

# The Shamrock Leaf

Newsmagazine of The Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick

**SHAMROCK LEAF**  
 Newsmagazine of The Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick  
 109 Roy Avenue • Miramichi, NB E1V 3N8 • E-mail: fmccarth@nbnet.nb.ca  
 EDITOR: FARRELL MCCARTHY VOLUME NO. 40 • JULY 2005



**T**HE replica of the Irish Famine ship *Jessie Johnston* on its way to St. Andrew's N.B. (Aug 15); Saint John N.B. (Aug 20-25) and Miramichi, N.B. (Sept 6-9) -2003

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*Shabbler and His Boy*  
 Reproduced from a drawing from the life by Hugh Douglas Hamilton, 1760 (p.155)  
 Hamilton was the finest Irish painter of the second half of the eighteenth century. He is known for his portraits in pastel and oils, executed in London, Rome and Dublin. By the late 1760s he produced his lively studies of Dublin tradesmen, beggars, hucksters and even foundlings. This is the most intimate and unique open-air picture of everyday life in the teeming eighteenth century streets of Ireland's capital city. Recently discovered in Australia, these drawings

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 EDITOR - Patricia O'Leary-Coughlan, 3rd Vice-president Volume 22 May, 1994

**An Irish Emigrant Ship arriving at a N.B. Port**

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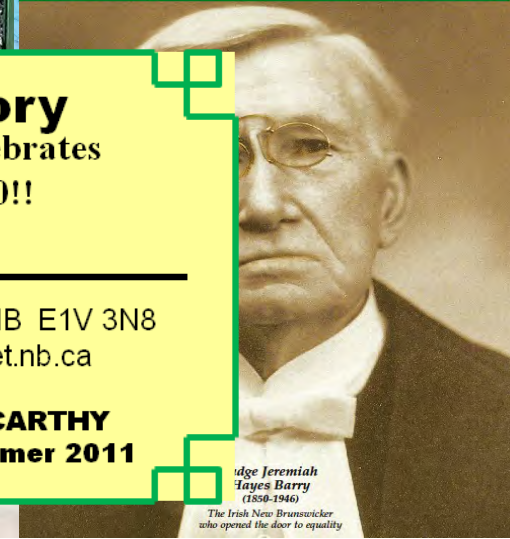
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What is beautiful is a joy for all seasons and a possession for all eternity. (OSCAR WILDE)  
 This fifteenth century Gaelic harp is from the collection of Trinity College, Dublin. Photographed by Iee Boltin.



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Jeremiah Hayes Barry (1850-1946)  
 The Irish New Brunswicker who opened the door to equality

**Feature Story**  
**Shamrock Leaf Celebrates Issue Number 50!!**  
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109 Roy Ave., Miramichi, NB E1V 3N8  
 Email:fmccarth@nbnet.nb.ca

**Editor: FARRELL MCCARTHY**  
**VOLUME NO. 50 - Summer 2011**

The old cemetery in Johnville, N.B. adjacent to St. John the Evangelist Church is the resting place of the earliest settlers, most of whom were born in Ireland. (See article page 15)

# A note from the Editor

In this issue you will see a list of questions that Bruce Driscoll sent to the three Editors that the Shamrock Leaf had during the past 29 years. Before I answered my questions, I assembled the 50 issues that I kept from 1983 to 2011. It was not only time to contemplate the past but to think of the future.

Our first newsletter was printed in October 1983. It was typed on a stencil and run off by hand on a Gestetner. Some of the topics covered were: the passing of Alden Nowlan, one of our directors in the Fredericton area; my meeting with Premier Hatfield who invited me

to become one of the nine members of the Bicentennial Commission; results of a meeting of the Partridge Island Irish Historical Parks Committee to plan for the repair and rededication of the Celtic Cross; our booth at the 106<sup>th</sup> Johnville Picnic where we promoted the Association and showed a short film on Irish Immigration.

Other articles in our first newsletter mentioned the meeting of the Book Committee where plans were made to do an Early Irish History Poster of New Brunswick and a schedule of the Regional meetings that were planned for each of the six areas of the province.

I soon came to realize that the 50 Shamrock Leafs that have been printed and circulated during the past 28 years, have a wealth of New Brunswick Irish history, stories and events that have taken place since 1982.

I came to the conclusion since I was the editor from 1983 to 1989 and from 2001 to 2011, a total of 19 years, and being involved in the magazine the other nine years that it was time that I retire.

I want to especially thank Patricia O'Leary Coughlan, Editor from 1990 to 1994, and Linda Evans, Editor from 1995 to 2000 for the dedication and service that they have given to the Shamrock Leaf. In many ways they were the Assistant Editors from the beginning. A special thank you to Linda who took over during the time of my illness.

I would also like to pay tribute to the many people who have written articles for the Shamrock Leaf. A special acknowledgement to the thousands of members and non-members who told us how much they enjoyed and appreciated the Leaf. Many of you even expressed it by your letters to the Editor. Such positive feedback helped us to keep going.

I would be really remiss if I did not mention my wife Edna for her patience and help in putting up with the turmoil that it takes to edit and mail many thou-



sands of copies from our dining room table. Kathleen McEachern and Doreen O'Shea spent many hours helping with the mail outs before the chapter looked after their own distribution. The picture shows us mailing out the February 1990 edition, #16 when we had 1025 mailing addresses and some 1500 members.

My final wish is that you continue to support the ICCA of New Brunswick and the Shamrock Leaf.

Farrell McCarthy  
Editor

Email:  
fmccarth@nbnet.nb.ca



*Kathleen McEachern, Farrell McCarthy, Editor; Edna McCarthy and Doreen O'Shea, Miramichi, N.B., mailing out over 1000 copies of the Shamrock Leaf from McCarthy's dining room. This was the 1990, #16 edition. Later the SL was mailed by the Chapters.*





## The President's Message



Dear Members

It is my privilege and pleasure to be included in this 50<sup>th</sup> issue of "The Shamrock Leaf". As with all things Irish in our province I think "The Shamrock Leaf" can now legitimately lay claim to a long and storied past and a bright future. Thank you to Farrell McCarthy, the father of this wonderful publication. He has worked tirelessly to ensure a quality publication for each and every issue and although he is stepping down as editor we are sure he will continue to contribute to the Leaf as an invaluable resource and adviser.

Thanks also to Linda Evans and Marilyn Driscoll for capably assisting Farrell in recent years. To everyone who has submitted articles or photos, your contributions are appreciated and valued and make the Leaf something to look forward to. And of course the advertisers make it financially viable. Thanks you for your continuing support.

As difficult as it might be to im-

agine, my term as president has nearly expired. Time flies by. I have enjoyed the two years and thank everyone for all their help and support. We strive to promote our rich Irish heritage and I think through the activities of the various chapters the word is getting out. Through the efforts of the ICCANB for over 25 years people of the province are being made aware that since before confederation the Irish have contributed immensely to the building of New Brunswick. We continue to do so today and will do so into the future. It is with pride that I have been allowed to participate in this ongoing awakening. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president.

Sincerely,  
 Roly McSorley  
 ICCANB President

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## Community Events

Celtic music nights will be held at Dolan's Pub in Fredericton every Monday from 7 to 10pm. Our band, Atlantic Bridge, will be hosting. The evenings begin with a short concert set, followed by an open mic segment for volunteer Celtic and folk performers and singer-songwriters, and finishing with a traditional Irish-style session. For further information, please email or call us at 506 894 2442, or call Dolan's at 506 454 7474.

