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# *The Irish Counties Journal*

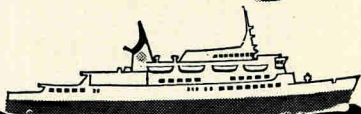
JUNE, 1971

ISSUE No. 7

VOLUME 1



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## CONTENTS

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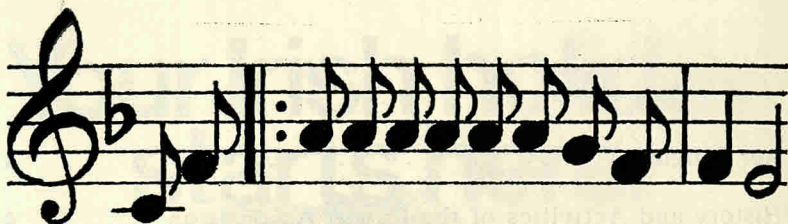
Aer Lingus . . . . .	3
History and Activities of the Cavan Association . . . . .	4
Clare Association . . . . .	7
Council of Irish County Associations	
Inter-County Competition for "Guinness Cup" . . . . .	9
London Tipperary Association . . . . .	11
Galway Association . . . . .	13
Coney Island (by Bob Daly) . . . . .	16
Fermanagh Association . . . . .	19
Opening of New Kerry Hostel in London . . . . .	20, 21, 23
Waterford Association . . . . .	25
Sligo Association . . . . .	29
Wexford Association . . . . .	31
London Gaelic League Choir . . . . .	35
Official Opening of Allied Irish Banks	
(Birmingham Branch) . . . . .	40

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Bob King, Cavan Association (on left), winner of the Individual Quiz Championship, promoted by the Council of Irish Counties, is seen here receiving the Council Cup from Tommy Dunne, Irish Travel Co-ordinator, Aer Lingus. — Picture by Owen & Moroney, 336 Uxbridge Road, W.12. Tel. 01-743 1141.

The following Quotes have been given by Aer Lingus—

### **The Football Final 26th September, 1971.**

Return Air Travel London/Dublin — coaches to and from Dublin Airport — coaches to and from Croke Park — three night accommodation including breakfast at The Mount Herbert Hotel — Total cost £27.15. Contact: Bob Daly. Tel. 01-675 0556.

The London Wexfordmen's Association are sponsoring a flight to Dublin for the All Ireland Hurling Final on September 5th, 1971.

Return Air Travel London/Dublin — coach transfers Airport/Hotel/Airport Dublin only — three nights accommodation including breakfast at Mount Herbert Hotel — coach transfer Hotel/Croke Park and vice versa. Total cost only £27.15. Full particulars from: Tom Murphy. Tel. 01-286 3770.

### **St. Patrick's Day Parade, Dublin, 1972.**

Return Air fare London/Dublin — coach transfer Airport/Hotel and vice versa — three nights accommodation including breakfast at Mount Herbert Hotel. Total cost only £21.85. Full particulars from Tom Murphy. Tel: 01-286 3770.

When you consider that the ordinary fare in September is £26.40 and March £20.10, you will agree that the prices quoted by our good friend Tommy Dunne are indeed exceptional value in both travel and accommodation.

## HISTORY AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CAVAN ASSOCIATION

### Part IV by B.F.M.

---

At the A.G.M. for 1958 Brian Mullen became Treasurer and new Committee members were John Carolan, Freddie Finlay and Marie Mullen.

On 20th February, 1958, a special meeting was held in the Cumberland Stores, Beak Street, W.1 (at the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Brady) to examine a draft Constitution and set of Rules presented by Brian and Marie Mullen. These were ratified and approved, and as we now had quite a few of the fair sex in the Association we became The Cavan Association in London.

Outings to Eastbourne in June and Aylesford Priory in August were well attended.

Socials and dances were held in Warwick Street Church Hall, Golden Square, W.1., on 14th May; Holy Apostles New Church Hall, Pimlico, S.W.1., on 19th September; Emerald Ballroom, W.6., on 20th November.

In November, 1958, Fr. Hetherton was transferred to Maidstone. The Association made a presentation to him in recognition of his work as Chairman.

At the A.G.M. which followed, Officers and Committee for the coming year were elected—

President: James Conway

Vice-Presidents: Rev. S. Hetherton and Rev. J. C. Moore

Chairman: B. F. Mullen

Vice-Chairman: H. Mulvany

Treasurer: Maureen Keating

Secretary: Marie Mullen

Committee:

M/s Patsy O'Reilly, Seamus Maguire, Joe Dolan, Thomas O'Reilly,  
Mary Farrelly, Rose Reilly

*(to be continued)*

---

News Item.—Our Bacon and Cabbage held on Saturday, 1st May, had an overflow attendance of 185 and we were pleased to welcome and entertain the Bishop of Meath, whose diocese includes a portion of County Cavan.

Coming Events.—Annual Dance in the Gresham Ballroom on Friday, 25th June, tickets 30p each; payment at door 35p. Thursday, 14th October Dinner/Dance in Gresham.

---

Individual Quiz Championship won by Robert King, captain of our Cavan team. Congratulations Robert.

Mat Brunton the very popular Treasurer of the Cavan Association had his new offices blessed by Rev. Fr. Sheridan and formally opened by Joe Lynch (of never mind the quality feel the width) recently at No. 12 Aberdeen Road, Edmonton, London N.18. We all wish Mat every success.



Picture from left: Rev. Fr. Sheridan, Joe Lynch, Mrs. Rose Brunton and Mat Brunton, with their two sons and twin daughters. — Photo by Gerry Harrington.

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*Secretary:* MRS. M. MORONEY, 100 Sandymount Avenue, Stanmore, Middlesex. Tel.: 01-954 3400.



Picture shows our Chairman accepting the John Vaughan Trophy from Rev. Fr. Sheridan.

I am delighted to report the success of our Association in winning of the John Vaughan Trophy which is presented each year to the County giving the most help to the Irish Centre. Members will recall that this trophy was presented to the Irish Centre by the Clare Association to keep alive the memory of John Vaughan, a great Clareman who did so much for the Centre and indeed for many other needy and worthy causes.

