



## NEWSLETTER - 19 MAY 2019

Kia ora everyone.

The purpose of this newsletter is to update you with the great and good news about the book and the plans for the launch in Ireland in September. Put these dates in your diaries now. Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of September in Dublin and Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> in Moycullen, Galway.

Well known Irish/NZ academic historian, Rory Sweetman and myself are jointly launching our respective books on 11 September 2019 in the top floor suite of the Long Room Hub, Trinity College Dublin: Rory's book is *Defending Trinity College Dublin, Easter 1916: Anzacs and the Rising* (Four Courts Press, Dublin) and mine as you know, *True to Ireland* (The Cuba Press, Wellington)

It seemed logical that we should have a combined launch and we think this will give us maximum publicity and hopefully very good book sales.

As well, I am staging a separate launch of my book on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> at the Forge in Moycullen and hopefully Rory will be there too. There may also be other events but these will 'evolve' over time.

We are aware that some New Zealanders are thinking about going to Ireland this year – well now you have no excuse not to come with guaranteed invitations to a couple of great book launches, not to mention the chance to catch up with family and friends in the Emerald Isle and to do some fun tourism.

The purpose of this email is let you know our plans. I am happy to seek out and co-ordinate accommodation to the best of my ability in Dublin and Galway. But many of you will have relatives and may also know of accommodation options.

The big thing is let me know asap and we may be able to organise some tours events etc. If you are unable to make the trip, but have relatives whose families are mentioned in the book please let me know so that they can be invited to these events. There may

be some limitation on numbers, but the aim would be to have family representatives at the launches.



The other great news is that True to Ireland will be printed in Ireland and therefore available there through some outlets. The distribution has still to be confirmed, but suffice to say I am confident that the book will be on sale in Ireland by the time it is launched in September.



There has been extensive promotion of True to Ireland in New Zealand. I have spoken to groups right around the country including Auckland, New Plymouth, Palmerston North, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. There have been articles in local newspapers and a few weeks ago I was interviewed on Radio New Zealand. The books are on sale in most cities around the country and while it is a niche book, the uptake has been very good. Please go to the website [www.true-to-Ireland.com](http://www.true-to-Ireland.com) to see the latest news.

The publicity has seen me receive emails from many people from New Zealand and overseas who have recognised a relative or a friend on the front page of the book. Others have shared their interesting stories about their own Irish folk in the early to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. Hopefully this will lead to more people writing up their family history and adding to the richness of the Irish diaspora.



So finally thanks to all of you who have supported me in writing and launching True to Ireland. I feel another book or two coming on – we'll just have to wait and see.

Best wishes and hopefully I will see some of you in Dublin and/or Moycullen in September.

**Think very seriously about this! There is the makings of an exceptional and once in the lifetime craic among great friends and relations.**

Peter Burke

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**PS PLEASE PASS THIS NEWSLETTER ON TO ANYONE WHO YOU THINK MIGHT  
BE INTERESTED**