

BOSTON IRISH TOURISM ASSOCIATION

TRAVEL & Culture Guide

Spring 2014

**Irish Music, Dance & Culture
Massachusetts & New England**

**Boston's Irish Heritage Trail
A Walk through History**

**Ireland
The Wild Atlantic Way**



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Table of Contents	3
Image Credits	
Greetings	4
Tom McNaught: Praised for JFK Library Work	5
Irish Music Round-Up This Spring	6-7
Burren Back Room Series	7
Ian Pullan - - From Clare to Here	8
Boston Pops – Playing America’s Greatest Hits	9
Virginia Greenblatt – Irish Imports	10
Irish Heritage Trail Walking Tour	11
Irish Music Producers Brian O’Donovan Russell Gusetti	12
Cultural Events Calendar	14-15
St. Patrick’s Day Notes	16
St. Patrick’s Day Parades	17
Brendan Tonra - Boston’s Fine Music Maker	18
ICC Celebrates 25 th Anniversary	19
BITA Sponsors & Members	20
In The News Sessions at the Chatham Fiddle Company Two Sides of a Coyne Grace Bay	21
From The Bookshelf: Machine Made: Tammany Hall and the Creation of Modern American Politics Who’s Your Paddy: Racial Expectations and the Struggle for Irish American Identity Frog Music A Novel	22
IRELAND The Wild Atlantic Way Limerick: 2014 City of Culture Tours to Ireland Gannon’s Music Shop in Spiddal	23 24 24 25

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The Boston Irish Tourism Association is a membership organization that promotes the state’s Irish culture and hospitality industry year round to the travel and visitors industry. BITA works to strengthen tourism ties between Massachusetts, Ireland, Canada and the other New England states.





An early description of St. Patrick's Day in Boston was described as "a happy day devoted to mirth and festivity." Today, people all over Boston, Massachusetts, and the world gather to celebrate their Irish heritage, and particularly this year in New England, to usher in spring.

Massachusetts has a unique connection to St. Patrick's Day: the first parade took place in Boston in 1737, when the newly-formed Charitable Irish Society marched up Tremont Street to celebrate Ireland's patron saint. And today, Massachusetts is the most Irish-American state in the USA, with 24% of residents claiming Irish ancestry.

For many Irish-Americans, St. Patrick's Day has merit beyond mirth and festivity. It's a day to take pride in one's own culture, heritage and family history. That is the focus of our Travel & Culture Guide.

To appreciate the city's Irish history, take a guided tour of Boston's Irish Heritage Trail, leaving from the Boston Common Visitors Center on March 15-17. You'll learn over 300 years of the city's illustrious Irish history.

You'll find here a full schedule of concerts and dance recitals, theater and literary events, a film festival and art exhibits, plus various

social gatherings taking place all across Massachusetts and the New England region. As always, there's a wealth of traditional Irish music (and don't forget the Boston Pops) coming our way this season in a concert hall or pub near you, which we've described starting on page six. And read what music producers Brian O'Donovan and Russell Gusetti have to say about the bands they're currently booking.

If you're looking for a gift to give a loved one this season, check out the Irish books and CDs mentioned in this issue, or make your way to the Irish Imports Ltd. Gift Shop outside of Harvard Square, for authentic Irish clothing made by master artisans in Ireland.

Speaking of Ireland, we're delighted that Aer Lingus is expanding its service between Boston's Logan International Airport and Shannon International Airport this year, offering more chances for Americans and Irish alike to visit Ireland's western counties instead of driving down from Dublin each time. The timing is perfect, since Tourism Ireland is promoting the Wild Atlantic Way route this summer, which runs from Cork up to Donegal and takes you to some prized

spots along the way.

We're proud to profile our friend Tom McNaught, who is stepping down as head of the JFK Library Foundation after 17 years of service, and we wish Tom the very best as he embarks on his cheese making career in the wilds of Vermont. And we welcome Ian Pullan, the recently arrived General Manager of the InterContinental Boston Hotel along the waterfront. We hope you and your family have a wonderful, thrilling adventure in Boston for years to come.

Our *Travel & Culture Guide* always marks the milestones in our community, and we extend our condolences to the family and friends of fiddler Brendan Tonra, who we write about on page 18. We congratulate the Irish Cultural Centre as it celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2014 as one of America's premier Irish groups. And we extend our best wishes to Dorchester's Colm Gannon and his wife Kelly, who recently opened Gannon's Traditional Irish Music shop in Spiddal, Connemara. Best wishes for an eventual spring of warmth and sunlight.

Boston Irish Tourism Association



Tom McNaught with Caroline Kennedy



Tom McNaught with Paul Kirk

They came to sing the praises of Tom McNaught. Political leaders, historians, friends and family journeyed from across the country and across the city to the JFK Library in Boston recently to personally thank the congenial, effective and popular administrator who is retiring after a 17 ½ year career at the JFK Library Foundation.

Those who couldn't make the trip send messages to Tom that were read aloud, including Caroline Kennedy, US Ambassador to Japan; Vicki Kennedy, president of the Edward M. Kennedy Institute; Chuck Daly, trusted advisor to President John. F. Kennedy; and President Barack Obama.

Among the 200 assembled guests who

spoke were former U.S. Senator Paul G. Kirk, Jr.; JFK Library Foundation chairman Ken Feinberg; JFK Library director Tom Putnam; and Gerry Doherty, long-serving board member of the JFK Library Foundation.

Also present were historian David McCullough and his wife Rosalee, Irish Consul General Breandán Ó Caollaí, and an assortment of Kennedy family members, college presidents, judges, and others who worked with Tom over the years. Tom's husband, Boston Globe writer Matthew Gilbert, attended, along with their family members.

Ambassador Kennedy praised Tom's "incredible judgment, great sense of humor and the most passionate commitment to President Kennedy's ideals and the mission of the Library," adding, "You have been a wonderful friend and collaborator, listener and teacher."

Vicki Kennedy thanked Tom for "the innumerable kindnesses you always showed to my beloved Teddy, me and all our family and for being such an extraordinarily supportive and collaborative neighbor of the Institute that bears Teddy's name."

President Obama wrote, "You have played an important role in inspiring others to carrying on (President Kennedy's) work of forging a world that is more equal and just for all."

McNaught was first hired as the communications director and rose up the ranks to become executive director of the JFK Library Foundation. He is credited with strengthening the New Frontier and Profiles in Courage Awards, coordinating events leading up to the 50th anniversary of President Kennedy's death, and initiating the groundbreaking Digital Archives project to make President Kennedy's papers more readily available.

"What an incredible gift it has been to arrive every morning at this magnificent I.M. Pei-designed memorial on Boston's waterfront with such a noble mission of preserving and promoting the ideals and legacy of President John F. Kennedy," McNaught said. He thanked the Kennedy family, the JFK Board of Directors, and his staff for their friendship and hard work over the years.

Lee Statham, director of marketing and sales at the JFK Library Foundation, was one of several staffers who came to the podium and spoke affectionately about McNaught's role as their boss.

"Tom McNaught is genuine, smart, dedicated, resourceful, organized, talented and a great person to work for," Statham said. "He represents the JFK brand in a way like no other. The lessons I have learned and the institutional knowledge he has shared are invaluable. He will truly be missed here at the Foundation but his legacy will be carried on here on Columbia Point. Working for him was exceptional."

[jfklibrary.org / irishboston.org/profile_Tom_McNaught.php](http://jfklibrary.org/irishboston.org/profile_Tom_McNaught.php)



Traveling musicians on national tours across North America love to come to New England, and for good reason. Since the early 19th century, when itinerant Irish harpists wandered through towns and rural areas, looking for a place to play (and to stay), New Englanders have welcomed musicians with open arms, and open ears. It's no coincidence that Thomas Moore's Irish Melodies were published here in 1811, just a few years after they were printed in Dublin and London.

