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AT THE

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ON

Friday 15th March 1974

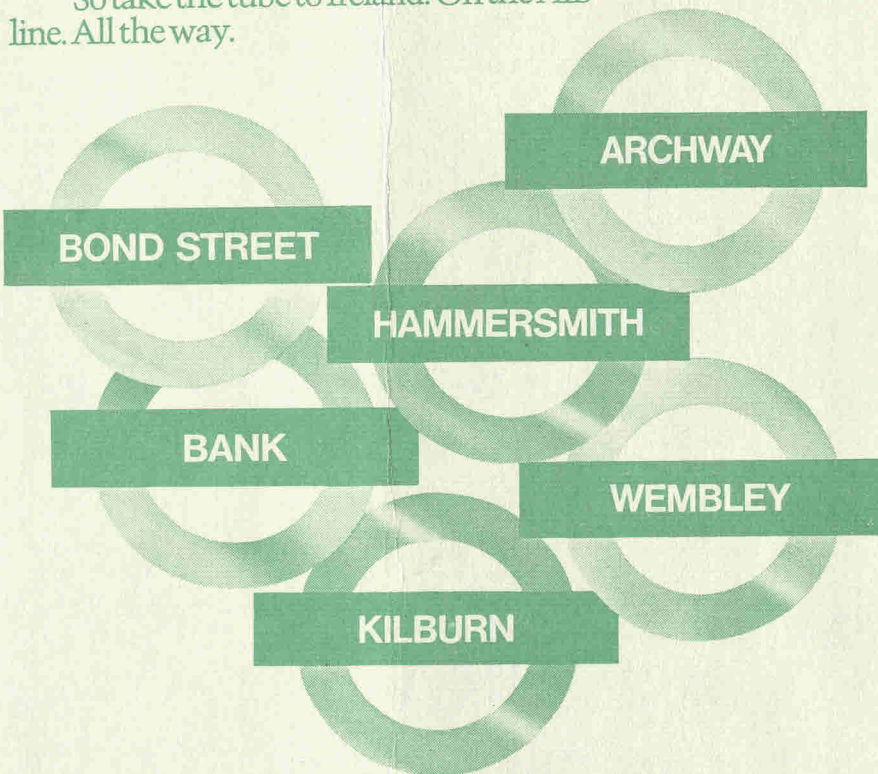
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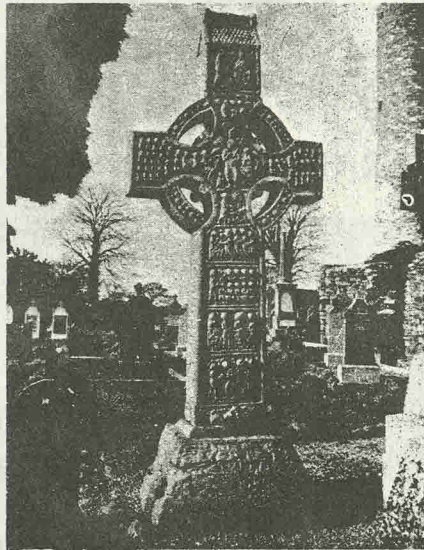
