

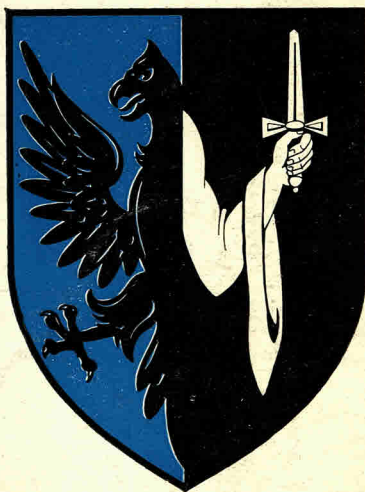
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The Irish Counties Journal

AUGUST, 1971

ISSUE No. 9

VOLUME No. 1



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LONDON COULD HAVE IRISH WEEK IN 1972

London could easily have one complete "Irish Week" in 1972. The move is initiated by the Chairman of the London St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, Mr. James Conway, Cavan. The move to have this from 9th March to 17th March, 1972, will get a good airing from full and well represented Irish Organisations and well known personalities and individuals in London.

Mr. Conway has sent out the following invitation which includes one to Mrs. Jane Smyth of the Thomond Publishing Co. and to the Chairman of the Council of Irish County Associations, Mr. Maurice O'Connor, Kerry.

Re: Formation of Irish Week in London - 1972.

The Chairman of Coiste Mor-Shiubhal Feile Padraig, Mr. James Conway, Cavan, requests the pleasure of Mr. to an inaugural Dinner and Talk in connection with the "Formation of Irish Week" in London for St. Patrick's Tide, 9th March to 17th March, 1972, and to be held at The Irish Club, 82 Eaton Square, London, S.W.1, for Wednesday, 15th September, 1971. Reception 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

The Chairman feels that this could easily be achieved with the co-operation of the many Irish Organisations and Individuals in London and has plenty of scope of making "One Big Irish Week" in the Capital of Britain.

The following items will be discussed—

- (1) Irish Shop Window Display of Irish Goods.
- (2) Week's Display of Irish Goods.
- (3) Banquet.
- (4) Gaelic League Night.
- (5) Council of Irish County Associations Night.
- (5a) Other Irish Organisations' Night.
- (6) Irish Club and Irish Centre Nights.
- (7) Lectures.

(Continued on page 32)

P

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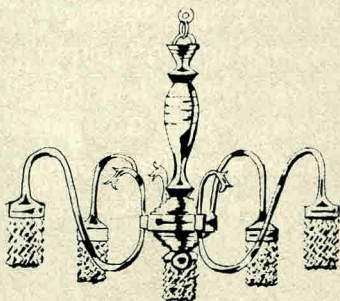
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A concerted effort has recently been made to re-vitalise and rejuvenate the dormant London/Dublin Association. An Annual General Meeting was held in April to try and inject some enthusiasm into emigrant Dubliners now resident in London and some success was achieved.

To this end, a Bacon and Cabbage Supper was held at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, on Saturday, 5th June, and this was a huge success, being attended by about 150 people. Particularly tasty was the white wine provided by the catering staff of the Irish Centre, to be drunk with the succulent bacon which the Sisters had so efficiently cooked.

Mr. Charles Whelan of the Irish Embassy honoured us by accepting an invitation to be present with Mrs. Whelan and he spoke a few words of encouragement to emigrant Dubliners, both young and old; those who had been in London for some time and those who had just arrived, welcoming them to the great metropolis and expressing the hope that they would mix socially and culturally now that they were away from their native shores.

The Dublin Association of London had a stall at the Irish Centre Fair held on Saturday, 12th June. The selling was brisk, particularly of tinned fruit, pickles and fruit squashes, the latter being popular on such a warm day.

The next social event is the Summer Outing to Portsmouth, where we liaise with the Irish colony in Portsmouth and an enjoyable day's "get-together" is anticipated, with perhaps some dancing at the Irish Centre in Portsmouth and the traditional sing-song in the 'bus on the return journey.

The 18th September will see us all at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, for our Caladonian Market Fair. Doors open at 2 p.m. Admission 2½p.

Looking ahead to the coming winter, bear in mind a tentative date of 4th December (which is on a Saturday), for a dance to be held by the Dublin Association at the Irish Centre, Camden Town. The summer passes quickly, with so many people scattered on holiday, autumn will be upon us in no time, so the 4th December, 1971, is the date to remember for our dinner dance to be held at the Irish Centre, Murray Street, Camden Town, when thoughts of Christmas come round again.

Now that the Dublin Association of London has been rejuvenated and revitalised, we hope to keep it that way!

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The continuing story of John Minihan, photographer and poet, As well as being a press photographer he is a poet, so his camera records what he sees and his pen records what he feels. He hopes to publish a book shortly that will illustrate what Ireland is losing in return for a two car and telly civilisation. This book should be well worth buying. An example of his work as a poet is the following—

Donnelly's Hollow

Old Donnelly was an aged man
who lived within his square of land:
face that mirror never sees,
On his acre cottage thatched and cool,
white on white; flowers lead to half door.
Inside old Donnelly coolly sat
beside open fire grate with burning fat,
Sweet aroma from his clay pipe smoked;
wooden stool; Spot his dog with whom he spoke.
Watery eyes bring forth his days of youth
when friends would dance the street outside.
Baked bread smell from fields afar:
Da would fish for eels to fry
and whistled a tune when I cried.
To be a soldier was all I knew of
in khaki grey attention stood maybe hero too.
Ah! Where alone did they all go, lonely am I
No woman felt a love for me. Was it responsibility?
Did I feel alone to stay, to milk the cows, reap the hay.
On Sunday morning mass is said for parents long time dead.
Are they looking from above at their one time love?
Why in town they shun me so when all I have are dreams
and tears of their ma's and da's of yester years.
In my field of corn today field mouse stares.
Does he think I'm odd as well? Ah go to hell.
Sweat runs on frowned sun stained forehead.
Down my cornfield hollow sun which rises.