The 21st century is no different, as dozens of touring bands, and hundreds of local bands, tune up the instruments for some of the most memorable Irish and Celtic music you're likely to hear.

A good example is the world-renowned Chieftains, led by piper and tin whistle

legend Paddy Moloney, and featuring master flutist Matt Molloy. The band first came to Boston to play at the Orpheum in November 1974, performing with Irish actress Siobhan McKenna. Since then, the band has returned almost every year, alternative between big venues like Boston Symphony Hall to smaller acoustic marvels like the Colonial Theatre in Keene, NH, where they're performing on March 11.

The Chieftains set the stage for hundreds of other top traditional ensembles to spread their music in New England, and this year's line-up is no exception. Karan Casey and Seán Keane bring the very best of traditional Irish singing, while instrumentalists like harpist Patrick Ball, fiddler Niamh Ní Charra, and the fiddle/

concertina duo of Caitlín Nic Gabhann & Ciarán Ó Maonaigh remind listeners of the amazing caliber of music coming out of Ireland. March also features popular ballad singing bands, like the Irish Rovers, and stage shows like Andy Cooney's Dublin Irish Cabaret.

The gold mine for great music each year is the St. Patrick's Celtic Sojourn concerts, hosted by Brian O'Donovan of WGBH. This year's show features Nic Gabhann & Ó Maonaigh, along with the Alan Kelly Gang, and Carlos Núñez from Galicia, Spain, a living reminder of how Celtic influences continue to reside outside of Ireland.

In addition to the touring performers, New England is home to some of the best Irish music talent anywhere in the world.



BURREN BACK ROOM SERIES

The Burren Pub
247 Elm Street
Davis Square, Somerville
617 776-6896 | Burren.com

MARCH 19

Seán Keane

APRIL 2

Sean Tyrrell

APRIL 23

Tommy Keane, Jacqueline McCarthy & Friends

MAY 14

Matt and Shannon Heaton (CD Release Party)

JUNE 4

Andy Irvine, with Marla Fibish & Bruce Victor

JUNE 25

Vishten, with Padraig Rynne & Ryan McIvor

JULY 23

Matt Cranitch, Jackie Daly & Paul De Grae

JULY 30

Teadá with Seamus Begley



Start with Séamus Connolly, Irish fiddle champion and esteemed Sullivan Artist-in-Residence at Boston College. He is performing with the Reagle Theatre Players this year, along with another champion, step-dancer Liam Harney, and members of Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann. Connolly also runs a music series at BC called Gaelic Roots, and this month he's bringing in a great duo from Rhode Island, flutist Mark Roberts and fiddler Sheila Falls, a former student of Connolly's.

Other talented locals include husband and wife duo Shannon and Matt Heaton, Galway expat and Berklee grad Katie McD, popular Celtic band Pendragon, and Robbie O'Connell.

For followers of Irish/Punk fusion, the Dropkick Murphys, Boston's hometown heroes, are performing its annual St. Patrick's Day shows March 12-16 in Boston.

March is an exciting month for Irish and Celtic music in New England, but you can find year round details on Irish music and other cultural events by visiting

irishboston.org.

IAN PULLAN - FROM CLARE TO HERE



guests and personalizing their stays. Every day is different given the diversity and caliber of our clientele and I have already met many wonderful people. For me, personally, it is nice to be so much closer to Ireland. My wife is from Southern California, so it's a perfect half way point. Schooling is excellent here. I have three children, two of whom will go into High School shortly. It is a perfect place to finally settle down.

You graduated from Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology with a degree in hotel management. Can you share the key lesson about hospitality you learned at school?

Definitely, it was getting a base knowledge of the practical and business elements of hotels. I dig into this 'tool box' on a regular basis. Having

We spoke recently with Ian Pullan, the General Manager for the InterContinental Boston Hotel, a four-Diamond luxury hotel in the heart of the city. We talked with Ian about his career, Irish background, marathon dreams and thoughts about Boston.

You've had a distinguished career managing some of the leading hotel brands in the world. What does it mean to come to Boston and preside over one of the region's finest hotels?

It is a dream come true both personally and professionally. InterContinental Hotels & Resorts is a leading international luxury brand with a significant emphasis on Responsible Business, a subject also very close to my heart. The InterContinental Boston is one of the flagships for our company. We have a world class team constantly pushing the envelope on unique and innovative ways of taking care of our

a pragmatic, common sense approach has helped me a lot adjusting to different jurisdictions and cultures. While studying Hotel Management, I worked in England, France and the U.S....this really tweaked my love of travel and I have not stopped since!

The Irish excel in the hospitality industry, where some of the best Irish characteristics – friendliness, wit, discretion and diligence – come in to play.

It is the reason why Ireland's tourism industry has flourished for so many years. Hospitality is a dominant part of our DNA. I would also add sincerity and humility to this list. Since my first job at Fitzpatrick's Shannon Shamrock at the age of sixteen, I would not consider doing anything else. I consider myself very fortunate that I get to live and work in some of the most beautiful parts of the world, meet tremendous people,

experience different cultures and learn something new every day.

You're a marathon runner, and now you're in Boston, home of the nation's oldest marathon, held in 1897. Any plans to run Boston at some point?

I have run marathons in Hawaii, Los Angeles and Vancouver (twice). Running the Boston Marathon is definitely on my list, hopefully 2015. In the meantime, I live very close to Walden Pond where the famous writer Henry David Thoreau spent time. It is a very inspiring place to run every weekend.

Growing up in Ennis, County Clare, must have given you a true appreciation of Irish culture, which flourishes around these parts. Have you had a chance to check out any Irish activities in the Boston area?

Between Celtic music and hurling, it was certainly a passionate and driven place to grow up. The first six months have been fairly hectic with the new job and getting my family settled. Exploring what Boston has to offer is definitely in the cards this summer.

The InterContinental is at the entry to Boston's Seaport District, which has a robust innovation economy and a bustling restaurant, cultural and social scene. How do you envision the hotel being part of this emerging scene in the coming months and years?

Our hotel is one of the jewels in the crown of the 'Innovation District' and along the burgeoning Fort Point Channel. It is exciting to see how this area has recently blossomed with so much more already under development or planned for the next few years. Our location has quickly become the most desirable in Boston and the hotel has evolved into an urban resort during the summer, offering a host of activities such as complimentary yoga on the waterfront. We have wonderful outdoor waterfront restaurants, bars and spaces - Miel, Rumba and Sushi Teq - all within walking distance of everything in the city. We are situated on the site where the historic Boston Tea Party took place with state-of-the-art technology and stunning modern architecture and design. This allows us to offer a unique 'bridge' for visitors to experience Boston's past, present and future.

intercontinentalboston.com

BOSTON POPS - PLAYING AMERICA'S GREATEST HITS



The Boston Pops was created in 1885, a time when vaudeville ditties, military music and parlor songs ruled popular tastes. The ideas of jazz and swing were just being formed, and classical music remained the standard by which The Pops has reflected the changing tastes of American music ever since, managing to elevate the melodies of our time with verve and technical brilliance.

The 2014 season, which runs from May 7 – June 14, continues that fine tradition, as maestro Keith Lockhart presents The Best of the Boston Pops, selecting the best arrangements from the orchestra's 3,400 works. In essence the 2014 season is a greatest hits revue of America's varied musical history.

