



An Nuacht

Irish Canadian Club Newsletter
Summer 2018

A word (or two) from the President

Hard to believe its July already and I'm looking forward to the fall season at the club. We have some exciting events in the works for our members and I look forward to seeing you all down at the Club. I want to remind our members that our executive works hard to plan these events so please come out and support the Club. If you have some free time and would like to help out with an event let one of us know and we can direct you to the appropriate member.

A special thanks to DD Painting for the great work on the interior of the club and to Visions Painting and Decorating for finishing the exterior of the club...it looks great! If you haven't been to the club to see its facelift come down on a Friday night and check it out...share a pint and a few laughs.

Keep an eye on your newsletters and emails for upcoming events...you won't want to miss out! Wishing you all a safe and happy summer season. See you all down at the club.

I missed it (away for the weekend) but it was great to hear that our old friend (and former Uachtarain) Bernie Harrington dropped in for a quick visit a couple of weeks ago. Reliable sources tell me he hasn't changed a bit (I leave that to your own interpretation).

Gary

Riddle me this:

What's the difference between a well-dressed Corkman riding a unicycle and a scruffy Jackeen on a mountain bike?

Answer on p. 3

Sunday, August 12

Irish Club family picnic



**Games, food,
family fun, a
tradition.**

**We will have a
football game, a
3-legged race,
balloon toss, and
a piñata**

**Hamburgers & hot dogs, water & juice
on the Club
1.00 to 5.00 pm**

**Pavilion 3
Binbrook Conservation Area,
5050 Harrison Rd. Binbrook**

Also available: **FunSplash Sports Park** at the Binbrook Conservation Area.

**2 hour Splash Pass – \$18
Full Day Splash Pass – \$25
Evening Splash Pass (5:30-8pm) – \$15**

<https://npca.ca/conservation-areas/summer-fun-binbrook>

Be warned!

Members should take warning from Margaret Moran's unfortunate experience at Shannon Airport – with her Canadian passport expired, she travelled home on her Irish passport. When she presented it to the Air Canada desk she was refused boarding because of this new rule, even though she was carrying her **Canadian** birth certificate!

IMPORTANT NOTICE: NEW REQUIREMENT FOR VISA-EXEMPT FOREIGN NATIONALS TRAVELLING TO CANADA BY AIR

Canada has introduced an **Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)** entry requirement for visa-exempt foreign nationals flying to or transiting through Canada. As of March 15, 2016, travellers who do not require a visa to fly to Canada need to apply for an eTA. This includes passengers travelling on an Irish passport.

Applying for an eTA is a simple, inexpensive (\$7 Canadian) online process that takes minutes to complete. To apply, travellers must have a valid passport, a credit card, and an e-mail address. An eTA is electronically linked to a passenger's passport and once approved, it is valid for 5 years or until passport expiry.

To ensure there are no travel disruptions while travellers learn about the eTA requirement, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has introduced a transition period (leniency period). During this period, border services officers are able to admit travellers arriving in Canada without an eTA, provided they are not otherwise inadmissible. This leniency period will be in place until September 29, 2016.

As of **September 30, 2016**, passengers who arrive at the airport without an eTA should expect to experience delays in their travels. For this reason, travellers should apply for their eTA before booking your flight to Canada.

For more information or to apply for an eTA, visit Canada.ca/eTA .

Irish-Canadian dual citizens please note carefully:

Dual citizens, who hold Canadian citizenship and citizenship from a visa-exempt country such as Ireland, cannot apply for an eTA because eTA was set up to screen foreign visitors for admissibility to enter Canada.

If you are a dual Irish-Canadian citizen you cannot apply for an eTA on your Irish passport and must enter Canada on a **valid Canadian passport**. You may be denied boarding if you attempt to travel using your Irish passport.

To prepare for these changes, dual citizens are strongly encouraged to **apply for a Canadian passport**. This will prevent delays during travel and help ensure dual Canadian citizens are treated according to the rules that apply to Canadian citizens.

