



# High profile speaker to give eleventh Annual Society Lecture

## Centenary of 1916 Rebellion to be marked by visit of Síle de Valera

By Michael Kenneally

On March 31, 2016, Síle de Valera, granddaughter of Eamon de Valera, will give the Eleventh Annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture in Irish Studies at Concordia University. In this centenary year of the 1916 Rebellion, there are hundreds of events taking place around the world, many of them sponsored by the Government of Ireland. As you will know, Eamon de Valera was a towering figure in modern Irish history. St. Patrick's Society is very pleased to welcome such an important Irish public figure to present the annual society lecture in Irish Studies.

In Ireland, Eamon de Valera was a towering figure throughout much of the twentieth century. After participating in the 1916 Rebellion, he was the only male rebel leader not executed, because he was an American citizen who had been born in New York and returned to Ireland at a very young age. De Valera would go on to play a central – sometimes controversial – role in shaping modern Ireland, until his retirement from the Presidency in 1973.

In her own right, Síle de Valera has also been an active participant in Irish public life. In 1977, she was elected as the youngest member of the Irish Parliament for Dublin Constituency, and in 1979 was



Photo: Lorcan Breton

Síle de Valera, guest lecturer

elected the youngest member of the European Parliament. From 1997 to 2007, she represented the constituency of Clare, during

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## A word from the President

The month of March....our calendars are now full and as usual, events are plentiful as we are now well into the Irish Season. I would like to congratulate The United Irish Societies on the Queen's selection evening. The event was well attended and the selection of candidates this year is outstanding. Erin Sports Association held its pre-sashing of the Irishman of the Year, Mr. Wayne Hogan, a long time member of our Society and an outstanding individual who is very deserving of this honour.

Our Ball and Luncheon planning is now nearing completion. The committees have been working very hard over the past few months, to make this year's events successful. I hope to see many members present at both of these functions. The ball and luncheon are our main sources of revenue for the year and the funds raised finance our grants and sponsorship funds. I would ask that you support both of these events. As a reminder, if you are not able to attend the ball or luncheon, that our patrons fund is available online for donations. Your support by being a patron of our events, helps our ongoing fund raising ability.

I would like to personally thank, on behalf of the board, Mr. Richard McConomy and Mme. Pierrette Sévigny for stepping in this year to be our patrons for the ball. Their involvement and support is much appreciated. Mr. Geoff Kelly will be our Guest of Honour and Mayor Coderre will also be in attendance at the ball. Our ball theme this year is "A Night in Montreal" and will be packed with great entertainment, fine food and as usual a night of dancing and fun.

Our annual luncheon will be held at the Sheraton Centre Ville. Our guest speaker this year will be Mayor Coderre. We will also honour Ambassador Bassett and his wife Patricia who will be returning to Ireland in late June. We will take this opportunity to thank them for their tireless support of our community.

Mr. Andy Fogarty has been selected to receive our Community Award. Andy has been a member and past president of the Society for many years. He is involved within the community and represents the true meaning of support and giving. Congratulations Andy, this award to you is well deserved.

As you read through this edition of *Nuacht*, you will note many other activities and events. On March 31, we will sponsor the Eleventh Annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture in Canadian Irish Studies. The dates of the parade and all other events are listed on our Calendar (p.24) and I look forward to seeing many members attending and showing their Irish Spirit.

Happy March and more importantly ... Happy St. Patrick's Day.

*Jim Killin*  
February 2016




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### de Valera (cont.)

which time she served as Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, and Minister of State for Education. She was also elected vice-president of *Fianna Fail*, the political party founded by her grandfather.

Her lecture will take place at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, March 31, 2016, in room 937 of the Hall Building. Given the success of Vincent Woods last year, this event promises to continue the tradition of bringing high-profile figures to speak to members of St. Patrick's Society as well as the general public.



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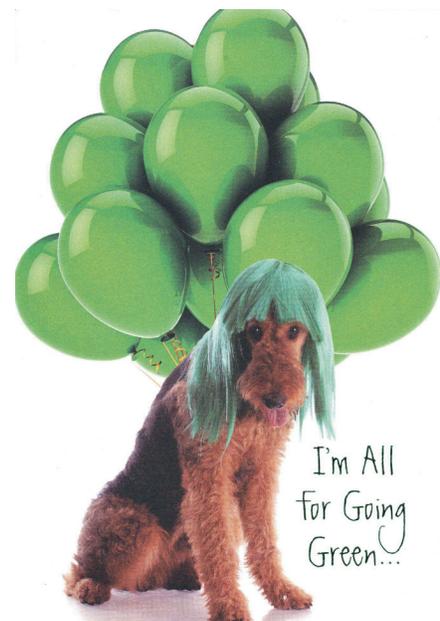
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# News from the Society

By Carol McCormick

## Don't snooze or you may lose!

A very common saying and sometimes true! The Saint Patrick's Society of Montreal – St. Patrick's Day Luncheon is just around the corner.

In fact, it will take place at noon, Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at Le Centre Sheraton Montréal Hotel, 1201, boul René Lévesque.

We are over the 50% mark of our goal. If you haven't already reserved a place for yourself, perhaps a table and invite friends and co-workers or if possible organise a sponsorship table, I would strongly suggest you do it now! There are so many reasons why you would have a great time!

Our Guest Speaker, His Worship Mayor Coderre, who is always ready with a quick line, will surely be entertaining to listen to.



Photo: Anne Forrest

If that weren't enough, we have Mr. John Rae, vice-president of Power Corporation who will be introducing the Mayor. Some of you may remember Mr. Rae when he introduced his brother The Honourable Bob Rae as guest speaker at a

previous St. Patrick's Society Luncheon. He has also spoken at the Irishman of the Year Breakfast. He delivers sharp, humorous comments that will stay with you for a long time.

At the head table, among others, we have Mr. Geoffrey Kelley Member of the National Assembly for Jacques Cartier, Minister Responsible for Native Affairs, His Excellency Ray Bassett Irish Ambassador to Ireland and his wife, Patricia Bassett, The Honorable Pierrette Sévigny and Me. Richard McConomy, Colonel Darcy Molstad Wing Commander Three-wing CFB Bagotville and his wife, Jody Molstad, and the Queen and her court.

A beautiful three-course meal with complimentary wine will be served. For those of you who need to get back to work, I promise you that you will be on your way by 1:45 p.m. Alternatively, you may prefer to stay and enjoy the Irish Coffee cash bar and socialise.

If the above reasons are not enticing enough, then perhaps the idea that your presence will be a great help to St. Patrick's Society of Montreal in their endeavor to help the larger community could be the one. The Luncheon is one of SPS major events of the year to raise funding.

So please, don't snooze in fear of losing out on a great St. Patrick's Day !

For reservations: Please call: St. Patrick's Society of Montreal Erin Matheson, Office Manager (514) 481-1346 or email her at: [office@spsmtl.com](mailto:office@spsmtl.com)

Visit our website: [www.spsmtl.com](http://www.spsmtl.com)  
See you there!

## Mayor Coderre revisits the Society

Born and raised in Joliette, Québec, His Worship, the Honourable Denis Coderre was elected as the 44<sup>th</sup> mayor of Montreal in 2013. A political science graduate from the Université de Montréal, he also completed a Master in Business Administration from the University of Ottawa. He and his wife Chantal Renaud have two children, Geneviève and Alexandre.

Mr. Coderre was the Liberal Member of Parliament for the Montreal riding of Bourassa from 1997 to 2013 and entered cabinet in August 1999 when he was appointed Secretary of State for Amateur Sport. In this capacity, he was successful in negotiating a number of national and international agreements and helped to establish the World Anti-Doping Agency in Montreal. In 2002, he was appointed Immigration minister.

In December of 2003, Governor General Adrienne Clarkson appointed Mr. Coderre to the Cabinet as President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada where he was responsible, among other files, for the new Public Service Human Resources Management Agency. He was also the Federal Interlocutor

for Metis and Non-Status Indians, the Minister responsible for La Francophonie and the Minister responsible for the Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution. No longer in the cabinet, Coderre is a life member of the Queen's Privy Council.



Photo: Alan Huslak

*Mayor Coderre: proud to be Irish*

No stranger to St. Patrick's Society, Mayor Coderre was welcomed as the Guest of Honour at last year's Ball. We look forward to meeting him again on March 17.



# The Ball is a fun fundraiser for the Society

By Scott Phelan

It is that time again: Montreal's Irish season and planning for St. Patrick's Society's charitable events is in full swing. The St. Patrick's Society Ball, a long-standing tradition for many, and a new one for some is on Friday, March 4, 2016. As one of three annual charitable events, the Ball is dependent on the enthusiasm of the invitees and the generosity of the sponsors if the Society is to maintain its charitable mandate. Proceeds from the Ball are donated to well-deserving charities within the Montreal community and your generous participation is greatly appreciated.

The ball committee has been hard at work to create an unforgettable and unique evening. We are proud to announce the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs, Mr. Geoffrey Kelley, as the Guest of Honour, as well as Maître Richard McConomy and The Honourable Pierrette Sévigny as our Honorary Chairpersons.

Society member, Geoffrey Kelley is a true Montrealer and after graduating with a BA in History, he continued his studies at McGill and completed his graduate studies in Modern Canadian History. In the National Assembly, he currently represents Baie-D'Urfé, Beaconsfield, Pointe-Claire, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, and Senneville, and we are proud to have him honour the Irish community with his presence at this year's ball.

Both Concordia University (then Loyola) alumni, Pierrette and Richard will be attending their fiftieth St. Patrick's Ball in 2016. Pierrette, a Judge of the Québec Superior Court from 1992 – 2009, is the vice-president of the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex, and the current president of St. Georges Kiwanis. She is also a founder and former president of Residence Project Chance, Inc., an organization helping single mothers who are full-time students with housing, and, throughout her career, has continued to advance women's status in Canada. Her husband, Richard, a pioneer in the mediation movement, has had a hand in training over a thousand mediators from North America and Europe. He is the past president of the Sacred Heart Foundation, as well as the Maison Belier, which provides low-cost autonomous housing for veterans and their widows, and is the current president of St. Patrick Square. He is also a member of La Conférence des Anciens Battonnier of the Bar of Montreal, and a governor of Centraide Montreal. They have certainly demonstrated their worth in law and general litigation from decades of passionate work. As an unwavering power couple, Pierrette and Richard still actively teach and practise mediation and arbitration. This year daughter Elizabeth will attend her first ball with nine friends.

