

# The Leeds Gathering

**The thirteenth  
Leeds Gathering festival  
is a celebration of Irish music  
and arts, between the  
18th to the 26th November.  
Our aim is to bring you the  
finest examples of traditional  
and contemporary Irish arts,  
we're sure you'll enjoy it...**

**Well...  
You're welcome here  
kind stranger.**

# 18th–26th November

## The Leeds Gathering Festival Educational Tour

Throughout the festival and during the academic year a team of tutors from the Irish Arts Foundation will visit a number of primary schools in Leeds.

We deliver workshops on Irish music, dance and arts as well as background on Ireland and the Irish in Britain.

If your school would be interested in hosting a workshop please contact

**Irish Arts Foundation**  
**0113 278 7442**  
**info@irisharts.org.uk**  
**www.irisharts.org.uk**



**Fri 24th Nov**  
**Cronin**



# Saturday 18th

**7.00PM**

## CD Launch: Matt Tighe

Living in south London and born to an Irish and Trinidadian background, *Fiddle* player **Matt Tighe** is quickly making a name for himself in the world of folk and traditional music.

Now twenty-one years old, he has been described as a *fiery virtuoso* and has already had an extensive experience in performance, playing at many festivals and clubs within the UK and Ireland. He also has great experience in teaching music, and has taught with virtuoso accordionist, **Luke Daniels** for Daniels' organisation, **Gael Music**. Matt was also part of the **On Drover Tracks** tour with Daniels, **Miranda Rutter** and **Matheu Watson**.

His much-anticipated debut album will be released in September on the **Greentrax** record label, having been produced by the eminent **Brian McNeill** and recorded in the Highlands. He studied music at the **Brit School** in London and continues his studies at **Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance** under **John Crawford**.

**Sat 18th Nov**  
**Matt Tighe**



“There is a brightness to Matt’s fiddle, one that lifts and soars, one that feels vibrant and affirming”  
**FATEA MAGAZINE**

On this occasion London-based multi-instrumentalist **Tad Sargent** joins Matt.

His *bodhrán* and *bouzouki* playing can be heard on many recordings and films including the 2010 film **Burke and Hare** (John Landis), **Barulle**’s album **Mananans Cloak**, **CrossHarbour** self titled album, **Ranagri** album **Tradition** and the **Tony Christie** album **The Great Irish Song Book**.

**PWYF (PAY WHAT YOU FEEL)**  
**The Inkwell, Potternewton Lane**  
**LEEDS LS7 3LW**

**Sun 19th Nov**  
**Brian Kennedy**





## Sunday 19th

2.30<sup>PM</sup>

### Traditional Irish Music Session

Hosted by local Leeds musicians **Ian Pearson** and **Karen Lacey-Roberts** (fiddles), **Kevin Hurley** (flute) and **Clare Keane** (button accordion). We also welcome a special guest from London, formerly of **Shane MacGowan's** band **The Popes** — **Brian Kelly** (banjo).

**FREE EVENT**

**The Grove Inn, Back Row, Holbeck Urban Village  
LEEDS LS11 5PL**

8.00<sup>PM</sup>

### Brian Kennedy

**Brian Kennedy** is an internationally celebrated *Singer, Songwriter, Novelist, Coach* on **The Voice of Ireland**, former lead performer with **Van Morrison's Blues & Soul Revue** for six years, featured *Lead Performer* in **Riverdance** on Broadway for nine months in an especially tailored role at the request of the composer **Bill Whelan**, His stream of chart-making albums. **A Better Man** (1996) and **Now That I Know What I Want** (1999), both went platinum at No.1 and earned him the awards of *Irish Best Male Artist* and *Irish Best Male Album*, as did the highly acclaimed **Homebird** (2006) and cover album **Interpretations** (2008). But it was Brian's heart wrenching LIVE performance of **You Raise Me Up** at the Funeral of Football Legend **George Best** that earned him a spot in the top 5 of the UK charts. No show would be complete without including a selection from his back catalogue. So come, experience and celebrate that voice, musicianship and personality.

