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# BOSTON IRISH REPORTER

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## IT'S A WRAP



Dancing for a title in the World Irish competition.

*Evan Richman photos*

## 6,000 dancers finish championship run

The 43d World Irish Dancing Championship program completed its eight-day run in Boston on March 31. Some 6,000 dancers from around the globe strutted their stuff before the judges in group, ceili, hard shoe, and soft shoe competitions.

Following are partial results involving area individual and team competitors received by the *Boston Irish Reporter* at press time. There will be a broader recap in the May issue.

**O'Shea Chaplin Academy of Irish Dance, Boston:** Girls under 13 team, 10th; Girls under 16 team, 8th; Girls under 19 team, 28th; Girls over 19 team, 4th and 11th; Senior mixed team, 3rd.

**Harney Academy of**



Some last-second touching up always helps.

**Irish Dance, Walpole:** Girls Ceili under 19, 1st; Mixed team under 13, 1st; Girls minor ceili Under 13, 1st and 2nd; Under 11 Ceili, 1st place.

**Melissa McCarthy, Harney Academy of Irish Dance, Walpole:** 17 and under, 3d place; 19-20 year olds, 4th place (Emily Stewart, Scoil

Rince Naomh Attracta, Brighton).

**Proto-Casano School of Irish Dance, Bourne:** Ladies under 18, 21st place (Olivia Casano).

## US, Canada help boost Irish tourism to healthy numbers More gains seen for 2013 as 'Gathering' takes hold

**BIR STAFF**

More than one million people from the US and Canada – a 3 percent increase on the previous year – visited the island of Ireland in 2012 according to figures recently released from Ireland's Central Statistics Office. Given those numbers, revenue to the Irish economy from North America increased year-to-year by a strong 9.3 percent, to 742 million euros.

This year, prospects for another huge increase in visitors loom strong with "The Gathering Ireland 2013" program expected to entice tourists of Irish heritage from around the world to visit the land of their ancestors during this year.

The Gathering is a year-long series of festivals and events on the island of Ireland celebrating the unique nature of what it means to be Irish.

While the increasing number of American and Canadian visitors (1.017 million is the given figure) is seen as a wonderful endorsement of the unique experience which Ireland offers, it is the proportion of these folks who were vacationers/holidaymakers that is especially pleasing to Tourism Ireland, which markets the island of Ireland overseas as a holiday destination.

Said Joe Byrne, executive vice president of Tourism Ireland, US, and Canada: "The United States continues to be one of the strongest international markets for tourism to the island of Ireland and we are delighted with the figures for 2012. The extremely encouraging reports for 2013 so far suggest that we could be in for another bumper year."

"The Gathering has given us an unprecedented opportunity to shine a spotlight on Ireland in the US. It is being used as a 'hook' in all of our promotions, to make Ireland a 'must visit' destination, for both the Diaspora and non-Diaspora around the US."

A critical factor that Tourism Ireland expects to underpin the continued growth of visitors to Ireland is the significant increase in the number of airline seats between the US and Ireland. Summer 2013 is likely to see almost 25 percent more airline capacity on routes to Dublin, Shannon, and Belfast than in 2012 since all five carriers operating direct services have increased capacity or added new routes.

### FROM THE TOP OF THE HEIGHTS

Kathleen M. McGillycuddy, at right, the chair of the Boston College board of trustees, has set a gold standard for women in the workplace: "You always have to keep an oar in the water," she says. "Keep your head up and your ambitions well understood. You need to be deliberate."

Greg O'Brien profile, Page 7.



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cordially invite you to attend the

*76th Anniversary Gold Medal Dinner*

**Thursday, April 25, 2013**  
**The Boston Park Plaza**  
50 Park Plaza at Arlington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

**Gold Medal Citation Presentations**

Each year The Eire Society of Boston honors a person or persons  
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of our 76th anniversary, we are proud to honor

**Sr. Lena Deevy LSA**  
for her contributions to our community.



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Dinner 7:00  
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**The Eire Society of Boston**  
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**Thursday, April 25, 2013**  
The Boston Park Plaza

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For additional information, please call Mary Ellen Mulligan 781-963-3660 or mail to:

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☐ I am unable to attend but am enclosing a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_

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# A CAPITOL GATHERING



From left, Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny, President Barack Obama and House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio walk down the Capitol Hill steps in Washington on Tues., March 19, following the Speaker's annual Friends of Ireland luncheon.  
*AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta*



Members of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts were on the march in Galway's St. Patrick's Day parade last month.  
*Photo by Liam Ferrie*

## Mary McAleese to teach at Boston College this fall

President Irish President Mary McAleese will in Chestnut Hill this fall as the Burns Library Visiting Scholar in Irish Studies at Boston College, the university announced last month. The Belfast native, who was the first Northern Irish native to hold the presidency, will teach a course and present public lectures while pursuing research in BC's Burns Library Irish Book and Manuscript Collection.

McAleese — now studying for a doctoral degree in canon law at the Gregorian University in Rome — took office in 1997 and proclaimed “Building Bridges” as the theme of her presidency. She advocated for peace and reconciliation through regular trips to Northern Ireland and by hosting visitors from the North at her official residence.

**A NIGHT TO REMEMBER — John J. Sweeney, AFL-CIO President Emeritus (center), was welcomed as an Honorary Member of The Charitable Irish Society by Society President Paul McNamara (left) and past president Dr. Catherine B. Shannon (right) at the Society's annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner. More than 100 guests gathered for the March 17 black-tie event held at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston, which featured a traditional Toast To Ireland along with entertainment by bagpiper Ian Massie, vocalist Mary Henderson and musician Neil Greene of Winiker Music. In his acceptance speech, Mr. Sweeney, the son of Irish immigrants and union members, spoke about the importance of the Irish in the American labor movement as well as the 100th anniversary of the Dublin General Strike. Founded in 1737 and ranking as the oldest Irish organization in North America, The Charitable Irish Society was created “to cultivate a spirit of unity and harmony among all resident Irish and their descendants in the Massachusetts Colony and to advocate socially and morally the interests of the Irish people and their cultural heritage.”**



*Bill McCormack photo*

## Eire Society will honor IIC's Sister Lena Deevy

After 24 years as executive director of the organization she founded, Boston's Irish International Immigrant Center, Sister Lena Deevy has stepped down. Her energetic and committed stewardship of the IIC has been recognized by Ireland and America with national honors from both countries, and now it is time to honor the immigrants' friend here at home. Sister Lena will be feted at the Eire Society's annual Gold Medal dinner on Thurs., April 25, at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. Previous honorees have included President Kennedy, George Mitchell, Cardinal Cushing, Siobhan McKenna, Thomas “Tip” O'Neill, The Chieftains, John Hume, and Seamus Heaney. Reception at 6 p.m., dinner at 7. For information or ticket reservations, contact Mary Ellen Mulligan at 781-963-3660.



**Sr. Deevy**

In other Eire Society news, The Aisling Gallery, 229 Lincoln Street (Rte 3A), in Hingham will host a presentation by Professor Elizabeth FitzPatrick entitled “Learned Families of Brehon Lawyers in Ireland c.1200-1600 AD” on Sat., April 13, at 2 p.m. During her illustrated talk, Professor FitzPatrick explores some of the families who were practitioners of Brehon law and ran schools in the Classical Gaelic tradition in the lordships of Ireland. All are very welcome, but seating is limited. Kindly RSVP to Margaret Flagg at 617-327-4876 and let her know you are coming!

## BC hosts Ulster students at John J. Burns Library

MSc students from the University of Ulster, Northern Ireland, have successfully completed a unit of study at the Irish Institute at Boston College. The week's activities concluded with a reception at the John J. Burns Library, on the Chestnut Hill Campus, where students were awarded their certificate by University of Ulster Senior Lecturer, Alan Christie and by Dr Robert Mauro, Director of the Irish Institute at Boston College. Diplomats from the British and Irish Governments spoke at the event and Marguerite Crossan from Invest Northern Ireland and Paul Breen from Enterprise Ireland were also in attendance. Dr Mauro invited Kyle Darcy, University of Ulster graduate and author of the best selling novel “Under Current Conditions” to address the students and guests.

## D. Leo Monahan, at 86; versatile sportswriter who focused on hockey

D. Leo Monahan, longtime Boston sports reporter and columnist and hockey expert, died on March 27 at the age of 86. A native of South Boston, D. (for Daniel) Leo worked 38 years on Boston's Hearst newspapers — the *Daily Record*, *Record-American*, *Herald-American* (He won the Hearst National Writing Contest three times) — and served as special Boston correspondent for *Sports Illustrated* from 1960-1990.



As part of that job, he was asked to keep an eye on promising local sportswriters for the relatively new national magazine. In 1964, he recommended Dorchester's Mark Mulvoy for a rookie baseball-writing position at SI. Mulvoy left the *Boston Globe's* sports staff and headed to New York. He stayed with SI for the next 34 years, and retired as the magazine's editor-in-chief. Mr. Monahan also furnished a weekly column for the St. Louis-based *Sporting News* for 15 years and wrote a regular column for the *Dorchester Reporter* for a number of years after retiring from the Hearst company. He also worked in PR at UMass Boston. In 1986, Mr. Monahan was enshrined in hockey's Hall of Fame, one of the rare Americans to be so honored at that time. He covered the NHL, and especially the Boston Bruins, from 1948 to 1990. A Belmont resident, Monahan was the husband of the late Stella (Frechette) and the loving father of Rita Monahan-Earley and her husband Charles of Arlington, Mary Reed and her husband Tommie of Texas, Gail Monahan of Belmont, and the late Stella Monahan LeDoux. He was the beloved grandfather of Kathleen and C. Daniel Leo Earley, and Daniel and Mary Reed and great-grandfather to five boys. Mr. Monahan's brother Bob was also a sportswriter in Boston, first with the Hearst papers and then with the *Boston Globe* where he finished his writing career. Mr. Monahan served in the US Navy during the fighting in World War II. There was a funeral Mass for Mr. Monahan on Tuesday at Sacred Heart Church in Watertown. Interment was in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Watertown.



# A president salutes the Irish experience

By Ed Forry

President Obama welcomed government officials from Ireland and Northern Ireland to the White House last month for the traditional presentation of a bowl of shamrocks. Participating in the East Room ceremonies for the third consecutive year was Ireland's leader, Taoiseach Enda Kenny, who earlier in the day had joined the President and Speaker John Boehner at a St. Patrick's luncheon in the Capitol building. Also appearing at the early evening ceremony on March 19 were First Minister Peter Robinson and Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness of Northern Ireland.



Obama told the audience that he was looking forward to visiting the island again when the G8 summit meets in County Fermanagh in June.

"We have way too many Irish and Irish American and wannabe Irish Americans in the house for me to name but I will say that the next four years are shaping up to be very green ones here in the White House. My new Chief of Staff is a McDonough. My National Security Advisor is a Donilon. Our new CIA Director is a Brennan. My new head speech writer is a Keenan. And Joe Biden has very kindly agreed to stay on as Irishman-in-Chief."

The president told the audience that Biden was unable to attend the event due to an overseas trip. "He is on his way back from the installation of Pope Francis in Rome. For those of you who know Joe, literally the only thing that could keep him away from St. Patrick's Day at the White House is the installation of a new pope. So he sends his best.

"Looking out on this room, it's clear just how much America owes to our brothers and sisters from across the Atlantic, and how many of us – myself included – wouldn't be here if it were not for the brave souls who set off for the New World with no earthly idea of what awaited them on the other side.

"And it's a reminder of just how many trials the people of Ireland have endured, from hunger and troubles, to the economic challenges of recent years. It's yet another reason why we need to build an immigration system for the 21st century that works for families and businesses and our economy. But it's also a tribute to the incredible resilience of the Irish character and the enormous power of faith – in God, in one another, and in the possibility of a better life.

"It was that faith that brought millions of Irish to our shores, but that faith alone didn't join our two nations in common cause. It was how the Irish put that faith into practice in their new nation. They wanted a government of and by and for the people, so they helped us design one. And they understood the importance of saving the Union, so they fought and died for the cause. They saw potential in our railways, bridges and skyscrapers, so they poured their sweat and blood into building them. And they believed that each of us has an obligation, not just to ourselves, but to each other and to our country. So that's how they lived their lives here in America.

"A great nation is one that contributes more to the world than it takes out, and by that definition, America owes a profound debt of gratitude to the great nation or Ireland. And together, our people have never stopped dreaming of a better future and never stopped working to make that dream a reality.

... "And that's the story of America and Ireland: We look out for each other, we have each other's backs, and we recognize that no challenge is too great and no obstacle is too high if you've got a friend beside you and a nation behind you. That's been our history; that will be our future.

"So I hope everyone has a wonderful time. There's an old Irish saying that the recipe for a long life is to leave the table hungry, leave the bed sleepy, leave the bar thirsty. We'll see if that works tonight."

# Mourning a giant among men: The North's Sir George Quigley

By Joe Leary  
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Beneath all the tragic headlines emanating from Northern Ireland over these past 50 years lies a largely untold story of people on both sides that did their best to bring people together.