We hope you avoid the disappointment of missing the highlight of the Irish season, and will join Geoffrey Kelley, Maître Richard McConomy and Pierrette Sévigny on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are still available for purchase at the Society's website [http://www.spsmtl.com/purchase\\_tickets](http://www.spsmtl.com/purchase_tickets). If you are unable to attend, we ask that you please consider a donation to the Patrons' Fund at the same site, or contact Erin Matheson at [office@spsmtl.com](mailto:office@spsmtl.com)

## Geoffrey Kelley, Guest of Honour at the 2016 Ball



*For the past 22 years, Geoffrey Kelly has represented the Jacques-Cartier riding in Montreal's West Island. From 1994 to 2003, he served as Official Opposition critic in a number of key portfolios, including Native Affairs, Northern Quebec, and the Family. He also chaired the National Assembly's Public Administration Committee from 1999-2003 and after the 2003 general election, chaired the Education Committee until his appointment to Cabinet in 2005. Between October 2012 and April 2014, he again served as the Chair of the Official Opposition Caucus and Official Opposition critic for Native Affairs and Relations with the English-speaking community. Kelley has served as Minister for Native Affairs for several periods, a position he currently holds.*

*Other political interests reflect his concern for homelessness, animal welfare, and dying with dignity.*

*Holding a BA and MA from McGill University, he is married to Judith Harper and the proud father of five children and the devoted grandfather of three. In his spare time, Geoff Kelly enjoys reading, cycling, playing in the Beaconsfield Men's Slo-Pitch League and spending time with his growing family.*



# The 2016 St. Patrick's Society Community Award recipient: Andrew Fogarty

By Anne Forrest

Andrew Fogarty, the 2016 St. Patrick's Society Community Award recipient, is a multi-faceted individual about whom someone should write a book. In his lifetime, he has received accolades from the many organisations, either work-related or voluntary, with which he was, or still is, involved.

Andrew's ancestry can be traced to 1170 where a tomb in Holy Cross Abbey in County Tipperary, preserves a forefather. Close by is Fogarty Castle, located in *Eliogarthy* – land of Fogarty – a vast area in that county. Three hundred years ago, some of the family settled in the Ottawa Valley. One of four children, Andrew was born in Ottawa, attended St. Patrick's School and went on to the University of Ottawa where he joined the Canadian Officer Training Corps (COTC).

This training led to his first job within the (Royal Air Force) RAF as the manager/foreign representative of the War Assets Corporation. Later, he moved to a senior management post in Montreal in their head office and thence to the business world as a top executive. He served on the boards of many groups including the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) and the British Canadian Chamber of Commerce (BCCC).

His volunteerism is without equal. A member of Montreal's English Catholic community for sixty years, he was a founding director of the English speaking Catholic Council, director of St. Patrick Square, co-chair (with his wife Mary) of the St. Mary's Ball, and board member of the Foundation and Centre Boards of Lindsay Hospital and Father Dowd Home. As past president of Catholic Community Services, he was honoured on their 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary by their granting a Dawson College Scholarship in his name. In addition, he was president of St. Patrick's Society and the Foster Home Recruiting Centre, and remains an active trustee of the St. Patrick's Foundation.

One of Andrew's years as president of St. Patrick's Society, coincided with the Society's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Since its beginning in 1834 it was in effect a 'men's only' organization. There were no lady members nor did they participate in many events except what became the annual ball. Never completely comfortable with that aspect of the Society and aware, of course, of how much was contributed by his wife, Mary, during his tenure, and spurred on by her and by comments from Elsie Gordon, the Social Editor of *The Gazette* at the time, he felt that the Anniversary year was perhaps a good time to consider a change.

So, after a due diligence research of available archives, and discovering nothing to the contrary, and despite some less than savoury comments from a few diehards, yet mustering sufficient Board support, he was able to bite the bullet, lift the yoke and welcome "ladies" into the ranks of the Society.



Photo: Ruth Hanna

*King Andrew surrounded by his smiling queen and princesses at the Erin Sports' pre-sashing dinner, February 12, 2016*

Evidence of this is chronicled in *The Gazette*, Monday March 19, 1984. Elsie Gordon noted, "At the St. Patrick's luncheon held Thursday, for the first time since its existence, women attended and were invited to join St. Patrick's Society." Since then, ladies make up a goodly portion of our membership and, in fact, two have become president, with others most certain to follow.

A long-time resident of Beaconsfield and now residing in Baie D'Urfé, Andrew was active in junior hockey, swimming and still is involved with the parishes of St. Edmund and Corpus Christi (Senneville). A tennis enthusiast and holder of numerous trophies, he held the position of president of the Mount Royal Tennis Club.

The United Irish Societies of Montreal, of which he has been a member for many years, appointed him as Chief Reviewing Officer in 1987, presented him with their Ceremonial gold Card in 2011, and named him as Grand Marshal for the 2013 parade.

For more than sixty-three years, he was married to Mary Loretta O'Neill (deceased) and has three children, Neill, Stephen and Loretta, and grandchildren Nicolas, Thomas, Andrew and Clare. Many of his family are currently active in Montreal's Irish community.

Now, who is going to write that book?



# Society's Christmas Reception enjoyed by many

By Ken Quinn

St. Patrick's Society members gathered for some pre-Christmas cheer on December 17 at Hurley's Irish Pub on an evening with unseasonably warm, but inclement, weather. It was a great opportunity to see some familiar faces before the holidays took us to our families.

Pat Lesyk and friend performed some of the pub favourites, lending to the festive holiday atmosphere. In between sets President Jim Killin introduced other Executive members present, which also served as an opportune moment to introduce the 2015 Community Award recipient, Mr. Jimmy Heaslip, who graciously addressed the audience in such an intimate setting. Ball co-chairman Scott Phelan spoke briefly about the plans for the Ball and Luncheon chairwoman Carol McCormick spoke about the plans for the Luncheon, after which entertainment resumed before our conversations ended, sending us all on our separate ways for the holidays.



Photo: Laurie Bennett

Ken Quinn introducing Jimmy Heaslip (Jim Killin in background)



Photo: Laurie Bennett

L to R: Pat Short, Fiona MacGeachy, Alistair O'Hara and Bernadette Short



Photo: Laurie Bennett

L to R: Patricia Murphy, Lois Duffin Mumley and Lynn Doyle

## Save June 21<sup>st</sup> for 2016 Golf Tournament

By Paul Doyle

Once again, we are gearing up for our Annual Charity Golf Tournament to raise funds for the charitable works of St. Patrick's Society.

As many of you know, this tournament has been a great success due to the wonderful support of the likes of Bill Hurley (Hurley's Irish Pub), Paul Quinn and Joe Cannon (Irish Embassy Pub), Jim Killin (JK Marketing) and countless others.

The tournament features a shotgun start at 12:45 and includes a roast beef dinner with wine. The total cost is \$125 which includes green fees, golf cart and a chance to win approximately \$8000 worth of prizes which will be raffled.

Co-chairman Wayne Hogan (Irishman of the Year 2016) has guaranteed sunshine and warm weather.

We can only fit two foursomes on each hole for a total of 140 golfers. Since this is always a sold-out event, please register early by calling Erin at St. Patrick's Society office (514-481-1346).

Hope to see all of you there on June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Belle Vue Golf Course, Ville de Lery.

Paul Doyle



# Selection Evening kick starts the Season

By Lynda (McAssey) Premerl

There is no better way to kick start the season and spring than to attend the 61<sup>st</sup> Parade Queen and Court Selection Evening. This year, it was held on February 6th at La-Plaza centre-ville, located downtown.

After the usual procession of dignitaries led by Graham Batty, CTV's Lori Graham, with her usual charm and brilliant smile and promise for better weather for the 193<sup>rd</sup> St. Patrick's parade on Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, introduced last year's Parade Grand Marshal, Geoffrey Kelley, MNA Jacques Cartier. Following introductions and acknowledgements to everyone who made the evening possible, Francis Baddeley sang the national anthems of Ireland and Canada with Terry Clahane at keyboards.

Awards were granted to this year's 2016 Grand Marshal, Paul Quinn, and 2016 Chief Reviewing officer, Lynn Lonergan-Doyle. Elizabeth Quinn, the 2015 CRO sashed them and Danny Doyle presented the walking stick. Others congratulated were Richard McConomy and Pierrette Sévigny (Simon McDonough Humanitarian Award), Ronan Corbett and the Shamrocks (Liam Daly Heritage Award) and Andy Fogarty (SPS Community Award).

Lori explained how the 21 excited and nervous young women would each present herself after which the group would be culled to 10, culminating in a five-member semi-final. This year's final question was "What do you think you will personally take away from this evening's process?"

The evening's entertainment included an upbeat performance by the Gruman Brothers, a talented group of four violinists, brothers aged 10, 14, 16 and 17, singer, Jennifer Arditi, the Bernadette Short Dancers, the talented Lisa Forget and the Melotonz, and

the always wild Joey Elias was his usual risqué outrageous comedic banter. Approximately 375 people attended with representation from the various Irish and other societies as well as family and friends of the 21 contestants.

The 2016 parade queen was crowned at 11:15 p.m. Last year's Parade Queen, Carly Meredith, addressed the attendees and

spoke briefly of her experiences and thanked the many volunteers of all the different Irish organizations in Montreal. She then passed the torch to the 2016 Queen Samantha Cambridge whose court consists of Kelsey Farrell, Helene-Jane Groarke, Lara Mackenzie and Sydney Legare.

This was my 2<sup>nd</sup> year attending this fantastic event and I will certainly continue attending for years to come! You should too!

