



On the death of Seamus Heaney

By Peter Kirby

Seamus Heaney died on August 30, 2013 in Dublin, and the outpouring of grief and affection that followed that news left no doubt about his astounding popularity. But at a time when poetry has been relegated to a dark corner in the basement of popular culture, how could he have earned such a place in the hearts of so many people?

Those who know say he was a great poet, up there in the Parthenon with the likes of Yeats, but there is more to it than that. I can't claim to understand great poetry, I can only feel it, and Heaney's poetry resonated deep within me.

There is a common humanity that transcends the bonds of family, tribe or nation and connects us all. But most of us give it no thought, learning all too quickly to develop a hard outer crust that enables us to get on with the business of earning a living, raising kids and preparing to die. We rush through life in a blue haze of unconsciousness, preoccupied with the mundane, and too busy to pay attention to the profound. That's why we need artists, the seers who still have vision, who live with their eyes and hearts open. Seamus Heaney was such an artist, a poet who found a way to show us what was out there beyond the noise and distractions of daily life. His poems remind you of what it means to be human. They can break through the crust like a hatchet.

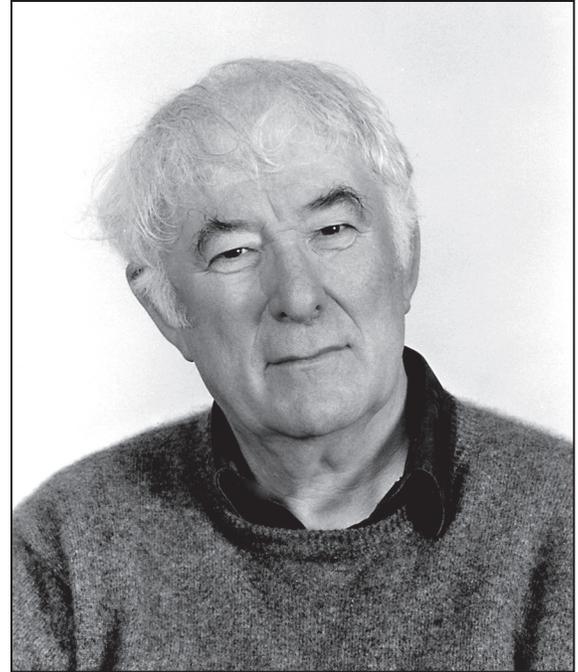


Photo courtesy of Canadian Irish Studies:
Seamus Heaney circa 2002

Poems that remind you to treasure memory in its smallest detail:

*The dotted line my father's ashplant made
On Sandymount Strand
Is something else the tide won't wash away.*

Or they can hit you like a two by four in the chest:

*Wearing a poppy bruise on his left temple,
He lay in the four-foot box as in his cot,
No gaudy scars, the bumper knocked him clear.
A four-foot box, a box for every year.*

Cont. p.4

NUAICHEIT

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A word from the President

The way our calendar works, the first meeting of the new board takes place in September and, as I opened the meeting my first words were that we were less than six months away from, call it what you want – the “Season,” “March madness.” It’s what consumes our community for a good month either side of March 17th and it feels like it’s almost upon us.

It’s fairly unusual for the Society to speak out on public issues, but this month we unanimously adopted a resolution presented by board member Tim Dunn deploring the Quebec government’s proposed charter of Quebec values. The text of the resolution is published in full in this issue of Nuacht. As immigrants and descendants of immigrants ourselves, we stand in solidarity with those Quebecers of faith who wish to express their religious identity. We Irish have had our right to express our religious identity suppressed by the so-called Penal Laws for hundreds of years and it is frightening to watch a 21st century government in an apparently tolerant and diverse society attempt to turn the clock back to a practice reminiscent of such a dark chapter in Irish history.

This year, we welcome five new board members, Amber Lebrun, Ruth Hanna, Brant Hinkey, Ken Quinn and Lynda Premerl. All of them were invited by the nominating committee because they had already made a significant mark in the community: Amber has hosted the Irish radio show; Ruth was one of the founding members of the immigrant initiative and is vice-president of the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce; Brant has been a powerful

member of the ball committee; Ken is a past president of the United Irish Societies; and Lynda has demonstrated boundless energy on several committees most recently, membership. The real work of the board is done on the committees between main board meetings and, it is on these committees that most of our new board members cut their teeth. This year the committees and the committee chairs are as follows (in no particular order):

- March events (Ball and Lunch) – Marilyn Meikle
- Membership and volunteers – Karen Bright
- Communications – Ken Quinn
- Immigrant Integration Initiative – Stephen Fogarty
- Audit and investments – Jim Kellett
- Christmas Concert – Lynda Premerl
- Golf – Paul Doyle
- Grants – Christie Brown
- Ógra – Julie Dunn

If you would like to help with a particular event or committee, please contact Erin Matheson at 514-481-1346 or office@spsmtl.com and she will pass along your interest and your particular talents.

Coming up fast are our fall events two of which have already taken place. The first of these was on September 19th – the annual joint lecture with Concordia’s school of Canadian Irish Studies. This year, the speaker was the well-known Irish journalist, broadcaster and author, David McWilliams who also kindly consented to be our guest of honour at the immigrant integration event which was held at Irish Embassy Pub and Grill the following day.

Next up is a new event, the second joint fundraiser with the Montreal Irish Rugby Club taking place on October 10th. This was a sellout last year so buy your tickets soon!

And save the date for our 21st Christmas Concert which will be held as usual in the magnificent St. Patrick’s Basilica on December 5th. This is a highlight of the Christmas season not to be missed.

Please contact me at paul@eirican.com with your comments and feedback on the Society and any suggestions you may have on improving the member experience.

I look forward to seeing you at all the upcoming events.

*Paul Dunne
September, 2013*



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News from the Society

Volunteers' Appreciation dinner

On Thursday, June 6, thirty five “volunteers” and board members of the Society fought traffic jams in an attempt to arrive at the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association Club on time for the volunteers’ appreciation dinner. What the organizers had forgotten was that Peel Street was closed because of the Grand Prix. Getting around was almost impossible, but even worse was trying to drive along Sherbrooke St.

Nevertheless, although the meal was served later than planned, it was worth the wait. Guests relaxed and chatted as they enjoyed their food.

During the evening, Lynda Premerl was presented with an award for being the “best” volunteer, and Christie Brown won the door prize presented by Bramble House.



Paul Dunne and Lynda Premerl



Diane Hodges, Erin Matheson and Christie Brown

Read Karen Bright’s article on p.5 to find out more about becoming a volunteer for SPS.

What a day! Golf tournament a winner for everyone again

If you had the distinct pleasure of playing in the St. Patrick’s Society Annual Charitable Golf Tournament on June 18, you will remember that it was “a day made in heaven,” with a temperature of 20 degrees with just a light breeze.

And, of course, you also had the pleasure of receiving a complimentary golf shirt, golf balls, tees, water and a chocolate bar before you even teed off. All this was followed by a delicious roast beef dinner and a prize for each golfer. Did I mention Hurley’s Irish Pub’s Guinness on tap for all, between the 6th and 14th holes?

Jim Killin’s L’Equipeur, another great supporter of our endeavours, generously donated the golf shirts and golf balls.

With everyone’s openhanded support, we have raised over a quarter million dollars over the years for the charitable works of the St. Patrick’s Society.

As usual, we were sold out with 180 golfers participating. If you would like to join us next June, please register early as we are limited as to the number of golfers we can accommodate.

Paul Doyle,
Chairman, Golf Committee

(Obviously Paul remembered to go to church the Sunday before this year’s tournament. Editor)

Annual General Meeting

This year’s AGM was held at the University Club on June 20. It was well attended and everyone present spent a couple of convivial hours. Speeches were kept to a minimum. John Mulholland, Scott Phelan and Michelle Vahey were honoured as retiring directors of the Society, but only John was present to receive his plaque. A big thank you as always to Erin for organizing what is proving to be a most enjoyable end-of-the-year gathering of SPS members.



Photos: Anne Forrest



Heaney (cont.)

And often, the poems reveal an unuttered truth, and in so doing, bring understanding:

*Smoke signals are loudmouthed compared with us:
Manoeuvres to find out name and school,
Subtle discrimination by addresses
With hardly an exception to the rule.*

It wasn't that Heaney saw things differently. He didn't show us what was new, but opened our eyes to what is always within us; as though his poems weren't his vision, but something shared and common owned.

He was born deep in the Irish countryside, and described memories of his childhood in his Nobel Prize acceptance speech as follows:

In the nineteen forties, when I was the eldest child of an ever-growing family in rural Co. Derry, we crowded together in the three rooms of a traditional thatched farmstead and lived a kind of den-life which was more or less emotionally and intellectually proofed against the outside world. It was an intimate, physical, creaturely existence in which the night sounds of the horse in the stable beyond one bedroom wall mingled with the sounds of adult conversation from the kitchen beyond the other. We took in everything that was going on, of course – rain in the trees, mice on the ceiling, a steam train rumbling along the railway line one field back from the house – but we took it in as if we were in the doze of hibernation. Ahistorical, pre-sexual,

in suspension between the archaic and the modern, we were as susceptible and impressionable as the drinking water that stood in a bucket in our scullery: every time a passing train made the earth shake, the surface of that water used to ripple delicately, concentrically, and in utter silence.

Seamus Heaney came to Montreal in 2002 to accept an Honorary Doctorate at Concordia and, during a hot summer evening, a lucky few gathered at the Ritz Carlton to eat supper in the same room as the great man. He must have sat with similar delegations on thousands of occasions, and I imagined he would be bored with such dull company. I underestimated him. He seemed to have the time of his life, and made everyone believe they were in the company of a friend. Early in the evening he had been presented with a bottle of Jameson. At the end of the night, when the hotel workers were folding tables and piling chairs in corners, Seamus opened the bottle and offered a nightcap to anyone who wanted to sit down and take a few moments. He wanted to hear about Montreal and its winter cold, about the Irish in Montreal, and he wanted to hear the stories of those around the table. Eventually, he was rescued by his wife Marie, who apologized for taking him away, saying that if she didn't, he would sit there until three in the morning.

