



July • 2011

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*Bridget Linton,  
2011 Northern Ohio  
Rose of Tralee*



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*Photo of Ms. Linton by John O'Brien, Jr.*

**irish american news**



29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CLEVELAND

JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>  
THRU 24<sup>TH</sup>

# IRISH CULTURAL Festival

CLEVELANDIRISH.ORG



Patrick O'Sullivan



Dublin City Ramblers



High Kings



Scythian



Slide



Eileen Ivers



Cherish the Ladies



Seven Nations



Glengarry Boys



New Barleycorn



Girsa



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Brigid's Cross



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By Susan Mangan

## To Every Season

As a girl, I always wanted to live on a farm. I would wonder what my life would be like if my mother hadn't moved from her hometown of Billings, Missouri. But if fate had unfolded in any other way, I wouldn't be who I am today.

My earliest memories of the farm sprout like vegetables on a vine. One moment I recall my granddad before he died, sitting in his white wicker chair sheltered from the heat of the mid-day sun beneath a towering oak tree awaiting my family's arrival from Chicago. During another early memory, I can feel the stifling humidity the evening my granddad was waked. Crickets chirped loudly that twilight, nature's mourners drowning out the human tears.

I can still see my five-year-old self, standing outside the century-old funeral home, dressed in a black polka-dotted dress with a large yellow daisy for a pocket. Unaffected by the cacophony of crickets, I bent down and scratched the mosquito bites that dotted my bare legs and ankles. I remember being quite put off that I had not received a mass card. My older cousin gently scolded me saying that I was too young to read and didn't need one. Boldly, I grabbed her card during the prayer service and proved her wrong, reading each and every word. Even though my first memories revolved around a death, what I most remember is how alive I felt on the farm.

Precocious and curious to a fault, I spent three weeks each year of my childhood, knee deep in hay and manure, trying to figure out where I fit in the world. Like the young calf whose coloring is dark enough to stand out from his fair, caramel colored siblings, I was curly-haired and olive-skinned. I looked different from my fair-skinned, blond-haired Missouri cousins, but inside we were kindred spirits, country kids at heart.

Aunt Peggy kept a garden filled with tomatoes, corn, melons, and trailing beans. Dinner was served at lunchtime. My uncle had already been working since 4:30 am and was ready for fresh buttered corn, green beans boiled with bacon, and slices of salted watermelon.

Barefoot and innocent, my younger cousin and I were as thick as thieves. Somehow we followed an unending trail of mischief. If told to stay out of the cornfield, in we would go.

Trapped in a field filled with late July corn is at once frightening and exhilarating. The depth of the rows of corn is disorienting, maze-like. Each stalk of corn resembles another. The stalks scratch against your bare skin, but the smell is pure and of the earth, yellow corn silks smooth



between your fingers. Tired from our misadventures, we would wait for our dinner and swing on the playground set, watching

my aunt carry freshly harvested beans and "t'maters" for our noon meal.

While my aunt would prepare the beans, carefully popping off the tough ends, I would sit on the high kitchen stool visiting with her, always keeping one eye on the window that overlooked the farm. I never tired of her stories or soft Missouri drawl. Even now, I feel beans with bacon are best boiled with a side of country wisdom. When I long for the farm, I take my colander filled with summer beans and sit on my front porch with a glass of iced tea and revel in a moment's quiet. The thud of the beans falling into the stainless bowl the only sound I hear.

Though I lived in the city, I tried to recapture my moments on the farm. Each summer, my mother would buy me packs of seeds: cantaloupe, tomatoes, pumpkins, and corn. Our Chicago garage faced an alley and sat about three feet away from our neighbor's.

Huge clusters of wild mint choked the ground. With my father's help, I managed to clear a space, long enough to plant corn and cantaloupe. My father humored me, convinced that nothing would ever grow in that city soil but weeds.

Strangely enough, my plants grew. The corn grew tall, reaching toward the top of the garage. The corn itself was tough and inedible, probably owing to the age of the hardware store seeds, but still it grew. My cantaloupe vines hardly prospered. The fruit was small and hard; never to fully ripen in the shade of the garage. That summer I harvested more memories than produce, but my desire to be part of the earth was quenched.

Each summer rain brings a sense of freshness to the earth. Cool rain ushers in humidity, moist enough to curl my hair and lift the scent off of green leaves and pink flowering petals. In the suburbs and the city, such fragrance is fleeting. Car exhaust and construction vehicles temper the headiness of the earth.

In the Irish countryside, the fragrance of the fields is omnipresent; the smell of mown hay and sweet grass, not unlike the scents of the Missouri farm, stay with you through years, decades, and generations. Such perfume transports you to another time and place where worries are held in perspective; the bleating of newborn lambs harnessing you back to the earth.

I wish to give my children the gifts my parents gave me, the gift of the earth, the farm, and fresh air. My husband shares this ideal as he spent summers in Ireland, much like I spent mine in Missouri. He followed in the wake of his uncle's footsteps through field and bog. He

I sit amongst reams of displays. The 29th Annual Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival is a month off, and time seems to be rushing toward me. It is with great relief that I sent the brand new Greater Cleveland Irish Directory off to the printer today. It will be available at Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival July 22-24, at the Berea Fairgrounds. Now I can work hard at having fun.

I was sixteen when my dad walked into my bedroom one day in 1982 and said, "Johnny, we're starting a festival, you are doing the parking," and walked out. Twenty-nine years later, we still worry about the parking, and the walk to the front gate for our guests. After line-up and the publicity efforts, the parking lot is the first thing our guests see. It has always been free, but always at a significant cost and concern to us as organizers.

Entertainment is king and by far the most cited reason people spend their time and money in going to an event. Great line-ups draw great crowds, great experiences keep them there. Only the weather (and the hyper weather forecasters) have more impact on an event's attendance.

The behind the scenes effort that starts on the Sunday before the event with over 450 volunteers, actually starts nine months earlier, when bands, grounds, production and promotion are all offered, argued and booked. About 1% of the festival weekend workers volunteer in festival preparation year 'round. Volunteers give up evenings or a Saturday to discuss the past, plan the future and spark new ways to preserve, promote and present the rich culture that has enriched so many of us.

The reward for these volunteers is the ca-



John O'Brien, Jr.

maraderie built in giving together, for over three decades. Our volunteer ranks are filled with many who bear the same last name or founding relation; another generation of families working ticket, pop, beer and other stations. They are our strength and our foundation. New volunteers offer more than just a pair of hands, for their energy and creativity cannot be manufactured; it must be earned in laughter and embraced in created memories.

Seeing thousands of people living, laughing and learning on the Midway is simply icing on the cake for this cadre of compatriots.

I have been privileged to work with many festivals in exchanging ideas and sharing knowledge. Those sharing of best practices extend far beyond the too short festival season. The relationships forged in quiet conversations with other organizers, performers, educators and luminaries are truly the little extra light that eases loads and warms cold winters with a bonfire's great light and a friendship's great warmth. It is an honor.

Hope to see you at the 29th Annual Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, a week later at Dayton Celtic Fest, or a week after that, at the Dublin Irish Fest. Trifecta!

To close, in another honor, I was recently named to Irish America Magazine's "Top 100 Irish American's". It is hard to know what to say when recognized for doing what I love, except to say thank you. So in this the 29th Fest and the Top 100, I wish to say Thank You OhIAN readers for your support, your ideas, your attendance and most of all, for sharing in this most wonderful cult and culture that is being Irish.

Slán John

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tasted the salt from brisk sea winds that lashed across his face. Vegetable-like he grew by his father's side, nourished with tradition and mother's

love. We are, he and I, kindred spirits, country kids at heart.

*Continued on Page 15...*

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Walk Down an Irish Lane ... Terry Reilly

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by Terry Kenneally  
A TOP Shelf Selection



## The Forgotten Waltz

By Anne Enright

Jonathan Cape Publishing; ISBN 97802224089036 2011; 230 pp.

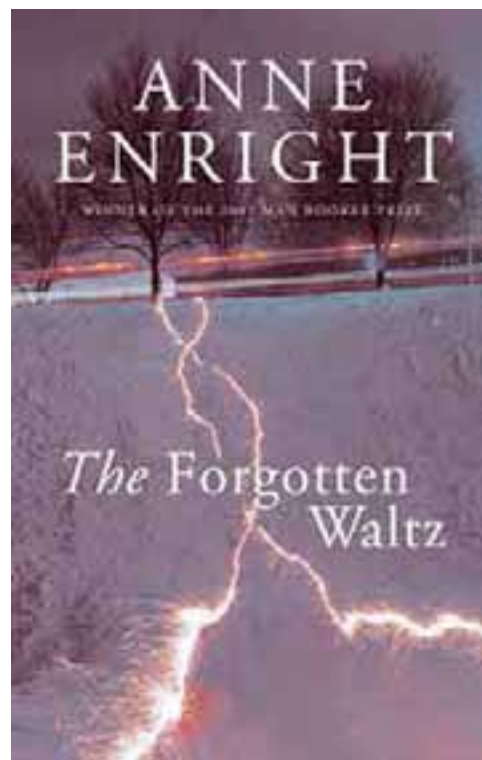
Anne Enright's new novel is a modern day tale of an extra-marital affair set in Terenure, a suburb of Dublin. If the book was just about a torrid love affair it would quickly bore the reader, but Enright sets the story on the emotional landscape of Ireland's catastrophic economic crash. Just as the Irish nation came crashing down economically as a result of poor decision making, the main character, Gina, comes to the realization that there are consequences to her decision making.

