



**THE SHAMROCK LEAF**  
 NEWSLETTER OF THE IRISH CANADIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW BRUNSWICK  
 109 ROY AVE.,  
 NEWCASTLE, N.B. E1V 3N8

H12

Farrell McCarthy - President & Editor

November, 1987

As we begin a new year of Irish activities and new ideas, I thought I would reread the first Newsletter that I edited in October '83. We had started planning our goals for such an association and recruiting members about a year previous. The newsletter stated that we had about 150 members. Today, we have over 1300 members and seven very active Chapters are located in all regions of the province.

Our Association has grown due mainly to the fact that we have set goals, and in most cases have accomplished these goals through a number of completed projects and on-going activities. In each case these projects have shed a very positive light on Irish Cultural events in New Brunswick. The biggest and most successful Irish event that now takes place is Canada's Irish Festival on the Miramichi. The festival this year attracted some 25,000 people to all of its events. People attended the festival from every province in Canada, some 30 American States and Ireland, France and Australia.

The festival is a great bonus for Tourism and badly needed revenue for our province. The spin-off is in the millions of dollars. It is because of this festival and Irish activities in New Brunswick, that Frank McKenna, at his Nomination Convention in Chatham, received a loud cheer from some 3000 people in attendance, when he promised the building of an Irish Cultural Center.

October 13th was not only a very historic day in New Brunswick, since the Liberal Party won all 58 seats, but a new milestone for New Brunswick Irish Canadians. We want to thank Premier McKenna publicly for his commitment to us and our ancestors. The challenge is great because something must be developed that is realistic, usable and at the same time authentic in a number of ways.

The Provincial election results of October 13th, not only produced an historic outcome, as I mentioned earlier, but one whose names read as if one were listening to the roll call of the members of the Dáil (Irish Parliament). Surnames such as Kenny, Hurley, Maher, King, Duffie, Dalton, O'Donnell, McKee, Murphy, McAdam, Dysart, Mooney, Barry, Lacey, and, of course, the new Premier, Frank McKenna, makes this Legislature the most Irish of any in our history. There are, of course, many others who have Irish roots.

We wish the new government well as it prepares to work for the benefit of all the people of New Brunswick. We hope as the future years fade away that there will be a permanent home to show our children and their children the hardships, fortitude, joys, faith and the commitment to family life of our ancestors. Then, finally, all Canadians can say, these (The Irish) were also among the settlers and great builders of New Brunswick.

**FREDERICTON CHAPTER - ICCA OF N.B.**

St. Thomas University and the Fredericton Chapter presented "A Conference on Irish Studies" at the University on October 15, 16, 17 - 1987.

A number of distinguished scholars took part such as Dr. Augustine Martin, Professor of Anglo-Irish Literature and Drama, University College, Dublin who spoke on "The Irish Literary Renaissance"; Dr. Cyril Byrne, St. Mary's University, Halifax lectured on "South East Ireland and the Atlantic Provinces: An Immigrant Story"; Dr. Michael Kenneally, President-Canadian Association for Irish Studies, "Contemporary Irish Literature" - Tom Power, Dublin "The Catholic Church in South East Ireland".

On Friday at 7 p.m. Poetry and Dramatic Readings were given by Dr. Pat Walsh, St. F.X.U.; Dr. John Meagher, Moncton; Bernadette Meagher, Moncton; Dr. Stewart Donovan, S.T.U. and Mrs. Ruth Arsenault, Fredericton.

An Irish Ceilidh was held at Monsignor Boyd Center from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

On Saturday Dr. Peter Toner - U.N.B.S.J. spoke on "Irish Immigration to New Brunswick"; Dr. Augustine Martin - "Kavanagh and the Tradition" and Prof. Pádraig Ó Siadhail - Chair of Irish Studies - St. Mary's University, Halifax spoke on "The Irish Language - The Challenge Ahead; Irish in the 21st Century."

\*\*\*\*\*

On Saturday afternoon, the Fall Convocation of St. Thomas University paid special tribute to the Irish of New Brunswick by conferring an Honorary Degree on His Excellency Séan Gaynor, Ireland's Ambassador to Canada. Dr. Augustine Martin, a scholar in Anglo-Irish literature and drama at University College, Dublin, was also honoured for his crusading work as a promoter of Irish writing and culture.

