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The Irish
Counties Journal

ISSUE 5

APRIL, 1979

VOLUME 9



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Tel. 01 346 2726.

Irish Heritage

Dear friends we hope that you do not feel that we have been neglecting you as it has been some time since we have had a performance in London. Many of you know that we have been performing in the Provinces and a performance in Solihull on March 29th.

However, we shall be returning to the London scene on May 31st, when we do a special Gala Evening to commemorate the birth of Thomas Moore. This will be held at St. John's, Smith Square, and we will tell you more about this in due course. In the meantime please put the date in your diaries, as it will be a splendid event, as befits our national poet.

This month we will be exactly five years old. Some of you will remember our first performance, the Goldsmith Bi-centenary Celebration, when we first stepped on to the platform in the Hall of the Inner Temple. As I look at the list before me, I find it difficult to believe that in those five short years we have been able to present so many and such varied programmes. You will hear of our new achievement very shortly and I know that you will be proud to share it with us. I thank friends old and new for the magnificent support you have given us during the past five years; it is your loyalty that has made our latest achievement possible, and I am glad that you will have a part in this further promotion of our heritage.

Liam Martin, President.

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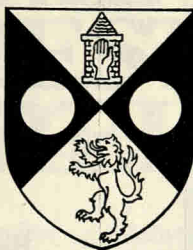
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I would like to start this month's notes with a Cead Mile Failte to Fr. Pat Sheridan. It gave us great pleasure to know of his return to London. You all have fond memories of Fr. Pat, always a happy and smiling figure with a joke and a song at all our functions. Fr. Sheridan has been sadly missed by all of us not only by the Cavan Association but all Irish people in London. Fr. Sheridan has done a wonderful job in Birmingham and now their loss is our gain. Thank you Fr. for returning to us, that trip up the M.1 was very tiring. Again welcome back and we hope you find the time to "lock in" at our meetings occasionally.

Lakeland Holidays

Our grand offer for travel to Ireland via Lakeland, July/August is too good to miss. Your initial enquiry should be with the secretary now. Please hurry there is no use waiting until it is too late and complaining afterwards. If you get in touch now we will contact you as soon as possible with a reply.

Social Functions

All arrangements are complete for our dance at the Irish Centre on the 26th of the month. I will give you a full report in the next issue.

Festival

My plea for help with the Cavan stand for the Irish Festival on 1st July in last month's issue did not go unnoticed. I was pleased that there was response from some members and their families but I am sure there are many more who could help don't be shy if you are reading this and there is anything you think you can do, please get in touch with me.

The Irish Counties Journal

Congratulations to Jane Smyth on the 100th issue of the Journal in March. Thank you, Jane, for all your help.

Quiz

Thank you to the five young people who came forward to form our Quiz team on the 27th February when our regular members of the team could not be present (due to illness mostly). We lost to Westmeath on the night but had a most enjoyable time in doing so. Our best wishes to Westmeath for the remaining rounds.

As I was scribbling these few notes I heard that Marie Mullen was in London for a visit. Welcome Marie I hope we see something of you before you return.

May Clarke (Mrs.), Secretary.



Photo on left shows our poet,
Michael Hannon

Back in our Bare-foot Days

Do you remember as children
When we were going to school?
We would leave our shoes off in the summer time
It was the golden rule.
We'd scamper down the Boreens
And the friendly by-ways,
With not a worry in the world—
Back in our Bare-foot Days.

We didn't have much money then
But we had lots of fun;
And many were the games we played
When out from school we'd come—
And many were the pranks we played
In the hush of an Autumn's haze,
Like raiding Biddy's Orchard—
Back in our Bare-foot Days.

Sometimes, on a Summer's evening
We would climb a hill-top high
And watch the golden sun do down
In a cloudless August sky—
And ere the dusk of night came down
We would go our diverse ways,
To the shelter of the homes we loved—
Back in our Bare-foot Days.

Many were the tales the old folks told
To kids like you and me—
Of the haunted mill at the foot of the hill
And the cry of the lone Banshee.
Still, somehow yet, we cannot forget
Those legends and those lays
That were told and sung when we were young—
Back in our Bare-foot Days.

Now, some have gone to lands afar;
Still, distance does not make us forget
Those happy days in Ireland—
The memory haunts us yet.
For always in our thoughts will be—
Our kin who sleep 'neath the Shamrock Sprays,
Who gave us love—and whom we loved—
Back in our Bare-foot Days.

Michael Hannon.

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 28 Cross Street, M2 3NH (061-832 5981)

Irish Association of North London

Chairman:	Secretary:	Treasurer:
Mr. P. O'Donoghue, 79 Station Road New Barnet, Herts. Tel. 01 440 3820	Mr. T. McGuire 5 Crescent Road New Barnet, Herts. Tel. 01 440 0424	Mr. M. McCauley 48 Woodland Way London, N21. Tel. 01 886 7393.

The Irish Association of North London held its Annual General Meeting recently at the Salisbury Hotel, Barnet, although the weather was bitterly cold and frosty about forty or so members braved the elements to be present.