Though many resisted change, there were those who knew it was necessary and did what they could to make it a fair, just, and inclusive process, frequently at peril to their own lives and careers.

Foremost among them was Sir George Quigley, who, sadly, died last month at 83 to the great regret of all who knew him.

Sir George, a Presbyterian Unionist, was an active member of the Irish American Partnership Board of Directors. He was a unique and kindly man, a true gentleman in every respect, a magnificent example of the best of Northern Ireland.



Joe Leary

An outpouring of condolences from all sides of the political spectrum acknowledged the huge contributions that Sir George made to the well being of Northern Ireland and its people. Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness, SDLP's Mark Durkan, DUP leader Peter Robinson, and UUP leader Mike Nesbitt all expressed regret at Sir George's passing while also noting the trust they had in his opinions and judgments. Very few in leadership have gained such respect from all political viewpoints.

In 1991, Sir George and business leader Liam Connellan of the Republic advanced the idea of a Belfast-Dublin Economic Corridor that would benefit both cities and the millions of people who lived along the way. A formal study was published detailing routes and advantages and showing what could be accomplished. It took significant courage to suggest such a linking that early in the peace process.

Today, that corridor exists in what may be the most impactful development in Ireland over these past 20 years. New businesses and new roads are now in effect, and there are no outposts, all of which seemed impossible at the time. Automobile travel time was reduced from four-and-a-half hours to two hours. A rural countryside has been transformed by the high-performance highways.

Sir George was an unwavering supporter of an all-Ireland economy as a true benefit to all of the people on the island. He had been chairman of the board of the Ulster Bank when it was independent and had 50 percent of its business in the North and 50 percent in the South. He knew what he was talking about.

# Lots of "What Now? questions as Francis I takes St. Peter's seat

By James W. Dolan  
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

Pope Francis has his work cut out for him. In a secular world, how does he reconcile Christian orthodoxy – more particularly Catholicism – with democracy, capitalism, gay rights, women's rights, abortion, and a culture that sometimes seems obsessed with sex and violence?

In an effort to preserve and protect what it views as fundamental, the Church is inclined to resist rather than adapt. Often what has developed as custom and practice is elevated to the level of moral imperative.

In so doing the institutional life of the Church becomes confused with its spiritual role. The human flaws so evident in the management of the Church are ignored and denied because to do otherwise would cause scandal, thereby undermining its spiritual and moral authority.

This blending of the institutional and spiritual life of the Church does a disservice to both. The Church views itself as in but not of the world; the part that's in is its governance; the part that is not is its doctrinal purity.

While showing inordinate sympathy for the flawed human beings that make up the institution itself, the Church fails to demonstrate the same compassion and sympathy for the faithful who question doctrine and its application in a diverse society.

One can understand the Church's reluctance to modify or overturn what are considered fundamental doctrines, but why the resistance to reforming the institutional Church in the face of a history of mismanagement and corruption?

The Church is a blend of the human and divine. It is a mistake to confuse the two. The institutional Church is human. It makes all the mistakes one would expect of a medieval monarchy. It can, and should, be reformed by becoming more democratic, transparent, and accountable. To do so would not undermine its spiritual role; on the contrary, it would strengthen it.

How can a feudal hierarchy credibly preach human rights, equality, and freedom? Is that not asking oth-



Baroness May Blood and Sir George Quigley at the Irish American Partnership Leadership dinner that held last August in Hillsborough Castle just outside Belfast.

He was a steadfast supporter of a competitive corporate tax system that would even the tax rates in both the North and South. So far, that has not happened, but Sir George was way ahead of most public figures in advocating such a change.

He was the go-to guy for some of Northern Ireland's toughest problems. The government asked him to study and come up with recommendations for new ideas for the vexing Parades Commission that authorizes and manages Northern Ireland's multiple parades that cause much violence. It was a thankless job that few would have accepted. His recommendations were shelved, but his discussions with all sides shed light on the problems.

Another indication of his courage and love of his Northern Ireland: When one of the Protestant paramilitary groups, the UDA, decided to decommission its store of weapons, Sir George was called upon to verify that the move was real. That was only three years ago. That he was given access to the process was a tribute to his standing in all communities. Sir George's word would be trusted by everyone.

I could go on and on about his value to the improving society in the North, but I must say the my friendship with Sir George was one of the most treasured aspects of my job at the Partnership. He was always available for advice on difficult problems. Last year he hosted a presentation for several schools in Belfast and awarded Partnership grants to those attending.

This past August Sir George joined our Leadership Mission in Belfast for an evening. He was his usual jovial self, enjoying everyone. We will miss him greatly. And so will Northern Ireland.

ers to do as I say, not as I do? The governance of the Church should reflect as well as project those values that it calls upon other governments to practice.

Women deserve a far greater role in the governance of the modern Church. By what authority does one argue that Christ only wanted men to be priests, and unmarried men at that? To deny women that opportunity, in my view, is a distortion based on an outdated institutional preference rather than the gospels.

Doctrinal change is obviously more difficult as evidenced by the Church's reluctance to accept artificial birth control. That should be easy, given the wholesale rejection of that teaching by Catholics. To equate the prevention of conception with abortion – the taking of what is, or would become, a human life – is folly. They are not the same.

Love is the essence of Church teaching. It encompasses all other virtues. It does not necessarily mean approval but it does require understanding and compassion. The Church may never perform gay marriages but it should love gays and respect their desire to marry. To do otherwise would be uncharitable.

In strengthening the management and operation of the institutional Church, Pope Francis will not carry the heavy burden of infallibility, which provides that in matters of faith and morals the pope, guided by the Holy Spirit, cannot be mistaken. It implies a miraculous inspiration to prevent error.

Such authority, even when limited to matters spiritual, runs counter to our understanding of human nature. Experience suggests that good, well-intentioned, wise, even holy men can and do err. Infallibility, a relatively recent doctrine in the life of the Church, must then either be hubris or divine inspiration. To believe that God underwrites all such pronouncements is a difficult reach even for one who accepts them.

*James W. Dolan is a retired Dorchester District Court judge who now practices law.*



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Point of View

# ‘I’LL TEAR THE HIDE OFF HIM’

The fight between Markey and Lynch for a US Senate seat is mere child’s play against the ‘good old days’ of Irish politics

By PETER F. STEVENS  
BIR STAFF

It won’t be like the “good old days” of Boston Irish politics. No matter how many stiff jabs that Ed Markey and Steve Lynch launch at each other in their Democratic duel for John Kerry’s former US Senate seat, the contest between the pair of “neighborhood guys” will prove Marquis of Queensbury compared to yesteryear. In no way will the race resurrect the wild roundhouses, uppercuts, and below-the-belt shots that once erupted in virtually any Boston political brawl that featured heavyweights as James Michael Curley and John “Honey Fitz” Fitzgerald, as well as such contenders as James Ambrose Gallivan.

Every time that many of today’s pundits cry crocodile tears at the “lack of civility” and at the name-calling nastiness in today’s races, don’t believe a word of it. What many in the media and the public secretly crave is a contest such as Boston’s 1918 mayoral election.

That fray proved one of the most rancorous and most memorable in the city’s annals as Curley was challenged by Gallivan, “Honey Fitz’s” man; Peter Teague, another congressman and the choice of “the Mahatma,” powerful ward boss Martin Lomasney; and Yankee politician Andrew J. Peters. Gallivan, assessing his chances against Curley, spat a line neither Markey nor Lynch will utter: “I’ll tear the hide off him.”

James Gallivan was a man who made headlines in his era in large part because he and “Himself,” Curley, tore into each other with fiery bursts of character assassination.

Born on Oct. 22, 1866 to James and Mary (Flynn)

Gallivan, James A. Gallivan proved a top student at Boston Latin and was accepted at Harvard. According to the *New York Times*, “Besides being an able scholar, he was so proficient as a second baseman [some accounts say first baseman] that the big leagues were open to him when he gained his bachelor’s degree in 1888. Instead, he became a newspaper reporter.”

As a reporter, Gallivan learned the ins and outs of the raucous ward politics of late nineteenth-century Boston, and, in 1895, he decided to enter, rather than just observe, the political action. The twenty-nine-year-old Gallivan ran for the state representative’s post from South Boston and won.

Within three years, Gallivan had claimed a seat in the Massachusetts Senate, earning the spot of minority leader. He served as street commissioner of Boston from 1900 to 1914 and, in the fall of 1914, was elected to Congress as a Democratic representative to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of James M. Curley to become the mayor of Boston.

Gallivan became known in Washington as one of the most flamboyant members of the House. He was one of the so-called “Wet Bloc,” legislators opposing the temperance movement’s snowballing crusade to ban “demon alcohol” in every corner of the nation.

In 1918, Gallivan listened to Boston friends who urged him to run for another office—the one currently held by Mayor Curley. There was little question that Gallivan could carry a large share of the Irish vote, especially in South Boston, where his wife, the former Louise Burke, had also been raised.

On the campaign stump, Gallivan chided the patronage of Curley and asked, “Who put the ‘plum’ in plumbing?” The reference was to Curley cronies who had been awarded lucrative city contracts.

Curley responded with verbal blasts that Gallivan was “a desperado of American politics,” an “egotist”

and a “slacker.” The incumbent charged that Gallivan was a congressman who should attend to his duties in Washington rather than run for mayor of Boston: “Will Gallivan be in the nation’s capital...when the bill for national prohibition is considered?” asked Curley.

A Gallivan ad in the *Boston Post* countered that Curley “stands for the worst things in American politics.” In turn, Curley derided Gallivan as a “Hessian” and “jitney [period slang for a bus or van] messiah.” Curley also claimed that there was a good reason for Gallivan’s opposition to the proponents of temperance: “I thought it might be providential to call the attention of the electorate to Jimmy’s elbow-bending.”

Curley added: “Congressman Gallivan has two degrees. One from Harvard and one from the Washington Institute for Dispsomaniacs [someone with a craving for alcohol].”

When the votes were tallied, neither Gallivan nor Curley emerged the victor. Peters, with the other candidates carving up the Democratic vote, won the election.

The local voters who had come out for Gallivan in his failed mayoral gambit returned him to Washington again and again as the congressman from the Massachusetts Twelfth District. On April 3, 1928, the congressman passed away from what was described as “underlying heart disease.”

Later, a political observer would joke that in the end, after all the campaign battles, Curley became a bathhouse [in South Boston] and Gallivan a road [Gallivan Blvd. in Dorchester].

It is safe to say that neither Markey nor Lynch will embrace the old-school tactics of their Boston Irish political “ancestors.” Curley, Honey Fitz, Gallivan, Lomasney, and company might well have fallen down laughing at the so-called nastiness of the Scott Brown-Elizabeth Warren race and chortled, “You call *that* tough?”

## When in Paris . . . with Brendan Behan

By THOMAS O’GRADY  
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Today I walked along rue St. André des Arts in Paris, searching for an Arab tavern. I was following the footsteps of legendary Dublin-born man-of-letters Brendan Behan, or at least following their imprint in a poem he wrote—in Irish—in the Latin Quarter of Paris in 1949. Like many Irish writers before and



Brendan Behan

after him—most famously Oscar Wilde, James Joyce, and Samuel Beckett—Behan was drawn irresistibly to La Ville-Lumière (The City of Light): it was the absolute antithesis of “dear dirty Dublin.” Beginning in 1948 and continuing almost until his death in 1964, he had several extended sojourns in Paris and numerous visits—all of which generated tales of

adventures and misadventures as colorful as those that fueled his public persona as a hard-drinking “character” not only back home in Dublin but also in New York, London, and virtually every other city where he set foot during his meteoric rise to fame as playwright and memoirist during the latter half of the 1950s.

Behan’s earliest Parisian days and nights are reconstructed and recounted by Ulick O’Connor in his biography of the artist, titled simply *Brendan*, first published in 1970. Just released from a month in Mountjoy prison for being drunk and disorderly and assaulting a police officer, Behan felt the need for a fresh start outside Dublin but was barred from entering England because of his extensive record of incarceration for militant republican activities—two years of juvenile detention in England, four years in prison in Ireland, and then another four months in an English jail in 1947. He thus took his chances even in passing through England while coincidentally retracing the very route to Paris that Joyce gave his character Stephen Dedalus in *Ulysses*: “Newhaven-Dieppe, steerage passenger.”

Ever gregarious, once he crossed the English Channel, Behan quickly insinuated himself into various corners of Parisian life. Over time his acquaintances included fellow Dubliner Samuel Beckett, iconic French existentialist Albert Camus (who shared Behan’s passion for soccer), and American expatriate novelist James Baldwin. According to O’Connor, Behan lived mostly hand to mouth, though occasionally he sold a piece of writing—like the short story “After the Wake,” published in the avant-garde literary magazine *Points*—and occasionally he resorted to his family trade of house-painting. He also claimed to have operated as a “ponce” for prostitutes, soliciting business from deep-pocketed American tourists visiting the landmark Harry’s New York Bar (which, I can attest, is still a going concern today at the same address, 5 rue Daunou). Generally penniless, however, and an unabashed chancer, Behan relied heavily on American ex-G.I.s living comfortably on their education grants to provide him with food, drink, and a floor to sleep on at night.

