



Cine Gael Montreal – fifteen years of the best in Irish cinema

By Dana Hearne

As we celebrate our fifteenth season of bringing the best in Irish Cinema to our enthusiastic members and supporters in Montreal, it is a good time to look back and recall some of the great moments we have shared and remind you of how it all began. In the Spring of 1992, Anthony Kirby, well-known film buff and member of Montreal's vibrant Irish community, made a presentation to the St. Patrick's Society's cultural committee suggesting that it consider bringing Irish films to Montreal for the benefit of the community. Nothing happened right away, but Lynn Loneragan Doyle, a member of the cultural committee at the time, mulled it over, got a few interested people together and formed an executive committee. With the financial support of the St. Patrick's Society, the first Cine Gael Montreal film season was set to roll one year later in January 1993. Lynn had no clue then how complicated it would be to get a film season launched each year.

The first season's program was a harbinger of what was to become one of the annual highlights of the Irish community's rich calendar of events. That year we screened such classics as *The Commitments*, *The Luck of Ginger Coffey*, *December Bride*, *The Quiet Man* (preceded by a lecture presented by Professor James MacKillop entitled "Irish Cinema and the Quiet Man,") and *Hush-A-Bye-Baby*. This first season set the tone for future seasons in a number of ways. Irish cinema was wide open to us then as anything we decided to show would be new to us. We could choose the best of the classics and we could keep our eye on the new releases. With the input of the more knowledgeable members

of the committee, we all developed a considerable expertise in researching and tracking films. Now going into our sixteenth year, the choices have narrowed and we have to work harder on making our choices. We developed a pattern then which we expanded in subsequent seasons. With a season that extended from late January to early May, we had a film evening approximately every two weeks. We developed a tradition of having a guest speaker for every film. These speakers are drawn from the Irish community, from the universities and colleges (film studies and others disciplines), the media (especially John Griffin, Gazette film critic), the film directors themselves and high profile actors and sometimes members of our own committee. We became interested in mixing genres to include not only full-length features but also documentaries, short films and animation.

From 1993 until 1998 we were lucky to have the support of *Le Conservatoire d'art cinématographique de Montréal* which up to that time was housed at Concordia University. Its affiliation with Concordia ended that year and although we continued to show our films at Concordia's Cinema DeSève, the loss of the Conservatoire's support made our task of researching and tracking films very much harder. The last year of this alliance was a success for Cine Gael Montreal. That year a major festival of Irish film was mounted called *Le Cinéma Irlandais: La Voix d'une Nation*/Celebration of Irish Film: Voices of the Nation. It



Lynn Doyle seen here with Torill Kove, Oscar winner of the 2007 short-animated movie, *The Danish Poet*

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A Word from the President

Dear members and friends in the Irish community and beyond:

On May 8th the Executive and Directors of the Society met to review the events of the Green Season and I am delighted to report that our two major events of March: the Luncheon and the Ball, were great successes, and for this I thank Paul Dunne and Christie Brown respectively, and their generous and hardworking committees. Over 400 attended the Ball on a very snowy Friday evening, including Mr. Karl Sandberg, First Secretary of the Irish Embassy and representative of Ambassador Declan Kelly, the latter unable to come because of the rare and temporary closure of Trudeau Airport! Our thanks are extended too to our Ball Patron, Mr. Danny Zangwill, Vice-President of Power Corporation and Society Director, whose generous support enabled us to raise substantial sums for our two beneficiaries: L.O.V.E. (Leave Out Violence) and the West Island Palliative Care.

Our Annual Luncheon was also a success on March 16th, when more than 500 celebrated the first event of the St. Patrick's Day weekend – this year with the innovation of the two large video

screens so that everyone in the room could see our guest speaker, Mr. Richard Pound, Chancellor of McGill University and Chairman of the World Anti-Doping Agency. To all of you who supported these two important fund-raising events in the Society's calendar, you have our heartfelt thanks.

On both occasions we had the heavy task of announcing the sudden passing of our Chaplain, Fr. Eric MacLean, S.J., and we commend him to all our *NUA^{CH}T* readers as one who brought the joy and commitment of his calling to all those whom he served.

We are now preparing for our AGM which will be held on June 20th at Congress Hall, chosen in honour of this year's 160th anniversary of St. Patrick's Basilica. At that time we will also be presenting details of the 2009 Exhibition: "The Irish in Quebec, 1800-1950" which has been accepted by McCord Museum and in which we invite the entire community to participate. The Exhibition Steering Committee will continue to update you as we progress and we look forward to an event that will honour our forbears and instill pride in the generations of the 21st century. Please join us at the AGM to find out how you can participate in this city-wide, province-wide project.

Thank you for your continued support of all our activities which are planned both for the benefit of the community and for your enjoyment, not the least of which is the Annual Golf Tournament taking place on June 19th – and we would all enjoy the pleasure of your company at such a magnificent fundraiser.

Mary McDaid
May 2007



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www.stpatrickssociety.com

Proposed SPS slate for 2007-08

The Nominating Committee, consisting of John Little (chair), Patrick Dunn, Lynn Doyle, Peter Shea, and Brian O'Neill, is proposing the following slate of Officers and Directors for the year 2007-2008.

President

Mary McDaid

Vice-Presidents

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Edward Eustace
Alistair O'Hara

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Andrea Bobkowitz

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Sandra McDonaugh
Frank McMahon

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Matthew Rooney
Patrick Shea
Ed Short
Robert Travers
Irene Woods
Dan Zangwill

The voting will take place at the **Annual General Meeting** to be held on **Wednesday, June 20th, 6:00 p.m.** in **Congress Hall**, 454 Rene-Levesque Blvd. West (beside St. Patrick's Basilica). We look forward to seeing you there.



SPS Chaplain Eric Maclean dies at 63

By Kathleen Dunn

Over cocktails at St. Patrick's Ball, Chris Phelan described his friend, Father Eric Maclean, as "a spiritual bon-vivant." Father Maclean was on everyone's mind that snowy evening as many of us had been among the close to 2,000 mourners who packed St. Patrick's Basilica for his funeral only a few days earlier. The Chaplain of St. Patrick's Society and President of Loyola High School died suddenly on February 21st at the age of 63.

Eric was first and foremost a Jesuit, a companion of Jesus. But he was also a party animal. "I can't help it if God chose me to wine and dine my way to heaven," he once quipped to Loyola Principal, Paul Donovan, as he was heading off to yet one more dinner with master fundraiser, Richard Renaud. Eric had fully intended to be at this year's Ball, as he had been for the past several years. He was certainly there in spirit.

That sense of humour was a measure of the man. Fellow Jesuit, Len Altilia, described Eric in his homily as "full of life" and "larger than life," and as a joker with a "rapier-like wit" who could "exploit the foibles of others with great delight." He was quick to add, however, that "there was never any malice or vengefulness in his teasing. He always took as good as he gave."

Eric wasn't always like that. He enjoyed telling Paul Donovan how the Jesuits had turned him away when he first applied because he was "too serious and needed to experience other aspects of life first." He learned his lesson well, apparently, for by the time his name came up to be considered for Provincial Superior, he was found to be "not serious enough."

Lynn Doyle was, as Paul Donovan would say, "one of the many women in Eric's life," having worked with him over the years on the Loyola Mothers' Guild, the Parents' Committee, and the Board of Governors. "He was always good fun," she said, "and smart. I found him deeper than we would normally think." It was Lynn who, as SPS President from 1998 to 2000, invited Eric to become the Society's Chaplain. "I was impressed with how reflective he was, always looking for the right person to fill a position. I learned a lot working with him," she said. There has long been a strong link between St. Patrick's Society and Loyola, so Eric seemed to her to be a "good fit."

Eric was delighted to accept but he continued to joke that he didn't know what someone with a Scottish-Presbyterian background like his was doing as an Irish society chaplain. He could have added that his mother, Lillian Kennedy, had an Irish Catholic background.


Eric was very generous with Montreal's Irish community. He welcomed Comhrá, the Montreal Irish Language Study Circle, to hold classes at Loyola. He made the Loyola "cafetorium" available to the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing for their annual Christmas recitals. He hosted St. Patrick's Society meetings in the cafetorium, or the teachers' lounge, or the new Bishops' Atrium of which he was very proud. For the past two years, we have held our Annual Christmas Concert in the new Loyola Centre for the Performing Arts. In fact, we were the first outside group to be

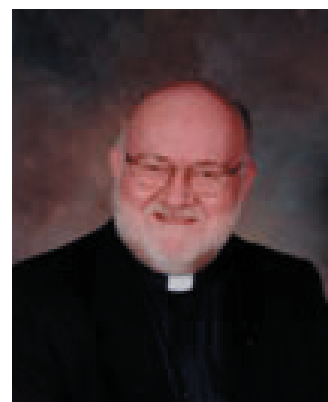
allowed to use it shortly after its official opening. All Eric ever asked in return was for a donation to the bursaries fund to ensure that no boy would ever be refused admission to Loyola for lack of money.

Loyola meant the world to Eric. In fact, as he told 9-year-old Michelle Meagher in a video interview that ran continuously during his wake, he spent half his life on the Loyola campus. He was an eight-year man, graduating from the High School in 1960 and from the College in 1964. After ordination in 1973, he returned to Loyola as chaplain in 1974, became principal in 1975 and president in 1980. In 1988, he moved first to Winnipeg for a two-year term as Director of St. Paul's and then, because he had finally struck a happy balance between serious and not serious enough, to Toronto to become superior of the English Canadian Jesuit Province. He began his second term as president of Loyola High School in 1997.

Eric spoke freely about himself in Michelle's video that was a Fourth Grade project at Edinburgh School in Montreal West last May. It was wonderful to see the twinkle in his eye as he talked about growing up in the Town of Mount Royal, having to take three buses and a streetcar to get to Loyola, being "pretty spastic in football and hockey" but good at golf and swimming, working for his father during the summers for \$15 a week, enjoying Monopoly and Bridge and Rock 'n Roll and Bill Haley and the Comets and "Rock Around the Clock" and Elvis Presley. On a more serious note, he talked about his life as a priest, about helping people "in any way I can," and about funerals, especially when people die young. "It's the most important thing I do," he told the child, "because you have to give people a sense of hope."