28th Annual Canada's Irish Festival on the Miramichi. July 14—17, 2011. This year's program includes the old favourites with lots of new events and activities to appeal to all ages: musical performance "The Fiddler and the Tenor" with fiddler Kathleen Gorey-McSorley, tenor Derrick Paul Miller, and pianist Carolyn Holyoke; an Irish play by An Amharclann, New Brunswick's Irish theatre Company, bands, booths, parade—something for everyone. See more information at <http://www.canadasirishfest.com>

PEI's Tignish Irish festival—July 27-31, 2011. Dinner theatre, lecture series, concerts, outdoor weekend festival, and much more. For information, you may contact our web site: [www.TignishIrishFolkFestival.com](http://www.TignishIrishFolkFestival.com) or call (902) 882-3446 or 882-2158. To book concert tickets, call (902) 882-2230

The 133rd annual Johnville Picnic, the longest running church fair in New Brunswick, will be held Saturday, August 6th. There will be something for everyone of all ages including booths, games, competitions, genealogy, food and entertainment. Admission to the grounds is \$2, beginning at 2 p.m., preceded by a mass at 1 p.m. Supper will be served in St. John the Evangelist Church Hall from 4 -7 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$4 for children under 12 years of age. For more information contact, Mary Boyd, Picnic Chair at (506) 278-5509 or [maryboyd@xplornet.ca](mailto:maryboyd@xplornet.ca).



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor,  
I find the Shamrock Leaf most interesting and informative. The historical tenor of most articles is a sheer history lesson and the reviewed books on Ireland are an additional option for the reader.


I'm pleased to renew my membership subscription and contribute to the annual bursary draw. I just hope I have picked a winner!

Is mise le meas,  
*Michael J. McAteer*  
*Fruitvale, BC*


To the Editor,   
The Tignish Irish Folk Festival has been going 10 years. We have our festival the first weekend in August [**Ed. Note:** *actually end of July this year—see pg. 33*] (outdoor concert).

In 2011 we will be celebrating 200 years, the bicentennial of the Irish arriving in West Prince County. The website is [www.tignishirishfolkfestival.com](http://www.tignishirishfolkfestival.com).

*Leo and Laureen Handrahan*  
*Tignish, PEI*

Dear Editor,   
The Shamrock Leaf is a treasure. Congratulations to Mr. Roly McSorley, editor, Farrell McCarthy and the membership. Keep up the Association's good works!

*John P. Murphy*  
*New Bedford,*  
*Mass., USA*

Dear Editor,  
Received my copy of the Shamrock Leaf – 'enjoyed everything in 


it!' Particularly interested in the McLaughlin side – saw the article on Michael McLaughlin, wondering if he may have been related to us.

Here is what I know – I am the daughter of George H and Beulah (Curry) McLaughlin. My grandfather was Michael Patrick McLaughlin, who went to live with his Aunt Mary (Patrick) McCarthy. He was married to Emily (Dolly) Goodine, daughter of Rueben and Mary (Hanscom) Goodine. Michael's mother was Maggie Ludgate and she was married to George McLaughlin, son of Bernard McLaughlin and Mary Delahenty. They were married in 1825. Her marriage license and the US Census lists her as being born in Ireland. They came to Fort Fairfield, Maine in 1831.

What I am truly interested in is the name of the ship Bernard (called Barney) McLaughlin came over on. He landed in Saint John. Do you know if 'Barney' came to Canada by himself or were there other relatives with him? Who were his parents and what county in Ireland did they come from? When he came across at Fort Fairfield, there was another McLaughlin named Dennis – could they have been related? Can anyone help with more information?

Christina  
(McLaughlin) Latham  
1333 Pond Road  
Mount Vernon,  
ME 04352, USA  
(*This letter was condensed.*)



Dear Editor,  
Thank you for your recent letter, and application for membership the Canadian Catholic Historical Association. We appreciate all these items as well as the two copies of the magazine *The Shamrock Leaf*, which you sent me.

The quality of  your magazine is excellent and I would certainly like to meet you and your stamp editor Michael O. Nowlan to benefit from his vast knowledge of Philately. No doubt he is the one responsible for all the notices from New Brunswick in the Canadian stamp news. I, of course, collect stamps myself.

Thank you also for putting our dearly beloved past-president, Marianna O'Gallagher on the front cover of your magazine and for the other photos and articles about her. She was President of the CCHA just after me and so we knew each other well. I also attended her funeral in Quebec City last June. We must be sure to do her justice in her death and carry on her many fine traditions.

We will be attending the Learned's Congress being held at the University of New Brunswick and St. Thomas University in Fredericton. We are all looking forward to our visit to New Brunswick and I will be driving and so hope to see parts of the province.  
Yours most sincerely, in Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord,  
Rev. Edward J. R. Jackman  
General-Secretary of the CCHA

Hello,  
My name is Susanne Carpenter and I work with An Lár TV, a new internet community TV channel from Ireland.

An Lár TV is based upon a PBS model, and  we actively encourage 

communities around Ireland to contribute programmes. I am e-mailing you to let you know the channel is now broadcasting 24/7 and your members might enjoy a taste of Irish culture and music. The programmes are in English, Irish and sign language, and are mostly made by viewers around the country.

You can find the channel at [www.anlar.tv](http://www.anlar.tv) or [www.anlar.ie](http://www.anlar.ie).

With Best Regards  
Susanne Carpenter  
(via email)

Dear Editor:

I would appreciate it if you could pass the following web-site address to your members. It's a 1-hour per week program of Irish music, stories, news, requests etc.

IrishRadioOnline.com 

Many thanks,  
Brian Corr  
(via email)



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



(Continued)

Dear Editor,

I have just arrived home from a visit to Cork County library, where I viewed “**Commemorating Irish Culture and History in New Brunswick.**” It was excellent - - well done to all involved with the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick. Sadly it was not easy reading of a very dark chapter in both our histories. New Brunswick has much to be proud of in how they afforded a welcome to huge numbers of poor sick people dumped on them by circumstances over which they had no control. “Spem neduxit” indeed.

At the exhibition I picked up the winter 2010/11 issue of “The Shamrock Leaf” – most of which I’ve already read and greatly enjoyed. As a stamp collector myself I was drawn to “An Irish Stamp Album “(p28), the stamp to honour Douglas Hyde, first president of

Ireland caught my attention. Your Fredericton readers may be interested to know the following. He served a one year term as interim professor of modern language at the University of New Brunswick. The university that year 1890 had three buildings, a faculty of eight, and 86 students. It was his first appointment and we discovered he loved teaching and was well liked by his students. He enjoyed the outdoor life, winter pursuits and made a study of the local Maliseet Tribe and was fascinated by their language and culture. Janet Egleson Dunleavy and Gareth W Dunleavy in their “Douglas Hyde a Maker of Modern Ireland” 1991 give the details and of his romances with the young ladies of Fredericton who were charmed by the 30 year old from the Emerald Isle!

I paid a very short visit to Fredericton at East-

er 2006 and visited the above university. I was shocked to see the name “Bonar Law” on the gate. In negotiating the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921 Bonar Law was on the opposite side of the table to Michael Collins, etc.

Time in 2006, did not allow me to visit New Bandon, Gloucester County. Please find enclosed an article I wrote for the “Bandon Historical Journal.” While researching same I became aware of New Bandon in Ludlow Parish, Northumberland County. With regard to the latter New Bandon, I failed to get any definite information about its connection with Bandon, County Cork. Could any of your readers help?

I presume your Assistant Editor Linda Evans is one and the same Linda Evans I quoted on p19 of my article. Please thank her for same – it gave me pause for thought about

levels of cold beyond this poor “Paddy’s” imagination.

Keep up your good work. Those of us on the “old sod” are pleased that what this little island (“warts and all”) gave to Canada is remembered and cherished.  
May God bless you all.

With esteem  
John Callanan  
27 Ashleigh Drive,  
Skehard Rd.  
Blackrock Cork  
Ireland



**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** should be sent to: editor@newirelandnb.ca or by regular mail to Editor, ICCANB, P.O. Box 26022, Moncton, NB E1E 4H9 Canada

Due to space limitations, not all letters are guaranteed to be printed. We reserve the right to edit for length or content.