In fact, Behan’s poem that drew me to rue St. André des Arts reads as a sort of emblem both of his makeshift life in Paris and of his emerging literary ambition. First appearing in the Irish-language journal *Comhar* in August of 1949, “Buíochas le Joyce” was partly a byproduct of Behan’s time spent in prison during the

mid-1940s for attempting to murder a police detective after the annual Easter 1916 commemoration at Glasnevin Cemetery in 1942. Sentenced to fourteen years of penal servitude, Behan was released after only four years thanks to a general amnesty for political prisoners in 1946. But during his time first at Mountjoy Prison, then at Arbour Hill, and finally at the internment camp at The Curragh in County Kildare, he became a serious student of the Irish language. In his biography of Behan, O’Connor quotes his Irish-language tutor and fellow Mountjoy internee, County Kerry schoolteacher Sean O’Briain, who recalls that “Brendan truly loved the language and the literature”: “He had a great *gradh* (love) for the *Cuirt* (*The Midnight Court*), and also for *An tOileannach* (*The Island Man*) and the stories of Sean-Phadraig O’Conaire. He went far deeper into the subject than his gaiety would suggest, and he loved to talk and learn about life in the Blaskets, Dun Chaoin and Ballyferrier.” At The Curragh, Behan studied under the mentorship of novelist and short story writer Máirtín Ó Cadhain.

O’Connor notes that Behan was influenced by various styles of Irish-language poetry; however, the body of work that he left behind—only a dozen poems all told—is too small a sample to prove either influence by or confluence with the specific 17th- and 18th-century poets whom O’Connor cites. Indeed, the inclusion of a couple of his poems in the important anthology *Nuabhéarsaíocht* (1950) aligns his writing much more closely with what scholar Louis de Paor describes as “the emergence of a Modernist poetics” among non-native speakers that marked “the accelerated development of the modern lyric mode in Irish away from the vigorous tradition of folk or community poetry that continues to be the dominant form of poetry in Gaeltacht areas.” While its irreverent tone may be consistent with the poetic practices glanced at by O’Connor, both the formal and the stylistic attributes of “Buíochas le Joyce” suggest a more complex literary lineage.

For starters, Behan’s poem is a sonnet—a form inextricably associated with the British poetic tradition by way of Wyatt and Surrey, Spenser and Shakespeare, Milton and Donne, Wordsworth and Keats. Was Behan’s appropriation of this form thus one more act of diehard Irish nationalism on his part? If that was his intention, then the effect is just mildly subversive, as its fourteen lines are arranged in the Petrarchan variant of the form—an octave and a sestet separated by a double line break—rather than the Shakespearean. Or was Behan drawn to the sonnet through acquaintance with some of the French masters of the form—Rimbaud, Baudelaire, Mallarmé? One way or the other, he shows little interest in the “craft” of the sonnet—he seems either oblivious to or indifferent to the conventions of consistent line-length and predictable end-rhyme.

Yet, as Ulick O’Connor puts on display in “Gratitude to James Joyce,” his translation of “Buíochas le Joyce,” the rhetorical structure of the poem’s subject matter falls naturally into the Petrarchan formal structure. The first four lines establish the basic circumstances of Behan’s direct address to the spirit of Joyce (who had died in 1941):

Here in the rue St. André des Arts,  
Plastered in an Arab Tavern,  
I explain you to an eager Frenchman,  
Ex-G.I.’s, and a drunken Russian.

The next four lines make clear the relationship be-

tween the speaker’s state of intoxication and the company he is keeping. Presumably, at least the Frenchman and the Americans are students (the latter sponsored in Paris by the G.I. Bill), and in their eagerness to learn about Joyce from his fellow Dubliner, they are willing to ply the self-styled expert ex-pat Irishman with lashings of French alcohol, including the anise-based liqueur that replaced the wormwood-infused absinthe spirits (outlawed in 1915) that Oscar Wilde had favored and the trademark apple brandy of the Basse-Normandie region of France:

Of all you wrote I explain each part,  
Drinking Pernod in France because of your art.  
As a writer we’re proud of you—  
And thanks for the Calvados we gain through you.

Then, in typical Petrarchan fashion, the double line break announces the sonnet’s *volta* (or “turn”), a pronounced shift in its emphasis—in this case to Behan’s rationalization of his exploitation of Joyce’s name and reputation for the sake of a free booze-up. Would Joyce begrudge his fellow Irish transplant the chance to quench his thirst through such a ploy? Essentially, Behan imagines reversing roles with his venerated literary precursor, and in the process transforms his scheme into a conspiratorial wink between two Dubliners notoriously fond of their drink. In short, he invites the departed Joyce to put himself literally in his shoes, tanked up on brandy and making his way from Les Halles, the vast and teeming marketplace known as “the belly of Paris,” across the Seine to the bohemian Left Bank:

If I were you  
And you were me,  
Coming from Les Halles  
Roaring, with a load of cognac,  
Belly full, on the tippie,  
A verse or two in my honour you’d scribble.

So, is “Buíochas le Joyce” just, as Behan scholar Colbert Kearney suggests, “a casual *jeu d’esprit*”? And is Behan just suffering from delusions of grandeur in imagining Joyce composing verses of gratitude to him? About a decade later, Behan would describe himself in a letter as a typical Irish writer: “you know that we have no proper view of our own work—we think we’re James Joyces one minute and plain gobshites the next.” Around the same time, asked in an interview why he first wrote his play *The Hostage* in Irish (*An Giall*), he explained: “Irish is more direct than English, more bitter. It’s a fine muscular thing, the most expressive language in Europe.” Obviously, the poem is an apprentice piece—Behan’s poetic “career” was short-lived, and his most enduring works are his compelling plays *The Quare Fellow* and *The Hostage* and his memoir-esque narrative *Borstal Boy*. Still, “Buíochas le Joyce” effectively evokes a specific time in a specific place where Behan might still feel at home more than sixty years later: the Arab tavern may be long gone, but walking today along rue St. André des Arts, I could not help but notice the Guinness sign over Corcoran’s Irish Pub.

*Thomas O’Grady is Director of Irish Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston and in the spring of 2013 a Visiting Scholar at the American University of Paris.*

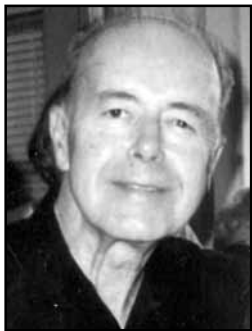


# Boston Irish Reporter's Here & There

By BILL O'DONNELL

## Fermanagh Rentals Sky High for G8 Summit

– It's not as if you're looking to rent a home next to the course hosting golf's Open championship, or to reserve a plush suite at a national political convention or a sea-side villa in Hawaii, but the cost of a place to lay your head during the June G8 summit meeting in Northern Ireland is off the screen. Owners near, and sometimes not so near, the luxe Lough Erne Golf & Spa Resort in Fermanagh, a scenic wonderland, are signing on for living accommodations during the international summit that range from \$3,000 to \$18,000 a week.



Bill O'Donnell

For those sensing a rare opportunity to see world leaders up close and revel in the scenery and statcraft, the rental demand by the wealthy or the merely curious is fierce, and homeowners around Lough Erne, near Enniskillen, have been only too happy to satisfy every whim and wish. Entire guest houses are available and other local property owners are offering pick-up service and drivers to and from the airport. Others looking to attract renters are offering chauffeured transportation and round the clock security guards.

In addition to counting visitors from Ireland itself, the US and Britain and the five other G8 countries, the Irish papers have been reporting that there will be 800 people, official and otherwise, in **President Barack Obama's** party.

There have been rumors early on that President Obama might do a quick visit south to his ancestral home in Moneygall, Co. Offaly, when the G8 event is finished. However, there has been no more on that possibility lately. The lack of news may be a question of security, or more likely an indication that the President will not be visiting Moneygall on this Irish trip.

**Eire Society Honors Sister Lena Deevey** – Boston's Eire Society, which celebrated its 75th anniversary last year, has a special treat for its members and guests this year as they will honor one of Boston's most selfless and dedicated community leaders when **Sister Lena Deevey** will be the special guest and honoree at the Society's Gold Medal Dinner on Thursday evening, April 25, at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston.

This is a perfect opportunity to thank Sister Lena in person for her near quarter century of hard work and passion in providing care and concern for immigrants and the displaced at the Irish International Immigration Center.

For tickets or information please contact Mary Ellen Mulligan at 781-963-3660.

## Unsettled Irish Electorate Boosts Fianna Fail

– Reports just before Saint Patrick's Day last month reflected a stunning turn-around for the fortunes of the Soldiers of Destiny, the Fianna Fail party. Only recently the party had been pronounced near death by the pundits. Reflecting broad-based voter dissatisfaction with the ruling coalition in a *Sunday Independent* opinion poll, the news is surprisingly bad for coalition partner Labour. Fine Gael has lost some ground but is at 25 percent in the poll, while Labor has sunk to a shocking 9 percent. Sinn Fein is showing strength at 20 percent, twice Labour's support and gaining on second place Fine Gael.

Fianna Fail leader **Micheal Martin**, at 36 percent, is clearly the most popular party leader in the Republic, and Labour's **Eamon Gilmore** is the least popular leader overall at a scant 17 percent.

Gilmore's lack of strength with the Irish voters may end up in his replacement before the next election. Following Martin in popularity is a surging **Gerry Adams** at 28 percent, Prime Minister **Enda Kenny** at 26 percent, and Gilmore bringing up the rear.

The relatively swift reversal of fortune for the formerly disheartened Fianna Fail party and the rebranding of its image could be something the Republican party in the US might be keenly interested in emulating.

**Magdalene Survivors To Share In State Payments** – Of the original 10,000 Magdalene girls who were institutionalized and worked without pay in laundries and other state/religious homes, only 1,000 are alive today. These survivors will be compensated by the Irish State for their years of unpaid labor and harsh treatment, according to a formula arrived at during negotiations between Irish Justice Minister **Alan Shatter** and Junior Minister of Health **Kathleen Lynch**.

The proposed formula of payment for survivors would be \$25,000 for each year a woman worked without wages up to a maximum payment of \$250,000. The process would treat the Magdalene women all together as a class action and none of the women would need to be represented by counsel. Some Magdalene survivors have already received partial compensation and they would also be included in the updated agreement.

There is also a strong possibility that women who had worked in so-called "Mercy Homes" run by the Sisters of Mercy in Ireland would also fall under the compensation agreement.

Following delays and other problems and an incomplete payment process, the Irish government's compensation package is close to becoming operational. Ireland has clearly done its duty and recognized the plight of the women and their years of involuntary servitude in moving ahead with this long overdue debt of national honor.

**NI Police Chasing Down Flag Protestors** – There have been weeks of street protests, largely by Unionists

deeply resentful of new rules by the Belfast City Council reducing the number of days that the Unionist flag will fly over Belfast City Hall. Many hardline unionists, or loyalists, have been involved in often-violent clashes that have resulted in sometimes brutal attacks on Northern Ireland Police Service members attempting to maintain public safety.

The once cordial relationship between the Protestant/Unionist community and the police has broken down with many Unionists blaming the PSNI for their role in the protests. Among those who have been critical of the police is First Minister **Peter Robinson**, who, following a meeting with the PSNI Chief Constable, said "There is a large section of [the Unionist] community who don't believe the police have been impartial in dealing with these issues." When questioned on his statement, Robinson reaffirmed his initial position critical of the police.

The First Minister's allegations or not, the police continue to track down protestors by using images of the rioters and distributing them publicly to be identified. To date, more than 200 protestors have been arrested, and 168 have been charged, many of serious crimes. The process continues.

**Irish Vatican Embassy Re-opening Urged** – There's a new pope, a new papal nuncio and the Irish people would likely support a reconciliation between their government and the Vatican curia. This is the pitch from the Fianna Fail Party following last year's embassy closing, the excessive cost of the elegant diplomatic post in the Holy See getting the blame for the closure.

At present the only diplomatic relations between Dublin and the Vatican are links by the Irish Foreign Affairs Department Secretary General and mid-level Vatican officials. There is no Irish ambassador resident in Vatican City. In addition to Fianna Fail, a number of elected members of Dail Eireann have also been supportive of renewed, top-level representation. It appears the only question is when, not if.

## Few Happy As Ireland Works To Turn Corner

– It's safe to say that the Irish working class, who have borne the overwhelming burden of righting the once galloping economy, are unhappy and, in many cases, bitter. Many feel that bankers, the politicians, the remnants of the ruling class are living life much as they did before the Tiger disappeared while they struggle with higher food and petrol costs, increased taxes, reduced benefits, shrinking job markets, and a belief that the recovery is unjustly penalizing them.