Special thanks to St. Patrick's Society for its generous financial support and to all the sponsors, contributors and partners of the 2016 St. Patrick parade.



Photo: United Irish Societies

The Royal Court: Helene-Jane Groarke, Lara Mackenzie, Samantha Cambridge, Kelsey Farrell and Sydney Legare

## The Liam Daly Heritage Award

A native son of Dublin, Ireland, Liam Daly, was proud of his Irish heritage. From the first day he arrived, through his talent, love and devotion, Liam volunteered his time to the continual presence of the Arts and the Irish Cultural in the City of Montreal. Liam is missed by the Irish Community. As a tribute to him, the United Irish Societies of Montreal has created the Liam Daly Heritage Award which will be awarded to a worthy candidate who exemplifies Liam's love of his heritage and promotes the Irish heritage through the arts.

This year's recipient of the Liam Daly Award is the Montreal Shamrocks Gaelic Athletic Club which was founded in 1948 under the presidency of Martin Greene to promote and develop Ireland's most popular sports of Gaelic football and hurling. The club has men's, ladies and youth divisions with an ever-increasing number of Canadian-born players joining its ranks.

Gaelic Football has consistently been on offer throughout the years and has had many successes – including capturing a North American League title in 1959. The hurling team claimed the North American Hurling Championship in 1961, while they also won a North American league title in 1973. More recently, the Shamrocks won the Eastern Canadian Football Championship (men's) in 2014 and also claimed the Syracuse, NY Tournament in 2015.



The club launched a youth coaching program in Point St Charles in 2015 and has recently assisted Concordia University

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## 2016 Grand Marshal

Born in Dublin in 1969, Paul is one of Pat and Anne Quinn's seven children. His aptitude for business and hospitality was fostered by his parents' example. The family's promotional work had him touring with artists such as The Dubliners, Paddy Reilly, Daniel O'Donnell, The Fureys, and The Wolfe Tones, allowing Paul to engage with the Irish diaspora throughout North America.



Paul Quinn

He went on to work extensively in Montreal and Ontario, and spent several years in New York City, furthering his understanding of the Irish influence on North American culture. In the early 2000s, he met his future wife, Montreal native Dr. Deborah Iera and made Montreal his home. In 2006 Paul opened the Irish Embassy Pub & Grill on Bishop Street, which serves as a vehicle for his involvement with community events and local charitable organizations.

An avid sports fan, following rugby, soccer, and the traditional Gaelic games, he cherishes his adopted sport of hockey and is a devout Montreal Canadiens fan. His greatest interest is travelling with Deborah. Their first trip to Ireland to introduce her to the places and people he grew up with was particularly special.

Paul's upbringing in Dublin within a large, close family, and his connections to the North American Irish experience, have provided him with a poignant view on the uniqueness and grandeur of Montreal's Irish community. The United Irish Societies of Montreal is pleased to present Mr. Paul Quinn as the Grand Marshal of the 193<sup>rd</sup> Consecutive St. Patrick's Parade in Montreal.



### Liam Daly (cont.)

in the establishment of the first ever GAA club at a Canadian university, providing coaching for all new players.

The Shamrocks established a Montreal Gaelic football league made up of three teams – Verdun Vikings, Griffintown Gaels and Goose Village Black Rocks – in memory of three old Irish neighbourhoods in the city.

The hurling team made a re-appearance at a tournament in October 2009 after a roughly 35-year lay-off. The new hurling

## 2016 Chief Reviewing Officer

Photo: United Irish Societies



Lynn Lonergan Doyle

Photo: United Irish Societies

Lynn was born in Buckingham, Quebec. After moving to Montreal, Lynn received her BEd from the University of Montreal and a BA from Loyola College. Married to Paul Doyle, they are the proud parents of Kevin, Sean and Karen; they are blessed with four grandchildren. Lynn is the niece of the world-renowned Jesuit philosopher/theologian Bernard Lonergan. The Thomas More Institute has welcomed her as an associate member.

Lynn owned and ran Prestige Services, a company that facilitates product fund-raising in schools and other organizations.

In 1999, Lynn became president of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal, at the time, the only woman president in the 180-year history of the organization. She has been involved in several other organizations including the Loyola H.S. Board of Governors and has also served on the boards of the Catholic Community Services, the English Speaking Catholic Council, the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce and the Loyola Alumni Association. She is currently a warden at St. Patrick's Basilica and a board member of St. Patrick Square.

Lynn was chosen as the recipient of the UIS Liam Daly Heritage Award in 2005 and the St. Patrick's Society Community Award in 2007. Among her accomplishments, she initiated the St. Patrick's Society Christmas Concert which became an annual event for over twenty years. Passionate in her encouragement of the community to explore their history through the media, she co-founded Cine Gael Montreal. The annual celebration of Irish film in Montreal is now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year.

The United Irish Societies of Montreal is pleased and honoured to present Lynn Lonergan Doyle as the Chief Reviewing Officer of the 2016 St. Patrick's Parade in Montreal.



team reached the final of the Eastern Canadian Championships in Halifax in 2015, and also competes against teams from Toronto and Ottawa on a regular basis. More recently the team made an appearance at the Irish Heritage Day in Saint-Colomban, when they played a challenge game against Ottawa's *Eire Og* club.

The Shamrocks host a large 9-a-side GAA tournament in May each year in Saint-Julie with over 200 players attending, while they also compete at the Great American Irish Festival each year in

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## The Simon McDonough Humanitarian Award

*The United Irish Societies lost a dear and valued member in 1992, when Simon McDonough passed away and, in 1993, an award was established for the community to remember his dedication to his heritage and to the humanitarian acts committed during his life. His association with the UIS and the St. Patrick's Parade were long standing. From 1940 to 1979 he served the organization and the annual parade as its Chief Deputy Marshal and was the inspiration to the marshals and members for the successful implementation of the parades. He took the responsibility to build the reviewing stands. In later years, Mr. McDonough was presented with a Gold Card Membership in recognition of a lifetime of loyal and faithful service to the United Irish Societies and to the annual St. Patrick's Parade. The memory of Mr. McDonough's humanitarian lifestyle lives on through this award.*

There are few people in our community who have never heard of Richard McConomy and Pierrette Sévigny. Of course we know them as the long-time legal advisors of the United Irish Societies and, for Pierrette, as the long-time head judge of the annual St. Patrick's Parade.

Richard and Pierrette have been discretely active in their community for many years. Richard is a former president of the Montreal Thistle Curling Club, of the St. Laurent Kiwanis, of Centraide Montreal, of United Way Canada, of Catholic Community Services, of Montreal



*Richard McConomy and Pierrette Sévigny*

*Photo: United Irish Societies*

Catholic Counseling Inc, is president of St. Patrick's Square Residence, and is a director of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal. Richard also served for a time as a member of the executive of the English Speaking Catholic Council. Richard was honoured in 1992 when he served as Grand Marshal of the annual St. Patrick's Parade and in 2009 received Gold Card Membership in recognition of a lifetime of loyal and faithful service to the United Irish Societies.

For her part, Pierrette is a member of the board of directors of the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex Foundation, is a founder and former president of Residence Project Chance, Inc., which assists with affordable housing single mothers who are full time students, is a former delegate to the National Conference on the Status of Women Report, a delegate to the National Conference on the Status of Women and the Constitution, and a founder and member of the Board of Directors of Montreal Catholic Counseling Inc. She is currently president of the St. George Kiwanis Club of Montreal. Both have been involved with Sacred Heart School of Montreal.

Richard McConomy and Pierrette Sévigny are partners in law and partners in life. It is therefore appropriate and, indeed, our privilege to present Me.

Richard McConomy and the Honourable Pierrette Sévigny with the 2016 Simon McDonough Humanitarian Award.



### Liam Daly (cont.)

Utica, NY. They also participate in the annual Eastern Canadian Championships for Gaelic football and hurling, against teams from St John's Newfoundland, Halifax, Quebec City and Ottawa.

The club is proud to be active in the community, having organised multiple coaching workshops at CEGEPs and primary schools in the greater Montreal area, as well as providing a support network for newly arrived immigrants from Ireland. The club is also actively involved in the campaign to build an Irish Memorial Park close to the site of the Black Rock monument in the South West Borough.

For their consistent presence in Montreal since 1948, their reintroduction of hurling to the sports they offer, and for teaching the community's youth about Ireland's national sports the United Irish Societies of Montreal is pleased to present the 2016 Liam Daly Heritage Award to the Montreal Shamrocks Gaelic Athletic Club.



*Sincere thanks to the United Irish Societies for allowing Nuacht to use their biographical material.*

# Erin Sports: another great pre-sashing evening

By Laurie Bennett

Wayne Hogan had no idea what was in store for him on the November day he arrived at the Erin Sports Association headquarters to meet with president Tim Furlong and his executive. What awaited was one of the highest honours bestowed in the Montreal Irish community, the title of Irishman of the Year.

Hogan received his green and gold sash on February 12 in a pre-sashing ceremony and dinner in the same building where he received the news in November. An audience of 150 people was on hand, including Hogan’s wife Lillian, their two daughters Kim and Karen and a bevy of family members. “With this, you honour me and you honour my family,” Hogan said after formally accepting his sash.

In introducing the 2016 Irishman of the Year, Furlong said in a speech: “Wayne is very deserving of being bestowed this honour. I know he will represent the Erin Sports and whole Irish community with the utmost dignity.”

Hogan, a pillar in the insurance business for the past 40 years, becomes Erin Sports’ 33<sup>rd</sup> Irishman of the Year, and 39<sup>th</sup> overall. He succeeds Jim Hindley, who expressed thanks for the honour of holding the title for the past year. Hindley presented Hogan with his sash. In introducing Hogan, Erin Sports’ breakfast chairman Ronnie James noted Hogan’s many contributions to Montreal and the Irish community, including serving as Grand Marshal of the 2002 St. Patrick’s Day parade and as a member of host committee for the 1984 visit by Pope John Paul II.

Hindley was one of numerous former Irishmen of the Year in attendance. Also present were Father Joe Sullivan (1989); Terry Clahane (2003); David O’Neil (2004); Walter Gregory (2010); and John Meaney (2013). The wives of late recipients Danny Doyle (2003) and Dennis Dougherty (2007) represented their husbands.

