



IrEN Newsletter #06 Winter 2025

Dear members and friends of the Irish English Network,

As the winter term progresses and the colder days settle in, we hope that you can look forward to a well-deserved break at the end of your respective terms. We are back with our review of events in the past year and a preview of upcoming events from our Irish English Community.

First of all, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new members and subscribers. Thank you for joining us and for contributing to the vibrant work and conversations within the Irish English Network! We also encourage you to continue spreading the word and to direct interested colleagues and students to our website: <https://www.irish-english.net/join-us/>

The past year has again been an exciting one for the study of Irish English. Among the highlights which you will see below, we draw your attention to just a few. The year saw the initiation of Irish Studies in Asia (ISA), involving some of our members, Tamami Shimada and Karen Corrigan, and the opening of the Centre of Irish Studies in the University of Trento (Italy), involving members with a strong linguistic focus.

From 8 to 11 May 2025 the 15th EFACIS Irish Studies Conference, entitled “Attending to Ireland”, took place in Åbo / Turku, Finland. The conference brought together scholars from across Europe and beyond in the broader field of Irish Studies, and it was lovely to see Fiona Farr representing linguistics as a keynote speaker and an overall increased linguistic participation at the conference over former years.

In June 2025, the Irish English Network was represented by our EFACIS representative, Carolina P. Amador-Moreno, at the Future of Irish Studies Symposium in Leuven, Belgium. Jointly organised by the Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame and the Irish College Leuven, the symposium (held from 26 to 28 June 2025) gathered scholars from across the globe to discuss the evolving directions and challenges of Irish Studies.

Finally, we are also delighted to highlight the launch of “Speak for Yersel” Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland, an innovative initiative involving our members, Karen Corrigan, Louis Strange and Mary Robinson, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). This project has attracted significant public and media attention, resulting in a series of broadcasts and articles. The projects aim to provide a digital snapshot of how English on the island of Ireland and Scots in Ulster are used in the 21st century.

As always, our IrEN members remain incredibly active, and many new events and projects are already on the horizon. In particular, we would like to draw your attention to the upcoming 9th conference of New Perspectives on Irish English (NPIE9), organised by Fergus O’Dwyer. The event will take place on May 21-22, 2026, at the Marino Institute of Education in Dublin and will serve as a platform for scholars of Irish English to discuss current research issues. An array of further upcoming events and deadlines, including deadlines for application for the Neenan Fellowship, are listed below.

To stay updated on what’s been happening - and what’s coming next - please visit the News section on our website (<https://www.irish-english.net/news/>) or follow us on Facebook and X. You can also browse

our publication database (<https://www.irish-english.net/publications/>) for recent additions, and we very cordially invite you to share your own updates and your own Irish English publication details via email with our team at the Leuphana in Lüneburg at irish-english@leuphana.de. We will further disseminate news on events and add publications to the publication database at <https://www.irish-english.net/publications/>.

With best wishes for a productive and inspiring end of term, and a very happy Christmas and holiday season to all our members and everyone interested in Irish English,

Anne (Barron)

Past events this year:

- **// Launch of ‘Speak for Yersel’ NI and RoI in 2024-2025 //**

The launch of ‘Speak for Yersel’ Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland in 2024-2025 by Karen Corrigan has resulted in various broadcasts and newspaper articles. ‘Speak for Yersel’ NI and RoI are two brand-new resources that will create a digital snapshot of how English on the island of Ireland and Scots in Ulster are used in the 21st century. To do this, your help is needed. Speakers from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are warmly invited to take part in this survey or share it with others who may help.

Northern Ireland: <https://speakforyersel.ac.uk/ni/>

Republic of Ireland: <https://speakforyersel.ac.uk/roi/>

- **// Inaugural Irish Studies in Asia (ISA) Conference, Kobe, March 2025 //**

From March 21-22, 2025 the ISA (<https://www.irishstudiesinasia.com/about-isa>) held its inaugural conference at Kobe Gakuin University’s Sannomiya Satellite campus in the heart of Kobe, kindly supported by our colleagues at Kobe JALT. The event brought together scholars of various nationalities, including linguist Karen Corrigan as a plenary speaker. Focusing on Irish Studies in an Asian context, the conference fostered lively interdisciplinary exchange on Ireland’s literature, history, and cultural connections.

- **// EFACIS 2025 Irish Studies Conference: ‘Attending to Ireland’, May 2025 //**

EFACIS 2025 took place in Åbo/Turku, Finland, from May 8 to 11, 2025. With a keynote lecture by Fiona Farr, and further linguist participation, Irish English was well represented at the conference.

- **// ‘The Future of Irish Studies’ – Symposium in Leuven, Belgium, June 2025 //**

The Irish English Network was represented at the Leuven Symposium on the Future of Irish Studies by Dr. Carolina Amador-Moreno. The event, held on June 26 to 28 2025, was jointly organised by the Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame and the Irish College Leuven.