Seamus Heaney was the man we should all strive to be, warm, generous and interested in others. He was a man who went through life with his eyes and heart wide open, and who was blessed with a gift for opening our eyes, and our hearts.



At a meeting held on September 9, 2013, the board of directors of St. Patrick's Society unanimously approved the following resolution:

Whereas it is the part of the mission of the Society to speak, when necessary, on behalf of the Irish Canadian Community,

and whereas it has come to the attention of the Society, through various published media reports, that the Government of Quebec is considering introducing legislation to adopt a Charter of Quebec Values,

and whereas such legislation would seek to oppress all members of Quebec society by derogating from the rights and freedoms of Quebecers of faith, including the right to express their religious identity,

and whereas the Irish community has from time to time struggled against discrimination to establish its place in Quebec society,

and whereas the Society is cognisant that a diverse and multicultural society enriches the cultural patrimony of all Quebecers,

be it resolved that the Society denounce the introduction of legislation which would diminish the rights of Quebecers to display signs and symbols of their faith.

Ask not what your Society can do for you ...

By Karen Bright

An organization like St. Patrick's Society is built on the backs of the unsung heroes of any charitable organization: the volunteers. Every event we hold is the direct result of hundreds of hours of work put in by members who willingly donate their time, personal resources and energy to the good works of the Society.

While it is not possible to properly show our gratitude to all the volunteers for their efforts and generosity, for the past two years we have held a Volunteers' Appreciation dinner as our way of saying thanks.

Last year we instituted a "Volunteer of the Year" Award, to recognize someone who really went "above and beyond" in his/her efforts to support the events that he/she worked at for the Society. Many times we see an individual who is on more than one committee and notably going out of his/her way to support whichever event he/she is working on. We want to encourage this, and recognize the effort.

Once again we are organizing a Volunteers' Appreciation Dinner to be held on May 29th 2014, (save the date!). As we go through the year, and especially during our busiest time of year (March), I would encourage the committee chairs of the events we are organizing to pay attention to the members of your committee and nominate someone who you feel really deserves special recognition. I would further encourage members of the Society to come forward and join some of the committees and really get involved in the activities of St. Patrick's Society.

If there are any members out there who do wish to be more involved and are unsure of how to proceed, please drop me a line at Karen.bright@gmail.com and I'll be happy to tell you more about it.



Save the Date: December 5

By Lynda Premerl

The Society's 21st annual charity Christmas concert will be held on Thursday, 5th December 2013 at St. Patrick's Basilica.

Confirmed performers this year include our beloved Bernadette Short Celtic Grace dancers and a solo performance by Carol McCormick who will also lead a sing-along of Christmas carols. Also invited to perform (and I'm waiting to hear back from them) are the Black Watch Band, Montreal Male Welsh Choir and the Montreal Pipes and Drums.

Tickets are \$20.00 for general admission and \$50.00 for patron tickets with reserved seating and recognition in the concert programme. We also invite you to contribute one non-perishable food item for the food bank.

So save the date, come one and all to help make the 21st Annual SPS Charity Christmas concert the start of another decade of successful concerts.



In Memoriam

During the past couple of months, the Irish community lost three prominent members. **Brian Foran**, well known for his musical contributions and involvement with SPS and UIS, passed away on June 26. Then, sadly, on July 27 **Robert Travers**, a former board member of the Society, died suddenly. And we also mourn the untimely passing of **Georges Bériault** who died August 27 after bravely battling health measures for many years. As a Director of Friends of Sinn Féin (Canada), Georges was an active participant in the umbrella group (now the Federation of Irish Societies) of Irish community organizations in Montreal.

St. Patrick's Society extends sincerest condolences to the families of these fine gentlemen. They will be missed.

Aw shucks: oysters and vodka galore

By Jim Kellett

On behalf of the Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club, I would like to invite you to our 2nd Annual Vodka Oyster Party, October 10, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. We will once again be raising money for the good causes of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal and the MRFC. Last year, we raised almost \$10,000 and this time, we hope to double that total and need your help. We are also pleased to welcome our friends from the South Shore Shrine Club who will be joining us in support of the various wonderful Shriners International causes.

This year, we are upping the ante a bit with a change of venue, more oysters, more wine and bigger raffle prizes. Our event will be held at the Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran in Griffintown, located at 1892 rue Payette, one block west of des Seigneurs and one block south of Notre Dame.

We will again highlight fresh oysters courtesy of David Cocklin and the very unique Boru Irish Vodka imported courtesy of Castle Brands. There will also be plenty of non-vodka beverages including Belle Guelle beers from Brasseurs RJ and lots of non-oyster food from Otago Catering. You'll get a chance to win some of the \$5000 worth of raffle prizes that will (hopefully) include members tours of some of Montreal's most exclusive golf clubs, a first class rail ticket to Quebec City, a hockey-night-out in Montreal as well as an amazing hand-made Rodania watch from Switzerland.

Tickets are available on the St Patrick's Society website for \$100 each - www.spsmtl.com/content/2013-oyster-night - or by phone or email from Erin Matheson at (514) 481-1346; office@spsmtl.com. A tax receipt will be provided for a portion of the ticket price. Corporate tables are \$1000 and include event advertising plus six tickets and a gift basket. Please contact Erin directly if interested at (514) 481-1346.



A blast from the past on that night to remember

By *Jim McDermott*

My dear friend, Beverly McGuire, and I had the best seats in the house at the Judy Collins concert on June 9th of this year. The folksinging, song-writing legend charmed the jam-packed audience in the Rialto Theatre with sweet nostalgic memories of the 1960s.

During the show, which opened with a rendition of that ever-popular Irish favourite, “The Kerry Dance,” this gem of an elegant lady, who defies her age, accompanied herself on guitar and piano, and sang a couple of numbers *a cappella*. Her spellbinding, angelic and lilting melodious voice had everybody singing in close harmony. Yes, we were indeed smitten by the soulfulness of her sound.

Those famous shining blue eyes sparkled beautifully as Judy recalled with pride all her Canadian musical friends who had influenced her. She lovingly called out their names – Joni Mitchell, Leonard Cohen, Gordon Lightfoot, Joan Baez and other legends, including Bob Dylan whom she befriended during his early mystical musical odyssey;

she sang “Mr. Tambourine Man” brilliantly. Throughout her performance, the diva appeared to be right at home in the company of a warm and welcoming Montreal crowd who applauded her thunderously.

It’s amazing how a song, or an aroma, or an old photo can be the vehicle that transports us back to another time and place. That night, as soon as I heard her sing her signature song, “Someday soon,” I was taken to old Belfast city where in the late 60s my friends and I would meet in the parlours of our homes. There we would spin our treasured vinyl records on the radiograms. It was always a real blast on those damp winter nights, with a blazing coal fire warming our bodies and the sweet voice of Judy Collins warming our hearts. This woman’s voice is still as good as it was in her younger days. And I think and hope that Sweet Judy Blue Eyes will return to Montreal someday ...soon.



Tara celebrates a great season and says farewell to a long-time member

By *Diane Liben*

Tara Golf Association has been very active in 2013. Even before the golf season began, several members attended the Christmas Concert at St. Patrick’s Basilica. We also reserved a table at the St. Patrick’s Day luncheon. The very next day several members attended the Hudson Village Theatre to see *Oklahoma* followed by dinner at the Willow Inn where we joined in the St. Paddy’s Day festivities. Kay Farrell was persuaded to take the microphone and sing a song. On April 25 we held our Second Annual George Mulqueen Bowling Tournament followed by a dinner at Place Tevere. The winning team members were Helen and George Mulqueen, and Denis and Patricia Eve.

Our first golf tournament of the year was held on May 18 at Rivière Rouge. The “golf gods” have been with us this year as we have had nice weather for all of our tournaments so far. It was a picture-perfect day for our June tournament at La Cité and we even had a rain free week-end in Lake Placid in July. Although most of our tournaments are held on a Saturday, our September 14 tournament took place on a Sunday at Le Victorien. We will wrap up the golf season at Hemmingford on October 5 with a dinner and awards night following the golf tournament.

Sadly, we bid farewell to Kay Farrell who is moving to Nova Scotia. Kay has been a long-time member and our only female Honorary Member. Her late husband was one of Tara’s founding members. We will miss her presence



Photo: Gillian Pannini

Kay Farrell presenting the Gerry Farrell Memorial Shield to Diane Liben at Tremblant

especially in September when she always presented the tournament winner with the Gerry Farrell Memorial Shield in her late husband’s memory.

We are looking forward to next year and always welcome new members.



Montreal's Irish community enjoys two parties: June 25th and September 4th

By Ken Quinn

The newly formed Federation of Irish Societies organized two parties at the Irish Embassy Pub and Grill – one to welcome summer and the second to bid it farewell.

The first of these took place on a rainy June 25th when over 120 members of various Montreal area Irish organizations got together. Siamsa provided traditional music and despite the challenge of being properly heard over the noise and being confined to an indoor location, the musicians persevered and added to the evening's atmosphere.

Special guests for the evening included: His Excellency Dr. Ray Bassett with his wife Patricia and their son; Geoff Kelley MNA; and City Councillor Jane Cowell-Poitras, who, until earlier that day, had been acting Mayor of the City of Montreal following the resignation of Michael Applebaum.



