

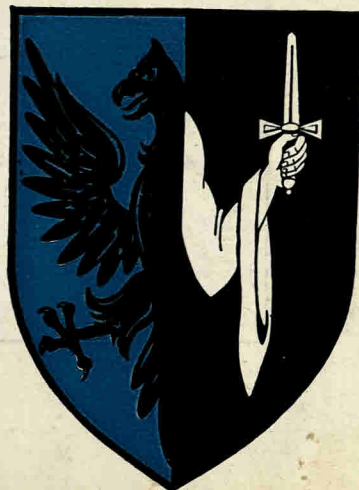
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HISTORY CENTRE

# *The Irish Counties Journal*

ISSUE 4

VOLUME 10

MAY/JUNE 1980



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Treasurer: Mr. H. Milmo. Assistant Treasurer: Mr. Joe Sweeney.  
Secretary: Mr. Peter Dunne, 74 Holmstall Avenue, Edgware, Middlesex  
Tel. 01 205 1335.

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. S. Dowling.

We recently held our second combined Bacon and Cabbage Dinner Dance with the Waterford Association on the 15th March last, at the Irish Centre, Camden Town. A very enjoyable evening was had by all, with everyone looking forward to the same again next year.

Our A.G.M. was held at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, on 1st April. It was very well attended. Our Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected. Our Chairman welcomed us all and thanked us for our support during the past year. He asked us all to make a special effort to sell raffle tickets for a grand draw in aid of a Kidney Machine Fund. Prizes are 1st prize, £100; 2nd prize, £75; 3rd prize, £50; 4th, 5th and 6th prizes of £25; plus £75 voucher to Ireland from B + I, and also a cuddly toy. The draw will take place at our Annual Dance at Wembley Town Hall, on Friday, May 30th. The kidney machine will be presented to a representative of the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, during the evening. A coach full are coming from Ireland for this dance and are taking the opportunity of making it a long weekend. We thank those people for making the special effort. We hope to make it a very pleasant stay for each and everyone.

All our members are looking forward to meeting all our old friends and of course most of all new ones, on this very special evening for the association. Music will be supplied by McGinty and the Diddymen. We would like to remind all that our Annual Reunion is being held this year at the Spotted Dog, Willesden High Road, on 26th September. More about that later.

Raffle tickets and dance tickets available from P. Dunne 205 1335 and Monty on 205 5072 or any of the committee members.

Pauline Barron, Press Officer.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Irish Life Golf Tournament**

The big attraction for June is the Irish Life Golf Tournament at Foxhills Golf and Country Club, Surrey, where Irish Associations, Societies and Clubs gather from all over Gt. Britain for a great day's golf and socialising in the heart of the beautiful Surrey countryside.

I am sorry that this year the names of the competitors were not to hand as we went to press.

In the next issue we will give you an account of the day's outing with the names of the winners, etc., in the meantime I would like to take this opportunity to thank Irish Life, its managing director, Mr. Bob Willis, and Mr. Brendan Bracken, public relations executive, for the sponsorship of this great day which is looked forward to by every Irish group in Britain, and to Brian Mulhall and his staff in London for the hard work they put in on behalf of all of us.



## London Wexford Association

**Patron:** Most Rev. Dr. Herlihy, Bishop of Ferns.

**President:** Fr. Herbert Haines, P.P., Cricklewood, London, N.W.2.

**Vice-Presidents:** Mr. Mick Bowe and Mr. Tom Bailey.

**Life Vice-Presidents:** Mr. Dick Gaul and Mr. Martin Whitty, K.S.G.  
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**Secretary:** Mrs. K. Cullen, 51 Goodhall St., London NW10 (965 6045)  
**Treasurer:** Mr. J. Murphy, 195 Harlesden Rd., London NW10 (451 0898)  
**Vice-Chairman:** Mr. D. Cullen, 6 Heathfield Pk, London NW2 (459 2596)  
**Registrar:** Mr. P. White, No. 1 Heathfield Pk., London NW10 (459 1627)

### **Jumble Sale**

A jumble sale will be held on Saturday, 17th May, in St. Andrew's Church Hall, Willesden High Road, commencing at 2 p.m. The proceeds go towards our Children's Christmas Party. Anyone who has any goods they would like to give for the sale can get in touch with any of the people at the top of this report.

### **County Wexford Social**

Our next social function is a County Wexford Social and get together evening which will be held at the Cavendish Rooms, Spotted Dog, Willesden, on Saturday, 31st May. Music by a leading band. Bar extension until 1.30 a.m. This is the first time this social has been organised and the committee hope to see people from all parts of the county supporting it. A heat of the Old-time Waltz Competition will take place, there will be spot prizes.

### **Outing**

It is hoped to have a trip to the seaside on Sunday, 15th June. Full details about this later.

### **Festival**

A reminder that this year's London-Irish Festival will be held in Roundwood Park, Willesden, on Sunday, 16th July. We hope to have with us County Development Officer, Mr. Billy Ringwood, whose presence at the Wexford stall in previous years was very much appreciated.

### **Bacon and Cabbage**

The Bacon and Cabbage Dinner and Dance which was held recently at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, was very successful socially and financially. We regret due to limited seating facilities in the Kennedy Hall some members had to be refused dinner bookings.

### **Sympathy**

Sympathy is extended to Treasurer, Jim Murphy, on the death of his aunt, Mrs. Walsh on the death of her son and to all members who have suffered bereavements recently.

### **Get Well**

We wish a speedy recovery to our Vice-President, Tom Bailey who is unwell and is in hospital at the moment.

