

the celtic connection

ISSUE 23 VOLUME 8

Proudly Serving Celts in North America Since 1991

OCTOBER 2014

See inside for our special 12 page
Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club
40th Anniversary Souvenir Supplement - 2014



2014 RYDER CUP Champions (L-R) Europe's Rory McIlroy, Stephen Gallacher, Jamie Donaldson and Henrik Stenson celebrate their win at Gleneagles, Scotland. [See page 30]



CANADIAN Prime Minister Stephen Harper and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso after signing the trade and investment deal in principle last October but the deal could now collapse. [See page 3]



SEATTLE MAYOR Ed Murray and First Gentleman Michael Shiosaki lead the Seattle Police Pipe Band in the Galway Oyster Festival parade in Ireland on September 27. [For the full story, see page 28]



THE SPIRITS OF SAMHAIN - Artwork by Deirdre Keohane

Shades and Shadows in the Season of Samhain

By CYNTHIA WALLENTINE

A shriek in the wilderness. Music on the wind as Samhain approaches. Do you hear it? Wild joy or grief, it is all one song for the Cailleach, the divine hag.

This article marks 20 years I have written in this space. Children borne, marriage ended, friends died.

The stuff of life and the stuff of death, held fast by the wheeling of darkness into light, through and throughout. One small life against a background of others, against the moon, the stars and the sun.

In that time, technology ushered this newspaper onto the Internet and now into a fresh website and community space on Facebook.

In name and spirit, the intent of this newspaper and those who publish it, has always been *connection*.

Connection binds the end to the beginning, for without an ending there can be no new start.

Through these years and seasons, the lives of those who read and write this newspaper continue to rise and fall. As much as things change, they remain the same.

Samhain, on November Eve, marks the end of the Celtic year.

The New Year and Celtic winter begin on November 1. Forever in darkness, the Cailleach tends the iron cauldron, stirring your fears, adding your hopes and beckoning, ever beckoning, you to come closer.

Potent, worn to nails, and tireless, she understands without a word.

She was young once, an epoch ago. As Brigid, she came before, coaxing you forth into this world.

As you grew, so did she, into generative maturity as Danu.

And she aged – as did you – with sagging flesh but quickened heart. Now her footsteps echo yours, or was that only the wind through fallen leaves?

Ours is a restive, dangerous world with its own rewards. Seeing beyond this world is possible only when the veil is thin and the eye is open. To her world is whence we came and where we go.

To fear darkness is not unwise. But do not pass judgment too quickly. For in the gathering twilight on October 31 are the eyes and souls of those we love who have passed. Welcome them to your heart and hearth and invite them to stay a spell.

Thank you for visiting this column. Connection, dissolution, connection. As much as things change, they remain the same. Blessed Be.

WIN FREE TICKETS

Win a pair (2) of tickets as CelticFest Vancouver presents Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones in Vancouver on November 1. (See pages 3 & 6 for details). Entry by October 22. Mark your entry: The Wolfe Tones

Win a pair (2) of tickets to the Welsh Men's Choir concert at 5th Delta Baptist Church, Tsawwassen, on November 11. (See page 3 for details). Entry by October 31. Mark your entry: Welsh Men's Choir

Win a pair of (2 tickets) to The Gloaming at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC, Vancouver on November 15. (See pages 3 & 7 for details). Entry by October 30. Mark your entry: The Gloaming

Entries by e-mail only. Mark the name of the event on your entry, including your name and daytime telephone number. (Only one entry per person.) Send to: cbutler@telus.net

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ABOUT OUR COVER ARTIST

DEIRDRE KEOHANE is a first generation Canadian who has just returned from Co. Cork Ireland where she has worked as an artist for the last 16 years.



Deirdre has a BFA from Crawford College of Art, Cork and in 2006 graduated with her H.Dip in Art Education.

During her time in Ireland she was very involved in many local community art projects and founded the Clonakilty Community Arts Centre. In 2012 she designed Mary Black's latest CD cover, *Stories from the Steeples*.

Alongside of her community work, Deirdre has continued to paint and exhibit her oils on canvas. Her magical work reflects her surroundings.

Deirdre's work has also been collected by Office of Public Works and many private buyers in Ireland and North America.

Recently, her artwork was chosen by the Clonakilty Town Council as a gift for the visiting President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins.

Time to draw closer to the warmth of family, friends and community

Dear Readers:

Change is in the air! The days grow shorter and night creeps in with a chill wind drawing us closer to our hearth and the warmth of family, community and loved ones.

As we prepare to go to press with our 23rd annual October issue we're delighted to celebrate our ongoing connection with our extended cultural family.

On October 18, the Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club will celebrate their 40th anniversary with a banquet and awards ceremony.

Here at *The Celtic Connection*, we're very happy to share in this occasion with a special souvenir supplement collaboration with the club.

This insert offers a reflection on the illustrious history of the ISSC, along with some of the highlights and victories over the years.

The sold out gala will also feature an exciting silent auction with all proceeds to benefit the Irish Benevolent Society of B.C. which has been providing emergency support and assistance to the Irish in our local community since 1996.

With so many Irish now arriving in our fair city, it's important to know there is support and recourse in situations where help is needed.



MAURA DE FREITAS and Catholine Butler launched *The Celtic Connection* newspaper in 1991 and they are very pleased to announce their website at www.celtic-connection.com.

Watch these pages for more exciting updates about the Irish Benevolent Society of B.C. in months to come.

Another very significant development is the launch of our new website at: celtic-connection.com.

Time marches on and it was long past the hour for our old website so it gives us enormous satisfaction to finally launch our new look.

A big thank you goes out to our webmaster Ainsley Baldwin for her patience and hard work in helping to bring it to life.

It's contemporary and fresh: simple, streamlined and clear. You will note a direct feed with *The Celtic Connection*

Facebook page which is much more interactive.

Readers will also be able to download a PDF of each issue directly from the revolving carousel on our website.

This is a fairly large PDF so it will take a few moments to download, so be patient but it will allow you to view the entire issue online.

We will most likely keep several back issues on file as the carousel is updated with each new issue.

If you have any thoughts or feedback we'd love to hear from you.

Sending best wishes to all.



DO YOU OWN A PENSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM?

Recent changes in pension legislation now allows for a smooth and tax-efficient transfer of foreign pension assets to Canada.

The Canadian government has recently updated its policy regarding the transfer of UK-based pensions into the Canadian retirement system.

These changes now provide the most tax-efficient opportunity for individuals to consolidate their assets into the Canadian retirement system if they qualify based on certain tax variables.

- Should you integrate your foreign pension into Canada?
- Are there risks for leaving it in the UK?
- Are there risks moving it to Canada?
- What are the advantages of integrating it into Canada?
- What variables do you need to consider?
- And do you qualify for the new tax-efficient transfer options?

OUR TEAM IS UNIQUE.

BRYN HAMILTON, CFP & CHRISTIAN WHITE, CFP

We specialize in advising individuals on the advantages and disadvantages of consolidating foreign pension plans to Canada. These types of transfer require an advance knowledge base of the pension systems both foreign and domestic. To request a free no-obligation review of your current foreign pension accounts please contact

Joey Basque at 778-886-7040 or joey.basque@investorsgroup.com



Fall 2014 Irish Classes

VANCOUVER – A new session of Scoil Ghaeilge Vancouver Irish language classes will begin on Sunday, October 19 and will run for 10 weeks.

Cost is \$130 for a 10 week session and classes are held from 7 PM to 8:30 PM at 2342 East 27th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. (near Nanaimo Skytrain station).

New students are welcome but this course is only suited for students with a basic knowledge of Irish.

For more information, contact Brendan Flynn at (604) 873-3167 or e-mail: brendanflynn_1@hotmail.com. Tá feastal teoranta. Attendance is limited.

IRISH BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF B.C.

Upcoming Irish Seniors Christmas Luncheon

VANCOUVER – Irish seniors in the Vancouver area are invited to attend a Christmas luncheon hosted by the Irish Benevolent Society of B.C. on Thursday, December 18.

This will be the final luncheon in this series made possible through the Irish Emigrant Support Programme with the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Ireland.

Participants are urged to book early as seating is limited. There is a minimum non-refundable charge of \$10 per person which must be paid in advance upon reservation.

Once again, the event will be held at the Holiday Inn Express at 2889 Hastings Street in Vancouver (near Renfrew Street). All Irish seniors and their spouse or significant other are welcome.

Cheques can be made payable to: **The Irish Benevolent Society of B.C. and mailed to #452 - 4111 Hastings Street, Burnaby, B.C. V5C 6T7.**

Reservations are required and can be made by calling Marie at (604) 929-1042 or by e-mail to: maura@telus.net.

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The Canada-EU trade deal signed but not sealed

OTTAWA – Last October, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper flew to Brussels to sign a trade and investment deal in principle between Canada and the EU.

On September 26, the two sides announced the close of negotiations. But despite the back-slapping there may still be work to be done.

Sigmar Gabriel, Germany's economy minister, objected strenuously last month to a clause in the deal that would allow companies to sue governments if they felt their rights had been infringed.

The clause is common in bilateral investment deals and initially attracted little attention in the Canada-EU negotiations.

But it has become a flashpoint in another set of trade negotiations, between the EU and the United States.

The European Parliament, a range of environmental and civil-society groups, and certain German politicians oppose it because they feel it gives multinational firms too much power in their dealings with government.

During a debate in Germany's

Bundestag about the two sets of EU talks, Gabriel said "it's completely clear we reject these investment-protection agreements" and that the debate was not over yet.

In Ottawa, Jose Manuel Barroso, recent former president of the European Commission, questioned whether Gabriel was speaking for the German government, saying that all official communications he had received from Germany were "absolutely in favour of this agreement."

The text of the trade deal must go through a legal review and translation before being presented to the Canadian and European parliaments for ratification.

Reopening it now would kill the agreement, according to Karel De Gucht, the European trade commissioner.

It would also be a blow to Harper. The deal goes well beyond the traditional fare of lower tariffs and higher farm quotas

It also makes it easier for companies in both areas to compete for large government contracts, closes gaps in intellectual-property rules, and allows for mutual recognition of some professional certifications.

Harper has made trade diversification

one of his signature themes.

Canadian exporters remain overwhelmingly dependent on the U.S., which buys about 75 percent of Canadian goods exports and supplies about half of all imports.

A successful deal with the EU would be a nice fillip for Harper heading into an election year. But it isn't done and dusted yet.



Irish Ceili Season Ahead!

VANCOUVER – The Vancouver Irish Ceili Society is pleased to announce its upcoming dance season: October 18, November 15, January 17, February 21 and March 14 at Victoria Drive Community Hall, 2026 East 43rd Avenue, Vancouver from 8-11 PM.

The ceilis feature live Irish music and are a family-friendly event, where all the dances are taught. New volunteers are always welcome. For more information, call (604) 733-6298, or visit <http://ceili.vcn.bc.ca>.

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CelticFest Vancouver presents

Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones

St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Hall
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Saturday November 1st, 2014
Doors at 7:00PM

To purchase tickets on line please go to
www.northerntickets.com
Or Telephone: 604-948-2885
Or click go to this link:
<http://northerntickets.com/events/derek-warfield-the-young-wolfe-tones>

Ticket cost: \$35 includes service charge.

Almost 30 years bringing live folk music to Vancouver

MANCOUVER – The late, great Scots fiddler **Johnny Cunningham** once told me that the two essential elements of Celtic music are the most poignant, heart-wrenching songs or airs, followed by impossibly fast medleys of tunes. Repeat.

This from a man who began his career with **Silly Wizard** in the 1970s, alongside his brother Phil on accordion and singer Andy M. Stewart and co.

After 15 years, a few LPs – two especially memorable live albums, and a succession of “farewell tours,” they finally did bid us farewell in 1988 with a concert tour which brought them to the Robson Square Theatre.

My abiding memories of that show are of the incredible, lengthy duets Johnny and Phil conjured up, and the food fight in the Green Room, with grapes flying like shrapnel!

My other favourite Johnny Cunningham memories come from a Folk Alliance Conference in Tucson in 1993, when he and accordion ace **John Whelan** were jamming in a showcase room.

I joined them on bodhran, and I think that was the pinnacle of my drumming career! What a night!

He later told me his favourite gig was playing fiddle with **Hall & Oates** at Caesar’s Palace in Las Vegas: He would sit in his room, drinking champagne – or was it cider? – step into the elevator which deposited him on stage for a few songs and a solo, then back up the elevator to his room for more liquid sustenance.

Why am I telling you this? Well, it’s a sort of preamble to a mini-guide to some of my favourite Celtic recordings.

With fewer and fewer bands coming over to tour western Canada these days, I wouldn’t want some of this fabulous music to disappear off our radar forever.

(After this – by no means definitive – list, I’ll tell you about some of the newer recordings that have come to my attention lately.)

• Afro Celt Sound System – *Nu Cead Againn Dul Abhaile: We Cannot Go Home – Sound Magic Volume 1* (this whole album is incredibly atmospheric!).

• Alias Ron Kavana – *Irish Ways – Coming Days* (“a piper alone, unaware of a stranger’s attention” / “Saturday night in the dance hall, dancing ceilidh. Boys on one side, girls on the other”).

• Altan – *King of the Pipers – Harvest Storm*.

• Arcady – *The Sally Gardens Medley & The Boys of Barra Na Sraide – Many Happy Returns* (a quintessential combination of Johnny’s essential elements table!).

• Buille – *First of August / Second of August – Buille*.

• Capercaillie – *Puirt a Beul – Crosswinds*.

• Four Men & A Dog – *Hidden Love – Barking Mad* (whole album!).



By
**STEVE
EDGE**

THE ROGUE FOLK CLUB



• Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas – *Stirling Castle Set – Fire & Grace*.

• Martin Hayes & Dennis Cahill – *The Lonesome Touch* (whole album!).

• The House Band – *Lonesome Drunkards Waltz – Stonetown*.

• Lunasa – *The Minor Bee – The Merry Sisters of Fate*.

• Moving Hearts – *The Lark – The Storm*.

• Nomos – *Harvest Home & Rinn Na Mara – I Won’t Be Afraid Any More*.

• Old Blind Dogs – *Bedlam Boys – Close To The Bone*.

• Patrick Street – *Music For A Found Harmonium – Irish Times*.

• Planxty – *The Jolly Beggarman – Collection*.

• Sharon Shannon & The Woodchoppers – *The Hounds of Letterfrack – Live In Galway*.

• Shoglenifty – *Venus In Tweeds – Venus in Tweeds*.

• Solas – *The Wind That Shakes The Barley – Sunny Spells & Scattered Showers* (or the whole *Waiting For An Echo* CD).

• John Spillane – *Magic Nights in the Lobby Bar – Will We Be Brilliant or What?* (or check out the video on *Hey Dreamer!*).

That should get your blood flowing, and give you a really good idea of the richness and variety of Celtic music that we are so lucky to have grown (up) with down the years.

I hope it will encourage you to delve further, too.

Meanwhile, there have been a few memorable new releases lately. Top of the list has to be *Five* by the Cape Breton quintet **Coig**.

For me, this is the best thing to come out of Cape Breton in decades. Such spirited fiddling from Rachel Davis and Chrissie Crowley, and Darren McMullen is an amazing musician and arranger.

Canadian fiddler **Mark Sullivan** is a six time Canadian Fiddle Champion and his ninth CD, *The Gathering Room*, was launched the other week at The Rogue.

It’s great to hear someone composing so much great music in the traditional style!

Another amazing composer and fiddler **Kierah Raymond** opened for him that night, and her *Stonemason’s Daughter* CD won her the Young Performer of the Year at the Canadian Folk Music Awards last December.

Local favourites **Quartete a Tete** launched their new CD, *Images*, the next night.

The title track, written by band member **Michael Pratt**, remarks on the treasured memories we find in portraits and photos of our loved ones and those no longer with us. Beautiful song. Johnny Cunningham would definitely approve!

They pay homage to the late Phil Thomas – B.C. Folk Song Collector (the Alan Lomax of the B.C. Interior!) with *Teaming Up The Cariboo Road*, and to his late wife, Hilda, with her lovely song *Days Like This*.

Michael has written some fine tunes too, including *The Road to Kitsilano* and *The Cat’s Away*. His version of the ancient ballad *Tam Lin* is very interesting.

It’s long been one of my favourite songs, but I first heard it as a folk rock extravaganza by Sandy Denny and Fairport Convention.

This version is much more sparse and it’s a great song for Halloween! The standout track is *Soul*, originally a bluegrass song written by Colleen Kwade.

Not much Celtic coming to The Rogue this month, but you can check out the varied schedule on www.roguefolk.bc.ca (I’m sure you’ll find some enthralling and vibrant music to suit your taste!).

Next month there are two or three essential-listening concerts though. Quebec’s **De Temps Antan** play St. James Hall (3214 West 10th Avenue) on **Saturday November 8**.

With one current member and two former members of La Bottine Souriante, this trio makes a joyful noise. Just three players, but with all the unrestrained vigour of the full La Bottine-style experience

Andre Brunet has also played here with the Celtic Fiddle Festival tours, while **Eric Beaudry** has also played here with his third band, **Norouet**. He’s a great singer and string player.

Pierre-Luc Dupuis excels on accordion and harmonica. All three sing and foot-stomp and their concerts are always filled with merriment and dancing – in both official languages!

On **Saturday, November 15**, The Chan Centre at UBC presents **The Gloaming**, featuring Co. Clare fiddle virtuoso **Martin Hayes** and his guitarist **Dennis Cahill** backing up Afro Celt singer **Iarla O’Lionaird**, with New York pianist **Thomas Bartlett** and hardanger fiddler **Caoimhin Ó Raghallaigh**.

Their eponymous debut CD was released earlier this year on real World Records, and is a beautifully atmospheric recording.



ENGLISH musician Martin Simpson is widely acknowledged as one of the finest acoustic and slide guitar players in the world. He plays The Rogue on Sunday, November 16.

The title track runs over 16 minutes and starts with a gaelic air and gradually builds in intensity to a typically full-on fiddle romp led by Hayes and Cahill.

Beware the comfy seats at The Chan! This band will carry you – to quote **John Spillane’s Magic Nights in the Lobby Bar**:

Away through the window, away
through the rain
Away ‘cross the city,
away in the air
To a field by a river
where the trees are so green
The deepest of green
that you’ve ever seen
Where once you have been
you can go back again
You can go any time,
you can go any time
‘Cos it’s only in your mind

On **Sunday November 16** we are thrilled to bring back for a concert at St. James Hall.

Widely acknowledged as one of the finest acoustic and slide guitar players in the world, English musician **Martin Simpson’s** interpretations of traditional songs are masterpieces of storytelling.

His solo shows are intense, eclectic, spellbinding and deeply moving.

No-one who has combined the diverse elements of English, Celtic, Afro-American Blues, and Appalachian music more successfully than Simpson.

Opening will be Canadian trio **The Marigolds**: Suzie Vinnick, Gwen Swick & Caitlin Hanford.

This show starts earlier than usual – at 7 PM, in order to give full rein to all the great music on offer!

You can hear a lot of this music on *The Edge On Folk* on CiTR fm 101.9 and www.citr.ca every Saturday from 8 AM to noon. And also on Radio Rogue, streamed 24/7 on www.roguefolk.bc.ca/resources/radiorogue.



QUEBEC’S De Temps Antan play St. James Hall (3214 West 10th Avenue) on Saturday November 8.

‘An Intimate Evening with Eimear McBride’

VANCOUVER – This year’s annual Vancouver Writer’s Festival will present “An Intimate Evening with Eimear McBride.”

Eimear is a novelist whose debut novel, *A Girl Is a Half-formed Thing*, won the inaugural £10,000 Goldsmiths Prize for “fiction at its most novel” and the 2014 Baileys Women’s Prize.

She was born in Liverpool in 1976 to Irish parents and the family moved back to Ireland when she was three.

She spent her childhood in Tubbercurry, Sligo, and Mayo. Then, at the age of 17, she moved to London to begin her studies at The Drama Centre.

McBride wrote *A Girl Is a Half-formed Thing* in just six months, but it took nine years to get it published.

Galley Beggar Press of Norwich, which is where McBride now lives with her husband and daughter, finally picked it up in 2013.

McBride says when she read James Joyce, everything changed. “Everything I have written is just preparation for where I want to go next.”

Where she went next is the success story that every aspiring writer with a

drawer full of rejection slips hopes for. The novel is written in a stream of consciousness style and tells the story of a young woman’s complex relationship with her family.

It stretches the possibilities of language as it deals with themes of God, sex, death, religion, shame and a young wom-

an’s complex relationship with her family.

Don’t miss her Vancouver reading on Tuesday, October 21, 6-7 PM, Studio 1398 located at 1398 Cartwright Street in Vancouver. For more details, see: <http://writersfest.bc.ca>.

Samhain: A Celtic Celebration of Renewal

HALLOWEEN and All Saints Day have their origin in the ancient Celtic feast of Samhain celebrated on the first day of November.