as from the ground the brightness surrounds
and lights my corn like golden candles.
Blinded for I cannot see. Is that a lady watching me?
What is this whirlpool in my cornfield hollow?
A frightening breath I have to swallow.
What was that you said of all men lying dead
excuse me ma' am I'm not well read.
Alone with my secret I cannot share,
As to the sky I wave goodbye to a vision in field of corn.
In Donnelly's hollow she was born.

JOHN MINIHAN.

Co. Kildare is facing up to the fact that something should be done to encourage tourists. In many parts of the county Muintir na Tire have planned various events. The most attractive one at the moment is the Robertstown Festival which was opened recently by Barbara Castle, British M.P. This festival is held during August and September. For approximately £2.50 you can have a half hour barge trip (fully licensed), a visit to the exhibition and finally a medieval banquet in Robertstown House. At the end of the banquet guests are served with Irish Punch, so taking everything into consideration this appears to be an ideal way to spend an evening.

We are following with interest the Kildare footballers and who knows perhaps this year the "Lily Whites" will come into their own again.

We would like to extend good wishes to one of our members who recently took over the "George," 16 Balham Hill, S.W.12. Barney Mullen is the name and he will be pleased to welcome any county to the George.

We also extend good wishes to Miss Marie Hoey who has been successful in obtaining a place in university.

R. DAVIS,
Hon. Secretary.

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CAVAN ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

President: Mr. James Conway

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During the next few months articles by prominent people in Cavan will be featured in place of the History of the Cavan Association in London.

The first of these articles is on Cavan-Tourism and appears in this month's issue under the title BREIFNE BECKONS, written by Rev. A. J. Nelson, Chairman of the Midland Regional Tourism Organisation.

Mr. Nelson is the Church of Ireland Rector in Bailieborough and in addition to his parochial work he finds time to devote to several organisations. He is also Chairman of the Bailieborough Development Association; National Council of the Blind (Bailieborough Branch); Friends of Mentally Handicapped Children; and President of Bailieborough Credit Union; Bailieborough Macra na Feirme to name just a few.

Mr. Nelson will be principal guest at our Dinner/Dance on Thursday, 14th October, 1971, in the Gresham Ballroom, when he will talk about Tourism and Community life in Cavan and how we in England can make a contribution to developments in our home county.

Tickets for the Dinner Dance are now available and can be obtained by using the application form below—

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BREIFNE BECKONS!

Cavan has accepted the challenge of change and progress presented by the Tourist Industry of today. For years in the backwater of Irish tourism, the county now finds itself actively engaged in the development and marketing of the area's tourist products.

Perhaps the most significant occurrence affecting tourist traffic movement in recent years has been the advent of the Car Ferry and Car Hire Organisations. The Mobile Tourist, moving all over the country, now enjoys the varied landscapes, towns and interests, both inland and coastal. For the motoring visitor, with its mixture of low

(Continued on page 14)



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CAVAN (Continued from page 12)

lying and mountainous areas, Cavan presents a panorama which is peculiar to the country. Beautiful lake, river and forest views, which are both restful and tranquil are matched by the magnificent wild mountain region between Ballyconnell and Blacklion.

Those with an interest in things historical will find Cavan a rewarding countryside to roam. The County Capital itself has much to offer. Its origins on nearby Tullymongan Hill, its association with the O'Reilly clan, whose dynasty lasted almost 400 years and whose currency was accepted as legal tender on the continent; Owen Roe O'Neill's burial place; all these can be traced back and illustrated with ruins and other evidence of time gone by which decorate the town's hinterland.



This is a general view of Cavan town, the administrative centre of the County

Poets, novelists and even song-writers were born and lived in Cavan. Charlotte Bronte, the famous 18th century poetess, was born at Mullagh. The turbulent Dean Swift began writing *Gullivers Travels* at Cuilcagh House near Virginia. Percy French, the popular song-writer, features Finea and Ballyjamesduff, a national Tidy Towns prizewinner, in his well known ballad, Paddy Reilly. In more recent years Kingscourt, or Dun na Ri, was the subject of a songsmith who extolled the beauty of the nearby lovers walk and wishing well.

It seems only a matter of time before the scenic areas of Lough Gowna, Ramor and Oughter, to name but a few, will be the subject of today's recorders, be it in word, song or script.

The only road connecting the north-west extremity of County Cavan with the rest of the County climbs through the Bellavally Gap between Cuilcagh Mountain and Benbrack. This is the wild and beautiful area around Glangavlin. On the western slope of the Cuilcagh Mountain can be found the Shannon Pot, source of the lordly Shannon River. Some miles north of Glangevlin the road continues via Lough Macnean to the village of Blacklion.

