nua agam anois.

Aireoidh mé uaim gach duine! Go raibh míle maith agaibh mo chairde, "agus go dtí go mbuailimid le chéile arís, go gcoinní Dia i mbos a láimhe sibh".

Chrissie

(Tá Chrissie imithe go hÉirinn anois agus comhghairdeas di agus do Adam ar son a ngealltanais phósta)

An bád é ? An gluaisteán é ? Cad atá ann in ainm ? What's in a name ? The DUKW was so named because —

D was the manufacturer's code for 1942, the year it first saw military service,

U is short for Utility Amphibious Vehicle

K and W represent the type of front and rear transmission systems used in the design

Mar sin , cuir le céile an rud ar fad agus cad atá agatsa ? DUKW !! Over 20,000 were built during world war 2 and many are still operational just like the ones in Dublin.



Nuacht ó Rang Éamon

Ar feadh cuid mór den bhliain seo i rang Éamon bíimid in ár gcónaí san “Underbelly” de Bhaile Átha Cliath nua-aoiseach agus sinne ag léamh leabhair. Go deimhin, is áit duairc agus ainnis í.

Tá cnámha an scéil faoi drugaí, dúnmharú, daoine mí-ámharach, striapachas, iarpharamíleataigh agus briseadh chleamhnais. Ach tá rudaí an-shuimiúil ar siúl i measc na gardaí freisin: an pholaitíocht innti féin agus na slite ina n-oibríonn siad.

Ní amháin gardaí Éireannacha atá i gceist, tá gardaí Albánacha san scéal chomh maith. Is dócha go ndíolann na mangairí droch hearóin mar go nuige seo tá ceathrar striapach marbh.

Ina theannta sin, tá scéal pearsanta faoi bhangharda amháin ar siúl tríd an leabhair. Tá a h-iníon i dtrioblóid ar scoil agus ní maith lei an méid ama a chaitheann a máthair ar a post tábhachtach.

Cúpla abairt ó **Val** faoin ngníomhaíocht atá á dhéanamh againn. Cúig mhí ó shin, um thráthnóna Dé Máirt 21 Bealtaine, thug Áine iontas deas dúinn sa rang Gaeilge. Bhí cóipeanna aici de úrscéal an-shuimiúil agus thug sí dúinn iad. “Trioblóid” an teideal a bhí air agus Colmán Ó Drisceoil an t-údar. Sin scéal faoi Carla de Londra agus a dá saol: saol amháin lena h-iníon Bronagh— tá Carla colscartha óna fear chéile Matt; agus saol eile in a cuid oibre mar bhangharda sa Scuid na Mórchoireanna. Nuair a bhímid ag léamh an leabhair bíonn mé an- sásta. Tá CD ag dul leis chomh maith. Léann Fiachra Mac Gaughran an t-úrscéal ar CD le blas ceolmhar ó Chonamara. Tá a lán focal nua-aimseartha ann faoi drugaí, striapaigh, daoine colscartha agus rudaí mar sin. Míle buíochas do Áine.

Deir **Seosamh** go bhfaigheann sé sult mór as an scéal bleachtairachta seo agus cad a bheidh i ndán do’n phearsa Eileen. Ba mhaith le Seosamh an leabhar a léamh athuair.

Tá dúcheist ag **Uinsíonn** faoi na frásaí ina bhfuil focal aithnidiúil, ach is deacair na frásaí go léir a thuiscint go dtí go bhfuil siad mínithe dúinn. Ansin is éasca an chiall a fheiceáil. Ar ndóigh tá a lán focal nua foghlamtha aige freisin agus deir sé go bhfaigheann sé sult as an leabhar .

Labhrann **Muiris** faoi na daoine cluanacha sa scéal; daoine ag déileáil le drugaí ina bhfuil an rud is tábhachtaí ná an t-airgead agus déanann siad pé rud chun greim a bhreith air. Síleann sé go bhfuil an leabhar an-oiriúnach don leibhéal in ár rang agus bíonn sé i gcónaí ag tnúth leis an chaibidil le teacht.

