

THE IRISH CHAPLAINCY IN BRITAIN PRESENT

St. Patrick's Festival



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Deposit Account

A MESSAGE FROM CARDINAL HUME

I have said on many occasions that the Irish Chaplains play a crucial role in the life of the Church in this country. That remains as true today as it ever was. The Irish bishops have been most generous, and they have sent excellent priests. And there are many religious and layfolk involved in the work of the Irish Chaplaincy Scheme. Their work is not forgotten.

God bless you all and pray, please, for,

Yours devotedly,

Archbishop of Westminster

A message from the Irish Ambassador H. E. Mr. Noel Dorr on the occasion of the St Patrick's Festival Variety Concert organised by the Irish Chaplaincy

I am pleased as Irish Ambassador to have the opportunity to pay my own tribute and that of the Irish Government to the devoted work undertaken by those involved in the Irish Chaplaincy Scheme. There is no doubt that the help and advice offered over the years by the Chaplaincy has been of immense value to Irish people coming to live and work in Britain, particularly the young.

The Festival taking place tonight allows us to give our practical support to the Scheme. I should like to wish everyone a happy evening and to look forward to the continuation of the dedicated activities of the Irish Chaplaincy in the future.

Noel Dorr Ambassador

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The Irish Chaplaincy in Britain

The Irish Chaplaincy was organised in 1957 at the request of the Bishops in England and Wales when Irish people were concentrated in the many construction projects scattered throughout the country. Later as the work in the big projects were competed, the workers began to move into the cities and settle there. Irish chaplains followed them and worked with them from parish centres. The different dioceses and the Irish Episcopal Commission for Emigrants began to identify areas of need in the ministry for Irish Chaplains. Each year the work of the Chaplaincy is reveiwed during its Annual Conference. It endeavours to identify new needs among the Irish people and cooperates with the local Church in meeting those needs.

The overall objective of the Chaplaincy is to help Irish people to integrate into the new community. To define integration would be simple—people taking and sharing responsibility in their own community. It does not happen of itself but has to be fostered. It takes a person who is happy with his/her own identity and conscious of his/her own culture and roots to contribute to a new community.

To enable integration, the Chaplaincy, as time went on, took on new apostolates. These included chaplaincies to Hostels, Hotels, in Housing, Nurses and Hospitals, Youth, Battered Wives, Travellers, Prisoners, Homeless and lost people.

Over the years Religious, Sisters and Brothers, have come into the Chaplaincy to help in the various caring agencies such as hostels, welfare agencies, and in later years to work as parish sisters.

The needs of the Irish community have changed over the years and will continue to do so in the future. It has been an enriching experience for those who have worked in the Chaplaincy, being with the Irish community in the realisation of its needs and aspirations.

Perhaps you know some of the members of the Chaplaincy-



THE IRISH CHAPLAINCY SCHEME IN BRITAIN

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5. Haringev Irish Community Care Centre Sr Joan Kane 72 Stroud Green Road London N4 Tel. 01-272-7594

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6. Hospital Chaplain Fr Padraic Brennan (Achonry) Hammersmith Hospital 130 Du Cane Road London W120HS

> Residence: St Aidan Old Oak Common Lane London W3 Tel. 01-743-5732

See also Apostolate to Nurses

7. Hostels (a) Austin House (boys) See Irish Welfare Bureau

> (b) Benburb Base Hostel (boys) Youth at Risk 369/371 Camden Road London N70SH Tel. 01-607-7968

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(d) St Mungo's Hostel (men) 83 Endell Street London WC2 Tel. 01-240-5431/2/3

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9. The Irish Centre 52 Camden Square London NW19XB Tel. 485-0051/2

> Sr Joan Moriarty D.C. (Sr Breda O'Reilly S.M.) (Muireann O'Higgins)

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10. Irish Welfare Bureau 55 Fulham Palace Road London W68AL Tel. 01-741-0466

> Fr Brian Lawlor OSA Sr Carmel McGowan ISC

Austin House Hostel for Boys 72 Hammersmith Grove London W67EA Tel. 01-748-1066 (Residents) 01-741-3712 (Warden)

> Sr Nancy O'Sullivan (Mercy, Kerry)