Note: As it can take time to get a Canadian passport, IRCC encourages Canadian citizens, including dual citizens, to renew or obtain these documents as soon as they can and before leniency period ends. Find out more about **travel documents for dual Canadian citizens flying to Canada**.

News from Comhaltas



If you are available on **Tuesday, August 21st**, Maureen and Colleen will be in town and will be inviting the families from the Kids Irish Summer Camp for some dance

instruction/fun before our session at the Corktown. So you will get a reminder but hoping some of you

can drop down and join in and stay for a few tunes afterwards!

The **Kid's Irish Summer Camp** runs again from **Monday, August 20- Friday, August 24th at the Museum of Steam and Techonlogy** on Woodward Ave. This is a great day camp for anyone wanting their children or grandchildren to learn the traditions, culture and history of Ireland. This year the theme is learning about Wicklow, Kildare and Westmeath. The children learn some Irish language, (cupla focal) songs, sports - hurling and gaeleic football, crafts, ceili/set dancing and music - tin whistle, bodhran, fiddle and get to try out other instruments depending on time and teachers available.

Mark the dates for the following events:

CCÉ Canada East Regional AGM and Canada East Music Hall of Fame honouring ***Des Quinn and Family*** - to be held at the Homewood Suites Hotel by Hilton - 40 Bay St. S., Hamilton on **Saturday, October 13th.**

Our 2nd Annual **Christmas in Killarney dinner and ceili dance** will be held at the Burlington Legion Hall on **Saturday, December 1, 2018.** This fun event features a corned beef & cabbage dinner, followed by a ceili and dancing. This year's event will be jointly organized by Hamilton Irish Arts and the Irish Canadian Club – planning committee will soon be in place. If you are interested in helping on this, please contact John O'Gorman (905-383-9376).

Answer:

A tire.

Ladies Snooker

Another season has come to a close. It was a great season, and the final came down to the top two teams. Cathy Main and Julie Fleming versus MaryEllen Cole and Jodi Day, in an exciting close fought final, with MaryEllen and Jodi becoming the Champions.



A big thank you goes to Harry Lynch for his ongoing coaching, each week. The snooker girls truly appreciate his patience and support. We would also like to thank the club for their ongoing support.

Eileen McNab



And not forgotten either – the Men's Snooker champion this year: Andytown's favourite son, Michael McClory.

Another party

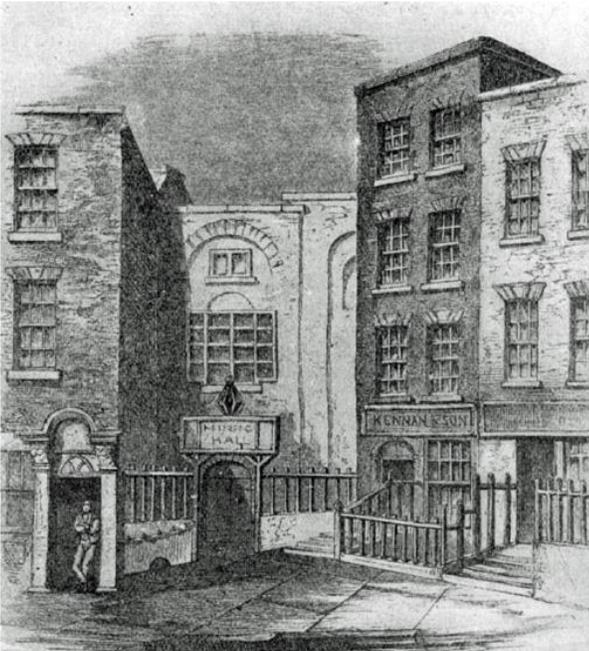
Friday October 5 is Alexander Keith's birthday and our ever-enterprising entertainment chief has proposed that we hold a "Down Home" or East Coast night at the Club to mark the occasion. He says, "We could possibly get a keg of Keith's on draft, or advertise Keith's at \$4 bottle while

they last." Punning to the last he adds, "Not sure if we could handle a lobster dinner, but something catchy (sic) might draw a crowd." We'll need to book a band – NovEire with Nova Scotian Bonnie would be the natural choice. Any other Ideas? Call John at 905-383-9376.