What Eric did not tell Michelle was what he did for Loyola. Under his guidance, lay men and women played an ever-increasing role in the Jesuit vision of education. The alumni association, the development office and the foundation, all led by lay people, were established during his tenure in the 1980s. It was he who made the Christian Service Program a requirement for graduation. Most recently he oversaw a major capital campaign that added 14 high-tech classrooms, the Bishops' Atrium, and the 750-seat theatre. This was possible because of the efforts of the extended Loyola community that Eric had nurtured.

He also nurtured his students. Father Altilia noted, "It was Eric's great desire that his students should come to know the Lord, to feel the power of God's love in their lives, and to commit themselves to sharing that love with others. He challenged his students, and often enough their parents and teachers, to grow strong in their faith and to live a life of integrity, generosity and honest faith." And he had a good time doing it. 



Father Eric Maclean

St. Patrick's Day Activities 2007



Denis Dougherty in centre of the Irishmen of the Years Gone By: Erin Sports Sashing evening



Anglican Archbishop Clarke, Past President Patrick Wickham, Mgr. Sean Harty, and Chief Reviewing Officer Bishop Anthony Mancini



Derek Drummond, Mary McDaid and Dick Pound



Johnny Maloney and company



SPS on parade



Queen Andrea's lovely smile



Paul Loftus, ICCC president, Mairéad Lavery, vice-president, Bombardier, and Sean Finn, Chair of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Photos: Julie Dunn, Conall Francoeur & Anne Forrest

Gaeilge bhriste? Broken Irish?

By Martina McLean

What good is Irish? That was a question I was often asked in the classroom and still read in the papers and on the Internet. It irritated me, then, to be sure and it's incomprehensible in many ways today. Why does everything have to have a price tag, I wondered. Call it naive but I couldn't help thinking "out of the mouths of babes and all that jazz!..."

Even so, when it boiled down to economic advantage, I was always able to point to state jobs as public servants that demanded certain prerequisite knowledge of the Irish language. So, it should be no surprise that fluent speakers of the language today benefit even further from the combination of Irish language legislation (Official Languages Act, 2003), the growth of Irish media services such as TG4 (Irish Television 4) and Irish being an official language of the E.U. Nonetheless, there is still a nagging question: will this enhanced perception of the practical benefits that Irish speakers have when it comes to finding work in Irish influence decisions to really become competent speakers of the language? Will they be enticed by the up to 50 regulations that will be translated annually, the nine posts created to service Irish in the European Parliament (three translators, three interpreters and three lawyers/linguists), the 30 translators and 20 interpreters for the Commission's freelance lists...?

It also struck me recently that there are parallels between the history of my country and the future of its first language – outsiders do the fighting. In the case of *Gaeilge*, isn't it amazing that:

- so many people knock the Minister of the *Gaeltacht*, a Dubliner, in spite of his own personal commitment to the language – by living and working in the *Gaeltacht* not to mention recent improvements with which he's been involved.
- a 23 year-old Dubliner Ciarán Mac Fhearghusa, educated in Irish immersion at *Colaiste de hÍde* (St. Ita's College) in Tallaght (*gaeilscoil* – Irishschool), in his role as *Oifigeach na Gaeilge*/Irish Language Officer of the Union of Students in Ireland/*Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn* is responsible for the promotion of the Irish Language in colleges throughout the country as well ensuring the development of the language. He is the one who is involved in influencing politicians to develop State policies and community initiatives and journalists to take a fresh approach to the Irish language so that every citizen is given a real chance to reach fluency in the national language.

I think that it starts in the home and ends up with the example received during socialization and beyond. When we consider that Irish E.U. MEPs can speak Irish at plenary sessions of the European Parliament – *if they choose to* – what kind of example is that to young people?

For a teacher such as myself, I discovered that it was necessary to influence both the intrinsic and extrinsic motivation towards

Irish language learning because of my conviction that Irish, just like any other language, certainly has a living soul that evolves as it is used as a vehicle for communication. Like any good sales person, I steered them away from economic or utilitarian reasoning. Of course, I told them stories such as when I was in Italy, on a train talking to my boyfriend in Irish so that people would not call me "English," that it felt great when, in their own native language the fellow tourists in the same carriage couldn't place where we were from.

The government has a major duty too to extend the opportunity to learn the Irish language to all throughout the country. In my opinion, it starts with equality of opportunity. That means that all children should be exposed to the language with the same quality and scope of learning. The emphasis must be on speaking it and creating natural speaking opportunities. (One of my sisters learned German in this way within six months thanks to being immersed in it in a multimedia way.)

Promoting the language's popularity abroad may well enhance attitudes to learning Irish at home, but the Union of Students of Ireland believes that the Government's first priority should be improving how the language is taught to Irish students from the earliest stage at playschool, all the way to the Leaving Cert. I couldn't agree more!

On the 12th March 2007, the Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin, TD, announced that the marks at Higher and Ordinary levels in the oral Irish Leaving Cert examination will be increased from 25% to 40%. Marks for the aural will be reduced to 10% at both Higher and Ordinary levels, which means that the written element of the paper will be worth 50% of the marks. Changes also apply to the Junior Cert, where the oral examination is a school-based, optional exam. The new marking system will come into effect for students entering second level this September and will apply to those taking the Leaving Cert in 2012. That same day, Minister Killeen said that "It is imperative that more emphasis be placed on spoken Irish in post-primary schools if we are to increase the use and knowledge of Irish as a community language." I sincerely hope that this initiative makes a difference and that it's not just a cynical exercise to improve the results – to impress the stakeholders.

The Irish societies promoting the Irish language must try to extend their reach and involvement:

- Trinity College - www.csc.tcd.ie/~cumann
- Dublin City University (DCU) - Email: umannGaelach.club@clubsandsocs.dcu.ie
- University College Cork (UCC) - www.ucc.ie/gaeilge/index1.php
- *Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta* / The Council for Irish medium education - www.comhairle.org
- *Conradh na Gaeilge* - www.cnag.ie
- Gael Linn - NGO promoting the Irish language and its

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A fiddle for the exhibition?

By Kathleen Dunn

Annie Skelly, the youngest of sixteen children, was born in St. Columban, Quebec in 1899. As in many Irish families, music was a big part of who they were. The Skelly family brought their music and traditions with them from Mullingar, Co. Westmeath, and passed them along to their children. Annie loved music and learned to play violin and piano by ear. She couldn't read a note but that never stopped her. She grew to become one of St. Columban's local talents, playing the fiddle at all the dances.

Annie once told her daughter, Audrey O'Rourke Gossage, "I remember playing the pump organ in the sitting room. I also played the organ in Church and sang. I especially remember playing the fiddle at all the barn dances, but best of all I remember the time I met your dad, Mike O'Rourke, at one of the dances."

Annie had two fiddles: a Jacobus Stainer copy loaned to her by her sister Katie, and a Hopf which was a gift from her father Michael Skelly. She gave the Stainer fiddle to her son Michael O'Rourke, whose daughter Colleen and granddaughter Emily learned to play it. Annie gave the Hopf fiddle to her eldest grandson, Bill Gossage, when he was about 12. Bill and his brothers, Peter, Thom and David, are all professional musicians, a legacy handed down to them by their grandmother. Bill continues to play his grandmother's Hopf fiddle and says, "Every show I play, I always mention that my fiddle once belonged to my grandmother. She was a great fiddler and was always the leader when she played. She ruled with a firm hand

and wouldn't tolerate a wrong chord. If the rhythm was off, she was liable to stop playing and correct the problem."

To celebrate the 175th anniversary of its founding, St. Patrick's Society will be sponsoring an exhibition on the Irish in Quebec at the McCord Museum of Canadian History from March to September, 2009. (See *NUAHT*, March 2007, p. 3.) We are in the process of collecting artifacts for the exhibition — historical objects like the Skelly fiddles, photographs like those shown here, and documents that relate to the early settling of the Irish in Quebec. If you have an artifact that you would be willing to lend for the exhibition, please send a photo of it, along with a brief description of its history to: stpatsoemtl@qc.aibn.com or (snailmail) to Artifacts, St. Patrick's Society of Montreal, 6767 Cote St. Luc Road, #1, Montreal, Quebec, H4V 2Z6. All artifacts selected will be returned at the end of the exhibition.



Annie at about 13 outside her sister Katie's home in St. Columban



Annie Skelly's fiddle was never far from her. Here she is in her 20s (1925)



Bill Gossage playing his grandmother's Hopf fiddle at a gig with Connie Kaldor in Edmonton

We are grateful to Annie's granddaughter, Kelley O'Rourke Thomassin, for providing photographs and background information on Annie Skelly and her fiddles. Perhaps one of them will be accepted for display at the McCord in 2009.



The Belfast miracle: the leaders listen and catch the people's peace

By Neil McKenty

It is both ironic and sad that the political package on power-sharing the opposing factions in Northern Ireland have now signed up to has been on offer since the Sunningdale conference in 1973.

The cost in lives alone for this intransigence has been staggering. Before Sunningdale there were 935 violent deaths attributable to the sectarian violence that erupted in 1969, requiring the deployment of the British Army to help maintain order. Both the Sunningdale agreement and the power-sharing executive it provided for, collapsed in May 1974 in the face of a general strike led by Rev. Ian Paisley. Since then, 2,536 more people lost their lives to shootings and bombings mostly caused by the IRA. During this lethal period, there was a series of conferences involving the governments of England and Ireland and various factions from Northern Ireland itself to try to advance the peace process. Even after what started as a grudging ceasefire in 1994, another 200 deaths were caused by politically motivated violence.

