



## Mabel Ann Fitzgerald: recipient of the Society's Community Award

By Mary McDaid

The Society's Community Award was inaugurated in 1993 when then president Michael Kenneally and the directors recognized that while we had many ways of celebrating and promoting the work of the Society, we had not taken the time to honour those members and friends who worked to make our celebrations happen. It is their dedication and hard work that make the events a success, make it possible for the presidents of all our Irish societies to greet the recipients of our combined donations on behalf of the whole community. These are the volunteers who were honoured in this year's St. Patrick's Day message that Ireland's president, Mary McAleese, sent around the world: "They build up and sustain a culture of generosity that enriches life in so many different ways.... they are the backbone of our country; they are its heart and soul." For her contribution to the Irish community, its societies and its charities, over the last thirty years and for her enduring readiness to serve when and where needed, St. Patrick's Society is honoured to recognize Mrs. Mabel Fitzgerald as its Community Award recipient for 2011 and presented the award at the Society's annual luncheon on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mabel Ann Fitzgerald was born in Murray Street in Griffintown and today lives on Favard Street in Point St. Charles. These are the two homes of her life, where she met and married Patrick Fitzgerald and where they raised their twin daughters, Sharon and Patricia. With their relatives and friends they were part of an active Irish community

that knew without question that you help each other; that you do what people need and do it with entertainment and a smile. The story goes that Patrick Fitzgerald was very, very tall and his friend George McEwan was very, very short and these two volunteers could transform a whole room with their rendition of "Me and My Shadow"! In or out of the shadows, you just do. In those young years in the societies, Mabel learned early that

the husbands get involved and the wives help, the husbands parade and the women prepare the post-parade feast... and so it continued for many years. Patrick was a hard worker for the community and a great organizer and before long Mabel knew that she had become part of a very productive team whose raison d'être was to find out what people need and do all you can to meet that need as generously and wholeheartedly as possible. Mabel has lived by that motto for the past 30 years, when, following her husband's death, she decided that there would be no halt to the Fitzgeralds' dedication to the cultural and social needs of their community and beyond.



Photo: Anne Forrest

Mabel Ann Fitzgerald smiles proudly at the SPS luncheon, March 17<sup>th</sup>

Cont. p.12

NUACETT

May 2011  
Vol. 24, Issue 2

### INSIDE

- SPS rediscovers its original emblem .....p.6
- ... until next year ... .....p.7
- *Cosantóir* strikes out.....p.8
- Cine Gael wraps up its season .....p.8
- Broadcasting LIVE at the St Patrick's parade .....p.9
- Memories of this past "Season".....p.10
- Montreal Irish rugby teams get off to fine start .....p.12
- 2011 Douglstown Irish Week .....p.14
- SPS Scholarship winner publishes seminal book .....p.15
- Patrick Joseph Vallely: a man for all seasons .....p.16
- An extract from Patrick M. Shea's letter to Ambassador Ray Bassett .....p.18

## A word from the President

I am writing this column on the day after the May 3<sup>rd</sup> federal election. Although the members of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal likely span the full spectrum (or at least a sizeable portion of the spectrum) of federal political party membership, I'm sure that we all share my happiness for the great personal success of Society director, Thomas Mulcair, whose NDP won 59 of the 75 seats in Quebec and 102 seats across Canada (subject to any recounts over the coming days and weeks). Tom – who was, up until today, the sole NDP Member of Parliament from Quebec and who was and will remain a key leader within the party nationally – was a key driver of the NDP's historic success in Quebec and elsewhere in Canada. I note that 59 seats is one more than those won in Quebec by another prominent Irish-Quebecer politician, Brian Mulroney, in 1984. And with the Green Party also winning a seat in this election, our new Parliament will, interestingly for Irish-Canadians, feature both the orange and the green. Congratulations, Tom!

Three different Society committees organized three highly successful events this past March. The Ball Committee, chaired by Society Director Christie Brown, put on a great Annual Charity Ball on March 11<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott Château Champlain Hotel. The Ball is the most important annual social event held by the Society and all of us who attended had a wonderful evening. In addition to celebrating the St. Patrick's Day season in style, the hundreds of people in attendance were graced by the presence of our guest of honour, Ray Bassett, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada, and we raised a significant amount of money for our Society and its charitable endeavours because of the generosity of members and others who made donations to the patrons' fund (ably co-chaired this year by Jim Killin and Martin Spalding), purchased corporate tables and purchased

silent auction items. A great thank you is owed to Christie, Ray, Jim, Martin and all of our donors.

Six days later, on St. Patrick's Day, the 178<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Society Luncheon, organized by a Society-Director-Andrea-Bobkowitz-led Luncheon Committee, took place at the Hilton Montreal Bonaventure Hotel. An almost sold-out ballroom enjoyed a thoroughly enjoyable guest speaker – Louis Vachon, the CEO of National Bank Financial – and a most distinguished head table of 30 people that included business leaders, politicians, diplomats, journalists, university presidents, religious officials and community leaders from Canada, the United States, Ireland and Scotland. Kudos to Andrea for her great work in having organized a wonderful event, and for having helped to sell a record-breaking number of corporate tables, the net proceeds of which have made a significant financial contribution to the Society. Thank you Andrea and Louis!

On March 20<sup>th</sup>, Society Parade Committee stalwarts and Society Directors John Mulholland and Frank McMahon once again assembled a formidable marching and riding contingent of Society members and their families and friends for the 188<sup>th</sup> annual Montreal St. Patrick's parade. Those who participated were rewarded by a beautiful sunny day and the resultant massive crowds of spectators on St. Catherine Street. And then, the very next weekend, John and Frank organized the Society's contribution to the Montreal Irish contingent which participated in the second annual Quebec City St. Patrick's Parade (see article on p.5). Great work, John and Frank!

I would like to particularly thank Erin Matheson, our office manager, for her amazing work in connection with these key month-of-March events. Although Erin does great work on behalf of the Society throughout the year, she goes above and beyond the call of duty during the weeks leading up to mid-March and single-handedly enables the Society to hold and participate in these big events. I'm not sure how Erin does it, but I'm very grateful that she does!

I was delighted to see so many members in attendance at the ball, luncheon and parades in March – thank you for your participation. The Board of Directors and its committees are always interested in getting member feedback about our events. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [patrick.shea@blakes.com](mailto:patrick.shea@blakes.com) to let me know what you liked and did not like about these (and other) events, how our events could be improved and, if you do not attend certain events, what you believe should be changed about them that may cause you to wish to attend them in the future.

I look forward to seeing a large number of members at the upcoming annual general meeting of the Society, the annual Society Golf Tournament and the joint St. Patrick's Society-Irish Protestant Benevolent Society river-dinner cruise.

*Patrick M. Shea*  
May 2011



### **NUAcht**, Community Newsletter of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal

**Editorial Board:** Anne Forrest (Editor)  
E-mail: [nuacht@spsmtl.com](mailto:nuacht@spsmtl.com)

Scott Phelan  
Paul Dunne  
Carol McCormick

**Proofreading:** Maura Druda  
Félix Polesello

**Advertising:** Erin Matheson  
E-mail: [office@spsmtl.com](mailto:office@spsmtl.com)

**Printing:** Centre de copie commerciale  
460 St. Catherine Street West  
Montreal, QC H3B 1A7  
Tel.: (514) 842-2545

**Subscription:** \$25.00 per year  
**Please address all contributions to the Editor at the Society Office.**  
Tel: (514) 481-1346 Fax: (514) 481-9048  
E-mail: [office@spsmtl.com](mailto:office@spsmtl.com)

**St. Patrick's Society of Montreal**  
St. Patrick Square  
6767 Côte St. Luc Road, #1  
Montreal, QC H4V 2Z6

Deadline for submissions for next issue: September 1, 2011

# News from the Society

## Nominating Committee puts forward its slate

The 2011 Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held this year at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, in the Main Dining Room of the Atwater Club, 3505 Atwater Street, Montreal.

Alistair O'Hara, the SPS immediate past-president, was the chairman of the Nominating Committee. The other members were: Mary McDaid, Sandy McDonough, Marilyn Meikle Rochford and Amber LeBrun. The committee nominated the following Officers and Directors for the year 2011-2012, all of whom have consented to their nomination:

<b>President:</b>	Patrick M. Shea
<b>Vice-Presidents:</b>	Paul Doyle Paul Dunne Scott Phelan
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Matthew Rooney
<b>Secretary:</b>	John Mulholland
<b>Directors:</b>	
Andrea Bobkowicz	James Killin
Thomas Brady	Mairead Lavery
Edward Brennan	John Lemieux
Karen Bright	Carol McCormick
Christie Brown	Frank McMahon
Vivian Doyle-Kelly	Thomas Mulcair
Julie Dunn	Michelle Vahey
James Kellett	Daniel Zangwill



## A new Society historian is elected

The board of directors of the Society elected J. Peter Shea, the president of the Society from 2000 to 2002 and a member since 1974, as the Society's historian at an April 12, 2011 meeting. The office of historian had been unoccupied since the death of Patrick O'Hara in December 2009.



*Peter Shea,  
June 2010*

The position of Society historian goes back many generations. Dr. Edward McCracken was a predecessor of Patrick O'Hara, and other past historians have included Timothy P. Slattery, a Montreal lawyer who was an amateur historian and the author of well-known books about the history of Loyola College and the assassination of Thomas D'Arcy McGee.

Although Peter is not a historian by training or profession, he has developed over the years a very keen interest in the history of the Irish in Canada and, particularly, the Irish in Montreal. He has a significant expertise with respect to the history of the Irish Canadian Rangers, the First World War battalion in which his maternal grandfather served.

Any member who has historical documents or artefacts about, or that may be of interest to, the Society or who has any questions about the history of the Society is invited to contact Peter at [sheatech@videotron.ca](mailto:sheatech@videotron.ca).



## June 14<sup>th</sup>: a date that the golfers won't want to miss!

Golf tournament chairman, Paul Doyle, reminds everyone that the St. Patrick's Society Annual Charity Golf Tournament will take place on June 14, 2011. This, our 16<sup>th</sup> consecutive tournament, has been a sellout almost since its inception, so book early!

The tournament features a shot-gun start at 12:45 p.m. Included for \$125 are a golf cart, green fees, roast beef dinner along with two carafes of wine per table and prizes for all. Last year we gave away close to \$10,000 worth of prizes, all of which were donated.

With great support from companies like Hurley's Irish Pub, L'Équipeur, McAuslan Brewery and Trihey Financial, it's bound to be a great success once again.

The tournament is held at the Belle Vue golf club (members' course). Don't forget to book early, as we are limited to the number of players we can accommodate.

For more information, visit our website at [www.spsmtl.com](http://www.spsmtl.com) or contact Erin Matheson, SPS Office Manager, at [office@spsmtl.com](mailto:office@spsmtl.com) or at (514) 481-1346.



## Fall Fashion Show — a first for the Society

On October 14, 2011, the Society will hold its first ever fashion show. This fundraiser for the Society will take place in La Plaza, the largest Holiday Inn in Canada, located at 420 Sherbrooke St. West. Cocktails will be served from 6:30 p.m. and the show will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Clothes for both men and women — whether they be young or young at heart — will be featured, including formal, casual and golf apparel. Some of Montreal's finest designer boutiques will be displaying their fall fashions.