Christmas Concert

Handel's *Messiah* will be performed at St. Patrick's Church on **Monday, December 10**, as part of the Boris Brott and National Academy Orchestra of Canada series. Tickets \$30, seniors \$26.

Handel's decision to give a season of concerts in Dublin in the winter of 1741–42 arose from an invitation from the Duke of Devonshire, then serving as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. A violinist friend of Handel's, Matthew Dubourg, was in Dublin as the Lord Lieutenant's bandmaster; he would look after the tour's orchestral requirements. After arriving in Dublin on 18 November 1741, Handel arranged a subscription series of six concerts, to be held between December 1741 and February 1742 at the Great Music Hall, Fishamble Street. These concerts were so popular that a second series was quickly arranged; *Messiah* figured in neither series.



In early March Handel began discussions with the appropriate committees for a charity concert, to be given in April, at which he intended to present *Messiah*. He sought and was given permission from Christ Church and St Patrick's cathedrals to use their choirs for this occasion. These forces amounted to 16 men and 16 boy choristers; several of the men were allocated solo parts. The women soloists were Christina Maria Avoglio, who had sung the main soprano roles in the two subscription series, and Susannah Cibber, an established stage actress and contralto who had sung in the second series. The performance, also in the Fishamble Street hall, was originally announced for 12 April, but was deferred for a day "at the request of persons of Distinction". The orchestra in Dublin comprised strings, two trumpets, and timpani; the number of players is unknown. Handel had his own organ shipped to Ireland for the performances; a harpsichord was probably also used.

The three charities that were to benefit were prisoners' debt relief, the Mercer's Hospital, and the Charitable Infirmary. In its report on a public rehearsal, the *Dublin News-Letter* described the oratorio as "... far surpass[ing] anything of that Nature which has been performed in this or any other Kingdom". Seven hundred people attended the premiere on 13 April. So that the largest possible audience could be admitted to the concert, gentlemen were requested to remove their swords, and ladies were asked not to wear hoops in their dresses. The performance earned unanimous praise from the assembled press: "Words are wanting to express the exquisite delight it afforded to the admiring and crouded Audience". A Dublin clergyman, Rev. Delaney, was so overcome by Susanna Cibber's rendering of "He was despised" that reportedly he leapt to his feet and cried: "Woman, for this be all thy sins forgiven thee!" The takings amounted to around £400, providing about £127 to each of the three nominated charities and securing the release of 142 indebted prisoners.

Handel remained in Dublin for four months after the premiere. He organised a second performance of *Messiah* on 3 June, which was announced as "the last Performance of Mr Handel's during his Stay in this Kingdom". In this second *Messiah*, which was for Handel's private financial benefit, Cibber reprised her role from the first performance, though Avoglio may have been replaced by a Mrs Maclaine.

I nDíl Cuímhne

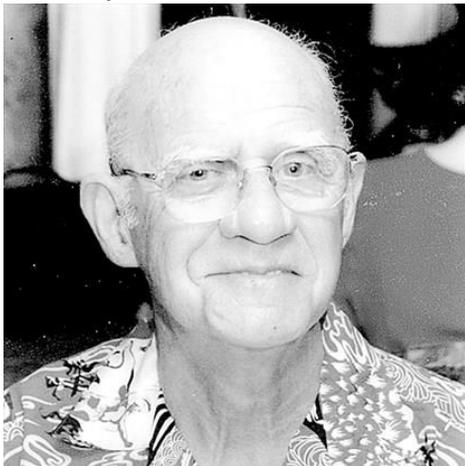
Bill BARRIE

Bill died a few weeks ago, quietly at home and alone. He left instructions that his death be unremarked, no notice or religion need apply. But we feel that the death of such a gentle, pleasant and faithful member of the Club must not go unrecorded.

Ar dheas Dé go raibh a anam.

