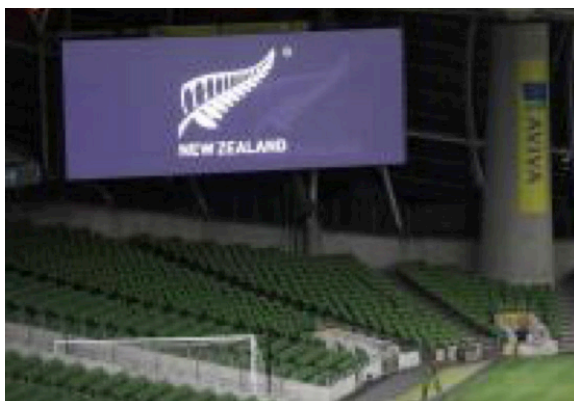
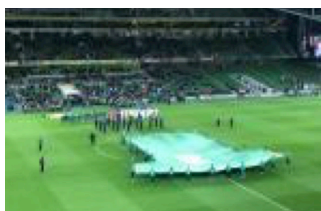


## New Zealand Embassy Turns One

Aviva Stadium, November: Thanks to Oireachtas members, the All Whites, Ambassadors, the New Zealand community, and so many partners and friends from all segments of Irish life for joining our First Birthday party. The evening was a chance to reflect on a great first year and thank all those that have played such a big part in bringing Kiwi and Irish life even closer together. Throw in superb wine from Villa Maria, the Silver Fern emblazoned across Aviva screens, great tunes from Dan Maher, and the All Whites' foosball skills being on display – a fitting celebration, we think, of a great first year



## A Great Year for Irish/NZ Sports



St Mary's RFC, October: we were so grateful to St Mary's for partnering with us to host 120 All Blacks and Irish fans for the Quarter Final Rugby World Cup clash. A good spread of black and emerald green greeted the Virgin Media and TVNZ news crews who filmed the morning and sought reactions from fans of all stripes and ages. Despite hopes being dashed of a Final clash, there was a fantastic fan spirit with many contributing to a kiwiana raffle which raised €400 for charity. Wonderful works of art are also still on display at the Embassy from the highly competitive children's colouring competition.

Aviva Stadium, November: Together with New Zealand dairy Co-operative Fonterra, we hosted a range of government and business contacts for the first-ever match-up between the All Whites and the Republic of Ireland. A chill in the air didn't dampen enthusiasm from the crowd or free-flowing football between the two young sides. After a magic first All Whites goal just in front of our seats, Ireland emerged worthy winners with an eventual 3-1 score line. We'll be cheering on the boys in green in their remaining Euro 2020 qualifiers.

## Supporting Irish Charities in 2019

**RDS, November:** We recently participated in a fun-filled, family day out organised by several embassies in support of Irish charities. An annual fixture, the International Charity Bazaar showcases cuisine and gifts from around the world, alongside an extensive cultural programme including dancers in national costume. This year we were honoured to have the support of so many to help raise over €1,000 for four charities:

Room of Our Own (a Domestic Abuse Service), Nationwide Friendly Call Service by Friends of the Elderly, Beads of Courage by Childhood Cancer Foundation, and Let's Cook & Learn (run by Cottage Autism Network in Wexford). The Ambassador's lolly cake and Whittakers-inspired chocolate brownies were a particular hit. Thanks to all those that joined the day in support of such great causes.



## Partners in Farming

Enhancing cooperation between our agriculture sectors has been a big focus for the Embassy this year. Following Minister David Parker's visit in July and the New Zealand Pavilion and 40+ strong kiwi delegation to the Ploughing Championships, visiting Ministry for Primary Industries senior representatives had productive meetings with their Irish colleagues on climate change, environment, and trade issues in October.