Dr. Gaynor, who is nearing the end of a distinguished 35 year career as a diplomat, said in his convocation address that groups such as The Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick are creating a new bond between Canadian and Irish people.

"These groups have brought about a revival of interest in Irish matters in the Atlantic Province", he said, "this is something of which people on both sides of the Atlantic can be proud".

The Fredericton Chapter and St. Thomas University can indeed be proud of a weekend that did honours to our ancestors and heritage. Congratulations to the Fredericton Chapter President - Patricia O'Leary Coughlan and the Conference Co-ordinator - Professor Stewart Donovan of St. Thomas University and their dedicated co-workers.

### **IRISH CANADIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW BRUNSWICK WESTMORLAND - ALBERT - KENT CHAPTER # 1**

The biggest Irish happening in this area will take place on Tuesday, November 10, 1987, when IRISH ENCOUNTER '87 will take place at 7 p.m. at Keddy's Brunswick Hotel, Highfield & Main St. Moncton. The program is as follows:

1. Show of Irish Fashions - by House of Tara, Saint John models are local members.
2. Irish Dancers - Dawn Wedge and Ann Marie Leonard
3. Choir of School District #15 - Medley of Music.
4. Billy Macinnis - 14 yr. old Fiddler from P.E.I.
5. Siobham McDonnell - Irish Harpist from Halifax
6. Hal & Tow Group - Irish Selections
7. Guests: Dr. Stewart Donovan  
Dr. Cyril Byrne  
Dr. Tom Power  
Irish Coffee & Dessert - Cash Bar

#### **DOOR PRIZES**

1. Dresden Figurine
2. Dinner for Two - Top Deck
3. Pot of Gold (Nuggets)
4. Claddagh Ring

Under the leadership of President Lourdes O'Reilly and a very dedicated group of committee members, this Irish Encounter has been in the planning stages since early summer.

Only 300 tickets have been printed and sell for \$20.00 each.

Tickets available from Executive Members and Eileen Sullivan at Tel. #382-4263  
(Advance Ticket sales only)

Keddy's Brunswick Hotel will be giving at 10% discount to anyone attending who wishes to stay overnight. The next day, November 11th, Remembrance Day is a holiday.

Lourdes especially extends a special invitation to members of the Association throughout New Brunswick and beyond to come to Moncton on November 10th and enjoy an evening that looks like "one to be remembered".

\*\*\*\*\*

### SAINT JOHN CHAPTER - I.C.C.A. OF N.B.

Jack McNamara was elected President of the Saint John Chapter of the ICCA of N.B. at their annual meeting on Oct. 17th. Other officers elected are: first Vice-President Al Lowney, second Vice-President, William Brennan; corresponding secretary, Donna Blanchard; Recording Secretary, Justine Dalzell; Treasurer; Bill Taylor; Directors: Marie Corkery, Vincent Desmond, Shirley Dysart, Peter Forestell, Anne Gilbride, Jim Harrington, Marie Murphy, Peter Murphy, Del O'Brien, Martina Riordon, Nancy Ryan and Alma Hazel.

Although Dr. Danny Britt is retiring as the founding President of the Chapter, he will be chairman of next year's St. Patrick's Week Celebration which will be one week this year. It will be preceded from Feb. 20 - 22 by an Irish play now in rehearsal under the direction of J. Edmund Maloney.

A children's Irish Village Fair is planned for the week, along with a round of concerts, appearances by Irish poet Paul Durkin, a Sunday march to the Celtic Cross and an ecumenical Church service.

Peter Murphy reported on the progress of a book he is researching on Irish Immigrants to Saint John. Harold Wright announced the formation of Partridge Island Park and Museum Inc., which he said would push for release of a government study of feasibility of a park on the Island.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Association to thank Danny (as we call him) Britt for the enthusiasm and dedication that he has brought to the Association and especially his unselfish efforts in the Saint John Area.

### RESTIGOUCHE CHAPTER - I.A.A.C. OF N.B.

Dave Furlotte is the President; David Doyle Vice-President and Bert Smith - Secretary-Treasurer. The Chapter had a very successful Irish night in Jacquet River in June with some two hundred people attending. Local talent put on a few skits, sang and danced. Silliker and Dickson provided music for the second half of the evening's event. The Chapter also had a float in the Salmon Festival Parade in Campbellton.