Each chapter is headed by the title of a pop song—"Will You Love Me Tomorrow," "Stop in the Name of Love" and "Save the Last Dance for Me." The book also is told in retrospect from the end-point of the snow bound winter of 2009. This ending is faintly reminiscent of James Joyce's story, *The Dead*, "snow was general all over Ireland." It hints at the condition of Ireland in 2011 when the Irish are facing one of their greatest economic challenges.

I found this book to be a **TOP SHELF** read.

*\*Terrence J. Kenneally is an attorney and the president of Terrence J. Kenneally & Assoc. Co. His practice consists of representing insured's and their insurance companies in insurance defense litigation throughout the state of Ohio. He is presently pursuing a Master's Degree in Irish Studies at John*

*Carroll University. He may be reached at [terry@tjkenneally.com](mailto:terry@tjkenneally.com).*



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#### Top Shelf

Get it. A good story or recording, entertaining, an authentic setting and/or good educational content.

#### Middle Shelf

Worth a read or a listen if this particular subject/area/person is of interest to you.

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## On This Day in Irish History Irish Trivia July 2011

- July 1** The Gaelic League was founded in 1893, to preserve and revive Irish as a popular vernacular.
- July 6** The Irish Crown Jewels, a name sometimes given to a jeweled Star of the Order of St. Patrick, vanish from Dublin Castle in 1907, never to be found.
- July 8** Feast Day of St. Killian, Irish bishop who was assassinated.
- July 11** In 1921, a truce ends the War of Independence between the IRA and the British Army.
- July 12** The Battle of the Boyne: James II's Jacobite forces (Irish Catholics, French Catholics, and Germans) are defeated by Williams of Orange's Williamites (Irish, English, Dutch, Germans, French Protestants, and Danes).
- July 13** In 1922 ~ Birth of Father Edward Flanagan, founder of Boy's Town, in Omaha, Nebraska.
- July 16** In 1958 ~ Birth of Michael Ryan Flatley, Irish-American step dancer known for his stage shows, including *Riverdance*.
- July 18** The Abbey Theatre in Dublin burns down in 1951. In 1966 on the same date, the rebuilt Abbey Theatre opens.
- July 21** In 1860 ~ Birth of Chauncey Olcott, Irish balladeer and author of my "Wild Irish Rose."
- July 26** In 1856 ~Birth date of George Bernard Shaw, playwright and winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature.
- July 31** On the last Sunday in July, it is traditional to climb Croagh Patrick.

*\*Source: Terrence J. Kenneally, The Encyclopedia of Ireland*





By Terry Reilly



It did help that Sinn Féin's leader Gerry Adams praised the Queen after she expressed 'sincere sympathy' to all those affected by the Troubles in Northern Ireland

and Ireland's 800 year fight for freedom. He had declined all invitations to events during her visit to Ireland but he did take note of her keynote speech at the State banquet in Dublin Castle.

The Queen also visited Croke Park, scene of the original Bloody Sunday massacre when the Black and Tans killed 14 players and fans at a GAA match in 1920. Opinion polls in advance of her visit had shown that the vast majority welcomed her visit to Ireland. One radio poll ran as high as 80%.

If the Queen's visit was full of symbolism and respect, President Barack Obama's visit a few days later rocked with palpable excitement. Ireland turned out in force to greet a long lost cousin and his wife, Michelle.

They got an ecstatic welcome in Moneygall, Co Offaly, where they were greeted by Mr. Obama's eighth cousin, Henry Healy. They spent close to forty-five minutes shaking hands and greeting hundreds of people along the main street. A relaxed President pulled babies from the crowd and hugged locals.

They then called to President Obama's ancestral home and to Ollie Hayes's Pub, where the president and his wife sampled Guinness. President Obama said "sláinte" before drinking his pint and paying for it. "I just want you to know the president pays his bar tab," he joked.

Barack Obama crowned a triumphant day in Ireland with an address to an estimated 50,000 people at Dublin's

College Green later that evening. In a rousing speech, he encouraged people not to give in to those who claim the country cannot cope with the challenges facing it.

"We're people, the Irish and Americans, who never stop imagining a brighter future, even in bitter times. We're people who make that future happen through hard work, and through sacrifice, through investing in those things that matter most, like family and community."

The President said Ireland was a "little country, that inspires the biggest things—your best days are still ahead."

At a press conference after meeting Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Kenny, President Obama pledged that the United States would do everything it could to help Ireland on the road to economic recovery. He said he had discussed the important economic issues with the Taoiseach and was glad to see progress being made in stabilising the economic situation.

"I know it's a hard road, but it's one that the Irish people are more than up to the task in achieving."

As one Irish writer put it, there was another, unstated advantage in reminding America Obama is also of white, European extraction. By producing his long-form birth certificate last month and disposing of Osama bin Laden, Obama put paid—at least temporarily—to the "birther" conspiracy theory. His Irish roots are another nail in that coffin.

According to a new biography of Stanley Anne Dunham, Obama's mother felt hurt that he chose to identify so completely with the African-American community, when he'd been raised by her (white) side of the family. By making the pilgrimage to Moneygall, Obama acknowledged his Caucasian roots. Obama has an almost Irish love of symbolism. Not by chance, the Irish Embassy in Washington gave U.S. journalists a copy of the speeches made

during John F. Kennedy's historic visit in June 1963.

## Trad Musicians' Hub

Anyone interested in traditional Irish music around the world should look out for a new website. It's called Trad Connect and it links people who share a common interest in playing trad music.

The website presents a forum for musicians living in the same area—either at home or abroad—to get together and share their love of playing Irish music.

The creator of the site said that with the busy lifestyles people have today, they don't have the time to commit to weekly music sessions, so Trad Connect aims to allow people to arrange music sessions with people in their own areas in the same situation.

Already musicians in London, Sydney, New York, Chicago and Montreal have signed up to the free site. Brazil, France, Spain and Eastern Europe have also joined. Once signed up to the site, members are categorised by their level of ability, age and location. They are then notified of other musicians in the same area and encouraged to meet up. Check out the site: [www.tradconnect.com](http://www.tradconnect.com).

## Thatched Cottages On Wane

It's bad news for Ireland's thatched cottages with a report finding that less than 2,000 of them remain in the country. One of the reasons is that finding anyone who can thatch is becoming increasingly more difficult. Another is rising insurance costs. What a pity this picture postcard scene of the Emerald Isle is on the wane.

Finally, a big hello to the proud Mayos from Cleveland who attended the Mayo World Convention in Mayo recently, especially Pat Lenehan and Gerry Quinn whom I had the great pleasure of meeting.

Until next time, slan.

Terry

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# Real Ireland

By Rachel Gaffney



## Food Fit For A Queen

Ireland waited with baited breath for an historic visit from HRH Queen Elizabeth. It began with her arrival in Dublin, taking in the National Stud in Kildare, making her way down to Co. Tipperary and spending her last day in Cork City.

The English Market was her first stop.

This famous landmark is well known to us Corkonians. In fact, I remember taking a shortcut through the market to get to the bus stop on Patrick Street. Fishmongers, butchers, bakers and cheese makers have been there for generations. It first opened its doors in 1788.

A traditional favorite in Cork City every Christmas is 'Spiced Beef.' I remember my father bringing home the fresh supply, newly sliced, eager to have a spiced beef

sandwich. If you have never had spiced beef then you are simply missing out on one of life's pleasures! This famous beef was one of the many items that appeared in the



English Market Queen's Basket

basket presented to the Queen. Tom Durcan, a well known Cork butcher explained to her majesty how this Cork spiced beef was made. This particular method was used years

ago on the ships and boats as a method of preserving. During the 1990's, whilst living and working in London, I decided to make this spiced beef. I purchased my beef and the spice mixture calls for one very important ingredient, Salt Petre. I went from store to store looking and asking for this but to no avail. Finally, upon chatting to a manager in my local Sainsbury's he told me it was an ingredient in gun powder. No wonder I was getting funny looks!

The Queen and Prince Phillip meandered their way through the stalls, stopping to chat to various vendors, asking many questions and laughing with the people of Cork. I can only imagine what a feast for the senses it must have been. Before leaving, she was presented with a basket that embodied all that was and is the 'English Market.' The kitchens in Buckingham Palace were in for a treat. Meat from Bresnan's Butchers and Tom Durcan's Butchers, Irish Porter Cake from 'The Farmgate Cafe,' Wexford Irish Honey, Smoked Salmon from Ballycotton Seafood and Earl Grey Irish Tea Breac (cake) from ABC Bakery.

In 2010 www.localmarkets.ie was founded. Rory McCann launched this website with twenty

two producers and as of today, less than a year later, they have forty one producers. Rory saw a need for this. I asked him why, and he explained that these artisan producers were unable to reach a larger audience outside of their shops and market stalls. "What we do is re-connect the customer and the local

producer."

Rory explains that they now distribute nationally and as of May they began to ship to the UK.

Now if only we could get some of these foods here... "The only reason for time, is so that everything doesn't happen at once."

—Albert Einstein

## Rustic Raspberry Tart with Kerrygold Butter Crust



### Crust

1 C. all purpose flour  
1/4 tsp salt

6 tbsp cold unsalted Kerrygold Pure Irish Butter, cut into 1/2" chunks

1 lg. egg yolk (reserve white)

3 to 5 tsp iced water

### Filling

2 C. raspberries

3 tbsp sugar

2 tsp cornstarch

Preheat oven to 425 ° F.

