



# An Nuacht

Irish Canadian Club Newsletter

March 2023



## President's Remarks

2022 was a return to our normal operations, and the committee were happy with the financial outcome and the support from our members, that most of our functions received. I'd like to thank the committee members for their tireless work, month in and month out to help keep the club operational. We also have a number of people who contribute to the operation of the club – Vivien Synnott, Jim Synnott, Jim McNab, MaryEllen Cole – who while not on the executive, perform a number of functions, that help ease the workload on the executive.

Going forward into 2023, we are going to explore using social media to enhance our presence in the community and also expanding our inside entertainment, hopefully with the help of members who

would be interested in being on a sub committee.

Jennie O'Gorman who has been a faithful member of the executive for 20 plus years, will leave an executive role, and continue her support of the club on an Entertainment Sub Committee, and helping out with Bar Duties as the need arises. We thank Jennie for all her executive work, and look forward to her expertise on a sub committee. Thanks Jennie.

It was somewhat disappointing at the AGM to have only 23 members in attendance. This included executive and their spouses and an additional 6 member's. The club is only as strong as its membership, and the AGM is an important function where members can express their displeasure, offer support, and take in the financial picture of the club. I truly hope this was not a reflection on our work as an executive, and that we can look forward to your support at our upcoming functions.

## Upcoming Events

**March 11 - Warm up to St. Patrick's**  
Forde Brothers & Hamilton Irish Arts  
Musicians

Doors Open at 7.30

**March 17 - St. Patrick's Day**

At the Club Rooms Doors open at 1.00  
Musicians - Lorelee and Friends 2.30 –  
5.30

Musicians - Forde Brothers at 6.30

# ?????? TRIVIA NIGHT

***Saturday, April 15, 2023***

**Doors open at 7:30 p.m.  
quiz to follow at 8:00 p.m.**

**Test your knowledge and  
enjoy a bit of craic with  
Quizmasters:**

**Michael McClory**

**and**

**Anna D'Ambrosio**

**Bring your own  
team or form one  
there!**

**Teams: 4-6  
players max (18  
yrs of age+)**

**Prize to winning  
team!**

***See you there for some fun and  
enjoyable competition!***

**The International Rose of Tralee:  
it could be you!**

The International Rose of Tralee Festival takes place yearly in Tralee, County Kerry, Ireland. The festival is a 5-day celebration of Irish culture (August 18-22, 2023) filled with live music, street markets, parades, midways, carnivals and circus acts but at the heart of it, is the selection of the International Rose of Tralee. Each year a young woman of Irish descent is chosen from participants who gather from around the world to represent their community and the Irish diaspora. The successful candidate is chosen based on personality, achievements, volunteerism, and other such qualities.

The newly selected Rose of Tralee ambassador will spend the year immersed in local and international Irish events and promotions in Ireland and with in her own home community.

The Toronto Rose of Tralee Centre has been sending a contestant since the inaugural days of the festival in 1959. The 1996 Toronto Rose, Colleen McPhee (Mooney), a Hamilton Irish Club member, was selected to represent the International festival. She was part the 2008 International Rose of Tralee judging panel and has been part of the Toronto Rose Selection process for over 10 years.

The 2023 Toronto Rose Selection will begin with a meet and greet Saturday April 15 followed by interviews Sunday April 30 and culminating with the Rose Gala Saturday May 13. The winner will be the recipient of numerous prizes as well as an all-inclusive trip to Ireland to take part in the International Rose of Tralee festival with over 30 other like minded women. For more information email [torontoroseoftralee@hotmail.com](mailto:torontoroseoftralee@hotmail.com) or apply directly at [roseoftralee.ie](http://roseoftralee.ie)

# 2023 Wearing of the Green Luncheon

Honouring Hamilton's  
Irish Person of the Year  
**Rob McGowan**



**St. Patrick's Day -  
Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Michelangelo's Banquet Centre, Upper  
Ottawa**

**Doors open 11 am, Lunch served at 12 pm  
Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and more**

**Tickets \$60**

**Irish Dancers - Raffle Table**

**Proceeds will support various local  
charities.**

**Rob McGowan's charity of choice is:  
DeMazenod Door Outreach Program at St.  
Patrick's**

**\*\* Venue's bar is cashless. Raffle tickets will  
be cash only\*\***

**[WearingOfTheGreenHamilton.ca](http://WearingOfTheGreenHamilton.ca)**



**Christmas Lunchers (above & below)**



## Why "Shoeboxes"?

The Irish Canadian Club is pleased to announce that we are hosting a stop on the book tour for "Shoeboxes: From Irish Roots to Canadian Branches," featuring an interview and book signing by authors Kevin Lee and Tom Jenkins at our Hamilton location on March 11, 2023, 12.00 noon to 3.00pm.

The book tells the long-buried stories of over 50 families who emigrated to Canada during the Great Famine from an estate called Coollattin in County Wicklow, Ireland.

The name of this book is derived from the type of box which, through the generations, was used as a storage place for precious documents, photographs and other memorabilia. Here were stored the photographs of baptisms, first communions, confirmations and weddings. alongside these were



mass cards, sympathy cards and letters of condolence. in a way they were time capsules which serialized the life stories of families through life and, indeed through death. there are many cases where family shoeboxes, on both sides of the great Atlantic ocean, developed simultaneously and in parallel. there are cases where the contents of a Canadian family shoebox are replicated in a shoebox kept by long lost Irish cousins.

Are you or your family from Coollattin County Wicklow, do you know anyone who was from this area – we would love to hear from you, our contact information is listed below. Get your signed copy and discover more about your Irish roots at this exciting event. Seating is limited so please contact **Riley Jenkins** at [riley@shoeboxesbook.com](mailto:riley@shoeboxesbook.com) or **Peter Ormond 905-962-3928**

For more information about the book, visit [www.shoeboxesbook.com](http://www.shoeboxesbook.com)

<https://www.coollattincanadianconnection.com/shoeboxes.html>



**Jim & Mike rolling the turkey**

As ever, we make this appeal to you to renew your membership, dues payable to the Irish Club can be paid by e-transfer to [brentschmidt33@yahoo.com](mailto:brentschmidt33@yahoo.com)



**Ambassador Eamonn McKee & Michael Quigley**

### **Club Contacts**

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The Club, 905-389-3222 or [www.irishclubhamilton.ca](http://www.irishclubhamilton.ca)