



## SPECIAL PASSPORT FEATURE ON BACK PAGE

*Did you come here in 1950's?*

*Would you like to share your story?*

*We have been approached by Clair Wills an Irish social and cultural historian working on a project on the Irish in Britain from 1945 until the mid 60s.*

*She is looking for people who, ideally, came to England in the early to mid 50s, and who wouldn't mind talking to her in some detail about their experiences and their impressions.*

*There are lots of quite short oral histories of individual Irish migrants, but she is really interested in going quite in depth with a few people. She would really love to meet anyone who would be willing to talk to her in some detail about their life before they left home, their initial move to Britain, their working life in the 50s and 60s, how they settled, and so on.*

*Anyone who is interested should call Luton Irish Forum on 01582 720 447*

## Get Back Into Gaelic Football Luton and Beds

Fancy getting back into Gaelic football or always wanted to give it a go? Now is your chance!

Herts GAA and Get Back Into (Team Beds & Luton) are offering men and women aged 16+ the opportunity to try the sport outside a club environment. You don't have to be fit, know the skills or even know the sport; we'll show you. It is a chance to play the game in a fun environment and they can link you into local club in the area if you wish Wednesdays 6.45-8pm Sundon Park Luton from 1st June till 6th July. Turn up on the night or register by contacting Ciara on [07872600075](tel:07872600075) or [ciara.obrien.cda.hertfordshire@gaa.ie](mailto:ciara.obrien.cda.hertfordshire@gaa.ie) or search hertfordshireGaa on Facebook



## Census 2011

We have received some really positive feedback on the census campaign including a thank you from the local census manager for our assistance particularly in facilitating a number of promotional and completion events. The 2011 Census has been a success in Luton and will benefit the residents of Luton in future years in various ways notably in relation to the planning and funding of public services.

We in turn would like to thank everyone who supported the campaign and assisted with the awareness raising and workshops.



## Claddagh Gaels - Only fools and headers 2011 Roy Bushby Memorial Cup

Only Fools and Headers Day is back for 2011. For those of you that don't know, the Claddagh Gaels Ladies Football Team will play against a team of over 30 males, known affectionately as the Fools and Headers.

The match will take place on Saturday 23rd July (time to be confirmed) and will be followed by a fun filled evening in The Pines.

Any men who fit the criteria and wish to partake, can contact Louise Gormley on 07879775244 and she will add you to the list.

## FREE Training

Training Event Safety Solutions who delivered our stewarding training last year have free places on a number of NVQ's including Customer Service, Spectator Safety and Security. They can also offer apprenticeships for 16 to 18 year olds.

Anyone who is interested can make contact with them through Luton Irish Forum on 01582 720 447.

## Are you interested in activities for families? Want to promote Irish culture to the second and third generation Irish community and beyond?

We would like to hear from people who are interested in taking part in planning and running activities for families including an Irish Community Day.

No previous experience is necessary, all that is required is an interest in having activities for families in Luton.

For more information call Nicola on 01582 720 447 or email [nicola@lutonirishforum.org](mailto:nicola@lutonirishforum.org).



# Changes to Passport Applications

There have been a number of changes to the Irish passport application procedure. LIF can supply the passport forms and assist with completion but we can not take passport applications to the passport office and we have no way of having applications prioritised. Below is a summary of guidance issued by the passport office.



The current processing time is approximately 8 weeks, you are advised to check the expiry date of your passports before making any travel plans. If a passport has already expired or will expire before the completion date of your planned journey, you should submit an application immediately. Customers are strongly advised not to make bookings until they are in possession of a valid passport that will cover the full period of their journey. Customers should note also that some countries require visitors to have a minimum validity period remaining on their passport. You should check with your travel agent or the Embassy of the country you are visiting to establish if such a condition applies.

