News about Ireland

Ireland's economic growth rate is expected to exceed 6% in 2015 – the highest in the OECD. Deficit targets are due to be exceeded and the sovereign debt/GDP ratio is moving below 100%–towards EU averages. Employment growth was 3% (57,100) in second quarter of 2015. More <u>economic data</u>

The Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Paschal Donohoe, promoted tourism and investment ties during a <u>visit to Nashville</u> on September 14 accompanied by Consul General Stephens

The Minister for Justice and Equality, Francis Fitzgerald, outlined Ireland's approach to the <u>Migration</u> <u>Crisis</u> on September 22

The Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, visited Ireland on September 23

The President's visit to New York from September 24 included participation in the UN Sustainable Development Summit and meetings with Irish Community leaders. He delivered <u>major speeches</u> at the UN and NYU

During a visit to Connecticut and New York, September 24-25, the <u>Taoiseach</u> visited Ireland's Great Hunger Museum, met with Irish community groups and addressed the UN General Assembly

The Government's <u>Capital Plan</u> for investment of €27 billion for the period 2016-2021 was launched on September 29

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, <u>Charles Flanagan</u>, discussed Northern Ireland and immigration reform during meetings with key contacts on Capitol Hill, Washington DC, on September 30

We mourn the passing of great Irish playwright Brian Friel on October 2. See today's WSJ article

The Culture Ireland International Programme for 2016 was released on October 3

Ireland's Startup Gathering will see 400 meetings take place in 5 Irish cities this week

Upcoming Events in the South East

Theatre and Performance at Georgia Southern University is presenting Martin McDonagh's *The <u>Pillowman</u>* until October 7, 2015

<u>The Waters and the Wild</u> an exhibition of Alen MacWeeney Photographs of Ireland inspired by W.B Yeats is currently being shown at the Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University

The Aris Theatre production of J.M. Synge's The Playboy of the Western World runs until October 11

The <u>43rd Stone Mountain Highland Games</u> take place on the meadow at Stone Mountain Park, Atlanta GA, October 17-18. The <u>Ulster Scots Agency</u>, the <u>Ulster Historical Foundation</u> and <u>Tourism</u> <u>Ireland</u> will be represented

The <u>Shamrock Open</u>, the main fundraiser for the Atlanta St Patrick's Day Parade, will now take place on October 19

Irish and Irish American Studies at the College of Charleston are supporting a performance by <u>Tigh</u> <u>na Coille</u> at 7pm on October 29 at 150 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC

Irish Fest Atlanta will be held November 6 and 7 at the Wyndham Atlanta Galleria Hotel

If there are Irish events you'd like us to highlight in future newsletters, please let us know

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Consulate General of Ireland Monarch Plaza, Suite 260, 3414 Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30326. October 6th, 2015