In Cavan, the major special interest holiday is coarse fishing. In Britain alone there are over 2½ million registered coarse anglers, and this market is proving to be particularly receptive to the Cavan

(Continued on page 16)

MY IRELAND

This is the land, who's magic
 ever casts a spell
and lures me back
 Be it noon or night
'Twas there; first I heard
 the soft velvet tones
 of men
versed in our Gaelic tongue
as they told of our heroes
and of the fight
to keep an ancient peoples'
 heritage intact.
of your rugged hills
they spoke; — Those hills
that felt the pulse of a people —
 — freedom bent.
They echoed too the prayers
 of children; heaven sent
as they knelt in little
 huddled groups
around the mass rock
 while others watched; and prayed.
They spoke with pride
of the ancient abbeys
where silent sandalled monks
their Rosary's told
How, from the mass rock too
 a greater faith — more bold
 had sprung
all this I heard — and more
 from the lips
of a well-versed; Celtic breed
 — when dreams were young.

MICHAEL HANNON.

CAVAN (Continued from page 14)

waters. The development of accommodation, lakes and rivers, through grants schemes and general tourist development programmes is one of Lake Land's — the Midland Regional Tourism Organisation — and Board Failte's major considerations in placing the county in a position to attack this market and gain optimum returns.

The continent too, with France, Germany, Holland and Italy accounting for an estimated 5 million anglers is a market with tremendous potential, and one in which the Regional Company has been gaining strides during the last year.

Another area where there are more than interesting tourist prospects is river Cruising. The Erne system, which already has a Cruiser Hire Firm operating from Belturbet, comprises a large system of lakes, which give way to the slow-moving river Erne, which flows through Belturbet towards county Fermanagh. These waters offer totally unspoiled tranquil cruising in an area of undiscovered scenic beauty.

The network of local Associations working with the Midland Regional Tourism Organisation, is comprehensive and active. This combined effort brings to fruition an aim of the Organisation's activities. It has also succeeded in effecting an equitable distribution of tourist revenue throughout the county, thereby improving the social and economic status of the county's communities.

The type of holiday available in Cavan is not dependent on weather conditions. Fishing, golfing, shooting and other active sports can be enjoyed at almost any time of the year, not to mention farmhouse holidays which are becoming extremely popular. The county is, therefore, highly suitable for the development of off-season tourist traffic. Board Failte and Midland Tourism continue to make substantial investment in the county to increase and improve amenities and accommodation through the Special Development Area and other Grant Schemes.

Cavan, as a county, has an expanding tourist future which will ensure for it a place of importance in the overall concept of Irish Tourism and perhaps more importantly, will improve the way of life of her people.

THOMOND PUBLISHING CO. regrets that the Journal is not up to its usual high standard this month. Mrs. Smyth has had to attend hospital every day for treatment resulting from a car accident

Hope to be back to normal for September



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It was very encouraging to see most of the Committee and members turn out for the July meeting and get-together at the Irish Centre. When the next meeting takes place we trust all will have enjoyed a well earned holiday.

The Quiz versus Carlow was very enjoyable. Our team didn't win but it was a good contest. Our team were as follows: Frank Corrigan (captain), P. J. Green, Mrs. Greene, Dan McManus and Mrs. Eileen Sanderson. Our congratulations to the Carlow team on winning the Guinness Cup, 1970, a few weeks previous.

Best wishes is conveyed to Mr. Frank McManus, M.P., on the occasion of his forthcoming marriage on August 11th. Mr. McManus is President of the Association.

Congratulations to Mr. P. J. Leonard formerly of The Knocks, Lisnaskea, on becoming the Mayor of Kettering.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John McAleer on the birth of their daughter, likewise to Mr. and Mrs. Perry (Roy and Una). Una was Secretary of this Association prior to her marriage. They are now living in Holland but still keep contact.

Again may we congratulate the two Fermanagh football teams, the Minors and Under Twenty One's, on reaching the Ulster Finals.

Last, but not least, please make a note. Our Annual Dinner, 28th October, at the Irish Centre. Tickets available from the Officers and Committee or Mrs. M. McCormack (Hon. Secretary), 137 Walker House, Phoenix Road, London. N.W.1. Telephone 01-387-8604.

BRENT IRISH WALK RAISES £100 FOR TWO NEW BAGPIPES

The Chairman of the Brent Irish Society, Mrs. Eileen Wagstaff, of Fleetwood Road, Dollis Hill, writes to say "thank you" to all the good people who so kindly sponsored members of their Brent Irish Society Boys' and Girls' Pipe Band in their recently held charity walk.

It commenced from Radlett and finished up at the Cricklewood Hotel. Over £100 was collected just enough to purchase two new bagpipes for the band.

This young band who go to Dublin at their own expenses for the 1972 St. Patrick's Day Parade, have had a rough passage endeavouring to raise the money to buy the instruments for the band, but Eileen is always grateful to receive donations.

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There are the usual holidays at Christmas, Easter and Whitsuntide and students may also enrol at any class at anytime during the year.

At Christopher Hatton School, Laystall Street, Roseberry Avenue, E.C.1 (353 4153): Mondays, 6 to 8 p.m. and St. Matthews C. of E. School, Old Pye Street, S.W.1 (222-5170): 7.30 to 9.30 p.m.

Tuesday — Stanhope Institute, 248 Marylebone Road, N.W.1 (723-0450): 6 to 7.30 p.m. and 7.30 to 9.30 p.m.

Thursday — St. Matthews C. of E. School (address as above): 6.30 to 8.30 p.m.

London Borough of Redbridge

Every Thursday at County High School for Girls, Cranbrook Road, Ilford, Essex: 7.30 to 9.30 p.m.

For further information please contact the Gaelic League Office, 99 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1 (834-6470).

TOM MURPHY.

IRISH CLUB LIFE MEMBER DIES

Wexford man Tom Turner, a life member of the Irish Club, Eaton Square, S.W.1, has died at the age of 81.

He was known as "Daddy" at the Irish Club and up to the time of his illness, he was a frequent visitor.

