

# the celtic connection

ISSUE 24 VOLUME 5

*Proudly Serving Celts in North America Since 1991*

JUNE 2015



THE 84<sup>TH</sup> annual B.C. Highland Games and Scottish Festival will be held on June 20 at Percy Perry Stadium in Coquitlam. The day-long festival is a showcase of the Scottish and Celtic community of British Columbia. [Read more on pages 3 & 9]



PRINCE CHARLES shakes hands with Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams at the National University of Galway during his first official two-day visit to Ireland on May 19-20. [Read the full story on page 15]

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**FIFA under fire amid corruption scandal**

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**Fraser Valley Gaels: Western Canada's Newest GAA Club**

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## WIN FREE TICKETS

Win free tickets to the **BC Highland Games** at Percy Perry Stadium, Coquitlam Town Centre, on June 20 (see page 9 for details). Entry by June 16. Mark your entry BC Highland Games.

Win a weekend pass to the **Vancouver Folk Music Festival** at Jericho Beach Park, Vancouver, on July 17-19 (see pages 6 & 13 for more details). Entry by June 26. Mark your entry: VFMF.

Win free tickets to the **Mission Folk Music Festival** at Fraser River Heritage Park, Mission, BC, on July 24-26 (see page 3 & 4 for more details). Entry by June 26. Mark your entry: MFMF.

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.) E-mail: cbutler@telus.net.



MIDSUMMER EVE by Edward Robert Hughes.

[5 November 1851 – 23 April 1914]

## The Magic of Midsummer

**M**IDSUMMER is a time associated with magic and fairies – it is said that the little folk (the elves and fairies) can be easily seen on Midsummer's Eve.

The ancient peoples such as the Celts were aware of the significant dates of the calendar and marked them accordingly with rituals and celebrations.

Midsummer, also known as St. John's Day among Christians, is the period of time centered upon the summer solstice. Northern European celebrations that accompany the actual solstice take place on a day between June 21 and June 25 and the preceding evening.

This is the point when the sun reaches its highest zenith and it is also referred to as Litha or Feill Sheathain or Midsummer because it is roughly the middle of the growing season.

Bonfires were lit to protect against evil spirits which were believed to roam freely when the sun was turning southward again. In later years, witches were also thought to be on their way to meetings with other powerful beings.

This time of year, between the planting and harvesting of the crops, was the traditional month for weddings. This is because many ancient peoples believed

that the "grand [sexual] union" of the goddess and god occurred in early May at Beltaine.

Since it was unlucky to compete with the deities, many couples delayed their weddings until June. June remains a favourite month for marriage today.

As the name Midsummer indicates, this is considered the height of the summer. Yet there is an undertone of darkness in the light. While we celebrate the power of the sun, we also note its decline. From now on the hours of sunlight will decrease.

Flowers and May Day wreaths are tossed into the fire. They burn and die just as the heat of the summer consumes the spring and brings us closer to the decline of autumn and the death of vegetation in winter.

As we begin the decline, it's important to remember that the wheel of the year is a circle. The spring will come again and once again, the sun will triumph over the darkness. Thus, the circle remains an important symbol of rebirth and renewal.

[Read more on the Solstice by Cynthia Wallentine on page 19]

**READ ABOUT THE UPCOMING 8TH ANNUAL SEATTLE GAELIC GAMES ON SATURDAY JUNE 13 WITH PARTICIPATING TEAMS FROM THROUGHOUT WESTERN CANADA, OREGON, MONTANA AND WASHINGTON - PAGES 20 & 21**

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# New pre-screening rules for visitors flying into Canada

OTTAWA—Starting early next year, millions of international visitors who don't require a visa to enter Canada will nevertheless need to obtain pre-approval from Ottawa under a new border-security regime designed to bar unwanted arrivals.

Air travellers will have to pay CDN\$7 and receive an "electronic travel authorization" (eTA) before boarding a flight to Canada under a 2011 deal between Washington and Ottawa to better protect North America from security threats.

The Canadian Government has announced that this new pre-screening regime, which has received relatively little public attention, will be mandatory as of March 15, 2016. The eTA will be valid for five years.

It is specifically targeting air travellers from countries whose nationals are permitted to visit Canada without a visa, reasoning that this group receives the least scrutiny from authorities.

"Visa-exempt foreign nationals are not systematically screened for admissibility until they arrive at a Canadian port of entry," the government said.

Similar pre-screening systems are already in place in the United States and Australia.

Americans will be exempt from this new air-travel requirement, as will some categories of foreigners merely passing through Canada, including air crews. The Queen and members of the Royal Family will also be granted a pass.

The government concedes the measure could discourage visitors at first. "It is acknowledged that there may be some minimal short-term impacts on tourism associated with the transition to the new eTA requirements," Ottawa said in a statement.

It says this pre-screening will save Canada the trouble of turning back unwanted arrivals after they've landed.



INTERNATIONAL air travellers who do not require a visa will now have to apply for an "electronic travel authorization" (eTA) before boarding a flight to Canada starting March 15, 2016.

More than 7,000 people from countries other than the United States – people who did not require visas to enter Canada – were found inadmissible after arriving at Canadian airports in 2012 and 2013.

The government estimates pre-screening will prevent more than 60,000 unwanted arrivals from flying to Canada over the next decade.

The new travel authorization will require people planning to reach Canada by air to give the Canadian Government biographical details about themselves so authorities can check their names against databases to determine if they

pose a "threat to the health, safety or security of Canada."

Starting on August 1, 2015, travellers will be able to apply for the eTA online. As of March 15, 2016, travellers will need an eTA before they board a flight to Canada.

The authorization is electronically linked to your passport and is valid for five years or until your passport expires, whichever comes first.

Travellers can apply online for an eTA. The cost is CDN \$7 Canadian and you will need to provide your passport details, a credit card, and an e-mail address.

## Our 12th annual golf tournament cancelled

VANCOUVER – We would like to extend a big thank you to all our friends, sponsors and participants of the annual *Celtic Connection* golf tournament. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, we must cancel this year's event.

For the past 12 years, our tournament has been a tradition at the Mylora Golf Club in Richmond with some friendly competition, great prizes, a delicious barbeque, and lots of laughs. We're really sorry to miss it this year.

It's also an important fundraiser for *The Celtic Connection* newspaper and we're looking forward to welcoming you back in 2016.

– Maura De Freitas

## Exciting joint project with SFU to digitize all our back issues

VANCOUVER – Simon Fraser University – which marks a milestone 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year – has a reputation as Canada's most community-engaged university.

Here at *The Celtic Connection* we're very excited to be part of this community engagement with a recently launched joint-project.

Thanks to the work of Willeen Keough, the chair of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies and associate professor of history, we have received a



grant to digitize all the back issues of the newspaper for the library at SFU.

This means our complete archive of almost 25 years in publishing will ultimately be available through the Bennett library for both academics and community researchers.

We will keep our readers informed as the work progresses and where you can source this material in future.

## In Memory of Bill Carpenter

BILL CARPENTER, an avid reader of *The Celtic Connection*, passed away peacefully on May 18 in Calgary. Born in England, Bill appreciated a good pint and as his family and friends know, he could spin a story with the best of them. Always in our hearts. *Slainte*.



## Quote of the Month

"Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much."  
– Oscar Wilde [1854 - 1900]

Oscar Wilde, Irish wit, poet and dramatist was born in Dublin Ireland on October 16, 1854 and died in Paris, France, November 30, 1900.

His dramatist reputation rests on his only novel, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1891), and on his comic masterpieces *Lady Windermere's Fan* (1892) and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895).

He was a spokesman for the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Aesthetic movement in England, which advocated art for art's sake and he was the object of celebrated civil and criminal suits involving homosexuality and ending in his imprisonment (1895-97).

Wilde was born of professional and literary parents. His father, Sir William Wilde, was Ireland's leading ear and eye surgeon, who also published books on archaeology, folklore and the satirist Jonathan Swift. His mother, who wrote under the name Speranza, was a revolutionary poet and an authority on Celtic myth and folklore.

## THE CELTIC CONNECTION

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# First Celtic Center in the Pacific NW Opened by Celtic Arts Foundation

**M**OUNT VERNON, WA – A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on

June 16 at the Littlefield Celtic Center, in Mount Vernon, Washington.

The Center is the only one of its kind in the Pacific Northwest and is named after its benefactors, Laura and Edmund Wattis Littlefield, Jr.

It will accommodate seated meals, concerts and lectures for up to 150 people. The facility will include all the necessary amenities to become a hub of activity that will make a vibrant contribution, not only to the Celtic Arts Foundation and its stakeholders, but to the broader community as well.

The journey towards this amazing accomplishment began in 2012 when the Foundation created a capital campaign to secure a permanent home.

Thanks to the generosity of well over 150 individuals from seven U.S. states and two Canadian provinces, over \$240,000 was initially raised.

A house and large property at the corner of Cleveland and Section Streets was purchased, razed and rebuilt as a permanent office for the CAF.

Then, in 2013, the CAF received a pledge for a \$500,000 donation, initiating



THE LITTLEFIELD Celtic Center in Mount Vernon, Washington under construction. It is the only one of its kind in the Pacific Northwest.

ing the second phase of this project, the addition of a 3,790 square foot Littlefield Celtic Center.

The Mount Vernon based architectural firm, HKP, was selected to design and oversee the completion of the cultural center.

In 2014, an additional \$1.1 million donation was made by the Littlefields, allowing the CAF to commence with the construction of the second phase.

The local company Fisher & Sons have done a magnificent job of constructing the Center. Several pending grant applications will allow for further upgrades.

The Celtic Arts Foundation, founded in 1997, is a registered non-profit organization.

It sponsors, encourages, and promotes Celtic culture through community festivals, events, and education programs,

annually producing a dozen events in four Washington State counties.

Since 1995, it has hosted renowned musicians and artists from the international, national, and regional Celtic arts communities to provide world-class performances, concerts, and instruction.

It also provides opportunities for local musicians and artists to perform, and for community members to enjoy and experience traditional Celtic art forms and to connect to their ancestry.

The foundation has received recognition and awards from both state and international organizations for various programs and has hosted multiple regional and national championship events.

For additional information, call executive director Skye K. Richendrfer at mailto:Skye@Celticarts.org, call (360) 416-4934 or visit online at: <http://celticarts.org/celtic-arts-cultural-center/>

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The Canadian-Irish venture of **Pierre Schryer and Martin Nolan**

Scotland's **Ross Ainslie and Jarlath Henderson**

Basque trikitixa with **Eneko Dorrorsoro**

Home made music from BC

... lots more to be announced!

**TICKETS** Online any time @ [www.missionfolkmusicfestival.ca](http://www.missionfolkmusicfestival.ca)  
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# GREETINGS FROM DONEGAL

**W**ELL, here we are in Ireland. We're staying in a series of castles, starting with Cabra Castle in Co. Cavan. For the past two nights we've been at Lough Eske Castle in Donegal. Tomorrow we head to Ballyfarnon in Co. Roscommon.

It took a while to get used to driving a standard shift car on the left hand side of the road, I'll tell you!

Driving across Fermanagh led to a new challenge as the GPS doesn't work in "foreign" countries!

The voice kept referring to "Firmer Nag." After awhile I realised it was a terrible attempt at pronouncing Fermanagh!

Anyhow, this is a holiday and a break from music, but someone told us about the **Doolin Folk Festival** in Co. Clare (June 12-14), so we're heading there after our castle tour.

The lineup includes **Sharon Shannon, We Banjo 3, NoCrows, Paddy Keenan, Stockton's Wing**, and New Zealand's **Aldoc**. Should be fun!

Last night a huge storm knocked out the power and the Internet. The satellite and WIFI are still not working. There was a lot of rain, and it's very windy.

At 10 PM tonight it was still daylight, however.

Today's highlight was discovering a hand weaver named **Cyndi Graham** who has a workshop on a remote, narrow road between Donegal Town and Killybegs.

Fascinating stories and beautiful craftsmanship on a wooden loom dating back to the 1880s. She followed her father's obsession and keeps the trade alive in a little thatched "cottage" overlooking Donegal Bay.

It's a little tricky to start thinking about coming back to Canada yet, but a week or so after we get back **The Rogue** presents two nights with the incredible American songwriter **Tom Russell** at St. James Hall (3214 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue) on Friday, June 26 and Saturday, June 27.

Tom is of Irish descent, and his latest CD, *The Rose of Roscræ*, tells the tale of a young Irishman banished to America in the 1880s for falling for the Rose of Roscræ herself, and feeling her father's fist for his pains.

In America he heads west and works on ranches before meeting up with Rose again in California.

Drink and gambling and womanizing lead to their separation and he becomes a notorious outlaw and gambler.

Escaping the gallows thanks to a crooked judge, he lives the life of a cowboy on the range, sharing songs and stories with many ghosts and a few living Indians and cowboys.

Afterwards, he heads back to Roscræ to hook up once again with the love of his life, where the local kids refer to him as Cowboy John Dutton.

This remarkable tale covers two CDs and a libretto with guest singers **Maura O'Connell, Finbar Furey, Gretchen Peters, Ian Tyson, Eliza Gilkyson, Rambling Jack Elliot, Joe Ely, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, and Bonnie Dobson**.



By  
**STEVE  
EDGE**

## THE ROGUE FOLK CLUB

It's a monumental opus, and Tom's concerts are always memorable affairs. Tickets are going fast! Get yours online on: [www.roguefolk.bc.ca](http://www.roguefolk.bc.ca).

The local festival season kicks off next month, with **Island Musicfest** (Courtenay, July 10-12) and **Harrison Festival of the Arts** (July 11-19).

**Musicfest** boasts the Canadian debuts of veteran Anglo-Celtic folk rockers **Steeleye Span** (featuring the wonderful singer **Maddy Prior**) and Scots soul / R&B / Blues singer **Maggie Bell** (formerly of *Stone The Crows*).

Maggie has recorded with plenty of legends, including **Led Zeppelin** and **Rod Stewart**. She took two decades off, before teaming up recently with the superb English slide guitarist **Dave Kelly** (of *The Blues Band*).

She actually makes her Canadian debut at **The Rogue** on July 9 with Dave before heading over to Courtenay. Read all about her on [www.maggiebell.co.uk](http://www.maggiebell.co.uk).

PEI's **Ten Strings & A Goatskin** played the Rogue recently. What a great young band they are! They are coming back to the west coast for Island Musicfest.

**Harrison Hot Springs** is perhaps best known for its spa hotel and the legends of Big Foot, but every summer they have a great festival of music (and another of sandcastles!).

Celtic performers of note this year are Scots quintet **Breabach** (July 16) and Newfoundland's wonderful singers **The Once** (July 19).

**The Vancouver Folk Music Festival** takes place **July 17-19** at Jericho Beach Park, with lots of Celtic music by the likes of pipers **Ross Ainslie & Jarlath Henderson**, **Breabach**, **The Once**, Quebec's **Les Poules a Colin**, Anglo-Scottish troubadour **Rory McLeod**, English folk rebel **Sam Lee and Friends**, Crooked Still singer **Aoife O'Donovan** (with **Sara Watkins** and **Sarah Jarosz**), and the incredible songwriter / guitarist **Richard Thompson!** ([www.thefestival.bc.ca](http://www.thefestival.bc.ca)).

**The Mission Folk Music Festival** (July 24-26 at Fraser River Heritage Park in Mission, 80 kilometres east of Vancouver on Highway 7) features amazing music from Galicia with a band called **Ialma**.

**Ross Ainslie & Jarlath Henderson** will also be there, along with Canadian fiddler **Pierre Schryer** and Irish piper **Martin Nolan**, (and some stunning music from Africa and Poland too!).

There is excellent camping and lots of jamming there. For all the details, check out [www.missionfolkmusicfestival.ca](http://www.missionfolkmusicfestival.ca).

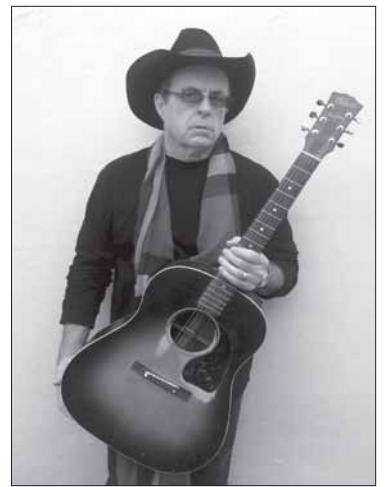


**MAGGIE BELL & Dave Kelly** play the Island Musicfest in Courtenay, B.C. on the weekend of July 10-12 and The Rogue Folk Club in Vancouver on July 9.

That same weekend, **Duncan's Islands Folk Festival** features Cape Breton's sensational Celtic quintet **Coig**, Welsh singer **Martyn Joseph**, and some fine B.C. Celts like **Crikey Mor** and **The Mary Murphy Band**.

We've just added a show at The Rogue on Sunday, July 5 with the sensational young Appalachian duo **Anna & Elizabeth**, with **Eli West** sitting in.

I first heard their new CD at Folk Alli-



**TOM RUSSELL** plays The Rogue on June 26-27. His epic new CD *The Rose of Roscræ* features some of Ireland's most renowned musicians.

ance in Kansas City. I've been a huge fan ever since. Very earthy, very real music by two superb singers!

I played a song on my iPod for **Mairead Ni Mhaonaigh** of Altan when they were in town recently. She was absolutely enthralled! Which brings me back to Donegal, and the latest storm watch.

You can find more information about Rogue shows – as well as ticket deals for Vancouver and Mission – on [www.roguefolk.bc.ca](http://www.roguefolk.bc.ca).

*Slainte, Steve*

## Ialma: A showcase of Galician music coming to this year's Mission Folk Fest

By ETIENNE BOURS

**MISSION, BC** – The paths of the Camino that lead to Santiago de Compostela are a rich network that link Europe's peoples and landscapes and attract pilgrims from around the world.

However, for many Galician people who fled their country in search of work or freedom during the years of dictatorship, the awaited pilgrimage is that which returns them to their culture, to their roots, to an identity which gives people something to share.

What does one do with culture when far from home, when it is embedded in nostalgia, when it clings to memories?

Of course, they sing, dance, play the 'gaita' (bagpipes), and participate in activities in the Galician Culture Centres spread around the world.

But how and why? Is it to retain an image romanticized by the melancholy of exile or to bring their Galician heritage closer to a new reality?

The choice is anything but simple and those who take a personal approach to answering these questions, over an official or national approach, are few and far between.

In Brussels, five young women from Galicia have gradually created a repertoire of songs and dances borrowed from the base of their origins but adapted to the need for transmitting a new reality – that of women enmeshed in many different languages, cultures and artistic expressions.

This group, **Ialma**, had to struggle to come forth with a personalised piece just as they have fought to create a place in the middle of a world that scrutinises and tries to dictate one's direction.

The singers that comprise **Ialma** started in the Galician Cultural Centre in Brussels in order to accompany traditional dances.



**FIVE** young women have created a repertoire of song and dance borrowed from the base of their Galician origins.

The dance instructors came from Galicia and the 'gaita' was the fundamental, if not obligatory, instrument.

But singing, the mixture of memories, the quest and participatory learning, quickly lent to another sensation, as though suddenly another side of this tradition revealed itself – that which appears when the strict boundaries of tradition are not the same as in the homeland.

This realization was liberating and although the singers diverted somewhat from the paths of Santiago, they maintained a constant direction, that which returns to their roots.

Refusing to overly exploit folkloric songs and dances, yet never denying their existence, they have shown that along the paths of the Camino cultures coincide and cross regions with traditional dances, violin, diatonic accordion, and thousands of other expressions just as rich and energising as the original pieces.

Why walk this path with blinders on when opening our eyes and ears can only lead to enrichment?