Tá a lán

frásaí



beaga,úsáideacha agus coitianta foghlamtha againn ón leabhar seo, mar shampla:

duine ar dhuine (*one by one*)

dul chun cinn (*go ahead*)

triala a bhaint as (*to have a go*)

cá bhfágann sé sin muid? (*where does that leave us now, - what's next?*)

ní féidir a bheith róchúramach na laethanta seo (*you can't be too careful these days*)

dá ainneoin is uile (*despite all that*)

feall a dhéanamh (*do the dirty*)

ag iarraidh bob a bhualadh [ar] (*playing a trick*)

aon lá anois / ceann de na laethanta seo (*any day now*)

amhail is go raibh sí as a meabhair (*as if she was crazy*)

caithfidh sé go bhfuil rud éigin ar eolas ag duine éigin (*somebody must know something*)

idir an dá linn (*in the meantime*)

cad tá le cailliúint againn (*what have we got to lose*)

inis rud éigin dom nach bhfuil ar eolas agam (*tell me something I don't know*)

beidh thuas staighre anuas sa mhullach orthu (*it'll come down on them like a ton of bricks*)

Agus deir **Áine**. Is maith liomsa go bhfuil staidéar an- comhaimseartha á dhéanamh againn mar rud difriúil. Agus bainim ard taitheamh as an tagairt san leabhar do na háiteanna agus sráideanna i mBaile Átha Cliath, an áit ina raibh cónaí orm ar feadh tamall fada agus iontach: an Dart, Halla na Saoirse, SráidFhearchair, Scuid na Mórchoireanna, Sráid Péarsaigh. Cé chomh minic a rothaigh mé timpeall an cheantair seo!

NB: má tá deireadh an scéil ar eolas ag éinne atá ag léamh seo Ná Cuirigí In lúl Dúinn, le bhur d'toil. Ba mhaith linn sult a bhaint as sceitimíní leanúnach an leabhair seo. Mar a dúirt mé ar dtús, táimid fós in ár gcónaí san “Underbelly” seo!

The Big Gathering in Ireland, July 2013

My family and I were in Ireland for the whole month of July. We were very fortunate because the weather was beautiful and when the weather is like that in Ireland, it has to be said that this little green island is one of the most beautiful on earth. You can see the beautiful views like the Cliffs of Moher in Co. Clare and Slieve League in Co. Donegal very clearly but I think they are beautiful anyhow even amongst the clouds and the fog.

It was said to us that we had taken the temperature from Australia even though we left Australia in the middle of winter here but the opinion is widespread abroad that the sun is always shining in Australia and that we spend most of our time baking on the beach like seals!

Now that the weather in Ireland has deteriorated as a result of our departure and it is said to us that we took the fine weather back with us on the plane!

Anyhow we had a fantastic welcome awaiting us when we reached Dublin, the place where I was raised, and my parents met us at the airport. This was the first time that my Australian family were all back together in Ireland in six years.

We spent a few days exploring the town of my youth. We saw the Book of Kells and the Long Room (a wonderful and historical library in Trinity College). We saw the oldest harp in Ireland (reputedly from the era of Brian Boru). Laura was thrilled. The two girls thought that there was something reminiscent there of Hogwarts school in the Harry Potter stories!



We really enjoyed the "Viking Splash". That's a trip in vehicles that the American soldiers used during the Second World War to land on the beaches in Normandy on D-Day.

DUKW is the name given to them. It is said they were built by women because the men were overseas fighting! They can be driven on road or in the water like a boat. The Vikings founded Dublin city, Black Pool was the name they gave to it in that age. It was an historical and an amusing tour around the city. We had to wear the Viking helmets during the tour- the ones with the horns coming out of each side! We went into the water in the river Liffey too. We saw the sound studios of U2. However we did not see Bono walking across the water!

Last year was the hundredth anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic on the fifth of April, nineteen hundred and twelve. She was only on the sea (her maiden voyage) for 4 days when she was lost. She was built in Harland and Wolf shipyard in Belfast

The five of us went there on the train – my wife, the two girls and my young son and me. This was my first trip to Belfast... even though I grew up only two hours by train down the coast! "The Troubles" were on when I was growing up, we in the South were reluctant to go there as a result. Because this occasion was near the 12th of July and during the Marching Season, we went by train from Connolly Station. It is said that it is dangerous to be in a car with southern registered number plates! It was a very interesting exhibition.

A few facts about that big ship:

- It was the biggest ship in the world that was built at that time.
- She hit an iceberg on the way to New York.
- After the disaster between 1,490 and 1,600 people drowned or died. Less than a third of the passengers survived.
- There were not enough lifeboats on board.
- A lot of the people who drowned were buried in Halifax in Canada.
- There were four funnels on the ship. Steam came from three but the fourth funnel was only there to show off! It did let air through, so it was a type of air conditioner.
- The director of the "White Star Line", the company that owned the Titanic, was Bruce Ismay. In the most recent film he is portrayed as wearing women's clothing in order to escape on a lifeboat. He spent most of his life in shame and hidden from the public in Connamara. I wonder did he speak a few words in Irish!!?

We went to the W5 Discovery Centre beside the Titanic

building also. There were games there with scientific themes. For example there were lasers and magical mirrors. My eldest daughter Laura was playing a laser harp without any strings!



The next day we went to Cobh in Cork. I was driving my Dad's car. I am very grateful to him.