The trophy was presented to our Chairman, Sean Igoe, by the Rev. Father Sheridan at the All Counties Dinner Dance held at the Gresham Ballroom, April 15th, 1971.

Our party of twenty who attended the Dinner were also delighted at the success of our County in winning the second prize of £200 in the President's awards. We are grateful in the first instance to the President, Mr. Tommy Gorman, for the presentation of the awards to the Counties and to the judges who deemed us worthy of the second prize. Our sincere congratulations to the other Counties who were successful and particularly to the winners of the first prize. I cannot allow this to pass without thanking our own members for their great efforts during the year and with our successes we shall even do better this year.

After the Whitsun weekend one feels that this is the time when everyone really gives some serious thought to the summer holidays. Perhaps this is the last opportunity that I will have of reminding members of the charter flight to Shannon in August, due to the fact

that there are not many seats available and it will not be necessary to give further notices of the departure time, August 14th, returning August 28th. £20 return.

We were delighted to see so many of our old friends from Birmingham who travelled down for the games at Wembley. We met them at the Irish Centre and it was a very enjoyable evening. John Leydon as usual was the man responsible for the bookings and we regret that although he travelled down with the party he recently had an accident which resulted in a broken wrist. Our kindest thoughts to him and I am sure you all join me in wishing him a speedy recovery. Although the Buffet and the Irish Centre walk will be over by the time you read this we would be grateful for any donations towards the Irish Centre from you good people whom we did not approach to sponsor our walkers.

The outing to Brighton will take place on Sunday, July 4th, and we fell sure that this will be a most enjoyable affair. Please make your bookings with any member of the Committee or to me by letter or telephone.

It is with sincere regret we noted the death of Dr. T. Loughnane, eldest son of Dr. Bill Loughnane, T.D. Clare has lost a brilliant doctor and a very talented musician. The Association has already sent a letter of condolence to the Loughnane family.

(Mrs.) M. MORONEY,  
Hon. Secretary,

**Printer's Error.**—(May edition) Cavan received the John Vaughan Trophy at the Council Dinner held at Gresham Ballroom, April, 1970.

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## COUNCIL OF IRISH COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

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### INTER-COUNTY COMPETITION FOR "GUINNESS CUP"

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The first round of competitions for the Inter-County Quiz Championship 1971, is now in progress. Last week in the "Dublin Castle," Parkway, Camden, we had the most surprising result so far, when Tipperary beat Cavan. Up to last year Cavan were the "Guinness Cup" holders for two successive years and until this victory Tipperary had never won a competition. As well as being a surprising result it was the most exciting contest for quite a long period. In only one round was there 4 points between the teams and that was the 3rd, the half way stage, when Cavan led by 52 points to 48. In round 2 they were level with 28 points each. In the other rounds only 2 points separated them as was the case when the result was announced, the total scores were Tipperary 76, Cavan 74.

Top scores of both teams was Jas O'Reilly, Cavan, who scored the maximum 24 points. The Misses Delaney and Power with 16 each were best for Tipperary.

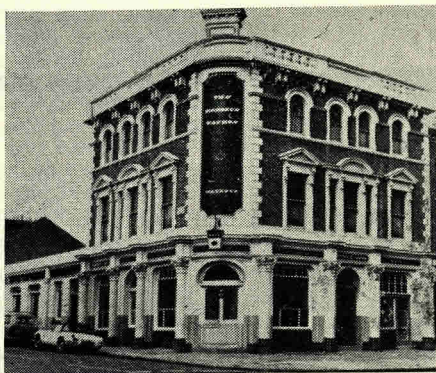
M. Waters, Carlow Association, was Quiz Master and T. Gilleran, Roscommon, was scorekeeper.

Other 1st round results to date are: Roscommon beat Monaghan; Waterford beat Westmeath and Donegal beat Galway. Donegal once a leading team were out of the picture for the past few years came back with a flying start by producing the exceptionally high score of 92 points.

Mr. M. Waters,  
43 Spencer Road,  
Wealdstone,  
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## STANDING INVITATION TO THE IRISH SOCIETIES



A standing invitation is extended to all Irish County Associations and G.A.A. Clubs from Louis and Joan Maher, mine hosts of the Birkbeck Tavern, 119 Elthorne Road, Upper Holloway, London N.19. At present large scale renovations are being carried out that will make this North London mecca one of the finest meeting points in that area.

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Secretary:  
James F. Keating  
33 Hemstall Road  
London, N.W.6  
Tel.: 624 3371

The Association had a very successful Annual General Meeting with a fairly good attendance. We are pleased to welcome Mr. T. Godfrey, Manager A.I.B., Kilburn, as a member.

The Association wish to express our thanks to Mr. M. Ryan who has retired, both as Treasurer and from our Committee, owing to pressure of business, for the many years of service he has given to the London Tipperary Association.

The following officers were elected: President, Mr. M. McCormack; Chairman, Mr. R. Butler; Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. D. Ryan; Secretary, Mr. J. F. Keating; Assistant Secretary, Mr. W. Mackey; Treasurer, Mr. J. F. Keating.

Our Bacon and Cabbage Supper on Easter Saturday night was a most enjoyable evening. We thank our members for their support in this event. We would like to congratulate our quiz team on their win against Cavan on 17th May. Thank you Cavan for a very sporting contest.

Our thanks to Mr. T. Gorman for putting the Gresham Ballroom at our disposal on Whit Saturday night. We entertained the Tipperary Hurling team who travelled to Wembley for the Gaelic Games.

### A BUSY YOUNG LIFE



Catherina McManamon, 3 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. McManamon, The Favourite, 7 Queensland Road, London, N.7. Catherina is a model, an Irish Stepdancer, with a yard of medals to her name and is also a very good swimmer.

Watch out for her on I.T.V. in Junior Show-time in July.

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## THE GALWAY ASSOCIATION OF LONDON

### Diary.

At the April meeting it was decided that we would endeavour to run an "all-in charter" to the Galway races on the 13th and 14th September, 1971. Those interested please contact anyone of our committee members.