Early-bird tickets are on sale from now until August 31<sup>st</sup> at \$65.00. On and after September 1<sup>st</sup>, the cost will be \$75.00. Included in the price of the ticket are cocktails and door prizes (donated by the boutiques). Also, please note that a tax receipt will be provided for a portion of the cost of the ticket. Seating is limited, so plan to buy your ticket soon to avoid disappointment.

If anyone is interested in sponsorship advertising in the programme, this is available. Also, if anyone would like to join the organizing committee, please contact Carol McCormick at (514) 386-8082 or [carol@carolmccormick.ca](mailto:carol@carolmccormick.ca) for further information.





# St. Patrick's Society Ball: an outstanding evening to start the SPS season

By Christie Brown

Spring was in the air on Friday, March 11, 2011, as over 325 distinguished guests arrived at the Marriott Chateau Champlain for an evening of dancing, dining and celebration. The event, unquestionably, was a success at every level.



Photo: International Photo Imaging

*Guests at the Ball who were obviously enjoying their time on the dance floor!*

The Patrons' Reception, generously hosted by Power Corporation, started the evening off on a festive note on the 36<sup>th</sup> floor overlooking the city. There we welcomed Ambassador Dr. Ray Bassett as our Guest of Honour for the evening. We also had celebrity Kathy Reichs (author of the books which led to the hit TV series, *Bones*) in attendance. Hurley's Irish Pub, as they do so magnificently each year, provided us with entertainment from Solstice and refreshments poured to perfection to start and complete the evening as only Hurley's can. Three's Company Orchestra kept our guests dancing for hours while the Bernadette Short Celtic Grace dancers wowed

their audience with their talent. The five-course meal was one of the best in years – the Marriott outdid themselves this year under the guidance of Chef Richard Edwards.

Our MC for the evening Rob Kemp, of CHOM FM did a tremendous job keeping our evening well paced. The two tickets to Ireland, donated by Air Transat, were won by a very happy young couple related to SPS Board member, John Lemieux. Finally, and most significantly, we were able to raise over \$25,000 via the Silent Auction and Patrons' Fund for the Society and its charitable endeavours to be distributed this fall. Our Patrons' co-chairs, Jim Killen (Équipeur) and Martin Spalding (Astral Media) are to be thanked for their time and effort to make this year's ball fundraising a success.

The ball was very successful thanks to the valiant efforts of the entire ball committee, Erin Matheson in particular. Erin was an essential member of the team who kept the ball rolling and who coordinated all aspects of the ball with the following dedicated members of the committee: Julie Balderston-Rooney, Julie Dunn, Conall Francoeur, Tod Lunt, Marilyn Meikle Rochford, Patrick Shea, Patrick Short and Danny Zangwill. As Chair, I wish to thank them publicly for the amount of time and effort they each contributed to such a successful event. Such a dedicated committee is a Chairperson's dream!

If you weren't able to make it, or wish to relive the experience, please drop by the Society's website where the ball photos can still be seen. Then, don't forget to reserve Friday, March 2, 2012 on your calendars... That's when we will be hosting the next St. Patrick's Society Ball!



## Ógra Update

By Julie Dunn

Ógra would like to thank all 81 junior guests who joined in the celebrations at the St. Patrick's Society Ball. The evening proved to be the perfect kick-off to the St. Patrick's season as they enjoyed a night of fine food, exceptional entertainment and the draw of the dance floor.

Congratulations to junior guest Natasha Isloor who won two tickets courtesy of Air Transat, thanks to Aéroports de Montréal. She and boy-friend Matthew Lemieux are in Ireland right now!

If you are under 30 and interested in becoming involved in the St. Patrick's Society, Ógra is currently recruiting new members. Contact Julie Dunn at [dunnjulie@yahoo.ca](mailto:dunnjulie@yahoo.ca) to see how you can become involved.



Photo: International Photo Imaging

Top: Michael Keane, Matthew Held, Conall Francoeur, Conor O'Hara, & Scott McNamara. Bottom: Maria Cook, Shannon Keenana, Julie Dunn, Niki Dono, & Marissa Keenan



# Annual SPS Luncheon attracted large crowd

By Andrea Bobkowitz

Once again, the Hilton Bonaventure Hotel was the site of the Society's annual luncheon which was, as per tradition, held on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Guests enjoyed both a fine meal and entertaining speakers.

Louis Vachon, the president and CEO of National Bank Financial Group, was the guest speaker at the 178<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Society of Montreal Luncheon. Without hesitation, Mr. Vachon was a smashing success in more ways than one. His position in the Montreal business community is second to none as the only remaining federal bank CEO with his head office based in Montreal.

If you were one of the lucky 600 who attended, you would know that the story of Mr. Vachon's roots was fascinating. He told us how his great-great-grandmother was an Irish orphan who had been adopted by a French-Canadian family, as were so many young immigrants at that time. It was a moving story of one family's evolution through tough times which ultimately led to the founding of the Vachon bakery in Quebec.

This family story spoke to me personally and underlined that you can never judge a book by its cover. Mr. Vachon was humorously introduced by Aéroports de Montréal President and CEO and Society member, Jim Cherry.

This year also brought out the business community as major and corporate sponsors participated in record-breaking numbers which propelled this year's charitable benefits to new heights.

Deepest thanks go to the following corporate sponsors of this year's Luncheon:

Aéroports de Montréal  
Anjinnov Construction  
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP  
Bombardier Aerospace  
Brasserie McAuslan Inc.  
Carmichael Ltd.  
Eircan Accounting Services Inc.



Photo: Anne Forrest

Luncheon Chairperson Andrea Bobkowitz  
and Guest Speaker, Louis Vachon

Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP  
Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP  
Heenan Blaikie LLP  
Hurley's Irish Pub  
Jarislowsky Fraser Limited  
La Boutique Electronique  
Letko Brosseau & Associates Inc.  
MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier Inc.  
McCarthy Tétrault LLP  
National Bank Financial Group  
Power Corporation of Canada  
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
St. Patrick Development Foundation  
St. Patrick's Basilica

In addition to appreciating Louis Vachon's interesting speech, guests were treated to a three-course meal consisting of:  
Artichoke terrine with arugula salad;  
Filet of salmon with dill crème sauce and cilantro;  
Baileys chocolate mousse with crème de menthe  
(followed by coffee or tea).



## The United Irish Societies and Innisfail announce their new Executive Committees

<b>President</b>	Mike Kennedy
<b>Senior Vice-President</b>	Beverly Murphy
<b>Vice-President of Organization</b>	Patty McCann
<b>Vice-President Advertising/ Public Relations</b>	Sharleen McCambridge
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Millie Griffon-Gagnon
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Jennifer O'Neil
<b>Treasurer</b>	Gordon Lippiatt
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Ken Quinn

*It is our honour to represent the membership of the UIS  
and the Irish community.*

*We respect and appreciate your cooperation and support.*

The Innisfail Social and Sports Club is proud to announce that the following officers will serve on the Executive Committee for the coming year:

<b>President</b>	Ann Broden
<b>Vice-president</b>	John J. Faherty
<b>Secretary</b>	Marlene Demers
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sandy McDonaugh

Thanks go to Kathryn O'Dell, and Barbara Rainsworth who worked with me on the Nominating Committee.

John Gilroy  
Past-president and Chair Nominating Committee.

# SPS rediscovers its original emblem

By Karen Bright  
and John Mulholland

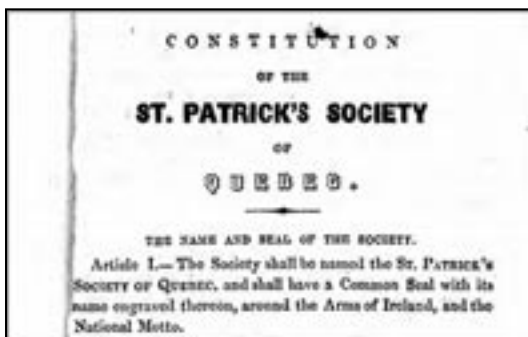


actually the original emblem of the St. Patrick's Society from 1834. It consists of the red, diagonal St. Patrick's Cross (saltire) with the gold harp in front, surrounded by the Society's name, its date of founding and the saying "Erin Go Bragh."

The first reference to the original emblem of the Society is found in the Society's first constitution which appeared in printed form in 1836. The constitution was made up of 26 articles, of which Article VII reads as follows:

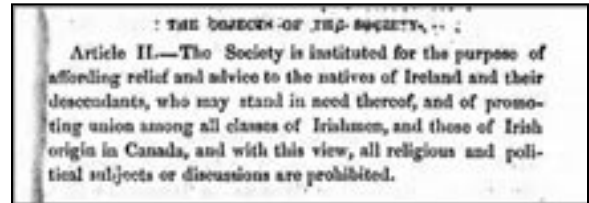
"In order to better create good feeling and social intercourse among the members, the Society shall have an anniversary dinner on St. Patrick's Day; and the members shall on that day wear the badge of the Society, suspended by a green ribbon from the left breast; namely, a shield bearing a blood-red cross or saltire on a silver field, in the centre of which shall be a Harp, gold, with the motto, 'Erin Go Bragh'."

The St. Patrick's Society of Quebec City apparently used a very similar emblem at the time of founding, as can be seen from the following extract of its 19<sup>th</sup> century by-laws.



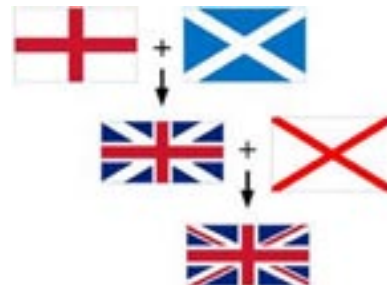
The choice of elements used in our Society's emblem probably reflected the desire of the Irish community in Montreal to leave the divisive issues of Ireland in Ireland.

It is reasonable to believe that the attitude of the Irish in Quebec City was not far removed from that of the Irish in Montreal when the former adopted their by-laws two years after Montreal's Irish formed their St. Patrick's Society. In the extract below you will note that members were forbidden to discuss politics or religion, presumably within society meetings.



There are several schools of thought on the origins of the red saltire as representative of Ireland and St. Patrick. None of these theories goes further back than the sixteenth century. This cross has been in use for hundreds of years – in fact there is evidence to show that the flag was flown at the Battle of Kinsale in 1601. One theory is that the red saltire was borrowed from the Spanish Cross of Burgundy, stemming from an alliance in which the Spanish were assisting the Irish to fight off the British. In fact, it was at the battle of Kinsale, where the Spanish were fighting alongside the Irish, that the first pictures of a flag bearing the red saltire being flown are found. Another theory is that the cross comes from the coat of arms of the Great Earl of Kildare – Gerald Fitzgerald VIII who was ruling Ireland as a Viceroy. He sought greater self-government for Ireland and flew this flag – his standard – from his castle walls. It is thought that, just as the Red Hand symbol (a symbol of the O'Neill family) has become associated with Ulster, so has the red saltire become associated with Ireland in general, and its patron saint.