**TICKETS £17 + BOOKING FEE**

**Otley Courthouse, Courthouse Street  
OTLEY LS21 3AN  
01943 467466**

[admin@otleycourthouse.org.uk](mailto:admin@otleycourthouse.org.uk)  
[www.otleycourthouse.org.uk](http://www.otleycourthouse.org.uk)

## Monday 20th

8.00<sup>PM</sup>

### The Leeds Gathering Film Event: The Journey

**IN ASSOCIATION WITH SCREEN SEVEN**

**Nick Hamm's** *The Journey* is a speculative what-if drama about a vital and mysterious aspect of the Northern Ireland peace process: the extraordinary rapprochement between two old enemies — the DUP's **Ian Paisley** and Sinn Féin's **Martin McGuinness**.

The film imagines that, halfway through the peace negotiations, Ian Paisley had to make a long car journey to get to his 50th wedding anniversary party and for reasons of diplomatic protocol, McGuinness would have to join him. This was the literal and figurative journey during which the ice would break.

Since the film's premiere at Venice last year, McGuinness has died, there is political instability and Brexit threatens to disturb a hard-won peace accord. So this film really is more relevant than ever.

**Director:**  
**Nick Hamm**  
**UK, France, 1hr 34min**  
**PG-13**

**Stars:**  
**Timothy Spall**  
**Colm Meaney**  
**John Hurt**

**£6 / £5 CONC.**  
**Seven Artspace, 31a Harrogate Road  
LEEDS LS7 3PD  
0113 262 6777**  
[info@sevenleeds.co.uk](mailto:info@sevenleeds.co.uk)

## Tuesday 21st

12.15<sup>PM</sup>

### Tuesday Irish Elders Club

Includes bingo and refreshments. This Tuesday features music from Irish Arts musicians **Gerry Brownridge** and **Kevin Mullowney**.

**Contact Leeds Irish Centre for more details on how to join on 0113 2480887**  
[www.theleedsirishcentre.co.uk](http://www.theleedsirishcentre.co.uk)

8.45<sup>PM</sup>

**IN COLLABORATION WITH LEEDS CCE**

### Book Launch: Fawcett's Fleadh! Memories of Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann

**Peter Fawcett** is **Comhaltas Ceoltoiri na Éireann** (CCE- Irish Musicians Association) *Public Relations Officer for the North of England*. He has been taking photos at **Fleadh Cheoil na Éireann** for over forty years.

This book is part memoir part historical record of **All-Ireland Fleadhanna Cheoil** since 1973. The *fleadh cheoil* for the uninitiated is a week-long jamboree of traditional music, with concerts, pub sessions and street music.

The beating heart of the fleadh, though, is found in the halls and classrooms distributed around the town where competitors young and old strive to give the best performance in their age group in order to be named *All-Ireland champion*. It is the blue riband event in Comhaltas' year moving regularly from town to town and attracting huge crowds of followers. The photographs in this book are only a small fraction of Peter's collection, but he has chosen ones that capture the spirit of the fleadh as well as the adventures of a Yorkshireman in Ireland.

**FREE EVENT**

**Leeds Irish Centre, York Road  
LEEDS LS9 9NT**

## Wednesday 22nd

10.00<sup>AM</sup>

### Untold Stories: The Leeds Irish Community

**Untold Stories** is a community archive project undertaken by the **Irish Arts Foundation**. Initially funded through the **Heritage Lottery Fund**, the project looks at the experiences of the emigrant Irish community in Leeds in the second half of the twentieth century, particularly their settlement patterns and cultural traditions such as music, dance, song and sport.

This event features a presentation using the Untold Stories website and documentary as well as live traditional Irish music.

[www.untoldstories.co.uk](http://www.untoldstories.co.uk)

**FREE EVENT**

**Forum 2000, The Grove Centre  
New Street, Horsforth  
LEEDS LS18 4BH**

10.30<sup>AM</sup>

### Irish Elders Coffee Morning

A regular event, this week featuring live Irish music.

