

NEWSLETTER

Every now and then a policeman rides up our street ~~on horseback~~. The clip clop of the hooves brings us horselovers to the door and for sixty seconds we are zoomed back to the past to relive every gallop we have had. But whatever nostalgic emotion the horse may cause in us, if we saw that horse pulling a cart load of turf, I believe we would almost be tempted to steal a few sods. Working on the bog years ago was the most pleasant part of the year's work in the old country.

In the school to which I went it was a golden rule that each child had to bring a sod of turf every morning. The proudest day of all was when our father brought a load of turf to the school, so relieving us of the burden of carrying the sod of turf to the school daily. This was our membership pass.

Whether it was that old practice or something else which prompted our decision regarding membership of the Centre, I do not know. As mentioned in our last Newsletter, we have had to put our house in order with regard to membership and our committee have laid down that EVERYONE MUST BE A MEMBER.

How each person pays his membership is up to himself. He can sign one of our forms and simply be a free member, after which payment of 10p must be paid on entrance to the Douglas Hyde Lounge. OR a subscription of £1.50 (single) or £2.00 (married) at the beginning of the year permits free entrance. We hope this will be fair. As you can see, it is cheaper and a lot more convenient to pay the £1.50 or £2.00 (as the case may be) at the beginning of the year.

We hope that this question of membership is solved once and for all. We have to keep within the law and you as a member will help us. We ask for your full co-operation. We know you will help.

For occasions like St. Patrick's Day and bank holidays, all functions will be ticket only and it will be based on a 'first come, first served' method. We will send out advance notification of these events. There will be a charge for tickets for these functions.

Speaking about functions, we have selected our main artists for the St. Patrick's Festival Concert in the Albert Hall on Friday, March 16th. The big names are: Sean O Se; Patricia Cahill; Sean Dunphy and the Hoedowners. We can guarantee there will be no speeches this year. We can also guarantee that it will be an excellent concert.

How have you done with our raffle tickets? I know many of you will have to support many school projects, but I hope you will be able to sell the two books we sent you last month. Fr. Mee wants very much (as do we all) to make it well worth while. Try and sell the two books please.

Another event of importance is the Christmas Bazaar. This was a great success last year and we are hoping for the same support again on 9th December. Anything you don't want you could pass on to us.

Finally, may we remind you that Christmas Cards in aid of the Irish-Centre are on sale once again, price 30p, 20p and 13p per $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. packs with envelopes. Do support us.

We at the Centre are busily engaged in preparations to enliven your Christmas festivities and enjoyment, and to make our wishes for your "Merry Christmas" come true. By participating in our fund-raising efforts you will also ensure that our Immigrants are assured of a happy Christmas and all that means. May God bless you and yours.

Rev. P. Sheridan, OMI.

NOTE.

ENCLOSED IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD WHICH IS VALID TO
31ST DECEMBER 1973.

Please retain this as it may be required for production in the Club. If you wish to become a Subscribing-Member please let us know before the end of 1972.