In a food processor, whirl together flour and salt. Add butter, pulsing until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Add egg yolk and water 1 teaspoon at a time, process just until dough clumps together and begins to form a ball. Set 2 pieces of plastic wrap aside (12-15 inches each). Lightly dust each with flour. Gather dough and press into a flat disk. Place dough onto one piece of plastic, then place 2nd piece on top. With a rolling pin, roll dough into about an 11-12 inch round.

Peel off top layer of plastic, invert onto baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Remove other layer of plastic. Distribute berries in center of pastry, leaving a 2 inch border. In a small bowl, mix sugar and cornstarch. Sprinkle 3 tablespoons mixture evenly over fruit. Gently fold edges of pastry over berries, pleating edges to fit. Leave an opening 4-6 inches wide in the center. Brush pastry with reserved egg white. Sprinkle pastry lightly with remaining sugar mixture. Bake on bottom rack of the oven for 25-30 minutes or until crust is golden brown. Cool in pan for 15 minutes.

Website: [www.RachelGaffneys.com](http://www.RachelGaffneys.com). Follow on Twitter: @Rachelgaffney. Facebook: Rachel Gaffney. Blog: [www.rachelgaffney.blogspot.com](http://www.rachelgaffney.blogspot.com).

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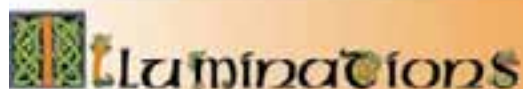
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By J. Michael Finn



## The Tragedy at Doolough

Last month I wrote about Croagh Patrick, the holy mountain in the west of Ireland in County Mayo. This month's article is about a tragic incident that occurred during the Great Hunger and in the shadow of Croagh Patrick. It occurred in and about the town of Louisburgh, near the lake known as Doolough (Black Lake).

As you may recall from reading this column, the British passed a law in 1838 that established the Poor Law Unions in districts all over Ireland. Each district had its own workhouse that was managed by a locally elected Board of Guardians. This system, financed by taxes imposed on the landlords, was supposed to be for the benefit of the poor, hungry, and destitute Irish. Instead the dreaded workhouses became little more than concentration camps for the poor, where death and disease flourished.

In most districts, the Board of Guardians were a bureaucratic gang that dealt harshly with the Irish poor and often prevented those who qualified for relief from receiving it. Some of the relief funds for the Irish ended up lining the pockets of greedy Guardians.

With the failure of the potato crop in 1845, Ireland was sent into a downward spiral of starvation, poverty, disease and death. Subsequent annual crop failures brought even more suffering. As the Great Hunger progressed, more and more Irish were made destitute and homeless, without any means of obtaining food. The truly sad truth about the Great Hunger is that the British continued to ship food from Ireland while millions of Irish starved. County Mayo was particularly hard hit during the hunger, losing an estimated 27% of its population to death or emigration.

For a while the workhouses were authorized to provide "outdoor relief," that is, food could be

distributed without checking into the workhouse. Of course, to qualify for outdoor relief you had to be "inspected and approved" by the Board of Guardians. The poor also had to prove that they did not own more than a quarter acre of land to receive any relief.

The British had purchased a supply of Indian corn from America. There was no market for the coarse Indian corn in Britain, so it was assured that this distribution would not interfere with the normal course of trade. The Guardians were authorized to issue three pounds of corn to those paupers who passed inspection. It should be noted that grinding the Indian corn was quite difficult and for a starving person, the coarse grain was a little like digesting razor blades; but it was food.

In March of 1849, over six hundred starving people made their way into the town of Louisburgh in search of food through outdoor relief or a ticket that would admit them to the workhouse. They met with the Receiving Officer at the

Louisburgh workhouse. He told them he had no authority to grant them food or a ticket, but they could appeal to two of the Board of Guardians, Colonel Hograve and Mr. Lecky, who were meeting the next day at Delphi Lodge, located twelve miles south of Louisburgh. Delphi Lodge was a hunting lodge and was located on the other side of Doolough Pass, a mountain pass that runs between the Sheffry Hills and the Mweelrea Mountains.

way. They arrived wet and cold at Delphi Lodge the next afternoon.

The Board of Guardian members were at lunch when the people arrived and amazingly, they could not be disturbed. The starving crowd was told to wait. A few more died of exhaustion while waiting. When they had finished their meal, Hograve and Lecky decided to meet with the great mass of starving people.

The crowd was advised to return

back through Doolough Pass. As their journey continued, the crowd continued to leak a trail of dead behind them as hypothermia and exhaustion took its grim toll on the starving band. They soon reached a spot in the pass called Stroppabue which was a cliff overhanging the lake of Doolough.

At this point in the pass, the cold air funneled across Doolough and churned into a screaming vortex of wind and hail. Weakened by starvation, disease, and exposure, the heavy squall swept many of the starving crowd off the cliff and into the lake. Many drowned in the icy waters. Others managed to reach the bank of the Glankeen River, but fatigued by the hardships of their journey, there they died.

It is unknown how many of this group of starving people met their death in the waters of Doolough. Accounts of the tragedy place the death toll at anywhere from 100 to over 400.

The next morning, the Receiving Officer at Louisburgh heard of the tragedy and took a group of men along the goat track to Delphi and buried the dead where they fell without coffins or ceremony. It is recorded that the path from the Louisburgh to the Glankeen River and from the Glankeen to Delphi was covered with corpses "as numerous as sheaves of corn in an autumn field."

*Continued on Page 17...*



*Doolough Marker*

The crowd spent the night in Louisburgh. Weakened from their trip, many of the 600 men, women and children who slept in the streets that night died. The next day, five hundred of those that remained trudged through the mud and rain along a goat track in the direction of Delphi Lodge, crossing the Glankeen River at flood stage and through the mountain pass. Still more died of exhaustion along the

to Louisburgh. Without explanation, the two Guardians refused to give them either their three pounds of corn or a ticket to enter the workhouse.

Disappointed, the group headed back to Louisburgh over the same bleak and dangerous path they had just taken. A strong southwest wind blew up carrying with it showers, freezing rain and hail stones. Their journey took them



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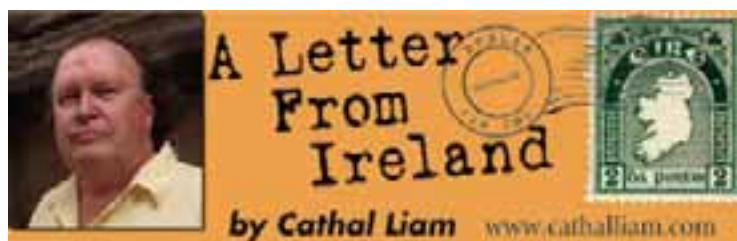


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Greetings... I'm sitting in the back room of the Palace Bar on Fleet Street. It's a quiet retreat from the maddening crowd wearing out the pavement between College Green and O'Connell's Bridge. Less than a month ago 25,000 souls packed The Green to hear the words and music of some of Ireland's finest entertainers. This two-hour spectacular was

topped off by President Barack Obama's emotive speech directed to both Ireland and Irish-America.

Silhouetted behind him was the majestic, granite expanse of (Henry) Grattan's old Parliament House (1739), which today serves as a museum and Bank of Ireland office. On 23 May, America's 44th president addressed an approving audience.

He occupied a familiar spot where other famous leaders have stood including Michael Collins (1922) and Bill Clinton (1995). His words of hope were filled with promise, unity.

The friendship and the bond between the United States and Ireland could not be stronger. Obviously it is not just a matter of strategic interest. It's not just a matter of foreign policy for the United States. Ireland carries a blood link with us. And for the millions of Irish Americans, this continues to symbolise the homeland and the extraordinary traditions of an extraordinary people.

I'm sure you saw pictures of the Obama's earlier that day, arriving into Moneygall (Co. Offaly) to visit the ancestral haunt of the Kearney's, distant relatives of his mother's. Despite dodgy weather, the Obama's waded in and literally embraced an Irish welcome extended by the residents of this wee village and his newly-discovered relatives.

The American leader's short but heartfelt visit was just the capstone to an amazing week. First, there was the British monarch's controversial four-day visit to Ireland. Soon after her arrival, she placed a wreath at the Garden of Remembrance, which honours the fallen of Ireland's long-endured struggle for freedom against British tyranny. Fittingly, she bowed to those men and women of 1798, 1803, 1848, 1867, 1916 and the 1919-1921 War for Independence.

The following day, shepherded by Irish President Mary McAleese, the visitor laid a second wreath in Ireland's National War Memorial Gardens at Islandbridge. The celebrity honoured the c. 49,400 Irish who'd died in the First War, as well as the others who gave their lives serving Irish regiments both near and far.

Thankfully, this ceremonial British visit passed without incident.

Having stated my position about it in last month's letter, my overall reaction to the four days was one of admiration. Not for anything having to do with Britishness, but rather pride in Ireland and for my Irishness. As the world saw and took note of the symbolism surrounding the Garden of Remembrance, the War Memorial and the Croke Park ceremonies, it filled me with a renewed sense of national devotion.

Sadly, these festivities became muted by the death of Ireland's former two-time, Fine Gael Taoiseach Garret Fitzgerald. As leader of his party from 1977 to 1987, Fitzgerald, a so-called political liberal, had worked earlier for Aer Lingus, then served as a university lecturer, lawyer and government minister.

