

BOSTON IRISH REPORTER

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Double Honors Set for Mary Robinson

Degree from Wheelock College;
Gold Medal from the Eire Society

BY THE BIR STAFF

May 13 will be a banner day in Boston for Mary Robinson, at right, the former president of the Republic of Ireland who has been a strident activist for human rights worldwide since her days as a young lawyer.

At 11 a.m. that Friday, she will be at Wheelock College where she will receive an honorary degree and speak to the Class of 2011 by addressing the school's commencement theme, "Advocating on Behalf of Children: Inspiring a World of Good."

Then, at 3 p.m. she will be at the Harbor View Ballroom at the World Trade Center for a reception, dinner, and awards ceremony sponsored by the Eire Society of Boston, which is honoring President Robinson with its 2001 Gold Medal for her "significant contributions to benefit society and her chosen field of expertise."

Said Jackie Jenkins-Scott, president of Wheelock, which was founded in 1888: "Mary Robinson is an inspirational leader and role model who has dedicated her life and her career to improving human rights in her own country and across the globe, and giving voice to the least fortunate among us."

Robinson served for some 20 years as a senator in the Irish Parliament before assuming the country's presidency in 1990, the first woman to serve in the post. After she left office in 1997, she joined the United Nations organization as its High Commissioner for Human Rights. Numerous awards followed from around the earth, capped by her reception of the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama.



The Magic of Music Delights 32 Girls in Kenya

'Lullabies of Love' CD,
a Collaboration of Artists
Who Care, Will Support
'One Home Many Hopes'

BY SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

The biggest ideas often have the simplest beginnings. For Newton resident Lindsay O'Donovan, the inspiration for a major combination music project and fundraising initiative came from the act of quietly humming a tune for a sleepy little girl named Lovie who lay cradled in her arms.

That tune – which O'Donovan literally made up on the spot – will be included on a newly issued CD, sales of which will benefit One Home Many Hopes (OHMH), the home for orphaned and abandoned girls in Kenya where O'Donovan met Lovie last year while volunteering. The CD, "Lul-

labies for Love," will include previously released tracks by such artists as Solas, Mick Moloney, Karan Casey, Altan, Liz Carroll, Susan McKeown & Johnny Cunningham, Navan, Skara Brae, Heidi Talbot & Cherish the Ladies, Seamus Egan, Sheila Falls & Keith Murphy and Aoife Clancy. Other contributors to the album include Dougie MacLean, Alasdair Fraser, Natalie Haas, Lissa Schneckenburger, John Doyle, Christy O'Leary, Eamon Murray, Sean Graham, Chico Huff and Lindsay's daughters Aoife and Fionnuala O'Donovan.

Two tracks were written and recorded especially for the album: the aforementioned O'Donovan composition "Lullaby for Lovie"



Lindsay O'Donovan with children at One Home, Many Hopes in Kenya last year, an experience that inspired the idea for the "Lullabies for Love" CD.

– featuring O'Donovan accompanied by Shannon Heaton, Hanneke Cassel, and Ariel Friedman – and "One Home" by Noel Paul Stookey, part of the leg-

endary 1960s trio Peter, Paul and Mary.

Lindsay, Aoife, and Fionnuala O'Donovan will be joined by Clancy, Heaton, Falls, Cassel

and several other of the album's contributors at a CD release concert on May 15 at 4:30 p.m. in Harvard Square's Club Passim. All proceeds from the event

Release concert
on May 15
at Club Passim

will go to One Home Many Hopes.

The experience of putting together the CD (produced by O'Donovan's husband Brian, host of WGBH's "A Celtic Sojourn") and concert has been a rewarding one for O'Donovan, not only from a musical standpoint but because it has helped deepen the strong connection to One Home Many Hopes that she forged during the month she spent there.

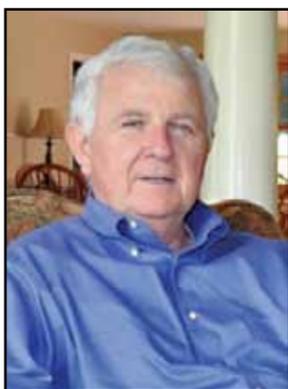
"I've just been overwhelmed by this show of love and support for the children," says O'Donovan. "It's wonderful how one group of friends -- the people I know through music -- has reached out to another group of friends, including Lovie."

"What I found in Kenya was truly a home, made (Continued on page 17)

Judge Dolan Talks Judging

"It is an incredible privilege to be a judge," says the former presiding justice at Dorchester District Court. "To have a job where you go in every day and try to identify truth, which isn't easy. That's your job."

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'The Drowsy Chaperone'

Karen Macdonald and McCaella Donovan star in the Speakeasy Stage Company's production of the musical spoof that's playing from May 6 to June 5 at the Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts.

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Paul Marotta, Perfect Bokeh Photography

Know-Nothings Then and Now

Peter F. Stevens offers his take on an ugly episode in Massachusetts history – the time 160 years ago when the American Party took over the state – and the relevance of that era to today's political turbulence.

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THE EIRE SOCIETY OF BOSTON PRESENTS

The Gold Medal Awards



The Eire Society's Gold Medal is awarded annually to a person who has made significant contributions to benefit society and to their chosen field of expertise. Previous recipients include filmmakers John Ford and John Huston, Irish actresses Siobhan McKenna and Maureen O'Hara, Irish poet Seamus Heaney, U.S. Ambassadors to Ireland William V. Shannon and Jean Kennedy Smith, former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John W. McCormack and President John F. Kennedy.

2011 GOLD MEDAL DINNER & AWARD CEREMONY

*The Eire Society cordially invites you to attend
the seventy-fourth annual Gold Medal Award Dinner honoring
the 2011 Gold Medal Award Recipient*

MARY ROBINSON

Please join us to honor Mary Robinson, who served as the first female President of Ireland, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Founding Member & Chair of the Council of Women World Leaders, Chancellor of University College Dublin, and the 2009 recipient of the United States Presidential Medal of Freedom.

On FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2011

3:00 p.m to 9:00 p.m.

at

The World Trade Center, Harbor View Ball Room
164 Northern Avenue
Boston, MA 02210

A Welcome Reception from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Will Begin the Afternoon Event

The Banquet Dinner and Award Ceremony will
Follow in the Harbor View Ball Room.

Please RSVP with check or money order for
\$150 per guest by May 6, 2011 to

Mrs. Kathleen Lawlor
172 Adams St, Milton MA 02186

ON THE TOWN WITH THE BIR

Dot's Rooney Raises Awareness About Aneurysms

By BILL FORRY
MANAGING EDITOR

When the tenth annual 5k road race and walk to support the Brain Anuerysm Foundation steps off near Humarock beach next month, look for Dorchester's Joe Rooney near the starting line. He'll be the one running around, shouting instructions and making sure that all goes according to plan.

The fact that the 37 year-old is even up and around — let alone managing a charity road race — is a wonder. That Joe, who hails from that famous clan of Rooney brothers (there are ten in all), is now back to work, driving, and building a new life in St. Margaret's parish is nothing short of miraculous.

Ten years ago this month, Rooney was bed-ridden, effectively paralyzed and, yet, lucky to be alive. In January 2001, Rooney was felled by a sudden seizure while visiting family in Vermont. The brain aneusysm which afflicted him came out of nowhere and would have killed 9 out of 10 people.

"I was given a very minimal likelihood to survive," Rooney recalls. "By the way its measured by grade, I had a very serious grade of four. Grade five is death."

Five hours of surgery saved his life. His parents and nine siblings helped him slowly recover — along with teams of caregivers at Mass General and a rehabilitation center in Braintree. It took a few years for him to learn to walk and function normally again. Even learning to talk again was an enormous feat.

"I knew exactly what I wanted to say in my head, but I couldn't spit it out flowingly. Frustration sets in and anxiety sets in. It takes a very long time for the brain to heal and to recover from an injury like that," said Rooney. "I went through tons of therapy: I had no choice with parents and nine brothers on my butt every day."

The Rooney clan also had the help and guidance of the Brain Aneurysm Foundation and its leader, Christine Buckley, who step in to educate and counsel families in their most difficult moments. These days, Rooney not only helps organize the annual road race, but he serves as a volunteer counselor, assisting families who find themselves in a hospital room — facing a seemingly hopeless prognosis.

"My mission is to educate people who are out there about aneurysms. I understand what I went through and there people who are out there are going through the same thing," said Rooney.

The May 29th race and walk — known as the Arterial Challenge — raises money for research and supports the work of the foundation locally. More than 300 participants are expected to take part. Registration is \$25 and includes a t-shirt for all who pre-register by May 13. Participants can also register on the day of the event at 8 a.m. at the town parking lot at 3 River Street, Humarock. For more information on the event and to register, visit bafound.donorpages.com

"One step at a time, that's how I've had to schedule my life over the last ten years," says Rooney. "I'm so lucky to have the family that I have."



Joe Rooney with his nephew Colin Rooney. Joe, 38, nearly died from a brain aneurysm ten years ago.



UMass Boston Honors the Sheridans

Senator Scott Brown, SBLI President and CEO Robert Sheridan, his wife Jean O'Hara Sheridan, and former New England Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi share a laugh at the University of Massachusetts Boston Scholarship Gala Tuesday night. Sheridan was honored with the Chancellor's Medal for Exemplary Leadership. UMass Boston has also set up the Robert and Jean O'Hara Sheridan Scholarship for Boston, Jamaica Plain, and Everett students.



The second annual Irish Hearts for Haiti dance benefit was held on Sunday, April 3. The event — which supported the work of the Friends of the Orphans and The Saint Rock Clinic — was another huge success. More than a thousand people turned out for the all-day event at the Marriott Boston Quincy.

Members Fight Sale of Irish Social Club

Officials with the Irish Social Club in West Roxbury plan to close its doors permanently and sell its Park Street property — a decision that has sparked protests from members and neighbors who want the club to stay open.

News of the sale — first reported by *West Roxbury Patch* in April — stunned many members and patrons, who say that the decision to sell the building was made without their input.

"The members of the club were never notified that the club was in financial trouble. The members were told on a Friday night that the last dance would be Sunday. They were never given a chance to fund raise to keep the club open," said Brendan Adams, one of the activists hoping to block the closure, in an e-mail to the Reporter. "A small group of elected officers made the decision for all the members."

Adams and other advocates say that more should be done to keep the club open before a sale is attempted.

The club boasts a history stretching back to 1945 and has been in its current home since 1978.

Club president Andrew Sheehan told the *Boston Globe* that the club's finances were strained by poor attendance and that the organization could no longer afford to stay in business.

"It's the end of an era," Sheehan told the *Globe*. "But what can you do when you don't have money."

West Roxbury native Jon Cullen started a Facebook page to "Save the Irish Social Club of Boston" that now counts more than 230 members.

"There's a lot of will to keep this place open," says Cullen, a West Roxbury neighbor who is not currently a member of the social club. "There has been a marked decline in membership, but what I've heard from younger folks is that there hasn't been any effort to reach out to younger Irish families. My hope is that that they do have a vote and if its' decided that club will stay open, there'll be a rush to join the club and have some influence on its future."

"It's a great location," adds Cullen. "It's prime property and it could be a great venue for lots of different things, but I also hope it keeps its Irish flavor."

Cullen says that advocates for the club have drawn some hope from the work of local political leaders — Rep. Ed Coppinger and City Councillor Matt O'Malley — who have recently spoken out on the issue.

"It's a great club," said City Councillor Matt O'Malley. "It's a private club and we understand if it's not sustainable, but I think there's a real appetite among the younger generation to keep this going. There



are ways to engage the community and I've tried to impress on the leadership the importance of having a meeting with the full membership."

-Bill Forry

Publisher's Notebook

When the Words Make a Difference

By ED FORRY

For those lingering lost souls who struggle accepting that the American people voted to elect Barack Obama as their president, there were a few public utterances made within a few short days this spring that speak volumes about political discourse in our great country.



Ed Forry

While his political opponents wasted much time and energy to distract our president from doing his job, Obama revealed the true depths of his extraordinary leadership skills and political acumen.

At this writing, it's hard to believe that just days ago, the chief media story was a firestorm over whether the president was born in the United States. Then, on May Day 2011, the world learned that even as the White

House stooped to respond to the baseless canards thrown around by one D. Trump, our president was in the midst of authorizing an inspired military action that would take out the country's Public Enemy No. 1.

Consider these public comments, uttered just four days apart:

"Today, I'm very proud of myself because I've accomplished something that nobody else has been able to accomplish... I am really honored, frankly, to have played such a big role in hopefully getting rid of this (the birther) issue."

— Donald Trump, April 27

"Tonight, I can report to the American people and to the world that the United States has conducted an operation that killed Osama bin Laden, the leader of Al Qaeda, and a terrorist who's responsible for the murder of thousands of innocent men, women, and children."

— President Obama, May 1

The "birther issue" was a sad and sorry spectacle that played out on national TV one morning in late April. There was blowhard businessman Trump on a tarmac in New Hampshire, unbending himself of a whole stream of self-important gibberish while national cable channels transmitted his vacuities around the globe.

The scene took place while the TVs waited to bring up the president at the White House. He had just posted online his "long form" birth certificate, proving his birth in Hawaii on August 4, 1961, and putting the lie once and for all to the so-called "birthers," who have long fostered fiction about his legitimacy as president.

"Over the last two and a half years, I have watched with bemusement," the president said that day. "I've been puzzled by the degree to which this thing just kept on going." Mr. Obama said there would be a "segment of people for which, no matter what we put out, this issue will not be put to rest." But he said that he was "speaking to the vast majority of the American people as well as to the press. We do not have time for this kind of silliness. We're not going to be able to solve our problems if we get distracted by sideshows and carnival barkers."

Trump's P.T. Barnum act served as a more-than-willing counterpoint to Obama's sensible, statesman-like approach. After all, for Trump, the bottom line was that he soak up as much free media as possible. All the better to boost TV ratings, no matter what the cost to the nation's prestige.

"I know how to make money — I've always known how to make money," Trump said. "This country is broke."

This country is indeed broken in more ways than one when its commander-in-chief has to interrupt his day to answer the basest of charges from the likes of Trump.

But Mr. Obama refused to be distracted by such inconsequential nonsense. "Thanks be to God," as my mother would say, that we have such a good, honorable, and decent man in the White House.

"And finally, last week, I determined that we had enough intelligence to take action, and I authorized an operation to get Osama bin Laden and bring him to justice. Today, at my direction, the United States launched a targeted operation against that compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan. A small team of Americans carried out the operation with extraordinary courage and capability. No Americans were harmed. They took care to avoid civilian casualties. After a firefight, they killed Osama bin Laden and took custody of his body."

— Barack Obama, May 1

Commentary

No Relaxing in Northern Ireland; Trouble Continues to Haunt Region

By JOE LEARY
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

After nearly ninety years, so many deaths, and so much anger and sorrow, the tragic partitioning of Ireland in 1922 and the violence it created remain the chief causes of deep community hostility across Northern Ireland.



Joe Leary

For the casual visitor, the tension is not so apparent, but at night, otherwise healthy communities, both Catholic and Protestant, live behind 12- to 30-foot high walls to protect themselves from the other side. Fear rules the streets after dark, especially in areas where the two communities live close to each other. There are now 140 of these walls, perhaps as many as 60 more than was the case before the

"Good Friday" Peace agreement was signed. The walls are encouraged and paid for by a Government anxious to keep peace regardless of the cost. Residents welcome the walls for the feeling of security they provide.

In 2009, two British soldiers were killed by sniper fire as they went to accept delivery of their weekend pizza on a Friday evening; a few days' later, a Catholic policeman, father of four, was assassinated with a bullet to the head at close range.

The latest victim, a recently qualified 25-year-old Catholic policeman named Ronan Kerr, was killed by a bomb placed in his car on the afternoon of April 2 by a new group of thugs calling for a return to a United Ireland — a cause sometimes used by men and women caring more about power than about Ireland.

Both Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness, the leaders of Sinn Fein and no strangers to violent solutions themselves, intensely condemned the actions of the new fringe group. The way forward is through constitutional government, not the killing of our own people, McGuinness said in his speech in Derry at Easter. In fact, leaders from throughout Ireland and England condemned the violence. Still these fringe groups persist.

Off the Bench

Blessed 'Bongo' — Man, Priest, Teacher

By JAMES W. DOLAN
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

This is the season of acceptances and rejections when high school seniors experience the joy of victory or the agony of defeat when the dreaded envelopes arrive.



James W. Dolan

My oldest grandchild, a senior at BC High, applied to about 10 colleges and, unlike me, got into most of them. It looks like he will be studying engineering at Notre Dame next year.

A member of the National Honor Society, he invited me to his induction last year. After the ceremony, he asked if I had been a member. I smiled and said I

don't think they had such an organization when I was at BC High; at least I never heard of it.

The truth be told I had about as much chance of getting into the National Honor Society as Father Frank Scannell, our beloved senior home room teacher, had of being pope.

Fr. Scannell always got the rascals in the "How did we manage to graduate?" section. He was the probably the only one with the patience and good humor to put up with us.

I will always remember that solemn face breaking into a smile at someone's antics in the classroom, and the chorus of "We got him going" that always provoked a laugh. A kind and gentle priest, he was not cut out to be a disciplinarian.

He acquired the nickname "Bongo" from his students, the product of his many years as a missionary in Jamaica. When he started to smile, the entire class began to softly sing Jamaica Farewell: "Down the way where the nights are gay and the sun shines daily on the mountaintops ..."

The smartest kid in the section was Louie White, the only African American in the class. Now deceased, he went on to have a distinguished career as a lawyer,

It is noteworthy that all of these killings have taken place outside of Belfast in the interior of Northern Ireland.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) issued a warning that the "Dissidents" (the name given these small groups that have defied the people's vote on the Good Friday agreement) were planning to kill more police during the following weeks. The PSNI asked all citizens to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity they see.

Less than a week after the warning was issued, a 500-pound bomb was found in a truck under a bridge in Newry, just over the border from the Republic. There is much confusion as to how the bomb was found, why it was left there, and where it was headed. It could have been revealed by an unnamed police informant; it could have been an accidental discovery (unlikely), or the Garda in the South may have been watching the vehicle. In any case, if it had been detonated in a crowded area, the bomb would have caused horrendous death and destruction.

Just imagine the world's reaction to another Omagh type bomb in Northern Ireland where 29 people were killed and 220 injured. That there are men and women in Ireland who would even assemble such a device should set the peace process back and question current government.