As always, the Pops orchestra features a variety show of special guests, including Warren Hayes, Tony Award Winner Billy Porter, Conductor Sarah Hicks, actor Jason Alexander, Cirque de la Symphonie, and the Hot Sardines, alongside classic Pops arrangements of music from the Broadway stage, Gospel, American Songbook and Hollywood Film score classics. The great conductor John Williams returns to lead the ever-popular film night series.

Lockhart says that the 2014 season "combines the old with the new and unexpected in that signature Boston Pops way. Indeed, where else can you find a musical season that ranges from the music of Grateful Dead leader Jerry Garcia to music from the Wizard of Oz, which celebrates its 75th anniversary this year.

For more information, visit bso.org or call 1 888 266-1200

BOSTON POPS 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 7:
Opening Night with Jason Alexander

MAY 8, 9, 27:
Very Best of the Boston Pops

MAY 13-14:
Jerry Garcia Symphonic with Warren Haynes

MAY 28-30:
Gatsby Night

JUNE 6-7, 10-11:
Film Night with John Williams

JUNE 12-13:
Boston Pops with Melissa Etheridge



Tickets on Sale Now! bostonpops.org • 888-266-1200

For group reservations, call
800-933-4255 or email
groupsales@bso.org



ONE MINUTE WITH VIRGINIA GREENBLATT, OWNER OF IRISH IMPORTS LTD.

Virginia Greenblatt, founder and owner of Irish Imports Ltd, opened her shop in 1973 and just celebrated the shop's 40th anniversary. She imports Irish products from the very best crafts persons and artisans at Kerry Woollen Mills, Studio Donegal and Kennedys of Ardara. The shop is located between Harvard and Porter squares in Cambridge.

Congratulations to the shop on passing 40! What's the secret of your longevity?

I think we survive because we've stayed relatively small and faithful to our idea of supporting traditional crafts and small manufacturers.

What are some of the top items shoppers are looking for when they come into your store?

There is still an interest in genuine hand knit sweaters and a growing interest in blankets and throws.

Do you detect a rise in customers or inquiries around St. Patrick's Day?

Patrick's Day is always a little livelier; we have real shamrocks for sale in wee pots. It's a good time for caps and ties and a few silly things with shamrocks on them.

What's it like as a small business outside of Harvard Square, do you get a lot of walk-in traffic?

Our area is very neighborly and accessible so we are always meeting people, and lots of students and returning visitors. Irish Imports Ltd.

Irish Imports Ltd.
1738 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
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AUTHORITY

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St. Patrick's Day
from the MCCA

*May the Road
Rise to Meet You...*

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massconvention.com



MARCH 15, 16 & 17

Guided Walking Tours

Boston's Irish Heritage Trail
Visitor Information Center on
Boston Common

3 TOUR DAYS ONLY:

Saturday, March 15 @ 2pm

Sunday, March 16 @ 2pm

Monday, March 17 @ 11:00 am and 2:00 pm

Cost: \$15 for adults, \$12 for students, seniors and military,
Free for children under 12.

To celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Boston – the Capital of Irish America - BITA is offering guided tours of the Boston Irish Heritage Trail. The 75 minute walk led by an experienced tour guide takes you on 300 fascinating years of Boston's unique Irish history and heritage. You'll discover the Irish role in the Revolutionary War, learn about the 19th century Famine generation and the Irish part in the Civil War. And you'll discover famous and infamous politicians - from Curley and White to Collins and the Kennedys - who put their indelible stamp on the history of the city and the nation. Reservations are recommended to secure your spot.

irishboston.org/tours.php



“A man may die
nations may rise and fall,
but an idea lives on.”



John F. Kennedy, February 8, 1963

An Idea Lives On.

JFK Presidential Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston ★ AnIdeaLivesOn.org



Brian O'Donovan

Affable Cork man Brian O'Donovan is host of the popular Celtic Sojourn radio show, heard Saturdays from 3-6pm on WGBH. He also stages two Celtic Sojourn concerts in March and December, and hosts the Burren Back Room Series.

It's great to see young musicians like Caitlín Nic Gabhann and Ciarán Ó Maonaigh in this year's Celtic Sojourn concert. Do young musicians mostly adhere to regional traditions, or are they more broadly influenced by the various cultures they encounter in their travels?

Caitlín and Ciarán are part of a new movement that specializes in what I call "pure drop" music: playing the dances and airs they grew up listening to, but with a new energy. Their music harkens back to an older, perhaps simpler time, but is squarely lodged in the new reality. It is a living, breathing thing, vital in its existence and in no way to be retrieved from a dusty shelf as an example of "mar a bhíodh fado" (as it was long ago.) This new vibrancy is audible in the playing, and visible in its live presentation, and also indicated by the fact that these musicians are writing new tunes constantly. It's very exciting.

The Burren Back Room Series is really taking off this season. Are there certain themes at play on any given season? For example, it's interesting that Séan Keane, Sean Tyrrell and Andy Irvine - three seminal singers - are performing this season. Is that a coincidence?

The Burren Backroom is a very special place for this music. The fact that musicians Tommy McCarthy and Louise Costello founded the Burren, and that Tommy's father, the great piper, came and helped them build it, gave it the spirit of traditional musicians of past generations from both sides of the Atlantic. I am lucky to simply be the messenger as I am in many of my other endeavors. But the series has indeed now gotten a reputation, and we are getting calls every day from folks who want to be a part of it. It will continue to be a once or twice a month affair, and it has become traditional in itself for people to gather for dinner in advance, and to meet like-minded people. We're delighted to have those three iconic singers, but their grouping in the one season, is yes, coincidental.

wgbh.org/celtic
burren.com



Russell Gusetti

Russell Gusetti is executive director and performance booker of the Blackstone River Theatre in Cumberland, RI. He created the annual Solstice Festival each June, and is a founding member of Pendragon, a popular Celtic band.

Now in its 14th year, the Blackstone River Theatre has become an integral part of the Celtic music circuit for touring artists. What is the secret to your success in attracting so many well-known artists to return, year after year?

It is definitely gratifying that we have become a primary spot for Celtic music, especially since our capacity is only 165 seats. From the outset, we brought our experience as musicians to the table: what it was like to be treated well and not so well. We vowed to build an amazing sounding room and make it a truly intimate listening experience. We have one of the best acoustic sound engineers I know, and we treat all the artists with respect and true enthusiasm to have them with us. In the end, it's that simple: be nice, be helpful and love what you are doing. We consistently hear from our performers that our sound and our volunteers are among the nicest to be found anywhere. And when performers are treated well and know the sound will be great, it allows them to relax and put on the best show they can.

Blackstone seems like an incubator for artists who go on to successful careers. Do you feel like Blackstone has been instrumental in helping launch new artists?

