

Regional Report 2024-2025 Irish English Network

Conferences and Workshops

- Different members of the Irish English network will be participating in the EFACIS conference in Turku and the AEDEI conference in Huelva.

Irish Itinerary & EFACIS Engagement:

There is a firm commitment from IrEN to collaborate in future EFACIS activities, including conferences and PhD seminars.

New Projects or Funding Ideas

At present, the following research projects are ongoing:

1. Speak for Yersel: Northern Ireland and Speak for Yersel: Republic of Ireland: Creating a digital snapshot of the use of English and Scots today (<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/press/articles/latest/2024/10/speakforyersel/>).

When you're talking to a group of people, would you say 'you', 'youse', or 'y'e? Would you ever say 'I'm pure ragin''? And do you pronounce 'meat' the same as 'mate'?

These are the kinds of questions asked in Speak for Yersel: Northern Ireland and Speak for Yersel: Republic of Ireland, two brand-new resources which will create a digital snapshot of how English on the island of Ireland and Scots in Ulster are used in the 21st century. They will map the diverse varieties heard from Ballycastle in the north to Ballycotton in the south. City-dwellers in Belfast and Dublin in the east can have their say alongside the rural populations of tiny villages like Belleek and Brandon in the west.

IrE network member Karen Corrigan, Professor of Linguistics and English Language and Research Associate Dr. Mary Robinson, of the School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics at Newcastle University, are leading the Northern Irish survey. They are collaborating with Dr. Louis Strange from the University of Glasgow who is leading the Republic of Ireland one.

This project has resulted in various broadcasts and newspaper articles:

- (1) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0025tvb>
- (2) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c8j9ppymw23o>

- (3) https://www.ulsterscotsagency.com/fs/doc/001_2024/FINAL_The_Ulster-Scot_Nov_24.pdf
- (4) <https://www.facebook.com/BBCRadioUlster/videos/-you-youse-or-ye-this-week-on-your-place-and-mine-karen-corrigan-professor-of-li/1846210296151169/>
- (5) <https://x.com/bbcradioulster/status/1865293938241790286>

2. The project 'CORIECOR visualized. Irish English in writing across time (a longitudinal historical perspective)' (https://corviz.h.uib.no/index_convert.php) is coming to an end in June 2025. The aim of the project was to create a publicly accessible, sustainable electronic correspondence corpus, the Corpus of Irish English Correspondence (CORIECOR), so that it can then be used for further research by the wider academic community. For further information on CORIECOR and previous projects see Amador-Moreno, C. P. (2022) Contact, Variation and Change: Mapping the History of Irish English through CORIECOR. Nexus, vol. 2 (2022) <https://aedean.org/wp-content/uploads/nexus-2022-02-completo.pdf>, 49-56.

Miscellaneous Information

The information we provide on the IrEN website is aimed at getting more Irish English scholars to engage with EFACIS and vice versa: Traditionally the linguistics of Irish English has not played a very important role in the field of Irish Studies in general. One of the aims of the Irish English Network (IrEN) at irish-english.net is to improve this and have Irish English research recognised and supported by Irish Studies scholars. Since late 2021, we have been part of EFACIS. Also, we are increasingly involved in EFACIS projects. Further initiatives will be planned.

We would welcome any suggestions from EFACIS to engage with us too. A number of IrEN members have an interest in literature and there are many areas of linguistics that can be of interest to EFACIS scholars.