One of the most hate-filled rivalries in sports is the one between Scotland's Celtic and Rangers soccer teams. The Celtics are the Catholic team and the Rangers are the Protestant team and the fan bases are far more radical than those of the Yankees and the Red Sox. The Celtics and Rangers are not just two teams; they are complete cradle-to-grave institutions with programs for children and young men and women. Last week, just before their big game, Neil Lennon, the coach of the Celtics, and two high profile Celtic supporters received parcel bombs in the mail. The three packages were intercepted before any damage could take place, but according to the Glasgow police, all could have caused "real harm."

Sectarian cheering including songs and chanting are common at Celtic and Ranger matches. This is Scotland not Ireland, but in Belfast don't get caught wearing a Celtic jersey in a Protestant area or vice versa. It would not be seen as a peace gesture. There were several other instances of potential violence, all in April that could be listed here.

The sad conclusion may be that it is much too early to become complacent about Northern Ireland.

later changing his name to Salim Shakour. I once asked him if he was still a Catholic. He replied that he was but the name change was good for business.

When Father Scannell needed the right answer, he could always call on Louie, a class act. If there was anyone in our section in the National Honor Society, it was him.

The rest of the class was made of misfits, most of whom had managed to become seniors after time spent in summer school. But, they were a delightful group of guys and some of the funniest fellows I ever met.

As seniors, the pressure was off and we were likely to graduate. With his "easy-rider" reputation, we knew Father Scannell would see to it. His classroom was fun; you never knew when someone would say or do something that would cause "Bongo" to smile.

I remember one class when Charlie Kelly, a St. Gregory's graduate and outstanding football player at the high school, fell asleep. Seeing this, Father Scannell called on him. The fellow sitting behind nudged Charlie and he woke up.

Realizing he had been called upon, Charlie got to his feet, not having a clue as to what question was asked. He looked desperately for a lifeline.

Someone near him whispered, "a stitch in time saves nine. Charlie's eyes lit up and in a commanding voice, he said, "a stitch in time saves nine." That having nothing to do with the question, the whole class, including "Bongo," broke up.

Unlike my grandson, I was spared having to make choices between colleges. The only one that accepted me was Boston College. Back then, if you graduated from BC High, you were virtually assured admission to BC.

I remember my high school experience with great affection. For me, it was more important than college. The combination of discipline, hard work, dedicated teachers, few distractions (no girls), and great classmates was what I needed. I appreciate it more now than I did then.

To the late Father Frank "Bongo" Scannell from all the boys he taught over the years: a thank you. Your kind and gentle spirit will not be forgotten. May you rest near a tropical beach, listening to the waves as the gentle trade winds blow onshore.

James W. Dolan, BC High Class of 1956, is a retired Dorchester District Court judge who now practices law.



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It was a Bitter Cup of Tea Then — and the Same is True Today

I'm begging anyone in these parts with green bloodlines to please put down the "tea." Every time anyone in or around Boston, or the rest of Massachusetts, imbibes the Tea Party brew, a historical fog envelops him or her. The lessons of the past evaporate, the concoction's residue a soggy, sorry blend of simplistic bromides, cultural, racial, and ethnic epithets, and distortion of the past.

What's old is new — but your ancestors, who left behind the old sod in search of something better, would recognize and recoil from today's Tea Party. In all likelihood they would let you have a proverbial piece of their mind if you are drinking from this fetid cup. They would remind you that in their day, a band of "real Americans" bellowed, "I want my country back!" They would remind you of the coffin ships that carried them from famine-wracked Ireland, of the "Irish Need Not Apply" signs they encountered, and of worse. In their day, the 1840s and 1850s, it was the Tea Party's antecedent — the Nativists — who infected the local and national landscape, a hate-filled party that not only appeared locally and nationwide, but also ruled Massachusetts and other regions politically for a few years. They called themselves the "Know-Nothings."

What they knew all too well was that they loathed anything Irish, anything Catholic, any immigrant, anything they deemed "un-American." They proclaimed that they needed to save the nation from going broke to pay for "Paddy and Bridget," who were arriving in unprecedented waves. In short, the Nativists "wanted their country back." Sound familiar?

The Tea Party's predecessor was attractive to many men in and around Boston, and in the spring of 1854, they carried elections in Boston, Salem, and other cities. With the fall Massachusetts legislative and gubernatorial races looming, the Know Nothings had their collective eye on higher office, from which they could enact laws targeting foreigners and Catholics. Across the nation, the movement's ranks had swelled to over a million by 1854, their confidence leading them to anoint themselves the "American Party." They always invoked the patriots of the American Revolution — the real Americans. Again, sound familiar?

We hear today's Tea Partiers similarly evoking the heroes of the Revolution, anointing themselves as the modern incarnations of the men who so loathed "taxation without representation" that they dumped British tea into Boston Harbor. They identify with the "shot heard round the world" in April 1775 — even as their pinup Congresswoman, Michelle Bachman, crows that the legendary shot sounded above the green in Concord, *New Hampshire*. For anyone who needs reminding about the real Tea Party, not the present-day band, please pick up a copy of the great historian Jill Lepore's *The Whites of Their Eyes: The Tea Party's Revolution and the Battle over American History*. It was not simply about taxes.

But back to the Boston Irish. The immigrants of the 1840s and 1850s were subjected to similar distortions about the Revolution, the Founding Fathers, and the new nation's "Judeo-Christian" principles. Anyone who was not a native-born, Anglo-Protestant was not a real American, but, rather, the outsider, the other. We hear that the Tea Party is about nothing more or less than America's skyrocketing debt and taxation. Our Irish ancestors would not be fooled. The words "I want my country back" would reveal the faces of



The American Party (aka The Know-Nothings) made clear where it stood in this credo published in the Library of Congress document

many Tea Partiers for what they are. This is not to say that there aren't many of them who honestly believe that tax, debt, and policy issues drive the movement. The nation's fiscal woes worry me, too. However, at Tea Party gatherings, the placards and portrayals of the "other" who sits in the White House cannot be dismissed as merely the "lunatic fringe." While our Boston Irish ancestors and all African-Americans obviously have had a troubled history, the Irish of the mid-nineteenth century in Massachusetts were most certainly "the other."

In the 1854 gubernatorial race, Henry Gardner, a staunch Know-Nothing, won as his party took every Massachusetts Congressional election, all statewide offices, all forty Massachusetts Senate seats, and every Massachusetts House seat save three. Stunned by the rising tide of Nativism in Boston and beyond, Charles Francis Adams wrote in his diary, "The political news is amazing. The new mysterious order has carried every office in the state. ... There has been no revolution so complete since the organization of government." Those same words ring true in regard to the November 2010 elections that swept Tea Partiers into power in the

U.S. House.

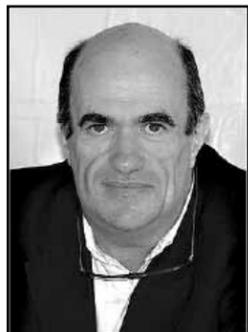
I believe that for the Tea Party, and for our nation's future, there's a historical lesson in the Know Nothing/American Party's fate. The ascendancy of the Know-Nothings proved mercurial. In 1856, the American Party ran Millard Fillmore in the presidential election. While many Boston voters likely cast their ballots for the former president, he won but one state, Maryland. The onset of the Civil War would shove the Know-Nothings into the backwaters of history. While prejudice toward immigrants would endure, the Boston Irish had been galvanized by what the Know-Nothings had done: Seize power through the ballot box. The immigrants proved far better at holding on to that clout than had the nativist bigots. Which is why today's Boston Irish should think long and hard and remember their own families' history before sipping the tea. As countless adages preach, we ignore the past at our peril. Distorting and oversimplifying the past carries similar danger.

Peter F. Stevens is a member of the BIR staff.

Toibin Tip on Writing at BC Forum: 'One Detail Should Get You Started'

BY PATRICK GALLAGHER
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

For award-winning Irish author Colm Toibin, writing is often about trying to distract readers from a story's true destination, only to catch them off-guard when it is finally revealed.



Colm Toibin

Toibin did just that last month at a reading before a packed Boston College auditorium, transporting his audience to the world created by his stories.

For the better part of two hours, Toibin had the members of the audience listening intently as he read from his story *Two Women*, a tale about a domineering set designer who is abruptly reminded of a past lover as she runs into a woman whom she never expected to meet.

The renowned author of *Brooklyn*, *The Master*, and *The Blackwater Lightship*, among other works, Toibin captivated his listeners with his decidedly Irish prose style and his bright, animated wit, drawing the

occasional chuckle or reaction from a particularly intriguing passage.

Toibin laid out the origins of *Two Women*, which stretched all the way back to when he was 16 and first saw the work of Samuel Beckett. "It was sour, it was hilarious, it was meaningless," Toibin said of seeing Beckett's work acted out for the first time. "That was my introduction to Samuel Beckett, but it was also my introduction to that sort of acting."

At the time, an Irish actor by the name of Jack MacGowran played one of the lead roles in the Beckett production. Years later, when Toibin overheard MacGowran's widow speaking about her late husband, he was struck with the idea for *Two Women*, which was published this past January along with a number of Toibin's other short stories in his book, *The Empty Family: Stories*.

"It's a funny process," Toibin said of turning a singular idea into a story. All it takes, he said, might be one abstract detail, one random event, or in this case, one snippet of a conversation.

"One detail should be enough for you," he concluded.

For Toibin, the most important thing when writing is first to be able to grasp onto an emotion, and then "you turn it into something that you think will

interest the reader."

In response to a questioner asking if he ever became caught up emotionally in a plot, Toibin said, "The emotion is all mine. All I'm trying to do is communicate that to the reader in a way that is interesting. It's there for me as I'm working and it's going to emerge in the story."

Asked how he first started writing *Two Women*, Toibin said that before he even sat down to outline the work, he would go around telling the story of MacGowran's widow to friends of his.

"What happened was, I found myself telling people the story [prior to writing it]. What I did then was I worked on it over a long period. I wanted that last part to creep up on you."

Toibin's appearance was sponsored by the Irish Studies Department at Boston College as a part of its Irish Writers Series. Prior to launching into his reading, Toibin commended the department for keeping alive the bond between the university and Irish writing.

"The connection that exists now — a real connection between Boston College and Irish writing — it's a very important connection and it matters enormously to us writers," he said.

Profile

For James Dolan, Judging Let Him See Up Close How Life Played Out for Real

BY GREG O'BRIEN
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

A local superman of sorts, James W. Dolan has pursued truth, justice, and the American Way for most his adult life. But there's a little of a Tom Cruise character in him, and, for that matter, in all of us, defined in the compelling courtroom moment in the classic movie *A Few Good Men* when Jack Nicholson as the crusty Col. Nathan R. Jessep turned to Cruise in the role of prosecutor Lieutenant JG Daniel Kaffee, and barked, "You can't handle the truth!"

Maybe none of us can, at least when defined on our own terms, concedes Dolan, former First Justice of the Dorchester District Court. "It's the enduring pursuit of truth and justice that distinguishes an individual in life," he observed in a recent interview at his unassuming Dorchester law office that overlooks the clatter of the Red Line and houses Dolan Connly, a full-service firm featuring this veteran judge, gifted mediator, and diligent arbitrator.

"How does one account for the fundamental flaw in human nature that makes us incapable of perfection?" he wrote 11 years ago in a *Boston Globe* commentary upon his retirement after 26 years as a Dorchester District Court judge and acting First Justice of the Lynn, West Roxbury, Roxbury, and New Bedford district courts. "It has been said that capitalism and democracy are not visions of man's perfection but of his imperfections. That is why they work. The same can be said of our system of justice. It acknowledges what is self-evident—humanity is flawed. Despite our meticulously crafted and carefully balanced efforts to adapt a justice system to the human condition, we must recognize its weaknesses. We struggle with our limited capacity to find the truth and do justice. The pursuit of truth and justice is not a sporting event or a board game despite the existence of winners and losers. The system works best when the right person wins, and it fails when the wrong person loses."

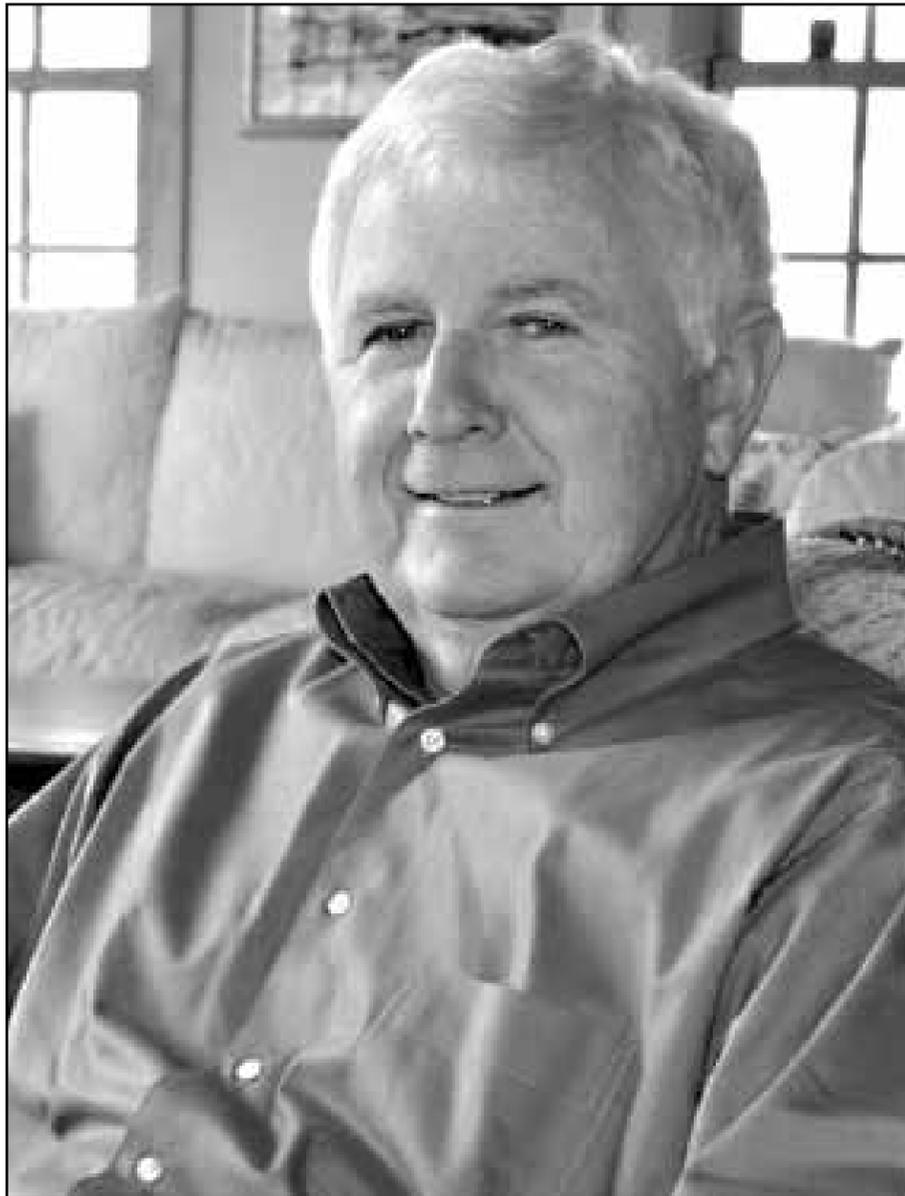
The journey for Dolan began back in grammar school in Dorchester where he attended St. Mark's, St. Matthews's, and St. Gregory's as the family moved to different parishes. Sister Rose Paula caught his attention in the third grade at St. Mark's with her comments about fundamental unfairness and the lack of accountability in life. "There, but the grace of God, go I," she taught, forever stressing "a final day of reckoning before God."

The self-effacing Dolan, whose glib nature often conceals an introspective man, has been preparing ever since.

Asked what's most important to him now in life, he replies without hesitation, "Dying gracefully!"

Now you're getting the point.

A father of five, grandfather of nine, and the dutiful husband for 49 years of Joan (Sullivan), the Milton resident views the life around him—and in years



James W. Dolan on judging: "The job is to try to do justice to the extent one can within the limitations of imperfection."

past, the drama of the courtroom—far more importantly than his own. "I remember my days at the courthouse and looking up at the rows of framed black and white photos of retired Dorchester District Court judges, sepia in tone, and thinking that I never wanted to be remembered as that," he says. "Most judges, I suppose, would love to have their pictures hanging in a courthouse. I had no interest in it. You do your job and move on."

Dolan's job, as he saw it, was to take a "transformational view" in the courtroom. "It is an incredible privilege to be a judge," he says of his years on the bench, adjudicating mostly criminal cases, many of them tragic. "To have a job where you go in every day and try to identify truth, which isn't easy. That's your job—try to do justice to the extent one can within the limitations of imperfection. That's a privilege to see life played out every day,

real life, and you have the opportunity to reach out and touch it, affecting someone, and hopefully for the good."

Dolan had reached the callow age of 33 when he was first appointed to the court on Washington Street after a successful tenure at the State House as Legislative Counsel to the Massachusetts Bar Association, and he wasn't sure if he was up to the task. Briefly on the job, he spoke with seasoned Justice Paul King about his youthful hesitation. King looked at him and instantly replied, "Beats practicing law!"

Dolan was sold. The rest is judicial history.

But there was a time when Dolan thought he might want to be a physician, following in the footsteps of his late father, the venerable Dr. Ralph Dolan, a Dorchester general practitioner for 50 years, the old school type with a black bag who made house calls. The judge's grandfather was the founder of Dolan's Funeral Home operation in Fields Corner, now located in Lower Mills and East Milton and run by his cousins Craig and Paul Dolan.

"I wanted to be a doctor," Dolan recalls, "But I just didn't think I had the skill."

Born on Gallivan Boulevard and schooled in street smarts at the hand of his mother, Mary Ward, a first generation Irishwoman from Sligo, Dolan, after graduating from Boston College High School and Boston College with a degree in English, took up the law. While his dad was easy going, "unflappable," as he says, Dolan's mother was a disciplinarian with a purpose that she instilled in her five children. There must be a mission in life, she counseled. By his own admission, Dolan as a youth was reaching for the handle on his life; he had an undistinguished career in sandlot sports and schoolwork early on.

"As in most Irish families, being the oldest, I was the target," he recalls. "If anyone else did anything wrong, it was my bad example."

So when it became time to choose a career, his pragmatic mother pointed him on a parallel track with his father.

"Had I been good in math and science, I would have been a doctor," Dolan says. "My dad was a guy you always wanted to please, and I think he would have been happy if I had gone into medicine."

