

# The Irish Post Awards 1999

*The Grosvenor House Hotel, Thursday, April 22nd.*



*the* **IRISH** post 

In association with  
**Allied Irish Bank (GB)**



*All proceeds from the event will go to Arlington House*



# Ring in the Millennium

*Waterford Crystal celebrates the dawning of a new age with a collection of five magical toasting flutes. The Millennium Collection is inspired by the universal symbols of Happiness, Love, Health, Prosperity and Peace which are at the heart of every toast.*

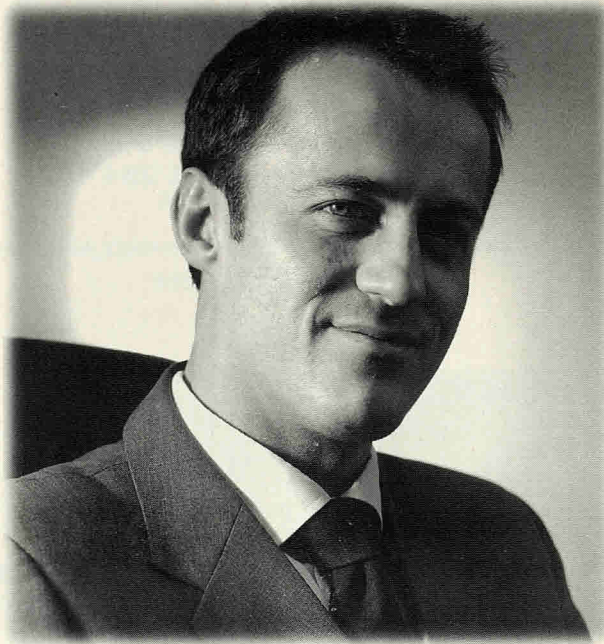
A set of five ornate crystal toasting flutes, each with a wide, shallow bowl and a long, faceted stem. The stems are decorated with intricate cut glass patterns, including a central design that resembles a seahorse. The flutes are arranged in a fan shape, with a silver mesh ribbon tied around the stems. The background is a dark, textured surface.

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**For further information please contact: Shane Bissett Tel: 0171 282785 Fax: 01782 374316**





*For over 20 years The Irish Post Awards have celebrated the success of Irish people in this country in music, film, theatre, the arts and sport. The awards have also recognised those in our community who care for the less fortunate amongst us and those whose unseen work perpetuates our heritage.*

*There have been times when it was much more difficult than it is today to celebrate the successes but The Irish Post saw it as the newspaper's role to make people aware of the breadth of Irish achievement in Britain and so foster pride in our identity.*

*Much has changed over the past 23 years. The awards have sought to reflect this and last year's special award to Dr Mo Mowlam, MP, was an incredibly popular and timely recognition of her part in the creation of the Good Friday Agreement.*

*The Business Person of the Year and the Entrepreneur of the Year Awards which are selected and awarded by our sponsor, Allied Irish Bank (GB), reflect the increased profile and power of the Irish business community in Britain. I would like to thank the Bank for its continued sponsorship, which ensures that tonight is one of the highlights of our year.*

*I'm also pleased that Arlington House in Camden, London, is the recipient of the charitable proceeds of tonight's event. While it does not enjoy the profile of some charities, the hostel continues to provide crucial support for homeless and aged Irishmen, many of them previously involved in the construction industry.*

*On behalf of The Irish Post and Smurfit Media UK, I would like to wish you an enjoyable evening and every success in the year ahead.*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas S. Baxter". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

**DOUGLAS BAXTER**  
Chief Executive



# Arlington House

220 Arlington Road, London NW1 7HE  
Tel: 0171 482 3374 Fax: 0171 284 4626

Arlington House is run by an industrial & providence society with charitable status.  
Registered number: 27665R

*Arlington House, in North London's fashionable Camden Town district, is Britain's largest hostel for homeless men.*

*Opened in 1905, it was the last in a series of large hostels built by the great Victorian philanthropist, Lord Rowton. One time private secretary to Disraeli, Lord Rowton was appalled by the squalor of the common lodging houses and was moved to begin construction of huge hostels for working men, where they could find clean and decent accommodation at affordable prices. The Rowton Houses, as the hostels were called, were a great success.*

*In the post war construction boom of the late 1940s and early 50s, Camden became one of the focal points for the Irish community in London. Arlington House fulfilled an important role in providing clean and cheap temporary lodgings for the vast number of newly arrived Irish labourers, men for whom the transitory nature of their work made settling down and starting a family difficult.*

