

*The Irish  
Counties Journal*

ISSUE 12

VOLUME 12

APRIL, 1983



*Colaiste na hollscoile Gaillimh*

## **SUMMER SCHOOL, 1983**

University College of Galway, will conduct the following courses for international participants during Summer.

### **Beginners Course**

This four-week intensive course provides a basic knowledge of spoken Irish and general introduction to Irish Linguistic Culture. It is designed for those who have no previous knowledge of Irish.

### **Intermediate Course**

The College is also offering simultaneously, a course for those who have some knowledge of the spoken language. its aim is to help participants become fluent in the spoken dialect of Connemara Irish.

Courses will also include excursions and visits to areas of historical and cultural interest in the West of Ireland.

A limited number of scholarships will be available for courses. Closing date: May 21st, 1983.

Academic Director:

Peadar Mac an Iomaire, M.A., A.T.O., T.T.G.,

Director of Spoken Irish, University College, Galway.

Further information and application forms from:

Summer School Secretary,  
University College, Galway.  
Tel. 091 - 7611 Ext. 144  
Telex 28823.



# the irish centre

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REG. CHARITY NO. 221172

## Patrons:

His Eminence Cardinal G. Basil Hume, O.S.B.

Rt. Rev. Thomas McMahon, D.D.

Rt. Rev. Michael G Bowen, D.D.Stl., Ph.L.

**President:** Rt. Hon. Lord Longford, K.G., PC.

**Vice-President:** Mr. J. Branagan, J.P., K.S.G.

**Director:** Fr. Claude Malone.

**Chairman:** Mr. D. Egan

**Social Worker:** Sr. Joan Moriarty.

## Irish Centre Hostels, St. Louise Hostel, Medway Street.

After many delays and set backs, the official opening of the newly reconstructed and refurbished St. Louise Hostel, Medway Street, took place on 5th May, 1981.

Originally opened by the Daughters of Charity in 1933, the hostel accommodated working girls and students; this work of care and concern continued for forty two years. When in 1975 there was question of cessation of this work and the sale of the property, the Irish Centre became involved. It had just become a registered Housing Association, Irish Centre Hostels Limited, and qualified for grant aid from the Housing Corporation, which provided the purchase price of £195,000 and a further £875,000 to rehabilitate the building.

Extensive redevelopment was undertaken. The old style hostel built in 1930 had been replaced by modern cluster group accommodation for four to ten girls. Each cluster unit has its own single or double bedrooms, kitchen/dining room, bathroom, toilets, ironing room and other facilities. These cluster units provide a friendly family atmosphere for girls aged eighteen to twenty-five, who often arrive in London alone and lacking confidence. A very attractive and comfortable television lounge with coffee bar, brings girls together at a focal point. Since the opening took place a small quiet room has been re-adapted and furnished as a very devotional little chapel, where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved and weekly Mass is celebrated by the OMI Fathers who are chaplains to the Irish Centre services.

The hostel is self catering and rent includes all facilities except food. Residency at the hostel allows for a period of adjustment and adaptation to a new work situation in a strange environment before moving to private accommodation. The hostel has a management committee but is run by Sr. Anthony Price, Daughter of Charity, Sr. Edna McNicholas and Sr. Benedict Scahill, both Sisters of Mercy from the Tuam Diocese. The sisters in addition to their management tasks are always available to the residents for advice and support. The Social Workers at the Irish Centre visit the hostel regularly, to follow-up their own referrals and to offer counselling in specific cases.

The opening service and blessing of the hostel in May was conducted by His Eminence Cardinal Basil Hume. He congratulated the Irish Centre for its hostel work for men and women. "I see this as one more great contribution of the Irish to the Catholic community, not only in London, but throughout the country and it is a joy to acknowledge that . . . this house is a symbol of love and care, which is the true

(continued on page 4)

## The Sligo Association, London

Secretary: Mrs. Ann Bennett, [REDACTED]

### A Tribute to the late Luke Kennedy, R.I.P.

For the past decade the lengthening days of March heralded a flurry of activity among our members as we prepared for our annual Coach Excursion to Sligo to celebrate the feast day of our Patron Saint; the coming of spring this year holds no such joy for us, it only emphasises the poignancy of the death of our Chairman. He, so loved the yearly expedition to Tubbercurry with the excitement of meeting old friends and making new ones.

Luke seemed so indestructible, so full of enthusiasm and 'full of the joy of life' that it is difficult to accept our sense of loss and bewilderment at his passing.

He was a true son of Sligo with an instinctive appreciation and comprehensive knowledge of the music, song, dance and culture of Connaught, he could render a tune on the fiddle or dance a hornpipe with gusto whenever the occasion demanded.

His amazing memory and extensive vocabulary, his enduring interest in people and places made him an unforgettable raconteur and he seemed incapable of forgetting a face even after one encounter.

Luke also enjoyed his work and he pursued his craft with conscientiousness, imagination and consummate skill; he was never too busy for discussion but still managed to achieve his work objectives.

Involvement in local activities was part of his way of life and he contributed significantly to the management of his church, school and social club. He had maintained a lasting interest in 'The Irish Centre' and had always participated in activities related to charitable fund raising and the promotion of Irish Culture, but, perhaps he will be remembered more personally by many immigrants to whom he gave help and encouragement in securing jobs and living accommodation. Luke will also be remembered by County Associations for his dedication to the Quiz.

This is an opportune time to put aside our own sense of loss and to extend our sincere sympathy to his very charming and accomplished family with the hope that time will assuage their grief.

During Lukes comparatively brief illness he was an ideal patient and refused to waste his energy on self pity or recrimination. He made a conscious decision to follow the instructions of his physician which he did meticulously without ever losing his optimism or questioning the efficiency of his treatment, and he never manifested a note of dejection or despair.

His greatest joy was to hear friends conversing about people and places of his native County and until the day of his passing was acutely alert to the news from home.