### **Thanks**

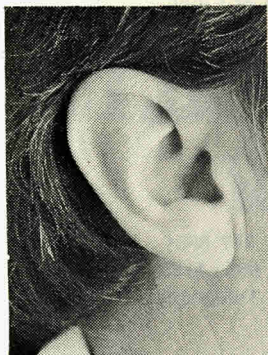
The Chairman, Michael Sills, would like to thank all who turned up to walk behind the county banner at the St. Patrick's Day Parade. To the Massey School of Irish Dancing who added so much colour to the group marching behind our banner.

Breda Sills, P.R.O.

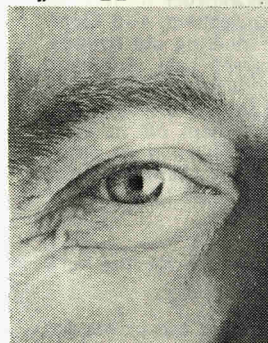
### **A Message from your Chairman**

As Chairman of the London Wexford Association, I would like to thank you for your marvellous support in making our Wexford Town Reunion such an outstanding success and also our Dinner on 22nd March, and look forward to your continued support throughout the year. A special word of thanks to Fr. Michael Funge who travelled

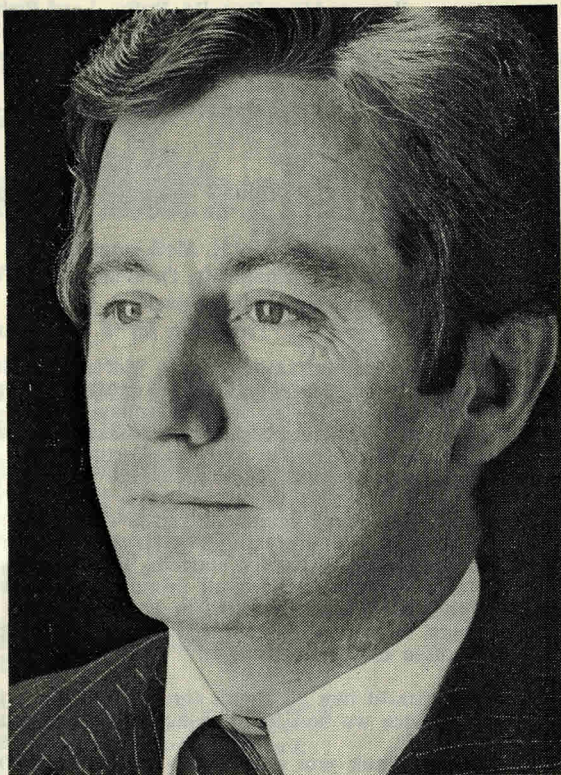
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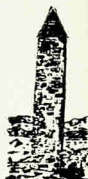
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Secretary—Mrs. Mary McCormack.

Telephone 387 - 8604

Treasurer: Mr. F. Corrigan.

Our Dinner and Dance in the McNamara Hall at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, was a success far exceeding our greatest hopes. It was a great joy to see so many Fermanagh folk and their friends from the Home Counties. People came from far and wide in order to be with us on the night, as far afield as Northampton, Birmingham, and Fleet. What a wonderful night to remember with people meeting old friends. Isn't it a fact that there is always someone from the past you have not met for many years, the son or daughter of someone you went to school with and the night goes so quickly that it comes to end before you think it has hardly started. We were waving them off in their different directions with all promising to come again soon to enjoy another night with us here in London. To all we say thank you for helping us to have such a wonderful evening, and hope to see all of you often in the future.

We would like to thank the staff of the Irish Centre for the very fine service we had in the beautiful McNamara Hall.

A big thank you must go to the people who donated the prizes for our raffle. The lucky winner of the Travel Voucher was Mrs. Daly from Mayo. The Waterford Crystal was won by Anthony Roper of Enniskillen. Other Fermanagh winners were Elaine McIlfratrick, Bernadette McManus and Mrs. Winnie Corrigan.

On the 22nd March a very happy group of guests met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. P. Logan who were celebrating their Ruby Wedding Anniversary. A jolly time was had by all, the couple were the recipients of many valuable gifts. Congratulations Peter and Bridie and may you have more years of happiness together.

Our Quiz team met Meath in the first round of the Guinness Cup Quiz on Friday, 25th April last, I'm afraid to tell you we lost to Meath. We had a very enjoyable evening with our friends from the Meath Association and our heartiest congratulations to Meath and the best of luck for the next round.

All thoughts at present are on plans and preparations for our stall in Roundwood Park on 6th July next. We hope and pray for good weather, and a festival surpassing the success of last year. Hope to see you there.

God Bless.

Mary C. Green (Tel. 286 6848).

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## Cavan Association, London

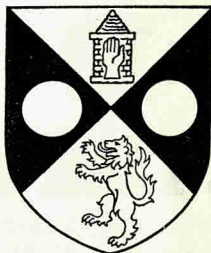
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"Corduff,"  
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Hornchurch RM12 5PB.  
Tel. 76 53588.

Secretary:  
Mrs. M. Clarke  
32 Grove Hill Road  
London SE5 8DG  
Tel. 737 2791

Dear Members,

I would like to thank you all for your attendance at our very successful Dinner Dance on 12th April. Our friends from Birmingham Association were delighted with their night out in London, and they were very impressed with the new McNamara Hall. There was laughter and merriment throughout the night and when the time came to go we were all very reluctant to leave our friends and the happy atmosphere of the Irish Centre. I would like to thank the staff at the Irish Centre for the excellent meal, and the service they gave us was superb, they certainly helped to make our night most enjoyable.