After opening remarks by Furlong, Father Joe Sullivan said grace and

Francis Baddeley gave his usual heart-warming renditions of the Irish and Canadian national anthems. Clahane, as always, was busy on the keyboard supplying musical entertainment, along with vocalist Lisa Forget. Shawn Doyle handled the duties of emcee.



Photo: Ken Quinn

Wayne Hogan being sashed by Jim Hindley

The occasion was one of the first public events for newly crowned queen Samantha Cambridge and her court. Many attendees snapped selfies with the queen and her princesses. Also attending were 2016 Parade Grand Marshal Paul Quinn, and 2016 Chief Reviewing Officer Lynn Doyle; United Irish Society president Danny Doyle; St. Patrick’s Society president Jim Killin; Member of Parliament Dave Lemetti (Liberal, LaSalle-Émard-Verdun) and Verdun city councillors Sterling Downey and Luc Gagnon. President Ronan Corbett represented the Gaelic Athletic Association, the 2016 recipients of the Liam Daly Heritage Award.



Past and present Irishmen of the Year

Photo: Ken Quinn

Highly-respected Montreal lawyer Richard McConomy and his wife, the Honourable Pierrette Sévigny were also present. They are this year’s recipients of the Simon McDonough Humanitarian Award for their lifetime of dedicated service to the Montreal Irish community. The couple will attend their 50<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick’s ball on March 4.

Special thanks, as usual, must be given to the ladies (non-members of Erin Sports) who worked tirelessly to provide all the appetizing treats that everyone enjoyed. And, thank you, to Tim Furlong and his committee for another convivial evening.



# Everyone, meet Karen

## Karen O'Mahony misses her Barry's Tea

By Joanne Latimer

*This is the third article in a regular column, "Everyone, meet..." to introduce members to Montrealers with an Irish connection. The focus will be on newcomers to the city and recent transplants from abroad.*

When Karen O'Mahony moved to Montreal two years ago, she was amused by a few myths circulating about Ireland. The first myth was the notion that the Irish only eat potatoes.

"It's hilarious," says Karen. "We're more likely to eat Indian, Mexican or Thai!"

Karen is from a small Irish townland called Gurteen, which means Little Field. Gurteen is close to Bandon, which is just outside Cork. Karen got a master's degree in electronic business from University College Cork (UCC) and worked for Microsoft in Dublin for three years. After travelling and living in France and Spain, Karen and her boyfriend, Vince Power, moved to Vancouver before heading to Montreal.

"In Vancouver, when Vince told a guy at work he cycled to work in the rain back home, he asked 'weren't you covered in mud'? He didn't know we have paved roads in Ireland."

In B.C., Karen and Vince didn't meet many Irish Canadians, but all that changed in Montreal.

"Oh, the community is so close-knit here. There's a camaraderie," she says. "I feel there's an affinity between the Quebecois and Irish culture, too."

Unlike many people who emigrate from Ireland, Karen wasn't pushed out by circumstance.

"We weren't forced to leave home to find work. We were both employed in good jobs. Vince is an electrical engineer. We just wanted to explore and see the world," says Karen, who runs her own business, Karen O'Mahony Design.

### Communications roadmapping

Based in the plateau, Karen O'Mahony Design specializes in brand strategy, brand identity and web design. They work with international clients across many industries—software and technology companies, consulting firms and professional services to name but a few—to help them develop new business opportunities. Karen's team does this by gaining a deep understanding of the brand's core and conveying their message and benefits to new and existing markets.

The company is a year old and word of mouth is spreading. For now, she's operating out of a chic shared work space, Nexus, in the Mile End district of Montreal, but her goal is to grow her business into a full-blown agency.



"Because of my accent being so strong, I've learned to slow down quite a lot on the phone, for work," she says, probably slowing down for me right then.

Her transition to Canada has been going well. She's embracing winter sports, like cross-country skiing, and when she isn't meeting new clients, Karen can be found playing her harp at home.

"The first thing people notice when they come into our place is the harp sitting in the living room," she reports. "Funnily, it isn't something I brought from home. I got it in Vancouver, where I taught harp and joined an indie folk band."

But the one thing that vexes Karen about Montreal is the tea situation.

"I can't buy Barry's Tea here. It's from Cork, where I'm from, and nothing else will do," she laughs. "People who love Barry's Tea understand. It's the only tea. We order it online, in bulk, and get it sent over."

You can find out more about Karen's branding services at [www.komahony.com](http://www.komahony.com)

**Pop Quiz with Karen**

1. Favourite hero in Irish history?  
*Mary Robinson*
2. Best film set in Ireland.  
*Intermission*
3. Favourite Irish writing:  
*Samuel Becket plays*
4. Favourite Irish saying:  
*"May the road rise to meet you"*
5. Guinness, Bushmills, or Bailey's?  
*Bailey's, no hesitation*
6. Favourite Irish destination?  
*Inchydoney Beach*
7. Biggest myth about Ireland?  
*That we eat potatoes all the time*



# It seems that no matter where I go – there we are

By Victor Boyle

As national president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Canada, I am fortunate to be invited to many events across the United States by the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, the largest Irish Catholic organization in the US with over 77,000 members.

Invited as a guest speaker at the AOH Convention in New Orleans, I decided to drive down the coast meeting as many state presidents as I could along the way. By far the thing that struck me the most was the Irish in the southern cities – Savannah and New Orleans in particular.

Savannah, for example, boasts the second largest St. Patrick's Day parade in North America right behind New York City. Why on earth does this sleepy southern town of 150,000 people host such a spectacle? Are there even any Irish there? In fact, there are and it's more than just a parade. Savannah starts its celebrations in earnest in mid-February with an Irish festival, a Celtic cross ceremony on March 1 and many smaller parades and celebrations leading up to the main event; its big St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The first St. Patrick's Day Parade in Savannah began in 1813 with a private procession by the oldest Irish society in America, the local Hibernian Society. According to William L. Fogarty's book, *The Days We've Celebrated*, the 13 Irish Protestants gathered and marched to Independent Presbyterian Church. Six years later, another group, the Fencibles, marched on St. Patrick's Day in 1818.

The first public procession (recognized as the official first year of the parade) wasn't until 1824 when local Hibernian Society president, James Hunter, invited all local Irishmen to meet for mass and parade through the streets of Savannah. The first grand marshal, John Feely of the Hibernian Society, was elected in 1870. The St. Patrick's Day Committee was formed in 1926 and is still responsible for the parade today. A familiar sounding history I think, but with some important differences with Montréal.

In a friendly "our parade is older than your parade" debate with Savannah organizers, I had to mention that our parade is continuous, while the Savannah parade was suspended on occasion. Understandably, at least four of those occasions were due to war.

Most of the people I spoke to knew about the Montréal Parade and had some interesting questions, such as, "What do you do "if" Parade Day is cold or "What do you do "if" there's snow on the ground?" Forgive them. Parade weather in Savannah is typically sunny, in the high seventies Fahrenheit with eighty one percent humidity and warm winds.

The Savannah parade is widely covered by the media and is televised in its entirety. One reporter observed that by the end



*Celtic cross at Robert Emmet Park in Savannah*

of the parade, "What began as fair skinned faces were now red." Something else we have in common although Mother Nature uses different methods to create the redness.

The St. Patrick's Day Committee in Savannah is well funded and has an estimated eight hundred volunteers. That makes the United Irish Societies of Montreal nothing short of miracle workers. Long-time parade organizers like Patty McCann, Bev and Kevin Murphy, Ken and all the Quinns, Danny and all the Doyles, along with the entire UIS organization are worth their weight in gold.

With almost 200 names in the Savannah phone book that begin with "O'," whether O'Brien, O'Leary or O'Neal, where did Savannah's large Irish-American population come from? The earliest Irish in Georgia were descendants of the Calvinist Scots who originated in Ireland's northern province of Ulster in the 1600s, often called "crackers"— probably from the Irish craic, "enjoyable conversation."

A main chapter in local Irish history in Savannah began in the 1830s with the arrival of the first wave of Irish imported to build the Central of Georgia Railway. The story goes that Irish were employed on the railroad because, unlike slaves, their bodies had no commercial value and could be worked to exhaustion with impunity.

A second wave of Irish immigration followed two decades later when the Great Hunger (*an Gorta Mór*) in the old country where millions were forced to seek new shores to avoid starvation. As was all too common at that time in history, the Irish were initially subject to severe prejudice, but their willingness to work long hours for low pay soon made them irreplaceable in Savannah's economy. Also very common, in short order the Irish became

*cont. p.9*

# Fore! Tara Golf embraces social media, calls for members

With a new website, the 53-year-old association welcomes the next generation

By Denis Trudel

The Tara Golf Association was first and foremost established to preserve Irish culture and the Irish identity in Montreal and Quebec by using golf and its social aspect as a vehicle for preservation and promotion.

Should the Tara Golf Association continue to encourage participation and membership from the Irish community in Montreal and around the province of Quebec, eastern Ontario, Vermont and northern New York State?

We wouldn't want it any other way! The demographics also show that a large proportion of Quebecers and Québécois can boast of Irish ancestry. Some figures go as high as 40%, maybe more. We're talking about, at least, three million people! Impressive, and this is the pool from which we want to recruit.

Tara Golf was created 53 years ago. We are, however, starting to show our age. It is now more obvious than ever that, in order to add to our membership ranks, we must take advantage of all proper avenues to do so, including social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube and the like) as well as the synergies and fellowships established with sister Irish societies sharing similar values, objectives and shared resources. Promoting the Irish in Montreal and in Quebec is not the realm of just any one person or organization. It is

a collaborative effort across all representative entities and friends of the Irish community and the folks at Tara Golf are one of these entities that truly believes in this vision.