His terms in office were marked by controversy. Both Ireland's northern 'troubles' and a national, economic malaise occupied the lion's share of his time. One notable attempt to resolve his island's differences saw him spearhead the creation of the New Ireland Forum in 1983.

Fitzgerald saw the Forum as a way of bringing the recognised political parties of both North and South together for their common benefit. Unfortunately, the Ulster Unionists and British PM Margaret Thatcher rejected any attempt to form such an association. In fact, the Iron Lady's famous 1984 'Out, Out, Out' speech squelched his hopes, but did provide some impetus for both British and Irish governments to resume negotiating. A year later saw Fitzgerald and Thatcher sign a second Anglo-Irish Agreement, the first being in 1921.

The former Taoiseach, now a much revered elder statesman, received a state funeral. As you can see, Ireland's political and social diaries have been full lately.

Now, with pen poised over my

notebook, I wait for my second pint to settle. The room is beginning to fill as 'knocking-off' time approaches. Comfortably situated, I close my eyes as my thoughts carry me back to another summer's day some years ago.

It was the near the end of July just outside Cleveland. A warm sun beat down on the barns and midway of the Berea Fairgrounds. I'd been invited to speak and sign books at the Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival organised by the O'Brien family. I believe it was 2002 and only my second or third such invitation.

Walking around the festival grounds that Friday afternoon, anticipation and butterflies stirred inside me. I remembered buying a t-shirt to commemorate the occasion. Surrounding me was a flurry of activity as vendors made last minute adjustments to their displays. The smell of grilling sausages, peppers and onions filled the air. Beer taps waited in anticipation while golf carts rushed to and fro delivering last minute supplies and transporting entertainers to their assigned stages.

There, seemingly unperturbed by the organised chaos around him, strolled Tommy Makem. As he walked in my direction, I was speechless thinking — Wow! The great man himself.

As we passed, our eyes met. I raised my hand to wave and he said, — Fine day so.

Awestruck, I nodded and said something like, — Indeed.

Now, after signing books at numerous Irish festivals, I still remember that encounter, along with many others... too numerous to recount here.

So for those of you planning on attending your first, be it in Cleveland or beyond, great! To the veterans who go to several every year... wonderful, but regardless, know that many unforgettable experiences await you at some nearby Irish festival.

Reporting from the Palace Bar in Dublin, I remain yours, Cathal

P.S. Special congratulations to John O'Brien, Jr. for being named one of Irish America's Top 100 by Irish Central.

\*Cathal's latest book, *Fear Not The Storm, The Story of Tom Cullen, An Irish Revolutionary*, is now available on-line or from your favourite bookseller.

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By Sean McCabe



## Tres Coronas And A Guinness

A good friend of mine in New York, who works in the music industry, has for the past year or two been looking for a suitable spot to open a pub in. It has long been a dream of his to quit his day job and go into the bar trade.

I said to him "Go easy, Patrick. Don't quit the day job yet. Open your pub first, put someone behind the bar, do what you have to do to get people inside the doors, hire a DJ if necessary on the weekends, hire a singer for Sundays, someone who can really get the crowd going, like Sean McCabe or Seamus Kennedy or Christy Moore, but whatever you do, don't give up the day job just yet."

As anybody in the trade knows, pubs are unpredictable, especially in this era of corporate, million dollar establishments. It has become that bit tougher for the more traditional pubs to survive.

Whatever happened to the good ole family run pub, by the way? There used to be so many. Thankfully, there are still a few left, that bring in live music all the time. They are usually the best place for a musician to play.

I'm thinking of Byrne's Pub in Columbus, or The Golden Ace in Indianapolis. These venues feel more personal, because they are; and if it wasn't for them and a similar few others, the Irish music scene in America would be a lot weaker. For example, in the winter months, when there are less festivals, where do bands play? It's easy enough to find the answer to that one.

Anyhow, to get back to my story. I went with my friend to check out a few premises for his future bar. He is quite serious about opening one, but is wisely taking his time.

Our first stop was 'Tres Coronas' in Sunnyside, Queens. Now this used to be an Irish pub, way back in the mid-nineties. I've racked my brains trying to remem-

ber what it was called, but I had too many beers last night and the brain is not so alert today. On Sunday afternoons they used to get an Irish singer in. I had a weekly gig going in a pub across the street with some friends at the same time. We'd pop over during our break for a pint.

All the stools were occupied by hard drinking construction workers, enjoying the Irish ballads being sung in the corner. Sunnyside and Woodside were full of Irish back then. Most of them went home when Ireland's economy got strong at the end of the nineties, and as a result these Queens neighbourhoods have become predominantly Spanish. Today one Irish pub remains in Sunnyside.

We went and had a beer at 'Tres Coronas' at midnight on a Saturday. It was pretty quiet. No wonder it was for sale. The whole neighbourhood, I noticed, is dotted with Spanish bars which used to have Irish names.

"It's the changing times, Patrick," I said. "The changing times."

"Would it be wise to open an Irish bar in a Spanish neighbourhood," I asked?

"Maybe it would be something different," he said.

"Maybe," I said doubtfully.

"I could learn Spanish," he said.

"You could maybe call it 'Tres Coronas And A Guinness'," I said, "and that way get the best of both worlds."

"Hey there's an idea," said Patrick.

The owner had offered Patrick a 'good price.' It didn't sound like too much of a 'good price' to me, so I was relieved when my friend decided to pass on 'Tres Coronas,' or, as it might have been, 'Tres Coronas And A Guinness.'

We looked at a few other places in Queens and Brooklyn. We passed a lot of newly opened

Irish pubs in fancy, up and coming neighbourhoods. It amazes me how hip the Irish pub is these days. They are mainly 'million dollar' beautifully refurbished parlours, but they're not the kinds of places that I personally would go to for a beer.

Nor am I someone who'd sooner drink in a 'dive' bar, because 'dive' bars are often million dollar bars made to look like 'dive bars.' A lot of the genuine divey places have for some reason gone the way of the 'family' pub. I suppose it's inevitable, now that the Irish pub has entered the 'mainstream.' You can find one on almost every main street in the bigger towns.

There was a day when opening an Irish pub was almost an act of subversion! No highly respected member of a community could afford to be seen in one, never mind leave one in a state of inebriation.

I noticed how the Queen of England declined to drink from the pint of Guinness that was put on the counter for her when she visited St James' Gate brewery in Dublin recently. Some people were probably insulted by that: the million dollar pub owners and the people who drink in them. A more traditional pub owner would have seen the justice of it.

After all, many's the rebellion against the crown was planned in the backroom of a pub! Would it

really have been apt for Her Majesty to drink a pint, from a genuine pub lover's point of view?

And that is my point, I suppose. The Irish pub once had a kind of anti-conformist character to it. You spat on the floor. You got in a fight, or watched one, and when the fight was over the drinking continued. You'd nearly feel uncomfortable even swearing in some of the newer 'hip' joints.

Just give me a genuine neighbourhood bar, it doesn't matter about the decor, where people have been going for years, where you'll find plenty of familiar faces, where you're really part of the crowd and you feel so, and of course where they have a bit of live music in the

corner: a local band preferably, having a good time themselves... a place where someone can gossip in peace, and where the resident drunk can drink in peace and continue bothering people without fear of being barred from the premises for once and for all.

When the 'house drunk' gets barred you know that the pub has gone corporate. Leave him slumped on the counter, muttering and singing to himself and smelling, until it's last call. Unless he drinks and drives— for even genuinely laid back, unpretentious places have to have their limits.

Sean McCabe's novels can be ordered through his website: [mccabesband.com](http://mccabesband.com).

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## Whatever Fits In The Box

By Niamh O'Sullivan

In April 1843, a relatively small, black wooden box accompanied John Sheahan, a former inmate of Kilmainham Prison, on board "The North Briton" as the ship arrived in Hobart, Van Diemen's Land. Sheahan had been convicted in the Limerick Assizes the previous July of an agrarian crime, and was sentenced to be transported.

It is thought that his intentions were to keep the price of potatoes at some kind of affordable level, even if his methods were lacking. He had been indicted for assaulting the dwellings of Patrick Burns and Patrick Carroll and administering unlawful oaths. He was also sentenced to twelve months imprisonment for appearing in arms.

In October 1845, he received a ticket-of-leave, allowing him to labour on his own behalf while still being classed as a convict, and in August 1848, he was granted a conditional pardon, classifying him as technically free, but unable to leave the colony until his sentence expired. John Sheahan was certified free in April 1854, by which time he had married a servant girl, Mary Ann Hughes, originally from Co. Down.

After receiving his Certificate of Freedom, Sheahan built a cottage for his family in the central Victorian goldfield at Campbell's Creek. Their firstborn child died at a young age, but John and Mary Ann raised nine other

children. Sheahan is very highly regarded by his descendants in present day Australia, having worked hard and secured a successful life for himself and his family. Throughout his lifetime, John Sheahan kept safe the precious black box which had carried his few possessions to his new world.

John Sheahan's great granddaughter, Marie Sheahan, corresponded some years ago with me in the Kilmainham Jail Archives, sending me documents and early photographs of John and his family outside their cottage. One photograph intrigued me—depicting an old black wooden box, in bright sunlight, on a modern garden path. Marie described how John had been permitted to take with him from Ireland whatever fitted in that box.

In all my years working in the Kilmainham Archives, this was the one and only time I asked a family would they consider donating an item to Kilmainham. The Sheehan family in Australia deliberated upon this request in great depth, and in October 2000, the black box completed its return journey, 157 years later, to Kilmainham Prison, where it was proudly placed on display.