### Irish Festival

As this issue of the Journal is a double issue it will be the last one before the Irish Festival at Roundwood Park which will be held on the 6th July. Cavan Association, of course, will again have a stall as in previous years. We shall require plenty of help for the stall and we have also been requested to supply stewards for the park. Thanks to John O'Brien we had seven stewards last year, who I might add did a very good job on behalf of Cavan. This year the job of Chief County Steward has fallen to Terry Farrelly. It would be of great assistance to us if those of you who would like to help out at the Festival could come to our meeting on Monday, 2nd June at 8.30 p.m. in the Irish Centre. We would be thankful for any offers or help or advice or maybe new ideas. Remember the date 2nd June.

The Committee has asked me to thank Pat McNamee and his Group for providing the music for dancing on the 12th April at the Irish Centre a very welcome return, thank you Pat. A special word of thanks is due to Peter McCauley for providing a special "spot" during the evening. All present enjoyed the music and singing provided by the talented youngsters, and we hope to have a repeat in the future.

### Condolences

On behalf of our Association I would like to offer the sincere sympathy of all to Seamus Smith on the death of his father. Fr. Sheridan celebrated Mass for the repose of his soul before our meeting on 28th April.

### Date for your Diary

Please keep the 15th November (Saturday) free for our Dinner Dance in the McNamara Hall, the Irish Centre, London. More information on that later.

Finally thank you for your support—keep it up.

May Clarke, Hon. Secretary.



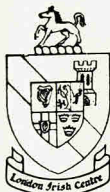
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(Continued from last month)

A further assessment of the accommodation and facilities presently available and an appraisal of present and future client needs revealed a number of gaps; recreation facilities, though improved over the year, could be better, counselling and interviewing rooms are required and most of all the sleeping accommodation though reasonably comfortable, needs to include a greater number of single rooms.

Plans were prepared and are being presented to the relevant authorities. The renovations will be costly but the work must be viewed as both necessary and urgent if our boys' hostel is to be adequately prepared to meet the challenge of the future.

## **Hornsey Lane Gardens**

The 35 places at the girls' hostel were full almost all the year, even during the winter when traditionally there is a falling off in the number of residents. In all, Sisters Beatrice and Francis gave accommodation to the 174 girls. A further single room was made available and the girls' sitting-room received a much needed redecoration.

The limited numbers in Hornsey Lane Gardens contribute towards the homely atmosphere there but distance from the places of work and entertainment, pose problems for many. We look forward therefore to the opening of the Medway Street Hostel.

## **Medway Street**

Long hours of hard work from Donie Egan, Richard Marks, Sr. Anthony, with her invaluable hostel experience, and the other members of the Medway Street Committee have meant considerable progress with the renovation project over the past twelve months. The hostel is situated in a key city centre area where many of our applicants find employment but where accommodation if available at all, is very expensive. When completed, it will have places for 132 girls. During the year final official approval was obtained and a substantial grant was allocated to the scheme. At the time of going to press, work has commenced on the premises and the completion date has been set for June 9th, 1980.

At this stage, on behalf of all concerned, we would like to offer a sincere "thank you" to Pat Dodson and her helpers who remained voluntarily at the hostel, which was without heat and sometimes light, to see to necessary maintenance, etc., until the keys were finally handed over to the builders. Pat is also our receptionist at the Centre.

## **Also during 1978**

All voluntary and statutory agencies in the London area have a noticeable proportion of Irish people among their clients. We are frequently approached by social services here for assistance with the Irish element of a problem or for background data or information about services in a particular part of Ireland.

In order to inform the personnel fully in these agencies concerning the present services available to the Irish community here and to

(continued on page 12)

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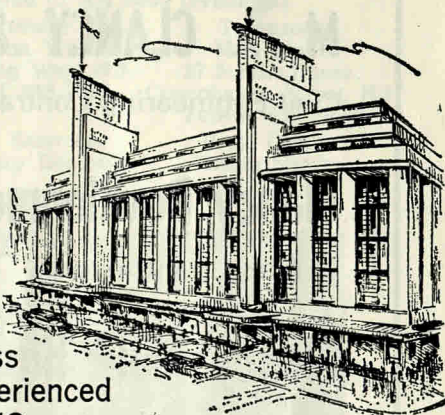
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## IRISH COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

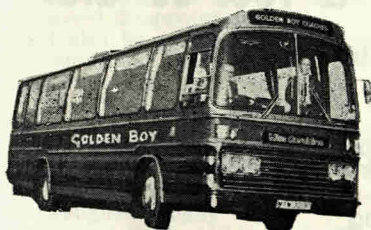
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45 Laurel Way,  
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Miss Una Walshe  
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**Treasurer:**

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27 Jocelin House  
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**Vice-Chairman:**  
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Tel. 941 0873

**Assist. Secretary:**  
Mrs. Mary Dempsey

**Press Officer:**  
Bridie Neeves



The association are as usual, very busy. A dance held at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, on April 20th was a great success. Proceeds go to the Centre building fund. Our next function will be a Bacon and Cabbage Dinner at the same venue, on Saturday, 7th June. As all our Bacon and Cabbage functions are a sell out please book your tickets in time to avoid disappointment.

We shall also be taking an active part in the Irish Festival to be held at Roundwood Park on Sunday, 6th July. There is a lot of work to be done before July and time creeps up very quickly. We need your help to make this an even better festival than last year, by helping your committee in any way. Please get in touch, telephone numbers above.