*Toward the end of the 1980s, the construction industry in Britain collapsed leaving men who had spent a lifetime in the building*



*trade unemployed, with little prospect of future work because of their age, and with no pensions or savings. Arlington House, which had provided their lodgings through decades of work, now became their home in a time of unemployment and little money.*

*So, despite some degree of public misunderstanding and ever-changing working practices, Arlington House continues to provide housing and support for the homeless and those in need. It still shelters and supports all cultures, races and creeds today, just as it has done since 1905.*

**Arlington House is managed by Bridge Housing Association, which runs numerous other hostels throughout London. Through the Leehestia Association, it also runs several outreach schemes in Belfast and will establish sister schemes in the Republic in 1999.**

**For further information about the work of Arlington House and copies of its research report One Better Day: A profile of the Irish Tenants of Arlington House, please contact Joe McGarry at the above address.**



*the* **IRISH**post 

**Awards 1999**

In association with  
Allied Irish Bank (GB)



# Céad Míle Fáilte

Welcome to the 1999 Irish Post Awards  
in association with **Allied Irish Bank (GB)**

*Allied Irish Bank (GB) is privileged to continue its sponsorship of the Irish Post Awards which acknowledges all kinds of community endeavours throughout Britain.*

*We in Allied Irish have a natural role in supporting and encouraging the economic success of the Irish in Britain. We see the awards as a celebration of the vision and hard work of the many people who serve to improve the quality of life and the success of Irish heritage and culture here in Britain.*

*On behalf of Allied Irish Bank (GB), I would like to pay tribute to the award winners and wish them the best of luck in 1999 and beyond.*

*Enjoy your evening with us.*



**Aidan McKeon**  
General Manager  
Allied Irish Bank (GB)



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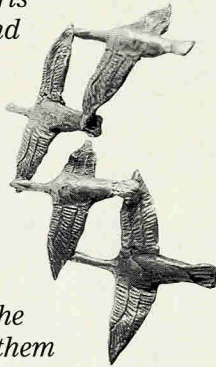
  
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## The Award Sculptures

Our awards this evening portray *The Flight of the Wild Geese*. After the Battle of Kinsale in 1601, the defeated Gaelic Earls of Ulster left Ireland for Continental Europe. Their departure is known as *The Flight of the Wild Geese*, probably because the bill of lading and manifesto of the ships that carried them abroad declared them as wild geese so as to avoid detection. Another outflow of Irish followed the Treaty of Limerick; these were also known as *Wild Geese*.



Many of these emigrants excelled in their new Continental lives, finding diverse careers in such professions as the French and Spanish armed forces, and viticulture: indeed, many of the Burgundy and Bordeaux fine wines still bear names such as Lynch, McCarthy and Barton. Since their flight, the *Wild Geese* have emerged as symbols of the Irish diaspora.

The award sculptures have been fashioned from bronze and surmount driftwood collected from the banks of the River Bandon. The bases have been hewn from Kilkenny limestone.

## The Artist, Dominic Dolan

The Dolan family are famed throughout Ireland for their work in gold, silver and bronze. This is the third consecutive year that they have created the *Wild Geese* sculptures for *The Irish Post*, but the first year that Dominic Dolan has had primary responsibility for the design.



Dominic was brought up in Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny where a close proximity to the River Barrow first brought him into contact with Ireland's rich and varied wildlife. Having the use of his father's studio, he created his first sculptural piece at the age of 12.

His education continued at De La Salle in Waterford, and University College Galway where he studied archaeology and philosophy, which were of little use on the building sites of London, where, like so many other young Irishmen in the 1980s, he ended up.

Six months of hod carrying and one bad back later, he decided to desert from McAlpine's fusiliers and pursue the vocation he was born to, that of a silversmith and sculptor. From the silversmiths' workshops of the Clerkenwell Road to Asprey's of New Bond Street and the Great Frog in Carnaby Street, Dominic enjoyed every minute of a four-year stay in London.

Sculpture, a woman, and pizza brought him to Rome in the early 1990s, where, as a freelance designer, he worked for himself, Gucci and Christie's (Rome) as well as a number of corporate clients. During this time his family had moved to Kinsale and it was here that Dominic eventually returned, moving back to the family studios on a permanent basis.



Today, while other members of his family pursue their own careers – Damian is an engineer, Ben a graphic | film artist – they collaborate on a number of projects, the first one this year being the *Wild Geese* for *The Irish Post*.