I humbly hope that is what we have done and will continue to do. In reality, we are a small, nonprofit venue with only one paid staff member, so we simply can't afford some of the bigger, more famous acts. So I look for acts that excite me: regional acts that have never played in Rhode Island, or acts from Ireland or Scotland making their first or second tour of the states, trying to make a name for themselves. It sometimes amazes me the acts we have gotten to play here - from Karan Casey and Lunasa to Cherish the Ladies, Dougie MacLean and so many more. But it is equally as gratifying to bring a group that is good but unknown here. That's where the trust comes in and if all goes well, we get to be part of building an audience for a group and they get a venue to return to, knowing it will always be a highlight on their tour. Nothing makes me happier than presenting an act for a second, third, fourth time... because that means the relationship is working for everyone.

riverfolk.org

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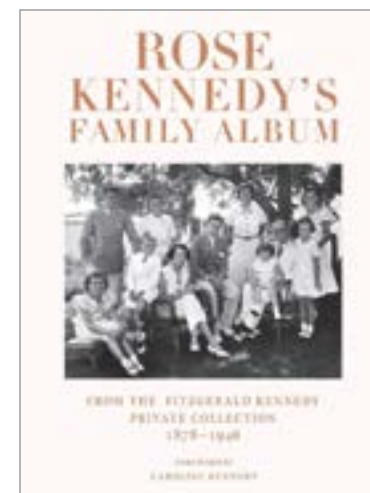
2nd Edition Irish Boston: A Colorful Look at Boston's Colorful Irish Past

By Michael Quinlin
A social history of the Boston Irish experience from 1700 to the present day, with focus on the positive role the Irish played in shaping Boston in politics, religion, sports, culture and community.
October, 2013 / 208 pages/
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\$18.95 /
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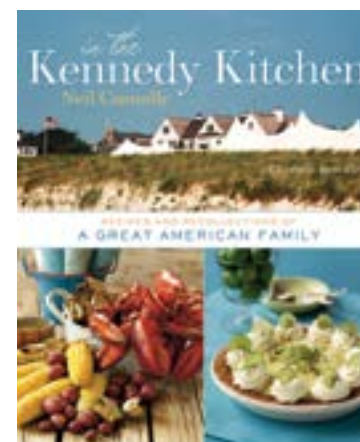
Rose Kennedy's Family Album: From the Fitzgerald Kennedy Private Collection, 1878- 1946

Foreword by Caroline Kennedy
This beautiful coffee-table edition, produced by the JFK Library in Boston, has over 300 photographs of the Kennedy and Fitzgerald families, capturing the formative years of President John F. Kennedy and his family. Chapter essays provide historical context.
October 2013/ 368 pages/ hardcover
\$45.00 /
Hachette Books



In the Kennedy Kitchen: Recipes and Recollections of a Great American Family

By Neil Connolly
As personal chef for Rose Kennedy at the Kennedy Compound in Hyannisport, Chef Connolly has provided a rich and detailed cookbook of the Kennedys' favorite recipes and heart-felt stories about his experience. Connolly won four gold medals at the Culinary Olympics in Germany, and has been honored by the world's leading culinary institutes.
2007/ 220 pages/ Hardcover /
\$35.00 / DK Publishers



Elegant Irish Dining Hundreds of Recipes from the World's Foremost Irish Chefs

By Noel Cullen
The late Noel Cullen was Ireland's first great master chef. A popular professor of Culinary Arts at Boston University's School of Hospitality Administration, Cullen helped introduce the world to the finest traditions of contemporary Irish cooking.
2001 / 292 pages/ Hardcover /
\$35.00 / Lehar-Friedman Publishers



Order directly online at IrishBoston.org/store.php.
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Delivery in 3-5 days.

NEW ENGLAND CULTURAL EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH 2014 TO JULY 2014



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THE CHIEFTAINS

CARLOS NÚÑEZ

KATIE MCD

IRISH ROVERS

THE HEATONS

TEMPEST

ICC FESTIVALS

VISHTEN

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CURRENT SPECIAL EXHIBIT
Through March 30, 2014
A Nation Remembers
A display of artifacts from the state
funeral of President Kennedy.
Plus several other permanent exhibits

**JFK FAMILY PROGRAMS:
CELEBRATE!**

March 15
Greene O’Leary School of Irish
Dancing

April 22
Gould and Stearns - Fee, Fie, Fo, Fun!

May 26
Alastair Moock

FORUMS

March 21
JFK and Japan

March 26
Bipartisanship and American Unity

March 31
Spying: From Eisenhower to Obama

April 6
PEN Hemingway Award

April 7
50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights
Act

May 13
A Conversation with Billy Collins

March 5
Niamh Ni Charra and Runa
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

March 6
Author Reading
Christopher Klein, author of
*Strongboy: The Life & Times
of John L. Sullivan*
Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
strongboybook.com

March 6
The Karan Casey Band
Blackstone River Theatre
549 Broad Street,
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org

March 8
143rd Annual
Saint Patrick’s Day
Banquet & Dance
Lawrence Firefighters
Association Relief’s In
1 Market Street,
South Lawrence
div8aoh.com

March 8
Robbie O’Connell /
Caitlín Nic Gabhann &
Ciarán Ó Maonaigh
Blackstone River Theatre
549 Broad Street,
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org

March 8
Niamh Ni Charra and Band
Hibernian Cultural Centre
19 Temple Street, Worcester
aohworchester.com/events

March 9
Author Lecture
Teddie Gallagher,
“The Life & Times of
Rev. James T. O’Reilly TSA”
Lawrence Heritage State Park
1 Jackson Street, Lawrence
div8aoh.com

March 11
The Chieftains
The Colonial Theatre
95 Main Street, Keene, NH
thecolonial.org

March 13-17
The Dropkick Murphys
House of Blues
15 Lansdowne Street,
Boston
houseofblues.com

March 13
American Ireland Fund: Boston
Young Leaders
St. Patrick’s Celebration
The Wharf Room,
Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf, Boston
irlfunds.org

March 14
Lawrence Heritage Month
45th Annual Saint Patrick’s
Day Luncheon
Lawrence Firefighters Association
Relief’s In.
1 Market Street,
South Lawrence
div8aoh.com

March 14
A St. Patrick’s Day
Celtic Sojourn
w/ Brian O’Donovan
Hanover Theatre
2 Southbridge Street, Worcester
wgbb.org/celtic

March 14, 15, 16, 17
St. Patrick’s Day Celebrations
Irish Cultural Centre
200 New Boston Drive,
Canton
irishculture.org

March 14
Tin Can Hooley
Canadian American Club
202 Arlington Street,
Watertown
canadianamericanclub.com

March 14
Irish Networking Society
St. Patrick’s Day Celebration
Boston Society of Architects
290 Congress Street, Boston
irishconsulateboston.org

March 15
Emerald Club of Worcester
Black Tie Gala
Mechanics Hall
321 Main Street, Worcester
mechanicshall.org

March 15-16
Reagle Music Theatre Presents
A Little Bit of Ireland
w/ Séamus Connolly
and Liam Harney
617 Lexington Street, Waltham
reaglemusictheatre.org

March 15-16
A St. Patrick’s Day
Celtic Sojourn
w/ Brian O’Donovan
Sanders Theatre
45 Quincy Street, Cambridge
wgbb.org/celtic

March 15
David Francey
Blackstone River Theatre
549 Broad Street,
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org

March 16
Gypsy Reel
Killarney Irish Pub
44 Pond Street
Ludlow, VT
claudinelangille.com

March 16
Pendragon - - CD Release
Blackstone River Theatre
549 Broad Street,
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org

March 16-21 & 23-28
Dine Out Boston
Various Venues in
Greater Boston
Greater Boston Convention
& Visitors Bureau
bostonusa.com

March 17
Ireland Forever
Matt and Shannon Heaton
Beat Hôtel
Harvard Square, 13 Brattle
Street, Cambridge
beathotel.com

March 17
Erin Go Beehive w/
Katie McD
The Beehive
541 Tremont Street, Boston
beehiveboston.com

March 17
St. Patrick’s Day
The Burren Pub
247 Elm Street,
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

March 17
Blackstone Cuil/
Cat & the Moon
Hibernian Cultural Centre
19 Temple Street, Worcester
aohworchester.com/events

March 19
Sharon Corr
Brighton Music Hall
158 Brighton Avenue,
Allston
crossroadspresents.com

March 19
Sean Keane
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

March 20-23
Irish Film Festival Boston
Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square, Somerville
irishfilmfestival.com

March 21
Jimmy Devine & Friends
Irish Ceilidhe Club of
Rhode Island
Cranston, RI
irishclubri.org