The people in Cobh nearly fell with shock when they heard that we were in Belfast the previous day – that's the other side of the country, far from us here was what was said! In the mentality of the Irish three hundred miles in Ireland is like maybe 1000 miles in Australia!

Queenstown is the old name the English gave her. The name Cobh comes from Cove so really it is an Anglicised name anyhow.

Queenstown/Cobh was the last port that the ship left before she sank to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean.

We saw the quay where the mail boats left on their way to the Titanic that was at anchor beside Haulbowline Island (Island of the Foxes). We were thinking to ourselves... today with e-mails there would have been no need at all for so many mail bags and as a result there would be more space on board for extra lifeboats! The headquarters of the Irish Navy are located at Haulbowline Island. Mossie stayed there when he was training to become a sailor.



We went to a presentation about emigration. There was a statue there of Annie Moore and her two children. Annie was the first person that was admitted to the United States when the immigration centre was established at Ellis Island.

Cobh is the town where Sonia O'Sullivan was born, the famous runner, and also Jack Doyle – "The Gorgeous Gael" – the boxer who went to Hollywood in the Forties. His ex-wife, Movita, was married to Marlon Brando when she left Jack. He died poor, alcoholic and penniless in London, maybe about 30 years ago. There was a statue of him there in a park in Cobh.

Father Brown, the Jesuit priest, took a lot of photographs on board the Titanic and it is those photographs that were the last ever taken of her. He himself was set to go on the voyage to New York but the Bishop did not give him permission. We are lucky that he survived for longer because there is a rich collection of photographs taken by him of the ordinary Irish people. Most of you would recognize them from the books about the folk songs of Ireland (volume one to four) "Ireland the Songs".

We drove to Killorglin in Kerry and to Dingle. We met Mossie Scanlon and the young doctor Andrew O'Regan who attended for 2 days at the Daonscoil 2013. The two of them were very kind to us and were like tour guides to us for a few days. The children enjoyed meeting Fungie the dolphin because my wife Sandy was swimming with him nearly twenty years before that!



We stayed in Ceann Trá in the Gaeltacht near Paudie O'Shea's pub, the ex-footballer who died suddenly recently, God rest him. I had a chance to practice my Irish with the lady of the house and her household.

We crossed the Shannon by car ferry from Tarbert in Kerry to Killimer in County Clare. We drove to Doolin and stayed in a farm beside the Cliffs of Moher, mentioned above, and the next day we went to Inis Thoir. It is the smallest of the Arran Islands and the nearest to the mainland.

There was a beautiful beach there with white sand. We



went swimming. We got a lift around the island in a pony and trap. My two daughters each had a chance to drive the trap as well and their faces lit up and they had broad smiles for the rest of the day with pure joy. The driver Christopher was a native speaker and he was born on the island. We had a lovely conversation between us in Irish as long as he didn't speak too quickly!



We spent the majority of our time with my parents and family in Mullaghmore in Co. Sligo. That's the place where I spent most of my holidays when I was a young boy. We were sailing and racing and fishing nearly every day. We went horse riding along the beach one day. My young son had a small horse that was called "Leprechaun". My parents and my eldest sister have holiday houses beside each other there. It's the place I prefer in all of the world. We had a big gathering with my aunts and uncles, cousins, my three sisters and my brother and our respective children. It was the first time ever that we were all gathered together in the one room. After the party that we had on a particular night my Dad had erected a large tent in his back garden and we spent the night singing and story telling. It was a special time. It is seldom occasions like that happen in a person's lifetime.



The majority of the people of Mullaghmore from Lord Palmerston's estate left for Quebec in Canada after the Great Famine. Descendants of those people were in Mullaghmore while we were there because there was an exhibition about the Great Famine happening in Mullaghmore. The harbor in Mullaghmore was built as a result of a famine relief scheme. The principal engineer who built it was the grandfather of the author

Robert Louis Stephenson who wrote "Treasure Island", "Kidnapped", etc.

One day we went to Glen Colmcille in Donegal. There were examples of thatched houses there in the "Folk Village" from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. An interesting thing that we learned there—although the ordinary people were smaller then, because they didn't have enough healthy food to eat, their beds were really short. The reason was that TB (tuberculosis) was rife and people went asleep sitting upright in order to breathe more easily. It was thought that there was a risk that if they remained stretched out like a dead body that they would not wake up! Isn't that very sad and a sign of the hard life they had?

I had another chance to practice my Irish. I visited Oideas Gaeil and bought a tin whistle, t-shirt and a few books.



I was delighted that I got a chance to show the culture of my ancestors and the beauty of the countryside to my Australian family. I was delighted too to meet my Irish family again and to see them healthy and happy despite the economic recession. Those days will stay in our memories forever!

*Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile Teo**IRISH LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.*

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.

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