Having left Kilmainham, I still talk with great enthusiasm about this fascinating object. Recently visiting the "History Club" of Coláiste Pobail Setanta in Dublin, I spoke with the first and second year students about the jail

ment. Quite unconsciously, the children, together with their two teachers, Ms. Garrihy and Ms. O'Grady, altered the task to their being deported, and having to fit their possessions into a small schoolbag. These "History

Club" kids and their teachers had taken John's 1843 box, and inspired by his story, were able to make it even more relevant to the times in which they themselves live.

Their choices were funny and endearing and very clever. Some of them mentioned vacuum packs, which could contain at least triple the amount



of clothes, and many of them would bring sweets! Realising the need for hope and spiritual guidance, some would bring their bibles and others books. The need to keep occupied was reflected by one student wishing to bring a pen and notebooks to perfect her drawing skills, and another who would bring a deflated basketball and pump.

They were relieved to hear that they would be permitted to pack contemporary possessions, and only had to consider the size of the box. After all, we each have to live in our own age, even whilst reflecting upon the times of others...

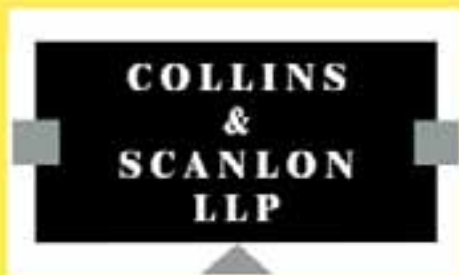
Then a subtle, rather interesting modification settled on the assign-

ment. Quite unconsciously, the children, together with their two teachers, Ms. Garrihy and Ms. O'Grady, altered the task to their being deported, and having to fit their possessions into a small schoolbag. These "History Club" kids and their teachers had taken John's 1843 box, and inspired by his story, were able to make it even more relevant to the times in which they themselves live.

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Living to the full in 2011, virtually no student would go anywhere without their mobile phone. They would also bring treasured photos of their families, something which would not only have been a comfort to John Sheahan, but would have been of enormous assistance to his great granddaughter in her lengthy, still incomplete search for information relating to him. Ultimately, the winning paper was one of three from students who would bring a diary and pen. I've worked too long amongst old papers and journals not to recognise the immense value represented by this choice. As the young student stated: "...to write what happened, to remember the important days." 150 years from now, what will the assignment be, and what journeys will be told then?



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## IANOhio Editor in Top 100 Irish Americans

Irish Central has named *IANOhio* Editor, John O'Brien, Jr., one of the 2011 Top 100 Irish Americans

*From IrishCentral.com:*

John O'Brien, Jr. dedicates his life to Irish culture. The Cleveland native is the Co-Founder, Co-Publisher and Editor of the *Ohio Irish American News*, a monthly newsmagazine which was started in 2007.

O'Brien is also the Assistant Director of the Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival. The annual event, which draws around 35,000 people, was founded



by his father, John O'Brien, Sr. who continues on as Director and hails from County Roscommon, making his son first generation Irish-American.

John Jr. is a creative writer himself.

In the 2010 Irish Book, Art & Music Showcase in Chicago, O'Brien's poem "The Vacant Chair" took first prize. He is also the author of *Festival Legends: Songs & Stories*, a book that looks into the lives of Irish music legends.

O'Brien serves on the board of several groups including the Irish American Charitable Foundation,

the Sean Moore Memorial Irish Vocals Scholarship Fund, which he also co-founded, and the Northeast Ohio Rose of Tralee Contest. He is also a co-founder of the Famine Memorial Committee, which placed a ten-ton granite engraved stone on the banks of the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland as a memorial to those who died or emigrated during the Great Famine.

O'Brien's success comes with enduring several obstacles: He was born with over 60% hearing loss and has been battling rheumatoid arthritis for over 26 years. Overcoming these obstacles, he has made great contributions to the Ohio Irish American community.

## About our Cover...

### 2011 Northern Ohio Rose of Tralee Bridget Linton

The winner of the 2001 Northern Ohio Rose of Tralee is Bridget Linton, pictured on our cover. Bridget is majoring in Broadcast Journalism at the University of Akron, where she has earned placement on the Dean's List and is a member of the University of Akron Dance Team. Bridget is also an Irish dancer and seven-time world qualifier and medal holder. Her career goal is to become a worldwide news correspondent.

Bridget is an advocate for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Bridget's great-grandparents, Brigid Ward and James Dixon, both immigrated to Cleveland from County Mayo. Bridget represented Northern Ohio in the International Rose of Tralee competition in Ireland.

*Photo by John O'Brien, Jr.*



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**Franklinkraka@gmail.com**

Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival is celebrating its 29th Annual Festival this year. For twenty-six of those twenty-nine years, the official sound company of Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival has been Sheer Sound. Under the direction of Franklin Krakowski, Sheer Sound has grown right with the festival, from an initial package of a couple of speakers and microphones (and a total sound cost of \$275) in 1986, to now, nearly thirty years later, outfitting a major event with ten stages, dozens of bands, and sound production gleaned from being there year in and year out, to know the intricacies and pulse of Irish music in America.



Sheer Sound does major productions all over the Cleveland area, as well as special events throughout the United States, including the Pope's visit to Detroit and concerts and tours for such stars as Roy Clark, Lou Rawls, Billy Ray Cyrus and Ray Charles. They regularly are the production company for the Cleveland Pops, both at Severance Hall and on the road, and shows at the West Side Irish American Club. Their ability to bring out the glory of the harp, the fiddle, the pipes or the far ranging instrument that is the voice, continues to evolve, just as the music does.

That decades long exposure to Irish music has instilled in Franklin a deep love for the music and passion of the Irish culture. Not one for just giving lip service to an ideal, Franklin backs it up with his wallet, by actively supporting that culture. He has been advertiser with the Ohio Irish American News for a long time.

"I am hands-on, doing the work I like to do," Franklin said. "I haven't had to go to work a day in my life. I love what I do."

I will be sixty-five in a few months, but I have no plans to quit. I am having too much fun—and people give me money!"

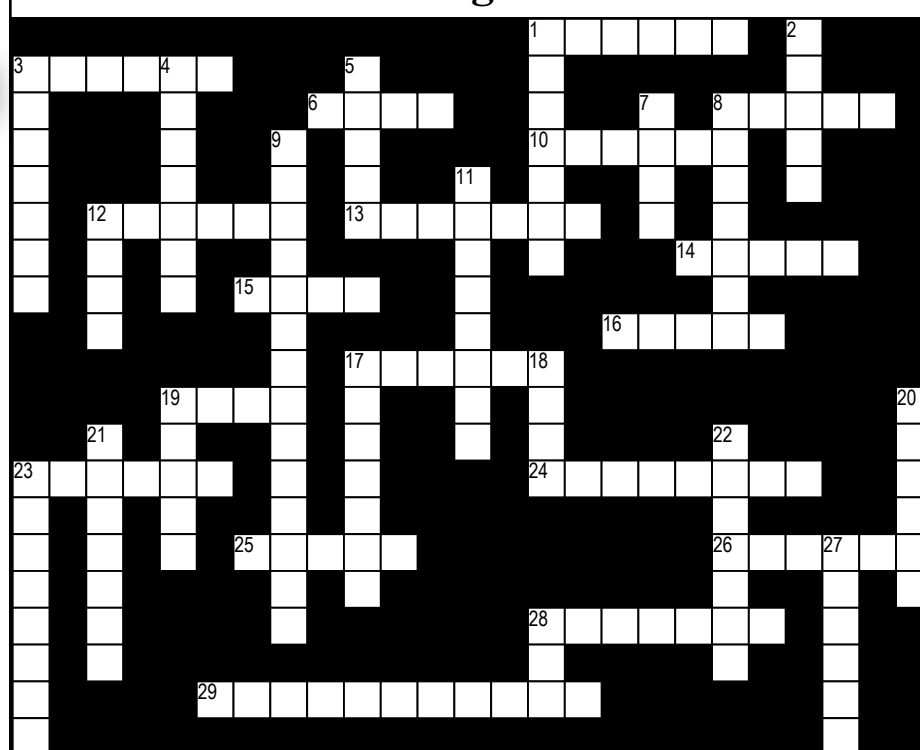
I was at Notre Dame, in Aeronautical Engineering. I left school in 1971 and was a professional musician. I saw the opportunity for production companies and started Sheer Sound in 1975.

The first few jobs I got were by good luck: Higbees wanted sound production. My initial focus was on installing closed circuit TV, intercoms etc., but over the first few years, businesses, churches needed sound, and needed knowledge. The business evolved over the next few years to about 50/50 sound vs. installs.

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"It has been a great experience to see how the festival has evolved. I can enjoy what is going on. To look back, to see how it has grown: We are proud to be a part of it."

