



Christmas concert moves to Loyola's new Centre for the Performing Arts

By Kathleen Dunn

The annual St. Patrick's Society Christmas Concert will take place on Wednesday, December 7th at 7:30 p.m., at the new Loyola High School Centre for the Performing Arts on West Broadway in NDG. "After 12 years at St. Patrick's Basilica downtown, we thought it was time for a change," says new Concert Chair Rob Brodrick. "And we figured it would be a good opportunity to show off the new auditorium as well as to remind everyone of Loyola's Irish roots," he adds.

This year's program will feature the Loyola High School Concert Band and the combined Loyola High School and Queen of Angels Academy choirs, all under the direction of John Pasquini, plus soloist Sandra D'Angelo, and the always popular Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing and Celtic Grace Dancers. The emcee will be Ernie Butler, host of the Irish Radio Show on CJAD.

Loyola's new 750-seat auditorium is the last phase of a three-year \$15.5 million expansion project which included 14 new high-tech classrooms on three floors, an atrium or recreation area linking the new building to the old, and full-size weight and wrestling rooms in the basement. Director of Development, Jim Pearson, is delighted with the results. The lighting and sound are "good enough for Broadway," he says. The regular proscenium stage can be adjusted if a thrust stage is needed and front-row seats are removable to make room for an orchestra pit. Every seat in the house is a good seat, Pearson



An interior view of the new Performing Arts Centre

tells us. Tests show that the sound is the same in every seat and the sight lines are perfect, even in the balcony.

The auditorium can accommodate the entire student body plus staff for liturgies, general assemblies, concerts and theatre productions, something which has not been possible till now. They have already used the new facility for a Canadian Martyrs Mass and a Remembrance Day ceremony this month. "Already there is increased interest in our music program," Pearson notes. The official opening is scheduled for Sunday, December 4th, at which time the atrium will be dedicated to Montreal's English-speaking bishops.

The SPS Christmas Concert is our final fundraising event of the year and works in two ways to meet our objectives. Not only do we add the proceeds to our general fund for disbursement among our many causes, but we also share ticket sales at source with a number of sister organizations that agree to sell a block of tickets on our behalf.

Brodrick reports that Power Corporation has agreed to be a major sponsor. He is also inviting members to become patrons. As an

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A Word from the President

In the last issue of *NUACHT*, I concluded my comments by saying that ours is a vibrant Society in a living Irish community in which we have played a pivotal role for one hundred and seventy one years. It was not planned this way, but in this issue of *NUACHT* we continue to support this theme with a focus on the past, present and future. And as I look through this issue, I can say that we are continuing proudly in the footsteps of those who have gone before as we build our community.

The article on the Lindsay Rehabilitation Hospital tells a long forgotten story from the past that, like others we've told this year in *NUACHT*, needed retelling – the Lindsay has deep Irish roots and many involved with its founding and operations over the years have had direct involvement with SPS. It is a fine example of our community's contribution to the healthcare fabric of Montreal.

In terms of the present we feature too in this issue the opening of The Loyola Centre for the Performing Arts - a new 750-seat theatre described by Fr. Alan Fogarty of Loyola as "The largest and most technically advanced theatre facility in the

city west of Place des Arts." Located in Loyola High School, our Annual Christmas Concert will take place there on Wednesday, December 7th. at 7:30 p.m.

We've also added what we hope will be a permanent column on the Irish language. It's bi-lingual! The present article on Irish proverbs was inspired by an inquiry we had from a reader about putting an Irish language greeting on one's cell phone – surely linking the ancient language from our forebears' past with our present.

There's an interview with Fr. John Walsh, Pastor of St. John Brebeuf and the new President of Catholic Community Services. He talks eloquently about the need for the Roman Catholic Church to embrace a culture of truth that listens to and gives expression to its grass roots. And the piece on Ireland of the future, while based on recent events and largely tongue in cheek, has a certain ring of hope for future communal peace in Ireland.

I referred above to the Christmas Concert and the change of venue. Since its foundation, over ten years ago now, the concert has been held at St. Patrick's Basilica and at that location for many it has become the opening event of the Holiday Season. I would like to take this opportunity to express, on behalf of St. Patrick's Society and on my own behalf, our sincere thanks to the Pastors and staff, past and present, of the Basilica for those years of service.

We have a second event planned for Loyola High School. I hope to see you all at the Society's Christmas Reception which will be held there at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 12, 2005.

Finally, I would like to wish to all our members and friends a very happy Christmas and every good wish for 2006 – *Nollag Shona dhiabh go léir!*

John Little

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Deadline for submissions for next issue: Feb. 1

Scholarship winners announced

The Centre for Canadian Irish Studies is pleased to announce this year's winners of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation's scholarships. These annual scholarships, made available through the generosity of the Foundation's supporters and in particular the generous annual contribution of the St. Patrick's Society of Montreal, are awarded on the basis of academic excellence to undergraduate students enrolled in the Canadian Irish Studies Program or to graduate students who are working on an Irish topic.

Graduate Scholarships (awarded to students in a graduate degree with a research focus on an Irish or Irish-Canadian topic)

| Scholarship | Amount Awarded | Recipient |
|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| St. Patrick's Society | \$3,000 | Simon Jolivet, Ph.D. <i>History</i> |
| St. Patrick's Society | \$2,000 | Brad Kent, Ph.D. <i>Humanities</i> |

Lindsay Rehab first in its class

By Kathleen Dunn

The Lindsay Rehabilitation Hospital on Hudson Road in the Côte des Neiges area of Montreal is a gem in Quebec's health care system but remains a well-kept secret unless one is in need of its services. We are grateful to Rita and Gerry Gallagher, former St. Patrick's Society members, for bringing it to our attention and for sharing their hospital and family history (the two are intertwined).

The Lindsay Rehabilitation Hospital is one of the largest rehabilitation hospitals in Quebec and the oldest in Canada and owes its existence to a group of far-sighted and dedicated women and to some very generous benefactors.

In 1900 a group of women got together in Montreal to form the Loyola Literary Club. Its objective, according to its constitution published in the year book for 1903-04, was "mental improvement and united efforts towards the fostering of a higher literary taste." A further objective was "contributing towards some work of charity during the year." The work of the Club was divided into four areas: literature and art, debates, social, and charitable works. Membership was open to "Catholic young ladies interested in any of the above."

Within ten years, membership had grown to 105 regular members and 25 associate members or patrons. The Hospital and Poor Committee in one year alone made 100 visits to city hospitals and 93 visits to the poor and sick in their homes, made weekly distributions of food to the poor and flowers and candies to the hospitals, donated 30 Christmas baskets, and gave away 602 pieces of clothing. They even bought a lot in Côte des Neiges Cemetery for, according to the 1913-14 year book, "the burial of friendless poor."

It was in this spirit of concern for the poor that Club discussions turned to the need for some place of shelter for poor patients coming out of hospital and, although no longer critically ill, still weak and unfit for work, and very often homeless and hopeless. With the encouragement of the Club Moderator, Father E. J. Devine, S.J., the ladies met at the home of Lady Hingston on December 21st, 1913, and decided to buy a house on Overdale Avenue large enough to accommodate 12 patients. By April, 1914, the *Loyola Convalescent Home* was up and running, the first of its kind in North America.

The Home's first annual report lists 76 donations and over 500 subscriptions of anywhere from \$1.00 to \$200.00. The majority of the names are Irish and St. Patrick's Society contributed \$100.00. It is obvious that, from the outset, the Loyola Convalescent Home and the Loyola Literary Club had strong community support. The Report also shows that the Home cared for 148 patients in its first year of operation, with an average stay of 14 days per patient. And the daily cost of maintenance per patient? Seventy cents! The Home was open to everyone, regardless of language, nationality, colour or creed.



Who was Sir Charles W. Lindsay?

Charles W. Lindsay was born in Montreal in 1856. Blind from adolescence, he studied the tuning and repair of pianos at the Perkins Institute for the Blind in Boston and returned to Montreal to practice his trade. Ever the entrepreneur, he quickly turned to selling pianos. He started modestly with refurbished ones and then obtained the Heintzman piano agency in 1883. He kept acquiring distributorships, eventually selling pianos under his own brand, C. W. Lindsay & Co. He was made a knight of the British Empire in 1935 because of his philanthropy. He gave generously to hospitals and charitable organizations and funded numerous musical prizes and awards. He died in 1939.