Photo: Ken Quinn

Members of Siamsa who provided traditional Irish music at both of the summer parties



Photo: Ken Quinn

The Irish Ambassador to Canada, Ray Bassett, and his family flanked by St. Patrick's Parade organizers

Irish organizations from across the community were well represented: the Saint Patrick's Society, the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the United Irish Societies of Montreal, the Erin Sports Association, Siamsa, Ciné Gael, Innisfail Social & Sports Association, the Gaelic Athletic Association, the Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club, Friends of Sinn Fein, Coalition for Peace in Ireland, Tara Golf Association, the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce, and the Ville Marie Feis.

This party also welcomed some out-of-town organizations and relative newcomers. Tony Waite, representing Bloomsday, (celebrating the day James Joyce made famous in his novel Ulysses), April O'Donoghue and Frank Salvatori from the Montreal Celtic Festival Foundation, based in Mansonville, Gary McKeown, Jim Beauchamp, and Mike Klaiman (organizers of the hugely popular St. Patrick's Parade in Hudson) and Paul Loftus, who in addition to being chairman of the Federation of Irish Societies, was representing the

Montreal Chapter of the University College Dublin Alumni Association as its president.

Then on September 4th, as students were settling into their new classrooms, many of the same attendees returned to Paul Quinn's pub on Bishop Street to say goodbye to summer and lament at its brevity. This time the weather cooperated sufficiently to permit guests to sit outside in the courtyard or, if they preferred, indoors. Again a sizeable group from Siamsa played their music, but unlike on June 25th they could be heard more easily thanks in a large part to the courtyard being open.

On this occasion, the special guests were newly arrived Embassy of Ireland Second Secretary Elizabeth Keogh and British Consul General in Montreal Patrick Holdich. Ms. Keogh was introduced to many of the leaders of the Irish organizations and in her address, which she began in French, she noted her previous postings in Beijing and in Moscow.

Irish organizations from across the community were again well represented and identified, after which, the late Georges Bériault was remembered for his passion and dedication.

As the evening progressed, friends settled into their seats to share some stories and good laughs before bidding the summer adieu.

The Federation of Irish Societies is thankful to Paul Quinn, Joe Cannon Jr., and the entire staff at the Irish Embassy Pub & Grill for their hospitality in contributing to two warm and welcoming evenings.



MIRFC bids farewell to an active summer

By Mark Gallagher

2013 has been another great season for the Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club. This year the club launched its first ever mini rugby programme aimed at introducing the sport and developing skills of kids aged 4-12 years old. Approximately 35 kids registered for the 10-week summer programme and the feedback from both kids and parents was fantastic. A big thank you must go to Donald Chartrand who led the programme and gave many hours to planning and managing to ensure the kids had fun and Groupe Beausnesne who kindly sponsored it. We hope to double the numbers next year and may even look at running one on the island of Montreal, probably in the Verdun area. So please keep an eye out for details.



Under 12s with Dave Linard



Ali Olshefsky, Victoria Horne, and Jennifer McCall with the under 8 group

This season also saw the MIRFC women make another Grand Final and although they were beaten on the day by a very good Ormstown team, they secured promotion back to the Premier Division where they rightly belong.

In addition to the women's success, the MIRFC senior men managed to qualify all three senior teams for Grand Finals for the fourth year in a row! This is an amazing feat and goes some way in demonstrating the hard work and professional approach the club has developed over the last several years - asserting itself as one of the most dominant clubs in Quebec rugby.



1st XV line up for kick off



James Acker makes flying tackle against Ottawa Indians player



Premier Finalists standing for National Anthem before the game

The finals took place on Saturday, September 14th, at the Irish home grounds at Sainte Julie. The turnout was huge. Games began at 8:30 a.m. and ran every two hours until the Premier Final at 4 p.m. Unfortunately, the three teams failed to win their games with the 2nds losing badly at 46-13 and the third team 18-8. And, the first XV lost a nail-biter 32-28 to Ste. Anne's who scored a last-minute try to take the cup which was presented to the winning team by the Mayor of St. Julie.

We'd once again like to thank all our supporters and sponsors and anyone else who has helped us throughout the year. We look forward to an even more successful 2014.

Photos: Neal McDevitt and Donald Chartrand



The day that Joe Beef met Marguerite Bourgeoys in the Point

By Fergus Keyes

The 5th edition of the Joe Beef Market was presented in the Joe Beef Park on Saturday, September 14th in Point St. Charles and despite the cool temperature and the overcast day, it was a great success.

The Market is dedicated to the inclusive nature of Joe Beef himself. His real name was Charles McKiernan, an Irishman who came to Canada with the British regiment in the mid 1800s. He then opened a tavern called the Joe Beef Canteen which was located in what is now called Old Montreal. He was a good businessman who also decided that he would feed anyone who did not have any money – and even offered a free bed to the homeless. He was also very active in supporting his fellow Irish who went on strike during the building of the Lachine Canal and certainly contributed to their better working conditions after the strike. One of his most famous inclusive quotes was that everyone was welcome at his canteen regardless of whether they were “English; French; Irish; Negro or Indian or what religion they belonged to” – a strong statement when you consider it was made in the 1800s.



PSC presents skit in honour of Marguerite Bourgeoys

Each year, the PSC Community Theatre also includes a small play highlighting a different historical figure generally associated with The Point. And this year, the adult actors, along with the young actors from the free acting course offered by the Theatre, presented a great skit about the life and times of Marguerite Bourgeoys and particularly her involvement with the “Kings Daughters.” These “Filles du Roi” young ladies were brought to New France to help populate Ville Marie (the early name for the area in and around Montreal). Amongst her many other contributions, Marguerite Bourgeoys was very dedicated to providing education for young ladies. This was quite an accomplishment when you consider that this happened about 350 years ago, and that there are young girls today, in some parts of the world, who have died fighting for a right to education.

In addition to the play, there were more than 35 booths in the park offering a wide range of goods and services including diversified kiosks featuring the United Irish Societies; the Quebec Anglo Heritage Network; Heather Quinn from Heather’s Kitchen offering

terrific delicious homemade jams and jellies and many, many goodies. There was also free face painting and balloons for the kids, and again, in honour of Joe Beef, free soup, bread and stew were offered during the day.

The PSC Community Theatre and the organizing committee for the Joe Beef Market were also supported this year by a wide range of other groups including The Leo’s Boys Club; the CBC Do Crew; the Salvation Army; The Montreal Firefighters’ Museum and others.

Being an election year, there were many politicians who visited the market including Denis Coderre, running for Mayor of Montreal in November, who mentioned that his mother was Irish and that he recognized, and was proud of the many contributions made by the Irish Community to our city.



Playing the flute



The exhibition from the Montreal Firefighters Museum

So despite the cool weather and the threat of rain all day, everyone appeared to really enjoy the event that attracted about 500 visitors over the course of the day to this annual fun, family community activity.

We hope to see everyone at the 2014 Joe Beef Market.

Photos by Fergus Keyes



Archaeology at Black Friary: digging up Ireland's medieval past

By Niamh Curran

On my trip to Ireland this summer, I decided that I wanted to do something more than visit family and friends. I wanted to experience Irish history up-close and personal. After just graduating with a History degree, and since I've always had a general interest in Irish history (largely thanks to my Dad), I decided to research archaeology digs in the country. I came across several possibilities, such as those at Achill Island and Spike Island, but the one that struck my interest was the Black Friary Community Archaeology Project (BCAP) at Trim in County Meath.



Trim Castle and fortress walls, facing the town centre

Created in 2010, BCAP began excavations at Black Friary, a Dominican friary (as the “Black” suggests), built in the late 13th century under the direction of Geoffrey de Geneville, Lord of Trim. The friary was a significant part of the medieval town of Trim, because of its large land holdings and, as Trim was one of the largest medieval towns at the time, it was also a centre for ecclesiastical and governmental gatherings. It remained in use until the 1540s, and was neglected until eventually being mostly deconstructed for use of the stone for surrounding buildings. In the 1970s, local officials recognised that the site had some significance, so the area of the friary was protected from housing projects. About thirty years later, a local grocery store wanted to turn the land into a parking lot, sparking debate among archaeologists and local planners, although the land itself at the time showed only small, half-covered mounds of stone. At the 2008 Medieval Trim conference, the Irish Archaeological Field School accepted the suggestion to excavate the area.

Located in the middle of a housing estate and behind a SuperValu, Black Friary is relatively unknown. The excavations began in 2010 under BCAP and the Irish Archaeological Field School (IAFS). What makes this a unique archaeology site is that volunteers are welcome from ages 12 and up for any length of time, be it a day, a week, a month, or more. Archaeological



Excavating burials outside the church walls

students can gain experience in osteoarchaeology, architectural heritage, paleoarchaeology, zooarchaeology, and heritage management, all from one small site.

Run by Finola O’Carroll, affectionately known by students and supervisors as Fin, the site has a varying number of supervisors, most of whom are Masters or PhD students of relevant disciplines. Each specialises in one of the above areas. Whether it be planning a concentration of sandstone in cutting two, writing a feature sheet for a hearth in cutting seven, or excavating burials in cutting three, they were always full of interest and knowledge for the site. It amazed me that even the tiniest details, like a mason’s mark on a stone, can say so much about the friary’s history.



Church wall in Cutting 7 facing West, with the surrounding housing estate in the background

A typical day on the site begins at nine in the morning, with students and volunteers working under a specific supervisor for part or all of that day. Duties include trowelling, planning,

Cont. p.13

Black Friary (cont.)

cleaning bone, and of course, weekly tea duty. After a tea break at 11 o'clock, students work until lunch at 1:30, and then continue afterwards until 5 p.m.

