

OTTAWA CCÉ AN NUACHTÁN NEWSLETTER

Issue: Feb/March 2011



Sat Feb 19

**Blessed Sacrament Church Hall 194
Fourth Ave. Ottawa**

**Admission: \$10 members~\$12
guests~\$5 students with student card
~children under 12 free~family rates**

**Music by the Ottawa Céili Band and
Mary Muckle and the Ottawa Youth
Harp Ensemble**

**Sessions in Ottawa and the
Valley!**

**Contact Janice Parton or
Craig Hamm for info on
music, workshops and
concerts in your area!**

<http://www.irishmusicottawa.ca>

<http://irishmusicottawa.blogspot.com>

IRISH IMMERSION DAY

**Sat. Feb 19th 2011 9am to
4pm. 194 Fourth Ave.**

**Blessed Sacrament Church
\$20 Bring your own lunch and
enthusiasm Tea ,Coffee snacks
provided for break times**

Irish Seniors Drop-in Centre

**Tuesdays 11a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
St. Margaret Mary's Church hall,
Fairbairn at Sunnyside. Join the
gang for pot-luck lunch, stories,
music and great craic! Kay 613-
829-8467 Margo 613-837-4164**



Come celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann

**at one of the largest gatherings of
traditional Irish musicians and
dancers in North America! On
March 24 - 27, friends of traditional
Irish music and dance will reunite
once again - only this time, in the
historic and vibrant city of San
Antonio, Texas.**

www.cceconvention2011.org

**Mary
Muckle**

Harp ~ Voice ~ Piano
Harp Lessons

3626 Woodroffe Ave.
Nepean, ON K2J 407
Phone: 613-825-1379
Email: mucklerice@rogers.com

St. Patrick's Day Céili

**Sat March 12 2011
Dinner and Dance**

**Music provided by the Ottawa
Céili Band and entertainment
CCÉ Irish Dancers**

**Dinner 6-7:45 PM
Dance 8-12PM**

Tickets: \$30

**Blessed Sacrament Church Hall
194 Fourth Ave Ottawa**

The European Languages Certificate Program

(TEG) ..involves a graded series of tests which provide the learner with a measure of their improving language competence. The protocol places Irish on a common footing with other European languages which are more widely spoken. There is currently only one testing center in North America. It is located at New York University. hilary.mhicsuibhne@nyu.edu Testing at the first basic level (A1) will occur on Saturday 21 May 2011. Registration must be completed online before 11 March 2011 (www.teg.ie) A TEG preparation course for the A1 level is being held at Gaeltacht Thuaisceart on Oileáin Uir, near Kingston 13 - 15 May contact aralt@anghaeltacht.ca



**Thoughts and prayers are
with Fran McSwiggan and
her family on the recent pass-
ing of her brother Edward**

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CELTIC FOLK HARP FOR SALE
28" high
Solid Oak -- handmade
Stanley and Stanley, Kingston
Extra strings, tuner, two self
instruction books, book of
Scottish and classical songs 22
strings
no levers
\$400.00 obo

Shamrock Productions

Chocolates for all occasions special-
izing in unique handmade truffles



Nuala Linton

irishchocolatier@rogers.com

1560 Champneuf Drive

Orleans, Ont 613-830-3904

K1C 6B5

Tel: 613 830-3904

Thinking of learning.....

Irish... all levels Monday evenings
Blessed Sacrament Church Hall 194

Fourth Ave

Contact Síle Scott:

Sheila.Scott@uottawa.ca

set dancing.... Mondays 8:30-10 PM
Blessed Sacrament Church Hall
Contact Síle Scott:

Sheila.Scott@uottawa.ca

Irish Solo dance...Monday evenings 7-
8:30 PM Blessed Sacrament Church
Hall

Contact Caitlin Crockard
cscrockard@hotmail.com

**an Irish instrument... instru-
ments to lend to new students!**
Roisin Phil-
ippe 613-440-3118
roseandrich@gmail.com

**March 10 - 17, 2011 - Ottawa
Irish Festival**

**March 10 - Proclamation of
Ottawa Irish Festival by the City
of Ottawa to be held at Saint
Brigid's Centre.**

**March 11 - Annual Erin
Luncheon to be held at St.
Patrick's Home of Ottawa, 2865
Riverside Drive**

**March 12 - 2011 St. Patrick's
Parade starting at 11 am from
Ottawa City Hall to Lansdowne
Park**

**March 12 - Grand Irish Party
starting at 12 pm at Lansdowne
Park**

Irish Society of the National Capital
Region, in conjunction with St. Patrick's
Home of Ottawa Foundation, presents
the annual