March 22
Kevin Burke in Concert
Irish Ceilidhe Club
of Rhode Island
Cranston, RI
irishclubri.org

March 22
Legends Of The Celtic Harp:
Patrick Ball, Lisa Lynne and
Aryeh Frankfurter
Blackstone River Theatre
549 Broad Street,
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org

March 23
The Irish Rovers
Farewell Tour - “Final
Performance”
Cary Memorial Hall
1605 Massachusetts Avenue,
Lexington, MA
caryhallshows.com

March 23
Author Lecture
Christine Kinealy, “Charity and
the Great Hunger
In Ireland: The Kindness of
Strangers”
Lawrence Heritage State Park
1 Jackson Street, Lawrence
div8aoh.com

March 25
Bobby Dunlap, Kathi Taylor
& Sean Brennan
O’Sheas Olde Inne
348 Main Street
West Dennis, Cape Cod
robertemmetdunlap.com

March 27
Gaelic Roots Music Series
Sheila Falls & Mark Roberts
Walsh Hall Function Room
Boston College, Chestnut Hill
bc.edu

March 28-May 3
Becoming Cuba
Huntington Theatre
South End / Calderwood
Pavilion at the BCA
527 Tremont Street, Boston
huntingtontheatre.org

APRIL

April 2
Sean Tyrrell
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

April 4
Matt & Shannon Heaton
Chatham Fiddle Company
875 Main Street
Chatham, Cape Cod
chathamfiddlecompany.com

April 4
Sean Tyrrell
Hibernian Cultural Centre
19 Temple Street, Worcester
aohworchester.com/events

April 5
Matt & Shannon Heaton -
CD release
Blackstone River Theatre
549 Broad Street,
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org

April 10
Claudine Langille & Irish
Session
Hanafin’s Irish Pub
21 Rankin Road
Glastonbury, CT
claudinelangille.com

April 11
Tempest - Celtic Rock
Blackstone River Theatre
549 Broad Street,
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org

April 12
Leo Moran &Anthony
Thistlethwaite
Of the Saw Doctors
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

April 12
Marjorie Thompson
and Chris Monti
Blackstone River Theatre
549 Broad Street,
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org

April 23
Tommy Keane,
Jacqueline McCarthy
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

April 24
Claudine Langille
& Irish Session
Hanafin’s Irish Pub
21 Rankin Road
Glastonbury, CT
claudinelangille.com

April 25
Kinvara
Hibernian Cultural Centre
19 Temple Street, Worcester
aohworchester.com/events

April 26
International String Trio
Blackstone River Theatre
549 Broad Street,
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org

MAY

May 3
Joey Abarta
Chatham Fiddle Company
875 Main Street
Chatham, Cape Cod
chathamfiddlecompany.com

May 23-June 29
Smart People
Huntington Theatre
South End / Calderwood
Pavilion at the BCA
huntingtontheatre.org

May 14
Matt & Shannon Heaton w/
Mark Roberts, Laurel Martin
and Kieran Jordan
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

May 30
Boston Irish Festival of Sports
and Children’s Day
Irish Cultural Centre
200 New Boston Drive, Canton
irishculture.org

JUNE

June 4
Andy Irvine
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

June 6-7
Boston Irish Festival of Music
Irish Cultural Centre
200 New Boston Drive, Canton
bostonirishfestival.info |
irishculture.org

June 14
Boston Irish Festival Feis
w/ Liam Harney Dance Academy
Irish Cultural Centre
200 New Boston Drive, Canton
irishculture.org

June 21
3th annual Blackstone
River Theatre
Summer Solstice Festival
Diamond Hill Park, Rte. 114
Cumberland, RI
riverfolk.org/brtssf

June 25
Vishten
w/ Padraid Tynne
& Ryan McIvor
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

June 28
Niko Case
Lowell Summer Music Series
Boarding House Park
40 French Street, Lowell
lowellsummermusic.org

JULY

July 4
Boston Pops Fireworks
Spectacular
Boston Esplanade
bso.org | july4th.org

July 11
Livingston Taylor
Mechanics Hall
321 Main Street, Worcester
mechanicshall.org

July 19
21st Annual Glasgow Lands
Scottish Festival
Look Park
300 North Main Street,
Florence
glasgowlands.org

July 23
Matt Cranitch
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

July 25-27
28th Annual Lowell Summer
Music Festival
Boarding House Park
40 French Street, Lowell
lowellsummermusic.org |
lowellfolkfestival.org

July 30
Teada, w/ Seamus Begley
Burren Pub
Davis Square, Somerville
burren.com

Check the website to enter to win
FREE TIX to many of these events:
[IrishBoston.org/contests.php](#)

T. PATRICK'S DAY NOTES



US Congressman Stephen Lynch,
State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry,
and Boston Mayor Marty Walsh

• State Senator **Linda Dorcena Forry** is hosting this year's St. Patrick's Day breakfast, taking place at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center on Sunday, March 16, 2014. She continues a fun-loving tradition of jokes, songs, sentimentality and one-upmanship. We wish her the best.

• The breakfast will be a fine occasion to introduce Boston's new Mayor, **Marty Walsh**, to the television audience that watches the breakfast live each year. Mayor Walsh has been on stage before, when he was state representative, but now he'll be center stage, and we're happy for him.

• Boston City Council President **Bill Linehan** has accepted an invitation from Limerick Mayor **Kathleen Leddin** to attend St. Patrick's Day festivities in Limerick City this year. President Linehan, says Boston has

a longstanding relationship with Limerick, thanks to the good work of South Boston's Billy Higgins and others. Enjoy the trip.

• **George Donoghue** is Grand Marshall of the 2014 Holyoke St. Patrick's Day parade on March 23. The 81 year old Holyoke native has been an active volunteer for the parade since 1965. "He is not just the grand marshal, he is a grand man," said Parade committee President **Jane C. Chevalier**.

• **Bill Sullivan**, head of AOH Division 8 is honoring three AOH members during Irish Heritage Month in Lawrence. **Jimmy Jacobs**, **Reverend Bill Waters** and **John Cuddy** are being recognized for their community service and good citizenship. Congratulations gentlemen.

T. PATRICK'S DAY PARADES

Saturday, March 8
Cape Cod / 11:00 am

Sunday, March 9
Worcester / Noon

Saturday, March 15
Lawrence / 1:00 pm

Sunday, March 16
Abington / 1:00 pm
Boston / 1:00 pm
Scituate / 1:00 pm

Monday, March 17
Dublin, Ireland / Noon

Saturday, March 22
Quebec, CA / Noon

Sunday, March 23
Holyoke / Noon

Sunday, March 30
Manchester, NH / Noon



Don't Miss Their Final US Tour!



Cary Hall, Lexington, MA
Sun, March 23rd at 3PM
www.caryhallshows.com
(617) 531-1257

‘The
shared culture
between our
two great cities

is truly special and
I'm looking forward
to a memorable visit
to Limerick City.

I wish everyone
a Happy Saint
Patrick's Day. ’

BILL LINEHAN
Boston City Council President



Irish Heritage Month
Lawrence, Massachusetts
March 2014

Preserving and Fostering our
Heritage and Culture
Sona Feile Padraig ort

Sponsored By the Ancient Order of
Hibernians Division 8
Division 8 LAOH and
The Irish Foundation of Lawrence



Irish Heritage Month is supported
in part by a grant from the Lawrence
Cultural Council, a local agency which is
supported by the Massachusetts Cultural
Council, a state agency.