138-140 Hartfield Road Wimbledon London SW193TG Tel. 01-543-0608 01-540-0759 (welfare)

> Sr Carmel Keegan ISC Residence: 49 Hammersmith Grove London W60NE Tel. 01-748-2629

12. Union of Sisters of Mercy (Kerry) 15 Eversley Ave., Wembley Park Middx HA99JZ Tel. 01-904-5900

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9 Notting Hill Fr Gearoid Griffin (Galway) St Francis of Assisi Pottery Lane Notting Hill London W11 Tel. 01-727-7968

10 Shepherds Bush Fr Michael Casey (Killaloe) St Stephen's 44 Ashchurch Grove London W12 9BU Tel. 01-743-5196

11 St John's Wood Fr Pat Mulcahy (Killaloe) Our Lady 54 Lodge Road St John's Wood London NW8 8LA Tel. 01-286-3214

12 Sudbury, Wembley Fr Liam Holmes (Cashel) 970 Harrow Road Sudbury Wembley Middx HA0 2QE Tel 01-904-2552

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14 Watford Fr P J McCrory (Armagh) Holy Rood Exchange Road Watford Herts WDI 7AJ Tel. 92-24085 15 Wembley Park

Sr Eileen O'Sullivan (Mercy, Kerry) Parish Sister The Presbytery Chalkhill Road Wembley Park Middx HA9 9EV Tel. 01-904-2306

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2 Mission to Travelling People Fr Eltin Daly O.F.M. St Joseph's House 18 Leopold Street Oxford OX4 1PS Tel. 0865-240325

3 Irish Centre, Liverpool 127 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5TG Tel. 051-709 4120 Sr. Agnes Mahon

B. PARISH CHAPLAINS

Fr Gerald Hasson C.S.Sp. English Martyrs Evelyn Road Spark Hill Bir B11 3JN Tel. 021-772-4272

The Irish Welfare and Information Centre

PLUNKETT HOUSE, SHADWELL STREET, BIRMINGHAM B4 6EU



The Irish Welfare Centre, Plunkett House, situated behind the Catholic Cathedral in the City centre, was established in 1957. Our work involves -assisting people spiritually, trying to find accommodation and employment, offering marriage guidance, supporting orphans, single parent families and unmarried mothers, counselling psychiatric patients, inadequates and ex-offenders, repatriation, operating an information service, home, hospital and prison visiting, burying the dead and comforting the bereaved, supplying food, furniture and clothing, and visiting the parish and social clubs

An addition to our work last year was the undertaking to arrange and pay for the funeral of homeless Irishmen whose death

occurred in hospital or lodgings. Many of these men had wandered from place to place during their lives and were classed as persons of no fixed abode. We feel that now they have a name and proper final resting place. Our purchase of a number of graves will allow us to continue this important work in the coming years.

For further information about our work contact-

Rev. J.A. Taaffe, O.M.I. (Director) Sister Teresa Harmon (Social Worker) on 021-236-9312 or 021-233-2754.

In accordance with the requirements of the Greater London Council. "Persons shall not be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways intersecting the seating or to sit in any of the other gangways". No photography or tape recording is permitted within the auditorium.

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ON THE STREETS

On any night of year hundreds of men and women sleep on the streets in London—in alleyways, under bridges, near printing presses, outside job centres, in parks. There are many different reasons. One pleasant, well-educated Irishman called Dan—who enjoys discussing literary matters with soup run volunteers—says it "just happened". He wont go to a hostel where there are drinkers, he cannot go to a dry-house since he has no drinking problem. All he wants is a flat of his own and independence. Since he is healthy and only in his fifties, that is a very hard ambition to achieve.

This friend Michael wrote this account of life on the streets for me.

"A typical night can be 6 o'clock on the station, moved about 8 o'clock by the police, call in cafe, buy one tea, make it last as long as possible, meander down to the embankment, make up bed cardboard, rest till about 12 o'clock midnight till soup-run comes, moved on about 5 o'clock by old Bill".

"The day time is very little of a problem after one has become accustomed to finding the various handouts, day centres, convents and social services. I would however say that most help is given by the nuns. This is not always appreciated but their help is always free. They help and never ask questions, but will always advise. Many homeless spend their time in libraries, betting shops, museums, or just thinking of the past. At least one day a week must be spent at the DHSS which is never easy for a person NFA. Some will try for casual or regular employment, but once again NFA is a hazard. Medical help can be obtained from most Day Centres".