In his retiring speech and yearly report Tommy McGuire said it had been a very hard year but at the same time a very pleasing one also, because it had shown that the committee and officers had the grit and determination to see the Association through a difficult time. Mr. McGuire informed the meeting that he did not intend to seek re-election as Chairman for the coming year but he would be available for any other position.

May I as P.R.O. take this opportunity on behalf of all members and present officers and committee to say a big thank you to Tommy McGuire for the wonderful job he has done for the I.A.N.L. as Chairman. As long as I have known Tommy he has always shown himself to be a man of great integrity with the added quality of great leadership. It is nice to know you are still with us Tommy, thank you once again.

The Treasurer in his yearly report said he agreed with the Chairman in that it had been a very hard year, it was also a lean one financially but we were still afloat. He hoped we would do much better in the coming year. Mr. McCauley said we had managed to make a profit from our Annual Dinner/Dance, this, he said, was due to the fantastic support we had received from sponsors, members and friends alike.

In the election of officers: Mr. P. O'Donoghue was elected unanimously as Chairman. Welcome back Paddy and good luck in your year as Chairman. Paddy is a former Chairman of the Irish Association of North London so we can be assured of being in safe and experienced hands. Secretary, Mr. T. McGuire (we knew we wouldn't lose him); Treasurer, Mr. M. McCauley; Darts and Band Organiser, Mr. M. Aulsberry; Committee: Mrs. Kitty Groves, Mr. M. McCauley, Mr. A. Hogan, Mr. E. Johnston, Mr. B. Mackey, Mr. J. Ruane, Mr. P. Maloney, Mr. P. J. King, Mr. P. Brennan, Mr. P. Kearney, Mr. N. Leahy, and yours truly, Bill Aulsberry.

This year we had to say goodbye to Tom Tiernan, our Secretary last year, as he returns home with his family. We will miss you Tom, thank you all for the work you did on our behalf whilst you were with us.

Dates for your Diary Enfield.

3rd April, 1979—Darts Match at Trent Park, Oakwood, London, N.14.
Time 8.30 p.m.

4th April, 1979, Golf Outing to Hadley Wood, playing for Foundation
28th April, 1979—Dance at St. George's Parish Hall, London Road,
Enfield.

Trophy, sponsored by the Irish Association of North London.

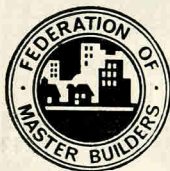
For any further information on the above please telephone Mr. P. O'Donoghue on 440 3820; Mr. T. McGuire 440 0424; or B. Aulsberry 889 6579.

Stop Press — Challenge Charity Golf Match

16 Man Team Irish Association of North London Golf Society challenged by 16 Man Team The Freehold Golf Society, in aid of the handicapped Children's Home, Muswell Hill, London N.10. The venue is Finchley Golf Course on Wednesday, 18th April next. There are numerous prizes donated by well known North London firms. Our team will

(continued on page 16)

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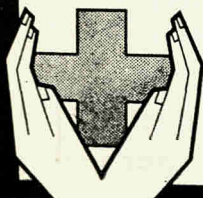
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Galway Association of London

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The Bishop of Galway.
The Mayor of Galway.

Secretary:

Mr. Bob Daly, 5 Woodnook Road,
Streatham, London, SW16 6TZ.



A Cara,

The Galway Association of London held a successful Bacon and Cabbage Dinner/Dance at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, London, NW.1, on Saturday, 5th March last. The food was excellent and dancing continued until midnight to music supplied by the Irish Centre Disco, and members who were pleasantly surprised at the choice and variety of records played, made their way home with many delightful memories of a happy evening.

The next function attended was the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, 11th March. County Associations marched from Horseguards Parade to St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, where Mass was concelebrated by immigrant Chaplains and the Gaelic League Choir sang in Sean O'Riada Mass. This was followed by a decade of the Rosary in our native tongue.

Members supported a concert in aid of the Irish Chaplaincy in Britain at the Albert Hall on Tuesday, 13th March. This was a St. Patrick's Festival Concert.

Sixty members of the Association attended the Council of Irish County Associations Silver Jubilee Dinner/Dance held at the Penthouse Suite, John Barkers, Kensington, London, W.8, on St. Patrick's Night. Over 500 patrons from the different County Associations took part on this festive occasion.

Our next function is a Bacon and Cabbage Supper/Dance at the Irish Centre on Friday, 15th June next. Music will be supplied by the Paddy Baggi Group. Members are advised to book early as numbers are limited due to the reconstruction and extension of the Irish Centre which is costing in excess of £1,000,000.

St. Patrick's School Boys Band, Galway City.

This band is visiting London week ending 30th June, 1979. They will attend and take part in a concert at the Salvatorian Hall, Harrow, on Saturday evening, 30th June. This concert is a joint effort of the Galway Association and the Harrow Irish Society. The proceeds will be shared equally by the two Associations. Galway's share is being donated to the Boys Band to help with their expenses. Among those taking part in the concert we shall see: the Gaelic League Choir, the John Brooks School of Dancing together with soloists who have in the past won the Michael Molloy Singing Competition. The late Michael Molloy was a well known Galway tenor and a staunch member of the Galway Association, London. Tickets for this concert may now be booked through the Association.