The requirement that applicants submit their existing passport with their application for a new passport has been temporarily suspended in cases where the current passport has not yet fully expired. In such cases, customers should include a photocopy of the personal details pages of the current passport with their application for a new passport. Customers are advised to note the 11 digit barcode number on the application form prior to submitting the application. This will allow you to track the progress of your application online at [www.passport.ie](http://www.passport.ie).

Please note that telephone contact with the Passport Office (0207 225 7700) is available 09:30 - 16.00 on weekdays (LIF has heard feedback that it is difficult to get through). Information on passport services is available at all times on the Embassy's website [www.embassyofireland.co.uk](http://www.embassyofireland.co.uk).

All passports will be returned by post - you can no longer collect from the passport office. Please ensure that you include a stamped, self-addressed (and preferably registered) envelope with your application. Please ensure also that applications are completed correctly and are accompanied by the required documents and fees. Incorrect or incomplete applications will be returned. Cash or debit cards cannot be accepted at the counter. Cheques and Postal Orders (in £ Sterling) should be made payable to "Embassy of Ireland" for the required amount. Cheques/Postal Orders made out to any other name cannot be accepted.

PRICE LIST		
Age	Validity	Stg £ Price
Under 3 yrs	3 years	STG£14.00
3 yrs to 17 yrs	5 years	STG£23.00
18 yrs and over	10 years	STG£70.00
Large 64 pgs	10 years	STG£96.00
As of 11 April 2011 the fee for a passport for applicants aged 65 & over is STG£70.00		

Short form birth certificates, baptismal certificates, church marriage certificates, laminated certificate (excluding Post Nuptial & Naturalisation Certificate), photocopies or scanned copies of documents or passports are not accepted. Details of how to obtain Irish civil certificates are available at [www.groireland.ie](http://www.groireland.ie) or Tel: 00 353 90 6632900, to obtain UK civil certificates visit [www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/](http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/) or Tel: 0845 603 7788.

The only acceptable witnesses are those listed in Section 7 and Section 9 of the application form. Please ensure you sign Section 8 in the presence of one of those professions listed. The witness should sign the back of one of your photographs and insert the form number displayed in Section 9.

Please ensure that your witness is easily contactable at their place of work, that they clearly print their address and contact number (mobiles not accepted). Please note your application will be returned if we are unable to contact the witness or the witness does not fully and accurately complete their section(s) of the form. The witness does not need to know the applicant for any length of time provided they are satisfied as to their identity.

Additional safeguards are being introduced into the passport application procedure for adult first time applicants and for those adults seeking to replace a lost/stolen passport. The following additional evidence is required; a completed and suitably witnessed passport application form and four photographs, two of which must be signed and stamped by an approved witness; the long form birth certificate of the applicant and a civil marriage certificate, if appropriate, and evidence of entitlement to Irish citizenship, where applicable; additional form of photo-identification; e.g. copy of drivers licence; documentary evidence to show use of name, e.g. payslips; evidence of residency at the application address, e.g. utility bills. In addition, applicants may also be required to provide further information and/or attend for interview at one of the Department's offices. It should be noted that it will not be possible to expedite any application in these categories.

## PASSPORTS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR TRIPS BETWEEN IRELAND AND BRITAIN BY IRISH CITIZENS.

Some airlines do insist on passengers having valid passports but others as well as ferry companies accept alternative forms of photo ID such as driver's licence, an international student card, a social security card or a work ID.

The following airlines take photo ID other than a passport; Aer Arann - Luton to Galway/Waterford; Aer Lingus - Gatwick or Heathrow to Dublin/Cork/Knock/Shannon; Easyjet - Luton to Belfast; BMI - Heathrow or Stanstead to Belfast/Dublin. Check the website of your travel company before booking or travelling.

## Luton Irish Forum Online

Keep up-to-date with what is going on at Luton Irish Forum and in the Irish community in general by looking on our website [www.lutonirishforum.org](http://www.lutonirishforum.org), following us on twitter @IrishinLuton or 'Like' our Facebook page 'Luton Irish Forum'. You can also see video's relating to the Forum including St Patrick's Festival Pageants on youtube.com.