Tom was born at the Maudlins, New Ross, Co. Wexford, and always boasted of "The Boys of Wexford."

A fitting tribute to him was the large attendance at the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Botwell Lane, Hayes, Middlesex, last week, for the Requiem held at the Claretian Missionaries Church.

Many old and young friends of Tom were present at the funeral that followed to pay their last respects to a great Wexfordman.

JIM and PHYLLIS GALVIN
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LONDON WEXFORDMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Patron: Most Rev. Dr. Donal Herlihy, D.D., Bishop of Ferns

President: Rev. Fr. N. Lambert, O.S.C.

Vice-Presidents: Rev. Fr. Dermot McGrath, O.S.C.; Mr. D. J. O'Leary

Chairman: Mr. P. McCabe

Secretary: Mrs. M. Newport, 88 Valley Road, Streatham, S.W.16

Treasurer: Mr. D. Cadogan

LONDON WEXFORDMEN'S ASSOCIATION HAND OVER KEYS OF VAN

The generous donated van by Tim Gaughan of "The Eagle," Tottenham and Jim Galvin of "The George," Hammersmith, in answer to the London Wexfordmen's Association Appeal, came to a grand finality last month. A deputation of the Wexford group travelled to Roehampton to hand over the keys to Sister St. James of the Servants of the Mother of God who deliver the soup to the unfortunate drop outs of London in conjunction with St. Mungo's Community, Notting Hill Gate.



Chairman, Pat McCabe, is seen here with Danny J. O'Leary, Vice-President and permanent Chairman of the Kennedy Brothers Memorial Fund Committee, Tom Murphy, New Ross, who initiated the scheme and Tom Bailey, New Ross.

Members of the Community are with Sister James (Cork), Sister Mary Oliver (Cavan), Sister Mary Josephine and Sister Margaret (both Cork). A cheque of almost £200 was also handed over to Sister James.

The Association in conjunction with well known New Ross people are sponsoring a benefit dance for to aid Mr. Martin (Watto) Cullen, New Ross. Mr. Jim Conway and his son Christopher are giving their

(Continued on page 35)

Michael and Kathleen O'Sullivan (Kerry Association)
welcome all Associations to

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THE KERRY ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

Headquarters: St. Brendans, 4 Craven Park, London, N.W.10

President: Rev. Fr. J. Cremin, P.P., Kingston-Upon-Thames

Treasurer:

Chairman:

Secretary:

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. E. Guerin, | Mr. M. O'Connor, | Mr. J. O'Connor |
| 55 Warriner Gardens, | 121 Woodend Gardens, | 20 Clauson Avenue, |
| Battersea, S.W.11 | Northolt, Middx. | Northolt, Middx. |
| Tel. 01-622 6083 | Tel. 01-422 2286 | Tel. 01-422 6688 |



The Bishop of Kerry with members of the Association at a Dinner / Dance to mark the official opening of St. Brendans.

As we approach the halfway mark in the year we are pleased that the affairs of the Association are in a very healthy state. With holidays upon us we look forward to a rest from the activities which have kept us busy over the past six months.

The events of the last six months were many and varied and we look forward to the Winter Programme and hope that our efforts during the months ahead will enjoy the same amount of success.

We are pleased to report that the "O'Donnell Fund" which we were connected with together with the Irish Post and other organisations realised a substantial figure. The amount raised by Association members exceeding £1,250 and the committee overall which we set up raised over £2,500. Our thanks to the Monaghan Association for their valuable assistance. To all the helpers who assisted in this

(Continued on page 37)

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THE WATERFORD ASSOCIATION LONDON

Patron: The Most Rev. Dr. Michael Russell, D.D.,
Bishop of Waterford and Lismore

President: Right Rev. Mons. C. J. HENDERSON, V.G.P.P.

Chairman: W. J. SMYTH,
143 Cleverly Estate, Wormholt Road, W.12. 01-749 0909

Hon. Secretary:

M. DONOVAN, 59 Park Road, Hendon, N.W.4. 01-202 6357

Vice-Chairman: J. FRENCH. 01-807 2114

Treasurer: P. STAFFORD. 01-607 0431

Assistant Treasurer: P. MOLONEY. 01-450 7027

Assistant Sec.: J. REGAN. 01-733 9965



The photograph shows The Waterford Association, London with the villagers of Waterford, Hertfordshire.

OUR VISIT TO WATERFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE

On the 10th July we hired two coaches to take us to the beautiful village of Waterford in Hertfordshire. We had a wonderful evening of singing and dancing with the villagers at the village hall. The catering was in the very capable hands of Mr. Mitchell, landlord of the Waterford Arms (it is interesting to note that the coat of arms which hangs outside the Waterford Arms is that of the Marquis of Waterford who is one of the many friends of our Association).

In his address our Chairman, Mr. Wally Smyth said: "how happy we were to be once more among the villagers of Waterford in the beautiful English countryside." It reminded us all of home. The Chairman then presented a Waterford tie to Mr. Mitchell. In his reply Mr. Mitchell said they in the village always looked forward to the visits of the Waterford Association and hoped they would continue for many years to come.

The first spot prize (a bottle of Sherry) was won by our Chairman who declined it. It was subsequently won by Mrs. Lee of Kilburn.