**It's the Biggest and
Best Homecoming
of the Year!**

• **Music** • **Entertainment** • **Floats**
• **Family** • **Friends** • **Tradition**



**The 63rd Annual Holyoke
St. Patrick's Parade & 39th
Annual 10k Road Race**

March 22-23, 2014
Parade Starts: Noon, 3/23
Rt. 5 Holyoke

10k Road Race Starts: 1pm, 3/22
Maple St. & Lyman St. Holyoke

www.holyokestpatricksparade.com
www.holyokestpatrickroadrace.org



**BLACKSTONE
RIVER
THEATRE**



Thursday, March 6, 8 PM

KARAN CASEY BAND

Friday, March 7, 8 PM

JOSEE VACHON, DONNA HEBERT & Friends

Saturday, March 8, 8 PM

ROBBIE O'CONNELL and

Caitlin Nic Gabhann & Ciarán O Maonaigh

Saturday, March 15, 8 PM

DAVID FRANCEY

Sunday, March 16, 7 PM

PENDRAGON – LIVE CD RELEASE!

Saturday, March 22, 8 PM

LEGENDS OF THE CELTIC HARP

4th annual BRT Summer Solstice Festival
June 21, 11 AM–7 PM • Five stages!
Diamond Hill Park, Rte. 114, Cumberland, RI

www.riverfolk.org

BRENDAN TONRA, BOSTON'S FINE MUSIC MAKER



Irish fiddle and flute player Brendan Tonra is remembered as a congenial, somewhat shy, old-style Irish gentleman whose music spoke for him throughout his life. This past February, he

succumbed to cancer at age 78.

Tonra came to Boston in 1959, from Gowlan, County Mayo, and quickly joined the Irish music scene in Dudley Square, Roxbury. He played in the Tara Ceili Band with Larry Reynolds, Tom Garvey and others, and the Connaught Ceili Band with Mike McDonagh and Jimmy and Sally Kelly. Later, he played at Comhaltas sessions, in concert settings, and at informal house gatherings with close friends.

"I first met Brendan when I came out to Boston," said fiddler Séamus Connolly. "I was lonesome for Ireland, and I was intrigued to hear him playing. I didn't think I would have heard Sligo style fiddle playing in Boston."

Brendan's enduring musical companion for over three decades was pianist Helen Kiesel, who first met him in the 1970s when she took tin whistle lessons from him. She eventually became one of his dearest, most caring friends, and his soul mate.

"We made a nice musical partnership," Kiesel says. "Eventually, I could accompany him on the piano on everything he played, including his new tunes."

He self-published a booklet of 17 original tunes in 1988 called the *Music of Brendan Tonra*, followed by *A Musical Voyage with Brendan Tonra*, with 90 original tunes.

In 2002, Brendan won Ireland's TG4 Gradam Ceoil Composer of the Year award, and traveled to Ireland to accept it.

Recently, Brendan and Helen made a

children's book of his tune, *Three Ducks and a Goose: an Irish Tale and Tune*.

Brendan was also a fine fiddle player and flutist. Fiddle champion Brendan Bulger says, "His bowing was nice and easy, in a way that allowed you to see the rhythm and phrasing of the music he plays. He didn't look like he had to work at it at all, just kind of easily lifting music out of the fiddle."

"His fiddling was distinctive, but not forceful," said radio host Brian O'Donovan.

Pianist Tom Garvey recalls that Brendan often played the wooden flute in bands where there were already fiddlers, helping to flesh out the full ceili sound.

Brendan was married to the late Bridget (Donohue) Tonra and has three daughters, Barbara, Sheila and Jacqueline. His funeral was held at the Mission Church in Mission Hill, not far from the old music halls in Dudley Square. He is buried at the New Calvary Cemetery in Mattapan.

A DREAM COME TRUE: ICC CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

The Irish Cultural Centre started as a dream, back in 1989, with a clear-cut, noble mission:

To establish and sustain a facility where present and future generations of the New England Irish community can participate in activities which promote Irish cultural, educational, sporting and social events....

The dream was nurtured and kept alive, year after year, through countless fundraising campaigns and a five year land search, followed by construction schedules, programming choices, and the staging of events big and small, to sustain the momentum.

Thousands of volunteers and members helped to keep the dream alive, helping to build the center into what it has become. Today, 25 years later, the Irish Cultural Centre stands as one of the country's premier year-round Irish facilities, a dream that is still coming to fruition, for present and future generations alike.

The Centre plans to roll out the green



carpet in 2014 to celebrate its 25th anniversary, and to remind the region's substantial Irish-American community of the cultural resources that await them. Mary McTigue, executive director, says the Centre is a great place to be during St. Patrick's Day festivities in March, when Irish cultural traditions are celebrated with pride.

Then in the summer, the Centre goes on full display with a variety of music, dance and sporting festivities, special events, and educational activities being planned.

The challenge twenty-five years on, McTigue says, is "to re-energize our base of members who are the foundation of the organization and provide for their needs, while at the same time attracting a new audience of younger Irish-Americans interested in learning about and preserving their Irish heritage. I think the Centre has the ability to do both and be a place that welcomes both groups."

And that is how the dream will continue, for future generations to enjoy.



THE BURREN

Home to BOSTON'S BEST traditional Irish music, food & friendly atmosphere!

LIVE MUSIC EVERY NIGHT!

Including the very successful Burren Backroom Series, hosted by Brian O'Donovan of WGBH's Celtic Sojourn. The series features core performers from many aspects of trad music as well as conversations around the music.

UPCOMING SHOWS INCLUDE:

<p>NIAMH NI CHARRA & RUNA MARCH 5TH</p> <p>SEAN KEANE MARCH 19TH</p> <p>SEAN TYRRELL APRIL 2ND</p> <p>TOMMY KEANE & JACQUELINE MCCARTHY APRIL 23RD</p> <p>MATT & SHANNON HEATON APRIL 23RD</p> <p>RIVERAN JORDAN, MARK ROBERTS & LAUREL MARTIN MAY 14TH</p>	<p>ANDY IRVINE WITH MARLA FIBISH & BRUCE VICTOR JUNE 4TH</p> <p>YISHTEN, WITH PADRAIG RYNN, RYAN MCIVOR JUNE 25TH</p> <p>MATT CRANITCH, JACKIE DALY & PAUL DE GRAE JULY 23RD</p> <p>TEADA, WITH SEAMUS BEGLEY JULY 30TH</p>
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The Boston Irish Film Festival presents

'Handing Down the Tunes'

A documentary on the life of Clare born musician **Tommy McCarthy**

Featuring themes of music, emigration, & in particular the handing down of the music to his children & grandchildren. Many of his contemporaries pay tribute to the man & his music.

Sunday March 23rd at the Somerville Theatre, Davis Sq



GREAT FOOD!

Featuring a wide selection of delicious Irish dishes and American favorites!