There will be band displays, dancers, traditional Irish music, sports, side stalls, plenty to do and see with something for everybody and a real Irish atmosphere, you can't afford to miss this year's festival.

### **The John Vaughan Trophy**

At the Annual St. Patrick's Night Dinner at Barkers of Kensington, the Leitrim Association was presented with the John Vaughan Trophy. Congratulations to Leitrim Association, the said cup is presented each year to the association with the best record for the year in helping the Irish Centre. Well done, keep up the good work.

The Association organised a coach tour to Ireland for Easter. The happy party left the Irish Centre, Camden Town, London, on Friday, 4th April, we all arrived at the centre in good time. Members of the association and their friends were all in high spirits waiting to start the journey. Paddy Brew, our committee member, was the coach driver. Chairman Clive Fogarty was there to wish us God speed on the way.

(continued on page 16)

### **Irish Centre** (continued from page 8).

discuss ways and means of facilitating inter-agency communication and co-operation we held a day conference at the Irish Centre last summer, inviting representatives of all the major London Voluntary and statutory social services. The meeting was well attended, a useful exchange of information took place and a number of proposals were made. As a result a further conference to discuss the needs of girls coming from Ireland has been arranged and a sub-committee has been set up to examine the possibilities of better preparing young people for arriving here. A further general meeting is being arranged for this summer.

A representative of the Centre was elected during 1978 to the executive committee of the Camden Council for Social Service which is the co-ordinating body for voluntary social services in Camden. The Irish Centre affiliated to the Council at its foundation in 1965. The Centre is also represented on the executive of Camden Council for Community Relations.

### **Bereavements**

A number of dear friends of the Irish Centre passed away during 1978. All are sadly missed. In particular we remember the dedicated service given by Sr. Thecla as Girls' Hostel Warden and the untiring efforts of Mrs. Tess Moroney (wife of our Chairman).

### **Where did they come from ?**

<b>Counties</b>	<b>1978</b>	<b>1977</b>	<b>Counties</b>	<b>1978</b>	<b>1977</b>
Antrim .....	56	65	Leitrim .....	30	26
Armagh .....	23	120	Limerick .....	166	132
Carlow .....	17	22	Longford .....	20	16
Cavan .....	16	22	Louth .....	30	37
Clare .....	41	31	Mayo .....	57	59
Cork .....	274	245	Meath .....	22	21
Derry .....	41	48	Monaghan .....	10	19
Donegal .....	21	21	Offaly .....	21	12
Down .....	30	31	Roscommon .....	17	24
Dublin .....	418	525	Sligo .....	30	39
Fermanagh .....	8	24	Tipperary .....	94	81
Galway .....	130	135	Tyrone .....	38	13
Kerry .....	93	62	Waterford .....	48	41
Kildare .....	34	21	Westmeath .....	24	41
Kilkenny .....	30	27	Wexford .....	26	32
Laois .....	12	24	Wicklow .....	16	19
Non-Irish .....	173	254			
			<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>2066</b>	<b>2061</b>

In 1978, continuing the trend of recent years, a large number of our clients from counties with big urban populations. (43% from Dublin, Cork, Antrim and Limerick). It is worth noticing, however, that while increases are recorded from Cork and Limerick and a small fluctuation in the Antrim figures, the number of clients from Dublin shows a sizeable decrease (418 as opposed to 525 in 1977). Being an Irish urban emigrant, however, in no way guarantees ease of integration into London life, particularly for those who have brought with them complex social and employment problems. The circle of deprivation and poverty left behind can prove almost impossible to break out of and many show an inability to grasp the limited opportunities available to them.

Numbers from Northern Ireland with some inter-county variations—big increases from Armagh and Tyrone and a decrease in those from Fermanagh—remained more or less the same—196 persons in 1978 and

(continued on page 20)



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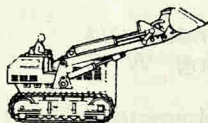
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## Columba

"Columba" is a play presented by the Adamnan Players, directed by Elisabeth Tooms and written by Juliet Boobbyer and Joanna Sciortino.

The Adamnan Players run the company as a co-operative. Most of them are professional artistes, others include a retired naval captain, and an architect. "Columba" was first presented at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 1978 and since that time 100 people have taken part in the six productions of the play. All of the company are giving their time and talents free and some at a sacrifice (readers of this Journal know only too well what that means) and gifts of money, large and small, from many individuals have made the enterprise possible.

The musical director is Philip Carleston; designer, William Cameron Johnson; lights by Alan Everett and Richard Bloxage; wardrobe by Anna McLeod; masks by Angie Passmore; stage manager, Alastair Mackenzie; assistant stage manager, Virginia Vickers; company manager, Sarah Cummock; the players are as follows: Chris Channer, Ann Clifford, William Coombes, Blair Cummock, John Holden, David King, Peter McNamara, Denis Nowlan, Angie Passmore and Barry Raymond.

The play itself is in the Gaelic tradition of prose, poetry and music. It tells the story of the Gaelic contribution to European, the Dark Ages—ale research and the songs and much of the dialogue are based on contemporary material. The music for a variety of instruments including clarsach (Celtic harp), 'cello, and tin whistle was composed by Elaine Gordon from Cork, with Michael O'Callaghan (University College, Cork), Duncan Morison from the Outer Hebrides, and Hawys Glyn James from the Rhondda. The play depends for its effect on lighting, the use of slides and authentic costume, there is virtually no set other than platforms.