The School Band will attend the parade on July 1st at the Festival of Irish Culture at Roundwood Park, Willesden, London, NW10. This

(continued on page 10)

Galway Association of London (continued from page 9).

function has in the past drawn a record attendance of over 50,000 patrons. Proceeds go to welfare among Irish people in need in London. Half goes to the Irish Centre, London, and half to the Council of Irish Counties Welfare Fund.

Our Annual Dinner takes place at the Penthouse, John Barkers Kensington, W.8, on Saturday, December 15th, 1979, where we accommodate 500 Galwegians and friends distinguished guests from Galway will attend. Music will be supplied by the Tony White Mini Showband.

Membership

The Galway Association has a membership of 250. A dedicated lot of people who give outstanding support to the Committee of Management in all undertakings. This is deeply appreciated especially in the light of expected success pre-determined through such unqualified support. For the most part we are middle-aged or elderly people and with a view to the continuity of our Society in the years to come, we would appreciate it if young Galwegians arriving in Britain would seek membership of the Galway Association, London. It is the intention of the Committee of Management to form a Junior Section which would work in harmony with the Senior Group. Hence this request for newly arrived Galwegians to make contact. It would be to their advantage in many respects. The wise ones with 30 to 40 years experience of toil and business in Britain are certain to know most of the answers to questions which may bother the young immigrant. Perhaps parents reading this in the Home County might encourage their children working in London to make contact with us. The Association is a great link with the folk at home in their respective counties. We have thirty-two County Associations in London working together for the benefit of all under the guidance of the governing body: The Council of Irish County Associations (London).

We the Galwegians pride ourselves on being one of the friendliest Associations. We rank as one of the premier County Associations. Within our ranks there are no strangers, just friends you have yet to meet.

Bob Daly, Secretary.

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



Our warmest congratulations to John Treacy on his win in the World Cross Country Championship recently at Limerick Racecourse. About 27,000 people turned out in the cold and rain to cheer the world champion. The unassuming 21 year old was the least excited of the huge crowd. "It was much easier than last year," he said. The quiet man went off to spend the evening with his proud mum and dad before returning by jet the next day to Providence, Rhode Island, his American College, a very proud man that he had once again put the village of Villierstoen, Co. Waterford, on the map as he did in Scotland last year.

Darts

Mr. Billy Allen wishes to thank all of you who supported him on the 27th February last with his effort on behalf of the Irish Centre with the Darts Competition, all the County Associations who took part and the Pubs. All the Auldsberry Clan were there including Jackie, Bill's youngest daughter and all of the Waterford Committee.

The last Bacon and Cabbage was as usual a great success there wasn't much elbow room but I think everybody took this in their stride as the dinner was worth trying to get at in contortion.

The raffle for the Bacon and Cabbage Dinner raised £50.00, our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. John Quinn, of Quinns and Sons, Butchers, who laid on two prizes of Irish Rib of Beef and a selection of Irish Foods which they sell at their shop at 26 Northfields Avenue, Ealing. The Quinns brought along seven people for dinner and bought about £10.00 worth of tickets for their own prizes, again many thanks. They are a lovely bunch of young people who enjoyed being with us.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade was not up to expectations but it was nice to see more county banners this year and the Gaelic League Choir singing the Mass at St. George's Cathedral was, as usual, well worth joining with.

Sixteen of our members attended the St. Patrick's Night Banquet at Barkers on the 17th in the presence of our Ambassador (who was the principal guest). It was Dr. Kennedy's first annual dinner for the council, his Excellency was delighted to be with us and was accompanied by Mrs. Kennedy.

It was a first time also for Mr. Seamus Troy (Westmeath Association) as Chairman of the Council and a wonderful job he made of it too. The Waterford Association was led by our Chairman and Secretary, members of our Committee and ordinary members, Mr. and Mrs. Joan and Sonny Griffin. The highlight of our table was the fact that Committee Member, Paddy Reddy, discharged himself from the hospital for the night in order to celebrate St. Patrick's Night with us. Paddy had broken his leg and was hardly able to sit at the table without help.

(continued on page 20)

Christmas in Florida, U.S.A.

Mrs. Mary Allen, Hon. Secretary of the Waterford Association, organised a never to be forgotten sunshine holiday for a young English boy of Irish parents, aged 15 years, with American friends, Mr. and Mrs. Jack and Kay Khan, and Mr. and Mrs. Kahn's daughter, Terry, and her husband, Tom Duke. Mrs. Allen met and become firm friends with these good people through her business contacts in London. The following is the story as written in diary fashion by young Patrick:
Sunday, 17th December, 1978.

The taxi arrived at 9 a.m. to take us to Heathrow Airport. We had to report at 10.15 a.m. even though the flight was not departing until 11.15 a.m. Terry lost her passport but soon found it. Having checked in our baggage, etc., we ascended the steps to our plane which was a DC10. I was seated next to a nice lady from Kent on her way to visit relatives in America. We saw a film called "The Pink Panther". It was a very smooth flight. Later we changed to a much smaller plane and finally arrived in Tampa, Florida, at about 8.30 p.m. U.S.A. time. Mr. and Mrs. Duke (Tom and Terry) who travelled with me from London drove straight to Terry's parents' home, Mr. and Mrs. Khan (Kay and Jack). The Khans welcomed us with open arms and a beautiful American dinner. After dinner we talked for a while and then excused ourselves and went to Tom and Terry's house which was to be my home for the next three weeks, and so to bed after a long and tiring but exciting journey.