## Irish Slang -Part 4



### ACROSS

- 1 (n) looking down and out
- 3 (n) shots of liquor
- 6 (n) swimming trunks
- 8 (n or adj) idiot, stupid
- 10 (n) traveler, gypsy
- 12 (n) someone who avoids work
- 13 (n) trousers
- 14 (n) kid
- 15 (n) catholic
- 16 (v) upset
- 17 (n) a look-see
- 19 (n) euro
- 23 (n) beach
- 24 (v) having someone on, making fun of them
- 25 (n) ice cream sandwich
- 26 suckin' \_\_\_\_\_, (v) having a really good time
- 28 (adj) a strange individual
- 29 (n) horse-play/carry-on

### DOWN

- 1 (n) pacifier
- 2 (v) keep quiet
- 3 (n) informant
- 4 (n) runners, trainers
- 5 (adj) poor or bad
- 7 (n) friend
- 8 (v) walk aimlessly
- 9 (n) a bookie for horse/greyhound racing
- 11 (n) a pint of Guinness(it is good for you)
- 12 (n) pub booth
- 17 (v) to be proved wrong
- 18 (n) sleep
- 19 (n) a long time
- 20 (adj) horrible, not good
- 21 (adj) tired
- 22 (n) a small fish or a small child
- 23 (n) loose change
- 27 (n) packet of chips (french fries)
- 28 (n) an English person

Created by Linda Fulton Burke

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Euro 2012 qualifying game, he took himself to the top of this unique scoring chart. Keane became the first player from Britain or Ireland to score

## The Passing of a Derry and Cleveland Great

Many great scribes have come out of the town of Derry; Brian Friel (playwright), Seamus Heaney (poet) and Phil Coulter (music). It appears that when it comes to writing a play, a poem or a few songs, then there's a good chance a man from Derry was behind it. So what about when it comes to sports? Journalists in Derry have come and gone, but there is one man who perhaps flew under the radar both in Derry and here in Cleveland, Ohio, when it comes to writing about sports.

Sadly though, as with most great people, we don't hear about the 'other' things they did until after they leave us. A great friend of everyone, Ben Clingain, sadly packed up his clubs and took them upstairs to play a few rounds with the other greats that have gone before him. In the nine or ten years that I knew Ben, it was always Derry and sports that we talked about. We also had another strong bond in that, along with Friel, Heaney and Coulter, we all attended St Columb's College (Catholic boy's high school) in Derry.

When we talked sports, it was usually about Derry City Football Club, and how maybe they had come through another turbulent season, or maybe it was when they went to Paris to play Paris St. Germaine in the UEFA Cup. But whatever it was, Benny was up to date and knew what was going on.

Those that knew Ben knew he was an avid golfer, but some may not know that he also helped scribe and edit a few sports-themed books over the years. Some of the titles Ben had a hand in included *Boxing Clever*, *Dog Tails: Great Stories of Greyhounds and their Owners*, *Hunting Tales*, *Tales of Anglers Rest: An Anthology of Fishing Stories* and *International Golf Almanac* (1995).

To Ben's family I would like to pass along my condolences. To Ben, thanks for the friendship and the memories. As Ben would say 'bloody hell mate, it was great craic.'

### Football -

#### Robbie Keane Makes History

When you talk Irish or British football records rarely does the name of an Irish player come up, but recently Robbie Keane made sure that for the time being his name will be the answer to the trivia question: *Which Irish or British international player has scored the most international goals.* With Keane scoring his latest two goals against Macedonia in the

fifty senior international goals when bagging the double in his country's 2-0 win over Macedonia in Skopje.

The previous benchmark of forty-nine was held by Manchester United and England great Sir Bobby Charlton. Keane, thrilled at his feat, said: "It means a hell of a lot. When I first started off, Niall Quinn said I'd reach it so I'm delighted."

Keane's current career is one that is up in the air, he most recently was on loan to West Ham United in the English Premier League but with their relegation to the lower division it is unclear whether or not he'll stay the course with the Hammers, or if he'll find his way back into yet another EPL club. My guess is Keane will move to one of the newly promoted clubs into the EPL, or maybe he'll stick it out with Tottenham, the club who currently owns his contract.

Keane would certainly do the job for a club whose main goal is to do enough to stay in the league, if anything else, Keane is a player guaranteed to give it 110% every time he pulls on a shirt, regardless of what team it is. As it stand right now, his own personal record is pretty impressive. In 108 games for the Republic of Ireland he has now scored fifty-one goals—nearly a goal every game—I'd take that in a heartbeat for any team I followed. In the Premier League he is currently the 10th all-time top scorer with 123 goals.

### Trivia

First last month's question: *In Ireland teams in Gaelic Football play annually for the biggest prize in the sport, the Sam Maguire Trophy, awarded to the winner of the Senior Football All-Ireland Final. What is the hurling equivalent known as?*

The answer is **the Liam McCarthy Cup**. The Cup commemorates the memory of Liam McCarthy, who was born in London to Irish parents in 1851; he was prominently involved in the establishment of a GAA county board in London in the 1890's. In 1921, a trophy in his honor was presented to the Central Council of the Gaelic Athletic Association and replaced the Great Southern Cup as the All-Ireland trophy. Limerick, as All-Ireland champions in 1921, was the first recipient of the Liam McCarthy Cup.

Continued on Page 16...

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Blowin’ In

Continued from Page 3...

Together, my husband and I plant heirloom tomatoes, potatoes, and squash. Each year we experiment with a new vegetable: cauliflower, Swiss chard, and recently asparagus. We encourage the children to taste a bit of lettuce straight from the soil, to inhale the scent of a sun-warmed tomato, to dig into the earth with innocent hands. Some plants will grow to fruition. Some will succumb to disease. Each is planted with care and love.

These vines will grow strong. Strengthened by the years, these vines will keep our family tethered through seasons marked by tempests and seasons of great calm.

Susan holds a Master’s Degree in English from John Carroll University and a Master’s Degree in Education from Baldwin-Wallace College. She may be reached at suemangan@yahoo.com.

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2011 Midwest GAA Football and Hurling Schedule				
Date	Visitor	Home Team	Venue	Result
Saturday May 14th	Buffalo Fenians Junior D	Rochester Erin Isles Junior D	Rochester	5:05 v 5:05
Saturday May 21st	St Pat's 7-a-side Tournament	Cleveland		
Saturday June 4th	Buffalo Fenians Junior D	Syracuse Celtics Junior D	Syracuse	2:07 v 1:14
Saturday June 4th	Football & Hurling Clubs from the Midwest & Mid-Atlantic		Pittsburgh Founder's Field	2:08 v 9:14
Sunday June 12th	St Pat's Men Junior C	Pittsburgh Celtics Junior C	Pittsburgh	
	St Pat's Ladies	Pittsburgh Banshee's		
	St Pat's Men Junior B	Pittsburgh Celtics Junior B		
Sunday June 19th	Cleveland St Jarlath's	Detroit Wolfetone's	Detroit	
Sunday June 26th	St Pat's Men Junior C	Detroit Wolfetone's Junior C	WSIA	
	St Pat's Ladies	Detroit St Anne's Ladies		
	St Pat's Men Junior B	Detroit Wolfetone's Junior B		
	Cleveland St Jarlath's	Pittsburgh Celtics		
Saturday July 9th	St Pat's Men Junior C	Detroit Wolfetone's Junior C	Detroit	
	St Pat's Ladies	Detroit St Anne's Ladies		
	St Pat's Men Junior B	Detroit Wolfetone's Junior B		
Saturday July 16th	St Pat's Men Junior B	Cleveland St Jarlath's	WSIA	
	Syracuse Celtics Junior D	Buffalo Fenians Junior D	Buffalo	
	Akron Guards Hurling	St. Louis Tournament	St. Louis, MO.	
Saturday July 23rd	St Pat's Men Junior C	Pittsburgh Celtics Junior C	WSIA	
	St Pat's Ladies	Pittsburgh Banshee's		
	St Pat's Men Junior B	Pittsburgh Celtics Junior B		
	Rochester Erin Isles Junior D	Buffalo Fenians Junior D	Buffalo	
Saturday, July 30th	Akron Guards Hurling	Indianapolis Tournament	Indianapolis, IN	
Sunday July 31st	St Pat's Men Junior B	Cleveland St Jarlath's	Avon Lake	
	Pittsburgh Junior C	Detroit Wolfetone's Junior C	Detroit	
	Pittsburgh Junior B	Detroit Wolfetone's Junior B		
	Pittsburgh Banshee's	Detroit St Anne's Ladies		
Sunday August 7th	Cleveland St Jarlath's	Pittsburgh Celtics	Avon Lake	
Saturday August 13th	St Pat's Men Select	Rochester Erin Isles	Rochester	
Sunday August 14th	Cleveland St Jarlath's	Detroit Wolfetone's	Avon Lake	
Sunday August 21st	Midwest Finals		TDB	
Labor Day Weekend	National Playoffs		San Francisco	
September (TBC)	St Pat's Men Select	Buffalo Fenians	Buffalo	

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# Terry From Derry

**by Terry Boyle**



## Bridging the Troubled Waters

May has always been a good month to be in Ireland. Over the past six years of returning home, the May sun has been kind and made happy faces. This year, however, it rained almost everyday. I was becoming tired of the weather man's over usage of the word changeable, which simply means that a glorious start to the morning will inevitably dissipate into a wintry, cold, day. I even heard one foreign visitor to Derry exclaim, it's raining and sunny.

Despite the bewilderment the elements produced, it was good to be back. It has been a year since I last visited, and already there were signs of changes. The prominent Guildhall (city hall) is now covered with industrial sheets of plastic, undergoing its makeover for the 2013 year of culture, and a new pedestrian bridge is almost near completion. Of the latter, some cynic remarked that it wouldn't be standing long before it is blown up by the dissident IRA, a comment that seems at odds with the optimistic aspirations of the aptly

named 'Peace Bridge.'