Is there any reason to hope that the newly reconstituted Assembly at Stormont will succeed where all the other attempts failed or never got off the ground. There are many reasons, but I suggest that one is pivotal. In all the other negotiations, the British and Irish governments tried to bring the moderates together, men like John Hume and David Trimble. But it was only when the so-called hard men, Ian Paisley and Gerry Adams, got behind the peace process that it actually began to move forward until it resulted in the historic restoration of the Assembly on May 8th.

As was pointed out in a recent issue of *The Tablet*, the current settlement owes much to the work of the clergy of all denominations over the years. As far back as 1974, a delegation of the Irish Council of Churches acted as messengers in trying to bring about an IRA ceasefire and secure a response from the British government. That initiative failed. In the 1980s, Redemptorist priests in Belfast, notably Fr. Alex Reid, and Protestant clergy, such as the former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Ken Newell, took personal risks in talking to their own extremists and encouraging them into face-to-face dialogue with their counterparts to work out a settlement for power-sharing.

Canadians too can be proud of the role this country played in the peace process, especially in training the police, investigating crimes and persuading the IRA to disarm. Canada's General John de Chastelain spent 10 years convincing the IRA to put its arms beyond use. So it is curious that he is hardly mentioned in the coverage of this historic event which could scarcely have happened without him.

Based on the results of the recent elections in Ulster, Rev. Ian Paisley, the long time Protestant demagogue, becomes first minister and Sinn Fein's chief negotiator, Martin McGuinness, a self-confessed former IRA activist, becomes his deputy. That these two inveterate enemies will now sit down for a cup of tea and work together is being called "the miracle of Belfast." They will jointly lead an administration comprising four ministers from Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party, three from Sinn Fein, two

from the Ulster Unionist party and one from the nationalist Social Democratic and Labour Party.

After all the years of blood-letting, the fact that former enemies like McGuinness, Gerry Adams and Ian Paisley are now pledged to work together for the good of the North is an astounding achievement. But it is just a first step and there is still concern whether this new arrangement will last. As *The Guardian Weekly* pointed out "it would be naïve to think this marks the end of brinkmanship. There will still be spats and standoffs aplenty."

Some of these are political and some are economic. Under the new set-up, the Protestants on the executive have an effective veto over Sinn Fein proposals which would then have to go to the 108 person general assembly where the Protestants also have an effective majority. Perhaps an even more serious challenge is the anaemic economy. Over the 40 years of the Troubles, the North has become a political junkie that receives \$10 billion U.S. annually from the British government, more than is raised locally by taxation. More than one-third of the 770,000 people in jobs are directly employed by the public sector which accounts for nearly two-thirds of economic output.

Part of the problem is the scarcity of private-sector investment. No doubt the new government will want Britain to keep pouring in its generous subsidies. But what the North really needs is a home-grown economic miracle of the kind achieved in the South. "Easier said than done," writes *The Economist*. "But then getting Paisley and Adams to work together wasn't easy either."

At the same time there are stakeholders who have a strong interest in the success of the new arrangement. The first of these are the ordinary people of Northern Ireland. For a long time they have been ahead of their leaders bogged down in internecine quarrels. The British government also has an enormous amount invested in the power-sharing agreement. As he prepares to leave the national stage, Tony Blair will be remembered for the restored Assembly in the North and indeed, as a by-product of the long tortuous negotiations, a closer relationship with the South.

Indeed there are remarkable signs this spring that Ireland, England and the North have entered a new relationship that is a complete break from tensions going back centuries. Ireland's Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, was invited to address the joint houses of parliament in London on May 15th, the first Irish prime minister to do so. Mr. Ahern said the invitation symbolized the new levels of "friendship, mutual respect and understanding" between Ireland and England.

Already the Irish Prime Minister and Ian Paisley have visited the site of the Battle of the Boyne which pitted Protestants against Catholics on Irish soil. It would be difficult to imagine an event more symbolic of the new climate in Northern Ireland or one that augurs more hope for the restored Assembly as it begins its work.



St. Patrick's on the Costa del Oro 2007

By Jim Kirby

Everyone knows the main 'Costas,' the Costa Blanca, the Costa Brava, the Costa del Sol and Spain in general, which the 'Dubs' with true cynical humour call the 'Costa Packet.' That expression is actually quite out-dated, as Spain in comparative terms with Ireland, is decidedly cheap. So recently I had the pleasure of descending on another Costa, the Costa del Oro with just under 700 'Paddies' and 'wannabee Paddies' for St. Pat's celebrations.

This annual 'beano' organised by Mayoman Gerry Flynn of Enjoy Travel is held at the Riu Hotel in Torrox, southern Spain, along the lesser known, beautiful Costa del Oro. Gerry has been organising these Irish events in the sun for several years now, and I wrote previously on the cruising event last September in the Mediterranean. The idea is to provide Irish music and dance in the sunshine, creating a home away from home for the 'punters' as Gerry refers affectionately to his clients, with a return to the old Irish country fleadh-cum-festivals of the 50s and 60s.

The sun shone gloriously and the music was in full swing with a great introduction from Showband man, Dermot Hegarty, poolside the morning after arrival. Dermot, now in his 60s, but still going strong, had more number ones than the Beatles in the Irish charts back in that era we all remember so well. The average age was 50 plus and the background was Irish, whether from Ireland itself, the UK and a sprinkling from Canada and the U.S. The crowd was an eclectic mix of couples, (mostly married), widowed, single (divorced and separated), all with the intent of celebrating our national feast in a way that comes naturally to all of us Irish, with music, dance and song.

It was also a special week for Irish sports including the culmination of the Six Nations Rugby Championship, the Cheltenham Horse Racing Festival (referred to by the late Queen Mother as an Irish Race meeting held in England), and the Cricket World Cup with Ireland's triumphant opening round in that event. Incredibly, Ireland beat Pakistan and Zimbabwe in the first round and went into the 'Super Eight' finals. Now Ireland as a cricketing nation, yes unbelievable, but there we were standing tall in the Caribbean with the greats like Australia, South Africa and England. It must have been the nurturing from hurling that allowed them to bat and bowl so well. As another aside to this, I must tell you that when England travels abroad to play cricket they are followed by die-hard fans known as the 'Barmy Army.' Well Ireland was not to be outdone, and as everyone knows, any sporting event with Ireland involved creates a huge following. So in the West Indies some hack gave the Irish fans the new moniker that will forever stick; 'The Blarney Army.' For what it's worth, Ireland continued to do well in the World Cup of Cricket, but the final was contested between Australia and Sri Lanka, with the Antipodeans winning with ease, as they seem to do in most sports these days. Anyway back to my main story.

Because there were all these sporting events, Gerry organised a 'bookie' for those punters wishing to have a flutter. He was a lively fellow, confined to a wheelchair, living locally but originally from Liverpool. He set up shop with his wife as

assistant, and by using two cellular phones, people placed bets which were relayed to Paddy Powers Turf Accountants back in Dublin. Don't ask me if this was legal, but the hotel obliged with satellite television screens and viewing was available to all. Satisfaction was achieved all round. In between, the music around the poolside continued and the Sangria and Guinness flowed with abundance.

The Hotel Riu has a very strong reputation for its wonderful array of culinary delights, but also as in the tradition of these events, the Spanish staff has acquired the knack of joining in with the spirit and the fun engendered by their Irish guests. Set Dancing, which many will know is just so popular now, was a main-stay of the event. There were two wonderful Ceili bands on hand, namely Swallow's Tail from Sligo and Copperplate from Mayo. Country music is always popular with the Irish and we had a young girl from Athlone, Sharon Turley, who with her band is definitely Ireland's answer to Dolly Parton. I am referring to her singing by the way.

There was a new act from County Mayo, The Trevor Moyles Band. Young Trevor and his brother Sean with the other members put on another fantastic Country & Western session for everyone's enjoyment. Then we had the Enjoy Travel band itself who, whether playing on its own or backing up singers, is really top class. I have to mention their performance with Ireland's Eddie Calvert, Trumpet man, Johnny Carroll, from Galway. The man who made his debut back on the cruise last year, singing sensation, Michael Muldoon, was back to reprise his concert. Since the cruise he has cut a new album, has been on TV and radio in the UK and Ireland, and as I said in my previous article, is well on his way to emulating the success of Daniel O'Donnell.

For those who need some coaching in set dancing or ballroom manoeuvres, there were workshops every morning. If you fancied learning a few rudiments on the penny whistle or the melodeon, that too was available. I must mention that what most considered the find and high-light, music-wise, of the event was the band 'Reely Jiggin.' They put on several shows with a combination of traditional music combined with an avant-garde interpretation of some rock and pop tunes to a Celtic beat. The Bodhran playing and their whole personality will take this band places and is a great find by Gerry Flynn. Keep an eye out for them.

St. Patrick's Day itself saw a wonderful pageant of song and dance, combined with a fancy dress parade and a talent contest. The men for this, Curtis Magee from Ballymena and Michael Cleary from Donegal Town, form a wonderful combination of great humour and music from stage to complement the 'goings-on' among the punters in their St. Pat's Day gear. It didn't matter who won what, as the enjoyment was really about the fun engendered during the day. The night time climaxed with a huge Ball with all the entertainers involved after a sumptuous dinner. This was undoubtedly one of my most memorable '*Feile Padraig's*' and certainly different from many of those which I previously experienced. All credit must go to the organisation for the idea to risk taking the Irish away from home and re-creating the festival under the sun. There is no doubt though that wherever you take Irish people, you'll find the sunshine and the '*Craic*.'



A celebration of Irish rugby – Toronto in Montreal

By Martin Buckle

The Montreal Irish RFC's 50th anniversary season kicked off on 28th April with two games at our home field in Ste Julie. The Irish Canadian Rugby Club of Toronto celebrated its golden anniversary a few years ago so it seemed appropriate that it should provide our first match of 2007. The ICRC has had outstanding successes in recent years with both its men's and women's teams regularly collecting silverware, including the McCormick and Owl cups in 2006.