Monday, 18th December, 1978.

I got up at 7.30 a.m. it was cold at that time of the morning. I decided to watch television, I had 40 channels to choose from. Tom and Terry got up at 9 a.m. and we had breakfast, by now it was getting very warm outside and we went to the beach, the sand was very white and warm, and the sun was blazing down. It certainly looked so different at 12 noon than it had at 7.30 a.m. We stayed on the beach for quite a while and had lunch. Tom asked me to go and get the papers and gave me directions. I went but came back empty handed, I couldn't understand the American coinage. Tom gave me the right coins and next time I came back with the papers.

Wednesday, 20th December, 1978.

Got up at 9.30 a.m. today and after breakfast we went to Kay and Jack's. Mr. and Mrs. Khan wanted to know all about me and home and how I was enjoying myself so far. They wanted to hear all the news of Tom and Terry's holiday in England and Ireland. We then went swimming. After our swim we all went to the games room and played pool, George, a man who was a friend of Kay and Jack, taught me how to play shuffle board. After that we had a game with the frisby on the beach. After lunch Terry fell asleep after a hectic morning, but George, Tom and myself had a game of pool and we each won a game. Later on I went for a run but I didn't go far because it was so hot.

Friday, 22nd December, 1978.

Today I met a boy of my own age called Dan, we had a good game of football on the beach: he was a very good football player. We enjoyed ourselves on the beach until lunch time. After lunch we had to take Annia (Terry's grandchild) who had been staying with us for a few days, to the airport. Having seen her safely on the plane we headed for K. Market to get a turkey, it weighed 20 pounds. When we got home Kay had some lovely chilli waiting for us. Having finished our goodies we went to the beach. After dinner we played some games and so ended another day of my sunshine holiday.

Sunday, 24th December, 1978.

Tommy and Karen are arriving today, Tommy is Tom's son and Karen is Tommy's wife. I went to Kay and Jack's, they took me shop-

ping with them. We went to a store called "Moss Brothers" it was much bigger and better than any store I've seen in England. This trip took up most of the day. When we arrived back at Kay and Jack's, Tommy and Karen had arrived, they were very tired after their journey but glad to be with us.

Monday, 25th December, 1978.

Stayed in bed late to day. Christmas Day has come at last, Hooray. There were lots of presents round the table and the turkey was cooking. Seeing the presents all packed up in beautiful parcels, I was dying to get at mine, but I had to wait and it seemed years before the time came, among mine were a quiz challenger, a metal detector, a lie detector, a tree trimming machine, a game of cribbage, a new coat, socks, etc., etc. What a great day we all had. My first Christmas in America and my first Christmas in the sunshine, never to be forgotten. Tuesday, 26th Boxing Day.

I got up fairly early and went for the papers as usual, by now I was well used to the American money. I played pool for a few hours. Today Jack started giving me snorkling lessons, he says I can snorkle quite good. We stayed on the beach and had a picnic lunch. I was watching some people playing football, they were very friendly people and invited me to join them. I discovered that one of the boys was from Switzerland, his name was Flivo. After the game we all went swimming and had a really good time messing about in the water. After our picnic we all played pool and other games in the games room. After some time everyone went to their respective homes, and I watched a game of basket ball on the television, I soon got tired after a wonderful day in the sun and went to bed.

Wednesday, 27th December, 1978.

We got up at nine. Something unusual happened during the night, a cat got into the house, I got up and chased it out and locked the door. When Terry got up she opened the door and again the cat came in, then Terry locked the door, and once again Karen got up and the door was wide open once again. What a way to start the day. After all that I slept a bit more and when I did eventually get up I had a few games of table tennis with Tommy, Jack joined us later on and that day Jack taught me how to fly a kite, I wasn't too bad at that either. After lunch Tommy and Karen came in to say goodbye. They said if I came to the U.S.A. again to be sure to come and see them, I thought that was very nice of them. Having said our goodbyes Tom, Terry and myself went to Kay and Jack's house for dinner. After dinner we talked about the state of the world, about America, Russia and medical things, etc. After a good and interesting chat we left and home to bed.

Thursday, 28th December, 1978.

Today it was raining but I still went swimming even though it was raining, the atmosphere was very warm and the water was also.

Friday, 29th December, 1978

Today we went to Disney World, this is difficult to describe. This is a place that is known all over the world, a magic world for children and adults alike, an experience never to be forgotten by anyone who visits it.

Saturday, 30th December, 1978.

Sunbathing and swimming and having fun generally all day long on the beach and thinking of you all freezing in England and wondering at my good luck at being able to laze or play in the sunshine on a lovely warm beach.

Sunday, 31st December, 1978.

Had a lazy day by the swimming pool, went into the kitchen to see

Christmas in Florida (from page 15)

what Terry was up to and tried my hand at making cakes and succeeded at that too.