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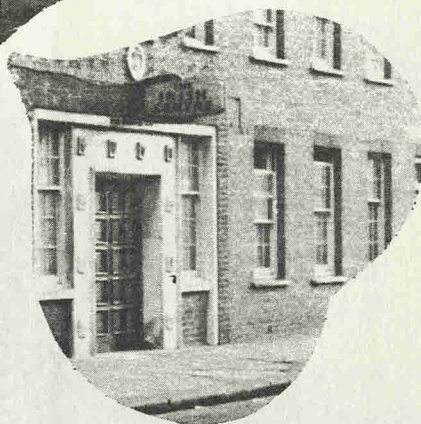
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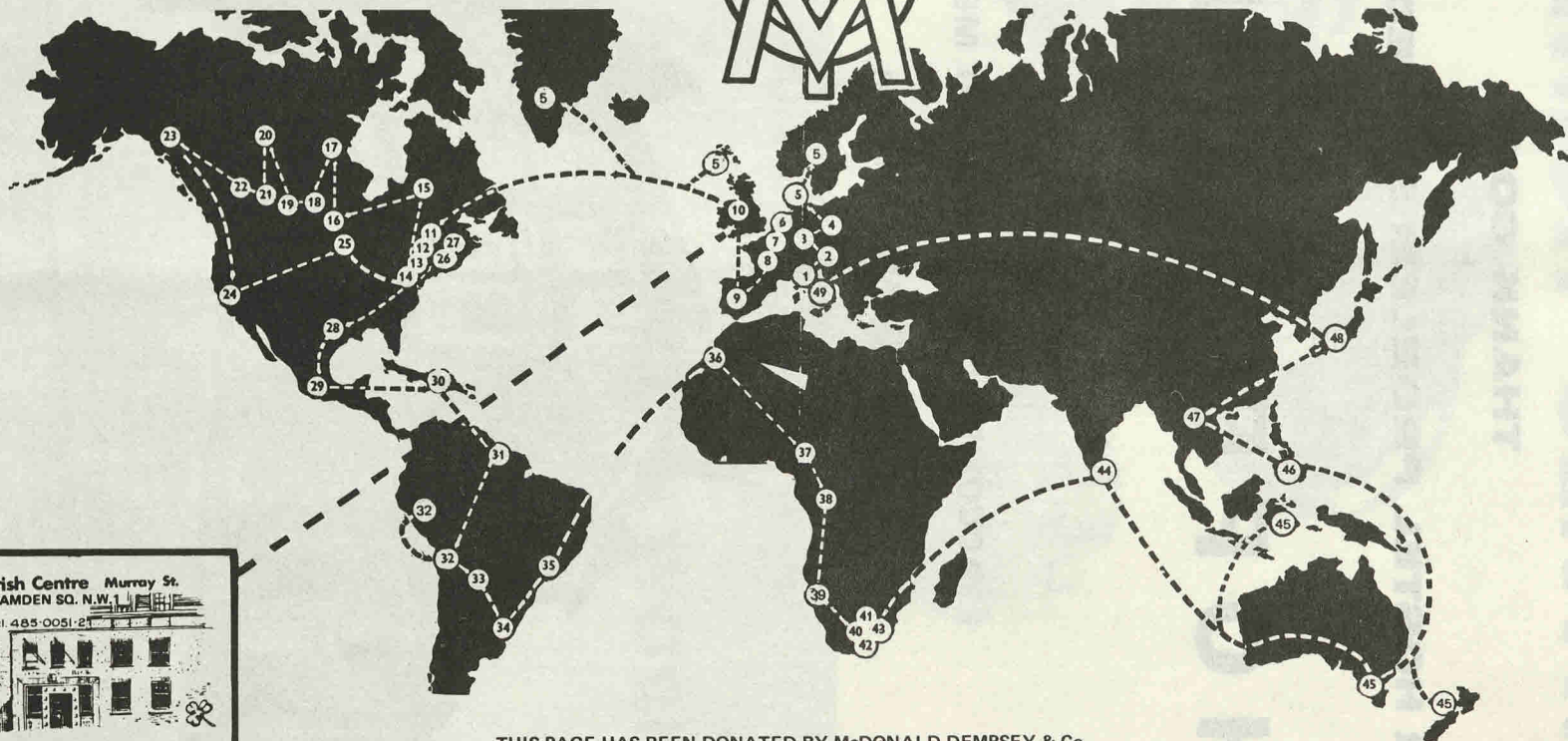
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ARTISTES