## Tara Golf online

Make it a point to visit us on our new website currently in the final stages of completion at [www.taragolf.ca](http://www.taragolf.ca). You'll also soon have a chance to join our Facebook page, give us a tweet on Twitter, enjoy some of our antics on YouTube when they are posted (some could indeed even go viral!), and come and see for yourselves what we are all about by becoming a member of Tara Golf and competing with the finest bunch of Irish golfers, duffers and various sympathisers who enjoy golf, good company and having a great time whether at Golf Hawkesbury, Piedmont, Lake Placid or at any of the other half dozen venues, depending on the schedule.

## Join the fun. Duffers welcome.

Our membership drive is in full swing. Don't miss out on some of the early-bird opportunities to actively participate in one of the stalwart institutions of Montreal Irish communities—Tara Golf! On the new website, you can learn more about membership opportunities and how to become a member. It will give you an excuse to golf at least once a month, meet new people and enjoy the great outdoors.



## Savannah (cont.)

major players in local politics and business. Many of the police and fire departments were, spawning the term, "paddy wagon." Irish neighborhoods were clustered around East Broad Street in the Old Fort area, and on the west side near West Broad Street (now MLK Jr. Boulevard). Old Fort meant that the family had come to America in desperation and to Savannah with little but the clothes on their back, the desire to work, and hope for a better future – or any future at all. Old Fort Irish were generally Catholic, attending Catholic schools and depending on the Church for far more than just Sunday worship.

It's no coincidence that those areas also had large African American populations. Because of their shared links of poverty and prejudice, in the early days Savannah's Irish tended to live near black neighborhoods, often socializing with them after-hours—much to the chagrin of Savannah's elite.

Today, like so many cities, the Irish have spread all over Savannah like shamrocks, making these prejudices a thing of the past. The Irish are part of the fabric of Savannah; involved in every facet of Savannah life, from politics, to business, to education. Catholicism remains the predominant religion and churches abound, as do Catholic schools.

When the "Season of St. Patrick" begins, the Savannah Irish begin celebrating.



## Shamrocks enjoy weekly Gaelic Football league

By Ronan Corbett

We are currently actively recruiting players (men's and ladies) to join our three Montreal-based teams and participate in weekly Gaelic football matches. We are trying to encourage as many new players as possible to try out the sport.

The league has three men's teams and three ladies teams and games are played every Sunday at the Concordia Stinger Dome.

The team names are: Goose Village Black Rocks, Griffintown Gaels and Verdun Vikings.

The first game is free for newcomers and each game is preceded by a half-hour coaching session.

Membership includes a free training top in the colours of your team worth \$50!

Venue: Concordia Stinger Dome, 7200 Sherbrooke Ouest, Montreal

For more information, please contact: [montrealshamrocksgaa@gmail.com](mailto:montrealshamrocksgaa@gmail.com) or telephone Ronan: 514-817-7115



# Smurfit Business School from UCD MBA team visits Montreal

By Paul Loftus

The Montreal Chapter of the UCD Alumni Association hosted a Meet and Greet Reception for the visiting team representing The Michael Smurfit School of Business of University College Dublin on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> 2016 at The Irish Embassy Pub and Grill on Bishop Street.

The four-member team was here to represent UCD in the John Molson International MBA Case Competition, a bilingual competition for outstanding MBA students, which this year had 36 teams from 19 countries representing all five continents. The competition was held from January 5 to 9 at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel. The competition was created in 1981 and is currently the oldest and most international MBA case competition in the world. Using a round-robin format, the teams are given three hours to solve a business case with which they are not familiar. The winners receive the coveted Concordia Cup and a cash prize of \$10,000. This year's event involved over 300 volunteers, 270 local business executives (including myself as a lead judge), 144 participants and 50 coaches.

The first-place prize went to the Heinrich Heine University Dusseldorf which received \$10,000 and the Concordia Cup. The second-place prize of \$7,000 went to the Asper School of Business, University of Manitoba. The Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary won the third prize and received a cheque of \$5,000.

The UCD team's claim to fame this year was their defeat of the eventual winner. The competition this year included such prestigious universities as: Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel; FIA Business School, Brazil; National University of Singapore; Porto Business School, Portugal; Lund university School of Economics, Sweden; Australian Graduate School of Management, UNSW; and University of Capetown, South Africa. Local universities included Concordia (the hosts), HEC Montréal, Université Laval and Université de Sherbrooke. McGill University was conspicuous by its absence.

As UCD chapter president in Montreal, I welcomed everyone to the "Meet and Greet" reception and introduced the captain of the UCD team, James Owens. James in turn introduced his other team members who were David Cashman, Conor Connolly and Cormac Kelleher. James is a technology strategist and business consultant; David is a senior engineer employed by EirGrid, the Transmission System Operator for Ireland; Conor is a Military Officer at Defence Forces Headquarters; and Cormac is an International Tax Director with Mazars. The UCD team members are all in the Executive MBA programme. The team was accompanied by their coach Dr. Pat Gibbons who is the Jefferson Smurfit Professor of Strategic Management.



L to R: James Owens (captain), Cormac Kelleher, David Cashman, and Conor Connolly

In addition to UCD alumni residing in Montreal the following presidents of Irish organizations in Montreal braved the frigid weather to attend the Meet and Greet reception for the team: Danny Doyle, United Irish Societies of Montreal; Vivian Doyle-Kelly, Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce; Denis Martin, SIAMSA and Fergus Keyes, Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation. Many of the other UCD alumni expressed their regrets from Florida and Mexico.

The following is my interview with the team captain, James Owens:

**When did you decide to enter the competition?**

We made the decision back in July to enter the competition.

**How did you form your team?**

The team was formed through colleagues who had worked together previously on the MBA programme.

**How did the team prepare for the competition?**

We carried out a number of practice cases together as preparation. This involved working on different types of cases to hone competencies.

**How was the trip financed?**

The trip was financed via help from the Smurfit Business School along with some funding from the John Molson School of Business and the Bank of Ireland.

**How did the team enjoy Montreal?**

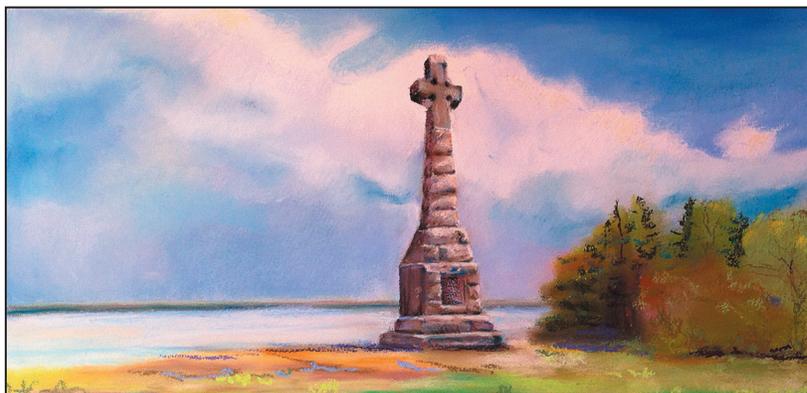
We all really liked Montreal – the city itself is very cosmopolitan and we found everyone to be really friendly and welcoming, particularly the Irish community! As the saying goes, the 'proof of the pudding is in the eating' and it is fair to say we'll be back in the future.

*cont. p.13*

# Grosse-Île: une histoire chorale

By Margaret Forrest

March 12th and 13th, 50 artists will take the stage at the Palais Montcalm in Québec City to sing the story of Grosse-Île quarantine station, summer 1847. Projections depict the island and relics of that summer; lighting and period costumes set the mood; first person narrative brings memory to life. Supported by a musical trio of piano, guitar and flute, the voice of each singer will echo across the sea of time calling to us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Employing four languages, French, English, Gaelic and Latin, Halpin's lyrics capture a complex cultural mosaic. Crisp vocal rhythms and rich four-part harmonization support lyrical solo performances, speaking of starvation, hope, desperation, sharing, illness, comforting, death, loss, and the will to carry on.



On the island, we meet an elderly couple, Sean and Brigid, the story narrators, remembering their childhood experience in the summer of 1847; Eileen, a suffering Irish immigrant; Darah and Donal, a young Irish couple struggling to heal and restore their people; Skews, an English ship mate stricken by typhus; Doctor d'Amour, searching desperately for a 'cure'; and Father Charles, struggling to be the hand of God amidst a sea of pain and misery. Over 5,000 Irish immigrants died and were buried on Grosse-Île that fateful summer. The authenticity of Sean and Brigid's first-hand experience of the quarantine station is tempered by the filter of time, the joy of the years won with their own survival and the courage and strength they attribute to the remarkable people they encountered on Grosse-Île. In the end, it is the heart felt appeal of

Father Charles to the faithful parishioners of Montmagny that opens the doors of the Québécois to the stranded Irish orphans. This is the message of hope at the heart of Grosse-Île: a story as much for our time as any; a story of anguish relieved by welcome ... A story that must be told!

*Grosse-Île: Une Histoire Chorale* is a two-hour narrative musical performance, written by three Quebeckers, Margaret Forrest, John Halpin and Hubert Radoux, and produced by Les Productions Cibles. The 40-voice choir, Dal Segno, under the direction of Guillaume St. Gelais is joined by seven soloists. Tickets are available at the Palais Montcalm box office, or on-line at: [http://www.palaismontcalm.ca/programmation/?keywords&date\\_start=10%2F03%2F2016&date\\_end=20%2F03%2F2016&genres\[0\]=59](http://www.palaismontcalm.ca/programmation/?keywords&date_start=10%2F03%2F2016&date_end=20%2F03%2F2016&genres[0]=59).



## UCD MBA (cont.)

### What did you learn from your participation in the competition?

The closing ceremony of the competition seemed the most apt when 'learning by doing' was referenced in the closing speeches. The competition provided a real-world pressure-cooker environment offering students a forum to practically apply learned skills. The competition offers students an opportunity to reinforce many of the analytical models and concepts gleaned through the MBA programme.

### How will these help you in your studies?

Competition has broadened our experience generally and will provide us with a solid base for our MBA Capstone projects later in the year. Also it's a great networking opportunity generally.

### How would you rate your overall performance?

Our team performed well in the pressure cooker environment, definitely not for the faint hearted!