Yet another theory is that this cross comes from the coat of arms of the Duke of Leinster (the highest ranking member of the Irish aristocracy) as he was a founding member of the Order of St. Patrick. In researching this article, We ran across many references to the Order of St. Patrick and Knights of St. Patrick – all of which use this same symbol (as shown on the right).



Ultimately, the cross of St. Patrick was incorporated in the Union Jack. While the original flag integrated the cross of St. George and the cross of St. Andrew upon the union of England and

Scotland in 1707, the flag thereafter incorporated the cross of St. Patrick upon the union of Great Britain and Ireland in 1801 (as shown above).

The harp as a symbol of Ireland is more ancient than the St. Patrick's Cross with the first documented evidence of its use as a symbol dating back to the Wijnbergen Roll in France circa 1280 AD. The harp was rare as a heraldic element. The oldest

Cont. p.7

May 2011



## ... until next year ...

By Catherine McKenna

The top hats have been stacked in neat rows, the Marshals' outfits zipped up in coat bags and hung up, the white gloves and scarves cleaned and folded, the banners rolled up, and the volunteers' vests piled up in boxes to be stored away for another year ... and the committee of the Défilé de la St-Patrick de Québec is looking back in retrospective at the photos, the documents, and post-parade commentary that will inform our work to do for the next edition now that the curtain has come down on another successful year of a St. Patrick's Day parade in Quebec City.

We were delighted to welcome, among other dignitaries, Irish Ambassador Ray Bassett on his first visit to Quebec City. The bitterly cold weather did not deter the returning New York Police Department's Pipes and Drums, nor break the rhythms of the Boston Police Department Gaelic Column of Pipes and Drums. Other musical

highlights included The Black Watch Association Piping Band of Montreal, the 306 Wing Air Force Association Pipe Band, the Montreal Pipes and Drums, and the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser Highlanders. Participants nearly doubled in numbers this year, up to over 700. Decked out locals on bicycles, Irish dancers, a canoe team, antique cars, "horses" and cowboy clowns, Irish Heritage Québec along with Irish families of Quebec City, and much more added even more colour to this year's line-up. It was great to have many of our Montreal friends, including several representatives of St. Patrick's Society, join us again, gracing our festivities as only those with a brilliant 188-year history could! We heartily thank



*The Boston Police Department Gaelic Column of Pipes and Drums marching proudly in the Quebec City parade on March 26, 2011*

one and all for their great spirit in providing everyone with unparalleled fanfare and entertainment. Post-parade activities included the reception at Quebec City's Hôtel de ville, a toast at the American Consulate, and concluded with dinner and more music, courtesy of our friends from Boston and New York City, at the Pub St-Patrick.

It is not without some amazement that we look back at the wonderful support and participation given to the renaissance of Quebec City's parade, and on this note, we are very eager to "Continue the Tradition," and look forward to seeing everyone again in 2012.



### Emblem (cont.)

association is with King David and the only other use coeval with that of Ireland is noted in the Steinach family in Zurich. The English incorporated it into various arms to denote their claim to be sovereigns of Ireland. The gold harp is currently the principal element of the coats of arms of the Republic of Ireland.



The phrase "Erin Go Bragh" means "Ireland Forever" in Irish and was generally associated with nationalistic aspirations. Its earliest use dates back to the 1700s.

Interestingly, one of the uses was by the Los San Patricios Regiment of the Mexican Army made famous by a recent film where it was accompanied by the harp (as shown on the left).

It is not known to these writers when the Society ceased using its original emblem in favour of the newer seal that features St. Patrick in full pontificals. We know that the original emblem was used as recently as 1934, because it appeared on the cover of the programme for the centennial dinner of the Society that took place on March 17, 1934 at the Windsor Hotel in downtown Montreal. (If any reader knows about a use more recent than 1934, would they please contact these writers or the Society's office.) Indeed, it was because past-president Andy Fogarty brought an original copy of such programme to a recent meeting of the Society's board of directors that the directors became aware of its existence. Thank you, Andy, for making us aware of our original emblem and allowing us to resurrect it!

Three flags bearing the original emblem of the Society were made in early March 2011 and will continue to make appearances at Society events. In the future, the directors intend to use both the original emblem of the Society and the seal featuring St. Patrick.



## Cosantóir strikes out ...

By Anne Forrest

They say that pride comes before a fall. How true this is! *Cosantóir*, representing SPS, no longer reigns as the ICCC pub-quiz champion having lost the most recent competition by two points.

On Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, Mary McDaid, Tom Brady and I were forced to recruit a last-minute replacement for team member, Alistair O'Hara. Jolyon Ditton stepped into the breach and we were happy to enlist him. After three rounds, halfway through the competition, we led the field by one point. Then came our downfall. Quiz masters Casey Ryan and Jonathan Sullivan had everyone stumped with their questions about "phobias." Even Tom's Latin training didn't help very much. There was also a crazy round asking us to identify people as being comic book characters or living human beings. We didn't do too well with those. However, I'm sure we earned good marks in the Canadiana round; even I knew that Ogopogo was a fictitious Lake Okanagan monster.

When the moment of truth arrived, we waited anxiously as the fifth, fourth and third-placed teams were announced. Then, grinning broadly (the rat!), Jonathan Sullivan named *Cosantóir* as the runners-up. What ignominy! The winning team, the United Irish Societies, charged to the podium to claim their bottles of Bushmills. Congratulations to John Gilroy, David O'Neill, Martin Clifford and Sean Murphy (he's been the quizmaster many times and should know all the answers – right?).




Photo: Anne Forrest

Sean Murphy, John Gilroy, David O'Neill, Martin Clifford (with Casey Ryan in the rear)

I'm not really a sore loser and was quite happy to take home a gift certificate from Bramble House together with Irish breakfast tea and chocolate biscuits. Three other teams were given vouchers from McKibbin's, Ogilvy & Ogilvy golf shirts or McKibbin's T-shirts.

One lucky participant, Brigitte Bonneville, did better than anyone as she won the door prize: a hamper (gift basket) containing a bottle of Jameson whiskey, a bottle of Bailey's, a box of Guinness-flavoured toffee, and a reference book on Irish culture. This wonderful prize was donated by Michelle Vahey, ICCC board member.

Despite our disappointment, *Cosantóir* had a great time thanks to Jonathan and Casey. And, fear not, we will return! 

## Cine Gael wraps up its season

By Dana Hearne


Our 2010 Season got off to a great start (on February 4<sup>th</sup>) with the acclaimed documentary, and winner in its category at the Galway Film Fleadh, *The Pipe* (Director, Risteard Ó Domhnaill), the story of Shell's attempt to lay a gas line through farmland in County Mayo. The guest speakers were film critic John Griffin, and the director and programmer at Cinema Politica, Ezra Winton. On Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, our surprise from Kevin Tierney was revealed, and the audience was highly entertained by Kevin himself, our guest speaker for the screening, and by his directorial debut *French Immersion* - a comedy with a great cast and a rollicking sense of humour.

On Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, we had our Tribute to Cyril Cusack to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth. Cine Gael's most seasoned and founding member, Patrick Vallely, was the planner-in-chief and chair of this day-long tribute, until his illness made it impossible for him to continue in that role. Antoine Maloney, with much appreciated assistance from the Irish Film Institute (IFI), stepped in and did a brilliant job of presenting Cyril Cusack's great moments and great films. In the evening, following a reception hosted by McKibbin's, we showcased two great Cusack films, *Poitin* (Director, Bob Quinn) and *Ballroom of Romance* (Director, Pat O'Connor). Congratulations to Antoine on a job well done!

On Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, our film choice was *The Secret of Kells* (Directors Tomm Moore and Nora Twomey), the beautifully

animated story of the boy behind the famed Book of Kells. It was greatly appreciated by our audience, as was our excellent guest speaker Sara Terreault, Department of Theological Studies, Concordia University. On Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, we screened our evening of recent Award-Winning Shorts. Brilliantly chosen and presented by Heather MacDougall and Kester Dyer, this evening was a treat from start to finish. The winner of our audience poll was *Pentecost* (Director: Peter McDonald) – best Irish Short at the Cork Film Festival. Damien, an altar boy and the hero of the film, has a very difficult choice to make. If he doesn't conform to the status quo, he faces an extended ban from his passion in life – football!

Cine Gael closed its 19<sup>th</sup> season on Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, with a screening of Conor McDermottroe's first feature film, *Swansong: The Story of Occi Byrne*. This story about a boy growing up in Ireland in the 60s without a father, is well told, very moving and often extremely difficult to watch. The director, who could not be at the screening, prepared an introduction on video for our audience which included a reading from his one-man show on which the film was based. The screening was followed by a reception in the Concordia Faculty Club.

And so, another very rewarding Cine Gael season is over. It was a very difficult season for us because of Patrick's illness, and death on March 9<sup>th</sup>. We, along with his family and friends, mourn his loss. We will miss him greatly. 



# Broadcasting LIVE at the St. Patrick's parade....

By Amber LeBrun

For the first time in over 10 years, CJAD broadcast the St. Patrick's parade live from the reviewing stand on Ste-Catherine Street. Ric Peterson hosted the special two-hour broadcast alongside me; Amber LeBrun, Host of The Irish Show. Not only did we have superb weather conditions, but we also had an absolute blast watching each float go by.

I remember waking up the morning of the broadcast immediately feeling the nervous excitement of the day ahead. I knew it was going to be a great day but the thing with live broadcasts is anything can happen! Despite how much you try to prepare yourself, it's all about how well you cope with whatever gets thrown your way whether good or bad. So I tried my best to calm my nerves and stay positive by telling myself to just relax and have fun!

Once I got to the broadcast tent, I met with the CJAD team. Yolande Ramsey was helping us coordinate and produce the show, while our tech John Collette was making sure everything was running smoothly. I was quickly set up with my wireless microphone and by that time Ric was already snapping pictures and filming some of the best-dressed parade-goers and getting excited about the parade. Before I knew it, Ric and I kicked off the broadcast and things quickly sped up into high gear. My main focus quickly became getting down to the street, running around through the mobs of people trying to find an interesting group of enthusiastic people to interview. Well, let me tell you; excited parade-goers I found! Dressed from head to toe in green and very proud to be Irish.... at least for the day! Everybody I interviewed was

excited to be there and was enjoying the music, the dancing and the atmosphere. There were people of all ethnicities and backgrounds out to celebrate and have a good time. While I wasn't interviewing parade-goers, I was trying to nab some of the dignitaries off the street to be interviewed by either Ric or me. Every person I saw whether in the parade or in the crowds had a big smile on their face and was truly enjoying the parade!

It was definitely an intense and very busy day, but it was so great to see so many people out to celebrate their Irish heritage. I truly believe that this parade really brings Montrealers together and it's also a testament to just how large the Irish community really is in Montreal. Just the other day, Ric mentioned to me "It was my first time to see the whole parade and not be in it. It really brought the whole experience up a notch. I think the multicultural aspect of the parade needs to be pursued with a vengeance." The same goes for me as well. It was my first time not being in the parade and every float that went by had its own unique flare and style. The music throughout the parade kept your feet tapping and the dancing just made you want to join in on all the fun! I think Ric summed it up best by saying, "It was very very well organized, the weather was superb and I didn't feel cold. I only felt the warmth of the people and of the Irish season."