While Ireland is notorious for rain and wind, this summer it experienced its hottest weather yet, with two heat waves of 30 degrees Celsius, and enough sunshine to make you wonder why Irish summers are usually laughed at as an oxymoron. I was only on site for two weeks, but both had only one day of rain. This allowed more time for planning and trowelling, which are difficult in anything more than a drizzle of rain.

Kneeling in one of the cuttings* each day, I was surrounded by the architecture of medieval Trim. From the site, I could see Trim Castle to the south, and the Yellow Steeple (named for its colour in the sunshine) just to the west of the castle. County Meath itself is steeped in Irish history, since it encompasses sites such as the Hill of Tara (the seat of the ancient kings), Newgrange, and various medieval castles and monasteries, all of which are within an hour or so of Trim.

As a Canadian student, I was surprised at the number of people who had never heard of the site. Although it is relatively new, a survey conducted by students in mid-August this summer revealed that the residents who did know about the site knew it mostly only from over the past year or two. Many Trim residents are unaware of the history of the site, or even what the site is. They mostly recognise it as a field with some kind of historical significance that has preserved the space of the site, if nothing more. The project leaders and the town of Trim want to raise awareness of the site for locals. By promoting site visits through volunteering, courses, and tours, BCAP hopes that the site will eventually be completely exposed to the public as an open-air museum, and be known as an important aspect of Trim's past.

If you're in Ireland anywhere near Meath, make a visit to the site, where supervisors and students are more than happy to give a tour of the site and its finds.

- A cutting is a context of the land where archaeological remains or soil have been removed to expose another layer.

Website: <http://iafs.ie/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Blackfriary-Community-Archaeology-Project/341826039243048>

Niamh Curran is a first-generation Canadian, and a graduate of McGill University. Having both sides of her family still in Ireland gave Niamh the opportunity to visit Ireland many times, and she looks forward to many more visits in the future. Growing up in Toronto with Irish parents and other Irish families, Niamh discovered a large network of Irish-Canadians, and is happy to share her Irish cultural experiences with it.



Immigration and Citizenship law update

By Stephen Fogarty, immigration lawyer

A new federal Minister: During the summer, Prime Minister Harper named career diplomat and McGill grad Chris Alexander as the new Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. Former Minister Jason Kenney now handles Multiculturalism as well as the department administering the Labour Market Opinion (LMO) rules.

International Experience Canada program (IEC): Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) will henceforth have full administrative control over this program, instead of sharing it with Foreign Affairs. More than 6,000 Irish nationals came to Canada with two-year open Work Permits under the IEC during 2013. This figure is slated to rise to 10,000 for 2014. CIC claims the new setup will lead to faster processing of applications and better management of the program in accordance with Canada's labour needs.

LMO procedures: In most cases an LMO is a pre-requisite for a foreign worker to obtain a Work Permit for Canada. The government imposed a new, \$ 275 processing fee for almost all LMO applications. Employers are not allowed to collect this fee from the prospective foreign employee.

Citizenship applications: Persons who fail to show up for their test or interview will no longer be given a free pass to a second appointment. They will have to justify their absence or risk having their file refused.

Quebec Immigration: Several changes were brought in by the PQ government effective August 1st. Persons seeking permanent residency under the regular Quebec Skilled Worker program wishing to obtain points on the selection grid for knowledge of French, or those applying under the Quebec Experience Class, will have to demonstrate a minimum competency at the "advanced intermediate" level for French. This is a major jump up from the "basic intermediate" knowledge level required in the past.

Stephen Fogarty practises law at his office Fogarty Law Firm in Montreal, website www.fogartylaw.ca. He is Chair of the Irish Immigrant Integration Initiative of St. Patrick's Society and Honorary Legal Advisor to the Embassy of Ireland. The views expressed in this article are Stephen's alone and do not necessarily reflect those of SPS nor of the Government of Ireland.



Four men in a boat for our future – Part 2

By Martina Branagan

It is a great relief to report that the team is home, safely and soundly after an adventure that was at times awesome and exhilarating while at others harrowing and hair-raising. Although they decided to pull out earlier than originally planned, forfeiting the coveted first to traverse the Northwest Passage by human power in a single season, the team believes that their main mission has been achieved - the discussion about climate change is on. Throughout their expedition, the team kept their website updated with regular blogs, photos and videos thereby creating visibility and raising awareness in real-time of what is happening in the Northwest Passage. Since they have come home, they have also had numerous interviews with the media. Next year, we can expect a documentary from the team about what is happening in the region.

As former Irish Montrealer, Kevin Vallely told me in an interview from Vancouver on the 4th September, the expedition was far more dangerous than they had anticipated which he finds very sobering and humbling. Listening to their own experience as well as that of their ice router, Victor and Richard Weber, Kevin's 2009 South Pole teammate and accomplished Arctic skier plus owner and operator of Arctic Watch on Cunningham Inlet, the physically and emotionally taxed team reluctantly ended their expedition about half-way, in Cambridge Bay. Had they soldiered on, they would undoubtedly not only have risked their own lives but also those who would have been forced to come to their rescue sooner or later. They had intended to make it all the way to Pond Inlet by the end of September but on the 28th August 2013 they realized that it would be reckless to continue considering the amount of sea ice choking through-ways to the East, the already declining temperatures, the lack of daylight and also the imminent changes in season and the accompanying difficult conditions.

The team's disappointment about not reaching their intended destination within the self-set target time is tempered by the belief that they did everything they possibly could within their control. They knew the dangers of rowing in icy conditions and that they would never be able to go faster than the ice, the difference between a current with them or against them when they would not be able to row. They learned that the combination of wind and tide makes current predictability uncertain at best. From

the get-go, this expedition was brutal. The team rowed through hostile terrain and weather conditions alternating teams of two men four-hour shifts in cramped conditions with no creature comforts (no showers, freeze-dried food) in up to 100 kilometers an hour winds. If there was no current and no wind, they averaged four to five kilometers an hour. When there was a headwind, they were stopped in their tracks and forced to manually move the 7.5 metre, 2,500 pound sea-faring Arctic Joule. They discovered that they just did not have the kind of control they would have liked from this row-boat in these conditions. That they were not pushed out to sea to perish in frigid, fraught waters or pummeled to death by pack-ice is testament to their collective strength and experience. Their heightened awareness of the senses played a

huge role in keeping the team safe. They learned to read the silences and prepare for the onslaught of high winds, storms and churlish currents, to see beyond the Arctic fogs and sidestep an ice-soldier-bolder.

While grateful for their man-made tools such as GPS which helped them find a tiny island during one hair-raising storm and their heavy-duty tent which they had to manually hold down to protect them from the elements, the heavy pack-ice became their lethal enemy and not wild animals. "We had two shotguns mainly for the polar and grizzly bears. You can imagine what it's like," said Kevin. "These animals stand about 10-11 foot high and weigh between 1500-2000 pounds. When we met with the RCMP, they sighed with relief to know that we had shotguns with us." If they were ever to undertake this expedition again, they would use another boat where they could take the winds and the ice head-on.

Over time, the team learned to really see and appreciate the stark beauty of this ever-changing

landscape. They saw musk ox and the Northern lights. They witnessed close-up and personal the profound effects of climate change on the Arctic. They found it hard to believe that they were seeing grizzlies, orcas and beavers up there, a sure sign of the changes according to the elders they spoke with. Although there is more sea ice this year than last year, it is about one third less than what there was in the 1980s.



*Arctic Joule Team
Photos courtesy of team's blog,
panorama by Martina*

Cont. p.13

Desperately seeking someone ...

By Bruce Clark

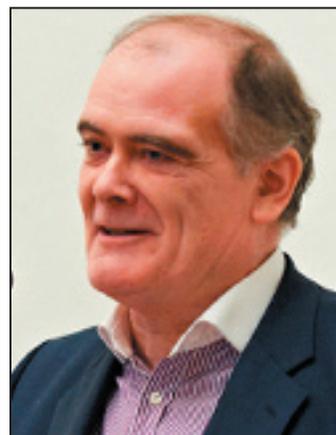
Some time around December 20, 1888, two Irishmen met in Montreal and exchanged nostalgic reminiscences about Rathlin Island. The result was a decent order for some linen cloth, bleached and finished in County Derry. The seller of the cloth was my great-grandfather, Harry Jackson Clark, a fiery 19-year-old who was making the first of many trips to North America on behalf of his family linen business, then an august but rather sleepy concern in the village of Upperlands near Maghera. The buyer was somebody in the employ of James O'Brien who was a successful dry-goods merchant.

At the time, young Harry was bursting to make his mark as a salesman. He was the ninth and youngest child of his parents: William Clark, a solid mid-Ulster businessman who married late, and his wife Minnie who came from a grander but declining family, the Newports of Waterford. An impatient and impetuous character, Harry had threatened to leave home for good; his parents retorted that he should satisfy his wanderlust, but as a salesman for the company. So when he arrived in New York at the beginning of December 1888, he was determined to prove his worth.

Montreal was Harry's third destination after New York and Boston. He loved Quebec, especially his day's hunting for bears and wolves with a man he describes as an Indian chief. As his diary notes, he got down to business as soon as he arrived in Montreal, even though it was a couple of days before Christmas. "I got some trial orders...the first was from James O'Brien and Co. of Beaver Hall Hill...[he] is a native of Rathlin and I think he gave me the order owing to my being able to tell him about his home..."

It's a good story but it can't quite be accurate. From census records, it is easy enough to find James O'Brien, a successful Montreal merchant who later became a senator. But he wasn't from Rathlin, he was from Aghnagar in County Tyrone. So

the nostalgic islander must have been an employee of the house of O'Brien. But who? Hundreds of people migrated from Rathlin to the New World in the mid-19th century, and many headed for the small town of Lubec in Maine, near the Canadian border. Presumably some headed on to the cities of Canada. Lots of those migrants bore the common Rathlin surname of McCurdy; others were called McFaul, McQuaig, Black or Morrison. A quick glance at the Montreal telephone book throws up several entries with the surname of McCurdy – could that be a clue?