- **// Opening of the Centre for Irish Studies at the University of Trento, October 2025 //**

We would like to announce the recent establishment of the Centre of Irish Studies at the University of Trento, Italy, involving linguists Andrea Binelli and Antonio Bibbò. The opening ceremony was celebrated with a symposium on Irish linguistics, culture and literature on October 21, 2025.

Upcoming events / calls:

- **// Irish Studies Conference in DACH region, 21 November 2025, Irish Embassy Berlin //**

The Ambassador's Office of the Irish Embassy in Germany is organising the Irish Studies Conference for scholars in the DACH region, including Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The conference is to be held at the Embassy of Ireland, Berlin on 21 November 2025. We encourage members in this region to participate to strengthen the role of the linguistics of Irish English within Irish Studies. Those resident in the DACH region and active in this research area who have not received a personal invitation are encouraged to contact the embassy.

- **// IRAAL Annual Conference, 21-22 November 2025, Trinity College Dublin //**

Under the theme "Linguistics in Ireland: Reflecting on the Past, Looking to the Future", the IRAAL Annual Conference 2025 celebrates five decades of linguistic research. Hosted by Trinity College Dublin, the event marks the 50th anniversary of the Irish Association for Applied Linguistics. More information can be found here: <https://iraal.ie/events/>

- **// New Perspectives on Irish English 9 (NPIE9), 21-22 May 2026, Marino Institute of Education, Dublin //**

We can look forward to NPIE9, to be held in May 21 to 22, 2026, at the Marino Institute of Education in Dublin. Fergus O'Dwyer is the organiser. The conference will serve as a platform for Irish English scholars to discuss current research issues on areas such as Irish English historical linguistics, dialectology, pragmatics, corpus linguistics, sociolinguistics, and/or literary/media representations.

- **// Call for Applications: The Neenan Fellowship in Irish Studies at Boston College Ireland 2026 //**

Applications are invited for the Neenan Fellowship in Irish Studies at Boston College in Ireland. The successful candidate will be awarded a stipend of €8,000, as well as the use of an office at Boston College Ireland on St Stephen's Green in Dublin plus any necessary administrative support. The fellowship can be held for between two and four weeks at any time during the calendar year for 2026 but excluding August. The aim of the fellowship is to allow the recipient to travel to and live in Dublin and conduct their research. The fellowship is open to established scholars working in any of the sub disciplines associated with Irish Studies.

The closing date for applications is 17 November 2025. The application should consist of a two-page curriculum vitae, a two-page explanation of the research work to be undertaken in Dublin and the likely publications that will emerge as a result. Please submit the application by the deadline to the Academic Director of Boston College Ireland, Professor Mike Cronin, via email to croninmr@bc.edu. Queries about the fellowship or the application process should be made to this same address.

- **// EFACIS PhD Writing Session + Lunchbreak, next session: 5 December 2025 //**

We would like to invite you to the PhD Writing Session + Lunch Break organised by EFACIS. Aimed specifically at PhD students, the monthly event offers you an opportunity to meet fellow graduate students, share your research, discover new opportunities in academia or simply discuss every-day or long-term concerns you may have as PhD students.

The sessions take place online via Zoom on the first Friday of the month. From 10 am to 12.30 pm CET, there is focused writing time (with a coffee break in between), followed by a casual lunch break from 12.30 to 1.30 pm CET to chat and get to know each other better. All are most welcome to join for just one, or both parts of the event.

The next PhD Writing Session + Lunch Break will be held on December 5, 2025. Please register under:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/DDD9VKWbT2CPNiJXKXwYrQ?os=ipad#/registration>

For further information on EFACIS, please see here: <https://www.efacis.eu/>

- **// Call for Submissions: Review of Irish Studies in Europe (RISE) journal (EFACIS) //**

RISE, the journal of EFACIS, is inviting submissions for future themed and non-themed issues of the journal.

Have a look at the Call for Submissions at <https://risejournal.eu/index.php/rise/cfp>. For further information on submission guidelines, please see here: <https://risejournal.eu/index.php/rise/about/submissions>

All submissions should be forwarded to rise@efacis.eu.

- **// IrEN members can avail of a reduced EFACIS membership fee //**

As a member of IrEN, you can join the European Federation of Associations and Centres of Irish Studies (EFACIS) for a reduced membership fee of €15- (<https://www.irish-english.net/join-efacis/>). IrEN encourages IrEN members to join EFACIS to make linguistic research on Irish English more visible within Irish Studies. EFACIS offers many resources that are of potential interest, e.g. a regular podcast and online book club, funding for talks within the Irish Itinerary (see EFACIS website).