### OUR NEWEST CHAPTER - VICTORIA COUNTY

Our newest chapter was formed in June with a gathering at Patricius, an Irish restaurant, eight miles south of Grand Falls, on the Trans Canada Highway. St. Patrick's Church is within a stone's throw of the restaurant. It gave me extra pleasure to preside at the election of Officers that day since this is the Parish that I grew up in. Bill Whelan, New Denmark is the President; Terry McCarthy, Grand Falls, Vice-President - Sharon Eagan - Upper Kent, Secretary and Marie McLoughlan, Grand Falls, Treasurer.

### CHARLOTTE CO. CHAPTER

Joan Jones, President reports that they will try to have another gathering concerning genealogy. Ann Breault (McKinley) the new M.L.A. for St. Stephens, and a valuable member of the Chapter and Association, has given interesting talks in the past along this line. Joan is also becoming very versed in this field.

### CANADA'S IRISH FESTIVAL ON THE MIRAMICHI 1987 Edition - Plans for 1988

The 1987 edition of the Irish Festival has truly been an exciting and rewarding event. The fourth annual Festival which was held on July 17, 18, 19 was such a success in every way possible that it has indeed "come of age"

The festival opened at 11 a.m. on Friday with an impressive ceremony that was attended by Premier Richard Hatfield, Opposition Leader, Frank McKenna, local M.L.A.'s, Mayors and special guests. The highlight of the opening was the address by our guest speaker, Ireland's greatest living Irish Tenor - Frank Patterson who was accompanied by his wife Eily O'Grady. The County Tyrone Irish Pipe Band and Irish Dancers added to the ceremony.

The main festival site, the Lord Beaverbrook Arena was packed both day and evening for the next three days. There were some 20 booths selling a wide variety of crafts and Irish wares. The stage was always occupied by a wide variety of Irish bands playing both traditional and popular Irish tunes. One of the highlights on Friday was the broadcast of the popular ATV program "Live At Five". Steve Murphy and Lori Ann used the backdrops of the Irish stage to interview people and viewers were able to see and hear the Irish Festival live for one hour. The program had the potential to reach over 2,000,000 people.

One of the events that we were extremely proud to see such an improvement in this year was our Cultural Program. The lectures that were put on by Dr. Stewart Donovan, Dr. Peter Toner, Dr. Allan Bentley, Dr. Michael Kenneally and the "Irish Language" by Tom Coughlan attracted overflow audiences in all cases.

TIP Splinter and Friends' Irish Traditional Music and Dance Workshop was once again very popular. Doherty & Evans Children's program was new and well received.

The highlight of the festival was the Frank Patterson Concert which was held for three evenings. It was sold out and brought rave reviews from those who attended. Frank Patterson's voice, Eily O'Grady's masterly playing the piano and the harp, and Irish Comedian Des Keogh performance were the right ingredient to make each evening "something special".

The Irish parade on Saturday was very colourful due to the people who participated. It is a "people parade" and each person showed pride in their background by the way they dressed and marched.

The Irish Games brought together some 1,200 athletes from throughout New Brunswick. The march past of these young people led by the County Tyrone Pipe Band also was part of the official opening of the Irish Games and also the opening of Chatham's \$300,000 Track and Field.

The Irish Historical part of the festival took place at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Howards. It is the oldest standing Roman Catholic Church in continuous use (since 1837) in the Diocese of St. John. It was founded by Irish Immigrants and to commemorate its 150th anniversary an impressive ceremony was held here on Sunday, July 19th, at which the Church was dedicated as a Shrine, and a monument was unveiled to honour the Irish Immigrants. The Irish Festival made a donation of \$500 toward the restoration project of the Church.

We, of the Irish Festival Committee, are extremely pleased how the whole Miramichi area is responding to the Festival. The Newcastle Business Association sponsored a window decorating contest that gave a good Irish atmosphere to the area. Some unknown leprechaun in Chatham painted shamrocks on the main streets leading to the arena. The local radio station played Irish music, welcomed visitors to the area and broadcast live from the festival site each day. The local newspaper published special sections. Business establishments and private homes flew hundreds of Irish flags. A group of ladies in the Blackville and Howards area got together and made over 100 Irish flags when a flag company could not fill their order.

This year we also had the Miramichi Celtic Pipes and Drums, County Tyrone Pipe Band, TIP Splinter and Friends and Irish Dancers playing in the Parks in Chatham, Newcastle, Douglastown, Howard, Blackville and Bartibogue Bridge. This added to the Irish atmosphere in the whole area.