On a wet afternoon (and a very muddy field) the women started proceedings with a demonstration of quality rugby. The weather was not going to dampen the Montreal spirit any more than Toronto's history of cup wins. Wave after wave of attacks were fought off in the home 20-metre zone and the girls came in at half time with no scores on the board. Cheered on by vocal support from the touch line, Montreal continued the same stiff defence in the second half, occasionally foraging forward to give the visitors a taste of the same medicine. In the end the pressure told and Toronto sneaked ahead to finish the game 10-0.

The second game of the afternoon started in a similar fashion with the much-vaunted Toronto attack failing to penetrate Montreal's solid defence. In contrast to the women's game, though, it was Montreal who notched up the first try right in front of the cheering home crowd on the clubhouse stoop. It almost looked like they would finish the first half unexpectedly in the lead, but a last minute score from TO meant the sides were level at 7-7. It can honestly be said that Montreal was the happier club at the end of the first half.

Toronto was spurred on by their coach at the interval and restarted the game with increased intensity. Eventually their extra experience and the earlier start to the Ontario season began to show on the scoreboard. The final result went the elder club's way but the Montreal men were happy with the strength of their performance against the higher-rated side.

Hopefully this strong opening-day performance can be carried forward into the League and MIRFC's men and women can celebrate this golden season with some silver of their own. A big thank you to the Irish Canadian RC for motoring up the 401 to join us, to the Locks for their help on the day, and to those Old Boys who came out to lend their support to the current generation of players.

For more exotic rugby come out and join us on 19th May when the Bermuda Police fly in to continue the festivities. 🍀

... and Ireland celebrates in Italy

Ireland may have missed out on the Six Nations title after a last gasp try by France on March 17th, but they still climb to fourth in the IRB World Rankings. Their 51-24 defeat of Italy at the Stadio Flaminio saw Eddie O'Sullivan's side swap places with South Africa and move closer to Australia and France. New Zealand retain their lead at the top of the rankings. 🍀

Passage to America : only \$10

By Kathleen Dunn

When John Mahoney was packing up Pigwidgeon Press and moving from Ayers Cliff, Quebec, to Ontario earlier this year, he contacted St. Patrick's Society to offer, free of charge, his remaining stock of *Passage to America* by British journalist Terry Coleman. If the Society would pick them up, Mahoney said we could do with them as we pleased. "Use them as a fundraiser," he suggested.

Passage to America was first published in the United Kingdom in 1972. The American version, published the same year, was titled *Going to America*. The version we have was published in Canada in 1991 by Pigwidgeon Press. The original version was out of print when Mahoney was researching his family history and he was so impressed with his borrowed copy he offered to re-publish it.

This very readable 350-page book tells the story of the emigrants who left Great Britain and Ireland for North America during the ten-year period from 1846 to 1855. It is interesting to note that in that period alone, the emigrant ships carried 1.8 million people from the UK to the U.S. — that's a quarter of a million more than had entered the U.S. from all parts of the world in the previous seventy years since U.S. independence. These were people so desperate for a better life they willingly paid 3 pounds for the two-month voyage across the Atlantic. The book leaves little to the imagination. The horrific living (or should I say dying) conditions in steerage, the inhumane treatment, the lack of food and water, are all vividly described. Nothing new, you might say, for anyone who has read about the Irish famine years, but the facts and figures are startling. And, once again, I am in awe that although many died, many more survived. We, their descendants, are grateful for their courage.

SPS is selling this hard-cover book for \$10. It will be available at all SPS events as well as at other Irish community gatherings. 🍀



Our reporters go to extreme lengths to get the news to you.
No prize for guessing which one of them is shown above.

Do we ever really leave home?

An oral history of Irish-born Montrealers

By Dana Hearne

What does it mean to leave home forever? The answer to that question must be very varied indeed. Someone might be forced to leave (for whatever reason). Someone else might leave because of his/her adventurous spirit, or because he/she (or his/her partner) was offered an interesting job or transfer. Others might not have intended to emigrate to begin with but found that circumstances pulled them in that direction, or they chose to turn a simple trip into a lifetime “home” away from “home.” But when we leave, do we ever really feel at home again or do we experience a constant sense of exile? Do we connect with the Irish community here? Do we maintain strong links with Ireland? Does settling here turn out to be the best “decision” we ever made? Do we feel we have two homes and are perfectly happy crossing back and forth between both, or do we go back less and less because we somehow feel we don’t belong any more, are not really considered to be Irish any more? Have some of us actually gone back to live and found it impossible for one reason or another, or gone back and decided to stay with or without reservations?

I only intended to stay for two years...

Since my plan is to ask Irish people to share their stories with me, maybe I should share some of my story with you. For me, 1973 was the fateful year. I had never in my life considered the idea of emigrating. I loved Ireland and that is where I wanted to live my life. Then, a very important relationship I was in crashed in a rather brutal way and I immediately thought that getting as far away from Ireland as possible as soon as possible would be the best way to get over the pain. I took steps to do this and within a few months I was in Montreal and registered in an MA programme at McGill. The details are more dramatic but they will have to wait until I tell the story more completely in the oral history project itself. I remember so vividly the exhilaration of getting on that plane in 1973 and the sense of relief to be leaving behind a situation that I knew would dog me if I stayed. I only intended to stay for two years, but things are never quite so simple. Coming to Canada turned out to be a very lucky decision for me in all kinds of ways – here again the details will have to wait – even though there were barriers (language being the main one) to being completely integrated into Montreal/Quebec society that would not have existed for me in Ireland.

Perhaps one of the most positive aspects of leaving the home country for me was having to get to know myself in a way that might not have been possible had I stayed. The old conventional ways of being, the old contexts and expectations shift as we negotiate our way in a new environment. Ireland and Quebec have so much in common historically, politically and culturally, and yet Montreal is a city of such diversity that it got me thinking in new ways. As I pursued my studies – from MA at McGill to PhD in Social and Political Thought at York University in Toronto – I gradually focused my work on Irish

historical, political and social issues and so, ironically, I came closer to knowing Ireland than I ever had when I lived there. At the same time I began to see how vibrant the Irish community in Canada and Quebec was.

...they never seemed to be interested
in my Montreal life...

My experience going “home” – which I was able to do almost every year – was always disappointing in a very specific way. My family and friends were certainly always glad to see my husband, my children and me, but they never seemed to be interested in my Montreal life, or even in Montreal or Canada. There were exceptions of course, but this was the general picture. Once you leave, I thought, in some very deep way you are erased. You are welcome to be in their world but they don’t have to be in yours. When Mary Robinson came to visit Canada in the early 90s, she was amazed by what she learned about Irish Canadian and Irish Quebec history. The same was true for Mary McAleese. It seemed to change their thinking in some profound way so that the Irish diaspora came into closer view thereafter in their public addresses. Those of us who live here know how much the Irish have contributed to Quebec and Canada. Do the Irish in Ireland know? Does it matter?

I will finish with an anecdote which explains what got me thinking about telling our stories, not just for us but for the Irish “at home.” Many of you will remember the dance drama which Bernadette Short created about seven or eight years ago. It was called “From Galway to Grosse Île” and it was a fusion of Quebec and Irish history, culture, music and dance. It was a remarkable and deeply moving piece of work. I had the opportunity to make a half-hour radio documentary about this show incorporating the music, interviews with the musicians – Irish and Quebecois – and with Bernadette (about her vision for the piece and the history involved in it). Later I got a well-known Irish radio documentary-maker to listen to it thinking she might be interested in making documentaries for an Irish audience about such intermingling of Irish culture with other cultures in Canada. She listened to the documentary and her only comment was “The Irish wouldn’t be interested in this kind of thing.” I was utterly shocked, but should I have been? Isn’t that what my own experience had told me all along?

Put it to the test I told myself. Let the Irish (in Ireland) know we’re here and who we are. Capture their attention with a book of stories so riveting that they will finally turn their attention to a part of themselves that they should cherish. I want as many Irish-born people as possible (living in Montreal) to participate in this project so please fill out the questionnaire that is on p.11 and return it to me at your earliest convenience (and pass it on to all your Irish-born friends). I look forward to hearing from all of you.



Questionnaire: Irish Oral History Project

I am looking for Irish-born persons who have emigrated to Montreal since 1960. My study will be an oral history about the immigrant experience focusing on the causes of emigration and its results. This questionnaire is intended as a preliminary step towards further interviews that will form the basis of a book. No material will be published without the permission of the respondents, nor will I identify any person without their express permission.

*Please return questionnaire to my home address:
61 Rue Beaudoin, Montreal, Quebec. H4C 3R2 or send answers
by email to: shearwater1@yahoo.com*

Feel free to pass on the questionnaire to any Irish-born person in the relevant focus group and use extra paper if you need to.

*Professor Dana Hearne (PhD), Irish Studies Programme,
Concordia University,
Montreal, Quebec.*

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Name and Address: | 12. Is your Irish identity important to you? Explain. |
| 2. Email address: | |
| 3. Telephone Number: | 13. Have you since visited Ireland? How often? |
| 4. Year and Place of Birth. | 14. Is your experience visiting Ireland positive? Negative? Both? Explain. |
| 5. Place of residence before leaving Ireland. | |
| 6. How did your family members react to your decision to leave Ireland? | 15. Has your experience living in Montreal been a positive one? A negative one? Both? Explain. |
| 7. What was your position in Ireland before you left? Work? Club memberships? Organizational affiliations? Community involvement? Religious affiliation? | 16. How does your experience living in Montreal compare to your experience living in Ireland? |
| 8. When did you leave Ireland and what age were you at the time? | 17. What is your work situation in Montreal? Your club memberships? Your organizational affiliations? Your community involvement? Your religious affiliation? |
| 9. What were your reasons for leaving? | |
| 10. Did you plan to leave permanently? | 18. Did you ever decide to go back to Ireland to live? With what results? |
| 11. Why did you choose Montreal? | 19. What does "Home" mean to you? |

Cine Gael (cont.)

ran from March 26th to April 19th. In total we had 19 days of screenings and 55 films. The films were mostly highlights in Irish film-making North and South from the 1980s and the 1990s – features, documentaries, short films and animation including films directed by Neil Jordan (a major focus), Jim Sheridan, John T. Davis, Paddy Breathnach, Margo Harkin, Trish McAdam, Tom Collins, John Huston, Joe Comerford, Brendan Byrne, Damien O'Donnell, Aine O'Connor, Padraig O'Neill and Edith Pierperoff (who turned up in person all the way from Galway).