The Samhain celebrations have survived in several guises as a festival dedicated to the harvest and the dead.

It is an important fire festival celebrating the Celtic new year. Old fires are extinguished and then ceremoniously relit to symbolize the birth of new life.

In Ireland and Scotland, the *Féile na Marbh*, the “festival of the dead” took place on Samhain.

The night of Samhain, in Irish, *Oíche Shamhna* and Scots Gaelic, *Oidhche Shamhna*, is one of the principal festivals of the Celtic calendar, and falls on

October 31. It represents the final harvest.

It is still the custom in some areas to set a place for the dead at the Samhain feast, and to tell tales of the ancestors on that night.

The dead could return to the places where they had lived. Villagers left their gates, doors, and windows unlocked to give the dead free passage into their homes.

Swarms of spirits poured into our world on November Eve. Not all of these spirits were friendly, so Celts carved the images of spirit-guardians onto turnips.

They set these jack o’lanterns before their doors to keep out unwelcome visitors from the Otherworld.

“Blazingly daring.”

-The New Yorker



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McBRIDE

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RAY BONNEVILLE

Friday, October 31
Alvin Youngblood Hart & Corey Harris: living history of the Blues
TRUE BLUES

Friday, November 7
Debut for songwriting duo with Australia’s Colin Bullock opening
WINSOME KIND

Saturday, November 8
Quebecois Trad. Powerhouse Trio
DE TEMPS ANTAN

Sunday, November 16
English singer/guitarist: complete master of everything from Celtic ballads to Delta Blues and the Appalachian ties that bind them
MARTIN SIMPSON

plus Oh Susanna (Nov 13), Caleb Klauder (Nov 14) and lots more!

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Graffiti on the Wall in Vancouver

By ELEGWEN
Ó MAOILEOIN,
M.Div.



"But the Paradise that we did seek
was no place for the weak."

— Brian Warfield,
Celtic Symphony
(Graffiti On The Wall)

VANCOUVER — Derek Warfield and his brother Brian founded the Irish rebel band The Wolfe Tones in 1963. This November marks the folk group's 50th anniversary.

In the 1960s the founding members wrote and sang about Ireland's Troubles, oppression and hope for political transcendence if not unity.

Today, Derek and Brian Warfield, Noel Nagle, Tommy Byrne — The Wolfe Tones original line-up — have officially disbanded.

But in Vancouver, founding member Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones will perform in Vancouver on November 1 — a preview of the cultural revelry CelticFest Vancouver promises us every mid-March.

Derek called me from his home in Ireland the other week. We chatted about politics, Ireland, culture and, of course, music and musicians.

Of all young bands Derek digs today, the veteran bard singled out Vancouver's own The Whiskey Dicks.

What fascinates me most about Derek is how he carries on touring and sings rebel songs despite the sense held by many of his generation that the Sixties really didn't "work" — that the Irish rebel yell somehow failed to change the world.

I recall now that one night in Vancouver, in October 2006 at Johnnie Fox's Irish Snug on Granville Street, we sang a Canadian rebel song, *The War of 1812* by Edmonton's The Arrogant Worms, led to a man at the bar storming out.

Ditching his bill, he shared gestures and expletives with me and my fellow minstrels (Kyle Taylor and John Oswald from my band Damanta).

Sure, the song we sang was about proto-Canadians (British, blacks and First Nations) defeating an invading U.S. force, pursuing them and burning down The White House. No joke.

Now, *The War of 1812* is a true story and hardly as popular or prejudicial as songs such as the American *South Park* anthem *Blame Canada* — still virally worming in our ears to this day. Yet, it made us all think a fair bit.

The Wolfe Tones are responsible for songs *Celtic Symphony (Graffiti on the Wall)*, *Come Out Ye Black and Tans* and many more just as inflammatory to some folk as Canada's *The War of 1812* or America's *Blame Canada*.

Of course, when it comes to Irish politics and music, people often seem even more dramatically divided.

From my five years learning the minstrel craft in Ireland, I realized the romantic Ireland of my childhood in North Vancouver was not the 1990s Enya New Age utopia I had envisioned.

When I lived in Belfast I learned to sing many of The Wolfe Tones' songs, especially when I would play in Letterkenny (at a bar called The Wolfe Tone, no less, on July 12th), or next to where I lived at the Culturlann at Broadway and The Falls Road.



DEREK WARFIELD & The Young Wolfe Tones will perform in Vancouver on November 1 — a preview of the cultural revelry CelticFest Vancouver promises us every mid-March.

While singing *The War of 1812* on Granville Street risks angering some Americans, in the Six Counties (of Northern Ireland) a rebel song can lead to far worse.

So you can see why Derek Warfield might think the efforts of encouraging peace and acceptance in the Sixties failed.

I told Derek I thought otherwise. There is a clear tradition of "rebel songs" in every culture — Canada and America, too. The fact that we still sing them, still write them, still care about them is the entire point.

In my opinion as a musician, Celt and "man-of-the-cloth," war will never leave us.

As a postmodern person with Irish Catholicism on my father's side and Anglicanism on my mother's, I feel sensitivity and awareness of what war means to humanity is sadly vanishing; desensitization continues to rise.

What I think matters is that five decades of touring has not stopped Derek Warfield.

Backed by The Young Wolfe Tones, a group of the young and increasingly virtuoso new generation of Irish musicians (I mean, while I may play professionally in Vancouver, I am learning with children when I go to the festivals in Ireland, they are so skilled today), Irish rebel songs will once again remind us all on November 1 of the cultural value they hold.

If we forget the past, we are doomed to relive it. Today, on the brink of all-out war between Israel and Palestine, the November 1 concert could not be timelier for us to consider what politics are about: death or dialogue?

Get your tickets for this November 1 show with Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones at St. Mary's Ukrainian Hall, or see them October 30 at Blue Frog Studios in White Rock, B.C.

Join your fellow Celts and honorary-Celts for what promises to be a special night to remember all those rebels who fought for change before us; suffered, starved and struggled to bring peace to our ever troubled world of different peoples, religions and values.

Elegwen O'Maoileoin is a freelance writer, singer & plays lutes (Irish bouzouki) and the uilleann pipes every Sunday and Wednesday evening at 1033 Granville Street, Johnnie Fox's Irish Snug, also Friday at Shamrock Alley.

Elegwen lived in Ireland, touring with his folk band, Damanta from 2005 to late 2009 after graduating with his Masters in Divinity from the Vancouver School of Theology at UBC.

To see more of Elegwen's music and writing, please visit his site, "Scholarship & Minstrelsy": www.elegwen.com and www.vancouveririshmusic.com for music lessons and his duo shows with veteran Michael Viens of Blackthorn renown.



TOP 10 CELTIC HITS FOR OCTOBER

Celt In A Twist is local contemporary Celtic radio heard weekly on AM 1470, CJVB in Vancouver.

www.worldbeatcanada.com.

The following is the *Celt In A Twist* Contemporary Celtic Top Ten:

1. *The Hunger & The Fight* by The Mahones - *The Hunger & The Fight* on Whiskey Devil Records.
2. *Chasse-Galerie* by MAZ - *Chasse-Galerie* on Independent.
3. *Say Anything* by Young Dubliners - 9 on YD Records.
4. *Liliviau* by 9Bach - *Tincian* - on Real World.
5. *Raasay* by Daimh - *Tuneship* - on Creative Scotland.
6. *The Duhks* by Lazy John - *Beyond the Blue* on Compass Records.
7. *AD/BC* by Saor Patrol - *Open Air Asylum* on ARC Music.
8. *Shady Grove* by Socks in the Frying Pan - *Socks in the Frying Pan* on Independent.
9. *I Am Who I Am* by Firkin - *Finger in the Pie* on Pump Jump Records.
10. *Saoirse's Heart* by Celtic Cross - *Saoirse's Heart* on Independent.

Celt In A Twist Pick Of The Month:
The Mahones - *The Hunger & The Fight (Part I)*
(Whiskey Devil Records)

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Vancouver Debut at the Chan Centre for Famed Irish Quintet The Gloaming

VANCOUVER – The Gloaming is an extraordinary collaboration of five renowned musicians, appearing in Vancouver for the first time this November as part of the 2014/15 Chan Centre Presents series at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC.

Frequently referred to as a folk “supergroup,” musicians Martin Hayes (violin, fiddle), Thomas Bartlett aka Doveman (piano), Iarla O’Lionaird (vocals), Dennis Cahill (guitar) and Caoimhin O’Raghallaigh (Norwegian hardanger fiddle) joined forces in 2011 from a collective desire to transcend the genres they had individually become known for. Since then, this quintet has gained international praise for their revelatory live concerts.

Particularly well-known for his solo work is Iarla O’Lionaird, often associated with his contribution to the legendary Afro Celt Sound System, the cross-cultural musical collaborative group inspired by the link between Irish and African traditions.

O’Lionaird learned his art form in the musical heartland of Cúil Aodha in the west Cork Gaeltacht, where he established himself both as a masterful exponent of *sean nós* song and as a pioneer in its renewal and development.

Hayes, O’Raghallaigh, and Cahill have been recognized for extending the Irish

and Celtic musical tradition, infusing traditional sounds with contemporary elements to create a fresh, energized sound.

Bartlett strengthens the rock n’ roll ties of the group, known for his diverse partnerships and bold musical endeavours.

Most of The Gloaming’s work is based on traditional Irish forms, the basic grammar of which is known as a reel.

Reels are performed in simple rhythmic meters (2/2 or 4/4) and repeated in simple configurations.

They are the syntax of Irish music just as a “riddim” is to dub reggae and the “break” is to contemporary hip-hop.

The rhythms and melodies may strike you as eerily familiar.

Originating among the Scots and the Irish, “reels” crossed the Atlantic Ocean during successive waves of British and Irish immigration beginning in colonial times.

And yet what The Gloaming does with the syntax of Irish music is anything but simple nostalgia. Into these traditional structures, they introduce deep wells of personality and experience.

Lyrics are drawn from the history of Irish literature, old and new. The music is played with the authority of virtuosos.

The result is unclouded by sheen or

hokey sentimentality. Instead, it’s haunting and emotionally charged. It sounds ancient without being a mere reproduction.

Their debut album, entitled simply *The Gloaming*, was finished in the summer of 2013 during the build up to a series of sold out concerts at prestigious venues in London, Amsterdam, Paris and New York.

It has been subject to rave reviews ever since, and the group has been earning themselves a top-notch reputation for their live performances.

“I am very excited to see these world-class musicians and creators perform together on the Chan Centre stage,” said Joyce Hinton, co-managing director of the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts. “This will be a Vancouver debut that should not be missed.”

The Gloaming has collected praises from musicians and reviewers all around.

Peter Gabriel, the internationally renowned British singer, said “The Gloaming is a wonderful mix of soulful and passionate talents who have created their own genre.”

The Gloaming perform at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC (6265 Crescent Road) on Saturday, November 15, 2014 at 8 PM. Tickets start at \$36 and are available at www.chancentre.com.

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- Happy Hour – Noon – 8:00 PM
Select Drinks – \$3

Monday – Mini Jugs of Canadian – \$7.25

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It's a No in the Scottish Independence Referendum



DINBURGH – Interpreting the result of the Scottish referendum on independence depends, to some extent, on your point of view.

The Yes side might see a 55/45 defeat as a respectable outcome given that it was once over 20 points behind in the polls and some were predicting a 70/30 defeat.

The No side, on the other hand, watched its poll lead dwindle to a couple of points in the period immediately before the referendum and can hail a 10 point victory as a better-than-expected margin.

Analyses of the referendum result could go on forever, but some things are already clear. Bill Clinton's campaign message "The economy, stupid" was a big factor.

Middle-class Scotland voted against independence citing worries about currency and pensions. Scotland's oldest demographic, in particular, was an overwhelming No.

Yes did better among younger voters and in deprived areas. It is no coincidence that the four council areas where Yes was in the majority – including the city of Glasgow – are also the places that have some of the highest levels of deprivation in the country.

Overall turnout was a remarkable 84.7 percent, but the Yes side wasn't helped by the fact that it was 'only' 75 percent in Glasgow and 78.8 percent in Dundee where it also won.

So Scotland moves on. But to where?

Just before the referendum a "vow" appeared on the front page of a Scottish tabloid newspaper, signed by all three party leaders in the UK Government.

It promised "extensive new powers" for the Scottish Parliament if Scotland voted No and outlined a fast track schedule by which these otherwise undefined powers would be delivered.

The new powers promised read, as CBC's Don Murray subsequently pointed out, as if it had been "worked out on the back of an envelope."

In fact the agreement was engineered by former UK prime minister Gordon Brown who made a late-in-the-day intervention in the referendum campaign.

Two weeks on from the referendum, even Gordon Brown's confidence in the vow seems to be evaporating.

He has called for Scots to sign a petition to ensure that powers are delivered without any strings attached.

Prime Minister David Cameron waited until after the referendum to say that any furthering of powers to the Scottish Parliament should be considered along with EVEL (English votes for English laws).

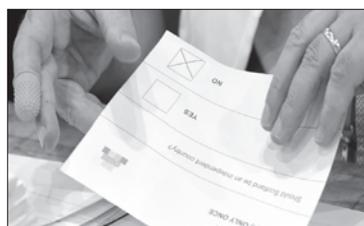
This would exclude Scottish MPs from voting on issues which are devolved to Scotland and is seen as a "Tory trap" by the opposition Labour party which has the majority of Scottish MPs.

Brown's diminishing confidence in the vow is matched by many Scots who are struggling to understand why he would need a petition to ensure something that was previously sold as a done deal.

Otherwise the reaction to the referendum result has been surprisingly muted



By
HARRY
McGRATH



BALLOT PAPERS being counted in the Scottish referendum on independence on September 18.

– notwithstanding the usual conspiracy theorists and an ugly riot in Glasgow on September 19 involving Union Jacks and Nazi salutes.

A commission has been set up under Lord Smith of Kelvin to examine the issue of new powers, what they should consist of and how they might be implemented. It is taking advice from all parts of the political spectrum and from civic Scotland.

For now the Scottish Parliament remains less powerful than a Canadian provincial assembly – some in the Canadian media who were here to cover the referendum were surprised by that.

The power to change this, no matter what the commission comes up with, remains in somebody else's gift.

"New powers" is likely to mean some

kind of rearrangement of tax and spend which isn't the most exciting prospect compared to the big nation-building powers that countries like Canada enjoy.

The two-year referendum campaign was punctuated by as many visions for Scotland as there were groups to promote them.

Some were naive and idealistic in the extreme. However, the one that would have prevailed, at least in the short term, was eerily familiar.

The Scottish Government's white paper entitled 'Scotland's Future' embraced diversity, multiculturalism, public provision of health, welfare and education, the removal of nuclear weapons from its territory, a written constitution enshrining individual rights etc.

In short, it was straight out of the modern Canadian play book. The fact that some of these principles are under pressure in Canada now (as Canadian friends are wont to point out) doesn't make them bad principles.

It's fair to say that there weren't many people here who consciously based their vote on whether or not they supported a Canadian-style reinvention.

In fact, your correspondent may have been in a minority of one in seeing things that way. However, Yes and No voters alike now have to deal with a kind of anti-Canada: the pro-austerity, anti-immigration, pro-privatisation narrative that currently dominates UK politics.

One of the arguments for Scotland remaining part of the Union was that it is better off as part of something bigger, but a proposed in-out referendum on Britain and the European Union by 2017 could see it as a peripheral part of something much smaller.

Membership of pro-independence parties has increased rapidly in the last two weeks. Few would welcome another Scottish independence referendum any time soon but fewer still would discount the possibility of another one in the long term.

Scottish Police Investigate Referendum Fraud

EDINBURGH – Scottish police are investigating a case of electoral fraud in last month's independence referendum after a video emerged online today of a man claiming to have found a bag of "hundreds" of voting ballots marked 'Yes' in a bin in Glasgow.

"Surely this is electoral fraud," the man, who calls himself John Son of David exclaims in a video posted online, after claiming he was directed to the bag by an anonymous phone call he had received the night before.

A spokesperson for Scottish police said they "have been made aware of the incident" and an investigation is underway.

Since Scots voted against independence on September 18 by a margin of 10 percent, allegations of electoral fraud have been made from Yes supporters,

with an online petition requesting a recount already having collected 96,000 signatures.

The fallout among independence supporters since the referendum has also prompted a rapid rise of support for the pro-independence Scottish National Party, whose membership has tripled to 75,000 since the independence vote, making them the third largest party in the UK.

Two rallies attracted crowds of disgruntled independence supporters in Edinburgh and Aberdeen following the vote. Some have taken to Twitter with their demands.

Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has fueled speculation another push to separate from England may be on the cards, refusing to rule out another referendum soon if there was "opinion and demand" in Scotland for one.

The SNP, however, distanced themselves from conspiracy claims, saying they accept the result of the referendum and that the electoral commission's measures were "fair and robust."

Brown calls on Scots to sign devolution 'promises' petition

EDINBURGH – First Minister Alex Salmond says he is astonished by Gordon Brown's call for Scottish people to sign a petition urging Westminster to keep its promises on powers for Scotland

The outgoing SNP leader and first minister said, "This is an astonishing development. He is now calling for guarantees on the delivery of something which he himself said during the referendum campaign was already a done deal.

"Scotland has been promised very substantial new powers, regardless of Tory attempts to link the issue to that of English votes for English laws.

"No party leader ever suggested that any further caveats, conditions or even considerations would be introduced then or later into the vow.

"Many of the people who voted No in the referendum did so in the belief that those new powers would be delivered, and that is what now must happen."

Salmond was speaking following a call by former Labour prime minister Gordon Brown for 100,000 Scots to sign a petition urging Westminster to keep promises on devolution.

Brown was instrumental in establishing a timetable for more devolution and in the signing of "the vow" by David Cameron, Nick Clegg and Ed Miliband, just days before Scotland voted to reject independence in the referendum on September 18.

The vow pledged swift "extensive new powers" for Scotland under a No vote but the prime minister's post-referendum plans to restrict Scottish MPs from



GORDON BROWN

voting on English matters led to fears that their delivery will be stalled.

Downing Street has said that the Scottish devolution pledge does not depend on giving more powers to English MPs at the same time.

If English votes for English laws were brought forward, Labour would see its power diminished at Westminster due to its much higher number of Scottish MPs.

Brown has proposed allowing the Scottish Parliament to raise a further £2 billion in tax revenues and to keep 50 percent of total VAT income in Scotland – around £4 billion.

This was part of a 14-point plan for more powers for Scotland, which also included more controls over job creation, transport, land use, welfare and employment rights.

Scotland voted "No" to independence in the referendum of September 18.

Brown plans to present what he hopes will be a 100,000 strong petition demanding there should be no strings attached to the original vow to the House of Commons on October 16.

Boris Johnson accuses SNP of 'Anglophobia'



MAYOR OF LONDON Boris Johnson made the comments during the third day of the annual British Conservative Party conference in Birmingham.

LONDON – Boris Johnson has claimed the SNP was guilty of "Anglophobia" and "Londonphobia" during the independence referendum campaign.

In a speech at the Conservative conference, the Mayor of London said he rejected the idea that Londoners lived in a different world from those in the rest of the UK.

Looking back at a campaign that had seen Yes campaigners, including Alex Salmond, complain of metropolitan elite, Westminster politicians and a London-based media, Johnson defended the UK capital praising its "amazing success."

"I noticed over the last few weeks and months that there was a slight note not just of Anglophobia but of Londonphobia in some of the rhetoric of our friends in the Scottish Nationalist (sic) Party," the Mayor of London said.

"A suggestion that Londoners were culturally, politically and economically divorced from the rest of the country.

"To listen to some of the London-bashing, you might think London was a modern Babylon with billionaires being piled with hot towels in the top-deck club class of their swanky new buses. Or guzzling pearls dissolved in vinegar while lolling back on the padded cushions of their Barclays hire bikes.

"And while I, of course, reject this rubbish I would have to admit that one of the main reasons I don't want this country to lurch back to Labour is that current story of London is one of amazing success – and success that in many ways helps everyone in the city."

Reacting to Johnson's comments, the SNP MSP Nigel Don said, "We think England is a wonderful country and London is a great city, but Boris has never returned the compliment.

"He is one of the top Tories plotting to stop Scotland getting the extensive new powers (Boris Johnson vows to resist Scots tax devolution) we were promised in return for a No vote in the referendum."

My new home: Bournemouth on the south coast of England

BOURNEMOUTH – September in Scotland has been a month of momentous significance to the UK and Europe.

Will they, won't they? What will the result be? It was going to be very close, right down to the wire, nail-biting stuff.

I am, of course, talking about the Ryder Cup in Gleneagles.

What a great couple of days, glued to the television watching the American and European wizards weave their magic in honest battles of true sportsmanship.

Finally, this afternoon, a Welshman – Jamie Donaldson from Pontypriidd – secured the point, to not only retain the cup but to win it. Oh happy day!