In closing the festival has indeed come of age. As we begin planning for our fifth festival in '88, we must pay tribute to the some 25,000 people who attended Irish Festival '87. This includes people who attended all events, including the 1300 who attended the Irish Mass at St. Michael's Church, Chatham on Sunday. Frank Patterson sang two selections at this service. Already we are receiving requests on the dates and events of Irish Festival '88.

We held our annual meeting on Oct. 6th the executive consists of: Farrell McCarthy, President; Teresa McEachern, Vice-President; Frank Daly, Vice-President; Marg Bowes, Treasurer and Lynn Trevors, Secretary. Some twenty-two committees have been formed including a new one, Theatre that is headed by Pat McCluskey.

Irish Festival Dates '88 - July 15,16,17.



### THE FUREYS AND DAVEY ARTHUR IN CONCERT - CHATHAM

The Fureys and Davey Arthur, Ireland's finest International Folk Group, will appear in concert at James M. Hill Theatre Auditorium, Chatham on Friday, November 13th at 8 p.m. This will be their only appearance in New Brunswick.

The Furey's music can best be summed up by the work of a local journalist who said "...they maintain the traditions of the Old Land but inject a modern feel with humour, and above all, they're fast, fun and furious..."

Tickets are available at Barb's Flower Shop, Chatham and Gallivan's Book Store, Newcastle. The price is \$12 per person and also may be ordered by sending a cheque or money order payable to Irish Festival Inc. P.O. Box 153, Newcastle, N.B. E1V 3M3.

Since the newsletter may not reach you in time for mail orders - call my number - 622-4007 or Marg Bowes 773-5218 and we will save them for you at the door.

### BOOK ON NEW BRUNSWICK IRISH - READY FOR PUBLISHER

Dr. Peter Toner, U.N.B.S.J., has recently completed his book on "The 19th Century Irish in New Brunswick". For the first time in our history, we at last, have a book that is completely related to the Irish in New Brunswick.

Another goal of our Association is accomplished. We succeeded in getting at \$7,800. Secretary-Of-State grant in 1984 and Dr. Toner agreed to take on the project. We congratulate him on his fine effort and hope to see at our next Board of Directors meeting how we can assist in publishing the book.

The book has a number of authors and chapters written by them. William A. Spray has one entitled "Reception of the Irish in New Brunswick". T.W. Acheson's chapter is entitled "The Irish Community in Saint John 1815-1850". William Spray's chapter 3 is on "The Irish in the Miramichi." P.M. Toner writes Chapter 4 "The Foundations of the Catholic Church in English-Speaking New Brunswick". Scott W. See's Chapter 5 is entitled "The Orange Order and Social Violence in Mid-Nineteenth Century Saint John". Mr. See also writes Chapter 6 "The Fortunes of the Orange Order in 19th Century New Brunswick". P.M. Toner's Chapter 7 is entitled "The Irish of New Brunswick at Mid-Century - The 1851 Census". William M. Baker's Chapter 8 is entitled "Squelching the Disloyal, Fenian - Sympathising Brood: T. W. Anglin and Confederation in New Brunswick, 1865-66." Mary McDevitt's Chapter 9 concludes the book "The Enduring Testimony: St. Mary's Cemetery, Saint John".

As you can see it is a very comprehensive book, one that will ask as many questions as it tries to answer. It will lead us to continue the saga of the interesting story of the Irish in New Brunswick.

### CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF IRISH STUDIES 1988 CONFERENCE - MARIANOPOLIS COLLEGE, MONTREAL

Dr. Michael Kenneally, Montreal is the new President of the C.A.I.S. Under his leadership, the Association is putting on a major drive for members. Dr. Kenneally attended both the Irish Festival on the Miramichi and the recent Irish Studies Conference at St. Thomas University.

The 21st Annual C.A.I.S Conference will be held at Marianopolis College, Montreal, March 2 - 6, 1988. Its theme will be "Irish Literature: Cultural and Artistic Concerts." There will be Plays, Concerts, Book Displays, Lectures, Panel Discussions, Art Exhibition and Poetry Readings.

Dr. Stewart Donovan, St. Thomas University is planning to organize a group rate for a flight to Montreal. For further information contact: Prof. Michael Kenneally, Dept. of English, Marianopolis College, 3880 Coté des Neiges, Montreal, P.Q., H3X 2Z8. Also, contact Michael re membership in Association that includes a book on the papers that are given at the conference.

### IRISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

Tom Coughlan will be teaching Irish Language classes. The class will be held in St. Mary's Parish Center, Newcastle on Sunday evenings at 8 p.m. Maureen Coughlan, will also teach set dances in a Ceili (Kay-le) style at the same time and location. For further information call 622-8057.

### IRISH RADIO PROGRAM - CFAN- NEWCASTLE

Tom Coughlan will also host an Irish radio program that will begin sometime in November. The program will feature Irish music, reports of Cultural activities, etc. It will be one hour long and be on at a regular schedule once it has been firmly established.

### IRISH LITERATURE AND IRISH DANCING - SAINT JOHN

Some 25 people were enrolled in Dr. Stewart Donovan's Irish Literature class that is now being held at St. Malachy's High School each Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Plans are being made to have the Irish Literature course to be given in the Miramichi area and Moncton in the Spring.

Ann Marie Leonard of Toronto, a certified dance teacher conducts three classes of Irish Dancing on alternate Saturdays at the Assumption Center, Chapel Street, West Saint John. She gives classes from age 6 up, including adults. Call 672-2723 for further details.

### IRISH BOOKS

Below are listed a number of popular Irish books that are for sale. Make cheques payable to Farrell McCarthy. Include \$1.00 extra for postage and handling.

1. Paddy's Lament - 1846-47 by Thomas Gallagher - 345 pages - \$11.50. Finally in paperback but larger in size than the ordinary paperback. It is a powerful novel that tells an interesting story about the Irish Famine in Ireland; on the ship that crosses the Atlantic and its arrival in America.
2. Family and Farm in Pre-Famine Ireland - The Parish of Killashandra by Kevin O'Neill - 232 pages - Hardcover - \$19.95. In documenting his view of a rapidly changing pre-famine Ireland, O'Neill focuses on the parish of Killashandra in County Cavan, during the years 1780 to 1845.
3. Irish Genealogy - A Record Finder by Donal F. Begley - 254 pages softcover - \$19.95 - How and Where to find a record of your Irish Ancestors.
4. 100 Irish Ballads with Words, Music and Guitar Chords - The most popular combined Irish Ballad Book and Cassette. The Cassette contains the first verse and chorus of ninety of the most popular Irish ballads. The song book contains 112 pages - \$17.95
5. Emigrants and Exiles - Ireland and the Irish Exodus to North America by Kirby A. Miller - \$49.95 - Hardcover - 684 pages - The most comprehensive book yet published on Ireland and Immigration to North America.
6. Grosse Ile - Gateway to Canada - 1832 - 1937 - Marianna O'Gallagher - 185 pages - softcover - \$14.95. Grosse Ile is an Island in the St. Lawrence River where thousands of Irish were quarantined. It also lists some 600 names of Irish orphans whose parents died during the Famine years of 1847-48.
7. Irish Families - Their Names, Arms and Origins by Edward MacLysaght hardcover - \$49.95 - 245 pages - This is a coffee table style book that gives the history of hundreds of family names and shows their Coat-of-Arms in colour.
8. Real Ireland 1988 Wall Calendar - Measuring 11"x24" unfolded, this gorgeous full-colour wall calendar contains photographs of some of the loveliest scenic areas in all of Ireland - \$9.95.
9. The Irish Hunger Strike by Tom Collins - 625 pages - softcover- \$17.95. The gripping story of a tragic time in Irish history when ten young men starved themselves to death.
10. The Rising of the Moon by Peter Berresford - Ellis - 636-hardcover- \$27.95. In 1866 a regiment of Irish American soldiers invaded Canada- Their aim to establish an Irish Republic-in-exile as a base for negotiations with England for the freedom of Ireland. If you read "Trinity", you won't want to miss this epic prelude to that period of history. Already in its second printing in England, the book has been called "the novel of the century" by the London "Irish Post."
11. A Genealogical and Historical Map of Ireland - \$5.95

\*\*\*\*\*

## BITES AND PIECES

The bank account of the Association is with the Bank of Montreal. Received a copy of the News Release in which the Head Office in Toronto thought would be of some interest to us. Naturally, it was, since it stated that the new President Matthew W. Barrett hails from County Meath, Ireland.