We are all going to miss Luke so very much and his ready smile and quick wit will long be remembered—The words of Sir Walter Scott seem eminently appropriate.

"Like the Dew on the mountain,

Like the foam on the river,

Like the bubble on the fountain,

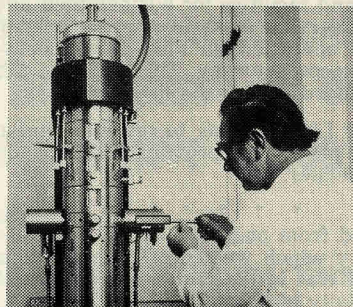
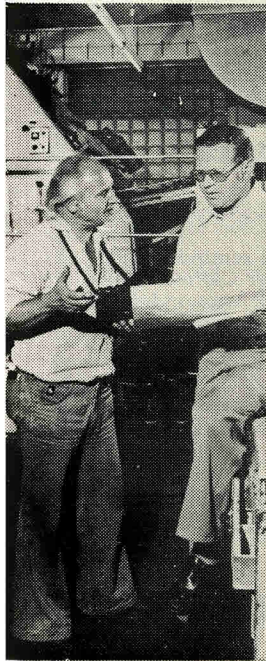
Thou are gone and forever."

Luke would not wish gloom or despondency to persist among his family or friends and the thought occurs that as his spirit soars towards heaven, it will linger over his beloved Sligo, particularly adjacent to the renowned Coleman Country, where, one fancies, he will listen again to the haunting strains of the fiddle playing 'Lord Gordons Reel' or 'The Haymakers Jig' on a springtime moonlit twilight.

May He Rest in Peace in Heaven.

Ann Bennett (Mrs.)  
Hon. Secretary.

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# Aer Lingus News

from Tommy Dunne

## New Aer Lingus Services for Britain.

Aer Lingus is to re-open scheduled services between Leeds/Bradford Airport and Dublin, and increase to twice a day scheduled services between Liverpool Airport and Dublin.

The airline will be operating a new type of aircraft, the Shorts 330, on these routes. The twin engined jet-prop Shorts 330, designed and built in Belfast, carries 30 passengers in a spacious cabin.

Mr. Conor McGrath, Aer Lingus General Manager-Britain, said the Shorts 330 was designed to provide economic shorthaul services. "We shall commence the Shorts 330 operation on 1st May," said Mr. McGrath. "It is an ideal aircraft for U.K.-Ireland routes where traffic levels are inadequate for larger jet aircraft. We hope to announce the extension of new services to additional U.K. routes in the near future."

Aer Lingus began flying between Leeds/Bradford and Dublin in 1960 with DC3 aircraft. In subsequent years the airline introduced Friendships, Viscounts and then pure jet services. Low load factors combined with operational difficulties because of the short runway length, caused the airline to suspend services in 1979. Services between Liverpool and Dublin have been operated by Aer Lingus since 1936, the year in which the airline was founded. At present BAC1-11 jets are flown on the route.

Mr. Tony White, Aer Lingus Manager Midlands and North of England, said "By taking this imaginative decision, Aer Lingus will be providing better travel services and facilities for businessmen and tourists. "There will be a twice daily service from Liverpool to Dublin replacing the present single service operation on four days. Leeds/Bradford-Dublin will be served daily except Saturday. There will be a bar, beverage and duty free service on board during the flights."

In future years, Aer Lingus plans to provide similar high frequency commuter services on other U.K. provincial routes to Ireland to better serve the business traveller.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Irish Centre (continued from page 1)

message of Christianity which we serve." The Cardinal reminded those present that the hostel was in the parish of Westminster Cathedral and he was apt to be partially biased towards it; also that it was under the patronage of St. Louise DeMarillac, who was declared by the church, the Patroness of all men and women who dedicated themselves to social and welfare work.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster, Councillor Donald Du Parc Braham and Mrs. Braham were also present. The Lord Mayor welcomed this facility to Westminster. "Young people can live here temporarily with the Spirit of God hovering over, for that reason, among many others. It is a valuable facility for young people." Other tributes were paid by the Irish Ambassador, Dr. Eamonn Kennedy, Mrs. Caroline Pickering, Housing Corporation, and Rev. W. Cagney, Irish Centre.

Among the guests who attended the opening were the Mayor of Camden, Councillor Maureen Robinson, Westminster City

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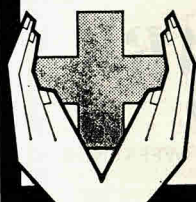
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## The Waterford Association, London



**Patron:**  
The Most Rev. Dr. Michael Russell, D.D.  
Bishop of Waterford and Lismore.  
**Life President:** Rt. Rev. Charles J. Henderson,  
Bishop Tricala and Auxiliary Bishop of  
Southwark.

**Chairman:** Mr. Billy Allen  
Tel. 267 8100.

**Vice-Chairman:** Mr. Kevin Butler,  
1 Rudyard Grove, London NW7.

Tel. 01 959 5887.

**Hon. Secretary:** Mrs. Mary Allen,

**Asst. Hon. Sec.:** Mr. Bill Aulsberry,

**Hon. Treasurer:** Mrs. Kitty Groves,

**Membership Secretary:** Mrs. Sharon Whitehead

### We Won the Cup.

At last our Association was presented with the John Vaughan Trophy at The Council of Irish County Association's St. Patrick's Night Dinner held at the Irish Centre on St. Patrick's night.

It was fitting that our Chairman Mr. Billy Allen when called upon to take possession of the Trophy on behalf of Waterford Association that he called upon Mr. Tony Beatty to accept same.

It was Tony's work in raising such huge sums of money through our golfing section for the Irish Centre that secured us this much coveted trophy. We of course should be grateful to all the County Associations who helped by providing golfers, also the business people who helped produce the colourful programme for the big days golf that raised over £10,000 in 1982 much needed funds for the Irish Centre debt.