1st January, 1979 (New Year's Day)

Today I went swimming with Jack and my friend Bill. Bill is a friend I met (American) who was on holidays at Tampa during my stay there, today is the day of Bill's departure for home and I was sorry to see him go as we had some good fun together, however we exchanged addresses, and promised to keep in touch by letter. After our farewell to Bill I watch some football and other sports on the box. The television is very interesting over there as there is so much to choose from and it's on 24 hours a day. It rained nearly all day, but we still had a barbeque.

Wednesday, 3rd January, 1979.

Went shopping to "Moss Brothers" again this took up most of the day, a person could spend a week going around this big shopping precinct.

Thursday, 4th January, 1979.

Went to Parpin Springs which is a famous beauty spot, and very popular with experienced divers, it was fascinating to watch them.

Friday, 5th January, 1979.

Did my usual swimming and sunbathing. Mike (another friend I met) and I had a few games on the beach. I also became the local celebrity today, my name was splashed on the local papers, saying I was on holiday with Mr. and Mrs. Duke in the sunshine while England was covered in snow and ice.

Saturday, 6th January, 1979

Went to a place called St. Armands and had lunch in a large restaurant called Charlies, after lunch we went to a large shopping centre in St. Armands. Tom bought a really small radio and I bought some presents to take back home. A very interesting and enjoyable day.

Sunday, 7th January, 1979

Played shuffle board and went swimming with Terry, when we got back we started to pack. Went to the games room to have my last game of pool with George, he beat me 3-2. I then helped Terry finish the packing. I said goodbye to all the friends I'd met during my stay in America. It was very memorable journey for me, one I shall never forget. I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Duke for having me in their home, Mr. and Mrs. Khan for entertaining me so lavishly, Mrs. Mary Allen for instigating the trip, and to my Mum and Dad for allowing me to make it. I do realise that one can spend a whole lifetime without travelling so far and to be in the sunshine for Christmas is something not many people from this side of the world achieve. If it never happens again, it is something I shall treasure always.

Patrick Groves.

* * * * *

Irish Association of North London (continued from page 6)

be arranged by our Golf Committee and will play for the whole day. Any golfer, other than our team wishing to play is very welcome to do so, be it all day or afternoon only. The fee for all day is £13.00 per person. Afternoon fee proportional, morning coffee, midday luncheon and evening meal. The Freehold Golf Society is run by Liam Murphy, Landlord of the Alexandra Arms, Cromwell Road, Muswell Hill, N.10. Liam is also one of our own Golf Society committee members. This is a very worthy cause indeed, and deserves every support possible. Please make this a good financial result for the kids by your presence. Golfers interested please contact any of the Golf Committee or Liam Murphy on 883 4253.

This is all for now, so until we all meet again be good and kind to each other and above all look after those who are less able to look after themselves.

God Bless.

Bill Aulsberry, P.R.O. (Tel. 889 6579).

London Wexford Association

President: Fr. Herbert Haines, P.P., Cricklewood.

Vice-President:

Mick Bowe

Life Presidents:

Dick Gaul & Martin Whitty, K.S.G.

Chairman:

Jim Murphy

195 Harlesden Road

London, N.W.10.

Tel. 451 0898.

Secretary:

Kitty Cullen

51 Goodhall Street,

London, N.W.10.

Tel. 965 6045.

Treasurer:

Jim Doyle

281 Willesden Lane,

London, N.W.2.

Vice-Chairman:

Michael Sills,

153 Ellesmere Road

London, N.W.10.

Tel. 452 3443.

Registrar:

Peter White

No. 1 Heathfield Park

London, N.W.10.

Tel. 459 1627.

A Benefit Dance to help pay the funeral expenses of the late Michael O'Donnell will take place at the Cricklewood Hotel, Cricklewood Broadway, London, NW.2, on Saturday, 7th April next. Music by Tommy Brophy and the Pavillion. Dancing from 8.30 p.m. The first heat of the 1979 Old Time Waltzing Competition will take place on this night and to give you all extra encouragement to join us there is a bar extension, so do come along and support a worthy cause.

Please make a note of the 19th May, 1979, for a date with Wexford Association at the Cavendish Ballroom, at the Spotted Dog, Willesden High Road, London, NW.10. Watch this space next month for full details which will also appear in the "The Irish Post," "Kilburn Times," "Willessden and Brent Chronicle," "Irish Weekly" and "The Wexford People."

I would ask you now to think forward to the 1st July and the Irish Festival at Roundwood Park, Willessden. Our Association hopes to have two stalls again this year. If anyone has any ideas as to how the stalls should be used the secretary would be very glad to hear about the same. We need the help of a lot more members if you feel you can help in any way please get in touch, you will be helping to put Wexford to the fore on that day.

Quiz

There must be people amongst our membership who are interested in Quiz Competitions, please come forward, I would like to see the Association with a good team. Quiz competitions can be very interesting as well as educational and a very pleasant way to spend an evening. Please do not hesitate to telephone any of the above numbers if you are interested.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Irish Counties Journal on its 100th issue in March.

Condolences

We offer our sincere sympathy to members who have suffered bereavements recently.

May I once again remind our members who have not sent in their membership fees for 1979 to please do so now.