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**Advertising Rates for the Shamrock Leaf (SCAN):**

Business card size.....	\$25
1/4 page.....	\$45
1/2 page.....	\$60
Front Page Banner.....	\$100
Full page.....	\$100
Full Page Back Cover.....	\$200

Advertising requests should be sent to :

info@newirelandnb.ca



## Monsignor Edward Savage - still revered in the Moncton area

By Linda Evans

They still talk about him – more than seventy years after his death. Who is this man who still stirs up conversation in the Moncton area? Edward Savage was more than a simple parish priest. He was highly respected for his mind, his stories, his brilliant sermons, and deeply loved for his generous heart. Never a patient man, and quick to temper, even these seemingly negative attributes have come to be revered over the years as well. So who was he?



Edward Savage certainly had humble beginnings. Born 25 Jan 1859 in Melrose, New Brunswick – then known as Emigrant Road – Savage was the youngest son of a family of 14 born to William Denis Savage and Mary Stack. His father came from Ballynamuck, County Cork, Ireland along with several other family members in the late 1820's - so many in fact that Melrose was nearly called Savagetown. His mother also had an interesting past having found her way to Melrose from Ireland, but came via Brazil. Her father, Thomas Stack, was an Irish mercenary fighting in Brazil in the 1820's. When promised land grants didn't materialize after the war, he, along with several others, rebelled. Stack, along with daughter Mary and son James took passage to Saint John and landed there in 1827, and then

found their way to Melrose were they had family relations.

Edward Savage went to the local grammar school and was taught by Benjamin Corrigan who instilled a lifelong thirst for knowledge along with strong principles of Christian morality. Knowing that he couldn't afford to extend his education, he stayed at home and worked on the family farm. One day while felling some trees in the woods near his home he slipped with the axe, cut himself severely and was bleeding so profusely that he fainted and would have probably bled out except that a neighbor happened to pass by and saved his life. Savage considered it a miracle and felt that God had spared his life.

From that point on he wanted to be a priest but still couldn't afford the education. Fate would intervene. His only sister, Mary, had, by chance, met an Orangeman from PEI while travelling. Although they had corresponded, they were not allowed to marry because of their religious differences. However, her suitor died young and left her \$1000. She immediately gave the money to her brother so that he could continue his education and fulfill his dream to become a priest. She was totally devoted to his career choice. When the money ran out, she sold the family farm so that he would have enough money to continue his education. Later, after a failed marriage, she went to Moncton and resided

at St Bernard's rectory and took care of his needs as housekeeper.

Edward Savage first studied at St Dunstan's High School in Charlottetown, graduating at the age of 27 in 1886. From there, he went to St Joseph's College in Memramcook, and because of his mature age, was able to teach English and Math while there, which also helped with his fees. In 1889 he went on to the Grand Seminary in Québec and was ordained in June 1891.

His first assignment was as assistant to Monsignor Thomas Connolly in Saint John and then as assistant pastor at St Dunstan's parish in Fredericton. He finally got his first parish in Feb 1896 - Ward's Creek, near Sussex, along with four other mission parishes. Within four years, he had built St Francis Xavier parish in Sussex, and moved the main parish there.

When Father Henry Alexis Meahan died in 1905, Father Savage was given Moncton's only Catholic parish at the time, St Bernard's. He was there until his death on 04 Sep 1938. He was made Prelate in April 1934 and was then known as Monsignor Savage.

Within St Bernard's parish, Monsignor Savage was very much respected and considered the patriarch of

## Monsignor Edward Savage (Continued)

the Irish in Moncton. His sermons were renowned for their brilliant yet simple execution and were usually well-discussed after mass.

An imposing figure, Savage was also feared. He labeled those who hogged the end seat in a pew with the nickname "End Seat Hawks" and he had little patience for late-comers. One Sunday, a fellow came into mass halfway through the homily. Savage, obviously disgusted, peered over his lectern at the man, and mid-sentence bellowed, "Mass began at 11". Not one to stand down, the man uttered, "Then why don't you put an ad in the papers?," whereby he proceeded to storm out of church. Savage, not missing a beat, calmly continued on: "Let us now get on with the gospel of the day, but first one of the Beatitudes, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.""

The late historian and journalist, J E Ned Bellevue often spoke of Savage. His 'all-boy' Confirmation class was so misbehaved that they found an impatient Savage sent in to 'teach and control' the unruly lot. Describing Savage as "a white-haired giant with an Irishman's righteous temper," he remembered one incident when his temper was surely tested. The unruly child was chased round the room with Rev. Savage in pursuit, his prized black-thorn cane, a gift from an Irish statesman, wildly waving. Sadly, the cane came down on the head of the wrong child and broke, but the aged priest continued his pursuit nonetheless, until he

had his quarry at bay.

Savage travelled extensively and recounted his many adventures to his parishioners who eagerly awaited his return to hear his news. Not only did he do the obligatory trip to Rome and the Holy Land, he climbed the pyramids, took a Mediterranean cruise and was a passenger on Cooks first "Round the World Tour". He travelled to Ireland a number of times and felt at home there. Through his travels, he met all sorts of interesting individuals including Lord Strathcona and Douglas Hyde, Gaelic scholar, founder of the Gaelic League, and first President of the Republic of Ireland, who was also once a professor at UNB in Fredericton.

Politics was never a forbidden topic around his fire. He relished political debate. As a young man he actually ran for office for a seat on the Westmorland County board but was unsuccessful. His godfather, Patrick Reilly, who held the same position for years, no doubt influenced Savage's politics. Savage opposed Confederation and was an avid supporter of Timothy Anglin Warren and his newspaper, the *New Freeman*. While at St Joseph's College, he actually walked the 20 miles home in order to cast his vote in an election. Irish politics also dominated his thoughts and he kept his Irish parishioners up-to-date on Irish events. Although strongly opinionated, many echoed that he was

nonetheless tolerant of other's beliefs, whether in politics or religion and that endeared him to many.

He was also very fond of his Irish roots and his early years in his beloved Melrose. He went home as often as he could, and upon entering the village, always told his driver to tip his hat as they approached the community. He had a monument built to the early settlers in the old settler cemetery and had a large Celtic cross placed in the present St Bartholemew's Cemetery, which not only stands as a marker to the community's Irish past, but also serves as a marker for his grave. His visits were remembered fondly. He often brought clothes and sweets for the children and unattainable foods for some of the families in Melrose. In Moncton, he often found work for many of the Melrose families who had moved there to find work over the years.

After 33 years as Rector of St Bernard's parish, Monsignor Savage died on 5 Sep 1938. In his obituary, which was extensive, he was described as "different sort of man, a great character. There was none quite like him." He would be remembered "for his broadness, his depth of knowledge, his wit, and ability to turn a phrase. He was a profound scholar, with an amazing memory and a sharpness of wit that never left him."

Thousands attended his funeral at St Bernard's parish in Moncton. He went 'home' to Melrose to be buried with his family.

As a footnote, his sister Mary Savage Chisholm's life came to a tragic end. She had sacrificed her own future for the dreams of her brother, and was not only supported by Father Savage for many years, but served as his housekeeper and confidant for many years. Her clothing caught fire over an open flame on the new gas stove at St Bernard's rectory in December 1919, and she died soon after from severe burns. She too was buried in Melrose.

An imposing figure topped with a head of thick white hair, Monsignor Savage was a fascinating individual. He was so well-regarded and respected in his day that his stories - and the stories of his life - are still as vivid today as they were many generations ago. What an amazing legacy.