Bruce Clark (AKA Erasmus)

By any chance, does anybody know of a Rathlin-born person who might have been working for James O'Brien (by that time quite a prominent figure in the Montreal Irish scene) in 1888? I would so love to put flesh on the bones of this story.

Bruce Clark is an author and journalist who grew up in a linen-making community in a stretch of County Derry where flax has been grown and linen has been woven, bleached and beetled for at least 300 years. (See www.flaxmill-textiles.com and www.upperlands.net) After working as a foreign correspondent in America, Russia, France and Greece, he now writes for the Economist, mainly online, under the pen-name Erasmus. Recently he has been wondering about a little episode in his family's history which unfolded in Montreal...

If anyone out there can help solve this mystery, please contact the Editor at nuacht@spsmtl.com



Four men (cont.)

Kevin's Mom, Marie Vallely is thankful he's home. "It was totally nerve-racking. I had spoken to him a few times as they had satellite on the boat but I couldn't breathe easy until Kevin was home. When he arrived in Cambridge Bay, he phoned me immediately. Then, I breathed easy. You know it was the first time I was alone... When he went to the South Pole and on the other expeditions, I had Patrick my husband. When you have someone to talk to, it eases the anxiety."

While the team is happy to be on terra-firma and reunited with their families, Kevin has a GPS reading of the place where he left a small time capsule under a large piece of limestone for his daughters Caitlin (9) and Arianna (7). He wonders whether they will ever venture north to this place that has become so important to him to read the note that he has left to the women he imagines they will become.

Many thanks to Kevin and Marie Vallely for taking the time to be interviewed. For more in-depth reading of Kevin's experiences, please visit the Vancouver Sun blog: <http://www.vancouversun.com/lastfirst/index.html>. Kevin Vallely's writing alone makes this blog worthy of a visit. His descriptions capture the wild beauty of a place so many of us will only visit through the eyes of such intrepid explorers and his ability to draw positive experiences and insights in moments of danger reach poetic stature. You can sign up to the Energy Climate Petition here: <http://mainstreamlastfirst.com/#>



Me to We – a life-changing experience in Kenya

By Julie Dunn

“Today was crazy! My client was super demanding but thankfully we delivered the RFP on time. How was your day?”
 “We lost one baby unfortunately, but the post-op heart is doing really well.”

This is not an unusual end-of-day discussion between my husband, Conall, and me. He is a critical-care pediatrician and what he does daily is extreme. Needless to say, I get a healthy dose of perspective each day and I must admit that it often leaves me questioning the impact I make. While I am very involved in the local community through the St. Patrick’s Society, and my experiences have been deeply fulfilling, I could no longer ignore a longstanding urge to break out of my comfort zone that is Montreal to help where people have so much less.

So, this past July, I took off on the experience of a lifetime to Kenya in pursuit of my desire to make a difference, by joining six of my colleagues from Aimia with our Aeroplan Beyond Miles Partner, Free the Children, to visit a community that is run by Me to We staff and volunteers. Work gloves, hat and (of course!) sunscreen packed, I was ready to take on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

After landing on a dirt airstrip in the middle of the Mara, a lorry ride to our tented camp turned into a safari. Five minutes into our drive and we spot 20 hippos lounging by the river just down from the “road.” Then, minutes later, two giraffes are grazing on a tree roadside. It is not long before we spot zebras and then realize that the horizon is littered with animals. We’re in Africa!



Julie with Maasai Warriors Wilson, Peter, Jackson and Elijah - her guides while in the Mara

Free The Children has been operating in Kenya since 1999, working with both Kipsigis and Maasai communities through their sustainable development model, Adopt a Village. The concept is simple: “If we’re going to help children break free from poverty, we must first empower their mothers, improve their schools, outfit their health clinics and build their water facilities.” (www.freethechildren.com). The Adopt a Village



Students outside of the entrance to Enelerai Primary School

model relies on five key pillars to break the cycle of poverty and achieve long-term community development:

- 1) Quality primary education
- 2) Health care services
- 3) Alternative income projects
- 4) Safe/clean drinking water and sanitation systems
- 5) Environmental sustainability and food security

During my time in Kenya, I had the opportunity to witness each of these five principles in action, and in the process I gained a whole new perspective on life that I hope never to lose. While there is no way I can put my entire experience into words, I hope that these few highlights will give you just a glimpse into what I experienced.

A first highlight took place during a tour of Enelerai Primary School, one of the first schools that partnered with Free the Children. It was incredible to sit in one of the old classrooms, made of sticks and mud, built by the elders of the community who so passionately believed in education for their children. However, this was no place for children to learn. Picture mud walls that were washed away during the rainy season and dirt floors that kicked up blinding dust during the dry season. With the support of Free the Children, Enelerai now consists of several free standing classrooms, a garden, kitchen and teachers’ accommodations. Words cannot describe the pride and passion that the students and community members have for this school.

While we were in Kenya, a teachers’ strike was in progress, so imagine our surprise as we walked into a Grade 8 classroom to be greeted by a full class of students, who made their way to school to study despite having no teachers to lead them. Only the strongest students have the privilege of attending secondary school, where tuition is not government funded. As a result, these students are so dedicated to their studies and to earning an education that not even a teachers’ strike will hold them back. This was my first eye-opening moment – a primary and secondary education, which we take for granted, these youngsters

Cont. p. 15

September 2013

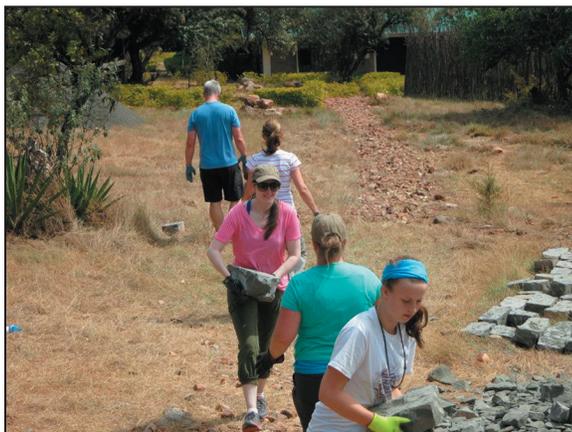
Me to We (cont.)



Julie walking from the Mara River with water for Mama Jane

view as the ultimate privilege. The weight of this realization still sits on my shoulders today.

Another day in the community, I met Mama Jane – a woman I will never forget. She shared her story about how Free the Children has impacted her life by teaching her strategies of earning alternative income and bringing the women of the community together through Merry-Go-Round groups. In these groups, each member contributes a set amount of money into a central pot each meeting, and one person is given the total amount, which she can use towards a large expense. Mama Jane has built herself a home, which she graciously welcomed us into. We carried water from the river, one kilometer away, for Mama Jane to help her for the day. On a daily basis, she makes four trips down to the river to collect water, carrying a minimum of 40L back with each trip on her back. I carried only 20L for one kilometer, only a fraction of what she does on a daily basis for her family. All I could do when we arrived back at her home was wrap my arms around her and tell her how amazing she was – literally the backbone of her family and a leader for the women of her community. On that day, I felt like a weight I didn't know I was carrying had been lifted – so many things that I thought were important in life no longer mattered. They were all wants, not needs.



On the construction site at Kisaruni Girls Secondary School

One of my most memorable moments took place at Kisaruni Girls Secondary School, after volunteering on the construction site alongside local community members to build a fourth dormitory for the school. We were led into the dining hall where we were met by the students with roaring applause. I will never forget the sound of their appreciation and the pure emotion that came over me as we walked in. But mostly, I will never forget Faith, a grade 11 student who took my hand, looked me in the eyes and thanked me for being there. Her welcome was so warm and her gratitude for our being there was so genuine. I was overwhelmed. We sat together for the afternoon and chatted about her aspirations. She hopes to go to Business school to become an Accountant – and she will do it.

Kisaruni is such an incredible place with an empowering curriculum, where the girls build confidence and leadership skills. Again, they do not take their education for granted like so many of us do. It was in that moment that I not only understood, but felt the impact that Free the Children has on the community, and I realized that the smile on my face all afternoon was the biggest smile I have had in a long time.



Julie with Faith, a Grade 11 student at Kisaruni

I could go on and on sharing my experiences, but truthfully it is not something that can be explained, it must be felt. I expected to go to Africa to volunteer and help the community to build a school. I never expected to come home so inspired – inspired by all of the children we met and their dedication to education; by all the Mamas and how hard they work for their families and communities; by Faith and all the girls at Kisaruni, future leaders of their community and the world; by all the community members for their warm welcomes and genuine gratitude for our presence; by Free the Children and the impact they have made on the ground in Kenya. I can only aspire to having the kind of impact on someone else in this world that they have all had on me.

To learn more about how you can support Free the Children, visit www.freethechildren.com.

Julie Dunn is a vice-president of St. Patrick's Society



Spy thriller features D'Arcy McGee

The Roof Walkers

By Keith Henderson

Fitzhenry and Whitesides • 280 pages, \$15.00

Reviewed by Sam Allison

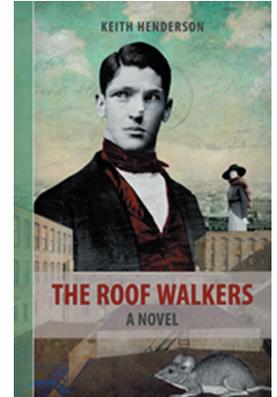
Keith Henderson's new book, *The Roof Walkers*, is a first rate spy thriller about the killing of D'Arcy McGee. If you like historical fiction such as *Copper*, the TV story of Irish cops in the New York of the 1860s, you'll appreciate Henderson's work. His vivid descriptions of bare-knuckle boxing and life on the rooftops of New York during the hot summers capture the Irish immigrant experience of the 1860s. Yet, it is also the universal story of how the younger generation born in the New World gradually takes on different values to those of their immigrant parents who were unfairly exiled from the Old World.

