



**the  
IRISH  
centre**



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# **Newsletter**

**52 Camden Square · London N.W. 1**

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THE IRISH CENTRE

D I A R Y

May 1971

|           |      |   |
|-----------|------|---|
| Saturday  | 1st  | Cavan Association (B & C Dinner Dance)  |
| Wednesday | 5th  | Comhaltas Ceoltoiri                     |
| Thursday  | 6th  | Donegal Association Benefit Dance.      |
| Saturday  | 8th  | Sean McDermott's Dinner/Dance.          |
| Tuesday   | 11th | Benefit Dance                           |
| Thursday  | 13th | Card Drive                              |
| Saturday  | 15th | Leitrim Association                     |
| Sunday    | 16th | Mayo AGM                                |
| Tuesday   | 18th | Mayor's Banquet                         |
| Wednesday | 19th | Comhaltas Ceoltoiri                     |
| Saturday  | 22nd | Westmeath Association                   |
| Tuesday   | 25th | Mountmellick & Ballyfin Reunion         |
| Wednesday | 26th | Mountnugent (Cavan) Reunion             |
| Thursday  | 27th | Kavanagh School of Dancing Buffet/Dance |
| Saturday  | 29th | Irish Centre dance                      |

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| Thursday | 3rd June | Ballina Reunion                   |
| Saturday | 6th June | Dublin Assoc (B & C Dinner/Dance) |

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Bingo every Wednesday & Friday night.

THE IRISH CENTRE

52 Camden Square, N.W.1.  
01-485-0051

MAY 1971

N E W S L E T T E R

Every week I get my local paper, straight from the office at home. Every evening I get one of the papers. Every Sunday I get two or three papers. In most cases, I just glance through them, throw them to one side and say "There's nothing in that paper."

But then in a week or two I meet someone from home and tell them some bit of news which I am delighted to be able to relate and they are glad to hear. Or, I might find myself in company one night and I can introduce a conversation, which can last for an hour -- all because I read it in one of the papers. And yet, as I say, I had thrown the same paper to one side and said "There's nothing in that paper."

Perhaps it's the same with our Newsletter. If we didn't send it out, everyone would be disappointed and yet when you get it you most probably say "There's not much in that this month." And yet if you didn't get it you would miss it.

I had the pleasure of being present at the Counties annual dinner in the Gresham. We at the Irish Centre congratulate the Wexford Association on coming first in the President's £1,000 prize. We would also like to congratulate all the other Counties which got a prize.

The John Vaughan Cup - which was presented to The Irish Centre in memory of that great Irishman, by the Clare Association, to be given to the County considered to do most for the Irish Centre - was presented to the Clare Association this year. This also took place at the Gresham. Cavan won it last year. Many congratulations to Clare on winning it for 1970.

Speaking of people doing something for The Irish Centre! The Cork Society are running a dance for the Centre on 27th May at the Gresham. I have a lot of tickets here at 30p each which you may be interested in. The dance is on Thursday, 27th May in the Gresham, to the music of the Kingdom Showband, supported by a ceili band and school of Irish dancing. This could be a real opportunity for you to take the wife or girl-friend out and enjoy a very lively dance.

On 18th May we hold our reception for the Mayor of Camden. This has come to be known as a great occasion. The number of tickets available for this banquet are limited. If you feel you want to join the party for that night I would advise you to ring Miss Healy here at the Centre.

Another big date in your calendar this month is Tuesday 25th May, when we hold our AGM. This particular meeting is the one when the Committee for running the Centre is elected. On the following week (1st June) is the AGM of the Club. It is at the meeting of 1st June when all 1970 members have a vote. It is up to you to come to that meeting and put your views before the Committee. It is a fact that many people spend nearly all the year complaining but never come to the AGM to get their views accepted. So don't forget 1st June.

Most of you will remember the Charity Walk last year, either because you were walking or you were asked to sponsor someone. Well, we are off this year again - on 6th June. Your help will be both necessary and welcome. Whatever way you would like to participate - please let us know. We are hoping for a big response. The Counties are going into it in a big way this year. You might like to help under the flag of your county. No help is too small and you can do it as big as you like. Thank you for your support.

NEWS LETTER

Then on Saturday, 12th June we are off to Quex Road, Kilburn, for our Summer Fair. The Parish Priest of Quex Road has given us the hall for the day. Do you know any firms who might like to help out on this. I'm sure there are many people round & about who can get lots of material in different stores. Indeed, there must be many managers only too delighted to give, if asked. Believe it or not but I hate asking for anything. I always notice that women are experts at asking and getting. Have a go.

You, as a member, will be delighted to know that the plans have been passed by Camden for the building next door. Now the deal has to be made with B.R. Let's hope and pray that we get it. Let's hope we make the Irish Centre into a place worthy of the Irish. We owe it to our members.

We owe it to the people who have gone before us. We owe it to those who come after us. We owe it to the Bishops, Priests, Nuns and people of Ireland who did so much for us in the National Collection. So far, 8 dioceses have submitted their returns and it has gone over the £100,000 mark. There are still 17 dioceses to come in. All told it should be a record collection. And, who knows, maybe the Government might match it. If they do, then we are in a very strong position to make a superb job of it. It will be a just reward to all the people who have put so much into the Irish Centre.

Many of you know about our music lessons here at The Centre. Every Tuesday and Wednesday we have the Youth Brass Band. Now we have started 47 more boys and girls on Sunday morning. Please God we hope they persevere to learn instruments and form a big youth band. To help support the band, we are running a '200 Club'. You might like to participate in this and, if so, please complete the attached form and return. Speaking of the Band, Our grateful thanks to the Clare Association for their very generous donation of £100 towards the buying of instruments and uniforms: also to Brendan Moroney for his contribution of £22. for the buying of one uniform.

Then every Saturday and Sunday we have céili lessons by Tommy Maguire and Margaret. They took the children to the Fleadh on Sunday last and all 3 bands qualified for the All-Ireland. Also they took 31 first prizes home and 18 seconds. Congratulations to all concerned. I, personally, was very pleased because of the fact that they play at the Irish Centre. We are doing our part for Irish culture. Also, congratulations to Maureen Sheridan of the Crean School, who won the All-World Junior Championship dancing: to the Kavanagh School, who won the All-World Figure Dancing and to Kathleen O'Shea, who won the All-World Senior dancing championship. They all turned up on Monday night to celebrate.

God Bless you all,

Rev. P. Sheridan, O.M.I.

Next of you will remember the Quixy Walk last year, either because you were walking or you were asked to sponsor someone. Well, we are off this year again - your help will be both necessary and welcome. Whatever way you would like to participate - please let us know. We are hoping for a big response. The Committee are going into it in a big way this year. You might like to help under the flag of your county. We help in too small and you can do it as big as you like. Thank you for your support.