The purpose of the play is two-fold to recall the people of these islands to their spiritual and cultural roots; and to affect the relationship between Britain and Ireland by "changing the structures of feeling." The debt that Europe owes to the Irish is rarely acknowledged. "How can we forget Ireland, where the Sun of Faith rose for us"? Is the last line declared from the stage—the words of a German abbot in the 10th century. St. Columba of Iona turned his back on his dearest ambition to follow the will of God and as a result he laid the foundation of a new age.

"Columba" has been performed in many parts of Britain and as far afield as Switzerland and has been acclaimed by the media as a play well worth seeing.

The play will be performed at the Newman Rooms, Oxford on May 12th to 17th, the McNamara Hall, the Irish Centre, Camden Town, London, NW1 9XB, May 18th to 20th; Croydon Parish Centre, May 22nd; Belmont Abbey School, Hereford, May 26th and 27th; Congress Theatre, Cwmbran, May 29th and 30th; The Rodd, Presteigne, June 6th to 8th; The Cathedral, St. Asaph, June 11th; Alloway Church, Ayr, June 13th; and at Iona on June 29th and 30th, 1980.

If any readers of the Irish Counties Journal are in any of these areas at the times mentioned above please go along and give them your support as like all of us these people are from different denominations and professions and doing a very worthwhile job.

For any information on the company or future productions please write to Elisabeth Tooms at 12 Palace Street, London, SW1E 5JF. Tel. 01 828 6591.



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### **Clare Association (continued from page 11)**

Teresa Doyle, our treasurer, was also making sure that all were on the coach in good time and after picking up more fellow travellers at Ruislip parish we were on our way down the M4 to Pembroke. There we boarded the B + I new flagship, The Connacht. On board the staff were very helpful.

We arrived in Doonbeg to be greeted by our past Chairman, Sean Igoe, at the Igo Inn. We stayed at the guest houses in the village at a nominal cost in the most friendly, homely and luxurious atmosphere.

Daily tours were made to Killarney, Ring of Kerry, Cliffs of Moher, Galway, Connemara and Achill Ballyvaughan, and the Burren, it was all very exciting and everyone on the coach were enjoying every moment of the tour especially the Burren in North Clare.

The Burren is one hundred square miles of strange, lunar like landscape in the north is the scenic Black Head road with sweeping views of Galway Bay and the Arran Islands whilst in the west is the mountain area of Slieve Elva. In the centre of the Burren at the foot of Corkscrew Hill is Gregans Castle, the only hotel in the heart of the Burren. Rock and stone predominate a luxurious growth of rare flowers and plants in a mini environment.

The Burren is only sparsely populated and yet there are miles of traffic free country roads, tracks and paths which are well signposted and all of great scenic beauty and awaiting exploration.

The narrow winding roads could be a strain on the coach driver, but we were in the very capable hands of Paddy Brew, who did everything possible to make the tour a memorable one. Our week passed very quickly and soon it was time to return to London. As we said goodbye to all those kind people in Doonbeg village, who waved us

(continued on page 18)

## The Waterford Association, London

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

**Life President:** Right Rev. Charles J. Henderson,  
Bishop Tricala and Auxillary Bishop of Southwark.

**Chairman:** Mr. John O'Keeffe, 120 Ivy Road, N.W.2.  
Tel. 01 452 7940.

**Vice-Chairman:** Mr. Jim Keane, 62 Woodmere Ave., Watford,  
Herts. WD2 4LW. Tel. Watford 30999.

**Hon. Secretary:** Mrs. Mary Allen, 10 Ashmore, Agar Grove,  
London NW1 9SL. Tel. 267 8100.

**Asst. Hon. Sec.:** Mr. Bill Aulsberry, 50 George Lansbury House,  
Wood Green, London, N22. Tel. 01 889 6579.

**Hon. Treasurer:** Mrs. C. Dee, 14 The Crossways, Wembley Park,  
Middlesex. Tel. 01 904 3463.

**Hon. Assist. Treasurer:** Mr. Paddy Stafford, 53 Caithness House,  
Bermerton Street, N.1. Tel. 837 8770.

**Membership Secretary:** Mrs. Kitty Groves, 33 Kings Crescent,  
Finsbury Park, N.4. Tel. 359 5994.



Our social evening at the Holyrood Social Club at Watford held recently was a great success as usual with our vice-chairman and his devoted wife having everything in perfect order and waiting to receive us at the door in the company of the chairman of the Holyrood also the treasurer what a wonderful efficient job Joan and Jim Keane do for us in the Watford area. It was nice meeting our friends at Watford cars and coaches left London early that night and Kitty Groves brought the children along to support the function, I think they enjoyed the evening as they were tripping the light fantastic until it was time to go home as likewise our assistant secretary, Bill Aulsberry and Ruth Purvis. Bill is as many of you know a trained ballroom dancer and has the usual certificates and medals for this type of dancing with the odd cup thrown in here and there. Space and the printing strike does not permit me to tell you any more about this suffice to say that soon the night ended.

### The Waterford Festival

Though the weather was against us this year and we did not get the crowds we expected everybody had a jolly good time on Easter Sunday last at West London Stadium. The teams from Waterford and Tipperary who came over especially for the occasion were welcomed at the Cricklewood Hotel by Billy Kiely's Club "The Cuchulines" who organised a social evening which was a real sporting evening as well as social with the Irish teams meeting their English counterparts many of them for the first time.

The weekend finished up at the McNamara Hall, the Irish Centre, London, on Sunday night and judging by reports it was the best evening laid on by anyone for a long time climaxed by the winners of the sports events from the previous day's festival receiving their rewards.