As I wandered down towards the Foyle River to see the new addition, I wondered how long it would remain standing. The bridge, costing thirteen million pounds, spans the river that traditionally separates the Protestant and Catholic communities. The third bridge over the Foyle, it is designed to envisage a 'handshake,' a metaphorical reaching out between two polarized cultures.

The home of civil rights, Bloody Sunday, and the seat of blatant gerrymandering, Derry is attempting to bridge its past to the future while under continual threat by dissidents. As its people strive towards making peace the signs of political fracture continue to be exposed. Numerous bomb scares, designed to thwart political stability, interspersed with real threats, aimed at undermining progress towards peace are becoming more frequent.

For the politically disaffected, the peace process is a sell out, while for the majority it represents

the hope of real change. The bridge officially opens later in June. Will it survive to see Derry become the city of culture in 2013, or will it be destroyed, metaphorically or physically, by those trapped in the cycle of violence?

I'd like to think that there is even room for the cynic to have a change of heart. I certainly think that the success of the recent Royal visit has given us reason to hope.

For the first time, since the 26 counties became a Republic, a British head of state was invited, at the request of the Irish President, to visit the country. Queen Elizabeth II's visit, as you would expect, created quite a stir. Not only was her presence on Irish soil highly controversial and expensive, but it signaled a possible change in British/Irish relationships. There were dissenters and protests, but generally the monarch was received with a true Irish *faillte*.

Such an historic occasion symbolized, for quite a few of us, a desire to move beyond the stagnant rhetoric of past injustices to create a place of mutual understanding. This visit does not cancel out historical grievances, but it does at least signify a dignified gesture towards reconciliation.

The Queen wore green, spoke a little of the Irish language, and was treated to the best of Irish

culture. The desire to reach out towards the other was mutual, two nations with a shared past were beginning to look to a new future, built on the hard won labour of the Northern Ireland peace process.

The second noteworthy event was President Obama's visit to the island. The city of Moneygall, Co. Offaly, with a small population of 300, took centre stage as the President Obama returned to his Irish roots. The generosity of the Irish continued to reign despite the looming debt.

And while the cynic might want to draw attention to the seeming irresponsibility of such spending, the possible solicitation of Irish voters for Obama, and playing down of economic crisis facing the Republic, both visits, I would argue, brought with them a sense of hope. With emigration on the rise, a downturn in the housing market and the loss of revenue, Ireland is only too painfully aware of its financial troubles. It needs the support of its European neighbours, and the economic investment of American businesses, if it is to recover from its economic decline. At such times, bridges are to be built—not blown up.

My trip has once again left me reflecting on what will be the future of Ireland? There is no doubt in my mind that the country has much to offer the world, but we

can be our own worst enemy when it comes to living up to our potential. We can complain about the incessant rain, it's a national pastime. But water can be harnessed to produce energy, or bridged to combine resources. It can also immerse us in our despair, should we remain stagnant and refuse to change.

I'm not suggesting that it's simply a matter of the glass half full or empty, but it's discouraging to watch a city such as Derry attempt to emerge from its past conflict, prepare itself to be recognized as a city of culture, only to be sabotaged by disgruntled Republicans. There are huge questions about the future of Northern Ireland and the financial re-structuring of the Republic's debt to be faced, but there is little to be gained by prolonging the violence. The voice of reason should not be relegated to the wilderness as the ravings of an eccentric liberal, but should instead be heard from the rooftops as the rhetoric of the people.

*\*Terry, originally from Derry, now resides in Chicago and teaches Irish and British Literature at Loyola University, Chicago. [terenceboyle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:terenceboyle@sbcglobal.net).*

## Owens Sports

Continued from Page 13...

In 1992, the original Liam McCarthy Cup was retired. Tipperary was the last team to claim the original. An exact replica was produced and has been awarded on an annual basis since then. Kilkenny were the first team to win the 'new' McCarthy Cup.

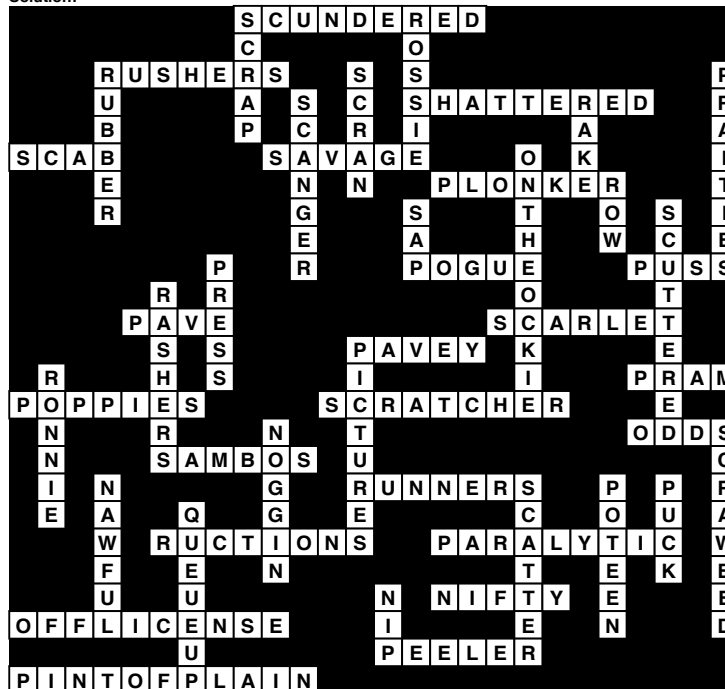
This month's question: *Earlier I mentioned that the Republic of Ireland have not fared well when it comes to playoff games. In 1995 the Irish had to play a playoff game in order to qualify for Euro 1996 in England – who did they play and what was the result?*

*\*Mark Owens is originally from Derry City, Ireland and has resided in the Cleveland area since 2001 where he is employed by State Farm Insurance Companies, having previously spent time studying at John Carroll University. Send questions, comments or suggestions for future articles to Mark at: [markowens@ireland.com](mailto:markowens@ireland.com).*

## June Crossword Puzzle Answers

### Irish Slang - Part 3

**Solution:**





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## Sean Moore Memorial Irish Vocals Scholarship

The 2011 Sean Moore Memorial Vocals Scholarship Winners are Margaret Winterich, Olmsted Twp., who won the 15-17 age group. Brittany O'Reilly, Hilton N.Y., won the age 18 & over group. The 2011 competition was held as part of the Cleveland Feis over Memorial Day weekend.

Margaret and Brittany are pictured with John and Joan Patterson of the Sean Moore Irish Memorial Vocals Scholarship Committee, and Judge Helen Gannon. Margaret Winterich's Voice Teacher is Katie Cooper. Brittany O'Reilly's Voice Teacher is Deborah Montgomery-Cove.



### Illuminations

*Continued from Page 7...*

When the burial group reached Doolough, they found so many dead that they dug pits and buried them together in a nearby glen. Many bodies that were blown into the freezing lake were never recovered. Some call the dead victims of the Great Hunger; others refer to them as martyrs.

In May of 1994, a marker was erected in the Doolough Valley by Action From Ireland (AFI), a famine relief organization. The stone marker topped with a stylized Celtic cross bears the inscription (and a quote from Mahatma Gandhi): To Commemorate the Hungry Poor who walked here in 1849 and walk the Third World today. "How can men feel themselves honored by the humiliation of their fellow beings?"

Each year, since 1994 the AFI group sponsors a mile long Famine Walk in the area of the monument to commemorate the Doolough Tragedy and promote the cause of human rights and hunger prevention around the world.

\*J. Michael Finn is the Ohio State Historian for the Ancient Order of Hibernians and Division Historian for the Patrick Pearse Division in Columbus, Ohio. He is also Chairman of the Catholic Record Society for the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio. He writes on Irish and Irish-American history; Ohio history and Ohio Catholic history. You may contact him at FCoolavin@aol.com.



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25519 Eaton Way  
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

**440-250-9086**

*Sean & Connie McConnell, Proprietors*

**Cleveland****Cain Park**

Aug. 5th- Orla Fallon (of Celtic Women) Live in Concert. 7:30pm. 14591 Superior Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118. 216-291-5792. [www.cainpark.com](http://www.cainpark.com).

**Flat Iron Café**

July... 8th-Acoustix; 15th- Kristine Jackson; 22nd-Donal O'Shaughnessy; 29th-Jim and Eroc. We also have new Flat Iron T-Shirts for sale. And as always a free shuttle to all Tribe home games. 1114 Center St., Cleveland, 44113-2406. 216-696-6968. [www.flatironcafe.com](http://www.flatironcafe.com).

**The Harp**

July... 2nd-Porter Sharks; 4th-4th of July Party; 6th-Lonesome Stars; 13th-\$100.00 Trio; 15th-Walking Cane; 16th- Folk Festival; 20th- Lonesome Stars; 22nd- Kristine Jackson; 23rd-Brent Kirby; 27th- \$100.00 Trio. 4408 Detroit Rd., 44113. [www.the-harp.com](http://www.the-harp.com).

**PJ McIntyre's**

July... 1st- Mary's Lane; 2nd-Time Warp; 6th- Monthly Pub Quiz, hosted by Mike D; 8th- Mossy Moran; 9th- Curve; 15th- 400 Pieces; 16th- Velvetshake; IRISH FESTIVAL MUSIC WEEKEND!; 21st- Mickey Finns; 22nd -Sky's The Limit; 23rd- Marys Lane; SUN-DAY AFTER FEST; 24th- Mossy

**Cleveland (cont'd)**

Moran; 29th- Kilmaine Saints; 30th-Charlie in the Box. Now Serving



*The Mickey Finns*

Breakfast/Brunch Every Sunday. Showing ALL Live GAA Games! 17119 Lorain Ave., 44111. [www.pjmccintyres.com](http://www.pjmccintyres.com).