The Home's Charter was signed in 1915 by the Misses Lillie McCabe, Margaret Jones, Stella Brown, Sara Tansey, Florence Wickham, Eva McGuirk, Margery Walsh, Elizabeth O'Connell, Mabel Poupore, and Winnifred McGrail, as well as by Dr. E. J. C. Kennedy (St. Patrick's Society President, 1898-99 and 1923-24), Dr. E. J. Mullally, Dr. W. G. Kennedy (SPS President, 1913-14), Hon. J. J. Guerin, M.D. (SPS President, 1895-97 and Mayor of Montreal, 1910-1912), Leo G. Ryan, M. J. Stack, F. H. Phelan, J. J. Gallagher, Fitzjames E. Browne, and J. C. Walsh, K.C. (SPS President, 1911). Most of these people (again, note the Irish names) remained active in the evolving hospital for years, including Florence Wickham who was still on the Board of Directors for the 50th anniversary in 1964, and Sara Tansey who served as Hospital Administrator until her death in 1963.

Convalescence in the early days meant rest, good food, helping with household chores, and lots of TLC. It wasn't long before

Pastor to the PM and the new President of CCS

“We have to build a new Catholic culture.” – Fr. John Walsh

By Ned Eustace

Sometimes controversial, down to earth, earthy even, never short of an opinion and generally willing to express it, the new President of Catholic Community Services will likely leave his mark on the organization, as he has done everywhere throughout his career. Fr. John Walsh is pastor of the Christian Community of St. John Brebeuf in LaSalle; counts Prime Minister Martin as a parishioner; has a phone-in radio show on CJAD between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. on Sundays. Fr. John, an Irishman of distinction, is much-loved by his flock, has many loyal friends and was recently interviewed by *NUACHT*.

NE - What's the Irish connection in your family?

JW - On my father's side we go back five generations – they came over during the famine period from Cork. My maternal grandfather, Maurice Quinlan, came later from near Limerick. He moved from Sillery, a suburb of Quebec City, to Montreal where I was born.

My father walked in the parade every year until he died. We belonged to Holy Family parish in north-end Montreal where life centred on the parish, St. Patrick's Day and the St. Patrick's Day play.

It was a very tough neighbourhood, really an ethnic melting-pot but in a very good sense, with mutual respect – and unity came through all the Irish customs and traditions. There was no animosity, we were all just different and we had great priests. I remember Fr. Schultz; I still speak with him. He's now 83. He was very human, you know, a wonderful guy. He made going to confession easy when we were teenagers.

NE - How did you progress from this into the priesthood?

JW - I don't know. Recently someone asked me, “When did you decide to be a priest?” I told him, when I woke up this morning.

NE - Was Fr. Schultz reflective of the Catholic Church of the time?

JW - Oh yes, of the English Catholic church in Montreal. We had another pastor, Fr. Sutton, and I learned a great deal from that man too. He would sit on the bench at the rectory right next to this guy who was disheveled, had bad breath, and I said, “Why do you sit with him like that?” He said, “That's Jesus sitting next to me. I have his money for the month, from the war, and I give him a little every week so he doesn't drink it all in one shot.” And then he said, “The night I changed and really understood all this, a fellow knocked on my door, his family lived across the street, it was two o'clock in the morning, he was an alcoholic, he didn't have a place to sleep and he was a priest. You'll never know who's going to knock on your door, John.” I can still hear him saying that to me.



Biographical Details – Fr. John Walsh

Born: Holy Family Parish, Montreal, August 29, 1942

School:

Holy Family Elementary School
Cardinal Newman High School

Religious Education:

Grand Seminaire- Licentiate in Theology 1966
Rome – Licentiate in Sacred Scripture 1973-1976
Hebrew University, Jerusalem – Diploma 1975

Ordained to the Priesthood in 1966

Website: www.johnbrebeuf.ca

e-mail: fatherjohn@johnbrebeuf.ca

Appointments:

Associate Pastor, Pastor, School Chaplain, Chaplain to several Diocesan Movements, Episcopal Vicar.

Community Awards:

Canadian Jewish Congress: **Friendship Award**
Canadian Zionist Federation: **Jerusalem Prize**
Canadian Jewish Congress: **Ezechial Hart Award**
Gord Sinclair National Broadcasting Award
New York Festivals **World Gold Medal Winner**

Bishop Alex Carter was my pastor too and he was an intellectual but also really down to earth. Alex Carter challenged himself and challenged the Church and, even in his 80s he was still challenging the Church.

NE - You're pretty good at challenging the Church yourself.

JW - Oh, sure, once in a while ...

These priests were wonderful examples for me. When we had a pastor who was an alcoholic. my Dad would say, “John, he's sick,

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Pastor (cont.)

we've got to get him help," and he ended up being an incredible human being for the rest of his life. I also lived with a priest who was an alcoholic. Twice we got him into recovery and he died as the "drunken" priest. He used to say, "Morning people, it's me again, the drunken priest, I'm still recovering but I'm doing OK today." And that's how he preached, and when he died you couldn't get a seat in the Church. But it wasn't easy living with him. I was just ordained and I was interim pastor. I was six months ordained and when my pastor lost his leg through illness, the Bishop made me the administrator of the parish. I was sent the alcoholic, and still had the Alzheimer-stricken former pastor in residence. Another priest joined us and he had been married outside the Church and was now returning to serve again in the priesthood. That was my first introduction to the Church as a priest! It was tough but it taught me to be human, it taught me to be forgiving, to be compassionate, and to be understanding.

NE - Your career has taken you in many directions, you've done a lot of things, care to talk about them? Did I see you on TV in Rome during the late Pope's funeral?

JW - Yes, I was sent over by Standard Broadcasting. It was very interesting, very worthwhile and a very good experience. You know what I say: the door opens, so let's walk through. My sister, Marlene Robitaille, came along as well. It was the first time ever we had any real time together.

In 1969 I took a group of kids from the parish to Europe. And then in 1971 I met a Korean fellow who opened a school there for handicapped kids and he invited us to Korea on a student exchange. So I took 37 kids there and we built a school. It's now a leading Asian centre for the hearing impaired and mentally challenged. We received \$15,500 from the Prime Minister's father, Paul Martin Sr. – he was a great guy too – and then we raised \$250,000 worth of materials and Mr. Martin found \$50,000 to help put all of it together. Then one day I said to Bishop Crowley I'd love to go for a year and see the school get off the ground but he said, "I have other plans for you." He wanted me to go to Rome to study Sacred Scripture. I accepted to spend three years in Rome but fortunately was offered a year at Hebrew University in Jerusalem – and this was just after the Six Day War. It changed my life and opened me to the Christian-Jewish dialogue in which I have been involved for more than thirty years.

I worked as Bishop Crowley's assistant for 17 years. Len was a wonderful and very special person to work with. We organized many of the services that are downtown and still are active today. We saw the English Catholic Centre get off the ground. We had excellent times. He had the spirit of Vatican II. He was progressive and intelligent; he knew why he was doing things. We both worked from the same page. We saw the impact of Vatican II, its worth – and I still see it - and how the Church needs to conform to it.

NE - Have we lost Vatican II?

JW - No, not at all, it's going to take a little bit longer but it's the winner. We'll work our way through to it. I see now that we have to

build a new Catholic culture and in building that new culture most of the problems that we've had in the Church will melt away.

NE - Are we a generation away from that?

JW - No, I see a lot of it here already. I see the lay people taking over. The clerical culture has been over for 25 years, it just slowly ebbed away. Look at the age of the clergy among English Catholics, sixty eight to sixty nine, so it's not far away until a whole generation will be gone and what will happen when it is gone? We will see the birth of a new Church.

NE - But the hierarchy?

JW - The hierarchy as well ... the Bishops are all in that age group or older ... the hierarchy as we know it may not be recognizable in a few years. We need a real hierarchy of truth. Otherwise people will not come to the Church and they will not want to be a vital part of the Church. The change we will see is that a hierarchy of structure must become one of service; and there cannot be an imposition of obedience when we are working together in search of the truth. There has to be a consensus of faith, faith is not to be imposed. That's the new culture that's burgeoning. I see it everywhere. The Church needs to be what it was meant to be – a grass-roots church. The deepest desires of many are not being responded to and some are willing to stop supporting the Church financially unless it is open to a greater degree of real participation by the faithful in decision-making. And if there is no authentic concern for our fellow human beings then we just don't have the Church Jesus intended for us; we may as well just close the door and call it a day.