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## Menu

*Gratin de champignons sauvages*

*Wild mushrooms in a Madeira sauce gratinated with  
mozzarella cheese*

~

*Filet d'agneau au jus à la menthe*

*Peppered fillet of lamb with a mint and caper enhanced jus*

~

*Pomme château*

*Barrel shaped roast potatoes*

*Frou-frou de légumes*

*Broccoli, carrots, courgettes and turnips*

~

*Chocolate Marquise*

*Rich chocolate mousse served with a vanilla sauce*

~

*Café filtre Ascot et petit fours*

*Ascot blend filter coffee and sweetmeats*







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*the* **IRISH**post 

## Awards 1999

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# Programme

Thursday, April 22nd, 1999

6.45pm	<i>Ballroom - Doors open</i>
	~
7.15pm	<i>Reception</i>
	~
8.00pm	<i>Welcome by Chief Executive of The Irish Post</i>
	~
	<i>Awards ceremony</i>
	~
	<i>Remarks by H.E. the Irish Ambassador</i>
	~
9.30pm	<i>Dinner</i>
	~
10.00pm	<i>String quartet</i>
	~
12.30am	<i>End of evening</i>
	~
	<i>Carriages</i>



# The ideal platform for Irish business in Britain.

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Ireland's major trading partner and neighbour is hosting

"Expo Ireland" at the famous Olympia complex. Organised by an experienced event management team and guided by a committee representing government and strategic agencies, this unique exhibition will reveal the talents, capabilities, spirit and enterprise of the real, modern Ireland.

There will be four themed areas:

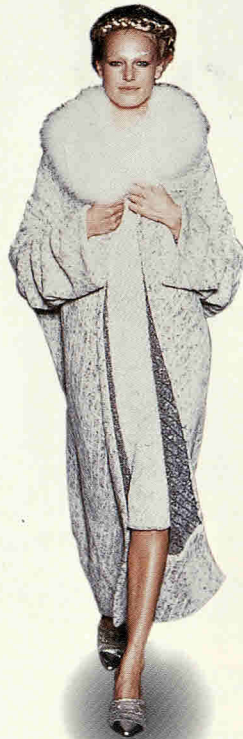
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- Food and beverages
- Fashion, luxury goods & crafts
- Business and technology

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Model wearing Lainey Keogh

expo  
IRELAND

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*This is the 23rd year of The Irish Post Awards. Conceived in the mid 1970s, their purpose was and remains to applaud personal achievement, which redounds to the credit of the Irish community in Britain, and also to highlight community service by Irish people and organisations. The awards are, of course, a means of celebration, a toast to the concept of being Irish abroad.*

*Over the years, they have reflected the diversity of the Irish contribution to British society in so many areas of life. The success and esteem of the awards can be measured in the many distinguished figures who have agreed to accept them, whom we list below:*

## Previous Award Recipients

**1998**

Kathi Leahy  
Tommy Maguire  
Manchester Irish Festival  
Patrick Bergin  
Caroline Aherne  
Dr Mo Mowlam  
Gerry McSharry  
Kevin McNeany

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Keith Wood  
**HALL OF FAME**  
John Aldridge

**1997**

Steve Collins  
The Fiennes Family  
Dervla Kirwan  
Leeds Irish Welfare Group  
London County Board GAA  
Seamus McGarry  
Denis Neenan  
Ardal O'Hanlon  
Eileen Wagstaff  
Martin McDonagh

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Steve Collins  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Packie Bonner

**1996**

Sr. Eileen O'Mahony  
Catherine O'Mahony  
Danny Boyle  
Avril MacRory  
Bernard O'Donoghue  
Maggie O'Kane  
Wales Famine Forum  
Danny Doherty  
Michael McLoughlin  
Cúlra

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Declan Murphy  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Barry McGuigan

**1995**

Brendan Ingle  
Christine Kenealy  
Terry Wogan  
Toni Letts  
Brian Duggan  
Vince Power  
Louise Lombard  
Brian Boru Club  
Kevin McNamara  
Action Group for Irish Youth

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Sonia O'Sullivan

**HALL OF FAME**

Pat Eddery

**1994**

Conradh Na Gaeilge  
Henry Kelly  
Peter Deighan  
Pauline Quirke  
Fr Kevin Dohenev  
Mauretta Armstrong  
Dr Deirdre Kelly  
Irish Famine Project  
Sir Patrick Duffy  
Davitt House

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Richard Dunwoody  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Liam Brady

**1993**

Gasra Na nGael  
Monica McDaid  
Angela Brady  
Fr Paddy Smyth  
Patrick McCabe  
Irish Youth Foundation  
Patrick O'Sullivan  
Adrian Dunbar  
Eoin Dillon  
Coventry Irish Festival

