

the **IRISH** centre



**CEAD MILE
FAILTE**

Newsletter

52 Camden Square · London N.W. 1

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D I A R Y

JUNE

Thursday	3rd	Ballina Reunion
Friday	4th	Quiz Final
Saturday	5th	Dublin Association B & C
Tuesday	8th	? Anaglin, Co. Cork Reunion
Thursday	10th	Kilavullan District
Saturday	12th	Clare Association Buffet Dance
Wednesday	16th	Comhaltas Ceoltoiri
Saturday	19th	Waterford Association B & C
Saturday	26th	Monaghan Association B & C
Wednesday	30th	Comhaltas Ceoltoiri

Bingo every Wednesday, Friday & Sunday nights.

Music on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday nights.

NEWSLETTER

Someone described an Ambassador once as, "A man sent to lie for the good of his own country." Our latest Ambassador in Irish circles is Mr. Brian Duggan who, at the last local election, not only was elected but he also topped the poll. Only a week later he has been elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Camden. On behalf of all the members of the Irish Centre, we congratulate Brian and wish him many happy and successful years in the political field. We congratulate Miss Duggan as Deputy Mayoress.

Brian served for many years on the Irish Centre Club and Administrative Committees. So, in a sense, we consider him our own. The above description of an Ambassador does not fully describe Brian Duggan. He is certainly a worthy Ambassador of the Irish. But he will not lie for the good of anyone. He lives by principles. He is truthful and honest, almost to the point of a fault. He believes in himself and in what he sets out to do. He is a fighter; a worker; a good Christian. He works for what he knows is for the good of the community and he will fight to kill all that is bad for the common good.

He used to roll his own cigarettes but in latter years, since he really became involved with the Labour Party, he has got himself a pipe. Harold Wilson is seldom seen without a similar mouthpiece. I wonder is there some magic in a pipe?

We here at the Centre would also like to put on record our congratulations to all the other Irish men and women who did so well in the various local elections. Mr. Murphy from Cobh was amongst the many elected in Islington. He too was closely associated with The Irish Centre. All these good people who have worked so hard, for so long, are an outstanding example to the rest of us. They have shown us the way into the world of British Politics. We are coming nearer to the day when we will have an Irish Prime Minister and - Ladies & Gentlemen - Ireland's freedom will be won by the stroke of the pen.

On Tuesday night last we had our Administrative A.G.M. The usual items were discussed but the one big subject for discussion was the proposed new extension. The cost will be enormous when it is all completed. It is a subject that really cannot be discussed at one meeting. The only thing that can be done at a meeting is to outline the proposals. We all now have to go off and think a lot about them; make our needs known, then go off and think again. The whole thing reminds me of the Common Market. It will cost a lot to get in: there will be people for and against. I suppose in the long run one really has to try and weigh up the amount of good the whole project will do and measure it against the cost. All this is no use without a Prayer. Too often man proposes and God disposes. If God wants us to go ahead He will see to the fulfilment of the plan. If, on the other hand, He does not want the project to prosper He will make sure to stop it. It would seem that He wants us to forge ahead because He certainly has Blessed us in the past. In the meantime, we must keep on trying.

The Mayor of Camden paid us his official visit on the 18th May. With him were all the Councillors and Dignitaries of the Borough and British Rail. This year we had more guests than usual. The reason, of course, for this was because of the new extension. We must keep these people informed of what we are hoping to achieve. By the fact that they have been to the Centre, they will know what they are talking about. Because of the fact that we had so many guests, we did not have many tickets for sale and many were disappointed. But we know you will understand.

On the night of the Mayor's Banquet we had the Boys' Band and the Ceili Band in action. We congratulate the children and teachers on the magnificent display they gave. It was all very impressive.

June 1971

NEWSLETTER

The Club A.G.M. took place on Tuesday night last. The crowd was small but those who were there made it a lively meeting. It would seem that the whole spirit of both A.G.M.s was to look forward and get on with the job. On behalf of the members, we thank all those good people who have worked so hard to make the Centre what it is today. We also commend the spirit of the new Committee. Let's hope we do our members proud.

Just a few weeks ago, we changed our weekend music. As you know we had Jimmy Power, Tony Ledgwith and Tom Power over the past year. Firstly, may we put on record our thanks to these three great musicians. They made many people very happy. Secondly, I would like to say that Jimmy Power was a very straightforward man. Jimmy was the leader of the trio and, as leader, we dealt through him. Never once did he let us down. We thank them most sincerely.

Many of our members asked for a change. Now we have made that change with excellent results. P.J. Gaughan is the leader of our new group and is a perfect gentleman. From the comments on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, everyone likes their music and singing. We wish them well.

On Sunday last I had the privilege of attending the official opening and Blessing of the Kerry hostel. The ceremony of the Blessing was performed by His Grace, Bishop Casey and the opening ceremony was performed by His Excellency, the Ambassador, Dr. O'Sullivan. Both these great men spoke. In speaking, they expressed the sentiments of all present and indeed of the many who would like to have been present, when they said that it was a step in the right direction. The Kerry Association have attacked the problem of accommodation shortage. They are out to help people.

The hostel itself is a beauty. It is a place where one would live to stay. We wish the Kerry Association many years of success and Blessings on their work.

On Saturday, 12th June, we hold our Summer Fair at Quex Road Church Hall, Kilburn. We need your support. If you can give us anything at all for it, we will be only too pleased to accept. If perchance, you cannot come, you might be delighted to subscribe towards it. Don't forget, Saturday 12th June.

One of our old members has returned to Ireland. He is Pat Spillane. We thank Pat for his loyal service and wish him every happiness in the old country.

Our sincere thanks to all who are helping with our Charity Walk. We did not give it all the push this year that we might have. But with all the accidents over the past weeks, we decided to limit it to experienced walkers.

Next month there will be a double Newsletter in one. Till then -

God Bless,

Rev. P. Sheridan, O.M.I.