

the **IRISH** centre

**CEAD MILE
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Newsletter

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D I A R Y

THE IRISH CENTRE

MARCH, 1972

Sat.	04	March	-	Clare Dinner & Dance
Tue.	07	March	-	Michael Molloy Trophy
Wed.	08	March	-	Comhaltas
Thurs.	09	March	-	Gort Reunion
Sat.	11	March	-	Sean McDermotts Dinner
				ALBERT HALL CONCERT
Mon.	13	March	-	Requiem Mass for Dominic Donnelly
Thurs.	16	March	-	Euston (Bacon & Cabbage dinner)
Sat.	18	March	-	Mayo Association
Tue.	21	March	-	Michael Molloy Trophy
Wed.	22	March	-	Comhaltas
Sat.	25	March	-	Wexford (Bacon & Cabbage dinner)
Tues.	28	March	-	Camden Play Centre Film
Thurs.	30	March	-	Anti-Internment Social

17 March ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT - Irish Centre Dance

NEWSLETTER

THE IRISH CENTRE

MARCH, 1972.

One could speak of Domenic Donnelly as a christian, an Irishman and a business man. He was an exemplary christian, he was a great Irishman and he was a successful business man.

His christianity, his Irishness and his business acumen was all just part of himself. What he knew, he learned from hard experience. His christianity was based on a first principle of love of God and love of his neighbour. His love of Ireland grew from a life which never asked what his country could do for him but what he could do for his country.

All these qualities were so much part of him, and dovetailed into his personality so much that when you met him you knew you were in the presence of a thorough gentleman.

Domenic was never a great public speaker but was a deep silent thinker; he was never a "bubble" type patriot but a dedicated calculated worker for the cause. He was never a gallery type spender but a very decent entertainer. He was never a bombastid supporter of causes but subscribed to every worth while cause. When Christ told us to do things in such a way as not to be seen by men but do it rather in a manner that our right hand would not know what our left hand was doing - Domenic seemed to have taken that litterarly.

We at the Irish Centre miss him. We thank God for sending such a missionary into the emigrant field. We are more than grateful to God too, for leaving him so long with us. We are sorry to loose him but his dedication and self sacrifice is a mighty incentive to us to carry on the work of the Centre.

We extend to his wife and family, his relatives and friends our deepest sympathy. We realize their great loss, but we know too that he is happy with his God whom he served so faithfully. May he rest in peace.

On Monday night the 13th. March here at the Irish Centre we are having a special Mass for Domenic.

Right now we are in the middle of preparations for the Albert Hall Concert on the 11th. March. There are no £1.25 or £1 tickets left. We would like to warn you that if you have not booked, it would be important that you do so immediately.

March is always an important month in the lives of the Irish people. This year, however, we are more in mourning than anything else. There is no St. Patrick's Day Parade this year. The committee judged that it would be better to have Holy Mass offered than to have a public parade. From talking to people it would seem that this is the concensus of opinion.

On February 27th, we were to have the Aer Lingus Musical Society show at the State Theatre, Kilburn. On the Thursday beforehand, it was announced that there was a threatened power cut. Because of this we decided to call off the show and fix it for a future date. So now it will take place on Sunday, 30th. April, at the State Theatre, Kilburn. A lot of people were asking what type of show it was, the best way to explain it is that, it is an expression of Irish culture in music and song. One could say it is the Irish version of the Black and White Minstral Show. All tickets purchased for the 27th are valid for the 30th April.

On Saturday last a group of people organised a Jumble Sale here at the Centre. The sale made £53. This is the kind of effort that is deeply appreciated by us here at the Centre. We express our sincere thanks to all who organised it.

St. Patrick's night here is always a big night. This year our band for the dance is the Exiles Ceili Band. Also in the Douglas Hyde Lounge we will have our usual ballad session. It has been decided to make every effort to cater for our members. So the programme is as follows: tickets are on sale for both Douglas Hyde Lounge and J.F. Kennedy Hall, costing members 25p and all other tickets for guests will cost 50p. In this way we hope to satisfy our members.

In the Kennedy Hall, as I say, we have the Exiles Ceili Band and as guest artist in the Lounge we have Fionnuala O'Sullivan (harpist). Fionnuala has played for J.F. Kennedy on his arrival in Ireland and she also played at the White House. She has appeared on many television shows. And, of course, she is appearing on our Albert Hall Show this year. The tickets will be issued on a "first in - first served" basis. We want to cater for all our members on St. Patrick's night. I would appeal to you to ring us here as soon as possible for the tickets.

The Council of Irish counties held their A.G.M. here at the Centre on the last Sunday in February. It was a very well attended meeting. We at the Centre owe a lot to the Irish County Associations. Down through the years they have done more than any other organisation by holding their functions here. We thank the counties for their loyal support. We thank Mr. Maurice O'Connor for his help as Chairman of the counties. To the new Chairman, Pat Hegarty, we say congratulations and we hope we will have his support and the support of his association.

In place of the Parade there will be Mass in Southwark Cathedral at 12 noon on Sunday, 12th March.

Many people ring us here asking if we can supply them with records. We do not stock records here but you can purchase all the latest Irish records at "Spinit", 13 High Road, Willesden Green, N.W.10.

God Bless You All.

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