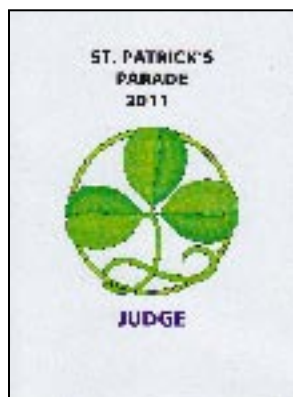
We hope to see you all again next year for yet another fantastic St. Patrick's parade in Montreal!



## ... and a once-in-a-lifetime experience

By Anne Forrest

When invited by the United Irish Societies (UIS) to serve as a judge for the 2011 St. Patrick's parade on March 20<sup>th</sup>, I was excited but nervous. Never having seen the entire parade, although I had walked in several as part of the SPS group, I wasn't sure if I had the requisite qualifications. However, I can happily say that the event proved to be one I'll never forget. I don't remember when I last had so much fun.



The day began with an early breakfast at the Novotel Hotel on René Lévesque Boulevard. There I met my fellow judges: Randy Tieman (CTV), Marcus Tabachnick (then DG of the LBPSB), Chantal Desjardins (CHOM), James Coleman (UIS past president), Alan DeSousa (Montreal city councillor) and Beryl Wasjman (The Suburban). We were all new to the job – and in fact would never again be invited to judge the parade. UIS had decided that a fairer way of

determining the winners of the 20 awards would be not to recycle its judges. On learning this, I resolved to enjoy every minute.

sunshine, we had been provided with hand warmers, foot warmers and snacks should we get hungry. It was going to be a long afternoon. Although there were seats, we all stood in order to see more easily what was happening.

What a display was to follow! So many glorious pipe and drum contingents, so many smiling faces and so many happy marchers. I took 107 photos during the three hours that I was on the stand. Such great souvenirs. As each group passed us, some stopping to perform special routines for our benefit, we jotted down our marks. We were well prepared by UIS and had no trouble fulfilling our duties.

After the UIS deputy marshals brought the parade to a close, we returned to the Novotel and spent an hour comparing our results based on the specific criteria. Most of us were on the same page and decisions came easily, possibly thanks to the Irish coffees that we enjoyed! No alcohol had been permitted anywhere near this year's parade (something that one of the judges regretted quite vocally!). Then, it was time to eat. The UIS spared no expense and laid on a delicious buffet for about 100 guests.

Shortly before noon, we were taken to the reviewing stand at the corner of McGill College and Ste-Catherine. The crowd was already enormous and the excitement was palpable. Despite the

My compliments to UIS on their superb organization and my thanks to them for honouring me with their invitation. It was a great day!



## Memories of this past "Season" ...



*Dignitaries before the raising of the flag*



*The flag is raised*



*President Shea and first lady, Sara*



*Celtic Grace wowing the crowd*



*Aéroports de Montréal table with Jim Cherry*



*Ambassador Bassett accepting Society's gift from two young dancers*



*UIS president, Ken Quinn and Tara Schwartz*



*Anthony Calvillo and wife Alexia (at breakfast)*



*SPS lunch!*

**Photos:**  
International Photo Imaging  
Anne Forrest



## ... flag-raising, ball, breakfast, luncheon and parade



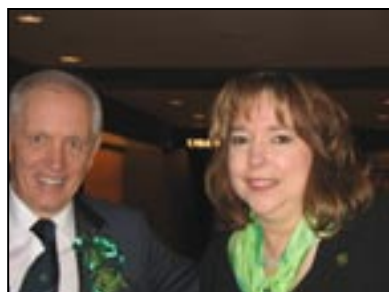
*Mabel Fitzgerald and Mary McDaid*



*Mike Finnerty and Thomas Mulcair*



*Paul Doyle, Karen Bright and Lynn Doyle*



*John Rae and Ann-Mary Butts*



*Lori Graham on CTV float*



*2011 St. Patrick's parade judges*



*Royal court enjoys the parade*



*SPS marching smartly*



*SPS contingent in Quebec City parade*



*Bain Magique – prize-winning float, Montreal*



## Community Award (cont.)

Mabel is known for the constancy of her support, for her good-natured willingness to serve the needs of anyone who calls on her, and for her ability to get things done. This served her well as the first woman-president of the United Irish Societies in 1992: like so many UIS presidents facing a terrible weather forecast for the Parade Day, she was worried and thinking – I’m the first woman to lead this parade and I might be the first to cancel it: this is not a good thing! She walked that long green line with great pride and determination, through the wind tunnel known as St. Catherine Street, and prepared the way for the women who were to follow in her path. She was also honoured to be the first woman to serve as Chief Reviewing Officer of St. Patrick’s Parade, an honour indeed for “A Woman of Firsts” who has never sought the limelight.

Every March the Erin Sports Association holds its annual “Irishman of the Year” breakfast at the Sheraton Hotel. Now we all know that there has never been an Irishwoman of the year in Montreal – but on whom does the Association rely to get the breakfast tickets out, to plan the layout and fill the tables for this 1,000 seat event? All the media announcements proclaim: CALL MABEL FITZGERALD! Mabel has been making a huge success of this particular volunteer activity for the last 20 years - and doing it solo! Yes, she’s taken the 11 p.m. calls the night before the breakfast: “Hi, I’m at table 52, but I’ve just heard that a friend is at table 12 – could you move me please?” Mabel’s reaction? Calmly, unfazed, “Well I always try to do something!” Like the refrain of her life: “You just do!”

Last year, the community of Point St. Charles admitted Mabel Ann Fitzgerald to its Hall of Recognition, recalling her steadfast service to the needs of her community, a service that has marked all the

### Mabel's acceptance speech at the SPS luncheon

*Since the founding of the St. Patrick's Society in 1834, this Society has been aware of and in service to the needs of the Irish community. Being part of this community gives one the pleasure of serving and sharing the rich culture that the Irish brought to Montreal and all the communities where we have settled.*

*In accepting this honour, I do so in reflection of all the members who serve the Irish community and this wonderful city.*

*Thank you, God bless and a Happy St. Patrick's Day*

*Mabel Ann Fitzgerald  
March 17, 2011*

stages of her life. She is also a former Director of St. Patrick’s Society and, for the past 18 years, has worked as a member of the staff of St. Patrick Square in Côte St. Luc. A great ambassador for the Square, Mabel’s is the first smile to greet you as you enter the office area and she is the last person to turn to you as you leave. The director of the Square says she’s incredibly organized! It has been said that she knew which of her two daughters had arrived home from school first just by seeing what had been moved on the kitchen counter!

As Irish President McAleese said: “Thank you for the fundraising, the planning, the helping and the daily turning up which are the stock in trade of the volunteer.” This year, the President’s letter was written for Mabel Fitzgerald.



## Montreal Irish rugby teams get off to fine start

By Mark Gallagher

We invite you to come along and watch men and women play a great contact sport competitively, for free, in a friendly environment, at a fantastic location – the Montreal Irish Grounds in St Julie. The first home game of the season is



*Huw Roberts Ginger, Mark Gallagher and Gareth McDonald with their 2010 cup!*

on Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> with all five teams in action. Other home game dates are June 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, and August 6<sup>th</sup>.

On May 14<sup>th</sup>, despite the wet and blustery weather, the 2010 Provincial Champions, the Montreal Irish 1<sup>st</sup> XV (Men) defeated the Ottawa Irish in their first Super League game of the season by 34 points to 12. Huw Roberts was the Rogers Sports Man of the Match with a fine kicking display that saw four conversions, a penalty and a magnificent drop goal for a personal tally of 14 points. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV also ground out a very hard-fought victory to defeat the Ottawa Irish 2<sup>nd</sup> XV by 19 points to 14.

On the same day, both MIRFC women’s teams played at Twin Elms in Ottawa. The Montreal 1<sup>st</sup> XV ran out a good nine-point lead, all from the boot of new member, Jackie Titley - but narrowly lost by 9 points to 12. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV, with many players new to the sport, fought a hard battle, had fun, but the experience of the talented Ottawa Irish, proved to be too strong and the Montreal girls were defeated convincingly.

That weekend, the MIRFC 3<sup>rd</sup> XV, defending champions, were away to XV de Montréal and unfortunately lost to a much younger

*Cont. p. 17*

*May 2011*

# Pam Cotter ... almost fully licensed to drive in Ireland!

By Pam Cotter

If the past five years were not enough commitment to Irish life, this month I have truly been initiated into the Irish culture. I am not speaking of spending Paddy's Day in Galway with friends, or my days in Killarney at the All-Irelands of Irish dancing. The initiation of which I am speaking includes something far less exciting, and involves much more paperwork and running around. This probably sounds a bit confusing, so let me start at the beginning.

Since I have been driving in Ireland for nearly a year, I am now required by law to obtain an Irish licence. Of course, nothing is ever simple in this world and Irish laws for obtaining a driver's licence were destined to change on April 4, 2011. Therefore, to avoid a larger written exam and twelve weeks of mandatory driving lessons with a driving school, I quickly booked my exam, borrowed the CD-rom from a friend, and began studying like crazy. On March 24<sup>th</sup>, with a full week to spare, I successfully passed the written exam and was given my provisional licence. At least, that is what I thought. For anyone going through a similar transition from Canadian laws to Irish laws, let me offer some of my hard-earned wisdom.

That laminated piece of paper with your photo which you receive after you pass your written exam is, in fact, NOT your provisional licence! This only means that you may now apply for your provisional licence. After boasting my success at passing, a friend kindly informed me that I still had to fill in paperwork and provide a medical report from an optometrist confirming my vision is road worthy ... at this point it was March 30<sup>th</sup>. Since neither of Limerick's two optometrists could take me, I had to make a very rushed trip from Limerick back down to Cork. There I managed to get a last minute appointment and, against all odds, I made it back to Limerick on time and got my REAL provisional licence with a few hours to spare before the new law came into effect.

That nuisance aside, I was simultaneously facing something all Irish drivers fear – the NCT. While owning a car comes with many joys, it also requires a bi-yearly NCT (National Car Test) to ensure it is still road safe. I had been particularly dreading this exam since my little black beauty (Fiat Punto) came with an oversized battery covered with a mat to prevent it from rubbing on the hood and causing a fire. I realise how that sounds, but the car has honestly never given me trouble!

On the day of the exam, I was fully prepared for the failure, which did indeed happen. However, it turned out to be for a different reason: the shocks and brake lines. I could not believe the battery was not an issue! After a quick trip to a country mechanic who, alarmingly, only takes cash and uses an old car as his waiting room, I was prepared for the re-test. As I watched my car being examined, a sudden chill ran down my spine; had the mechanic really changed the parts he said? What if they noticed the gigantic battery this time and it was now a problem? As the sweat poured down my face, the NCT tester looked over and gave me a smile with a thumbs up... IT PASSED! Never have I been so happy to pass an exam! My car, large battery and all, is now certified until April 2013. It is nice to know that there is one less thing to worry about on my to-do list.

