



January-February 2010 Newsletter

Happy New Year

Welcome to 2010 and I hope that everyone has in mind their New Year resolutions as we approach the end of January.

The weather hasn't been the greatest over the Christmas and New Year period and we've even resorted to using the heater again on a few nights this month. Though it must be said, that conditions are much worse back in Ireland and Europe.

I've just returned from a 3 week visit to Ireland and it's been colder there than at any time in the last 30 or 40 years, so I guess we don't have too much to complain about here in windy wellington!

This is the first newsletter of 2010 and it contains news from the GAA, dancers and also for the first time we've got information on the visitors to our website which was launched only last year. We're seeing visitors from all over the world and with your help we can spread word of the Irish in Wellington to all corners of the globe.

I hope you enjoy this month's news letter and as usual, if you've anything you'd like added to it, don't hesitate to drop us a line at wellingtonirishclub@gmail.com

Rgds
David Rynne



Coming Events

Coming Events

Friday Nights at the Club

If you're partial to some really good harp and traditional music, then call down to the Club on Friday nights from 7.30. We have a group of musicians visiting us regularly and it would be a shame not to support them. Call in for a night of good music and plenty of fun. We've been getting a good few down at the club on Friday evenings so if you've got an hour or two to spare, feel free to drop in for a tune or even a game of pool with the usual suspects.

Gaelic Football Seven's Finals Day – Sunday 28th February 2010

Those that attended the Feis games at Evans bay parade would have enjoyed a spectacle of football and hurling. The local seven–aside competition is now well underway at Ian Galloway Park in Wilton and the post-Christmas final's day is on at the park on the 28th February. Come along to watch some top class football and maybe a game of hurling. There will be the usual free BBQ and join us in the Establishment afterwards for the awards presentation.

Annual Picnic – Replacement – 7th March

Unfortunately, we didn't have any better luck this year and the rain came again on the 23rd and 24th January.

The park was a washout and we had to cancel the picnic again. However not all is lost and we will be organizing a BBQ in the Irish Clubrooms on the 7th March to make up for the missed picnic.

We'll have food and sweets for the younger members of the club and upstairs will be open for those who want to catch a rugby game or to try their hand at a game of pool or even table tennis for the more hardy ones.

I hope you'll all join us at the clubrooms on the 7th and a great evening's entertainment is promised.

If you'd like to bring a plate, it would be much appreciated and the BBQ will be going all day. **Doors open from 1pm thru to 5pm**

If attending, please leave a message on 04-3848535 with names and numbers, thank you.

Saint Patrick's Day Golf - Wednesday 17th March

Te Marua Golf Club - Shot Gun start 9 30 am - Cost \$35 a player

This includes a drink at the start, light meal, prizes, and a lucky draw. If you are interested in playing, can you contact Bernie early, as he has to do the competition schedule.

Also if there are people who would like to sponsor this event can you please contact Bernie at your earliest convenience.

Phone **Bernie Breslin on 5269835**

St Patrick's Day Public Debate – Irish Club 21st March 07:30pm

The St Patrick's debate is back on again this year and John Whitty has agreed to take charge of the event.

We're hosting the event on the Sunday after St Patrick's Day at the club so make a date in your diary.

We're looking for debaters and adjudicators so if you're interested in taking part please let us know at the club or drop us an email at wellingtonirishclub@gmail.com



Dancing News
Dancing News

Classes: These have commenced for 2010 and are held at the Wellington Irish Society Clubrooms on Monday and Thursday evenings.

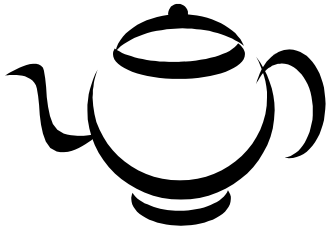
Any enquiries please contact Tricia Budding on (04) 232 6388.

Competitions: Brigid Lundberg, Lucy English, Rachel Ford and Lachlan Cassidy-Rowse will be heading to Glasgow to compete in the 2010 World Irish Dancing Championships commencing on the 28th of March.

We wish them the very best of luck.

Other News: Congratulations to Aislinn Ryan and Rosemary Sullivan who recently passed their T.C.R.G (Teachers qualifications) in Sydney. Aislinn is also currently on a 2 month tour of China as the lead dancer in Riverdance.

Well done to you both!



1st Fridays at the Club

The Wellington Irish Society has a good membership, but where are you all when a Social evening is held, where are you?

*“I don’t go out at night”
“I would have to park too far away”
“I don’t like coming back to a darkened house”
“I would not know anyone there”*

The excuses for no-attendance are many and varied,

.....SO.....