The meeting agreed to donate a trophy for an inter-county singing contest, to perpetuate the memory of the late Michael Molloy.

It was further agreed that we promote an Essay Competition among our members' children. This competition, we hope, will be extended to all counties in conjunction with this journal. The age groupings are to be worked out.

Our Quiz Team were narrowly defeated by an excellent Donegal side in the first round of the inter-county quiz. We wish Donegal success in the competition. Our thanks are due to Luke and Mrs. Kennedy who governed proceedings. The Galway team were as follows: R. J. Daly (Captain), Bob O'Holloran, Fr. J. Casey, S.C.M.; M. Walsh, M. McIlwain.

Prior to the May meeting the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered for the eternal repose to the soul of Larry O'Neill, R.I.P. Fr. Casey was the celebrant and there was a large attendance present.

The Galway Benefit Dance at the Gresham attracted a large attendance. It was noticeable that many members were called to "the bar." The Treasurer reckoned it was a good night but tickets distributed by post have still to be returned. Then the final reckoning.

Our Annual Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, 7th October, at the Gresham Ballroom Archway. Bobby Molloy, T.D., Minister for local government has accepted our invitation. Those wishing to attend this function please make your booking early as the attendance will be limited.

John Brook is to represent Galway in the Marathon Walk in aid of the Irish Centre. John is well known to the Irish Centre Club. He is a keen member and supporter. He has walked the 30 miles on two previous occasions and last year his sister Julie represented Galway and successfully completed the marathon. John is a member of the Kavanagh school of Irish dancing and is a holder of two all-Ireland Championship medals with their senior team. He works on the London Stock Exchange.

We would like to welcome a new member, P. J. Noone.

### THE EMIGRANT CHAPLAINS

At the Annual General Meeting of the Council of Irish County Associations in February, 1971, the Chairman, Maurice O'Connor, in the course of his address said: "To a body of men who, by their calling, get little recognition but a good satisfaction from their work, I say a sincere thank you — I refer to the Emigrant Chaplains. Let us hope that we can effectively combine our talent with theirs for a greater sense of purpose to our work."

These generous words gave me the idea that it would be a good thing to explain the Emigrant Chaplaincy Scheme since very many people are very vague as to what it is all about. The Irish Emigrant Chaplaincy Scheme as such began in 1955. There was of course much effort by many individuals to help emigrants prior to that year. The Scheme was the result of a meeting between representatives of the English and Irish Bishops at which it was agreed that the Irish Church would help more directly in the spiritual care of emigrants in England and Wales. It started fairly small but "like Topsy it grew."

Diocesan and religious priests who have worked in Ireland for some years have been seconded to work for the spiritual welfare of emigrants for three or more years. This apostolate is guided by the Irish Episcopal Commission on Emigration, which consists of the

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**The Emigrant Chaplains**—continued from page 13

Archbishops of Tuam and Dublin and the Bishops of Raphoe and Kerry. The Archbishop of Dublin was the guiding spirit in the Scheme from the beginning, the Bishop of Kerry was himself a member of the Chaplaincy Team.

The whole idea is a very practical one. The Home Church as well as the State has an obligation towards its emigrants. A priest of whatever nationality is usually more effective among his own countrymen. Chaplains returning to their home dioceses carry a better understanding of the problems and opportunities of Irish emigrants in England.

Today there are 50 chaplains on the Scheme and almost 100 who have returned to Ireland. The type of work carried out by them is pretty varied and much of the work is of a social and welfare nature.

The largest number work in those parishes where there is a large Irish mobile population.

Others work in a central parish and take an interest in the mobile Irish in the surrounding parishes.

There are a number of camp chaplains. They live in a camp attached to large power stations or steel works under construction.

Hotel chaplains have their apostolate in areas where there are a large number of hotels with many Irish boys and girls on the staff.

One chaplain works through the Lay Apostolate groups like the Legion of Mary which has done so much for Irish emigrants. One of their works is the meeting of the Irish trains.

The chaplains, who work in the Irish Centres, are well known.

A chaplain works at Benburb Base in Highgate for young problem Irish boys and girls. Some run smaller welfare centres like the one in Hammersmith.

The Catholic Housing Aid Society, which is now associated with SHAC, was developed by Bishop Eamon Casey and is now nationally known for its work for the homeless. Two chaplains work there.

A few chaplains teach full time in those State schools which have a large Irish emigrant population.

Lastly, there are the ex-chaplains, those who have returned to the home diocese and have formed an association. They are interested in all works in Ireland connected with emigration, like localised Emigration Bureaux, talks to organisations, school leavers, seminarians and the fostering of parish re-unions in England. They also supervise an emigration course in London for deacons in Irish Colleges who are destined to work as priests in Ireland or England. They also co-operated with some schemes lately launched by the Irish Department of Labour. Their latest effort was the organising of the National Collection for Irish Centres.

All these chaplains form part of a team. They are mostly in London and Birmingham. They have occasional conferences together. Each is allowed a good deal of initiative according to circumstances. Since the beginning one of the Columban Fathers has acted as Co-ordinator of the Emigrant Chaplaincy Scheme. The chaplains are naturally interested in all Irish Associations in Britain and echo the words of the Chairman of the Irish Council of Counties Association "let us hope that we can effectively combine our talent with theirs for a greater sense of purpose to our work." We have now a growing number of Irish Associations and Centres in the provinces who do a good deal for the social life of the Irish people. This work could perhaps easily be combined with some welfare scheme locally for their co-patriots. The greatest one service all our organisations could do is to understand each other and co-operate with each other. This is even more important than founding something new.

One of the Chaplains,



## CONEY ISLAND — STILL WORTH A VISIT

In these days of fast transport when one can be jet-propelled to another hemisphere in a matter of hours, more and more people are taking holidays in the United States. Even among our own County Associations, charter flights are quite commonplace when visiting our relatives who reside in the American Continent. Most of us touch-down in New York after a short and pleasant six hours flying in the stratosphere. If we have a few hours to spare it is always worth while, especially with children to visit Coney Island. "We'll go down to Coney and eat baloney on a roll" the song goes. Rodgers and Hart the songwriters might have added: Golden corn-on-the-cob, sizzling pizza, hot knishes, clams on the half shell, pistachio frozen custard, cotton candy and orange drink.