The book is a tribute to D'Arcy McGee, and in many ways a companion volume to David Wilson's highly praised biography of this Father of Confederation. This story will help Canadians realize that McGee was an important visionary and yet a highly pragmatic politician a hundred years ahead of his time. A devout Catholic, McGee realized that his community would do better in Canada than in the USA, Ireland, or Britain. In clear but colourful language, the book brings out why this ideology made this Montreal politician persona non grata to his Fenian murderers.

This is also a very subtle book. There are no Irish stereotypes. People work hard, life is hard. The book uses family relationships to show why immigrants who went through the horrors of the Famine sometimes turned to extremist views. The secret dealings of Fenian sympathizers in Montreal's St.

Patrick's Society are slowly brought out. These sympathizers make public statements mourning the death of McGee while privately supporting those who killed him.

In some instances, Henderson writes with the benefit of hindsight and has his characters say things that we know are completely unrealistic. For example, the Fenian leadership boasts that conquering Canada will be quite easy and that much of the Canadian population would rise to support its cause. We know that the Irish community of the 1860s would adapt and prosper in Canada, but the Fenians of the time did not believe that. Tragic things happen to ordinary people in the course of this story, illustrating the futility and horror of terrorism.



It must be emphasized that this is an adventure story about a young Irish Canadian growing up in the Canada of the 1860s and is an important corrective to the idea that Quebec's English-speakers don't have an interesting history here. As with all good spy thrillers, there are many surprising twists and turns in the plot. However, I leave it to readers the pleasure of finding out these twists for themselves.



Sam Allison is Vice Chair of the Jeanie Johnston Educational Foundation

War of 1812 to be re-enacted in October

By Leo Delaney

A re-enactment of the Battle of the Chateaugay will take place at Ormstown on October 5th and on October 26th, a commemorative ceremony will be held on the battle site at 10:00 a.m.

The following will participate: the Grenadier Guards, the Royal 22nd Regiment, the Black Watch Regiment, and the Voltigeurs. Members of the re-enactment, the 1812 Regiment and the First Nations representatives will perform a benediction of the battleground. Representatives of the Government of Canada, Parks Canada have invited Canada's Prime Minister and Governor General, representatives from the USA together with the City of Valleyfield de Salaberry. At noon a reception will be held sponsored by The Jeanie Johnston Educational Foundation and the Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem followed by lectures and a recital at the Valleyfield Cathedral with a presentation to be made to the descendants of Lt. Col. De Salaberry.

This is a highly published event and considerable interest has been generated around the fact that this was the most important battle of the War of 1812. Had the invading forces of Americans been successful, they would have taken Montreal, through which they could have supplied troops which would have inundated and overwhelmed the Canadian militia and the forces of De Salaberry, which consisted of French, British and First Nations units.



Innisfail announces new Executive

At Innisfail's Annual General Meeting held in June, the following were elected to the Executive Committee:

Ann Broden	President
John Gilroy	Past-President
John Faherty	Vice-President
Rose Quinn	Secretary
Sandy McDonough	Treasurer

A heat wave and a photo opp. with the Canadian Ambassador

By Pam Cotter

For the first time in nearly seven years, I finally experienced real summer weather without having to leave Ireland. The heat and sunshine were absolutely phenomenal and completely unexpected. Almost overnight, every fan and kiddie pool were sold out around the country. It reminded me of a salt shortage during a Canadian winter, except this scenario resulted in heat stroke instead of slippery roads. I was perpetually burnt for a good four weeks, but on the plus side, I finally got my sandals out of hibernation. This exquisite weather prompted several trips around the country, including one weekend in Dublin and another in Killarney.

Our most ambitious plan for the weekend in Dublin was to just sit in Marley Park all Saturday and soak up the rays while they lasted. Needless to say, I have not had the need to purchase sunscreen since moving here in 2006. I figured there was also no point in spending money on a new bottle since the sun was most likely a fluke; so I decided the expired stuff would have to do me. It was SPF 60 after all, which, I rationalized, had to still be more effective than my friend's offering of her SPF 15. Sadly my logic was proven wrong when I spent the next week in agony with burnt shoulders! The expired Solarcaine I had for sunburns did not offer much relief either. I still say it would have been a poor investment to buy fresh supplies since it might be another seven years before the next heat wave!

and peeking over the gate, when it suddenly started to open. Thinking I had leaned too hard against it, I quickly tried pulling it closed again without success. Fleeing the scene appeared to be the only option; however, just as the word 'run' was coming out of my mouth, the Ambassador himself and his family came up behind us! Turns out they were the ones who opened the electric gate upon their return. They approached us with big smiles saying they must be in the presence of another Canadian. Apparently they caught us taking pictures with the sign out front and I suppose that is not a normal occurrence for other nationalities. After a friendly chat, His Excellency was nice enough to suggest a picture together. In retrospect I am very glad I was not traipsing around in sweats that afternoon. Just goes to show you never know who you might meet!

Pam Cotter, who recently completed her MA in Ethnomusicology at University College Cork, has shared her adventures with us over the past few years.

The following weekend brought us down to Killarney to see the legendary Kenny Rogers in concert. That's right; I'm a closet fan. I had convinced myself that no one else in Ireland would be interested in seeing Kenny and I would end up with a private show. To my disappointment, the venue was completely sold out so I didn't get any face time with the star. Nonetheless, the concert was absolutely amazing and he is still a wonderful performer after all these years. Following the concert, we decided to spend a few days in Killarney to soak up more sun. The town was crowded with tourists but we still managed to indulge in some famous Murphy's ice cream and sunbathe on the various pub terraces. As heat stroke started to set in, we decided it was time for a cooler activity. With this in mind, we detoured to the Crag Cave in Castleisland, just outside Killarney. I never thought I would crave spending time in a damp cool place for a change. However, we soon decided sandals and shorts were not the best choice of attire for cold caves and returned to the sweltering heat of real life.

With summer behind me now, the excitement of a new adventure is upon me. I have joined the BA in Irish Music and Dance lecturing team this year for a nine-month sabbatical cover. Along with formal lecturing in Irish and World music and dance classes, I get to conduct a few practical modules such as Dance Ensemble and Popular Theatre workshops. It still all seems too good to be true and I am waiting for the catch. So far I have spent today researching 19th century dance patterns and reconstructing them into a modern choreography for Ensemble class. I feel like I have truly died and gone to heaven! The Limerick Musical Society has also revealed our next show will be the classic *Evita*. Rehearsals will be starting in the next few months so, between the show and lecturing hours at the University of Limerick, I will be kept on my toes ...quite literally!



Photo: Sarah Devaney

Maureen Hearn, Pam Cotter and His Excellency Loyola Hearn

Having spent Saturday lazing around the park, we decided to be slightly more productive on the Sunday and my friend took me on a tour of Rathmines on the southside of Dublin. Shortly after moving there, she discovered she lives right around the corner from the Canadian Embassy residence. She knew I would love seeing the maple trees out front since I constantly promote the delicious syrup. We started taking pictures of the beautiful house



So you know they can dance

By Patrick Short

This summer has proved very demanding for the Irish dancers living in and around Montreal. However, for many of them, the extra efforts have proved very rewarding.

A large contingent of our local Irish Dancers traveled to Anaheim, California in July for the North American Championships. This event attracts dancers not only from the United States and Canada, but also from Europe, Australasia and South Africa. The Montreal dancers who medaled at this event were: **Natasha Woytiuk**, **Meaghan Kilmartin** (20th), **Orla Mahon** (13th), and **Sarah McNally** (20th). Among the boys who medaled were **Lucas Lawton** (5th), **James Houghton** (5th). **Natasha** placed in her personal best at 8th position on the podium. No travelling for the dancers next year as the North American Irish Dance Championships will be held in Palais des Congrès, Montreal.



Sarah McNally dancing in the under 18 competition in Anaheim, California

Montreal's Celtic Grace Dancers appeared again this year at the Sherbrooke Multicultural festival in July and we met some familiar Montreal faces who were also performing at this growing event. Former Salty Dog fiddler Alex Kehler now has his own band Les Siffleurs de Nuit. They play a mix of Irish, Quebec and Breton music. On the Thursday evening Belfast Andi drew a big crowd as did Eileen Moran's Richmond Irish Dancers on Sunday.

The 2012 Queen of the St. Patrick's Day Parade, **Keira Kilmartin** won the Ottawa Rose and qualified for the semi finals of the Rose of Tralee pageant. This was held in Portlaoise, Co. Offaly in August and Keira was one of 30 Roses selected from 130 to go to the finals in Tralee in August. This pageant was judged by the Rose's performances at Seniors 'Residences in Ireland, the Guinness Store House and *Fleadh Ceoil na hEireann* in Derry; to name a few. Keira performed brilliantly on the final night but the Rose went to Texas. Many Canadians watched the pageant streamed on RTE Player.



Keira Kilmartin seen here with the Ottawa Rose Slide Wall of Honour



On the left, James Houghton who placed 5th in the boys under 16 competition in Anaheim, California



On the right, Lucas Lawton who placed 5th in the boys under 18 competition in Anaheim, California

And on a musical note, bagpiper **Jeff McCarthy** headed up an ad-hoc committee of members of the Irish and Scottish communities to organize a fundraiser for the people of Lac Megantic. The event raised \$7000 and many of the Montreal bar bands and dancing schools performed at the event in St. Gabriel's Church Hall on August 25th. Among the performers introduced by Dennis Trudeau were Lisa Forget, Terry Clahane, Swerve, The Black Watch Pipes and Drums and Salty Dog. Dancers from the Bernadette Short School and Jennifer Stevenson School also performed the dances of Ireland and Scotland.