That's the bad news, but Ireland has been a top performer in stabilizing its debt burden and honoring its loan bailout. The good news is that Ireland's main creditor, the IMF, likes what it is seeing in Ireland. In a recent visit to Dublin, the managing director of the International Monetary Fund, **Christine Lagarde**, said in reference to Ireland's economy, "What has been done is huge. The determination showed in implementing the [bailout] program is extraordinary."

**In Life, Death, Maeve Binchy Reigns** – She left a huge following of readers when she died at 72 last July, but **Maeve Binchy** remains one of the world's best-read authors, her work a reminder that warmth, a generous spirit, and colorful characters make the Binchy name a continuing star in the world of fiction. Her final book, "A Week in Winter," led the bestseller list in Ireland and hit the top in the New York Times Bestseller list in its first week of sales here in the US in February.

A former newspaper reporter and teacher before turning her hand to novels, Binchy sold more than 40 million books published in 37 languages during her career.

**Fox's Sean Hannity Cons Unsuspecting Viewers** – After years of casually watching Fox TV News, I have come to distrust much of what is churned out daily by the so-called news channel on its cable network. And after reading the research and monitoring reports by the respected fact-gatherers at the Media Matters organization, I have come to see that nighttime TV talk show host **Sean Hannity's** stock in trade is a collection of lies, misrepresentations, misquotes, deceptive examples of Democratic sins, unsupported smears, and a reliance on labeling President Obama as a Muslim and/or a non-citizen long after those specious allegations have been put to rest.

The indictment of the seemingly avuncular Hannity by the media watchdog offers as evidence numerous misstatements and outright lies, but unfortunately I only have he space for a handful:

- He used Republican (RNC)-doctored, dishonest audio of Supreme Court arguments to attack health care reform.
- He distorted Congressional Budget Office numbers to falsely charge that if Obama was re-elected taxes would go up 30 percent. Hasn't happened!
- He falsely claimed that a White House science advisor had advocated "compulsory abortion" months after that claim was labeled a 'pants on fire' lie after **Glenn Beck** first aired it.
- He used cropped, distorted and misused quotes over and over again to indict the mainstream media of liberal bias.
- Long after it was widely disproved, Hannity ignored the facts to repeatedly claim Obama's policies had not helped improve the economy.

Warning: If you watch Fox News exclusively it may prove to be dangerous to your credibility and judgment!

**Tourism Looks To attract Visitors To Boyne Valley** – The Irish Minister of Tourism has put together a package highlighting the historic and scenic wonders of the Boyne Valley in Counties Meath and Louth. The entire touring mileage of the region, some 125 miles of landscape rich in Irish history and the early days of Christianity, can be covered in half a day.

The areas of interest showcase a number of historically significant sites that would appeal to the culturally curious. Most of the Boyne Valley sites are all too often passed over when tourists are heading north to Belfast or the Causeway Coast, or south to Dublin and the sunny southeast.

The world-renowned heritage sites total 22 in all, including the justly celebrated Newgrange, Monasterboice, Slane Castle, Melifont Abbey, and Trim Castle.

Some 20 years ago the late matriarch and owner of the superb Ballymascanlon House Hotel outside Dundalk, **Irene Quinn** took my wife **Jean** and me for a tour of the Boyne Valley, an area where she had spent much of her life. It was a glorious afternoon enriched along the way by her running commentary and by our later coming across the original homestead of the Irish Fenian and later *Boston Pilot* publisher, **John Boyle O'Reilly**. It is a tour well worth making.

**Entry Inspections Campaign Against 'Welfare Tourists'** – The Irish Republic, in the midst of an extreme austerity program and economic hardship, has enough problems taking care of its citizens without people from other European Union areas traveling to Ireland for the sole purpose of getting on the dole or accessing government programs.

In an effort to curb this illegal traffic, the Irish government has been cracking down on welfare tourism at ports and airports detaining, and deporting visitors from other EU states without legitimate business in Ireland. In the past ten months the Department of Social Protection has turned away 50 foreign nationals. Last year 500 welfare tourists cost the state some \$6.5 million in illegal dole payments and other state payments. Close to a million dollars has been saved from payments being stopped and the continuing arrests.

Some of the problems that the government has confronted with dole-seekers from other countries has been attributed to the extension of EU common travel arrangements.

## RANDOM CLIPPINGS

Unemployment in the North has doubled during the recession, up to a 15-year high of 8.5 percent. ... Latest figures for Ireland's wealthiest musicians put U2's **Bono's** net worth at \$600 million. ...

Former Patriots QB **Drew Bledsoe** was around Boston recently hyping his Washington State winery. When he exited, Bledsoe paid for newspaper ads thanking Patriot fans. A class act. ... Enda Kenny's numbers are down, but his recent US & UK visits were a big success. ... **Sean Quinn** and his family, once Ireland's richest, gave court testimony described as "completely unbelievable." ... Update: Sinn Fein's **Francie Molloy** defeated his unionist opponent in the MP special election in mid Ulster. Incidentally, Molloy and four other S/F MPs continue to skip the oath and refuse to sit in Commons.

**Warren Buffett** sent his top aides to Ireland last month to look into Irish State assets reportedly up for sale. ... Rickshaws on the streets of Galway City are a failed experiment with the recent city council ban. ... The sister-in-law of the late Loyalist leader **David Ervine**, is learning Irish with a community group in east Belfast. ... The North's Deputy First Minister, **Martin McGuinness**, is the target of death threats that are "real & active," according to police. ... The Irish justice minister is urgently looking to reform the lengthy court trial delays, many of which run as long as five years. ... The latest polling is showing a 70 percent favorable sentiment for integrated education in Ireland. ... The variety of potato that was at the root of the Irish famine is now available for the first time in Ireland in 170 years.

After months of squabbling, the new golf course near Bushmills finally got the go-ahead early in March. ... **Sean Fitzpatrick**, accused of concealing \$182 million in improper loans from an Irish bank is going to trial. ... GAA officials in Galway, decimated by emigration, plead for jobs. ... **Pope Francis I** seems like the perfect compromise coming from a College of Cardinals all named by

**Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI**. He's Italian, not a Curia insider, from Latin America,

the home of 40 percent of the world's Catholics – and a conservative with a humble reputation. ... Speaking of the new Pontiff, I hope the report that he had a meeting in his first days as Pope with exiled Boston Archbishop Cardinal **Bernard Law** are incorrect. If true, I'd call it a bad career move for the pope. ... Boston officials should travel to spots like New York, Philadelphia, Arizona, and San Antonio to see up close what pushcart vendors can do for urban ambience. Keep the pushcarts. ... In case you missed **John Powers's** report in the Globe's sports section, the word is out: forget the Olympics here in 2024. **Tom Menino** has gone to ground on that issue.

Keeping to the network's "proud" tradition of disrespect for the truth, Fox's **Bill O'Reilly** accused Obama of being responsible for a 75 percent increase in federal spending. The fact is that George W. is responsible for 66 percent of the increase on his watch; Obama for a mere 18.8 percent. Do Fox commentators read the newspapers? ... Cork and Dublin will be adding at least 200 new jobs from McAfee Security and Yahoo. ... It's about time that the government got its act together in the lengthy Dingle name change dispute. The solution: Bilingual signs in English & Irish. Wow! ... President Obama recently met with Jimmy Carter's grandson and thanked him for helping release the infamous "47 percent" killer video featuring **Mitt Romney**. ... Galway's much honored Druid Theatre Company has done it again with its production of *Druid* by Tom Murphy, a stage rendering of three plays by Tom Murphy.



## Profile

# Kathleen McGillicuddy has always tried to succeed ‘graciously – no sharp elbows’

## Head of BC’s Board of Trustees to women: Promote yourself in ‘the right way’

BY GREG O’BRIEN  
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

The surname and resume in stereotypical Boston circles, where once Irish were admonished not to apply for jobs and women were relegated to second-class status, paint a conflicting picture in a man’s world:

McGillicuddy, as Irish as they come, former executive vice president of FleetBoston Financial, with a list of achievements the envy of any board room, and currently the chairwoman of Boston College’s Board of Trustees, the first woman to hold the position in the school’s 150-year history.

Now add in some New York street smarts.

Move over, boys. You’ve just met Kathleen.

Kathleen M. McGillicuddy, a woman who has focused more in her life on “producing the goods” than on gender prejudice, didn’t just shatter the glass ceiling; she demolished it. McGillicuddy, who retired in 2003, was a key executive in elite Boston banking circles for nearly 30 years during the rough and tumble days of consolidation. At FleetBoston Financial she led the integration and growth of consolidated Fleet and BankBoston’s high net worth business clients’ with more than \$50 billion assets under management. Previous to that she was executive vice president and executive director for Global Treasury for BankBoston and executive vice president of Corporate Treasury for Bank of New England.

Suffice it to say that her journey was a safe and productive passage in seas that were at times patrolled by barracudas. She set a gold standard for women in the workplace.

“You always have to keep an oar in the water,” she said in an interview. “Keep your head up and your ambitions well understood. You need to be deliberate.”

McGillicuddy has always been purposeful, lessons learned early in life from her late father Michael, who worked as an Avon executive at 30 Rock in Manhattan. “I grew up innocent to gender prejudice,” she says. “I always imagined that I would have an interesting career. My dad taught me to ignore restrictions based on gender, to rise to the occasion and keep my dignity.”

By any measure, McGillicuddy is one of the most dignified and accomplished Boston banking executives in recent memory. At FleetBoston Financial, she helped successfully consolidate two banking institutions with 57 offices across eight states, creating a new management team; streamlined business practices; and cut expenses by 40 percent. At BankBoston, she oversaw the treasury for an \$86 billion global financial services company, and earlier at Bank of New England, she planned and completed the consolidation of more than 20 banks throughout New England to a single-portfolio function of management, sales, and trading.

“I’ve always believed your work should speak for itself,” she says, sounding a bit like her parents. “You need to produce the goods.”

Michael and Mary Ellen (Maloney) McGillicuddy, both first-generation Irish Americans (Michael was born in the Bronx, Mary Ellen in Brooklyn), produced the goods themselves: a high achieving set of four siblings—two girls and two boys. The family comes from good working class stock, the McGillicuddys hailing from County Mayo, and the Maloneys from small towns in central Ireland where they raised horses and farmed.

“My mom was at the helm at home; she set high standards, and expected us to live up to them,” she says. “My dad was a gentleman’s gentleman,” she adds. And he was one “heckuva” golfer, regularly shooting in the high 70s and low 80s. “Golf was a very important part of my father’s life. Growing up we had periods of silence on Saturdays and Sundays while he watched a golf tournament on television.”

A soldier in Patton’s Army in the North African, Italian, and Normandy campaigns, Michael McGillicuddy was disciplined in every way, and instilled that



Kathleen M. McGillicuddy, flanked by her husband, Ronald Logue, at left, and Boston College President William Leahy.

same sense of a purpose in his children, most notably through education.

Born and raised in the metropolitan New York village of Suffern, across the Tappan Zee Bridge from Sleepy Hollow, Kathleen, now 63, was marinated in Catholic education—first at Sacred Heart School in Suffern, then at the private Mount Saint Vincent Academy in Tuxedo Park, and finally at the Newton College of the Sacred Heart, which became an integral part of the Boston College family in the mid 1970s. After graduation and a stint as a computer programmer for the John Hancock Insurance Company, she earned an MBA at Babson, furthering her studies in finance.

At Newton College, McGillicuddy majored in economics, a natural segue for someone with such a logical and mathematically orientated mind. “I chose economics,” she says, “because it was a mix between a practical application and a complicated mathematical discipline, a blend of the rigid with a practical side.”

The definition suits McGillicuddy perfectly. She sees herself more of a blend of the two than rigorously Irish or solidly woman. In retirement, she lives in Newton with her husband, Ronald Logue, a retired State Street Corporation executive. McGillicuddy has no children; her husband has two from a previous marriage. In 2008, they established the McGillicuddy-Logue Center for Undergraduate Global Studies at BC to promote innovative international learning for undergraduates.

Boston College has been, and is, an essential element in McGillicuddy’s life. A trustee since 2002, she is co-chairwoman of BC’s ongoing “Light the World” \$1.5 billion capital campaign to fund academic programs, financial aid commitments, student formation initiatives, and campus construction projects. She also is founding co-chairwoman and current chairwoman of BC’s Council for Women of Boston College, which has as its mission supporting women as leaders and influential participants in the university community.

Of all her significant achievements, McGillicuddy is most proud of her leadership role in opening previously locked professional doors for women. “The path I chose

was very much a man’s world...I was the young girl they gave a job to, and I managed to work my way to become head of treasury of the Bank of Boston, which at the time was the premier banking institution in New England.”

Did she have to bang heads along the way?

“You have to have your wits about you, actively manage your career, and when opportunities arise, go for it. Be smart and know what you are doing. I tell young woman that they need to be a bit of a self-promoter in the right way. It’s not flag waving; you just need to ensure that your accomplishments are understood. Finally, you should align yourself with a sponsor, someone ahead of you with influence and who knows your capabilities... You have one life. You can’t live it for a cause, and you can’t live it the way someone else wants you to live it. You have to live it they way you think you should live it, the way you want to live it.”