It took time for these daughters of Galicia to gain recognition from the homeland.

To sing and speak in their mother-tongue, 'Gallego' or Galician does not suffice for the singers.

They have made the journey to Galicia to find the older generation of singers who closely guard their repertoire of traditional songs and hold on to their tambourines.

These village women, living museums that are reaching the end of the road, always end up leaving a part of themselves behind on their way and in doing so share a bit of their wisdom.

Through this process, **Ialma** has become a showcase for Galician music.

They bring the rich experience of the Camino de Santiago as experienced in the longing to return home, to find roots and place.

**Ialma** brings music of the Camino to the Mission Folk Music Festival this July 24 to 26.

Early Bird tickets available online now at [missionfolkmusicfestival.ca](http://missionfolkmusicfestival.ca) or by phone toll free at (866) 943-8849 and at Shopper's Drugs in Mission.

[Edited from the article by Etienne Bours and translated from French to English by Salomé Phillmann.]





IRISH supergroup U2 on stage in their first concert of a new 20-city world tour in Vancouver on May 14. The band will spend much of 2015 on the road with the Innocence + Experience tour.

## U2's tour manager dies as band kicks off L.A.-area stint

VANCOUVER – Irish rock group U2 are in the middle of their latest world tour Innocence + Experience despite a number of significant setbacks both personally and professionally.

The first concerts were held at Vancouver's Rogers Arena, with back-to-back performances on May 14 and 15.

Earlier the band had booked the Pacific Coliseum on Vancouver's eastside for a whole month to prepare for the six-month-long tour spanning 70 dates and 20 cities in North America and Europe.

Just days before the launch, Larry Mullen Jr.'s 92-year-old father passed away in Dublin leaving the tour in question.

The drummer flew back to Ireland for the funeral and joked while reading a eulogy saying, "Nice timing, dad."

He added: "My father was truly ready to go. He wasn't sick very long, and he decided to exit this mortal coil on Sunday.

"To my dad, I just want to acknowledge that there are no regrets between us. I love you, and you know that."

The first show on the tour then got off to an unsteady start at Rogers Arena when lead guitarist The Edge literally fell off the edge of the stage.

The Edge, whose real name is Dave Evans, walked off the edge of the walkway connecting the main stage and the B-stage during a rendition of *I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For*.

He fell during the last song of the night, which the rest of the band – Bono, Larry Mullen Jr. and Adam Clayton – continued to play while he was helped up by security guards.

The Edge later posted on Instagram a picture of his grazed and cut right arm, with the message: "Didn't see the edge, I'm OK!!"

This mishap follows a more serious accident late last year when lead singer Bono crashed his bike in Central Park in New York.

He suffered multiple injuries, including fractures to his left eye socket, shoulder blade and left elbow. He had extensive surgeries to repair the damage and install a titanium elbow.

Another blow came while the band was



LONGTIME U2 tour manager, Dennis Sheehan, was found dead in Los Angeles after a heart attack on May 26.

playing a series of shows in Los Angeles on May 26.

Their longtime tour manager Dennis Sheehan suffered a fatal heart attack at a West Hollywood hotel, leaving the band shocked and grieving.

Sheehan, who was 68, had managed U2's tours for more than three decades.

In a statement, Bono expressed profound sadness, saying "We've lost a family member, we're still taking it in. He wasn't just a legend in the music business, he was a legend in our band. He is irreplaceable."

Sheehan also worked with acts including Led Zeppelin, Iggy Pop, Patti Smith and Lou Reed during his career, which was notable for a lack of a rock and roll lifestyle.

In a recent interview, he said, "I never drank until I was 30, I never did drugs and I was always honest. I think people knew my history at the time, and knew I was straight and had a sense of responsibility. I always got the job done regardless."

Last year the band's latest album, *Songs of Innocence*, was met with criticism when it was delivered for free on iTunes by Apple and weeks later released for sale.

It was nominated for best rock album at the Grammy Awards in February.

## 'I will never forgive Liam' says Noel

LONDON – Former Oasis guitarist Noel Gallagher has said he will never forgive his brother for walking out on the band during a series of live shows six years ago.

The solo star ruled out an Oasis reunion following the dispute with the Britpop band's then-frontman Liam during their tour in 2009.

Noel, who eventually walked out of Oasis after regular rows with his lead singer brother, was responsible for most of the band's hits including *Live Forever* and *Wonderwall*.

The warring brothers have repeatedly been asked to comment on the prospect of a reunion – particularly at Glastonbury festival, where they are regularly installed among the favourites to headline the festival.

But in an interview with the *Daily Mirror*, Noel, who has gone on to enjoy solo success, appeared to rule out joining his sibling on stage again.

Recalling the 2009 tour, he said, "You would have to go out and say in English to a load of perplexed Japanese peo-



ple, 'I know you don't understand what I am f\*\*\*ing saying, but the singer has gone off, so I am going to sing the f\*\*\*ing rest of the songs'.

"I could never forgive him for that, ever."

Last year, Liam sparked stories the band were getting back together with a series of cryptic tweets that led one bookmaker to suspend betting on the band playing the Somerset festival.



## Rogue Folk Club

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Friday, JUNE 26 &

Saturday, JUNE 27

American songwriter with epic new double CD **"The Rose Of Roscræ"** - an Irish cowboy's history of the American west!

**TOM RUSSELL**



Sunday, JULY 5

Old Time Appalachian / Celtic songs by powerful duo with special guest **Eli West ANNA & ELIZABETH**

Thursday, JULY 9

The Queen of Scottish Soul / Blues and R&B with ace slide player

**MAGGIE BELL & DAVE KELLY**

Thursday, AUGUST 13

Anglo-Celtic Folk Rockers

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A NEW book *Pinkoes and Traitors: The BBC and the Nation 1974-1987* reveals rampant sexual harassment at the BBC during this period.

## Former BBC chief claimed for sex on the Orient Express

LONDON – A new book claims former BBC head Lord George Howard submitted expense claims for sex with a prostitute on the Orient Express.

Lord George Howard was BBC chairman from 1980-83 and used licence fee payers' money to pay for the sex worker, claims Joan Seaton, the official BBC historian.

As part of her research for her book *Pinkoes and Traitors: The BBC and the Nation 1974-1987*, Seaton spoke to many ex-employees of the BBC.

During a talk at The Hay Festival of Literature & Arts in Wales, Professor Seaton says she questioned a former secretary.

"She calls up the security man. He clears all the secretaries out of the side office.

"The safe door swings open and in this safe there is one thing – a brown manilla envelope.

"And in the brown manilla envelope is a signed-off expenses form for the use of a prostitute on the Orient Express by the chairman, Lord George Howard."

Professor Seaton said, "It had been left there by a previous secretary who had had a nervous breakdown. He had left it there as a warning that she would have to deal with the chairman and he

had to be managed around these young women."

In her book, Seaton said Lord Howard's status meant the expenses claim was never reported as inappropriate.

"A great landowner, a man with a fine war record, a widower: how and where could a complaint about him be made?" she writes.

Lord Howard died in 1984 and was the owner of Castle Howard, which was the setting for the television version of *Brideshead Revisited* in 1981 and 2008.

During her talk at Hay, Seaton also spoke about attitudes at the BBC in the 1970s which allowed men to abuse their position of power, such as Jimmy Savile.

Among the book's revelations are claims made to Seaton by former BBC employees who told her about a senior executive who propositioned female secretaries, inviting them to spanking sessions.

When the women complained, instead of the executive being sacked, they were given a new job in New York.

Seaton also says in her book that broadcasters Huw Wheldon and Malcolm Muggeridge "groped incontinently," and claims that "sexual harassment was routine" at the BBC during the 1970s and 1980s.

## The pipers are coming to this year's Vancouver Folk Music Festival

VANCOUVER – Breabach and Ross Ainslie & Jarlath Henderson will deliver piping hot Celtic sounds to the 2015 Vancouver Folk Music Festival

If you like your music rooted in tradition, dynamic, and delivered by breath and via a bag, there are two groups coming to this year's Vancouver Folk Music Festival (July 17-19, Jericho Beach Park) that are exactly the ticket for you!

Scottish quintet **Breabach**, featuring dueling bagpipers, along with the Scottish/Irish piping duo Ross Ainslie and Jarlath Henderson have been hailed as new stars of Celtic music. These young virtuosos are setting the roots music world a-buzz, with pipes in the fore.

Voted Best Live Act 2013 at the Scots Trad Music Awards and twice nominated Best Band at the 2011 and 2014 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, Breabach are touring Canada this summer – a chiming herald of Scottish folk being embraced by a new generation.

They deliver a unique brand of contemporary Scottish folk music, and are recognized as one of the UK's most dynamic and influential bands.

Breabach unites the talents of Calum MacCrimmon (pipes, whistles, bouzouki, vocals), James Mackenzie (pipes, flute, whistles), Ewan Robertson (guitar, vocals), Megan Henderson (fiddle, vocals, step dance), and James Lindsay (double bass).

They launched their career by winning the Open Stage Award at Celtic Connections 2005, going on to storm the folk roots scene ever since.

The last two highly successful years have seen the band traverse the globe with performances at the Sydney Opera House, New Zealand WOMAD, NY's Central Park, and tours in the



**BREABACH** features Calum MacCrimmon on pipes, whistles, bouzouki, vocals; James Mackenzie on pipes, flute, whistles; Ewan Robertson on guitar, vocals; Megan Henderson on fiddle, vocals, step dance; and James Lindsay on double bass.

Middle East, Asia, Europe, and the UK.

In summer 2014 the band presented the ground breaking, cross-cultural collaboration Boomerang (a celebration of Aboriginal Australian, Maori and Scottish indigenous culture) at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

Having previously visited Canada on tour, the band are excited to once again take their music coast-to-coast, visiting a number of festivals and spending time connecting with family: Calum MacCrimmon has roots in western Canada as well as Scotland.

The band are also planning to visit Woodville, Ontario where the MacCrimmon's (descending from the legendary piper Donald Ruadh) settled, having left their home in the Isle of Skye in the early 19th Century. This is their first appearance at the VFMF.

**Ross Ainslie** (Scottish bagpipes, whistles) and **Jarlath Henderson** (uilleann pipes, whistles) are two very talented young men who first played together in 2003 at the William Kennedy Piping Festival in Armagh. They have since re-joined forces to create a pipe sound that pushes the boundaries of what both

Scottish and Irish instruments normally achieve.

A County Tyrone native, Henderson is a three time All-Ireland Champion Uilleann Piper. He became the first Irish musician to win the prestigious title of BBC Young Folk Musician of the Year in 2003.

Ainslie hails from Perth, and is a former member of the Grade 1 Vale of Atholl pipe band. He has performed with Flook, Dougie Maclean and Salsa Celtica.

Their debut album was the critically acclaimed, *Partner's in Crime*, and they have since released a follow up, *Air-Fix*.

They've been called "two stupendous young musicians" by *Mojo* Magazine, "outstanding" by *Songlines*, and "ridiculously talented" by the *Glasgow Herald*. The boys will be joined by Jordon McConnell on guitar at the festival.

These extraordinary bands are part of a line up of over 60 acts from around the world. For full info on the 2015 festival roster, go to [www.thefestival.bc.ca](http://www.thefestival.bc.ca).

## Andy Coulson cleared of perjury over phone-hacking charges

LONDON – Andy Coulson, British Prime Minister David Cameron's one-time media chief, has been acquitted by a Scottish court of committing perjury by lying about his knowledge of phone-hacking at a Rupert Murdoch-owned tabloid he once edited.

Coulson, who was editor of the now-defunct *News of the World* newspaper from 2003-2007, was jailed last July for conspiracy to intercept voice mails on mobile phones after it was revealed there had been widespread hacking by journalists to obtain exclusive stories for his paper.

He had been accused of lying under oath when he appeared at a trial in Glasgow in 2010 when he told the court he had no knowledge of illegal activities by his reporters.

Coulson was answering questions over a front-page *News of the World* story about a Scottish socialist politician, Tommy Sheridan, whom the paper accused of visiting a swingers' club.

Sheridan won a defamation action against the paper in 2006 but was found



FORMER editor of the *News of the World* Andy Coulson.

guilty of perjury at the 2010 trial and jailed for three years.

On June 3, the High Court in Edinburgh threw out the charge of perjury against Coulson in relation to the Sheridan case after the judge ruled there was no case to answer.

Under Scottish law, a lie is only perjury if it affects the verdict, and the judge ruled Coulson's evidence had not been relevant in the case against Sheridan so whether he had told the truth or not did not matter.

Coulson said afterwards, "This prosecution was always wrong. I didn't lie. The prosecution in my view was a gross waste of public money.

"I'm just delighted after four pretty testing years my family and myself have finally had a good day."

Coulson quit the *News of the World* after phone-hacking first came to light when the paper's royal editor and a private detective were jailed for accessing the phones of royal aides.

Within months, he went to work for Cameron but when the scandal resurfaced in 2011 he resigned as his communications chief.

Murdoch closed the 168-year-old *News of the World* in July that year amid a public furore that reporters had hacked into a murdered schoolgirl's phone.

Before its collapse, Coulson's perjury trial was told by convicted former *News of the World* journalists that their former editor was well aware that hacking was commonplace on the paper.

Coulson, who served 20 weeks behind bars after last year's phone-hacking conviction, could have faced years in prison if he had been convicted of the perjury offence.

## English drinking habits underestimated

LONDON – Researchers at Liverpool John Moores University say English drink equivalent of 12 million bottles of wine a week more than they thought because surveys overlook alcohol-heavy celebrations.

Their findings – based on normal drinking patterns and those outside usual circumstances – suggest every week the equivalent of over three-quarters of a bottle of wine for every drinker goes unaccounted for.

Lead scientist Dr. Mark Bellis said, "The problem is that surveys usually ask about typical drinking. This means summer holidays, bank holidays, weddings and many other special occasions when consumption often increases are left out.

"As a result, nationally we underesti-

mate how much we drink and as individuals we can turn a blind eye to our heavier drinking periods when we calculate personal consumption.

"For many people though, these sessions add substantial amounts of alcohol to their annual consumption and inevitably increase their risks of developing alcohol-related ill-health."

This is an oversight they claim could have important implications for public health. Drinking alcohol is related to about 200 different health conditions and in 2012 was responsible for 3.3 million deaths worldwide.

The researchers, whose findings are reported in the journal *BMC Medicine*, conducted telephone interviews with 6,085 randomly selected members of the public in England.



# Former Liberal Democrat Leader Death Caused By Alcoholism

LONDON – Charles Kennedy's family said he died of a "major hemorrhage" that was "a consequence of his battle with alcoholism."

The relatives of the former leader of the Liberal Democrat party issued a statement following a post-mortem examination.

They said they had been "touched beyond measure by the outpouring of warmth" following the sudden death of the 55-year-old.

Kennedy was found dead on June 1 at his cottage in the Highland constituency of Ross, Skye and Lochaber.

He had represented the seat since 1983, becoming the youngest MP at the age of 23, until he was a victim of the SNP tide at last month's election.

His family said a post-mortem examination had found he had suffered a major hemorrhage. "The report makes clear this was a consequence of his battle with alcoholism," the statement said.

Kennedy's ex-wife Sarah and 10-year-old son Donald attended a special session in the House of Commons where the prime minister led cross-party tributes to the popular politician.

The family said, "The words and images of that day, and of so many other tributes, will be there for us to look back on with pride in Charles, and Donald will always know what a special father he had."

Kennedy admitted he had been battling an alcohol problem months after leading the Lib Dems to their greatest general election success in 2005. He was forced to stand down after senior colleagues threatened to resign.

Tony Blair's ex-spin doctor Alastair Campbell, who built a close friendship with his former political opponent around the "shared enemy" of the battle with booze, said he hoped confirmation that alcohol abuse led to his death would make politicians take it more seriously as an illness.

The pair had been due to meet up to mark the retirement of Campbell's



CHARLES KENNEDY with his wife Sarah and their newborn son Donald James Kennedy in April 2005.

brother as the piper at Glasgow University, where Kennedy previously served as rector.

"The response since Charles died has been remarkable and I think one of the reasons is that people realised that, amid his confidence and his evident political skills, there was a real humanity and vulnerability to him," Campbell said.

"None of us are surprised that alcoholism played a part in his tragic death but what has been great about the tributes is that they have focused on so much more than this.

"I hope that remains the case as people continue to remember him as we move towards the funeral and then subsequent memorials.

"I also hope that politicians of all parties develop a better understanding of alcoholism, take it more seriously and devise policies to treat it as a disease on a par with the other major diseases.

"Today is a particularly poignant day because Charles was due to be joining me at a farewell party for my brother Donald, who is retiring from his role as official piper at Glasgow University where Charles was once rector.

"We will obviously be paying tribute to his memory and reflecting on the loss so many are feeling."

## Irish flagship providing aid in Mediterranean

DUBLIN – Ireland has sent a navy vessel to help in the Mediterranean in a bid to help stem the mounting loss of life among refugees fleeing the turmoil in Africa and the Middle East.

Naval Service flagship *LE Eithne* left Cork harbour for the Mediterranean on May 16 on the State's first humanitarian mission in international waters.

The mission is being undertaken in cooperation with the Italian Government, rather than as part of the EU's Triton search and rescue initiative, the Minister for Defence, Simon Coveney said.

Since its arrival, the *LE Eithne* has saved more than 1,000 people and Minister for Defence Simon Coveney has praised the naval service for their continued role in assisting with the migrant crisis.

"This is the first Irish Naval Service mission abroad in a humanitarian/peacekeeping capacity, and one that will make a positive contribution," he said.

Thousands have been rescued off the Libyan coast this year and at least 1,750 people have died this year trying to cross the sea separating Europe from North Africa.

Britain has also sent *HMS Bulwark*, one of the Royal Navy's biggest warships, to the area. It has pledged three Merlin helicopters to the rescue effort.

Prime Minister David Cameron is adamant that the operation to save lives did not mean Britain would offer asylum to the people it rescued, insisting that they must be dealt with in the nearest safe country to where they are picked up.

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, some 90,000 migrants have crossed the Mediterranean this year. Almost 2,000 have drowned or been lost at sea.

The UN's special representative on migration, Irishman Peter Sutherland, has said refugees trying to reach Europe should be processed at a country outside the EU then distributed fairly among member states.

He has also called for a quota system to be adopted by the union's 28 countries based on the size of their economies or populations. At present Germany, Sweden and Hungary are among the states taking the most refugees.

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## TOP 10 CELTIC HITS FOR JUNE

*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. <i>What You Do With What You've Got</i> by Kristina & Quinn Bachand - <i>Little Hinges</i> on Independent. | 6. <i>Tired Of Your Tears</i> by Feufollet - <i>Two Universes</i> on Feufollet Records.                                    |
| 2. <i>The Chase</i> by Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy - <i>One</i> on DLL Music.                         | 7. <i>Lilacs in the Alleyway</i> by The Real McKenzies - <i>Rats in the Burlap</i> on Stomp Records.                       |
| 3. <i>Au revoir Grand Mamou</i> by Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys - <i>Voyageurs</i> on Mamou Playboy.      | 8. <i>The Vapourer</i> by Spiro - <i>Welcome Joy and Welcome Sorrow</i> on Real World Records.                             |
| 4. <i>Kometens Hales</i> by Jansberg - <i>Terra Nova</i> on GO' Danish.                                       | 9. <i>The Hunger &amp; The Fight</i> by The Mahones - <i>The Hunger &amp; The Fight</i> (Part 1) on Whiskey Devil Records. |
| 5. <i>Nunca James</i> by The Paperboys - <i>At Peace With One's Ghosts</i> on Independent.                    | 10. <i>Leaving of Liverpool</i> by Homeland - <i>That Show</i> on Independent.   |

**Celt In A Twist Pick Of The Month:**  
**Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys - *Voyageurs***  
**(Mamou Playboy Records)**

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# Hurrah the elections are over!