Coney Island, its tinsel and paint admittedly dimmed from bygone brilliance, still holds a place among the great amusement parks of the world — with the Tivoli Gardens in Copenhagen, the Prater in Vienna and London's Battersea Park. No child within commuting distance should grow up without at least one visit to Coney to paste in his memory book. He can ride the Cyclone roller coaster, the breathtaking Flying Saucer, the Wonder Wheel and even — it's part of the fun — be amiably cheated at a Carnival "game of chance."

The truly adventurous suburban parent might consider a real change of pace for his offspring by taking a 45 minute subway ride from Queens to Coney for the price of a twenty cent token. Or take the Long Island Rail Road — quite pleasant on weekends. A long ride to Coney on the Belt Parkway is also pleasant in traffickless times.

First stop could be the New York Aquarium on the boardwalk at West Eighth Street where the fat Sea Lion, basking in the September sunshine provides endless amusement for the young. The Aquarium is open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and there's an electric show every hour on the hour, when the giant eel fires off a terrifying bolt. Then there's the fun of watching the friendly beluga whales being fed every day at 3 p.m.

From the Aquarium, children are sure to lead the way down the boardwalk to Astroland on West 10th Street, a conglomeration of space age forms with futuristic names, but the youngsters will recognise many old favourites including some rides from the 1964/65 World's Fair.

Just off the boardwalk, at Surf Avenue and West 15th Street is Murray Zaret's "Wonderful World of Animal Babies." Bruno the St. Bernard who already weighs 185 lbs., snoozes on the floor, placidly accepting the pats and caresses, but Chico the Baboon is eager to shake hands with little girls. The baby goats are the "Sweetest" in many considered opinions; they like to nuzzle as much as the young visitors do. Some visitors are concerned about the big Llama in his small enclosure, but Zaret assures them that the Llama walks around the place at night after the doors are locked at 9 p.m.

By now everyone's hungry and there across the Street is perhaps Coney's most famous landmark, Nathan's famous hot dogs restaurant. Most of Coney Island's attractions, including the Aquarium, the animal nursery and Nathan's, stay open all the year round. The rides stay open every day until the middle of October and then on week-ends until the freeze comes.

BOB DALY,  
Secretary C.I.C.A.

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## THE FERMANAGH ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

The recent outing to Birmingham Irish Community Centre as guests of the Fermanagh Association, Birmingham, was very enjoyable. Our members were given a royal reception, taken completely by surprise as they never expected anything like it.

The newly formed Association are a young lively group of people and are lucky to have inclusive their own dance band. We all wish them every success and hope to have the pleasure of their company in London in the near future.

To the management and catering staff of the Centre we also extend our sincere thanks for preparing a most excellent meal and for all the attention we received. For an outing of any County Association in London I would recommend Birmingham Irish Community Centre any time and it is only two hours roll up the M.1.

To our members who have volunteered to walk thirty miles in aid of the Irish Centre here in London we wish them success. The rest of our members have agreed to sponsor them and we trust many of our friends also.

Another note for our diary the Summer Fayre, June 12th, Quex Road. It is important that all members attend the next meeting. Please come early — Mrs. Green will be running the usual raffle.

Enquiries regarding membership: Mrs. M. McCormack (Hon. Secretary), 137 Walker House, Pheonix Road, London, N.W.1.



Photograph of some of the Officers and Members who attended the Fermanagh Association function in Birmingham.—Photo by P. J. Fahey.

## OPENING OF NEW KERRY HOSTEL IN LONDON



His Excellency the Irish Ambassador opens the door at St. Brendan's, watched by Dr. Eamonn Casey, Mr. Maurice O'Connor, Mrs. O'Connor and Mr. Eric Guerin. —Photo by Owen & Moroney, 336 Uxbridge Road, W.12. Tel. 01-743 1141.

### AMBASSADOR'S TRIBUTE

Most Rev. Dr. Moynhan when Bishop of Kerry, opened the St. Brendan's Hostel in 1953 at Castlenau Barnes, London S.W.9, for some 20 young men. The house was sponsored by the Kerry Association in London and after giving great service for 18 years to many hundreds (not alone from Kerry but from many other parts of Ireland), it was replaced by a larger building, the new St. Brendan's House at 4 Craven Park, Willesden, N.W.10.

The official opening was by the Irish Ambassador, Bantry-born Dr. Donal O'Sullivan, who said it was only right that he should admit at the outset that he lacked a very essential qualification for declaring the new St. Brendan's open in that he was not a Kerryman.

#### Only one of its kind

Warmly congratulating the members of the Kerry Association on their new achievements, Dr. O'Sullivan went on to say that St. Brendan's was surely practical evidence of their sense of humanitarianism and of Christian concern on the part of its promoters, as well also as being a manifestation of the continuing deep attachment on the part of the promoters of the project to their homeland.

Stating that the Kerry hostel was the only county hostel of its kind in London, Dr. O'Sullivan said the association could, in the circumstances, feel justly proud of the pioneering efforts on its part (begun in 1953).



"St. Brendans, even though a Kerry foundation, is not being limited to people from Kerry alone, and this has been the rule since the first hostel began in 1953 and, in this, there is a message, I think, for all of us, because in a small significant way, this indicates a practical recognition of the fact that we are all one people, whatever part of the island we come from. I think that this enterprise here is a message of goodwill, co-operation, peace and co-existence. It is a message which, in these sad times, could well be taken to heart in the troubled part of our island, where unfortunately strife, dissention, even tragedy, are becoming the order of the day."

"I would like, in conclusion, to congratulate again the Kerry Association; to wish this hostel every success in the future; and to express the hope that, from this and other similar foundations throughout the country, there will increasingly radiate that spirit of goodwill, fellowship and peace which can be and could be such an example to all our people and to all our people at home."