### How did you find the other teams?

We found the other teams to be really friendly and very open which we felt was testament to the spirit of the event.

### What advice would you give to next year's team?

Start preparing as early as you can. Also arrive early for any flights ... ours was cancelled in Dublin, but getting there early allowed us to be quickly rerouted!

The UCD Alumni Association thanks Paul Quinn, owner, Irish Embassy Pub and Grill, for providing our visitors with their refreshments and the entire attendance with their food for the evening.

*Paul Loftus, a B.Comm graduate of UCD is president of the UCD Alumni Association, Montreal Chapter.*



# Donald Pidgeon: a retrospective of an unforgettable and beloved member of Montreal's Irish community

By Ken Quinn

Donald Pidgeon was born January 6 1937, the youngest child of William James Pidgeon and Marjorie Black and grew up in Griffintown, living there from 1940 to 1966. He resided in Dorval from 1973 with Nancy, his wife, and had a 35-year career in retail before retiring in 1996.



Photo: Ken Quinn

Don and Nancy at the 2013 United Irish Societies Banquet

Don joined the United Irish Societies of Montreal in 1968, where he quickly became involved with the organization's activities, moving up the ladder from year to year serving as recording secretary, vice-president and, finally, as president from 1978-79. Additionally Don served on the organization's original nominating committee.

Despite Don's involvement at the highest levels of the organization, he was undoubtedly best known as the historian of the UIS, serving the organization in this key role from 1991 to May 2015. He was a member of the Irish Committee for Grosse Île in 1992 and between 1992 and 1994 he negotiated improvements at the Black Stone Monument and lot on Bridge St. A writer of many interesting articles, Don educated the membership of the UIS through the reports he presented at countless general meetings, and was most accommodating in his willingness to speak to interested students, community members, and the media alike.



Photo: Anne Forrest

Marlene Demers and Don at the Irish Embassy, Ottawa 2010

To celebrate the United Irish Societies of Montreal's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, with the financial support of his friend Terry

Corcoran from National Criminal Investigation Service, Don put together a self-published book detailing the history of the UIS. All proceeds from the sale of these books were forwarded to the Shriner's Hospital for Disabled Children in Montreal.

Don Pidgeon received every honour the United Irish Societies has to offer: Grand Marshal (1994); the Simon McDonough Humanitarian Award (2004); Gold Card Membership (2005); the Liam Daly Heritage Award (2010); and Chief Reviewing Officer (2013).

On January 20, 2013 at a United Irish Societies General Meeting at Saint John Brebeuf Church, Don announced that the cancer he had so valiantly battled had returned, which subsequently caused him to scale back his activities. Despite his decreased availability, he continued to be a valuable resource to all members of the United Irish Societies as its historian, and two years later, was given the honorary title of Historian Emeritus.

Outside the Irish community, Don always kept busy. He was a member of the now-defunct St. Ann's Young Men's Society, a key Griffintown organization; a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 284 since 1986; a member of Knights of Columbus 4<sup>th</sup> Degree D'Arcy McGee Assembly since 1994; a Navigator 4<sup>th</sup> Degree in 1997; and was named an Honorary Life Member of the Knights of Columbus in 2011. In addition to everything else, he was a member of the St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen since 1994, helping feed on a weekly basis some of the most disadvantaged people in the downtown area. For a time Don also served as a Director of Catholic Community Services. His volunteer activities have been recognized outside the Irish community and in 1995 he was the recipient of the Multicultural Award from the Leclerc Institute.

For all that Don contributed for decades in and for the Irish community, it is he who has honoured us. Our children and our children's children will benefit from the knowledge he shared with students and community members alike.

After a valliant five year battle with cancer, Don passed away peacefully at home the morning of February 8, 2016.

The funeral was held February 20 at St. Patrick's Basilica. The body entered the historic basilica with nieces and nephews acting as pall bearers, followed by the remainder of his family. The Knights of Columbus were present with an honour guard as was the Irish community, mainly from the United Irish Societies, paying tribute to Don by wearing their ceremonial green sashes.

Prior to Mass, Don and Nancy's son Jim spoke eloquently on behalf of the family, speaking from the heart about Don's love of his children and of his granddaughter. Jim concluded his discourse the same way his father ended his, with a simple "God Bless."



## Easter 2016 – a reflection of W.B. Yeats

By Jim McDermott

The 1916 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary is looming brightly and I'm looking forward to donning an Easter lily emblem on my lapel to honour the men and women who sacrificed their lives for Ireland.

Published several years after the tragic event, W.B. Yeats' famous poem "Easter 1916" speaks volumes of the illustrious leaders' character, and in a unique way Yeats captured the beauty of their courage as well as their naivety. The astonishing stand-off at Dublin's GPO had been manned by a small group of idealist poets and philosophers rather than military men. Yet, against all odds, they engaged and gallantly fought the good fight. Guided by their love for Ireland's freedom, it was as clear as crystal in the eyes of the poet that he felt a sense of their inner most souls and their astounding spirit propelling them into glory and then death. England's military ruthlessness was such a brutal reprisal that altered everything held sacred in the compassionate hearts and minds of fellow countrymen and women who were abhorred because of the needless deaths by firing squad executions.

A hundred years on, The Rising gatherings are going to be commemorated all around the world, from Rio de Janeiro to Sydney, from New York to Paris and far beyond. Of course Dublin city will be highlighted and filled with festive regalia and exhilaration, as well as hosting an immensely impressive guest list

of international dignitaries. I think the huge Dublin gig will likely include Prince Charles and Britain's PM David Cameron and without a shadow of doubt, the centenary will go down in history as one of Ireland's greatest celebrations.

I'd like to stress that the Rising wasn't simply a rebellion against British rule, but rather it was an insurrection against injustice, oppression and inequality. It was a social as well as a political and national revolution. Envisioned in the Rising, and then reverentially entrenched in the Proclamation, words written spoke about cherishing all the children of the Nation equally (which might have the perfect theme for this year's St. Patrick's parade).

*I write it out in a verse -  
MacDonagh and MacBride  
And Connolly and Pearse  
Now and in time to be,  
Wherever green is worn,  
Are changed, changed utterly:  
A terrible beauty is born.*

*"Easter 1916"  
W.B. Yeats*



## Québec City prepares for its annual parade

By Stephen Burke

The Board Members of *Le Défilé de la Saint-Patrick de Québec* are hard at work preparing for the seventh edition of one of the finest Saint Patrick's Parades in the world.

Circle March 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and make sure to join us in Québec City. At least four (4) Pipes and Drums Bands have already confirmed their presence, including our very special guests from New York and Chicago. The RCMP will also be back as two (2) of their members will again this year ride their graceful horses to City Hall.

The Board is quite proud to announce that Mr. Fred Cribb has accepted to be the 2016 Grand Marshal of *Le Défilé de la Saint-Patrick de Québec*. Fred Cribb is a prominent Québec City businessman, proud of his Irish ancestry and a strong defender and benefactor of Irish culture in our city.

Again this year, we will be in partnership with Festibière. This will allow for the *Fête de la Saint-Patrick* to run from Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Irish music and folklore will fill *Pavillon du commerce. ExpoCité*, the venue of the Festibière,



for the three evenings, and all this with Guinness as a major sponsor.

More information on the Parade can be obtained by visiting our website - <http://www.qcpatrick.com/> - as well as our Facebook account.

We look forward to seeing you on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in beautiful Québec City.

Stephen Burke, President  
Le Défilé de la Saint-Patrick de Québec 2016



## Cine Gael presents varied and entertaining line-up

By Tim Hine

Bill Brownstein from the Gazette helped Cine Gael open its 24<sup>th</sup> season on Friday January 22<sup>nd</sup> with *Noble*, the astonishing and inspirational story of Christine Noble, who, after living through terrible hardships growing up in Ireland and then beaten by a husband in England, followed a dream she had had to move to Vietnam and help the street children there. It is a powerful film that moved our audience and led to much interesting conversation at the reception following the film.

The comedy, *The Stag*, (Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>) about a small group of friends heading to the woods to celebrate the upcoming nuptials of their friend, had many of the audience howling with laughter throughout. It mixed humour with poignancy in a tale investigating what it means to be masculine in modern-day Ireland, a long way from the archetype of *The Quiet Man*. The writer/director, John Butler joined us for a live Skype following the film and took questions from the audience providing us with a wonderful mix of sapience and anecdotes.

Our next film, *You're Ugly Too*, (Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>) was Mark Noonan's first feature and starred Aidan Gillen (*The Wire*, *Game of Thrones*). It is a thoughtful and very funny story of family, responsibility, and dealing with the past and future that also highlights the cinematic beauty of the Irish Midlands.

*Patrick's Day* (March 4<sup>th</sup>) tells a controversial story of schizophrenia and the lengths a parent may take to try to protect her child. It has a unique voice in film and mixes obscure humour with perhaps shocking decisions. After the film, the writer/director Terry McMahon will join us for a live Skype, which is certain to invite a polemic discussion.

Our always popular Shorts evening (April 1<sup>st</sup>) is, as always, in the sure and imaginative hands of Heather Macdougall and Kester Dyer, who are presently combing through possibilities to delight us.

A very special weekend commemorating the 1916 Easter Rising (April 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>) will have two documentaries focussing on



Patrick Fitzgerald (Moe Dunford) and Karen Prescott (Catherine Walker) meet in a hotel corridor in *Patrick's Day*

women who had a significant contribution to the events. We will also screen silent newsreels accompanied by a live soundtrack played by harpist Susan Palmer and two collaborators and another film yet to be confirmed with some drinks and snacks at McKibbins in between.

Our final film, *The Guarantee*, is an adaptation by Colin Murphy of his own successful stage play (*Guaranteed*) and is a dramatization of the Irish banking crisis of 2008. Seen through the eyes of the politicians, bankers, lawyers, and others, it offers insight into subject matter that probably still leaves blood boiling for some of our audience members. To help answer any questions about the film, Colin Murphy has kindly agreed to stay up late in Dublin and will join us for a live Skype Q&A before we head upstairs for some wine and food.

