

Nuacht

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE IRISH CLUB OF ALASKA

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Emer Deane, comes
to Anchorage
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Consul General Visits Anchorage

Émer Deane, one of the Consuls General of Ireland, will be visiting Anchorage for the first time since being appointed to serve the western United States in October 2005. As Consul General she represents Ireland in 13 US States from Alaska to New Mexico and from Colorado to Hawaii.

She was educated at University College Dublin and at Trinity College Dublin. She has previously worked on European Union matters including during Ireland's 1996 EU Presidency. Between 1998 and 2001, she was the Irish Community Officer at the Irish Embassy in London. She has also served in the Human Resources and Political Divisions of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Her partner, David Owens, is a career civil servant in Ireland's Finance Ministry. They have a son, Lughán, and two daughters, Aodamar and Ciannait.

She writes:

“In terms of my visit, my aims could be summarised as follows: I am undertaking this visit to Alaska for two key reasons. As Consul General, part of my mission is to build contacts with Irish and Irish American communities here in the US. This is in recognition of the special position of the Irish diaspora in Ireland's history and right up to the current day. Ireland has had a long association with Alaska and it has become home to many Irish people over generations. The loyalty and support that our community here in the US has given to Ireland, whether in terms of supporting the peace process in Northern Ireland or in nurturing their heritage and supporting Irish culture more generally, is greatly appreciated by people in Ireland. This visit is to reach out to the Irish and Irish American community in Alaska to communicate the appreciation of the Irish Government for their support of Ireland over the years and also to build contacts and friendships which will help to keep the bond between Ireland and Alaska strong into the future.

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Secondly, the relationship between Ireland and the US has changed in recent years. In addition to the family and heritage ties we have long shared, Ireland and the US now share a healthy business relationship. Indeed, Ireland is now the 10th largest investor in the US. Ireland is always open for business and I would be keen to support trade, tourism and/or investment between Ireland and Alaska.”

While her family is here, Ms. Deane will be mostly spending her time with them traveling around and sightseeing. Then, on **Monday, May 28**, The Irish Club of Alaska will gather for an Alaskan-themed barbecue and convivial time with Ms. Deane and her family. We’ve scheduled the party early in the day because David and the children fly back to San Francisco later that day.

**Barbecue for ICA
to Welcome the Consul General
and her Family
to Alaska**

12:30 PM to 3:30 PM
Pat and Mark Ryans’ house
(Map and Directions provided when you R.S.V.P.)

This will be a potluck but with various kinds of typically Alaskan meat provided in addition to the following:

- bread, buns, etc.
- soft drinks, water, ice
- condiments
- plates, and other tableware
- homebrewed beer on tap

Please bring salads, vegetable dishes, casseroles, nibbles (e.g., chips), desserts, etc. as well as anything other than the above that you would like to drink, and any special food for you or others in your party.

PLEASE R.S.V.P. TO KATE O’DELL (360-8647, ksdo@gci.net) TO LET US KNOW HOW MANY WILL BE IN YOUR PARTY. We need to know by Friday, May 25, so we can have plenty of meat and other goodies.

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Barbecue Event (cont.)

If you're a musician, we'd love to have you bring your instrument(s) and/or your voice, especially if you have some Alaskan Irish songs in your repertoire. We won't have room for anyone to dance, but you're welcome to bring photographs of yourself or your dancers.

Meet and Greet Émer Deane at Celtic Treasures



Irish Consul General, Émer Deane, will discuss “dual citizenship” in Ireland and the USA and how to obtain it. Plan to stop by for tea and an opportunity to have an informal conversation with Ms. Deane. She's likely to have information about any other topic you'd like to bring up, too.

Call ahead for the times of her visit to CT on Wednesday, May 30th.

We need volunteers for the ICA booth at the 2007 Scottish Highland Games Saturday, June 30, 2007 Lions Club Park, Eagle River

Please call Mary Digney (277-1750) if you can help in one of these ways:

- Baker (scones, soda bread, shortbread, Irish cookies, etc.)
- Booth worker
- Musician (contact Peggy Monaghan, 245-7311)
- Set up (Friday night) and/or take down

ICA will be paying the admission to the Games for everyone who volunteers, so be sure to call Mary or Peggy today.