It was John O'Keeffe's dearest wish during all his years as Chairman of the Waterford Association to be called upon to accept the John Vaughan Trophy and he did his very best indirectly and tried to inspire all of us to work towards this end. Well John we have it at last but when you were Chairman we didn't have Tony Beatty.

The John Vaughan Trophy was presented to the Irish Centre by the Clare Association London in memory of a very fine Clare man to be presented to the County Association who's activities throughout the year had done most for the Irish Centre.

Its twenty-five years ago this year since good men like John Vaughan, Martin Maroney, and Michael Clancy inaugurated the Clare Association London. Much good has been done by Clare and all the other Associations for the Irish Centre in all those years.

We as an Association are very proud to possess this lovely trophy for the coming year and again our many thanks to Tony Beatty for helping us to achieve it.

### Golf.

The Waterford Association Golfing Society held another magnificent day at Trent Park on Wednesday, 23rd March and raised the stupendous amount of £13,000 in aid of the Irish Centre Building Fund.

Over 200 golfers took part with 100 sponsors. There were 15 prize-winners for the golf who were very impressed with the £2,000 worth of prizes for their efforts. Barry Hill tells me that the going was tough but the scores were high. I will give you the names of the prize-winners in the next issue. To end the day 350 people sat to a dinner well served and devoured by the golfers after a day on the cold wet golf links.

(continued on page 9)

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## The Irish Welfare Bureau

55 Fulham Palace Road, Hammersmith, London W6 8AU.

Telephone 01 741 0466.

Director: Rev. Fr. Brian Lawlor.

Social Workers: Sister Jane Francis and Sister Rosario.

### 12th Annual Report.

Introduction by Fr. Brian Lawlor continued from last month.

The bush telegraph communications that we receive in times of emergency are a clear indication of this—someone very ill in a skipper, the need for a visit to a hospital, sometimes a call to identify a “remains” or to speak up for someone for a job or in the Police-court.

One person who helped to create such a sense of belonging for these people, Sr. Jane Frances, retired in September after eight devoted years. She has left behind lasting memories of her loyalty and concern, and of the dedication that was all part of her vocation, with the many thousands of people she met during those years. We all miss her and wish her a very happy retirement.

The Provincial of the Irish Sisters of Charity very kindly appointed Sr. Carmel McGowan as Sr. Jane's successor. I welcome her and she is no stranger to this kind of work, as during the late 60's she was at the Irish Centre, Birmingham.

On 6th July we had a large gathering in St. Augustine's Club for a presentation evening to wish Sr. Rosario Nolan Bon Voyage for her year's sabbatical in Rome. During the function, many tributes were paid to her for the tremendous success she had achieved in establishing Austin House as an efficient and highly thought-of Young Men's Hostel.

In September Sr. Nancy O'Sullivan of the Kerry Mercy Sisters replaced Sr. Rosario. We were fortunate once again, and in welcoming her I would like to thank her Superiors for their co-operation.

Besides welcoming two new colleagues, it is also my pleasant task to acknowledge the presence of two people who have formed part of the team since the Bureau's beginning. For their invaluable contribution, my thanks to Chris Willison and Kay Mazur.

No introduction to this report would be complete without my recognition of all the people who help the Bureau with their generous giving of time and effort—those many volunteer helpers whose role is so vital in bazaars, jumble sales, dances, prize bingo, barbecues and furniture deliveries, and in giving literally tons of clothing.

The Bureau received annual grants from the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (£4,250) and from the Committee for Emigrant Services of the Irish Government (£3,753). These financial aids are much appreciated, and my thanks to both sources for their continued support.

Brian Lawlor, O.S.A.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Waterford Association (continued from page 7)

The dinner was attended by the Ambassador Dr. Eamon Kennedy, Bishop Guazzelli, V.G., Neil Toibin international cabaret star, plus the following famous footballers: Pat Jennings of Arsenal; David O'Leary of Arsenal and Ireland; John Devine of Arsenal and Ireland, Pat Rice of Watford and Ireland; Gerry Ryan and Tony Grealish of Brighton Hove Albion and Ireland. There were numerous prizes for the raffle which took place during the dinner the main two being: a trip to Lourdes for eight days donated by Mr. Terry McIntyre of Golden Boy Coaches Ltd.; and a return trip for two to Ireland donated by B+I Line.

During the evening Fr. Claude Malone presented Mr. Tony Beatty

(continued on page 18)

## Westmeath Association in London



### Patron:

Most Rev. J. McCormack, D.D., D.C.L.,  
Bishop of Meath.

Life President: Lady Pritchard Jones.

President: Rev. Fr. Fitzsimons, P.P.

Chairman: Mr. Cyril McKervey.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Billy Cashin.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. F. Lestrangle.

Assistant Hon. Secretary: Mr. William Stenson  
Tel. 609 2909.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Curran.

Assistant Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Kennedy.

P.R.O.: Mr. Pat Looney.

Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th February, 1983 were two very important dates for the Westmeath Association in London.

The Saturday evening pre A.G.M. Dance which is an annual occasion now, to enable us to advertise the very important event of the next day (Sunday) was an outstanding success. Thanks to the proprietors of the venue—Brendan Houlihan of the 'Bull's Head', The Old Town, Clapham Common SW4, who opened his house and heart to ensure the success of our evening. Brendan not alone supplied the hall, as he does for our monthly meetings, but also supplied that well known band 'McGinty and the Diddy Men'. The people of Westmeath are forever in your debt Brendan and Mrs. Houlihan.

Next day Sunday 27th we held our Annual General Meeting at the 'Bull's Head'. The meeting which started at 3 p.m. and ended at 6 p.m. was attended by 25 people. We would like to have seen more, but one reason was a downpour for most of the afternoon.