Cine Gael's 2014 dates

- January 31 Opening Film & Reception
- February 7 TBA
- February 28 TBA
- March 7 Evening of Award-Winning Short Films
- April 4 TBA
- April 5 (tentative, for possible weekend)
- April 11 TBA
- April 25 Closing Film & Reception

All films are screened at the J.A. DeSève Cinema at Concordia University, 1400 de Maisonneuve West (first floor)

News from the School of Canadian Irish Studies

Michael Kenneally, Principal

School of Canadian Irish Studies Course Offerings 2013/14

By Angie Parker

Fall 2013 (September to December)

- The Irish in Montreal (Jane McGaughey)
- Introduction to Irish Studies (Susan Cahill)
- History of Ireland (Gavin Foster)
- Irish Emigration and Settlement (Jane McGaughey)
- Irish Theatre: A History (Emer O'Toole)
- Irish Traditional Music in Canada (Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin)
- James Joyce (Susan Cahill)
- History and Memory in Ireland (Gavin Foster)
- The Making of the Irish Landscape (Patrick Duffy)
- Reading Irish and Canadian Landscapes (Patrick Duffy)

Fall 2013/Winter 2014 (September to April)

- Irish Language & Culture I (Seaghan Mac an tSionnaigh)
- Irish Language & Culture II (Seaghan Mac an tSionnaigh)

Winter 2014 (January to April)

- The Great Irish Famine (Gavin Foster)
- The Irish in Canada (Jane McGaughey)
- Research Methods in Irish Studies (Gavin Foster)
- Performing Irishness (Emer O'Toole)
- Irish Cultural Traditions in Quebec (Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin)
- The Irish Literary Revival (Susan Cahill)
- Irish Film Studies (Emer O'Toole)
- Irish Identities Abroad (Jane McGaughey)
- Highlights of Irish Literature (Susan Cahill)

New Professor: Emer O'Toole

Galway native Emer O'Toole joined the School of Canadian Irish Studies as its newest faculty member on August 1. A scholar of theatre, film and performance, O'Toole was awarded her PhD at Royal Holloway College at the University of London in 2012 for a thesis that examined the ethics of intercultural theatre practice. In the coming year, she will teach courses in Irish theatre, Irish film and Irish performance studies.

Marie Curie Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow: Ruth Canning

Originally from Galway, Ireland, Ruth Canning completed her PhD in history at University College Cork in 2012; she received her BA from Mount Allison University and MA from Memorial University of Newfoundland. The prestigious Marie Curie Fellowship is a three-year post that is held jointly between Concordia and University College Cork.

Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar: Patrick Duffy

The Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar in Canadian Irish Studies for 2013, Patrick Duffy has been a professor at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, where he has taught courses on historical geography and rural and landscape studies. He is Chair of the National Geographical Sciences Committee in the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin. He has written several books, chapters and papers, including *Landscapes of South Ulster* (1993) and *Exploring the History and Heritage of Irish Landscapes* (Dublin, 2007). While at Concordia, Duffy will teach the Making of the Irish Landscape and Reading the Irish and Canadian Landscape as well as give the Bishop Neil Willard Lecture (Date/Time: TBA).

Public Lectures and Readings

Emma Donoghue, award-winning Canadian-Irish novelist, will read at an event sponsored by Writers Read at Concordia and the School of Canadian Irish Studies. Donoghue's 2010 novel *Room* was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize, won a number of other awards, including the Hughes & Hughes Irish Novel of the Year, and sold more than a million copies; her most recent book is *Astray* (2012).

Thursday, October 10, 7:00 pm, Hall Building, 1455 de Maisonneuve West, Room 767 (7th floor)

Terence Dooley, Senior Lecturer in the Department of History at National University of Ireland Maynooth, will deliver the 6th Annual Irish Protestant Benevolent Society Lecture, a free public lecture, on "The Decline and Fall of the Big House in Ireland, 1879-1945." Dooley specializes in Irish social and political history of the 19th and 20th centuries; his study of 50 houses informed government policy leading to the establishment of the Irish Heritage Trust.

Thursday, November 7, 7:00 p.m. McEntee Reading Room, Hall Building, 1455 de Maisonneuve West, Room 1001.01 (10th floor)

For registration assistance or for further information about Canadian Irish Studies courses, programmes, and scholarships, contact Matina Skalkogiannis: 514-848-2424, ext. 8711
cdnirish.fas@concordia.ca
 or visit <http://cdnirish.concordia.ca>

Terre d'esprits – Le continuum espace-temps des Celtes

Leanúntas spás-ama na gCeilteach

Par Alexandre Boulet



The Celtic myth continues ...

Tír na nÓg, l'autre monde, *Annwn*, le *Sídhe*. Tant de noms pour nommer un seul endroit. Beaucoup d'encre a coulé à travers les âges sur ce lieu qui appartient davantage au mythe qu'à l'histoire. Tant de textes sacrés, de récits et de légendes ont traversé les siècles sur cet autre monde où les Celtes se sont aventurés. Mais de quelle manière y ont-ils eu accès ? Quelles expériences ont-ils vécues en ce lieu ? Et sujet de maintes curiosités, quelle est la description que ces initiés ont laissée de ce lieu féérique dont ils ont affirmé l'existence ?

Destination *Tír na nÓg*

La tradition mentionne trois manières différentes de rejoindre le *Sídhe*. Certains Celtes y parvenaient lors d'un voyage en pleine mer, toujours vers l'ouest, dans des eaux tumultueuses ou lors d'orages. Alors, qu'ils atteignaient les confins de la mer, *Tír na nÓg* se retrouvait de l'autre côté, par-delà cette immensité de vagues affolées, dans des îles gigantesques, bien loin de leur chère Irlande.

D'autres ont trouvé l'entrée fortuite d'*Annwn* lors de périlleuses aventures à pied ou à cheval. Après de durs labeurs et de multiples conflits, ils découvraient, enfin, sur des collines et sous des tertres, comme un mirage miraculeux, l'entrée merveilleuse vers le monde magique du *Sídhe*.

Certains textes mythologiques rapportent que le passage vers l'autre monde se situait au fond des mers et des lacs. C'est le cas du récit du voyage de Bran qui indique qu'un passage vers le monde féérique des Tuatha Dé Danann existe au fond de la mer, à l'emplacement de la légendaire Atlantide ; soit en dessous de l'Irlande. Les Celtes y accédaient à travers des palais d'or et de cristal.

Cette possibilité soulève une question : le peuple mythique de l'Atlantide serait-il relié à la tribu des *Tuatha Dé Danann* ? Voici une question qui mérite que je m'y attarde. Si je trouve des éclaircissements, je vous en ferai part.

Voyage initiatique dans l'autre monde

Les Celtes qui ont séjourné dans l'*Annwn*, pour la plupart des guerriers, témoignent d'un univers libre de transition — ses habitants y vivent un éternel moment présent qui se poursuit dans les temps sans aucune coupure. Les années n'ont pas connaissance du cycle des saisons et le jour n'a jamais rencontré la nuit. Seule une continuité de l'instant présent, notion qui dépasse toute conception du temps et de l'espace sur Terre.

Dans ce lieu libre de barrières et divisions, comme une vaste plaine qui se perd dans un horizon infini, ceux qui le fréquentent oublient leurs blessures et n'éprouvent aucune souffrance. C'est une terre de joies, de délices et de féminité.

Ceux qui y pénètrent se font aimer par des femmes d'une beauté extraordinaire. Ils se nourrissent des fruits d'une terre enchantée qui produit, d'elle-même et sans effort, une abondance de nourriture.

À cet endroit, ils découvrent le pommier, l'arbre de la connaissance celtique. Le fruit originel de *Tír na nÓg* pousse en ses branches, c'est la pomme. La pomme, représentante de la connaissance, surtout mystique, et symbole de féminité, de fertilité et de la continuité de la vie par la famille. Elle symbolise aussi la couvaison et la maternité. Croquer la pomme, pour celui qui parvient au *Sídhe*, constitue l'initiation ultime : l'enseignement de sa nouvelle vie, de sa renaissance, de sa réincarnation.



Come and visit me at my website <http://www.initiationreiki.com>

United Irish Societies of Montreal Christmas draw

By Kevin Murphy

Annually, in early December, the UIS holds a raffle and draw to help fund one of our largest charitable endeavours. We usually distribute approximately 65 Christmas food baskets to those in need in our community. Each basket contains over \$100 worth of food. This year's draw will take place following the general meeting of December 1, 2013, beginning at 3:00 p.m. and lasts for several hours as there are many prizes. UIS members deliver the baskets during the weeks after this date.

We welcome everyone to join us in the St. John Brebeuf parish hall at 7777 George St., LaSalle, for refreshments and to enjoy some fun. Usually there are tickets available on the day of the draw, but we strongly suggest they be purchased in advance. They are now on sale.

This is a large event and we cannot do it without the support and generosity of the community. We accept gifts that we can use in the draws on that date. We also ask attendees to bring refreshments that all can share. If you would like to help by providing gifts or refreshments, please contact one of the following.

Jane Skelton jeskelton@videotron.ca
Chairperson Christmas Baskets

Elizabeth Quinn equinn17@videotron.ca
Christmas Baskets Committee

Claudette Roach to be contacted through Jane or Elizabeth if you'd like to contribute refreshments.

If there are any other questions, please feel free to contact me at publicrelations@montrealirishparade.com or 514-436-1512.

People in the news ...