# The Irish Room Genealogy Tidbits

By Linda Evans

New Brunswick's Irish history has, for many reasons, been largely ignored in this province, and yet our rich and colourful past deserves a place within New Brunswick's story. While gathering research on NB Irish families, I often come across small snippets of information that compel me to dig deeper. Often found buried in the most unusual and unexpected places, these little tidbits of information often provide insight into the lives of individuals who are mostly forgotten today, but surely deserve a place in New Brunswick's Irish story. Here's one that I stumbled upon recently:

## Hon. John Anthony McDonald, Shediacs' other senator



A small entry in the Shediac register in 1921 tweaked my interest. The priest noted that Senator JA McDonald was at the funeral of local farmer, Patrick James Sweeney. Well,

it turned out that McDonald's sister, Elizabeth, was married to the deceased. So who was he?

Over the years, Shediac has been rightfully proud of its native son, Senator Pascal Poirier. He wrote a definitive work on the Acadian language and was New Brunswick's first Acadian senator. A member of the Canadian senate from 1885 until his death in 1933, Pascal's Shediac home is a provincial historic site and much has been written about him - but he wasn't Shediac's only senator.

John Anthony McDonald was born in Shediac, NB on Christmas Eve in 1864, the son of ship's pilot, Edward McDonald and Anna Christina Jane Simpson. His grandfather, Edward, had emigrated to PEI from Ireland in 1821, but eventually crossed into NB. One of 11 children, John Anthony McDonald was a manufacturer and financier. He was appointed to the senate in 1921 by then Prime Minister Arthur Meighen and served in the senate until his death in 1948.

His senatorial division was listed as 'Shediac, NB', so he not only shared a community with Senator Pascal Poirier. He would also have served in the senate alongside Pascal Poirier during his first decade in Ottawa.

Yet, little is known of him in his native hometown. Sad, really!

*If you know of other Irish New Brunswickers who deserve a place in New Brunswick's Irish story, please contact us at the Irish Room, 103 Park Street, PO Box 26022, Moncton, NB, E1G 4H9, (506) 872-2791, or through e-mail: [irishroom@rogers.com](mailto:irishroom@rogers.com). The Irish Room is a genealogy and research centre, and home to the Moncton WAK Chapter of the ICCA of NB.*



Josephine Butler, reminiscing about the Great Famine years wrote:

I can recollect being awakened in the early morning by a strange noise, like the croaking or chattering of many birds. Some of the voices were hoarse and almost extinguished by the faintness of famine; and on looking out of the window I recollect seeing the garden and the field in front of the house completely darkened by a population of men, women and children, squatting in rags; uncovered skeleton limbs protruding everywhere from their wretched clothing, and clamorous though faint voices uplifted for food and in pathetic remonstrance against the inevitable delay in providing what was given them from the house every morning. I recollect too, when walking through the lanes and villages, the strange morbid famine smell in the air, the sign of approaching death, even in those who were still dragging out a wretched existence.

(<http://www.victorianweb.org/history/famine2.html>)

# Annual ICCANB Bursary Awarded

The winner of this year's ICCANB bursary for a deserving university-level student who has included some aspect of Irish Studies in their academic program was Ms. Haley Ryan of St. Thomas University.

In her correspondence to the ICCANB, Ms. Ryan provides her bio and a few words of thanks:

"I am a 20 year-old student at St. Thomas University entering 4<sup>th</sup> year in the fall, originally from Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. I have always enjoyed reading and writing, as well as music and fine art, so arts journalism is something I hope to pursue in my career, or working for a magazine.

This award means a great deal to me because I have loved Ireland my whole life, and take great pride in the fact I can trace Irish lineage on both sides of my family. Taking Irish Studies classes at university has broadened my knowledge of the country's fascinating culture, history and people, making me more determined than ever to visit there some day.

I was lucky enough to study the Irish language this year, which may help me to travel to Ireland next summer to study in the Western part of the country. Even if that doesn't happen, I will be able to make my way around Ireland and always know how to say "hello" and ask "where is the pub?" when I am there!

After I graduate next spring, I plan on using this generous award to put towards a plane ticket to Ireland, so I really appreciate that the Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick has made it that much easier to achieve my life-long dream.

Go raibh maith agaibh!  
(Thank you all!)  
- Haley Ryan



## The Shamrock Leaf

This news magazine is published twice a year (Summer & Winter) and is funded solely from membership, so keep up the support!!

Design by: ICCANB

Printing by: Acadie Presse



## Irish Canadian Cultural Association Of New Brunswick

Website  
[www.newirelandnb.ca](http://www.newirelandnb.ca)

**Fun Irish Fact:** *Couples in Ireland could marry legally on St. Brigid's Day (February 1st) in Teltown, County Meath, as recently as the 1920s by simply walking towards each other. If the marriage failed, they could divorce by walking away from each other, at the same spot, on St. Brigid's Day the following year. The custom was a holdover from old Irish Brehon Laws, which allowed temporary marriage contracts.*

# Celtic Music Corner

## The Clancy/Makem Musical Legacy By Bernie Houlahan

Much has been written over the past forty years of the Irish folk music 'revival'...and so much of it has been the handiwork of the many members of two musical families. So much so, that perhaps a brief history of 'who was who and when' is warranted.

Beginning roughly around 1960, Tom, Paddy and Liam Clancy immigrated to the United States. They subsequently joined forces with Tommy Makem, and took the world by storm with an entirely new way of performing mostly traditional Irish songs.

By 1968, Tommy had decided to go solo and Bobby Clancy joined his three brothers for awhile. He was later replaced by Englishman Louis Killen and from there it gets complicated... the group broke up for awhile, Paddy returned to Ireland to the life of a 'gentleman farmer'; Tom went to Los Angeles to work as a movie/TV actor; Liam married and went to Calgary, where he hosted a TV show for awhile. Around the mid-seventies Liam Clancy and Tommy Makem formed a duo and toured and recorded successfully through to 1988, when they finally called it a day, although both continued successful solo careers up until the time of their deaths: Tommy in 2007 and Liam in 2009.

The Clancy Brothers



### The Clancy Brothers

act reformed around 1978 with Tom, Paddy, Bobby, and their nephew, Robbie O'Connell. Tom passed away in 1990, at which time Liam Clancy re-joined the group.

With the passing of both Bobby and Paddy in the late nineties, the greatest name in the Irish singing revival was no more.

Fortunately, there is talent galore in the various offspring of the Clancy's and Tommy Makem. Bobby's son, Finbar, is a fine musician and singer who tours as a member of "The High Kings". Bobby's

daughter, Aoife has performed successfully as a soloist and also as lead vocalist for a few years with the great all-woman band "Cherish the Ladies".

One of Liam's sons, Donal, is a wonderful guitarist and singer. He was one of the founding members of the great band "Danu".

On the Makem side, Tommy's three sons, born in Ireland but raised in New Hampshire, followed in their father's footsteps relatively early in life. I recall meeting them in 1994 at the Miramichi Irish festival. Their father was just recovering

from heart surgery but was already 'back on the road'. Conor Makem said, "he wants to die on the road; looks like he's gonna' get his chance."

The Makem sons – Conor, Rory and Shane – now form a quintet with Liam and Mickey Spain.

## Celtic Music Corner (cont'd)

They recently played six dates in the Maritimes, including Moncton's Capital Theatre... a truly great act, five robust voices, with instrumentation that includes guitars, banjo, mandolin, bouzouki, pennywhistle and bass...their thee CD's to date hew fairly closely to

the family traditions, with robust singing of songs that are both traditional and contemporary.

We had a brief conversation with the Makem sons after their recent Moncton concert. I was telling them of one of their father's last shows in this town,

when we had 'adjourned' to a private home for an hour or so. Tommy was a bit tired and withdrawn, and was sitting quietly by the fireplace. The hostess asked me what we should offer Tommy for a drink. I replied that he didn't drink, but that I was sure he'd ap-


preciate a cup of tea. A few minutes later she approached him with a huge teapot that must have held several gallons, but had only one lonely teabag floating around the bottom. She took off the cover, held it out, and asked, "Mr. Makem, does this look right?"