"Sleeping out and finding adequate shelter is hard in winter, Stations once a good refuge are now policed very strongly and I have even seen old ladies dragged from the station and put into the rain ... Most people spend the night in cardboard city under the arches, or in the parks, or just wandering."

"The soup-runs are the life line of the night. They keep the persons of the night warm and alive. These soup-runs break up the night."

"Many people have been homeless for years and will never want a fixed abode. Others would like a second chance but may never get it. How some of the older people have survived so long is quite incredible. Some are over seventy years old."

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Society for the Care of Irish Youth

Benburb Base 369/371 Camden Road London N7

Benburg Base in an advice and counselling service with accomodation for 14 young men between the ages of 16-25.

These homeless young people are offered bed and breakfast and a substantial evening meal. The accomodation is in seven shared bedrooms. Residents are offered support through the immediate crisis which caused their homelessness and are encouraged to seek long term solutions to their problems. They are at all times helped to be as self sufficient as possible—either by keeping the job they have or immediately seeking suitable work if they are unemployed.

The length of play is determined by the needs of each individual. Even when the client moves on he is encouraged to call back for chats or for further support if any problems arise.

There is close co-operation with other agencies involved in the problems of the young single homeless and unemployed—The Irish Centre Social Services, Soho Project, Centrepoint, Alone in London etc. and Benburb Base take Referrals where appropriate from these Agencies.

Benburg Base, 369/371 Camden Road is in operation for five years. During that period 658 young people have been accomodated, while 84 others have availed themselves of the advice and counselling service without needing accomodation. 19,141 bed-nights have been provided in that period of time.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The St Patrick's Day Festival at the Wembley Conference Centre, which is now an annual event, is a great celebration for Irish people and their friends. Having received the Faith through St Patrick, Irish people everywhere carry with them the conciousness of this great gift. We take pride in our heritage and culture and wish to share it with others. This occasion, then, is a further opportunity for us to celebrate our traditional values and to share them with our friends.

On behalf of the Irish Chaplains I would like to thank very sincerely all those who contributed so generously towards our Souvenir Programme. To all of you who have come here tonight; to those who sold tickets, arranged coaches and who helped in any way in making this occasion such a happy and successful one, thank you. A special word of thanks to the Festival Committee:

Mr T. Dunne, Mr S. Troy, Mr J. O'Connell and Fr. Liam Holmes, without whose help this festival would not be possible.

Thanks to Patricia Deeney who organised your tickets. Hoping you will all enjoy this evening and have a happy St Patrick's Day.

Rev. J, Gilmore

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THE G.A.A.

Cumann Luthchleas Gael-Cead Bliain ag Fas. 1884-1984.

This year the Gaelic Athletic Association celebrates the Centenary of its inception at Thurles in 1884. All units of the Association from the smallest club to the Central Council itself will be adding its own chapter to the celebrations.

The celebrations will begin officially on St. Patricks day and continue until November. Special Inter-County competitions in hurling and football commence after Easter. These competitions are eagerly looked forward to as they will be played on a knock out basis. If these competitions are a financial success then we could see the All-Ireland Championships played on a similar system in the near future.

In May there will be a G.A.A. exhibition at the R.D.S. lasting for four days: this should be well worth visiting.

On the first Sunday in September the All-Ireland hurling final will be played in Thurles. As regards the G.A.A. here in Britain Sunday July 29 is being set aside as a special day for the club. Each club is expected to organise its own sports day with the emphasis on all Gaelic Games and Culture. In the formative years of the Association there was more emphasis on the Athletic side than on the field games. Here in London big sports meetings were held on the three main Bank Holidays, Easter, Whit and August. The programme usually consisted of a hurling match, a number of races-both team and individual, the long jump, the three jumps, high jump, 56lb shot and lifting and striking the hurley ball and the long kick. Dancing competitions, jigs and reels were held on the grass. The music being supplied by a fiddler. A pipers band was always in attendance. It was a common sight at the end of the days sport to see the whole gathering waltzing and dancing around the park. There are many in our midst still who can recall being present at such gala sports day's in their early teens. The G.A.A. in these day's gave very tangible support to the restoration, cultivation and promotion of all forms of Irish Culture. The different clubs had their own Irish language classes, their own drama groups and their big social events were Plearachta's or sgoruiechts and ceilidhi's.