In the years following this bonanza of Irish film we added two new features to our programme: an evening of shorts; and one weekend in the course of the season devoted to highlighting a celebrated actor (Stephen Rea, Milo O'Shea, Gabriel Byrne *et al*), director (John Ford, Neil Jordan, Bob Quinn, Cathal Black, Robert Quinn and, most recently Paddy Breathnach), a significant figure in the Irish film world (Rod Stoneman) or emphasizing a different focus on Irish women directors (Pat Murphy, Orla Walsh, Mary McGuckian, Margo Harkin). Our future plans include a weekend devoted to Gay Irish Cinema. We also try to make sure that Northern Ireland is represented each season. Most of the Northern Ireland films we have shown until recently have focused on the tragic political situation – Omagh (directed by Peter Travis) was the most recent in this genre and one of the most moving and powerful.

In the last couple of years as we have celebrated younger film-makers, there has been a notable change in the kind of subject matter they are choosing to engage with and often these films seem to be less “Irish” than the films of their parents’ generation. As Robert Quinn said of his debut feature, *Dead Bodies* “One of the things I like best about this film is that there is nothing particularly Irish about it. It could be anywhere.” Paddy Breathnach expressed a similar point of view when he was asked how he saw his films fitting into an Irish tradition. He said he doesn’t see himself as fitting into any kind of Irish tradition but rather thinks of his films as reflecting the particular space he is inhabiting at the time he embarks on them. Changes in Irish culture, or particular issues in the Irish social/political landscape, can always be expected to be reflected in some way in his films but they are not his guiding inspiration. As Ireland has gone global so too, it seems, have many of Ireland’s younger generation of film-makers.

We have had some mad moments during these 15 years where films arrived just minutes before the screening because they somehow got stuck at Customs or even worse, the wrong film got on to the reel in the projection booth or the right one never showed up. Perhaps the most hairy example of this type of mishap was during our Stephen Rea weekend. We were scheduled to show *Angel* on the Saturday night but as the projectionist was checking the film he informed us that we had a print of a French porn film of the same name. One of our committee members raced out to a video store and managed to get a somewhat scratched print of the right *Angel* and the rest of the evening went without incident.

One of Lynn Doyle’s fondest memories is of the night Cine Gael screened *Othello*. The guest speaker that night was Susanne Clouthier (who played Desdemona in the film). She was a great friend of Pierre Elliot Trudeau and rumour had it that the great man himself might make an appearance. Kevin Tierney who was producing a film biography of Trudeau at the time had actually invited him to the screening. “It was all very secretive, hush-hush, tentative, unconfirmable,” Lynn recalled, “but still we whispered repeatedly, Trudeau ‘might’ attend.” They whispered it so many times amongst themselves, that when he actually did show, Lynn burst out in her welcome “we are so delighted to have TRUDEAU with us.” Blushing furiously Lynn looked over only to see “The Right Honourable” wink in her direction. It was another great Cine Gael evening!

It seemed so fitting that we closed our fifteenth season with *The Commitments*, the very first film we ever screened at Cine Gael, and the top choice of our members. We look forward to the continuing adventure of our Cine Gael season and this seems to be the right moment to thank everyone who has helped and continues to help to make this film society such a success: the local Irish pubs McKibbin’s and Hurley’s; our sponsors – the Embassy of Ireland; the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism (Ireland); the Cultural Relations committee of Ireland; Concordia Irish Studies, the British Council; BGL Brokerage; Jameson; and especially St. Patrick’s Society which has so generously supported us throughout these lively 15 years.

(Don’t forget to check our website www.cinegaelmontreal.com to learn more about us. Also, if you haven’t already done so, please send us your email addresses and regular addresses to facilitate communication.)



Gaeilge bhriste (cont.)

heritage - www.gael-linn.ie

- Gaelport.com - www.Gaelport.com
- Glór na nGael - www.glornangael.ie
- Iontaobhas na Gaelscolaíochta / The Trust for Irish medium education - www.iontaobhasnag.com ...

The relationship with the Irish language is complex. Seanfhocail/ old sayings such as “*Tir gan Teanga, Tir gan Anam*” – a country without a language is a country without a soul” or “*Is fearr Gaeilge bhriste ná Béarla cliste*” – “Broken Irish is better than clever English” are very telling statements that are ingrained in many of us.

What is certain is that whether the country becomes perfectly bilingual or not, its fate lies in the hands of young people – thank God! Yes, they may be under the influence of the Celtic Tiger and expect returns on investments and rightly so. What is certain is that once they know what they want, they follow-up with action just like the USI.



'Ride for the Cure' pedals through Montreal

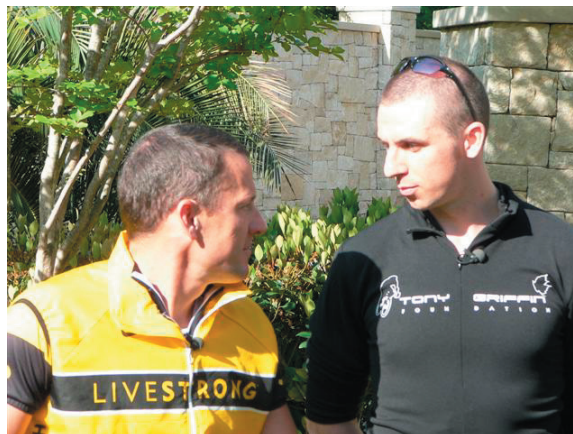
By Edmond Stokes

If all goes according to plan, sometime around Wednesday, June 13th, Tony Griffin— a remarkable young man — will be cycling through Montreal on his way across Canada and Ireland to raise money for cancer research. Presently a student at Dalhousie University, Tony is also a renowned member of the Co. Clare hurling team. For those of you who may not know, hurling is Ireland's ancient national game. It's a super-fast sport played on a grass field with teams of fifteen each (who remain on the field for two thirty-five-minute periods) – very physical and somewhat like lacrosse and field-hockey.

It remains to be seen whether much news will be made in Canada about his journey. After Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope twenty-six years ago, there often seems little to distinguish one cross-country fundraiser from another on the six o'clock news. What's different about Tony? For one thing, he's a national athletic hero in Ireland.

Last summer, although his county team did not make it to the All-Ireland final, Tony was named to the hurling All-Star team. While winning such an award is always a worthy accomplishment, what's more notable are the lengths to which Tony has gone to keep playing at the highest level in Ireland. Having to practise alone in snowy Halifax does not lend itself to top-flight hurling – a very demanding sport. While studying for a sports-science degree at Dalhousie University is challenging enough, commuting to Ireland from Halifax to play for his local club or county team on the weekends, and arriving back again in time for Monday classes would challenge even the hardest of souls. Over the course of the 2004-2005 school year, Tony made nine such weekend commutes.

This jet-set life changed in December 2005. His father, Jerome, died of lung-cancer after a nine-month battle with the illness. A life-long non-smoker, Jerome contracted the disease through exposure to asbestos while working in the construction industry. Tony took the 2006 winter semester off from Dalhousie to help his mother and to look after the family farm. He threw himself into hurling for the spring and summer, winning an All-Star award for himself and helping Clare to the All-Ireland semi-finals, ultimately losing to the eventual champions, Kilkenny. He returned to Halifax last September thinking of ways to make more of a difference in life.



Lance Armstrong (l.) and Tony Griffin compare notes

'The Ride for the Cure' was his answer. Equally ambitious is Tony's goal to raise \$1.5 million. When he first mentioned the amount, it sounded little more than a pipe dream to many. However, before he has even pedaled a mile, Tony's vision has created a commotion back in Ireland. Schoolchildren throughout Clare have already started fundraising on his behalf and volunteers throughout Ireland are preparing for the final leg of his journey from Dublin to Ennis. Most of his funds will be raised in Ireland where Tony is well known. But major fundraisers are also planned for Halifax and Toronto, where, among others, Riverdance will perform. As Tony points out on his website, every contribution, no matter how small, is significant in finding a cure for cancer. Tony is pedaling his way across Canada and Ireland but it's only the individual donations from Canada and Ireland that can make his journey a success.

To make a donation or to learn more about Tony's journey, go to www.tonygriffinfoundation.com. All contributions from Canadians will go towards Ovarian Cancer Canada for research towards a cure for ovarian cancer. Tony would like to extend his thanks for the support of the Montreal Irish community and for all those who help to make a difference.



Census shows Irish families in trouble. Marital separations up 500% in 20 years

DUBLIN, Ireland, April 6, 2007: ZENIT (zenitenglish@zenit.org) reported that Ireland finds itself nearing the marriage and family situation of places like the United States and Britain, says Tom O'Gorman, a researcher from the pro-family Iona Institute.

"According to the latest national census, marriage in Ireland is in serious trouble. A country once famous for its strong family ethos, the changing social mores of Ireland have led to an alarming increase in the extent of marital breakdown," said O'Gorman. "At the current rate of increase, the modern Irish family will soon be just as fragmented -- or 'diverse' as some would have it -- as the modern American family. As recently as 1995, divorce was not even legal in Ireland. In the 12 years since the Irish people, by the slimmest of margins, voted to remove the ban on divorce, the speed of change has been frightening."