In other news, the Brave hearts decided they didn't want their freedom and William Wallace was observed spinning in his grave.

During the final days of the Scottish Referendum, I found the Westminster brigade comical in their canvassing.

None more so than Gordon Brown and Alistair Darling, two ex-chancellors of the exchequer, whom I long suspected had under gone a personality bypass.

Having made a total mess of the British economy, they suddenly burst into life issuing advice, threats and dire financial warnings regarding the consequences of leaving the UK.

It was akin to the captain of the *Titanic* lecturing ship builders on the dangers of icebergs.

The weather continues to be bewilderingly pleasant and last weekend, in mid-September, I again ventured into the English Channel emerging without suffering from hyperthermia.

Today, September 28, I played golf wearing shorts, and a short sleeve sport

POSTCARD FROM BOURNEMOUTH



By
**ELFAN
JONES**

shirt. If this is global warming...then bring it on.

The kind weather ensured record crowds for the Goodwood Revival, a historic motorsport and aviation event.

This annual, magnificent, three-day festival of vintage car and motorcycle racing and much, much more, recreates the golden era of motor sports and the vast majority of the 150,000 visitors enter into the spirit of the age by dressing in period clothes dating from the 1930s to Sixties.

There were so many people dressed in American military uniforms, that one could have been forgiven for wondering if there was going to be a re-enactment of the D-Day landings.

Spitfires, Messerschmitts, Mustangs, Hunters, Hurricanes and Lancaster Bombers flew overhead as land girls and country squires, by the hundreds, mingled with the allied forces creating an unique atmosphere.

Second World War RAF pilots sporting the largest and hilarious false moustaches wandered around, sweltering in their flying jackets, mixing happily with mods and rockers from the Sixties.

I would comment that it was British eccentricity at its best, but there were many nationalities represented.

Germans in lederhosen, Scandinavians and Frenchmen dressed in tweed jackets looking more English than the English, accompanied by their ladies sporting faux furs and the fashions of the Thirties and Forties.

I spotted a few Japanese, but they were not in costume and looked decidedly nervous.

For the motor racing enthusiasts, this year's event paid homage to the Jaguar D-Type and Maserati 250.F.

I read this fact, because not being an enthusiast, I would not have known these cars even if they had run me over.

Aside from the racing, there was so much to see and do. The collection of vintage aeroplanes was fantastic.

A Sixties rock and roll band were playing to an enthusiastic crowd many of whom were jiving, enhancing the party atmosphere.

An auction of classic cars drew large crowds as did the funfair. Several hundred stands selling everything from cashmere knitwear to hand-made cars seemed to be doing brisk business.

And, at one stall, a long queue waited patiently for British racing legend, Sir Stirling Moss to sign autographs and copies of his latest book.

The list of attractions was endless.

If you do intend to visit these shores next September, be warned that tickets for this event sell out months in advance.

Finally, a personal appeal.

You may have noticed that my column is now entitled 'Postcard from Bournemouth' not London.

This is because my 20-year marriage has come to an end and I have been traded in for a younger model.



A THREE-DAY festival, the Goodwood Revival recreates the golden era of motor sports. The vast majority of the 150,000 visitors enter into the spirit of the age by dressing in period clothes dating from the 1930s to the 1960s.

Consequently, I have moved out of our London home and now reside by the sea alone.

Bournemouth has the reputation for having a population of elderly people to the extent that all the shop windows are bifocal.

But don't be put off because we have seven miles of soft golden sand, a Mediterranean climate (well this summer anyway), numerous restaurants, two theatres, three cinemas and hundreds

of shops, including nine selling mobility aids.

So, if there are any single ladies out there who fancy meeting a short elderly Welshman with all his own teeth, then forget Sleepless in Seattle and contact Breathless in Bournemouth as soon as you like. Extreme wealth will not hinder your cause.

*Kindest regards,
Elfan*

elfanjones@hotmail.com

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Cameron vows to scrap Human Rights Act if re-elected

BIRMINGHAM – Prime Minister David Cameron has vowed to scrap the Human Rights Act if the Conservatives are re-elected in Britain's 2015 general election. The controversial proposal has stoked the ire of civil rights groups across the nation.

Speaking on the final day of the Conservative Party's four-day conference, Cameron pledged to do away with the Act and replace it with a "British bill of rights."

However, the prime minister did not explicitly confirm that a future Conservative government would withdraw from the European Convention on Human Rights – a move that would have far-reaching repercussions for Britain's relationship with Europe.

Legal experts and civil liberties campaigners suggest the PM's pledge to repeal the Act could radically transform Britain's relationship with the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR).

Kate Allen, head of Amnesty International, denounced the PM's proposal, emphasizing the Human Rights Act has historically been a bedrock of social,

legal, and economic protection.

"It's disappointing to hear the PM vowing to scrap the Human Rights Act when it has done so much good. We should be defending it," she said.

In his address, designed to relay the Tories' self-styled vision for Britain's socio-economic future, the PM sharply criticized the Court.

"It's not just the European Union that needs sorting out – it's the European Court of Human Rights," he stated.

"When that charter was written, in the aftermath of the Second World War, it set out the basic rights we should respect. But since then, interpretations of that charter have led to a whole lot of things that are frankly wrong."

Cameron added that the ECHR has countered Britain's national interest by calling for prisoners' voting rights and delaying the deportation of foreigners suspected of terrorist activities.

"Rulings to stop us deporting suspected terrorists. The suggestion that you've got to apply the human rights convention even on the battlefields of

Helmand.

"And now – they want to give prisoners the vote. I'm sorry, I just don't agree," Cameron said.

Speaking to conference delegates, the PM argued that Britain should not "require instruction" on such issues from judges located in Strasbourg.

He added that the Conservatives' proposed move to repeal the Human Rights Act would effectively allow for the passing of a bill of rights rooted in British values.

The ECHR reportedly issues roughly 10 judgments against Britain out of approximately 1,500 legal challenges brought against the UK Government each year.

Legal experts claim that while some of these judgments have roused a degree of controversy among UK ministers and media outlets, their real impact has been minimal.

Cameron's proposed legislative change offered a glimpse into social and economic Britain under a re-elected Tory government.

Several Dylan Thomas celebrations in Vancouver

By EIFION WILLIAMS
VANCOUVER – The centenary of the birth of Dylan Thomas will be celebrated at several events to be held in Vancouver over the next three months.

The Vancouver Welsh Society will mark the centenary in the Red Dragon lounge of the Cambrian Hall on October 18.

An Evening with Dylan will feature local actor Russell Roberts presenting his own programme *Though I Sang in my Chains Like the Sea*.

A limited number of tickets for this event, at \$10 each for guests and visitors, are available from Gillian Rogers, (604) 742-1378.

Unfortunately, minors cannot be admitted to performances at the Red Dragon due to LCB licence restrictions.

On October 25, close to Dylan Thomas's actual birth date of October 27, the Dylan Thomas Circle will host a celebration of Dylan's life, poetry and legacy, featuring Damon Calderwood as Dylan, with live music by Tim Readman.

Vancouver-born Damon Calderwood has appeared in or directed over 150 plays and films and has gathered several theatre awards.

Tickets for this Red Dragon event at the Red Dragon cost \$15, available from Greg Bruce at: gbruce@smarrt.com.

From Tuesday, December 9 to Sunday December 21 the Vancouver East Cultural Centre is presenting a Richard Jordan Production (UK) entitled *Dylan Thomas: Return Journey*, starring Welsh-born Bob Kingdom.

Thousands of people around the world have already enjoyed Bob Kingdom's critically-acclaimed production, with



Welsh poet Dylan Thomas
[October 1914 – November 1953]

one critic describing it as a "lyrical tour-de-force."

Dylan Thomas: Return Journey was originally directed by Anthony Hopkins, who said of Bob Kingdom's performance, "Working with him has been a revelation because I realize how passionately he feels and identifies with Dylan Thomas but sometimes, and often, the two personalities seem to merge. It is a remarkable performance."

Performances will be held at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre at 1895 Venables Street at Victoria Drive, Vancouver. Further information and tickets are available from the Culch's Box Office at (604) 251-1363.

To complete the series of centenary events the Vancouver Welsh Society will present two readings of *A Child's Christmas in Wales* on December 12 and 13 in the Red Dragon, again featuring the talented Russell Roberts and company.

Russell's reading of Dylan's homage to innocent childhood has become a traditional Christmas event at the Cambrian Hall.

The combination of Dylan's words, together with the cosy atmosphere of the Red Dragon pub, always makes this a very enjoyable evening.

New memorial to Welsh soldiers killed in First World War



he most popular event at the annual National Eisteddfod of Wales is the ceremony of the Chairing of the Bard.

The winning bard is selected from among entries by poets who have previously submitted a long poem (*awdl*) that must conform to a strict traditional metre.

Following the reading of the adjudication, the Archdruid announces the winner's pseudonym and calls on the poet to reveal his or her identity.

The chairing ceremony is then accompanied by much colourful pageantry and trumpet-sounding.

This year's Eisteddfod, held in Llanelli, was especially significant as it coincided with the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War in August, 1914.

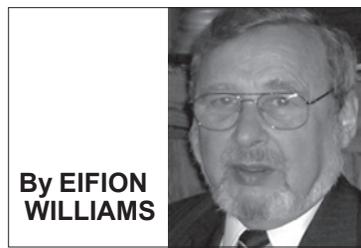
Several events relating to the war were held every day during Eisteddfod week.

The most memorable Chairing ceremony in the history of the Eisteddfod was that held in Birkenhead in 1917, one of the rare occasions the Eisteddfod has been held outside Wales.

The winner's pseudonym was called out three times but brought no response, whereupon the Archdruid announced that the winner had been killed in action in Flanders a few weeks earlier.

The chair was then draped in a black cloth and the Birkenhead Eisteddfod has ever since been referred to as the Eisteddfod of the Black Chair.

The winner turned out to be a 30-year old shepherd named Ellis Humphrey



By EIFION WILLIAMS



WELSH poet Ellis Humphrey Evans won the chair at the annual National Eisteddfod in 1917, but participants were soon saddened to learn that Evans, who came to be known as Hedd Wyn, had died in the Great War.

Evans who grew up on a remote farm in the Welsh hills near Trawsfynydd, Gwynedd.

He was known by his bardic name Hedd Wyn (White Peace) and he is buried, along with thousands of his compatriots, in the war cemetery at Langemark in Flanders.

Since 1917 Hedd Wyn has come to symbolize the sacrifice of the approximately 40,000 young Welshmen whose lives were cut short in the senseless carnage of the "War to end all Wars."

The killing fields of Flanders have many memorials to the dead of all the nations who sent men to fight in the war.

Yet, until this year, there was no specific memorial to remember the Welsh who died on the Flanders battlefields.



A MEMORIAL unveiled near Langemark in Belgium is the first war memorial dedicated to Welsh servicemen who fought and died in the First World War.

Following a fundraising campaign by Peter Carter Jones, a retired policeman from Abercrave, Powys, a new memorial was unveiled on August 16 this year dedicated to Welsh soldiers, sailors and airmen who gave their lives in the war's bloodiest battles.

The memorial is situated near Langemark, a town almost completely destroyed on the first day of the Battle of Passchendaele.

The memorial campaign was supported by the people of Langemark and the surrounding area who have never forgotten the sacrifice of the Welsh troops who passed through their town to fight and die for their freedom.

The memorial is close to where Hedd Wyn was killed in action in 1917. It consists of a cromlech made of four Welsh Blue Pennant stones from a quarry near Pontypridd, surmounted by a bronze dragon designed by artist Lee Odishaw.

At the dedication service, minister president of the Flemish Government, Geert Bourgeois, said he was proud that so many local people played a part in making the memorial a reality and added, "Although we have escaped war for 70 years now, we must never forget how fast things can change."

First Minister Carwyn Jones told the service, "This impressive sculpture demonstrates the importance with which we in Wales, together with our partners in Flanders, hold the memory of those who sacrificed their lives a century ago."

Following the *Last Post* and two-minute silence, *Cor Rygbi Gogledd Cymru* (The North Wales Rugby Choir) sang the Welsh hymns *Cwm Rhondda* and *Gwahoddiad*, accompanied by harpist Dylan Cernyw. The ceremony ended with a prayer for peace and a spontaneous rendition of the Welsh National Anthem.

Addressing those gathered at the dedication, Elfyn Llwyd, Plaid Cymru MP for Dwyfor Meirionnydd, which includes Hedd Wyn's home town of Trawsfynydd, said, "Hedd Wyn was iconic, he's part of our national consciousness but he also represents a lost generation of brave and gifted young Welsh people."

Peter Carter Jones summed up the significance of the memorial with these words, "People not born yet will come here to remember the dreadful history this memorial represents."

"This is dedicated to all those of Welsh descent who took part in the First World War – the soldiers, sailors, airmen, nurses, miners, farmers, and their parents as well. We will not forget them."

Vancouver Engineer Peter Byrne honoured with Leggett Award

By EIFION WILLIAMS
VANCOUVER – Dr. Peter Byrne, Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering at the University of British Columbia, has been awarded the R.F. Leggett Medal by the Canadian Geotechnical Society.

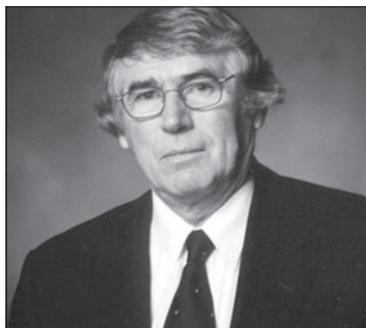
The CGS is the premier organization in Canada for geotechnical engineers and geoscientists.

The Leggett Medal is the most senior and prestigious award of the society and is awarded to an individual for outstanding life-long contributions to geotechnique.

The award was announced at the society's annual Geotechnical Conference held in Regina, Saskatchewan, from September 29 to October 1.

Byrne has previously received professional recognition with several awards, including the Julian C. Smith Medal from the Engineering Institute of Canada, the Mayerhof Award from the Canadian Geotechnical Society and the Gzowski Medal from the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering.

Born in Dun Laoghaire, County Dublin, Byrne earned his first degree in Engineering from University College, Dublin.



DR. PETER BYRNE

He completed post-graduate studies at UBC and has worked at the university since 1967. He has continued to work as a geotechnical consultant and is a recognized authority on improving earthquake engineering for major structures such as high dams.

Byrne has been consulted on a wide range of engineering projects, including major bridges, tunnels, underwater pipelines, rapid transit projects, high rise buildings and a wide variety of other facilities in the seismically active areas of Canada and around the world.

Locally, he was a consultant on the seismic retrofit of a number of bridges in Greater Vancouver, including the Port

Mann, Oak Street and Knight Street bridges as well as the George Massey tunnel.

He has acted as a review consultant to BC Hydro on a number of dams and also acted as a consultant on many international projects, including the seismic design of mine waste dams in South America, Australia, New Zealand and Vietnam.

Byrne has also built a reputation as a researcher, having written many papers in his area of expertise while pioneering many new procedures.

As a teacher he has raised awareness and knowledge of earthquake damage protection among countless students, members of the public and government bodies.

He has also served on National Building Code committees and made presentations to public groups on potential earthquake zones.

Peter Byrne might be better known to the Vancouver sailing fraternity as a competitive sailor. His passion for sailing led to his winning a Bronze Medal for Canada in the Flying Dutchman class in the 1967 Pan American Games and as a member of Canada's Olympic sailing team at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Let's Celebrate



**40
Years**

And Growing....

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Western Canada GAA's Vancouver ISSC

*"Out where the world is in the making,
Where fewer hearts in despair are aching,
That's where the West begins"*

– Arthur Chapman,
*Out Where The West Begins
And Other Western Verses*



THE VICTORIOUS 2014 North American Intermediate Division Gaelic Football Champions, Vancouver Harps, celebrate with player/coaches Fred Gannon and JP McLoughlin.

Year	Host City	Venue	Rd	Men's Teams	Men's Champions	Ladies Teams	Ladies Champions
2004	Yes	White Rock	Final	1	Calgary Chieftains	1	Edmonton Wolfe Tones
2005	Yes	White Rock	1	1	Vancouver Harps	1	Edmonton Wolfe Tones
2006	Yes	Burnaby	1	2	Vancouver Harps	1	Edmonton Wolfe Tones
2007	Yes	Burnaby	Final	2	Calgary Chieftains	1	Vancouver Harps
2008	Yes	Stanley Park	1	2	Vancouver Harps	2	Vancouver Harps
2009	Yes	Capilano RFC	1	2	Edmonton Wolfe Tones	2	Vancouver Harps
2010	Yes	Capilano RFC	1	2	Vancouver Harps	2	Vancouver Harps
2011	Calgary		NA	2	Vancouver Harps	0	Edmonton Wolfe Tones
2012	Yes	Capilano RFC		2	Vancouver Harps	3	Vancouver Celts
2013	Edmonton		NA	1	Edmonton Wolfe Tones	1	Vancouver Harps
2014	Yes	Capilano RFC		3	Edmonton Wolfe Tones	2	Vancouver Harps

The ISSC is the most decorated club in the Western Canada Division with six Mens' Titles and seven Ladies to the club's impressive tally.

Even the newest club-within-a-club had success in 2014, with the Fraser Valley Gaels taking the Junior Championship title.

The ISSC was first to the table with hurling, and will support the division in making Western Canada Championship Hurling a reality in the coming years.

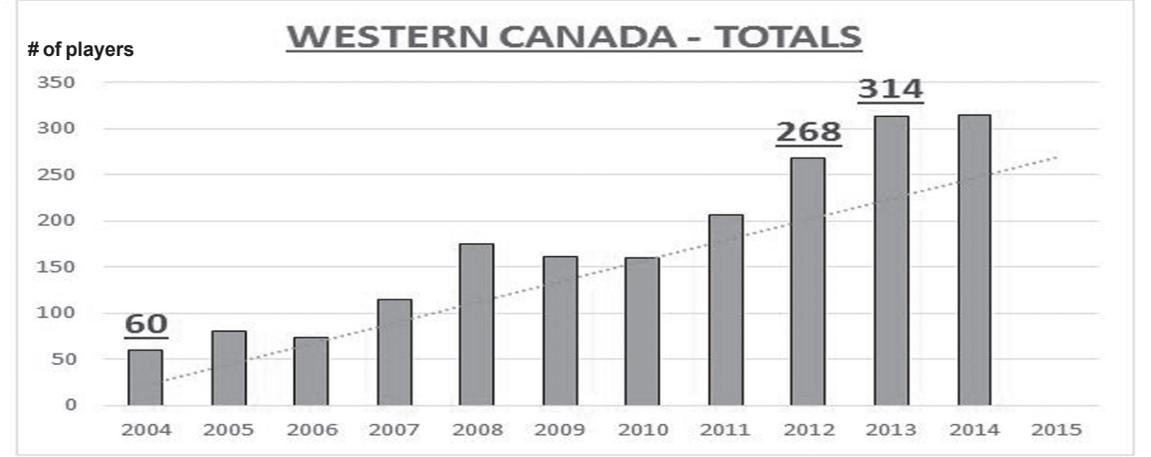


Figure 1

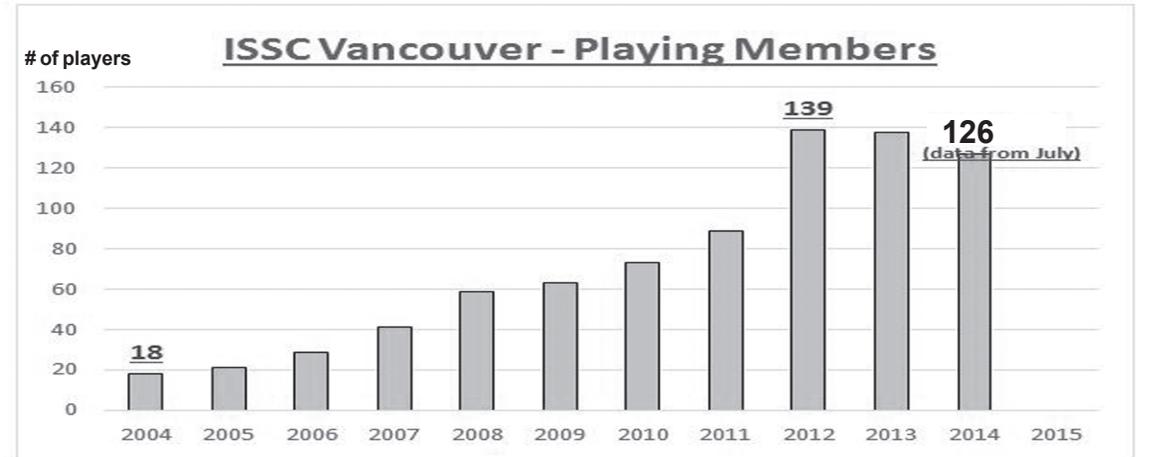


Figure 2



YING as it does on the far western coast of the vast expanse that is Canada, Vancouver is out there. The Irish Sporting & Social Club is out there too, but it loves the GAA and every year competes proudly in its division.