It is difficult to thank everyone for the help they gave for the festival and to mention names without leaving someone out. Suffice to say that without all the gifts and voluntary effort a festival of this type could not take place, I think that when everything is boiled down we all do the things we are best able to do in these circumstances.

### Waterford City Reunion

The Waterford City Reunion will take place at the Irish Centre on 7th June next. It is hoped that we will have a better attendance of city people at the reunion this year than we had last year. Would people reading this in Waterford please let their relations in London know of this function—the place again is the Irish Centre, 52 Camden Square, Murray Street, London, NW1 9XB.

(continued on page 18)



## **Waterford Association** (continued from page 17)

### **London Irish Festival**

May I repeat that the London Irish Festival takes place at Roundwood Park, Willesden on 6th July next. All associations as well as ours have put many months of hard work into this festival so please come along and support a very worthy cause.

### **Silver Jubilee At Home Dinner**

Our At Home Dinner takes place at the Tower Hotel on 15th August, as this is our Silver Jubilee Year a silver programme and menu is being organised for the occasion. Besides being the date for the Waterford Dinner, and the Races at Tramore, it is the Feast of Assumption, so a little prayer for success would be much appreciated.

### **Condolences**

Our sincere sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Reddy, two of our most active committee members on a recent family bereavement. To Michael Power, Secretary of the Waterford City Athletic Club, who had to return to Ireland from his participation in the Waterford Festival on the accidental death of his 17 year old brother. Our sympathy to all the family. Masses offered.

### **Condolences**

Our deepest sympathy to Mr. Michael O'Regan, P.R.O., Harrow Society, on the recent sad death of his father in Ireland. R.I.P. Our prayers are with Mrs. O'Regan, senior in her sad loss.

Our sympathy goes also to Mr. Tim O'Shea of West London Irish Society on the death of his mother also in Ireland.

Jane T. Smyth (Mrs.), Press Officer (Tel. 01 427 9721).

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## **Clare Association** (continued from page 16)

off as we left, please come back soon was the cry of everyone and until we meet again Slainte.

I could write reams about the tour, but space does not permit me. From myself I would like to thank all those people on the coach for being such good sports it was like one happy family from the moment we left London till we got back again.

On behalf of the Chairman and Committee, a big thank you to that kind lady who gave us a cheque for the association and who lives in the parish of Doonbeg.

At the meeting recently of the association a vote of sympathy was passed by our Chairman to Len Neeves on the death of his brother. R.I.P.

### **Condolences.**

Our condolences to Kathleen Bamber on the sudden death of her husband George. Our deepest sympathy to Tim Shea of West London Irish Society on the death of his mother in Ireland.

Till next time.

Bridie Neeves, P.R.O.



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## **Pugsley Roofing**

### **Irish Centre** (continued from page 12)

193 in 1977. It would seem from our viewpoint at the Centre that people are not at present moving away from the area in any very large numbers.

Our service is geared to best meet the needs of the Irish community but all are welcome to whatever assistance we can offer. During 1978 173 non-Irish people attended: 117 males and 56 females.

### **Conclusion**

Thus it was with our recorded welfare work during 1978. Our initial reception services for newly arrived emigrants, whether they come here with or without social problems, has always been a major part of our work. Increasing numbers, and not only those with severe difficulties, return to us for further assistance—with career guidance, further education, and at the other end of the scale going back to Ireland. Each year also sees an increase in the complexity and number of the many social problems presented by our clients. During the past few years over-all numbers attending at the Centre have remained more or less the same annually but the increase in the work-load has been quite dramatic.

Many of our efforts, as detailed in the report, involve crises intervention. There is no point in telling a mother of three children who has no money and nowhere to go to come back next week for a further discussion of her marital problem. Something must be done immediately to find her accommodation. This work is painstaking and often slow and with the time factor of such complete importance can be very taxing both for the client and the social worker.

We are not happy to limit our service to picking up the pieces so to speak. Our proposed joint information posters and involvement with agencies helping or aiming to help Irish people are indications of this. We hope in the future to become further involved in many other areas of this nature. We have indeed many plans for our future reception, welfare, social and community services for newly arrived emigrants and for the Irish community here. However, we must say again that without an increase in personnel, some secretarial assistance and better facilities, it will be difficult to maintain and develop our present service without contemplating any further expansion.

Finally, we in the Welfare Department would like to thank all who helped us in 1978. Particular thanks to the volunteers who gave so freely of their time and expertise, especially our voluntary typists, to the priests and staff at the Irish Centre and to the County Associations and the Council of Irish Counties who always helped when they could. Our thanks to all at the Irish Embassy and to the various statutory and voluntary agencies here and in Ireland for their co-operation. During '78 St. Marie de Lourdes moved from the Welfare Department to assist Fr. Ryan at Hope House and in September we were glad to welcome back Sr. Joan who had contributed so much during her previous time at the Centre.

As well as the welfare service which is the subject of this report, the Irish Centre has a thriving social and community section, and a very hard working voluntary social committee. Again, these very necessary services are limited at the moment by the lack of physical facilities. However, we would like to remind you that all are welcome at the Centre, whether coming with difficulties, to meet friends at a social function, or just passing by. So do drop in if you can.

(This concludes the 1978 report, the 1979 report will start in the next issue).