He peered into it, looked up at her over the top of his glasses and replied, "well, it WILL if ye drop a few teabags into it!" The Makem boys roared with laughter at this. Conor said, "He spent most of his life in a hopeless quest for a decent cup of tea...he once told us that it was impossible to get 'a decent cup 'o tea' anywhere in the entire United States...I once heard him say, "I keep TELLIN' 'em, BRING IT TO A ROLLIN' BOIL!!!"



The Makem and Spain Brothers





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# Bathurst Chapter News

The Chapter finished 2010 with our annual eggnog Christmas party. Our first meeting of the new year was held in February and was mainly concerned with preparations for St. Patrick's week and supper. The supper and entertainment was held at the Gowan Brae Golf and Country Club and had over 160 in attendance. Thanks to everyone for a wonderful evening.

Our Chapter wishes to recognize members of the Chapter who have passed away over the years since the beginning of the Chapter. Following are those members. If we have missed anyone, we are deeply sorry. Please get in touch with either Patrick Murphy or Connie Whalen if there is someone that should be added to this list.

Boyle, Jim	Glidden, Hadley	O'Connell, Lillian
Carter, Helen	Grebenc, Inez	O'Kane, Sadie
Connolly, Noreen	Hennessy, Eileen	Power, Harry & Lorraine (Arseneau)
Conway, Sister Joan	Jarratt, Sidney	Smith, Bert
Culligan, Florence	Kane, Bernie & Blanche	Talbot, Arnold
Daley, Clara & Fenton	Killoran, Matt	Taylor, Collin
Degrace, Rodney	Kyle, Doug	Whelton, Vince & Margaret
Doucet, Wilfred & Loretta	Lawlor, William	Wilbur, Mildred
Dunn, Patricia	Lenihan, Frank & Gerry	Wilt, Andrew
Eddy, Glendon & Jean	Losier, Aldeo	
Fulrotte, Carmel	McLaughlin, Patrick	
Gallant, Clayton	Mann, Kevin Sr.	
Gauthier, Katherine (Kit) & Gervais	Meahan, Helen	

As in any area of the Province there are a number of very talented people in our area who don't often get a chance to show or have their work read. Below are two poems written by Clara Shannon of Belledune.

## Summer's Song

Come dance with me in the meadow  
To the tune of the larks sweet song  
Where a carpet of grass is waiting  
For us to come along

Come dance with me on the hill top  
Where the air is fresh and pure  
The music of the south wind  
Will touch our hearts for sure

Come dance with me in the forest  
Where shadows are like lace  
The music of the chirping birds  
Will make a joyful place

Come dance with me along the shore  
Where white waves dash and sing  
Where seabirds call in unison  
We will sway and swing

Come dance with me most any place  
For I am young and strong

I am the time of growth and strength  
Come join me in my song

For I am a passing season  
And time will slip away  
Do not wait until tomorrow  
Come dance with me today



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## Bathurst Chapter News (Cont'd)

### Little Green Shamrock

Hope of the great Irish nation  
Worn on Saint Patrick's Day  
To honor the precious memory  
Of a country far away.

Faith of the Irish people  
For which they lived and died  
That their faith would live forever  
And never could be denied.

Love of the great Green Isle  
From whence our forefathers came  
Bringing their Irish culture  
Always with them to remain

We celebrate Saint Patrick's Day  
By wearing a shamrock of green  
Remembering a great country  
With its 40 shades of green

Clara Shannon (Flanagan) was born and raised in Belledune, New Brunswick. It is here where she chose to settle and live in a cottage by the sea.

Art and creative writing have always come natural to Clara. Although her career choice was teaching and raising eight children, she always found time to reflect on the beauty of her surroundings.

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*"The immigrants heart marches to the beat of two quite different drums, one from the old homeland and the other from the new. The immigrant has to bridge these two worlds, living comfortably in the new and bringing the best of his or her ancient identity and heritage to bear on life in an adopted homeland."*

- Irish President Mary McAleese

## Canada's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Irish Festival On the Miramichi

Canada's Irish Festival is gearing up for its 28<sup>th</sup> year, and as usual a whirlwind weekend of unprecedented excitement and Irish cheer. Beginning Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup> our free outdoor concert held at Waterford Green will thrill onlookers as local and imported talent such as The Shamrocks, and Mason's Tender grace the stage with Irish song and dance. Relax on the banks of the Mighty Miramichi with your lawn chair and enjoy what the evening has to offer, like a variety of food vendors and a licensed area for those over 19.

Friday kicks off with a full Irish Breakfast at St. Michael's Basilica, while the afternoon will feature live entertainment as always at the Lord Beaverbrook Arena, with the opening ceremonies that evening. Also, all Friday and Saturday cultural activities, which are relocating, due to size, to James M. Hill High School, will be all the rage with new displays featured. Immediately following the opening ceremonies the attendees will be graced with the talents of world-renowned Irish entertainers The Makem and Spain Brothers. This concert will be just the thing to kick you into high gear for the rest of the festivities!

Saturday morning features yet another Irish Breakfast at St. Micheal's, then our world famous Family Walking Parade. We hope to see all families with Irish heritage attend. Our red hair contest will also be early Saturday morning at Dr. Losier Middle school, with all contestants marching in the parade and contest winner picked at the Arena for all to see. Saturday will feature entertainment such as The Nelson Doyle dancers, Gerry Roberts, Ten Strings and a Goatskin, Saint John Comhaltas, Barry Williams,

Bob & Walter, and much more.

Something new for this year is a concert to be held Saturday evening at James M. Hill entitled, "The Fiddler and the Tenor" featuring the talents of Kathleen Gorey-McSorely and Canadian Tenor, Derek Paul Miller. Saturday night's Pub at the LBA will feature Ontario's "Bang on the Ear", and Miramichi's own, "The Durty Nellys". This will be a night to remember!

Sunday afternoon activities will be held at Middle Island Irish Historic Park featuring

their most beloved family Day. Rest after a long weekend of celebrations and end it where it began, along the banks of the Majestic Miramichi. Don't forget the third annual Irish festival closing street dance at O'Donaghue's Irish Pub, always a great way to end it!

The Festival welcomes all to attend and enjoy a great weekend of Culture, music, and fun, while celebrating your Irish Heritage. For a full schedule and entertainment line up please visit [www.canadasirishfest.com](http://www.canadasirishfest.com).

Sláinte,

Tracey Robinson  
Festival President

(See Ad on Back Cover)



# O'MOLLOY CLAN REUNION

August 12 - August 13  
2011

Tullamore, County Offaly, Ireland

Organized by the O'Molloy Clan Association \*

**Calling family & friends from around the world !**  
**Celebrate our heritage and forge and renew family links**

## 2011 Reunion will include:

- \* Lectures by guest speakers
- \* Access to local genealogical records
- \* Tours of O'Molloy castles, homes and burial sites in our ancient ancestral territory
- \* Music, dance and storytelling
- \* Dinner at Charleville Castle



For additional information contact Thomas Molloy at [info@omolloy.com](mailto:info@omolloy.com) or John Malloy [johnpmaalloy@comcast.net](mailto:johnpmaalloy@comcast.net). Further details may be found at <http://www.omolloy.com/>

\* The O'Molloy Clan Association was formed in 2004 with a view to promoting the O'Molloy name and the territory of Firceall. It is hoped to achieve this through holding Clan Rallies and by developing connections in Ireland and worldwide which will gather, conserve and share relevant historical and genealogical information. Variant spellings: O'Maolmhaidh, Molloy, O'Molloye, O'Mulloye, Mulloy, Milloy, Meloy, O'Meloy, Maloy, Malloy, Miley, Millea, O'Molwye, O'Molley.



## The Shamrock Leaf's 50<sup>th</sup> Edition

### A Look Back With a Vision to the Future

Interviews by Bruce Driscoll

I hope that this will be the first of many newsletters that will be put out on a regular basis. Since we are scattered throughout the province, and even much further, it is necessary to have a means to communicate with each other.