Left-brain, right-brain, the two aren't easily transferable on the family tree, but Dolan was richly blessed with creative talents that his mother instinctively drew on. "My mother suggested that I go into law, noting that lawyers and judges were interested in truth and justice. I thought it was an appealing argument."

After law school and working as an attorney with the Boston Legal Assistance Project, managing the South Boston office during President Johnson's War on Poverty, Dolan became a State House lobbyist in 1970 for the Massachusetts Bar Association, rubbing shoulders with Beacon Hill's political movers. When an opening developed five years later on the Dorchester District Court bench, Dolan, a Democrat and a compromise candidate at the time, was appointed to the bench by Republican Governor Frank Sargent.

Ultimately, Dolan settled in with the ease of a gavel. His years on the court shaped and refined him in ways he had never imagined would be the case. Looking back now at 72, he has become nostalgic about life and where society is heading these days. "We've made strides over the years in areas like civil rights and gay rights," he says, "and we should be proud of that. But something has been lost in the process of progress. I have this theory that for everything we term today as progress, there's an equal and opposite problem it creates—it's a law of cultural physics, I suppose, action and reaction. We live at such a fast pace with cellphone, Facebook, Twitter and the like. Constant chatter, but often nothing of significance. There's no time for silence, no time for reflection. We're always in the moment, driven by the spin of the day."

He pauses for a minute, then looks up at an observer as if he were about to make a comment, wise yet reflective of his age. His dad probably said the same thing, and it was just as true then. "I tend to think people of my generation were better grounded," he says. "Life was a lot easier, simpler, and safer."

Dolan today is grounded in his wife, his children (four daughters and a son), and his grandchildren. He's blessed, he says, that they live nearby. Many years ago, in true Irish form after four daughters, he longed for a son. His wife told him that if he ran in the Boston Marathon, she'd conceive a boy. He did, and she did. Individuals of their word, it pretty much sums up close to a half century of marriage.

With family, friends, and colleagues still cheering him on, Dolan goes about his legal work with partner and son-in-law Greg Connly with the same focus and dispatch as demonstrated on the court. In a November 2000 letter, Margaret Marshall, then Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, wrote to Dolan, "You have been exemplary in serving so long and faithfully in some of the busiest courts. You have shown us all that efficiency in the management of the court's business need not be at the expense of fairness to those who appear before you, or with whom you work every day."

Dolan still ponders that day of reckoning with the Lord; it drives his existence. He points to a copy of the *Globe* commentary he wrote years ago that was headlined "Confessions Of A Judge." The philosophy applies uniformly to him today.

Without belief in a day of reckoning, "it would be difficult to participate in the [legal] process," he writes. "Without belief in ultimate 'absolute justice,' I would see myself simply as an instrument of life's imperfections and its unfairness. For me it is a comforting belief and, yes, even a necessary one. Some might call it superstition, myth, or a crutch. I prefer to call it faith."

Greg O'Brien is editor and president of *Stony Brook Group*, a publishing and political consulting company based in Brewster on Cape Cod.

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Boston Irish Reporter's Here & There

By **BILL O'DONNELL**

Breakaways/Dissidents Buoyed By IRA Veterans



Bill O'Donnell

The rules of engagement and the identity of those leading the anti-government assault in the six counties is changing and the threat to peace and stability in the North is presently at a high-water mark. The booby-trapped bomb murder of a Catholic member of the Northern police (PSNI), **Ronan Kerr**, has publicly highlighted what security forces have known for some time: old line, veteran members of the provisional IRA have been defecting from the **Adams-McGuinness** political operation and are now playing an increasingly major role in the campaign of violence.

It had been thought that the leadership and bulk of the republican physical force opposed to the Good Friday Agreement and the presence of British forces in Ireland had been made up of young people, many frustrated by the economy, and some middle and lower ranking Provos who opposed Gerry Adams and Sinn Fein policy. However, the alleged access to decommissioned IRA bomb material, fresh public statements by Kerr's killers claiming responsibility for the police attack, and the assertion by the dissidents that they constitute the reinvigorated Irish Republican Army have created a new and dangerous dynamic.

The belief among dissidents in the North is growing that not only the Omagh police officers, but also other security elements and the British queen herself, who will be visiting Ireland this month, are legitimate targets and will continue to be until "British occupation" is over. All of this, of course, intensifies the threat not only to the island of Ireland but also to the British mainland. And it clearly complicates the situation facing Sinn Fein and Adams. If, as charged, the dissident leadership is now at least partially made up of former senior colleagues of Adams and he has information that could be helpful to tracking those paramilitaries down, things could get dicey and deal a blow to Sinn Fein's all-Ireland political ambitions.

July Kicks Off Irish Festival Time

-- The best way to help Ireland through the bruising economic crisis is to book a family trip to the Green Isle. Once there, tourists will find breathtaking scenery, English-speaking new friends, a warm welcome, and some of the cheapest hotel rates in the EU. Also on tap is a summer full of that unique Gaelic treasure, the Irish festival. The season includes the Galway Arts Festival (July 11-24), the West Cork Literary Festival in Bantry (July 3-9), Punchtown Races in Kildare ((July 8-10), Kinsale Arts Week (July 9-17), Earagal Arts Festival in Donegal (July 9 -24), Kilkenny Arts Festival (Aug. 5-14) and wrapping it up in late summer, the Dublin Horse Shoe at the RDS (Aug.3-7).

Linehan Charges On Bailout Self-Serving

-- The Finance Minister under **Brian Cowen** in the previous Irish government, **Brian Linehan**, is a good and decent man who was faced with the worst task a political leader can face: Going hat in hand to the European Union and the IMF looking for a bailout to avoid national insolvency. Linehan has an impressive political pedigree. His father was a much beloved minister and Taniste under **Charlie Haughey**, and his aunt, **Mary O'Rourke**, a feisty veteran Fianna Fail TD and minister.

Add to all that the fact that Linehan was struggling with an economy that was essentially doomed by a lack of bank regulations and a development boom that fed on greed and instant paper millionaires while at the same time dealing with a diagnosis of cancer, and you have a perfect, personal storm.

Having said that, it remains that Brian Linehan's ill-considered interview in the *Irish Times* (April 23) didn't do anything to rehabilitate his reputation or Fianna Fail's and may well have ended

up making the former minister sound like a whiner and revisionist. Linehan's claim is that the European Central Bank "forced" Ireland into taking a bailout and that the bank's actions hurt Ireland and constituted a "betrayal." This assessment by Linehan flies in the face of mistakes in judgment that he and Taoiseach Brian Cowen made, chief among them the 100 percent guarantee to make whole any and all Irish banks and their bondholders.

Enda Kenny and the Fine Gael-led coalition government sharply dismissed Linehan's claims and others described the Linehan charges as trying to "revise history." EU officials charged Linehan with "trying to shift the blame on to any organization."

Did You Know ... that one of the unsung heroes of the American Civil War, begun 150 years ago last month, is **Father Peter Whelan**, an Irish Catholic priest who was born in 1802 in County Wexford? Ordained in 1830, Father Whelan served as a pastor and chaplain exclusively to Confederate soldiers in Raleigh and other parishes in North Carolina, in Savannah and throughout Georgia, in South Carolina and across the South during the war. Later, as a 62-year-old veteran priest, he was asked and agreed to serve as chaplain at notorious Andersonville Prison and minister to Union Catholic troops who were confined in the Georgia hell hole.

For months Father Whelan was the only humane contact for the starving and dying prisoners there. His only access to many was by crawling on his hands and knees to reach prisoners in shambles, on dirt floors, as they lay dying from malnutrition, heat stroke, disease, and ill-treatment. He heard confessions, administered Last Rites, and provided whatever meager comfort he could to the Union soldiers for long hours every day. Of the 45,000 Union prisoners quartered at Andersonville, 13,000 died.

His kindness to the enemy soldiers over long months became the stuff of legend and he was widely referred to as the "Angel of Andersonville."

Philadelphia Latest Scene of Clerical Abuse Charges --With each passing lawsuit or criminal prosecution of child sexual abuse by priests and religious, I think "maybe this is the end of it; maybe we have reached bottom." But that quiet hope is more often than not defeated by the reality of events in Europe, Ireland, Belgium, and the United States. The latest accusations involving Catholic clergy in Philadelphia have seen charges brought against five people: an active monsignor, two active priests, one former priest and a parochial school teacher. All have been charged with conspiracy, some with rape, and the monsignor with covering up and child endangerment. All are, of course, presumed innocent and await trial.

In looking into the details of the Pennsylvania case, it dawned on me (I later confirmed it), that the monsignor being charged, **William Lynn**, 60, is the highest ranking Catholic clergyman ever accused of a crime in the 30-year-long abuse scandal in the United States. Can we say that again? A monsignor -- not a bishop, archbishop, or cardinal -- is the highest ranking person ever to be officially charged for clerical abuse, enabling abuse, or conspiracy, or any abuse-related crime.

A number of good people, many of them priests or members of the Catholic Church hierarchy, might look to that simple fact when trying to understand or make sense of why so many ordinary Catholics remain angry and alienated. One sad, sorry monsignor is booked, the rest all skated and some have even been richly rewarded with dioceses to run and special Vatican sinecures.

A May to Remember -- There's the good news that former President of Ireland **Mary Robinson** will be the Eire Society of Boston's Gold Medal recipient at the World Trade Center Harbor View Ballroom on Fri., May 13, from 3 to 9 p.m. Mary Robinson is one of the most honored women in the world, the first female Irish President, UN Commissioner for Human Rights, the recipient of the US Medal of Freedom, and a world renowned activist. This is a woman who deserves our attention, a

person whom you will be talking about seeing and listening to for decades to come, something to tell your children and grandchildren about. For tickets (\$150 each) contact **Kathleen Lawlor**, 172 Adams St., Milton, MA 02186, or check the Eire Society web site.

EU Air Travelers Have Rights If Bumped, Delayed --Regulations formulated by the European Parliament (EC 261/2004) mandate that if you are bumped, delayed, or your EU flight is cancelled, you have specific minimum rights that cover you. If your flight is cancelled the airline has to offer you a choice between a refund, a re-routing at the earliest opportunity (with hotel and meals when overnight stays are necessary). If a flight is delayed entailing a wait of more than 2 hours, you are entitled to hotel, meals, etc. if necessary. A delay of 5 hours or more calls for a complete refund and possible flights back to your original departure point.

The regulations call for the airline to provide an explanation of the traveler's options.

If EU airlines are not cooperative, keep a log with dates, time and employee names if possible and remember also to contact EUclaim.com, a Dutch firm that fights airlines on consumers' behalf. It's a new ball game in the air travel world. If it's the airlines fault that you are delayed or bumped or your flight cancelled you have incontestable rights and they have to deal with you fairly and expeditiously.

The Ireland We Know --Irish President **Mary McAleese** met recently with organizers of the Chernobyl Children International to mark the 25th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear plant disaster. The children of Chernobyl have been a special charity close to the heart of the Irish. Since 1986 more than \$120 million has been donated by the Irish people to medical, housing and educational programs in Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine.

After a hiatus of several years the Irish parliament has newly authorized Irish Army personnel to serve again as peacekeepers in the United Nations force in the Middle East. In all a total of 440 soldiers will be ready to patrol and keep the peace in southern Lebanon stretching to the Israeli border, 87 square miles of Hezbollah-controlled territory. The deployment is initially for 12 months and subject to renewal. Since the first deployment of Irish soldiers by the UN as observers to the Middle East in 1958, a total of 47 Irish troops have lost their lives in UN service.

Correction: In this space last time I was taking New York Congressman **Peter King** to task for holding committee hearings that impugned the character and patriotism of Muslims living in the United States. I haven't changed my mind on the opportunistic King but my old pal and mentor on all things New Yorkish (his ties to Columbia & Fordham give him standing) tells me from Belfast that King, who represents Long Island, cannot run for New York mayor (as I suggested) because to run a candidate must be from one of the five boroughs, which Long Island very definitely is not.

Fianna Fail Defeat, Let Me Count The Ways -- If anyone is still baffled by the totality of the defeat at the polls that the Soldiers of Destiny suffered three months ago, consider these last-minute political schemes by Fianna Fail as the party tried desperately to keep loyalists away from the dreaded private sector. The exiting Fianna Fail leadership in its final hours in office appointed almost 200 supporters, councillors, former TDs, etc. who were facing political extinction to whatever state board or agency that had an unfilled seat. The virtual no-show annual fees for serving on these boards is \$8,000 to \$20,000.

Another Fianna Fail gift that keeps on giving is the huge pay raises for semi-state agency directors granted by the departing government. These ranged from hikes for Bord Gais and ESB honchos of \$45,000 and more, and generalized pay raises of 26 percent for other executives. Meanwhile, to balance the books, Cowen-Linehan and company imposed pay cuts on working stiffs across the public and private sector.

But the final, cringe-provoking irony is that Fianna Fail, which, under the

13 years of Ahern-Cowen, never saw a contribution too small or too heavy not to tuck away for safe-keeping until the tent at the Galway races opened for business, has proposed (one hopes with a straight face) a ban on corporate donations to political parties and politicians. You can't make this stuff up!

The Eight Year Itch -- In Ireland every seven or eight years there is a hue and cry about the possibilities of locating and extracting millions of euros worth of oil that enthusiasts claim could change the face and fortune of Ireland. Most often something interferes: low fuel prices, non-commercial small finds, drilling costs, etc. and nothing comes of it.

However, beginning almost immediately in the Celtic Sea, there will be extensive and concerted drilling in what preliminary studies suggest could be a trillion dollars worth of oil. Energy and fuel prices are currently high, which makes drilling a good proposition. This could be the itch Ireland scratches.

RANDOM CLIPPINGS

Bad news for Ireland's senior citizens. Since early in April seniors who have been receiving passports for free now will have to pay for them due to the austerity budget. ... British Prime Minister **David Cameron** is saying that royal succession rules barring Catholics from succeeding to the throne should be canned. David, leave well enough alone. ... The Ulster Unionist Party, which is featured on milk bottle for the lost, is battling the Democratic Unionist Party for unionist votes by using campaign posters showing Chuckle Brothers 2, with McGuinness and **Peter Robinson** featured. ... **Peter Meade**, new to the BRA, is bright, knows Boston and its politics, is well wired, and has a mind of his own. But I'm still betting on Mayor-for-Life **Tom Menino** to make the decisions on Boston development.

St. Patrick's Catholic College in North Belfast awarded its inaugural reconciliation & Peace Award to an Orangeman. ... Two senior members of the Presbyterian Church founded by **Ian Paisley** have accused Unionist political leaders **Peter Robinson** and **Tom Elliot** of "idolatry" for attending a Catholic funeral Mass for slain police officer **Ronan Kerr**. Still a way to go, I guess. ... Pop star **Justin Bieber** has been caught hailing **Charlie Sheen** as "the most influential person in the world." Wow, wouldn't you like a glimpse at Master Bieber's reading list. ... Things are tough all over. The stunning and historic Lahinch Golf Club had to ask members for a 17 percent increase in annual dues following a two-year loss of \$1.3 million. ... Al Jazeera should have a spot on national TV cable network. I watched **Mubarak's** downfall in Egypt on Al Jazeera on the internet. Best, straightest coverage, it says here.

The list of candidates so far for the Irish Presidency is better than the US Republican roster of stretcher cases and crazies, and Fine Gael candidates seem on the early line to have the upper hand given the scope of Enda Kenny's victory. ... London will host the 30th anniversary of the Hunger strikes with a major conference at the Irish Centre on June 18. ... Galway city had such a smashing success as host city for the 2009 Volvo Ocean Race that it will be doing it once again in 2012. Some 600,000 spectators and 50,000 corporate sponsors are hoped for in Galway in July next year. ... It happened back in March when two gay gals became parents of quintts, 2 boys and 3 girls, with some help for Australian **Melissa Keevers**, who was inseminated by a donor from the United States. Her partner is Waterford-born **Rosemary Nolan** and the multiple births beat 60 million to 1 odds. ... This year's ICC Irish Festival is slated for the Cultural Centre grounds on Father's Day weekend, June 17-19. ... Jameson is flying high these days. The Irish whiskey firm is making a \$135 million investment in its east Cork facility. Sales have increased from 450,000 cases in 1989 to over 3 million cases last year.

Finally, following last winter's severe snow and icy weather, Irish insurance companies are paying out close to \$300 million to home and business owners. Combined damage over the past three severe Irish winters since has passed the \$1 billion mark.

IMMIGRATION Q & A

Where to Keep My Green Card?

Q. I just received my US permanent resident card ("green card") in the mail from US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). I was thinking of putting it in a safe deposit box at my bank to make sure I don't lose it. Is this a good idea?

A. Actually, the law requires that you keep your original green card with you at all times. So you should not store it in a safe deposit box or at home. Instead you should make a clear, legible photocopy of the front and back of the green card and store that in a safe place in case the original ever is lost or stolen. Permanent residents should likewise keep the original of their home-country passport in a safe place when not traveling. The same goes for US passports for US citizens. When traveling, everyone should make a photocopy of passports and other necessary immigration-related documents and take them on the trip along with the originals – but packed in a separate place. Copies also should be left with your emergency contact person in the United States. This will make replacement easier if the documents are lost or stolen.

We often receive inquiries about what to do with other documents from USCIS and other authorities. Here is a summary:

People who are not US citizens or permanent US residents should store the original of their passport and the I-94 (or I-94W) Record of Arrival and Departure (the card that US Customs and Border Protection staples into the passport when you enter the country) in a secure place such as a hotel safe or bank safe deposit box. They should make copies of the pages of their passports showing their photograph and identity data, the page with the US entry stamp, any current visa, and the I-94 card.

Thus they would have evidence of their immigration status if they are required to show it to US immigration authorities. In cases where someone needs to present the original of a passport, such as in cashing traveler's checks, great care should be taken not to lose the document.

Permanent residents and others, including naturalized citizens, should retain copies of each and every document ever sent to or received from immigration authorities. Even for cases that are closed, it is always possible that a situation will arise in the future that requires that a copy of a document be produced (such as when a citizen is petitioning for permanent residence for a relative, for example).

These records should be kept wherever other important family documents – birth and marriage certificates, insurance policies, deeds, mortgages, tax records, etc. – are kept. A bank safe deposit box is the best place; a fireproof safe at home would be the next best.