By RONAN DEANE

The club has seen a comparable growth in numbers (see Figure 2) to the trends that the Division (see Figure 1) has seen.

In 2012, though the division hosted six clubs, the ISSC had more than 50 percent of the divisions' membership.

Vancouver is a fantastic city to visit, and has hosted nine of the 11 championships played to date.

Some memorable Western Canadian Championships over the years have been decided in the Greater Vancouver area, notably, both of the Calgary Chieftains victorious seasons were won on the final days in White Rock (2004) and in Burnaby (2007), and this year's, first away title for Edmonton, in arguably the best game the championship has ever witnessed.

The club has generally fielded multiple teams at every championship, with rare exceptions.

Though many point to the fact that there is only one club in Vancouver, and would call that a failing, no club can attest to having fielded more teams over the years, consistently, than the ISSC.

The Vancouver ISSC was one of the founding members (along with the Calgary Chieftains and Edmonton Wolfe Tones) of Western Canada's Divisional Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association.

For over 10 years the ISSC has been instrumental in providing a solid backbone to ensure a successful division that has grown, and indeed prospered, in the last decade.

The division has accommodated an influx of Irish that has grown from a trickle to a torrent.

The influx that hits Vancouver, and connects with the ISSC, will find a healthy home community that is deeply rooted in Vancouver and its multinational population.

In Memory of our past Friends and Leaders

*Go n-éirí an bóthar leat
Go raibh an ghaoth go brách ag do chúil
Go lonraí an ghrian go te ar d'aghaidh
Go dtíte an bháisteach go min ar do pháirceanna
Agus go mbuailimid le chéile arís,
Go gcoinní Dia i mbos A láimhe thú.*

May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
The rains fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand

The following is a necrology for the Irish Sporting and Social Club:

- Browne, Dave
- Burns, Danny
- Butler, Ed
- Butler, Teresa
- Carbin, James
- Cleary, Ira
- Commins, Sean (President)
- Considine, Donny
- Cuddy, Father Joe
- Dennedy, Frank
- Dunne, Frank
- Dunne, Jimmy
- Dunne, Peggy
- Finnerty, David
- Forrestall, Nick
- Gibbons, Liam
- Gibbons, Tom
- Hyland, J.J. (President)
- Hyland, Mary
- Jones, Dan (President)
- Kane, Paddy

- Kelly, James (Jim)
- Kelly, William (Bill)
- Lane, Eamon
- McFadden, Kevin
- McHugh, Aoife
- McKenna, Malachy
- McKenna, Peggy
- Nugent, Patrick
- O'Duffy-Brennan, Betty
- O'Flynn, Betty
- O'Malley Forbes, William (Bill)
- O'Neill, Art
- O'Neill, Flora
- O'Neill, Sean
- O'Rourke, Ollie
- O'Toole, Bridget
- O'Toole, Mathias
- Point, Alex
- Point, Rita
- Ruddy, P.J.
- Shiels, Father Tom
- Singh, Paul
- Tansey, Eugene
- Viktora, Rudy

History of the ISSC executive and founding members

By JOHN O'FLYNN

The Vancouver Irish who gathered on December 1, 1974 decided that the name of a new club was to be selected.

The choice of "The Irish Athletic Association" was considered but after Pat Donohue proposed The Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club it was unanimously accepted by all present that night.

The first Executive Committee that was chosen that night were John Dooley, Joe Heaney, Pat O'Connell, Joe McNally, Rene Dooley, J.J. Hyland and Ray Burns.

Sub-Committee members who put their names forward so as to support the Executive were: John Smith, Pat McHugh, Kevin Lynch, Pat O'Neill, Leonita Lively, Pearse Walsh, Maureen Rudden, Liam & Maureen Cadogan, Tony McDonagh, Paddy Hickey, Eamon Lane, Noel Murphy, Pat O'Neill, Maria Kelly, Michael Glavin, Pearse Ward, John Kelly, Maurice Ward, Pat Leathwood, Anna Macrae, June Connolly, Tommy Roe, John Ryan, Sean Commins, Owen Farrelly, Josephine Lynch, Malachy & Charlotte Swail.

Weeks later the executive committee chose as their credo "Try and make a new friend at each function" for all future events.

May 1975 - John Dooley was re-elected as president with Joe Heaney, Pat O'Connell, Tony McDonagh, Joe McNally, Leonita Lively and Des Foley.

1976 - Pat McKenna, JJ Hyland, Eugene Hilbert, Maureen Cadogan, Des Foley, Leontia Lively, Marian McDaid, Paul Walsh, Pearse Walsh, Marie Kelly, Tony McDonagh, Maureen Rudden, Eugene Halferty, Liam Cadogan.

Sub-Committee Members: Tom Monaghan, Joseph McNally, Sean Commins, Mick Mortell, Charlie McAleese, Mary Bowers, Sean Keogh.

1977 - JJ Hyland, Leontia Lively, Maureen Cadogan, Eugene Halferty, Maureen Rudden, Pam Barnett, Kathy Walsh, Marian McDaid, Mary Hyland, Charlotte Swail, Pat O'Connell.

Sub-Committee Members: Pearse Walsh, Charlie McAleese, Gerard McAleese, Rose McDermott, Frankie Kirby, Margaret Brown.

1978 - Pat O'Connell, Rob McHugh, Maureen Cadogan, Mairead McCabe, Danny Cuddy, Brendan Mulhall, Maureen Rudden, Pam Barnett.

Sub Committee Member: Eamon O'Carroll.

1979 - Danny Cuddy, Kevin Dooley, Mary Fisher, Paddy Todd, Onagh Dooley, Margaret Shiel, Kevin Dunne, Maureen Rudden, Ken Fisher, Mavis Cuddy.

Sub Committee Member: Pam Ferguson.

1980 - Charlotte Swail, Kevin Finnegan, Rob McHugh, Frankie Kirby, P.J. Ruddy, Peter Ferguson, Evelyn Doherty, Mavis Cuddy, Mary Fisher, Pam Ferguson, Yvonne McHugh.

Sub Committee Member: Malachy McKenna.

1981 - Pam Ferguson, Maureen Gerrard, Eileen Finnegan, Mavis Cuddy,

Sylvia Keye, Pat Burns, Jeannie Crawford, Yvonne McHugh, Trish Blowers, Kevin Finnegan, Maria Wong, Frankie Kirby.

1982 - Pat Burns, Jeannie Crawford, Onagh Dooley, Sylvia Keye, Bobbie Flint, John O'Connell, Betty Forrestral, Tom O'Flynn.

1983 - Dan Jones, Tom O'Flynn, Anna Meagher, Bobbi Flint, Pat O'Connell, Brendan Burns, Pearse Kelly, Frank Doherty, Mary Hyland, Donela Haynes.

1984 - Dan Jones, Sean Commins, Donela Haynes, Brenda Johnston, John O'Flynn, Paraic Lally, Brendan Finnegan, Brendan Burns, Mary Hyland, Frank Doherty.

1985 - Sean Commins, Pat Burns, Katherine Fagan, Brenda Sloan, Deirdre Lane, Kevin Deevey, Maria Wong.

1986 - Sean Commins, Pat Burns, Katherine Fagan, Kathy Walsh, John O'Flynn, Kevin Deevey, Rose O'Connell, Brenda Sloan.

1987 - Sean Commins, Brendan Burns, Kathy Walsh, Kathy Burns, Kevin Deevey, Deirdre Finnegan, John O'Flynn, Katherine Fagan.

1988 - Brendan Burns, John O'Flynn, Deirdre Finnegan, Anne Dunne, Kevin Deevey, Katherine Fagan, Margaret Corrigan, Paul Stack.

1989 - John O'Flynn, Brendan Finnegan, Anne Dunne, Brendan O'Leary, Sean Fagan, James Kennedy, Kathy Stack.

1990 - James Kennedy, Brendan Finnegan, Anne Boyle, Brendan O'Leary, John O'Flynn, Sean Fagan, Kathy Stack, Deirdre Finnegan, Brendan Lally.

1991 - James Kennedy, John O'Flynn, Tom Butler, Peggy McKenna, Mary Finn, Val Molloy.

1992 - JJ Hyland, Brendan Burns, James Kennedy, John O'Flynn, Paul Stack, Danny Burns, Sadie O'Brien, Roy Byrne, Kevin Molloy, Paul Walsh.

1993 - James Kennedy, Paul Stack, Liam Mackin, JJ Hyland, Kevin Molloy, Tom O'Sullivan.

1994 - Declan Byrne, Jim Ritchie, Donny Considine, Liam Mackin, Tom O'Sullivan.

1995 - Paul Stack, JJ Hyland, Tom O'Sullivan, Bernard McKenna, Tomas Franklin, Mark Ford, Joe Burke, Christine Anderson, Sadie O'Brien, Richie Cannon.

1996 - Bernard McKenna, Karen McKenna, Karen Franklin, Tomas Franklin, Sean Minagh, Johnny Wilson, Richie Cannon, Kate McNamee.

1997 - JJ Hyland, Susan Ditchfield, Arlene Bergsma, Grace McLeod, Richie Cannon, Tom Kristensen, Brendan O'Leary.

1998 - JJ Hyland, Sue Ditchfield, Arlene Bergsma, Paul Stack, Tom Kristensen, Erin Anderson, Michelle Boyle, Paul McGinley, Craig McAlee, Richie Cannon, Tom O'Sullivan.

1999 - Paul Stack, Tony Doyle, Bunny Vidotto, Jen Heal, Liam Mackin, Erin Anderson, Paul McGinley.

2000 - Tony O'Duffy Brennan, Tony



THE VANCOUVER IRISH SPORTING AND SOCIAL CLUB
MEN'S GAELIC FOOTBALL TEAM - 1975

Doyle, Kate McNamee, Colette Donnelly, Cathy Collins.

2001 - Tony O'Duffy Brennan, Paul Stack, Michelle Boyle, Nuala McLoughlin, Kate McNamee.

2002 - Mickey Hurley, Paul Stack, Kate McNamee, Nuala McLoughlin, Michelle Boyle, Stephanie Boggan.

2003 - Brendan O'Leary, Kate McNamee, James Kirk, Kami Bachana, Paul Stack.

2004 - James Kirk, John O'Flynn, Kami Bachana, Kate McNamee, Sean Quinn, Nuala Cyr, Paul Stack.

2005 - Gavan Connolly, John O'Flynn, Kami Bachana, Sean Quinn,

Stephanie Boggan.

2006 - Gavan Connolly, Bernard Ward, Roicin Connolly, Katrina McAndrew.

2007 - Graham Hancock, Marcus Treacy, Katrina McAndrew, Roicin O'Connell, Olivia O'Hara, Keith Clark, Erin McGinley, Ronan Deane, Ruairi Dolan.

2008 - Marcus Treacy, Erin McGinley, Katrina McAndrew, Roicin Connolly, Kate Clark, Ronan Deane, Tara Burns, Ed Carbery, Cian Lawlor, Keith Clark, Jerome O'Sullivan, Cathal O'Loughlin, James Davoren.

2009 - Conor Walshe/Pat Lowney,

Pat Lowney / Paudie McGinn, Marcus Treacy, Katrina McAndrew.

2010 - Pat Lowney, Ronan Matthews, Sean Twomey, Katrina McAndrew.

2011 - Pat Lowney, Ronan Matthews, Jerry McCarthy, Marie Dowling.

2012 - Ronan Matthews, Jerry McCarthy, Rita Ritchie, Daithi Johnson.

2013 - Ronan Matthews, Ronan Deane, Jonny Kavanagh, Elmarie Cronin, Greg Deacon.

2014 - Jonny Kavanagh, Elan Park, Ronan Deane, Greg Deacon, Rosie Slevin, Jim Fogarty, Merriah Cummings, Lorraine Muckian, Jerry McCarthy.



The Western Canadian Division and Canadian County Board of the GAA like to offer its congratulations to the Vancouver ISSC on its 40th Anniversary.

All the best for another 40 years of Gaelic Games on Canada's West Coast!

ISSC VANCOUVER LADIES FOOTBALL: Western Canada Champions 4 times in 5 Years



LADIES Gaelic football in Vancouver was established in the 1990s and today the club is going from strength to strength with the numbers growing every year.

When Michelle Boyle (now Drysdale) rolled into town in 1997, she was determined to keep her love of Gaelic football alive.

Having played for the Ottawa Gaels ladies football team in the Toronto GAA for four seasons, she was not going to let her move to Vancouver deprive her of enjoying the game she had grown to love.

“When I lived in Ottawa after finishing university, I played soccer with an Irish girl, Rita Kelly, who got me onto the idea of joining the ladies Gaelic football team,” explains Michelle.

After finding the Irish community here in Vancouver through Catholine Butler and *The Celtic Connection*, Michelle discovered the Vancouver Harps Gaelic football team.

Not having a ladies football team in the club was no deterrent for this committed athlete.

President at the time, J.J. Hyland (R.I.P.) was initially amused but very impressed by Michelle’s enthusiasm and welcomed her like a breath of fresh air to the Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club.

Now, the number of women joining the Irish Sporting and Social Club has increased steadily in recent years, jumping from 23 in 2008 to an all-time high of 76 in 2013.

The economic crisis in Ireland and mass emigration, I hear you say!

However, the main reason for the interest shown in the women’s game of Gaelic football here in Vancouver quite simply comes down to the hard work and effort of a few volunteers – primarily the committee members, coaches and player representatives who cajoled and encouraged women of all ranges of abilities and backgrounds to give our ‘beautiful game’ a go!

The motley crew over the years has varied from those who had never heard of the game, those who hung up their boots many moons ago, some who had allegiances to other sports and, most importantly, those who just wanted to be social and get a bit of fresh air while they were at it!

Players of all descents and nationalities continue to be welcomed by the club, including Irish immigrants, second generation Irish, Canadians, English, Scottish, Australians, New Zealanders and Americans.

The ladies football teams have participated in various tournaments over the years – the Vancouver and Seattle annual tournaments, the Western Canadian Championships and the North American Championships.

These tournaments provide the team with much needed competitive games, while also allowing newcomers a platform to practice their newly acquired skills.

Over the past five years, the ladies have



By
LORRAINE
MUCKIAN

won the Western Canadian Championships four times and have won the Vancouver and Seattle tournaments on numerous occasions.

The ISSC entered a women’s Gaelic football team to compete in the North American Championships held in San Francisco for the first time in 2011.

That Vancouver team was crowned winners of the Intermediate Shield, beating fellow countrywomen St. Mikes of Toronto in that final.

The social element of the club and team bonding come to the fore during these weekend tournaments, offering a chance to see other cities and meet new people, all while sharing a common passion for Gaelic Games.

Under the tutelage of Mick O’Shea, Reza Fejvai and Stephen Halpin the 2014 squad have already retained the Western Canadian title for the club.

Training sessions have catered for all ranges of ability and continue to entice large numbers out, even during a Vancouver summer that has many other distractions to offer.

The growth of the sport, especially over the last five years, is largely due to the excellent standard of coaching made available by the ISSC.

For a large portion of that time Conor Walshe, a Tipperary-Laois native, has been at the core of the coaching team and has put a huge amount of time and effort into improving players skill levels, and knowledge and understanding of the game.

Walshe has been aided and abetted by James Doyle, Ronan Matthews, Ronan Deane and Philip Murphy during his time at the helm.

Over the last four years, the city league initiative has been revived in order for players to develop and hone skills further and put all the training ground drills into practice.

The opportunity to play matches throughout the summer has definitely enticed members to stay involved and keep coming out.

This endeavour has helped present purposeful preparation, which would otherwise be hard to replicate due to fact that there is only one club in Vancouver.

Our internal league has bridged the gap between Vancouver and other clubs that have well established championship and competitive league systems in place.

In 2013, Walshe and Murphy combined to mastermind the women’s most successful season ever, from number of members participating, to claiming both



WOMEN’S Gaelic football has gone from strength to strength since the early days of the first team in 1997. The above is a group photograph of the Vancouver Harps ladies Gaelic football club at the annual ISSC awards banquet on September 29, 2012.



VANCOUVER Women’s team in 1999 with Michelle Boyle back row second far right.



VANCOUVER WOMEN’S Harps – Western Canada Ladies’ Junior Champions 2012 with coach Ronan Matthews.

the Western Canadian title in Edmonton and the Junior A North American Championship in Cleveland.

Through that 2013 season the positive impact of Deane and Matthews was also noticeable, the latter leading the charges to their title in Edmonton.

Ronan Deane, as club development officer, is also doing stellar work both on

and off the pitch to promote the game at an underage level throughout the greater Vancouver area.

He has rallied a core group of enthusiastic ISSC club members from all codes and past and present players to assist in his aim to spread the GAA gospel!

Participation in these GAA workshops has been an even split between boys

and girls, which all bodes well for a successful and competitive Gaelic games scene for both genders in years to come here in Vancouver.

To date this year has been another successful year in Vancouver for the promotion of women’s football and we would encourage all players, both experienced and beginners to dust off your boots and come out to play.

JP Ryans Camogie Club: A new branch formed in 2011

By RITA RITCHIE
(with some help)

The JP Ryans Camogie Club Vancouver was formed in 2011 with a vision of establishing a club where camogie can flourish, develop and be enjoyed by both Irish and non-Irish in Vancouver.

This vision has now transformed into a reality over the past four years, and a successful camogie club has been established.



Since 2011, Elmarie Cronin and Rita Ritchie have steered the enthusiastic and growing contingent of Vancouver camogie players.

They have made annual journeys to



JP RYAN'S CAMOGIE TEAM 2014 vs Seattle – June 2014 (L-R) [Back Row] Natasha Dunne, Grainne Warren, Nicola McNally, Niamh O'Connor, Lorraine Muckian, Elmarie Cronin, Michelle Healy. [Front Row] Emma Lane, Caitlin Harper, Andrea Brennan, Rita Burke, Sinead O'Connor, Amy Spillane.

Seattle in ever growing numbers, commenced regular weekly camogie training sessions in the summer months, and have focused the demonstration of their sport at western Canada weekends held in Vancouver.

Today, along with Irish, the club has many nationalities playing camogie with the JP Ryan's, namely Canadian,

American and Australian. It welcomes players of all abilities, from beginners to experienced players.

The Ryans ladies participate in various tournaments throughout the year, including the Seattle Green Lakes Tournament and the Vancouver Tournament.

Perhaps in a few years, the camogie

set-up will mirror the growth of another minority sport, that first appeared in Vancouver in 1997. Could camogie be the next ladies Gaelic football?

As we continue to develop, promote and expand our club, we encourage all players with an interest in playing camogie to contact the camogie club at camogie@isscvancouver.com.



Congratulations to The Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club on their 40th anniversary.

Best wishes from their friends in Seattle:

The Irish Heritage Club and the Seattle Gaels



CONTRACTING LTD

Congratulations to the Vancouver Irish Sports and Social Club on your 40th Anniversary - keep up the good work

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<http://www.consun.ca>



The Fort McMurray Shamrocks would like to congratulate the ISSC on their 40th Anniversary

It's a great achievement and we wish you all the best in the future.

Shane Gilhooley: shanegilhooley6@gmail.com

Donal Sheridan: donalsheridan@live.ie

Gaelic Football 2014 –

VANCOUVER – The year 2014 will go down in the record books as a successful one for the men’s Gaelic football team. With this being the 40th anniversary year of the ISSC, the importance of the year was not lost on the management team and players.

The players met as a group in January to map out the year ahead and to put structures in place that could make the year a success.

The year kicked off on St. Patrick’s Day weekend with the traditional annual Gaelic football match against our friends from the Cougars Australian Football Club.

Next up in the calendar was the annual “Sevens” tournament which takes place at Capilano Rugby Club.

Six teams battled it out over five weeks, and the trophy was presented to Wibblies captain John Martyn who gave a stirring acceptance speech on how great the year could be if we decide to put the effort in.

Following last year’s lead, the Vancouver Championship went from seed and took firm root.

One thing we lacked in the forming of the championship was creativity in team names as Team 1, Team 2 and Team 3 battled it out.

By JP McLOUGHLIN

Throughout the championship there were some great battles and it really was to the benefit of the Vancouver team as players were more battle hardened in the summer compared to summers past.

Finals night allowed the new club, Fraser Valley Gaels, the opportunity to compete. All in all, the championship was a huge success.

The Western Canadian Championship was hosted by Vancouver to mark the 40th anniversary of the club.

Two Vancouver ISSC teams took part in the Western Canadian Championship, along with the Fraser Valley Gaels.

The Saturday went well with Vancouver Harps winning all three games to top the group.

Vancouver Celts struggled in their first game against Edmonton but regrouped admirably to win their remaining games on the day to come second in the group and qualify for the semi-finals.

This set up a match up between the two Vancouver teams in the semi-final on Sunday.