Photograph by Owen & Moroney.

### Dr. Casey's Tribute

The Bishop of Kerry (having blessed the new St. Brendans) said he did not have to tell those present what the opening of the new hostel meant to him, as he had always believed that the milieu, the environment, had a tremendous effect on the spirit, as do the surroundings in which one lives.

"A project such as this, small as it is, recognises this principle is so true and so valid, and even more so when people move to another country and a totally new milieu."

The Bishop then congratulated members of the association on the spick and span appearance of every room in the hostel. "An old bit of paste and a bit of paint costs damn little, but it means so much" he commented and recalled, that in the Catholic Housing Association's 500 flats (for unsupported mothers and their children here), when government social workers had commented on the bright appearance of all the rooms, he had expressed surprise to the social workers that

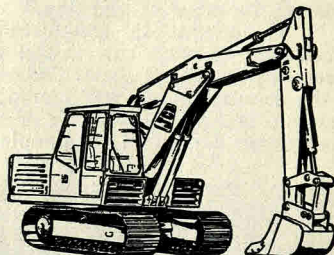


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## THE GALWAY ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

At a recent meeting of the Galway Association, we learned that two of our rather active members, Gerry and Una Burns, are about to enter the Licensed Victuallers Trade, and will take over the management of "The Mulberry Tree" Tavern at 563 Holloway Road, London, N.19, on Thursday, June 10th, 1971. Mr. and Mrs. Burns cordially invite, not the Galway Association alone, but members of the County Associations and friends, to drop in to a grand opening of this establishment on June 10th. Amenities will be made available to those seeking either a meeting room, a luncheon, a buffet or to sporting types who indulge in a good game of darts. Catering arrangements with exciting menus can be finalised at short notice.

Gerry, whose parents hail from Labane Ardrahan, Co. Galway, received his secondary schooling at St. Josephs College, Garbally Park, Co. Galway, prior to scaling the ladder in higher spheres of education. During his 17 years in London, he has been engaged in Architectural and Constructional Engineering, although his great ambition was to enter the Licensed Victuallers Trade, which is about to be realised. Happily married with a young family, we wish Gerry and his charming wife, Una, every success in this venture.

**BOB DALY,**

Vice Chairman the Galway Assoc.,  
Flat 3, 4 Carminia Road,  
London, England S.W. 17

(Continued from page 21)

they might not be thinking that every person was entitled to a high standard. "The brightness, the pleasantness and the atmosphere achieved in this hostel are most important factors."

### **Realism is Vital**

Stating that there was a realism about the Kerry Association's hostel effort, the Bishop said that such realism was vital, and it is not possible for members of the Kerry Association to provide the kind of welfare centres (with all their ancillary services) like the Irish Centre in Camden Square.

"But I hope many other associations here will start residential hostels like this. God knows, we could do with some of them at home in Dublin. It is important we should follow the Christian message and that we all should have an open door and all of us occupy a flat or a house and we don't have to wait to join any organisation to help people; we can all do a helluvalot each one of us without setting up any organisation. And I am reminded of an aunt of mine in Castlegregory who never took the key out of the door" concluded Dr. Casey.

The chairman of the Kerry Association, Mr. Maurice O'Connor, announced that it was ahead with plans for a second new hostel.

The president of the association is Fr. John P. Cremin (Rathmore), P.P. of St. Agathas, Kingston-upon-Thames.



Photograph by Owen & Moroney.

Among the large attendance were three Kerry diocesan priests working among emigrants here: Fr. Tom Looney (Killarney), Fr. Frank Doherty (Glenflesk), and Fr. Luke Roche (Brosna); Mr. Con Murphy, Emigration Commission; Mr. Michael McCormack, a former president, NUI Club; Fr. Des Quinn, Columban Fathers; Mr. Paddy Whitty, former Kerry footballer; Mr. Bob Daly, Council of Irish County Associations; Mr. Tommy Murphy (St. Patrick's Day Parade); Mr. Frank Killee, Association of Old I.R.A.; Mr. Vincent O'Driscoll, Valentina; Mr. Tommy Dunne, Aer Lingus; and Fr. Liam Fanning, OMI, and Fr. Patrick Sheridan, OMI (of the Irish Centre) and Fr. Patrick Hackett, O.M.I., Kilburn.





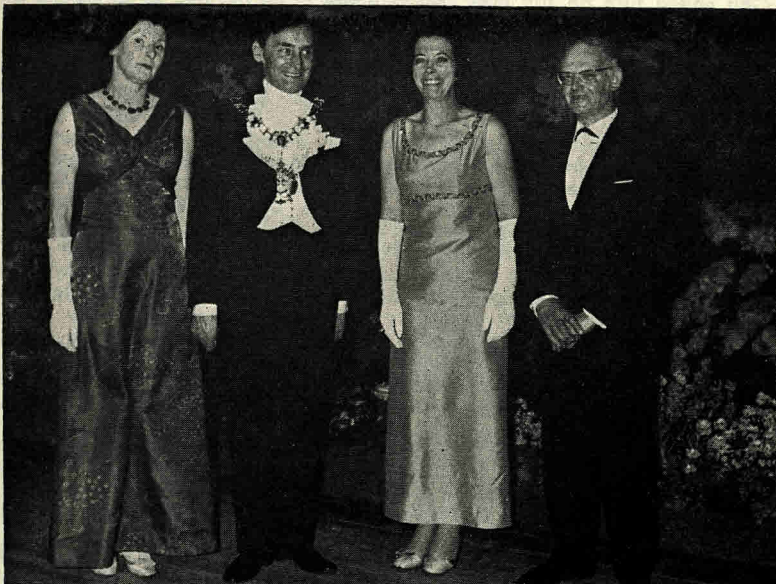
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Left to right: Miss L. Joslin, Councillor Gordon Field, Mrs. J. T. Smyth, and Mr. W. J. Smyth.