Some of our clients have indicated that they carry their Social Security card with them. That is not a good idea. You should never carry the card, or any other piece of paper showing your Social Security number, on your person. If your wallet or purse is stolen, a thief would be able to use the number to commit identity theft. The same goes for items such as bank account PIN numbers or any other passwords. So you need to memorize your Social Security number in case you need to provide it. (Be careful, by the way, of giving out the number unless you are absolutely sure of the identity of the person requesting it and the legitimate reason for doing so. For example, never give the number to anyone who has called you on the phone, no matter what government agency they may claim to represent.)

With regard to USCIS documents establishing your immigration status, it is not just inconvenient if you should lose them. There are substantial fees and long waiting periods for applications to replace lost green cards, work authorization documents, I-94 cards, and so on. So guard them carefully.

Disclaimer: These articles are published to inform generally, not to advise in individual cases. Areas of law are rapidly changing. US Citizenship and Immigration Services and the US Department of State regularly amend regulations and alter processing and filing procedures. For legal advice seek the assistance of an IIC immigration specialist or an immigration lawyer.



BY DANIELLE OWEN
IIC STAFF

"One in ten Irish teenagers says their parents' drinking affects their own lives in a "hugely negative way" while a quarter of teenagers admit to binge drinking themselves," the *Irish Times* noted recently in a story about a National Children's Consultation survey published in Dec 2010 by the Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children." To add to this context, the American Academy of Child Adolescent Psychiatry estimates that one in five adult Americans lived with an alcoholic while growing up. When I review the stories of the hundreds of people I have been privileged to offer counseling to since 2004, I discovered something equally as startling: in a key sample of clients, who attended six or more sessions in the last two years, 80 percent of this group noted they had been negatively impacted by at least one

of their parents or caregivers alcohol use. That's 4 in 5 clients.

Children living in homes where there is parental substance abuse can find life difficult, unpredictable, and confusing. Sometimes they come to believe that the alcohol or drug abuse is their fault. Teenagers, already dealing with the ups and downs of adolescence, who live with alcohol dependent parent/s might feel anger, sadness, embarrassment, loneliness, helplessness, and a lack of self-esteem. For example, many alcohol dependents behave unpredictably, and kids who grow up around them may spend a lot of energy trying to feel out a parent's mood or guess what he or she wants. Living with a parent or caregiver who has an alcohol problem may mean children and teens feel like they are walking on eggshells to avoid an outburst because the dishes aren't done or the lawn isn't mowed. Some par-

ents with alcohol problems might abuse their children emotionally or physically, while others unwittingly may neglect their children by not providing sufficient care and guidance; usually because the stress in their home distracts them from meeting their children's vital needs.

Although each family is different, children and teens with alcohol dependent parents almost always report feeling alone, unloved, depressed, or burdened by the secret life they lead at home.

However, there is good news: Alcohol dependent parents who quit before their children are teenagers not only improve their own health, but they also lower their child's risk for drug and alcohol abuse. Change is always possible. We are here to help if you have any of the following concerns:

Are you worried about what your own use of alcohol may be having on your



Danielle Owen

family?

Are you in recovery and are trying to rebuild your relationship with your children?

Are you worrying about your children and how they will handle alcohol and drugs in their teen years?

If you have answered yes to anyone of these questions, we can help! We are running an Active Parenting Course over 3 weeks in June 2011. Call Danielle at 617-542-7654, Ext. 14, for more information or to register for the course.

Business Breakfast Invitation: The Irish International Immigrant Center's Business Leaders Breakfast features Congressman Edward Markey as guest speaker on Fri., May 20. A native of Malden, the congressman has represented the Massachusetts 7th district in the United States House of Representatives since 1976 and is dean of the state delegation. He is the ranking member of the Natural Resources Committee, pursuing clean energy jobs and technologies.

For 21 years, the Irish International Immigrant Center, formerly the Irish Immigration Center, has provided high quality program services to an increasingly diverse constituency, developing the ability to meet emerging needs, while strengthening its core services and remaining true to its Irish roots. The IIC has earned an excellent reputation in the community as an advocate, a service provider and a thoughtful voice of issues of immigration and integration. In addition, the IIC is well known for its international programs and outreach, building bridges in Northern Ireland and promoting a global vision of an inclusive society.

Congressman Markey has been a good friend of the Irish International Immigrant Center, and we are fortunate to have him as our Business Leaders Breakfast speaker. Please join us and call 617-542-7654 for more information.

Immigration and Citizenship Services - Free Legal Clinics: The Irish International Immigrant Center provides comprehensive, professional, and confidential legal assistance on immigration, and citizenship issues. We provide specialized individual consultation and immigration case assistance and education. For free assistance with legal questions please attend one of our free weekly legal clinics and meet with our dedicated and experienced immigration attorneys. Please call in advance: 617-542-7654. Clinic dates:

May 3, 4-6 p.m. -- At the Center (100 Franklin St.)

May 9, 6:30 p.m. -- The Green Briar (304 Washington St.) in Brighton

May 25, 6:30 p.m. -- St. Marks Parish Hall (1725 Dorchester Ave.)

Community Counseling and Education -- The IIC's Community Counseling and Education Services offers counseling, free health clinics, job skills workshops, and other resources. Director Danielle Owen, a licensed substance abuse counselor, can assist you if you are experiencing issues such as substance abuse, domestic violence, anxiety, depression, lack of access to healthcare, or homelessness. Contact Danielle, in confidence at 617-542-7654, Ext. 14, or by e-mail at dowen@iicenter.org.

We also offer a range of classes and courses. Call Kielan at Ext. 42 to get more information:

Free Health Screening: May 2, 3-6 p.m. at the IIC with a dentist and a dermatologist.

Free Citizenship Classes: An eight-week course to help you prepare for the exam

Navigating the US College Admission Process: Begins May 10, runs through May 31 from 7 to 9 p.m. This course is designed for Irish immigrants who plan to attend college in the United States. The course will help you access your educational records from Ireland, learn about financial aid, and lots more.

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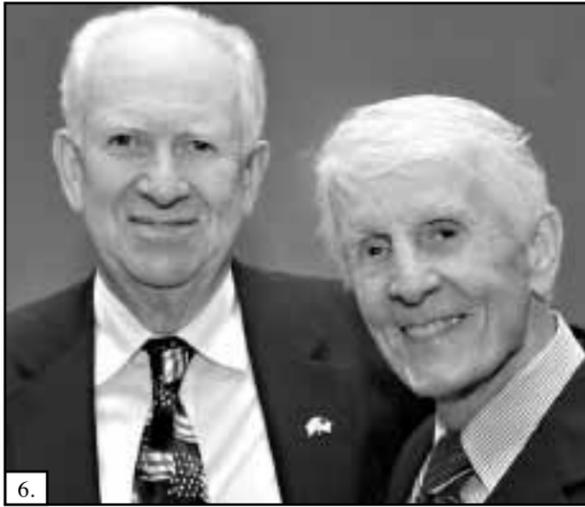
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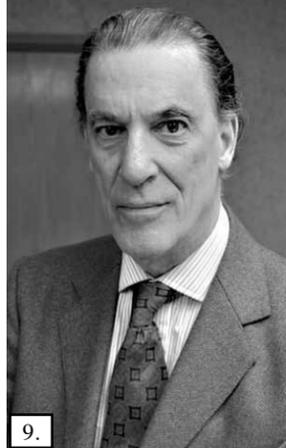
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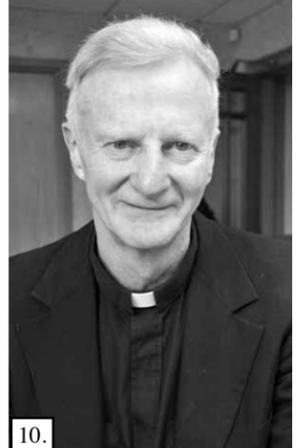
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BRETT'S BOSTON
 By Harry Brett
 Exclusive photos of Boston Irish people & events

Rev. Dan Finn, pastor of St. Mark's parish in Dorchester, was the guest of honor at an annual spring social hosted by the Boston Beara Society on Sunday, April 17 at Florian Hall. The society was formed in 1995 to celebrate the history, art and music of the Beara peninsula in County Cork, Ireland, and the achievements of her people in Ireland and the US.

The event included a buffet dinner, door prizes and dance music with the Andy Healy Band. The honoree is a native of Kanturk, County Cork who moved with his family to Lowell, as a young child. An Archdiocese of Boston priest, he has been a leading figure in Irish and Irish American organizations for four decades.

1.) Fr. Dan Finn; Michelle Dwyer, Quincy; Jim O'Brien, Lowell; Larry Lowenthal, Brookline; Mike Dwyer, Westwood; 2.) Jack Kelly; Fr. Dan Finn; 3.) Bridie and John Sullivan, W. Roxbury; Eileen and Jeff Tarpy, W. Roxbury; Sr. Marguerite Kelly, IPC; Alicia Connors, IPC executive director; 4.) Maureen Lon, Weymouth; 5.) Brian McCarthy, Weymouth; Kathy Sullivan, Dedham; 6.) Dan O'Shea, Roslindale; Bill O'Connell, Duxbury; 7.) Pat Dwyer, So. Boston and Patrick Dwyer, Quincy; 8.) Brian McCarthy, Weymouth; Michael Sherlock, Roslindale; Jim O'Brien, Lowell; Larry Lowenthal, Brookline, Mike Dwyer, Westwood, Michelle Dwyer, Quincy; 9.) Murray Forbes, Beverly Farms; 10.) Fr. Dan Finn; 11.) Mike Dwyer, Westwood; Kathy Sullivan, Dedham; Brian McCarthy, Weymouth; John Harrington, Dorchester; Pat Dwyer, Quincy; Patrick Dwyer, So. Boston; 12.) Andy Healy Band



11.



12.

St. Pat's Brunch Raised Funds for Food Pantry

The grandson of Robert F. Kennedy spoke at Dorchester's fifth annual St. Patrick's Day brunch, held on March 19 at Blessed Mother Teresa Parish Hall on Columbia Road. The brunch is co-chaired by former state Rep. Jim Brett, who is the president of the New England Council, and Larry Ronan, a Savin Hill doctor. The event raised funds for the Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry.



Pauline Wells belts out a tune. of Carney Hospital.

Joseph P. Kennedy III is an assistant district attorney on Cape Cod whose speech on the Massachusetts State House floor a week after the shootings in Arizona and 50 years after his great-uncle John F. Kennedy gave the "City on a Hill" speech raised eyebrows.

He was profiled recently in the Boston Sunday Globe, which noted, "The Kennedy era in politics may be over. But as long as there are tall, well-spoken young Kennedys in Massachusetts, they will be seen as likely candidates." -REPORTER STAFF

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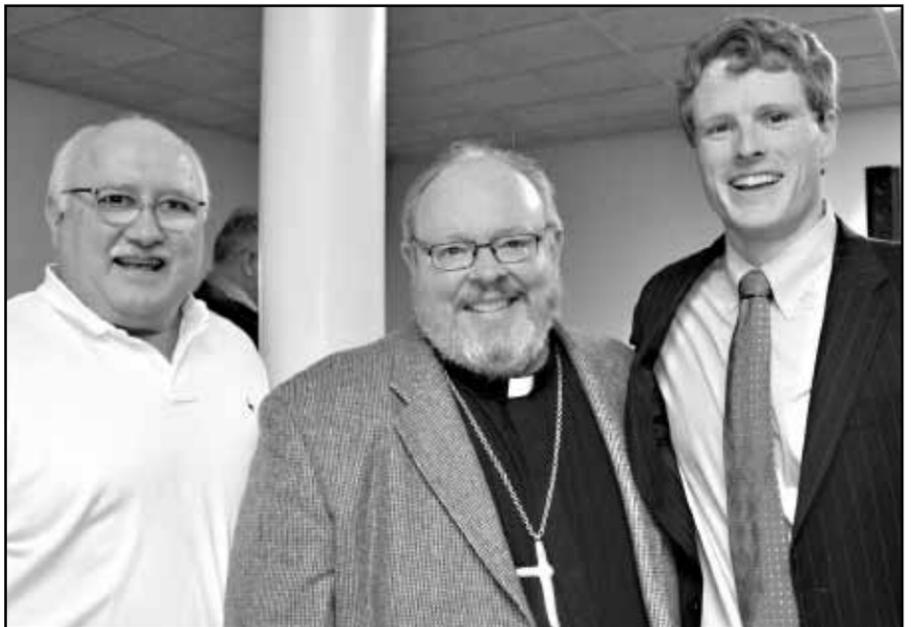
Artists on the CD include the following and a selection of these (still being scheduled) will be at the concert

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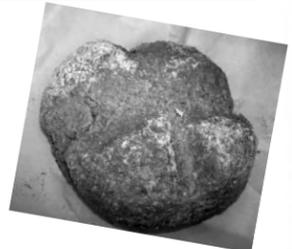
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McCaela Donovan Kicks Up Her Heels in “The Drowsy Chaperone”

By R. J. DONOVAN
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

McCaela Donovan (no relation, by the way) has had a connection to Boston since she was a child and used to come here from upper state New York with her father to soak up local history. Today, the actress has carved out a nice spot for herself in Boston's theater community, having appeared everywhere from New Rep and Commonwealth Shakespeare to the Brandeis Theatre Company, Reagle Music Theatre, and SpeakEasy Stage Company, among others.

She attended Boston College, transferred to Ithaca, then returned to earn a master's in theater education at Emerson. This month she'll receive her Master of Fine Arts in Acting from Brandeis.

At the moment, she's also kicking up her heels playing fictional Broadway star Janet Van De Graaff in “The Drowsy Chaperone” at SpeakEasy Stage. The Tony Award-winning show-within-a-show musical spoof is all about an obsessed musical theater fan who longs to share his favorite show with the audience. When he plays the cast album, the entire show bursts to life in his tiny living room.

We spoke during a break in her day at Brandeis. Here's an edited version of our conversation.

BIR: Your first name is unique. Is there a story there?

MD: Actually I didn't have a name for the first three days I was born. My maiden name is Curran, so I guess I was Baby Girl Curran for three days. My father had a coworker who had a daughter named McCaela and my parents really loved it. They spent a whole day trying to come up with their own spelling of it . . . and they named me right before I left the hospital.

BIR: So you finished a run in the musical “Nine” at SpeakEasy in February and now you're back with

them again in “The Drowsy Chaperone.”

MD: SpeakEasy is an amazing company . . . There's something really special about them and the family that they've created. . . They really respect actors. They really respect what actors do and that makes a huge difference because you feel that . . . I remember going to Boston College and coming in to see “Bat Boy” when they did it at the other Black Box Theater (at the Boston Center for the Arts) – the tiny one before they (moved into) The Calderwood. First of all I love that show, and second, I was like, ‘I love this company and I'd love to work for them someday’ . . . So it's kind of full circle for me.

BIR: You've been very warmly embraced by the Boston theater community over the past few seasons. That has to feel good.

MD: That's so nice of you to say. I just feel so lucky. It's a difficult profession and I think when you can find a community that not only values the work for the sake of the work, but also values the local people who do it – not just people from New York who have New York credits – but really form a sense of a community, that's really rare. And I think we do have that here in Boston. I also think we have audience members and subscribers who love to see familiar faces and love to come back to see specific people, and that's really exciting. I just feel lucky to be part of it.

BIR: You worked in New York for a time. Any life lessons from that experience?

MD: I learned really invaluable things about the business and how to market yourself. I think that's one of my strengths; I hope so any way. Self marketing and knowing myself enough to know where I fit. Basic things. How to dress for an audition and how to get creative with material to audition with. Think-



McCaela Donovan

ing outside the box. It really helps. In New York, if you're lucky, performing is your job. But most likely, auditioning in your job.

BIR: Speaking of New York, tell me about your family. I understand you were very close to your great-grandparents.

MD: I was very lucky that (I had) my father's grandparents – my great-grandparents who passed away at 96 and 99 – for most of my childhood, until I

(Continued on page 15)

A ‘Beanpot’ for Irish Dance? Please Stay Tuned

By SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Is it too soon to call it “The Greenpot”?

Irish dance – rather than hockey – was the focus of a recent local showcase for several dozen students representing Boston area colleges. The event, titled “We Got the Beat,” took place April 2 at Harvard University, featuring Irish dance teams from Harvard, Boston College, Boston University, and Tufts University (a troupe from Massachusetts Institute for Technology also had been scheduled to participate but was unable to appear). Their pieces showcased Irish dance steps and figures, or in some cases incorporated these traditional elements into modern choreography. To cap off the one-and-a-half hour production, performers from the four colleges also invited dancers in the audience to join them on stage for a grand finale.

This was the second such collaboration in as many years, and while it has a ways to go before attaining the status of Boston's storied intercollegiate hockey tournament, participants say the show could be a Beanpot-like tradition in the making. More importantly, they say, the fact that the event involved such a large gathering of students demonstrates the popularity of Irish dance – and underscores Boston's eminence as a

locus for Irish culture.

“Boston has a high concentration of people of Irish heritage, and a lot of dancers as a result, so if any college town was going to have a big Irish dance presence, it makes sense to me that it would be here,” says Claire Schenkel, choreographer for BU's Irish dance team Step About Boston. “I know many dancers in our group who grew up in Massachusetts ran into some old dance friends at ‘We Got the Beat.’ But I think it's wonderful that so many colleges have enough interest to get a group together for something unique.”

Brittany Lewis, president of Boston College Irish Dance, says, “We were surprised at first to find that schools like Tufts or BU had Irish dancing teams, but it makes sense considering how many students are involved with competitive Irish dancing in their youth. College is a great place to enjoy Irish dancing without the competitive aspect, and it's nice to see so many students in the Boston area really having fun with it.”

Alana O'Brien, who is co-president of Harvard Irish Dance, reiterates Lewis's observation. “I think everyone who ever was an Irish dancer continues to identify as one, even if they stopped after elementary or middle school. A lot of us find we miss the dancing, both for itself and for the social



Irish dance groups from Harvard, Boston College, Boston University and Tufts performed at “We Got the Beat.”

Photo courtesy of Harvard College Irish Dancers

aspect which comes with it. So now we have this opportunity to rediscover Irish dance, and it's also a way to make new relationships, or even build on old ones – I found out that I knew one of the BU dancers because we had carpooled to lessons for five years when we were kids!”

As the students note, college Irish dance teams are about exploration rather than competition, and thus feel empowered to add creative twists, often going beyond traditional costumes and musical accompaniment, and incorporating the steps and figures into a larger choreographic context. At



The college Irish dance groups used traditional steps and figures as part of modern choreography.