(Continued on page 38)

A CEAD MILE FAILTE TO ALL ASSOCIATIONS
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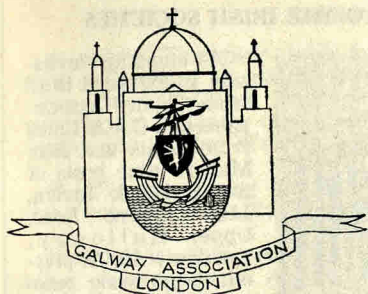
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The Archbishop of Tuam,
The Bishop of Galway,
The Mayor of Galway

ENTRY FORM

**INTER COUNTY SINGING CONTEST FOR MICHAEL MOLLOY
PERPETUAL TROPHY**

NAME
(Block Letters)

ADDRESS
.....

Tel. No. (home) (business)

County of Origin

I wish to Enter under category A, B, C

- A — TRADITIONAL
- B — COUNTRY & WESTERN
- C — CLASSICAL

(delete as appropriate)

I agree to be bound by the rules of the Competition.

Signed

I enclose P.O. or Cheque value 25p

Rules of Competition.

(1) Closing date for entry 1st October, 1971. All entries to be marked "Singing Contest" and forwarded to the Galway Association, c/o The Irish Centre, 52 Camden Square, London, N.W.1.

(2) A competitor may only enter once.

(3) The judges decision is final.

(4) The competition will be run off in heats and competitors will be marked on a points system. Those with the highest points will go forward to the final.

(5) Winners of heats will receive cash donations.

(6) The organisers reserve the right to refuse admission.

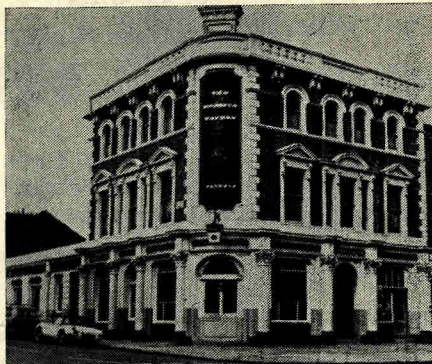
(7) The venue for the competition in its entirety is to be the Irish Centre, 52 Camden Square, London, N.W.1.

(8) Members of the public are liable to a cover charge of 10p and are welcome to the competition.

(9) The right to refuse admission to the public is also reserved by the organisers.

M. J. WALSH, Hon. Secretary, Galway Association.

STANDING INVITATION TO THE IRISH SOCIETIES



A standing invitation is extended to all Irish County Associations and G.A.A. Clubs from Louis and Joan Maher, mine hosts of the Birkbeck Tavern, 119 Elthorne Road, Upper Holloway, London N.19. At present large scale renovations are being carried out that will make this North London mecca one of the finest meeting points in that area.

It will be suitable for wedding receptions and the holding of Private dinners and parties at very reasonable rates. Many Dart Boards are an added attraction under genial management and Irish, Folk and Pop Music is on the Clar for every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday nights. But why not drop in for a quiet drink and a family chat from Louis and Joan who both come from Tipperary!

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WANT A BET

A certain Tipperary Irish businessman who advertises in our Journal is prepared to match pound with pound that the All-Ireland Hurling Final at Croke Park, on September 5th, will be between Tipperary who gallantly conquered Limerick in the Munster Final and Kilkenny who toppled Wexford on the Leinster crown.

But Tipperary must yet meet Galway and Kilkenny versus our London hopes at Croke Park on 15th August, 1971.

Win, lose or draw, the Hurling chartered flight sponsored by the London Wexfordmen's Association still goes on. Tom Murphy in charge of reservations will be out of London during August but patrons wishing to avail of the cheap three days bed/breakfast trip, out Friday and back Monday evening should now make contact with the London Wexfordmen's Chairman, Mr. Pat McCabe. Pat's telephone number is 01-205 5930.

The details of the flight is again for your information: return air travel London/Dublin — coach transfers Airport Hotel/Airport Dublin only. Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation at The Mount Herbert Hotel. Total cost £27.15.

Don't miss this great game.

MEATH ASSOCIATION OF LONDON

On Sunday, the 30th of May, we had our annual outing to Margate. On the morning of the outing it was pouring rain in London, and everyone thought the day would be spoiled but within 10 miles of Margate the rain stopped and the sun took its place. The weather in Margate was summer-like all day. Every one seemed to enjoy themselves. After a most enjoyable day at the seaside we prepared for the journey home.

As in other years we stopped at the Roman Galley for high tea and a social. This was the most enjoyable stage of the outing.

Mr. Pat Rothwell from Trim was ever lasting on the accordin. It was Pat who helped to make the social such a success. Young and old enjoyed his varied selections. Others who entertained were Mrs. Ina Towell from Galway and Eugene and James Quinn from Meath. We also had music on the tin whistle from Mr. James Cooke, Kerry.

Our grand benefit dance in the Assembly Rooms, Camden Town Hall, on the 12th June was a huge success. The proceeds went to Fr. Seamus Flimings Mission fund in Gambia. About 300 people attended a most enjoyable function. The evening ended with the president and members of the committee being entertained by the Mayor of Camden, Councillor A. B. Skinner.

Future events include the Annual Dinner Dance in the Gresham Ballroom, Holloway Road, on November 4th.

PETER CASSIDY (P.R.O.),
45 Lancaster Road,
London, N.4.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE COMMITTEE (Continued from page 4)

- (8) Ceili.
- (9) Irish American Night.
- (10) Irish Youth and International Nights.
- (11) Irish Barbecue Night.
- (12) Display of Irish Craftsmanship.
- (13) Festival Concert.
- (14) Blessing of Shamrock.
- (15) Parade — Bands — Floats — Competition.
- (16) Con — Celebrated Mass — Hyde Park.
- (17) Charter Flight to Dublin for St. Patrick's Day.
- (18) Whist/Chess Competitions and G.A.A. Games.
- (19) Mass of St. Patrick at Westminster Cathedral.
- (20) Gaelic League Ceili.