*Pamela Cotter, who holds a BA (First Class Honours) in Irish Music and Dance from the University of Limerick shares yet another of her adventures with us.*

*Pam is presently attending University College Cork where she is taking a Masters in Ethnomusicology.*



Photo: Conal O'Kane

What is in store for the next few months? For starters, I still have to pass my road test for the Full Irish licence next month (and I will be sure to check this time if the paper they give me is the real thing, or just permission to apply for it!). There is also the large matter of completing the final course work for my MA, continuing fieldwork for the final thesis in September, and I have two Canadian distractions coming for a visit next month. On the agenda? Well, aside from the typical tour of Galway and a trip to the Cliffs, my friends have requested a visit to the Giant's Causeway in Antrim ... could they not have chosen something a little closer than six hours away? They had better not give me any trouble!!

*A very relieved Pam Cotter proudly shows off her newly NCTd car minutes after it passed the test in Limerick.*



## 2011 Douglastown Irish Week: an exciting programme with over 25 activities

By Luc Chaput

The Irish emigrants came to fish or farm in the Gaspé Coast as early as mid XVIII<sup>th</sup> century. They settled all around the coast, mainly in Douglastown, Percé, Chandler, Pabos and St. Jules-Cascapedia. But during the past 50 years, their population gradually declined as well as that of the English-speaking population of the coast. In Douglastown, members of the Douglas Community Centre decided in 2007 that it was time to honour their Irish founders through an annual activity that would emphasize the richness and originality of their culture. And slowly, a new cultural revival is shaping our community. This year, the Douglastown Irish Week will take place from August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 7<sup>th</sup> and more than 25 activities will be offered during the week.



Photo: Louis Morin

Fred Graham seen here showing how to make a bodhrán

### Under the tent

The main shows will start on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> with a fiddlers' gathering composed uniquely of women coming

from all over Québec. These great fiddlers are Sarah Desjardins, Stéphanie Lépine, Véronique Plasse, Laura Risk and Marie-Lys Trudel. Their performance should not leave anyone unmoved. The first part of the show will be taken over by Glenn Patterson and Brigid Drody with a medley of Gaspesian tunes. Friday night will see Salty Dog, a well-known band from Montréal, take the stage with their popular Irish and Maritimes songs; Touch of Green, our neighbours from St. Jules-Cascapedia will open the evening. Saturday, the electric Kitchen Party band should get everyone moving and the Irish dance troupe, Le Violon vert, from Québec, will impress you with their skill and agility.

### Workshops

The choice of workshops has never been so diversified as this year. The new ones include six hours of Gaspesian and Irish square dance, fiddling for beginners and another course teaching Gaspesian style fiddling and traditional Celtic stick-fighting. These workshops have been added to our always popular and regular ones which are: Irish choir for kids and adults, Irish dance, step dance, bodhrán, tin whistle and the much appreciated bodhrán-making workshop with Fred Graham.

### Presentations

There will be four interesting presentations by those passionate about history and folklore. The subjects to be covered are the Irish settlement in the Gaspé Coast, the folklore of Percé in the early years, the genealogy of the Morris family and an overlook on the life and the musical style of Erskine Morris, an old-time fiddler of Douglastown.

We invite you to go to [www.irishweek.wordpress.com](http://www.irishweek.wordpress.com) to learn all the details of the programme. It is the best summer festival in the Gaspé Coast for Irish and Irish at heart. Welcome to all!



## Launching of *The Irish Tradition* scheduled for October

By Anne Forrest

In the February 2005 issue of *Nuacht*, Carl Beaulieu asked the Montreal Irish community for contributions (articles/photos) for a book that he planned to publish later that year. Six years later, he is finally seeing his dream come true. On October 15<sup>th</sup>, Heritage Publishing will host the launching of his book, *The Irish Tradition*, in the Delta Saguenay Hotel, Jonquière.

Although the book was originally written in French, Carl is anxious to make it known that more than half of the text is now in English.

In addition to witnessing the launch of this 200-page history book, guests of Irish origin will receive the Order of St. Patrick Award. The hosts at this celebration will be Larry Smith and Stephen Burke with special guests of honour General John de Chastelain and his wife, Mary Ann Laverty, in attendance. Also the following guests of honour will be present: Pierre Monahan,

a well-known corporate executive; Evan Price, a major entrepreneur and co-owner of the world famous Auberge Saint-Antoine; and Gilles Bérubé, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Waskahegan Corporation, one of the true entrepreneurial aboriginal flagships in North America. This lively event, will take place in an Irish musical setting. Prior reservations are requested and can be made at the following number: (418) 698-4554.





# SPS Scholarship winner publishes seminal book

By Anne Forrest

The name Simon Jolivet may be familiar to many of you as it has appeared in *Nuacht* many times. From 2005 until 2008, he was a recipient of three St. Patrick's Society Graduate Scholarships in Irish Studies. Also, during the presidency of Mary McDaid, the Society also supported Simon financially when he helped to organize the first Québec-Irlande conferences with Isabelle Matte and Linda Cardinal for the big ACFAS Congress (Association francophone pour le savoir).



Photo: Benoît Jolivet

Simon Jolivet

and posed important historical questions well beyond those notable historians of the Irish in Quebec who have preceded him. This book illustrates his ability to research thoroughly, while creatively and courageously challenging historians and historical geographers who often articulate the existence of an "Irish Canadian Identity" without consideration to factors of limited identities based on region, urban or rural settlement, religion, gender, language, politics, or interaction with their neighbours. His book is a very important exploration of the commonalities between Irish and French Canadian Catholics, who despite the enmity between their cousins in Ontario over Regulation 17, limiting French-language education, found common cause amidst the politics of Montreal during the Great War and over the struggle for Irish Home Rule in the early 1920s. This is a major contribution to the history of the Irish in Canada and to Quebec historiography."

Today, Simon is a postdoctoral fellow at the Centre de recherche en civilisation canadienne-française, University of Ottawa. He is teaching Canadian and Irish history courses and is also doing comparative studies on the Irish and French Canadians in Québec and Ontario (1840-1940). His interests are the history of Ireland and Québec/Canada, of the Irish diaspora in North America and of Québec's ethnocultural minorities.

A review of the *Le vert et le bleu*: appeared recently in *Le Devoir* and may be accessed by going to <http://www.ledevoir.com/culture/livres/322765/les-irlandais-du-pays-de-nelligan>. Copies of Simon's book are available at Renaud-Bray or at the Presses de l'Université de Montréal website: <http://www.pum.umontreal.ca/ca/fiches/978-2-7606-2223-4g.html>. The price is \$34.95.

Simon has recently published a book entitled: *Le vert et le bleu: identité québécoise et identité irlandaise au tournant du XXe siècle* (Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 2011), 292 p. It is the first book ever published in Canada and in French which deals with the impact of the Irish political revolution in Québec. Simon Jolivet argues that both the Irish and French Canadian communities of Montréal and of Québec City took a deep interest in the Irish political and nationalistic question that led to the creation of the Irish Free State and of Northern Ireland in 1920-1921. While Ireland and the various Irish political parties of the time (Irish Parliamentary Party, Sinn Féin, Unionist Party) are studied in depth, it is nonetheless the Province of Québec that is the main focus of this work. From the June 1898 Montreal Centennial Commemoration of Ireland's 1798 Rising to the formation of the Irish Canadian Rangers Battalion during the Great War and to the foundation of the Self Determination for Ireland League of Canada and Newfoundland in 1920, Jolivet shows that both the Irish and French Québécois political and religious élites, for various reasons, supported Ireland in her struggle for political freedom from Westminster.

Mark McGowan, PhD, Professor of Irish-Canadian History and Principal at St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, states:

"Simon Jolivet's work is pioneering both in terms of the way he has blended the stories of two vital Canadian communities—French and Irish—and their struggles in the cities of Montreal and Quebec, but also in the way in which he has mined a diverse selection of primary sources



## Patrick Joseph Vallely: a man for all seasons

By Tim Hine

Cine Gael, the Montreal Irish community, and indeed the world have lost a great man. Patrick Joseph Vallely passed away on March 9<sup>th</sup> following a nine-week stay at the Jewish General Hospital. He lived his final days with the same dignity, humour and wit that had carried him through his seventy-year journey on this earth.

His last conversation was about marrying his beloved Marie and also his boyhood in Ireland. He was able to muster a smile before returning to sleep and even at this time of stress, he made a joke. The very caring nurse, just one of many of the staff who had fallen in love with this wonderful man, asked him if there were many wild animals where he grew up: "No," Patrick replied, "the animals were mostly domesticated. It was the people who were wild."

The mark of a fine life is to have exploited this caprice of nature to its fullest and to have made a profound positive influence, not only upon one's kin but with equal generosity to all. Patrick Joseph Vallely had a fine life. As a handsome young rugby player in Limerick, he courted and won the beautiful Marie Kennedy and their adventure took them around the globe, absorbing and exuding culture, forging friendship and family.

Together they nurtured and nourished three children, Kevin, Anne, and Michael, whose talents and accomplishments in eclectic fields would take a documentary to chronicle. Patrick was a critical element in their successes and his input on their work will be irreplaceable.

The loss of Patrick to Cine Gael is impossible to quantify here. He was industrious in tracking down films and interesting speakers, has left us the legacy of his art work adorning t-shirts around the city and was truly a driving force from season to season. His input and sense of humour have left a giant gap at our committee meetings.

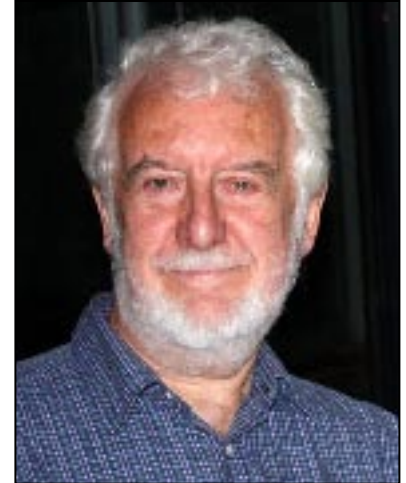


Photo: Brigid Tierney

*Patrick Vallely celebrating Kevin Tierney's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, 2010, at the Cinematheque Quebecoise*

He was a man of the world in every sense. He was well travelled, cultured, widely literate, and fed his international students news from legitimate sources fresh from morning newscasts in order to help them make sense of the world. He was an encyclopedia of film and music, an artist whose hand clearly lives on through the generations. But perhaps more than anything, he was a fabulous listener. And it is this that I shall miss the most.



## Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Tara Golf Club

By Diane Liben

Tara Golf Club is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year of operation. We gather together once a month from May to October to play golf at various golf courses in Quebec, Ontario and the U.S.A. Our first tournament of the 2011 season will be held at Valleyfield Golf Course on May 28<sup>th</sup>. We are proud to say that one of the original members of Tara, George Mulqueen, our vice-president, is still golfing with us. Our first president in 1961 was the late Mike Cooney. His brother, Ed Cooney, is still a regular at our tournaments.

Our constitution states that Tara Golf Club was originally called "The Irish Canadian Golfing Society." Its main objective at the time was the keeping together of Irish immigrants by playing golf, holding socials and thereby helping to preserve their culture and identity. Subsequently, it was thought the name should be changed to something more flexible and as a result Tara Golf Association or Club came into being. The name was changed as other people were desirous of joining who would not have been able to do so under the original concept. The name Tara was chosen as



*Kay Farrell presenting George Mulqueen with the Gerry Farrell Memorial Shield at Adirondack Golf Club, September 12, 2009*

it was the ancient capital of Ireland where, according to tradition, St. Patrick lit the Pascal Fire and also where the ancient kings of Ireland were crowned. As there are different ethnic groups or nationalities in Ireland, Tara opened its membership to those wishing to join who would continue to foster and promote its aims and objectives. As a result of this change in the constitution, Tara is now made up of a rainbow of nationalities all sharing a common interest in the game of golf.