The First Friday afternoons were decided on.

An easy day to remember the FIRST FRIDAY of the month,

5th February 2010 is the next date to remember

**Enjoy free transport; come along to the club at about 3pm
Have an enjoyable afternoon, without loud music
Share the company of like minded, friendly people,
And you are welcome to bring your own friends along with you,
Share our afternoon tea, of homemade cakes and sandwiches**

**Piping Hot Fish and Chips at 5.30pm with refreshments available
And, should you so wish, you can be home before the sun sets about 8.45pm.
Or you can stay on at the Club to spend more time socialising**

Is there any reason why YOU are not able to attend?



Recipe Corner

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Corned Beef Dinner

Ingredients

- 1 corned beef brisket (about 5 lbs.)
- 2 med. onion, peeled and quartered
- 4 black peppercorns
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 tsp. rosemary, crushed
- 1 qt. water
- 6 med. potatoes, peeled and quartered
- 6 med. carrots, peeled and cut into 2" pieces
- 6 parsnips, peeled and cut into 2" pieces
- 1 cup celery, cut into 2" pieces
- 1 med. head green cabbage, cut into 8 wedges

Place beef in large [Dutch oven](#) with tight-fitting lid. Add onion, peppercorns, bay leaf, rosemary and water. Bring to a boil; simmer covered for 3-1/2 hours or until meat is fork tender.

Add potatoes, carrots, parsnips and celery to Dutch oven. Place cabbage on top of meat. Cover and cook for 1 hour or until vegetables are tender.

Remove vegetables and meat to large platter. Serve with mustard or horseradish.

Yield: 12 servings





Gaelic Games News

Gaelic Games News

Social Sevens Tournament

Our Social Sevens tournament is now well underway and again is a huge success. We play our games in Ian Galloway Park, Wilton, on Wednesday evenings between 6 and 8 and also have general training at the same venue on Sundays between 1 and 4 in the afternoon.

If you'd like to watch the games or know of someone that would like to learn how to play ladies or men's Gaelic football ask them to drop along on either of the days or visit www.wellingtongaa.com for more details.

WORKING BEE

The GAA Club have many experienced tradesmen and general workers in its ranks and as part of our fundraising for 2009-10 we're looking at running a few working bees over the summer.

So if you're looking for some work done around your property and have a need for carpenters, plumbers, electricians or just some muscle, drop us an email at wellingtongaa@gmail.com or ring 04-3890426 and ask for Dave.

NEED A WEBSITE!!!!

We also have people than can develop websites for your business or other interests. We can help set up and design your site in return for a donation to the GAA. Again, you can contact Dave on 04-3890426 after 5pm for more details.



Family Notices

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to Margaret Grealish and family on the recent passing of her husband Vincent. He will be sadly missed.

Sympathy to Colleen and Ted O' Donovan on the loss of their grandson, may he rest in peace.

Sympathy to Rose and Joe Winkels on the death of her Sister.

Sympathy to Joe and Mania Shanahan on the death of his sister.

May They Rest in Peace

REQUEST

If you'd like to receive this newsletter by email, please send an email to us at wellingtonirishclub@gmail.com and we'll update our records.

Irish (Gaelic) Language & Culture Introductory Course

Thursday evenings 5:30 – 7.00pm

8 weeks starting 4 February 2010

Wellington Central Library (Room on Mezzanine Floor)

Course Presenter: **Brian O’Sullivan**

(Born in County Cork, Brian is a published writer, experienced language teacher, and folklorist who speaks Gaelic on a daily basis)

This course is designed for people with an interest in Irish culture, for those who wish to know more about their Irish heritage and as a refresher for Irish-born people living in Wellington.

The course content includes:

- An introduction to Irish (Gaelic) language incorporating correct pronunciation, greetings, slang, everyday expressions and usage
- An exploration of little-known Irish cultural traditions, music and folklore.
- An introduction to Irish mythology and important cultural sites.
- An insight into the contemporary and developing Irish culture.

Déan teagháil linn! Contact us!

Places are limited, so please register by contacting Brian O’Sullivan on

021-0262-8562.