Last month, Secretary, Tom Murphy of Wexford, was in conference with representatives of the New York Bishop Kearney High School Band, Rochester, re. tentative talks on the appearance of this band to London for next year. Mrs. Jane "O'Brien" Henderson and her cousin, Mr. Andrew Korts, business manager of the Band, represented New York. The Secretary will have a report ready for the annual general meeting and now definitely fixed for the Irish Club, 82 Eaton Square, London, S.W.1, for Tuesday, October 5th, 1971. The time for this very important meeting is 8 p.m. It's a long time off for delegates to remember but motions and nominations should be with the Secretary by Tuesday, September 15th, 1971, on the official form below.

**NOMINATIONS & MOTIONS FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
COISTE MOR-SHIUBAL FEILE PADRAIG AT IRISH CLUB, 82
EATON SQUARE, S.W.1. ON TUESDAY, 7th OCTOBER, 1971, AT
8 p.m. SHARP**

President

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Hon. Treasurer

Hon. Secretary

Motions :

Signed on behalf

Should reach T. O'Murcu, 1 Hermes Point, Elgin Avenue, London,
W.9, by 15th September, 1971.

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A SKI-ING HOLIDAY

B.E.A. Flight No. 574 touched down at Zurich Airport at 20-45 hours and our holiday in Switzerland had begun.

After a short wait for our cases to be unloaded we made our way through Customs and boarded the Swiss Air Bus which took us on the short run into Zurich where we spent the night before setting out early next morning for Grindlewald.

A typical continental breakfast of rolls and jam, we paid our bill and set forth for the station. The journey was in three stages, Zurich to Berne, Berne to Interlaken, Interlaken to Grindlewald. From Zurich the journey was anything but comfortable, hundreds of visitors bound for various Swiss resorts all deciding to catch our train. The first stage was standing room only and in fact we did not get seats until we reached the town of Thun on the way to Interlaken. This part of the journey was through some of the loveliest scenery in Switzerland skirting Lake Thun.

From Interlaken we changed on to the narrow gauge railway and commenced the mountain climb to Grindlewald. The weather which had been misty and dull got clearer the higher we climbed and by the time we reached our destination the sky was blue and the sun beat through the windows like a Mediterranean heat wave.

Grindlewald we found was a small and beautiful village 7,000 feet above sea level providing breath taking views of the glorious Bernese Oberland scenery, with the mountains of Webberhorn, Monach, Eiger and Junfrua all rising above 13,000 feet.

Leaving our cases at the station we set out to hire a toboggan from one of the many such shops in the village as walking along icy pavements carrying four cases was no joke.

We had booked in at a small inn for just bed and breakfast (19 francs (£1.90) each) as it wasn't worth coming down from the Ski Runs for a mid-day meal. The Inn Keeper used to fill our flasks with boiling water, we took a tin of chocolate powder with us, purchased some rolls from a local baker and this picnic style meal carried us through the day. In the evening we splashed out with a main meal average 10 francs (£1).

The first two days of the holiday we spent walking around with a camera, the remainder I spent skiing down the many runs in and around Grindlewald while my wife, who doesn't ski, spent her time sunbathing in a deck chair. It is hard to believe that with five feet of snow on the slopes, the temperature was in the middle 50's with bright sunshine.

The weather was sunny all week, really too warm for ski-ing as the top surface on the snow became very soft around mid-day. On the Thursday afternoon the weather changed and it started to snow and as we left Grindlewald on Friday the peaks of the mountains had disappeared into the clouds. Slipping and sliding on our way to the station the village Postman came to our rescue and stacked our cases on his toboggan. Sad though we were to leave Grindlewald and that wonderful Swiss scenery, the sight of dear old London Town from 20,000 feet to us was a welcome sight.

J. TAYLOR.

LONDON WEXFORDMENS (Continued from Page 23)

Aranmore Irish Dance Hall to them for Sunday, October 3rd. This is definitely another worthy cause to aid Watto, who will never walk again. During his term in London Watto was always the first to help fellow Wexford and Irish men and women when in need. Now is your time to reciprocate to him. Believe it or not, but the wheel-chaired Wexfordman now spends his time mastering the Irish language and all he needs now is someone to speak the language that the most of the Irish do not know. Don't forget the date to help — The Aranmore, Balham, Sunday, 3rd October. Licensed Bar/Buffer and dancing from 9 to 1 a.m.

All is set now for the Kennedy Brothers Memorial Concert at the Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Science on Monday, November 22nd. All seats will be bookable from Mr. Danny J. O'Leary at "The Wexford and all Counties School of Motoring," 1A Chippenham Mews, Paddington, London, W.9 (telephone 01-286 0516). Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to "The London Wexfordmen's Association."

The booking commences on the 17th September, 1971, and stamped addressed envelopes should be sent with order. Tickets are £1.50, £1 and 75p.

Last year the concert was a complete sell out two weeks before the dated and with "The Bachelors" as the top artists, a keen demand is anticipated. You have been warned!

TOM MURPHY, P.R.O.

TIR NA N-OG

Welcome boys and girls to Tir Na n-Og. This is to be your regular corner where you are invited to take part. Please send us your jokes, limericks, hints, photographs, recipes, anything you like.