Photo courtesy of Harvard College Irish Dancers

the April 2 show, for example, Tufts combined stylish modern apparel with the familiar competition wigs and used a recording

of popular singer Beyonce for their performance, while Harvard concocted a short dramatic scene that served as a prologue for

one of their dances. One of BC's signature pieces (although they didn't present it at Harvard) is a salute to Boston's sports teams – the dancers wear Red Sox, Celtics, Patriots, Bruins and BC t-shirts or replica jerseys and dance to the Dropkick Murphys' “Shipping Up to Boston.”

“Some take a more traditional approach, some a more modern, but mostly we're all trying to figure out how to interweave both of those in our dancing,” says Lewis. All have their own identities “and it's always fun to watch what fellow dancers have come up with.”

Since most local collegiate Irish dance teams have substantial numbers – BC alone counts some three dozen members – students say there is every reason to believe they can survive and replace the drop-off from graduation or other attrition. If that's the case, Boston could see an annual reprise of “We Got the Beat.”

“We were encouraged by the turn-out, so hopefully it'll happen next year,” says O'Brien, who is graduating this spring. “Doing some other events together would be fun, too -- like maybe a college ceili. Organizing these kinds of things can be tough, because obviously everyone is focused on their studies and other things going on at their school. But it's very exciting to see how many college kids in Boston love Irish dancing.”

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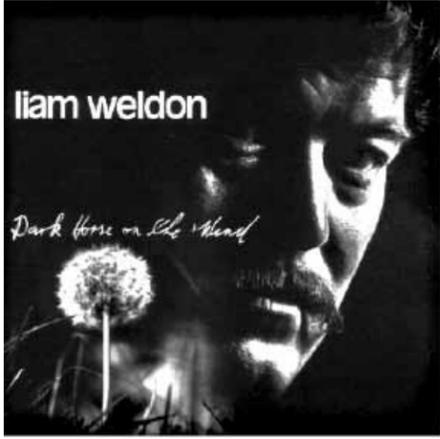
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BIR Music CD REVIEWS

By SEAN SMITH

Liam Weldon, "Dark Horse on the Wind" – There are any number of reasons to cheer the reissue of this justifiably legendary 1975 album, not least because it serves to raise awareness of Liam Weldon (1933-950, surely one of the modern Irish music revival's most fascinating characters).

Weldon was forced to go to work at age 14 when his father died, yet he developed



an extraordinarily literate and lyrical writing style, influenced a great deal by the songs of the traveling people he met (including the families that encamped on his grandmother's property). Their plight – specifically the efforts to force them into urban areas – also helped fuel Weldon's already profound social conscience and his interest in issues of poverty and injustice. He found his way into the nascent 1970s Irish folk music scene, and although poor health kept him from performing regularly, he was a member of 1691, a precursor to the Bothy Band, and considered a mentor and influence for numerous singers.

The album's title track – Weldon's best-known piece – is an apt showcase for all of his qualities. Written on the eve of the 50th anniversary of the 1916 Easter Uprising, the song is an indictment of what Weldon saw as hypocrisy in commemorating this signal event in Irish history amidst blithe, deliberate ignorance of a gathering storm of economic and social problems. It's chilling and, as it turned out, more than a little prophetic of the coming conflict that would wrack Ireland for decades:

In grief and hate our mother land her dragon's teeth has sown. Now the warriors spring from the earth, to maim and kill their own. Oh rise, rise, rise, Dark Horse on the wind, For the one-eyed Balor still reigns king, in our nation of the blind.

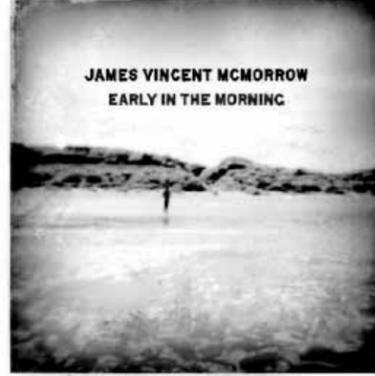
The album's other much-celebrated highlights are "The Blue Tar Road," Weldon's cri de coeur for the travelers and their struggle against attempts to marginalize them (with its memorable line "But the man who died for love/nailed unto a tree/sure wasn't he a traveler the same as you and me"), and "James Connolly," widely acknowledged as the benchmark for the many subsequent renditions of this paean to the 1916 martyr. The latter song is one of only three on the album that feature an accompaniment, with Paddy O'Brien's accordion providing a suitably elegiac backdrop (producer Donal Lunny plays bouzouki on "Via Extasia" and "Wild Croppy Tailor").

"Dark Horse" also includes songs Weldon learned from travelers and traditional singers, rare gems like "Smuggling the Tin," "Wild Croppy Tailor" and "The Town of Castle D'Oliver," as well as the venerable "Barbary Allen." But it's Weldon's own compositions, gritty yet passionate, that ultimately attract one's attention, notably "My Love Is a Well" and "Via Extasia," love songs whose use of metaphors seem derived from traditional form but have a modern feel to them as well. Then there's the album finale, "Jinny Joe," utilizing a Dublin children's phrase for the dandelion's seed parachute to describe fatherhood – sending a child out into the world with as much control

over his destiny as the child's scattering of the jinny joe. All is wistfulness, anxiety, and hope.

Where you will be my blue-eyed son,
Oh, when your daddy's race is run?
When your sire his song has sung
Where will you be my little one?

James Vincent McMorrow, "Early in the Morning" – Dublin singer-



songwriter-guitarist McMorrow has a wispy, high-pitched voice that has invited comparisons to Justin Vernon of indie rockers Bon Iver – if that's a little too obscure a reference, think along the lines of Nick ("Pink Moon") Drake. "Early in the Morning," his debut, was recorded "in a secluded house by the sea," according to the publicity material, with McMorrow handling all the instrumentation and vocals. So there's a kind of Thoreauesque dynamic to this project: solitude, simplicity (well, except for the instruments and recording equipment), serenity, etc.

Similarly, McMorrow writes a lot, and vividly, about nature as an ever-present force – metaphorical or literal – in everyday life, especially when that life is shared (or meant to be shared) with someone:

"Down low, down amongst the thorn rows

Weeds grow, through the lilies and the vine

Birds play, try to find their own way

Soft clay, on your feet and under mine

("If I Had a Boat")

"Sparrow and wolf lay still as the blades of the grass

Like worn weather boots, of colour and size that would last."

("Sparrow and the Wolf")

"They are coming from the woods

Riding horses cloaked in grey

Make their way, to my door

Lay their boots upon my floor."

("From the Woods!!")

"Delicate in grasses, bright and ashen,

breathing sweet a ruby nest

Early in the morning, in the morning,

withered, singing we will rest."

("Early in the Morning, I'll Come Calling")

McMorrow shows himself adept at playing all manner of guitars, keyboards, and rhythm instruments (plus an occasional banjo). It's the more understated, sparsely arranged tracks like "Follow You Down," "From the Woods!!" and the title track that best display his virtues; given the characteristics of his voice, he really needs to be far from the madding crowd.

Brongaene Griffin, "Three Colours Ginger" – You don't have to be a cat fancier to appreciate this first release from Griffin, a mainstay of the Portland, Ore., old-timey and Irish music scene,



but it can't hurt. Griffin has organized traditional and contemporary tunes into sets that, with a few exceptions, play on a feline theme: "Black Cat" includes the traditional tunes "Where's the Cat," "Behind the Bush in the Garden," and "The Cat Rambles to the Child's Saucepan," for instance, while "Calico" comprises harpist Elizabeth Nicholson's "Tail Chasers" and the Peadar O'Riada session favorite "Sport"; and at various points, fiddler Kevin Burke displays his heretofore little known skills as a reader of kitty poetry, essaying the likes of "The Cats of Kilkenny," William Rand's "The Cat of Cats" and, yes, Edward Lear's "The Owl and the Pussycat," which appropriately enough segues into "The Wedding Reel" – yeah, you get the idea.

Griffin's more-than-competent fiddling is aided and abetted by such worthies as Burke, Nicholson, Gerry O'Beirne, Johnny B. Connolly and Jim Chapman. All in all, this CD is very pleasant on the ears and falls well short of being overly cloying or precious, which may seem like damning with faint praise. So how about this: I've been avoiding the overly obvious simile, but it's rather like sitting in a sunbeam with a purring puss on your lap; sure, maybe you should be doing other things that seem more important, but – darn it – you can't help yourself.

(Also, a portion of the profits from the CD sales go to benefit The Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon and Indigo Rescue.

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McCaela Donovan Kicks Up Her Heels

(Continued from page 11)

was in my early twenties, which I think is really rare. They are our main Irish connection. My father's side is very, very strong and proud. My great-grandparents were unbelievable.

BIR: Where were they from?

MD: My great-grandmother was named Delia Ferry. She was from Enniskillen in County Fermanagh, I believe, in the north. And my great-grandfather was named Patrick Curran. He was from County Meath outside of Dublin. They met in America actually, after they came over here. We still own my great-grandfather's farmhouse in County Meath. They lived in Flushing their whole lives – they never got a driver's license or anything like that. They were just really beautiful, simple people and they were so kind to everyone. At my great-grandfather's funeral there were hundreds and hundreds of people.

BIR: And your grand-

parents?

MD: My grandfather on my father's side was also Patrick Curran. He was a very strong participant in Hibernia down on Long Island. He was the Grand Marshall in the St. Patrick's Day Parade three or four times and we used to march in the parade a lot. There were like four generations of us at one point marching together.

BIR: So your current show, "The Drowsy Chaperone," is all about one die-hard musical theater fan's favorite show. Do you have any favorite roles of your own so far?

MD: The role that I played in Reagle's "Into The Woods" was really special. I played Cinderella – I had done that show twice before but had never played Cinderella. Going into it, I didn't expect it to be such a wonderful experience. I was excited about it, but I didn't expect the cast to bond as well as we did. I really enjoyed that.

BIR: Anything else?

MD: I also played Dot in "Sunday In The Park



(Left to right) Karen MacDonald and McCaela Donovan in the SpeakEasy Stage Company production of "The Drowsy Chaperone," playing through June 5 at the Stanford Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts. *Paul Marotta, Perfect Bokeh Photography*

With George" that Scott Edmiston directed. That was here at Brandeis. That

was incredibly special because I had wanted to work with Scott for a long time,

and also because that's one of my two dream roles that I had always wanted to play. To be given that opportunity was so amazing.

BIR: And your other dream role?

MD: Eliza Doolittle in "My Fair Lady."

BIR: Well, you never know what the future might bring.

MD: I know. (Laughing) If it doesn't happen, I'm going to put it on at my house.

"The Drowsy Chaperone," from SpeakEasy Stage Company, May 6 - June 5 at The Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont Street. Tickets: 617-933-8600 or boston-theatrescene.com.

R. J. Donovan is publisher of OnStageBoston.com.

'Celtic Fusion 2011' at Berklee May 3

A free concert featuring some of Greater Boston's finest Irish and Celtic musicians will take place May 3 at the Berklee College of Music.

"Celtic Fusion 2011," which will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the David Friend Recital Hall, 921 Boylston Street, also will include Irish literary readings.

The musical roster reads like a veritable who's-who of accomplished perform-

ers, all of whom live in the Greater Boston area: Oisín McAuley and George Keith (fiddles), Shannon Heaton (flute, vocals), Matt Heaton (guitar, bouzouki), Maeve Gilchrist (harp, vocals), John McGann (mandolin) and Sean Gannon (accordion).

In addition, Boston College English Professor Joseph Nugent, also a member of BC's Irish Studies Program faculty,

will present readings of Irish poetry and selections from James Joyce's *Finnegan's Wake*. Nugent is the organizer for BC's annual "Bloomsday in April" celebration of the life and work of Joyce.

"Celtic Fusion 2011"

is presented by *Fusion Magazine* and Irish & Celtic Studies. For more information, see berklee.edu/events/detail/8196/fusion-irish-edition.

-- SEAN SMITH

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A column of news and updates of the Boston Celtic Music Fest (BCM Fest), which celebrates the Boston area's rich heritage of Irish, Scottish, Cape Breton music and dance with a grassroots, musician-run winter music festival and other events during the year.

— SEAN SMITH

Calling All Performers: BCM Fest is sounding the call for singers, dancers and instrumentalists who play Scottish, Irish, and Cape Breton music in the Boston area to apply for BCM Fest's ninth annual festival, Jan. 6 and 7, 2012. This is your chance to pitch new or existing acts, cross-genre collaborations, participatory and/or family events for BCM Fest 2012. Think outside the box. BCM Fest is a home for the things you've always wanted to try. Just go to bcmfest.com, click on the heading marked "Performers," and download an application.

Old Sound Made New—Sometimes, the best description for traditional music is a variation on a familiar phrase: "I know it when I hear it."

But hearing isn't necessarily believing, as will be evident at the May 9 BCM Fest Celtic Music Monday concert, "Sounds Like Trad (But Actually Isn't)." Local performers including Hannah Sanders, Bob Bradshaw,

and Shannon Heaton will take the Club Passim stage to present songs and tunes that, while they go back only a few years or decades instead of centuries, have a definite connection to the traditions in Celtic music.

Vocalist-guitarist Sanders grew up in a family of English folk singers and performed at numerous concerts and festivals around the UK. Since her arrival in Boston, she has formed a popular duo with Liz Simmons, and the two have begun to make their mark around the Northeast, appearing at Caffe Lena, Headroom Stages, Club Passim and Elysium Arts Folk Club, as well as this year's BCM Fest in January.

Bradshaw is a singer-guitarist from Cork who, although he has spent the past 20 years in the US playing mostly American music (rock, country, bluegrass and Western swing), is always happy to explore his native Irish traditional roots. A graduate of Berklee College of Music, he appeared on the Ron Kavana album "Irish Ways," which also featured such performers as Shane McGowan and Paddy Keenan. He made his BCM Fest debut in January.

Heaton, who performs with her husband Matt and as part of the all-female band Long Time Courting, is firmly rooted in Irish traditional music but has emerged as a masterful writer of songs and tunes. Last year, she released "The Blue Dress," an album of instrumentals that included her compositions as well as traditional and contemporary material.

There are more than a few ways for contemporary songs to resemble traditional ones, says Bradshaw. "You have songs composed in the last 50 years or more that are so established in the folk scene that over time they entered the tradition steadily, surely, and naturally. For example, the work of Ewan MacColl, like 'Dirty

Old Town' and 'Shoals of Herring.'

"I also think of modal songs with ambiguous lyrics suggestive of windswept landscapes and reluctant departures — like 'Farewell, Farewell' by Richard Thompson. Or humorous songs full of wordplay and triple meters that recount great sporting achievements, stolen virtue, skirmishes and ambushes, piety gone awry, or the consequences of excessive drinking. That pretty much relates to anything by Christy Moore."

Some subject matter simply evokes associations with traditional song material, continues Bradshaw: "Horses. The devil. Working in the fields. Orphans. I think of, say, 'Ride On' by Jimmy McCarthy, or Gillian Welch's stuff."

And sometimes it might be a case of the singer as much as the song. "Mark Knopfler, who is familiar to most people as the guitarist with Dire Straits — you know, 'Money for Nothing' — wrote a marvelous song called 'Done with Bonaparte.' Obviously, Napoleon is a figure in a number of traditional songs, but when Niamh Parsons recorded her version she really made Knopfler's composition seem like it belonged in the tradition, too."

Of course, quips Bradshaw, performers like Dolores Keane or Dick Gaughan are in a league by themselves when it comes to the contemporary-traditional crossover. "Any song about anything at all — Japanese anime, rollerblading, tofu, Bill Gates — they sing it and it sounds like something that was collected hundreds of years ago."

Admission for "Sounds Like Trad (But Actually Isn't)," which begins at 8 p.m., is \$12, \$6 for members of Club Passim, WGBH and WUMB. For reservations and other information, see clubpassim.org.

For more information on BCM Fest, see bcmfest.com; you can also sign up for the BCM Fest e-mail list via the website.

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The Magic of Music Delights 32 Girls in Kenya

(Continued from page 1) up of girls who came from challenging circumstances but who are loved and cared for, encouraged and educated in ways that belied the immense -- some would say, insurmountable -- odds. And now everyone at One Home Many Hopes knows there are many, many people out there in the world who care about them."

OHHM provides not only shelter and care for the girls, but also gives them an education and -- perhaps most importantly -- the support and motivation to be agents of change in their community and help end the cycle of poverty and desperation. When O'Donovan heard about the organization and its mission, she was determined to bring them a gift that had enriched her family's life and hoped would do the same for the 32 girls at OHHM: music. "It seems like a small thing, and perhaps in the great scheme, it is," she told Boston Irish Reporter prior to her departure. "But if one kid thinks someone loves them enough to sing and dance with them, talk with them, listen to them, they can carry that with them -- and maybe it will help empower that child to help others."

With support from the All Newton Music School and other donations, O'Donovan made the trek to Kenya, bringing along 25 recorders given by the school and a Yamaha keyboard purchased by her four children. She used the instruments to teach the girls simple tunes and songs, but found she had more students to reckon with than she thought.

"I was struck by the interest on the part of the adult staff in wanting to learn music," she says, "so I spent time teaching them piano and guitar with the hopes that they could pass it along to the kids. Having been trained as a pianist, but not a piano teacher, this was a baptism by fire for me. But somehow everything worked, and by the time I left, the children and staff alike were playing 'Jingle Bells,' 'Jesus Loves Me' and other songs."

When Cassel -- known equally for her verve and spirit as well as her prize-winning fiddle-playing -- joined her for the last week of her visit, "things really took off," says O'Donovan.

"I'll never forget the look on the faces of two toddlers, Jamilla and Junior, as they stood in the doorway watching in amazement as Hanneke played a tune on the fiddle, never having heard this sound before in their lives."

Another highlight was an evening of set dancing, with O'Donovan ac-



Navan is among the performers who donated tracks to the "Lullabies for Love" CD

companying Cassel as she played fiddle and called the dances. "Our friends Diane, Sarah and Ian were leading the girls, who counted out '1, 2, 3, 4! Back, 2, 3, 4!' with wide smiles as they danced the figures."

O'Donovan enjoyed working and playing with all the children at OHHM, but wound up spending time with three particular girls, all around the age of 5, Reheema, Riziki -- and Lovie. "They kind of ran the place, because even though they were small they had big personalities," says O'Donovan with a smile.

One evening, riding the OHHM bus back home after a trip to town, O'Donovan found herself with Lovie on her lap, both of them tired from the day's activities. "She started to doze, and I just began humming to help her fall asleep -- it felt like the most natural thing in the world. I don't know where the tune came from, but it stayed in my head and started to expand. When I got up in the morning I wrote the notes down on a scrap of paper, and there it was: 'Lullaby for Lovie.'"