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Billy Schwer  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Pat Jennings

**1992**

Peter Egan  
Fr Michael Cassidy  
Leeds Irish Centre  
Cavan O'Connor  
Irish Education Group,  
Manchester  
Pyms Gallery  
Brendan Blake  
Brian Phelan  
John Woodhurst  
Tom Beisty, Safe Start  
Foundation

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Eddie Jordan  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Ken Kennedy

**1991**

Breda Power  
Sir Sidney Nolan  
Dr Aidan McCarthy  
Ena Murtagh  
Eddie Lawlor  
Freddie Anderson

Cllr Clare Short

Ipswich Irish Society  
Brenda Fricker  
Mary Holland

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Pat Eddery  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Charlie Hurley

**1990**

The Smalleys  
Tom Connor  
Daniel Day Lewis  
Fred Sweeney  
Rosalind Scanlon  
Catherine Kenny  
Owen O'Neill  
McLaughlin School of  
Dancing  
Fiona Shaw  
Harry McHugh

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Ronan Rafferty  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Jonjo O'Neill

**1989**

Seán Crowley  
Desmond Lynam  
Owen Kelly  
Imelda Staunton  
Bob Crowley  
Bernard McLaverty  
Lisa Murphy  
Michael Gambon  
Peter Berresford Ellis  
Siobhan Uí Neill

**SPORTS STARS OF THE YEAR**

Eamon D'arcy,  
Ronan Rafferty,  
Des Smyth  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Noel Cantwell

**1988**

Tom Paulin  
Oxford Irish Festival  
Colin Dunne  
Joe McCarthy  
Declan Donnellan  
West London Comhaltas  
The Thatch Céilí Band  
Siobhan McCarthy  
Phil Coulter  
Tom Gallagher

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Eamon D'arcy  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Eamon Murray

**1987**

Niamh Cusack  
Shane Connaughton  
Micheal O'Duffy  
John Gibbons  
Helen Larkin  
Ted Kavanagh  
Irish in Britain History Group  
Winifred Murphy  
Joan Minihan  
Jerry O'Neill

**SPORTS STARS OF THE YEAR**

Irish Snooker Team  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Derek Dougan

**1986**

Cllr Luke Kearns  
Charlie Smyth  
Matthew Sweeney  
Nessan Danaher  
Kenneth Branagh  
Anne Devlin  
Gearoid Ó Meachair  
Margi and Frank Clarke  
Dr John Ranelagh  
Manchester Irish Centre

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Denis Taylor  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Paddy Byrne

**1985**

Prof James O'Connell  
Glasgow Gaelic League  
Stephen Rea  
Frank Fahy  
Irish Chaplaincy  
Brendan O'Dowda  
Ogra Éireann  
Irish Folk Ballet  
Desmond Hogan  
Bob Geldof

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Pat Jennings  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Bobby Beasley

**1984**

Fr Jim Butler  
Pat McNulty  
Mayo Youth Group  
Philip Byrne  
Sr Sarah Clarke  
Leeds Comhaltas  
Patrick MacGill  
Agnes O'Connell  
Green Ink Writers  
Bob Dowling

**1983**

Nigel Gray  
Anthony Clare

Anna Scher  
O'Conaire Family  
Doreen Murray  
Milton Keynes Irish Society  
Sineád Cusack  
Robert Noonan  
Plunkett House, Birmingham  
Irish Literary Society

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Alex Higgins  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Jimmy Ingle

**1982**

Glasgow Irish Centre  
Mike Cooley  
John Neary  
Fr Patrick O'Mahoney  
Green Fields & Far Away  
Mary Hardiman  
Roy F. Foster  
Suzanne Murphy  
Frank Delaney  
Brent Irish Advisory Service

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Pat Jennings  
**HALL OF FAME**  
The Casey Family.

**1981**

Lord Longford  
Robert Loughnane  
Hugh Mac Guire  
Edna O'Brien  
Irish Association Club  
Mary Mullin  
London Gaelic League Choir  
Sister Annunciatia  
Peter O'Toole  
T.P. O'Connor

**SPORTS STARS OF THE YEAR**

Jamie Wilkinson,  
David Wilkins  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Billie Gillespie

**1980**

Donal Mac Amhlaigh  
Dame Ninette de Valois  
Grainger School of Dancing  
Gemma Craven  
Maeve Binchy  
Ivan Gibbons  
Art O'Brien  
T.P. McKenna  
Fr Brian Lawlor  
Irish Universities Club

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Liam Brady  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Chris Finnegan