## **A Tribute to the late James Power, R.I.P.**

### **Former Mayor of Waterford**

How sad we were all here in London to learn of the death of James Power, friend to our association over the years. James or as us older ones called him "The Bully Man" was the first Mayor to attend our annual dinner here in London and so set a precedent which has been maintained up to the present time. James didn't have a bad voice either and always went to the mike to entertain us even last year at the Tower Hotel for our At Home Dinner in Waterford, he got such an ovation from all that he had to do three numbers for us.

James followed his father also named James into public life in 1928 when the writer of this tribute was only three years old, so all my life I have heard it said that he gave his all to the community in his good deeds and public services.

Mr. Power was chairman of the Vocational Education Committee, and was a member of that body at the time of his death having first been elected to the committee in 1939. James was delegate to the Irish Education Association.

A great Ballybricken man born in the Yellow Road and appropriately buried in Ballybricken Graveyard. Members of Waterford City Council including the Mayor of the City as well as the City Manager and other members of the City Corporation attended the Requiem Mass and Funeral in their robes of office as well as many hundreds of relatives and friends. A past City Manager, Mr. John Cassidy (who is now County Manager, Cavan) whom many of us know here in London came down from Cavan especially for the funeral. The many important people who attended the funeral of James Power are too numerous to mention here, suffice to say that Mr. Power was well respected in every sphere of life in Waterford and far beyond.

Our deepest sympathy to his very many relations in Waterford the greatest compliment I can pay him is that he could walk with kings but even keep the common touch.

Jane T. Smyth.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Pretty Wedding of Wexford and Cork interest**

A very pretty wedding took place recently between Miss Mary Caulfield, S.R.N., and Captain Donal Cronin of Cork, who is stationed at the Curragh, Co. Lifford. The bride's first cousin also an S.R.N. and also called Mary was the bridesmaid and Gerry Cronin, B.A., H.Dip., brother of the bridegroom was best man. Ushers were brothers of the bride, Dr. John Caulfield and Pat Caulfield and Michael Caulfield. There was a Nuptial Mass and Papal Blessing for the service which was held at St. Martin's Church, Ballycullane, Co. Wexford. The reception was held at the Talbot Hotel, Wexford. The wedding Service and reception was attended by friends and relatives from Dublin, Cork, Kildare and London, a very large contingent of the Downes family from Waterford came by coach to attend.

The happy couple left after the reception for their honeymoon in Austria. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Caulfield, Tintern, Saltmills, Co. Wexford. The bridesmaid is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bertie Downes, Tallaught, Ballygullane, Co. Wexford. Mrs. John Caulfield is the former Miss Kathleen Downes of Tallaught, sister of Bertie. Kathleen and Bertie are first cousins of the editor of this Journal.

A sad note when the bride got home from her honeymoon her father had to go to Dublin for a serious operation to his eye. May we wish a speedy recovery to Johnny and hope by the time he reads this he will be home in his native Co. Wexford.



## **London Wexford Association** (continued from page 2)

over from Wexford to attend this function which was highlighted with his guitar playing and rendering of Wexford songs that had many of us longing to be back in our home town.

Down the years this Association has been one of the most active County Associations in London, no more so than this year, which for membership alone has far surpassed last year's. Membership costs £1.00 per family, which is good value for money, the benefits you receive from joining are three-fold. One, you get newsletters periodically keeping you up to date with functions, etc., from our efficient secretary, Mrs. Kitty Cullen. You also get a B + I card this year which enables your name to be put into a monthly draw for a free trip to Ireland for four adults with a car on any of the company's routes. Finally, if you are a member for two consecutive years and you have renewed your membership by the end of March, you are entitled to a death grant on the death of a close relative. We also pay a small sickness grant if a member is off work more than six weeks. If you know of any intending or past member, please ask them to join.

Dates for your Diary are the County Wexford Reunion, Saturday, 31st May. Benefit Dance or B/C, 28th June. Outing to seaside, 15th June. Disco for the teenagers, 13th September. Annual Dinner Dance, 1st November at the new McNamara Hall, Irish Centre. Our secretary is running a Jumble Sale in the near future. Any members who have any jumble please contact her. We are also running a very successful Darts League at the moment. It is in the semi-final stages with Cricklewood Tavern v. Sir Colin Campbell, Wexford Association v. Murray Arms. They will have taken place at the Prince of Wales before you see this.

In order for the association to continue in years to come, I feel now is the time we have got to do something to attract the youth to take an active role in the association's functions. Shortly we will be looking at ways of achieving this aim. We are already taking part in a Junior Quiz competition. If any members have any useful suggestions, please telephone or write to me. While on the question of youth, the Fr. Murphy's Hurling and Football Club would be glad if any members know of a hurler or footballer interested in joining the club, please contact Tommy Harrell (427 6765) or Jim Ryan (205-8558). Also if any member is interested in joining the Wexford Mummies, please contact Maureen Grace (262-9060).

Finally a word of praise to all our committee. It gives me great joy to see them working in harmony and making my job as new chairman all the easier. Looking forward to seeing you all at our future functions.

God bless you all.

Michael Sills, Chairman.

## The Louth Association of London

Chairman: Mr. W. Reilly, 74 Great North Way, London, N.W.4.  
Secretary: K. Casey. Treasurer: F. Murray.  
P.R.O.: Cyril Davey, 6 Park Road, Hounslow, Middlesex. Tel. 01 898 4390

I would like to thank all my friends and others who enquired after my health—yes I have been missed—it seems my efforts in journalism have reached far and wide—but I did say I would come back—you lucky people or should I say the lucky people who are fortunate enough to get this issue of "The Irish Counties Journal."

Contrary to the report and rumours going around about my absence may I state that I have not been away on that island of Mystique with you know who—nor have I been kidnapped in Sardinia, or even mugged in Spain, no nothing like that so here I am back again and as cheeky as ever.