OURNEMOUTH – I voted Lib Dem and, judging by the results, so did nearly 10 other people.

Ed Miliband resigned as leader of the Labour Party and can return to his lucrative career as a stand in for Wallace in the Wallace and Gromit cartoon series.

He and Nick Clegg, the Lib Dem leader, paid the price of failure by falling on their swords as did Nigel Farage, the UKIP leader, who then jumped back up again saying he was only joking and didn't mean it.

We probably have more Scots in Westminster now than since 1603 when James VI of Scotland came down to become James I of England and brought all his pals with him.

In Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon (a female William Wallace) and her Scottish Nationalists party wiped the floor with all the opposition and are now the third largest party in Westminster.

This makes a second referendum on separation more likely, but I read recently that the Scots themselves are not a united nation as the Glaswegians and the Aberdonians dislike each other.

The Aberdonians regard Glaswegians as work shy, benefit accruing and soap dodging, and the G brigade think the northerners are joyless thin-lipped skin-flints.

They joke about their legendary carelessness with money: Why do parents in Aberdeen always install triple-glazed windows in their homes?

The answer: To stop their kids hearing the ice-cream van.

The new parliament has more women members than ever before. I think this is a good thing as personally I believe women are cleverer than men.

Not as logical perhaps, but, in my experience, they will never admit when they are wrong, which makes them admirably suited to be politicians.

Here in Bournemouth there have been celebrations because the football team, known as the Cherries, won promotion to the Premier division for the first time in their 125 year history.

In six years they have risen from the bottom of the lowest league to champions of the second division which is confusingly known as the Championship.

The team paraded on an open bus between the two piers and the beaches were packed solid with supporters and well-wishers.

Next season the likes of Chelsea, Arsenal and Manchester United etc. will be making their way to the seaside, and their fans will be packing into the stadium which currently holds 12,000 people.

I am no expert on football stadiums, but I think most premier division grounds accommodate at least 20,000 people, so unfortunately I think we can brace ourselves for an invasion of disappointed fans wandering around causing mayhem.

As a rugby supporter I have enjoyed the banter with supporters of the opposing team and win or lose have mixed happily with them in bars after the game.

## POSTCARD FROM BOURNEMOUTH



By  
ELFAN  
JONES

I struggle to understand why soccer fans hate each other, want to hit seven bells out of each other and commit mindless violence in the towns they visit.

A few years ago I was in Wales driving on the M4 motorway between Cardiff and Swansea. I noticed there were police on every single bridge crossing the motorway.

Apparently they were there because Cardiff were playing Swansea that afternoon and the police presence was to prevent Swansea fans from throwing bricks at the buses transporting the Cardiff fans to Swansea!

There has been good news for the gay community in Ireland because it became the twentieth country in the world

to legalise same sex marriage, and the first to decide it by a popular vote.

A total of 60.5 percent of the population voted and 62.1 percent voted in favour. Northern Ireland is now the only part of the British Isles where same sex marriages are illegal.

There is bad news for the fox population in the UK because the prime minister has announced he is in favour of repealing the act banning fox hunting.

Soon foxes might have the choice of being torn to shreds by hounds, or smacked and squashed to death by a car.

The urban fox has been thriving and it is not uncommon to see one trotting down a street in the middle of the day, totally unconcerned by the presence of humans.

As usual, there are the pro and anti-fox groups. The former arguing that foxes are wild animals that enrich our lives and do not hurt anybody.

The latter complain that it is just a matter of time before a baby is attacked. That foxes rip open the litter (trash) bags and spread the rubbish all over the street, and at night the noise made by the vixen when indulging in their nocturnal sexual habits keep everybody awake.

The Scottish Nationalist Party have already declared that they will oppose the change in Scotland, so if someone could convey this to the foxes they might all head north and us southerners could get a good night sleep.

*Best wishes, Elfan Jones*



BOURNEMOUTH'S team are greeted by thousands of supporters on their open top bus parade as the Cherries, won promotion to the Premier division for the first time in their 125 year history. In six years the team has risen from the bottom of the lowest league to champions of the second division.

## UKIP's only MP calls for Nigel Farage to step down

LONDON – UKIP'S sole MP has called on Nigel Farage to step down as leader.

In a stinging critique, Douglas Carswell warned Farage he had struck the wrong tone during the election campaign and needed 'to take a break'.

The Clacton MP, who joined UKIP after defecting from the Tories last year, criticized Farage's comments during the televised leadership debates when he condemned the treatment of foreign-born HIV sufferers by the National Health Service.

He urged Farage to step back so the party could properly assess what went wrong during its election campaign so that it does not just become an 'also-ran'.

The pair held crisis talks on May 14 in a bid to resolve their differences but

Carswell again chose to come out against his leader.

Farage's position has been precarious since he dramatically withdrew his resignation as leader just three days after he announced he would step down.

The move drew ridicule and anger, plunging the party into civil war as figures publicly traded insults and a major donor joined the calls for Farage to go.

His authority has been severely weakened and he was forced to ditch two of his closest advisers in a bid to appease his critics.

It also emerged that Farage never actually resigned as party leader. After defeat in South Thanet he said he would be 'writing to the UKIP national executive in a few minutes' to stand down. But it was revealed that he had never given them a resignation letter.

# David Cameron facing a 'nightmare' over EU referendum



BRITISH PRIME MINISTER David Cameron has vowed to deliver real reform of the European Union.

LONDON – British PM David Cameron is facing a major battle to deliver his promise of a referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union, as Labour and Liberal Democrat peers oppose the plan and plot to sabotage it in the House of Lords.

An EU Referendum Bill announced in the Queen's Speech is expected to pave the way for a national vote on whether the UK should leave or remain a part of Europe.

However, the prime minister will come up against determined opposition in the Lords, as well as in Brussels, while facing "impossible" demands from hard-line MPs inside his own party in the Commons.

Even if the Referendum Bill passes through the House of Commons, it is likely to face concerted attempts to delay or re-write the plan from Labour and Lib Dem opponents in the Lords, who outnumber the Tories by almost two-to-one in the Upper House.

Peers are likely to seek to alter the ref-

erendum question, the timing of the vote, and the electorate who will be eligible to take part.

Senior Conservatives are now planning to appoint more Tory peers in an attempt to boost their numbers for crucial votes on the referendum and other legislation in the Lords.

Cameron began a whistle-stop tour of European capitals last month – including Berlin, Paris, Warsaw and Rome – as he seeks to negotiate better terms for Britain's membership of the EU, before putting a new deal to voters in a referendum by the end of 2017.

He is seeking to win concessions from his two biggest opponents, the French president, Francois Hollande and Jean-Claude Juncker, the European Commission president.

The prime minister wants new powers to deter EU migrants from coming to Britain by stopping them claiming benefits for four years, and he wants an end to the principle of "ever closer union" in Europe.

However, up to 60 rebel MPs are now said to be preparing to demand that Cameron negotiates a new power for the Commons to veto any European Union law.

The prime minister has previously dismissed such a plan as "impossible" to deliver without Britain leaving the EU altogether.

Cameron is also likely to face a backlash from pro-European MPs in his own party. Now senior opposition figures are planning to exploit divisions within the Tory ranks by fighting the plans in the House of Lords.

One leading Labour peer said, "Cameron is going to have a nightmare in the Lords."

"The Tories have got to face the fact that they are in a minority in the Lords and can be defeated on whichever issue Labour and the Lib Dems choose to defeat them. They are guaranteed an absolute battle royal on the referendum bill."

# Tories want changes to European Convention on Human Rights

LONDON – Britain could leave the European Convention on Human Rights if it does not get the changes it wants to the way the rules are applied, Prime Minister David Cameron said on June 3.

The Tories wants to overhaul existing human rights laws to reduce the influence of the European Court of Human Rights, based in France, which enforces the convention.

The move is part of his broader plans to reform Britain's relationship with the European Union ahead of a membership referendum by the end of 2017, although the court is not an EU institution but an arm of the separate Council of Europe.

Critics of the Conservatives' plans, who include high-profile figures within the party, say quitting the convention would weaken human rights in all 47 signa-

tory nations because other governments would feel free to ignore it.

The convention, ironically drafted under a British Conservative politician lawyer, David Maxwell-Fyfe, after World War Two in response to Nazism and Stalinism and ratified by Britain in 1951, was incorporated into British domestic law by the Human Rights Act of 1998.

The Conservatives have pledged to scrap that act and replace it with a British Bill of Rights, although they have yet to provide details.

The party is divided on the issue with several prominent figures, including former cabinet minister Andrew Mitchell, who asked Cameron the question, in open opposition.

The opposition Labour Party said it would oppose any attempt to scrap human rights protections.



# B.C. Highland Games to offer largest prizes in Pacific Northwest

COQUITLAM, B.C. - The university behind one of the world's most successful Grade 1 pipe bands is furthering their support to the piping and drumming community in British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest by contributing to the largest Highland games prizes in the Pacific Northwest.

To celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, Simon Fraser University (SFU) is donating additional prize money to be awarded to the top solo piper and drummer at the 84<sup>th</sup> B.C. Highland Games and Scottish Festival in Coquitlam on June 20.

The cash awards will be in addition to the existing B.C. Pipers' Association cash prizes and perpetual trophy awarded to the top solo, professional pipers and drummers competing at the annual games. (More details on the B.C. Highland Games piping and drumming competition can be found on the BCPA website.)

The B.C. Pipers' Association congratulates Simon Fraser University on their very generous support for the Scottish cultural arts," says Rob MacNeil, presi-

dent of the BCPA.

"Their significant recognition of the key Highland music disciplines plus other significant prizes for the Highland dancing and heavy events is another very tangible and welcome sign of their community engagement initiatives in action."

As part of a \$5,000 contribution to the B.C. Highland Games this year, SFU is adding an additional \$750 to the overall aggregate piping award, which means one piper could take home up to \$1,200 in top prizes.

The university is also contributing additional prize money to support both snare and tenor drumming.

The top snare and tenor drumming aggregate winners will each receive more than \$500 from SFU, in addition to B.C. Pipers' Association prizes, for a total of \$800.

"This is a very welcome and fitting contribution to our games," says Glenna Urbshadt, co-chair of the B.C. Highland Games.

"The SFU Pipe Band have been a significant part of the games and the vibrant piping community in the Pacific Northwest for years. The SFU contribution to piping, drumming and all the Scottish cultural arts this year shows the true Scottish spirit of explorer Simon Fraser lives on."

SFU's anniversary contributions also extend to other Scottish cultural events, including Highland dancing and Scottish athletic events.

## SFU President Named Chieftain of the Day

Additionally, SFU president Andrew Petter has been named as games Chieftain of the Day and will present some of the major prizes at the end of the day, following massed bands.

"We are proud to support the B.C. Highland Games as we approach our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and look forward to this opportunity to share SFU's Scottish heritage and extend our engagement with the local community," says SFU president Andrew Petter.

The 84<sup>th</sup> B.C. Highland Games and Scottish Festival is planned for June 20 at Percy Perry Stadium in Coquitlam. The day will include Highland dancing competitions, solo piping and drumming, Scottish heavy events and pipe band competitions.

The day-long festival is a showcase of the Scottish and Celtic community of British Columbia and includes merchandise vendors, food, children's activities, musical entertainment, displays, whisky tasting and beer gardens.

Tickets are available at the gates, which open at 8:30 AM, or online at BCHighlandgames.com.



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# Another Kinnock Elected to the UK Parliament

By EIFION WILLIAMS

**V**OTERS in western democracies are wary of political dynasties that give candidates undue advantage through name recognition or undue political influence.

Such concerns were raised in last month's British General Election when Labour candidate Stephen Kinnock, son of Neil and Glenys Kinnock (now Lord and Lady Kinnock) was elected member of parliament for the Welsh constituency of Aberavon, one of the safest Labour constituencies in the United Kingdom.

Lord Kinnock was the Labour Party Leader and Leader of the Official Opposition in the UK Parliament in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

He was later appointed a commissioner in the European Union, while his wife Glenys was elected as a Labour member of the European Parliament.

Much local controversy was generated when Stephen Kinnock was selected as the Labour candidate for Aberavon, narrowly defeating some long-serving local party candidates.

He was derisively referred to by the right-wing media as the "red prince" who was parachuted into a safe Labour seat.

However, as predicted by almost everyone, Kinnock won the seat easily by over 10,000 votes.

The Aberavon constituency is largely centred on the industrial town of Port Talbot which in recent years has experienced some economic decline.

The area has for many years been economically dependent on its steelworks, the largest in the UK and among the largest in Europe.

The steelworks are currently owned by the Tata Company of India. In recent years the low demand for steel along with international competition from China, has resulted in several hundred workers being laid off.

Today, unemployment in Port Talbot is higher than the national average.

Stephen Kinnock has a solid record of achievement in several positions, mainly in Europe. He has worked for the British Council and the World Economic Forum.

He is a skilled negotiator and is also multi-lingual, although he does not speak Welsh. He understands business and promises to play a leading role in attracting new investment to the Aberavon area.

Stephen Kinnock said after the election that he could not wait to get on with the job – something he had waited years to do.

This despite the fact his wife and two children live hundreds of miles away in Copenhagen, Denmark.



STEPHEN KINNOCK the newly elected UK Labour MP for Aberavon with his wife Helle Thorning-Schmidt, the prime minister of Denmark.

His wife is Danish Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt, who shares her husband's democratic socialist views.

Thorning-Schmidt, Denmark's first woman prime minister, is an attractive blonde with a fondness for expensive designer clothes. The Danish media occasionally refers to her as "Gucci Helle."

Thorning-Schmidt received world-wide publicity in December 2013, when she decided to take a "selfie" while attending Nelson Mandela's memorial service in South Africa.

Squeezing in on both sides to share in the "selfie" were British Prime Minister David Cameron and U.S. President Barack Obama.

First Lady Michelle Obama, sitting next to her husband, showed her obvious displeasure with a pronounced "we are not amused" expression. A photo of the incident inevitably went viral.

Kinnock has said that he will faithfully serve the people of Aberavon in the House of Commons and will make frequent visits to the constituency.

He says he is not concerned about working so far away from his wife and children. In fact, he has never been a permanent resident of Denmark and saw his family mainly on weekends.

He said after the election: "People go away and spend time apart and in some relationships that really works. For Helle and I, we are fortunate that it works for us."



DANISH Prime Minister Thorning-Schmidt taking a 'selfie' with U.S. President Obama and British Prime Minister Cameron as Michelle Obama sits alongside looking decidedly unamused.

## ScotRail has the worst record in Britain for delays

EDINBURGH – ScotRail parent firm Abellio's chief executive Jeff Hoogesteger has been dismissed over "irregularities" in a public transport contract in the Netherlands, the Dutch firm announced today.

Hoogesteger had moved to Edinburgh and was based at Abellio UK's new headquarters in Glasgow, where he worked three days a week.

The shock move comes just two months after the offshoot of Dutch national railways took over the ScotRail franchise.

Company sources said the chief executive moved to Scotland and its UK base was switched from London because the franchise was "by far its most important endeavour," according to company sources.

Hoogesteger was dismissed along with Dutch Railways NS's chief executive

Timo Huges following an investigation into "irregularities" over Abellio winning a contract in Limburg.

The Scottish Government stressed the move would have no impact on its award of the 10-year, £2.5 billion ScotRail franchise – its biggest contract – to Abellio.

Recent figures show ScotRail had one of the worst records in Britain for causing delays during Abellio's first month in charge.

The Dutch-run train company caused 38 percent of hold-ups in April – the third highest proportion among Britain's 22 operators – although it is two points better than a year ago.

Abellio won the franchise last October from previous operator FirstGroup and fellow bidders National Express, Arriva, and MTR of Hong Kongreveale.



NICOLA Sturgeon said her government will continue to oppose austerity, campaign for the UK to remain in the EU and press for additional powers for Scotland.

## Scotland to fight to stay in the EU says Sturgeon

EDINBURGH – Nicola Sturgeon has said the Scottish Government will make a "strong and positive" case for the UK to remain in the EU to prevent Scotland being forced out against its will.

The first minister was speaking as she delivered her first major economic speech since the Scottish National Party's landslide election victory in Scotland and a day before the new Conservative Government's Queen's Speech.

Speaking at Heart of Midlothian FC's Tynecastle stadium, Sturgeon set out three priority areas in which she said the Scottish Government would seek outcomes at a UK level to benefit the Scottish economy.

The SNP leader said, "There is clearly an opportunity to ensure that Scotland's priorities are better understood but there is also a significant challenge in working with a majority government at Westminster, many of whose policies we disagree with."

She said her government would continue to oppose austerity, campaign for the UK to remain in the EU and press for additional powers for Scotland.

She reiterated her opposition to the Tories' in-out referendum on UK membership of the EU, and said her government would "work to protect Scotland's interests."

She said, "We will propose a double majority, meaning that exit from the European Union is only possible if all four nations of the UK agree to it – something which would ensure that Scotland couldn't be forced out of the EU against our will."

"And during the run-up to the referendum, the Scottish Government will, of course, make a strong and a positive case for staying in the EU."

"We don't think it's perfect, we think reform is both desirable and necessary, but we believe very strongly that Scotland's interests are best served by being members of the European Union and we will argue that case strongly and positively."

The first minister continued, "We will continue to oppose spending reductions of the scale and speed that the UK Government has suggested."

"We believe that these will slow economic recovery and make deficit reduction more difficult – and this has been demonstrated already by the impact of the cuts that have been imposed since 2010."

"And if the UK Government does stick to its current proposals, we will argue for ways in which the impact on Scotland can be lessened."

Sturgeon said the government would continue to seek greater powers for Scotland and ensure that the recommendations for further devolution made by the Smith Commission are delivered in full.

She added, "We are also seeking additional responsibilities – beyond those which the Smith Commission identified."

"In particular, we believe that greater power over business taxes, employment law, the minimum wage and welfare would enable us to better create jobs, grow the economy and lift people out of poverty."

The first minister was speaking as she launched a new industry code calling on businesses to commit to paying the living wage and promoting fair practices.

Companies will be encouraged to sign the Scottish Business Pledge, described as a voluntary code for employers to recognise "fair and progressive" policies while boosting productivity.

The first minister and Finance Secretary John Swinney met Ann Budge, chairwoman and chief executive of football club Heart of Midlothian as it became one of the first companies to commit to the pledge.

Made up of nine parts, companies wanting to commit to the pledge must pay the living wage to all employees over 18 and deliver on at least two other elements while committing to achieving the rest over time.

The first minister said the pledge was designed to help boost economic productivity and tackle inequality.

"The Fair Work Convention, the Living Wage Accreditation Scheme and the Scottish Business Pledge are essential features of what is becoming a distinctive Scottish approach to growth."

Scottish Conservative enterprise spokesman Murdo Fraser said many smaller businesses would struggle to meet the living wage commitment, a concern also expressed by Liz Cameron, chief executive of the Scottish Chambers of Commerce.

Fraser said, "In principle, the Scottish Business Pledge sounds like a decent strategy. However, scratch beneath the surface and it would be realistic to say that many small to medium-sized business cannot afford to pay staff the living wage."

"The Scottish Government should be helping these businesses where they can. That's why we're calling for a Living Wage Business Bonus for small businesses which pay the living wage, in the form of a reduction in their business rates."



# Professor Ian Simpson Ross: Biographer of Adam Smith



By  
**HARRY  
McGRATH**

**I**AN Ross, who has died aged 84, was Professor Emeritus of English at the University of British Columbia.

He received his M.A. in English Language and Literature from the University of St. Andrews (1954), a B.Litt. from Oxford University (1956) and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas (1960).