For her part, McGillicuddy is optimistic about the future role of women in the workplace. “The advancement has been evolutionary and generational,” she says. “There is no magic wand, but there is optimism. And that is good. Companies, I believe, need to change more in the way they do business, and provide greater opportunities for gifted women. Success ought not to be gender focused.”

The word “dignity” seems to summarize McGillicuddy persona. “I’ve tried throughout my life to focus on what it takes to succeed graciously,” she says. “That’s a word, I hope, that is used to describe me after I go on. I would like to be thought of as gracious, not sharp-elbowed.”

Few would argue that in a sharp-elbowed man’s world, McGillicuddy, the young Irish girl who asked for a job, is fully gracious.

*Greg O’Brien, a regular Boston Irish Reporter contributor, is president of Stony Brook Group, a publishing and political / communications strategy company. The author / editor of several books, he writes frequently for regional and national publications.*

# Mother Ireland calls her children to join the ‘Gathering’

BY JAMES W. DOLAN  
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

They’ll be coming from around the world to celebrate the “Gathering” this summer in Ireland. Those with roots in the motherland are being summonsed home to celebrate their heritage.

## Commentary

“They all look like us,” will be the common observation as the Irish convene in the land from which so many departed in the past two centuries. The dialects of America, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand will mix with the musical rhythm of the brogue.

The Irish are a proud people. Some are still trying to get over the fact that Christ did not choose Ireland as his birthplace. Why did he favor the arid deserts of the Mideast over the green grandeur of the Erin Isle?

“Surely it’s because we would have treated him better and there’d have been no redemption,” one wag observed. “If he was Irish, they’d be hearing confessions at the pub. Come to think of it, they do but without absolution,” commented another.

During the diaspora most left grieving. Their ances-

tors will return with an appreciation of what was gained and what was lost as the Irish spread their unique gifts around the world. With no natural resources to export, Ireland sent its people. Most left willingly but under duress; others were transported on prison ships.

The echo of their grief still resounds in the wind that blows from the sea through the rugged hills and valleys of this majestic land.

On they came with little but their faith, determination, and good humor. Wherever they settled, that country was richer for it. They joined armies, and built canals, railroads, and bridges. As their numbers grew, they used their brains as well as their brawn to influence the course of history.

Politics was a natural outlet. Taking care of your own combined with wit and persuasion proved a winning formula for political success. Those achievements translated into opportunities in education and business. With power came assimilation but the Irish retain a strong connection to their motherland, with its natural beauty and music but, most of all, its people.

They spring from a land of contradictions; ruggedly beautiful but forlorn, connected but isolated. There is a

sadness swirling from the depths of its troubled history that drink and gaiety can, at least for a time, dispel.

Irish literature and humor erupted from its troubles like some volcanic residue; literature to describe and explain; music and humor to lift spirits. To be Irish is to understand the futility of it all yet know the difference between defeat and surrender.

Faith is the light that makes the darkness bearable. Humor makes it fun. It’s what permits the Irish to see the human condition in a way that makes even sorrow and tragedy a source of amusement.

Ireland is a poem that needs to be experienced; a mother in a land of farewells forever mourning her lost children.

So come and enjoy the people who can have a good time and laugh at themselves even when things look bleak. If they can enjoy a party under such circumstances, imagine the fun you’ll have at a joyful time like the “Gathering.” Slainte!

*James W. Dolan is a retired Dorchester District Court judge who now practices law.*



IMMIGRATION Q & A

International driving:  
Beware of scams on  
permits and licenses

**Q.** Are people with driver's licenses from countries outside the United States allowed to drive in Massachusetts?

**A.** A foreign visitor at least 18 years old with a valid driver's license from one of the 130 countries listed in Appendix A of the Massachusetts Drivers Manual (available at [mass.gov/rmv](http://mass.gov/rmv)) is allowed to drive for one year from the date of arrival. Thus, law enforcement authorities would ask to see both the license and the driver's I-94 card from US Customs and Border Protection showing the date of arrival.

Those who are staying longer than one year in the US (legal permanent residents, students, employment visa holders et al.) would need to convert their foreign license to a Massachusetts license. This entails passing a written test on the rules of the road, a driving test, and a vision test. The requirements for people from Canada and Mexico are somewhat less onerous and generally would not involve a driving test. The Massachusetts licensing authority, the Registry of Motor Vehicles, also can be expected to check an applicant's immigration status. (Note: those who receive Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals [DACA] status will be able to obtain a Massachusetts driver's license once they have a Social Security number.)

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles stresses that it recognizes only licenses issued by the relevant government agency in the holder's home country. There are scams on the Internet selling documents called "International Driving Permits" or "International Licenses," often purporting to be issued by the United Nations or some other authority. These are worthless pieces of paper, and anyone caught driving with one of them instead of a valid foreign license could be charged with operating a vehicle without a license.

The website for the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, [mass.gov/rmv](http://mass.gov/rmv), contains further information on this topic, as well as all the procedural requirements for obtaining driver's licenses, registering vehicles, and so forth.

Keep in mind that the regulation of motor vehicles and drivers is primarily a state law issue in the US, not a federal one, so the law and regulations covering driver's licenses in other US states and territories may differ in various respects from those in Massachusetts. Those interested in jurisdictions other than Massachusetts should consult the web sites of the relevant motor vehicle licensing authorities.

For a free, confidential consultation on any aspect of immigration law, visit one of IIIC's legal clinics as advertised in the *Boston Irish Reporter*.

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



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 IRISH INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRANT CENTER

Calendar of Events

April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Free Legal Clinic

IIIC, 100 Franklin St., Downtown Boston

All clinics are first-come, first-served. For complete details, please call (617) 542-7654.

April 5<sup>th</sup>

7:30PM

An Evening of Song connecting Ireland and Boston

St. Mark's Church, 1/25 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester

To purchase tickets, please call the IIIC at (617) 542-7654.

April 6<sup>th</sup>

11:00AM

March for a Pathway to Citizenship

Faneuil Hall

For more information on the rally, please call Johanne at (617) 542-7654.

April 8<sup>th</sup>

6:30PM

Free Legal Clinic

Green Briar Pub, 304 Washington St., Brighton

All clinics are first-come, first-served. For complete details, please call (617) 542-7654.

April 16<sup>th</sup>

Free Legal Clinic

IIIC, 100 Franklin St., Downtown Boston

All clinics are first-come, first-served. For complete details, please call (617) 542-7654.

April 24<sup>th</sup>

6:00PM

Free Legal Clinic

South Boston Labourer Center, 275 West Broadway

All clinics are first-come, first-served. For complete details, please call (617) 542-7654.

May 5<sup>th</sup>

2:00PM

19<sup>th</sup> Annual Black & Green of Boston

Montserrat Aspirers Hall

For more information or to get involved with the planning for this event, please call Johanne at (617) 542-7654.

For more information, please call us at (617) 542-7654 or visit [www.iiicenter.org](http://www.iiicenter.org).

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Telephone (617) 542-7654 Fax (617) 542-7655

Website: [iiicenter.org](http://iiicenter.org) Email: [immigration@iiicenter.org](mailto:immigration@iiicenter.org)

**An Evening of Song: Clermont Chorale and Boston City Singers** – The Clermont Chorale from Dundalk, Ireland, will join forces with Boston City Singers for a concert in St Mark's Church in Dorchester on Fri., April 5. This will be a special event to raise funds for the Irish International Immigrant Center (IIIC) and both choirs are delighted to support the excellent work that the Center does for immigrants, particularly those from Ireland.

Headquartered in Dorchester, Boston City Singers trains and inspires the artist, student and ambassador in each child and shares these developed talents throughout the year in public and private performances while venturing to places such as Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, and Washington, DC for goodwill and performance tours.

The Irish choir, Clermont Chorale, was formed in 2003 and has 35 members drawn from all parts of County Louth and its neighboring counties. It has performed regularly to public and critical acclaim in theatres and churches in the Northeast over the past nine years and has a reputation for delivering a broad range of choral works, in many languages, with sensitivity and style.

Clermont Chorale has a special relationship with Jane Money (Boston City Singers Founder and Artistic and Education Director), and the Boston City Singers. Dundalk-born (and Boston-based) Sean Rogers and Jane set up a children's choir in Dundalk, modeled on the Boston experience and

the legacy of that initiative lives on in County Louth to this day. Clermont Chorale says they are "particularly delighted to work again with Jane and her singers – especially with the joint performance with a special arrangement in Gaelic."

Ronnie Millar, Deputy Director of the IIIC, says, "The Center is deeply grateful for the both the Clermont Chorale and the Boston City Singers' generosity and we look forward to a wonderful evening of song connecting Ireland and Boston."

The concert in St. Mark's Church will begin at 7:30 p.m. To purchase tickets, please phone the IIIC at 617-542-7654. All proceeds will support legal wellness and education services from immigrants from Ireland and all over the world.

**The Time is Now: March For a Pathway to Citizenship** – The IIIC urges you to rally on Sat., April 6, at Faneuil Hall at 11 a.m. with New England labor, community, and faith groups. It very important that Irish immigrants in the Greater Boston area show up at this rally and that our voices are heard. We will stand together at Faneuil Hall for 30 minutes, and then march to the Federal Building. There will be a very brief speaking program at Faneuil Hall.

We need to remind lawmakers what's at stake for the 11 million undocumented immigrants. The rally is being coordinated by the Alliance for Citizenship, the events are part of a national week of action during Congress's Easter recess and are focused on urging Congress to

include a clear and direct path to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States. The Alliance for Citizenship is a progressive campaign designed to seize this moment, working with labor, immigrant, community and faith-based organizations to pass major immigration legislation in Congress in 2013. More information at [allianceforcitizenship.org](http://allianceforcitizenship.org). For more information on the rally please call Johanne at (617) 542-7654.

**Architecture graduate builds experience**  
**BY SEAN HANSEN**

"The history, the colleges..." the list goes on as Ross O'Doherty excitedly describes what he already loves about Boston, saying "It's a lot like home, but just different enough for now."

Although Ross began his US adventure in Boston, he was recently offered a position in New York at Alexander Gorlin Architects, an opportunity he jumped at, quickly making the move to the Big Apple. Ross came to the US on the J-1 Irish Work and Travel program, facilitated by the IIIC.

The J-1 IWT program is for current Irish students or recent graduates who come to the United States for up to a year to gain international experience in their field of study. With this experience, they can then arm themselves with increased knowledge and skills for future employment in Ireland.

Ross's original desire to come to Boston stemmed from the opportunities the city has to offer in the architect profession, compounded by the fact



Ross O'Doherty  
Off to New York

that he has close friends who live on the North Shore. He reports there is a feeling in Ireland that the American architectural scene seems to be a couple steps ahead of Europe, so he is eager to gain work experience here to bring back home. He was so determined to find a quality position that he expanded his search to several other major cities, thus his success in securing a job in New York. He looks forward to learning new computer programs and codes to expand his resume, in addition to discovering how to navigate through American business culture.

Ross has always been an avid traveler and has been to the US several times to visit family, with fond memories of skiing out in Colorado. His first order of business after graduating from Queens University Belfast in December 2011 was a year abroad in Australia. While he is in America, Ross hopes to travel to California to see new perspectives, and to Washington D.C., as America's political system has long been a point of fascination.

The IIIC welcomes Ross, and we hope he has a great experience going forward.

Matters Of Substance

Gambling: A Blessing ... or a Peril?



Danielle Owen

*"Even as I approach the gambling hall, as soon as I hear, two rooms away, the jingle of money poured out on the table, I almost go into convulsions."*  
– Fyodor Dostoevsky

Since the passing of the Massachusetts Gambling Bill in October 2011, the debate rages on about the impact that casinos will have on state residents. The *Boston Globe* has an entire section online dedicated to updates regarding gambling in Massachusetts. Depending on whom you speak to, it's either a financial windfall that will boost

our cash-strapped state or the beginning of the end of our communities as we now know them.

Whatever your opinion, there is no doubt that in the same way people can misuse drugs, alcohol, food, and sex, leading to major abuse and addiction, gambling misuse can also lead to addiction. The Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling shares the following statistics on their website: "Research has estimated that ... approximately 2-3 percent of [Massachusetts]'s population has experienced disordered gambling in their lifetimes."

If Massachusetts has approximately 6.5 million people living here, that's about 200,000 people. This addiction could now be impacting maybe up to a million people, if you consider that for every one person living with this addiction, there are at least 3-4 people who know and care about this person (family, friends, roommates, partners, children

et al.). With numbers like that, up to 1 in 6 being impacted, it's hard to say "I don't know anyone who has this problem!"

Compulsive gambling can result in social, emotional, and financial devastation, including loss of relationships, homes, emotional or physical health, and career or educational opportunities.