**1979**

Cyril Cusack  
Sister Bernardine  
John Denvir  
Kieron Moore  
Jerry O'Neill (Sugwan  
Kitchen)  
Newcastle Comhaltas  
Brian Inglis  
Brendan Mulkere  
William Trevor  
Federation of Irish Societies  
(Jack Griffin, Jim Kerby,  
Bill Halley)

**SPORTS STARS OF THE YEAR**

Beech Hill Blues  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Bryan Marshall

**1978**

Terry Sheehy  
Tommy Maguire  
Colin Blakely  
Maura O'Hara  
Jersey Irish Society  
Liverpool Irish Centre  
Coventry Irish Centre  
Paddy O'Connor  
Tayforth Shinty Club  
Irish Text Society

**SPORT STAR**

Tommy Stack  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Peter Doherty

**1977**

Irish Heritage Group  
Slough Irish Club  
Maureen McCoy  
Luton Leagrave Comhaltas  
London Irish Centre  
Fianna Phdraig Pipers  
Alice Boyle  
McLaughlin School of  
Dancing  
Irish National Club,  
Earlestown  
Coventry Amateur Drama

**SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR**

Eamon D'arcy  
**HALL OF FAME**  
Mick Leahy





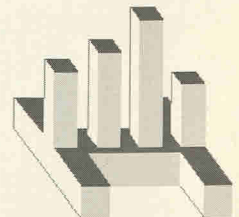
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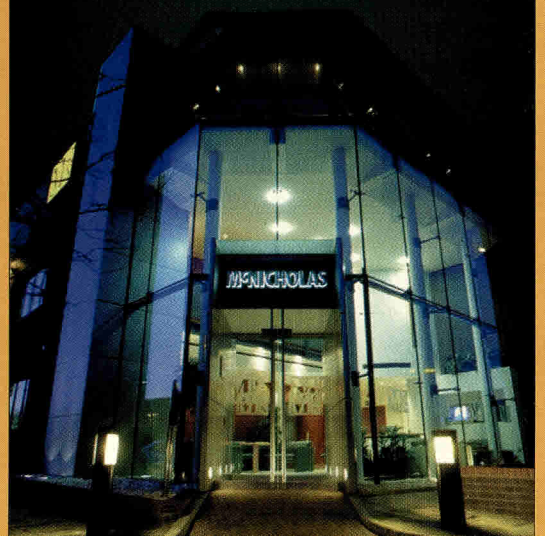
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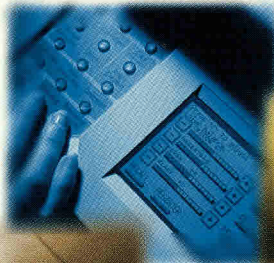




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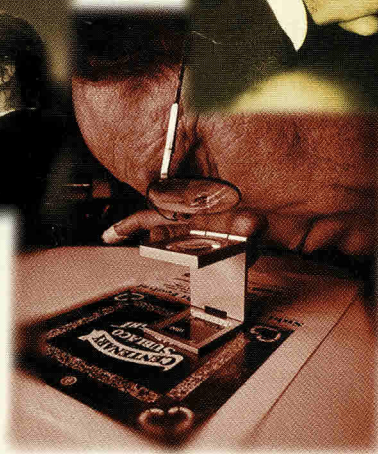
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**Clockwise:**

*Caroline Aherne, better known as TV's Mrs Merton, captured in the spotlight as she goes to collect her Award.*

*Dr Mo Mowlam addresses the audience after becoming the first non-Irish recipient of an Irish Post Award for her contribution to peace in Northern Ireland.*

*Irish Ambassador, Ted Barrington, presents record-breaking goal scorer John Aldridge with his Sports Hall of Fame Award.*

*Irish rugby star Keith Wood contemplates Ireland's chances in the Five Nations as he talks to host for the evening, Victoria Smurfit.*





## Some of our 1998 recipients



Anti - clockwise:

*Victoria Smurfit compares notes with fellow thespian Patrick Bergin as he takes the stage to collect his Award.*

*All smiles: GAA star Tommy Maguire and Ambassador Barrington share a joke on stage.*

*AIB's two Business Award recipients, Gerry McSharry of Poster Publicity and Kevin McNeany of Nord Anglia proudly display their Award statuettes, flanked by the bank's Aidan McKeon and John Kilty.*



*Recognised for her work as director of the Shaskeen Theatre, Coventry-based Kathi Leahy poses for the camera with Irish Ambassador, Ted Barrington.*

*Also spotted on the night, former Irish Post Award recipient Louise Lombard with Jon Stephen.*





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South  
Kensington



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