

Newsletter

January

Susan Boyle was invited to the Residence of the French Ambassador to Ireland to give a dramatized performance of *A Wine Goose Chase*, dealing with the centuries-old love affair between Ireland and wine. She also emphasised the close ties that bind France and Ireland when it comes to viticulture.



February

On Tuesday 27 February, **HE Michael D. Higgins** attended two events that were organised to mark the 25th anniversary of IT Tallaght. The first was the commemorative lecture by **Victor Merriman**, Professor of Critical Performance Studies at Edge Hill University, entitled *Arts and Humanities Research in Higher Education: Pressures, Perspectives and the Public Good*.

This was followed by the launch, by **Dr Derek Hand**, Head of the School of English in Dublin City University, of *The Reimagining Ireland Reader: Examining Our Past, Shaping Our Future* (Peter Lang, Oxford).

www.it-tallaght.ie/ncfis



March

In March 2018 for the second year IT Tallaght students took centre stage in the celebration of International French Gastronomy Month by organising and hosting a unique collaborative event at Scholar's Training Restaurant. The event was organised by students from the International Hospitality and Tourism Management Degree and Culinary Arts Programmes in collaboration with hospitality and tourism students from Lycée Christian Bourquin who travelled to IT Tallaght all the way from Argelès in the South of France. Students from both countries bridged the language divide by managing both the restaurant and the kitchen under the expert guidance of lecturers from both institutions.



May

Four postgraduate students in the NCFIS (Paul Butler, Aoife Carrigy, Séamus O'Kane and Emily Smith) organised a highly successful seminar based on the work of the Irish author John McGahern in Ballinamore, the Leitrim town close to where the author lived. The seminar was hosted by Ballinamore Library on the 10-11 May around the theme of **'Time and Place: A Taste of John McGahern's Leitrim'**. Students from NUI Galway and UCC gave papers on their research with the four organisers. Keynote addresses were given by **Dr Máire Doyle and Dr Derek Hand**. There was a Gunpowder Irish Gin reception courtesy of The Shed Distillery and The Food Hub, Drumshanbo and a dramatised reading of McGahern's 'The Slip-Up', directed and produced by Máire Doyle.



On Thursday 24th May

HE M. Stéphane Cruzat formally launched the essay collection based on the 2015 AFIS conference that was held in La Rochelle, *Voyages between France and Ireland: Culture, Tourism and Sport*, edited by Brigitte Bastiat and Frank Healy.

29th-30th May

The 4th iteration of the Dublin Gastronomy Symposium took place in 2018 on the 29-30 May. The theme was **'Food and Power'** and there were a record number of papers (41) given, along with a keynote by **Her Excellency Carmen McEvoy Carreras**, Peruvian Ambassador to Ireland.

Darina Allen and **Tom Jaine** were awarded DGS Fellowships for their huge contribution to the study and practice of gastronomy. The French Embassy in Ireland and the NCFIS were among the sponsors of this prestigious event.

Dublin GASTRONOMY Symposium 2018



Dr Brian Murphy named Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques

In November

Dr Brian Murphy was elevated to the status of Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques for the huge work he has done on fostering the relationship between France and Ireland and his invaluable research into the importance of place and story in modern perceptions of French wine culture, the theme of his PhD thesis, which was awarded the Prix de thèse in 2017.