The Chairman, Mr. Cyril McKervey in his opening speech, first apologised for his absence on the previous evening due to domestic commitments. He extended a very warm welcome to all present including our President, Fr. P. Fitzsimmons (Clonmellon) whom I am glad to say is going to stay with us for another year. To Mr. Gerry Reilly (Mullingar) our Life President, Gerry is now a retired country gentleman living in the luxury of the Surrey country side. Long may you enjoy same Gerry. Also welcomed was our ex-Chairman Seamus Troy (Ballynccarrey), now Chairman of the Council of Irish County Associations, whom we congratulated on his re-election unopposed at the Councils recent Annual General Meeting. A great honour to Westmeath, Seamus again offered his help to the Westmeath Association in any way at any time—thanks Seamus.

Mr. McKervey reiterated that the A.G.M. is by far the most important event of the year, it may lack the lustre of the Dinner/Dance or indeed the atmosphere of our traditional Irish night. But when all is said and done without a committee it is impossible to organise any of these events, and without you the membership there would be no committee. "You must today ask yourselves some searching questions" the Chairman went on, "Does our constitution cater for our needs? How can we create greater awareness amongst Westmeath people in London, thereby hopefully creating the right climate for more involvement by the younger element of our immigrant Westmeath community for without their support we will have no continuity and no future. You will recall that in my opening address I asked a number of poignant questions. Does the constitution cater for the needs of our association, and are we doing enough to encourage newer and younger blood into the

## Summer Schools 1983

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### **Galway and its Gaelic Traditions**

Synge acknowledged how much he owed to the rich and living speech of Gaelic Ireland, "Fiery and Magnificent and Tender" . . . Yeates, Joyce, Lady Gregory, Edward Martyn and any other poets and dreamers were inspired by the myths, legends and folklore of this romantic Western World which nurtured O'Kelly, O'Flaherty and Machen.

The cultural heritage of the city of the tribes and the surrounding outposts of Gaelic civilisation extends through Aran of the Saints, Wilde's Lough Corrib, rugged burren of Clare and Gaelic-speaking Connemara. For the visitor, this university town offers a dual opportunity to study and relax within easy reach of mountain and river, lake and sea. Here amid the scenic attractions of the western coast, the student will capture the spirit of the Gaelic tradition and of the Irish Literary Renaissance. The aim of the summer schools is as follows:—

### **Beginners Course**

This four-week intensive course provides a basic knowledge of spoken Irish and a general introduction to the Irish linguistic culture. It is designed for those who have no previous knowledge of Irish.

### **Intermediate Course**

The college is also offering, simultaneously, a course for those who have some knowledge of the spoken language. Its aim is to help participants become fluent in the spoken dialect of Connemara Irish.

### **Academic Director**

Peadar Mac an Lomaire, M.A., A.T.O., T.T.G. Director of Spoken Irish, University College, Galway.

### **Provisional Programme**

The course includes: Intensive instruction in Spoken Irish each morning and afternoon. Introductory lectures on related topics, including Irish literature, Irish folklore, the songs and music of Ireland.

### **Excursions and Visits to:**

The Burren and Co. Clare, unusual for its alpine vegetation, pre-historic archaeological remains, and unique scenery; Kiltartan country, including Yeates' Tower at Ballylee, and Coole Park, home of Lady Gregory. The Aran Islands in Galway Bay, including a study tour of the ancient prehistoric Celtic fortress, Dun Aengus. Old Galway with its numerous carved mediaeval stones and historical associations.

### **Special Features**

The course will also include receptions for students both in the city and the university and an evening of traditional Irish entertainment. Students will have access to an important collection of books relating to the history and literature of Ireland.

The university restaurant will be open to visitors throughout the summer. Tennis, boating and other recreational facilities of the university will be available to participants in the summer school courses.

## London Wexford Association

**Life President: Mr. Jim Murphy**

**Life Vice-Presidents: Mr. Dick Gaul and Mr. Martin Whitty.**

**President: Rev. Fr. W. Cosgrave.**

**Chairman:**  
Mr. Michael Sills  
(01 452 3443)

**Vice-Chairman:**  
Mr. Pat Clegg  
(01 388 0172)

**Secretary:**  
Mrs. Kitty Cullen  
(01 965 6045)

**Treasurer:**  
Mr. Martin Kirwan

**Assist. Treasurer:**  
Mr. Phil Roche  
(01 459 2617)

**Vice-President:**  
Mr. Tom Bailey

**Registrar:**  
Mr. Peter Fitzpatrick  
(01 965 4420)

**Youth Officer:**  
Miss Ann-Marie Kirwan

### Youth.

This month I would like to look to the future and our Youth. A busy year lies ahead for the association and if we continue to work the way we are at present we will again be to the forefront amongst Irish organisations in London. However we must not slow down but keep up the momentum and work together as a team. With our close liaison with the Fr. Murphys G.A.A. Club we can achieve any goal we set out to do in the coming year. It would be welcomed if we were to have our other Wexford groups join in with us and organise one big occasion during the year. Perhaps one example would be a Field Day. We have the junior quiz and we intend to run a quiz league amongst our members this year. We are working hard raising funds to send our under 14 team home in May, all donations thankfully received.

### The Elderly.

We have got to realise the need to help our older generation who through the present recession especially in the building industry may now find themselves out of a job and coupled with the fact that many more who arrived over in the thirties and early forties are now at retirement age. A lot of these people have fallen on hard times and it is my belief that we as an association have got to gear ourselves to do something positive in a way of helping them. Anybody knowing any Wexford people in this category and anyone with any ideas on how to help please get in touch.

### Darts.

We have a record entry of twenty teams all enjoying themselves in the home and away matches every week. The concluding stages of the League will take place at The Prince of Wales towards the end of July.