This was a keenly fought contest. Harps won through, and would face Edmonton who had defeated Calgary in the other semi.

An early black card for the Celts Mark Turner gave him the dubious honour of being the first Vancouver player to receive a black card and possibly the first player in a game in Canada to do so.

The final was a nail-biting affair with Edmonton winning by the minimum on a scoreline of 0-13 to 0-12.

Vancouver led 0-8 to 0-5 at half time, but Edmonton came back strong in the second half.

It was bitterly disappointing to lose and of little comfort to have been involved in a thrilling finale, the best game in the tournament for a number of years.

The hangover of that defeat hung around the group for a couple of weeks.

The club went into this year’s North Americans under no illusions at the task at hand with the message that we would compete in Boston, and that if we do that we had the talent to be successful.

Our focus was on our first game, nothing more, a semi-final on the Saturday against Cork – Boston, a match Vancouver won on a scoreline of 3-17 to 0-14.

On Sunday we headed to play the final in determined mood.

Philadelphia were (as last year) the opponents. A quick start to the final gave



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Graham is delighted to see the Vancouver ISSC celebrate their 40th Anniversary and witness the organization go from strength to strength. Graham was privileged to provide the club some support in this important year.

Congratulations to the dedicated ISSC team for their passion, enthusiasm and high quality attitude that ensure the ISSC continues to be at the forefront of the Gaelic Games in Western Canada, and indeed beyond, and well-placed to continue to succeed in the future.

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What an Incredible Year!



The Vancouver ISSC's large touring party celebrate their wildly successful Boston adventure at the 2014 North Americans Gaelic Games Event this Labor Day Weekend. Five wins from six games played on their way to two championship titles.

us a 0-6 to 0-0 lead as we settled quickly. The first score for Philadelphia came from the penalty spot and Vancouver had a game on their hands.

Digging deep, and fighting to the end, the full time whistle blew to crown Vancouver the North American Intermediate champions of 2014 on a score line of 2-11 to 2-8.

The celebrations were filled with joy as Liam O'Neill presented the trophy to our captain John Martyn.

One could reflect on John's words earlier in the year when accepting the win-

ter tournament trophy as being prophetic.

This year has been a fantastic one to be involved with this great group of players.

I would personally like to thank each and every one of them, including all who did not make Boston, on their commitment and effort throughout the year.

I'd also like to give a massive thanks to Fred Gannon for getting on board the management team to great effect.

Thanks also to Connaught Masonry for their sponsorship of our team tops.

There are many people who make up a successful club, so many to mention but a huge thanks to everybody who contributed to our team in 2014.

There are not many teams who get to end their year with a win, we did. Nobody can ever take this success from us.

We will savour the joy but we cannot wallow in it as there are even bigger tests ahead next year.

Looking forward to the challenge and the opportunity to compete again at a higher level in 2015.



Maura De Freitas and Catholine Butler of The Celtic Connection send warm congratulations to all the members of the Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club on the historic occasion of their 40th Anniversary.

What a great achievement of keeping the Gaelic games of football and hurling alive and well in the greater Vancouver area.

May you continue to prosper and grow.

www.celtic-connection.com

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Tom Butler: Memories of the early days and Vancouver's first Gaelic football team



VANCOUVER – Two new trophies were unveiled in November 2008 which have become the Western Canada GAA's pre-eminent championship awards in men's and ladies Gaelic football.

These trophies honour two old friends – Tom Butler and the late Tom Gibbons – who each contributed to the development of Ireland's games of Gaelic football and hurling in the Pacific Northwest.

Speaking to *The Celtic Connection* recently, Tom said he is very happy that there's a Tom Butler Cup and a Tom Gibbons Memorial Cup for his old friend from Kilkenny.

It gives him great satisfaction to know these cups will be passed on to the new generation of men and women GAA players.

Tom immigrated to Canada along with late wife Teresa and family in 1957.

It was a long journey in those days and after crossing the Atlantic by ship for 10 days, they then boarded a train and travelled another five days to reach Vancouver.

He immediately became involved with the local Irish community and helped to start the Sons of Erin Club, the first Irish club in Vancouver, along with Peter Fee the president of the club.

Tom said, "We ran dances to raise money to get the football club going. We used to run dances twice a month in a hall with Johnny McCaffrey and a group of musicians and we made a lot of money for the club.

"The name of the football club was also called The Sons of Erin and we had a lot of players.

"We raised enough money to pay their fare and hotels and send them to tournaments in San Francisco, Edmonton, Calgary and Seattle.

"We also used to have picnics for the players and families and go to a park just across the border in the United States. Peter Fee and his wife also organized charter flights to Ireland.

"When the out-of-town football clubs would be here in Vancouver, we would have the games in Stanley Park.

"Mike Kiley, a teacher at Thomas More High School would bring the pipe band from the school to play at the games. Mike was also a trainer with the football club.

"After the games we would all go back to St. Patrick's Hall for a dinner dance and Vi Moore would bring in her Irish dancers to entertain. The Sons of Erin was a real going concern then."

The social scene for the Irish commu-

"After the games we would all go back to St. Patrick's Hall for a dinner dance and Vi Moore would bring in her Irish dancers to entertain. The Sons of Erin was a real going concern then."

nity at the time was very close knit and Tom recalls, "When I first came to Vancouver, there were no Irish pubs.

"Since I had a large basement in my home, I built a bar in the basement. I had seats around the wall with space for a dance floor and then I put in a bathroom. It was probably the first Irish pub in Vancouver."

After the dances and football games the players and their friends would go back to Tom's bar.

He says, "There was always lots of music and fun and a sing-song until the wee hours of the morning.

"I still meet people who tell me Butler's bar was the best nightclub in Vancouver."

In 1974, the Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club (ISSC) was formed and the name The Sons of Erin was disbanded.

The club and teams became the Irish Sporting and Social Club and along with football and hurling, soccer was also added.

Tom says, "After Peter Fee and Mike Kiley passed away, I stopped running dances for the club."

Speaking about the many new Irish emigrants, now coming to Vancouver and western Canada who have re-energized the football and hurling clubs, particularly here in Vancouver, Tom said, "that's great to see and they're all good players."

But, he says, "I don't know if they would have the kind of social life that the Sons of Erin had.

"It seems that with the many pubs now, their social life would be in the bar.



WESTERN CANADA GAA's pre-eminent championship awards in men's and ladies Gaelic football - the Tom Butler Cup ((R) and the Tom Gibbons Memorial Cup (L).



ISSC 2012 Club president Ronan Matthews (R) along with Jimmy Speiran (L) presenting Tom Butler with the Lifetime Achievement Spirit Award. Jimmy was the 2011 recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award.



SONS OF ERIN GAELIC FOOTBALL TEAM - 1962



TOM BUTLER (far left) and Tom Gibbons (far right) in the mid-80s with an early Vancouver Gaelic football team Also pictured: Liam Segarty, Ian Kiernan, Plunkett Mallon, Frank Reid, James Kennedy, Kevin Molloy, Conor Corduff.

"I think it was better when they came to the bar in my home, you couldn't beat the parties there."

Speaking about arriving in Vancouver and looking for work Tom said, "I got work right away working in a sawmill as a lumber grader for MacMillan Bloedel forest products company at their mill on Marine Drive in Vancouver.

"After about 19 years there I went to work for myself as a contractor renovating and remodelling homes."

Both Tom Butler and Tom Gibbons worked together in Butler's remodeling business.

Tom Gibbons was married at St. Joseph's Church in Vancouver, Tom Butler gave Agnes the bride away at the wedding.

After the wedding, the bride, groom and all the guests went back to Tom Butler's house for dinner and a party in Tom's Bar.

Butler was born in a farming community in Kilmaine, County Mayo and he was no stranger to hard work.

He did all the usual chores around the farm, milking cows, ploughing the fields with two horses, coiling the hay, and tying and stacking the oats.

Tom also cut and later footed turf and when it was dry, brought it home with a horse and cart. The turf was used for heating the house and for cooking.

The Butler family farm also grew sugar beet that was cut and sold to be taken to a factory and made into sugar.

...And, like many of the young lads around Kilmaine, Tom played a little Gaelic football.



VANCOUVER GAA members Pat Lowney (Beara, Cork), Paul Stack (Six Mile Bridge, Clare), John O'Flynn, Sean Twomey (Aghabullogue, Cork) and Thomas O'Flynn (Kilmeedy, Limerick) at the grave of Joseph Ryan in Cranbrook, B.C. in 2009.

Celebrating 40 years with the ISSC



CELEBRATING the 40th anniversary of the Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club is for me an adored family member who is growing older alongside myself. Together we celebrate our shared history of Gaelic games in this city of Vancouver and great province of British Columbia.

The presence of the Cumann Lúthchleas Gael in Canada is a validation that a very important part of my cultural legacy lives on in a strong, healthy and vibrant fashion.

To all those who have made this possible in Vancouver – the players, their families, the coaches, the social members and sponsors – congratulations!

By your efforts, unselfish sacrifices and contributions, you have enriched our Irish presence and sporting culture here on the west coast.

I am grateful that my father Thomas (Kilmeedy, Co. Limerick) and my late mother Betty (nee O'Keeffe, Duagh, Co. Kerry), who came to Canada together in 1962, chose here of all places.

Their presence and support of the sporting and social culture of Ireland in Vancouver is greatly appreciated.

I was blessed to have had the opportunity to represent Vancouver and play Gaelic football in two North American County Board Championships: 1984 Boston and 1985 Chicago.

The club assisted me to attend the founding meeting in Toronto of the Canadian County Board in 1987 and serve as its founding secretary. The club has given me so much over the years and it continues to give.

I take such pride to see my son Michael, as a 12-year-old, participate in youth activities sponsored by the ISSC.

Wondrous development and opportunity for children to appreciate the games provided by such good people associated with our club – in particular Ronan Deane, who has served our club and county with distinction.

It was great to see his youth project garner financial support from Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs.

I also want to write about Joseph Patrick Ryan, a son of Ireland who greatly contributed to the early development of Cranbrook, British Columbia.

In 2009, he was honoured as one of the original seven founders (1884) of the

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael during the association's 125th anniversary celebrations.

Ryan was born in Carrick-on-Suir, Tipperary, in April 1857, and was a solicitor in Ireland before emigrating to Canada in 1899.

In Cranbrook, he became involved with the mining industry, was a prominent journalist, and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

He died in 1918 and I want to remember him on our happy anniversary because a number of our ISSC members visited his grave five years ago to celebrate his life during the association's 125th anniversary celebrations in 2009.

And not to forget our club's hurling team – named so well – the **JP Ryans!**

Another mention of note is the role of **St. Patrick's Parish** in Vancouver and **John Hendry Park**, near to 12th and Nanaimo, where the early Irish community often found as a place to connect.

These were important meeting places which played a role in the formation of the **Vancouver Irish Society** in the 1950s, and the **Vancouver Sons of Erin Gaelic Football Club** in the 1960s.

In closing, I know our 40th anniversary dinner and dance this month will be a night to remember.

I hope you, dear reader, will continue to read and support our *Celtic Connection*.

Without the presence of *The Celtic Connection*, the Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club would never have had the opportunity to publish its 30th anniversary and its 40th anniversary supplements. Thank you to all the culturally minded advertisers and supporters of the paper.

And, thank you Maura and Catholine for documenting our magical time these last many years! You have made life's journey and our club – all the more glad!

Is mise le meas,
John O'Flynn



VANCOUVER SONS OF ERIN Football Club, July 27, 1962. (L-R) [Front Row] Jim Williamson, Tom Nellaney, Bob Jordan, Matt Sheridan, Bill Stansfield, Terry Wheatley. [Back Row] John McDonald, Albert Favero, Ed Eviston, Jim Dunne, Albert Johnson, Chris Morgan, Chuck Krastel, Tom Doris, Joe Tohill and Don McGuinness.



THE VANCOUVER Irish Sporting and Social Club Men's Gaelic Football Team - 1975.



THE VANCOUVER Irish Sporting and Social Club Men's Gaelic Football team - 2000.



THE VANCOUVER Irish Sporting and Social Club Men's Gaelic Football team - 2002.

The fastest field sport game in the world continues to grow in British Columbia



In the past 10 years hurling in Vancouver has grown significantly.

With the massive influx of Irish immigrants combined with the commitment and dedication of our Canadian team mates, JP Ryans has grown from strength to strength and I'm sure will continue to grow in the years to come.

It all started out with the legendary Paul Stack's bag of vintage hurleys and sliotars which were taken out annually to exhibit at our game on St. Patrick's day at Andy Livingston Park.

Soon after this commenced our annual challenge games against Seattle Gaels.

In 2008 three substantial individuals, namely Galway man James Davoren, Tipperary man Denis Ryan and Cork man Sean Twomey decided to formalize proceedings.

The thoughts and commitment to start an actual hurling club in Vancouver really took root.

In the spring of 2009 both women and men took to the field to truly give hurling a voice in Vancouver.

The passion of the players, both new and old with their fierce determination encouraged the club to give it a go. The next step of entering into the North American Championships became a reality.

Approval from the North American Board along with the help of our very own ISSC board and club members, we made great progress in signing up 40 hardy souls, players and fans alike to board a plane to the Windy City on September 2, 2010.

All of our efforts and hard work paid off as we defeated San Francisco in a hard fought battle to bring the Junior A championship cup back to Vancouver.

The following year we entered both Senior and Junior teams at the 2011 NACB championships in San Francisco.

By this stage we had re-identified ourselves as the JP Ryans (named after one of the founding forefathers of the GAA who lived in Cranbrook, B.C. until his death).

Our participation at the 2011 finals was ended after being defeated by Galway Boston in the Senior semi-final by 4 points.

It would be fair to say that hurling was well on the rise in Vancouver after only a few short years.

By **WILLIAM DONNELLAN**

While participating in Philadelphia in 2012 and in Cleveland in 2013 we reached the Junior Final once again but were closely beaten by our fellow Canadians from Toronto.

Only one week after Cleveland, eight of our Vancouver hurlers combined with eight Toronto players to proudly represent Canada in the Etihad Hurling Gathering back home in Ireland.

It was the first ever International hurling tournament of its kind with a remarkable 50 plus teams participating from all corners of the world. Unfortunately Canada were narrowly beaten in the final by the Middle East.

While players and people come and go, the strength of the fastest field sport game in the world continues to grow in British Columbia.

This year, team activities have included trips to Victoria for an exhibition at the Highland games, an inaugural 7 a side (involving the camogie team), and engaging professional trainer Peter Agnew for team preparations for the NACB Boston Championship.

All of which contributed to Vancouver successfully winning the Junior A North American Title. We now have over 40 registered players, no less than 30 per cent of which are Canadian.

The existence of the team lends its strength to some very committed and dedicated people who want to see the club expand and continuously grow.

Our sincerest gratitude to those great people and to the ISSC for their continued support which can never be understated.

We would also like to express our thanks to the Canadian County Board and Western Division for supporting us throughout the years

For more information please visit us on Facebook at: Joseph P Ryans Hurling of Vancouver.



VANCOUVER Irish Sporting and Social Club hurling team - 1994



THE SHAMROCK HARPS Junior A Hurling team: NACB Junior A Hurling Champions in September 2010. The team is pictured holding the North American trophy.



IN CHICAGO, an ecstatic, Sean Twomey, Captain of the Vancouver Harps Hurling Team holding aloft the coveted North American Junior A Hurling Championship Cup in September 2010. The team was the first Canadian hurling team to ever bring the trophy home north of the border.



THE NORTH AMERICAN Junior A Hurling Champions 2014, Vancouver's Joseph P Ryans. Coach Willie Donnellan, humble as ever hides behind the Martin Dunne's Yellow Helmet, as Dunne takes a short wee lie-down before his second final later that afternoon.

Memories of playing Gaelic football with Vancouver's first women's team

THIS year the Irish Sporting and Social Club celebrates its 40th anniversary – 40 years of football, events, laughs and memories.

My story is unique as a first generation Canadian. It is in this club where I learned to both play and love the game of Gaelic football. It is here where I was able to connect to my roots and make some lifelong friends and memories.

My parents – Maria and Frank McGinley – arrived in Vancouver in 1975, just a year shy of the ISSC's birth.

They moved to Vancouver in the hopes of earning some money and returning home to Ireland.

In 1976 my eldest brother Paul was born, followed by Eamon in 1977, Stephen in 1979, and myself in June of 1983.

After a few years, as my brothers and I began to start school and form friendships, my parents decided to stay in Vancouver.

I am sure many families who immigrate from Ireland find it is extremely difficult to move back when their children begin to connect and create roots here.

I'm thankful to my parents and all the families who stayed and have shown commitment to clubs like the ISSC.

It is the past, current and future members who allow us to experience a bit of Ireland in Canada.

I was exposed to Gaelic football through soccer, as many of the Gaelic players during our time in the late Nineties were also soccer players.

It was in the fall of 1998 when I met Sue Cannon, Nuala Cyr (McLoughlin) and Tanya St. John and where I began to play with the Shamrock Rovers.

That year the girls were raving about this new sport called, 'Gaelic football', and it was Tanya who insisted that I join.

Well I did, and my experiences have been nothing short of amazing.

It's been a few years since I've played but as I visit training sessions, socials



By ERIN MCGINLEY



and tournaments, I have noticed how the number of practices, teams, players and fans have quadrupled.

Most recently, Ronan Deane visited my physical education course at UBC to teach beginning and experienced teachers how to implement Gaelic football into their PE programs.

It is exciting to think how we have grown and of the possibilities still to come with children and youth camps and school programs.

In the early days, I remember members like Mick and Jen Hurley, Chris and Nuala Cyr, Bunny Vidotto, Michelle Drysdale (Boyle), Linda Louie, Paul Stack, Kate McNamee, Paul McGinley, Paul Ritchie, Ronan Deane, Jimmy Speiran, Jim McCann, Sean Quinn, Tom O'Sullivan, Sue and Richie Cannon, Tony Doyle, Marty McCann, Shane and Collette Donnelly, Sean Minagh, Cian Lawlor, Tara Burns, and Katrina McAndrew, Ronan and Olivia Matthews, Roicin O'Connolly and

James Kirk to name a few, who worked both on and off the field to build this club.

In 2008 at the pitch off First Avenue, I fondly remember Paul Stack taping up plumbing pipes to soccer posts to create the correct bars for the Gaelic matches.

I also remember training sessions under Mick Hurley and Chris Cyr and the dreaded 50/50 kicks we had to make at the end of practice, or else our trip to the pub would be delayed by laps around the pitch.

Then, there were the road trips across and beyond Canada to Seattle, Edmonton and Calgary, and the rivalries that ensued between us.

The Harps were always united and strong, with the exception of Vancouver-born Catherine Flynn (a.k.a Sausage Fingers), who would always be the first to volunteer to play with her cousins on the Calgary Chieftains.

What those early days and today have in common is the heart-racing, nail-biting, intensity of the game.

As a player, I lived for the thrill of soloing down the pitch and the roar of the crowd when a great play was made.

There are so many more memories worthy of sharing here, but perhaps not printable.

Whether you're on or off the pitch, it only takes a moment to look around and be grateful for how this club has grown and the potential still to come.

We've come a long way from word-of-mouth to the power of social media connecting new members to our club.

I believe those early days of Gaelic football and the present are still connected and represented in all three corners of the shamrock and maple leaf embedded in the ISSC crest.

The first is the love and passion for the game, second is the community and network of support, and third is the commitment from all members of this club to keep both the sport and the social aspects of Ireland alive and well in Vancouver.

Congratulations to the ISSC, I'm looking forward to all the memories still to come.



THE VANCOUVER Women's Gaelic football team in 1999 where many lifetime bonds were forged.

Congratulations to the Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club on your 40th Anniversary

Richie and Sue Cannon



THE Vancouver Women's Team in 2000 with coach Mick Hurley (far left). Erin is pictured back row fourth from the end.

IRISH HERITAGE SOCIETY OF CANADA

The Irish Heritage Society of Canada
Send warm congratulations to the ISSC on their 40th Anniversary for a job well done.

Keep up the good work you have done us all proud.

For more information about the Irish Heritage Society
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Thomas O'Flynn SR.

The future of Gaelic Games in Vancouver looks strong with the ISSC Youth Program

By **RONAN DEANE**

VANCOUVER – The ISSC Youth Program has been in existence in one form or other since 2010.

That year, the club held its first youth camp at the Western Canadian tournament in Vancouver, and there were a handful of local kids, of Irish parent(s), and a fun day was had by all.

In 2011 and 2012, the camps developed and while they were held at the local tournaments in these years, the club also hosted some events in Trout Lake, and in Delta.

The club had a youth presentation in Chilliwack that year, with Ronan Matthews volunteering his time to travel and bring the games to a new audience.

Later, in November 2012, the ISSC began a relationship with the DeDannan school of dance, and presented over two days at the feis in Richmond Oval.

This was a resounding success, not only from the perspective of the number of boys and girls that tried out hurling and football, but by the large, and eager volunteer showing on both days.