Later in the spring (date TBA) we are also pleased to be adding a Members' evening at Hurley's pub screening *A Storm in the Heart*, a documentary about the great singer Delores Keane.

Hope to see you all at a screening soon.

Tim Hine and the gang at Cine Gael Montreal




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## Montreal's Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce turns 25

By Ruth Murphy

The year 2016 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Montreal chapter of the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC). For more than two decades, the chamber has gained a reputation for its influence in the local Irish business community as well as its commitment to building a transatlantic bridge with like-minded business people and organizations in Ireland. The ICCC has expanded across Canada and now has chapters in Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver as well as in Montréal. The number of corporate members enlisted with the chamber has grown and currently stands at an all-time high of 19.

The chamber is committed to local business networking and to helping newly arrived Irish people build their network

of contacts through regular chamber events such as its 7-year running monthly *Craic agus Comhrá* networking evenings, pub quizzes, Christmas receptions and summer parties. ICCC greatly appreciates the support of St. Patrick's Society in these initiatives and looks forward to strengthening ties by joining forces to build an enhanced virtual database to support immigrant integration as well as its own business network over the coming year.

The year 2015 was marked by a series of discussions held between ICCC board members and government officials and agencies both sides of the Atlantic to support the development of bilateral trade opportunities such as tourism and direct flights between Montreal and Dublin. ICCC was happy to extend its support the CEO of

*cont. p.19*

# Canadian Immigration and Citizenship developments

By Stephen Fogarty, attorney

## New electronic travel authorization

Starting March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, visa-exempt foreign nationals, such as Irish and UK citizens, who are not also citizens or permanent residents of Canada, or not also citizens of the United States, will be required to possess an **electronic travel authorization (eTA)** to fly to or transit by plane through Canada, in addition to their valid passport. This requirement will not apply if such persons already hold a valid visa to enter Canada. Note that a Work Permit or a Study Permit is not a visa; indeed, such documents state specifically that they do not authorize re-entry to Canada.

It is possible to apply for your eTA online at [cic.gc.ca](http://cic.gc.ca). The fee is only CAD \$ 7.00 for up to five years. We say “up to” five years because, unlike many other countries, Canada does not issue visas or other authorizations to foreign nationals beyond the validity date of their passport. For this reason, it is always a good idea to keep track of the expiry date of your passport.

If you travel by land or sea, you will not need an eTA when you enter Canada, but will have to present your passport at customs.

## Citizenship requirements

On the citizenship front, according to published reports, Minister McCallum has said the government will be “producing radical changes” to the Act in the next few weeks. We will have to see what the Minister has in mind and, of particular interest to our community, whether or not the much more stringent residency requirements adopted during the Harper government will be modified. Stay tuned for updates in this spot or on our Firm’s Blog.

While waiting for this announcement, it may be remarked that a fairly significant number of Irish and UK nationals in our

Montreal community who hold Canadian permanent residency have not applied for Canadian citizenship, even when qualified to do so. Here are two misconceptions we sometimes see as reasons given for not applying.

The first of these is that obtaining Canadian citizenship may adversely affect one’s Irish or UK citizenship. This is false as all three countries recognize dual citizenship and, in the situation of those persons who have the right to an Irish and a UK passport, the Canadian, Irish and British governments will respect their right to legally hold passports from all three countries.

A second objection we hear from some quarters is reluctance “to swear allegiance to the Queen of England.” Part of the Canadian citizenship ceremony does include swearing allegiance to the Queen. However, it has to be kept in mind that new citizens are doing so in Her Majesty’s role as Queen of Canada, not as Queen of England. HM happens to be the same physical person, but these are two legally distinct offices. HM as *Queen of England* does not have authority to command Canadians to do anything inside Canada.

In conclusion, so you may come to fully enjoy all the benefits Canada has to offer, do not put up unnecessary roadblocks against becoming a Canadian citizen.

*Stephen Fogarty is an attorney who assists clients with their Canadian Immigration and Citizenship applications so they may secure their future in Canada. He is owner of Fogarty Law Firm in Montreal; website [www.fogartylaw.ca](http://www.fogartylaw.ca). Stephen is Honorary Legal Advisor to the Embassy of Ireland, and a former Board member of SPS. The views in this article are his alone and not those of any other person or organization. This article is for information purposes only and is not intended to give or to replace legal advice.*



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## ICCC (cont.)

the Cork Chamber of Commerce, Conor Healy, by facilitating local introductions including a meeting with the Honourable Jean Charest. Towards the end of the year, the chamber organised a welcome for Canada’s Ambassador to Ireland, Kevin Vickers.

January saw ICCC co-hosting a very well attended ‘Jump into Ireland’ evening, with Tourism Ireland. This was attended by some 40 Quebec travel agents, operators, airlines, journalists and members of the Irish community. Guests enjoyed short video clips of selected routes taking them on a mouth-watering tour around Ireland.

Recently, in collaboration with Altamira International Services, ICCC’s president Vivian-Doyle-Kelly visited Ireland with a view

to helping these companies establish an Irish presence. The chamber also plans to return to Ireland on a second trade visit in the fall to accompany the Honourable Jean Charest when he travels to that country on September 29.

The chamber will celebrate its quarter-century milestone at the Christmas reception on December 6, 2016 to which we invite St. Patrick’s Society members. Save the date as it will be the party of the year!

If you would like to learn more about the ICCC and the activities and events it is planning for this year, visit its website at [www.icccmtl.com](http://www.icccmtl.com) or follow the chamber on LinkedIn and [Twitter@ICCC\\_MTL](https://twitter.com/ICCC_MTL).



## In the papers, November 2015

By Paul Dunne

Sometimes I switch on BBC World News and it's so swamped by Irish accents that I think they might be broadcasting from Dublin. Nuala McGovern, Fergal Keane, Orla Guerin to name a few luminaries now dominate broadcasts from the venerable beeb which in times past would not hire anyone that didn't



Sir Terry Wogan

make the Queen sound like Adele. The only Irish brogue emanating from the BBC in the fifties and sixties was the one owned by Eamonn Andrews. That was until a young jobless Irish radio presenter applied to the BBC in 1967 and was turned down by the then Controller of BBC 2, David Attenborough, because "having two Irishmen presenting on BBC2 would have looked ridiculous." Terry Wogan was born and raised in Limerick (but we won't hold that against him, OK?) and passed away on January 31 this year in Buckinghamshire as Sir Terry Wogan. He was possessed of such a warm likeable personality with voice to match that he soon became friend and family member of the vast audience that listened to his morning radio programme on the BBC. So much so that Terry was described as a British "national treasure" which is quite an accomplishment for someone who was as Irish and Irish-sounding as he was, even if his accent did occasionally get polluted by some Englishisms. He became "Sir" Terry in 2005 but only after becoming a dual Irish/UK citizen. Other Irish who were similarly honoured without becoming UK citizens, notably Bob Geldoff, do not use the "Sir" prefix and would simply be styled as "honourary."

Sir Terry Wogan, British national treasure, died aged 77 at his home mourned equally by the people of his native Ireland and those of his adopted country.

### Also starring – Ireland!

Spoiler alert – the last scene in the latest Star Wars movie is filmed in Ireland. Whoops too late – it's already splashed all over the Tourism Ireland website. The starring location role is played by Skellig Michael an island off the coast of County Kerry in the southwest of Ireland. I can't describe what it's like because I don't have that kind of literary talent so I'm lazily attaching a photo to this little piece and if you hunger for lots more, just type the words Skellig Michael in the YouTube search box. The idea of the rejuvenation of the Star Wars franchise, bringing it to a new and younger audience, will also have the same impact on Irish tourism as tour companies organise special "Star Wars" trips incorporating the Wild Atlantic Way and the Skellig Islands.

But this is not a new phenomenon. The blockbuster TV serial *Game of Thrones* was also partly filmed in Ireland, this time in the north east of the island in several beautiful and spectacular locations. This has proved to be a boon for Northern Ireland, long the least known and visited of the two parts of Ireland

### 1916

This year Ireland commemorates the 1916 rising, a failed attempt to overthrow British rule in Ireland and which may or may not have been the reason that Ireland became a (partially) sovereign nation soon after. The commemoration is being very sensitively stage-managed by the Irish government who have to navigate a minefield of controversy around the meaning of 1916. Among the Irish themselves including those in Northern Ireland, opinions on 1916 at one extreme consider what happened an act of terrorism and on the other an heroic attempt to overthrow a brutal occupying force. Whatever your viewpoint, it can be agreed that 1916 was an act of political violence and this is not a great time in the current history of Ireland and modern Europe for a government to glorify violence as a means of achieving political ends. So, significantly, the Irish government "commemorates" but does not "celebrate" 1916 and has designated seven "programme strands" State Ceremonial, Historical Reflection, An Teanga Bheo (Living Language), Youth and Imagination, Cultural Expression, Community Participation and Global and Diaspora which skillfully avoid reference to any interpretation of 1916 at the extremes.

I'll pick up the historical reflection strand by quoting ex-Prime Minister the late Garret Fitzgerald both of whose parents were participants in the Rising but who himself was an implacable opponent of political violence in Ireland during his terms as Taoiseach. "... anyone who believes that Ireland as an independent national entity has something to offer to the world, and that the Irish people can do more for themselves and for their neighbours by self reliant control of their own affairs, within whatever international framework may emerge in this increasingly inter-dependent world, must acknowledge a debt to the leaders of 1916."

So as is the case for all of us as individuals, a country builds its present on the foundation of its history. The leaders of the 1916 would be proud of the country they helped to create.

principally because the decades of violence it endured until the late 1990s. Yet, Northern Ireland can more than hold its own in terms of scenery with its sibling to the south and *Game of Thrones* has been instrumental in introducing its beauty to a new younger tourist hopping on the G of T tour buses.



Beautiful Skellig Michael in Co. Kerry

And Ireland can now boast to be a timeless destination starring as it does in a movie set in the distant future and a TV series set in the distant past but still looking today exactly as it did in the past and will in the future.