We were also thrilled to welcome the 2019 New Zealand Ballance Farm Environment Award winners to Ireland. Adrian and Pauline Ball are leading in sustainable practices back home, with nitrogen leaching decreased by 61% per ha and on-farm carbon emissions reduced by 58%. The Fonterra head of Veterinary Health and Risk Management also spoke alongside Ireland Agriculture Secretary General Brendan Gleeson at the Asia Matters Summit last month.

The Ambassador visited Teagasc's world-class Moorepark facilities during his first trip to Cork in November, met with Ireland's Agricultural Trust Board after participating in an Irish Farmers Journal panel at the Ploughing, and also caught up with Animal Health Ireland Chair Mike Magan on plans for the Pasture Summit 2020 – another great initiative that brings Ireland and New Zealand exclusively together in the spirit of partnership.

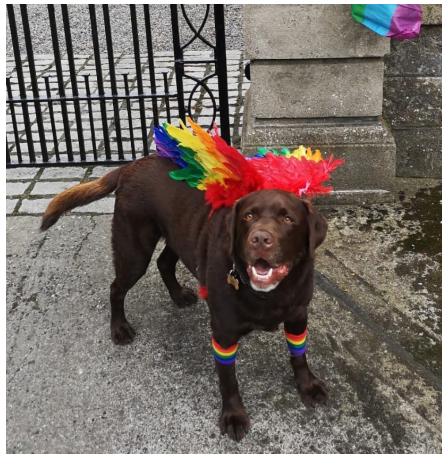
## 2020 EVENTS

A few events already in our 2020 diaries. Hopefully you can join

- 14<sup>th</sup> January - Flavours of New Zealand, New Zealand wine tasting,
- New Zealand Ireland Association Annual Waitangi Day Dinner (details TBA)
- Green day (not the band playing at the RDS in June) – New Zealand Embassy and Official Residence going green for St Patrick's Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> April - ANZAC Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> May Fat Freddy's Drop rescheduled Dublin gig
- 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> June - Pasture Summit 2020
- 29<sup>th</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> July - Kiwi icons Crowded House playing in Cork and Dublin
- 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Black Caps tour of Ireland
- 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September National Ploughing Championships

## WOOF!

Benson continues to be as busy as the Ambassador (and more popular on social media, as various kind souls continue to point out!) From being the star of the diplomatic corps at Dublin's Pride Parade, to trick-or-treating as a ghost on Halloween, to getting into the spirit for Christmas. He's working hard in the office most days, so drop by to say hello if you don't mind a little lick. You might strike a day when his mates Mila and Todd are in too.



## Special Kiwi-Irish Stories Finally Told



**Trinity College Dublin / Moycullen Galway, September:** Our congratulations again extends to authors Peter Burke and Rory Sweetman for the Ireland launch events of two special books. Rory's book "Defending Trinity College Dublin, Easter

## Mental Health Services & Rape Crisis Centre

### TRAINING:

Our consular support team undertook two workshops recently with:

1. The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre
2. St Patrick's Mental Health Services

The New Zealand Embassy initiated and helped organize both sessions with colleagues across the consular network. Participants from a number of Embassies were in attendance (photo below).



## MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENTS



Megan Woods, NZ Minister for Energy and Resources and Richard Bruton, Irish Minister for Communication, Climate Action and Environment connecting in Paris to exchange notes on climate friendly energy policies and how to make a difference in Irish and NZ homes



Stuart Nash, NZ Minister for Small Business meets with Pat Breen, Irish Minister for Trade, Employment and Business at Station F in Paris, a major ecosystem for start-ups. The ministers met to discuss the similarity in both our economies and the challenges and opportunities this represents

**Rising 1916 – ANZACs and the Rising** details the kiwi soldiers who prevented the fall of Trinity College during the Easter Rising. Peter's book, "True to Ireland" details Irish conscientious objectors in New Zealand during World War II. We were pleased to support both events and launch True to Ireland alongside Minister Cannon in Moycullen.

And of course we can't forget Joe Schmidt. We think he has the title wrong though – we would have gone with No Ordinary Joe.