On completing his Ph.D., Ross joined the University of British Columbia English Department as a lecturer.

After his retirement, Ian was a community member of the Centre for Scottish Studies at Simon Fraser University.

He helped organize the university's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary Scottish lecture series involving historian Sir Tom Devine, art critic Duncan Macmillan, Dr. Kirsteen McCue of Glasgow University and others. In 2005, the Centre interviewed Ian as part its "Scottish Voices from the West" oral history project.

Ian Ross was born in Ure Street, Dundee. He remembered it as "a short narrow street of overcrowded tenements surrounded by jute mills and a foundry."

His father John worked in the jute industry and his mother Agnes left school at 14 to go into service. One of Ian's early memories was watching unemployed men lining up outside "the broo" to collect dole money.

His own family's material circumstances were often challenging, but his parents were determined that Ian and his brother Angus, later a founding English faculty member at the University of Sussex, would get an education.

Ian attended Blackness Primary and then received a bursary to Harris Academy where he supplemented his studies with visits to the local library in Dundee.

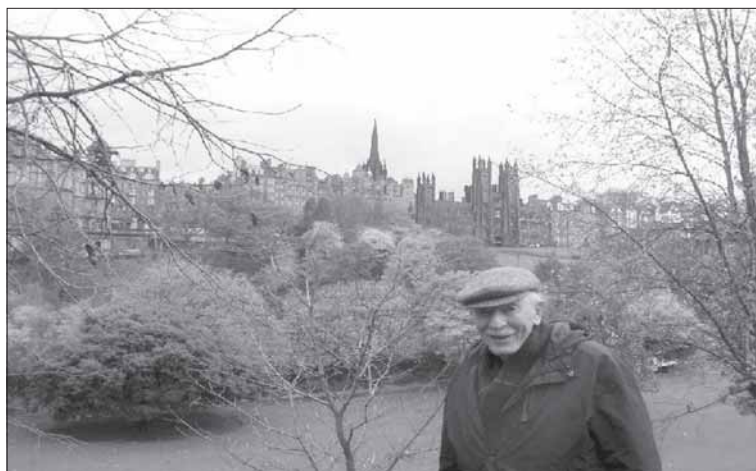
His interest in Scottish history began at Harris and his love of Scottish literature was fostered by reading Angus's collection of Scottish books.

In 1950 he entered St. Andrews University where he received a state grant in his first year and was then awarded a full scholarship.

He studied for an MA in English Literature and graduated with first-class honours, specialising in Elizabethan and Jacobean Literature.

Ian was then offered the Tindal-Bruce Scholarship at Merton College Oxford and researched what happened to James VI's court poets when James moved the Scottish court down to London.

His supervisor was David Nichol Smith, the brother of George Gregory Smith, author of the influential book *Scottish Writing: Character and Influence* (1919).



IAN ROSS, who has died aged 84, was Professor Emeritus of English at the University of British Columbia.

After graduating from Oxford, he applied for the Fulbright Scholarship and was accepted into the Ph.D program at the University of Texas.

There he researched several figures of the Scottish Enlightenment under the supervision of Professor Ernest Mossner who was an expert on Smith and Hume.

Ian was subsequently offered an instructorship at the University of British Columbia and taught his speciality – 18<sup>th</sup> Century literature – and managed to "smuggle in" some Scottish philosophy and literature.

He wrote books on Lord Kames, William Dunbar, and Adam Smith. He became head of the English department in 1982.

Ian was a prime mover of the Arts One programme which proposed a "less fragmented" view of education for the university's first year students.

Arts One was originally established as a three year pilot project, but was so successful that it remains to this day as a "small cohort learning and integrated inter-disciplinary curriculum."

At some juncture, University of Texas mentor Ernest Messner asked Ian to continue his work.

It was a request that, Ian said, defined the rest of his career and resulted in his much-lauded *Life of Adam Smith* – the first full-scale biography of Smith in a century when it was published in 1995.

Ian saw his subject as a man of letters as well as an economist, but he also wanted to reclaim Smith from misappropriation.

A second edition of *Life* appeared in 2010 and the preface gives a strong indication of where Ian stood.

He wrote, "If Smith is one of the in-

ventors of the modern world, what kind of nightmare did he bring upon us?"

"Alternatively, if he did inquire successfully into the origin of wealth and how it is constituted, why is his message so badly misunderstood and misapplied?"

"Well, the story of his life and books tells us he was very far from being an optimistic promoter of market fundamentalism."

Ian was fond of visiting his homeland and I was fortunate to meet him in Scotland on several occasions.

One abiding memory is a visit we made together to Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum shortly after its refurbishment.

We watched a short video of a Glasgow taxi driver explaining the essentials of Adam Smith to a passenger in the back seat of his black cab. Ian was delighted by this and said the taxi driver had Smith "spot on."

Ian's final visit to Scotland was in the company of his wife Ingrid in September 2014. They travelled from Canada for the Scottish independence referendum and, as enthusiastic supporters of the Yes side, left disappointed but not discouraged.

It may sound clichéd, but Ian really was a small man with a big heart and it is no coincidence that he opposed all attempts to deprive Adam Smith of his humanity.

His work on Smith is one part of an extraordinary academic legacy, but those of us who delighted in Ian's company will remember other things too: his kindness, tolerance, generosity, and concern for others.

Ian Ross is survived by his loving wife Ingrid, his brother Angus, his children Marion, Isla, Andrew, David and Betina, and his nieces Stephanie, Vicky and Anthia.

## Family of murdered Irish student thank Scots for their support

THE family of Karen Buckley released the statement to say thank you to the people of Scotland for their support and sympathy.

The student was found dead after disappearing on a night out with friends on April 12.

A major police search was launched when she was reported missing after leaving a nightclub in Glasgow's west end.

The 24-year-old's body was found at High Craigton Farm on the north-west-

ern outskirts of the city following a four-day search.

The statement issued through the *Irish Examiner*, read, "We are very grateful for all the support and messages of sympathy we received from so many people from all over Scotland at this terrible time for our family. People have been extremely helpful to us right from the moment we discovered that Karen was missing.

"We would like to thank everybody in Scotland who helped us in any way."



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SINGER/SONGWRITER Sarah Ann Chisholm (pictured in front) at the Scoil Ghaeilge in Vancouver. (L-R) Michelle Brezinski, Brendan Flynn [executive director of the Ireland Canada Monument Society and director of the Scoil Ghaeilge Vancouver], Theresa Thoreson, Scott Oser and Áine McKenna.

## Award in Ireland and another big win in U.S. for Celtic theme song

**V**ANCOUVER – On May 14 Vancouver made short film *Madness* picked up five more awards from the Indiefest Film Awards in California.

On May 19, *Madness* picked up another six awards from the International Independent Film Awards reaching 21 awards in total including an award from *Glor na nGael* (The Voice of the Irish) in Ireland for the Celtic theme song *Ó A Ghrá Mhín* (Oh Gentle Love).

Produced by Brezinski films Inc. and High Deaf Productions, the screenwriter/co-producer/lead actress of the film, Michelle Brezinski, was prompted to write the script after experiencing depression and post-traumatic stress disorder following several traumatic events in her life.

The film follows the story of a woman who loses her husband during the black death in England in 1348 and stars award winning actor/writer/producer Michelle Brezinski, Brian Knox McGugan, Linda Watters and was directed by Shannon Koli.

Singer/songwriter Sarah Ann Chisholm teamed up with producer/singer/songwriter Murray Yates and violinist Jennie Press (the Vancouver Symphony) to

write and record the Celtic theme song *Ó A Ghrá Mhín* (Oh Gentle Love).

The song was translated into Irish Gaelic by Scoil Ghaeilge Vancouver – the Irish language school – and woven throughout the score by composer/actor Josh Cruddas.

Fiona Hanlon, guest teacher from Dublin during the summer of 2014, was the main translator and also used the song as a translating exercise alongside the school's director Brendan Flynn with students Wendy Klippenstein and Ríán Ó Maoil Chonair.

Sarah Ann was awarded a monetary prize from *Glor na nGael* (The Voice of the Irish) which is assisted by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Ireland.

It is believed this is the first time a western Canadian has received this award. Although others have written songs in Gaelic in eastern Canada, it is very likely that *Ó A Ghrá Mhín* (Oh Gentle Love) is the first song to be composed in Ireland's first language in Canada and included in a Canadian film production.

Watch the film online at [www.storyhive.com/#community-videos](http://www.storyhive.com/#community-videos).

## Mass in memory of the victims of Ireland's Great Hunger of 1845-48

A mass was offered at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Vancouver on May 18 in memory of all who perished during Ireland's Great Hunger of 1845-48. Celebrant Fr. Buttner.

The mass was requested by the Ireland Canada Monument Society to assist the Irish Hunger Committee who have organized similar masses

in the USA and Ireland to coincide with the 170th anniversary of the beginning of Ireland's Great Hunger.

Over one million Irish died of starvation or starvation related diseases in the years 1845-51.

The Monument Society conveys sincere thanks to Father Pablo Santa Maria and Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB at Holy Rosary Cathedral for their assistance.

# Final journey home for a victim of Duffy's Cut massacre

PHILADELPHIA – A young Co. Tyrone woman is to be laid to rest in Irish soil almost two centuries after she was brutally murdered on a desolate American railroad.

Catherine Burns, a 29-year-old widow, died alongside dozens of her fellow country men in the infamous Duffy's Cut massacre.

In the summer of 1832, Philip Duffy, a railroad contractor, hired 57 Irish immigrants on the docks of Philadelphia. They were to fill in a ravine near present-day Malvern, Pennsylvania, so rails for a new track could be laid.

They began their task, but only six weeks later all 57 were dead. History blamed a cholera outbreak, but cholera generally only has a 50 percent death rate.

Local legend claimed that some, if not all, were murdered. The locals at the time had a high prejudice of Catholicism and of immigrants. Whatever happened to them, they were quickly buried in a shallow ditch with no ceremony.

The events at Duffy's Cut were almost completely lost to history for almost two centuries and the area didn't even get a historical marker until 2004.

Finally, it was the work of two men, William (Bill) Watson, professor of history at Philadelphia's Immaculata University, and his twin brother Reverend Frank Watson, who reawakened interest in the site and began work to unravel the truth of what happened at Duffy's Cut.

Using a mixture of forensics and old school detective work, the brothers teamed up with other historians and scientists to expose the truth behind the death of these lost Irish railroad workers.

Their work is detailed in *Death on the Railroad*, a documentary film produced by Tile Films of Dublin, Ireland.

It was first broadcast on the Irish State Broadcaster RTE, and then followed-up with an episode of the PBS series *Secrets of the Dead*, first aired May 8, 2013.

In 2009, Irish musician Christy Moore released a song, written by Wally Page, called *Duffy's Cut*.

This was followed up in March 2011 when Celtic Punk band The Dropkick Murphys released a song called *The Hardest Mile*. This deals with the newly discovered evidence that some of the workers may have been murdered rather than having died of cholera.

Little is known of Catherine Burns other than she boarded the *John Stamp* in Derry in April 1832 alongside her father-in-law, 70-year-old John Burns.

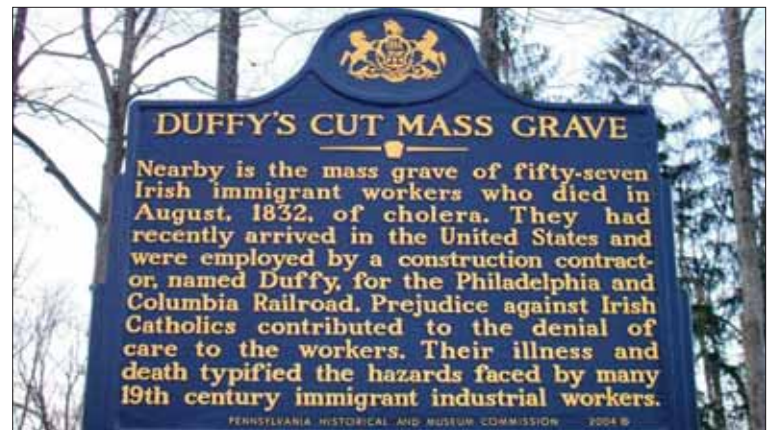
According to researchers, shortly after arriving in the United States, the pair simply "disappeared from history."

Since the remains were located in November 2014, speculation had suggested that Catherine's roots may be in the Strabane District as many Duffy's Cut victims hailed from the Ardstraw, Castlederg and Newtown Stewart areas of Co. Tyrone.

Unable to ascertain her origins exactly though, the team responsible for excavating Duffy's Cut have now decided to bury Burns in the quiet parish of Clonoe near Coalisland on July 19.



IRISH actress Sophie Merry portraying Catherine Burns in *Death on the Railroad*, a dramatization of the Duffy's Cut story.



MARKER near Duffy's Cut which reads: 'Nearby is the mass grave of fifty-seven Irish immigrant workers who died in August, 1832, of cholera. They had recently arrived in the United States and were employed by a construction contractor, named Duffy, for the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad. Prejudice against Irish Catholics contributed to the denial of care to the workers. Their illness and death typified the hazards faced by many 19th century immigrant industrial workers.' – Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission [2004].



EXCAVATION at the site of the Duffy's Cut Massacre near Malvern, Pennsylvania.

She will be the second victim repatriated back to her native Ireland, following the burial of 18-year-old John Ruddy in Ardara, Donegal, in 2013.

Frank Watson will travel to Ireland for the poignant re-burial ceremony of Catherine Burns. He said it will be an emotional occasion for everyone involved in the repatriation.

"We are travelling to Dublin on July 4 before going to Derry where we can actively see the docks that Catherine sailed from," Frank said.

"She was a 29-year-old woman who left Ireland with her father-in-law, John, who at 70 was the oldest listed labourer aboard the *John Stamp*.

"So you have this young widow who has lost her husband and this older gentleman who has lost his son leaving Ireland to start a new life. The ship's log

shows that they brought absolutely nothing with them on their journey.

"It is a very poignant image to think of them standing on the docks waiting to depart."

Bill Watson said, "These guys came over here with nothing, looking for the American dream like countless people have done. They thought they were going to make it and within six weeks of arrival, they're literally buried in the fill here."

The brothers said their goal is to preserve the memory of the Irish workers and to put the story in textbooks, to be remembered for years to come.

"It's a story that transcends nations, transcends history in a sense. It's the story you hear of workers that were exploited anywhere in the world," Frank Watson said.



## IRISH MARRIAGE REFERENDUM

# 'It wasn't just a referendum, it was more like a social revolution'

DUBLIN – Irish voters have resoundingly backed amending the constitution to legalise gay marriage, leaders on both sides of the Irish referendum declared on Saturday, May 23 after the world's first national vote on the issue.

Thousands of Irish living overseas returned to add their voices to one of the most dramatic social shifts in a traditionally Catholic country.

Turnout was huge – more than 60 percent of the 3.2 million people eligible to vote cast ballots and 62.1 percent said "yes" to amend the country's constitution.

While 19 other countries have legalized same-sex marriage, Ireland is the first to approve it in a national popular vote. Analysts credited the nation's strong approval to campaigners' use of social media that mobilized young voters to back equal marriage rights.

Government officials, advocates and even those who had argued against the measure said that the outcome was a resounding endorsement of the constitutional amendment.

Gay couples hugged and kissed each other amid scenes of jubilation at counting centers and at the official results center in Dublin Castle, whose cobblestoned central square was opened so thousands of revelers could sit in the sunshine and watch the results live on big-screen televisions.

"We're the first country in the world to



PEOPLE celebrate outside Dublin Castle following the result of the same-sex marriage referendum in Dublin on May 23, when Ireland became the first country in the world to approve gay marriage by popular vote as crowds cheered in a spectacular setback for the once all-powerful Catholic Church.

enshrine marriage equality in our constitution and do so by popular mandate.

"That makes us a beacon, a light to the rest of the world, of liberty and equality. So it's a very proud day to be Irish," said Leo Varadkar, Ireland's minister for health who came out as gay at the start of a government-led effort to amend Ireland's conservative Catholic constitution.

"People from the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) community in Ireland are a minority. But with our parents, our families, or friends and co-workers and colleagues, we're a majority," said Varadkar, who watched the

votes being tabulated at the County Dublin ballot center. For me it wasn't just a referendum. It was more like a social revolution," he said.

Political analysts who have covered Irish referendums for decades agreed the landslide vote marked a stunning generational shift from the 1980s, when voters still firmly backed Catholic Church teachings and overwhelmingly voted against abortion and divorce.

"We're in a new country," said political analyst Sean Donnelly, who called the result "a tidal wave" that has produced pro-gay marriage majorities in even the most traditionally conservative rural corners of Ireland.

## A Mayo priest calls out Yes voters in the middle of Mass

DUBLIN – Ballina priest Father Tom Doherty dedicated his weekend homilies after the recent same-sex marriage referendum to reflect on the "immorality" of the Yes vote.

The priest was ordained in November 2013 and has been curate of Ballina parish for the last 18 months. He told the congregation that people who voted Yes had given 'two fingers' to the Catholic Church.

The constituency of Mayo voted narrowly in favour of the referendum – 52 percent Yes versus 48 percent No.

Parishioner Louise Heneghan (who was present at both masses on May 23 and 24) said that "people are still not happy about this, there's a lot of anger with the locals still.

"Nobody saw it coming. It was the condemnatory tone he used," Heneghan said. "He accused those who voted Yes as putting two fingers up to the church, and told us to 'recite the creed, if you think it has anything to offer you'.

"There was no real coherence to it though. He mentioned 'barbarians at the gate', and the immorality of Yes voters, but he gave no reason as to why he felt that way," she said.

Heneghan said that the priest asked churchgoers who had voted Yes to stand up during his Gospel homilies. However

this has been disputed by other people in the area.

Some parishioners are believed to have walked out of the church in response to the comments by the priest.

In an interview with the *Western People*, the priest defended his homilies as "not meant to condemn."

"It was meant rather to invite us all to reflect on how we as a church will find our feet in a rapidly changing society," he said.

"I drew upon some historical parallels

to highlight the importance and the need for mature reflection moving forward."

Regarding his suggestion that parishioners recite the creed if they felt it had anything to offer them, Doherty said "it was simply an invitation to people to pray the creed in a meaningful way at a time when our church was awakening to the challenges which lie ahead of her."

Despite the fallout from the sermons, Heneghan does not think there will be any lasting repercussions for Doherty from the incident.

## Referendum on Irish presidential age defeated

DUBLIN – There was another question on the May 23 referendum ballot regarding a proposal to reduce the minimum age of Irish presidential candidates from 35 to 21 years.

This was defeated with 73.1% voting No and 26.9% voting Yes.

Taoiseach Enda Kenny appeared energised by the marriage campaign, but his promotion of the presidential age proposal seemed half-hearted in comparison and never really took off.

Sinn Féin spokesperson on equality, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn said that al-

though his party had supported the referendum, there were constitutional issues of greater significance which the government had failed to address.

"It must be noted that this was a referendum brought about by a government that failed to deal with bigger constitutional issues," Mac Lochlainn said. "These include the extension of voting rights to the diaspora and Irish citizens in the north.

"The government has also reneged on its commitment to hold a referendum on extending the right to vote to 16- and 17-year-olds by the end of 2015."

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# Irish Government signals approval of Aer Lingus takeover

DUBLIN – British Airways owner International Airlines Group (IAG) looks set to take over Aer Lingus after the Irish Government gave the green light to a 1.4 billion euro bid.

Transport Minister Paschal Donohoe said the government – which owns a 25 percent stake in the national flag carrier – was supporting the proposed deal after seeking reassurances and commitments.