In conclusion Mr. Sills said he would like to thank all his fellow officers and committee for all their hard work during the year. I would like to pay a tribute to the Treasurer Mr. Martin Kirwan for presenting a splendid balance sheet to the Annual General Meeting and in doing so I thank Mrs. Judy Devereux for all her work, who due to a family illness had to relinquish her position as Treasurer earlier in the year. Thanks also to Secretary Mrs. Kitty Cullen for dealing with all the correspondence during the year, thank you to all the sponsors and donors of prizes during the year. Many thanks also to the Press, especially the People Newspaper, The Kilburn Chronicle, The Irish Post and the Irish Counties Journal for all the publicity afforded to the association. And finally the Rev. Fr. H. Haines P.P., St. Agnes, Cricklewood for the use of the hall for our A.G.M. and Mr. Sean Diviney, The Prince of Wales, Willesden Lane, for use of his premises for all our meetings and darts matches during the year.

Congratulations to Jim Murphy on adding yet another title to the ones he already holds, that of Grand Knight.

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## Clare Association, London

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Life President: Mr. Martin Moroney. Tel. 954 3400.

Chairman:  
Mr. Clive Fogarty.

Secretary:  
Mrs. Mary Dempsey.

Treasurer:  
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Mrs. Bridie Neeves,  
Tel. 71 32487.



Clare as usual has a busy time ahead for 1983 with many functions in the pipe line. This year we celebrate our Silver Jubilee. Date fixed for our Annual Dinner is 19th November. Parish reunion for North Clare also in November, date to be confirmed later. London Irish Festival which Clare, like many other counties will be taking an active part in, will be on Sunday, 3rd July. As always I am sure we can rely on your generous support.

Bacon and Cabbage Dinner Dance held on February 19th at the McNamara Hall was one of the best evenings we enjoyed together. All our functions held at the Irish Centre are always remembered. It was a complete sell out and we tender our deep appreciation to our members and their friends whose support of our functions has always been so outstanding and we apologise to members who were disappointed in not obtaining tickets. It was an evening of gaiety and laughter in pleasant company and surroundings. We thank the Irish Centre, Jim the chief and his staff in the kitchen and the waitresses who helped to make the evening a pleasant and memorable one. A special thank you to John the manager and his assistant who left nothing undone to help in every way.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade was well supported by our members. Nice to see so many walk behind the Clare banner.

The Annual Dinner of the Council of Irish Counties was also well attended by our committee and friends, held at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, it was a joyful and happy evening for all who attended the function.

Congratulations to Susan Meaney, one of our hard working committee members who received from the Duchess of Gloucester her long service badge for 21 years as a Community Nursing Sister with Hammersmith and Fulham Health Centre. Susan is one of our long standing members and for many years has always taken an active part in the Clare Association. Well done Susan, carry on with the good work.

### **Sympathy.**

Our sympathy and condolences to the wife and family of the late Luke Kennedy, Chairman of the Sligo Association. We shall all miss Luke. May he rest in peace.

### **Our Chaplain's Loss.**

Our deepest sympathy to our Chaplain Fr. Clancy on the death of his cousin Eileen, R.I.P. More about this next month.

Bridie Neeves (Mrs.), P.R.O.

## Westmeath Association (continued from page 10)

movement? What can we do to-day to ensure the continuity of our association tomorrow? Have we got a future? I think perhaps the prophetic words of the Bible contain the answer—"We shall reap only what we have sown."

The Chairman then gave an account of the events which took place in 1982, starting with the A.G.M. of that year and ending with the Christmas Bacon & Cabbage. The important events of that year, as every year, being the St. Patrick's Day Parade, The London Irish Festival, The Annual Dinner/Dance, and the Bacon & Cabbage. Mr. McKervey thanked everyone who worked so hard throughout the year, and a special thanks to our secretary, Frank L'Estrange who worked so hard throughout the year, and also for organising a very successful benefit dance at Hamilton House, Balham, in aid of the Irish Centre, Camden Town. Finally our Chairman reminded us of the 1983 events Sunday, 13th March—St. Patrick's Day Parade, assembled at Horse Guards Parade at 1 p.m. to Westminster Cathedral for 2 p.m. Mass, Friday, 20th May, one of the most important events, our 18th Annual Dinner/Dance, at the Empire Rooms, Tottenham Court Road, to the music of the now famous 'Mona and the Bonanza'. Sunday, 3rd July the day when around 50,000 Irish eyes are smiling, at Roundwood Park's Annual Irish Festival. Friday, 8th July another date with 'McGinty and the Diddy Men' to a dance at Hamilton House, Balham High Road. The last but by no means the least our Annual Supper Dance in December at The Irish Centre Camden Town. He thanked our quiz team although 1982 was not their year. And a special thanks to John McCormack (Streete) for organising both teams and events. Thanks to our golfers Captain Bill Stenson also Messrs. Cunningham and Hyndman. A great effort boys considering you were only beaten by 10 points, by the Limerick professionals. Congratulations too, went to the Round Towers football team for their great achievements in 1982, both here and in the U.S.A. The following newspapers were thanked too for their kind co-operation during 1982. The management and staff of The Westmeath Examiner, The Westmeath Offaly Independent, The Midland Topic, The Irish Post, and The Irish Counties Journal. The Chairman closed by his personal thanks to Brendan and Mrs. Houlihan proprietors of the 'Bull's Head' for their co-operation throughout the year. A well deserved round of applause followed.

May I add that in my opinion Mr. McKervey's 18 minute vernacular speech with it's occasional aposiopesis silence was to me the hallmark of a great Chairman.

My thanks to T. A. Grant 1982 team, to Bill Cashin and Joe Garry, Tom, Nea, Billy Attwell, Tom Regan, who kindly provides the transport for our monthly meetings, and also hard worker Dan Fox (Rosemount). The Hanley and Talbot family (Rahu). Many thanks to our treasurer Mrs. Theresa Curran and husband Chris who leave no stone unturned for the good of our association not forgetting Mrs. Dolly Kennedy, assistant treasurer, another hard worker.