Joseph Ernest "Ernie" CLEMENT

July 26, 1928 - May 24, 2018 Peacefully passed in his 90th year at St. Peter's Residence at Chedoke on



May 24, 2018. Predeceased by his cherished wife of 61 years, Rene Clement (Patterson). Loving father to Greg, Sue Aitken

(John), Ted (Beverley), Paul (Dale), and Anne Benedetti (Robert). He will be forever remembered as Papa to grandchildren Stephanie (Brian), Amanda (Paul), Jackie, Ted (Angela), David, Leah, Madeline, Adrian, and Christian. Ernie was also a

proud "P" to great-grandchildren Kaylee, Aly, and Dexter.

For many years, Ernie worked tirelessly as a salesman in the lumber industry, both at Canfor and Cutler Forest Products where he established lifelong connections with colleagues and friends.

Parishioners at St. Margaret Mary and the Basilica of Christ the King knew Ernie as choirmaster and leader for decades. He also lent his voice to the Men's Choir at the Irish Club of Hamilton. Into his later years, Ernie remained a proud and loyal member of the Métis Nation of Ontario. The family would like to extend their sincerest thanks to the staff at St. Peter's for their kindness and compassionate care.

Sadly missed by all his former singing chorister brothers in the Club Men's choir.

Joseph Anthony McKENNA



It is with profound grief that we announce the passing of Joe McKenna on June 20, 2018 in his 89th year. Dearly loved husband of Helen for 57 years. Loving father of Patrick (Irene), Sean and Jennifer. Loved grandfather of Cassandra, Ethan, Molly, Emily and

Matthew. Predeceased by his parents and 13 siblings in Ireland with the three remaining siblings saddened by his loss, Daniel, Betty, and Emmy. Dad was one in a million. He was immensely proud of his children but more importantly his grandchildren. Dad worked for The Ford Motor Company both in Canada and England. He worked his way up from the assembly line to being a major contributor in implementing a substance support

program. Dad was there to support both family, friends and strangers that reached out for help. He has helped countless people both professionally and personally with compassion and non-judgement. He was a proud member of the Rock Chapel group (Bill's Program) for 44 years. Anyone wishing to make a donation to a charity of your choosing in Joe's name would be appreciated by the family.

Warning: This is an opinion piece by Emer O'Toole, assistant professor of Irish performance studies at Concordia University, published in the Guardian on July 9. I am reprinting it here because it deserves a hearing, even though it may offend some.

The church brutalised Ireland. People have a right to protest the pope's visit

In 1979, Pope John Paul II visited the Republic of Ireland, and approximately 2.7 million people – 79% of the population – came out to honour him. At the time, contraception, divorce, and homosexuality were illegal, and John Paul II was a god. On 25 August, when Pope Francis becomes the first pontiff to travel to Ireland in 39 years, he will arrive on the shores of a very different island.

Throughout the 1990s, abuse scandals rocked the Irish Catholic establishment and hastened the process of secularisation. Since then, progressive constitutional and legal change has been slow but consistent, signalling rejection of the church's moral authority. In 1993 homosexuality was decriminalised; in 1995, a referendum to legalise divorce passed by the slimmest of margins; in 2015, the country voted overwhelmingly to legalise gay marriage; and in June, 66% of the electorate voted to legalise abortion.

The separation of church and state in Ireland is far from complete. For example, the church is still involved in running 90% of state-funded primary

schools. It is deeply enmeshed in our medical system. We are still wrestling with the scars of decades of abuse, implemented by the church and facilitated by the state. We are still finding children's bodies in unmarked mass graves.

But it is not 1979. And while some are preparing for the pope's visit by pressing their Sunday best, others are making placards and planning protests.

The Ryan report uncovered decades of horror endured by children in the ostensible care of Catholic organisations

One of these actions – the “Say Nope to the Pope” campaign – is organising folks to book free tickets to papal events in order to leave the seats empty. A pretty civilised and smart act of resistance you would think. Those empty places indicate not an absence, but a presence: a peaceful but legibly indignant presence.