Competitions are to be held, open to all young readers of this column. The first competition is an essay competition, closing date for entries 31st August, 1971. In all there are four prizes of Record or Book Tokens. Prize winners can decide which they prefer. For the under 12 years of age group there is a first and second prize. The essay is to contain approximately 100 words. The subjects are as follows—

- (a) Summer Holiday
- (b) School Outing
- (c) A Day at the Zoo

The other age group is 12-16 years of age. Again we have two prizes. The essay is to be of approximately 100 words and your subjects are as follows—

- (a) My Irish Holiday
- (b) School Outing
- (c) That Day we Won the Cup

Please enclose your name and address with your entry. Don't forget to tell us your age and good luck with your entries.

Address your entries to—

"Essay Competition,"
Irish Counties Journal,
Thomond Publishing Company,
5 Felixstowe Road,
London, N.W.10 5SR.

OUR QUIZ

Juniors

1. We call the highest point of the tide the "Spring Tide." What do we call the lowest?
2. What are the wings in a theatre?
3. What is peculiar about the elephants of Ceylon?
4. What is the difference between Meteors and Meteorites?
5. What is a spinney?
6. A garden has an area of 42 square yards. What is a better way of explaining this?

Veterans

1. Who wrote the music and lyrics of the Sound of Music?
2. Which bird carries its young in its beak?
3. What is the speed of the Moon in its orbit round the Earth?
4. Which is said to be the oldest stone castle in England.
5. What is Blazonry?
6. Why is a red cap the symbol of liberty?

Answers on page 38

IN SEARCH OF MISS IRELAND OF BRENT

The first heat to find a Miss Ireland of Brent will be held on the 27th August at a hotel in Acton.

Mr. Tom Murphy, of the Wexfordmen's Association, who thought up the contest to give a bit of colour to next year's Paddy's Day Parade when a large contingent of Brent Irish will be flown over to Dublin, predicted a large turn-out of prospective colleens.

"You don't have to be born in Ireland to enter. It's enough if your parents are Irish, or your grandmother — and that should cover a multitude of people," said Mr. Murphy.

Contestants need not wear a bathing costume, nor even an Irish costume. For more information contact Mrs Eileen Wagstaff (telephone 452-6851).

KERRY ASSOCIATION (Continued from page 25)

effort we offer our sincere thanks. Efforts of this nature makes the work done by an association worthwhile.

Our efforts on behalf of the Scanlon Family also was very successful and thanks to the generosity of members and friends we were able to make over £100 available to these orphans.

We shall endeavour during the holidays to make contact with the Kerry Associations in Dublin, Cork and Waterford and look forward to having some developments by way of a competitive nature in the next few months.

Our Quiz Team were defeated by Sligo at St. Brendans recently after one of the most enjoyable contests for a long time. At the final count the sides were level after the lead had changed hands five times. However, on the knockout victory went to Sligo. Our thanks to the Quizmaster Pat Hegarty and Score Keeper John Donovan.

Our Jumble Sale at St. Joseph's Hall on Saturday, 31st July was pretty successful and realised a profit of almost £60.00.

At the present time one of our trustees has been confined to hospital. I refer to Tom Cantillon. We all wish Tom well and look forward to seeing him fit and well very soon. Tom being a founder member of the Association and having served the Association since 1953 will want to be back in harness without delay.

We shall be giving details of the forthcoming dance at The Galtymore in the next issue of the Irish Counties Journal. We hope to have some very special attractions on that occasion. Full details later.

Anyone interested in a week end in Dublin during November for about £22.00 should contact the Hon. Secretary early in September.

Yours faithfully,

MOC.

WATERFORD ASSOCIATION (Continued from page 27)

The second spot prize (two tickets for our annual dinner at Hammer-smith) was won by Mr. Wade, Jnr.

We would like to thank our assistant Treasurer, Mr. Paddy Moloney, for supplying the bottle of sherry.

We are very sorry to lose a committee member, Mr. Nicholas Walsh, who has returned to Ireland after spending some years studying at the London College of Printing. Nicholas is the son of Mr. J. J. Walsh, Editor/Proprietor of the Munster Express. Good luck Nicholas. We will miss you from our quiz team.

We are pleased to hear that Mr. and Mrs. Smyth have recovered from their recent accident. So sorry to hear Jim Regan's son had a bicycle accident, we hope his is completely better now. We wish Mrs. Downes a very speedy recovery from her recent illness. Mrs. Downes who is the mother of our Chairman's wife is now convalescing at May Park Nursing Home after two years of operations in London and Waterford.

Vote of Sympathy.

At our last meeting a vote of sympathy was passed to the Right Rev. Mons. Henderson, on the death of his brother-in-law, Mr. Robert Courtney, R.I.P. Mr. Courtney was chief R.M.S. at St. Davets Hospital, Monaghan.

New Members.

Welcome to Mr. T. Mooney (Ardmore), Mr. John and Thomas O'Keefe (Ballinakill) and Mrs. Lee (Waterford City).

Social Committee.

Mrs. Smyth, 01-749 0909 night, 01-960 0202 day. Mr. French, 01-807 2114. Mr. Moloney, 01-459 7027. Mr. Dowling, 202 6357. Mr. Regan, 01-733 9965.

M. J. DONOVAN,
Secretary.

ANSWERS TO OUR QUIZ

Juniors

1. The Neptide.
2. The sides of the stage or pieces of side scenery are called the wings.
3. Neither bull nor cow have tusks.
4. A Meteor or "Shooting Star" is a lump of matter from outer space which is rendered luminous by contact with Earth's atmosphere. If it does not completely burn up as it travels through the atmosphere it falls to ground as a Meteorite.
5. A Spinney is a group of trees in a small wood.
6. 1 acre.