The Association in Ireland has set a side the week, August 11 to 19, as a special Welcome Home Week for all Exiles. All G.A.A. clubs are expected to visit Ireland during that period. It should be a great week and should not be missed.

The London Co. Board of the G.A.A. is currently researching its History. It is planned to be able to publish the finished work before the end of this Historic year. However, to enable us to complete this arduous task we need your co-operation. The Co. Board was formed towards the end of the last century. From then until 1916 when the Board disbanded because of the first World War we have the names of many people who contributed enormously to the growth of the Association and to the life of the Irish in London. To pay a proper and lasting respect to those people we really need to know where they came from, club, parish and county. Did you hear of William Douglas, Dave 'Dobe' Roche, Tim Killeen, Tom Santry, Owen Mitchell, William Donoghue, Eugene O'Sullivan, P J Barrett, Ambrose Fitzgerald, F J O'Mahony, and Thomas Walsh. There were many others. Also we would welcome old photographs, programmes, hand bills, newspaper cuttings etc. Originals will be returned once copied.

Please contact Pat Griffin at 114 Burnley Road, Dollis Hill, London NW10. Tel: 01-450 2772.

The full list of the Centenary events will be published in the usual Irish papers.

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St. Patrick's Festival STARRING

★ Foster and Allen

★ Dierdre O'Callaghan

★Billa O'Connell

★Jim McCann

* Shaskeen

★ Fr Pat Browne

★ Maguire - O'Shea School of Dancing

Compere: Fr Micheal Cleary

Producer: Nelius O'Connell



Foster and Allen

The last eighteen months have been an extraordinary success for this affable duo from the Irish Midlands. They have been playing together for the last five years and have gone from strength to strength with both their live appearances and record sales having a somewhat unprecedented success rate. Few Artistes can claim to get all their singles into the chart but so far Foster and Allen have entered the chart on release.

Mick Foster and Tony Allen have a considerable pedigree as far as their musical background is concerned, with Mick Foster having secured several all Ireland titles for Accordion playing. They have toured Ireland extensively and are a household name there. Their last tour of the USA coincided with an invitation to appear on 'Top of the Pops'. They recently played Belfast's Opera House to packed houses for a week, few major acts could emulate that kind of success.

Foster and Allen play a wide and diverse range of material and have four best selling albums to their credit, most notable of which being 'Bunch of Thyme' and 'The Foster and Allen Selection'. Their album 'Maggie' was named after their hit single which went to 27 in the UK chart and is currently going up the Australian chart.

They have appeared on numerous television chat shows and music programmes to great critical acclaim.

'I Will Love You All Of My Life' (Single: RITZ 056 Album: RITZ LP 0015) is the title of the new single and new album.

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Wishing the St. Patrick's Festival

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Shaskeen

Shaskeen Traditional Group who are now entering their eleventh year and still playing Irish Music and song all over Ireland and on tours of England etc.

The group has made four albums, a good few singles, and are now on their fifth album.

Benny O'Connor—Drums, Bodhran and Bangos; Sean Conway—Concert flute, tinwhistle, vocals and bass guitar; Charlie Harris—accordian player; Mike



Fahy—vocalist and also provides backing on guitar; Tom Cussen is the leader of the group and plays tenor banjo, mandolin and concertina.

Shaskeen's 4 albums to date and about 6 singles are available on the Pickwick Evergreen label. The four albums are Shaskeen, Green Groves of Erin, The Dawn and The Ash Plant. Their fifth album will be available on the English Tour starting on 12th March 1983. Called *Joys of Life*, it is available in cassette form only from: Tom Cussen, Slieveaun, Clarinbridge, Co. Galway (091) 86156.

The group are planning a tour of the U.S.A. in 1984.