T.P. McKENNA

HUGO DUNCAN and THE TALLMEN

SEAN AHERN

THE SPUD GROUP

ROBERTA d'ESTE

THE GAELIC LEAGUE CHOIR

THE BOWLER ACADEMY

CORDUFF PIPERS

IRISH CENTRE YOUTH BAND

Compere - PAT MOONEY

Accompanist - KENNETH GREEN: Organist - JOHN JACKSON

Producer - PHIL FLEMING

Will our patrons please note that all the seats in the Royal Albert Hall are not available to us to book as some are held by patrons of the R.A.H. who own the seats outright. We regret any disappointment to our patrons of this Concert who have been unable to obtain seats, and trust they will understand when they see some unoccupied seats.

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T.P. McKENNA

We are proud to have the celebrated actor, Thomas Patrick McKenna, ("T.P." as he is always known), in the St. Patrick's Festival Concert tonight, and know he will be given a great welcome.

Born in Co. Cavan, he joined the Abbey Theatre Company in 1954, and made his first London appearance in February 1963, at the St. Martin's Theatre with the play "Stephen D". Since then he has played in the West End on numerous occasions notably in the successful David Storey play "The Contractor" which ran for over a year at the Fortune Theatre.

He was a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company at the Aldwych Theatre in the 1971/72 season and has made over 30 films.

His regular appearances in both BBC and ITV drama productions have won him many admirers, and endeared him to a wide public.



ROBERTA D'ESTE

Probably best remembered when as a child took over the star role of 'Maria' in "West Side Story" at Her Majesty's Theatre. At the age of 15 she had understudied and played the role of 'Polly' in "The Boy Friend" at Wyndham's Theatre.

Other leading roles in the West-End include "Seven Bob A Buck" at the Comedy Theatre. "Enrico" at the Piccadilly Theatre. "The Wayward Way" at the Vaudeville Theatre, and recently "Romance" at the Duke Of York's Theatre.

Roberta has appeared in several films and has played opposite leading comedians in popular television shows, as well as many dramatic roles in episodes of series.



PAT MOONEY

Pat was born in Belfast—went to C.B.S. Divis Street and St. Malachy's College. Since his debut at St. Mary's Hall, Belfast, Pat has entertained audiences all over the world—Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales, Jersey, Guernsey, Holland, Germany, Italy, Greece, Cyprus, Malta, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Malaya, Australia, Canada and the United States.

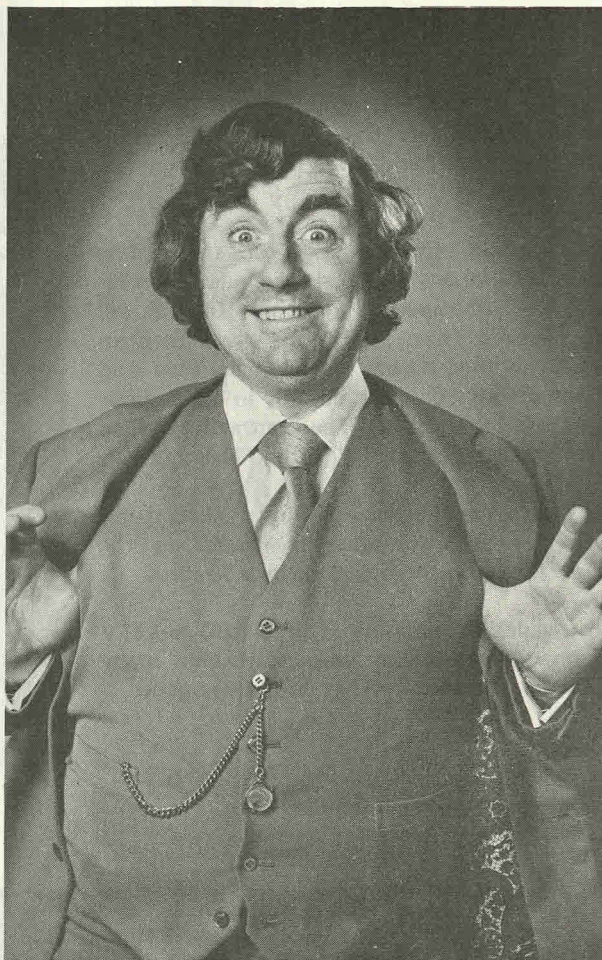
Pat has done over one-hundred B.B.C. Radio broadcasts, 25 appearances in the "Comedians" I.T.V. Show and will be appearing regularly in the current series.

We are proud of Pat and thrilled he is with us tonight.

HUGO DUNCAN and THE TALLMEN

Oliver Barry, the man who guides the diaries of the Wolf Tones, Freshmen, Sean Dunphy and Reform, has added this Tyrone group to his list. Personal management is undertaken by Earl Gill—that master musician who is well known and appreciated by our audiences here at the Albert Hall.

Hugo Duncan and The Tallmen crashed into the top country ratings via the number one hit "Dear God". Hugo Duncan himself hails from Strabane and is recognised as one of the coming "greats" in Ireland, and after tonight you will know the reason why.