We at the IIIC have seen how pathological gambling (in its most serious form) can lead to stress, depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and even suicide. With that in mind, it's vital to share the key signs and what support is available for those living with this addiction.

No one plans to have a problem with gambling but ask yourself the following:

- Have you ever borrowed money in order to gamble or to cover lost money?
- Have you ever thought you might have a gambling problem, or been told that you might?
- Have you ever been

untruthful about the extent of your gambling, or hid betting slips, lottery tickets, gambling money or other signs of betting from others?

- Have you ever tried to stop or cut back on how much or how often you gamble?
- Do you think you love a Problem Gambler?

Check out the signs here: [gam-anon.org/living.htm#grow](http://gam-anon.org/living.htm#grow).

Change is *always* possible but sometimes we need support. We never plan to have problems with gambling but if you are worried, there is support. Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling ([masscompulsivegambling.org](http://masscompulsivegambling.org) or its free helpline: 800-426-1234) offers information and support from specially trained helpline and one to one counselors. If you are not sure you have a problem, contact Danielle, in confidence and without judgment, at the IIIC, by phone at 617-542-7654, Ext. 14, or by e-mail at [downen@iiicenter.org](mailto:downen@iiicenter.org).



# BOSTON IRISH REPORTER

**BOSTON IRISH ARTS,  
ENTERTAINMENT,  
TRAVEL & MORE**

## For Dervish, the dance goes on '25 years of persevering and surviving, and enjoying it.'

BY SEAN SMITH  
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Their name evokes a wild and whirling dance so frenzied and transformative that it cannot possibly last. But even with almost 25 years behind them, for Dervish the dance goes on – and there's no sign of it stopping.

The Sligo-based sextet took to the road late this winter in conjunction with the release of their 12th album, "The Thrush in the Storm," and their travels took them through New England last month – including a surprise visit to The Burren in Somerville, where they played an approximately one hour-long late-night set.

All the band's virtues were on peak display in The Burren's warm confines, from the melodic musculature of fiddler Tom Morrow, accordionist Shane Mitchell, and flute-whistle player Liam Kelly, to their intrepid rhythmists, Michael Holmes and Brian McDonagh, whose bouzouki-mandola/mandolin pairings recall the double-course fretted-string bravura of Planxty and early De Dannan – and their dynamic lead singer and chief spokesperson Cathy Jordan (who also contributes bodhran and bones, occasionally guitar, as well as most of



Cathy Jordan and Dervish bandmates (L-R) Tom Morrow, Shane Mitchell and Michael Holmes at The Burren last month.  
*Sean Smith photo*

the stage patter – often delivered with a sly, deadpan wit).

"Always nice to be back in Boston," said Jordan earlier that evening as she sat in a booth midway between The Burren's front and back rooms, occasionally greeted by

friends and fans. "There's such a good following for music here, much more so than New York City. It's easier to get ahold of everyone who's interested in the music – the network here is much more solid."

The focus of their performance that night, and

elsewhere on the tour, of course, was on material from "The Thrush in the Storm," their first studio recording in about five years, since "Travelling Show." Where the latter release was about "pushing the bounds a bit," she said – with cov-

ers of "Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves," Suzanne Vega's "The Queen and the Soldier" and other contemporary songs as well as unusual settings of traditional ones, plus a slew of special guests such as Triona Ni Dhomhnaill, Rick Epping, and their

former bandmate, Seamie O'Dowd – the new album is a return to the roots.

"With 'Travelling Show,' it just kind of struck us that certain songs, with different treatment, can sound like they've been around for centuries. If you take a step back, get into a different context, and forget that 'Gypsies Tramps and Thieves' was Cher's song, you get into the rhythm and the storyline and, well, it's a little ballad.

"But for this new one, we wanted to be as traditional as possible. After having branched out, we wanted to go in reverse a little, start digging again for old songs and gems that had been lying dormant."

Once Dervish had amassed the new material (or perhaps, more accurately, the new old material), they began incorporating it more into their stage appearances, so when they realized that "time was ticking away and we needed to get the album done for March," they were good and prepared for the recording, said Jordan. The bulk of the work took about three days, she noted in praising producer Richard Ford and others involved behind the scenes in getting the CD done with  
**(Continued on page 13)**

## Karen MacDonald reinventing "M" as nightmarish good time

BY R. J. DONOVAN  
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Karen MacDonald is one of Boston's most accomplished and awarded actor-director-teachers. From the angst of Arthur Miller's "All My Sons" through the struggle and survival of Brecht's masterpiece "Mother Courage," the fun and frivolity of "The Drowsy Chaperone," profiling the life of Rose Kennedy in "The Color of Rose," and a multitude of Shakespearean classics, diversity is practically her middle name.

Her latest challenge is the quirky new stage adaptation of Fritz Lang's classic black and white 1931 murder mystery, "M." In a case of transgendered casting, Karen takes on the role of Beckert, the serial killer portrayed in the film by the iconic Peter Lorre.

This highly anticipated premiere, described as "a nightmarish good time," is by playwright-performer and local legend Ryan Landry, creator of the Gold

Dust Orphans theater company. For the past three decades, Landry has become known for his bold, surreal, comically irreverent mash-ups of pop culture.

A combination of light and shadow, screwball comedy and drama, this new version of "M" is presented by The Huntington Theatre, which has become a kind of home away from home for Karen over the years. (Peter DuBois, artistic director at the Huntington, calls her "our local acting treasure.")

Born in Norwood, and raised in South Boston before moving to Milton, Karen is a BU graduate who began her professional career in Boston's popular improv group, The Proposition. She's also a founding member of the American Repertory Theatre. In addition to her work on stage, she has taught acting and directing at Boston College as the "Rev. J. Donald Monan, S.J., Professor in Theatre Arts."

We spoke prior to a full day of rehearsal. Here's



Karen MacDonald stars as a serial killer in Ryan Landry's surreal adaptation of "M," at the Huntington Theatre through April 27.

an edited look at our conversation.

**BIR:** Your first time on stage was in a children's play?

**KM:** When our family moved from Southie to Milton, it was the summer time and my mother was trying to get me engaged in some activity... Down the street at Fontbonne Academy, where I ended up going to high school, they had a children's theater program. I'd never really done anything like that before, but she took me down and I did a little audition for the sister

that ran it. I first went on stage in a play when I was 9 -- "Pinocchio," and I'm not ashamed to say it.

**BIR:** Speaking of Southie, people are still talking about your work at the Huntington in "Good People," set in South Boston and written by South Boston native David Lindsay-Abaire.

**KM:** That was a character very close to my heart because she was a Southie girl. The character of Jean reminded me of a friend of my mom's. She was a little rough around the edges  
**(Continued on page 15)**

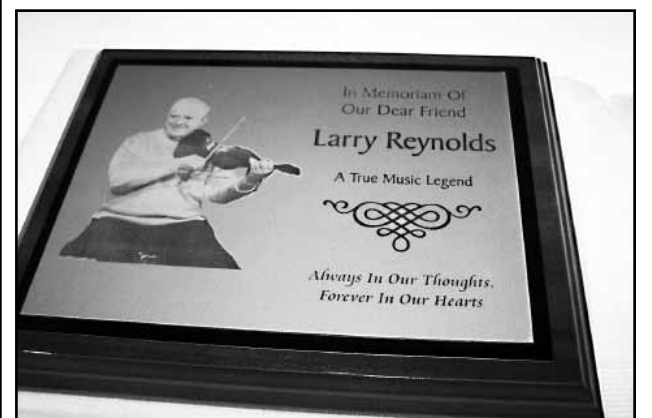
## For its farewell salute to 'Larry,' Green Briar fills pub, then some

BY SEAN SMITH  
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Even by Green Briar standards, it was a big crowd. "There's more musicians here than people," quipped one visitor, gazing at the various instrument cases in evidence among the throng that had filled the Brighton pub.

Musicians and non-musicians alike gathered that evening of March 4 at the Green Briar Res-

taurant and Pub, home of what is arguably Boston's most famous Irish music session, to honor the memory of its chief organizer and guiding spirit: Larry Reynolds, who died last October. And so, the regular Monday night musical gathering, which most weeks easily fills the room, was multiplied several times over to the extent that it was standing-room-only even  
**(Continued on page 15)**



The Green Briar unveiled a plaque in Larry Reynolds' memory that will be on display in the pub.  
*Sean Smith photo*



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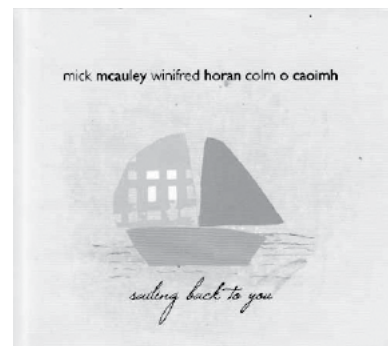
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WITH THE CAST  
AND THEIR AUTOGRAPHS





The sets on this album have appeared on the band's previous releases, but to consider it a "greatest hits" collection misses the point. What you have here is a widening of traditional Irish/Celtic music's dimensions, its characteristics set cheek by jowl with those of the classical/symphonic tradition. Not that this sort of thing hasn't happened before a la Bela Bartok and Vaughan Williams—or more recently with the likes of Bill Whelan and Sharon Shannon (who has collaborated with this very same orchestra), among others—but

For example, on the set of Asturian tunes opening the album, a solitary oboe settles in unobtrusively behind Crawford's flute on a gorgeous air that starts off the medley; by the end of the set, horns and strings are doubling the energy produced by Cillian Vallely's pipes and Smyth's fiddle. Similarly, Hutchinson's distinctive double bass is enhanced by plucked violins on the "Spoil the Dance" set, and the flute-whistles combination that leads Pierre Bensusan's sublime "The Last Pint" floats along on a cushion of woodwinds and reeds. The collaboration is at one of its high points on the band's signature "Merry Sisters of Fate" reel set (which here is preceded with a go at "Dr. Gilbert's" spearheaded by Smyth and Hutchinson). The memorable transition between "Merry Sisters" and "The Longacre" that rode on former guitarist Donogh Hennessy's adrenalene-pumping bridge is more subtle, even a little muted.



skeptics this recording will likely revive the question of whether the band, through their arrangements and refinements, take traditional music too far out of its natural, and humble, habitat. But perhaps it's better to view the Lunasa-RTE Orchestra project through a different prism, one that sees vast possibilities in the music instead of limitations. In the end, what really matters is that the music survives, and in the company of Lunasa, it thrives.

Ah yes, the vocals. Another revelation is just how good a singer McAuley is, bringing a quiet assurance and dignity to the songs, which – as has been the hallmark of Solas – extend from the Irish tradition to contemporary material, some of it American in origin. And, as he's continually shown, McAuley is able to hit all the right buttons, from the ornamental, modal, and classically romantic "Lass of Glenshee" to the more thematically complex "Charlie Darwin" (originally by indie folk-rockers The Low Anthem) and "Doubting Thomas" (by ex-Nickel Creek member Chris Thile). Topping it all off is the album's title song, his own piece of work, a tenderly delivered rhapsody on finding refuge and strength in love. No, indeed, don't just call this "their other band."

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# Walker? Jogger? Cyclist? I have the island for you

By JUDY ENRIGHT  
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

There was a time not so long ago in Ireland when bicycles and feet were the primary modes of transportation, especially out in the rural areas.

Of course, there were motorized vehicles then, too, but certainly not the numbers that there are today. And, bicycles were mostly useful, old-fashioned, and clunky – not sleek racing machines.

A lot has changed in Ireland over the years and that includes the somewhat recent focus on active recreation and having fun. Today, you can find all kinds of independent or group activity sports all over the country as well as any number of adventure centers. It's not uncommon these days to pass joggers or bicyclists on the main roads where once you only saw the renegade horse or sheep.

If you're a walker or a cyclist, there's so much for you to see and do in Ireland in every season. There are many groups and individuals that lead walking and cycling tours and numerous cycling races and cross-country events to sign up for as well.

### TOURS

Walkers can brush up on their history while getting some exercise by taking guided heritage and historical tours offered in many cities and some of the smaller towns. Dublin, for instance, has a two-hour guided walking tour to see landmarks from the Easter Rising of 1916. See [1916rising.com](http://1916rising.com) for more.

Several years ago, we took a fascinating guided walking tour to the many historic spots in Youghal, Co. Cork. And, that's just one small town, so imagine how many other towns and cities all over Ireland offer tours. See [heritageisland.com](http://heritageisland.com) or [discoverireland.com](http://discoverireland.com) for more details.

The best way to find out what's available wherever you are in Ireland is by stopping in at the local tourist board office (Bord Fáilte) where you see the big green shamrock or, if you know in advance what areas you'll be visiting, by checking out Tourism Ireland's website ([discoverireland.com](http://discoverireland.com)) for activities, events, festivals, accommodation and so much more.

### WALKING

If you are looking for great places to walk, be



Walk along the coast road in Co. Clare between Doolin and Ballyvaughan.