The years 2013 and 2014 have by far been the best for the ISSC. The feis relationship continues and goes from strength to strength.

The club has also been invited to community events, in the City of Richmond (Body in Motion week) and Victoria (Highland Games), and the feedback has been very impressive from all those that have been exposed to the games.

In September 2014, the first formal four-week Gaelic Games camps were held in Vancouver and they proved to be a remarkable success.

Over 40 kids participated and returned week-after-week to try out both hurling and Gaelic football.

These camps will be back in May 2015, and are expected to be even more successful given the enthusiasm of the participants and their parents.

However, the greatest leap forward of all has been in the schools. In 2013, the club attended St. Edmunds Catholic School in North Vancouver and Cloverdale Catholic School.

These were primary school students and each presentation was to upwards of 100 students each day. Both primary schools have requested return visits and the club has developed ongoing relationships with each school.

The Surrey School District Secondary school physical educators been incredibly receptive of the Youth program.

Since November 2013, the ISSC has presented in four schools (Fraser Heights, Kwantlan, North Surrey, and Clayton Heights) and each have requested second visits.

In May, the ISSC presented to all the Phys Ed teachers of the Surrey School district, and this has been instrumental in setting up what should be a very busy schedule in late 2014 and 2015.

The future of Gaelic Games in Vancouver looks strong.

If you are interested in hearing more, check out www.isscvancouver.com/sports/youth.



RONAN DEANE with members of the Irish Sporting and Social Club Youth Program which has been growing steadily since the first camp in 2010 at the Western Canadian tournament in Vancouver.



CHILDREN enjoy both learning a new sport and the fun of meeting friends so there is much enthusiastic participation.



HURLING instruction with Ronan Deane last month. The ISSC Youth Program has worked with local Vancouver schools and continues to grow.

Edmonton hosts first youth Gaelic football summer camp

EDMONTON – In August 2014 the Edmonton Wolfe Tones Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) hosted Western Canada's first official GAA Cul Camp.

With 45 children in attendance and countless volunteers and coaches, the camp was a fantastic success.

Edmonton Cul Camp ran over two weekends, August 16 and 17, and August 23 and 24 from 10 AM to 2 PM. The camp focused on teaching children between the ages of four and 13 the fundamentals of Gaelic football.

Coaching revolved around maximizing enjoyment with a strong emphasis placed on skill acquisition.

On the last day of camp organizers held a "blitz" where the children were able to put everything they learnt into practice and enjoy their first introduction to



competitive games.

After the blitz children, parents and coaches enjoyed a barbeque in the sun and a medal presentation to all camp participants.

The Cul Camp Committee would sincerely like to thank all the coaches, children and parents for helping them to make their first camp so successful.

They would also like to thank the GAA and Celtic Homes, whom without their financial support the camp would not have been possible.



CHILDREN and volunteers at the first official GAA Cul Camp in Edmonton this summer. The camp focussed on teaching children between the ages of four and 13 the fundamentals of Gaelic football.



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Martin Doyle and the Executive of the Irish Club Edmonton

Offer congratulations to the Vancouver ISSC on their 40th Anniversary

Keep up the good work!

When visiting Edmonton, drop into the Irish Club where a warm welcome is assured

www.edmontonirishclub.ca

Edmonton Irish Centre hosts a special evening for its young-at-heart seniors

EDMONTON – The high point of a very hectic week at the Irish Centre in Edmonton last month, was a special evening dedicated to the senior members of the club. Many have been members since the mid-Fifties when the club was established.

The many long-term friendships developed over the last 50 years were in evidence and it was this special bonding that was the foundation of what is still a thriving and vibrant club.

There has been a wonderful and very welcome infusion of new members over the last three years, and many have found new friendships through the Irish Centre.

However, the younger members, many of whom were from Kerry and Kilkenny, Tipperary and Donegal, had celebrated – or drowned their sorrows – after the hurling and football finals, relinquished the club to the older generation on Saturday night.

These people have great stories to tell, and hopefully all the details are being recorded for the generations that follow. Older, maybe, but definitely still very young-at-heart.

The Irish Centre in Edmonton is located at 12546 - 126 Street in Edmonton, Alberta. For more information, call (780) 453-2249 or visit online at: www.edmontonirishclub.ca.



MARGARET AND TOM Morris and Vickie and Pat Tully at the All Ireland Hurling final at the Irish Centre



MARTIN AND MARY Doyle, Pat and Breda McCormack at the Irish Centre on September 27.



THERESA WOLINSKI, Jim Mulholland, and Mary-Ellen Jennings at the Irish Centre seniors gathering.



BRIAN BUNDRED and Damian Hawkswell at the Irish seniors gathering.



LOUIS MCNULTY and Phyllis (standing), with Anne Hogan, Chris Nealon (front).



GUESTS at the Irish Centre Seniors Night – (L-R) [Back] Pat Finnan, Matt Monaghan, Brendan Shields. [Front] Lorraine Finnan, Siona Monaghan, Mary Shields and Pat O Connor



LILA MCGINN, Gertie McCartan, Peter Sheridan, Bea Bennett, Clem and Rosaleen McEvoy and Maurice Fitzgerald with Kathleen Devlin (front).



JOHN, Harry and Audrey Synowec, Chris and Bernie Whelehan at the All Ireland Hurling Final at the Edmonton Irish Centre.

**MORE PHOTOS
SEE PAGE 24**

IRISH SPORTS and SOCIAL SOCIETY EDMONTON
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Irish Club Entertainment Listing

October 25 – Martin Kerr
November 1 – Mugs Mullan
1-4 Kids Halloween Party
9:00 PM – Adults Halloween Party
Music by DJ

November 8 – Music by Skye
November 14 – McDonnell Scholarship, Raffle & Social – music by: Acoustaholics
November 21 – Silent Auction for Ceili Dancers Assoc.
November 22 – Silent Auction for The Knock School of Dance
November 29 – Semi-private Party
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EDMONTON IRISH CENTRE - PHOTOS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23



SENIORS enjoying the gathering – (L-R) [Back] – Mike Curran, Larry Lyons, Pat Donovan. [Front] Marianne Curran, Margaret Lyons, Margaret Donovan.



IRISH SENIORS (L-R) [Back] Joe McIntyre and Margaret Hawkswell with [Front] Martha McIntyre and Mags Bundred.



MARIE AND FRANK Devlin with Tommy Regan at the Irish Centre in Edmonton.



JOHN HEALY and Jack Doyle.



GERTIE MCCARTAN, Liz Mulholland, Rita Barry attending the Irish seniors gathering.



OLD FRIENDS: Pat Heaney, Derek McGinn, Dave Campbell, Colm Barry

LIVE TELECAST OF THE ALL IRELAND FOOTBALL AND HURLING FINALS



KILKENNY SMILES (L-R) [Back] Jim Muldowney, Una Davis (Johnstown), Amby Malone (Tullagher), Geoff Morrissey (Ballyragget), Stephen Scott. [Front] Tommy Lannigan (Tullagher), Rory Dunne (Kells).



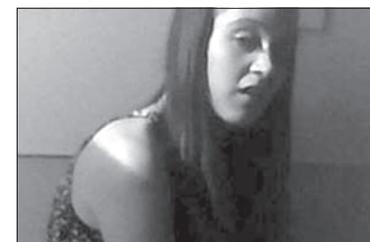
FRIENDLY RIVALS – John Carrol (Tipperary), Siobhan Carrol (Clare), and Jim Muldowney (Kilkenny).



HAPPY KERRY SUPPORTERS at the Irish Centre in Edmonton – (L-R) Peadar Mitchell (Lexsna), Mark Dillon (Listowel), Brian Regan (Killarney), Laura Lynch (Ballyduff), Maurice Kellegher (Tralee), and Thomas Maloney (Ardfert).



DISAPPOINTED but proud Donegal fans at the Irish Centre Edmonton – (L-R) Emmet Gallagher, Shaun Harley, Emmet “Cuz” McLaughlin, Killian Quinn, Christine McCallion, Denis Lindsay, Barney O Donnell, Rob Phillips, and Lynn O Neill.



SAMANTHA Azzopardi has been identified in Calgary as the same woman who was deported from Ireland last year.

‘GPO girl’ at centre of new false sex claims in Calgary

DUBLIN – The Australian woman who set gardai on an international wild goose chase last year after she posed as a teenage sex-trafficking victim has turned up in Canada making similar false claims.

Samantha Azzopardi (25) is understood to be facing her second deportation in a year after she told police in Calgary, Alberta she was held prisoner for two weeks and sexually assaulted.

Calgary police confirmed they have been in touch with gardai who positively identified the woman as Azzopardi.

In Calgary, the young woman told police her name was Aurora Hepburn and claimed she had been sexually assaulted while being held at a children’s hospital.

She also claimed she had been imprisoned in a cage. It is understood she had filed a missing person report about herself to police in Alberta using the false identity.

However, Calgary police contacted gardai on October 2 and were able to establish they were dealing with the same person.

Azzopardi became known as the ‘GPO Girl’ after she was found wandering and apparently bewildered by gardai on O’Connell Street in October last year.

She was taken into protective custody and kept under armed guard in hospital after she apparently convinced gardai she was a teenage sex trafficking victim from eastern Europe.

She spoke no English during the two weeks she was under protection and made childish drawings that suggested some form of sexual abuse had taken place.

It later emerged she had convictions in 2010 in Brisbane on charges of making false representations and possession of forged documents. She was fined AUSS\$500 and given a suspended sentence. She also had previous convictions for fraud in Perth.

After her true identity was established, gardai discovered Azzopardi had no fewer than 40 previous aliases

The garda operation consumed 2,000 working hours and 115 different lines of international inquiry were pursued. The operation cost hundreds of thousands of euros.

A spokesman for Calgary police has confirmed the young woman they are investigating is the same person that made similar claims in Ireland.

He said, “The same person who was dealt with by Irish police was dealt with here.”

The police said they are withholding further details.



CANADIAN SOLDIERS fixing bayonets before an attack on The Somme in France during the First World War. Canada went out of its way to specifically recruit Irish soldiers and a number of Irish battalions were raised during the war.

New figures show almost 20,000 Irishmen fought for Canada in First World War

DUBLIN – Almost 20,000 Irish soldiers served in the Canadian army during the First World War, according to new figures. A total of 19,327 of those who served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force were from Ireland.

The number comes from an unpublished document in the Department of National Defence in Ottawa, but it may well be an underestimation.

Many of those who enlisted in the Canadian army from across the border in the United States would have been regarded as American.

Canada's involvement in the First World War was immense, with 630,000 enlisting out of a population of just eight million. Some 60,661 were killed.

No breakdown by nationality has been done for Canada's casualty figures. However, on a pro-rata basis, the figures suggest that about 2,000 Irishmen probably died in the First World War fighting for Canada.

Among those who died was Jimmy Duffy from Co. Sligo. He was regarded as one of the best marathon runners in the world at the beginning of the Twentieth Century. He won the Boston Marathon in 1914.

Living in Canada at the time, he enlisted in the Canadian army and was killed at the Second Battle of Ypres in May 1915, eight days before his 25th birthday.

He is one of 11 men from Sligo who died in the Canadian army and are included in a new local history project which seeks to find a more definitive figure for war dead from the county.

Unlike the other British dominions as they were at the time, Canada went out of its way to specifically recruit Irish soldiers and a number of Irish battalions were raised during the war.

The Canadian Expeditionary Force and an Irish regiment, the Royal Irish Lancers, were involved in the last Allied action of the war, the liberation of Mons on Armistice Day 1918.

The Australian Government lists 4,731 Irish-born soldiers who served in the Australian Expeditionary Force while



some 1,300 served in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. Together the two forces made up the ANZACs.

Some two million men, known as the "Doughboys" served in the American Expeditionary Force, but no breakdown has been done by nationality.

Given that the Irish-born population in the U.S. was some 1.3 million in 1910, it is possible that some 40,000 Irishmen saw service with the American army.

In addition, 206,000 Irishmen signed up to the British army and at least 31,000 were killed.

A definitive figure has never been established as to exactly how many Irish soldiers died fighting in the First World War.

Trinity College Dublin (TCD) historian Professor John Horne, who is an expert on First World War casualties, said the number of Irish who fought and died in all armies in the war is "unknown" and more research needs to be done.

The Irish War Memorial Records lists 49,400 dead from Irish regiments in the war. However, not all of those who died were Irish while many of the Irish, who died in non-Irish regiments, are not included.

He said the biggest proportion of those missing from the current list in the Irish War Memorial Records are those who enlisted as emigrants in England, Scotland or Wales and are not counted as Irish war dead.

The latest research contained in the Complete Cambridge History of the First World War earlier this year suggested that the war dead which is commonly accepted at around 10 million should be revised upwards by at least 400,000 to include those who died of disease, wounds or in prisoner-of-war camps.

Anger at Irish water charges reaches boiling point

DUBLIN – Tap water in the Republic of Ireland until now has been free but the introduction of charges as an austerity measure is proving deeply unpopular.

The Emerald Isle can thank a damp climate for its greenery, with plenty of rain and no shortage of water. But a drought of investment for decades means its water infrastructure falls short of international standards.

In Boyle in County Roscommon in the west of Ireland, shoals of trout hover in the crystal clear river in the town, but the drinking water supply presents a different picture.

The people of Boyle must boil their tap water as it is unfit to drink, contaminated by bacteria that out-of-date treatment plants cannot purify.

As he leaves a shop in the town clutching large bottles of water, Sean O'Dowd says he no longer takes any chances.

"You're going to be violently sick for 24 hours – it's as simple as that. It has happened to me twice. But not a third time."

Local shops are doing a booming trade in bottled water but public opinion has reached boiling point in the town as the charges come into effect.

"I just think in this day and age it's absolutely disgraceful, especially for tourists and everything else. We're not that poor a country that we can't fix this or resolve this," says Aaron Sharkey.

Responding to public anger, an eleventh hour discount from water charges has been announced for those with undrinkable tap water, but it will not help some businesses.

Alison Clarke, who runs Clarke's Bar and Restaurant, has installed a water filtration system so she can wash food-stuff and make ice.

"At the moment we are supposed to boil the water before we use it to wash



PROTESTS have taken place across the country with many expressing anger with the government.

"I just think in this day and age it's absolutely disgraceful..."

vegetables or wash salad.

"In the first few weeks we were buying bottled water like everybody else but the consumption of water we would use on a business level in preparing food in the kitchen meant it was impossible to continue this way.

"So I had to introduce a filtration system to prove that it's safe for my customers that come in here," she says.

Raising money from water charges was a condition imposed on Ireland by the EU-IMF-ECB troika as part of the country's bailout in 2010 following economic collapse.

Protests have taken place in different parts of the country, usually when contractors come to install meters for the new water charging regime.

At one such demonstration in a west Dublin suburb, contractors watched from their vans as residents chant, "Irish water will be free, from the river to the sea."

The protest is good humoured. "The workers are complaining they can't sleep at night over the water issue because they're sleeping so much during the day, in their vans," says protest or-

ganiser, Dublin City councillor Pat Dunne.

"We could supply the rest of Europe with water we get that much of it. We're all wondering now what's going to happen are they going to charge us for air?" asks another protester.

Paul Parsons is not involved in the protests but, standing outside his front door, he expresses a view which he claims is widespread among his neighbours.

"I don't think the government realise how much of a burden it would be to the people around this area who are already stretched financially paying tax after tax after tax and this is just one tax too far."

Demonstrations elsewhere in Dublin have been angrier with some protesters warned they could face jail if they breach court orders.

Bills will range from EU176 a year for a single person household to nearly EU500 for a family of four adults.

Paying for an essential that was once free seems to have generated more steam than most austerity cuts with phone-ins and talk-shows deluged with debate over the measure.

Revelations that EU86 million is being spent on consultants to set up a new semi-state company in charge of water services, Irish Water, led to a national political storm.

Irish Water says it will run the system previously operated by local authorities much more efficiently.

It says bringing Ireland's waterworks up to international standards will cost nearly two billion euros for the next two years to fix a system which loses almost half its treated water through leaks from old pipework.

Those behind water charging also say it will help conservation as people will be more careful in their usage.

The road to economic recovery has been a long one for Ireland. But while recent economic data shows signs of hope, the bite of austerity – such as the new water charge – continues to be felt.

THE IRISH CLUB OF WHITE ROCK

Reaching out to the youth of the club's founding members

By DEIRDRE O'RUARIC
WHITE ROCK – On behalf of the Irish Club of White Rock, I hope that *Celtic Connection* readers have enjoyed a wonderful summer.

White Rock has been blessed with amazing weather. The days have been beautiful, warm and sunny.

With the coming of fall, our executive committee has met to plan events for the remainder of the year. We plan entertainment to brighten our evenings, as the days grow shorter and darker!

On Saturday, October 25, we will start the season off with The Pat Chessell Trio playing for us at the White Rock Elks hall. It is billed as an evening of Celtic song, music and poetry.

Our membership is excited that the Blue Frog Performance Centre in White Rock will present a concert by Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones on Thursday, October 30.



Tickets are available via the Blue Frog Studios website at a cost of \$35. Blue Frog is an intimate setting for a concert, with wonderful acoustics.

Seating is limited to 80 persons so a timely ticket purchase is recommended. We look forward to seeing many of our members and friends at these concerts.

In order to keep the club vibrant and

relevant, we are exploring ways to attract new members – younger members in particular.

Towards this end, we recently hosted a gathering of sons and daughters of the families who founded the club over a decade ago, in order to get their input.

Any reader with suggestions how we can attract and organize events for the "next generation" is welcome to contact me. More immediately, we are looking for ideas for our annual Christmas party.

I really look forward to hearing from you all, and seeing you at our first event on October 25, and at the Wolfe Tones on October 30.

For more details, call Deirdre O'Ruaric at (604) 538-6765, e-mail: shamrockhome@shaw.ca, or www.irishclubofwhiterock.com. You can also follow the club on Facebook at: The Irish Club of White Rock.

'Miss Julie': Anglo-Irish Setting for Class Politics Drama

THE VIEW FROM IRELAND



By MAURICE FITZPATRICK

SWEDISH playwright August Strindberg is known for, among other things, his unremittingly bleak view of human nature and his depiction of torturous relations between the sexes.

Against the backdrop of such gloom, the producers of *Miss Julie*, a new film based on Strindberg's play of the same title, saw fit to transpose his bleak vision of human beings to the uplifting socio-political circumstances of the Northern Irish State.

Miss Julie had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival on September 7 and I happened to be in town.

Set in 1890, *Miss Julie* tells the story of an uppity young lady of a manor who has been disappointed in a marriage engagement.

To vent her frustration, Julie fixes her attention upon Jean/John, a domestic servant who has far more education and confidence in himself than Julie expects from someone of his station – and she finds in him a worthy adversary.

The two sparring partners, John and Julie, centre the film and carry its action.

The instinctive consent, the click of the heel that John displays when given an order gives way to a tightening of the jaw when Julie plays at being a woman rather than the baron's daughter.

"I knew who I was", as John puts it, remembering the moment when his eight-year-old brother had died beside him and when the family was living in what amounted to a pigsty.

Julie cannot understand such deprivation. Her defense is to revert to the comforts of her caste, and to make John kiss her boot.

His wrestling with pride and subordinating that pride to her tests always makes *Miss Julie* a compelling drama.

John does manage to turn the tables and issue orders of his own, only to be put back in his place: Something Ingmar Bergman characterised as the pair's swapping each other's masks.

Miss Julie has been adapted several times by film-makers, but the latest version, written and directed by Liv Ullmann, is the first one to situate the film in Ireland.

Northern Irish accents and cadences work well throughout the film. Colin Farrell, who plays John, is a pitch perfect Fermanagh man, "well, I tellya now," "why didn't ya waarum the plate?"

Ullmann ensured that the dialogue rings



JESSICA CHASTAIN and Colin Farrell star in the new film *Miss Julie* which had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival last month.

true for its Northern setting, for example by occasionally ending sentences in a conjunction as is often done in the Irish language, "Frankly speaking but" – and it worked to great effect.

Catholic names for the underclass and Protestant ones for the Ascendancy also help to give this film historical resonance.

All in all, this is *Miss Julie* tantalisingly inserted into the Anglo-Irish circumstances of 1890, which had the potential to give the class struggle inherent in the script a particular piquancy.

Castle Coole in Co. Fermanagh is an intriguing setting for the film.

On arrival at the film's location, Ullmann chose not to dwell on the Roman architecture and Ionic columns that one might expect in a film set there.

Instead, as she told the press in Toronto on September 9, when she fully explored Castle Coole, the impact of seeing where the servants lived persuaded her to give the film a different look.

Historically, servants were positioned deep underneath the castle, with tunnels constructed for them lest they obscure the view of their overlords.

In her original screenplay, Ullmann positioned the servants looking through wide windows over bright vistas (it is set in midsummer, after all).