KENNETH GREEN

(Accompanist)

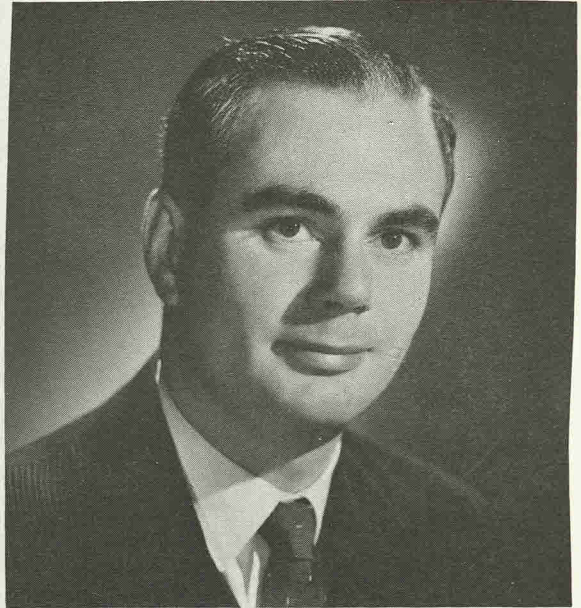
Kenneth Green is a familiar figure at Irish concerts having played for many, not only at the Albert Hall, but at Irish Clubs in London and throughout the country.

He was born in London, where he still lives, and studied at The Royal College of Music.

He is a versatile musician who, in addition to performing much classical music, conducts and runs a successful dance orchestra.

He has been associated for some years with Joe Lynch, and has played for many famous singers and instrumentalists.

He travels widely and has recently returned from Canada and the U.S.A.



SÉAN AHERN

Séan Ahern is a native of Moyvane in North Kerry. He first emerged as a successful Tenor in 1964 when he won The Munster final of the John McCormac Golden Voice Trophy. Since then he has appeared on Irish Radio and Television on numerous occasions and he is especially known in Ireland for his singing of traditional Irish airs. He is the principle singer in the now famous Irish Folk Theatre presentation "Siamsa" which has played not only in all leading theatres in Ireland, but in England and on the Continent as well.

GAELIC LEAGUE CHOIR

Seamus Purcell is the man responsible for the Gaelic League Choir. Seamus has since retired to Clare-Galway in the west of Ireland. One thing that always impresses the outsider about the Gaelic League Choir is the wonderful dedication of its members. Perhaps this spirit is due to the greatness of Seamus Purcell.

The choir tonight is under the very capable hands of Marie Reilly. Marie is comparatively new to this position in the choir and is doing a wonderful job.

The Gaelic League Choir has many orieacthas trophies as well as appearing on R.T. Eireann, B.B.C. They sang at the Irish College in Lourain. They do a lot of charitable work and perhaps one could say that it is the spirit which is most attractive about the choir.

We are very pleased they are on our concert.

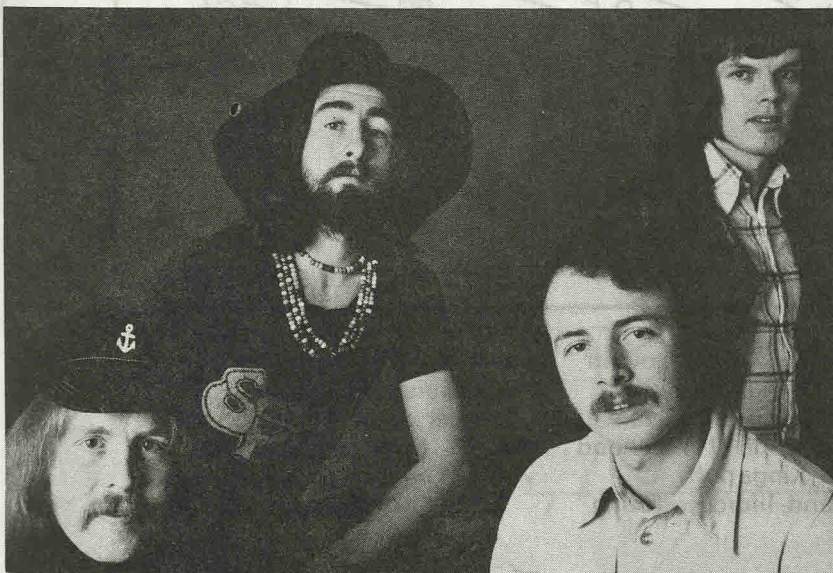
CORDUFF PIPE BAND

This is one of the oldest bands in the North East of Ireland. It dates back to 1918. Times were bad in Ireland at that particular time, and the fight for freedom was at its height. Because of the war with the Black and Tans, band practice was out; instruments had to be hid under the thatch of a house in Corduff and the band had to be abandoned until 1921.