I expect you would all like to know what has been happening to the Louth Association here in London. Your new executive members are listed above with yours truly bringing up the rear (excuse the pun). Once again the "Wee County" accomplished yet another heat of their popular Dundalk Festival May Queen a a dance recently at the Cavendish Ballroom "The Spotted Dog" Willesden. Lovelies from all over London and even from Harlow in Essex graced us with their presence. I can assure you that their grace, charm, good looks, personalities, and figures were every bit as good as the line up for the Miss Great Britain contest which was screened on the box that night, I only wish we could give them the thousands of pounds that go with such a contest. The honour went to Miss Carmel Barrett, from Acton, London, W.3, who looked what the panel of judges described as a charmer, the panel being: Mr. Jim Degan, representing B. & I. Line; Mr. Eamon Brennan, representing the Ryan Hotel Group, Noreen O'Connell; and Jane Smyth, Editor of "The Irish Counties Journal"; and Bill Reilly, our Gestapo, who like always kept the panel in tow including the Master of Ceremonies, Cyril Davey. Jane Smyth showed on the night by her efforts why it is that this lady is so popular with the vast majority of the Irish emigrants here in London. Nothing is impossible where this lady is concerned. Many thanks Mrs. Smyth. A very good night was had by all who attended and those of you who missed it—hard luck—and don't forge to join us next time. The music was supplied by Michael Mack and Stardust a real show band, who gave us some very good turns on the night and had everybody on the floor all evening.

### Irish Life Golf Tournament

We are brushing up on our golf for the Irish Life Golf Tournament at Foxhills, in Surrey, at the end of June. We will do our best to bring off a prize for Louth but if we do not you will have to blame me if I cannot see the woods for the trees on the day.

See you soon.

Cyril Davey, P.R.O.



## Irish Society of Harrow

Patron: Rev. Fr. P. Tuite

President: Mrs. Delia Burke. Tel. 01 863 2877.

Chairman: Mr. John Crowe  
36 Mount Bel Road, Stanmore,  
Middlesex. Tel. 01 427 4687.

Treasurer: Mrs. Margaret Whelan  
Tel. 01 427 4125.

Vice-Chairperson:  
Mrs. Teresa Breslin  
Tel. 01 907 4850.

Assistant Treasurer:  
Mrs. Rita O'Connor  
Tel. 01 863 0941.

Secretary: Mr. Des Connolly  
3 Aberdeen Road, Harrow  
Middlesex.

Registrar:  
Mrs. Maureen O'Leary  
Tel. 01 863 0197.

Assistant Secretary:  
Mrs. Breda McKeon  
Tel. 01 427 9042.

P.R.O. Michael O'Regan  
54 Gordon Road, Harrow  
Middlesex. Tel. 01 427 3736.

I am sorry you had no report in the last issue of this Journal, the fact is I have been home in Ireland twice recently first to visit my father who was very ill and secondly to his funeral, R.I.P. The person left behind to mourn is my dear mother which must be very hard for her (though she tries not to show it) after so many years of partnership in marriage. I should like to thank all the good people who sent mass cards, floral tributes and messages of sympathy.

My thanks to Mrs. McKeon and Mrs. Smyth for their help with the festival programme in my absence.

The festival of course is our next most important event and the first class glossy programme with all the details of the many events is now on sale at 75p which admits you to the grounds. There will be fun and games for everybody so please turn up in your thousands to support our very deserving local charities — the date again is 15th June, 1980.

Other forthcoming events worthy of your support are as follows:

Saturday, June 28th—St. Joseph's Garden Fete at the Salvatorian College Grounds, Harrow.

Sunday, 29th June next—Outing to Bournemouth. Details from any of the committee.

Sunday, 6th July—London Irish Festival at Roundwood Park, Willesden.

Saturday, 12th July—Harrow Irish Society Dance at the Leisure Centre —Remember Leisure Centre and not Civic Centre.

See you all at the above functions. Michael O'Regan, P.R.O.

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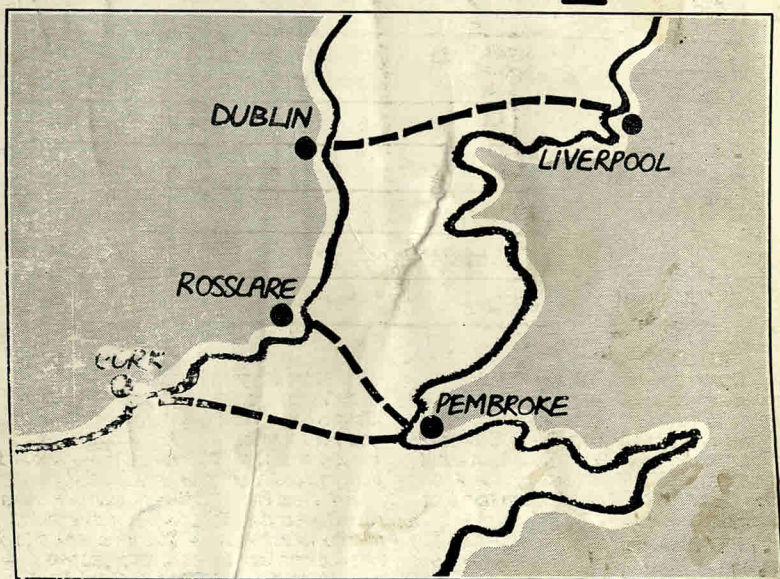
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