However, seeing Castle Coole made her realise the importance of having servants scampering around in the castle's nether regions.

There are innumerable such Big Houses throughout Ireland and the feature of servant's tunnels is quite common in many of them, but there is a particular concentration of Big Houses in what became the Northern Irish State, and a particular enthusiasm among some to preserve them.

In such houses, servants could be fired if they were discovered to be literate – for some, being fired transpired to be a

blessing that prompted their departure for a better life in the New World.

The Northern Irish Ascendancy in this film could have been accented all the more.

Ullmann, in response to a question I posed about why she chose not to bring out a Protestant and Catholic dimension of the story more, stated that there was already enough in the play to work with.

Maybe so, but the result is a film made in an Anglophone locale rather than a film fully wedged to its Irish setting.

Had Ullmann gone all the way in depicting a jumped up Irish "sarvin boy" pushing back against the ruling class in the Ireland of the time – post the Land War and with the land acts forcing the transference of power and status throughout Ireland from the ruling class to small farmers – there was scope to see Strindberg's brilliant drama in an entirely new way.

In Strindberg's masterwork, the traditional seat of power begins to crack as the lower orders revolt, which links it in an uncanny way to one of this month's biggest stories:

The threat represented by the rapid swing towards the answer "Yes" on the part of Scotland's electorate to ending their membership in the political union with England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

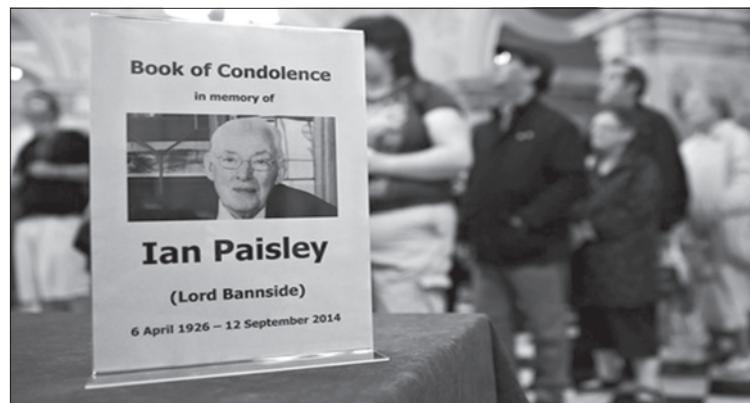
After systematically bullying the Scots for over a year with threats of disinvestment, currency segregation, and the massive relocation of financial and insurance institutions from Edinburgh to London should the Scots declare their independence in the forthcoming referendum, the English Conservative Party turned to begging in the final hour.

The Scottish Saltire flag flew over 10 Downing Street as David Cameron and his cohorts made dainty appeals to their northern cousins to "stay with us." Even a worm turns and how.

Quote of the Month

"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."
– Abraham Lincoln
February 12, 1809 - April 15, 1865

[Lincoln was the sixteenth president of the United States, serving from March 1861 until his assassination in April 1865. He led the U.S. through the Civil War – its bloodiest war and its greatest moral, constitutional, and political crisis. In doing so, he preserved the Union, abolished slavery, strengthened the federal government, and modernized the economy.]



PEOPLE queue at Belfast City Hall to sign a book of condolence in memory of former Democratic Unionist party leader and first minister Ian Paisley.

Ian Paisley: Private funeral for former DUP leader

BELFAST – Politicians in Northern Ireland paid tribute to Ian Paisley, who was buried in County Down, following a private funeral service at his home in East Belfast.

As a mark of respect, assembly business was suspended as MLAs remembered the former first minister and DUP leader.

Paisley, who stepped down from politics in 2008, died on Friday, September 12, aged 88 following a long illness.

He was a towering figure who founded Northern Ireland's Free Presbyterian Church and Democratic Unionist Party.

Paisley took an uncompromising sectarian line before, during and after the "Troubles" – for the outbreak of which he bore some responsibility – yet ended his political life as First Minister sharing power with his old enemy, Sinn Féin.

Often dismissed by commentators outside the Province as a bigot and a buffoon, his political career was repeatedly written off, yet by its end he had outmaneuvered his moderate Unionist rivals to become Ulster's elder statesman.

He became the spokesman for a majority of Unionists and undisputed leader of the largest party in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

He stepped down as DUP leader in 2008 amid disquiet about his leadership of the party.

Martin McGuinness, the deputy first minister, told members of the assembly that serving alongside Paisley had been an "incredible experience" and one of the "most memorable" of his life.

The former IRA chief of staff and later key peace strategist for Sinn Féin, said



IAN PAISLEY [April 6, 1926 – September 12, 2014].

that he and Paisley "genuinely grew to like each other and in doing so, we co-founded the world."

McGuinness added, "From the word go, for some reason, we hit it off. Not only did we develop a positive and constructive working relationship, we actually became friends."

The DUP leader's successor both as party chief and first minister, Peter Robinson, said, "Ian Paisley was a remarkable man, whose long career in public life has left an indelible mark upon all of us who knew him.

"Like so many, I was drawn towards politics by the clarity, the certainty, the strength and the conviction of his message."

The union flag at Belfast City Hall – an emblem that has become a focal point of loyalist protests since a council decision to restrict the flying of the British flag to 18 days a year – was at half mast to mark Paisley's funeral.



POLITICIANS across the political divide in Northern Ireland paid tribute to Ian Paisley at Stormont on September 14. As a mark of respect assembly business was suspended as MLAs remembered the former first minister and DUP leader who was buried in Co. Down following a private funeral service.

'A New Vision for Ireland' presented by Sinn Fein Councillor

Friends of Sinn Fein (Canada) Inc., headed by Alan McConnell in Toronto, recently organized a speaking tour of Western Canada for Conor Murphy – a Sinn Fein politician elected member of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

The purpose was to discuss 'A New Vision for Ireland' and Murphy spoke in Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver.

In B.C., the Mayor of Burnaby, Derek Corrigan signed the Irish Unity Pledge in support of Irish reunification after a lengthy discussion with Conor.

During his visit here, Conor Murphy spoke with *The Celtic Connection* about his new vision for Ireland.

Q: What is your new vision for Ireland?

A: Well, I think the new vision is one in which we are in charge of our own affairs. We've had over 800 years with the British State involved and in charge of our affairs.

It's a division, where all of the benefits that we brought in with the terms of the Good Friday Agreements, equality agreement, human rights agreement, protection of minorities can all apply to the new Ireland.

We are looking at ways of how we can end the partition of Ireland, which has stunted the growth both North and South and has economically divided the island.

We have an island now that has two currencies, a small island of 6.4 million people with two taxation, two health systems, and two education systems – besides the division that it has created among the people.

We want to create an island that is a single entity, which protects the rights of all citizens and minorities and can be more self-sustaining and in charge of it's own affairs.

Q: With the elections over in Scotland and the vote now for the No side, how does this affect Ireland, politically and economically?

A: There can be no doubt that the union has changed. The British United Kingdom is changing and that's probably the inevitable consequence of devaluation of powers to the regional powers and the regional powers want more power over their own people.

They want to be able to establish their own policies and that clashes with central government, particularly under the Conservatives, the Tories, who have very right wing policies of targeting the poor to sustain the rich.

So, inevitably, I think the Scottish debate has been very illuminating because, they have had a very constructive look at how the country would function as an independent country.

Q: Do you believe Scotland could sustain itself on it's own?

Yes, they are convinced that they are economically viable and I think there is no reason why they couldn't.

I think that has big implications for the future of the union and anything that has implications for the future of the union, obviously has implications for the North of Ireland.

I think Wales is increasingly asserting it's own independence and there is a rising nationalism.

So, I think what you are seeing is a fundamental reshaping of the union and I think we need to look at that very closely and see what implications that has for Ireland.

Interview by Catholine Butler



CONOR Murphy with Burnaby Mayor Derek Corrigan.

For those who hanker to hold onto the union with Britain, I think it will be even more peripheral and even less listened to and more disregarded in terms of policies and priorities from the central government in London.

So, I think it strengthen the case that we need to be looking to ourselves, to our own strengths, our own experience, and use our own ingenuity to manage our own affairs.

Q: Where do you see the Sinn Fein party going in the next elections?

A: Well, I think we have been very heartened by the level of support that we have been getting right across the island but you can never take that for granted. We need to work hard to sustain that.

We have a lot of good people elected at local government level and we would hope that will then translate into more people elected to the national parliament in Dublin.

We hope to use our influence there to try and change things in Ireland. It has always been our ambition to build political strength and try and bring about political change in Ireland.

And not just to sit in offices and draw salaries, but to use that strength in our own selves in the first instance.

We want to co-operate with like-minded people, and to fundamentally rethink how Ireland is restructured, and bring about a unity in the country and a better way of doing things.

There are major difficulties in the south now, especially how the economy was handled. People are now being penalized for the bad handling of the



ALAN MCCONNELL, Friends of Sinn Fein organizer from Toronto, John O'Flynn, Dermot Devine and Brendan Flynn at Conor Murphy's talk at the Hyatt Regency in Vancouver.

economy, and we are now back to exporting our children all over the world again.

So, all of those things require a fundamental rethink. We want to be a part of leading that along with others who share our vision for a different Ireland.

Q: You are probably aware here in Western Canada we have received a lot of new Irish migrants for work with most very well educated and getting good jobs here.

A: The really sad thing is that we have exported over half a million young people in recent years and they are people who have a great contribution to make.

They should really be making a great contribution at home in Ireland, to building a better country.

And now another generation are over making their name in America, Australia, Canada and Britain, and other countries around the world.

They are making a contribution to those societies and we are losing our talent and young energy from our own country. I think that is really a poor reflection on how the country is being run.

We continue to lose people like that when we should be retaining them and offering them good opportunities in Ireland. Allowing them to stay and settle, raise families and to make a very great contribution to their own country.

Q: Do you think if the North and South of Ireland was united, do you think this would have an influence on those young people who emigrated from Ireland. Would they consider returning home?

A: Well, I think in the first instance, they are economically minded and if the economics was able to support them in Ireland, there can be no doubt they would consider returning.

I have no doubt that they have been looking at the Scottish debate and saw how it has energized the whole country.

There has been something like an 80 percent turnout at the polls, which is huge – and what got the country energized were the debates in Scotland about what kind of society and country the people wanted.

The Good Friday Agreement contained a provision for a border poll and we have argued that it should be activated after a period of debate.

I think that debate could offer some incentive to those young people then saying to themselves that if the country is willing to change, then I want to be part of that and lets go back home and throw our weight behind it.



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WEARING a Seattle Police Pipes and Drums scarf, the Taoiseach Enda Kenny is flanked by Officer Ryan Gallagher and Chief Paul McDonagh. In the background is Seattle Mayor Ed Murray.



NOREEN MCCORMACK signs the Taoiseach's visitor's book watched by (from left) Officer Ryan Gallagher, Chief Paul McDonagh, John Keane, Michael Shiosaki, Mayor Ed Murray and Taoiseach Enda Kenny.



MEETING Irish President Michael D. Higgins at Áras an Uachtaráin (L-R) Officer Laurie Ross, John Keane, Michael Shiosaki, President Higgins, Mayor Ed Murray, Sen. Karen Fraser, Noreen McCormack, Officer Bob Harvey.



(L-R) SEATTLE MAYOR Ed Murray, Noreen McCormack, Michael Shiosaki, Rodney Stokes, Sen. Karen Fraser and John Keane at the Seattle Sister City Stone in Galway.



(L-R) HUGH KEANE, former Irish Consul General for the Western U.S. Gerry Staunton, John Keane and Officer Ryan Gallagher at the First World War commemoration in Roscrea, Co. Tipperary.

SEATTLE IRISH NEWS

2014 EMERALD ISLE TOUR

By JOHN KEANE

SISTER CITY VISIT – Almost 80 people from the Seattle area, including Seattle's Mayor Ed Murray, visited Ireland the latter half of September with the primary event being a four-day sister city trip to Galway.

Included in the traveling group were members and supporters of the Seattle Police Pipes and Drums Pipe Band who spent two weeks in Ireland and gave performances in Galway, Dublin, Belfast, Athlone and Rosemount (Co. Westmeath), and Roscrea (Co. Tipperary).

Mayor Murray was guest of honor and the pipe band also performed during Galway's Oyster Festival from September 25-28.

Accompanying the Mayor on his trip were several representatives of Seattle's Irish community, including the Seattle Galway Association's Mick McHugh, the Irish Heritage Club's John Keane, Irish Network Seattle's Noreen McCormack and Irish Immigrant Support's Eileen Concannon.

MAYORAL SCHEDULE – While in Ireland celebrating the Seattle Galway Sister City relationship, Seattle Mayor Ed Murray also spoke to stu-

dents and faculty at the Galway University Law School and in Dublin spoke to the American Chamber of Commerce about well-established business connections between Seattle and Ireland.

The Mayor also met with Taoiseach Enda Kenny at his offices adjoining Leinster House, and met with Irish President Michael D. Higgins at Áras an Uachtaráin, the President's official residence in Phoenix Park.

POLICE TRAINING – On their trip to Ireland from September 17 – October 1, members of the Seattle Police Pipes and Drums Pipe Band, all of whom are active or retired Police officers, participated in police training with the Gardaí (Irish Police) in Dublin and with the PSNI in Belfast.

In Dublin, the band also performed on the grounds of Dublin Castle and in the Garda Fallen Officer Memorial Garden which honors the more than 80 members of the Gardaí who have lost their lives in the line of duty since 1922.

They also visited Dublin's Temple Street Children's Hospital where they performed and visited with the children, and they performed an im-

promptu concert in front of a large appreciative crowd on Dublin's Grafton Street.

In Belfast, they joined the PSNI on the grounds of Belfast City hall and played music for the crowd that had gathered. In between the band visited many tourist sites, such as the Giants Causeway and Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge in north Antrim.

GALWAY – On Friday evening, September 26, the Seattle Police Pipe Band put on impromptu performances (between some pub stops!) on Galway's Quay Street, High Street and Shop Street, the narrow medieval pedestrianized streets which throng nightly with tourists and locals who really enjoyed the performances.

The band also visited a local elementary school and on September 27, several band members joined Galway Mayor Donal Lyons for a sail in Galway Bay on a traditional Galway Hooker sailboat and played a tune while standing on the bow of the boat.

The Galway Hooker (from the Irish word *húicéir*) is a traditional fishing boat used in Galway Bay off the west coast of Ireland.

ROSEMOUNT CONCERT – On September 22, the village of Rosemount, Co. Westmeath, welcomed the Seattle Police Pipe Band to the local parish church for a concert in aid of Rosemount National (Elementary) School.

The concert featured performances by the Seattle band and also by students from the local school which has 67 students in grades one through six, all of whom performed during the concert.

Almost \$4,000 was raised to support the school where every student is taught to play a musical instrument.

WWI COMMEMORATION – In Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, the Seattle band participated in a street parade and a following ecumenical service in the local Anglican Church to commemorate the fallen of the First World War, especially those from Roscrea who lost their lives in the war.

An estimated 50,000 Irish people lost their lives in the First World War, "The war to end all wars" which started 100 years ago this year.

FIGHTING 69TH – Photography is prohibited in Leinster House where the Dáil (Irish parliament) meets but one exception was made for Seattle's pipe band during a tour organized by Irish Senator Katherine Zappone who grew up in Seattle.

The band members were allowed take a group photo in front of the Fighting 69th's battle flag from the American Civil War which has hung in Leinster House ever since President John F. Kennedy presented it as a gift to the Irish people in June 1963.

Led by Thomas Francis Meagher, a leader of the failed Irish Rebellion of 1848, the 69th or "Irish Brigade" was known in the U.S. Civil War for its famous war cry, "fagh a ballagh," an Anglicization of the Irish Gaelic phrase, *fág an bealach*, meaning "clear the way."



(L-R) [FRONT] Washington State Senator Karen Fraser, Seattle Mayor Ed Murray, Galway Mayor Donal Lyons, Seattle First Gentleman Michael Shiosaki, and Galway City Councilor Frank Fahy. Back were Pat Foley, Officer Ryan Gallagher, Officer Scotty Bach, Noreen McCormack, Seattle Assistant Police Chief Paul McDonagh, John Keane, Mick McHugh and Joe O'Neill at Galway City Hall on September 26.



MEMBERS of the Seattle Police Pipes and Drums pose in Leinster House in Dublin in front of the Irish Brigade's battle flag from the American Civil War.

SEATTLE IRISH NEWS

PASSINGS

- Clare Foody, 86, a native of Belfast, died in Bellevue on September 20.
- Norman Cummings, 94, a native of Lurgan, Co. Armagh, died in Richland on September 8.
- Sister Anita Heeran, CSJP, 81, a native of Co. Leitrim, died in Bellevue on September 14.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha dílse – May their faithful souls rest at the right hand of God.

IN-SEATTLE NETWORKING – On Thursday, October 16, Irish Network Seattle hosts a Mentoring & Networking Program event, 'Effective Networking and Mentoring' with speakers: Mary Newman, Director for Global Readiness in the Premier Services team, Microsoft, and Dave Walsh, Principal Director in Office365 Engineering, Microsoft.

The event runs from 6-8:30 PM at the Wilde Rover Pub & Restaurant, 111 Central Way, Kirkland. For more information, visit IrishNetworkSeattle.org.

GAELIC MASS – Seattle's annual Mass of Remembrance in the Irish (Gaelic) language will be Friday, October 17, at 7:30 PM, at St. Patrick's Church, 2702 Broadway Ave E (just off I-5 at Roanoke St).

Mass booklets in English and Gaelic will be available for all in attendance. All hymns and readings are in Gaelic with only the Homily in English.

This Mass commemorates the deceased members of Seattle's Irish Community, especially those who have passed away in the past 12 months whose names will be read out loud.

To submit names to be remembered or for more information, call (425) 290-7839 or e-mail GaelicMass@irishclub.org.

IRISH REELS FILM FESTIVAL – Friday-Sunday, October 24-26, at the SIFF Film Center (on the Seattle Center campus, near the corner of Warren Ave & Republican Street).

Now in its 18th year, the festival kicks off on Friday evening, October 24, at 6 PM with an Opening Night Reception and screening of *The Good Man* starring Aidan Gillen (*Game of Thrones*, *The Dark Knight Rises*).

Films and documentaries to be featured throughout the weekend include Art O'Brian's *Natural Grace: Irish Music and Martin Hayes*, along with *The Irish Pub* and Pat Collins' *Living in a Coded Land*.

Find more information and film trailers at IrishReels.org. Festival pass and individual tickets can be purchased at reels@irishclub.org.

IRISH MUSIC FESTIVAL – 2014 heralds the 11th year of the Galway Bay Irish Music Festival, celebrating Irish songs, ballads, players and bands in Ocean Shores, WA with music and fun this October 22-26.

An eclectic mix of 30 Irish bands, choirs and dancers hailing from throughout the United States, Canada and, of course, Ireland will



By
**JOHN
KEANE**



be rounding out this year's entertainment performing on 10 stages rotating through three separate venues.

Feature performances by Celtica Pipes Rocks (from Vienna, Austria) and the Young Wolf Tones from Ireland. More details at: galwaybayirishpub.com.

SAMHAIN HARP CONCERT – Usher in the Celtic New Year on Sunday, November 2, 2-4 PM, at Galway Traders, 7518 15th Avenue NW in Ballard.

Several local harpists will be performing and admission is free along with free tea and biscuits.

Finally, after a meatless summer, Galway Traders has frozen meats in stock – bangers (Irish sausages), rashers, black & white puddings, etc. Call the store at (206) 784-9343 for details.

DV LOTTERY REMINDER – Seattle's Irish Immigrant Support Group reminds those needing a U.S. Green Card that the registration period for the 2016 Diversity Visa Lottery closes at noon on **Monday, November 3**.

Irish citizens are eligible to enter the lottery for the chance of getting permanent residency in the United States and there is no fee to enter. For information, contact SIISG@irishclub.org.

SENIORS' LUNCH – The Irish Immigrant Support Group has scheduled the annual Irish Seniors'

Christmas luncheon at noon on Saturday, December 6, at F X McRory's, 419 Occidental Avenue S., Seattle.

All seniors of Irish birth, descent or interest are welcome along with their spouses and friends. Among the Special Guests will be Daidí na Nollag (Father Christmas).

Sit-down lunch with choice of ham or turkey, \$10 per person. The cost for the buffet lunch is \$10 for seniors and \$20 for non-seniors, but please call (425) 290-7839 for reservations.

TIDAL ENERGY – A proposed tidal-energy project that would have been situated west of Whidbey Island will likely be scrapped due to unforeseen construction costs.

The 441-ton turbines for Snohomish County PUD's research would have been manufactured by OpenHydro in Dublin and then secured in place by gravity.

The original plans called for the turbines to be in place for three to five years.

CONGRATS MONIQUE – Congratulations to Irish Network Seattle Member, Monique Meche, for being named to the "Silicon Valley 50" which highlights the top 50 Irish and Irish-American executives making a significant impact in and around Silicon Valley within their field of technology.