After an emotional farewell to her friends at OHHM and her return home, one night O'Donovan played her new composition for her husband, and the idea to compile a benefit album of lullabies -- "Lullabies for Love" -- was born. They began contacting singers and musicians they'd come to know over the years and asked them to

donate tracks from their recordings.

"The response was amazing," says O'Donovan. "Aoife Clancy said, 'If it has anything to do with helping children, I'm in.'"

Tracks on the CD include "Queen Maeve's Slumber" (Sheila Falls and Keith Murphy), "When Juniper Sleeps"

(Seamus Egan), "Gartan Mother's Lullaby" (Aoife Clancy), "John of Dreams" (Mick Moloney), "Cradle Song" (Aoife O'Donovan, Jed Wilson, Jake Silver and Lissa Schneckenburger) and "Seothin Seo Ho" (Navan).

For those who cannot attend the one-and-a-half-hour CD release concert (OHHM founder Thomas

Keown plans to be there, and Anthony Mulongo, who first established the orphanage, also hopes to attend), O'Donovan notes that the event will be streamed live via the Internet on Concert Window [concertwindow.com].

"People can have a 'lullaby party' -- invite some friends over, make some hot chocolate, or perhaps

a hot toddy, curl up and watch the show, and donate," she says.

In addition, following the concert Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub & Restaurant in Harvard Square (96 Winthrop St.)

(Continued on page 18)

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Flavin to play 'Tip' Role in Revival of 2008 Play

According to Tip, the original one man play written by Boston's Emmy Award-winning political commentator, Dick Flavin, will return to the Boston stage for four weeks at the Lyric Stage Theatre on Clarendon Street in Boston.

Opening night will be Thurs., June 9, with five weekly performances to follow on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, and Saturday and Sunday matinees through Sunday, July 3. Flavin himself will play the title role of Speaker Thomas P. "Tip"

O'Neill.

"I began writing it ten years ago, in 2001," Flavin said. It was last staged in 2008, in the middle of that year's presidential races, and drew strong reviews. "It was a very successful run, but it got caught up in the economic collapse," Flavin said. "The week we opened, the stock market went down 2,500 points-- that was the week that Obama and McCain stopped their campaigns and went back to Washington to vote.

"I really believe this is the most important work

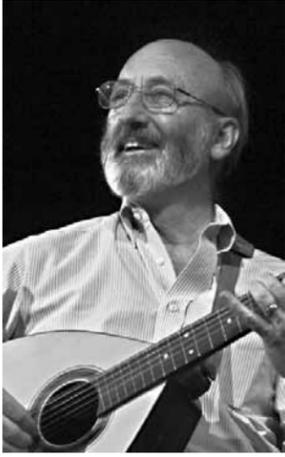
I have ever done," Flavin said.

The play traces the colorful and historically memorable career of former Speaker of the House Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, from his roots in Barry's Corner in Cambridge, to his roles in the Massachusetts House and the United States Congress.

The production is produced by Paul Bogosoian of Belmont, who is also collaborating with Flavin on a new musical project on the life of lyricist Dorothy Fields.



The Magic of Music



Noel Paul Stookey and Karan Casey are among the performers who donated tracks to the "Lullabies for Love" CD



also provides an opportunity to truly appreciate the lullaby as a piece of music with its own special virtues. "There's a kind of a misperception about lullabies. People tend to view them as geared for children. But they're good for all of us: They help us slow down and reflect, they put us in a calm, peaceful frame of mind, and they help us sleep. And in today's world, isn't peace and relaxation something we need?"

To reserve tickets for the May 15 show, which are \$40 apiece, go to passim.org and click on the calendar of events, or call 617-492-7679.

For information about *One Home Many Hopes*, and the "Lullabies for Love" CD, see ohmh.org.

(Continued from page 17) will host an open reception with cash bar, offering an opportunity to meet the performers as well as

representatives from the orphanage.

O'Donovan says the CD not only represents a means to help others, but



Michael Durant (at right in picture) of the NYAC Rugby Club with his brother Brian of the Boston Irish Wolfhounds following their match this spring. Both are residents of Savin Hill and both graduates of BC High. Michael is currently attending Fordham University where he is a freshman. He has been selected to play for the USA Under 20 rugby team in the Junior World Cup Tournament in Tbilisi, Georgia this late May and June. The USA will face Samoa, Russia and Uruguay in their pool. Michael comes from a long line of rugby players. In addition to his brother, his mother, father, uncle, both sisters and his late grandfather have all played rugby.



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A mother giraffe kisses her baby at the Fota Wildlife Park in Co. Cork and wishes all a very happy Mother's Day. A Baringo giraffe from the savannas of Africa lives happily at the Fota Wildlife Park in Co. Cork. This odd-looking creature is a Mara, an Argentinian guinea pig with the body form of a hare, and wanders freely all around the Fota Wildlife Park in Co. Cork. Mara are monogamous and females produce one to three young that may be cared for by the Mara community in a creche. An ostrich is among a series of birds and animals that live together and wander the tropical savannas at Fota Wildlife Park in Co. Cork.

Judy Enright photos

**BY JUDY ENRIGHT
SPECIAL TO THE BIR**
Could there really be wildlife in Ireland? You bet and it's not just confined to the pubs or city nightclubs.

If you are anywhere near Co. Cork in your Irish travels, visiting the Fota Wildlife Park and nearby attractions on Fota Island is highly recommended.

The 100-acre wildlife park, in Carrigtwohill, near Cobh, is well signposted and easy to find, has lots of parking, and is a great place to spend some time. Just 15-minutes from the center of Cork City, the park is home to some 30 mammal and 50 bird species representing every continent and ecosystem.

Once home to the Smith-Barry family, which arrived in Ireland in the 12th Century, the once-extensive holdings dwindled over time until confined to just Fota Island. The property was sold to University College Cork (UCC) in 1975 along with the Smith-Barry's residence, Fota House. The house, gardens, and arboretum are also open to the public. The house and café are open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 to 5. The arboretum and gardens are open daily from 9 to 5.

In addition to the House and Wildlife Park, the island is home to the famed Fota Island Golf Club's three championship courses in a 780-acre estate that includes a luxury hotel, spa and more. For details, visit fotaisland.ie.

WILDLIFE PARK
The Wildlife Park has undergone a 4-million euro revamp that was officially dedicated by Irish President Mary McAleese last month. Despite Ireland's challenging economy, the Park enjoyed a healthy 2010 by welcoming 377,000 visitors, an 8 percent increase over 2009. The improved and expanded facilities are expected to draw even more visitors this year.

So, what is there to see at the Park? Although there are many animals living there, our favorites were the funny little Maras (more formally known as *Dolichotis patagonum*) that wander freely all over

the park. These Argentinian guinea pigs look like large rabbits but without the long ears. They feed on grass, herbs, and shrubs and, while you can't actually get close enough to pat them, they are not terribly timid around visitors.

We also enjoyed watching the stately Baringo giraffes and the Grant's zebras, all of which congregate and thrive in the Irish climate along with Oryx, Ostrich, Emu, and others.

We tried to photograph the cheetah – Fota has Ireland's only cheetah family – but the big cats were having none of that foolishness. And, the red panda, which we had really hoped to see, slept soundly despite our pleas to wake up.

Fota has many fun activities planned for the spring and summer season and you can find out more at their website: fotawildlife.ie. The park is open all year, Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays, from 11 to 6.

The non-profit organization's mission is, "to be a leading contributor to the conservation of wildlife through conservation education, the breeding of endangered species and the promotion of conservation worldwide." Fota is a great place to spend a day with the kids or with anyone who appreciates animals.

BLARNEY CASTLE
Have you kissed the Blarney Stone and been blessed by the gift of eloquence and gab? If not, the castle is only 8 km from Cork City and well worth a visit. The word Blarney, for the uninitiated, was introduced into the English language by Queen Elizabeth I and is described as pleasant talk that is intended to deceive



Indicator shows where Fota Island is in County Cork.

without offending.

The castle's Rock Close Gardens are a great place to stretch your legs and amble along the many walks through the arboretum and woodlands. There are several souvenir shops at Blarney, as well as refreshments, a restored stable, and old farm machinery.

The castle and gardens open at 9 a.m. year-round. For details, visit: blarney-castle.ie

MONEYGALL

Isn't the tiny town of Moneygall in Co. Offaly so very lucky that Barack Obama's roots are there? The town is buzzing with activity already in anticipation of the president's visit this month and his security forces have made their presence known as they scouted out the area.

Now the fast food chain Supermac's has announced plans for a 7-million euro motorway

sheep will be sheared during the two-day event. There will be crafts and food and anyone interested in more details should visit sheepshearing2011.ie. Sounds like fun.

FIGHTING IRISHMEN

Memorabilia from Ballymena-born actor Liam Neeson's amateur boxing career are included in a new exhibition that recently opened at the University of Limerick Arena and will be on display there until Sept. 30. The "Fighting Irishmen" celebrates Irish prizefighters based in the US from 1820 to the present and features the mummified right arm of the Irish fighter Dan Donnelly as well as an assortment of robes, gloves, boxing bags, prints, photographs, paintings, and film footage.

The exhibit is open Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Objects on display include pieces from such sporting greats as John L. Sullivan, Jack Dempsey, Gene Tunney, Barry McGuigan, Freddie Gilroy, Bobby Cassidy, Gerry Cooney, Billy Graham, Billy Conn, John Duddy, Maureen Shea, and more.

The exhibit first opened in 2006 at the Irish Arts Center in New York and was later featured at the South Street Seaport Museum in lower Manhattan (2007), the Burns Library at Boston College (2008), the Ulster American Folk Park in Omagh, Northern Ireland (2009), and Croke Park at the GAA Museum in Dublin (2010). Following the Limerick exhibition, the exhibit organizers

plans to continue touring Europe and the US.

Shannon Development is marketing Limerick's status as an EU City of Sport and is showcasing Limerick internationally as a top quality location for sports-related events and conferences. Four high profile events have already been planned for the city, including: the European Duathlon Championships (held in mid-April); the EPC European Powerlifting Championship (June 2-5); the Single Speed World Championships cycling event (August 26-28) and the World Powerlifting Championships (Nov. 11-19).

TRAVEL

It's nearly high season (summer) and there are so many activities to enjoy in Ireland as the country comes alive after a long, very cold and snowy winter.

Tourism Ireland's website – discoverireland.com – is constantly updated and has the latest activities going on around the country. Deals on flights and ground transportation are offered on the Aer Lingus website and the sites of other airlines that fly in and out of Ireland.

When you're in Ireland, be sure to stop by the Failte Ireland tourist board offices (marked with a big green shamrock) around the country for details about area activities, to secure accommodation, and to learn about the county in which you're traveling.

And, enjoy your trip to Ireland whenever and wherever you go.

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Thirty-Two Counties

Antrim: After becoming the first student in his school to pass a GCSE examination James Young has now sold one of his paintings to Assistant Chief Constable of the PSNI Duncan McCausland. A student at Glenveagh Special School in south Belfast, the eighteen-year-old achieved an A in his GCSE Art exam, a feat celebrated at the school according to principal Fionnuala Leneghan. The painting will hang in the PSNI training college at Garnerville and proceeds from the sale will be divided between James and his school.

Armagh: The five daughters of Gerald Hamill from Portadown, who was seriously injured in a gas explosion last year, were among those who took part in a sponsored walk recently for Craigavon Hospital. Catriona, Gemma, Rachel, Michelle and Megan were in the group which set out from Shillington's Quay to walk eleven and a half miles along the towpath to Madden Bridge, Tandragee. Damian Byrne, a friend of Mr Hamill, organized the walk to raise funds for two wards at Craigavon Hospital, where Mr. Hamill received his treatment. He and his wife Karen waved the walkers off at the start.

Carlow: The Burren Rangers Juvenile Club has received a donation of a perpetual cup from their parish priest, Father Brendan Howard. This year the cup will be presented to the winners of the under-twelve camogie blitz, while next year it will be the turn of the victorious team in the under-fourteen girls' football blitz. On an as yet unspecified date in the next few weeks a formal presentation ceremony will take place at which Father Brendan will hand over the perpetual cup to the committee, coaches and players of the club.

Cavan: Two events were held recently to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the ministry of Bishop Ken Clarke in the Dioceses of Kilmore, Elphin, and Ardagh. A service was held in the Cathedral Church of St. Fethlimidh in Kilmore where a composition by John Rutter was sung by the Cavan Royal School Chamber Choir. More recently a meal was enjoyed in the Bush Hotel where Bishop Ken and his wife Helen were joined by some three hundred guests from all the parishes in the diocese. Their four daughters, Ali, Tanya, Lynda, and Nicki, made a surprise appearance at the event.

Clare: The "Walk the Walk" event, which takes place at the end of May, is expected to attract 1,000 women to take part to raise funds for those being treated for breast cancer. The ten-kilometre Killaloe Pink Ribbon Walk will follow a route along the shore of Lough Derg and all walkers will be dressed in pink, while many of the shops in the town will also dress their windows with pink items. Barbara McMahon, patron of last year's event, is hoping that the May walk will raise more than the 80,000 euro gathered in last year for Action Breast Cancer.

Cork: Youghal fisherman Kevin Murphy was hauling in his nets just over a mile offshore when he discovered an exceptionally big lobster among the catch. Named Lucky by Kevin, the lobster was thirty-one inches long and weighed more than ten and a half pounds, with the average length of a lobster about twelve inches. Kevin took his catch to Aherne's restaurant in the town where it just fitted into a special holding tank. Lucky was eventually marked with a V to indicate he should be thrown back if caught again, and sent to John Griffin's Aquatrek sea

training school for release.

Derry: Social Development minister Alex Attwood announced last month that 10 million pounds will be made available to the city of Derry for its year as City of Culture. The money will be used for a number of different projects as the minister said he wanted communities to benefit as much as possible. A demountable pavilion will be erected, able to accommodate eight thousand people, and a number of retail areas on both sides of the Foyle will be enhanced. A second piece of good news was announced by the minister, with the news that ninety-five Social Security Agency jobs are to be transferred from Belfast to Derry.

Donegal: International fashion model Faye Dinsmore has been selected by Rootstein Mannequins to be the basis for a new dummy. The twenty-three-year-old from Laghey, who is now based in New York, has had her double created by British sculptor Steve Wood and the company has donated the first mannequin made to the National Wax Museum in Dublin, where it will remain on display for a number of weeks. Rootstein have been providing department stores and fashion houses with dummies based on famous models for more than fifty years.

Down: An invention that will monitor the amount of harmful radiation people are exposed to from mobile phones was so admired by the Duke of York at a London exhibition that he made sure that its commercial application was noted. Now Blackberry is considering developing the idea of Ciara Mooney from Newry Grammar School. It has already won her the UK Key Stage 4 CREST award in the Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology category of the Big Bang competition in London. Ciara, who lives on Rathfriland Road in Newry, is hoping to gain a place in engineering at Queen's or the University of Ulster.

Dublin: The Walt Disney Company is to open its first superstore in Ireland in May. The store on Grafton Street will have two floors of technology, interactive story-telling and merchandise exclusive to Disney. However, no Disney emporium would be complete without its characters and the company is now hoping to recruit Snow White, Mickey, and Minnie Mouse, and a number of other well-known characters. Other facilities at the store will include a Disney theatre and magic mirrors.

Fermanagh: Since they have a similar ceremony in Poland to mark the spring equinox and the end of winter, a significant number of Polish people attended the burning of the wickerman effigy carried out by the Mummies Foundation. The burning of the thirteen-foot effigy took place at the Aughakillymaude Mummies' Centre and, following the ceremony, a lecture was delivered by Seamas Mac Annaidh on the history of mummification in Fermanagh, traditional music was enjoyed, and everyone was treated to a hot cross bun supper.

Galway: Recently Galway City Council offered for rent a kiosk on the Promenade in Salthill which had lain empty for some twenty years. More than twenty calls were received by the council about the kiosk and nine submissions of interest were received from local businesses. Most people seem to see it as an opportunity for a cafe or for the sale of seaside articles such as buckets and spades, and an assessment panel will decide over



the next week or two who will be accepted to rent the kiosk. It is hoped that whoever takes it over will have it open for business by the June Bank Holiday weekend.

Kerry: A picnic table and plaque were unveiled recently at Glanageenty to honor four people from Ballymacelligott who have excelled at mountain racing. Eoin McKenna, John Lenihan, Ann Reid Mangan, and Mary Lenihan are the four who were honored, with the former three attending the occasion. The table was designed by Lilly Lenihan and made by carpenter Tom McCarthy, and it is hoped that more tables can be erected in the location in future to honor other sporting legends from the area. Funding for the table and plaque was raised by the Munster Mountain Racing Association.

Kildare: A shop with a difference has opened on Kilkullen's main street after the couple involved decided it provided a good window. The Dresser Shop, as the name suggests, sells traditional Irish dressers, but these are all handmade by Brendan Talbot at his joinery in Kilmead near Athy. He and his wife Mairead have spent the last few weeks doing up the premises, with the name prompting the curiosity of potential customers. Now Brendan and Mairead are hoping that their shop, which opened for business last month, will continue to attract both attention and paying customers.

Kilkenny: Three Kilkenny Special Olympics athletes helped to launch this year's fundraising campaign in the city last month. Swimmers Diarmaid O'Flynn and Ciara Trait were joined by Bocca player Connor Ryan and all were on hand to launch the campaign before they head to Athens in the summer. Music for the event was supplied by the Kilkenny Gospel Choir. The day when collectors were going to hit the streets of Kilkenny city was April 15, and they were to be out in Gowran, Thomastown, Callan, Castlecomer, Ballyhale, and Graignamanagh.

Laois: The county council has purchased the old buildings of the workhouse in Donoghmore, Portlaoise, and has plans to refurbish them for use as council offices. In later years the buildings were used as shops

and stores for the Donoghmore Co-operative Society, which was founded in 1927, and a museum featuring the society, as well as an Agricultural Museum, are also included on the site. The county council also has plans to restore the church that belonged to the mid-nineteenth century workhouse.

Leitrim: The County Fleadh this year was hosted by the Killargue/Manor and Glenfarne branches of Comhaltas, and a raffle took place at an event in the Clubhouse in Dromohair to help raise funds for the event. The evening was a celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann. The Ballroom of Romance in Glenfarne and St Clare's Comprehensive School in Manorhamilton were among the venues for the various competitions that took place over the weekend of April 15-17, while a ceili was also being held.