In 1986, there were 37,000 separated people in the country. In the latest census, the number of people who were either separated, divorced or remarried was recorded as 198,594. That's an increase of more than 500% in just 20 years. One in seven Irish couples now cohabit. In comparison, the number of couples cohabiting in the United States is one in nine. The number of children living in non-marital family units now stands at 26%, up from 22% in 2002. The equivalent figure in the United States is 30%.

"We must become aware of the extent of the problem because to date we have been burying our heads in the sand regarding marital breakdown and have complacently believed that we could never be like Britain or the United States in this respect," O'Gorman said. "The census shows otherwise."



And now with no apologies

Poacher's Road

By John Brady

McArthur & Company, paperback, \$15.72

Priest

By Ken Bruen

St. Martin's Press, hardcover, \$29.95

Reviewed by Ned Eustace

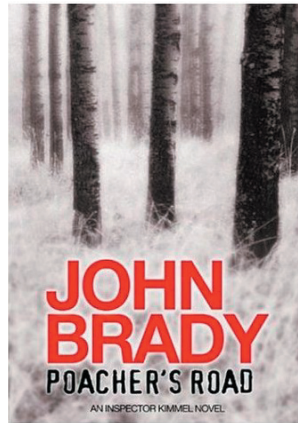
For years, since I was in my early teens in fact, I have been a reader of that much maligned genre of book, the mystery or thriller. I read all fifty-plus Agatha Christies and only gave up when I noticed that in North America some had different titles than the original European editions. Reading something for the second time is all right, but whatever you can say about Miss Marple or Hercule Poirot, reading them twice is not recommended. I also gave up on Agatha when I noticed I could solve the mystery most of the time, especially when there was an Irishman involved. Paddy almost always "done" it!

I confess (and don't do that too often now) to long having had a sense of guilt about being addicted to this type of fiction. I felt I should be reading a better class of stuff, and I do – a lot – but a quick read of a thriller before nodding off is very relaxing and, in bed, neither Tolstoy nor Joyce could touch what Agatha did for me – in my younger days – or Minette Walters does now. I'm sorry, but that's just the way it is! Imagine then, what it's like to discover not one but two writers whose thrillers are merely a convenient vehicle for their literary art. God, don't the words just roll off the tongue; I tell you it is nirvana; I've arrived ... the guilt is gone! I can now be as pretentious as I like and still get a good read. And as an added bonus, not only are they both Irish but one of them lives in Toronto.

John Brady came to Toronto from Dublin at the age of 20 and, according to his bio, has been variously employed as a bank official (whatever that is) and a teacher. He has also worked for the Mounties; in what capacity remains unclear. What is clear is his ability to bring characters to life on the page; and his mastery of Irish regional dialogue, in a manner accessible to the non-Irish reader, is a marvel of literary creation. His best known detective series, eight books to date, chronicles the life and times of Matt Minogue, a post-Celtic Tiger police officer, formerly Detective Sergeant, now (I think) Detective Superintendent, based in Dublin. He wrestles with murder, mayhem, criminals (both Irish and "non-nationals"), raising a family (he has a good wife but a difficult daughter), personal demons and the career-melting politics of a police force. The Minogue books are a wondrous read with intriguing titles like *Islandbridge*, *Kaddish in Dublin* and evocative ones like *Unholy Ground* and *Carra King*. McLean's Magazine, that weekly grail of Canadian wisdom, has described *A Stone of the Heart*, another Brady book from the Minogue series, as "... a masterfully crafted work of plot, atmosphere and especially characterization ... Minogue, thoughtful, clear-eyed and

perhaps too sensitive ... is a full-blooded character built for the long haul of a series... ." Let's hope so. I have read some of these and enjoyed them all.

His latest creation is a departure at least in place if not in genre. In *Poacher's Road* he introduces us to a new policeman, uniformed Inspektor (sic) Kimmel of the Austrian Gendarmerie, the first novel of a new series I suspect. Based in a small town, he assists the Kripo (Central Detective Bureau) when bodies are found in the woods by the mentally challenged adult son of an elderly couple, old friends of Kimmel, near the eastern border with still dark former Soviet Europe. You get drawn into the story very gradually after a slowish start. It becomes a real page turner. The characters – as in the Minogue series – are complex but clear. There's Giuliana, his tolerant but all-suffering live-in girlfriend who, being of Italian background, is not entirely satisfactory in the Austrian social pecking order; and Gebhardt, the driven Kripo senior detective, who jealously keeps his family privacy separate from his professional life but who invites Kimmel in. And then there's Kimmel himself, ambivalent, sensitive and aware, from a new generation of young police officers posted to a rural area that he knows well and loves, ambitious and drawn towards the city as the Gendarmerie are being integrated into a larger national force creating opportunities for the young and tension with the pension-waiting older guys. This book works well except for one annoying feature. Brady, presumably for atmospheric reasons and a heightened sense of place, frequently introduces German phrases into the dialogue – sometimes translated, sometimes not – that interrupt the flow (John, we know they speak German in Austria, *an dtuigeann tú, a bhuacaill*, do you get it my boy, as we say still in parts of Galway!).



With Kimmel, John Brady may have the character that projects him into the big time. He deserves it. He won the Arthur Ellis Award, has been optioned for television with *Islandbridge*; was shortlisted for the 2006 Dashiell Hammett Award; and was on The Globe and Mail 100 titles in 2005. The Globe and Mail has long been a strong supporter and he has received rave reviews in the New York Times and the UK Sunday Times. The Irish Times did him a disservice in describing Minogue as a "Culchie Colombo" even when it added he's "... a character who should run and run." "Culchie" is a derogatory term used by Dubliners to describe their betters from the Irish countryside. John Brady's well crafted characters are deeper, more complex, liberal and thoughtful than any one-eyed American cop wearing a raincoat in need of a good clean and long-past its best before date – and The Irish Times should know that; but then it's in Dublin.

My other discovery is Ken Bruen who lives in Galway. I may be the last person to have found him but he had totally escaped my notice until I read a review of *Priest* in a recent weekend edition of The Globe and Mail. Set most definitely in post-Catholic Ireland – and that's not the same as post-Christian, a distinction the latter insist

Cont. p.16

A look at the first in Lobster Press's new series: "Canadian Immigration"

Island of Hope and Sorrow: The Story of Grosse Île

By Anne Renaud

Lobster Press, 26 pages, \$18.95

Reviewed by Anne Forrest

Where was Anne Renaud when I was teaching history? Her latest book, *Island of Hope and Sorrow*, is an absolute treasure. Written for young readers aged eight or older, this work tells the compelling story of the development of Grosse Île, which was a quarantine island from 1832 to 1937.

For anyone not familiar with the unimaginable suffering experienced by 19th century immigrants to Canada, *Island of Hope and Sorrow* presents the facts in an attractive and informative fashion. Each page in this 26-page publication is carefully crafted and organized. There is an abundance of beautiful illustrations, the work of Aires Cheung, and colour is used most effectively: lavender, peach and several shades of blue serve as backgrounds upon which text and graphics are thoughtfully superimposed.

One feature that I particularly appreciated was the "History Notes" sidebars that provided important details, elaborating in simple words on a reference in the text. For example: "Asiatic cholera... is a disease that people catch from drinking water or eating food that carries the cholera bacteria. Symptoms included spasms, vomiting, and diarrhea, which can lead to severe dehydration and death."

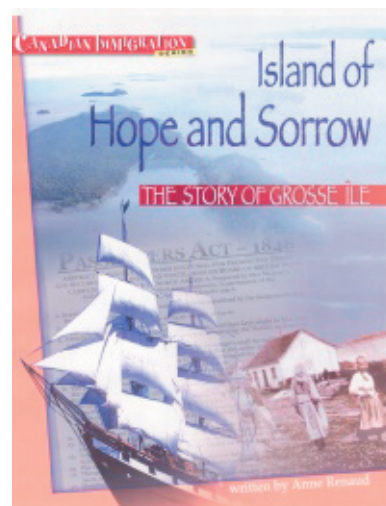
Maps help the reader pinpoint a few of the places mentioned in this history. For many children, and some adults, these are very useful in establishing precise locations of the lands left behind by the immigrants and of Grosse Île itself. Explanatory notes accompany each map. As well as identifying places, Renaud provides two time lines, one each for the 19th and 20th centuries, on which important events are recorded. For example: "1845-1849, Potato crops in Ireland are destroyed by blight," and "1929, Stock market crashes."

An incredible amount of research has gone into the production of this little book. In addition to Cheung's delightful illustrations, there are pictures from such sources as Parks Canada, Library & Archives Canada, and The Illustrated London News Picture Library. Old photographs and reproductions of posters and other relevant historical documents are arranged attractively on the pages. Renaud also relied on material relating to the *Jeanie Johnston*, both the original vessel and the replica ship which visited Canada in 2003.

The content and formatting of the text work well together. Sentences are varied in structure and the language is simple but not childish. Broken down into eleven sections, most of which fill a double-page

spread, the book opens with "The Timber Trade," moves on through "Summer of Sorrow" and "The 20th Century," concluding with "Legacy." Regular typeface is used for the text itself, bold for the "History Notes" and the time lines, and smaller-sized italics for the graphics.

I now have a fuller understanding of why Grosse Île is so meaningful to the descendants of the early immigrants. *Island of Hope and Sorrow: The Story of Grosse Île* is a book I strongly recommend as required reading for history teachers and students of all ages. If you enjoy this work, you should take a look at the equally delightful *Bloom of Friendship: The Story of the Canadian Tulip Festival*, one of Anne Renaud's books in the My Canada series published by Lobster Press.



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Apologies (cont.)

on – *Priest* starts out in a Galway psychiatric hospital where Jack Taylor, an ex-Garda (policeman), is drying out having taken to the bottle in a big way since causing the death of a friend's child. We know we're in the land of the Celtic Tiger because Jack's fellow patient, cadging a smoke, is an African from Cameroon with raw, ugly lacerations and skin grafts, "They were going to deport me, mon, so I set myself on fire."