We continue to welcome new members especially those in the Irish community, to insure continued rejuvenation and viability. If you would like more information about joining Tara, please call Pat O'Shea, our membership chairperson, who has held a variety of positions on the Board over many years. She can be reached at (514) 697-8889. As the 26<sup>th</sup> person to serve as

Tara's president, I am looking forward to another enjoyable year of friendly competition.



# Damage control needed for the Catholic Church in Ireland

By Neil McKenty

Fall-out from the sex abuse scandal continues to ravage the Irish Church. As the truth comes out about abusive institutions and pedophile priests and episcopal collusion in covering up the scandals, great damage is being done.

The number of people who identify as Catholic is dropping rapidly (it may now be below 50 percent), while vocations have evaporated (in 2007, 228 nuns died, while only two took their final vows; in 2007, 160 priests died, while only nine were ordained).

Collateral damage has also hit the Irish Catholic school system. Both the economic crisis and the abuse scandal together are threatening faith-based schools at every level. Recently Ireland's teacher accreditation body, the Teaching Council, criticized Catholic teacher-training colleges of education for spending too much on religious studies and not enough on civics, science and foreign languages.

The retired president of a state university wrote in The Irish Times that "primary teacher education has yet to be removed from church control," and called the public funding of colleges "under the firm control of a board chaired by a bishop" an "anachronism."

This statement and others like it highlights how the financial crisis in Ireland is providing cover for serious ideological attacks that betray a high level of bigotry and intolerance.

In January, the Irish government published its "National Strategy for Higher Education in 2030." The report makes it clear that far more resources will be required as higher education continues to meet growing demand in the years ahead. However, it is also clear that the state intends both to reduce dependency on state-funding and to tighten its control on the faith-based sector.

One of those who has written most knowledgeably of the current situation is Peadar Cremin, the president of Mary Immaculate College in Limerick. He is not optimistic. "This policy has the capacity to force the closure of a number of faith-based colleges. While it may be invidious to refer to historical precedents, such as the dissolution of the

Irish monasteries by Henry V111 or the period of the Penal Laws when Catholic education was proscribed, it is clear that current official strategy represents a serious attack upon the sector. If the policy is not challenged and reversed there is every likelihood that few Catholic colleges will continue in existence."

Professor Cremin thinks that the way forward is to consolidate a number of existing colleges into a form of university that is different in mission from the existing Irish universities. He points out that the total student number across all of the existing Catholic institutions in Ireland, north and south, would merit recognition as a reasonably-sized university, were all of those institutions to be federated as one.

Ultimately, the future of Catholic education in Ireland depends on resources. Given the scope and depth of Ireland's current fiscal crisis, it is clear that alternative funding sources must be put in place. In the case of Professor Cremin's college, Mary Immaculate, losing state-funding would leave a short-fall of 10 million euro annually in an institution that does not have an endowment.

Ireland does not yet show evidence of the kind of philanthropic culture that might support an initiative to build a Catholic university. There is no significant Catholic foundation nor is there a tradition of establishing institutional endowments. For example, Mary Immaculate College has never had alumni (or others) who remembered the institution in their wills. This is in contrast with the experience of Catholic institutions in the United States, where it is the norm for alumni to give back to their colleges.

Professor Cremin says "Ireland desperately needs a strong Catholic university and an academy able to give voice to Catholic thought. In other countries, Catholic university graduates offer this voice. This option is not available in Ireland, which consequently lacks the power-house for the formation of intellectual leadership and for the promotion of intellectual discourse in a clear and unapologetic manner that is essential in an increasingly secularized Ireland."



## MIRFC (cont.)

and fitter side. Given that this was the first game of rugby for quite a few rookies, it was a good performance and the score line of 24 - 0 shouldn't be taken to mean too much.

Indoor training has now finished for the season and practice has moved outside to Parc Dupuis in Verdun. All players are welcome and beginners are also encouraged to come out and give the sport a try. Training sessions for both men and women are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:15 until around 8:00 p.m.

For more information, visit our website [www.mirfc.ca](http://www.mirfc.ca) for more details or email [info@mirfc.ca](mailto:info@mirfc.ca) if you have any questions. We look forward to your support in 2011. There are also sponsorship opportunities available for 2011 and anyone interested can contact Mark Gallagher, [president@mirfc.ca](mailto:president@mirfc.ca).



## Gaelic Athletic Association offers training

Gaelic football and hurling training has begun and are now in full swing. Beginners are welcome.

Hurling/camogie training is held every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Parc Jeanne Mance (nearest metro is Mont-Royal). Hurleys are provided.

Gaelic football-skills training is held every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Rutherford Park. Beginners are welcome.

Fitness training is held every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., also in Rutherford Park.

Please email [montrealshamrocksgaa@gmail.com](mailto:montrealshamrocksgaa@gmail.com) for more information.





# What you may have missed from the Irish papers!

By Paul Dunne

## What if Ireland just refuses to pay its debt?

Morgan Kelly, an economist and lecturer at a Dublin University, wrote a very provocative article in the Irish Times at the beginning of May. According to Professor Kelly, Ireland is completely banjaxed (to use the correct scientific term) and the only way out is to default on its debt obligations to the IMF and EU. This means balancing the national budget right away because once you default on other debt, your credit cards will be cancelled. He predicts Ireland's total debt load will be €250bn Euro by 2015. Think \$2.4 trillion in Canadian equivalent dollars. However, as Professor Kelly puts it, "if you (the European Central Bank) lend €160bn to insolvent banks backed by an insolvent state, you are no longer the creditor: you are the owner."

An important difference between Ireland and the other bail-out recipients (Portugal and Greece) is that while all three need funding to cover their ongoing budget deficits, only Ireland is borrowing on top of that to bail out its failed banks. This does not sit well with the Irish public since these loans do not benefit Ireland directly yet saddle the Irish taxpayer with debt for the sole purpose of rescuing foreign investors (mostly European banks) who had been foolish enough to lend to irresponsible Irish banks.

While there's a "stick it to the banks" mood among the general Irish readership, mainstream economists and politicians for the most part condemned the article as "simplistic" and "populist" and there's little likelihood it will influence government policy in the short term. However, the article may just turn out to be yet another "I-told-you-so" moment for Morgan Kelly if things turn out the way he thinks they will and Ireland is eventually incapable of meeting all its debt obligations.

It may seem unimaginable that such a terrible fate would befall the Irish but then who could have predicted Greece would be back, cap in hand, looking for a second bail-out after only one year? Hmmm – let me think – everyone?

## Don't try this at home!

There's only a 365 to 1 chance you'll die on your birthday (or 366 to 1 if it's a leap year) but that assumes you stick to a glass or two of champagne and don't celebrate like Graham Parish did on his 26<sup>th</sup> and final birthday. Graham decided that he should burn the birthday candles at both ends and order a cocktail. Not just any cocktail mind you, this one would be the cocktail to end all cocktails – as it turned out to be. Graham ordered eight shots in a pint glass and downed them in one go. He soon lost consciousness and died from what the coroner diagnosed to be acute alcohol poisoning.

So began a landmark court case which was the first of its kind prosecuted under Ireland's liquor liability laws. The barman who served him and the manager who authorized the sale were each charged with involuntary manslaughter. On May 12<sup>th</sup>, Judge Tom Teehan directed a jury to find the two men not guilty because although he felt the state had met the test of gross negligence by the barmen, they had not satisfied the need to show that such negligence was the cause of Mr. Parish's demise. In short he found that although it was negligent of the bar staff to serve a lethal cocktail, the responsibility for consuming it was still the customer's.

While I have great sympathy for the family of Mr. Parish, I felt a wee bit sorry for the barmen. The new law pioneered a change in drinking culture in Ireland and maybe there ought to have been some sort of mandate in advance of its implementation to have bar owners retrain their staff on the dangers of serving excess drink to customers. The accused have had the agonizing prospect of a jail sentence hanging over them for almost three years and their stress is not over because the state may still appeal. Regardless of the final outcome, it is clear that a strong message is being sent to bar owners about the meaning of responsible service. But the real message underlined by Judge Teehan is that the customer makes the final decision to drink or not. Responsible drinking means taking responsibility for what you drink – which may sometimes have fatal consequences.



## An extract from Patrick M. Shea's letter to Ambassador Ray Bassett

On behalf of the directors and members of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal, I wish to offer the most sincere condolences of the Society to the Irish people and to the Government of Ireland on the sad occasion of the death of Dr. Garret FitzGerald.

As numerous tributes to Dr. FitzGerald pour in from across Ireland and from around the world, we too wish to formally register ours. We recognize the very significant contribution that Dr. FitzGerald made to public and academic life in Ireland, in particular with respect to helping to achieve a lasting peace within Ireland and between Ireland and Britain. We know that Ireland has made enormous social and economic advances over the past two or three generations in large part because of Dr. FitzGerald's commitment to, and excellence in, public service and his quest for progressivism in Ireland before, during and after his terms as Taoiseach.

The Society is very proud that Dr. FitzGerald delivered the inaugural St. Patrick's Society of Montreal lecture in Canadian Irish Studies in September 2006 at Concordia. The topic of Dr. FitzGerald's lecture that evening was "Imagining Ireland in 2020." Although Dr. FitzGerald will not, sadly, be around to see the Ireland of nine years from now, one certainly does not have to imagine too creatively to envision a modern and progressive nation in 2020 about which the contemporaries of Dr. FitzGerald could only dream when they were children.

Mailed on May 24, 2011



Photo: Anne Forrest

Dr. Garret FitzGerald  
September 2006

# News from the School of Canadian Irish Studies

By Angie Parker

From July 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, the School, in conjunction with the Department of Design and Computation Art, will host the annual conference of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies, which will deal with the topic of Text and Beyond Text in Irish Studies: New Visual, Material & Spatial Perspectives. As well as regular panels of speakers, the conference will include keynote presentations by Henry Glassie, Paige Reynolds, Elaine Sisson and Linda King; readings by novelists Patrick McCabe and Peter Behrens, the latter, from his new novel, *The O'Briens*, to be released in July; screenings of *The Butcher Boy*, *Breakfast on Pluto* and the new film, *Famine and Shipwreck: An Irish Odyssey*, introduced by director Brian McKenna; a musical concert with Canadian fiddler Pierre Schryer, pianist Martine Billette and friends; and a special panel on Montreal's former Irish working-class neighbourhood of Griffintown. The conference will conclude on the evening of Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, with a banquet that will include an informal musical session by a dozen or so delegates.

