

INNOVATIVE:
 Claire Farrell of
 EC Arts with a
 live display of
 what the
 Boundary art
 project will look
 like when
 installed at the
 new Digbeth
 Coach Station.



City's Irish welcome

Halifax & District Irish Society
18th Annual Irish Festival 2009

BIGGEST IRISH SUMMER FESTIVAL
Monday 29th June 2009 to Sunday 5th July 2009

www.halifaxirishsociety.org.uk & www.halifaxirishfestival.org.uk

<p>Monday 29th June 2009 Halifax Irish Centre at 8pm IRISH QUIZ NIGHT TEAMS OF UP TO FOUR PEOPLE GREAT PRIZES ADMISSION FREE QUIZ MASTER JOE SHEERAN</p>	<p>Tuesday 30th June 2009 Halifax Irish Centre 8pm to 11pm IRISH FOLK MUSIC EVENING FROM COBH Co. CORK SABRINA PIGGOTT SUPPORTED BY MARK WARD ADMISSION FREE</p>	<p>Wednesday 1st July 2009 Halifax Irish Centre 8pm to 11pm CELTIC ROCK NIGHT BELT OF THE CELTS ADMISSION FREE</p>
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Thursday 2nd July 2009 - 12 Noon to 4pm - Over 55's Luncheon Club Festival Party - Members Only
SEAN WILSON & TONY MAC
 IRISH DANCERS, BUFFET, BINGO, RAFFLE & THE CRAIC

Friday July 3rd 2009 7.30pm till Late
GALA DINNER DANCE
 AT THE CEDAR COURT 4 STAR LUXURY HOTEL
 Telephone:- 01422 375431 www.cedarcourthotels.co.uk
 Special Accommodation Rates

 FIDDLER ADAM (Antrim)	 THOMAS MAGUIRE (Fermanagh) FHIONA ENNIS (Wexford)	 NICKY JAMES (Armagh)
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THOMAS MAGUIRE & FHIONA ENNIS & BAND FIDDLER ADAM NICKY JAMES
Admission by Ticket Only (Limited)... Entertainment Dancing & Dinner £30.00
 Tickets available from Peter Timmons 01422 381055 timmonspeter@yahoo.co.uk Maurice Kidney 01422 343483 maurice.kidney@sky.com
 Pat & Jackie Keane 01484 422854 keanepa51@yahoo.co.uk Michael Snee 01484 718713 michael.snee@talk21.com

Saturday Evening July 4th 2009 at the Arden Road Social Club from 8.00pm
8 PIECE CEILI BAND FROM BIRMINGHAM INCLUDING CALLER
FREE Admission reel note ceili band Admission FREE
ALSO CASSIDY SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING & JODIE KENNEDY SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING

Sunday July 5th 2009 at The Halifax Piece Hall from 12noon to 5.30pm.....MC - NICKY JAMES
 Please be advised you are not allowed to bring alcoholic drinks of any sort into the Piece Hall

BEER TENT - STALLS CHILDREN'S FAIRGROUND HOT & COLD FOOD - SHOPS PLENTY OF CRAIC & MUCH MORE	NATHAN CARTER BAND GIANTS CAUSEWAY THE MCCARRONS BELT OF THE CELTS	CASSIDY SCHOOL HALIFAX SCHOOL JODIE KENNEDY SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING
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Admission £4.00: Concessions £3.00: Children (Under 12 years of age) FREE

WORDS AND PICTURES BY
BRENDAN FARRELL

IT'S been welcoming travellers to Britain's second city for years.

But very soon those stepping off their transport at Birmingham's main coach station will soon be treated to a very Irish welcome.

For in October this year a state-of-the-art new terminus will open in the city's Digbeth area.

Some £15million is being spent on constructing the facility in the heart of Birmingham's Irish Quarter.

And to reflect that Celtic connection owners National Express have commissioned a team to give the 1.6million people who use the coach station a taste of Ireland.

It will see three permanent artistic commissions around the new building.

The project is being headed by Claire Farrell of EC Arts — a well-known member of the Irish business community with family roots in Longford.

Part one of the project involves The Boundary — a dramatic 190-metre red perimeter which appears to change shape as people move around the work.

But it's part two which has the real Irish flavour — and is closest to Claire's heart.

The Irish Quarter Visual Art commission has been created by Irish artist Dave Sherry — who is from Rostrevor in Co. Down,

but now works in Glasgow.

Dave's brief is to produce an art installation to be sited at the entrance to the new station.

His idea is to incorporate the Irish words of welcome, C ad M ile F ailte, linked with its English translation.

It is aimed at representing the Irish Quarter and encapsulating the history and vitality of the area.

Although this commission is one of its first visual art projects and is a famous Irish saying, the concept was chosen because the English translation is universal — a welcome for all visitors to Birmingham.

The final part of the commission is a short film which will document the public art process, community engagement, artist interviews, workshops, events and the fabrication and installation process.

The final film will be a permanent digital media installation situated within the new coach station waiting room to heighten visitors' awareness of the rich history of the area.

Claire said: "National Express has invested in the new coach station and the public art strategy.

"By developing this project themselves rather than buying a piece of off-the-shelf art that is irrelevant to the local community the coach station and Birmingham will be getting public art that has a sense of place."

ARTIST'S IMPRESSION:
 What the terminus will look like.