Limerick: The Redemptorist Community in Limerick has applied to carry out a multi-million euro development of their monastery. A protected structure, it is located beside Mount St. Alphonsus Church and the priests and brothers have moved to temporary accommodation while work is carried out. While there will be a decrease in the accommodation offered by the building, the facilities will be refurbished to make them more user friendly for the elderly. The application is on a smaller scale than was originally envisaged, given the downturn in the economy, but Father Adrian Egan hopes work will begin next year.

Longford: Longford County Council signed a contract for the construction of the new N5 Longford Bypass, one of only four major projects in the country at present. Construction work was expected to begin by mid-April to link the N4 and N5 national roads and, it is hoped, divert heavy goods vehicles away from the centre of Longford town. The two-kilometre stretch of road will pass through the townlands of Aghareagh, Ballyminion, Mullagh, Cartrons, Moneylagan, and Aghadegan.

Louth: Noeleen Casey and Francis Bellew have been named as the winners of Paddy Clarke's Wedding of the Year 2010, after gaining most votes

from the public. Photographer Paddy, whose studio is in Jocelyn Street in Dundalk, established the competition last year. Noeleen, from Kilcurry, and Francis were married last July and their wedding photo at Roche Castle was the most admired. The couple have received a framed print as their prize. Sonya Donn, meanwhile, won a 300-euro portrait voucher for leaving the best comment online during the voting process.

Mayo: When Brian Farren took part in the Croagh Patrick Challenge last month there was more on his mind than just reaching the summit. For Brian had decided to propose to his girlfriend Lee Kennedy in the church at the top of the mountain. Unfortunately the church was locked so it was in the open air that Brian went down on one knee to propose. The organizers of the climb had been told of Brian's plans, with the result that the proposal, and acceptance, were broadcast live on Mid-West Radio as well as receiving the cheers and applause of their fellow-climbers.

Meath: The first year pupils in St. Fintina's Post-Primary School in Longwood have become the first in the country to be provided with tablet PCs. The sixty students each have a Fizzbook Spin tablet-style laptop which has seven of their textbooks installed, meaning they no longer have the heavy schoolbags most students suffer. The students in the school's second year were given Dell Netbooks when they started at the school, with four of their textbooks uploaded. The Fizzbook Spin laptops were imported from China.

Monaghan: Instead of the honor going to a celebrity with a big fan following, the title of Ireland's leading Tweeter goes to Sinead Duffy from Montfort. Sinead began tweeting in April 2009 to publicize her website and she now has more than 425,000 followers, with most of them overseas. Her website, Greatest Quotes, directs traffic to her business, Great Minds, through which she has developed a series of personal development courses and workshops; with overseas clients she conducts sessions on Skype.

Offaly: A claim that Tipperary can claim President Barack Obama rather than Offaly has been refuted by his cousin Henry Healy. The controversy has arisen as Moneygall plays its hurling in Tipperary but Henry has declared categorically that Obama is an Offaly man. The village is greatly looking forward to the presidential visit and Dulux paints have offered to give it a facelift free of charge. Among the places it is hoped will be on the itinerary are the Kearney ancestral home, in front of which an information board has been erected, the school house, and Templeharry Church. No agreement has yet been reached as to whether President Obama will sink a pint in Ollie's or Joe Healy's bar.

Roscommon: Following the successful boat-only Open Pike competition held by Boyle & District Angling Club in March on Lough Skean, the club held another competition three weeks later. The Paddy Sharkey Perpetual Memorial Cup was vied for in a boat-only fishing contest on Lough Gara, with entries taken at Templeoran Pier. **Sligo:** After completing in the final of the 2011 Connacht Gold Junior Chef competition against twenty-five other students, Angela Nally from Ballymote was named as this year's Connacht Gold Junior Chef. A student at Coláiste Mhuire in Ballymote, (Continued on page 21)

NEWS DIRECT FROM IRELAND

EU/IMF critical of Ireland's high public sector salaries—A report in the Sunday Independent last month claimed that the European Union and the International Monetary Fund are concerned by the high salaries being paid in the Irish public sector. A survey by senior EU and IMF officials shows a huge disparity between pay rates enjoyed by senior public servants in Ireland and those in the rest of the EU.

The newspaper also refers to recent surveys that confirm that Ireland's doctors, nurses, police and teachers "are among the highest-paid public servants in the world." The same is true for university lecturers, judges, and hospital consultants, who often earn twice as much as their European counterparts.

These figures are apparently regularly cited at meetings of the EU and ECB when Irish ministers complain about the interest rate being paid on the EU/IMF loan.

John Drennan, who wrote the Sunday Independent article, noted that "Ireland also has the highest-paid electricity workers in the world."

Concern, too, over high salaries in state-funded voluntary organizations—The Irish Times reports that the Government is reviewing the salary levels of senior staff in State-funded voluntary organizations dealing with people with disabilities. Following questions about the large salaries being drawn by senior management, former Minister of State John Moloney sought details of the salaries of senior executives in a number of bodies; his successor, Kathleen Lynch, will have to consider the findings.

Salaries in excess of 100,000 euro for chief executives are not uncommon and some go as high as 200,000. Angela Kerins, CEO of the Rehab Group, is said to have a package worth 400,000 euro per year. Rehab makes the case that none of this comes from the 50 million euro it receives from the State; the group generates revenue of some 150 million euro from a number of commercial initiatives.

New local authority houses experience range of problems—Some 400 local authority houses, built for South Dublin County Council less than ten years ago, are now the source of most housing complaints received by the council. Residents of the Balgaddy area of

Ireland Today: Moneygall Awaits the Obamas

President Barack Obama and his wife Michelle are planning to stay overnight in Ireland on May 23, prior to a three day visit to the UK. The president will later travel to France for G8 summit meetings. The Presidential visit will follow several days after a three-day royal visit to Ireland by Queen Elizabeth. In Ireland, the President will visit Dublin, and also travel to Moneygall in County Offaly, a village about 90 minutes from Dulin on the Limerick road, which claims the ancestral home of the president's great, great, great grandfather. The BBC reported last month: "Preparations for President Obama's visit are meticulous. The village has no bank, no cash point, no coffee shop and a population of less than 300 people. However, it does have two pubs, including Ollie Hayes's bar in the middle of the main street."

Lucan are experiencing severe dampness, cracks, crumbling plaster, electrical faults and sewage problems in houses that won a "best housing design" award from the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland in 2004.

Photographs in the Irish Times showed an interior wall blackened with dampness and a large mushroom like growth from where a wooden floor meets a wooden skirting board. The council is working with the builders, the Turkish firm Gama Construction Ireland, to resolve the problems.

International award for Irish charity worker—Mark FitzGerald of estate agents Sherry FitzGerald has been named as International Philanthropist of the Year for his work with the Amawe charity. The son of former Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald, Mr FitzGerald helped in the operation of a cultural twinning program between Irish and South African schools that has now seen 85 Irish schools twinned with South African counterparts.

Latest Lotto multi-millionaire collects his winnings—Postman Pat Broderick and his wife Mary, accompanied by other family members, travelled to Dublin during the week from their Kinsale, Co. Cork home to collect a check for 7,018,618 euro, his half of a lotto payoff. Pat has been using the family ages for his tickets, and one number is due to change next week when his own birthday falls. His only plan so far is to buy a set of golf clubs for his 15-year-old son Timothy, and he may just take up golf again himself.

His wife, on the other hand, hopes to save a local children's creche in which she works. It is

threatened with closure as the space it currently occupies is needed for a school expansion.

The other half of the jackpot went to a six-strong syndicate that purchased its winning ticket in Kingscourt, Co. Cavan, and elected to remain anonymous.

De Valera sought proof that IRA leader was paid by Soviets—Papers released from the British National Archives show that in 1939 the then Taoiseach, Eamon de Valera, sought help from the British Government in exposing IRA leader Seán Russell as being on the payroll of the Soviet Union. At the time the IRA strategy was to use explosives to bombelectricity pylons in Britain. As a result, a number of IRA members had been arrested and were likely to receive long prison sentences. Concerned that this could lead to widespread protests in Ireland, De Valera wanted to discredit their leader.

British apology for shooting of 12-year-old girl in 1976—The British Government has formally apologized to the family of 12-year-old Majella O'Hare, who was shot and killed by a British soldier in south Armagh in 1976. The letter was signed in February by Minister for Defence Liam Fox but Majella's elderly mother was unable to travel to London to accept it. On April 4, she received it from Northern Secretary Owen Paterson at Hillsborough Castle.

Majella was on her way to confession in the church at Whitecross and had just passed through an army checkpoint when a soldier with a machine-gun shot her twice in the back. He subsequently appeared in court and was acquitted on a charge of manslaughter when he

claimed that Majella was caught in the crossfire when he came under attack from the IRA. At the time locals insisted that no other shots had been fired and Britain's Ministry of Defence now accepts that the IRA was not active in the area on the day.

Titanic launch centenary approaches—Celebrations to mark the 100th anniversary of the launch of the Titanic started in Belfast on April 6 and will continue for two months to culminate on the day of the actual anniversary, May 31. One of the highlights is an exhibition of a series of photographs by RJ Welch, official photographer at Harland & Wolff, that follows the construction of the vessel from the laying of the keel on March 31, 1909 to the launch 26 months later. The large-scale photographs are on display on the lawns of Belfast City Hall.

Guided tours on land and water will take visitors to relevant parts of the city while there will also be a second exhibition focusing on the SS Nomadic, which was also built at the Harland & Wolff yard in 2011 and used as a tender to bring passengers to and from the Titanic. The Nomadic is currently being restored in Belfast.

Unhappy woman loses case against matchmaker—A Letterkenny woman, Annmarie McBrearty, 35, failed to win damages from a dating agency that arranged meetings with four men whom she considered to be highly unsuitable. Ms McBrearty paid 600 euro to The Happy Matchmaker of Ballintra, Co. Donegal, for introductions to 12 men who were looking for partners. She considered her experience with the first four so unsatisfactory that she sued the agency for 6,348.99 euro, claiming negligence, breach of duty, and fraudulent misrepresentation.

Reports of the case fail to say how such a precise figure was arrived at, but in any case, Judge Kevin Kilraine dismissed the claim.

POLITICS

Greens try to resolve financial difficulties—The Green Party, which has about 1,000 paid up members, hopes to raise 100,000 euro in funding by asking each member to donate 100 euro. Acknowledging that not all will be willing and able to come up with the money, party chairman Dan Boyle believes that there a number of non-members, who believe strongly enough that

the Green Party should have a place in Irish politics, who will also be willing to contribute.

The party employed up to 50 staff when it was a Government party in coalition with Fianna Fáil. Upon the party leaving Government, this fell to 20 and since the election, in which all six Green TDs lost their seats, it has fallen further to two. With less than 2 percent of the national vote in the election the Green Party no longer qualifies for financial support from the State.

Fine Gael and Labour disagree over political donations—With Taoiseach Enda Kenny promising to ban corporate donations to political parties in response to the Moriarty Report, Fine Gael and Labour are already disagreeing on what constitutes "corporate." When Minister for Agriculture Simon Coveney was interviewed on RTE radio he was asked if such a ban would cover donations made by trade unions to the Labour Party; he was emphatic that it would.

Labour views such donations as affiliation fees and, while its response to Coveney's comments were muted, it had already made it clear it would oppose any attempt to classify union donations as corporate donations when the Green Party started to go down this road while in Government.

Aer Lingus celebrates 75 years in the air—Aer Lingus is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year and to mark the occasion it has had its latest aircraft, an Airbus A320, painted in the livery of the 1960s. On hand to greet it on its arrival were CEO Christoph Mueller and 11 members of the airline's cabin crew, dressed in different uniforms from the 1940s on. It was reported during the week that Mueller received total remuneration of 1.13 million euro in 2010.

New rules for learner drivers—New drivers have additional criteria to meet before they can pass their driving test. On presenting themselves for their test they must provide the examiner with a logbook, signed by a recognized driving instructor, showing that they have completed 12 hours of driving lessons. The advice given to the learner driver by the Road Safety Authority is that each lesson should be followed by three hours of driving practice under the supervision of a qualified sponsor.

THIRTY-TWO COUNTIES

(Continued from page 22) the fourteen-year-old won a specially commissioned trophy, a one-day working scholarship at Neven Maguire's McNear House Restaurant, a 100-euro voucher for Ticketmaster, and a Connacht Gold super family hamper. Meanwhile a trophy will also be presented to her school and a weekend away to her teacher, Helda Griffin.

Tipperary: Shellikybookie, a local slang name for the snail, is the name of a new artistic group that hopes to bring street entertainment to Clonmel and other towns around the country. Artistic directors Anthony Lawless, Des Dillon, Ciara Connolly, and Ursula Mullins are joined by musical directors Laura Cotter and Peter Taylor, and choreographer Alison Cronin, all under the direction of Shane Dempsey. The group has already been booked for a Walled Towns Festival and for the Field Shows in the summer staged by Banna Chluain Meala.

Tyrone: Consultants are expected to be appointed soon to begin work on the construc-

tion of a foot and cycle bridge in Strabane, to be known as Melvin Bridge. The seventy-meter span bridge will be situated 250 yards upstream from the current road bridge on the River Mourne. In addition to providing greater access to the sporting facilities in Melvin Park, the new bridge will also offer safer routes for students going to local schools. Funding of 3-million pounds for the construction was announced by Minister for Social Development Alex Attwood during the week.

Waterford: In June the Freedom of the City of Waterford is due to be conferred on two musicians, Brendan Bowyer Val Doonican, in a joint ceremony at City Hall. Brendan Bowyer was the lead singer with the Royal Showband, the first Irish artists to have a number one in the Irish charts, with "Kiss Me Quick." He now performs on a regular basis in Las Vegas. Val Doonican has recorded more than fifty albums, with many of his songs making the Top Ten, including "The Special Years" and "Elusive Butterfly."

Westmeath: The Irish name for Mullingar, 'An Muileann gCearr,' translates as 'The Lefthandwise moving Mill,' and the name has given the people of the town an idea for a unique festival. Since Mullingar is seen as the left-handed capital of the world, Aug. 13 will see the start of the Left-Handed Festival, when it is hoped that lefthanders will gather from around Ireland and overseas to celebrate their difference. This year also marks the 1,400th hundredth anniversary of the town.

Wexford: Celebrations took place in the Ramada Hotel in Dublin and in Taghmon to mark the winning of the All-Ireland Talent Show by thirteen-year-old Daniel Furlong. He is not sure yet just how he will spend the 50,000 euro in prize money but some will certainly go into voice training and he is planning on buying presents for his parents, and his brother and sister. Daniel is no stranger to the stage, having appeared in productions with the Wexford Light Opera Company, the Tops group in Taghmon, the

Oyster Lane Theatre Group and Festival Productions, and the musical societies in Rathnure and Taghmon.

Wicklow: In St. Patrick's Church in Wicklow town, Nick Keogh and David O'Leary had just attended the joint christening ceremony of their daughters Gracie and Megan when a number of lifeboat pagers began sounding in the church. The

two men are both members of Wicklow RNLI, with Nick being Coxswain and David third Coxswain, and they both immediately left the church to assemble at the lifeboat station. However the two men were able to return to the christening celebrations after they had contributed to the successful rescue of a kayaker who had capsized off the Wicklow coast.



IRELAND'S WEATHER

REPORTED MONDAY, MAY 2, 2011

It was another fine week in which temperatures remained above normal and the sun shone for most of the time. A few scattered showers were recorded before rain reached the south west on Sunday.

Temperatures will remain above average. Sunday rain will continue in the southern half of the country for a time on Monday. Tuesday and much of Wednesday should be generally fine before rain arrives on Wednesday evening and remains with us on Thursday and much of Friday. The outlook for the weekend isn't great.

Latest Temperatures:
Day 13C (63F) Night 4C (46F)

The Irish Language by Philip Mac AnGhabhann

Is sí an Bhealtaine i. /iss shee uh VAHL-tuhn-uh ee/ "It is May", the traditional beginning of the Celtic "New Year." Just for review, here are the months of the year in the order we now have them. The gender of each is given as (m.) or (f.).

Notice that **Bealtaine** is **feminine** so the initial **B-** is **lenited** ("aspirated") after the article **An** "the".

Eanáir (m.)	EY-nahr/
Feabhra (f.)	/FyAU -ruh/
Márta (m.)	/MAR-tuh/
Aibreán (m.)	/EY-brahn/
Bealtaine (f.)	/BYAL-tuhn-uh/
Meitheamh (m.)	/MyEH-uhw/
Iúil (f.)	/yoöl/
Lúnasa (m.)	/LOO-nuh-sah/
Meán Fómhair (m.)	/mown FOO-wer/
Deireadh Fómhair (m.)	/JER-uh FOO-wer/
Samhain (f.)	/SAU-uhn/
Nollaig (f.)	/NOHL-uhk/

You may hear "March, April, and May" preceded by the article: **An Márta**,

An t-Aibreáin and **An Bhealtaine**. Others are often be preceded by **Mi** "Month" as in **Mi Lúnasa** and **Mi na Nollag**.

In our last column we reviewed how to make **adjectives** from **verbs – verbal adjectives**. Now we will go a little farther. Recall that the simple way is to do this is by suffixing, adding to the end, **-ta** or **-te**. Both final vowels are pronounced /uh/, but the pronunciation of the **t** depends on the "quality" of the surrounding **vowels (a, o, u or e or i)**. If the **vowels** are "broad" then the **-t** is a /t/. If the vowel preceding is "slender" (**e, i**) then it is like a **t** in the British English **t**, as in "tune" /tj/. The closest American English is like the **ch** in "Church."

This holds for one syllable verbs ending in **-c, -f, -l, -m, -n, -r** and **-s**.

Glan an pláta! /glahn uh PLAH-tuh/ "Clean the plate!"

An pláta glanta /uh PLAH-tuh GLAN-tuh/ "The cleaned plate"

Cuir an síol! /kuhr uh SHEEL/ "Plant the seed!"

An síol cuirte /uh SHEEL KUHR-chuh/ "The planted seed"

However, if the verb ends in **-b, -bh, -d, -g, -mh, -p,** or **-t** then the suffix is **-tha** or **-the**, both pronounced /ee/.

Scuab an orlár! /SKOOAB uh OR-lahr/ "Sweep the floor!"

An orlár scuabtha /uh OR-lahr SKOOAP-ee/ "The swept floor."

Fág an nota! /FAHG uh NOH-tuh/ "Leave the note!"

An nota fágtha. /uh NOH-tuh FAHK-ee/ "The left note"

Like all rules there are exceptions – **Scríobhtha** /SKREEF-ee/, "spelled", can now be spelled **scríofa**. More on the reason later in this column.