Breda Sills (Mrs.), Press Officer.

Clare Association, London

Patron: Most Rev. Dr. Michael Harty, Bishop of Killaloe.
Life President: Mr. M. Moroney.

Tel. 01 743 1141 (day) and 01 954 3400 (evenings).

Chairman:
Mr. Clive Fogarty
45 Laurel Way,
Totteridge, N.20.
Tel. 01 446 3481.

Vice-Chairman:
Mr. P. O'Gorman

Secretary:
Miss Una Walshe
31 Basing Way, N.3.
Tel. 01 349 2335

Assist. Secretary:
Mrs. Mary Dempsey

Treasurer:
Mrs. Doyle
27 Jocelin House
Copenhagen Street, N.1
Tel. 01 837 6098

Press Officer:
Bridie Neeves



The Annual General Meeting of our Association took place at the Irish Centre, Murray Street, Camden Town, London, N.W.1, on Sunday, 4th March. In his address the Chairman welcomed all present to the 1979 A.G.M., the many new members who came along to join the Clare Association in London a Cead Mile Failte to you all and my hopes are that many more will come along to join us in the future.

Our Chairman said that during the year since our A.G.M. in 1978 we suffered the sad loss of Mrs. Tess Moroney. You all knew, he said, what an outstanding contribution Mrs. Moroney made to the Clare Association over the years as she did to all aspects of Irish Society in London, and further afield. Our Chairman asked all present to join him in an expression of sympathy and support to Mr. Martin Moroney, our President, on his sad loss.

The Chairman went on to say the Association saw the departure of our very hard working Chairman, Mr. Sean Igoe, to his native Doonbeg. Sean's great efforts on behalf of our Association will be missed, he did a wonderful job as Chairman as indeed he did amongst the less literate children of London. We all miss Sean but we wish him well in his new venture in his native county.

Our Chairman continued that the members elected a committee who worked hard and harmoniously like a happy family throughout the year; he would like to think of the members as part of that happy family.

The Chairman also paid tribute to the husbands and wives of the committee members who so helpfully joined in the activities and gave such generous support to the Association. It has been good to witness the spirit of co-operation. He thanked the officers for the untiring efforts put in throughout 1978: Una Walsh, our Secretary, who worked

(continued on page 20)

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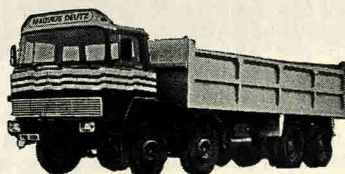
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Waterford Association (continued from page 13)

Paddy's plaster was pure white on the way in but before going home it was covered with good will messages from most tables in the banqueting hall.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Waterfordian Sister Walsh, Headmistress of St. John's School in West Yorkshire for receiving the O.B.E. from the Queen at Buckingham Palace recently. Her reward was for a lifetime (she is 75) of teaching deaf and partially deaf children of England and Wales.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday, 14th April, 1979—Dungarven and District Reunion, Cricklewood Hotel, when we bid a Cead Mile Afailte to the visiting teams from our home county Stradbally and Brickey Rangers who will play Cuchulains and Garryowen at our Festival.

15th April (Easter Sunday) at West London Stadium, Scrubs Lane, Du Cane Road, London, W12. Starting at 12 noon. The Under 12 and 14 Soccer which is sponsored by Mr. Tony Beatty will be refereed by Mr. David O'Leary of Arsenal and Ireland fame.

At the Festival there will be Irish music and dancing, a pipe band, novelty races for the children and all sorts of surprises.

Looking forward to seeing you then.

Jane T. Smyth (Mrs.), Press Officer.

* * * * *

Clare Association, London (continued from page 18)

so strenuously and cheerfully as Secretary; Mrs. Teresa Doyle, a well chosen Treasurer, who kept the accounts in impeccable order; Mrs. Mary Demsey, who combined her duties as Assistant Secretary with her domestic commitments in such an impressive way and to yours truly as Press Officer for reporting the news items in the Irish Counties Journal and the many newspapers in an excellent manner; to Fr. Clancy, Chaplain to the Association, for his spiritual guidance and help during the year, and so ended the Chairman's report.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary said she wished to be associated with everything the Chairman had said. It had, said Una, been a very eventful year for our Association, the successful activities engaged in were brought to fruition by the outgoing committee she felt sure that the reports given out would prove adequate testimony of a case of hard work done and especially in the area of help for the less fortunate.

The A.G.M. resulted in no change in the committee, our Chairman for the coming year who according to our constitution was elected by our committee prior to the A.G.M., is Mr. Clive Fogarty who has worked on behalf of our Association for many years—we welcome him as our Chairman.

There was a grand finale to our Annual General Meeting when Fr. Cagney came on to the scene—our Chairman presented him with a
(continued on page 22)

The Fermanagh Association, London
Patron: Most Rev. Dr. Mulligan, Lord Bishop of Clogher.

CUMANN

FHIRMHANACH



DEVENISH

ISLAND

Chairman: Mr. H. McCormack. Tel. 01 387 8604.
Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. McManus. Tel. 965 - 5155.
Secretary—Mrs. Mary McCormack. Telephone 387 - 8604
Treasurer: Mr. F. Corrigan.