**Stone Mad**

Live music entertainment every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Traditional Irish Session 1st Sunday of ea/month, Happy Hour Monday-Friday 4 to 7.

**Treehouse**

July... 3rd-Walkin' Cane; 10th- Ben Nieves and Theresa Wilcox; 17th-Taste of Tremont, **The Boys From County Hell**; 24th- Kelly Wright; 31st-Just Folkin' Around. 820 College Ave., Cleveland, 44113. [www.treehouse-cleveland.com](http://www.treehouse-cleveland.com).

**HOUSE FOR RENT in the West of Ireland**

**Village of Cong, Co. Mayo - 4 bedroom; 2.5 bath**  
**For Information, Call 440-331-5546**  
*Leave a message and your call will be returned*

**Cleveland (cont'd)****West Park Station**

July... 1st- Porter Sharks HH & DJ Destro 10pm; 3rd- UFC 132 & DJ Ace of Spades 10pm; 4th-Kamm's Corners Annual 4th of July Parade 9am; 7th-Jim & Eroc HH; 8th- The Sellouts 10pm; 9th- Half Moon Jack 10pm; 10th- Summer Shandy Funday 3pm; 15th- Dan & Bobby HH & DJ 10pm; 16th-Drunk Betty 10pm; 21st-Nick Cowan HH; 22nd-Billy & Brooks HH; 23rd- Christmas in July Party All Day!; 27th-Karaoke Finals 9pm; 29th-DJ Ice Cold 10pm; 30th -West Park Summer Olympics starts @ noon. Thursday - Ladies Night w/ DJ Destro! Wednesday - Station Karaoke Challenge! Sunday - Magic Man Paul Gallagher from 6-8pm and Every Sunday MINUTE TO WIN IT 9pm. 17015 Lorain Ave., Cleveland, 44111. [www.westparkstation.com](http://www.westparkstation.com). 216-476-2000.

**Columbus****Shamrock Club Events**

July... 11th-Irish Dance Lessons; 13th-Horseshoe League; 14th-Setup Music Fest; 15th & 16th -Annual



*The Boys From County Hell*

Music Festival; 17th-General Meeting; 30th-Annual Golf Outing & Steak Dinner. Happy Hour every Friday from 5-7pm! 60 W. Castle Rd., Columbus, 43207. 614-491-4449. [www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com](http://www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com).

**Euclid****Irish American Club East Side**

PUB: 8-11pm. July... 8th-One

**Euclid (cont'd)**

More Pint; 15th- Scully; 22nd- Wally Franz; 29th-Mary Agnes Kennedy. IACES, 22770 Lake Shore Blvd., Euclid, 44123. 216-731-4003. [www.irishamericanclubeastside.org](http://www.irishamericanclubeastside.org).

**Lakewood****Beck Center for the Arts**

July... 1st-Junior Theatre Performance; 1st-16th-Cleveland Artists Foundation-Designing History; 1st-29th-Student Art Show; 4th-4th of July Parade; 7th-Kid's Club; 8th-30th-Hairspray; 14th-Hear and Touch the Music; 16th-Connect to the Beck; 21st-Early Childhood ABC; 22nd- 23rd-Acting Camp Performance; 30th-Summer Enchantment. 17801 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, 44107. 216-521-2540. [www.beckcenter.org](http://www.beckcenter.org).

**Medina****Sully's**

July... 1st-Music Men; 2nd-The New Barleycorn; 8th-West Side Steve; 9th-Scully; 15th-Jim Gill; 16th-Tom Evanchuck; 22nd-Morrison & McCarthy; 23rd-Mossy Moran; 29th-The Island Doctor. Every Tuesday 6-8pm, Magician Paul Gallagher performs tableside. 117 West Liberty, Medina, 44256. [www.sullysmedina.com](http://www.sullysmedina.com).

**Mentor/Willoughby****Croagh Patrick's**

July... 9th- Irish Night at Captains Ballpark: Kevin is giving an Irish Toast in the 7th inning; 12th-Irish Session; 14th-Mossy Moran; 16th-"Dressed to Kilt" Party; 21st-Scully; 28th-The New Barleycorn. 4857 Robinhood Dr., Willoughby, 44094.

440-946-8250. [www.croaghpatrickspub.com](http://www.croaghpatrickspub.com).

**Hooley House**

July... 1st-Big Ship; 2nd-UFC 132 in HD; 3rd-Nick Zuber; 8th-Collage Band; 9th-Richie Reece Show; 15th-Brigid's Cross; 22nd-Kentucky Thunder; 29th-Carlos Jones. Every Tuesday - Open Mic w/Nick Zuber. Every Wednesday - Trivia Night. 7861 Reynolds Rd., Mentor. 440-942-6611. [www.1funpub.com](http://www.1funpub.com).



**Mentor/Willoughby  
(cont'd)****Mullarkey's**

July... 2nd-Kevin McCarthy; 9th-One More Pint; 16th-Dan McCoy; 23rd-Donal O'Shaughnessy; 30th-Terriers. Karaoke Wednesdays. Thursday Ladies Night w/ D.J. 4110 Erie St. www.mullarkeys.com.

**Olmsted Township****West Side Irish  
American Club**

Pub Music: July... 1st-Kid'n'Me; 8th-Michael Crawley; 15th-Lisa Spicer; 22nd-Curbside Country; 29th-Loch Erie. Other Events: July... 7th-Sean Moore Memorial Irish Vocals Scholarship Fundraising Event; 8th-Burning River Ceili Band Fundraiser at the West Side Irish American Club. Cash bar. Sideboards, raffles, door prizes & snacks. Fundraiser for the band, representing Cleveland at the All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil; 10th-Annual Club Picnic. WSIA Club, 8559 Jennings Rd., 44138. 440-235-5868. www.wsia-club.org.

**Put-In-Bay****Hooligan's**

July... 1st-3rd-7 Nations; 15th-16th-The Town Pants. 421 Catawba Ave., Put-In-Bay, 43456. 419-285-8000. www.hooliganspib.com.

**Ongoing Traditional  
Irish Sessiúns**

Bring your instruments and play along!

**Akron Hibernian's Ceili Band Sessions**, Wed. 7:30pm. The Akron AOH Mark Heffernan Div 2 Hall, 2000 Brown St., Akron, OH. 330-724-2083. Beginner to intermediate.

**Croagh Patrick's**-2nd Tues. every month, 8-10pm.

**Bardic Circle at The Shamrock Club of Columbus**-Beginner-friendly, intermediate-level Irish session meeting every other Thurs. 8-11pm.

**Claddagh Irish Pub, Legacy Village**, Lyndhurst 6-9pm.

**Wooster Street Center**, 1124 E. Wooster St., Bowling Green, OH-2nd & 4th Mon., 7-8pm.

**Blarney Pub**-Toledo, 1st Sat. of the month 5-8 pm.

**Festivals in July and Early August****July 22-24: 29th Annual Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival**

*Featuring:* Brigid's Cross, Cherish the Ladies, Dennis Doyle, Dermot Henry, Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul, Girsá, Glengarry Bhoys, High Kings, Kilroys, Kreellers, Michael Crawley, Marys Lane, Mickey Finns, New Barleycorn, Patrick O'Sullivan, Screaming Orphans, Seven Nations, Slide, Stephen's Green, Tommy Fleming, Tesse Burke School of Dance, Brady Campbell Dance School, O'Hare School of Dance, Great Lakes Pipe Band, 87th Pipe & Drum, Irish American Club East Side Pipe Band, Irish Sports Hall; Gaelic Football, Hurling & Rugby games; Cleveland Irish Players, Pittsburgh's Constant Theatrics, Cincinnati Irish Players, Donkey Kong Players. Learn to Irish Step Dance, Harpist/historian Dennis Doyle, Bodhran & Bagpipe Maker Michael Vignoles, author Cathal Liam, Tir Na nOg Children's area; Irish vendors; Internationally recognized cultural hall, workshops, presentations.

Held at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. 800.485.8013 www.clevelandirish.org

**July 29-31: Dayton Celtic Fest**

*Featuring:* Gaelic Storm, The Fuchsia Band, The Elders, Scythian, Enter the Haggis, Irish linen demonstration, Gaelic Mass, Children's Area, 5K Run / Walk, Celtic specialty vendors and more. Riverscape, downtown Dayton. 937-372-9788 www.unitedirishofdayton.org.

**August 5-7: 24th Annual Dublin Irish Fest**

*Featuring:* Karan Casey & John Doyle, David Kincaid, Liz Carroll, Different Drums of Ireland, Goitse, StepCrew, Teada, Tartan Terrors, Fuschia, Young Dubliners, Dervish, Beoga, Moya Brennan, and The Elders. 5K, Irish Dancing, Columbus Feis, Traditional Irish Wake, Sports demos, Whiskey Tasting, Dublin Wine Cellar, Sunday Mass, Celtic Canines, Brian Boru's Ireland. www.dublinirishfestival.org



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7 NATIONS

**Entertainment Schedule**

Fri-Sun, July 1-3

7 NATIONS

Fri-Sat, July 15-16

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AUGUST 5, 6 & 7 - 2011

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