Scríobh an scéal! /SKREEV uhn skael/ "Write the story!"

An scéal scríobhtha /un skael SKREEF-ee/

An scéal scíofa. /uh skael SKREEF-ee/ "The written story"

If the verb has more than one syllable and ends in **-l, -n,** or **-r** it **can** follow the simple rule that you suffix **-te**. This is optional but far easier.

imir "play" /EEM-uhr/

cluife imirte /KLEEF-uh EEM-uhr-chuh/ "game played"

oscail "open" /OHS-kuhl/

an doras oscailte /uhn DOR-uhs OHS-kuhl-chuh/ "the opened door"

For other two syllable verbs the going gets tougher as there are two steps:

First, drop the second syllable, or at least the vowel of the second syllable, and then suffix **-aithe** or **-ithe**, both pronounced /ee/:

Beannaigh /BEYN-uh/ "(to)Bless"

Duine beannaithe /DOON-yuh BEYN-ee/ "Blessed person"

Dúisigh /DOOSH-uh/ "Wake up"

Duine dúisithe /DOON-yuh DOOSH-ee/ "Awakened man."

Finally, why is **scuab**, "sweep", pronounced /SKOOAB/ when a verb but /SKOOAP-ee/ with a /p/ sound on the end instead of a /b/ when made into a verbal adjective?

This type of change is called "homorganic" – it happens naturally for people when speaking. Think of English "inept" but when the negative **in-** is added to "possible" it becomes "impossible." You cannot say "in-possible" without making a pause between "in-" and "possible." /m/ and /p/ are made at the same place – with two lips together. "Homorganic" means natural to our mouth muscles.

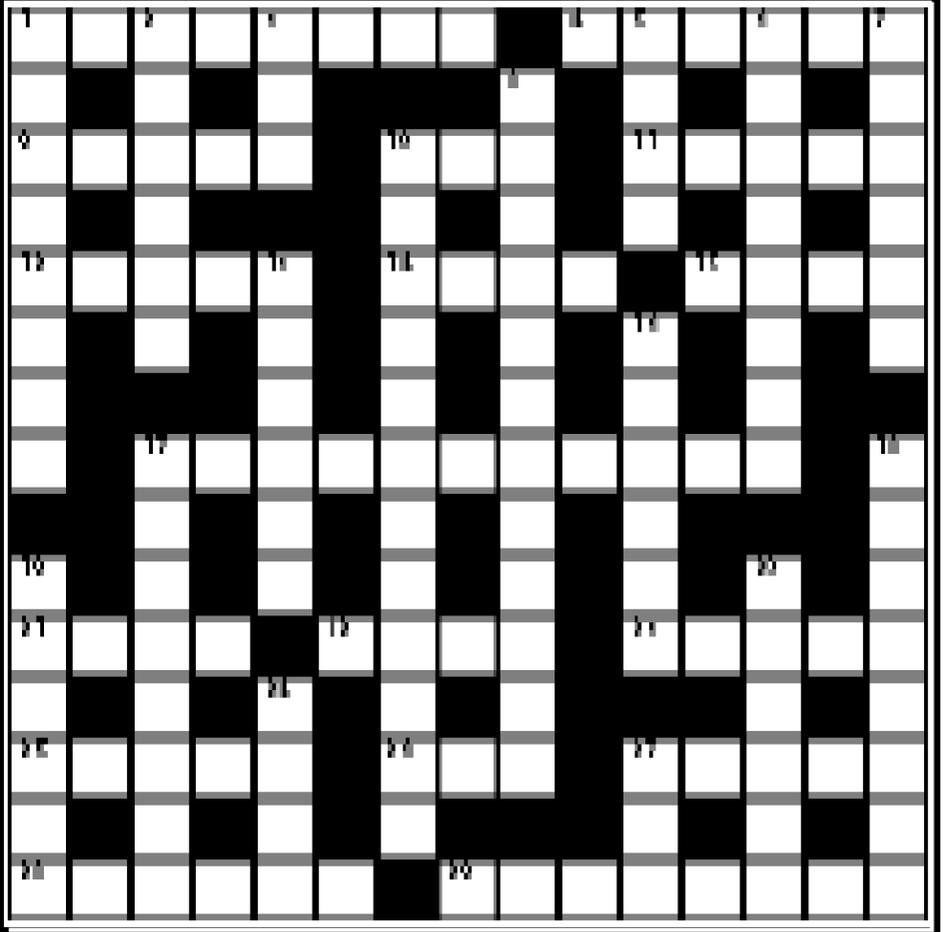
In Irish verbs that end in these sounds change when suffixes are added just to keep the "flow of speech".

-b	is pronounced as /p/
-bh	is pronounced as /f/
-d	is pronounced as /t/
-g	is pronounced as /k/
-mh	is pronounced as /f/
scuabtha	/SKOOAP-ee/
scríobhtha	/SKREEF-ee/
goidthe	/GEHT-ee/
fágtha	/FAHK-ee/
snámh	/SNAHF-ee/

Goid is "steal" therefore "stolen"; **snámh** is "swim", "swimming".

CELTIC CROSS WORDS

The Irish crosswords are a service of an Ireland-based website which provides Irish Family Coats of Arms by email. You are invited to visit www.bigwood.com/heraldry



IRELAND IN CROSSWORDS ©-bigwood.com

ACROSS

- Cake to start with, but no ham following on the way back in Waterford fishing village where whales have been known to beach. (8)
- Elk Ike disposed of in attractive Clare resort sheltered from the Atlantic by the Duggerna Rocks. (6)
- Cut ham in pieces for she who wanted Oisín to stay in Tir na nOg. (5)
- Mr. Baba seen in Donegal incident. (3)
- Pins that sound like a scot back in Lusk categorically. (5)
- Get a rub of this old thing for luck in Tramore licensed premises. (5)
- The two of them are in Drumshanbo, then. (4)
- "The -- things a man is ashamed of, the -- respectable he is." Shaw. (4)
- A jig can't run around, but this will take you on a trip around the lakes of Killarney. (8,3)
- Garden tool, one of those from Mallow? (4)
- Young creature hidden in Ballinakill ambulance. (4)
- Fool will moor up facing north. (5)
- Dish of powdery boiled potatoes is insincere when mouthed. (5)
- Sunshine lad! (3)
- Arts graduate so Roman as to be fundamental. (5)
- Old men get confused as to the megalithic monument, with a fine example in Kilternan, Co. Dublin. (6)
- The do far out in small East Galway town near Ross Abbey beside the Black River. (8)

DOWN

- A burn can meander in sheltered Donegal resort on the shores of Lough Swilly under Slieve Snacht. (8)
- Len comes over with 26 across, almost. (6)
- Hurl off this tree? (3)
- I, to a confused Greek character, of little consequence. (4)
- Lose control and do this to the traces, that's one point! (4,4)
- Shifty eye, ask inside for small Sligo seaside resort near a number of dolmens and ring forts. (6)
- Brain bent, yet wanders to Co. Wexford Cistercian church near Clonmines, having a ruined twin on the

Wye in South Wales. (7,5)

- Bear they beat rears up in Dublin entertainment place burnt down in 1951 and reopened 1966. (5,7)
- In an informal way chartered accountant leads Saul astray. (6)
- Disorderly M.C. able to issue instruction not to panic. (2,4)
- This is made up of unsolicited circulars about milk, Juan. (4,4)
- Play a sneaky trick on a German night in one of the Ireland's four green fields. (8)
- Religious doctor outside the untidy room in Leitrim site of old ironworks on shores of Lough Bofin. (6)
- Fast musical makes rope tangle around the saint. (6)
- Piece of computer information inclusively concealed by Templemore establishment. (4)
- "There's no such thing as -- publicity, except your own obituary." Brendan Behan (3)

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 23

Irish Sayings

Even a tin knocker will shine on a dirty door.
Every patient is a doctor - after his cure.
"The Windy day is not a day for scallops (thatching)."
"People live in each other's shelter."
"The world would not make a racehorse of a donkey."
"You are not a fully fledged sailor unless you have sailed under full sail," "and you have not built a wall unless you have rounded a corner."
"There is no strength without unity."
"You must live with a person to know a person. If you want to know me come and live with me."
"Praise the young and they will blossom"
"The raggy colt often made a powerful horse."
"Age is honorable and youth is noble."
"Youth does not mind where it sets its foot."
"Both your friend and your enemy think you will never die."

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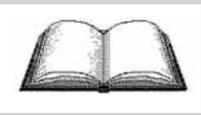
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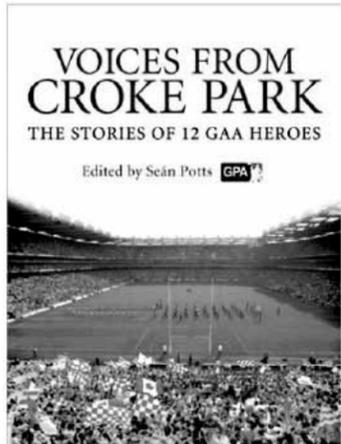
The Sunday Game By Michael Lyster

Punchy, incisive, and fearless, *The Sunday Game 2010* brings to book all the virtues of a long established and celebrated RTE programme. The Sunday Game is RTE's sport flagship GAA program. It runs throughout the summer until the end of the all-Ireland championship. Fronted by Michael Lyster, it features a series of well-informed, provocative and particulate analysts, among them Pat Spillane, Ger Loughnane, and Joe Brolly. *The Sunday Game 2010* is a review of the GAA season drawing on the resources and personalities of the television program. It features match reports on the major games in hurling, football and camogie, generously illustrated with over 120 full color photographs and covering the entire GAA season from the latter stages of the national leagues to the completion of the championships. It also contains feature articles by the celebrity analysts writing on issues of major interest that have arisen in the course of the season.



Voices from Croke Park: Stories of 12 GAA Heroes By Sean Potts

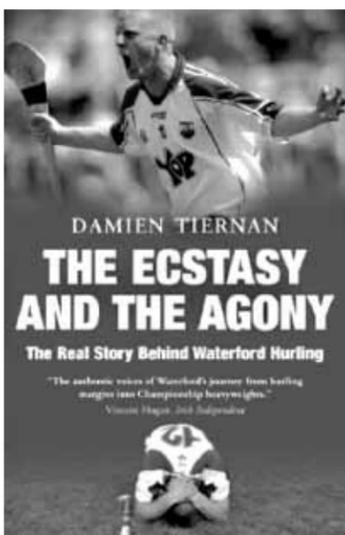
Croke Park is the spiritual home of Gaelic football and hurling, where the dreams of ambition are realized. The essays in *Voices from Croke Park* chart the journey of 12 true greats of the games: men who pursued that elusive glory in Ireland's greatest sporting arena, players whose passion and vision were embodied in their county's jersey. With contributions from Ireland's leading and award-winning writers, this collection is a celebration of each player's achievements in the GAA. It is a paean to the heroes who take to the stage every year carrying the hopes of their county. Featured are: Mikey Sheehy (by Tom Humphries, Irish Times); Tony Keady (by Vincent Hogan, Irish Independent); Peter Canavan (by Brendan Crossan, Irish News); D. J. Carey (by Garry Doyle, News of the World); Liam McHale (by Frank Roche, Evening Herald); Michael Duignan



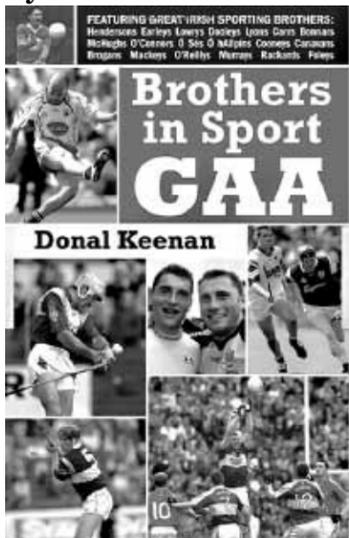
unflinchingly honest look at how such a great team can come so close to major triumphs but still walked away without the top honors. In over sixty interviews with key players, backroom staff, selectors and managers including Justin McCarthy, Paul Flynn, Davy Fitzgerald, Dan Shanahan, Eoin Kelly, Stephen Molumphy, Ken McGrath, Gerald McCarthy, and many others, Tiernan examines the controversies that have dogged Waterford hurling in recent years. Who are the leaders? What are the key moments around which victory and defeat revolve? And what, ultimately, are the lessons learned? *The Ecstasy and the Agony* is the full and honest account of a team who will never stop believing.

The Ecstasy & the Agony: The True Story Behind Waterford Hurling By Damien Tiernan

In 1998, a determined Waterford hurling team made their way to their first All-Ireland semi-final in almost forty years, their sights firmly set on the final, which would be their first since 1963. But destiny conspired against them and they lost. Over the next twelve years they would, time and time again, play spell-binding hurling, reach the Semi-Finals seven times, Player of the Year Awards and multiple All-Star honors and come agonizingly close to winning one of the biggest prizes in Irish sport. In *The Ecstasy and the Agony*, Damien Tiernan goes behind the scenes and takes an



Brothers in Sport: GAA By Donal Keenan



The GAA's tradition is rooted in families. Since its foundation in 1884 many sets of brothers have battled with and against each other for the pride of parish and county. In a game rich with sibling talent and ability, Donal Keenan offers a fascinating examination of the game's rich family relations. Profiling some of Ireland's most famous hurling and football brothers, *Brothers in Sport* provides an insight into lives and times of these famous sporting brothers who achieved success and fame through their sporting prowess in Gaelic football and hurling. With interviews of famous brothers like the O'hAilpíns, the Earleys and the Canavans, as well as memories of past heroes like the Foleys and the Rackards, these profiles of brothers from across the country reflect their triumphs and disappointments throughout their careers.

My Story by Daire O Sé

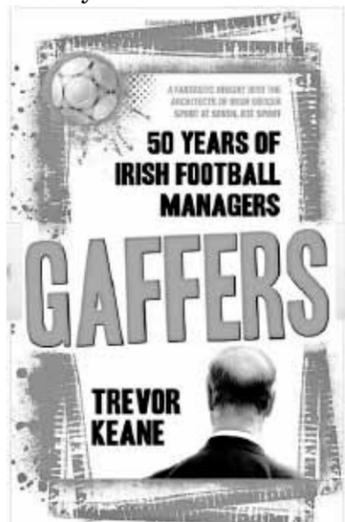
For 16 years, Darragh Ó Sé has worn the No. 8 jersey for Gaelic football's most celebrated county, stoking the fires in Kerry's engine room. With six All-Ireland medals, he is the most decorated footballer of the



modern era. Darragh's name is synonymous with his county's unrelenting appetite for success, but throughout his illustrious career he has held his counsel, allowing his football to do the talking. Until now. This is the story of a modern Kerry icon who has helped carry the torch for the home of football. Uncompromising, passionate and possessed of a savage wit, Darragh talks openly for the first time about his life in the green and gold, and about his constant drive to succeed. Elsewhere in the book, he details his setbacks, reflects on a family tragedy and reveals how his upbringing on the fringe of West Kerry helped shape his character, steeling him for a career in the toughest position in Gaelic football. This is the story of Darragh Ó Sé – a life in the engine room.

Gaffers: 50 Years of Irish Football Managers By Trevor Keane

Did you know that an Irish



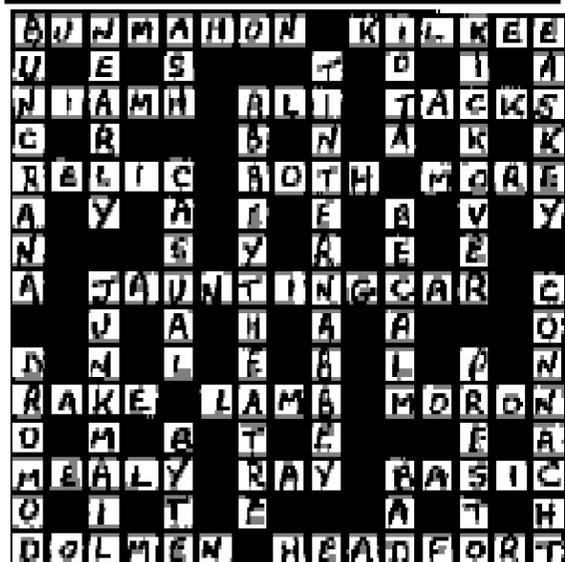
manager did not pick the Irish football team until 1969? Do you know who that manager was? Contrary to popular opinion, Irish football management did not begin with Jack Charlton! From the early days when Irish footballers travelled across the Irish Sea on ships through to

today's superstars, the role of the Irish manager has changed and this book charts their experiences as both players and as managers in the dugout. The Irish Football Manager is a high profile and prestigious position with many dramatic highs and lows. Including over 55 personal interviews from all the key personalities and the people who knew them best, this book gives a long overdue insight into what it's like to be the manager of the boys in green. For lovers of statistics (and there are plenty!), the book lists results for all the managers during their time in charge as well as their win/loss ratio, so we can finally decide who was the greatest manager Ireland ever had...

The Club By Christy O'Connor

In 1999, the hurlers of St Joseph's Doora-Barefield won the All-Ireland club championship. That winter, they became only the second club in history to win successive Munster club titles, and the following March they became the only Munster club to reach successive All-Ireland club finals. Ten years on, St Joseph's is in a totally different place, well down the pecking order not just nationally, but in County Clare. The senior team is still spearheaded by many members of the 1999 All-Ireland winning team, who are raging at the dying of the light. At the beginning of the 2009 season, the team, club, and parish were deeply wounded by two family tragedies. One of those – the sudden death of one member of the 1999 team – cut deep into the soul of the senior team. And that was not the last such event to strike the club ... As part of the healing process, the senior team made a pact to honor the memory of those lost by defying the odds and becoming county champions once again. A campaign fuelled by emotion and pain began promisingly, but slowly began to unravel into one of the stormiest and controversial in the club's history. The story of St Joseph's Doora-Barefield is unique; but it is also a story that anyone connected with one of the 1,700 other GAA clubs will relate to. From player infighting to player-management stand-offs, team-bonding and on-pitch battles, *The Club* is a chronicle of the 2009 season told with unflinching honesty by Christy O'Connor, who covers GAA for the Sunday Times and who has been the St Joseph's senior team goalkeeper for 20 years. This is a story like no other, a fly-on-the-wall tale of the effort, agony, and struggles that define the journey undertaken every season by every club side. This is grass-roots GAA at its purest and rawest, a great story brilliantly told.

PUZZLE SOLUTION FROM PAGE 22



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