The Miramichi Literacy Council has produced a series of booklets that are used to teach adults how to read. Their latest edition is entitled "The Irish of the Miramichi" by Dawn McLean and Merle Milson. The council produced extra copies for the Irish Festival. Copies sell for \$1.50 and are available from Association address.

Ruth-Ann Harris, Asst. Professor of History and Director of Irish Studies Program, Northeastern University, Boston, states that their database contains the names of 5,500 Irish Immigrants sought through the Boston Pilot (newspaper) missing persons column. Her letter to me dated July 14th states that "Meanwhile, as a Canadian (Toronto), I was very happy to see that approximately 65% of the persons sought in our records (for whom port of entry was reported) came through Canada, bearing out what I've always believed that in future more attention is going to have to be paid to the Canadian side of Irish emigration". Mrs. Harris indicates an interest in attending next year's Irish Festival.

Saint John now has two Irish establishments, although quite different in style and content. The House of Tara, is an Irish Shop selling a wide variety of Irish products. It is located on Prince William Street in downtown Saint John. The other establishment is O'Leary's Irish bar which is in the same area.

Austin Malone, Fredericton, a member of the Association won the Trip for Two to Ireland drawn at the Irish Festival. The trip was sponsored by Canadian Pacific Airlines and Times-Transcript, Moncton and Newcastle Travel. We wish them Bon Voyage.

Irish Family History Society, Charleville Road, Tullamore, Co Offaly, Ireland was founded in 1984. The object of the society include: the distribution to members of information on current developments in Irish Family history research and the publication of a journal annually. Memberships is 8 sterling for overseas members.

Did you realize that Scotch originally wasn't Scotch. If it weren't for the Irish, it wouldn't exist because Irish monks have been credited with bringing the distilling know-how that's so important in the process to Scotland. However true that may be, the Scots rapidly made the drink distinctively their own; by 1823 there were 13,000 stills in the country - most of them illegal, in contravention of English Tax laws. Taken from "The Holiday Inn Breakfast Times" and sent out to me by Norman Beville, Saint John.

"Forty percent of Canada's population in its Maritime Province is of Irish descent and I spoke more Gaelic in Halifax than I do back here" stated Chief Herald of Ireland Danal Begley. Sixteen of Ireland's most famous ancient ruling families from the O'Neills to the O'Donoghues and even including the McGillycuddy of the Reeks are to be recognized in a new State Heraldic Museum in Dublin. In announcing the museum, he said, that there were "40 million Irish Americans, six million Englishmen of Irish decent and five million of the 15 million people in Australia come from Ireland originally."

Are you interested in getting "The Irish Times" once a week? The quarterly subscription rate is \$60.71 Canadian. The address is Distrinews, Tentrappenstraat 5, 13 - 1990 Hoeilaart, Belgium. Write for details first.

Glencress Centre was founded in 1974 as a response to violent conflict in Irish society, in the conviction that there is a better way towards reconciliation than violence, intolerance and sectarianism. Its foundation was inspired by a Spirit of Christain Commitment which motivates the work and life of the Glencress Community.

Last year we built a new youth wing to cater for the 7000/8000 young people who take part in our programs.

If interested write to : Leo Farrell, Glencress Town Office, 68 Highfield Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6, Ireland.

Congratulations to John and Althea Dineen (nee McCutcheon) Saint John who celebrated thier 50th wedding anniversary. They and their eight children are great supporters of things "Irish" and we wish them many more years of health and happiness.

Once again I highly recommend "Ireland of the Welcomes" P.O. Box 54147, Boulder, Colorado 80321-

\*\*\*\*\*

Once again I highly recommend "Ireland of the Welcomes" P.O. Box 54147, Boulder, Colorado 80321-4147, U.S.A. A recent letter states that with our special Christmas rate, it's just \$14.00 for your first gift or your subscription, and only \$12.00 for each additional gift. Just send them the names and addresses of the people you'd like to send "Ireland of the Welcomes". We'll send you a handsome gift announcement for each person you name so you can announce your gifts with your personal greetings." Make cheques or money orders in U.S. funds.

\* \* \*

"An Gael" is a magazine published quarterly by the Irish Arts Center. The magazine offers an interesting variety of feature articles, essays, interviews, reviews and fictions. It is available by subscription for \$11 (U.S. funds) from: The Irish Arts Center, 553 W. 51st Street, New York, N.Y. 10019.