Take a stroll through the byways of Connemara and visit the Quiet Man bridge near Oughterard, so named because it featured in the film "The Quiet Man," shot in Connemara in 1951 starring Maureen O'Hara and John Wayne.

sure to include Connemara (Co. Galway), the Burren (Co. Clare), and the Great Western Greenway (Co. Mayo) on your list.

In Connemara, you can stroll the many marked walking trails and enjoy the sea, shore, and mountains. Down the coast, in Co. Clare, is the magical Burren, a hauntingly beautiful limestone moon-scape bordered by the sea and by some wonderful coastal towns like Doolin, Lahinch, Ballyvaughan, and Liscannor. Guided and self-guided tours are offered in both Connemara and the Burren that focus on various aspects of the region, including ecology and history.

The Great Western Greenway, Ireland's longest off-road walking and cycling trail, connects Westport to Achill Island in Co. Mayo. You can walk the route or hire a bike from one of many locations along the way. There are many places to stay and numerous spots for an enjoyable lunch in the area, such as the Granuaile Pub in Newport and the Mulranny Park Hotel that overlooks lovely Clew Bay. See [greenway.ie](http://greenway.ie) for more details.

### THE BURREN

Recognized by UNESCO in 2011 with Global and European Geopark

status, the Burren and Cliffs of Moher region not only has the geological importance required of a Geopark, but also a network of organizations that oversee tourism, education, and conservation.

With land mass measuring more than 530 kilometres, the region offers a diversity second to none, according to the Irish website, [burrenconnect.ie](http://burrenconnect.ie). "There is the natural beauty of the 200-meter high Cliffs with its eight kilometers of rugged coastline, and there is beauty in the vast array of flora, including Arctic and Alpine flowers that bloom alongside Mediterranean species. There is also a staggering amount of history in the Burren region with more than 2,700 recorded monuments, some dating back more than 6,000 years. This has led to the Burren being described as 'one vast memorial to bygone cultures.'"

The Burren is "an upside-down world of contradictions where rivers run underground through a honeycomb of caves carved by nature through low-resistance limestone; year-round pasture flourishes at rocky heights. Burren roads that vary in age from 200 to 1,000 years lead back through



Take a walk on the Ring of Kerry near Glenbeigh.



The 42km Great Western Greenway, the longest off-road walking and cycling trail in Ireland, crosses the Curraun Peninsula in Co. Mayo en route to Achill Island. The traffic free cycling and walking trail follows the route of the renowned Westport to Achill railway which closed in 1937.



The 42km Great Western Greenway, the longest off-road walking and cycling trail in Ireland. The traffic free cycling and walking trail follows the route of the renowned Westport to Achill railway which closed in 1937. *Judy Enright photos*

7,000 years of habitation marked by 120 ancient stone tombs, 500 stone forts plus castles, and churches from every century of the Christian era," according to Burren Connect.

When you and I look across the limestone landscape in the Burren, though, it's tempting to see only a sea of dull, grey rocks. However, when you get out of your car and walk across the uneven plates, look down into the crevices and you'll see (during growing season) the most fascinating plants and flowers. Sea pinks flourish by the water and inland are blue gentians and orchids and so many more species.

A number of companies offer guided walking and bike tours of the area. We thought Burren Wild sounded especially interesting because the founder, John Connolly, is reportedly the only walking guide in Ireland to give tours on his own land. John has a degree in Irish Heritage and his day tours or weekend hikes cover such subjects as history, archaeology, mythology, botany, story telling, folklore and traditions, Poteen

distilling, and more. For details, contact John at [info@burrenwalks.com](mailto:info@burrenwalks.com) or visit the website [burrenwalks.com](http://burrenwalks.com)

Keep an eye out in the Burren, too, for a wonderful magazine, "Burren Insight," published by the Burrenbeo Trust in Kinvara. For more about Burrenbeo, e-mail [trust@burrenbeo.com](mailto:trust@burrenbeo.com) or visit the website at [burrenbeo.com](http://burrenbeo.com). We usually find Insight at the tourist office in Ballyvaughan.

### BOGHILL CENTRE

Here's an idea for an interesting holiday adventure. Be a participant in classes, tours, or workshops through the Boghill Centre, a residential holistic Eco venue in Kilfenora, Co. Clare.

There are workshops, courses, meetings, events, retreats, weddings, and more at Boghill, a sustainable complex in 50 acres at the base of the Burren that is open all year as a B&B and hostel and also offers group accommodation.

At Boghill, you can visit organic vegetable and fruit gardens, walk a nature trail, see a stone circle, wildlife pond, reed labyrinth, chicken coop and pigpen, orchard, and

several recently planted native woodland areas. The gourmet menu is renowned for vegetarian fare, sourced primarily from their organic garden and orchard. The Centre caters to specific diets too such as wheat, dairy, or gluten free.

At the nearby Burren Perfumery in Carran, you can also enjoy a walk through an outstanding garden and stop for a delicious organic lunch. And don't forget to take home some of their wonderful perfumery products – soaps, balms, creams, and more.

When you talk about small world, we were in Doolin recently and met Brockton (MA) native Mary Sheehan. A professional chef, Mary moved to Co. Clare some years ago and has since written a cookbook called, "Coming Home To Cook - Vegetarian Recipes Inspired by the Organic Gardens of Ireland." For more information on the book and Mary, visit her website at [marysheehan.com](http://marysheehan.com).

### CONNEMARA

Here's a fun way to learn about the heritage of Connemara and get some exercise, too. Take a Heritage Walk with the renowned local archaeologist Michael Gibbons, the author of numerous books about the area. There are currently three guided walks in the area of Connemara - on Inishbofin Island, Diamond Hill, and the Roundstone bog. Each of the three walks has been designed with the casual walker in mind. Further walks are being planned for the summer season. For more information, e-mail [Michael@connemarawalks.com](mailto:Michael@connemarawalks.com) or visit the website [connemarawalks.com](http://connemarawalks.com).


You can also enjoy a five-day walking tour of Clifden, Killary, Inishbofin, Inishturk, and Clare Island with the archaeologist Gerry McCloskey. The tour includes breakfast, gourmet picnics by day, dinner each evening and accommodation. For more, e-mail [info@abbeyglen.ie](mailto:info@abbeyglen.ie) or visit the website [walkingconnemara.com](http://walkingconnemara.com)

### GARDENS

This is a bit of a departure from the wilds of Connemara but the gardeners in your group would no doubt tremendously enjoy a guided tour with Head Gardener Michael Byrne through the 10,000 beautiful tulips in Powerscourt Gardens on April 12. For details, contact [aiofe.odriscoll@powerscourt.net](mailto:aiofe.odriscoll@powerscourt.net) or visit the website at [powerscourt.ie/events](http://powerscourt.ie/events).

Visit [discoverireland.com](http://discoverireland.com) to see what counties list gardens that are open to the public during the time you're in Ireland. Kylemore Abbey in Connemara has magnificent, restored gardens that are definitely well worth a visit.

Be sure to check with your favorite travel agent or jump on the internet to search for the best air and ground deals, and enjoy your trip to Ireland whenever and wherever you go.



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# MacDonald reinventing “M” as nightmarish good time

(Continued from page 9)

but she had a big heart and would do anything for you.

**BIR:** And now you're back at the Huntington in a totally new creation. A very different one, as well.

**KM:** “M” takes place in Berlin in the present moment, which was 1931. There is someone who is killing children. They disappear. Sometimes they're found and sometimes they're not. But they're pretty much sure it's a serial killer.

**BIR:** And the focus of who's at fault and who should be out capturing the killer keeps shifting.

**KM:** Who's responsible? Is it the mother's fault because she didn't watch her child every second? Is it the government's fault because they don't have ways to protect children? Is it the police's fault because they're not looking out? It really is this look at society and what gets passed off to somebody else.

**BIR:** Ironically, it's the criminals who capture the killer in the end.

**KM:** The police are not having much luck and they're getting pressure from all the politicians . . . The police put on a big drive to find suspects anywhere. And they're digging into the criminal elements of that strata of Berlin society. And the criminals[say], “You know the cops are breaking up our card games and coming into our speakeasys . . . We have to find this killer”. . . They set up a kind of kangaroo court and (Beckert) has to speak for himself. . . At the end, (Lang) leaves is very unresolved.

**BIR:** Even Lang had a run-in of his own with the government.

**KM:** Right around the time he was making “M” he was called into the office of Joseph Goebbels, who was a big fan of his work. As soon as he left the office, he literally went

home, packed and was gone from Germany the next day. He never went back. He said, “I'm not going to be their mouth-piece.”

**BIR:** His style was, and still is, quite innovative. His visuals are striking.

**KM:** The film is very interesting technically because sometimes Lang would have a chase scene and it's in total silence. Like it's a silent movie. There's no music, there's nothing. It almost seems like, “My God, you could never do that in a movie now. We need to hear these footsteps running down the street.” And instead, he's like, “No, you don't. Actually, you can just watch it.”

**BIR:** And now Ryan Landry is putting his own inimitable fingerprint on the piece.

**KM:** Because of Ryan's unique style, the way that he likes to tell stories, it's a real interesting blend.

Some of his stuff is very funny, extremely funny, hilarious. I know that he's been working and wrestling with keeping true to the style of his writing and also dealing with the seriousness that is in this film, which he does not treat lightly. He is not making fun of it, because why would anyone do that. It's an interesting experiment—for playwright, for director, for actors, for designers—to find the wall where it's okay for people to laugh at certain things. But at some point, the show turns and becomes quite a serious matter. How do you accommodate that with a design? How do you take

something that appears lighthearted and let it switch and change? That's been an interesting part of the process for all of us.

**BIR:** It must be demanding to work on reinventing something like this.

**KM:** (Laughing) All of a sudden I make it sound so deadly serious, but it's also been a huge amount of fun. The parts that are fun have been amazing to watch be created . . . They're going to imagined in really beautiful ways . . . We'll hopefully make it exciting and different and also pay respect to an amazing film and the questions that it brings up . . . Its going to provide

people with a real opportunity to see something different. Throwing these kinds of ideas out on stage and seeing what happens. It's not a safe idea, it's exciting. It will be interesting to see how people respond to it.

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

\*\*\*

Ryan Landry's “M,” through April 27, The Huntington Theatre at the Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont Street in Boston. Tickets: 617-266-0800 or [huntingtontheatre.org](http://huntingtontheatre.org).

## For its farewell salute to Larry Reynolds, Green Briar fills pub, and then some

(Continued from page 9)

for musicians.

Following a short performance by students in the Norwell-based Dunleavy Shaffer School of Irish Dance, the session got underway even as the crowd continued to swell and seats filled up rapidly.

“This is just so organic,” said a fiddler standing on the periphery, pausing in the midst of a tune medley. “Nobody has to say anything. The music is just happening.”

After about an hour, the music halted for a brief commemoration ceremony by two Green Briar representatives, Joe Fenton – who managed the pub for 18 years – and current general manager Luke Lemberg. The two offered reminiscences of Reynolds and praised him for, as Lemberg said, “all he did for the music, and for this community.”

Fenton added that Reynolds had given “his heart and soul” to the Green Briar session from its beginning nearly 25 years ago. “I remember so many times when it would

be two in the morning, and the session was winding down,” said Fenton. “Then someone would say, ‘Hey, Larry, listen to this.’ And Larry would listen, and he'd be smiling.”

The two displayed a memorial plaque, emblazoned with an image of Reynolds playing his fiddle, which will hang in the Green Briar and affirm his legacy, they said (a smaller version was given to the Reynolds family).

Lemberg and Fenton also expressed their gratitude to members of the Reynolds family, including Reynolds' widow Phyllis, who were present: “Thank you for sharing Larry with us.”

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Fenton and Lemberg led a toast to Reynolds, with many in the crowd hoisting shot glasses of Jameson's (“Larry's favorite,” one attendee remarked) that had been circulated around the room.

With that, the most appropriate and heartfelt tribute to Reynolds re-

sumed, as musicians prepared to take up their instruments once again. To kick it off, Reynolds' sons Mike and Sean settled into seats at the center of the gathering, Sean with his father's fiddle in hand. The two began playing, a bevy of smartphones and digital cameras held aloft around them to record the moment, making this perhaps the most documented set of reels in the history of the Green Briar, if not Boston itself.

On and on the set went, through tunes that Larry Reynolds had led innumerable times over a multitude of Mondays: “The Foxhunters,” “The Mountain Road,” “The Bucks of Oranmore.” A pair of observers in the crowd looked on with approval and put into words what undoubtedly more than a few in the room were thinking.

“Larry would've loved this,” said one. “Absolutely loved it.”

“I'm sure he can hear it,” replied the other.



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BRETT'S BOSTON

By Harry Brett

Exclusive photos of Boston Irish people & events

It was a morning of high spirits and broad smiles at the Wharf Room in the Boston Harbor Hotel on March 15 as the Irish American Partnership hosted its annual St. Patrick's Day breakfast.