## Irish dancing update

By Pat Short

For probably the 40<sup>th</sup> year in succession, young Montreal Irish dancers joined talented musicians at Ste. Anne's Veterans' Hospital to entertain Canadian War Veterans who are in care there. Groups of dancers toured the wards in the noon time and then put on a great show for those who were able to come down to the theatre. This 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show may be the last as the hospital moves from Federal management to Provincial on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our 12 World Qualifiers are working very hard to raise money for their upcoming trip to Glasgow to compete at the World Irish Dance Championships. They are hosting a Pub Night on February 27<sup>th</sup>. See flyer. It promises to be an excellent night of music, song and dance and a great way to kick-off the upcoming St. Patrick's season.

2016 Qualifiers are: Emile Choiniere-Shields, Spencer Gearey, Guillaume Choiniere-Shields, Meaghan Kilmartin, Kevin Paquette, James Houghton, Kelsey Crone, Lydia Boutin, Kayla Gagne, Katie Gulycz, Gabrielle McBain, and Lucas Lawton

Hope to see you there!

The Short School World Championship Fundraising Committee



Please note that we welcome your opinions and would appreciate feedback on the contents of *NUACHT*. Send your comments to [nuacht@spsmtl.com](mailto:nuacht@spsmtl.com)

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### News from the School of Canadian Irish Studies

By Micahel Kenneally

#### Free and public seminar:

“Belfast is Not Here”: Israeli Perspectives on the Northern Irish Peace Process

The Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies presents a Graduate Student-Faculty Seminar featuring Dr. Aidan Beatty on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in the McEntee Room of the School of Canadian Irish Studies (1455 de Maisonneuve West, Room 1001.01 - 10<sup>th</sup> floor)

In April 1998, Catholic Nationalists and Protestant Unionists in Northern Ireland signed an historic peace agreement, The Good Friday Agreement. This talk examines how the news of this peace agreement was received in Israel, which was dealing with its own issues of peace agreements and peace processes. Israeli press coverage of peace in Northern Ireland ranged from the jealous to the congratulatory, from a dovish desire to find lessons for Israel/Palestine in the example of Northern Ireland to a hawkish refusal to make the comparison.

Shared vocabularies of violence, religiosity and supposedly ancient conflicts also made regular appearances. In other words, Israelis discussed the events in distant Northern Ireland in terms of their own local realities and thus highlighted the tensions and fractures of Israeli self-perceptions in the years after the Oslo Accords and before the Second Intifada.

About the speaker: Aidan Beatty completed his PhD in history at the University of Chicago in 2015. He is currently a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies and is also a Scholar-in-Residence at the School of Canadian Irish Studies. His first book, a comparative study of masculinity in Zionism and Irish nationalism, will be published in 2016 by Palgrave Macmillan.



## People

The Society welcomes the following new members: **Mary Ann Davis, Cindy Moynan and Peter G. Murphy.** We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

Congratulations to Mary McDermott and Colin Avraam whose first baby, Lola Josephina McDermott Avraam, was born at 9 p.m. on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Lola weighed in at 7 lbs. Proud grandparents are Society member **Jim McDermott** and his wife Anne.



*Lola Josephina McDermott Avraam*

Annabelle Marie Short arrived into the world on a very mild January 26<sup>th</sup> at about 9:00 a.m. Weighing in at 6 lbs with a mop of auburn hair just like her father did about 40 years previously. Baby, mother **Anne-Marie Bismuth** and father **Ed Short** excited with new arrival for brother Nolan.



*Annabelle Marie Short*



*A "Selfie" of Paul and Vivian at the game*

St. Patrick's Society past-president **Paul Dunne** and former director **Vivian Doyle-Kelly** met in Paris on February 13 to encourage their beloved Irish rugby football team. Alas, their cheers were in vain as the host team, France, defeated the Irish 10-9. *C'est la vie !*

Finally, St. Patrick's Society wishes **Joe Mell** a speedy recovery. Joe is presently in rehabilitation at the Veterans' Hospital in Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue. A long-time member of the Society, Joe was the 2014 Irishman of the Year.

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## In and Around town

### Flag Raising, Tuesday February 23

For many years, the Irish community flag has been raised outside Place Ville Marie a month prior to the annual St. Patrick's Parade. Members of the Irish community, dignitaries, and guests have paraded in the Place Ville Marie shopping mall to signify that the Irish Season has arrived and that the annual parade is around the corner. Place Ville Marie allows the Irish community flag to fly in place of its own, alongside the Canadian, Quebec, and the Place Ville Marie flags. For this, the United Irish Societies of Montreal is most grateful.

Contact Paul Loftus at [ploftus@colba.net](mailto:ploftus@colba.net)

### Enjoy a "free" Irish whiskey!

WHAT: ICCC's *Craic agus Comhrá* evening will stage a sampling of two Irish whiskey brands: Clontarf, a triple-distilled blended whiskey and Knappogue Castle, a 12-year single malt.

WHEN: Thursday, February 25 from 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.

WHERE: Irish Embassy Pub and Grill, 1234 rue Bishop, Montreal.

COST: No cost for whiskey sampling. Happy-hour pricing for other drinks. Finger food provided.

INFO: [www.iccmtl.com](http://www.iccmtl.com), [www.clontarfwhiskey.com](http://www.clontarfwhiskey.com), and [www.knappoguewhiskey.com](http://www.knappoguewhiskey.com)

### Montreal Centenary Commemoration of the 1916 Rising

The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic Easter Rising, the event which led to the creation of an independent Irish state, will be marked in Montreal by a reception on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 7 pm. The event will be held at the historic Royal Montreal Curling Club, 1850 de Maisonneuve West, Montreal. Tickets are \$20 and will include two drinks and appetizers. There will be music and speakers, including the Honourable Warren Allmand, PC QC and an elected Sinn Fein representative from Ireland.

The event is sponsored by the Coalition for Peace in Ireland, Friends of Sinn Fein (Canada) Inc., and the Montreal 1916 Committee.

For more information: Kevin Callahan 514-723-7439

### Watch them kick up their heels!

The Young Academy of Irish Dance will be presenting a tribute to Irish music and dance in "Rhythms and Reels" Saturday April 2, 2016 at Theatre du Grand Sault in LaSalle Que. There will be two performances an afternoon matinee and an evening show. For times of shows and ticket information please email [youngirishdance@hotmail.com](mailto:youngirishdance@hotmail.com)

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## 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / CLÁR IMEACHTAÍ 2016

DATE	EVENT	FURTHER INFORMATION
Feb. 23	Flag Raising, noon	<a href="mailto:ploftus@colba.net">ploftus@colba.net</a>
Feb. 25	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> plus Irish Whiskey Tasting, The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	<a href="mailto:contact@icccmtl.com">contact@icccmtl.com</a>
Mar. 4	SPS Annual Ball, Marriott Chateau Champlain	Erin Matheson 481-1346
Mar. 4	Ciné Gael, <i>Patrick's Day</i> , DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
Mar. 5	QFHS: Shamrocks Are Us: How to Find Your Irish Ancestors (seminars), 1:00 p.m., \$25.00	<a href="http://www.qfhs.ca">www.qfhs.ca</a>
Mar. 11	Irish Season – the Making of the St. Patrick's Parade, DeSève Cinema, 7:00 p.m., \$15.00	<a href="http://www.irishseason.com">www.irishseason.com</a>
Mar. 12	Erin Sports, Irishman-of-the-Year Breakfast, The Plaza Centre-Ville, 777 Robert Bourassa, \$65.00	<a href="mailto:timber32@sympatico.ca">timber32@sympatico.ca</a>
Mar. 13	UIS Mass of Anticipation, St. Gabriel's Church. 11:30 a.m.	<a href="mailto:ploftus@colba.net">ploftus@colba.net</a>
Mar. 13	UIS General Meeting, St. Gabriel's Church, 1:30 p.m.	<a href="mailto:president@montrealirishparade.com">president@montrealirishparade.com</a>
Mar. 13	Chateaugay St. Patrick's Parade, 1:00 p.m.	<a href="http://www.cviha.ca">www.cviha.ca</a>
Mar. 17	SPS Annual Luncheon, Le Centre Sheraton	Erin Matheson 481-1346
Mar. 18	Coalition for Peace in Ireland, Montreal Centenary Commemoration of the 1916 Rising, (see p. 23 for details)	<a href="mailto:1916Montreal@gmail.com">1916Montreal@gmail.com</a>
Mar. 19	Hudson St. Patrick's Parade, 1.00 p.m.	<a href="http://www.hudsonparade.com">www.hudsonparade.com</a>
Mar. 19	Le Défilé de la Saint-Patrick de Québec, 1:30 p.m.	<a href="http://www.qcpatrick.com/contact">www.qcpatrick.com/contact</a>
Mar. 20	UIS 193 <sup>rd</sup> Consecutive St. Patrick's Parade, noon	<a href="mailto:director@montrealirishparade.com">director@montrealirishparade.com</a>
Mar. 31	Eleventh Annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture, rm. 937 Hall Building, Concordia	Erin Matheson 481-1346
Apr. 1	Ciné Gael, evening of "Shorts," DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
Apr. 2	UIS Awards Banquet & Dinner Dance, Plaza Centre-Ville, 6:00 p.m.	<a href="mailto:coach_shawn12@hotmail.com">coach_shawn12@hotmail.com</a>
Apr. 15	Innisfail Pasta Night, NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve, 7:30 p.m.	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
Apr. 17	UIS Mass for Deceased Members & General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	<a href="mailto:ploftus@colba.net">ploftus@colba.net</a>
Apr. 22/23	Ciné Gael, commemoration of the The Easter Rising, 1916, DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
May 5	Ciné Gael, closing gala, <i>The Guarantee</i> , DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
May 7	Innisfail Mass for Deceased Members, St Patrick's Basilica, (followed by Irish tea), 12:00 a.m.	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
May ?	Ciné Gael, special screening, DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
June 10	Innisfail AGM, NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
June 21	SPS Annual Golf Tournament, Belle Vue Golf Course, Ville de Lery	Erin Matheson 481-1346

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