These were the first words written in the first edition of the Shamrock Leaf, Volume 1, No. 1, dated October 1983, and penned by Farrell McCarthy, the first Editor.

From that genesis, the role and substance of the Leaf has been faithful to Farrell's, and the ICCANB's, vision of its place in the Irish community within our Province, and beyond our borders as time has shown.

And now, in the spring of 2011, this represents the 50<sup>th</sup> edition of the Shamrock Leaf, and nearly 28 years of existence as the voice of the ICCANB, not a small achievement in this time of changing communication.

So perhaps it is time to look back and reflect on this newsletter and what better way to do it then by hearing from the three editors of the Shamrock Leaf over the past quarter-century plus.

Farrell McCarthy, Patricia O'Leary-Coughlan, and Linda Evans have each served as Editor-in-Chief of the newsletter at various times. We have asked each a series of questions and their answers illuminate in a very special way the journey of the Shamrock Leaf from 1983 to 2011. Our sincere thanks to them for their responses and more importantly for their gift of the Shamrock Leaf to us these many years.



Our three Editors as they looked "in the day":

Farrell McCarthy - Pictured from 1983

Patricia O'Leary-Coughlan - Pictured from 1990

Linda Evans - Pictured from 1995





## The Shamrock Leaf's 50<sup>th</sup> Edition

### Interviews with our Editors (Continued)

#### Questions:

#### When did each of you serve as Editor, and for how long?

**F:** *I was editor of the Shamrock Leaf from 1983-1989 and 2001 to 2011, a total of 19 years.*

**P:** *I served as Editor from October, 1989 to May, 1994. During that time, we had published volumes 16 -22, inclusively.*

**L:** *I was editor from 1995-2000 and during that time the SL went through a few changes. When I began, the SL was still called a newsletter, but had progressed to a magazine format and so I changed the name to the SL newsmagazine which better reflects what it is today. I also added a small index on the cover so that people could find articles and features quickly but that has disappeared in later issues.*

#### During your term(s) as Editor of this publication, what aspect of the role was the most challenging, and ultimately what proved the most rewarding?

**F:** *Probably the most challenging was getting the time to put it together because of my teaching career and family duties. The reward I received was from working and corresponding with so many people who helped me and the positive comments and education I learned about our Irish ancestors and culture.*

**P:** *The most challenging was 1) having a publication that was representative of all of the chapters and encouraging members from beyond the province to contribute articles. For a time, we had frequent contributions from Ontario and Quebec; and 2) having the so-called "brown envelopes" arrive on time*

*so that the articles and photos could be then assembled in a "cut-and-paste-together mode" of the day! A true labor of love, indeed. I owe a great debt of gratitude to Farrell -- his patience with me and his ability to help me assemble everything from cover to cover before taking it down to the printers.*

*Probably the most rewarding for me was seeing how the Chapters responded to the challenge of highlighting, on occasion, a specific Irish community by using the center fold of the SL. The particular articles, photos and maps were pleasantly revealing about the early settlers.*

*In those more early days of the Association, it was so encouraging to see the membership grow to 1,506, February 1990. This certainly resulted in links established which remain strong today--links with organizations, associations and individuals, far and wide, which have been enriching for them and for us.*

**L:** *The most rewarding was definitely seeing the SL in print, after months of effort, the ink still drying on the pages. Also, feedback from the readers was also very satisfying and important for fielding the direction the next issue should take.*

*When I started as editor, most materials were hand-written and/or 'copied and pasted', and the publisher, Cadogan, would type it all in, typeset it and print. I brought the SL into the computer age by putting together the material on an old desktop Mac that I kept just for that purpose because Cadogan in Miramichi didn't support Windows. It was very frustrating at*

*first as it didn't work the same as my regular computer and I nearly threw it out the window one day but I got used to it. I would put the SL articles and pieces together on it, save it on an old floppy disk and put it on the bus to go up to Cadogan. It would be typeset in two days rather than two weeks, which was progress back then. When it was formatted, I would have to go up to Miramichi to edit on-site. When I finished as editor, I entered everything into Microsoft Word and I'd send it up to Miramichi on a CD for typesetting. Within a day they would email the set copy back to me for editing so I no longer had to travel back and forth to Miramichi. What changes we went through in that short space of time! Also, when it was printed, I had to go up to Miramichi, pick up all the issues and bus, or deliver them to the various chapters. The last few issues I did were sent to the Chapters directly by Cadogan which again was more convenient.*

*The most challenging aspect of being editor is still the most difficult -- getting the articles and stories in for publication. Now that I am assistant editor, I am just as guilty of procrastination as the next guy, and yet I should know*



## The Shamrock Leaf's 50<sup>th</sup> Edition

### Interviews with our Editors (Continued)

*better. It's only around 40 pages, but filling them can be a real challenge when the material doesn't present itself. Our other challenge is always getting advertising.*

**Thinking back over the past 28 years are there particular articles, or perhaps a single one, or an event, which stand(s) out as memorable or significant?**

**F:** *Some times in life, timing is everything. When the Association was officially launched in March 1983, plans were beginning for our Bicentennial Celebration. Hundreds of requests were coming in for grants to support projects throughout New Brunswick. Because we now had an Irish Association, we were successful in getting Bicentennial grants to fund three Irish projects – our first Irish Festival; the Early Irish History, Poster Map of New Brunswick, and “New Ireland Remembered; Historical Essays on the Irish in New Brunswick.” These projects ensured that the Shamrock Leaf and the Association were going to be around for many years and we had much more to do in all parts of New Brunswick.*

**P:** *Perhaps one of my greatest and proudest moments was when Farrell sent us all the first SL in its present format. The first volumes were typed with green ink on legal sheets of paper. This was the mid-80s and then I knew in my heart that there would be a great future for the Association and the Shamrock Leaf.*

The other very significant memory I have was watching members begin researching their

roots here and in Ireland, sharing their stories on trips to Ireland, and, of course, enriching their search for all things Irish through books. Thanks to Farrell for wetting our appetites.

**L:** *This is a tough one! I don't think there is any single article that stands out – and that is probably a good thing as it suggests the SL is well-balanced. Because many of us had 'lost' our Irish roots, there was a general and voracious thirst to gather together and to learn more about our real NB story. Without the unity of the Association and the SL, we were all separate little clans around the province, much as it had been in Ireland many centuries ago. When we gathered together, and through the SL, we discovered many truths and untruths, and that 'enlightenment' in the early years is probably what stands out more than anything. We proudly discovered that we were one of NB's largest cultural groups and that we didn't fit the mold spit out in the history books and movies. As pre-famine Irish for the most part, we discovered that our story was different. I guess what I am trying to say is that as the voice of the ICCA, the SL united us and showed us 'who we really were'.*

**Over time have you seen recurring themes in what readers are interested in seeing in the SL?**

**F:** *Our readers enjoy the magazine. I can't pick one, but we probably should do a survey to see what the most favoured articles are.*

**P:** *From comments on membership forms, notes to the editor and personal contacts, the recurring themes seem to have been family back-*

*grounds, travel and keeping in touch with the different chapters through their activity reports. Very, very seldom were there serious concerns other than having to wait maybe a bit too long for some editions.*

**L:** *If I had to pick one theme, I'd say the majority of our readers seem to be keen on New Brunswick Irish stories and also what is going on around the province. Although some of our members are from 'away', many of them also seem to look at the SL through nostalgic eyes or as a reference to better understand where they came from.*

**To best represent the interests of our readers, how important is the balance between local, provincial, national and international Irish-related news items and articles? Where should the most focus be placed?**

**F:** *New Brunswick was divided into six regions when the Association was founded. We should plan ahead and get two regions to do a historical article for each edition. This could be our main focus, so by the time we put out the third Shamrock Leaf, all areas of New Brunswick would be covered. A variety of other articles must always be included.*



## The Shamrock Leaf's 50<sup>th</sup> Edition

### Interviews with our Editors (Continued)

**P:** Because our readers come from diverse backgrounds and places and have different interests, it is of paramount importance to strive for a balance in our news items and articles. I feel that through the years we have become more sensitive to the importance of our identity. We have grown so much more mature, inquisitive and proud of our Irishness and our contribution to the world at large. The Shamrock Leaf seems to be the glue that keeps us together while at the same time, permitting us to move forward individually.