1.) Michael Lonergan, Consul General; Phil Hogan T.D.; Joe Leary, President, CEO, Irish American Partnership; Dr. Daire Keogh, President, St. Patrick's College, Dublin; 2.) Joe and Joe Driscoll, Braintree; 3.) Jack and Linda O'Connor, W. Roxbury; 4.) Marc Mingoletti, Needham; Joe Leary III, So. Boston; 5.) John and Moya Coleman, Hopkinton; 6.) Tom Mackinnon, Duxbury; Steve Costello, Norwood; 7.) Terry Kennedy, Milton; Jim Murphy, Duxbury, David Drinan, Cohasset; 8.) Nadine Robinson, Wilmington; Robin Magnison, Brighton; Kevin Nadeau, Medford; 9.) Bill and Dave McNally; Walter Sullivan (center); 10.) Kyle Darcy, Boston; Ritchie Coughlin, Dorchester; Dan Corey, Milton; 11.) Daniel Modricker, British Consul; Sean Moynihan, Hingham; Megan Long, So. Boston; Kieran Delargy, of the Irish Consulate; 12.) Della Costello, Dorchester; Rep. Linda Dorcea Fory, Dorchester.





The Irish Language

by Philip Mac AnGhabhann

For the past several months we have been going over some of the points made in past years. This month we will review the process of going from **verbs** to **adjectives** and then to **adverbs**. This will enable you to make a wide variety of sentences.

First, let us start with the “dictionary” form of a verb – and, as in English, the base form is the one used to make a command to someone.

John’s mother might say,  
**A Sheáin, *glan* do sheomra!**  
“John, *clean* your room.”  
John answers, “**Tá mé ag *glanadh* é.**  
“I’m cleaning it.”  
His mother then says,  
**Ní raibh do sheomra *glanta* inné.**  
“Your room was not clean yesterday.”

In Irish many **verbs** can become an **adjectives** by simply adding the ending (suffixing) **–ta** or **–te** depending on the quality – “broad” **a, o, u** or “slender” – e, i -- that is the last vowel in the verb. If the last vowel in the verb is a, o, u then add **–ta**; if it is **e** or **i** then add **–te**.

Both **–a** and **–e** are pronounced /uh/. However, while the “**t**” after **a, o, u** is /t/, the “t” after **e** or **i** has a /ch/ sound.

**Glan** “Clean” – **verb** – to become an **adjective** is **glanta** /GLAN-tuh/. A **verb** like “break”, **bris**, as an **adjective** becomes **briste** /BREESH-chuh/, “broken”.

**Tá an pláta glanta.** “The plate is clean.”  
**Tá an pláta briste.** “The plate is broken.”

In English we do not have to put an “-en” on the end of words that actually terminate in “-n” – “clean” is both a **verb** and an **adjective**. However, it is usually the case that we add **–en, –d** or **–y** to verbs to convert them into adjectives.

Verb	Adjective
“break”	“broken dish”
“pull”	“pulled pork”
“sleep”	“sleepy baby”

In Irish the rule is invariable -- to any verb that *can* become an **adjective**, just add **–ta** or **–te**. Of course, not all **verbs** can become **adjectives** but many can.

Now, to make an adverb from an adjective, English suffixes –ly: “clean” to “cleanly”, “broken” to “brokenly”. In Irish the reverse is true, simply put the particle go in front – not attached. Remember that adverbs can be of “place”, “manner” or “time”. This rule generally applies only to adverbs of manner. Adverbs of “place” are in prepositional phrases (sa scoil “in school”) while those of “time” can be prepositional phrases ( ar a trí a chlog – “at three o’clock”) or a single word – aréir, “last night.”

Sample Irish **adverbs** of “manner” include those made from **adjectives**:

<b>dona</b> “bad”	<b>go dona</b> “badly”
<b>maith</b> “good”	<b>go maith</b> “well”
<b>uafásach</b> “awful”	<b>go huafásach</b> “awfully”
<b>tapa</b> “rapid”	<b>go tapa</b> “rapidly”
<b>rialta</b> “regular”	<b>go rialta</b> “regularly”
<b>briste</b> “broken”	<b>go briste</b> “brokenly”
<b>mall</b> “slow” go	<b>mall</b> “slowly”
<b>cúramach</b> “careful”	<b>go cúramach</b> “carefully”

“Rapidly” or “quickly” can also be expressed as **gasta**.

In American English we often use “good” as either an **adjective** describing “behavior” or an **adverb** for “condition of health.” In Ireland, both in Anglo-Irish and in Irish you *must* make a difference:

**Bhí Nóra maith.** “Nora was good – well behaved.”

**Bhí Nóra go maith.** “Nora was well – healthy.”

Now see if you can use **adjectives** and **adverbs** in these phrases and sentences:

1.) “My son was not well last night.” 2.) “He was very sick.” 3.) “Thank you very much.” 4.) “How is he now?” 5.) “He was sick quickly but is well now.” 6.) “He ate his super quickly.” 7.) “We go to Derry regularly.” 8.) “He spoke Irish slowly and carefully.” 9.) “Was the bus fast?” 10.) “No. It was very slow.”

Answers: 1.) **Ní raibh mo mhac go maith aréir.** 2.) **Bhí sé go tinn.** 3.) **Go raibh mille maith agat.** 4.) **Conas tá sé anois?** 5.) **Bhí sé tinn go gasta ach tá sé go maith anois.** 6.) **D’ithe sé a shuípear go tapa.** 7.) **Téimid go Doire go rialta.** 8.) **Dúirt sé Gaelge go mall agus go cúramach.** 9.) **An raibh an bhus go tapa?** 10.) **Ní. Bhí sé an-mhall.**

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## BIR Book Review

# ‘Everybody Matters’ mirrors an Irish woman and world humanitarian named Robinson

By PETER F. STEVENS  
BIR STAFF

“Everybody matters” – surely those are two words with which countless people agree. What truly matters, however, is how few live up to those words. That precept is not only the title of Mary Robinson’s compelling new autobiography, but also the core conviction that has guided virtually every step of her life on the world stage.

By any measure, Mary Robinson is a remarkable public servant and bona-fide humanitarian. She was the first woman president of Ireland, from 1990 to 1997, and then served as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights from 1997 to 2002. The honorary president of Oxfam International since 2002, she has devoted herself to championing such causes and groups as the GAVI Alliance, which vaccinates children across the

globe, and the Council of Women World Leaders. She is also a member of the Elders, global leaders brought together by Nelson Mandela. Her unstinting humanitarian work has garnered her the US Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Indira Gandhi and Sydney Peace Prizes. In *Everybody Matters*, Robinson, who lives with her husband, Nick Robinson, in Dublin and Mayo, vividly and forthrightly recounts her own life and her struggle to make the world a fairer, more humane place through tireless, relentless advocacy of human rights. Robinson, unlike most who write their “true” story, does not cast herself in a hazy hagiography of good deeds and self-serving triumphs. To the contrary, the reader always gets the strong sense that no matter how many human-rights successes she has spearheaded, she believes

she has barely scratched the proverbial surface. The book’s clear, skillful prose gently exhorts one to believe that he or she can make a difference in ways great or small.

In rendering her life, Robinson also shows a deft narrative hand.

Robinson was born in 1944, the only girl among five children in a devout Catholic family. At first, she considered becoming a nun; instead, she went on to become a lawyer and activist who assailed entrenched injustice and inhumanity – whether it lay in government, politics, or even the Catholic Church, as well as her own family. As a dogged and brilliant lawyer, she won milestone civil-rights cases for women, the poor, gays, and minorities; in two decades in the Irish Senate, she was a progressive voice against traditional prejudices and outdated laws. Taking on the Church, she helped

legalize contraception, illegal without a prescription in Ireland until 1985.

In 1990, she stunned the Irish political establishment by winning election as the nation’s first woman president. She was the first Irish president to travel officially to Britain and met with Queen Elizabeth II in Buckingham Palace, a meeting rife with symbolic significance.

As UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Robinson fought to bring global attention and help to victims of war, natural disasters, and brutal, repressive governments. Today, Robinson, having returned to her native Ireland, leads the Mary Robinson Foundation-Climate Justice in an effort to help populations most affected by climate change.

*Everybody Matters* provides a riveting, thought-provoking, and introspective yet worldly examination of a remarkable woman and her life, but always in a way that shows that the author’s foremost concern remains those who suffer across the globe. For anyone familiar with Robinson and with Irish history, it will come as no surprise that she counts 19th-century reformers Daniel O’Connell – “The Great Liberator” – and Michael Davitt, the Land League crusader, along with Mahatma Gandhi

and Martin Luther King, as powerful influences in her thinking and causes.

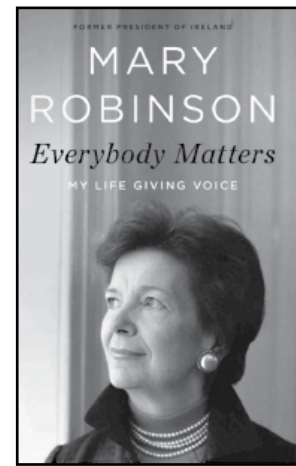
For this reviewer, a passage in Chapter 14 – *Bearing Witness* – embodies Mary Robinson’s personal and public philosophy. She opens with three lines from “A Disused Shed in Co. Wexford,” by Derek Mahon:

*They are begging us, you see, in their wordless way, To do something, to speak on their behalf Or at least not to close the door again.*

Robinson, recalling her time at the UN, then writes:

“Throughout my time in office I had to think constantly about how a small and underfunded office could make an impact on advancing human rights and holding governments to account where there was wide-scale impunity. I realised that I could play a significant role by being close to the victims, bringing out their accounts, which was why so much of my time as high commissioner was spent travelling to many of the most troubled regions of the planet, where people’s rights were being violated and they longed for somebody to alert the world to what was happening to them.

In all, I made 115 trips to more than 70 countries



during five years, almost always with the idea of helping to amplify the voices of victims, helping them to feel that somebody was listening. It brought home to me the power of the act of bearing witness. This was something I had encountered when I visited Somalia as president of Ireland. The act of witnessing is neither easy nor as forthcoming as might be expected. We turn away so often...

“...Yet I felt that to listen, bear witness, and respect the humanity of those I was listening to, and report back to a jaded world, was a start. I wanted to nurture a sense that the United Nations understood that these voices mattered.

Mary Robinson has rarely turned away, and as this important book reminds us, neither should we. *Everybody Matters* is that rarest of memoirs – it does matter.

*Everybody Matters*, by Mary Robinson, Walker & Company, hardcover, ISBN-10: 0802779646, 336 pages, \$26.

## Joseph F. Dolan, at age 88; was Milton insurance man

Joseph F. Dolan, 88, of Dorchester, a longtime resident of Milton who ran an insurance agency for many years, died peacefully at his home following a brief illness on Thurs., March 21.

At his funeral Mass at St. Gregory’s Church on Monday, Mr. Dolan’s son Tom delivered a eulogy, excerpts from which follow:

“On behalf of our entire family, I’d like to thank you all for coming here today to remember him, and celebrate his life.

He reveled in our successes, and he comforted us when we failed. He was the consummate family man.

“I was especially lucky because Dad and I worked together for over 10 years at the Dolan Insurance Agency. During those 10 years he and I became very close. ... Dad was honest, very smart, funny, and fun to be with. He was comfortable with brilliant big-shots from fancy schools as well as homeless souls who had lost everything.

“Dad approached business the same way he approached life. He saw his business as a way to help other people. Dad lived a life of service to others, filled with compassion and kindness. Let me back up just a bit and share a few facts with you about Joe Dolan’s early life.

“He grew up in Arlington, Massachusetts. When he was a kid he was a book-worm or, as kids today would say, a Nerd. His mom and dad felt that education was a critical path to success and Joe studied really, really hard. In high school the only team Dad was on was the debating team. He never won any sports trophies ... but he could win just about any argument that he got into. He could really talk. It was a skill that he practiced his whole life. Wherever is his right now, believe me, he is talking.

“He was the valedictorian at his high school graduation ... and he followed in the footsteps of his father and brother when he went off to Harvard at the age of 16. Once he turned 17, he took the competitive exam held by his Congressman, and won an appointment to the [US Naval] Academy. He finished his freshman year at Harvard in May 1942 and reported to Annapolis the following week. ... As a naval officer he served in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

“After serving his country, he settled in Milton with his wife and kids.

and felt a real desire to serve his community. He became actively involved in his local Catholic Church and Milton Town politics.

“After talking about the problems of poverty in a weekly Bible study group, Dad commented that he actually didn’t really know about poverty, as he had had a very comfortable upbringing. So his assignment for that week was to go into a poor section of Boston and talk to people. He went to the South End and visited two soup kitchens, including one that also housed homeless men, Haley House.

“He became an active member of the Haley House community and for over 30 years he helped Haley House feed and bring comfort to those who need it. He helped cook and serve the meals, clean the kitchen, and shared time and conversation with men who had lost everything.

“Haley House provided him with a way of fulfilling his desire to offer selfless, compassionate, service to others. He was special. He certainly loved to talk ... but he also turned talk into action.”



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