Under the deal, IAG said it has agreed to a number of “legally binding” promises on the future of Aer Lingus, including the development of Dublin as a hub for transatlantic routes.

It has also vowed that Aer Lingus will keep existing slots at Heathrow, continue routes between Heathrow and Dublin, Cork and Shannon for the next seven years, as well as retaining its corporate brand.

The Aer Lingus head office will remain in Dublin, under the agreement.

Willie Walsh, the Irish-born chief executive of IAG, claimed Aer Lingus, Ireland and IAG would all benefit from the deal.

“Aer Lingus would maintain control of its brand and operation while gaining strength as part of a profitable and sustainable airline group in an industry that’s consolidating,” he said.



BRITISH AIRWAYS owner International Airlines Group (IAG) looks set to take over Aer Lingus with a 1.4 billion euro bid.

“Ireland’s vital air links to Europe and North America would be enhanced, creating new jobs, with cast-iron guarantees on ownership of Aer Lingus’ Heathrow slots and their use on flights to Dublin, Cork and Shannon.”

Walsh said the acquisition would add a fourth airline to IAG, allowing it to develop its network using Dublin as a hub between the UK, continental Europe and North America.

Donohoe said it has also been assured of job creation under the bid, with up to 635 new jobs at Aer Lingus by the end of next year.

“We have very carefully considered all of the issues involved and have concluded that supporting IAG’s offer is in the best interests of the airline, its em-

ployees, the travelling public, job creation and the economy overall given the vital role that air access plays in our economy as an island nation,” he said.

While bosses at the airline have backed the sale, unions and opposition parties fear job losses, reduced connectivity in and out of Ireland and less competition if the share is sold.

Repeated advances from IAG had been previously rejected on the back of the concerns.

Trade union Impact, which represents cabin crew, pilots and some ground staff at Aer Lingus, insisted the deal remains bad for jobs, workers and for Ireland’s connectivity and economic development.

Assurances given by IAG were “no real

guarantees,” the union said in a statement.

“For the staff at Aer Lingus, there are genuine concerns of compulsory redundancies if the deal goes through, along with the prospect of a further erosion of terms and conditions in the inevitable restructuring of the company,” it said.

“Any assurances on the future use of the Heathrow slots will evaporate once the seven-year period has elapsed, after which these vital connection points can be moved to where they will make larger profits for the airline.

“Thereafter, the interests of IAG shareholders will always trump the interests of the Irish economy and the Irish travelling public.”

Opposition parties Fianna Fail, Sinn Féin and the Socialist Party have all argued against a takeover.

But Colm Barrington, chairman of Aer Lingus, said the company will reap the commercial and strategic benefits of being part of a much larger group.

“This access to greater global scale will accelerate growth across our network, enhance Ireland’s position as a natural gateway connecting Europe and North America, give Irish tourism access to major traffic flows and customer loyalty programmes and provide better access for business interests and to cargo flows,” he said.

The takeover deal now hinges on Ryanair selling its shares in Aer Lingus to IAG. Ryanair said it has yet to receive an offer.



THREE TEENAGERS stole a luxury 40-foot yacht from Dun Laoghaire Harbour, leading the Garda Air Support Unit on a wild chase along Ireland’s east coast on May 24.

## Teenagers lead Irish police on chase in luxury yacht

DUBLIN – Three teenagers have been arrested after leading the Garda Air Support Unit on a wild chase along Ireland’s east coast in a stolen high-powered boat.

The youths took the expensive 40-foot luxury yacht from Dun Laoghaire Harbour shortly after 5:30 AM on the morning of Sunday, May 24.

The seafaring trio of two boys and a girl, who are all believed to be between 16 and 17, made their way down the east coast. The owners of the vessel notified gardaí, marinas and boat clubs in the area when they noticed the boat was missing.

It’s believed the youngsters made their way down as far as Wexford before turning around and travelling back up the coast.

They were spotted shortly after 1:30 PM near Greystones Marina where sources say they were operating the “incredibly powerful boat in a very reckless manner.”

The Garda Air Support Unit was dispatched and sources say the teenagers engaged in a dangerous game of cat and mouse with the garda helicopter for up to half-an-hour - skimming by other vessels at speed.

“It is hard to stress how powerful this kind of boat is, especially in inexperienced hands,” said a source.

“But as fast as it is, after about half an hour they realised they were beaten by the chopper and started making plans for their escape.”

The thieves made several attempts to beach the vessel before they finally ran aground near South Beach, Greystones shortly after 3 PM.

Two of the suspects took off on foot through fields however, gardaí on the ground, guided by the air support unit, tracked them down a short time later.



McDonagh said, “Decriminalisation in the 1980s was achieved without support from any political party. The Alliance party doesn’t discipline its members that don’t abide the party whip.

“This bill would still have to go through Stormont where it’ll be defeated, and I’m nervous of those being demonised for their stance.

“In my own party there are differing views, we hold the status quo, though some have already voted for change.”

## Burglars panic after finding bodies of couple during break-in

LIMERICK – Burglars discovered the badly decomposed bodies of an on-the-run fraudster and her partner when they broke into a rural farmhouse in Boolaglass near Askeaton in Limerick last month.

The thieves rang gardaí in a panic after finding the remains of Celia Julia Holmes (63) and Thomas Ruttle (56) side-by-side on a bed.

The grandmother had the notorious distinction of being investigated by police on both sides of the Atlantic.

Two handwritten notes, dated March 14, were found on the kitchen table of the house. They were apparently signed by both of the deceased.

The gang of well-known criminals stumbled on the bodies while they were ransacking the property looking for valuables.

They fled the scene but feared they would be blamed for a double murder and rang gardaí at around 3 AM on May 18.

Post-mortem examinations were inconclusive, but gardaí believe this was either a murder-suicide or a suicide pact between the couple.

The house where the gruesome discovery was made was the home of Tho-



THE farmhouse where the badly decomposed bodies of Celia Julia Holmes (63) and Thomas Ruttle (56) were found.

mas Ruttle, who was a separated father of grown children. He was a part-time farmer and mechanic from the area.

Holmes, who was originally from Co. Down, had more than 20 convictions and was being sought by the gardaí and the PSNI for fraud offences.

In 2006 she was deported from the United States after she was arrested in connection with a \$500,000 property scam in Texas.

## Belfast City Council votes in favour of gay marriage

BELFAST – Belfast City Council has backed same-sex marriage. Councillors voted in favour of legalising gay marriage in Northern Ireland by 38 to 13.

The motion was proposed by Alliance’s Emmet McDonough-Brown after the Republic voted to adapt its constitution to allow same-sex marriage.

“The sky has not fallen in. All that happens is that people who want to commit to each other are able to,” he said.

More than 60 percent of those who cast their votes ticked the ‘yes’ box, and the cross-party support in the south turned attention to Northern Ireland, the only

part of the UK and Ireland where same sex couples cannot be legally married.

Openly gay UUP councillor Jeff Dudgeon fought a long legal battle to decriminalise homosexuality in Northern Ireland in the 1980s.

He took his case to the European Court of Human Rights over a decade before Irish senator David Norris also arrived at Strasbourg in a case that echoed Dudgeon’s.

“There was a small party in Belfast of a dozen people, and then a disco” following the ruling. “Not a street party with global support,” he explained. “Most countries in Europe still don’t have equal marriage.”

He also referred to how politicians voted at Stormont during a Sinn Féin proposal in April to allow same-sex marriage in Northern Ireland.

It led to questions over divisions among the SDLP and Alliance parties on their members’ stance on the issue.

Five SDLP MLAs did not turn up for the vote, while three Alliance party representatives abstained, despite official party line being to support gay marriage.

The Unionist politician warned that some Northern Ireland politicians would vote to have the decriminalisation of homosexuality reversed if a bill allowing same-sex marriage was introduced at Stormont.





FORMER Taoiseach Bertie Ahern is expected to give evidence later this summer at the banking inquiry.

## Ahern and Kenny to be called before Banking Inquiry

DUBLIN – Taoiseach Enda Kenny and former taoiseach Bertie Ahern are expected to give evidence later this summer at the banking inquiry.

Last month, the inquiry heard from representatives of the financial auditing firms, which have been criticized for their role in the crash. Former Central Bank governor John Hurley also gave evidence.

Both Kenny and Ahern are expected to be grilled as to their expansionary election campaign promises in the run-up to the 2007 General Election, when the economy was already in decline.

Along with Kenny and Ahern, who was taoiseach between 1997 and 2008, the inquiry also wants to hear from former Progressive Democrats leader and

Tánaiste Mary Harney and former Green Party leader Eamon Ryan, who both served in government.

The inquiry will also seek to hear from Tánaiste and Labour leader Joan Burton, formerly the party's finance spokeswoman.

Current Jobs Minister Richard Bruton, who was finance spokesman for Fine Gael at the time of the crash, is also being called.

Sources said the politicians are expected to give evidence in late July, following the much-anticipated appearance by another former taoiseach, Brian Cowen.

Former IMF mission chief to Ireland Ajai Chopra will appear before the inquiry in September.

## Prince Charles Shakes Hands With Gerry Adams

DUBLIN – Prince Charles has become the first member of the Royal family to meet Gerry Adams – a man once deemed such a threat that his voice was banned from the British airwaves.

He shook hands with the Sinn Féin president at the start of his first official tour of Ireland on May 19.

It follows Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness shaking hands with the Queen in Belfast three years ago, and is seen as a sign of deepening relations between the UK and Ireland.

The heir to the throne exchanged a few words with Adams as Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall met guests at the National University of Ireland Galway.

The two men, both 66, smiled at each other and shook hands for several seconds in the packed hall.

Charles was holding a cup of tea as he greeted Adams, who leaned forward to speak into the Prince's ear several times.

Later, the Prince of Wales held a 15 to 20-minute meeting with Adams and the North's Deputy First Minister McGuinness behind closed doors.

Adams said they spoke of their mutual sense of loss and relief that "the war is over."



A VISIT to the village of Mullaghmore in Co. Sligo was an emotional moment for the Prince of Wales as it is the site where his great-uncle Lord Louis Mountbatten was killed by a Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) bomb in 1979.

He said it was "a great meeting and a great engagement," adding, "It was obviously a big thing for him (Charles) to do and a big thing for us to do."

Charles and Camilla touched down on a chartered flight at Shannon Airport in County Clare before travelling to Galway for their first engagement in a packed agenda.

Adams arrived there at midday and told reporters he hoped their meeting would boost the Northern Ireland peace process.

The historic handshake comes on the

eve of the Prince's emotional walkabout in the seaside village of Mullaghmore, County Sligo where his great-uncle Lord Mountbatten was murdered by the IRA.

Mountbatten was killed when a bomb was remotely detonated on his fishing boat. Three others also died – his grandson Nicholas Knatchbull, Nicholas' paternal grandmother, the Dowager Lady Brabourne, and Paul Maxwell, their local boat boy.

Within hours, another IRA bomb claimed the lives of 18 British soldiers at Narrow Water, Warrenpoint, in Northern Ireland.

## Loyalist assault victim dies after 9 years in vegetative state

DERRY – Police have launched a murder investigation following the death of a man nine years after he was severely brain damaged in a "vicious" unprovoked sectarian attack.

Paul McCauley was a 30-year-old civil servant when he was attacked by a loyalist mob at a barbecue in the Waterside area of Derry in July 2006.

The event in Chapel Road was organised for a friend who was leaving to teach abroad when the party-goers were set upon by a gang of around 15 people.

McCauley suffered multiple injuries, including a brain hemorrhage and a fractured skull. He also had two heart attacks on the way to Altnagelvin Hospital.

He never regained consciousness and remained in a coma until his death in the early hours of Saturday, June 6.

Throughout the course of the police probe – spanning the last nine years – detectives have arrested and questioned more than two dozen people, but just one man was jailed for his part in the assault.

Daryl Proctor was convicted of the attack and given a 12-year jail term. He was released in February this year.

Last year, police apologised for the fact more people had not been brought to justice.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland



DERRY NATIVE Paul McCauley passed away in the early hours of Saturday, June 6 with his family and friends by his side.

said they have now commenced a murder investigation following his death.

Senior Investigating Officer DCI Michael Harvey said in statement, "On behalf of the entire police family, I want to extend our deepest sympathies to the McCauley family following Paul's death.

"They have conducted themselves with great dignity over the past almost nine years since the vicious attack on Paul and his friends.

"The love and care they gave to Paul have been a beacon of light in a tragically dark set of circumstances.

"Nothing we can say will ease the pain which the family is enduring at this sad time.

"I have only recently assumed responsibility for the investigation but I know

I speak for everyone in the Major Investigation Team, previous senior investigating officers and colleagues in District police when I offer the McCauley family our heartfelt condolences."

SDLP Foyle MLA Mark Durkan also offered his condolences.

He said, "I would like to express my sympathy for and solidarity with the McCauley family at this time.

"They have endured a torrid nine years watching their son suffer in a manner few of us can imagine.

"Their pain has been compounded by the failure to see justice done.

"I was at school with Paul and know what a gentle being he was. That his life has been destroyed and that those responsible are still walking the streets is very difficult to take."



### IRISH IN VANCOUVER

## Another successful event for newcomers

By EILIS COURTNEY

VANCOUVER – "As immigrants, we are lucky to have such an event and to feel there is genuine support and direction for those who seek it."

This is just one of the comments from the newcomers who attended the May 9 Information and Networking Seminar for Irish Newcomers, hosted by the Irish Women's Network and sponsored by a grant through the Irish Government's Emigrant Support Program.

Over 50 newcomers, some who had just arrived days before, made lots of notes while the ever-popular Jennifer Gerves-Keen (www.jgkonline.com) explained how to update resumes, hunt for jobs and prepare for interviews.

Other established members of the Irish community shared their experience settling in to life in Vancouver and worked with the newcomers in groups and one-

on-one, offering advice on networking and contacts for job hunting.

Thank you to VIBE for their support of the event and thank you to all the community members who gave up a sunny Saturday afternoon to come and meet the newcomers – your willingness to offer help, advice and support is greatly appreciated.

The IWN hope to receive funding again and plan to do another seminar in the fall.

For more information, or if you are interested in volunteering, contact Eilis Courtney at [irishwomensnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:irishwomensnetwork@gmail.com).

And the last word comes from another newcomer: "Please keep this running – it is an essential for Irish immigrants and a great way for them to connect with the community and each other."



# Amnesty International demands investigation into BBC allegations of collusion in N. Ireland

LONDON – Amnesty International has called for an investigation into claims on a new BBC *Panorama* programme that agents inside Ulster loyalist and republican terror groups were able to kill and target victims with impunity during the Northern Ireland Troubles.

The programme, *Britain's Secret Terror Deals*, focused on links between the RUC, army and MI5 with the Ulster Defence Association and the Ulster Volunteer Force, but also explored allegations from the families of those killed by the IRA that in some cases those involved in murdering their loved ones were informers for the British state.

Lady Nuala O'Loan, the former police ombudsman in the region, branded informers who were allowed to commit crimes including murder while in the pay of the British state as "serial killers."

O'Loan said the state allowed their agents to kill. "They were running informants and they were using them." She said, "Many of them were killers and some of them were serial killers."

"Their argument was that by so doing they were saving lives, but hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of people died because those people were not brought to justice and weren't stopped in their tracks," she said.

Commenting on these latest allegations of collusion between paramilitary organisations and their security force handlers, Patrick Corrigan, Amnesty International's programme director for Northern Ireland, said, "The breadth and depth of collusion being alleged here is truly disturbing."

"Killing people targeted by the state, using intelligence provided by the state and shooting them with guns provided by the state – if all this is proven, we're not talking about a security policy, we're talking about a murder policy."

"There must now be a full, independent investigation into the scale of the policy where the police, army and MI5 worked with illegal paramilitary groups, resulting in the deaths of perhaps hundreds of people."

"Without full accountability for past actions, there can be no public confidence in today's justice mechanisms."

*Panorama's* reporter Darragh MacIntyre also revealed that an AK47 assault rifle used in a sectarian massacre of Catholics in 1992 ended up in an exhibition at the Imperial War Museum in London to mark the carnage of the Troubles.

The weapon was used in the UDA killing of five Catholics in a betting shop on the Lower Ormeau Road in Belfast.

The police ombudsman has confirmed that the assault rifle has since been removed from the museum for forensic scientific examination. It has been linked to other UDA murders during the conflict.

The weapon was originally recovered by the police in 1992, but officers from the Historical Enquiries Team (HET) were unable to locate the gun when they reopened the unsolved murder cases.

A spokeswoman for the Imperial War Museum said it was given the gun by the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC)

weapons and explosives research centre.

The murder of *Sunday World* reporter Martin O'Hagan in 2001 and two massacres, at Sean Graham bookmaker's in 1992 where five people died, and the killings of nine Protestant men returning from work in Kingsmill village in 1976, are among the cases where state and paramilitary collusion is alleged to have been covered up.

The programme also said the state paid an agent who helped develop a new IRA bomb that killed 34-year-old married RUC officer Colleen McMurray, before all the evidence surrounding her murder in 1992 went missing.

The ombudsman's report into McMurray's death is yet to come out.

It is one of dozens of ongoing investigations surrounding unsolved murders where state collusion with paramilitary groups is alleged.

George Hamilton, Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), told *Panorama* he "entirely refuted" the suggestion that officers colluded with O'Hagan's killers and that the police pursued many people within "the terrorist organization... and locked many of them up."

The Police Ombudsman's report into O'Hagan's death was delayed because the Police Service of Northern Ireland refused to release "crucial" intelligence files.

In total, police refused to hand over documents relating to 60 murders – the state has been accused of involvement in all of them.

*Panorama* said it had uncovered "extraordinary evidence" to show how the victims were killed and their killers protected.

Only when the current Police Ombudsman Michael Maguire, threatened to take the police to court did the PSNI



AN ASSAULT RIFLE used in seven unsolved murders has been discovered on public display at the Imperial War Museum in London.

*"We're not talking about a security policy, we're talking about a murder policy"*



A NEW BBC *Panorama* investigation claims collusion between state and paramilitaries in Northern Ireland and alleges that terror groups were able to carry out murders with impunity during the Troubles.

release the files. His investigation into O'Hagan's death has been ongoing for eight years.

Raymond White, retired RUC Assistant Chief Constable and former Special Branch Officer, admitted to the programme the state "recruited people with

blood on their hands" in order to save lives.

He said, "That's what we were employed to do, to get information and the best information comes from within organizations. That's the reality of the life in which we lived."

## Northern Ireland power sharing in crisis as welfare bill fails

BELFAST – Failure to reach agreement at Stormont raises fears that institutions could collapse and the DUP and Sinn Féin could walk away.

Power sharing in Northern Ireland entered a new crisis on May 26 when a bill to reform the region's welfare system was shot down by nationalist parties.

The failure to push legislation through the Stormont assembly leaves the Northern Ireland executive with a £600 million black hole in its budget.

Unless political leaders can agree to a lasting deal on welfare in the coming weeks, there is the very real prospect of a senior civil servant stepping in to take over departmental spends later in the summer, under tight financial constraints.

Such a scenario, where the parties are effectively relieved of spending responsibility, would undoubtedly increase the chances of one of the main partners in the executive – the Democratic Unionist party (DUP) and Sinn Féin – walking away and collapsing the institutions.

DUP attempted to introduce a bill that would have led to reforms of the benefits system locally and manage redundancies in the civil service.

But Sinn Féin and the SDLP exercised a veto known as the "petition of concern" where bills can be defeated if one side of the sectarian/political divide claims there is insufficient cross-community support for the law.

The bill was drawn up at the Treasury's insistence to implement the welfare reforms of the last Conservative/Liberal Democrat government.