I can never forget the people from Athlone who came to our aid when we were in need, our Chairman Cyril McKervey whose heart and soul are in the association. Kitty and Enne Shine, now Mrs. J. Gillespie and Mrs. Egan respectively—experienced officers of the Athlone association, an experience which they gladly brought with them, not forgetting Joe Brown former active member (Athlone) who still keeps in touch, and our very active member Ritchie Norton.

My last work of praise to my predecessor, Sean McCauley 'The latchet of whose shoe I am not worthy to loose' if I can only do half as well Sean I will be excellent. Thanks too for your kind offer of help in any way. Stay with us for a long time yet.

## **Summer Schools (continued from page 11)**

### **Course Fee**

£260 IR. Dates: August 2nd to 26th, 1983.

### **Course Location**

The course will be located at the University's Irish Language Centre (Arus Mhairtin ui Chadhain), Carrarrae, in the heart of Irish-speaking Connemara.

### **Accommodation**

From £10 per day, full board. All participants will be staying in modern private houses with friendly Irish speaking families.

### **Credits**

The college is, at present, considering the question of accreditation of its summer programmes with a number of U.S. Academic Institutions. Appropriate assessment will be arranged during this course which, it is estimated, should offer a minimum of six semester hour credits.

### **Scholarships**

A limited number of scholarships will be available for this course. Candidates for scholarships must be over 18 and under 30 years of age on January 1st, 1983, and full-time students of a recognised university or similar institution. Scholarships are awarded to the value of £260 each, towards the cost of the course (tuition, accommodation, and travel). Applications must be accompanied by the candidates' accounts of his/her career, giving reasons why he/she should be considered for a scholarship, together with a letter of recommendation supporting his/her application.

### **University College, Galway.**

The university is located on the banks of the River Corrib and recent development of modern facilities together with its old traditions make it an ideal location for vacation courses, seminars, conferences and meetings.

### **Students Travel Concessions**

Students charter flights are operated during the summer periods between New York and Dublin by U.S.I.T.—The Travel Company of Union of Students in Ireland. A large range of European destinations is also served, at fares considerably below scheduled rates. To avail of these concessions a valid International Student Identity Card is required.

Having arrived in Ireland students can visit various parts of the country on the Student Travelsave Scheme which gives 50% reduction on trains and provincial buses throughout the country. For a fee of just £4. Students can have their international students identity card endorsed with a Travelsave Stamp for this concession, and this can be done in any Student Travel Office, one of which is located on the University College, Galway Campus. For more information about access transport to and students concessions within Ireland, contact the Students Travel Office at University College, Galway.

## **Waterford Association** (continued from page 9)

with the Irish Centre person of the year award in recognition of his hard work for the Irish Centre during 1982.

Mr. Beatty personally paid the green fees for the day at Trent Park and issued the challenge to others to pay same next year by either one person or a group and that he would match it pound for pound.

To end the evening one of the members Mr. Mick Forde had his Judo Club perform some wonderful feats for twenty minutes which was appreciated by all.

Next golf date is 19th April at Ealing Golf Course. Other lesser things in the pipe line for the Waterford Association are a Jumble Sale, a Race Night (indoor), ring Mary Allen for details. Watch this space next month.

### **Honours for Jim Murphy.**

Many congratulations to Jim Murphy, Life-president of London Wexford Association and Vice-President of The Council of Irish County Associations on his latest title that of Grand Knight.

### **Dates for Your Diary.**

A special reminder to those of you going to Ireland this year our 16th at Home Annual Dinner and reunion takes place on 30 July, Members from any county who will be in Waterford at that time are very welcome to join us.

### **Condolences.**

Our deepest sympathy once again to our member in Waterford Mrs. Stasia Roche on the sad death of her brother Paddy Comerford who died recently after many months of illness. I knew Paddy as all the Comerford's since I was a little girl and thats a long time. Paddy was quite a good musician, the banjo being his favourite instrument.

A very large gathering of sympathisers attended the Requim Mass and the funeral from all walks of life including the two government ministers, Mr. Eddie Collins and Mr. Austin Deasy.

Paddy is survived by his wife Mrs. Maisie Comerford (nee O'Mahony) his daughters, Mrs. Anne Butler, Mrs. Mary Cunningham and Mrs. Margaret Waddell, plus eight grandchildren Paddy was brother of Mrs. Peggy O'Keeffe as well as aforementioned Mrs. Stasia Roche of Roanmore Park and the late Mrs. Kathleen Fewer of Ballygriffin who died only three months ago. May he Rest in Peace and may those who are left behind to mourn find comfort in our prayers.

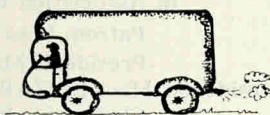
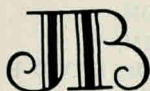
### **Luke Kennedy.**

Our condolences to the Sligo Association on losing their Chairman Luke Kennedy after a few months illness.

Luke was one of the old stagers who stayed with the Sligo Association and The Irish Centre through the rough years at the same time doing various charitable works for his church and his neighbours churches, plus his club. Luke was a regular visitor to The Irish Centre for very many years especially in connection with The Quiz.

Our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Kennedy and family.

Another old friend has gone to his eternal rest never to be replaced.  
R.I.P. Jane T. Smyth (Mrs.), Press Officer.



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## Irish Heritage

Society for promoting Irish & Anglo-Irish Literature, Music and Drama.  
In Association with Aer Lingus Irish.

Patron: Miss FLORA DEACON.

President: Mr. LIAM MARTIN.

Vice Presidents: Miss ELIZABETH GREEN, Mr. DAVID PETRIE.

Chairman: Mr. TOM DUNNE.

Productions Organiser/Script Editor: ETHNA KENNEDY.

Press & Liaison Officer in Ireland: Mr. CHARLES MACAULAY.

Hon. Secretary: ELIZABETH LeMESURIER,

You will be interested to hear of our progress since I last wrote to you. With me, you will wish to welcome three new members to our committee. Mrs. Asquith, Mrs. Brook-Smith and Mr. John Murphy. We are most grateful to them for joining us; already they have contributed their time and expertise to many aspects of our work. This you will see reflected on our forthcoming productions.