Early registrations are now being processed, and the registration cost will include all the above events, three receptions, two light lunches, as well as coffee and snacks. Special one-day rates are also available for members of Montreal's Irish community. To register visit the website of the School of Canadian Irish Studies <http://cdnirish.concordia.ca/> or for further information, please contact Sara Spike, Event Manager, CAIS Annual Conference at [irishstu@alcor.concordia](mailto:irishstu@alcor.concordia)

## Special Announcement: Irish Language Classes Now Available at the Introduction and Intermediate levels.

The School of Canadian Irish Studies will offer a new intermediate Irish language course, as well as its beginner Irish language course, during the 2011/2012 fall and winter semesters. Both courses are worth 6 credits each. Members of the community can enroll or audit these courses

### Irish Language and Culture

Mondays 18:00 – 20:15 Instructor: Aoife Ní Riordan

### Irish Language II

Wednesdays 18:00 - 20:15 Instructor: Aoife Ní Riordan

Full List of Courses for the coming academic year:

## FALL 2011

### Irish Literary Revival

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:15 – 11:30: Claire Connolly

### Contemporary Irish Literature

Mondays 18:00 – 20:15: Michael Kenneally

### Irish Gothic Literature

Wednesdays 18:00 – 20:15: Claire Connolly

### History of Ireland

Mondays & Wednesdays 10:15 – 11:30: Gavin Foster

### Celtic Ireland: Mythology and Folklore

Mondays & Wednesdays 16:15 – 17:30: Dr. Noémie Beck

## History of the Irish in Canada

Tuesdays 18:00 – 20:15: Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin

## Irish Plays I: Dramaturgy

Tuesdays 14:45 – 17:30: Prof. TBA

## The Making of the Irish Landscape

Thursdays 14:45 – 17:30: Robert Aiken

## Introduction to Irish Studies

Wednesdays 13:15 – 16:00: Gavin Foster

## Irish Children's Literature

Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:45 – 13:00: Dr. Susan Cahill

## FALL/WINTER 2011/2012

### Irish Language and Culture (Beginners Irish)

Mondays 18:00 – 20:15: Prof. Aoife Ní Riordan

### Irish Language II (Intermediate Level)

Wednesdays 18:00 - 20:15: Prof. Aoife Ní Riordan

## WINTER 2012

### Irish Literature and Nation in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

Wednesdays 18:00 – 20:15: Dr. Susan Cahill

### Irish Traditional Music: A Global Soundscape

Mondays 18:00 – 20:15: Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin

### Film Culture in Ireland

Tuesdays 18:00 – 22:00: Prof. TBA

### History and Memory in Ireland

Wednesdays 13:15 – 16:00: Gavin Foster

### The Great Famine

Thursdays 18:00 – 20:15: Gavin Foster

### Irish Plays II: Scene Study

Tuesdays & Thursdays 14:45 – 17:30: Prof. TBA

### Contemporary Irish Women's Writing

Mondays 13:15 – 16:00: Dr. Susan Cahill

### Celtic Christianity

This course is offered on-line. Pamela Bright

Contact the School for further information on enrolling in these courses.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Irish Novelist Roddy Doyle Coming to Concordia

Roddy Doyle, Man Booker Prize Winner, author of *The Barrytown Trilogy* (*The Commitments*, *The Snapper*, and *The Van*) as well as *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*, *The Woman Who Walked into Doors*, *A Star Called Henry*, and *Paula Spencer*, will speak at Concordia in October as part of a program sponsored by the English Department's Writers Read Series and the School of Canadian Irish Studies. Check our website for more details as they become available: [www.cdirish.concordia.ca](http://www.cdirish.concordia.ca)

For information about Canadian Irish Studies courses, programmes, and scholarships, contact:  
[cdnirish@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:cdnirish@alcor.concordia.ca)  
or (514) 848-2424, ext. 8711  
or visit [www.cdirish.concordia.ca](http://www.cdirish.concordia.ca)



# Les Les ancêtres celtiques captifs de leur passion/ Na sinsir Ceilteacha gafa ag a bpaisean

Par Alexandre Boulet



Alexandre's fascinating series continues

**L**a société celtique s'organise autour d'un roi qui représente la direction divine. Il est toujours accompagné de ses druides qui sont une manifestation de cette divinité incarnée sous forme humaine. À l'intérieur de chaque clan, de braves guerriers placent leur vie en jeu, sans hésitation, pour protéger leur patrie des ennemis ou pour conquérir la terre adverse et prendre possession de l'objet de convoitise de leur roi.

Maeve est la reine guerrière de Connaught, et elle éprouve un ardent désir de suprématie et de puissance envers son mari, le roi Ailill. Mais pour afficher en toute légalité son ascendance sur lui, elle a besoin d'un taureau. Elle découvre que le royaume d'Ulster en possède un qui, de plus, est enchanté. La reine, ivre de pouvoir, dispense au roi des propositions alléchantes et débridées pour l'obtenir, mais le roi d'Ulster refuse. Rejetée, la reine engendre un spectaculaire conflit guerrier entre le royaume de Connaught (appuyé par les autres royaumes) et celui d'Ulster qui représente une étape charnière de l'épopée celtique d'Irlande.

## La royauté celtique

Outre le druide, maître incontesté des puissances invisibles, qui possède le don de déchiffrer les messages divins, une autre figure incontestable de la société celtique est le roi, sur qui repose l'ensemble du royaume. Le peuple le choisit et le druide l'intronise et approuve chacune de ses décisions. En Ulster deux rois prédominent :

### Conchubhar

L'actuel roi d'Ulster qui a détrôné le roi Fergus grâce aux manigances de sa mère, la reine Ness. Conchubhar est un souverain sévère et fastueux dont la capacité de régner sur son royaume est mise en doute. Cathbad, son druide conseiller, prédit le destin guerrier de Cúchulainn dans le conflit les opposant au Connaught.

### Fergus le géant

Fergus est le père adoptif de Cúchulainn, qui lui vient en aide lors de la razzia des vaches de Cooley (Táin Bó Cúalnge). Grâce à sa capacité à utiliser l'écriture oghamique, il réussit à inscrire, sur des dolmens et des pierres de chemin, des inscriptions qui déroutent les ennemis et ralentissent leur progression. Ces diverses incantations magiques permettent à Cúchulainn et à son armée de reprendre des forces pour poursuivre la lutte.

## Les ennemis de Cúchulainn

Le vaillant protecteur des Ulates n'est pas seul contre les armées d'Irlande. Ferdia, son frère de lait, l'appuie lors de ses tribulations guerrières. Par contre, durant la razzia, son frère est victime d'un envoûtement lancé par Maeve, le forçant à trahir Cúchulainn et à le provoquer en duel. Lors du combat qui dure plusieurs jours et plusieurs nuits, Cúchulainn essaie de le raisonner, mais le sortilège résiste. En vain, pour préserver sa vie et son peuple, le gardien des Ulates l'élimine et pleure sa mort.

## La reine Maeve

Elle est à l'origine du conflit et de tous les malheurs des Ulates depuis que le roi Conchubhar lui a refusé son taureau enchanté. Elle est prête à tous les carnages pour capturer ce taureau, car, depuis que l'une de ses bêtes a rejoint le troupeau de son mari, elle souffre d'infériorité dans son couple. Un sentiment qu'elle ne peut endurer, puisqu'elle désire la souveraineté de son royaume.

Découvrez la Táin Bó Cualinge sur mon blogue dans la section littérature. [www.lesbuzzculturels.overblog.com](http://www.lesbuzzculturels.overblog.com)



# E I R C A N

ACCOUNTING & COMPTABILITÉ

Proud to support  
the Irish  
community!

Paul Dunne, Principal

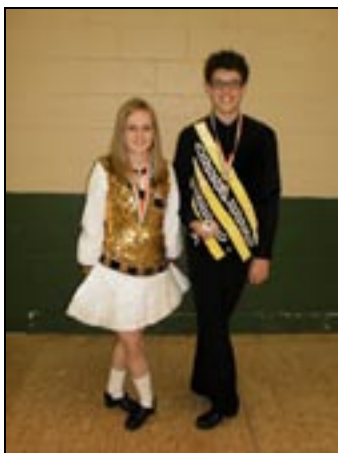
WWW.EIRCAN.COM



## People in the news ...

By Pat Short

A moving and festive air prevailed as the Four Irish Tenors broke into "The Star of the County Down" while President **Mary McAleese** moved through a crowd towards the stage at the World Championships of Irish Dancing in Dublin on April 18<sup>th</sup> last. The President of Ireland came to welcome more than 2000 dancers from Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, New Zealand and North America to this prestigious event for young boys and girls. Montreal was represented by 11 dancers who competed very well. **Lucas Lawton** (Dorval) and **Elspeth McMurray** (Senneville) brought home World Medals. Just before the gala dinner dance presentations were made to the new certified teachers and **Anne-Marie Keenan** was awarded her certificate while her proud father **Tony Keenan** was busy capturing the event on camera. Anne-Marie will continue to teach at the Chateaugay Academy of the Bernadette Short School. I also ran into former Montrealers **John** and **Eleanor Carroll** at the event and he was telling me of his plans for a Cine Gael type of organization in the Toronto area. He will be seeking advice from our own successful organizers.



World Medal Winners  
*Elspeth McMurray*  
(Senneville) and *Lucas Lawton*  
(Dorval)



*Tony Keenan, Anne-Marie Keenan*  
*T.C.R.G. and Bernadette Short*  
*A.D.C.R.G.*

Many congratulations to (SPS director) Thomas Mulcair who has been returned by the good people of Outremont to represent them in the House of Commons in Ottawa.

It's not too late to catch another stunning performance by **Kathleen McAuliffe** at The Segal Centre. Kathleen plays Mrs. Tanner in Elan Kunin's musical adaptation of Ted Allen's *Lies My Father Told Me*. Show runs until May 29<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations, Kathleen!

Congratulations to **Marilyn Meikle Rochford** on her appointment as Chair of the 2012 St. Patrick's Society Ball Committee. Having worked with Marilyn on other committees over the years, we can look forward to great things for next year and hopefully years to come.

Budding local comedian **Andrea Stanford** has been given her own show **Confessions of an Awkward Teenager** at the St Ambrose Fringe Festival (see p.23). Andrea will appear at the VOIR Stage on St-Dominique from June 10<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> Check your local listings for tickets.

You may remember a review in *Nuacht* (2008) of **Harold Griffin's** short story anthology, *fragile boys, fragile men*. We're delighted to announce that Harold has written a novel which he hopes to publish this fall. The working title is *Three Letters to Pine River*. Look for a review of this book in our September issue of *Nuacht*.



Photo: Anne Forrest

*Vivian Doyle-Kelly with his*  
*new silver tankard*

SPS director, **Vivian Doyle-Kelly**, recently stepped down as treasurer of the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce, a position he had held for 10 years. At the recent ICCC pub quiz (May 12), **Paul Loftus** presented Vivian with a silver tankard in recognition of the great job that he has done. Vivian is looking forward to taking on other responsibilities (maybe with SPS?).

The Society is happy to welcome the following new members: **Lois Duffin Mumley** (**Erin Matheson's** aunt – and now all of Erin's family are members!); **Kathleen Smith Barber** (Manager, Bombardier Aerospace); and junior member, **Marie-Pierre Turgeon**.