Billa O'Connell is as well known in his native Cork as Shandon Steeple or the River Lee. He lives where he was born and reared close to the Lough on Cork's southside—the home of the famed 'Barrs'—St Finbarrs Hurling and Football Club. His own inimitable brand of humour is Cork to the bone— but it has raised many a laugh far from the confines of that city.

He is without doubt Cork's leading comedian, writing much of his own material. Cork's famous Opera House has seen him star in panto's and reveiws and indeed tho odd straight play. Billa's name over the door means a packed house inside. He has appeared in all of Irelands leading theatres, but his special love is the village hall to be found at practically every Irish crossroads.

He appears regularly on RTÉ—Irish veiwers will remember one memorable night on Gay Byrne's Late Late Show.

The possessor of a fine singing voice, his recording of 'Beautiful City' is a standard on Radio Request Programmes.

As a compere he has introduced all the leading names of Irish Showbiz—people like Joe Lynch, Val Doonican, Maureen Potter, Jack Cruise and Neall Toibin. They would, I am sure, agree that nobody does it better.

Seán Ó Sé



Billa O'Connell

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Riordan House, 639/659 Harrow Road, London, NW10 5PH. Telephone No: 01-969-2455 Telex: 929123 Deirder O'Callaghan is one of Ireland's leading female singers. She has an international reputation as a folksinger and interpreter of traditional Irish music and song. Deirdre, who accompanies herself on her own Irish harp, is the star of Doyle's Irish Cabaret which plays to capacity audiences throughout the summer in Dublin's Burlington Hotel.

Deirdre O'Callaghan is one of the most popular Irish artistes in the U.S., which she visits regularly. She has appeared on the famous 'Today' show and has entertained at the prestigious Congress of American Travel Agents. In Canada, Deirdre was the special guest of Tommy Mackem on six of his highly popular TV programmes.

Deirdre is well known to TV veiwers and radio listeners in Ireland and Britain. She has had her own television series on BBC TV and Scottish TV as well as Telefis Eireann. Deirdre has toured extensively throughout Europe and has performed before such notorieties as the World Council of Finance Ministers and the late Princess Grace of Monaco.She has also played at the inauguration ceremonies of the President of Ireland.

Deirdre O'Callaghan has made five long playing records and numerous singles. Her most recent LP is a collection of Irish and Scottish folksongs. This LP, which is on the Dolphin Label is entitled 'Raglin Road'.

As a singer and harpist, Deirdre O'Callaghan is certainly one of Irelands most charming and appealing entertainers.



Deirdre O'Callaghan

Tommy & Mary Conway Wish the Irish Chaplains in Britain every success

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Jim McCann

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The Irish Centre-1984

The London Irish Centre at Camden Square was founded in the early 1950's to promote the well being of Irish people in London, especially to help the newly arrived. The Centre usue its wide range of facilities to help all who come whatever nationality or creed. To this end, the Irish Centre provides comprehensive Welfare Facilities.

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The Irish Centre manages two large hostels: St. Louise, Medway Street, SWI (accomodates 130 girls) and Conway House, Quex Road, NW6 (accomodates 100 young men).

We have a constantly developing programme in relation to Youth and Elderly. In addition we look to the support of Women In Need. We look ahead to the expansion of our facilities for young people especially in the educational line, linked in with formal career guidance, job training and Computer Studies.

Through our fund raising and the financial expertise of our professional advisors we have in the last year made great inroads into the crippling debt that was on the Centre. In summary we have trimmed almost half a million pounds off the debt. We still have £600.000 to go but this time it has to be through solid fund raising. The Irish Centre belongs to you the Irish people and we appeal to you today to support our fund raising efforts and to claim your inheritance. A month ago we launched the HALF PENNY APPEAL. There must be tens of thousands of pounds in half pennies lying around the Irish Community. The old nursery rhyme finished off . . . "if you haven't got a penny a ha'penny will do, if you haven't got a ha'penny God Bless You". We guarantee you "Cead Mile Failte".

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Both teachers of the academy have travelled extensively with the dancing and have adjudicated in Australia, America and Canada.



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Four young Irish artists will join forces to give a fitting reminder of his supreme art, in a programme of songs, arias and ensembles chosen from his vast repertoire. We hope that everybody will come and join with us, and with John's daughter and grandson who will be with us, on this unique national evening.

For full details please contact:

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