**For information contact Leeds Irish Health & Homes on 0113 262 5614**  
[www.lihh.org](http://www.lihh.org)

**St Anthony's Parish Hall, Old Lane, Beeston  
LEEDS LS11 7AA**



## Friday 24th

12.15<sup>PM</sup>

### Over 55's Day Club

New people are always welcome to join the relaxed Irish environment at the **Montague Burton Resource Centre**. Lunch is provided and to celebrate the **Leeds Gathering Festival**. This week musicians from the **Irish Arts Foundation** will deliver a showcase of Irish music.

#### Music in a Breeze of Wind

Traditional Dance Music in west Clare 1870–1970

**Barry Taylor** – musician and researcher – recalls tales from his latest book **Music in a Breeze of Wind** that portrays the lives of some of the prominent musical families in the region, many of who became household names during the renaissance of Irish music in the 1950's.

For information contact Leeds Irish Health & Homes on 0113 262 5614

[www.lihh.org](http://www.lihh.org)

Montague Burton Resource Centre  
Banstead Street West, Roundhay Road  
LEEDS LS8 5RU



Fri 24th Nov  
Music in  
a Breeze  
of Wind

8.00<sup>PM</sup>

### Cronin play the Songs of Shane MacGowan

Leeds/Irish brothers **Cronin** play a special show for Leeds Gathering. A show of two sets, one their own songs, one the songs of Ireland's finest legendary songwriter of The Poguesology **Shane MacGowan**.

As well as **Pogues** songs it will also feature some of his solo material in a show that Shane himself has chosen the set list.

Since the Cronin brothers returned to Ireland they have been lucky enough to get to know their idol and are now Mr. MacGowan's go to band of choice for collaborations and also as his backing band and appeared on the **Sky Arts** documentary **Shane MacGowan A Wreck Reborn**.

"Cronin have pure celtic soul. They sing my songs better than I do."  
SHANE MACGOWAN

Cronin with Shane MacGowan  
Electric Picnic 2017  
<https://youtu.be/D-w3P3BtiXY>

£10 ON THE DOOR  
Seven Artspace 31a Harrogate Road  
LEEDS LS7 3PD

## Saturday 25th

7.45<sup>PM</sup>

### Lau Decade

**Lau** is the pioneering contemporary folk trio made up of three of the UK's finest traditional musicians: **Kris Drever** (vocals, guitar), **Martin Green** (accordion, Wurlitzer, keys, electronics) and **Aidan O'Rourke** (fiddle).

Both extraordinary musicians and creative visionaries, Lau's music is rooted in gorgeous melody, but explores folk music in every direction, with virtuosic playing, rich electronics and ideas that constantly leap and dip in unexpected contours.

**Decade** celebrates 10 years of incredible stage performances from this multiple award-winning band.

"The UK's best live band, Lau are remarkable – the most musically adventurous trio in British folk: exquisite and hypnotic, musicianship at its best."

THE GUARDIAN

ADULT TICKET £18  
Howard Assembly Room, 46 New Briggate  
LEEDS LS16NU  
0844 848 2720  
[www.operanorth.co.uk/contact](http://www.operanorth.co.uk/contact)

Irish Arts Foundation  
0113 278 7442  
[info@irisharts.org.uk](mailto:info@irisharts.org.uk)

8.00<sup>PM</sup>

### Tom McConville Band

The **Tom McConville Band** is surely the most entertaining, exciting four-piece operating on the festival circuit today.

Fronted by the incendiary fiddle playing of **BBC Radio 2 Musician of the Year Tom McConville**, (who **Seth Lakeman** regards as his biggest influence), this band also features **Shona Kipling**, herself a **BBC Folk Award nominee**, and one of the finest accordion players in the country. Add to that **David Newey's** 'incredible, unique guitar playing' (**BBC Radio 6**), and **Phil Murray** – the man **Mike Harding** called 'the best bass player in Britain', and you have a force to be reckoned with.