### From your Chairman

My wife and I were delighted to accept on your behalf an invitation from Mayor of Hammersmith, Councillor Gordon Field, and Councillor Mrs. Irene York, an invitation to a civic reception on 29th April, 1971. The picture above was not taken in a garden, but in front of the stage you all know so well. It was a blaze of colour, with trees, flowers, waterfalls, and fountains, even two goldfish. Likewise, the stairs and corridors. They were supplied and arranged by the Council's Parks and Cemeteries staff. In the Department of the Borough Engineer and Director of Borough Services.

The master of ceremonies was Mr. Frederick Hatley who stole the show with his very laudable and precise announcing of the principal guests who were the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of London and the Lady Mayoress. The Sheriffs of the City of London and their ladies. The Rt. Hon. the Chairman of the Greater London Council and Mrs. Peter Black, the Chairman of the Metropolitan Water Board and Lady

Salmon, J.P., and the Mayors of the twenty two London Borough.

I would like to publicly thank Councillor Gordon Field and Councillor Mrs. Irene York for their kind invitation. Councillor Gordon Field in his address, said if he had a room, ten times as big he could invite only a small proportion of the wonderful and worthy voluntary organisations in the Borough.

#### From your Secretary

Our next bacon and cabbage dinner will be held at the Irish Centre on June 19th, tickets £1.25. Tickets can be had from any member of our Social Committee listed below. Once again we are hoping for a full house. As a result of our last bacon and cabbage dinner, we are happy to announce that Mr. M. Hickey from Medilogo has been selected to travel to Lourdes with the annual pilgrimage. God speed him on his way. Mr. Hickey is at present a patient in St. Joseph's Hospital, Dungarvan.

We enjoyed ourselves immensely at the Ballyduff, Lismore and Ballysaggart re-union in the Cricklewood Hotel. Among the guests from Ireland were Fr. Quealy and Fr. Kiely. We had great pleasure in meeting lots of old friends.

For the third year running we are doing our thing to help the tourist industry in Ireland by holding a re-union dinner dance at the Ardree Hotel, Waterford City, on the 7th August, tickets £2.25. Anyone requiring tickets or information for this dance please contact any member of Social Committee.

We met West Meath in the first round of the "Guinness Cup" Quiz at the Irish Centre on the 12th May. We are happy to say we had a good win and hope to do likewise in the next round, God willing. Many thanks to Mr. Pat Heagerty and Mr. Michael Waters for officiating, also a wee word of thanks to our quiz team for doing so well. We would like to thank West Meath for a very sporting contest.

At the last committee meeting a vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. John Henry Davis on the death of his grandmother, Mrs. McDonald.

Congratulations to W. Kiely (former Assistant Secretary) on being elected Chairman of the Cu-Cullian hurling and football club. Billy is a native of Cappoquin and is a former Waterford and London hurler. Also Pat Dee, native of Colligan, who was elected Hon. Secretary of the same club.

Social Committee are as follows: Mrs. Jane Smyth, 01-749 0909 night, 01-960 0202 day; Mr. Jim French, 01-807 2114; Mr. Paddy Maloney, 01-459 7027; Mr. William Downing, 01-202 6357; Mr. John Davis, 01-579 0384 night, 01-992 3481 day; Mr. T. Keany.

All members please note subscriptions are now overdue. The subscriptions help to defray postal costs so please pay up.

M. J. DONOVAN,  
Secretary.

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What is there in a winding road  
That stirs the heart and thrills?  
What's in the music of a mountain  
stream  
In the haze of the distant hills?

Perhaps its a valley calm and still  
That long lingers in the mind  
Which was there for the asking  
In boyhood's day  
Now so long since left behind.

What's this strange magic Ireland holds  
Over her scattered exiled band?  
Calling the wayfarer to the fold  
Back home to Motherland.

Ah, then maybe it's the love  
Of another kind  
That taunts the heart-strings so  
Until at last—from deep within  
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## COUNTY SLIGO ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

Chairman:  
Mr. T. Ford  
26 Kingsley Road  
Pinner, Middlesex  
Tel.: 868 5314

Hon. Secretary:  
Mrs. B. Conlon  
16 Westleigh Gardens  
Edgware, Middlesex  
Tel.: 952 2565

The Association proudly presented our President, Mr. T. A. Beckett, with a framed life membership certificate also Mrs. Beckett in recognition for the excellent contribution they have made to Sligo and Irish activities in London over the years — the second occasion such a presentation has been made by the Association. On the first occasion it was to founder member, Mr. John Stenson, for nine years Hon. Secretary of the Association.

Sligo is pleased to have played a small part with their fellow countrymen from the other counties in Connacht in once again securing first prize for the best float presented in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The Committee are arranging an outing to Littlehampton, details later.

Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Ford, wife of our Chairman, on the death of her mother; to Mr. B. Brennan, Manager Irish Centre, on the death of his brother Joe, who was a great friend of the association in its early days; to Rev. Frs. Fanning and Sherridan, Irish Centre, on the loss of a mother and father and any of our friends who may have suffered a bereavement in the family.

Vice-Chairman, Mr. O. Branley, was the only Sligo representative to qualify for the C.I.C.C.A. individual quiz and at the end of the fourth round was the only competitor with maximum points but Lady-Luck did not smile, nevertheless it was a brilliant first attempt in such seasoned quiz company. Sligo plays Kerry in the first round of the "Guinness Cup" quiz in the near future.

Meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at the Goldhawk, Goldhawk Road, W.12. New members always welcome and it would be a pleasure to welcome back many more of our lapsed members with whom we have lost contact over the years.

### BEAUTY QUEEN SEARCH

The Brent Irish Society, under Chairman, Mrs. Eileen Wagstaff, is searching for an Irish Beauty Queen for Brent.

This decision was taken this week at a meeting of the group held at 119 Fleetwood Road, Dollis Hill.

The Beauty Queen competition is confined to girls of Irish birth or descent within the borough and the Beauty Queen will be in the Irish Pageant in the 1972 St. Patrick's Day Parade in London.

Many heats to find the queen will be held in the local Irish dance halls and the winners of the heats will go to the final, where the winner will be chosen by an independent panel of judges.