I've seen the good side of the Church and the bad side. It was Thomas Cahill who said that one of the things the Catholic Church has not been able to embrace is self-criticism – had we been self-critical we would have avoided "Les Enfants de Duplessis," we could have avoided pedophile priests, and who knows what else we would have avoided. We need to be self-critical. Thirty years ago in Canada the bishops were fantastic because they called on Catholics in Canada to be self-critical on many issues such as the plight of our native sisters and brothers, on ethical questions on the economy, on social justice issues. There were bishops like Remi de Roo and Bernard Hubert who challenged the Church and non-church goers on issues of social justice. I think about Bishop Alex Carter with the native people and how he encouraged them to have their own rite and to minister in their native ways to their own people. The bishops of Canada signed agreements stating they agreed with the native people in their quest for identity and self-determination. *Humanae Vitae* came out and the Canadian bishops supported the primacy of conscience - the Church teaches and has a right to do so, but your conscience must be your guide. Rome never said no to the reaction of the Canadian Bishops. The Dutch bishops and the Canadian bishops were among the few progressive voices. Thirty years ago the bishops of Canada asked: can lay people baptize publicly? Rome said yes. Can they witness marriages? Rome said yes. Can they do burials and funerals?

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Pastor (cont.)

Rome said yes. There was substance then. When I spoke to one current bishop about it recently, he said, “That was before I was a bishop!” We need to have a profound historical perspective to see what we must do today. I’ve been lucky, I’ve had the studies and I meet a lot of very interesting people who are constantly challenging me.

NE - Have you met Fr. Hans Küng?

JW – No, but Hans Küng is a very active and respected priest in the Church. Recently Pope Benedict XVI met with his long time friend. They agreed to disagree on some issues but they shared for many hours. Küng never gives up. I know and meet with Gregory Baum about once a month for lunch. Gregory and I are good friends. I don’t know if you’ve read Küng’s memoirs. He talks about his relationship with Gregory Baum and how after each session of Vatican II they would go out to have coffee together. My coffee breaks with Gregory are enriching and leave me with a sense of deep concern for the Church, its teachings and its involvement in today’s society.

Fr. Jenkins, at his recent inauguration as President of Notre Dame University said, “If we are exclusively Catholic, we would be less catholic, less broad, less universal, with fewer opportunities to enrich our dialogue and test our ideas with those who share our values, but not all our views.” That’s brilliant. It really is brilliant! It’s the kind of idea that informs my life.

Another friend of mine is James Carroll, former priest and now writer and journalist in Boston. He recently reminded me that to question the Church shows how great a stake the questioner has in it. Otherwise we would just let everything pass without any sense of being disturbed. Priests have been said to have low morale but if we were to do what we are called to do, I believe we would find many people who would join us in our quest to make this world a better world in which to live. The Church has never been more alive for me! It’s right here in the midst of God’s people and it is truly dynamic.

NE - You must be a pretty busy guy?

JW - Yes, life can become quite hectic. I’m in my sixth year here in Saint John Brebeuf and although I am the only priest we have a great team of pastoral people in LaSalle. We have a Parish Pastoral Council rethinking the structure of the parish to better serve the parishioners. We have 400 or more children in Faith First; we have the HOPE Society to serve the poor through a food bank, Meals on Wheels, a Fair Trade Store and an endless number of parish projects. We are in the process of seeing how we can train lay people to preach, to do funerals, to baptize publicly, and to share the ministry all the time respecting the ordained ministry. We are encountering more people who have been away from the Church for more years than they can remember. I had three marriages this year where one of the people being married was never baptized. It’s no surprise; we’re picking up from the 30 years of distance from the Church. Many people come for the reception of a sacrament and have no idea what the Eucharist is. We have 19 catechumens this year – some coming into the

Church, some coming back to the Church and yet others wanting to be confirmed or receive their first communion; and all of them want to know what the Church is all about.

I also have the phone-in talk-show on CJAD and have served on umpteen Boards and Committees over the years and now it is as President of the Board of Catholic Community Services.

NE – Are we living in frightening times?

JW - In many ways these are frightening times ... but the frightening times can also be the best of times – keep in mind that the Chinese have the same symbol for crisis and opportunity. The situation of the Church has never been so perilous. We’ve had the pedophile priests, we’ve had sycophant bishops who have remained quiet and said nothing about anything. Pedophilia is one thing, but the extent of it! We could have said, it can’t get any worse, but it can.

But I can’t only dwell on the things that have hurt the church. We are called to be filled with hope. There are things they are saying at the Bishops’ Synod about the Eucharist that are exciting for me; priests are being invited to talk at the Synod; and the priests have said things that are pretty powerful. I could be extremely down on the Church but that’s not my nature, my nature is optimistic no matter what the circumstances.

The Church has to listen to itself, to the people. I was in Cuba just after Pope John Paul’s visit there and I spoke with a few people who said that when the Pope came they wished he would have listened to them. They said that when Fidel comes to the university he always sits and listens to them. We must never stop talking with one another and through dialogue we will discover the truth about God and about ourselves. When Sr. Kane spoke directly to the Holy Father and wanted him to address the issue of the ordination of women, what she was saying was, please listen to us! I worked hard in 1984 on the Pope’s visit to Canada and went back to Rome with him on the plane; we were only 35 or 40 people. Meeting and being with him was a great experience; but on the other hand, I am reminded of what James Cahill said in the *New York Times* after the Pope’s death: he was a wonderful, wonderful Pope for people other than Catholics but he left his Church destroyed. It’s not far from the truth. There are fewer and fewer people going to church on a regular basis and they are above the age of 60. The people may have left his church without a heart. Heart comes from flesh, from sin, it comes from temptation. That’s heart – we all have that heart. Heart is also about commitment and compassion. Life pulls at my heart every day, in one way or another. And if that’s what it’s about for me then I must recognize it is the same for others. Compassion is understanding and that’s why I accepted to be President of the Board of CCS. I needed to see that the Church is doing what the Church should be doing – and that’s taking care of the poor and those who need us most. The rest of what we do as Church, as the people of God, such as coming to Eucharist every week, is not the first question I ask of people and it is not my final question either. The final question for me is: Are we doing what Jesus Christ asked us to do? The rest will come in due time. 

Montreal's Irish community built bridges...

By Shawn McAlear

Given the broad expanse of the country, the transportation industry was the backbone of Canada's industrial development. Railroads and canals required strong leadership, huge amounts of public funding and, of course, a large workforce. While control of the projects was largely in English and Scottish hands, the French and the Irish provided some of the leadership and much of the labour.

Three major projects were the Lachine Canal, the Grand Trunk Railway, and the Victoria Bridge.

Lachine Canal

First developed by the Sulpician Dollier de Casson around 1680, the Lachine Canal became Canada's first real canal. Begun in 1821-25, it had to be expanded in 1841-



43. The majority of the 3,000 workers in the second phase were Irish. Due to inadequate funding, they were treated quite dismally. Its value proven, the canal was reconstructed to standard dimensions in 1942-46 with new locks. There were 13 sections, each 280 feet long, 45 feet wide, and 14 feet deep. Work gangs of about 250 men were assigned to each section. At least 10 of the 13 sections were known to have been built primarily by Irish labour. Conditions tended to be grim. Workers lived in on-site shanties and were dependent on local stores operated by the contractors.

In 1843, the workers staged a strike to protest these conditions and six workers were shot, most of them in the back. The completed canal brought industry and great wealth to the area but, by 1959, it had been replaced by the St. Lawrence Seaway.

24 piers standing in as much as 22 feet of water. At its peak, the project employed 3,040 men.

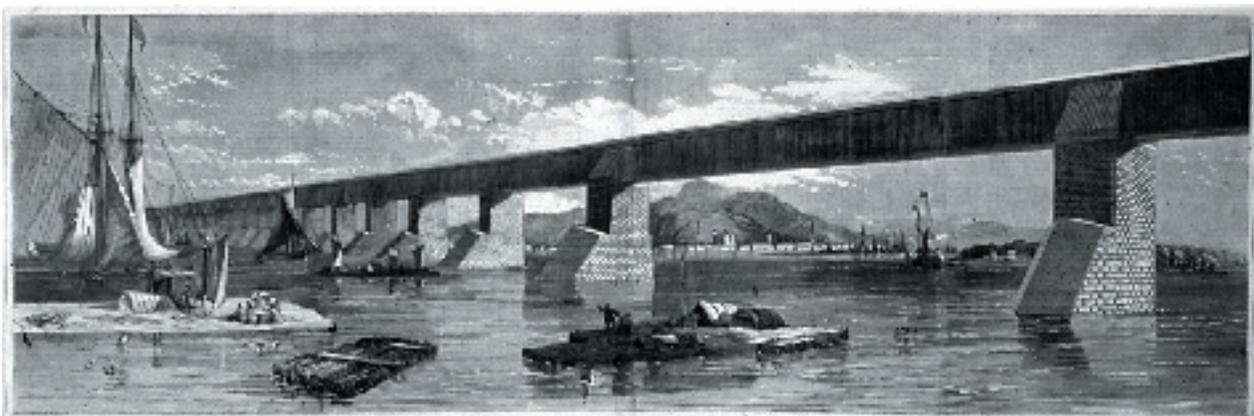
The total cost was \$6.6 million. The investment was immensely successful establishing a vital link between the regions served by the Grand Trunk both west and east of Montreal. It triggered the city's great industrialization, partly in the southwestern area where, in 1881, 43% of the population was French and 33% Irish. The latter would find many jobs.