Introducing the previous Coalition Government's welfare reforms in Northern Ireland, after a two-year delay, was a key plank of last December's Stormont House Agreement – a deal that had been heralded as resolving a range of destabilising disputes at the heart of power-sharing.

The fall of the Welfare Reform Bill has now endangered other elements of the accord struck at Stormont House between the five members of the mandatory coalition and the British and Irish Governments, such as the devolution of corporation tax powers and new structures to address the legacy of the Troubles.

If passed, London would have allowed in return the regional government in Belfast to set its own low corporation tax to attract foreign direct investment.



PETER ROBINSON was discharged from hospital following a heart attack on May 25.

## DUP leader Peter Robinson discharged from hospital

BELFAST – Northern Ireland's first minister, Peter Robinson, was discharged from hospital on May 29 following treatment for a heart attack.

The Democratic Unionist party leader was admitted to the Ulster hospital in Dundonald five days earlier, before being moved to Belfast's Royal Victoria hospital (RVH), where he was fitted with a heart stent.

After leaving the RVH the 66-year-old paid tribute to the hospital's staff. He also thanked all those who wished him well during his five-day stay in hospital.

Among those who visited him was the deputy first minister, Martin McGuinness, who brought a bowl of fruit to his bedside.

As a result of his illness, Robinson missed a crucial vote in the Northern Ireland assembly which threatens to destabilise cross-community power sharing in the region.

Following his release, Robinson gave a "doorstep" press conference where he warned of the dire consequences if Sinn Féin did not sign up to welfare reform proposals.

He outlined a strategy, which clearly had been discussed earlier: The DUP would seek to push through a budget in the coming weeks based on the Stormont House Agreement to test whether Sinn Féin could be persuaded or compelled to accept the welfare changes.

Ireland's Minister for Foreign Affairs Charlie Flanagan, appealed for the parties to reach an agreement on welfare changes. Flanagan said failure would have serious implications for political stability.

"The government agreed that every possible effort must be made to encourage and support the Northern Ireland executive parties to reach an agreement on welfare reform that is both politically acceptable and financially viable," Flanagan said.

"As well as providing a template for financial stability in Northern Ireland, the Stormont house agreement represents an agreed way forward for addressing the contentious legacy of the past."



# 1916: Irish nationalism and the role of women

## THE VIEW FROM IRELAND



By  
**MAURICE  
FITZPATRICK**

DUBLIN – If patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel, then Ireland has been grievously afflicted by roguery of late.

Consider the speech Fianna Fáil leader, Micheál Martin, delivered on April 19 at the annual Fianna Fáil commemoration at Arbour Hill prison in Dublin.

Martin addressed the issue of custodianship of Irish Republicanism and Sinn Féin's claim to it.

The speech was a milestone as far as the next general election is concerned: While it will not determine the make-up of the next government, it does clarify what the formation of the government will *not* be.

Martin had two objectives. Firstly, he needed to somehow rescue his party from the flames, and to establish Fianna Fáil as a credible political machine once again.

Since Martin assumed the mantle of party leader in 2011, redeeming Fianna Fáil's reputation has been a Sisyphean labour – the previous Fianna Fáil administration's ruination of the economy caused an irreversible collapse of its electoral support base.

Secondly, he needed to halt the rise of Sinn Féin.

In the next election, Sinn Féin hopes to Hoover up the Fianna Fáil vote and opinion polls show that, come whatever scandal that may, Sinn Féin's support in the Irish electorate continues to creep upwards while Fianna Fáil sits glumly on the other end of the see-saw.

That is why it fell on Martin to say something radical to hurt Gerry Adams' party and to claw back support for his own. This is where "patriotism" comes in.

In the absence of a strong Fianna Fáil party, Sinn Féin has attempted to arrogate to itself the position of being *the* Republican party in Ireland, which means, from their point of view, being accepted as the party made in the image of the rebels who proclaimed the Irish Republic in 1916.

That is a singular stance on the part of Sinn Féin since it is the only major Irish political party *not* to have its roots in Easter 1916. But, in the ahistorical world of inter-party fighting, such details are conveniently bypassed.

Faced with a general election within nine months, Martin has adopted a similarly proprietorial attitude towards 1916. Maybe because laying a strong claim on Irish patriotism is the only card Fianna Fáil has left to play.

Martin chose Arbour Hill prison to berate his rivals because it has a special resonance in Irish Republican inheritance – it is the site where the assassinated leaders of the Easter 1916 Rising are buried.



DURING his April 19 speech at the 1916 Rising Commemoration at Arbour Hill in Dublin, Fianna Fáil leader Micheál Martin accused Sinn Féin of being unfit for a democratic government and of attempting to hijack the centenary 1916 commemorations.

*"The covering up of abuse...continued well after the ceasefires."*

Fianna Fáil's annual renewal rite of its association with the origins of the Republic is deeply suspect: It has often functioned as a deft diversion from the party's policies, cloaking its misdeeds in the comfort of the green flag.

Still, while both parties are cynically milking 1916 at the hustings, there are clear differences between Fianna Fáil and Sinn Féin's methods. Credit where it is due – Martin, irrespective of his motives, was right to highlight them.

Martin consolidated the aptness of the location with such an extensive, searing and almost irrefutable attack on Sinn Féin that it is hard to reduce it to a few essential thrusts.

Here are a few: "They don't debate, they enforce. They shot children in the streets for defying them and they turned a blind eye to the abuse of children.

"Victims... show bravery unknown to the cowards who lead the movement which denied them justice.

"The covering up of abuse... continued well after the ceasefires.

"By claiming legitimacy for their campaign, they refuse to acknowledge the right of the Irish people to oppose and reject them.

"They killed servants of this republic and worked to destroy its institutions; the men and women of 1916 went on to found democratic parties, adopt a republican constitution and commit themselves to achieving national objectives in new ways."

Phew – sometimes politicians actually do tell it as it is.

There is a standard Sinn Féin line to respond to all of these accusations: Essentially, that they are, and always will be, the victims of everything that happened during the Northern Troubles.

Sinn Féin's problem, as illustrated by Martin McGuinness' failing to gain substantially enough from the collapse of Fianna Fáil's candidate in the 2011 presidential election, is that they cannot make enough of the Irish electorate believe their rationalisations.

Martin's jeremiad did particularly well in its illustration of how Sinn Féin's re-

vision of the past undermines its current policies and besmirches its integrity.

His vivid reminder of the horrors perpetuated by the IRA intensified animosity towards Sinn Féin, above all because of the stinging contemporary charges against the party (and party elders).

More gravely for Sinn Féin, however, it is now clear that any prospect of a Fianna Fáil/Sinn Féin coalition in the next government is dead in the water (assuming Martin remains head of the party). And Fine Gael is quietly delighted to see the opposition so bitterly divided.

But it would be a pity to leave the last word on patriotism to grubby political party politics.

There are also – dare I say – the green shoots of more commendable forms of patriotic expression in Ireland just now.

On May 6, a fortnight after Martin's speech, an impressive muster of Northern and Southern Irish politicians and religious leaders gathered at Arbour Hill to remember the 1916 leaders.

They struck a wholly more sedate tone of commemoration than Martin had done in his speech.

The Most Reverend Pat Storey delivered the homily on the occasion.

Storey, a Protestant woman from the North of Ireland who is the first female bishop in the history of the Church of Ireland, had a warm response to her role in the commemoration, not least from Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Heather Humphreys, who is tasked with organising the centenary celebrations of 1916.

Maybe that is because the two women have much in common.

Writing in *The Irish Times* on March 31, Humphreys stated, "Given my background as a Protestant and an Ulster-woman, who is a proud Irish republican, I appreciate the need to respect the differing traditions on this island."

These women go some distance towards wresting the mantle of Irish patriotism from the factional politics of the putative defenders of republican ideals in Ireland and make it authentic by engaging in it in novel ways.

Maybe we are edging towards the Pearsean ideal of a republic that "guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities of all its citizens" after all?

The responsibility lies with us, and not electioneers, to make that happen.

## Sinn Féin is the most popular party in Ireland according to new poll

DUBLIN – Sinn Féin is currently the most popular political party in the Republic of Ireland, according to a new opinion poll.

A Sunday Independent/Millward Brown survey shows that Gerry Adams' party has enjoyed a rise in support which now sits at 26 percent.

The republican party sits just one percent ahead of Fine Gael, indicating that it will be a straight fight between Adams and Taoiseach Enda Kenny to lead the next Irish Government.

Both parties have benefited from a sharp drop in support for independents and have now emerged as the clear frontrunners to lead any potential new coalition.

In theory, the Sinn Féin president could be leading the Irish Government if support for his party stays high until the next election, which must take place no later than April 2016 – the centenary of the Easter Rising.

As a party leader, Adams has also recorded an increase in his personal satisfaction ratings, which has risen by six points to 29 percent. The increase is noteworthy given events of the last year, which have seen his leadership and Sinn Féin questioned.

Last year Adams, who is now a TD in Louth after giving up his Westminster seat in West Belfast, was arrested in connection with the murder of Jean McConville.

He spent four days in custody being

questioned about the abduction, killing and burial of the mother-of-10 in 1972.

The 37-year-old widow from west Belfast was secretly buried and became one of the Disappeared. Her body was found on a beach in Co. Louth in 2003. Adams has consistently denied any involvement in her abduction and murder.

Sinn Féin was also under heavy pressure over its handling of sex abuse claims made by Belfast woman Mairia Cahill. She said she was raped as a teenager by a suspected IRA man, and that the IRA later helped to cover it up.

Five people who were prosecuted as a result of her claims were later acquitted, after she withdrew her evidence.

Sinn Féin faced criticism after Cahill's claims that she was subjected to an investigation by the Provisional IRA.

Adams later said there was no doubt that Cahill had suffered great distress, but insisted that his party had acted in good faith.

Overall, the poll showed that leaders of all the main political parties recorded increases in their personal satisfaction ratings.

Kenny's support is up three points to 24 percent; Tanaiste Joan Burton is up one point to 23 percent; Fianna Fáil leader Micheál Martin is up five points to 29 percent, while Adams is up six points.

At present, Sinn Féin have 14 seats in the 166-seat Dail.

## Northern Ireland Assembly 'failing' on integrated schooling

BELFAST – The Northern Ireland Assembly is failing on its commitments to integrated schooling, a British university lecturer has claimed.

Despite many parents in the region keen to expand the levels of integrated schooling, the Northern Ireland Executive is "out of touch" with common feeling, Dr. Shaun McDaid, of the University of Huddersfield, has claimed.

"There seems to be a genuine desire among parents to bring about integrated schooling, but it hasn't materialised.

"On this issue the executive is behind the curve," said McDaid, a Research Fellow at the university and a member of its Centre for Research in the Social Sciences.

His claims follow the recent contribution the academic made to the first edition of the new online journal *Identity Papers*, published by the University's Academy for British and Irish Studies.

For his article McDaid compared the education policies pursued by the power-sharing executive of 1973-74 with those of the current devolved government.

And while acknowledging that today's Ulster "no longer suffers the intense sectarian violence of the 1970s and 80s," he finds it remains "plagued by inter-communal divisions" with few attempts made to improve community relations via integrated education.

By contrast, the executive of the early 1970s formulated what McDaid describes as "one of the most progressive and ambitious strategies for integrated education in the history of Northern Ireland."

"Despite the costs, integrated education was at the forefront of the first executive's efforts to improve community relations," he says.

"That this occurred at a time when the violence was at its most intense is all the more remarkable, and provides an interesting contrast with the education policies of the current executive."

He adds, "However, the current Northern Ireland Assembly has shown no commitment to fully-integrated schools."

Instead it has earmarked £25 million for the development of "shared schools," in which pupils of different sectarian backgrounds share facilities such as sports grounds and assembly halls but are taught in segregated classes.



# Graveside Oration Roused a Nation to Freedom

*"The Fools, the Fools, the Fools! –  
they have left us our Fenian dead –  
And while Ireland holds these graves,  
Ireland unfree shall never be at peace."*

– Pádraig Pearse, Glasnevin Cemetery [August 1, 1915]

**I**N August 2015 we mark the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the death of prominent Fenian, Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa. His funeral, which took place on August 1, 1915 saw an unknown man step forward from the crowd and make a graveside oration which would influence a nation.

This would rouse Irish republican feeling and would be a significant element in the lead-up to the Easter Rising of 1916. That man was Pádraig Pearse.

By **PAULA REDMOND**

Fenian leader Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa was born on September 11, 1831 in Reenascreena, outside Rosscarberry in Co. Cork.

His parents Denis O'Donovan and Nellie O'Driscoll were tenant farmers and it is believed that the name Rossa derives from the townland of Rossmore in Cork.

During the great famine Jeremiah's father worked building roads as part of the famine relief works. He caught "famine fever" now known to be typhus and died in 1847.

Following this, Rossa moved to nearby Skibbereen to work in his cousin's shop and married Nano Eager, a Kerry woman, in 1853.

In 1856 he founded the Phoenix Literary and National Society for "the liberation of Ireland by force of arms."

James Stephens, a founder of the Irish Republican Brotherhood visited Rosscarberry in 1858 and recruited Rossa and his organisation into the IRB.

Jeremiah was interned for eight months on conspiracy charges following a public demonstration in December 1858.

His wife died in 1860 and a few years later he married another woman, Ellen Buckley from Castlehaven in west Cork. Unfortunately, she died in childbirth in 1863.

He married again in 1864, this time to Mary Irwin from Clonakilty and the couple had 13 children together.

In 1863 he began contributing letters to the nationalist paper *The Irish People*, founded by James Stephens.

In 1865, fellow Fenians and IRB members attempted rebellion. This uprising involved a few battles throughout the country with one of the most significant clashes occurring in Tallaght, Dublin.

Following the uprising those involved were put on trial and subsequently imprisoned in England. Rossa was convicted of treason and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

In 1870 thirty-nine prisoners, including Rossa, were granted early release as a result into enquiries into the poor conditions in which they were being held.

However, under the amnesty they were forbidden from returning to Ireland for the duration of their prison terms.

Along with four other comrades – John Devoy, Henry Mulleda, John McClure and Charles Underwood O'Connell – Rossa sailed to America. They were nicknamed "The Cuba Five" after the ship they sailed in.

Upon his arrival in New York Rossa ran unsuccessfully for office against the notorious politician William Tweed "Boss Tweed," who was known for his use of kickbacks and bribes.

Here, Rossa joined the Fenian Brotherhood and edited the U.S. edition of



A RE-ENACTMENT of the funeral of Fenian Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa at Glasnevin Cemetery in Dublin is among an ambitious programme of events to mark the centenary of his death. According to Gabriel Doherty of the School of History at University College Cork, O'Donovan Rossa was arguably the most famous of all Fenian leaders and his burial on August 1, 1915, was one of the largest political funerals in Irish history.

*The United Irishman.*

In 1872, Rossa leased the Northern Hotel in New York. The premises was located in Chatham Square in a notorious district known as The Five Points in Manhattan.

The area was regarded as a slum, where crime and disease were rife and it was the setting for the 2002 film *Gangs of New York*. Today, it is part of Chinatown.

In 1875 he began to raise money for what he called a "skirmishing fund" to support the continued fight against British rule in Ireland.

By early 1877 he had raised \$23,000 from contributors spread between the U.S., Canada, Ireland, England and Scotland.

In 1885 an Englishwoman called Yseult Dudley arranged to meet Rossa near Broadway on the pretext that she wanted to make a donation to him.

Dudley shot Rossa several times. The incident got widespread media atten-

tion with many believing that Dudley was an agent of the British Government.

The British vehemently denied this and claimed instead that Dudley was just an unstable woman. Rossa believed that the British Government had attempted to assassinate him.

Rossa published a book about his life in 1874 entitled *Prison Life*, later re-released in 1882 under the title *Irish Rebels in English Prisons and Rossa's Recollections 1838-1898*.

In 1891 the British authorities lifted his exile. As a result, he made visits home in both 1894 and 1904 when he spent some time living in Cork City.

However, he returned to New York and died in Staten Island on June 29, 1915 aged 83. His remains were returned home to Ireland.

On August 1, 1915 Pádraig Pearse gave the oration at Rossa's graveside in Glasnevin cemetery Dublin.

Pearse was somewhat of an unknown

at the time but Tom Clarke insisted that he give the speech.

The now famous address included the lines, "the fools, the fools, the fools! – they have left us our Fenian dead and while Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace."

Pearse himself would be dead one year later, executed following the 1916 rising. O'Donovan Rossa's name is commemorated throughout Ireland.

Richmond Bridge over the Liffey in Dublin was renamed in 1923 to the O'Donovan Rossa Bridge. There is a monument in St. Stephen's Green, Dublin a park in Skibbereen and countless GAA clubs.

Paula Redmond is a writer from Gorey, Co. Wexford, Ireland. She has had several articles and poetry published in numerous journals and magazines, has featured in RTÉ Radio 1's *Sunday Miscellany* and is part of a children's anthology, *Once Upon A Bedtime*, that was jointly published by Poolbeg and RTÉ in 2014.

## Complete shock at the sudden death of legendary RTE broadcaster

DUBLIN – Heartfelt and emotional tributes have been paid to one of Ireland's best-loved broadcasters, Bill O'Herlihy, who died suddenly aged 76.

Just hours before his death, he sauntered up the red carpet at the annual Irish Film and Television Academy Awards.

He seemed his usual genial self as he chit-chatted with nominees and photographers about his recent trip to the Cannes Film Festival.

The image of him jostling and joking about on the steps of the Mansion House made the news of his death all the more

jarring on the morning of May 25.

The announcement provoked an outpouring of emotional tributes from colleagues and fans who were keen to praise this "giant and gentleman of Irish broadcasting."

President Michael D. Higgins described O'Herlihy's rapport with sports fans as "legendary."

Born in Cork, Bill O'Herlihy became a journalist at 16, writing for the *Cork Examiner*. He was at the centre of Ireland's sporting life for close to five decades.

Although O'Herlihy spent the majority of his career working in RTE's sports department, he remained a skilled debater.

He excelled at acting as a foil, often feigning naivety in order to provoke heated discussion - an expertise which requires both self confidence and intelligence. Coupled with this he possessed a kindness and generosity of spirit.

"Bill had the heartiest of laughs," close friend and Fine Gael's former Director of Organisations Frank Flannery said.

During his 48 years of broadcasting, O'Herlihy presented 10 World Cups for RTÉ.

He will most probably be remembered by the nation for his astute presenting skill and endearing catchphrases.

Unflappable, affable, and highly inquisitive, all was 'okey-dokey' in O'Herlihy's world.



BILL O'HERLIHY on set with his grandchildren during RTE's World Cup coverage last year.

Indeed, Giovanni Trapattoni's former translator Manuela Spinelli remembered the difficulty she had in trying to translate his signature phrase, 'okey dokey'.

His is survived by wife Hilary, daughters Jill and Sally, and five grandchildren.



# To vape or not to vape... That is the question

This month *Sláinte* went on a field trip to a vape shop.

How embarrassing! It was sort of like going into Starbucks when you don't drink coffee. None of the terms being thrown around made sense and everyone knew what they were talking about except me.

Then I met a nice salesperson who took the time to explain. He owned the shop and obviously was on a mission to convert tobacco smokers into vapers.

Vape shops sell electronic vaping devices including the slim e-cigarette. At its most basic they are a nicotine delivery system.

Nicotine is the highly addictive chemical present in tobacco that makes it so hard to quit smoking.

But nicotine patches accomplish the same thing (quitting) and you don't see "patch shops". Why are patches not as popular as vaporizers?

One answer is that nicotine addiction goes beyond the chemical itself. Smokers also become addicted to the sensory and behavioral qualities of smoking tobacco.

The feel of the cigarette in their fingers, the sensation of smoke being inhaled and the sight of smoke being exhaled.