The two young artists who sang their debut-recital with us last November in the Purcell Room have got off to a flying start. After excellent notices in the national and musical press, Colette McGahan have a full solo recital in the Concert Hall, Dublin, with wide publicity and appearances on television. She is now in the happy position of being able to choose her work, and has accepted an offer of a solo part in the Glyndebourne season this summer. Meanwhile, Yvonne Egan is currently singing the main soprano role in Wolf-Ferrari's 'School for Fathers' at the Camden Festival. She too will be giving a series of solo Leider recitals at the Dublin Concert Hall in the Autumn, as well as appearances on television and of course, radio recitals. Nice going for two very young singers, we are proud to have helped them!

Our new programme, 'An Affair of the Heart' will be given on April 15th, (details elsewhere in this Journal). We had problems in securing concert halls all through this year, but I am pleased to tell you that we have secured some very attractive venues for Autumn and for Spring and Summer 1984. Meanwhile, the Queen Mary Hall is a good comfortable hall with a good acoustic. It is only one minute from Tottenham Court Road tube (Northern and Central lines) and cars can be parked in Gt. Russell Street, or adjoining N.C.P. You can get a cup of coffee in the interval, or if you prefer it, a glass of wine from one of my colleagues on the Committee.

Nobody can be fully aware of the enormous amount of thought, time and sheer hard work that goes into the making of each new programme. We know it, and we also know of the pleasure you get from these evenings. You tell us about it constantly, and we agree with your comments that no other organisation offers such a variety of entertainment—a wide selection of literature, with music ranging from grand opera to ballads—something nobody quite expects. This time, why not invite some of your non-Irish friends and colleagues along to share the magic of an Irish Heritage evening? They will be delighted to discover us. To make this easier we are again offering a special block booking facility: buy eight tickets and we will send you ten.

Our artists give us of their best, we in turn owe them our total support. I look forward to meeting you all again on April 15th.

Meanwhile, from the Committee and myself, every good wish.

Sincerely yours,

Liam Martin, President.

# **Irish Heritage**

In performance

## **"AN AFFAIR OF THE HEART"**

The enduring words and music of Love.

**THERESA KENNEDY**

**THOMAS JOHNSON**

**JEAN HOLMES**

**HUGH MACKEY**

**SIGNED WILLIAMS**

**COURTNEY KENNY**

**DONAL COX**

**ETHNA KENNEDY**

at

### **Queen Mary Concert Hall**

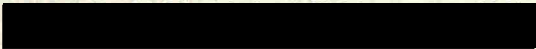
**Y.W.C.A. Central Club, 18/22 Great Russell Street, WC1**

on

**Friday, April 15th, 1983**

at 7.30 p.m.

**Tickets : £4.00 or £3.50**

to Friends in advance from Elizabeth Le Mesurier, 

For postal booking please enclose stamped addressed envelope

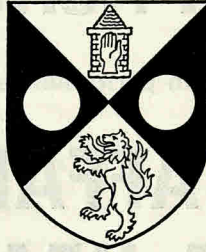
## Cavan Association

Lite-President: Fr. Seamus Heatherton. President: Mr. Peter Donohoe

Chairman:  
Mr. Michael Gaynor  
Tel. 886 3899

Vice-Chairman:  
Mr. John Carolan

Treasurer:  
Miss K. Fitzsimons  
Tel. 76 53588



Secretary:  
Mrs. M. Fitzsimons  
Tel. 886 3967

Assistant Secretary:  
Miss S. Reilly

P.R.O.:  
Mrs. U. Pursey  
Tel. 387 4740

Greetings to all our members.

Our Bacon and Cabbage Supper Dance is to take place on Saturday, 14th May, 1983. It should really be a very enjoyable evening and I hope lots of you will be able to come along. Dancing to the popular 'Jade Express.' Tickets are £6.50 each and are obtainable from our Chairman Mr. Michael Gaynor or Vice-Chairman Mr. John Carolan (telephone numbers above).

It was nice to see some new faces behind our Banner at The St. Patrick's Day Parade, but isn't it a shame we can not muster a much bigger crowd on such a special day for the Irish in Britain.

May I say on behalf of the committee welcome to our new members and remind those few people who may have forgotten that it is now time to renew their membership.

See you on the 24th May, D.V.

Your P.R.O.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Westmeath Association (continued from page 16)

The Officers for 1983 are: Chairman, Mr. Cyril McKerverey; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Bill Cashin; Secretary, Mr. Frank L'Estrange; Assistant Secretary, Mr. Bill Stenson; Treasurer, Mrs. Theresa Curran; Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. D. Kennedy; P.R.O., Mr. Pat Looney. The committee includes: Tom Regan; Tom Nea; Dan Fox; Joe Garry; Chris Curran; Billy Attwell; Mrs. Looney; Mrs. Hanley; Mrs. Talbot; Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie and Mrs. J. Egan. New committee members: Mrs. N. Goddard, nee Gillespie and Mr. S. Goddard.

We meet monthly at the Bull, Clapham Old Town. The door is always open to Westmeath people at such meetings, come and join us.

Pat Looney, P.R.O.

\* \* \* \* \*

### London Wexford Association (continued from page 12) Anniversary Celebration.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask not only Wexford members but everybody reading this Journal to keep the 14th May free to help Bishop Douglas School, Hamelton Road, East Finchley to celebrate their 20th Anniversary.

A great Bazaar will take place with all the Fun of the Fair including The London Wexford Mummies. More information on this can be had from Brenda or myself, telephone number at heading.

Michael Sills, Chairman.



# Irish Society of Harrow

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

Patron:  
Rev. Fr. M. Reddan, S.D.S.