Sir George Étienne Cartier, who was a co-premier with Macdonald from 1857 to 1862, was heavily involved in the development of both the Victoria Bridge and the Grand Trunk Railway. Both men greatly favored implementation of the Canadian Pacific Railway but its execution really began in 1881 under Van Horne.

The following year, in Milwaukee, Van Horne recruited Thomas George Shaughnessy, the promising son of Irish immigrants, and Shaughnessy rapidly rose through the ranks. By 1886, CPR was in the forefront, thanks to its transcontinental link to British Columbia. In 1889, when Van Horne passed on the CPR presidency to Shaughnessy, he commented: "The best thing I ever did for CPR was to put Shaughnessy into it."

Shaughnessy's 19-year tenure as CPR president proved Van Horne right. CPR grew tremendously--even today, CP is one of Canada's greatest corporations--and when Shaughnessy retired as president in 1918, he was easily Canada's most prominent Irishman.

Shaughnessy in later years devoted some of his time to Loyola College and St. Mary's Hospital. In fact, his home, in the decade after his death, served as the hospital. Today, the building has become a key part of the Centre for Canadian Architecture.



Victoria Bridge

Promoted by John Young and developed by Grand Trunk Railway in 1854-59, the bridge became known as the eighth wonder of the world. Measuring 9,144 feet long, the bridge had 25 spans and

NUAHT would like to acknowledge Patrick O'Hara and thank him once again for his permission to use the research that has led to the development of this continuing series of articles. 🍀

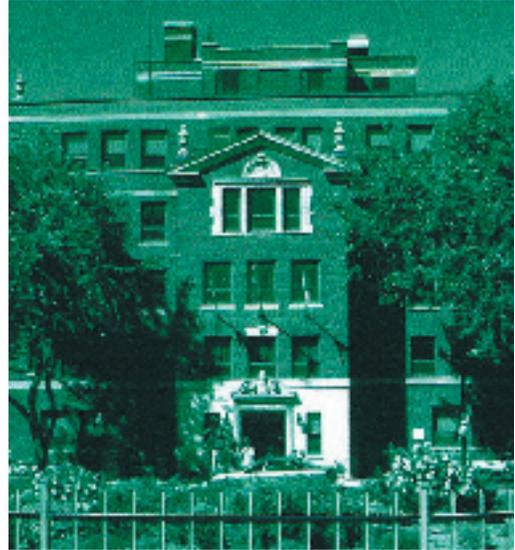
Lindsay Rehab (cont.)

the general hospitals took notice of the Loyola Home's work and doctors grew less skeptical of the benefits of convalescence. By 1921, the Home was no longer big enough to cope with the demand for its services, which necessitated a move to larger premises on St. Mark Street and a new name, *Montreal Convalescent Home*, to show that the modest efforts of a group of pioneering women had grown to civic proportions. The new Home could accommodate 30 patients. Interestingly, capacity referred to patients and not to beds.

In 1933, the name was changed again, to *Montreal Convalescent Hospital* to better reflect its mission. It was not a home for the aged, nor a home for incurables, but an actual hospital actively treating patients convalescing from thyroid problems, rheumatic fever, cardiac problems, cancer, fractures, tuberculosis of the bone, and the like. At the same time, the Hospital moved to its present location thanks, in large part, to the fundraising efforts of Charles Lindsay. The City of Montreal, the Provincial Government, the Montreal General Hospital, the Kiwanis Club, and Lindsay himself pooled \$300,000 for the new 104-bed hospital, this in the early days of the Depression. Within five years, Lindsay was at it again, attracting major individual donors like Herbert Molson, John C. Newman and J. W. McConnell and adding a new 116-bed wing in 1938.

The 25th anniversary brochure published in 1939 lists 117 Life Governors, including St. Patrick's Society, who contributed a minimum of \$50 plus \$10 annually. St. Patrick's Society also furnished a four-bed ward in the new building. The Board of Directors, headed by Mrs. J. W. McAnally, was made up entirely of women. Three of those women, Mrs. McAnally, Miss May Stewart and Miss Sara Tansey, also sat on the Advisory Board chaired by J. J. Gallagher. The medical director was Dr. J. C. Wickham, and the resident physician was Dr. J. G. Howlett. It is risky to list names, knowing only too well that many will be omitted. Suffice it to say that the Hospital is firmly rooted in Montreal's Irish community.

The Hospital continued to evolve with the times and the emphasis gradually shifted from convalescence to rehabilitation. In 1986 the Hospital opened the Rehabilitation Therapy Pavilion to make space for four main therapy departments: physiotherapy,



Main entrance to the Lindsay

occupational, speech and recreational. In 1996 came another name change, this time to *The Lindsay Rehabilitation Hospital* as it is known today. The 1996-97 annual report explains: "The outdated notion of convalescence which was attached to our previous name has had to make way for a more dynamic, constructive and positive approach to patient care, one which reflects our current role in Quebec's healthcare system." More renovations followed and patients and staff moved to temporary quarters in Lachine. They returned in the summer of 2001, right on schedule.

The Lindsay has been no stranger to cutbacks, both in beds and in budgets. The quality of care, however, would appear not to have suffered.

St. Patrick's Society members Neil and Catharine McKenty have both had occasion to experience first hand what the Lindsay has to offer. Neil was a patient there last year following a hip fracture and Catherine was a patient twice following hip replacements. Her face lights up when she describes her most recent six-week stay. She talks about the welcome, the cleanliness, the pleasant decor, the attentive nursing staff, the interaction with other patients, the beautiful grounds, and, above all, the first-class physiotherapy. 🍀

ICCC offers something for everyone

By Jim Kirby

The Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce goes from strength to strength and we are now in the middle of our autumn programme. We welcome new members all the time. Whether you are active in business, retired, Irish or simply interested in Ireland and Irish affairs you will find membership rewarding commercially and socially.

On the 16th November we held our annual European Chambers of Commerce Annual Pub Quiz downtown at McKibbins on Bishop Street. We at the Irish Chamber run this event with

help from our colleagues at the British and German Chambers. Participation comes from all the other EU Chambers and the Swiss. This was very popular as you can imagine. The nationalities pitted against each other with a healthy sporting rivalry. Everyone was welcome to join in, both members, their guests and non-members. Each team was prepared to test its general knowledge and win prizes. Cash bar with light snacks (gratis) was provided by our hosts and fellow corporate members, McKibbins. 🍀

St. Patrick's Square resident honoured The Norma and Robert Hayes Pavilion opens at St. Mary's Hospital

By Doris Rooney

On a sunny but cold September 30th, 2005, the official opening of the Norma and Robert Hayes Pavilion of Family Medicine of St. Mary's Hospital took place. It is named in honour of the parents-in-law of prominent Montreal philanthropist, Richard Renaud. He led the campaign and donated funds that enabled the St. Mary's Hospital Foundation to deliver the fully renovated and re-equipped building, long known as "the Annex," that was the original Nurses' Residence. Commenting on the importance of the this multimillion dollar project, Dr. Arvind Joshi, CEO of St. Mary's, said, "This major investment will ensure a higher level of patient satisfaction and will allow our staff and doctors to continue pursuing exemplary care and excellence for our patients."

Norma Hayes has taken having a building named for her in her lifetime well in her stride! A vivacious, interesting and youthful person, Norma loves life; has a wide circle of friends; and for the past six years has been living in St. Patrick's Square – she swears there is no better place.



Norma and two of her great-grandchildren

She is of Italian origin, and Robert – her late husband – was of Irish origin. Living next door to each other, they met when she was eight and he was 13. Norma's mother did not think

Robert was a suitable companion for her daughter, but that didn't hinder the friendship. He went off to war and saw action in North Africa and Italy. The relationship continued with many letters going back and forth. They were married in 1948 and raised two boys and two girls. Self-made, Robert worked at Johnson Wire and Weaving as a supervisor. He died 25 years ago after 33 years of married life. Norma and Robert, who had no siblings, now have 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She enjoys travelling and her last trip was to San Francisco, with Richard and Carolyn Renaud, to meet the Dalai Lama. Richard was one of 100 world-wide people being honoured for his charitable work. 🍀

Cine Gael plans to show wide variety of movies in 2006

By Dana Hearne

Our Cine Gael Season is just around the corner and we thought our faithful audience would like to get a glimpse of the work in progress – a kind of preview so-to-speak. The committee is working feverishly as usual to negotiate the terms for getting the films we want. They might or might not be available when we want them as they might be travelling elsewhere. This often means that we have to wait until the very last minute to know if our wish list will materialise. It often means that we have to change our plans in mid-stream and go off in search of alternative choices.