Photograph taken at a recent Dinner/Dance, the group includes: Mr. Michael Hogan, Chairman of the Federation of Irish Societies and Mrs. Hogan; Mr. Mike Walsh and his wife Helen (née Courtney, Ballagh) who came from Widnes in Lancashire for the occasion; Mrs. Connolly, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, also Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the Fermanagh Association.

The Benefit Dance in aid of the Jumbulance will have taken place by the time you read this—more about this worthy cause another time.

We had a cold day for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The saying that "flagstones will be getting hot when we reach St. Patrick's Day" certainly did not ring true this year, it was worth the effort to show the flag and when we got to St. George's Cathedral we heard the lovely voices of the Gaelic League Choir singing the O'Raida Mass.

We enjoyed meeting all our friends at the Embassy on St. Patrick's Day and afterwards at Barkers for the Silver Jubilee of the Council of Irish County Associations. It was a wonderful gay night with everyone tripping the light fantastic and while doing so bumping into old and dear friends of many years in Irish circles in London.

Mary McCormack, Secretary.

In Town

Met Mr. Martin Whitty, K.S.G., back in town over the festival season with Mrs. Whitty. I must say Bunclody in Co. Wexford is doing them both a lot of good as they both looked so young and healthy.

Martin had a lot of good reports on how Ireland is progressing, things he could see after spending over six months in residence there. The young people have taken over and a great job they are making of it too. Martin said, himself and Nora were welcomed everywhere they went in Ireland and all the young people were anxious to tell them of all the good things happening in our native land.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitty asked to be remembered to all their friends on this side of the water, they hoped they would get time to see most of you, but those of you they could not reach, they said to tell you even though they are leading a pretty full life in their retirement they missed the many friends they met during all their years (I think over 30) in London.

Martin and Nora are staying at Beaconsfield with their daughter Sheila, grandchildren Barbara and Johanna and son-in-law John Gilfoil, that is when John is not trotting around the world on business. John returned from Brazil recently, then went to Scotland and is now about to go to Spain.

On asking about Mr. and Mrs. Whitty's son Anthony, they said he is now very happily installed in a teaching post in Spain.

A Cead Mile Failte to England Mr. and Mrs. Whitty may your stay be a very happy one.

Another V.I.P. in town as we went to press was Mrs. Marie Mullen who was for many years connected with the Cavan Association and the Council of Irish County Associations with her husband Brian, R.I.P. Marie is still under the doctor's supervision since her tragic loss, therefore was unable to see all her friends while in London, and still having to tie up loose ends without her beloved. Marie hopes that her house in Cavan will be rebuilt and that she will be settled in before the summer if and or when you are in Cavan or passing through Marie will have a Cead Mile Failte and the kettle on the hob for her friends.

Clare Association, London (continued from page 20).

cheque for £500.00 to help the Irish Centre. Fr. Cagney said on behalf of all Irish people in London, he wished to thank the Clare Association for the £500.00, also again for the £1,000 presented last year and all the help not only the Clare Association but all County Associations gave down the years. Fr. Cagney said that without the County Associations there would be no Irish Centre.

Bacon and Cabbage

The last Bacon and Cabbage Supper at the Irish Centre was a great success, really hot and plenty of it. Our thanks to chef Jim who worked so hard in the kitchen, to the lovely waitresses who served us so nicely, and not forgetting the manager, Mr. John O'Shea, who was walking about looking immaculate making sure everything was going with a swing. Everybody enjoyed the evening so much they were asking when we were going to have another one.

I will give you details of our future functions in the next issue.

Quiz

Congratulations to our Quiz team on their win over Waterford. It says a great deal for their skill as this year's Waterford team beat Cork and Kilkenny earlier this year. The quiz master was Tommy Dack. Thank you Waterford for a sporting and friendly evening.

Sympathy

Our sincere condolences to our Chairman, Mr. Clive Fogarty, on the sudden death of his mother. R.I.P.

As we go to press we are all set for St. Patrick's Dinner Dance and Silver Jubilee of the Council of Irish County Associations.

More next month 'till then God Bless. Bridie Neevs (Mrs.), P.R.O.

Irish Society of Harrow

Patron: Rev. P. Tuite, S.D.S.

President: Mr. J. Burke Tel. 863 2877	Chairman: Mr. P. J. Chambers, 47 Sancroft Road, Harrow, Middlesex Tel. 427 1065	Hon. Secretary: Mr. M. N. O'Regan, 54 Gordon Road, Harrow, Middlesex Tel. 427 3736
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Miss Harrow Irish Competition

Our Miss Harrow Irish Competition has already commenced. The first heat took place at the Leisure Centre on the 2nd March, and the following young ladies will go through to the final: the Misses Geraldine Goodwin, 35 Hitherwell Drive; Mary Keaney 79 Graham Road; Angela Mulvihill, 55 Talbot Road; Deidre Belton, 3 Sudbury Court Road; Denise Horsam, 40 Crofts Road.

Our present "Miss Harrow Irish," Diana Loftus led the young ladies on to the floor and they were introduced to the judges by Mr. J. Burke, our President. The judges were from the North London Association led by their Secretary, Mr. Tom McGuire—to them our grateful thanks.