Yet even this is too radical for the Irish political establishment. The leaders of our two main political parties have spoken out against what they clearly deem an act of religious bigotry. Micheál Martin of Fianna Fáil called the action “petty, intolerant, and certainly the opposite of progressive”. Taoiseach Leo Varadkar agreed, deeming the campaign “Wrong, petty, and mean-spirited”, adding that it was not “legitimate protest”.

Less than a decade ago, the Ryan report into child sexual abuse in state-funded, church-run institutions was published, costing the Irish taxpayer €82m. It uncovered decades of horror endured by children in the ostensible care of Catholic organisations: rape, physical violence, neglect and emotional abuse.

The government's redress scheme for the victims of the church cost €1.5bn; a further €176m was spent supporting survivors with health, housing, education and counselling services. While the government hoped that the costs of redress could be shared 50:50 between the Catholic church and the Irish taxpayer, the church has contributed just €192m to help those it tortured and abused.

But, remember, booking seats to the papal mass in order to leave them empty is “petty”.

In 2009, the Murphy report on the sexual abuse of children in the archdiocese of Dublin revealed that the Catholic church’s priority in dealing with paedophilia was not child welfare, but rather secrecy, the avoidance of scandal, the protection of its reputation and the preservation of church assets. In 2011, the Cloyne report found that Bishop John Magee, acting on a “secret letter” from Rome, covered up child sex abuse rather than reporting it to authorities. The Ferns report, the Raphoe report, the Limerick report – all have revealed cover-ups, callous disregard for child welfare, and concern predominantly for the character and coffers of the church.

Irish taxpayers financed all of these inquiries, and now they must pay up to €20m to welcome the head of the organisation responsible for these crimes. But peacefully protesting the Pope’s visit is “intolerant”.

In Magdalene laundries, women were incarcerated and forced to perform backbreaking work without pay although they had committed no crimes. In mother and baby homes, women’s children were taken from them, illegally adopted, or put into abusive institutions where they could be neglected to death and thrown into unmarked graves. Brutal symphysiotomies carried out in Irish hospitals traumatised and disabled women for life, because the church had some insane objection to caesarean sections.

But booking tickets for a mass that you don’t plan to attend is “wrong”.

I simply don’t have the scope in this article to do justice to the litany of the Catholic church’s crimes in Ireland. Suffice to say: protesting about the pope’s visit – with empty seats, placards, or any other peaceful means – is legitimate, warranted, progressive and necessary. It sends the message that we are sick of paying – spiritually, emotionally, economically – for the evils perpetrated by the church; that we want religious orders out of our state schools and hospitals; that we want our

politicians to act on evidence, not religious beliefs; that we deserve a secular society. I cannot imagine a less “mean-spirited” message.

King Billy’s other July 12th victory: Aughrim of the Slaughter

On July 12 two Williamite victories are celebrated by Orangemen: Aughrim and the Boyne, for up to 1795 the latter battle was still being celebrated on July 1st, despite the calendar change in 1752 which would have brought it to the 12th, the original, Old Calendar date of the Battle of Aughrim.

The famous Battle of the Boyne carries enormous symbolic weight in Irish history and politics even though it is dwarfed in most respects by the humiliating slaughter at Aughrim. Overall, the casualty figures were quite low for such a battle: about 2,000 dead, of which 1,500 were Catholic Jacobites, the same proportion as at Aughrim.

Both battles involved much post-victory brutality but the scale of this at the Boyne paled beside that of Aughrim, and wasn’t as bad as it might have been, given that at the time numerous battle casualties arose from the pursuit of an already-beaten enemy. The Williamites triumphantly marched into Dublin two days after the battle, whereas James scooted off to France with indecent alacrity.

The Battle of Aughrim on July 12th, 1691 was arguably the most bloody ever recorded on Irish soil, with a death toll of over 4,000 men in one short day, at least 3,000 of them Jacobites, though thousands more either deserted or were taken prisoner. To this day, one area of the battlefield is known locally as “The Bloody Hollow”, and in the Irish language tradition Aughrim came to be known as “Eachdhruim an áir” (Aughrim of the slaughter). Aughrim was far more bloody, painful and morally humiliating than the Boyne, since it carried the last real hope of an honourable settlement or, even, for some, (in retrospect?) of Irish Catholic governance.