I would suggest that we assemble the SL in such a fashion that local, provincial, national and international news items and articles could be highlighted separately in each edition. In my opinion, the greatest focus now should be NB-Ireland related.

**L:** *The balance is crucial. There is definitely interest in what is going on in Ireland as well as other areas of the world where the Irish Diaspora is found. Yet, I believe strongly that most people are interested mostly in what happened – and is happening – right here in NB and so the focus should be in that direction. Anyone can Google what is going on in Ireland or internationally. Because Irish New Brunswickers are still on the 'outside, looking in' in this province, there is no provincial focus on our story and the SL has to fill that void.*

**What direction would you, personally, think should be explored, or features added, as we move forward? Are there opportunities that need to be explored to keep the SL**

**interesting and relevant to its readers?**

**F:** *Genealogy is something that we have talked about, but have not done very much about it. Someone should take this part of the Shamrock Leaf on and organize a one or two page section for each edition. [Note: see our new section on page 28]*

**P:** As we move forward, we have embraced, as best we can, the benefits of technology. Our step into the 21st century has been a rewarding challenge for the present editor and close colleagues. We need to take advantage of all Ireland-NB initiatives and contacts, be they great or small, and publish all this as much as possible. We need, somehow, to get Irish immigrants in our midst to contribute to the SL. This is beginning to happen by having these folks involved in our individual chapters. We must always remember that we all have acquaintances who are new or not-so-new settlers in our communities. This, in my opinion, would strengthen our bonds with Ireland and their bonds with us and even possibly increase our memberships.

**L:** *I think we are at a crossroad and new avenues really do have to be explored. We can't rely only on membership dues to publish. Advertising helps but we never have enough of it and we either have to increase membership or advertising to survive in the long term. Regular newspapers are suffering from a 40% decline in readership as we become more and more a 'paperless' society. The SL, if it is to survive, should find a place on our website in a way that can still bring in revenue, and at the same*

*time reach a larger audience. We need to explore this new direction but at the same time maintain the paper copy as some like to hold it in their hands. As to the SL itself, we do have some very interesting features now – the book reviews and regular columns are always sought out, but we need to add more regular features or columns to keep up people's interest – perhaps a regular commentary on current events? Regular NB Irish history pieces?*

**If someone was just starting this type of publication for their own organization what words of advice would you give them?**

**F:** *I would say that three things are vital: Passion, Knowledge and Commitment are necessary to undertake such a publication.*

**P:** Start small. Try to know your readership! For example, the IC-CA of NB membership crosses various regions, within and outside Canada, ages and interests. It is necessary to keep this foremost in planning a publication for any organization. Do not hesitate to try new approaches. Once datelines have been established from the outset, be consistent with deadlines. Publishing online is the idea



## The Shamrock Leaf's 50<sup>th</sup> Edition

### Interviews with our Editors (Continued)

for many reasons. However, some members are not "hooked up" to computers and, even if they were, still want to have a hard copy.

**L:** *No brainer.... Go for it! One has to reach out to one's group – be they a cultural group - or any non-profit group for that matter – in order to get the message out and survive.*

**What do you see as the greatest challenge(s) publications such as the SL will face over the next decade?**

**F:** *Every year has been and will continue to be a challenge. If we have a purpose and people are committed to the cause, then we will continue to have the Shamrock Leaf.*

**P:** Probably the greatest challenge the

SL will face in the near future is keeping up with new technology! The next big challenge would probably be continuing to cover our operational expenses. Our only working income comes from membership fees and occasional small donations. Advertisements could become even more difficult to nail down in the future than they are now. Dedicated members in each chapter are really the necessary driving force when it comes to soliciting. The Association now has new guidelines which will hopefully ease this process and help pay some of the publishing expenses.

Bruce, it was a real trip back into

the past reviewing the volumes for which I was responsible. We have come a long, long way since then something for which I am very grateful.

**L:** *We are all very proud of the SL and anxiously await its arrival at our door but the greatest challenge ahead is keeping up our membership. We rely on it to maintain the publication. Without it, or some other way to support the magazine, the SL will not survive that would be a shame as it is our strongest voice.*




### THE MASS ROCK IN THE GLEN by Felix Kearney

In a lonely mountain valley,  
 In the hills of Donegal  
 Lies one Ireland's hallowed spots  
 Deserted and unknown.  
 But few who write historic tales  
 Or wield the poet's pen  
 Can say with pride – they knelt beside  
 The Mass Rock in the Glen.  
 I'm proud that I am mountain bred,  
 This is my native place.  
 Those mountain glens have always been  
 The strongholds of our race.  
 It was here our fathers earned the right  
 To hear the name of men  
 When they kept the faith of Pádraig  
 By the Mass Rock in the Glen.  
 Our priests like wolves were hunted down  
 O God 'twas surely hard  
 That from the right to worship Thee  
 Thy children were debarred.  
 But still they proudly bore  
 Thy cross those simple mountain men

Were proud to share Thy Calvary  
 By the Mass Rock in the Glen.

No more on top of Croagh Hill  
 The sentinel stands guard  
 Our ancient foes, the foreign yoghs  
 Have gone to their reward.  
 And he who worships God in peace  
 May bless the fearless men  
 Who held the faith for Ireland  
 By the Mass Rock in the Glen.

God Bless the glens of Ireland  
 Every rock and mountain pass,  
 'twas those game glens that under God  
 Preserved for us, the Mass  
 And if the day should come again  
 When Ireland calls for men  
 She will not find them wanting  
 By the Mass Rock in the Glen.

## The Shamrock Leaf Goes to School

**M. E. King**  
**Miramichi Valley High School Teacher**

One aim of public education is to develop the quality of citizenship in students, but what is “citizenship”? Certainly, it must involve an awareness of the past and a respect for the past, and an understanding of how the past is part of our present.

For the past few years, I have been doing a short Local Writers and Artists Unit with my grade 11 classes at MVHS. At the grade 11 level, the focus has gone beyond “learning to read” to read-

ing to learn. To this end, it is important to bring to the classroom “real world” resources – the local newspaper, the poetry of Michael Whalen, the Bread and Molasses magazine . . . and, “The Shamrock Leaf.”

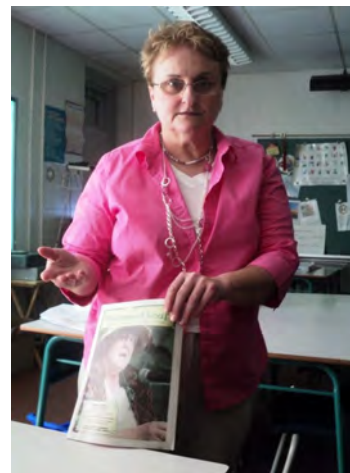
Many students in my classes are of Irish descent; there is a critical mass of students who read the publication out of interest. The draw for students is that “The Shamrock Leaf has colour photos, short articles, and a photo and message by Mr. Farrell

McCarthy (known to the students as a supply teacher and former vice-principal at nearby Harkins Middle School).

But it is the actual articles themselves that peak the students’ interest. For instance, in the last issue, students read the article “The Walk Commemorating the Doolough Tragedy,” and were shocked at the treatment of the famine victims by the British in 1840s Ireland. Follow-up discussions include remarks on injustices throughout history, such as the treatment of natives in North America and the social injustices today in places such as Afghanistan.