A trip to Ireland for the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin in 1972 is only one of the many prizes that will go with the title.

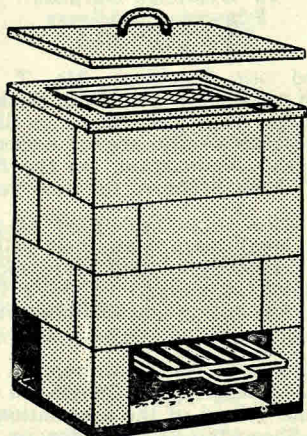
Talking of the trip to Dublin in 1972, the Brent Irish Society is to charter a special 113 seater Aer Lingus jet and march in the big Dublin Parade on March 17th.

The recently formed 80-strong boys' and girls' new pipe band will go on this flight, accompanied by the officers and parents of the young Irish children in the band.



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## **BAZAAR AND OUTING BY WEXFORDMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

The London Wexfordmen's Association had a very successful meeting last week. Pat McCabe, Chairman (COL-5930 for information) presided. He thanked the President of the Council of Irish County Associations for donating the £1,000 for the President's Award and the first prize won by Wexford for £400. He also paid tribute to his members for working so hard in 1970 and hoped that the same good work will continue this year.

Arrangements were made for the holding of the annual Bazaar to aid the welfare fund. This will be held on Saturday, June 12th, at the Brook Green Church Hall at 2 p.m.

The meeting also decided on the Annual Seaside outing to Brighton on Sunday, 11th July when the Association will take the orphans, senior citizens and the Community at Nazareth House, East End Road, by special coaches. Members and the Association will sponsor the children at £1 per head. Meals and games will also be provided and spending money for the enjoyment of the day by the sea, and seats are still available. Full details from Mrs. Newport, Secretary. Tel. 01-677 0053.

## **SOUP RUNS FEED THE LONDON DROP-OUTS**

One Saturday some few weeks past a group of well-known Irishmen went out at eleven o'clock at night and finished at near four o'clock on Sunday morning. They were Tom Murphy, Wexford who organised the party, Pat McCabe, do. and chairman of the London Wexfordmen's Association; Mike Lynch, the well known Cavan/Waterford footballer/entertainer; Tom E. Gorman, President of the Council of Irish County Associations and the London St. Patrick's Day Parade and Michael O'Halloran, the well known Clare and Islington, M.P.

Their aim was to assist the nuns of the Servants of the Mother of God who look after the soup run each Saturday night.

## **WHAT IS THE SOUP RUN?**

The soup-run has a joint purpose. Firstly, it provides soup, bread and clothing to people sleeping rough at night in London. Secondly, it is a means of communication which enables the helpers to make contact with people who normally would be beyond the range of existing statutory or voluntary organisations. The official estimate by the Ministry of Social Security survey in 1964 put the number at 12,000 in London alone.

St. Mungo Community started the soup-run many years ago and for seven nights of the week, this noble work goes on all over London. It is stated that about 3,000 men and women are helped each night and that involves the distribution of 300 gallons of soup, 900 loaves of bread and a half ton of clothing. Believe it or not, but all this is voluntary and great help is received from H. J. Heinz & Co. Ltd., where Mr. Tony O'Reilly is Managing Director. Messrs. J. Lyons, Cadby Hall, who provide the bread, and from the Markets all over London, vegetables are received.

We went along to assist Rev. Sister James, S.M.G. one of the six nuns that do the route every Saturday night. What we saw opened our eyes and saddened our hearts. We decided that we would do more to help this great noble organisation, who go in all kinds of weather on every night of the year, to help the unfortunate Drop-Outs. What we saw were some of our own country men and women out in the open and it was a terrible night of rain that we picked on. It rained so hard that Mr. Gorman had a cold for a week after. Yet, we were all very happy to do our little bit and we intend doing more to help them.

At a meeting of the London Wexfordmen's Association, held at the Earl of Derby last week, it was passed that they sponsor a fund to purchase a vehicle to help the Servants of the Mother of God. This will alleviate some of the hardships for the poor nuns. They are mostly Irish and we are very proud of them.

Donations big or small should be sent to the London Wexfordmen at No. 1 Hermes Point, Elgin Avenue, London, W.9.

The other matter where you can help is to try and organise two or four members from the various Irish County Associations in London and the other kindred Irish Societies to make the trip some Saturday night to ensure continuity of help on the Saturday nights. Your time could not be spent better doing this noble work and seeing for yourself now the other half of our kith and kin live in the heart of London. We could go on telling of the experience but we leave it to yourselves to go out one night and help.

TOM MURPHY, Wexford.

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## A YEAR'S SINGING IN THE LONDON GAELIC LEAGUE CHOIR

Almost twelve months have passed since the above choir took first place in the Mixed Voices section of the Scottish MOD at the Royal Scottish Corporation Hall, Fetter Lane, E.C.4. Shortly the time-wheel will have spun full circle and the choir will be defending its title on June 5th at the same venue. That, too, will mark the first complete year of the choir's achievements under its new conductor, Miss Sheila Devaney.

The months in between have been filled and enlivened by a wide variety of engagements, the Dublin Oireachtas in October and the Choir's Annual Concert in St. Pancras Town Hall on February 6th being the highlights of a very successful year. Prior to that, however, we enjoyed putting on a September concert for a very appreciative audience in Herne Bay. Solos were provided by several members of the choir and four other members comprising the well known Rosses Four Ballad group did their share to keep the homely audience in sparkling mood. The concert also proved quite a useful "airing" for us almost on the eve of the Oireachtas.

The long weekend covering the Oireachtas itself in Dublin was not only rewarding but most entertaining, with many eventful and even hair-raising moments to store up for future strolls down "memory lane." Though unfair to our reserves of energy and patience, it was still most amusing to have to wait an hour in the coach (sent to meet us on arrival at Dublin Airport) while knowing that the Dublin-based driver of the said coach was trying to "talk" his way through the Customs from the England side of the Barrier! Not ours to ask the reason why, nor how! His ability to get us to our hotel with his left hand on the steering wheel and the other hand manipulating a microphone conveying to us his warbling of Irish "welcoming" songs filled us with a none-too-happy blend of admiration and nerve-tingling.

