

# COMHALTAS PERTH - SEAN DOHERTY BRANCH

## BICKLEY IRISH MUSIC WEEKEND SATURDAY 24TH MAY 2025

### WORKSHOP TUTORS

#### **Seán Doherty (Fiddle)**

Seán Doherty is a fiddle player from County Mayo, Ireland, and has been teaching Irish traditional music in Perth Comhaltas for over 45 years. Seán was Chair of Comhaltas for 20 years, with the Perth branch now named after him. Many of Seán's students have gone on to professional careers in music in both traditional and classical genres.

#### **Fiona Doyle (Flute)**

Fiona Doyle's family hails from Dublin. She was a student of Seán Doherty and Comhaltas growing up in Perth. Fiona has played the Irish wooden flute and Whistles with many local Irish Traditional bands and is a founding member of the traditional group The Hár.

#### **Dympna Finch (Tin Whistle)**

Dympna Finch is Perth born to Sligo parents and grew up learning her craft from Seán Doherty and Comhaltas. Dympna's main stylistic influences include Mary Bergin and Carmel Gunning. Irish folk/rock bands played with include Shebeen, Jade, the Folk Heroes, Shillelagh Law, Down the Swanee and the Broken Pokers. Dympna is a regular at Irish music sessions around Perth.

#### **Kevin Ford (Bodhrán)**

Originally from Cork City, Kevin is a regular at sessions around Perth on bodhrán and bouzouki and has played bodhrán with many Irish Traditional groups and performers. Kevin enjoys passing on his rhythmic skills to other players old and new alike.

#### **Ross Hume (Uilleann Pipes)**

Ross Hume is an award-winning musician from County Antrim, Ireland, who was drawn to Perth to play the highland pipes professionally with the WA Police Pipe Band. Ross plays uilleann pipes and whistles with local trad bands such as Bachrum, and is a regular at sessions around Perth.

#### **Tara Kenny (Concertina)**

Tara Kenny is a concertina player from County Wexford, Ireland, and also plays piano and whistle. Tara arrived in Perth in 2024 to further a nursing career and enjoys playing and teaching traditional music as well as expanding the range of instruments played, which now includes strings!

#### **Caroline McCarthy (Céilí Dancing and Set Dancing)**

Caroline McCarthy is the Director of Torc Céilí Club (pronounced tork!). Originally from Co. Kerry, Caroline has lived in Australia for nearly 15 years and is a qualified Irish Dancing teacher (TCRG) with An Coimisiún Le Rincí Gaelacha (CLRG).

#### **Jane Meehan (Fiddle / Banjo)**

Jane Meehan is a multi-instrumentalist and music educator from Dundalk, Co. Louth (Ireland). She has a Bachelor's degree in Applied Music and a Master's degree in Performance of Irish Traditional Music in which she specialised in her main instrument - fiddle. Jane has travelled extensively, performing and teaching across the globe at conferences and festivals. Jane has taught a number of students in the University of Limerick, and multiple Comhaltas groups over the years. With a keen interest in all fiddle playing styles, inspiration is also drawn from whistle and pipe playing. You can find Jane online on Instagram and Facebook at janefiddle and Jane Meehan Fiddle respectively.

#### **Máirtín Ó Dubhlaigh (Irish Language)**

Máirtín Ó Dubhlaigh is from West Meath, Ireland, and was instilled with a great and love and respect for the Irish Language hearing his parents speaking Gaeilge in the home growing up. He has taught Irish in his adopted home away from home of Australia for over 30 years. Máirtín enjoys teaching Irish to both native and non-native speakers of all levels whilst appreciating the diversity of cultures and many different languages spoken here in Australia.

#### **Ciarán O'Sullivan (Singing)**

Originally from Donegal in the northwest of Ireland, Ciarán emigrated to Perth in 2011. Ciarán performs and sings with various traditional groups including The Hár and Ciarán O'Sullivan Trio.