So far our wish list contains the following gems: *Headrush*, one of last year's favourites at the Galway Film Festival; *Breakfast on Pluto*, a Neil Jordan hit based on a Patrick McCabe novel (the author of *The Butcher Boy* which Jordan converted to film and which we screened at Cine Gael); and *Tara Road*, based on Maeve Binchy's novel of the same name and starring Stephen Rea. Three favourites from this year's Galway Film Festival: *Pavee Lackeen*, a starkly realised portrait of a young traveller girl and her family; *Mickybo and Me* a film set in the 1970s in Northern Ireland but, as Director Terry Loane says: "it is a film about Belfast but not about the Troubles. It's really about childhood, when you realise

the world and your parents aren't perfect,"; and *The Mighty Celt*, a classic coming-of-age story with an impressive cast including Robert Carlyle and Gillian Anderson. We are also trying to track down a film called *The Rocky Road to Dublin* which has been described as the most important independent documentary to come out of Ireland in the 1960s.

All this and, of course, our evening of shorts. So, keep your fingers crossed and, one way or another, we will offer a season of films that will delight, amaze and amuse. The one thing we are absolutely sure of is the dates, so make sure to mark them on your calendars.

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Jan. 20 | Feb. 10 |
| Feb. 24 | March 3 |
| March 24 -25 (week -end) | March 31 (tentative) |
| April 7 | April 27 |

See you there!

Please note our website: www.cinegaelmontreal.com 🍀

Could this be Ireland of the future?

The year is 2020 and the Federal Union of Ireland is about to inaugurate its new President, Rhonda Paisley. Ms. Paisley, in her late 60s, has just been elected to the post by a stunning majority of cross-party voting. She received this reward in recognition of her unstinting efforts in uniting the people of Ireland, North and South, by her tireless work crossing the old tribal lines that so scarred and divided everyone in the past. Her father, the Rev. Ian Paisley, renowned anti-Catholic firebrand, late of the Free Presbyterian Church, and long since passed away, came to realise as he grew old how much of an inspiration his daughter had been to him, and allowed so many to come to terms with the way life had changed on the island. He acknowledged on his death-bed her use of tough love and gentle persuasion, which she so diligently applied in her work for reconciliation, removing any of his own bitterness and allowing him to retire in peace with himself and the world and go to his reward in the next life – *Síocháin Dé leis!*

Ireland is now one of the most prosperous nations on the face of the earth. The development of clean, natural hydro-electric power from the seas of the Atlantic, all along the West Coast, from Kerry to Donegal, through underground turbines, is a man-made feat of super ecological proportions. This power enables the whole island of Ireland to have free electricity.

The federal system, which was proposed after the IRA had finally announced that their arms were put beyond use on the 26th September back in 2005, has finally been set up. The four ancient Provinces of Ulster, Munster, Connaught and Leinster have devolved power to run their own affairs in the provincial capitals of Belfast, Cork, Galway and Dublin. The Federal capital was positioned at Slane, Co. Meath and the Government sat in the historic Slane Castle, on the banks of the Boyne. The country was united in 2016 when the Unionists were dragged, some screaming for a while, but now fully integrated and involved, sharing the benefits and enthusing in the success of the land.

The export of technology developed with the Hydro Power brought in untold wealth that not only pays for free transport, free electricity and free education but also allows a one band tax system at 17% for all. The country also boasts the best national health care programme in the world, superior even to Cuba's, and is available to every citizen from cradle to grave.

The Federal Government takes care of Foreign Affairs, Energy, Taxation and International Trade. The population, which is now in excess of six million souls, is carefully monitored by the strategic planning of industry and job placing, to allay fears of over-populating in certain areas and upsetting the delicate balance of the carefully managed eco-system.

King William of the UK, now enthroned since his father King Charles had abdicated, along with President Chelsea Clinton of the USA, were among a plethora of foreign Heads of State attending President Paisley's inauguration. The ceremony took place on the ancient Hill of Tara, traditional seat of the High-King of Ireland, and President Paisley took her oath of office in front of the twelve judges of the Supreme Court, each of these appointed to represent the four Provinces in equal number. That oath was sworn upon a copy of the new Constitution voted on and accepted by the people. There are no religious ties to the ceremony as clear separation of Church and State is part of that said Constitution. The country, for so long divided on religious grounds, now basks in this new glory of success brought about by the power, hard work and the innate goodness of the people wishing for happier lives and to live together in harmony. Thomas More, were he alive, would have surely recognised the model for his tome "Utopia," here on the island of Ireland.

Adapted from Jim Kirby's column in "Irish World," September 27, 2005 🍀

Performing Arts Centre (cont.)

incentive, there are reserved seats and two complimentary tickets for patrons donating over \$50 and their names will be listed in the printed program. Tax receipts will be issued.

Tickets are \$12 and are available through our many sister organizations (who keep \$6 of every ticket they sell) or by calling Doris Rooney at 481-1346, or at the door. Since the Loyola auditorium is smaller than the Basilica, the organizers are hoping for a capacity crowd and recommend buying tickets in advance.

The Loyola Centre for the Performing Arts is located at 2077 West Broadway between De Maisonneuve and Sherbrooke. The 102, 51 and 162 buses all stop at the corner of Sherbrooke and West Broadway. Concordia classes will be over by then so there will be ample parking on the street or in the lot adjacent to the auditorium and gymnasium. Access to the lot is via De Maisonneuve and Coffey.



Remembrance Day ceremony at Loyola High School

This concert promises to be youthful and invigorating. Everyone is invited to come along and join in singing favourite Christmas carols. 🍀

Proverbially speaking / De réir an tseanfhocail

By Martina McLean

Miguel de Cervantes said “A proverb is a short sentence based on long experience.” And human experience has a long history! Sometimes we find ourselves quoting Shakespeare, “To thine own self be true!” or maybe he just regurgitated popular wisdom prevalent in his time. Who knows? Other times we find ourselves comparing pithy pearls of wisdom with friends from other cultures and other linguistic backgrounds and discover a universality that is almost uncanny e.g. “Hunger is good sauce” or “Is maith an t-anlann an t-ocras” (is mah an tahnlan an tocras). Mostly we recognize that no matter what way the wind is blowing, we can call on the authority of anonymous expert opinion to back up our stance on any matter. My particular school playground favorite is “Great minds think alike” and I remember that the opposite was immediately proffered in repartee, “And fools seldom differ.”

A German proverb states that “A country can be judged by the quality of its proverbs.” When we examine proverbs in the Irish language, our overriding impression is one of a wealth of style: imagery, metaphors, alliteration, assonance and rhyme. You’d almost think I was describing poetry. Well, proverbs form part of the store of oral literature relished by our forefathers for whom “béaloideas” (literally oral instruction) or “folklore” encompassed entertainment. Our proverbs are a source of information about the way of life of our people, their code of behavior, their superstitions, their interests and their diet. Today, they form a wonderful learning bank for the language itself and the wonderfully crafted sounds.

My only fear is that when we consider the age of our language compared with the tremendous effort of great scholars to preserve this element of oral literature, I wonder what treasure trove has been lost forever. Nonetheless, we are grateful to the likes of Mairéad Ní Ghráda who transcribed the famous proverb-packed autobiography of the Basket Island woman, Peig Sayers and to Bo Almquist who collected more than 1,500 proverbs from Peig Sayers’ son, Micheál Ó Guithín, for minimizing any loss. All the more reason why, with the Irish language on the European stage, we might learn what we have and enjoy the life of the language as new proverbs emerge to reflect and embrace the changes to our human experience. “Níl aon tóin thinn mar do thóin thinn féin,” (kneel ane towin heen mar duh howin heen fane), “There’s no sore ass like your own sore ass,” probably reflecting the arrival of the square, magnetic, entertainment box at home and the PC at work, shapeshifting the hunter-gatherer into the sedentary human being of the new millennium.

Seriously speaking, I relish the thought of our language propagating new proverbs and new usage as we facilitate the learning of Irish in Montreal with “Comhrá” (Co-raw), “Conversation,” while our learners harness the power of the Internet to extend the formal classes. Feictear dom nach “féidir an seanfhocal a shárú” mar uirlis oidis is oideachais agus foinse eolais. Mar sin do dhushlán staidéar a dhéanamh orthu!