Whilst this band has a backbone in traditional music, you'll hear country, jazz, blues and rock and roll, all being delivered by an acoustic four piece. Tom's exceptional voice is brought to the fore with big choruses and a great choice of songs and tunes; one minute they'll be tearing through a heart stopping set of Irish and Scottish reels – the next, you'll be transported to a world of travellers and tradesmen, tricksters and true lovers.

TICKETS £12 + BOOKING FEE  
Otley Courthouse, Courthouse Street  
OTLEY LS21 3AN  
01943 467466  
[admin@otleycourthouse.org.uk](mailto:admin@otleycourthouse.org.uk)  
[www.otleycourthouse.org.uk](http://www.otleycourthouse.org.uk)

# The Leeds Gathering

IrishArts  
Foundation



Tue 21st Nov  
Fawcett's Fleadh!

# Sunday 26th

2.30<sup>PM</sup>

## Traditional Irish Music Session with special guests Tom Oakes and Jim Filgate

Up until the late 1950's **The Garden Gate** and **The Grove Inn** were well-known meeting places for the Irish community in Leeds, particularly before going to the dances that took place in the now long gone **St Francis' Dance Hall** in nearby Holbeck.

Regarded as one of the UK's most accomplished and versatile wooden *flautists* and as a leading **DADGAD** guitarist and composer, Edinburgh based **Tom Oakes** (Bmus) has spent the last decade ploughing many different furrows as an Irish traditional musician, composer, producer, contemporary artist, collaborator, teacher, event organiser and special needs facilitator.

Working with scenes as diverse as *Arabic hip-hop + Moroccan gnawa* (In Marrakech and Casablanca, *contemporary bluegrass* (With **Laura Cortese and the dance cards**), *Indian traditional, classical and bhangra music* (In residency in Mumbai), *Scandinavian traditional music and jazz* (across Scandinavia)

Sat 25th Nov  
Lau



and on projects with the **Northern Sinfonia**, **McFall's Chamber** (Featuring **Scottish Symphony Orchestra**, **Scottish Opera** and **RSNO**) and the pan-global **Solaris String Quartet** (In the UK).

His flute playing has led to him being *Principle Traditional Flute Tutor* at the **Royal Conservatoire of Scotland** and for final year students at the **University of Newcastle Upon Tyne** (where he graduated in 2005). He is *Co-director* of the **Great Scottish Flute Night** and *Director* of **Winter Trad**. The latter a weekend of music and teaching based around his duo with Shetland fiddle star **Ross Couper**.

We are also delighted to welcome **Jim Filgate**, a well-known figure in the Irish scene in London. Jim ran the **Kilburn Irish Festival** for a number of years and has also been instrumental in running set dancing events across London and further afield. On this occasion Jim will be joining the musicians to give a bit of *Sean-nós* (old style) dancing as well as singing a few songs — well worth a look.

### FREE EVENT

**The Garden Gate, 3 Whitfield Place, Hunslet  
LEEDS LS10 2QB**



Sat 25th Nov  
Tom McConville Band

Irish Arts Foundation  
0113 278 7442  
info@irisharts.org.uk

www.  
irisharts.  
org.uk

All details are correct as of 12th October 2017. The Irish Arts Foundation reserves the right to amend any programme details.

# The Leeds Gathering

## The Leeds Gathering 18th–26th November 2017



IrishArts  
Foundation

### Funders



AN ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA AGUS TRÁDÁLA NA hÉIREANN  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE OF IRELAND



Leeds  
CITY COUNCIL



Inner West, Outer West, Inner South,  
Inner East, Inner North East



### Sponsors



J McDonagh & Sons Ltd

Durkan & Sons  
civilengineering



Allied



Allied Irish  
Bank (GB)

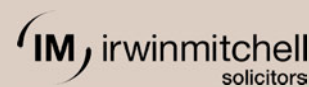


Image:  
*In The Grove*  
by Gerry Hughes