**Erin Luncheon & Silent Auction,
on FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2011, from
11:30 am - 3:00 pm, at St.
Patrick's Home, 2865 Riverside
Drive, Ottawa.**

Proceeds from this event benefit the
residents of St. Pat's. The Luncheon
features great Irish Stew, lots of musi-
cal entertainment, bar service, and the
Silent Auction - and of course, you'll
meet many of your friends who have
enjoyed themselves at the Luncheon in
the past. Tickets are \$40 and are avail-
able at the Reception Desk at St. Pat's
Home, or by calling St. Pat's at 613/260
- 2738 2738 The Luncheon frequently

sells out, so please consider ordering
your tickets and reserving your place
early. We are soliciting items for the Silent
Auction.

We are also looking for a few volunteers
to assist at the Luncheon by greeting
people, assisting in seating, selling bar
tickets, coat check, etc. If you can assist
in either of these areas, please contact
Bill Tobin (btobin7113@aol.com)

**Saturday March 5th - St. Pat-
rick's Céilí at Our Lady of Fati-
ma Parish Hall**

153
Woodroffe Ave. Live music by O'Connell
Pub musicians - tickets \$15 in
advance only 613-726-7583 613-726-7583
Irish Stew dinner served at 6pm with trim-
mings.
Fundraiser for The Catholic Women's
League of Canada.

Wednesday March 16th - Irish Voices Lit-
erary Event at Auditorium, Main Branch
Ottawa Public Library, 120 Metcalfe St
7:pm featuring local writers and musi-
cians.

sponsored by The Ottawa Public Library,
admission free.

Thursday March 17th - St. Patrick's Day
Traditional Music party 2 - 5 pm at
O'Connell's Irish Pub 1205 Wellington St.

**Tuesday February 15th
Book Launch Party
Kevin Dooley's**

new novel

**The Angira Legacy & The
Catalyst, Parts 11 and 111 of
The Angira Trilogy** at

O'Connell's Irish Pub 1205
Wellington St. 7 pm with
Readings and Live music no
cover

**Sue Fay Healy School of
Irish Dance**

**Ottawa Arnprior Perth
Sue Fay Healy**

**T.C.R.G., A.D.C.R.G
111 Colonnade Rd Nepean
sue@suefayhealy.com
613-225-2106
www.suefayhealy.com**

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Just a glance into the future to let you know of some upcoming events with more info to follow!

- CCÉ celebrates its 60th this coming year and the event will be marked by special events. Info to follow!
- *Feile Cheoil* in Toronto will be happening this May and we encourage people of all skill levels in set dancing, singing, and musical performance to participate.

● *The inaugural Oireachtas Gaeilge Cheanada will take place July 2011 in Tamworth, Ontario and will feature Irish speakers from across Canada, US and Ireland in a 3 day celebration of Irish language, culture and music. Not to be missed!*



BRADLEY KELLY

General Construction and Utilites
Tel: 613-822-9500 Fax: 613-833-929 ~613-223-9931
5622 Doncaster Rd., Ottawa, ON K1G 3N4

2011 CÉILÍ DATES

FEBRUARY 19 MARCH 12 ~
APRIL 2 ~MAY 21

Blessed Sacrament Church Hall

194 Fourth Ave. Ottawa

Admission: \$10 members~\$12

guests~\$5 students with student

card ~children under 12

free~family rates

Music by the Ottawa Céilí Band

**Let me know about your
up-coming events or
news..CCÉ PRO Clare
Dwyer claredwyer@aol.com**

The Ottawa Celtic
Choir is a
community choir
whose mandate is to
sing the songs of the
Celtic nations and
the Celtic diaspora in
English and in the six
Celtic languages
Ellen MacIsaac 613-
740-1160 or
[ellen@laughingbrook
.ca](mailto:ellen@laughingbrook.ca)

**This year, 2011, is the 60th
Anniversary of the founding of
Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann
and to commemorate this
milestone, The 60th
Anniversary Achievement
Award has been created.**

This Award will celebrate within each Branch, the dedication and devotion to Comhaltas by its members, those members who have given their time, commitment, expertise, and enthusiasm to promote in a positive way the Irish language, music, and dance, to keep the Tradition Alive!