Má tá suim agat tuilleadh seanfhocal a fhoghlaim, bain triail as:

http://www.daltai.com/sf_eile.htm

<http://www.gaillimh.cnag.ie/seanfhocail1.htm>

<http://www.gaiohdobhair.org/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=12>

Or if you’re after more Irish, try these ones:

<http://www.daltai.com/home.htm>

<http://www.gaillimh.cnag.ie/beannachtai.htm>

Some of these sites not only list proverbs or expressions but translate them and provide phonetic transcriptions too. So, no excuses! As we say in Irish, “De réir a chéile a thógtar na caisleáin.” (De rare a hayla a hoegtar na kashlawin), literally “Castles are built by degrees/gradually.”

For those of you who want to leave an Irish message on your answer-phone, here are a couple of expressions especially for you:

- “Dia dhuít” (deeya gwit) – literally “God be with you,” the equivalent of “Hello.”
- “Tá mé gnóthach faoi láthair” (taw may gnówhac fwee lawher) – “I’m busy at the moment.”
- “Fág d’ainm agus d’uimhir” (fawg danim ogis divir) – “leave your name and number.”
- “Agus cuirfidh mé gloach ort gan mhoill” (ogis curhee may glyoch ort gan will) – and “I’ll call you in a while.”
- “Slán go fóillín” (slawn go fowileen) – literally, may you be safe for a little while – “Bye for now.”

Please note that all phonetic transcriptions provided change depending on dialect. There are three main dialects in Ireland, – Ulster, Munster and Connaught.

In the article in September, you learned that a scholarship for Canadian-Irish studies is being set up in Seán Treacy’s memory. As part of that initiative, we will be selling a calendar relevant to the Irish in Montreal. You may be captured in a photo or you may belong to an organization featured in a particular month and you’ll definitely get to read some more Irish proverbs in more than one language. Please contact *Comhrá*’s President, Ann Fortune for further details as numbers are limited. Home: (450) 699-1962.

If you’d like to contact me to ask for special articles or tidbits of information about the Irish language, please write to **martina.branagan@gmail.com** with the heading “Eolas” (oh-las) which means “information.” You just never know how you might inspire me for the next article. Remember, “ní neart go cur le chéile,” (knee nyart go cur le gh-ayla as it lough), literally “there is no strength without unity” or today’s adage “Together everyone achieves more.” And as Frasier says “I’m listening.” 

Murder and mystery to be found in the Eastern Townships

By Neil McKenty

Louise Penny, a former Montreal CBC broadcaster, doesn't waste any time getting down to the business of murder (or was it?) in her debut novel, *Still Life*, short listed for a prestigious award from the British Crime Writers' Association.

In the very first paragraph, death comes to Miss Jane Neal early on a Thanksgiving Sunday morning "in the brilliant maple woods on the verge of the village of Three Pines. She'd fallen spread-eagled, as though making angels in the bright and brittle leaves."

Three Pines is, on the surface, a serene bucolic village (a medley of Sutton and Knowlton perhaps) deep in the Eastern Townships, whose peaceful setting contrasts with the violence of the killing (a deadly hunting arrow pierced Miss Neal's heart) and heightens the horror.

Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec (I expect we'll be seeing more of him since Penny has just finished her second book in a three-book contract) is soon on the case. Gamache is introspective with an inductive mind but perhaps not quite ruthless enough to get to the top of the greasy pole.

From his long experience of homicide Gamache has concluded that most of us don't see a murder coming "because the murderer is a master at image, at the false front, at presenting a reasonable, even placid exterior. But it masked a horror underneath. And that's why the expression he saw most on the faces of victims wasn't fear, wasn't anger. It was surprise."

There are a lot of surprises in this absorbing mystery, not least a plot as intricate as the workings of a fine Swiss watch. There's also Penny's ability to splash vivid images on almost every page: a moving pick-up truck with "a beautiful dappled doe draped languidly over its hood;" a suspect "Rummaging through the cupboard like a wartime surgeon frantically searching for the right bandage ...;" another suspect "only really existed with an audience. She was like those novelty lamps that came on when you clapped your hands."

Of course there are blemishes here and there in *Still Life*. An editor might have done something with "lemon-sucked face" and "lean lear." Although most of the characters (including Chief Inspector Gamache, his buddy, Inspector Beauvoir, and the colourful circle of suspects) are carefully drawn, an exception is police agent Yvette Nichol. An impetuous young woman in her twenties with an irritating brashness covering her insecurity, Agent Nichol is a mess of contradictions, one minute praised for her brilliant deductive thinking, the next blamed as a sloppy investigator who lied to disguise her laziness. It's as though the author couldn't quite make up her mind what made Agent Nichol tick, which leaves the reader in the same predicament.

But, as the rave review in *The Globe and Mail* implied, these are minor gaffes in a splendidly realized first novel. Louise Penny will be one of the authors at "Books and Breakfast" at the Omnium Hotel on Sunday morning, November 20, at ten. If you are thinking of giving a book as a Christmas gift, *Still Life* would be an excellent choice.

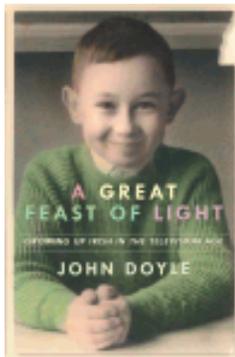
Still Life, by Louise Penny, Headline, 312 pages, \$24.95. 🍀

How television made everything possible in Ireland

By Anne Forrest

For the past five years, I have enjoyed John Doyle's daily dose of television critiquing that helped me to decide which programmes to avoid and which to tape. In early October, when Doyle's employer, *The Globe and Mail*, reviewed his autobiographical *A Great Feast of Light: Growing Up Irish in the Television Age*, I was determined to check it out. I wasn't disappointed.

Doyle's wonderful ability to engage the reader begins on page one. His depiction of how it felt to be a young boy growing up in Nenagh and Carrick, and later as a teenager and university student in Dublin, was both informative and entertaining. With Máire as his only sibling, Doyle did not enjoy a typical Irish family life. In fact, the mission priests claimed that having only two children in an Irish Catholic family was "an abomination and the result of vile English influence." What these same priests would have said about the influence of television in Ireland is anyone's guess.



From the moment that Doyle's father brought home a TV in 1963 (although the jacket notes predate this by a year!), Doyle became obsessed with this medium. Whether he was glued to RTÉ's transmission of St. Brigid's cross or imagining what adventures his hero, Bat Masterson, would have in Nenagh, Doyle was utterly content.

For the young narrator, the black and white TV set became a window on a world that was far removed from his own. Seeing how others lived in the States and England made him realize how far the Irish trailed behind them.

As a teenager, Doyle watched his country being torn apart by the 'troubles.' The graphic images of unbelievable violence and inhumanity would never be forgotten. He also witnessed the stranglehold exercised by the Catholic Church as it continued its subjugation of the women of Ireland who were desperately hoping to buy condoms or, at the very least,

Cont. p. 13

Television (cont.)

trying to avoid going to England for abortions. Fortunately World Cup soccer matches, *Top of the Pops* and *Monty Python's Flying Circus* provided a welcome relief from political strife and women's rights' issues.

In 1979 both the Pope and J.R. Ewing arrived in Ireland and as Doyle watched RTE's coverage of the Holy Father alighting from his plane, he felt he was "the only person in Dublin, possibly the entire east coast of Ireland, who was watching on TV." He goes on to say that Ireland probably benefited more from seeing how the characters of *Dallas* behaved than from any papal visit. Today Ireland has one of the strongest economies in Europe, condoms are readily available and Doyle is a television critic in Canada.

A Great Feast of Light is a good read. Perhaps the editing could have been tighter (p.207 "... the prime minister was an eejit, trying to **reign** in men like Haughey and Blaney." And p.208 "... we had so **may** English heroes.")

If you are seeking ideas for Christmas presents, look no further. *A Great Feast of Light*, by John Doyle, published by Doubleday Canada, ISBN 0385660421, sells for \$32.95 or less if ordered on line from Indigo. ✿

How important is it to be earnest?

By Anne Forrest



Ben Barnes

By the time this reaches you, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, by Oscar Wilde, will be almost at the end of its run. The play, which has enjoyed great success since its first performance in 1895, is currently being featured at the Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts. Directed by Ben Barnes, who is on his third visit to Montreal, this production is one that should not be missed.