The rewards of the trip came on Saturday night when we earned a very good second place in the Mixed Voices competition, with only two marks separating us from the high-scoring and polished winners from Galway University, and with very high commendations from the Adjudicator to bring away under our belts. Equally rewarding and even more pleasurable, because of the absence of competitive atmosphere, was the overwhelming enthusiasm with which we were received at a Clondalking convent on the Sunday evening when we gave a Charity Concert. The Monsignor who rose to thank us certainly seemed to speak for all present when he admitted it was an eye-opening, if sad, experience to realise that it took a group of Gaels from London to bring home to them in more ways than one the richness and beauty of Irish musical culture that they had missed for so long. In those remarks he had underlined for us the primary purpose of keeping the London Gaelic League Choir in existence — the preservation and promotion of Ireland's inexhaustible musical resources in the realm of song.

Such hours of joy and satisfaction were not allowed to merge into dull moments of anticlimax on the return flight to London on the Monday night. Some telephone hoaxer made sure of that by ringing up Dublin Airport when we were already airborne and claiming that our plane was carrying a time-bomb as well as passengers! Let us hope the caller got his money's worth if he ever heard the fact that our plane was diverted to Manchester where a fruitless search was made, and where we had to kill a further couple of sleepless hours. But we are now left with only the memories, the sighs of relief, the laughs that were bound to come and provide the safety valve even in such a tricky situation, and above all, the comforting knowledge that we lived to tell the tale.



To sing in the Albert Hall is always a coveted experience and privilege, and ours it was once again at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Concert on November 22nd when our newest Vice-President, Mr. Tom Murphy (of Wexford and London) asked us to grace the occasion and set the atmosphere with a four-part rendering of "The Boys of Wexford". We are most grateful for that privilege.

Next on our calendar came Christmas Carol Singing, and the resulting satisfaction of sharing £42 among (five) deserving charities helped us all to forget the wintry blasts endured and to make more magnanimous resolutions for next Christmas. The "Christmas Spirit" was still lingering in our bones when we had to bestir ourselves into staging our Annual Concert on February 6th at St. Pancras Town Hall. The concerted efforts of many (if you'll pardon the pun!) ensured that it was both a financial and artistic success, and from the response of a most appreciative audience we have reason to believe that both the standard and variety of the items combined to give a concert that would make all Irishmen proud of our rich Irish cultural heritage in the musical world.

The popular Irish tenor, Brendan O'Dowda, blending top-class quality and superb vocal execution with a sparkling but most homely personality, endeared himself to all present. But not only will very many want to hear Brendan again, they will also keep their ears open for that delightful Junior Ceili Band so well drilled and instructed by Tommy Maguire of North London. The Choir itself was in great singing form and won many more fans, and this is the place to offer our most sincere thanks to all those who supported us, either by buying tickets or by shouldering some of the many organisational hazards attached to such a venture. Not all the year's performances brought in money to help defray the heavy costs involved in running a choir such as this — a number of Charity Concerts were also given to entertain the blind, the elderly and some overseas students. This review of the past year would not be complete without a special word of thanks to our Rosses Four Ballad Group, who have so faithfully graced and embellished all our concerts, and thanks, too, to so many close friends of the Choir who have travelled so far and so often to give us moral support.

In conclusion, we reveal our fondest hope — to have more and more of the Irish "exiles" in our audiences throughout the coming year. Local concerts can be arranged by contacting (about a month in advance, if possible): The Secretary, London Gaelic League Choir, c/o The Irish Club, 82 Eaton Square, London, S.W.1.

But why not go one better still and join us if you are blessed with a singing voice? Due to members returning to the peace of the Green Isle, or moving out of the London area to take up new jobs, or even taking on new domestic responsibility, we are always in need of new recruits. If you enjoy singing for pleasure and wish to share in our social activities you may be reassured on reading the fact that previous knowledge of the Irish language is NOT essential for membership. Either write to: The Conductor, c/o the address given above, or simply drop into one of our rehearsals at the Irish Club any Thursday evening between 7.30 and 9.30 p.m. and be assured of a Cead Mile Failte.

DONAL CROWLEY, Press Officer, London Gaelic League Choir

#### WORTHY BENEFIT

A young Monaghan mother died a few weeks ago and left 5 young children for her husband to look after. Her name was Mrs. Bridget Murphy and at the moment some Irish people form guardians to care for the youngest member who is only 2 years old to allow the father to carry out his work during the day.

The Monaghan Association under the energetic chairmanship of Ned McArdle held a benefit dance on June 13th at the Gresham, in conjunction with Irish publicans, and newsagents, who clubbed together to hold that worthy benefit dance.

The treasurer of the fund is Tom Murphy, Wexford Association. The fund is still open, all donations thankfully received to: T. Murphy, 1 Hermes Point, Elgin Avenue, London, W.9. Tel. 01-286 3770.



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## **OFFICIAL OPENING OF BIRMINGHAM OFFICE OF ALLIED IRISH BANKS**

About 500 guests attended the official opening of the latest branch of the Allied Irish Banks, namely the Provincial Bank of Ireland Ltd., 445 Spark Hill, Birmingham, 11. Mr. R. O'Driscoll, chairman of the group performed the opening ceremony which was also attended by Mr. M. Grealy, U.K. Development Manager. Mr. J. McGlym, Deputy Chief General Manager; Mr. H. W. Clarke, Manager City of London branch. Mr. M. Behan, London Manager designate Hammersmith. Mr. Sean O'Mahoney, manager, Birmingham. Mr. G. O'Mahoney, Development Manager, Dublin; Mr. M. S. Thompson, Manager, Birkenhead and Mr. F. Donovan Marketing Manager U.K. and a host of V.I.P.s

We are now looking forward to the official opening of Provincial Bank of Ireland Ltd., 181-183 King Street, Hammersmith, London, W.6.

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