\* \* \*

Dublin will celebrate its 1000 birthday or Millennium in 1988. Many events are planned during the year, Dublin's St. Patrick's Day will have the theme "Dublin Throughout the Centuries." For more information write to the Irish Tourist Board, 10 King Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5C 1C3 or call 416-364-1301.

\* \* \*

Are you interested in subscribing to a magazine of Irish Traditional Music, Song and Dance? Treoir is its name. It comes out four times a year - \$10 - orders in Canada to be forwarded to Ms. Sally Carroll, 891 Coxwell Ave., Toronto, Ontario M4C 3G1.

\* \* \*

The "Irish Awareness" that is happening in New Brunswick has meant that a number of people are visiting the Emerald Isle. Alma Hazel, Saint John, once again lead a group of 50 to Ireland in September. Many other people have went on their own. Dr. Stewart Donovan is planning to lead a group on a Cultural and Educational Tour of Ireland in 1988.

\* \* \*

"Nelson and Its Neighbours - 300 Years On The Miramichi" by Earl English and ten other writers of the Nelson area will be available in a month or so. It covers the period - 1600 - Richard Dennings French mission - William Davidson and the Scotch Immigrants in the 1700's - Richard Sutton and the Irish Immigrants of the 1800's plus history of the area in the 1900's. There is also a list of 2000 names which would be of interest to anyone with ancestors in the Nelson-Miramichi area.

\* \* \*

Below is a Christmas Blessing from Douglas Hyde who at one time was connected with U.N.B.

## Beannaictaí na nollag

(CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS)



O friend unchanging,  
Christmas has come again,  
Bringing the thought of you  
Vividly into my memory.

Joy be for ever upon you  
With lasting prosperity;  
And with this little card  
Take from me my blessing.

Douglas Hyde.

President of Ireland, 1938-45

Pictured above is one of the many lovely black and white woodcut illustrations taken from The Second Irish Christmas Book, a rich potpourri of writings on the celebration of Christmas in Ireland through the ages. If you are interested in the book let me know.

\* \* \* \* \*



## EAGARFHOCAL

As we sit at a Christmas fireside, the flickering flames seem to summon forth only happy memories. Days of carefree childhood dance before our minds and what were major problems at the time are now reduced to lessons learned or incidents of humour in the retrospective light of a secure home. We recall the days of youth and the dreams (some now a reality, others yet to be realised) born of enthusiasm and reckless courage.

We may savour these recollections at an Irish hearth or in an emigrant abode. We pluck up courage and venture beyond the realm of childhood into the reality of adulthood. The thoughts of old friends, fond parents and happy occasions come racing into perspective.....the plucking and stuffing of a fine fat goose.....in a cheerful home.....the bellows wheel turning to the fiddle's tune.....midnight Mass on a starry night.....a joyous family reunion.....the nostalgic aroma of plum pudding and other Christmas savouries.....and the hunting of the wren on St. Stephen's Day with all the accompanying laughter and merrymaking.

At Christmastime - the birthday of Christ - the sad experiences of life remain subservient to joy and hope. We become more aware of our dependence on one another. Goodwill prevails and wraps us in a protective cloak of friendship and hospitality. Class and religious barriers seem vulgar and obtrusive. The bonds of humanity and Christian charity withstand the wiles and machinations of personal greed and ambitions. Unity, harmony, peace and justice can, indeed, exist side by side and be complementary to one another.

Christmas holds a message for the whole year. Like music it can be soothing and reconciliatory and influence all on this island to work together in a spirit of friendship. It can further strengthen the bonds between those at home and our loved ones in far-off lands. Our wish for each and everyone of you is that the essence of Christmas remains with you and inspires you throughout your lives.

(Taken from Christmas issue of Treoir - Information on magazine in newsletter)

Once again a red check mark on the application form will indicate if your dues are due. Individual dues are \$20; Family membership is \$25. Five dollars of each membership is returned to your Chapter. New members receive a lapel pin, the magazine Ireland: the Unexpected Pleasures and a membership card. Members who renewed do not receive the lapel pin again. New members also receive the Early Irish History Poster Maps of New Brunswick. Extra copies of map sell for \$4.95.

A couple of reminders - Irish Encounter - Moncton, November 10th and the Fureys and Davey Arthur Concert Chatham - November 13th - details in Newsletter.