On June 28th **Ann Kearns** and **John Davidson** married in a private ceremony at the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas followed by a Blessing Ceremony and Reception on August 17th before many family and friends in Montreal. Says Ann, "I couldn't think of a better place to celebrate than in the place I love the most. John and I met in 2008 while he was still working as a detective for the Toronto Police Service. We now make our home in Whitby, Ontario but I will always consider myself a Montrealer and a proud member of the Irish community." We hope to see them back here on many occasions.



Congratulations to **Jon Phelan** (son of **Scott** and **Paula Phelan**) who represented Canada in an exciting rugby match against the USA on August 24. He played for 60 minutes in a thrilling 13 to 11 victory thereby clinching a spot in Group 1 of the 2015 World Cup that will be played in and around London in the fall of that year. In the meantime, Jon has now taken a position with a French Pro team in Lille, near the Belgian border. He was urged to play professionally by the Canadian coach so as to hone his skills on a regular basis in preparation for 2015. This playing experience will greatly benefit his play for Canada and hopefully ensure him a spot as a starter in the World Cup. He will be joining the Canadian Team in November to play The All Blacks Maori in Toronto, November 3rd and then in games in Tbilisi, Georgia, Belgium and Lisbon. Jon passed his Masters in Structural Engineering earlier this year so he knows he has something concrete to fall back on once his rugby playing days are over!

The Society is happy to welcome the following new members: **Matthew Louis Caporusco, Ronan Corbett, Diane Hodges, Florentyna (Tyna) Jallet, Valerie Petit** and **Michelle Sullivan**. We look forward to getting to know them at some of our upcoming events.

For a change, green was replaced with red as members of Montreal's Irish community proudly marched in the July 1 Canada Day Parade. According to one eye witness, at least 20 of our finest were walking the walk.



Photo: John Gibroy



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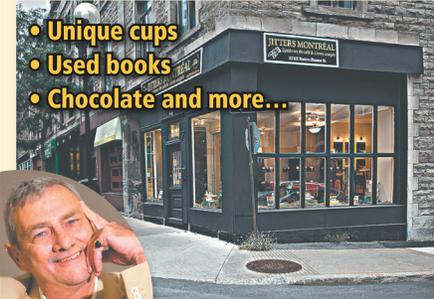
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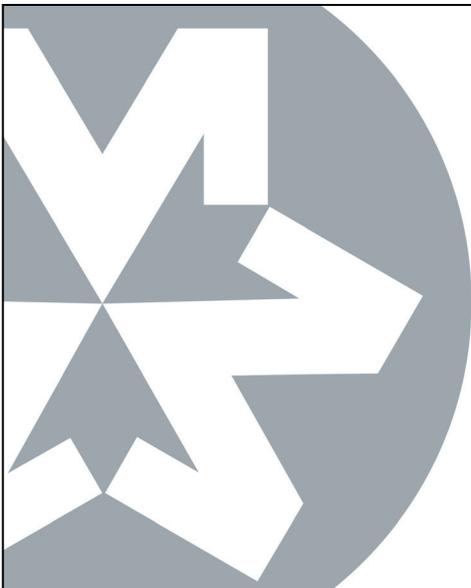
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Around town

ICCC's European Pub Quiz

Once again, the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce is holding this annual quiz. It will take place on Wednesday, October 16, from 5:30 p.m. The venue is the Irish Embassy Pub & Grill on Bishop Street and costs \$20.00 for ICCC members and \$25.00 for guests. This includes complimentary food and one drink. Payment may be made in advance using ICCC's PayPal account or at the door. This is always a fun event so be sure not to miss it. For more information, check the website: www.icccmtl.com or call 514-845-0973.

Celtic Harmonies plans concert and international festival

There will be a pre-festival concert at 8 p.m. on Friday, October 4, at Théâtre L'Olympia, 1004 St. Catherine East, Montréal, featuring Liz Carroll, Dáithí Sproule, Mary Jane Lamond, Wendy MacIsaac and more. Tickets for the concert are \$32 for adults (or \$36 at the door) and \$27 for 65+ or under 12 (or \$31 at the door). These are available online: www.celticharmonies.ca or call 450-292-3456, ext. 227

The Celtic Harmonies International Festival runs from October 4-13 in the Eastern Townships (Knowlton, Cowansville, Waterloo, Bromont South Stukely, Austin and Mansonville). This will feature 40 artistes in 12 concerts over the 10 day period.

World-class musicians from Ireland, Scotland, Brittany, the US, Canada's East Coast, and Québec, including Liz Carroll, Dáithí Sproule, Mary Jane Lamond, Wendy MacIsaac, Troy MacGillivray, Tony McManus, Buffalo in the Castle, Dermot Byrne, Richard Wood, Charles Quimbert, Mathieu Hamon, Roland Brou, as well as those in the Montreal pre-festival performance.

Also included as part of the festival are lectures, workshops, Irish sessions; and a Celtic Marketplace. A festival pass (\$235) that gives access to all 11 concerts and 18 workshops is also available.

Information:
www.celticharmonies.ca or call 450-292-3456, ext. 227

Battle of the Chateauguay celebration

The Jeanie Johnston Educational Foundation (JJEF), the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada and the Montreal Commandery Knights Hospitaller St. John of Jerusalem are co-hosting a commemoration dinner for the 200th anniversary of the Battle of the Chateauguay. This will be held at the Canadian Grenadier Guards Armoury, 4171 Esplanade, on Thursday October 17. There will be a cash bar from 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$85 and wine is included with the meal. Semi-formal or business attire is required.

Richard Pound (Honorary Lt. Colonel of the Canadian Grenadier Guards) will act as MC and Nicolas De Salaberry is to be the Guest of Honour. Desmond Morton (Canada's war historian) will be the speaker and his subject is "The Battle and the Man That Saved Canada."

To reserve tickets, call 514-982-4525 or email mildredbenoit@hotmail.ca (cheques payable to JJEF). Mail payment to Jeanie Johnston Educational Foundation, 3495 rue de la Montagne, Montreal, QC H3G 2A5.

Brian Gallery to be honoured by the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation.

On Thursday, October 24, a distinguished member of Montreal's Irish community is to be honoured at a gala celebration which will take place in the Mount Royal Centre, 2200 rue Mansfield in Montreal.

The trustees of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation in support of the School of Canadian Irish Studies at Concordia University invite you to celebrate the tireless efforts and outstanding success of Brian O'Neill Gallery, L.L.D, Chairman of the Foundation.

A cocktail reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the dinner and presentations will follow at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for this event are \$100 per person and may be obtained by contacting Claudette Dupras at concepts@claudettedupras.com.

If you are unable to attend but would like to honour Brian Gallery's achievements by supporting the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, donations are most welcome.

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Full Page	\$400.00	\$1,300.00

Please note that we welcome your opinions and would appreciate feedback on the contents of *NUACHT*. Send your comments to nuacht@spsmtl.com

2013-2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / CLÁR IMEACHTAÍ 2013-2014

DATE	EVENT	FURTHER INFORMATION	
Sep. 26	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Sep. 27	Innisfail General Meeting & Social, NDG Legion (Addington and de Maisonneuve) 7:30 p.m.	John Faherty	365-0449
Oct. 5	Tara Golf Tournament, Hemmingford (closing tournament and dinner)	Joan Tousaw	487-2863
Oct. 6	UIS General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, 7777 George St., LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	Kevin Murphy	436-1512
Oct. 16	ICCC's European Pub Quiz, The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Oct. 31	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Oct. 25	Innisfail Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, NDG Legion (Addington/de Maisonneuve) 7 p.m.	John Faherty	365-0449
Nov. 2	UIS 85 th Anniversary Dinner, Royal Canadian Legion, 3015 rue Henri-Dunant, Lachine	Kevin Murphy	436-1512
Nov. 28	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Dec. 1	UIS General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, 7777 George St., LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	Kevin Murphy	436-1512
Dec. 1	United Irish Societies, Christmas Draw, 7777 George St., LaSalle (following General Meeting)	Jane Skelton jeskelton@videotron.ca	
Dec. 3	ICCC's Christmas Reception, Westin Hotel, 270 St- Antoine St. West, Montreal, 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Dec. 5	SPS Christmas Concert, St. Patrick's Basilica, 7:30 p.m. \$20.00 (at door), \$50.00 (patrons)	Erin Matheson	481-1346
Dec. 13	Innisfail Members' Christmas Party, NDG Legion (Addington/de Maisonneuve) 7 p.m (Guests \$12)	John Faherty	365-0449
Dec. 26	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Jan. 19	UIS General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, 7777 George St., LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	Kevin Murphy	436-1512
Jan. 24	Innisfail Kick-Off to the Irish Season, NDG Legion (Addington/de Maisonneuve) 7 p.m	John Faherty	365-0449
Jan. 30	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Feb. 1	Queen's Selection Evening, Buffet Sorrento, 1275 Dollard Ave., LaSalle	Colleen Murphy cmurphy2_3@msn.com	
Feb. 16	UIS General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, 7777 George St., LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	Kevin Murphy	436-1512
Feb. 27	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Feb. 28	SPS Annual Charity Ball, Mariott Chateau Champlain	Erin Matheson	481-1346
Mar. 9	Mass of Anticipation, St. Gabriel's Church, 2157 Centre St., Pointe-St. Charles followed by meeting	Kevin Murphy	436-1512
Mar. 16	Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, corner of Fort and St. Catherine, noon	director@montrealirishparade.com	
Mar. 27	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Mar. 29	UIS Awards Dinner, Buffet Sorrento, 1275 Dollard Ave., LaSalle	Danny Doyle Dad.jr@hotmail.com	
Apr. 13	Mass for Deceased Members, St. John Brebeuf Church, 7777 George St. LaSalle	Danny Doyle Dad.jr@hotmail.com	



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