It was after 1921 that money was collected to buy uniforms which were not replaced until 1973. The Bass Drum which you see here tonight is the same one as was in the original band in 1918. The Corduff Pipe Band has played at every sort of function and many individuals won prizes at different competitions. Last year they won at the Ulster Fleadh and later in the year at Listowel Fleadh they won the All Ireland. Because of their history and because of their talent, we are honoured to have the Corduff Pipers here tonight. We thank the Monaghan Association for sponsoring their trip to England.

P.S. Fr. Mee, O.M.I. (Director of Irish Centre) comes from Corduff. No prizes for guessing why they are here.



SPUD

The Group known as "Spud" which you see on stage tonight are making a great name for themselves in Ireland.

They could be classed as "traditional folk."

Dermott O'Connor plays guitar, and mandolin.

Austin Kenny plays guitar, mandolin, five string banjo and recorder
Smithy plays guitar and bass.

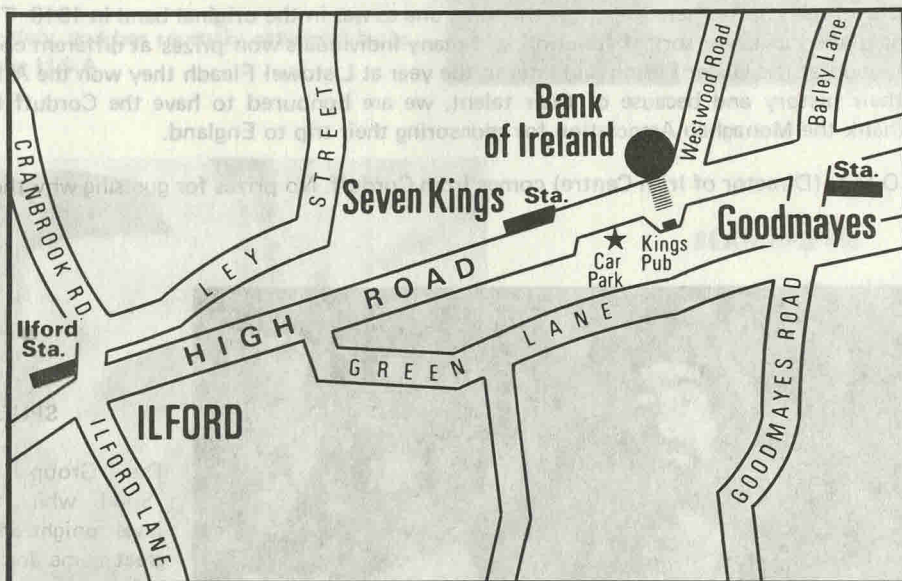
Con Knox plays fiddle and harmonica. 'Spud' is managed by a very good friend of audiences at the Albert Hall in the person of Earl Gill. They play every Sunday night at 'The Old Shieling'.

IRISH CENTRE YOUTH BAND

This band has always been, is at present and will always be a part-time hobby. It was never intended to be a professional band. Instead we want boys and girls to learn music in an easy way and grow to love it. Under the careful direction of Pat O'Connell, it is progressing beautifully, and we think by now the Irish Centre Youth Band has endeared itself to our audience.

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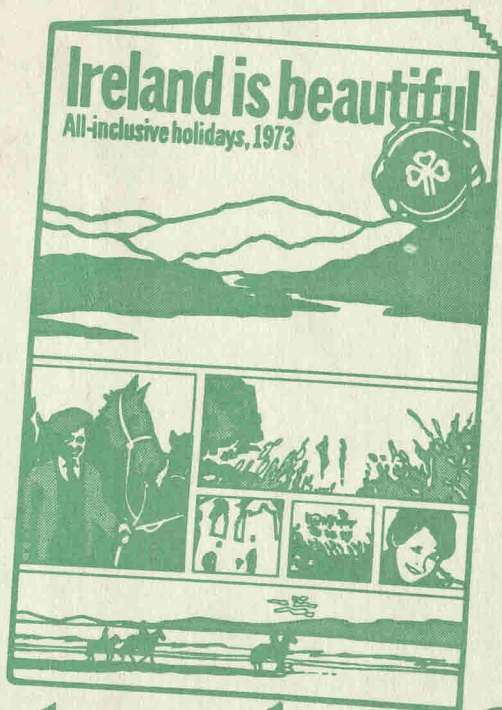
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