Vapers can simulate this without the tobacco, the smoke, the smell, and the increased risk of cancer and other tobacco-related diseases. Cheaper too.

Vape shops also sell the larger *vape pens* and *personal vaporizers* as well as a large selection of *e-juices*.

E-juice is a combination of nicotine, flavoring agents, propylene glycol and/or vegetable glycol.

The device vaporizes the e-juice to produce a flavored vapor which is then inhaled instead of smoke.

Using an e-cigarette or other electronic vaping devices is called *vaping*.

*Sláinte* suggests you make your first purchase of e-cigarettes at a vape shop where the salespeople can explain all your options and the laws that govern vaping in your area. Handle the products and see which ones appeal most to you.

There is no doubt that vaporizers are safer than cigarettes. Chances are if a group is off vaping in the back corner of a house no one at the front is going to know. The air will stay clean.

*Sláinte* is happy that the vaper's lungs stay clean too.

You may remember some research in the news that found high levels of contaminants such as formaldehyde and acrolein in e-vapors.

"E-cigarettes churn out high levels of formaldehyde!" they cried.

But when you read how the study was conducted, you found researchers used

## SLÁINTE – TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH!



By  
**MAUREEN KEANE**

unrealistic levels of heat to generate those contaminants. The results of the study were not accurate.

On the other hand, the amount of nicotine present in various e-juices is not always accurate either. Don't believe everything you read about e-cigarettes.

*Sláinte* recommends vaporizers for smokers who either want to use them to quit, to reduce their nicotine intake or to substitute vaping for smoking. Ask your physician if a vaping is a good option for you.

However, *Sláinte* cannot emphasize enough that these devices are highly addictive.

The innocuous sounding e-juices are just as addictive as cigarettes. Therefore, minors should never ever vape.

Health officials fear teens may use e-cigarettes as a gateway to tobacco smoking or they may become addicted to nicotine from vaping.

A recent study found that the use of e-cigarettes does not discourage, and may encourage, conventional cigarette use among U.S. adolescents (JAMA Pediatr. 2014;168(7):610-617).

Nicotine is an addictive, toxic chemical and it should not be used by children or teens. Just because e-juice comes in fun candy and fruit flavors does not mean it is safe.

Vaping is safer than cigarettes. However, it is safest never to use nicotine and best to never vape.

The growth of vape stores and the interest in vaping show just how addictive nicotine can be. Vaping is not a harmless activity. It is just less harmful than smoking.

In British Columbia vaping will be forbidden where traditional smoking is banned.

According to Health Minister Terry Lake the rules are designed to prevent minors from being exposed to e-cigarettes.

You can find some unbiased research here: [www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/14/18](http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/14/18), and [www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/tobacco/facts/ecigs.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/tobacco/facts/ecigs.aspx).

Other links to e-cigarette research and laws can be found at *Sláinte*'s website: [Keanenutrition.com](http://Keanenutrition.com).

Next month *Sláinte* takes her first step into a marijuana store.

# Understanding What is Seen in the Midsummer Sun

By CYNTHIA WALLENTINE

**H**IGH noon of the year, midsummer arrives on June 21 at 9:39 PDT. What is seen in that midday sun, is often neither here, nor there.

From darkness the year, and the human, is born. To darkness both shall return. Midsummer – the summer solstice – is the tarrying ground of the Kings of Time, the Holly and the Oak.

And this time, it is the Holly King who holds ground, vanquishing the bright year, sapping his strength, aging him to dust.

Calendar months fly, history is writ, lives begin and end. Pedaling with all our might we try to keep time, but our strength too, is sapped by the Holly King, aging us to dust.

The worried heart, beating ever faster, falls further behind. For the wise, curling time bestows recognition of the differences between change and pain. One is inevitable, the other is not.

For the Celtic, for the nature-born, summer solstice is mid-growing season. The sun, its aspirations, and its pull to grow, have reached a high point in our sky, and our minds.

Turning back, retracing steps, shortening the distance between here and there, the sun gradually, gradually, returns all to ground.

Although a steady astronomical presence, its seasonal strength on our sphere diminishes, and eventually all that which grows in its light, ages to dust.

In bright light, and brilliant darkness, things dance before and behind the eyes. Making little sense, memories

crowd minds when the face turns with eyes closed to a noon-day sky.

In moonlight, fleeting mirage returns loved ones, or reveals what is to come.

In the day to day, an unpredicted association, a sudden return, a serendipitous twist changes all – even the past.

Those fleeting, poignant moments, whether of spirit or synaptic impulse, heal, soothe, and offer strength to push on – ever on.

There are things that appear in the noon-day sun. While we know when it is the dawn of our day, few of us recognize true midday.

Dance it like it is today, live with the expectation that it is tomorrow. Passages are assured on this plain, aging to dust, with the greatest of Kings.

And from thereon into light, released of weight and light of soul, for what is seen in the midday sun is often neither here, nor there.

# Newfoundland senator working to raise awareness of the 'Celtic curse'



**TTAWA** – Senator David Wells is on a mission to raise awareness of Canada's most common genetic disorder.

Nearly two-thirds of the 125,000 Canadians with hemochromatosis don't know they have it – and thus are at risk of severely debilitating or even fatal health impacts.

Senator David Wells counts himself lucky.

The Newfoundland and Labrador senator is one of the 125,000 Canadians who suffers from hemochromatosis – a common but little-known genetic disorder that causes the body to store too much iron, with potentially devastating health impacts.

Unlike two-thirds of the Canadians who have hemochromatosis, Senator Wells had the good fortune to discover he has the disorder, and is now actively treating it.

The surprisingly simple treatment – giving blood on a regular basis – is effective in managing the condition for most people.

Even though hemochromatosis is the most common genetic disorder in Canada, few people know about it.

Yet when it goes undiagnosed and untreated, it can lead to severe arthritis, heart and liver disease, or diabetes, with debilitating or even fatal outcomes.

That is why Wells is committed to helping others by raising awareness of hemochromatosis in Canada.

Last month he spoke in the Senate on the theme and also hosted a reception in honour of Marie Warder, founder of the Canadian Hemochromatosis Society.

The reception was attended by many of his colleagues, members of the House of Commons and representatives of the Canadian Hemochromatosis Society from across Canada.

"One in 300 Canadians have Canada's most common genetic disorder. That's 125,000 Canadians", Wells said.

"I am very fortunate that I know I have



hemochromatosis, am treating it, and can avoid suffering the consequences.

"It is vitally important for Canadians, especially those in the higher risk groups, to be aware of the warning signs and get tested if needed."

It is estimated that 80,000 of the 125,000 Canadians with hemochromatosis do not know they have it.

Until recently, medical professionals were taught this was an extremely rare disorder, so some doctors may not be fully alert to the symptoms and risks.

"It is very important to think of

hemochromatosis early because the later effects are not reversible and can result in severe illness", says Dr. Sam Krikler, Surrey Memorial Hospital, British Columbia. Hemochromatosis, also known as the "Celtic curse," is most frequently seen in Canadians whose families have come from Northern Europe, in particular, France, Ireland and the UK. It is estimated that one in nine people of Northern European descent are carriers.

Hereditary hemochromatosis (HHC), or iron overload, is an inherited disorder that causes the body to absorb two to three times the normal amount of iron.

Over the years, the excess iron builds up in the vital organs, joints and tissues where it can cause a number of debilitating and potentially fatal conditions such as liver and heart disease, diabetes, impotence and arthritis.

The treatment involves simply taking blood on a regular basis, which helps the body to reset its iron to normal levels.

If you know someone who might have hemochromatosis or want information on Canada's most common genetic disorder, go to [www.toomuchiron.ca](http://www.toomuchiron.ca) or call 1-877-223-4766.

## NOVENAS

### NOVENA TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary (never known to fail). O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God. Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. O show me herein you are my Mother, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You gave me the Divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me. This prayer must be said for three days, even after the request is granted and the favour received, it must

be published.

– KLSMC, PMKMC, MJF, DF, ADB, CSKB, CC, CKB, LC, SLMKR, CTK

### NOVENA TO ST. ANTHONY

[June 13<sup>th</sup>, is the Feast of St. Anthony] O Holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and charity for his creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Encouraged by this thought, I implore you to obtain for me (request). O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. Amen.

– CTKB, PMKM, MJF

## FATHER'S DAY PRAYER

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide with fatherly love and advice.

Publication of this prayer is \$25 monthly  
(Canadian residents include 5% GST)





WHILE attending the Guns of Ireland musical in Richland in May, Danny Quinn and John Keane met up with former Seattle Gaels player Tere Thornhill (right) who is an architect now living in the Tri-Cities. The three were teammates on Seattle Gaels teams over 30 years ago.



ABOUT 150 people attended this year's Memorial Day Mass at St. Patrick Cemetery. Although the new statue of St. Patrick was erected before Memorial Day, the official statue blessing and unveiling will not be held until Thursday, September 3, at 10 AM with Bishop Eusebio Elizondo presiding.



PICTURED with the new statue of St. Patrick at St. Patrick Cemetery in Kent is John Costello whose Limerick-born grandfather is among the many Irish-born who are buried at St. Patrick.

## SEATTLE IRISH NEWS

### PASSINGS

Eileen Forhan Lapinski, 94, whose parents were born in Dingle, Co. Kerry, died in Seattle on May 12.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam dílis* - May her faithful soul rest at the right hand of God.

**SEATTLE GAELIC GAMES** – Saturday June 13, is the largest Irish sports tournament in the Pacific Northwest with the 8th Annual Seattle Gaelic Games.

This year's tournament, which starts at 10 AM and runs until about 6 PM, will feature games in men's and women's Gaelic football, camogie, and hurling, with teams traveling from throughout Canada, Oregon, Montana and Washington.

Competing in Seattle for the first time ever is the team from the University of Montana in Missoula, Montana, who were recently crowned U.S. 2015 National Collegiate Hurling Champions.

Game schedules and times will be posted at [SeattleGaels.com](http://SeattleGaels.com).

The after party will take place at the newly re-opened Murphy's Pub in the Wallingford neighborhood.

Even if you can't make it to the matches, come share a pint with us! We'll be announcing tournament champions and handing out trophies and awards. Free admission at all events.

**IRISH BASEBALL** – Irish Night at the Seattle Mariners is Wednesday, June 17, 7:10 PM, for the game vs. the World Series Champs, the San Francisco Giants.

The reduced price tickets include a free Irish Night Mariners Cap while supplies last, Irish entertainment in center field before the game by the Tara Academy Irish Dancers and the Seattle Police Pipes and Drums, and throwing out the first pitch will be Seattle's Irish Police Chief Kathleen O'Toole. For tickets and more details, visit: [mariners.com/Irish](http://mariners.com/Irish).

**IRISH SENIORS' LUNCHEON** – The next Irish Seniors' Luncheon is Saturday, June 20, at 12 noon at the Wilde Rover, 111 Central Way, in downtown Kirkland.

Please feel free to also invite other senior guests to attend with you. The cost of the buffet lunch is \$10 per person and reservations are requested.

The Wilde Rover is one mile west of I-405 and two and a half miles north of Highway 520, and a public parking lot at the rear of the building has free parking on Saturdays for up to three hours. For reservations, call Lorraine at (206) 915-1878.

**BLOOMSDAY** – Seattle's Wild Geese Players will celebrate Bloomsday on Saturday, June 20 from 2 - 3:30 PM by reading chapters two and five of Ulysses at the downtown Seattle Central Library.

This is the eighteenth year for the Wild Geese Players to be reading Ulysses, and 2015 sees a staged reading of chapter two, "Nestor," and chapter five, "The Lotus Eaters."

Ulysses takes place on June 16, 1904, the date now known worldwide as Bloomsday.

It follows the wanderings of Leopold



By  
**JOHN  
KEANE**



THE 2015 Thomas Addis Emmet Fellow in International Public Interest Law is Mahmoud Abukhadir who lives in Drogheda, Co. Louth, and recently graduated from the Law School at University College Galway. Mahmoud will spend July and August working in public-interest law with Seattle's Appleseed Foundation.

Bloom, a Jewish everyman, and Stephen Dedalus, a young writer and Joyce's alter ego, as they wander the streets of Dublin. Visit [wildgeeseatlseattle.org](http://wildgeeseatlseattle.org) for more details.

**CELTIC JOURNEY** – World renowned author and theologian Rev. Dr. Herb O'Driscoll will be returning to St. Andrew's Church in Port Angeles on June 20 to lead a spiritual jour-

ney through Ireland.

His presentation is entitled *Holy Wells; High Crosses; Thin Places*, and the seminar runs from 9 AM to at 3 PM with a voluntary donation. Lunch provided for \$10 or bring your own – e-mail: [sapa@standrewspa.org](mailto:sapa@standrewspa.org).

**JUNE 28 RACES** – Free admission passes to Irish Day at Emerald Downs in Auburn on Sunday, June 28 are available by calling (425) 290-7839 or e-mailing: [races@irishclub.org](mailto:races@irishclub.org).

Request as many passes as needed and feel free to share with friends.

Irish Day features thoroughbred racing with Irish music and stepdancers. Free kids activities (pony rides, inflatable slide, face painters), free parking, etc.

First race 2 PM. For reserved seating/dining reservations, or for more information on Emerald Downs, call (253) 288-7711 or visit: [emerald downs.com](http://emerald downs.com).

**JULY 19 PICNIC** – Seattle's Irish community picnic is noon to 6 PM, Sunday, July 19, at Lake Sammamish State Park in Issaquah (exit # 15 off I-90).

Games and fun for the entire family, and all are welcome. Free hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided but bring your own drink and a dessert to be shared.

There's a covered picnic area and several BBQ grills if you bring charcoal.

Hurling game starts at 1 PM followed by games and fun for the entire family – tug 'o war, sack races, water balloon toss, etc. For details, e-mail: [picnic@irishclub.org](mailto:picnic@irishclub.org) or call (425) 290-7839.

[Continued on next page...]



DURING ceremonies following the annual Memorial Day Mass at St. Patrick Cemetery in Kent, bagpiper Taylor Wood leads an honor guard from the USS Nimitz in Bremerton to lay a wreath on the grave of Richard and Barbara O'Connell, First World War veterans whose Limerick-born father and father-in-law founded St. Patrick Cemetery in 1880.





THE MONTANA STATE University Grizzlies hurling team, the U.S. 2015 National Collegiate Hurling Champions, will be in Seattle on June 13 competing at the Seattle Gaelic Games tournament at Magnuson Park. This will be the Grizzlies first time ever competing in Seattle.

[Continued from page 20]

**IRISH WEDDING** – Irish senator Katherine Zappone, who is a native of Seattle, proposed to Ann Louise Gilligan during a live Irish television interview following the gay-marriage referendum in Ireland.

Zappone has been living in Ireland since 1983 and is a former chief executive of the National Women's Council of Ireland, a human rights commissioner, and a member of the Seanad since 2011.

The couple were married in Vancouver, B.C. in Canada in 2003 and have been fighting since then in the Irish courts to have their union officially recognized.

**LAW FELLOW** – The 2015 Thomas Addis Emmet Fellow in International Public Interest Law is Mahmoud Abukhadir who lives in Drogheda, Co. Louth, and recently graduated from the Law School at University College Galway.

Mahmoud will spend July and August working in public-interest law with Seattle's Appleseed Foundation.

Founded in 1997 the law fellowship program is named for a hero of Ireland's 1798 United Irishmen rebellion.

Sponsored by the University of Washington and Ireland's Free Legal Advice Centers, the fellowship program is supported by Seattle's Irish Heritage Club.

**SINÉAD FUNDRAISER** – Thanks to all who contributed to the May 28 fundraiser and auction for Sinéad Cadden at Fadó.

To date, between the auction and Gofundme, almost \$40,000 has been collected to help Sinéad battle Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

If you have been to Seattle's Fadó Irish Pub at 1<sup>st</sup> and Columbia in the past 10 years, or the Owl n' Thistle or the Irish Emigrant in the years before that, Sinéad was probably your friendly bartender.

You too can donate at: [gofundme.com/qeeaa88](http://gofundme.com/qeeaa88).

#### CONGRATULATIONS

• Father Bill Treacy celebrated his 96<sup>th</sup> birthday early this month at Camp Brotherhood in Mount Vernon. The lively and active Fr. Bill, who was born in Co. Laois in 1919 during the Irish War of Independence. He still



CELEBRATING Co. Laois native Fr. Bill Treacy's 96<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 31 were (L-R) Maureen and John Keane, Fr. Treacy, Charlie Kelly, and Bernadette and Pat Noonan. Fr. Treacy arrived in the Seattle area from Ireland in 1945.

doesn't use hearing aids or eyeglasses!

• Reverend Barry Keating, the Belfast-born Pastor at Maplewood Presbyterian Church in Edmonds, is leaving Maplewood to become Director of Spiritual Care at Evergreen Medical Center in Kirkland.

• Father Tom Marti celebrates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination on June 14 with an 11 AM mass at Seattle's St. Edward Church.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

• Ceol Cascadia's Irish Music Week is July 20-25 at The Evergreen State College in Olympia. For details, visit [cascadiairish.org](http://cascadiairish.org).

• Celtic Thunder's Emmet Cahill is coming to Seattle on August 6.

• Join the Irish language choir which will be singing for the mass in Gaelic in October. New voices welcome, with a little Gaelic or a lot! Contact: [miriamjdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:miriamjdoyle@gmail.com).

## Irish broadcaster Derek Davis dead at 67

DUBLIN – Veteran broadcaster Derek Davis, who worked for both RTE and BBC Northern Ireland, has died aged 67.

The married father of three, originally from Co. Down, became a household name for his co-anchoring RTE's popular afternoon slot *Live at Three* during the 1990s.

But he was also known for his work as a journalist, his outspoken passion for food, sailing and angling, and his two stints presenting the *Rose of Tralee*.

Before moving to RTE, he worked with the U.S. network ABC and BBC Northern Ireland.

Born in Hollywood and raised in Bangor, Davis went to boarding school in Co. Antrim before studying law at Queen's University Belfast.

In a newspaper interview, he once put his start in broadcasting down to a row with a BBC producer at the Wellington

Park Hotel in Belfast.

The producer was so impressed with his debating skills that he asked the young undergraduate to contribute to a programme and he went on to be trained as a BBC reporter.

Of his decision to later leave Northern Ireland for the Republic, he said, "I left the North because I was afraid of getting shot. I was scared stiff of the work I was doing as a reporter."

Davis had suffered ill health in recent years and had spoken in interviews about his battle with weight.

Last year he underwent gastric surgery after becoming a grandfather for the first time and lost 70 pounds.

His death was announced by his former employer RTE, where he presented and contributed to several light entertainment and current affairs shows, including the marine programme *Out of the Blue* and *A Question of Food*.

## President Higgins Visits Women's Prison

DUBLIN – Women prisoners at the Dóchas Centre, the all-female prison located at Mountjoy Prison were visited by President Michel D. Higgins.

This was his first visit to the prison since he was elected in 2011. At a ceremony on June 9, he awarded five prisoners with the President's Award, with each getting a Gaisce Bronze Award.

Addressing the prisoners, he said, "I never underestimate how difficult the time you spend here can sometimes be, or the pain that separation from loved ones can bring.

"This Centre was aptly named Dóchas, meaning hope, and the most important

thing about the difficult road many of you are trying to take in your lives, is that there can be hope that you will succeed."

He said that during his visit he felt there was a great sense of hope at the prison.

President Higgins said that upon his election he had specifically named those in prison as an important group of citizens he wanted to include during his presidency.

"Your opinions and views matter and your voices should be heard, particularly when it comes to the design and administration of the services which you use every day," he said.