Email: info@irishimbas.com

Cost: \$300 (includes resources)



Puzzle Page

Puzzle Page

Last Month's Answers

1. John Bruton
2. 1264
3. Mary Robinson
4. 35 years
5. Hugh O Flaherty
6. Easter
7. Helen Keogh
8. 1970's
9. 7 Years
10. Trimble

This Month's Teasers

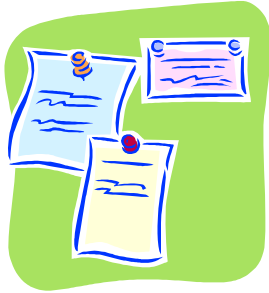
1. **Lost in the woods, you find an old cabin. You are freezing and need to light the fireplace. There is only 1 match. You find a candle, some old newspaper and some kindling. What should you light first?**
2. **A Quickie: What was the largest ocean in the world before Balboa discovered the Pacific Ocean?**
3. **The light switch in a bedroom is 10 feet away from the bed but a man was able to turn the bedroom light off and get into bed before the room was dark. How did he do that?**
4. **Napoleon and Josephine are lying dead on the floor in a pool of water. The only other thing noticeable in the room is that the French doors are wide open and the curtains are flapping. How did they die?**

Joke of the Month

During a recent PASSWORD AUDIT at the Bank of Ireland it was found that Paddy O'Toole was using the following password:

"MickeyMinniePlutoHueyLouieDeweyDonaldGoofyDublin"

When Paddy was asked why he had such a long password: he replied
"Bejzus! Are yez all stupid? Oi was told me password had to be at least 8 characters long and include at least one capital"



Notice Board

If you're looking for anything and you think that the wider Irish community can help, please send in your request to wellingtonirishclub@gmail.com and we'll publish it in this newsletter. When answers come back in we'll let you know. Whether it's a carpenter for a day, somebody to cut the lawns, someone to teach music etc, feel free to get in touch.

- We're always looking for new material for the newsletter, if you have anything to submit, original poems, stories etc, we'd be delighted to publish them in the newsletter.
- The club is also looking for family notices from Births, Marriages, anniversaries, Deaths etc that we can publish in the newsletter. Please send notice of same to wellingtonirishclub@gmail.com or to PO Box 449, 10 Fifeshire Ave, Wellington.
- The downstairs hall in the club is available for hire for both our members and the general public. Whether you'd like to hire it for 21sts, weddings, or any other celebration, we'd love to hear from you. Please leave a message on the clubs phone at 04-3848535 or drop an email to wellingtonirishclub@gmail.com. Please note that the upstairs hall is not for hire to members or to the public.
- If you'd like to advertise your business in the newsletter or on the website, please drop us an email at the club and we'll be in touch with very competitive rates.
- If anyone is travelling back to Ireland in June or July and would like to share the journey home, Olive Maxwell is travelling at the same time and if you'd like to travel with Olive, please give her a call on 04-9342371

RTÉ Player (International)

RTÉ has become one of the first broadcasters in the world to launch a comprehensive international online TV catch-up service RTÉ Player for those with an Irish connection living abroad.

Worldwide audiences can now catch-up on RTÉ's programmes through an integrated online media player. You can Watch Shows like The Late Late Show, Primetime, etc, as well as catching up on various sports shows.

In addition to the catch-up services, News Now, RTÉ's 24 hour live and looped online news service will be available to global audiences.

To access the service users simply log on to: www.rte.ie/player

More and more people are visiting our new website launched last year. In the month of January 2010 we have had 140 different visitors to the website from around the world and New Zealand.

I'd encourage you to spread word of the site when talking to relatives around the world and let's get the website more visitors in 2010.

Remember that you can get any of the previous newsletters from the website as well as all contact information as well.

Website Visits January 2010

Country	Number of Visits
New Zealand	111
United States	10
Ireland	10
United Kingdom	4
Australia	4
Germany	1
Total	140

City	Number of Visits
Wellington	63
Auckland	31
Christchurch	6
Palmerton North	3
Lower Hutt	3
Porirua	3
Nelson	1
Not Set	1
Total	111



Club Contacts

The following are the contact details of the Committee in 2009-10

Role	Name	Phone Number	Email
Club President	Lilian Mackey		wis.president@gmail.com
Vice President	John Whitty		
Treasurer	Graeme Moody		
Secretary	Margaret Grealish		margaretgrealish@yahoo.com
Committee Members	David Rynne	04-3890426	david.rynne@hotmail.com
	Tony O'Riordan		
	Jim Henderson		
	Jim Maguire		
	Jim McMeekin		

For details of hall hire please contact Ring the Club on 384-8535 and leave a message with your number. We will ring you back with details.

Please send any Newsletter details to wellingtonirishclub@gmail.com

Club Contact Details

Phone Number 04-3848535

Address: 10 Fifeshire Avenue
Cambridge Terrace
Wellington

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Website Address www.wellingtonirishsociety.com