These individuals exhibit the creativity, intelligence, dedication and determination necessary to compete and succeed in the competitive world of technology.

Monique is Vice President of Global Public Policy at Amazon.com and manages Amazon's public policy internationally. She lives in the Seattle area and also has a home in Co. Kerry.

MISCELLANEOUS

• The next Irish Book Club meeting is Tuesday, October 28, to discuss *The Empty Family* by Colm Tóibín. Contact hudit@comcast.net for details.

• Colm Tóibín, Irish novelist, short story writer, essayist, playwright, journalist, critic and poet, speaks on November 3 at Town Hall as part of the Seattle Arts and Lecture series. Visit www.lectures.org for more details.



(L-R) IRISH GLASS ARTIST Róisín de Buítléar, Seattle's First Gentleman Michael Shiosaki, Seattle Mayor Ed Murray, Irish Consul General Philip Grant, Seattle Police Chief Kathleen O'Toole and Honorary Irish Consul John Keane at the Irish Network Seattle Party on Lake Union on September 13.



JIM CUMMINS (L) and Fr. Bill Treacy at the September 13 Irish Seniors' luncheon. A native of Co. Laois, Fr. Treacy was honored at the luncheon for his 70 years of priesthood.



IRISH CONSUL GENERAL Philip Grant (L) and Fr. John Madigan, the Irish community's chaplain, at the Irish Seniors' luncheon on September 13.



TERRY CREIGHTON, Paul and Deborah McGarry and Amélie Creighton (front) at the Irish Network Seattle Party on Lake Union.

Seattle Irish Immigrant Support Group



FREE SERVICES AVAILABLE

to Irish people in need, regardless of the person's religious, social, or economic background. Consultation and referrals, networking opportunities, limited immigrant legal assistance, support in handling drug, alcohol, and other family crises. Regular programs and lunches for Irish Seniors, etc.



Call 425-290-7839 or email info@irishseattle.com
Irish Immigrant Support, P.O. Box 75123, Seattle, WA 98175
www.irishseattle.com



GLENEAGLES was named the best golf resort in the world for the third year running at the 2014 ULTRA awards.

Ryder Cup 2014 makes Gleneagles a new world golfing attraction

GLENEAGLES, Perthshire – The 2014 Ryder Cup is now in the books, and once again, it was a victory for Team Europe.

The famous Gleneagles – the home of golf – hosted Scotland’s first Ryder Cup in more than 40 years and fans lapped up what is now regarded as one of the biggest events in sport, behind the Olympics and football’s World Cup.

It was pretty much a rout for the home team, as the Europeans won 16½ to 11½, dominating everything except for the fourball matches and leaving the Americans wondering whether they’ll ever win on European soil again.

Team USA saw some impressive performances from Jordan Spieth and Patrick Reed, but most of the other players were underwhelming, as was captain Tom Watson.

But from Rory McIlroy to Jamie Donaldson, Team Europe was filled with MVPs, and the formidable 12 backed up their Miracle at Medinah with glory at Gleneagles.

The Perthshire venue has long been renowned as one of Britain’s leading golf resorts, having hosted the BBC’s popular Pro Celebrity Golf series in the 1970s then the Bell’s Scottish Open.

Gleneagles’ King’s and Queen’s courses are revered and now, finally, the Jack Nicklaus-designed PGA Centenary Course may also be spoken about in favourable tones after it proved to be an excellent Ryder Cup course.

It provided drama aplenty over three days, during which there was not a squeak of complaint from any of the 24 players.

In terms of spectator viewing, it was quite possibly one of the best offering fantastic vantage points – either in stands or on banks – all around the course to the 45,000 spectators attending each day.

What was a bonus, of course, was that Mother Nature smiled on Scotland, unlike Wales or Ireland, where the two previous stagings on this side of the Atlantic were hit by storms and heavy rain.

First-time visitors to Gleneagles were blown away by its sheer beauty and vowed to return, putting the famous venue on the world golfing map.

But it remains to be seen when the Ryder Cup will return to Scotland, as the event could be set for a tour around Europe over the next 20 years.

NOVENAS

Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe

October is the month of the rosary, pray for world peace. God of power and mercy you blessed the Americas at Tepeyac with the presence of the Virgin Mary of Guadalupe. May her prayers help all men and women to accept each other as brothers and sisters. Through your justice present in our hearts, may your peace reign in the world. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

– PMK, MJF, TCK, CC, PC, WP

Novena to St. Clare

For nine days, pray for one impossible request, two business requests, pray nine Hail Marys for nine days, each day. This novena must be published whether prayers are granted or not. – SVS

Novena to St. Anthony

Remember, O Saint of Miracles, that you have never failed to help and comfort anyone who has ever sought you in a time of need. I too come to you, who are so rich in graces,

and the favoured friend of the Infant Jesus, confident that I do not pray in vain. Eloquent preacher of the Infinite Mercy of God, do not refuse my prayer, but take my request before the throne of God, so that I may have help and strength in my present trial and necessity. Listen to my voice, together with that of your friars who ask you a grace for me. Amen. – SVS

Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague

O Infant Jesus, I run to you begging you through Your Holy Mother to save me in this need (*name it*), for I truly and firmly believe that Your Divinity can defend me. Full of trust, I hope in you to obtain Your holy grace. I love You with all my heart, I am painfully sorry for my sins and on my knees I beg You, O Little Jesus, to free me from them. My resolution is to improve and never more to offend You. Therefore, I offer myself to You and to serve You faithfully. I will love my neighbour as myself from my heart for the love of You. O Little Jesus, I adore You, O Mighty Child, I implore You. Save me in this need (*you can mention if here*), that I may enjoy You eternally, with Mary and Joseph see You and with all the angels adore You. – SVS

Publication of this prayer is \$25 monthly (Canadian residents include 5% GST)

The All Ireland Hurling and Football Finals

Football: Kerry 2-9 – Donegal 0-12
Hurling: Kilkenny 2-17 – 2-14 Tipperary



THE EVISTON CLAN enjoying the All-Ireland Hurling at Mahony’s (L-R) [Front] Eddie Eviston, Jr, Ed Eviston, visiting from Ireland, and Mossy Eviston. [Back] Eddie Eviston.



VISITING from New Zealand and taking in the All Ireland Football final live were (L-R) Patrick and Noeleen Feeny with Laura Feeny of Vancouver.



ENJOYING the live telecast of the All-Ireland Football final between Donegal and Kerry (L-R) [seated] Tom O’Flynn, Bernard Ward and John O’Flynn with Jimmy Spieran [standing].



THE CAREY FAMILY– Matt, Mary, Aoifa, and Martin – watching the early morning All Ireland Hurling final at Mahony’s Burrard Landing.

By CATHOLINE BUTLER
VANCOUVER – The line-up started early at the front doors of Mahony & Sons Public House on Burrard Landing in downtown Vancouver for the live telecasts of the All Ireland Hurling and Football Finals from Croke Park, Dublin.

On September 21 the All Ireland Football Final was played and Kerry beat Donegal 2-9 to 0-12 in Croke Park. This was Kerry’s 37th All Ireland Senior Football Championship title.

The All Ireland Hurling Final was decided in a replay on September 27, with the final result: Kilkenny 2-17 – 2-14 Tipperary.

At Mahony’s it was jubilation for the Kilkenny fans who were far outnumbered by the Tipperary fans who were heartbroken.

If hockey is the fastest game on ice, then hurling must be the fastest game on turf.

Hockey players are well-padded for their game, whereas hurling players only wear a face mask and carry a hurling stick, made of Irish ash.

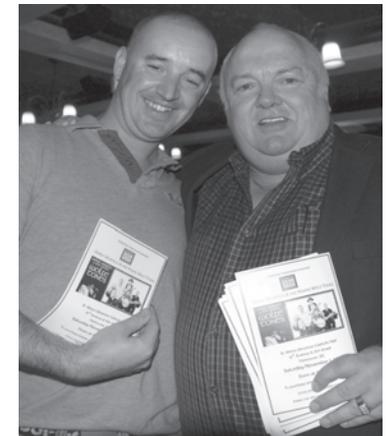
The hurling players move the ball (sliotar) at such a speed that the eye can easily lose track of it. This is a fast-paced skilled game and not for the faint of heart.

No doubt the hurling and football victories will be replayed by fans in the respective counties for another year.

For a photo album of all the photos taken at the All Ireland games at Mahony & Sons Public House, check out our newly launched and streamlined website at: www.celtic-connection.com – it includes a direct feed to our Facebook page.



MARK KEANE who had just arrived in from a bicycle trip across Canada dropped in watch the All Ireland Hurling.



(L-R) RONAN CONSIDINE and John Coughlan of CelticFest who was promoting the Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones concert on November 1.

See The Celtic Connection Facebook Page for more photos

GREAT WEATHER, GREAT COMPANYAND A GREAT DAY OF GOLF

By CATHOLINE BUTLER

VANCOUVER – A big heartfelt thanks to all the sponsors and players who took in our 11th annual fundraising golf tournament.

Maura and I want to thank everyone who participated, this event would not be possible without your generous support and we are most grateful to everyone.

Thanks also to all those non-golfers in the community who came out to Mylora Golf Course to enjoy the delicious barbeque and listen to the entertaining music of Michael Viens and Mary Brunner.

Very special thanks to Colleen Carpenter, Eileen Burke, Jose De Freitas, Mary Hatch, Deirdre and Conor Keohane, Miguel De Freitas, Clint Macnab, Connie Cronin and Gerard O'Connell, who all helped in so many ways on the day. And, of course, to our special golf mentor over the years, George McDonnell.

With the Pub Challenge Award and the Sports Challenge Award both up for grabs, there was some friendly boasting going on back and forth, which all added excitement to the day.

And to add even more to that excitement, there was a tie for overall winner between Marty McCann's team and Fred Wilson's team of the Sunset Grill.

Everyone gathered out on the green to watch the playoff, which was finally won by Marty McCann and his team.

Not only did they win Best Foursome, they also took home the Sports Challenge Award – they carried off a lot of loot! Well done and congratulations to Marty and his team.

Congratulations to all our 2014 winners: Overall best foursome – Marty McCann and team; Pub Challenge – Fred Wilson and team - Sunset Grill; Sports Challenge – Marty McCann and team; Longest Drive Woman – Linda Louie; Longest Drive Man – John Hunt; Nearest the Pin Woman – Mary Doak; and Nearest the Pin Man – Dave Sebastian.



CONOR KEOHANE, proud winner of the Guinness fridge, with Gerard O'Connell, the delighted winner of the Guinness Tower.

Watch *The Celtic Connection* for location, time and date for our 2015 golf tournament, which will be our big 12th annual – let's make it a memorable one!

We look forward to warmly welcoming you all back again for another great day of golf and fun.

Very special thanks to all the companies and individuals who sponsored holes and donated prizes to our tournament and silent auction. We are deeply grateful to the following companies for their support:

Hole Sponsors:

- Buntain Insurance
- Clare Construction
- Donnelly Landscapes
- Foggy Dew Irish Pub
- Irish Heritage Society/New West Gypsum
- IRL Construction
- John Coughlan and family
- Johnnie Fox's Irish Snug
- Tony & Gwen McCamley
- Mahony & Sons Public House
- ProCoat Coatings, Calgary
- Ronan Matthews
- Sunset Grill
- Vancouver Irish Sporting & Social Club
- Welsh Society of Vancouver
- West Limerick Holdings
- The Wolf & Hound

Gift Donors:

- AAA Stanley Park Horse-Drawn
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- Chaise Lounge
- Cheshire Cheese Restaurant, North Vancouver
- Clancy's Tea Cosy
- Colour Tech Hair Salon
- Direct Liquidation
- Doolin's Irish Pub
- Dublin Crossing Irish Pub
- Foggy Dew Irish Pub
- Robert Goodrick - North Shore Winter Club
- Isabelle Dunlop Design
- Johnnie Fox's Irish Snug
- Legacy Liquor Store
- Mad Hatter Shops
- Mahony & Sons Public House
- Mary's British Home
- Meluki Books
- Network Agency - Beverage Concepts
- Nuala & Chris Cyr
- Oscar's Books
- Oscar's Pub
- Pets Agree
- ProCoat Coatings, Calgary
- Prussin Music
- P.W. Trenchless
- Sharkey's Chop House Lonsdale
- Steveston Hotel
- Sunset Grill
- Tartantown Shop
- Teresa McDonnell
- George McDonnell
- The Fan Club
- The Pint Pub
- Vancouver Symphony Orchestra
- West Limerick Holdings
- Windsor Meats
- Wirtz/Guinness
- Wolf & Hound Irish Pub



MARTY MCCANN and his team won both the Best Foursome and the Sport Challenge at the tournament.



FRED WILSON and the Sunset Grill were the Pub Challenge winners.



A **PLAYOFF** broke the tie between Marty McCann's team and Sunset Grill for overall best foursome.



MUSICIANS Mary Brunner and Michael Viens at the tournament.



LINDA LOUIE with Catholine Butler. Linda was the winner of Longest Drive Woman, holding the Guinness/Wirtz product basket prize.



GEORGE MCDONNELL tallying the golf scores at the tournament.



DAVE SEBASTIAN won nearest the Pin Men.



CATHOLINE BUTLER with Mary Doak who won Nearest the Pin Women.

**See The Celtic Connection
Facebook Page
for a photo album with many more
photos of our annual golf tournament**

My visit to Newfoundland and the Maritimes was the trip of a lifetime filled with great memories



IN my recent trip through the Maritimes, we bid farewell to Sydney, Nova Scotia and boarded a ferry for the five hour journey to Newfoundland.

We were warned the ferry crossing could be rough in bad weather but the weather was beautiful and sunny and the crossing was very calm.

As we arrived in Port Au Basque, the first sign we saw was a warning to watch for moose on the road along with a photo of the damage a moose can do to your vehicle and the injuries people sustain from such accidents.

It was getting dark when we arrived in Corner Brook and found a nice old hotel to stay for the night.

Corner Brook is a bustling city situated on the West Coast of Newfoundland, it's a hub for the area with a hospital, shopping centre, government and education facilities. It also boasts a large pulp and paper mill and a deep harbour for container shipping.

The next morning, we set out to visit Gros Morne National Park. In 1987 the Park was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site both for its geological history and exceptional scenery.

The Tablelands in Woody Point in the park look more like a barren desert than traditional Newfoundland.

This is due to the ultramafic rock, peridotite which makes up the Tablelands, which is thought to originate in the earth's mantle and forced up from the depths during a plate collision several hundred million years ago.

Peridotite is high in iron, which accounts for its brownish, rusted colour. Hiking and biking the many trails is a popular activity in Gros Morne.

We stayed overnight at Rocky Harbour in Gros Morne, before leaving for the drive to St. Anthony.

This was a long monotonous drive with miles and miles of small trees and little scenery or signs of habitation.....with the exception of the 'watch for moose' signs.

My granddaughters, Madisson and Kelsey kept hoping to see one, but not me, I was fine with the moose staying in the bush and off the road.

We stopped at Cowhead for lunch and it was lucky we did since there were no restaurants further along the way.

Finally, the scenery changed as we drove into St. Anthony, and it was a welcome sight.

The town is located in the northern reaches of Newfoundland as far as you can drive on land, with the Gulf of St. Lawrence on one side and the Atlantic Ocean on the other side.

As we arrived in town, we saw signs advertising The Great Viking Feast Dinner Theatre in St. Anthony – held in the only sod covered theatre in North America. We resolved to visit the Norse village at L'Anse aux Meadows, the next day.

As we checked into the Polar Bear Inn, a woman at the front desk was told my son Pat that a polar bear had come



By
**CATHOLINE
BUTLER**

down in the spring on one of the icebergs and stopped off in St. Anthony and walked through the town.

She said everyone kept out of the bear's way until he finally left and got back on the iceberg.

The Polar Bear Inn has a restaurant called, 'Jungle Jim's,' which seemed like a bit of an oxymoron but it all worked with palm trees and exotic decor and drinks. Jungle Jim's would probably be a nice respite from the long cold winters in St. Anthony.

St. Anthony was where we saw our first icebergs as they made their way down iceberg alley. It is also the most accessible region to view such a high number of icebergs.

We had a lovely dinner at the Lighthouse Restaurant and noted that one of their specialties was a Portugese dish called, Bacalhau, which is made with salt cod.

We remarked the different dishes on the various menus from French, Portugese to Nordic, all due to the different nationalities that had fished the waters of Newfoundland and left their mark in one way or another.

The cod fishing season had just begun and we saw the fishing boats going out at dusk to fish for their quota of cod.

Labrador is rich in natural resources of oil and mines of silver, gold, iron ore, copper and zinc.

We visited a craft shop in St. Anthony and were surprised to see jewellery made in Labrador for the first time. There were unique silver designs in rings, earrings and necklaces...needless to say, we brought home a few pieces.

The next morning, we had breakfast at Jungle Jim's and the waitress told me she would soon be leaving to work in Fort McMurray, Alberta.

She had a lot of friends already there and would be staying with them. She was trained as a heavy duty equipment operator and didn't anticipate a problem getting work.

The next day, we drove to L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site about a half hour from St. Anthony, to visit the Viking Village.

Archaeological discoveries proved Leif Erickson and crew of Norse explorers settled here in Newfoundland and Labrador (or Vinland as they called it) over a thousand years ago.

The village is like walking back in history with a full scale replica of the Viking ship Snorri, which sailed from Greenland to L'Anse aux Meadows with a crew of nine men.

Along with the boat shed where the Snorri lies, there is a Chieftain's Hall, a



THE small fishing village of St. Anthony on the northern tip of Newfoundland offers spectacular scenery.



THE Norse village at L'Anse aux Meadows features a full scale replica of the Viking ship Snorri which sailed from Greenland with a crew of nine. Each year in July the village presents a very popular Viking Festival.

small church and a workshop and a wise woman to read your ruins.

Costumed guides are on hand to show and explain the Viking methods. Every year around mid-July there is a Viking Festival.

This was also where I tasted iceberg water for the first time...such a cool, clean and refreshing tasting. Iceberg beer is also made from the water of the icebergs.

Soon, it was time to leave and make our way back out on the same road where we had arrived into St. Anthony.

We were heading for St. John's, the capital of Newfoundland. Actually, we were going from one tip of Newfoundland to the other and it was also a long drive.

Along the road we saw little stands selling Partridge Berries and Bake Apple berries, native berries to Newfoundland. There is even a Partridge Berry Festival on Fogo Island.

As we got closer to St. John's, the radio was advertising the start of the George Street Festival and Madisson and Kelsey were looking forward to attending that famous festival.

However, because of the festival, we had a tough time getting a hotel since every hotel in the city was booked.

We finally lucked out and got the last rooms in one of the hotels. Every restaurant and pub had a queue waiting to

get in and that was before we even got to George Street.

To get onto George Street you paid \$20, and once inside you could walk in and out of the pubs and take your drink along with you.

They were also had some great entertainment in the evenings such as Blue Rodeo, Dropkick Murphys, and Serena Ryder, to name a few. Alan Doyle and Great Big Sea were the entertainment on the closing night of the festival.

Madisson and Kelsey, attended three nights of the festival and had a ball. They were also screeched in and kissed the dead cod, making them honorary Newfoundlanders... with a certificate to boot.

Over the four day festival, it was estimated 120,000 people attended – shoulder to shoulder – on the sidewalks of George Street. If you were not at the festival gates by about 4 PM, it was sold out.

There are so many historic sights to see in and around St. John's, one of the most famous is Signal Hill where Guglielmo Marconi is primarily remembered for his reception of the first wireless signal across the Atlantic Ocean from Signal Hill.

He received the Nobel Prize for physics in 1909.

Pat and I visited the Basilica-Cathedral

of St. John the Baptist, designated a national historic site of Canada and built between 1839 and 1855.

The basilica is on Military Road and beautifully located on the highest ridge overlooking the city of St. John's, and looks right down as far as the harbour.

The basilica is huge and the capacity is 2,500 but when Pope John II, visited the basilica in September 1984, 3,600 educators gathered in the basilica to greet the Roman Pontiff.

There are 28 beautiful stained glass windows that were gifts of religious societies such as the Benevolent Irish Society.

The basilica was one of the few buildings in St. John's to survive the Great Fire of 1892.

This visit to the Maritimes and Newfoundland Labrador was the trip of a lifetime for all of us.

As well as the great music in Atlantic Canada, the hospitality would have to rank right up there. Everywhere we travelled the people were extremely helpful and made us feel very welcome.

As I write this article and relive our visit, I know the happy memories will forever be etched on my mind.

Watch the November issue for an interview with the owner of the Normaway in Cape Breton.



THE FOUR DAY George Street Festival in St. John's attracts huge crowds every night with fabulous live entertainment such as Blue Rodeo, Dropkick Murphys, Serena Ryder and, of course, Great Big Sea.