NUACHT last met with Ben Barnes in March, 2003, when he was directing *Danser à Lughnasa*, at the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde. On Wednesday, November 9th, in a pre-performance presentation chaired by Dr. Michael Kenneally and organized by the Centre for Canadian Irish Studies, Barnes explained to more than 50 eager listeners what he was attempting to convey with this work. For starters, Barnes chose the hedonistic 1920s as the setting. Wanting to eliminate any barriers between the play and audience, he simplified the set design by using the bare minimum of props and scenery, incorporating a frieze of Victorian bric à brac that ran across the upper part of the rear wall. In this studio-style production, Barnes used one actor in the role of both servants (city and country) and made him a faceless bookend to each of the three acts.

Although Oscar Wilde was never totally accepted in Oxford and London because of his criticism of the sententiousness of Victorian society, Barnes rated his work as provocative, entertaining and timeless. Apparently, in the 2005-6 season there will have been 15 productions of this play in the United States – a testament to its popularity. Echoing a familiar theme in Irish writing, it is the women who drive the play and make the decisions, whereas the men are depicted as vainglorious peacocks.

I was not disappointed in this joint production of Montreal's Leonor and Alvin Segal Theatre and the Soulepper Theatre Company of Toronto. The acting was convincing, lines were delivered clearly and in, for the most part, authentic-sounding British accents, and the choreography was well-executed. If there were anachronisms, and I'm being picky, one was the ball-point pen used by Cecily, another the long skirts worn by Lady Bracknell, and also the zippered pocket in the infamous "handbag." More careful editing of the programme was needed: in the Biographies it would seem that both Samantha Espie and Patricia Fagan played Gwendolyn (Cecily wasn't mentioned!) and we all know that "accomodate" (p.3) has two m's.

If time permits, be sure not to miss this hilarious comedy of manners. *The Importance of Being Earnest* runs until November 27 every evening, except Friday, and with matinees on Sunday and Wednesday. Tickets range from \$19.00 (student) to \$41.00 (Saturday evening). ✿

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People in the news ...

By Kathleen Dunn

We wish a warm welcome to six new members of St. Patrick's Society. They are: **Helen Corrigan, John Mulholland, Matthew Rooney, Shawn Ryan, Kevin Savor, and Irene Woods.** We hope to see you at upcoming events.

Congratulations to **Brian O'Neill** who has been chosen by the United Irish Societies to be **Grand Marshall** for the 2006 St. Patrick's Day Parade. Brian is a past President of St. Patrick's Society (1996-98) and the recipient of the Society's 2005 Community Service Award.

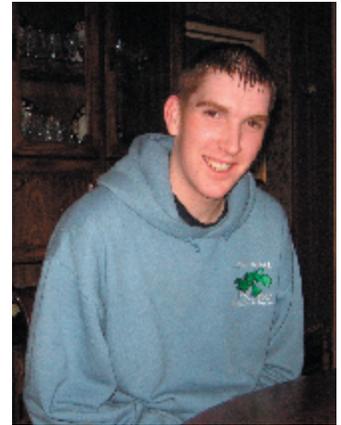
SPS Chaplain **Eric Maclean, S.J.** is going on a well-deserved sabbatical in the New Year. His plans are, he says, "fuzzy" at the moment, but he does know he will not be in Montreal in March. We'll miss him at the Ball and the Luncheon but we wish him well.

As a follow-up to our article on the **Thomas More Institute** in the September issue of *NUACHT*, we would like to thank Margaret Smith for calling to tell us about her late father's involvement there. **Jim Laffoley**, who was President of St. Patrick's Society in 1938-39, got involved at TMI in the early years, although not at the outset. Starting in the academic year 1948-49 and for several years afterwards, he taught *The Art of Effective Speech*, a practical course on the do's and don't's of public speaking, debating, voice culture, the duties of a chairman, etc. He wanted to bridge the gap between academia and business and apparently succeeded quite nicely.

John O'Shea reports that four foursomes from Irish associations responded to the **Tara Golf** invitation which appeared in the last issue of *NUACHT* to compete for the prestigious Aer Lingus Golf Trophy at the final tournament of the season in Hemmingford on October 1st. For the first time in the Club's 45-year history, three teams ended up in a three-way tie, with the final result being settled by retrogression. **Dr. Brendan Campbell** accepted the trophy on behalf of **National Universities of Ireland (N.U.I.)**. Sixty-eight players teed off and the **President's Cup** went to **Dr. Al Chiricosta**

Congratulations to SPS member **Sheila Kindellan-Sheehan** (daughter of SPS President Denis F. Kindellan, 1967-69) who is launching her third book and second novel, *Cutting Corners*, on November 26th at Chapters Pointe Claire. This one is a thriller set in Montreal featuring the Donovans who, according to the promotional material, "seem to have it all: family, friends, wealth, education. But that doesn't make them invincible. When tragedy strikes this prominent Montreal family, each is left alone to struggle with a changed life. Death snaps patriarch Frank Donovan out of his comfortable routine of legal success and domestic happiness. His wife Maggie is distraught and uncommunicative and his daughter Caitlin (featured in *The Sands Motel*) is consumed with agonizing guilt." Patricia Burns, author of *The Shamrock and the Shield*, calls this new book "A gripping tale of guilt, homicide and intrigue. A triumph." The book sells for \$12.

SPS member **Moira Carley** responded to a call from ERS Youth Development Corporation and has opened her home to **Liam Neeson**, a 20-year-old student from Ireland. Twenty adults between the ages of 18 and 28 from the Fermanagh, Sligo and Leitrim areas of Ireland are participating in an employability improvement program in Montreal for eight weeks this Fall. These young people completed an eight-week certificate course in the field of



Liam Neeson

Hotel and Hospitality before coming to Montreal for an internship. Here they hope to enhance their existing skills, build their confidence, and improve their employment opportunities back in Ireland. Liam is delighted with his assignment at the Airport Hilton and hopes to go home with a good letter of reference. ERS Youth Development Corporation is a Montreal-based non-profit organization which has successfully operated both local and international employability improvement training and professional development programs since 1986. We hope to have interviews with some of the students and their host families in the next issue of *NUACHT*.

Results are in from the **Eastern Canadian Oireachtas** which was held in Niagara Falls the weekend of November 10 to 13. Ten dancers from the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing qualified to go to the World Championships in Belfast next Easter. Among the boys, **Michael Keane** came first under-18, **John Grimes** was second under-20, **Casey Costello** was second over-21, **Jamie Poirier** was second under-14, and **Tom Levy** was third under-13. Among the girls, **Leandra Langlois** came fourth under-14, **Stephanie Coull** was 5th under-20, **Natasha Woytiuk** was eighth under-15, and **Caitlin Kilmartin** was tenth under-12. Senior Lady **Anne-Marie Keenan** was sidelined for health reasons but qualified automatically because of her championship record. Five other Short School dancers will join them at the North American Championships in San Diego in July: **Orla Mahon** who came eighth under-10, **Allison Coull** who was eleventh under-11, **Kristen Harmen** who was eleventh under-15, **Elspeith McMurray** who was eleventh under-16, and **Simon Kiley** who was fourth under-14.

Watch for a new film produced by Irish Montrealer **Kevin Tierney** called *Bon Cop/Bad Cop*. The truly bilingual production stars Patrick Huard as francophone Montreal cop David Bouchard and Colm Feore as Ontario Provincial Police officer Martin Ward. According to Brendan Kelly writing in the October 15th edition of *The Gazette*, this action comedy, a murder mystery with a hockey subplot, "is as bilingual as a real-life conversation on the streets of downtown Montreal." All the French dialogue will be subtitled in English and vice versa for the English dialogue. It's due in theatres next summer. 🍀

Around Town

ICCC plans Christmas reception

On November 24th Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Christmas party at The University Club on Metcalfe Street. This is the premier event of the year and the guest of honour will be Ireland's Ambassador, His Excellency, Martin Burke. This event is a 'must' on the season's calendar and provides a wonderful opportunity to connect socially with a business environment. The Christmas reception will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Members \$40.00. Non-members \$50.00. For further details, contact Diana James at 845-0973.

Interested in Genealogy?

Amateur genealogists with ancestors from the de Lanaudière Region of Québec will be pleased to know that most of the parish records in the Diocese of Joliette have been indexed and are available from the Société de Généalogie de Lanaudière for anywhere from \$15 to \$150 depending on the parish and the years and events covered. For example, the volume for St-Alphonse-Rodriguez sells for \$45 and includes all baptisms, marriages and burials from 1844 to 1991. Visit www.sg.lanaudiere.com for further details, all available in English. Another good source of information is the Quebec Family History Society www.cam.org/~qfhs/index.html.