An unlamented pedophile priest has just been found decapitated in his confessional and another priest, in fear of the same fate for reasons that are initially unclear, draws Jack into investigating the crime by leveraging off his fragility. Barely holding himself together mentally and physically, Jack, the narrator throughout, provides wrenching insights into the mind of the recovering alcoholic and paints a not so pretty picture of the fair green isle and a largely valueless society. He introduced me to modern linguistic Irish shorthand that describes a country uncomfortable with the influx of much needed foreign labour, "non-nationals," clearly a loaded term to define a breed of second class non-citizens blamed for everything. (The last time I was there in late 2006 it was the Latvians' turn to be the bottom of the heap ... "... sur' one a them Latvians will knock someone off for €3,000, and that's no lie now".) This is not an anti-clerical diatribe, far from it. The lonely life of a powerless priest in an Ireland that no longer gives a damn about him or his Church and offers him nothing and his dwindling aging parishioners less, is sympathetically drawn but with no regrets either at its passing. Trying to have a drink and a smoke in this land that has embraced a tobacco-free environment with the zeal of discovering a new religion takes us into drinking dives I knew existed in Dublin but never in the City of the Tribes. Bruen has a gift for dialogue that is best described as minimalist. He conveys ideas clearly and easily with incomplete thoughts, occasionally verbless sentences and words scattered singly one at a time down a page like modern poetry all a little reminiscent of Joyce or some of the work of Paul Muldoon. At first it's unnerving but it really works. Don't get me wrong, Bruen is no Joyce or Muldoon – at least not yet - but he is a gifted writer who tells a good yarn well with a conviction that is at times angry. His Jack Taylor is sympathetic, sensitive, cruel, weak and an all-round selfish bastard but he is real. This too might be the beginning of a series. There is a modern Irish voice here that has something to say about what we seem to have become and it's not all nice but then it probably never was.

I'm already looking out for more of their books and with any luck I'll never feel guilty again! 



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Canadian Irish Studies

Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar 2007: Dr. Clare Carroll



Dr. Clare Carroll will be the 2007 Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar in Canadian Irish Studies. Clare Carroll is Director of Irish Studies and Professor of Comparative Literature at Queens College and at The Graduate Center in the City University of New York. She has won awards from the Whiting Foundation, the Folger Institute, the National Endowment for the Humanities, a Fulbright Fellowship from Trinity College Dublin and an Irish American Cultural Institute Fellowship at NUI, Galway. Her current research is on the Irish in Rome in the early modern period. At Concordia, Professor Carroll will give a public lecture and teach two courses: *Early Modern Irish Cultural History* and *Ireland in the 20th Century*.

Upcoming Courses

Summer 2007:

The Irish Short Story Tradition (ENGL 359A/1)
The Irish Economy and the European Union (ECON 379/1)
Field Studies in Ireland (IRST 290/1)


Fall 2007:

Modern Irish II (MODL 399C/3)
Gender and Nation: Irish Experience (WSDB 335)
Early Modern Irish Cultural History (HIST 398L)
Ireland in the 20th Century (HIST 398N)
James Joyce (ENGL 355)
Irish Literary Revival (ENGL 357)
Intro. to Irish Studies (IRST 203)
Modern Irish Literature (ENGL 603A)
Celtic Christianity (THEO 208/2)

Winter 2008:

History of Ireland (HIST 211)
The Films of Neil Jordan (FMST 398N/4)
Contemporary Irish Literature (ENGL 359C)
Intro. to Irish Film (IRST 398A/FMST335Q)
Contemporary Irish Politics (POLI 398I/4)
Government and Institutions in Contemporary Ireland (POLI 487P/4)

Winners of SPS scholarships announced

This year's joint recipients of the **St. Patrick's Society Graduate Scholarship in Canadian Irish Studies** were Simon Jolivet, a PhD student in Concordia's History Department and Sara Terreurault, who is undertaking a PhD in Humanities. Both of these winners were chosen on the basis of academic excellence by the Irish Studies Scholarship Committee. Simon Jolivet is completing a PhD thesis on Ireland's political question, the struggle for Home Rule and the war of independence as well as its impact in Quebec between 1900 and 1925. Sara Terreurault is completing a PhD thesis which looks at the complex question of a specifically "Celtic" Christian tradition. Sara also recently taught a course on Celtic Christianity as a graduate student. 

People in the news ...

By Kathleen Dunn

A quick and random e-mail survey of SPS members uncovered a few memories as Montreal marks the 40th anniversary of Expo 67. We wanted to know if there had been an Irish pavilion; an Irish pub on La Ronde; an Ireland Day; Irish musicians and dancers at Place des Nations; any kind of Irish involvement. Following are some of the replies:

- **Maura Druda:** "We must remember that Expo 67 was prior to the EU and Celtic Tiger and there was no official Irish representation, unfortunately. It was also prior to Riverdance and Lord of the Dance!!"
- **Leo Delaney:** "I was there every day as my company, Metropolitan Dry Wall, had 350 men on site building the interiors of 19 pavilions, including Habitat, the Japanese, the German, the Mexican, CN, Kodak, and the theme pavilions. Expo 67 was a great creative moment in Montreal's history but there was no Irish pavilion."
- **John O'Shea:** "We had demonstrations of hurling and Gaelic football on Île Ste. Hélène. Montreal won the hurling match against a team from New York. I was on a pick-up football team from Montreal, Syracuse and Rochester. We lost to Toronto."
- **Michael McSharry** (now living in Toronto): "We and a few other families put together an Irish display in the pavilion run by the Quebec Ethnic Folk Arts Council. It was near the Czech pavilion and drew the third highest number of visitors. Our display included an historic stamp collection from Ireland, Waterford crystal, Belleek china, Irish whiskeys, Irish linen, a harp, a spinning wheel, and a huge map of Ireland with family names, all of which were borrowed. We had no budget. Someone made soda bread and potato bread which we had waxed for display. During Irish Week, my wife Patricia had dancers from her *An taos Óg* (The Young Crowd) school performing every day at one of the bandshells. (She, by the way, had taken over the school from her teacher, Brother Plunkett, when the Presentation Brothers called him back to Ireland.) **Patricia Conroy**, who went on to make it big in Nashville, made her first public singing appearance on that stage. She was 16. Her father, **Pat Conroy**, was our chief musician."

If you have Irish-related memories of Expo 67, please call or e-mail the SPS office and we'll follow them up in our next issue.

Congratulations to **Casey Costello** who came home with a medal for placing 8th at the World Championships of Irish Dancing which took place in Glasgow from April 1st to 8th. This was his best result in the seven years he has been going to the World's, leaving him free to retire from competition on a real high. He will continue to perform with Celtic Grace, coach younger dancers, and maybe even work towards a teaching certificate, all under the guidance of Bernadette Short. At the same time, he is continuing his studies at McGill with the next step being a Master's Degree in Chemistry.

Bernadette Short is co-chairing the North American Championships of Irish Dancing along with fellow teachers and adjudicators, Sue Fay Healy of Ottawa and Yvonne Kelly of Toronto. "The Nationals," as they are called, will be held at the Ottawa Convention Centre from July 4th to 8th. There will be five

stages, 18 judges and 20 musicians to accommodate some 3000 dancers from Canada, the U.S., Ireland, England, Scotland, Australia, New Zealand, and several European countries who will be competing. Bernadette, herself, is sending 22 solo dancers and three eight-hand ceili teams from her schools in NDG, the West Island, Chateauguay, and Shannon, while her daughter, **Marie Short**, a teacher in her own right, will be sending four from her Plattsburgh school. Another Montreal teacher, **Marie-Claude Rousseau**, is sending one senior dancer. Dancers must be competing at the Open Championship level in order to participate.


I just happened to be in my dentist's office when I came upon a flyer distributed by **Patrick McLaughlin** to solicit funds for The Weekend to End Breast Cancer, August 24th to 26th. Patrick used to be a marathon runner and cross country skier but these days prefers to walk. He calls his participation in this 60K fundraiser "a musical marathon" because he can walk and sing and play the guitar at the same time. His repertoire includes songs in five languages, including Irish. If you would like to support him, go to www.endcancer.ca and click on Montreal, then click on Support a participant, and type in Patrick's name.

Another SPS supporter, **Marilyn Meikle**, best known for her organizational skills on the Ball Committee, will also be walking on the same Weekend to End Breast Cancer. Her reasons are eloquently spelled out on her web page at www.endcancer.ca.

There are lots of energetic people out there willing to raise money for worthy causes. **Robin Burns** tells us he will be walking "only 3K" on June 16th on Mount Royal to raise funds for the Procure Walk of Courage, a fundraising event for Prostate Cancer. To sponsor Robin, go to www.marcheprocure.com.



Photo: Julie Dunn

Farrell and **Edna McCarthy** of Miramichi, New Brunswick, made a special visit to Montreal to see first hand how we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. They are seen here at the SPS Luncheon on March 16th with Kay and Pat Dunn and Mary McDaid. Farrell is the editor of *The Shamrock Leaf*, a 40-page newsmagazine published twice a year by The Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick. Check out their website at www.newirelandnb.ca. 

Across the pond

Wanted: dead or alive?

Eithne Donnellan, Health Correspondent, writes that the Mater Hospital is to investigate the case of a man wrongly declared dead. Presumed dead by staff at the hospital in Dublin last month, the man was subsequently found to be alive when mortuary personnel came to collect his body from his hospital bed. Check this amazing story at www.ireland.com/newspaper/frontpage/2007/0426/1177280311786.html

Looking for an authentic Irish holiday?

Fiddlers Retreat, an Irish music and culture holiday programme, offers a combination of traditional Irish music, tuition, afternoon scenic and historic sightseeing tours, outings to night-time sessions, Irish language/cookery/dancing workshops among other activities. It is a personalised and authentic Irish holiday, where accommodation is homestay and meals are included in the package. Registered with Board Failte, the Irish tourist board, Go to www.fiddlersretreat.com for more information.