247 Elm Street, Davis Square, Somerville | www.burren.com | (617) 776 - 6896

Irish Cultural Centre's

Boston Irish Festival

Once Stonehill... Now Canton





JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2014 AS ONE OF AMERICA'S PREMIER IRISH ORGANIZATIONS

MAY 30 BOSTON IRISH FESTIVAL OF SPORTS AND CHILDREN'S DAY
Gaelic Football, Hurling, Rugby, plus kids activities like field games, storytelling and face painting

JUNE 6-7 BOSTON IRISH FESTIVAL OF MUSIC
Live music on Friday night, then all day on Saturday

JUNE 14 BOSTON IRISH FESTIVAL FEIS
Irish Step Dancing competitions, featuring hundreds of the region's best Irish dancers
Hosted by the Harney Academy of Irish Dance
For more information visit bostonirishfestival.info

Irish Cultural Centre 200 New Boston Drive Canton, Ma 02021 781 821-8291 Irishculture.org

BITA works closely with these cultural groups, businesses and venues throughout the year. Please support them. Find more details at IrishBoston.org

CULTURAL GROUPS

American Ireland Fund
(617) 574-0720
irlfunds.org

Ancient Order of Hibernians
(617) 924-9765
massaoh.com

Boston Irish Tourism Association
Irishboston.org
irishheritagetrail.com

Boston Police Gaelic Column of Pipes and Drums
(617) 734-3805
bostonpolicegaeliccolumn.com

Cape Cod St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee
(508) 362-PADY
capecodstpatparade.com

Gaelic Roots/Irish Music Boston College
(617) 552-0490
bc.edu/centers/irish/gaelicroots

Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival
(413) 862-8095
glasgowlands.org

Irish Pastoral Centre of Boston
(617) 265-5300
ipcboston.org

Irish Film Festival Boston
irishfilmfestival.com

CULTURAL VENUES

Arts Emerson
(617) 824-8000
artsemerson.org

Blackstone River Theatre & Summer Solstice Festival
(401) 725-9272
riverfolk.org

Boston Pops
Boston Symphony Hall
1-888-266-1200
bso.org

Huntington Theatre Company
(617) 266-0800
huntingtontheatre.org

Irish Cultural Centre of New England
(781) 821-8295
irishculture.org

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum
(617) 514-1600
jfklibrary.org

LiveNation
617 547-0620
livenation.com

Lowell Summer Music Series
(978) 970-5200
lowellsummermusic.org

Mechanics Hall
(508) 752-5608
mechanicshall.org

Reagle Music Theatre of Greater Boston
(781) 891-5600
reaglemusictheatre.org

Rogers Center for the Arts Merrimack College
(978) 837-5355
merrimack.edu

Worcester Hibernian Cultural Centre
(508) 792-3700
socialweb.net

PUBS

The Burren
(617) 776-6896
burren.com

Fiddler's Green
(508) 795-0400
fiddlersgreenworchester.com

Freeport Tavern
(617) 282-7700
freeporttavern.com

Irish Pub at ICCNE
(781) 821-8291
irishculture.org

The Last Hurrah
(617) 227-8600
omnihotels.com

The Skellig
(781) 647-0679
theskellig.com

Tamo Bar
(617) 385-4315
tamobar.com

HOTELS

Black Point Inn
(207) 883-2500
blackpointinn.com

Comfort Inn Boston & Ramada Boston
(617) 287-9200
(617) 287-9100
bostonhotel.com

Courtyard by Marriott-South Boston
(617) 436-8200
marriott.com/hotels/travel/bossocourtyardboston-south-boston

Inn at Ocean's Edge
(207) 236-0945
innatoceansedge.com

InterContinental Boston Hotel
(866) 493-6495
intercontinentalboston.com

Migis Lodge (on Sebago Lake)
(207) 655-4524
migis.com

Omni Parker House
(617) 227-8600
omnihotels.com

Seaport Hotel
(617) 385-4000
seaportboston.com

SHOPS

Irish Imports Ltd. Corporation
(617) 354-2511
1-800-356-2511
irishimportsltd.com

Phillips Candy House
(617) 282-2090
phillipschocolate.com

TRAVEL

Acorn Tours of Boston
(978) 441-6855
acortoursboston.com

City of Boston
Office of Arts, Tourism & Special Events
Boston City Hall, Room 802
(617) 635-3911
cityofboston.gov/arts

Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau
1-888-SEE BOSTON
bostonusa.com

Inroads Ireland Tours
1-888-220-7711
inroadsireland.com

Isle Inn Tours
1-800-237-9376
isleinntours.com

Massachusetts Convention Center Authority
415 Summer Street
Boston, MA 02210
(617) 954-2000
massconvention.com

Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism
10 Park Plaza, Suite 4510
Boston, MA 02116
1 800 227-MASS
massvacation.com

Massport
1 Harborside Drive, Suite 200s
Boston, MA 02128
1 800 262-3335
massport.com

New Hampshire Travel and Tourism
1-800-FUN-IN-NH
visitnh.gov

Québec City Tourism
1-877-783-1608
quebecregion.com

Tourism Ireland
1-800-223-6470
ireland.com

TO FOLLOWERS OF IRISH TRADITIONAL MUSIC, THESE THREE NEW AND UPCOMING ALBUMS PROMPT PEOPLE TO SHOUT WITH GLEE, WHAT TOOK THEM SO LONG!



SESSIONS AT THE CHATHAM FIDDLE COMPANY

Rose Clancy and Friends

Fiddle player and instrument maker Rose Clancy of Chatham has helped energize the Irish music scene on Cape Cod since opening her shop, Chatham Fiddle Company. Located at 875 Main Street, the shop has become a gathering place for music lessons and workshops, for purchasing high quality, hand-crafted instruments, and for intimate concerts and music sessions. Her father Eugene on banjo and Uncle Pat on piano accordion are well-known musicians from Charlemont, County Armagh, and they've played many tunes there, along with other musicians like mandolin/banjo player James Rice and Scottish small piper Sarah Marchio. In summer 2012 they recorded these sessions and produced this wonderful collection, aptly called Sessions at the Chatham Fiddle Company. It includes original tunes from Rose, Pat, and local fiddler Mark Oien. The fiddle on the CD's front cover was made by Rose herself; it's a replica of a Guameri fiddle.

iTunes / Chatham Fiddle Company



TWO SIDES OF A COYNE

Bridget Fitzgerald

A master of sean-nós, an ornate, old-style of Gaelic solo singing, Bridget (nee Coyne) Fitzgerald has been a mainstay on the Boston Irish scene since emigrating here from Connemara, Galway in 1964. A founding member of Cherish the Ladies and a regular performer and teacher on the national festival circuit, she has influenced a generation of singers who have taken up this intricate, demanding style of singing. Her album has been in the works for some time, and was set aside in 2000 after Bridget's music collaborator, guitarist Carol Barney, died of cancer. Friends and admirers put together a Kickstarter campaign to get the album finished (deadline ends March 20). Bridget is joined on the album by excellent musicians, including Hanneke Cassel, Mike Block, Liz Simmons, Eaghan O'Sullivan, Pat O'Conner, John Coyne, Shannon Heaton and Mairtin de Cogain.

Suspicious Motives Records



GRACE BAY

Tommy McCarthy & Louise Costello

Exquisite, tasteful, authentic and beautifully executed are words that come to mind when listening to Grace Bay, the new CD released by Tommy McCarthy and Louise Costello. With Tommy on the fiddle and Louise on the button accordion and banjo, this husband-wife duo is in complete synch in melding their strong West Clare and North Galway styles, bringing to bear a lifetime of mastering this music against a backdrop of strong family and county traditions. They've brought their daughter Rose in on one track, and great studio musicians like Martin O'Malley, Ringo McDonagh and Noel O'Grady. It's nice they included the jig Ard an Bhóthair (High Road), which Tommy's father, the late Tommy McCarthy, recorded on Sporting Nell back in 1975. They held the CD launch party at their famous pub, the Burren, in Davis Square, and generously donated all proceeds to the Somerville Homeless Coalition.

iTunes, Amazon, Claddagh Records, CD Baby,



MACHINE MADE:

Tammany Hall and the Creation of Modern American Politics

By Terry Golway

Liveright Publishing /
W.W. Norton & Company
372 pages / \$27.95 cloth / March 2014

Noted author, journalist and scholar Terry Golway has steadily created a lasting literature on the Irish role in American history and politics. He is especially astute when discussing his beloved New York, a topic immense and unwieldy like the city itself. Golway's latest book, *Machine Made*, offers an engaging, insightful portrait of Tammany Hall, not as a den of iniquity, but as an ally to the immigrants pouring into New York City.