The second heat will be held on Saturday, 14th April, at the Leisure Centre. Music will be by "The Airs and Graces."

The final will be on Saturday the 19th May, again at the Leisure Centre. Music for this occasion will be by "Bridie and the Swinging Doors."

For those of you who don't already know the qualifications for this contest are as follows: Entrants must be of Irish parentage or grand-parentage, over 16 years of age, and must reside within the Borough or Harrow. 1st prize, £50 plus A.I.B. Plaque and Sash; 2nd prize, £30; 3rd prize, £20. Nomination forms available from Mr. J. Burke (Tel. 01 863 2877).

Incidentally our present Miss Harrow Irish will represent Harrow in the London Heat of the Rose of Tralee Competition. Best of luck, Diana.

Proposed Irish Centre

We would like to bring you up to date regarding the proposed purchase of St. Barnabas Church. As you are probably aware due to the publicity given in some newspapers, the situation we find ourselves in is far from satisfactory. The problem we face is a legal technicality and we assure you that our solicitor is making every endeavour to overcome the situation, we have also made approaches to our local Members of Parliament, Messrs. Hugh Dykes and Tony Grant, and they have promised that they will endeavour to help in every way possible. However our councillors who are involved in the G.L.C., Messrs. Harold Mote, Sidney Clack and Horace Cutler are rather reluctant to communicate with us. However, there is still one glimmer of hope and that is the premises have not yet been sold even though very facility has been offered to the other party to purchase the premises and they still have not done so. It would suggest to us that we still have a chance of succeeding. Of course the other factor in our favour is that the Church Authorities still want to sell the premises to the Harrow Irish Society.

We believe it would be a great help if everybody reading this would consider writing to Messrs. Clack, Mote and Cutler and ask them to declare their interest in the situation, their address is: County Hall, London, S.E.1. Our Members of Parliament, Messrs. Dykes, Grant and Page can be contacted at: the House of Commons, Westminster, London,
(continued on page 24)

Irish Society of Harrow (continued from page 23)

New Parish Priest at St. Joseph's, Wealdstone.

We would like to take this opportunity of wishing Fr. Raymond Flanagan every blessing and success in his new appointment.

Wedding Bells.

Best wishes to our first Miss Harrow, Rita Diviney, who was married on the 24th March to Mr. John Smith.

New Management

Every success and best wishes to Joe and Sarah Loftus on taking over the management of the Protsmount Irish Club.

If you should be in the Burnt Oak, Broadway Area, why not call into the "Broadway Hotel" where our former Secretary, John Gill, and his wife, Colette are Mine Hosts. Best of luck to John and Colette.

Society Membership.

We have secured a 10% discount at the Country and Irish Music Shop at Glarnedon Road, Harrow, on production of an Irish Society membership card.

Condolences

We would like to tender our sincere sympathy to the following who have suffered recent bereavements: the Horon family, Hindes Road, the Glavin family, Kenmore Avenue, the Cahill family, Weald Lane, the Kilroy family, Whitefriars Drive, the Greensmith family, Walton Road.

Harrow Community Arts Festival

The first Community Arts Festival will be held on Sunday afternoon, 20th May in the Byron Hall, Leisure Centre, Harrow. This event will be of interest to young and old alike and will include: music, song and dance of many countries. Details in the next issue.

Youth

As part of our programme towards youth participation within the Society and indeed the Federation of Irish Societies as a whole we have in this area started Youth Discos for the 13 to 16 year olds.

It is indeed our responsibility to cater for the second generation, the children born here, if we are to survive as a community. It is estimated that there are twice as many second generation youth, as there is in the Irish born section of our community. So let us all come down from the clouds to reality and shoulder our responsibilities and cater for our second generation. Find out what they want from us rather than we being selfish and expecting everything from them.

Festival of Sport

Our festival will be held on the 24th June at Hamilton Sports Ground. Full details later.

Dates for your Diary

14th April (Saturday)—2nd Heat of Miss Harrow Irish Competition.

29th May (Saturday)—Final of Miss Harrow Irish Competition.

20th May (Sunday)—Harrow Community Arts Festival.

2nd June (Saturday)—1st Heat of Old Time Waltzing Competition.

16th June (Saturday)—2nd Heat of Old Time Waltzing Competition.

24th June (Sunday)—The Irish Society of Harrow Festival of Sport.

20th July (Friday)—Final of the Old Time Waltzing Competition.

Wishing you all a happy Easter. * * * * * Michael O'Regan, Secretary.

Stop Press

Westmeath Association wishes to announce that their 14th Annual Dinner takes place at the Empire Rooms, Tottenham Court Road, London, on the 11th May, 1979. Tickets £7.00 each. Sean McCauley has asked me to say that he has been ill recently and was unable to get in contact with the County Associations, he would be most grateful if you would support this function, and please ring the following for tickets: Sean McCauley (Office): 01 680 5400 or (Home): 460 2071; P. J. Cafferty on (Office): 928 2323 or (Home): 01 928 2323. There is plenty of parking space in the near vicinity, so please support us if you want a good night out in London's West End.

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