# GOURMET

## A VOTRE SERVICE

FROZEN MEALS • BBQ • DINNER PARTIES • CORPORATE

WWW.GOURMETAVOTRESERVICE.CA

Graham Lonergan  
Personal Chef & Caterer

★ 514-979-7934 ★ gourmet@videotron.ca ★

## The Irish Show on CJAD

By Amber Lebrun

This past March The Irish Show participated in the live broadcast of the St. Patrick's Day parade (see p. 9) and I'm pleased that there is already talk of what the plans are for next year! March Madness has flown by and as suspected, we have all survived! Be sure to stay connected with The Irish Show as there is plenty in store throughout the coming summer months!

As always The Irish Show is committed to bringing you a community-oriented show that gives our listeners a platform to share stories and discuss issues that are important to the community.

We also want to hear from you! Got a story idea, or suggestion? We want to hear about it! And let us know what you think of the show [theirishshow@cjad.com](mailto:theirishshow@cjad.com)

We at the Irish Show believe in the work that we do in promoting the endeavours of the Irish community and are always open to receiving support from the community. If you feel that your company would benefit from advertising with the Irish Show, please contact us.

Coming up on the Irish Show...

**May:** Interview with Irish Comedian Tommy Tiernan!

**June:** The Irish Show's first debate show!  
Going on vacation? Places to see and things to do in and around Ireland!

So Join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of every month, for the best of the Irish Community in Montreal! <http://www.cjad.com/IrishShow.aspx>



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

## Save the date!

COME YE HITHER TO THE RIVER,  
ON A "GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER" EVENING  
CRUISE!

FORGET THE BLACK TIES, IT'S NO FORMAL  
AFFAIR.  
JUST COME AS YOU ARE FOR THAT CASUAL  
FLAIR.

WE'LL DRINK, LAUGH AND ENJOY A WARM  
SUMMER NIGHT  
ON A RIVER CRUISE THAT WILL SURELY  
DELIGHT!

FOOD, IRISH MUSIC AND FIREWORKS "ITALIA,"  
YOU WANT TO BE SURE NOT TO MISS THIS  
REGALIA!

SO SAVE THE DATE, DON'T BE LATE!

### WHAT:

A joint Irish Protestant Benevolent Society and St. Patrick's Society evening cruise along the St. Lawrence River on board the *Navark V*, a 60ft. catamaran. This will be a cocktail-style event with food and Irish music. Irish and other beer, wine and alcohol available at cash bar. Enjoy the fireworks at 10 p.m. with Italy competing. The music will be presented by Pirotecnica Morsani SRL with the theme Angels and Demons.

### WHO:

All IPBS and SPS members, their family members and friends are invited to attend. Tickets are limited to 75 persons.

### WHEN:

Wednesday, July 13, 2011

### WHERE:

Departure and return from Quay 99, Vieux Longueuil Marina, 99 Chemin de la Rive, Vieux Longueuil.

### SCHEDULE:

Boarding at 7:30 p.m., departure at 8:00 p.m., return at 11 p.m. Parking is free at the marina.

### PRICE:

\$75.00

### PAYMENT:

May be made through the SPS website or by contacting Erin at the SPS office. Cash and cheques are accepted. Tickets need to be paid for and picked up in advance of the cruise.

### CONTACT:

Erin Matheson at (514) 481-1346 or [office@spsmtl.com](mailto:office@spsmtl.com)

## Around town

### Celt Fête – in celebration of Irish-Quebec musical traditions

At 4 p.m. on May 29, the Chœur des enfants de Montreal under its director Andrew Gray will present its annual spring concert at the Eric J. Maclean Centre for the Performing Arts. For the first time in their 10-year history, the choirs of the CEM will come together to perform with dancers and a full Irish Band to celebrate Quebec folk music and the strong influence that came particularly from Ireland but also from Scotland, England and France.

The young singers, accompanied by the CEM Irish Band and the dancers of Bernadette Short School, will perform songs, reels and jigs from a variety of origins and demonstrate how the European styles of old have influenced and been absorbed into the modern cultural life of Quebec.

For information and tickets: 450-458-7129 / [info@choeurdesenfantsdemontreal.com](mailto:info@choeurdesenfantsdemontreal.com). Adults: \$20, Seniors: \$15, Students/children: \$10.

### Andrea Stanford – great Montreal comedian

If you're looking for a fun evening, take in a performance of *Verbal Diary - Ah: Confessions of an Awkward Teenager*. Join Andrea as she shares harrowing yet hilarious tales from her adolescence; from first beers to "first time," then responds to these angst-ridden tirades 15 years later. Was all that worrying necessary? Has anything even changed? Andrea, who currently works for CBC, also moonlights as a stand-up comedian (one of the best in Montreal!). Shows run from June 10<sup>th</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup> (at various times) and take place at Venue #4 (right behind the beer tent!), 4247 Saint Dominique. Tickets are \$9.00 (general admission) or \$7.00 (students/seniors). Contact the box office at (514) 849-3378 for more information, or email [andreastanf@yahoo.com](mailto:andreastanf@yahoo.com). Andrea, a member of St. Patrick's Society, was featured in the May 2008 edition of *Nuacht*. We are proud to promote this latest production and encourage you to support her in what promises to be a great show.

### Irish Reading Group's June session

Maggie O'Farrell's novel, *The Hand That First Held Mine*, will be the subject of the Irish Reading Group's get-together at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Hurley's Irish Pub. For more information, contact [cmdurdack@hotmail.com](mailto:cmdurdack@hotmail.com)

### ICCC Summer Irish Get-together

Plan to be on the back terrace of Hurley's Irish Pub on Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. That is when the annual summer get-together for ICCC members and friends will be held for two hours from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Take along your business cards. There will be complimentary finger-food and a cash bar. For more information, visit [www.icccmtl.com](http://www.icccmtl.com) or contact (514) 845-0973.

### Irish Family Day 2011 – save the date!

On August 14, the Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club will host the second annual Irish Family Day at their grounds in St Julie, just outside Montreal. This is an event organized by the combined efforts of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal, United Irish Societies, the Gaelic Athletic Association, Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce, the rugby club and other members of the Irish Community.

There will be exhibition games of rugby, Gaelic football and perhaps even hurling, clinics or workshops on some of these sports, and an old-fashioned tug-of-war (sign up early – spaces are limited!).

For the children, there will be face painting, the tried-and-true egg and spoon race, balloon races, hay rides and more. You can also catch a presentation of the Point St. Charles Theatre doing their Joe Beef skits and enjoy some musical guests as well. We also hope to have a pie-eating contest.

Many of the details are still being sorted out, but this promises to be a fun-filled day with many interesting activities.

Look for details and updates on the Society's website [www.spsmtl.com](http://www.spsmtl.com).

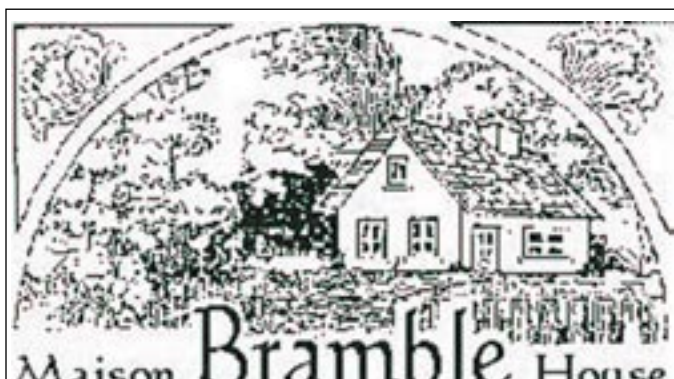


### NUAUGHT Advertising Rates

	Per Issue	Yearly (4 Issues)
Business Card	\$75.00	\$250.00
Quarter Page	\$150.00	\$500.00
Half Page	\$250.00	\$800.00
Full Page	\$400.00	\$1,300.00

#### Please Note:

If you are receiving *NUAUGHT* and have not paid your annual subscription or would like to be put on the *NUAUGHT* mailing list, please remit \$25.00 to Erin Matheson at the Society Office.



**Maison Bramble House, 57 Donegani, Pointe Claire, H9R 2V8**  
**Tel: 514-630-6363 Fax: 514-630-9767**  
**[www.bramblehouse.net](http://www.bramblehouse.net) [info@bramblehouse.net](mailto:info@bramblehouse.net)**



## 2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / CLÁR IMEACHTAÍ 2011

DATE	EVENT	FURTHER INFORMATION	
May 26	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
May 28	Mass for deceased members & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Mass for Fr. Thomas McEntee, St. Patrick's Basilica, 12:15 p.m.	John Faherty	365-0449
May 28	Tara Golf Tournament, Valleyfield Golf Club, QC	Diane Moore Liben	457-3148
May 29	AOH Annual Walk to the Stone, following 10:30 mass at St. Gabriel's Church, 2157 Center St.	Victor Boyle	928-7196
June 3	Innisfail FM, NDG Legion, corner Addington and De Maisonneuve, 7 p.m.	Anne Cruise-Broden (450)	465-3421
June 14	SPS 16 <sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament, Club de Golf Bellevue, \$125 p.p./\$500 foursome	Erin Matheson	481-1346
June 15	ICCC Summer Irish Get-together, Hurley's Pub (back terrace), 1225 Crescent, 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
June 16	SPS Annual General Meeting, Atwater Club, 3505 Atwater St., 7 p.m.	Erin Matheson	481-1346
June 18	Tara Golf Tournament, La Cité, Hawkesbury, ON	Diane Moore Liben	457-3148
June 30	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
July 9/10	Tara Golf Tournament, Craig Wood, Lake Placid, N.Y.	Diane Moore Liben	457-3148
July 13	SPS & IPBS joint summer cruise (see details p.22), \$75.00	Erin Matheson	481-1346
July 28	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Aug. 13	Tara Golf Tournament, Glengarry Golf Club, Alexandria, ON	Diane Moore Liben	457-3148
Aug. 14	Irish Family Day, MIRFC rugby pitch, St Julie (see details p. 23)	Karen Bright	554-1679
Aug. 25	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Sep. 10	Tara Golf Tournament, Adirondack Golf Club, Peru, N.Y.	Diane Moore Liben	457-3148
Sep. 29	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	ICCC	845-0973
Oct. 1	Tara Golf Tournament, Caughnawaga Golf Club, Kahnawake, QC	Diane Moore Liben	457-3148
Oct. 14	SPS First Family Fall Fashion Show, Holiday Inn Midtown, \$65.00 (\$75.00 after Sep. 1)	Carol McCormick	386-8082
Oct. 22	Erin Sports 80 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Buffet Il Gabbiano, 1550 rue Lapierre, LaSalle, \$80.00	Francis Baddely	767-2415



### Andrea Bobkowicz

Sun Life Buildings  
1155 Metcalfe, Suite 1438  
Montreal, Quebec H3B 4S9  
Telephone: (514) 871-4339  
1-866-843-3088  
Fax: (514) 843-4447  
E-Mail: [andrea.bobkowicz@nbf.ca](mailto:andrea.bobkowicz@nbf.ca)

### St. Patrick Square

6767 Côte St. Luc Road  
(514) 481-9609

*Discover a unique apartment community where autonomous individuals 55 plus enjoy our award-winning gardens, 9-hole putting green, shuffleboard, billiard room, gym, library, indoor swimming pool, sauna and many in-house activities that make apartment living among your peers more enjoyable.*

***Now Renting!***