Both armies numbered about 20,000 men, the Jacobites under St Ruth being mostly Irish

Catholics, while Godert van Ginkel, the Williamites' Dutch general, commanded a force of Irish, English, Scottish, Danish, German and Dutch Protestants, along with French Huguenots.

The left of the Jacobite position was bounded by soggy, wet ground, through which there was only one causeway, overlooked by Aughrim village, a ruined castle and a hill lined with small stone walls and hedgerows marking the boundaries of local farmers' fields. On the other, open, flank, St. Ruth placed his best infantry under his second-in-command, and most of his cavalry under Patrick Sarsfield, who did not distinguish himself that day. This left Ginkel having to force a way through the causeway on the Jacobite left, which should have been an impregnable position since it forced the attackers into a narrow lane covered by the defenders of the castle.

The Jacobites duly stalled this attack with heavy fire from the castle, but then found, tragi-comically, that their reserve ammunition, made in England, would not fit into the muzzles of their French-supplied muskets! Thus, when the Williamites charged again with a reasonably fresh cavalry regiment they faced only weak gunfire, easily crossed the causeway and reached Aughrim village with few casualties.

St Ruth, after the third infantry rush on the Williamite position, believed that the battle was there for the winning, but following his decapitation by a cannonball and the disappearance of his second-in-command, his cavalry, demoralised by the general confusion and their leader's sudden death, fled the battlefield on the left flank. The Jacobite cavalry on the right, under Luttrell, which had been held in reserve to cover this flank, were ordered, inexplicably, not to counter-attack at this point but to withdraw, causing many to believe he was in the pay of the Williamites, for which he paid dearly when assassinated in Dublin some time later. The castle quickly fell, its Jacobite garrison surrendered, and thousands, judging the situation to be hopeless, began to flee as dusk threatened, but were easy meat for the Williamite cavalry, since many of them had thrown away their weapons and supplies in order to run faster.

Slaughter and humiliation

Contemporary accounts spoke of the grass being

slippery with blood and of "vast numbers of languishing forms, left lifeless in the mountains and corroded by worms". The Jacobite dead, like countless Famine victims, were deprived of burial, according to John Dunton, an English author, writing in 1698, seven years later, though he can't have appreciated the impact of the elided traditional keening and highly codified funeral rites:

"After the battle, the English did not tarry to bury any of the dead but their own and left those of the enemy exposed to the fowls of the air, for the country was then so uninhabited that there were not hands to inter them. Many dogs resorted to this Acelanda where for want of other food they fed on man's flesh."

On July 12th, 1691, then, Aughrim's field saw slaughter on a grand scale, the death or capture of half the high command, with the consequent massive transfer of their lands, bringing an effective end to Irish/Jacobite resistance in Ireland, although Limerick held out until that autumn. (Limerick, like Aughrim, inspired one of our three greatest pipe laments, "Marbhna Luimnighe.")

Redmond O'Hanlon, The Irish Times, July 12

Club Contacts

For all those who have enquiries about the Club, Club events, or items for the newsletter here are the names and contacts to call:

Gary Gouldsborough, President, 905 869 1656
 Pauline Venema, Past President, 905-536-1963
 Margaret Moran, Vice-President, 905-308-9433
 Jack Murphy, Treasurer, 905-869-4174
 Mary-Ellen Cole, Membership, 905-906-1127
 Paul Deane, Secretary, 905-524-4954
 John O'Gorman, Entertainment, 905-383-9376
 Kathy McNab, Social Convener, 905-515-9947
 Michael Quigley, Publicity, 905-544-1401
 Jennie O'Gorman, Trustee, 905-929-9376
 Rita Hardenbrook, Trustee, 905-627-1176
 Colleen Eastabrook, Trustee, 289-389-4971

The Club, 905-389-3222 or
www.irishclubhamilton.ca