



May/June 2013

Hello,

I hope you are all keeping well.

The Evening's are closing in and the temperature is dropping, after a fine long dry summer we must accept the change of season.

As you may of heard throughout 2013, Ireland is opening its arms to hundreds of thousands of friends and family from all over the world, calling them home to gatherings in villages, towns and cities.

Over 70 million people worldwide claim Irish ancestry. The Gathering in Ireland during 2013 provides is a perfect excuse to reach out to those who have moved away, their relatives, friends and descendants, and come home.

If you would like to know more about the Gathering Ireland 2013 go to www.thegatheringireland.com

I'd like to congratulate Emma Hayes from Berhampore who recently won the 2013 Wellington leg of the Rose of Tralee. The New Zealand finals will be held in Taranaki this year on the 18th of May.

If you'd like to contribute to this newsletter over the next few editions, I'd be delighted to hear from you. Be it a short story, a poema song or something cultural, I'd be only too happy to add it to the next newsletter, so send it onto me at newsletter@wellingtonirishsociety.com for inclusion.

Recipe Corner

Recipe Corner

Ingredients:

4 ounces unsalted butter
10 ounces dark brown sugar
2 medium eggs, beaten
6 ounces plain flour
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
7 fluid ounces Guinness stout
2 ounces cocoa powder

Icing Ingredients

4 ounces chocolate
2 tablespoons Guinness stout
2 ounces butter
4 ounces icing sugar, sifted
1 ounce walnuts, finely chopped

Directions:

- 1 To make the cake.
- 2 Grease and line two 8-inch cake pans, and preheat the oven to 350F degrees.
- 3 Cream butter and sugar together.
- 4 Gradually beat in the eggs.
- 5 Sift the flour, baking powder and baking soda into a separate bowl.
- 6 Stir Guinness into cocoa.
- 7 Carefully fold in alternate quantities of flour and cocoa to butter/sugar mixture.
- 8 Spread mixture into pans and bake for 30-35 minutes.
- 9 Leave to cool in pans for 5 minutes before turning out.
- 10 To make the icing-----.
- 11 Melt chocolate with Guinness, and then beat in butter and leave to cool a little before beating in icing sugar.
- 12 Remove ¼ of icing and stir in chopped walnuts.
- 13 When icing has cooled to a spreadable consistency, sandwich cake with walnut icing and use rest for top and sides.
- 14 Decorate with walnut halves and grated chocolate.

Wellington Hutt Valley GAA

The Wellington and hut-Valley GAA had their annual Dinner and awards night down in the D4 Bar recently.

A sell out night it was with a fine 3 course meal put on. The Hutt-Valley band Shenanigans played until the early hours and a pints of Guinness was had as well.

Thanks to everyone who came and made it another great Wellington GAA club awards dinner; and to Dermot and the D4 team for being great hosts.

Seven awards were handed out and a big congratulations to all the award winners:

Presidents Choice Award: Leanna Rynne (Feilding)

Mens Player of the Year Award: Eoin Farrell (WestMeath)

Ladies Player of the Year Award: Etaoin Friel (Donegal)

Most Improved Mens Player Award: Josh Columbus (Blenheim)

Most Improved Ladies Player Award: Laura O'Sullivan (CORK)

Referees Award for fair play Award: Eoghan O'Leary (Clare)

CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD: Dave "The Honey Badger" Downes (Kildare)

Interesting Kerry Facts

Interesting Kerry Facts

1. Kerry is the 5th largest county in Ireland and takes up an 11% portion of Ireland's landmass. The county has the longest coastline of any Irish County!
2. Irelands three highest mountain peaks are all located in the county, with Carrantouhill at nearly 3,500 feet the only mountain that extends over 1,000 metres.
3. Valentia Island, off the coast of South Kerry, was the site of the very first transatlantic cable station in 1866. It was to become the primary centre of communicating through Europe to the USA.
4. Valentia Island is also home to the oldest pre-dinosaur footprints that were found in the Northern Hemisphere. It is estimated that the footprints were created some 350 million years ago.
5. Famous Antarctic explorer Tom Crean, who was part of the early 20th century expeditions hailed from Annascaul, near Inch, on the road to Dingle.
6. Kerry have won the most men's football All Irelands at 36, 13 ahead of their closest rival. They have 1 hurling All Ireland won back in 1891.
7. Famous Kerry people include Peig Sayers, John B Keane, Brendan Kennelly, Tom Crean and Daniel O'Connell.
8. Common Kerry surnames include Blennerhassett, Cahill, Fitzgerald, Fitzmaurice, O'Shea, McElligott, O'Sullivan and Stack.
9. Kerry is bordered by only two other counties: County Limerick to the east and County Cork to the south-east.
10. The county's nickname is the Kingdom.

Irish Places of Interest

Irish Places of Interest

There are three World Heritage Sites on the island: the Brú na Boinne, Skellig Michael and the Giant's Causeway. A number of other places are on the tentative list, for example the Burren, the Ceide Fields and Mount Stewart.

Some of the most visited sites in Ireland include Bunratty Castle, the Rock of Cashel, the Cliffs of Moher, Holy Cross Abbey and Blarney Castle. Historically important monastic sites include Glendalough and Clonmacnoise, which are maintained as national monuments in the Republic of Ireland.

Dublin is the most heavily touristed region and home to several of the most popular attractions such as the Guinness Storehouse and Book of Kells. The west and south west, which includes the Lakes of Killarney and the Dingle peninsula in County Kerry and Connemara and the Aran Islands in County Galway, are also popular tourist destinations. Achill Island lies off the coast of County Mayo and is Ireland's largest island. It is a popular tourist destination for surfing and contains 5 Blue Flag beaches and Croaghnaun one of the world's highest sea cliffs. Stately homes, built during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries in Palladian, Neoclassical and neo-Gothic styles, such as, Castle Ward, Castletown House, Bantry House, are also of interest to tourists. Some have been converted into hotels, such as Ashford Castle, Castle Leslie and Dromoland Castle.

Irish Poetry

Irish Poetry

Stony Grey Soil by Patrick Kavanagh

O stony grey soil of Monaghan, The laugh from my love you thieved;
You took the gay child of my passion
And gave me your clod-conceived.

You clogged the feet of my boyhood, And I believed that my [stumble](#)
Had the poise and stride of Apollo
And his voice my thick tongued mumble.

You told me the plough was immortal! O green-life conquering plough!
The mandrill stained, your coulter blunted
In the smooth lea-field of my brow.

You sang on steaming dunghills, A song of cowards' brood,
You perfumed my clothes with weasel itch,
You fed me on swinish food

You flung a ditch on my vision, Of beauty, love and truth.
O stony grey soil of Monaghan
You burgled my bank of youth!

Lost the long hours of pleasure, All the women that love young men.
O can I still stroke the monster's back
Or write with unpoisoned pen.

His name in these lonely verses, Or mention the dark fields where
The first gay flight of my lyric
Got caught in a peasant's prayer.

Mullahinsa, Drummeril, Black Shanco-, Wherever I turn I see
In the stony grey soil of Monaghan
Dead loves that were born for me.

Club Contacts

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The following are the contact details of the Committee in 2012-13

Role	Name	Phone Number	Email
Club Patron	Colleen O'Donovan		colleeno@ihug.co.nz
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	Paul Murray		
	Trevor O'Halloran		
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**For details of hall hire please ring the club on 384-8535 and leave a message with your number. We will ring you back with details.
Alternatively, check the club website for online bookings.**

Please send any Newsletter details to
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