Tammany Hall is often defined by its worst leaders - William M. Tweed and Richard Croker - but Golway contrasts respectable Tammany leaders like presidential candidate Al Smith and Charlie Murphy of the Gas House District, men who combined "an enthusiasm for politics and a keen appreciation of human nature."

Tammy Hall existed well before the Irish took it over, Golway notes, but ultimately "the narratives of Tammany and Irish America became one." Tammany helped Irish, Italians, Jews and other newcomers, "feel like New Yorkers - and Americans," giving them a sense of participation and connection that is missing today.



WHO'S YOUR PADDY:

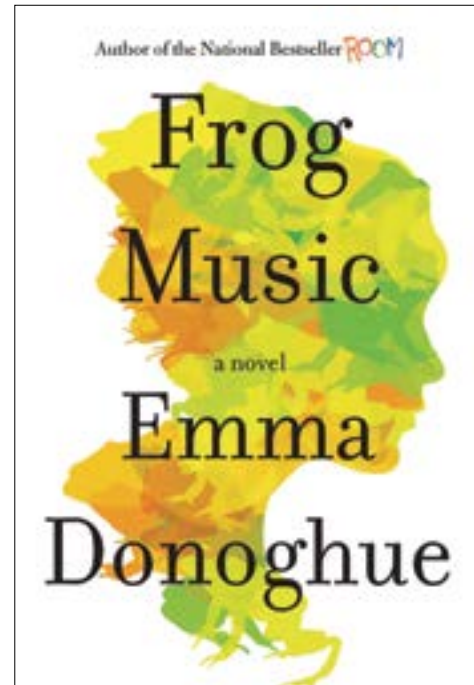
Racial Expectations and the Struggle for Irish American Identity

By Jennifer Nugent Duffy

New York University Press
308 pages / \$26.00 paperback /
December 2013

Who's Your Paddy will cause controversy, disagreement and hopefully enlightened discussion, because the topics - whether racism is "a socially constructed response or an inherited trait:" as well as "the complexities of Irishness" - are always timely and urgent.

Nugent Duffy is Associate Professor of History at Western Connecticut State University, and the book is the result of research she did for her master's degree. Her laboratory was Yonkers, NY, described as "a working class bridge between the towers of Manhattan to the south and the pampered hills of Westchester County to the north." Duffy defines three categories of Irish for her research: assimilated Irish ethnics from the 19th century; Irish white flighters who emigrated to the Bronx in the 1950s but then moved to Yonkers in the 1970s; and new Irish immigrants who arrived in the early 1990s. The book is a fascinating investigation of how the Irish interact with each other, over generations, and how they respond to the larger issues of race, class, law and order, and assimilation in America.



FROG MUSIC A NOVEL

By Emma Donoghue

Little, Brown and Company
408 pages / \$27.00 cloth / April 2014

Dublin-born Emma Donoghue, now living in Canada, is an award-winning author of several novels and short story collections that cover a range of topics, from convent school life in Ireland and emigration to lesbian fiction and historical novels. Her writing evokes a pleasant combination of Canadian short story master Alice Munro and Irish novelist Roddy Doyle.

Her newest novel, *Frog Music*, is set in San Francisco in 1876, a perfect setting for Donoghue to explore the reckless, dangerous, Wild West era, when young women especially were susceptible to jealous men, arrogant millionaires and crime in the big city. The novel revolves around two women - French burlesque dancer Blanche Beunon, and mysterious, brave Jenny Bonnet - both trying to survive while finding stability, safety and perhaps even love in the process.

The novel is based on an actual "never-quite-solved murder of frog catcher Jenny Bonnet" that Donoghue happened upon in a book called *Wild Women*. Much of the action in *Frog Music* is set in grimy saloons and shanty housing packed with desperados. There is a crime mystery element that propels the story, and makes readers root for the two women, even though their fate seems to be sealed from the very beginning.



If you've been to Ireland, you can't forget the wild waves crashing against the western shore. You remember the villages and towns where you stopped for a pint and a meal, or the high mountain pass where you stopped for an afternoon, looking out at green fields, with the sound of the ocean somewhere in the distance and massive white clouds hanging so close to the earth. You've hummed the beautiful air, *Song for Ireland*, whose lyrics read:

*Living on your western shore, saw
summer sunsets asked for more*

*I stood by your Atlantic sea and I sang a
song for Ireland*

2014 is the year to connect with Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way, and tourism officials have put together a distinct road map to some of the most beautiful sights and sounds in all of

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Ireland.com



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Limerick City is Ireland's first National City of Culture, a designation it proudly carries through 2014. The ancient market town was founded by the Vikings in the 9th century, and the city's famous St. John's Castle was built in the 13th century. Limerick played an important part in Irish history every since.

Today it is a bustling city close to Shannon International Airport, and has a new found vibrancy, accentuated by the city's literary history, its many museums and heritage sites, and rich culture. City officials have organized the year-long celebration to showcase the city's creative talent across 13 different themes – Streets, Stage, People & Places, Visual Art, Music, Secret Limerick, Food, Fashion & Craft, Na Leanai, New Generation, Architecture, Artists Call and Sports.

Limerickcityofculture.ie

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If you're looking to discover one of Ireland's most authentic stops along the Wild Atlantic Way, then take the Spiddal Road out of Galway City and drive about a dozen miles until you reach Spiddal, a beautiful seaside village where students from around the world travel to learn the Irish language and to immerse themselves in pure Irish culture.

It is here you'll find Gannon's Traditional Irish Music Shop, run by two outstanding traditional musicians, Colm Gannon and his wife Kelly. The shop opened last year, and already has become a gathering spot for locals and visitors alike who cherish traditional Irish music. With a fine selection of CDs, tapes and records, a variety of tune books, and some exquisite instruments, like the Bosca Ceoil button accordion made by Italian instrument master Manfrini, the Gannons' specialize in instrument accessories and advice on where to find the best nightly music.

A main feature of the shop is the music school on the premises. Kelly (Geraghty) Gannon is a classically trained pianist and brilliant concertina player, and teaches classes, along with Colm on the accordion and other accomplished musicians like Ronan O'Flaherty on fiddle, Pádraig O'Dubhghail on guitar, Pádraic Keane on pipes, Tommy Walsh on Flute and Brian

McGrath on banjo.

Born and raised in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood, Colm comes from a distinguished family of accordion players, including his dad John Gannon, who is originally from Droim, Leitir Mor in Connemara, and Colm's older brother Sean, also an excellent accordionist. Colm and Sean's mom, Gerry Gannon, comes from nearby Tuirin. In 1994, Colm was one of the few

American players to ever win the prestigious All Ireland button accordion championship, and he toured with Riverdance for several years before getting his master's degree in music performance at the University of Limerick.

Colm grew up down the street from Boston's new Mayor, Marty Walsh, in a Connemara community in the heart of Dorchester that was a home away from home for his parents. He recently talked about the "spirited and passionate" people of Connemara who helped shape him and his music.

"It's the pride of culture and community that the Connemara people hold so strong and instill in the next generation that have kept them together," he said. "The love and respect of their people, history, language, music, song and dance was passed on from generation to generation. This was integral in keeping the community strong and bringing them together."

Colm said he was so influenced by his Connemara upbringing in Boston that he and his wife Kelly decided to settle down here and open the shop. He wants Gannon's Traditional Music Shop to be a place for the people of Ireland and tourists alike to come and share the Connemara spirit, the love of music and the sense of camaraderie that drew him back to his second home away from home.

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