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# England 'ready to host World Cup' in wake of corruption allegations

LONDON – England is ready to host the 2022 World Cup if it is stripped from Qatar in the wake of allegations of corruption and bribery in FIFA, UK Culture Secretary John Whittingdale has said.

Whittingdale said the country has the facilities and mounted an impressive, if unsuccessful, bid to host the 2018 World Cup, and so could host the 2022 event if asked by FIFA.

He spoke as MPs asked whether England could step in to host the World Cup if allegations that the bid process for the Qatar tournament was corrupt are found to be true.

During culture questions in the Commons, Whittingdale said, "In terms of the decision to hold the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, that is obviously something which we are watching the investigation, but at the moment that decision stands."

"If it were decided to change that, I think as the chairman of the English FA observed, if Russia hosts the World Cup in 2018 it does seem very unlikely that another European country would host it in 2022."

"But obviously if FIFA came forward and asked us to consider hosting it, we have the facilities in this country and of course we did mount a very impressive, if unsuccessful bid to host the 2018 World Cup."

Whittingdale said there would be a "very strong" case for rerunning bidding for the 2022 World Cup if the original process was corrupt.

The Culture Secretary spoke two days after FIFA president Sepp Blatter an-

nounced he would stand down just four days after being re-elected into his post.

However, in his announcement Blatter pledged to stay on until a new successor was elected – not likely until December at the earliest – in order to drive "far-reaching, fundamental reforms."

Meanwhile, FIFA vice-president Jack Warner, one of those indicted by the U.S. Justice Department and who is now the subject of an Interpol international wanted person alert, had already labelled Blatter a "lame-duck president."

He has pledged to release an "avalanche" of evidence relating to FIFA's financial transactions, including those of Blatter, with him and the United Nations Congress, one of the parties in the current ruling coalition in Trinidad and Tobago.

Warner suggested his life was in danger in a public message after paying for a political broadcast slot on television in his native Trinidad, and said, "I will no longer keep secrets for them who actively seek to destroy the country."

He later told a rally of his Independent Liberal Party, "The die is cast. There can be no turning back. Let the chips fall where they fall. Blatter knows why he fell. And if anyone else knows, I do."

Meanwhile, Australian police said they are investigating corruption claims surrounding Warner and Australia's failed bid for the 2022 World Cup.



QATAR Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al Thani, left, FIFA president Sepp Blatter, center, and Russia Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov hold a replica of the World Cup following the December 2011 announcement that Russia and Qatar will host the tournament in 2018 and 2022.

The news came after Football Federation Australia chairman Frank Lowy defended his group's payment of AU\$500,000 to the Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF), the regional football federation in North America.

Lowy claims the money was "misappropriated" by Warner, the then-president of CONCACAF.

Australia spent millions of dollars trying to clinch hosting rights for the 2022 World Cup, but received just one vote when Qatar secured the rights in December 2010.



FAI chief executive John Delaney has said his body accepted a payment from FIFA in return for not pursuing legal action following the Thierry Henry handball incident in Ireland's crucial November 2009 World Cup qualifier.

## FIFA paid FAI claims chief executive John Delaney

DUBLIN – Football Association of Ireland (FAI) chief executive John Delaney has confirmed that FIFA paid Ireland to stop their legal case over Thierry Henry's handball in 2009.

The revelation further deepens the storm surrounding FIFA which is mired in allegations of corruption.

The revelations emerged after Delaney spoke on RTÉ Radio about the aftermath of former Arsenal forward Thierry Henry's blatant handball in Ireland's crucial November 2009 qualifier. It was missed by the referee, led to a French goal, and cost a World Cup spot.

Delaney claimed the payment was "a very good and legitimate deal" for the FAI but that it included a confidentiality agreement.

Reports last year claimed the payment to the FAI was five million euros.

Delaney confirmed FAI were handed the seven-figure sum to avoid a legal wrangle through the courts, after Henry handled the ball in setting up William Gallas's extra-time goal which ultimately sent France through to the 2010 finals in South Africa ahead of the Republic of Ireland.

Delaney's disclosure came on another damaging day for beleaguered FIFA, which has been forced to defend itself against accusations of corruption since senior officials were arrested in Switzerland on May 27.

Amidst the controversy at the time, the FAI suggested FIFA add a 33<sup>rd</sup> team to the World Cup. Blatter famously mocked the suggestion, and the FAI later threatened legal action.

The five million euro deal was struck less than two months after that game in January 2010.

Delaney said, "We felt we had a legal case against FIFA because of how the World Cup hadn't worked out for us with the Henry handball. Also the way Blatter behaved if you remember on stage when he had a snigger and a laugh at us."

"That day when I went in to him and told him how I felt about him, there were some expletives used, we came to an agreement."

FIFA released the statement after Delaney's remarks, confirming the payment was EU5 million.



TEARS OF JOY for Jack Charlton as he receives a standing ovation from both sets of fans at international friendly between England and Ireland in Dublin on June 6.

## Jack Charlton given standing ovation by English and Irish fans

DUBLIN – In a rare public appearance, Jack Charlton was given a beautiful tribute by both Irish and English fans at Dublin's sold-out Aviva Stadium June 6.

The former Ireland manager, who masterminded their memorable 1994 World Cup campaign, was the guest of honour as England returned to the capital for the first friendly in more than 50 years.

Charlton was warmly greeted by all supporters as he was introduced to both teams prior to kick-off.

And he also shook hands with old friend Roy Hodgson, who managed Switzerland at that same World Cup over 20 years ago.

Despite his time with Ireland, Charlton will always receive a good reception from English fans as one of the team to win the Jules Rimet trophy in 1966.

He won 35 caps for his country – and was on the losing side just twice – playing in every game of the 1966 tournament.

He led Republic of Ireland to their first ever World Cup in 1990, where they reached the quarter-finals before being knocked out by hosts Italy.

Four years later he got his revenge as his Ireland side recorded a famous 1-0 win over Italy in New York at USA 1994.

His success saw him granted honorary Irish citizenship in 1996, following on from being made a Freeman of the city of Dublin in 1994, the same year he was given an honorary doctorate by the University of Limerick.

He was inducted into the English Football Hall of Fame in 2005 in recognition of his contribution to the English game.

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# 'More' Really is More! 2015 Western Canada GAA

2015 is promising to be a boom year in the Western Canada Division of the GAA. The Division has seen growth in almost every year of its existence.

Today, eight clubs are preparing for the Western Canada Championship in Edmonton, which will be played on the August Bank Holiday weekend.

Those eight distinct clubs are spread through three provinces and, are as follows: B.C.'s Fraser Valley Gaels and ISSC Vancouver; Alberta's Calgary Chieftains, Edmonton Wolfe Tones, Red Deer Eire Og, and Fort McMurray Shamrocks; and Saskatchewan's Regina Gaels and Chlann na Gael Saskatoon.

## Gaelic Football and Hurling Championships

The Western Canadian Championships are being hosted in Edmonton, Alberta on the August long weekend, and will coincide with the Edmonton Irish Sports and Social Society's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Edmonton will host a tournament to rival anything available across the continent in the summer of 2015.

Feels like we repeat this every year, but this really will be the largest tournament staged in the history of the division, and it is expected that there will be eight men's teams, and five ladies teams competing for the division's bragging rights.

Further, Edmonton and Calgary hurlers are expecting to see Regina and Vancouver bring their camáns, and the 'Clash of the Ash' will be heard in Western Canadian Championship action for the very first time.

An unprecedented five ladies teams may compete for the Tom Gibbons Cup as Regina will be entering the ladies competition for their first year.

By RONAN DEANE



Men's competition will also be hard to call. Edmonton has won the last two championships. The standard of football has progressively been rising.

While the newest clubs in the division have won the junior final in the last two seasons, Fraser Valley are planning to hit Edmonton hard, and make a big impact in their first Alberta tournament.

All this means however is that the round robin matches on Saturday in Edmonton are going to be very interesting indeed.

Vancouver have had some great success in North American competition, but the last two seasons have been left wanting in their own backyard. It will be very interesting to see how they react to Edmonton's dominance.

## Local Competition & Beyond

The Alberta Cup title in 2014 was won by Calgary in the tightest of circumstances, and Fort McMurray's ladies took their third Alberta Cup in a row.

The Alberta Cup goes into its sixth season and continues to go from strength-to-strength, with Calgary's men, Edmonton's hurlers and Fort McMurray ladies defending their titles.

Vancouver played in Victoria this May long weekend, and will travel to Seattle for the annual tournament there.

Also attending in Seattle will be Calgary, who will be bringing a strong representation of Gaelic Footballers in both genders, but also their hurlers.

I believe I attended the Chieftains last successful foray to Seattle, in 2003. Happy Memories.

Not to be outdone on the opportunity to travel, Regina had a massive hurling tournament in Montana to their credit already this year. It is fantastic to see great new relationships are developing all around the division.

Further, the NACB (North American County Board) has continued its welcome to western Canadian clubs to take part in its championship, and so, Labor Day weekend you will find WCD teams take to the field in Chicago, Illinois.

Last year, Vancouver had incredible success in Boston, and stepping up to the next level will be a challenge they welcome.

Come to Edmonton in August, 1-2, enjoy the Gaelic Games and celebrate the Edmonton ISSS's 40<sup>th</sup> with the Western Canada Division.

## THE FRASER VALLEY GAELS

# Official launch of a new GAA team

By JOHN O'FLYNN  
Canadian County Board  
Secretary of the GAA

SURREY, B.C. – A warm welcome was extended to everyone who had made the effort to mark the occasion of the official launch of a new GAA Club, the Fraser Valley Gaels.

The team competed in its first sanctioned match against the Vancouver Harps on Saturday, May 16 out at the lush fields of Southridge School, South Surrey, B.C.

The idea of the new GAA club came about a couple of years ago through Denis Ryan, Peter Agnew, Vinny Crowley, Ian Corrigan and Eoin McCloskey.

These men and their most supportive family members, worked to create another GAA club which has extended the catchment area and helped spread the ethos and culture of the GAA out beyond the City of Vancouver.

The Fraser Valley Gaels will provide the chance for people to come together and network, share life experiences and help each other along the way.

The Gaels have aligned with the Irish Club of White Rock to develop a longstanding and sustainable relationship.

Their approach to president Ann Boyle



PHOTOS: Anthony Kimbley

THE game was match between the Vancouver Harps and the Fraser Valley Gaels.



IT WAS a win for Vancouver with 3-17 to 1-10 but the Champions of Honour were the founders and supporters of the Fraser Valley Gaels. The team has aligned itself with the Irish Club of White Rock.

of the Irish Club was met with open arms and she was instrumental in helping to organize a great day in providing the facility and the catering that followed.

Sharon Woods from the Irish Club was also noted for her great efforts and is to be commended. It will be a shared journey for all going forward to maintain this warm relationship for years to come.

The game itself between the teams was skillful and entertaining enough to the spectators.

The scoreline indicated a good win for Vancouver (3-17 to 1-10), but the 'Champions of Honour' on this day were the founders and supporters of the Fraser Valley Gaels both on and off the field of play. Congratulations!

# 2014

## WESTERN CANADA GAA ALL-STARS (Ladies' Selection)

Name (Team)  
Emma Erskine FMcM (Calgary)  
*Goalkeeper*

Name (Team)  
Rosie Slevin Vancouver Celts  
*Full Back*

Name (Team)  
Elaine Martin Calgary Chieftains  
*Full Back*

Name (Team)  
Lorraine Muckian Vancouver Harps  
*Centre Back*

Name (Team)  
Lavinia Kelly Vancouver Celts  
*Half Back*

Name (Team)  
Rita Burke Vancouver Harps  
*Half Back*

Name (Team)  
Nathalie Behan Vancouver Celts  
*Midfield*

Name (Team)  
Jillian Vieira Vancouver Celts  
*Midfield*

Name (Team)  
Nicole McCarthy Calgary Chieftains  
*Half Forward*

Name (Team)  
Nadine Campbell Edmonton Wolfe Tones  
*Half Forward*

Name (Team)  
Andrea Brennan Vancouver Harps  
*Centre Forward*

Name (Team)  
Kelley Aylward Vancouver Celts  
*Full Forward*

Name (Team)  
Maeve Willoughby Vancouver Celts  
*Full Forward*

# 2014

## WESTERN CANADA GAA ALL-STARS (Men's Selection)

Name (Team)  
Philip Lynch Edmonton Wolfe Tones  
Goalkeeper

Name (Team)  
Tommy Bourke Vancouver Harps  
Full Back

Name (Team)  
Ryan Harvey Edmonton Wolfe Tones  
Full Back

Name (Team)  
Stephan Hanney Edmonton Wolfe Tones  
Centre Back

Name (Team)  
Russe Cleere Vancouver Harps  
Half Back

Name (Team)  
Liam Howlin Vancouver Harps  
Half Back

Name (Team)  
Shane Gilmore Calgary Chieftains  
Midfield

Name (Team)  
Paul Kennedy Edmonton Wolfe Tones  
Midfield

Name (Team)  
James Smith Calgary Chieftains  
Half Forward

Name (Team)  
Declan Reilly Edmonton Wolfe Tones  
Half Forward

Name (Team)  
Eugene O'Brien Edmonton Wolfe Tones  
Centre Forward

Name (Team)  
Brian Murphy Fraser Valley Gaels  
Full Forward

Name (Team)  
John Martyn Vancouver Harps  
Full Forward



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## The late Don Murray remembered in VanDusen Botanical Gardens

By EIFION WILLIAMS

VANCOUVER – On the afternoon of Saturday, May 2 there was a celebration of life for the late Don Murray at the Cambrian Hall, 17<sup>th</sup> and Main, Vancouver.

Born in 1939 in Daysland, Alberta, Don was a long-time employee of BC Tel, before retiring in 1993.

Family and friends at the Cambrian Hall celebration testified to Don's love for his family, his numerous volunteer activities and his willingness at all times to assist individuals and organizations in whatever way he could.

Among the many organizations that benefitted from Don's involvement over the years were Volunteer Vancouver, the Vancouver Welsh Society and the Peace Arch Tourism Bureau.

One of Don's abiding interests was gardening and all its facets. He was a regular volunteer at VanDusen Botanical Garden in Vancouver where he spent some years on the board of directors and the marketing committee.

For two years he was Chair of the Garden's popular annual Flower and Garden Show.

To honour Don's contributions, the Murray family has adopted a tree in the VanDusen Garden. The tree is a *Robinia pseudoacacia* 'Frisia' located at the top of the great lawn.



DON MURRAY

Commenting on the memorial, the family says: "In the *I Ching* the Young Tree represents finding our way, developing roots, support and energy for growth.

"The signs, in turn, draw on the timeless wisdom of nature, reflecting the diversity of its spirit, the elegance and force of its cycle of change and its all-embracing harmony.

"The tree is a fitting tribute to Don and his faith in the correctness of cyclical change and in the coming generations."

Don Murray passed away suddenly last summer. He is greatly missed by his wife Liz, sons Julian and Richard, daughters-in-law Shawn and Brianne, grandson Kaysen, and their extended family.



DON MURRAY was the former chairman of the Garden's popular annual Flower and Garden Show at VanDusen Botanical Gardens, and to honour his love for the gardens a tree has been adopted in his name.

## Retired Vancouver doctor builds unique model locomotive

By EIFION WILLIAMS

VANCOUVER – Retired Vancouver physician

Dr. John Anderson has an impressive record of academic achievement. He also has long-time hobbies that have produced remarkable results.

Born in Swansea, John attended Swansea Grammar School, the school that Dylan Thomas had attended a couple of generations earlier.

He has since maintained an avid interest in the poet through active membership in the Vancouver Dylan Thomas Circle. He has also for many years been a member of the Vancouver Welsh Society.

After obtaining a PhD in Organic Chemistry from the University of Bristol, John later went on to qualify as a microbiologist and a medical doctor.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chemistry and the Royal Institute of Pathologists as well as a member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

Prior to his retirement, John was Head of Infection Control at Children's Hospital in Vancouver and a professor at the University of British Columbia.

While proud of his many academic achievements, John is also enthusiastic about hobbies he has pursued for many years – constructing unique artistic examples of a variety of artifacts, including beautifully ornamented working grandfather clocks.

One of John's major achievements is a perfect working scale model of a steam locomotive. John's steam engine is no ordinary run-of-the-mill model put together from a kit or prefabricated sections.



RETIRED doctor John Anderson and his wife Tora with the model steam locomotive he constructed.



THE MODEL is an exact replica of a locomotive that was a familiar workhorse on British railways before the advent of diesel engines. It includes meticulously accurate reproductions of the instruments, gauges and controls found on the original, as well as a firebox and pannier tanks.

All the parts have been made and put together by John himself, initially by using ordinary household tools, later supplemented with a lathe, a milling machine and some rough castings.

The steam locomotive, now proudly displayed in John's living room, is an exact replica of a locomotive that was a familiar workhorse on British railways before the advent of diesel engines.

It was an engine familiar to John as a youth in Wales and was used mainly for short-haul transfer of coal and other products between local destinations.

The model is one-eleventh the size of a full-size engine and includes John's meticulously accurate reproductions of the instruments, gauges and controls found on the original, as well as a firebox and pannier tanks.

The locomotive now sits on rails on a display platform but was originally capable of being fired up to move under steam. John maintains that under full steam his engine was capable of pulling a train carrying nine or 10 people.

To maintain authenticity, John has included as background to the display a model station and signal box.

As a gesture to his Welsh background he has given the station the name CWMRHYDYCEIRW and the engine the name LLWCHWR, two familiar Swansea suburbs from his youth.

John now lives in retirement in Vancouver with his wife Tora, who shares her husband's enthusiasm for his hobbies.

Tora takes great pride in showing visitors John's remarkable achievements, especially the model engine that was many years in the making.

## Welsh First Minister Carwyn Jones fights to maintain Assembly powers

CARDIFF – Welsh First Minister Carwyn Jones has told Whitehall the days of parliamentary sovereignty are numbered.

Jones laid down a warning to Whitehall against attempting to take back powers from the National Assembly with the new Wales Bill.

In a major speech, he said: "[If] there is one message I have to convey to some in Whitehall it's this, the old system won't work anymore. The days of parliamentary sovereignty are numbered."

Jones was adamant that the National Assembly will have to consent to any

changes proposed by the UK Government in the forthcoming Wales Bill.

The UK Government is preparing legislation that will give the Assembly the power to make laws in any area that is not "reserved."

Welsh Labour leader Jones warned that no attempt should be made to remove existing powers when drawing up the list of what is reserved.

He further warned against "throwing powers at Scotland in panic" and cautioned that unless a lasting settlement for the UK is secured that takes into account the needs of the different nations he "can't be sure the union will survive."

Firing his warning shot at Whitehall, he said: "We haven't had any sight of any draft clauses and there's been no substantive discussion between the UK and Welsh Governments on the details of the reservations to be included in the Bill. There, the devil certainly lies in the detail.

"We are concerned that there will be an attempt to roll back on the extensions to devolution that have occurred as a result of two Supreme Court judgments."

Arguing in a speech at the British Academy that nothing less than the "remaking of the British constitution" is needed, he said, "Making do will not do in the



WELSH First Minister Carwyn Jones meets Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon at Bute House in Edinburgh on June 3.

future if the union is to survive."

Delivering a stern message to civil servants, he said, "Whitehall departments will need to show good reason why particular responsibilities should be retained at centre in London rather than given to Wales. It is there in Westminster that the burden of proof lies in terms of saying why powers should stay in Westminster and not for us to show why powers should be devolved."

He continued, "There is no question of going back on what is currently devolved.

"There must be more clarity, true, but that clarity cannot come at the cost of limiting the powers of the people in Wales in any way or constraining the ability of the Assembly to make legislation that is coherent, holistic and responds to the needs of the people who elected it."