Veterans

1. Richard Rodgers wrote the music and Oscar Hammerstein II the lyrics.
2. The Hooded Merganser.
3. 2,300 miles per hour.
4. Richmond Castle, Yorkshire. It was built soon after Norman conquest.
5. The coherent description in technical terms of the tinctures and charges etc. on a Coat of Arms.
6. Because when a Roman slave was set free a small red cap was placed on his head and his name was entered in the city rolls as a free man.

From: M. WATERS, 43 Spencer Road, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middlesex.

OLE FOR THE COSTA RAMSGATE

by HARDY CLARKE (Daily Express)

Juan and Rosarie Agut were happy to confirm yesterday that the roof on Mrs. O'Grady's boarding house in Ramsgate, Kent, was not only completed a hundred years before they arrived for their holiday, but the bathroom plumbing is as good as they've seen anywhere in Europe.

What's more the fish fingers they had for lunch laced as they were with HP sauce, were delicious. As for Mrs. O'Grady herself there weren't enough adjectives in the Spanish language to describe her kindness, generosity and efficiency. "To us," said Juan, "she represents everything that is good about Ramsgate."

To the Aguts there is much that is good about Ramsgate, which is why they feel sorry for the 157 unfortunate tourists who have had their holidays to Spain messed up because of incomplete hotels and over booking.

Juan and Rosarie are from Tarrasa near Barcelona and they have brought three of their eight children to Ramsgate for a month — leaving behind them virtually guaranteed sunshine to risk the more spartan climate of the English South-east coast.

Comfort.

For them the beauty of a holiday is the unobtrusive comfort of Mrs. O'Grady's 12-bedroomed boarding house with its paintings of the hills of Donegal, lunch on the dot of one o'clock and homely cups of tea in front of the television in the evening.

Spanish holidaymakers are rare birds at English seaside resorts. Whereas 3 million English tourists go to Spain each year, only a few thousand Spaniards visit our beaches.

As we walked down by the harbour sands Juan, wrapped against the Ramsgate sun in a thick blazer and flannel shirt, said: "Mrs. O'Grady's house might not be a luxury hotel but it has warmth and kindness in every room.

"This is part of the atmosphere that the big establishments on the Spanish coast cannot hope to match.

"We love to come to England, obviously not for the weather but because we are welcome here. And while we are here we study your language."

His son, Eduardo, 15, also prefers the simplicity of Mrs. O'Grady's house to a big hotel. But he finds our sporting facilities very poor, the beaches dirty and the food "much the same as you get on the Costa Brava these days."

Rare.

His twin sister Carmen loves gardens like Mrs. O'Grady's — a rare commodity in Spain.

Mrs. Teresa O'Grady, who comes from Donegal, gazed round the dusted, polished front room, then said: "This is the fourth time the Aguts have come here, and they always go away promising to come back next year.

"You'd never catch me over-booking. It might mean the Aguts being forced to stay in an hotel or something."

CONCORD

"Peace be with you" is at once the salutation and the blessing most ancient and most honoured. It is the foundation of benevolence and the cement of unity. When we wish to describe a horror of horrors, the emblem we use is strife, when we desire to express the most heartfelt and enduring joy, the word is peace. Without peace, communities are pandemoniums, and societies jarring collections of discordant atoms. He who strives to promote peace endeavours insofar to give to man a divine attribute. Concord or harmony is the principle which distinguishes civilised society from savage life. The first great gain of a people rising to eminence and to glory is internal harmony. The first terrible prelude to national decay is the prevalence of civil broils. The first step towards the unmanly blow is the unkind word. The beginning of murder is strife.

Self control is one of the most amiable and most dignified of human attributes. Without it there can be no freedom. I differ from my brother in opinion; should I therefore hate him? Are opinions so certain that they cannot change? Ere long his opinion may be mine, and mine may be his. The same noble faculty of reason is given to us all; but each employs it differently. Variety is the attribute of nature and the pledge for intellectual progress. Among the millions of the human family who tread the earth, there are not two with exactly the same features. Among the untold millions who have lived, and do live, there are not two minds through which similar ideas pass to exactly similar result of judgment. What am I, that I should claim infallibility? What are you, that you should deny to me the noblest of all liberties with which God has endowed me — that of the formation and expression of my own opinion?

It is not necessary that harmony should be broken because opinions differ. We may be morally certain that a principle which we advocate is true; but we must always be conscious that Truth itself, to be really valuable and enduring, must be slowly attained. Lightly won and lightly lost is not only a familiar proverb, but a great moral truth. The noblest principles to which in the progress of time we have attained, have been of slow growth, and have been established only upon the concordant examination of men of different views, who have brought, and who have been willing to bring, their opinions to the best of discussion.

In our own Associations, the preservation of the utmost harmony and friendship is perfectly compatible with the maintenance of every variety of opinion upon the details of our own economy and democratic way of life. As a Society, we are in a state of progress. Much that was once thought unsuitable and wrong in principle has been adopted upon more mature consideration; much that was once thought desirable, and even necessary to our existence, has been discarded, as extended experience has shown its disadvantage. For these results, so creditable to judgment, and so honourable to intellect, we are mainly indebted to the harmony which has reigned throughout our discussions and guided our deliberations. That principle — the foundation of order and the basis of charity and freedom — if duly maintained in our Associations and throughout all our proceedings, will lead to still higher and still nobler developments of our Unity, increasing in still greater ratio its benefits and blessings.

Then let us, as the greatest organised body of Irish people in London, direct every energy to the preservation of peace in our midst; and relying upon the truth of our principles, carry out, in all its fullness the aims or ideals which we have in the past set ourselves to meet the challenge of the 70's.

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