Next year's Ball promises to be great

The annual St. Patrick's Society Ball is always a stellar event for the Montreal Irish community. Be sure to plan to attend the 2006 Ball which will be held on Friday, March 10, at the Marriott Chateau Champlain. The planning committee is pleased to announce that Pierre Boivin, President of the Montreal Canadiens, has accepted the position of Patron. Proceeds from the Patron's Fund will be donated to three well-deserving charitable organizations: the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation, the Pointe St. Charles Scholarship Initiative, and Doctor Clown. Ticket prices for the event are as follows: \$170 for adults, \$100 for juniors (28 and under) and \$2500 for a corporate table. Book early and avoid disappointment for what will surely be a most memorable evening.

Two lectures for you to enjoy

Sean Farrell, Assistant Professor of History at Northern Illinois University and the 2005 O'Brien Visiting Scholar in Canadian Irish Studies, will deliver the Third Annual Bishop Neil Willard lecture entitled "Today is What Matters: Using the Past in Contemporary Northern Ireland."

A member of the executive of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies, Farrell won the 2001 Donald Murphy Prize for Distinguished First Book in Irish Studies. with his first book, *Rituals and Riots: Sectarian Violence and Political Culture in Modern Ulster, 1784-1886*, His current research looks at settlement, violence and community formation in eighteenth-century Ulster.

This event will take place on Friday, November 25, at 7:00 p.m. at 1455 de Maisonneuve (H-620). Admission is free. For more information, contact 848-8711.

The following week, **John McGarry** will present "Has the Northern Ireland Conflict Ended?", the inaugural Moira Snow Annual Lecture in Canadian Irish Studies.

Born in Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1957, John McGarry grew up in Ballymena, Co. Antrim and was educated at St. McNissi's College (Garron Tower, County Antrim), Trinity College Dublin and at the University of Western Ontario. He was a Professor of Political Science at King's College, the University of Western Ontario (1989-98) and at the University of Waterloo (1999-2002). He is now a Professor of Political Studies and Canada Research Chair in Nationalism and Democracy at Queen's University (Kingston, Ontario). His areas of research interest include national and ethnic conflict regulation, the politics of Northern Ireland, and the policing of ethnically divided societies.

Don't miss this lecture to be held on Thursday, December 1, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. in room H-937. Again, admission is free.

Spiced beef: A traditional Irish recipe for the festive season

Spiced beef is traditionally eaten at Christmas time. It tends to be rather expensive to buy as it is quite labour intensive to make, though it uses a modestly enough priced cut. It can be made at home, but it does take time.

Ingredients

- 7 lb/ 3 kg even-sized piece of topside or silverside
- 2 tsp each ground cloves, milled black pepper, allspice, cinnamon, mace and saltpetre
- 2 tbsp black treacle
- 2 tbsp brown sugar
- cold water to cover
- bottle Guinness*
- 1/2 cup salt

Method

Combine all the ingredients except the beef, water and Guinness. Place the beef in a bowl and cover with the mixture. Rub it in once or twice a day for a week.

Tie up the meat into a good shape and place in a pan. Cover with cold water to which a bottle of Guinness has been added. Simmer gently for 5-6 hours.

When cool, press lightly between two plates. The beef is usually served cold, thinly sliced.

Enjoy!!

**The Guinness is essential for the success of Ned's recipe.*

2005-2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / CLÁR IMEACHTAI 2005-2006

| DATE | EVENTS | FURTHER INFORMATION | |
|------------|---|---------------------|----------|
| Nov. 24 | ICCC Christmas Reception, University Club, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. | Diana James | 845-0973 |
| Nov. 25 | GAA Christmas Dinner, Chalet Bar-B-Q, N.D.G., 7:00 p.m., \$25.00 | Michael Martin | 963-1916 |
| Nov. 26 | Siamsa Céilí, NDG Legion, Addington/De Maisonneuve, 8:00 p.m. | Bill White | 483-6262 |
| Nov. 27 | GAA Annual General Meeting, Montreal West Curling Rink, 12:00 p.m. | Michael Martin | 963-1916 |
| Dec. 2 | Innisfail Christmas Party, NDG Legion, from 6:00 p.m. Free for members, guests \$5.00 | John Faherty | 365-0449 |
| Dec. 4 | UIS Gen. Mtg. and Christmas Draw, 1:30 p.m., St. John Brebeuf Church, 7777 George St., | Margaret Healy | 932-5250 |
| Dec. 4 | Tara Golf, AGM, Mirabel Racquet Club, Pointe Claire | John O'Shea | 697-8889 |
| Dec. 7 | St. Patrick Society Christmas Concert, Loyola High School, 2077 West Broadway, 7:30 p.m., \$12.00 | Rob Brodrick | 482-9733 |
| Dec. 10 | Irish Radio Show, CJAD, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. | Kim Sullivan | 989-2523 |
| Dec. 12 | St. Patrick's Society Christmas Reception, Loyola High School, 7272 Sherbrooke W., 7:30 p.m. | Doris Rooney | 481-1346 |
| Jan. 20 | Cine Gael 2006, Opening Night, De Sève Cinema, Concordia, 7 p.m. | Lynn Doyle | 481-3503 |
| Jan. 26 | GAA Comedy Night Fundraiser, Comedyworks, 1238 Bishop St., 9:00 p.m. | Michael Martin | 963-1916 |
| Jan. 28 | Parade Queen & Court Selection Evening, 7:00 p.m., Hotel Delta Centre Ville | Colleen Murphy | 426-4588 |
| Feb. 4 | Innisfail Kick-Off Ceili, NDG Legion, dinner, 7:00 p.m., \$10.00 (reservations nec.) | John Faherty | 365-0449 |
| Feb. 10 | Cine Gael 2006, De Sève Cinema, Concordia, 7 p.m. | Lynn Doyle | 481-3503 |
| Feb. 11 | Siamsa Céilí, NDG Legion, Addington/De Maisonneuve, 8:00 p.m. | Bill White | 483-6262 |
| Feb. 11 | AOH corned beef dinner, (details in next issue) | Victor Boyle | 928-7196 |
| Feb. 24 | Cine Gael 2006, De Sève Cinema, Concordia, 7 p.m. | Lynn Doyle | 481-3503 |
| Mar. 3 | Cine Gael 2006, De Sève Cinema, Concordia, 7 p.m. | Lynn Doyle | 481-3503 |
| Mar. 10 | St. Patrick's Ball, Marriott Chateau Champlain Hotel | Alistair O'Hara | 481-6834 |
| Mar. 11 | Siamsa Céilí, NDG Legion, Addington/De Maisonneuve, 8:00 p.m. | Bill White | 483-6262 |
| Mar. 11 | Irishman of the Year Breakfast, Windsor Station | Mabel Fitzgerald | 481-9609 |
| Mar. 12 | Mass of Anticipation & Gen. Mtg., 11:30 a.m., St. Gabriel's Parish | Marlene Demers | 366-3623 |
| Mar. 17 | St. Patrick's Society Luncheon, Hotel Bonaventure | Paul Dunne | 767-0497 |
| Mar. 19 | St. Patrick's Parade, noon | Ken Quinn | 932-0512 |
| Mar. 24/25 | Cine Gael 2006, De Sève Cinema, Concordia, 7 p.m. | Lynn Doyle | 481-3503 |
| Mar. 25 | Parade Awards Banquet & Dance, 6:00 p.m. | Sheri Bernier | 766-8530 |
| Apr. 7 | Cine Gael 2006, De Sève Cinema, Concordia, 7 p.m. | Lynn Doyle | 481-3503 |
| Apr. 8 | Siamsa Céilí, NDG Legion, Addington/De Maisonneuve, 8:00 p.m. | Bill White | 483-6262 |
| Apr. 27 | Cine Gael 2006, De Sève Cinema, Concordia, 7 p.m. | Lynn Doyle | 481-3503 |
| Apr. 28 | Innisfail 2006 60 th Anniversary Celebrations, NDG Legion, \$10.00 (reservations nec.) | Roberta Wheeler | 768-0613 |
| May 20 | Ville Marie Feis, John Abbott College | Pat Short | 697-4343 |
| May 28 | AOH Walk to the Stone (following the UIS Mass) | Victor Boyle | 928-7196 |
| June 16 | Innisfail Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers, NDG Legion, 7:00 p.m. | Roberta Wheeler | 768-0613 |
| June 20 | St. Patrick's Society Annual Golf Tournament, Belle Vue Golf Club | Doris Rooney | 481-1346 |
| July 26 | Mass in the Park at the Griffintown St-Ann Park | Victor Boyle | 928-7196 |
| Aug. 12 | AOH Annual Grosse Île Pilgrimage, (details in next issue) | Victor Boyle | 928-7196 |
| Aug. 25 | AOH 3rd Annual Golf Tournament, (details in next issue) | Victor Boyle | 928-7196 |

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