Download weekly radio show

The Craic is an online weekly radio show produced in Dublin exclusively for the Irish worldwide. Hosted by Ian Dempsey, Ireland's most-popular longest-serving breakfast-show presenter, The Craic is a radio show for you whether you're second generation Irish brought up in Montreal or first generation backpacking in Thailand. Go to www.getthecraic.com for a taste of what is happening each week in Ireland.

Baseball catches on in Ireland

One of the more powerful figures in Irish baseball today used to call Muskoka home. Kevin Sisel is not only a coach on the national team, but is the Irish Baseball League co-ordinator. It is his job to make up the schedule for the 500 adult members of Baseball Ireland, to co-ordinate umpiring duties, tally scores and stats, handle equipment concerns, and draft the new players entering the league.



Take a look at the 2006 Hollywood movie, *The Emerald Diamond*, available at Amazon.com

Says Sisel, "There are a number of ideas I would like to plan including bringing the Irish national team to Canada or the U.S. for some exhibition matches. For sure there are plenty of Irish in North America who would love to see the 'lads.' A lot of Irish have returned home because of the booming economy here and of course they bring their passion for baseball with them. The Cubans who live and work in Dublin have formed their own team. We have many youth teams across the country with three youth teams in Cork alone. Some people in America say we have no business playing baseball in a country where it rains all the time, but our games go ahead rain or shine. It really has to be 'lashin' to call a game. We may not be the most experienced players in the world but we give it our best. What we lack in talent we make up in effort."

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Around Town

Feis Montreal: fun for the family

Rain or shine, Feis Montreal will take place at John Abbott College on Saturday, May 19th, 2007 (the long weekend). In addition to dancing and music competitions, enjoy the shops and Hurley's Bar. At \$10.00, this event provides lots of fun for all the family.

A busy summer in store for AOH

This year, the May 27th Walk to the Stone and preceding Mass at St. Gabriel's Church will be hosted by the AOH. The Mass begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by the Walk at 1:30 p.m. with St. Gabriel's School participating. Then on Thursday, July 26th, at 7:30 p.m., Mass in the Park will be celebrated at the Griffintown-St. Ann Park at the foot of Mountain Street. Light refreshments will be served. Don't miss the annual Golf Tournament to be held at the Kanawake Golf Course on August 3rd, and the Annual Pilgrimage to Grosse Île on August 25th. On November 3rd, the Way of the Cross will take place at Notre Dame des Neiges Cemetery. Check out our website www.aoh-montreal.com for details on the upcoming AOH Craft Fair and the Mass at Bonsecour Church. For further information on the above, contact Victor Boyle at (514) 928-7196 or info@aoh-montreal.com.

Book to be launched

On Thursday, May 24th, between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., drop into the Double Hook bookstore, 1235 Greene Avenue, Westmount. Meet Anne Renaud, author of *Island of Hope and Sorrow: the Story of Grosse Île* (see review on p.15).

Two enjoyable activities sponsored by ICCC

On May 31st, ICCC will be hosting a luncheon in honour of His Excellency Declan Kelly, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada, to provide the Irish community an opportunity to meet him. This will take place at noon at the University Club, 2047 Mansfield. Price: \$50.00 for ICCC members and \$60.00 for non-members. As space is limited, reserve your tickets before May 28th. At 2.00 p.m., following the luncheon, ICCC will hold its Annual General Meeting. Then on June 18th, from 5:30 p.m., there will be a Networking Summer Social in Hurley's Courtyard at which complementary food will be served. To reserve tickets and for further information on the above events, contact the ICCC at (514) 845-0973 or contact@icccmtl.com, or check the website: www.icccmtl.com.

Taking the Great Famine to schools

Check out www.irishfamine.ca, a new site created by ten distinguished history professors from Australia, England, Scotland, Ireland and Canada. Geared for children and teachers, it closely reflects official provincial curricula of four provinces, making full use of the Internet with video clips, links, photographs, paintings, and excerpts from newspapers and letters. This informative site has been established by the Jeanie Johnston Foundation (chaired by Leo Delaney) which plans to expand by providing a more detailed analysis of the economic, political, social, cultural and sporting life of Irish immigrants in Canada.

SPS 12th annual charity golf tournament

On Tuesday, June 19th, we will be holding our 12th annual golf tournament on the beautiful Members' Course at Bellevue Golf Club. Shotgun start at 12:45 p.m.

This activity has been a sellout year after year. The price of \$120.00 includes green fees, golf cart, roast beef dinner and two carafes of wine on each table of eight. Everyone wins a prize! And they will all be great! But the biggest winners of all are the many charities that the Society supports.

You don't have to be a great golfer to participate. If you have not played here before, now is the time to sign up. You just don't know what you have been missing! See you all on June 19th!

For information or to register, call Geri Newell at (514) 481-1346.

All-Ireland GAA hurling and football championships at O'Regan's

Plan a visit to O'Regan's to watch the fun. The upcoming games in May are as follows:

Sunday May 20th

9:00 a.m. - Ulster SFC: Fermanagh v Tyrone

11:00 a.m. - Connacht SFC: Galway v Mayo

Sunday May 27th

9:00 a.m. - Munster SHC: Clare v Cork

11:00 a.m. - Ulster SFC: Donegal v Armagh

If you have any additional questions about the GAA All-Ireland Championship Game Schedules or any other live games, please contact O'Regan's directly at (514) 866-8464.

MIRFC posts new schedule

If you want to know where and when the two men's teams and the two women's teams will be playing from now until October, check out the very informative and colourful Montreal Irish Football Club's [website www.mirfc.ca](http://www.mirfc.ca). Everything is presented clearly and attractively.

Quebec City

If you're in Quebec City on Sunday June 10th, why not attend *Candlelight : Les Irlandais de Québec au 19^e siècle*. Historian Mathieu Rompré will share the results of his M.A. on the Irish of Sillery in 1870. Marie-Claude Belley will present her research on the orphans of the Irish famine. Come enjoy this presentation in French with Irish music and desserts. This will take place at the Morrin Centre, 44 chaussée des Écossais at 8:00 p.m. Price : \$8 (members and students), \$10 (non-members). More information at www.morrin.org.

Please Note:

If you are receiving *NUACHT* and have not paid your annual subscription or would like to be put on the *NUACHT* mailing list, please remit \$10.00 to Geri Newell at the Society Office.

2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / CLÁR IMEACHTAI 2007

DATE	EVENTS	FURTHER INFORMATION	
May 19	Ville Marie Feis, John Abbott College, \$10.00	Pat Short	697-4343
May 19	Tara Golf Tournament, Heritage Golf Club, Lancaster, Ont.	John O'Shea	697-8889
May 19/20	GAA Nine -a-Side Gaelic Football Tournament, John Abbott College	Edmond Stokes	345-9283
May 19	Irish Radio Show, CJAD 800 AM, 5:00 p.m.	Kim Sullivan	947-7661
May 26	Innisfail Mass for Deceased Members, 12:00 noon, St. Patrick's Basilica	Ann Broden	(450) 465-3421
May 27	AOH Annual Walk to the Stone, following the Mass, 1:30 p.m.	Victor Boyle	928-7196
May 31	ICCC Luncheon with Ambassador Declan Kelly, University Club, 2047 Mansfield, noon, \$60.00	ICCC office	845-0973
June 2	Irish Radio Show, CJAD 800 AM, 5:00 p.m.	Kim Sullivan	947-7661
June 16	Tara Golf Tournament, Mountain Acres Golf Club, Que.	John O'Shea	697-8889
June 16	Irish Radio Show, CJAD 800 AM, 5:00 p.m.	Kim Sullivan	947-7661
June 17-23	2007 Montreal Celtic Music Sessions Festival, various downtown locations	Elizabeth Johnston	948-0856
June 18	ICCC Networking Evening, Hurley's Pub, 1225 Crescent, 5:30 p.m.	ICCC office	845-0973
June 19	St. Patrick's Society Golf Tournament, Bellevue Golf Course	Geri Newell	481-1346
June 20	St. Patrick's Society AGM, Congress Hall, St. Patrick's Basilica, 454 René-Lévesque West, 6:00 p.m.	Geri Newell	481-1346
June 21	Summer Solstice Soirée, 7:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m., NDG Legion, 5455 de Maisonneuve W., \$5/\$8	Elizabeth Johnston	948-0856
Jun. 30/1 Jul.	Canton Golf Tournament (MIRFC)	Jimmy Heaslip	592-8180
July 14/15	Tara Golf Tournament, Craigwood Golf Course, Lake Placid, N.Y.	John O'Shea	697-8889
July 26	AOH Mass in the Park, Griffintown-St. Anne Park, 7:30 p.m.	Victor Boyle	928-7196
Aug. 3	AOH Annual Golf Tournament, Kanawake Golf Course, \$75.00, tee-off time to be determined	Victor Boyle	928-7196
Aug. 11	Tara Golf Tournament, Missisquoi Bay Golf Course, Que.	John O'Shea	697-8889
Aug. 25	AOH Annual Pilgrimage to Grosse Île, \$75.00	Victor Boyle	928-7196
Sep. 1/2	Des O'Neill International Tournament (MIRFC)	Mike Magee	938-1088
Sep. 8	Tara Golf Tournament, Adirondack Golf Club, Plattsburg, N.Y.	John O'Shea	697-8889
Sep. 14	St. Patrick's Society Lecture in Canadian Irish Studies	Kester Dyer	848-8711
Sep. 15	GAA Annual Golf Tournament, Lafleur Golf Course, Chateaugay	Edmond Stokes	345-9283
Sep. 21-30	MIRFC "Homecoming Week"	Martin Buckle	848-8017
Sep. 29	Tara Golf Tournament and Banquet, Hemmingford Golf Club, Que.	John O'Shea	697-8889
Oct. 18	Carrefour 2007, Hotel Delta Centre-Ville	ICCC office	845-0973
Nov. 3	AOH Way of the Cross at the Notre Dame des Neiges Cemetery	Victor Boyle	928-7196

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