Secretary:  
Mr. Tony Burke

Treasurer:  
Mrs. M. Whelan

Chairman:  
Mr. John Crowe

Assist. Secretary:  
Mr. P. Chambers.  
Tel. 952 0445.

Assist. Treasurer:  
Mrs. M. Brennan.  
Tel. 864 6293.

Vice-Chairman:  
Mr. S. Ryan.  
Tel. 422 3729

Youth Leader:  
Mr. S. McKeon  
Tel. 427 9042

P.R.O.:  
Mr. Michael O'Regan.  
Tel. 427 3736.

**Committee:** Mrs. T. Breslin (Tel. 907 3850); Mrs. C. Whelan (Tel. 907 7563); Mr. P. J. Ryan (Tel. 427 3042); Mr. T. Noonan (Tel. 427 9423); Mr. P. Moloney (Tel. 863 7270); Mr. B. Griffin (Tel. 423 0830); Mr. J. Harold (Tel. 427 5243); Mr. A. O'Neill (Tel. 863 3380); Mr. T. Mangan (Tel. 954 4686).

## Youth Section

The following were elected at the recent Youth Annual General Meeting which was held at the Railway Hotel Wealdstone.

Youth Leader, Mr. S. McKeon (427 9042). Secretary, Miss Jane Farmer (427 6542). Financial Controller, Mr. B. Hall (427 7077). Committee Members: Miss L. Noonan (427 9423); Mr. S. Kilcoyne (954 0476); Miss E. Clancy (863 3492); Mr. K. Holden (427 6228); Mr. S. Heslin (428 8844) Mr. J. Willis (954 2775); Mr. J. Clancy (427 3906). Under 16 Committee Members: Mr. P. McKeon (427 9042) and Mr. B. Griffin (423 0830).

Any young person who may wish to join the youth section would they please contact any of the above who will only be too pleased to assist.

The youth section are busy at the moment organising the following events, April 7th—over 18's Disco venue at the Railway Hotel, Wealdstone.

Visit to London Zoo for the 10's to 16's during the Easter Holidays. Full details from Seamus McKeon (427 9042).

## Grand Easter Dance.

To celebrate Easter we hold a dance at the Leisure Centre on Easter Sunday night. Dancing 9 p.m. to 12 midnight to the music of Shanagolden. Tickets £1.50 each. At this function we hold an Easter Bonnet Parade (incidentally bonnets for this competition may be purchased at Harrods of Knightsbridge at a reduction of 25% discount on production of a current Irish Society membership card!)

## Johnny McEvoy and His Band from Ireland.

On Tuesday, April 19th we present in response to public demand Johnny McEvoy and his band from Ireland at the Byron Hall, Harrow Leisure Centre. Dancing 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. This is a two band session—the other band being the New Gavinairs. Tickets £2.50 each.

## Dates for Your Diary.

- (a) May 1st—Dance at Leisure Centre, music by Alan Hayes and his Showband.
- (b) May 14th—Ceili at Headstone Hotel.
- (c) May 6th—Gala Concert at Headstone Hotel.
- (d) June 11th—Miss Harrow Irish Competition.
- (e) June 19th—Outing to Southsea.
- (f) June 26th—Festival of Sport in aid of the Handicapped Childrens Pilgrimage Trust to Lourdes and the Harrow Branch of the Red Cross, at Headstone Manor recreation ground which incidentally is situated at the back of our Editors Garden.

God Bless.

Michael O'Regan, P.R.O., Irish Society of Harrow.

# Michael Davitt Memorial Museum

## Michael Davitt National Memorial Committee

Work on the erection of the Michael Davitt Memorial Centre and Museum at Straide, Co. Mayo commenced in Autumn 1982 and will be completed in Summer 1983.

### The Building.

The building contains a large community hall, meeting room, kitchen, cloak room, reception area, storage room, gallery, toilet block and as a museum it will be a 'living' memorial to Irish patriot, founder of the Land League, G.A.A. patron and trade unionist, Michael Davitt who was born in Straide and is buried there. A new booklet on Davitt is currently being printed.

### Special Features.

The building was specially designed to fit in with the adjoining historical 12th century Dominican Abbey. A granite/limestone plaque depicting Davitt and an extract from his will is being erected near the main entrance. A mural of an eviction scene painted on the inside wall will be a reminder of life in Ireland in Davitt's time.

### Usage.

The Centre will be used for local community, social and recreational purposes. It will provide facilities at a broader level for adult education and agricultural training as well as for other groups who have subscribed to the building fund. The Museum will be used to display documents about Davitt and the Land League. Many of these have been donated by his family. The National Museum of Ireland will provide some relevant photographs as will the Commissioners of Public Work. Exhibitions on other famous Mayo people and aspects of the county will be hosted.

### Ownership/Management.

The building and grounds will be owned by a limited company—Cnocan na bPortus Teo.—on which Mayo County Council will have 3 directors. The centre will be managed by a management committee representative of the entire parish of Straide. The Museum and its contents will be managed by the Davitt Memorial committee.

### Cost.

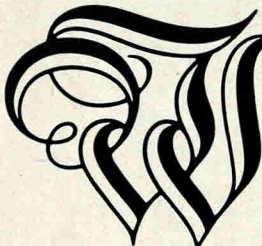
The building costs are estimated at £100,000. Mayo County Council and the Western Health Board have provided capital grants. No grant was available from government or Bord Failte. The committee have raised over £45,000 but at the end of 1982 £20,000 was still required to complete the building. Donations will be appreciated.

Matt Moran, [redacted] (Committee  
Chairman), Jim Fitzpatrick, [redacted]  
Edward Murphy, [redacted]  
Michael Murphy, [redacted]  
Patrick Toner, [redacted]

"To all my friends I leave kind thoughts, to my enemies the fullest possible forgiveness, and to Ireland the undying prayer for the absolute freedom and independence which it was my life's ambition to try and obtain for her."

—Extract from the will of Michael Davitt.

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thousands of  
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reasons for  
being proud  
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