Your executive has selected five members who have unfailingly supported these goals within the Branch over the years. You are now asked to vote for 2 whose names will go forward to the North American Convention in March. A ballot including a bio of each candidate will be available online and at the next ceili February 19. Some bios are written in the first person and for editing purposes we have decided to let their own words stand!

Ruaidhri O'Donne Native to Dublin, I became a regular at both the Pipers and Fiddlers Clubs during the late 50's and 60's. I came to Canada in 1969 and arrived in Ottawa in 1970. Comhaltas in Ottawa was a welcoming presence and I became involved in the late 70's. The monthly ceili became a must attend social event where family and friends met to listen to good music, enjoy a pint and a chat. I worked behind the scenes for almost 30 years including a stint as PRO in the late 90's. No Longer a regular attendee, I maintain my membership so I can keep up with Comhaltas news, local and international.

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Toni Forsythe

Born in Ireland, I have Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann to thank for helping me settle in Canada. I have three grown children, and am besotted by two red-haired grandsons.

My life was spent in sales, and I am now retired to pursue my real loves, painting and potting. Seventeen years on the committee of the Ottawa branch of C C E.(Sec and Entertainment officer) and two years as Sec, of the Canadian Regional board, taught me a lot about the huge skill level and dedication it takes to run both branch and region . To help promote Irish music in the Ottawa area, the Entertainment position was created within our Branch and while in that position, I set up the music lesson for the Branch and went about bringing in the teachers who taught the fiddle, bodhrán, and flute (including penny whistle) lessons. As a member of the organizing committee for the 2005 Convention held here in Ottawa, among numerous roles, I organized the workshops for the Irish Language and the promo for the Convention, producing a CD of our very talented local Irish music entertainers. Other lasting contributions to the Branch, are the painted panels of Irish dancers and some of the well-known Irish lore that grace the hall every ceili. Currently I am learning Irish through Comhaltas Monday evenings, having a little fun , and babysitting those grandsons. What more can I say!

Caitlin Crockard

Caitlin brings over two decades of Irish dance performance, chore-

ography and teaching to Ottawa's branch of Comhaltas. Alongside a successful competitive career, Caitlin co-founded a professional performance group, First Generation Dancers, who performed and taught workshops at festivals all across the province. Caitlin has danced on CITY-TV and CTV programs, on stage with the K-W Symphony Orchestra, at sessions in Ireland, and for many well-known Celtic musicians, from Pierre Schryer to Ashley MacIsaac. Caitlin teaches and studies dance outside of her full-time hours as a producer for CBC radio. She began teaching the adult Comhaltas class 5 years ago, and delights in teaching all ages and abilities both the history of Irish dance, through the traditional steps, and the exciting contemporary side, through creative choreography. Caitlin brings to each class two principles: instilling in her students a love of Irish culture and music through its dance, and that every body, no matter how old or young, can share this culture by simply moving their feet.

Pat Cassidy

Pat grew up in Ottawa and was introduced to the Irish Community at the age of 17. Her father, a descendant of Irish immigrants, had instilled a pride in the Irish half of her roots and she soon became a regular participant at Irish events in the city. University studies, marriage and children took her out of the loop for a while but she reconnected and joined the Sunday afternoon adult dance class which eventually became part of Comhaltas.

Pat joined Ottawa Branch of Comhaltas about 20 years ago and was active in many areas over the years. She studied whistle with Comhaltas teachers Sheila White and Duncan Gillis and organized and hosted seisiúns at St. Pat's Hall, The Gap of Dunloe Pub and Gentle Annie's Pub. She also participated in Irish dance classes for many years and in Irish language classes for one season.

Pat has worked tirelessly to promote Ottawa Branch; she has served on the Branch Executive for most of her time as a member and still looks after membership for the Branch.

As Public Relations Officer, Pat was responsible for advertising Comhaltas events such as céilís, concerts and our 2005 Convention. This included designing and distributing posters and ad copy, issuing press releases, organizing and participating in media interviews, etc. as well as preparing and sending out the monthly Ottawa Branch Bulletin. Pat started the electronic version of the Bulletin, producing an attractive, colourful document with photographs and hyperlinks. She also liaised with other Irish community organizations, particularly establishing a closer relationship with the Irish Society, writing articles about Comhaltas for their news magazine and arranging to promote each other's events. Pat continues to promote Ottawa Branch as a member by talking to friends and acquaintances and forwarding electronic Bulletins and messages about our events.

Pat Kelly:

Full bio available at Feb Céili