It is not all doom and gloom. Students like to look at Irish names, scholarship information, stamp collecting, book reviews, news about St. Thomas College, and Irish places of interest in Google Earth.

“The Shamrock



Leaf” has become a valuable resource in my class at many levels. It is useful in raising awareness of the Irish struggle in history, the Irish contribution to society, and the Irish presence in New Brunswick culture today.



MVHS Students Kathryn Lynch, John McNally and Megan Dunnett with copies of the Shamrock Leaf.

As part of an effort to make students aware of local history, MVHS students continue to work on video and audio essays as part of “The Human Book Project”. Alexa English has produced an audio essay on our own Farrell McCarthy (see transcript next page). Alexa is the grand-daughter of Earl English, former President of the Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick. Also of interest is MVHS student Kathryn Lynch’s audio essay on Irish Immigration, part of the Atlas of The Miramichi: A Cultural, Historical, Artistic and Literary Appreciation of the Region. The work of the student’s will soon be available online at the MVHS website, Mary King’s Teacher’s page at: <http://mvhs.nbed.nb.ca/teacher/ms-king>

# The Shamrock Leaf Goes to School

(Continued)

**Farrell McCarthy: A Human Book**— by MVHS student Alexa English

*(The Human Book Project is an enrichment project designed to engage MVHS students in local Miramichi culture. It is part of the ATLAS OF THE MIRAMICHI: A cultural, historical, artistic and literary appreciation of the region. When Alexa took on the project, she had no knowledge she would encounter Mr. Farrell McCarthy. Alexa's grandfather, Earl English, had also been a member of the Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick)*

Farrell McCarthy is one of six children. He is of direct family line to Ireland and he says whenever he visits Ireland, he can recognize family members.

In middle school, Mr. McCarthy was bitten by the bug, and started to become interested in his family's heritage and of the Irish people. He is the only one in the family with this passion. As a child, he remembers listening to Irish music on the radio. What interests and intrigues him most about the Irish people are the trials and tribulations that they endured while coming to Canada, and being here.

Now, Mr. McCarthy is the editor of the Irish Canadian Association of New Brunswick's seasonal magazine "The Shamrock Leaf". Farrell was the original 1983 editor, during that time the copies ran off a copier machine with a crank at the end. The copies during this time were distributed through their members, the newspaper and the mail. The magazine is all volunteer work and it is still that way today. Mr. McCarthy's deep interest in the Irish culture

and his ancestors has allowed him to travel and enjoy it that much more when he visited Ireland the first time in 1979 with his wife. A story he shared with me was the feeling he had as the plane landed. He describes the landscape as forty shades of green, and his heart rose in his throat...

Farrell can remember being a child and listening to Irish music on the radio.

Before he was the editor of The Shamrock Leaf, Farrell was a teacher and also the Vice-Principal at Harkins Jr. High School.

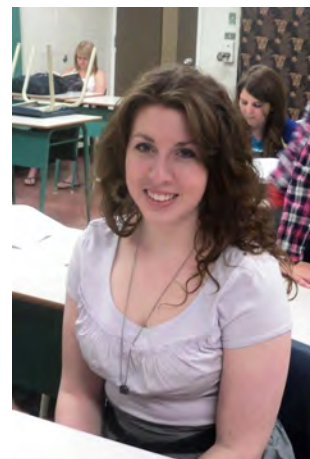
Nowadays he is still the editor of The Shamrock Leaf and also founded the Irish Canadian Association of New Brunswick. The main reason for this, he says, is that people thought of New Brunswick as being settled by the Acadians and never got into the culture and literature of the Irish. This main goal for the Shamrock Leaf is to create awareness of the Irish People and to also honour the culture and literature. He also wants people to understand the struggles the Irish had to go through in order to survive here. Farrell says that

about 35% of New Brunswickers have Irish roots. He wants people to appreciate the music the Irish brought over with them and also their dancing.

Farrell wanted to extend the culture of the Irish. He says that St. Patrick's Day is the only ethnic holiday in which "everyone is Irish". Montreal has had a running parade for 200 years and it is about 2 to 3 hours long. So, Farrell founded the Irish festival that we know today. He got the idea for the Irish Festival from other festivals in the United States, and even had a book booth at the Irish Festival selling copies of The Shamrock Leaf.

Farrell had been to Ireland eight times, and every year he and his friend Marvin McCarthy (no relation) take tourists there.

Now Farrell still edits The Shamrock Leaf and is very involved in the Irish Festival and has also worked for Elections Canada as a recruitment officer. He had to recruit 350 workers that are neutral to the polls to work in large ridings. There were 20 training sessions that the recruits had to go



Alexa English  
MVHS Student

through. This was the first time with Elections Canada in the head office. Before this, he worked at the polls on election days. Farrell says that he has always had an interest in politics and wished more people, especially the younger generation would too. In Farrell's view, knowing the issues in the province is important for young and old alike.

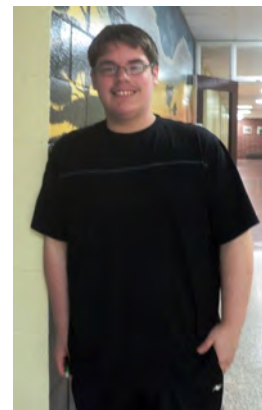
# The Shamrock Leaf Goes to School

(Continued)

## Comments from MVHS students on the use of the Shamrock Leaf in the classroom:

The Shamrock Leaf is an outstanding magazine. This said, the magazine is filled with very interesting topics about the Irish Culture, and by reading the Shamrock Leaf, we see many things differently. By doing so, we also expand our knowledge even further. One article that caught my eye in the last issue was on Marianna O’Gallagher and her efforts on behalf of setting up an historical site at Grosse Ile, Quebec. I never knew about this before.

- MVHS student Lance Narvey (at right)



I feel that The Shamrock Leaf is a great way to express the Irish heritage and pride on the mighty Miramichi and all of New Brunswick! Without people who actually make an effort to keep the people’s heritage alive, the younger generation would no longer know what it means to be of Irish or of any descent. This is a very important to all communities because it give each town their own unique personality that every town can and should be proud of. This is the type of publication that really makes you feel proud of your heritage. Without a thriving culture in a community, life becomes dull and meaningless, because of this I think that this is a wonderful newspaper to get people more aware and involved with the Irish culture on the Miramichi.

- MVHS student John McNally

Culture is something very important to every Canadian. We pride ourselves on it. The Miramichi is no different and we all know where we are from. The Shamrock Leaf really hits home on the importance of Irish culture. Thanks to Mr. McCarthy for putting the time and effort into making it so readable and interesting.

- MVHS student Tyler Gouchie



**The Miramichi Chapter of the I.C.C.A.** recently held a quilt lottery.

The lucky winning ticket was drawn on St. Patrick’s Day at O’Donaghue’s Pub & Eatery. The lucky winner was **MARGIE RICHARDSON** of Miramichi.



## Irish Naming Patterns

In case you’re wondering which relative to name your children after, here are the traditional naming patterns from old Ireland:

- 1st son: Named after father’s father/1st daughter named after mother’s mother
- 2nd son: Named after mother’s father/2nd daughter named after father’s mother
- 3rd son: Named after father/3rd daughter named after mother
- 4th son: Named after father’s eldest brother/4th daughter named after mother’s eldest sister.

In most cases nowadays—that’s all we need to know!

## IRISH IMMIGRANTS IN NEW BRUNSWICK STORIES and more in exhibition at CORK COUNTY LIBRARY

By Leo McMahon

'Of the 38% of New Brunswickers who claim Irish descent, over 20% of those had origins in County Cork,' said historian and academic Dr Stewart Donovan at the official opening last week of 'Commemorating Irish Culture and History in New Brunswick' in the new exhibition space in the County Library and Arts headquarters before a large attendance that included the Canadian Ambassador to Ireland, HE Loyola Hearn and Mayor of Cork County, Kevin Murphy.

Running until June 3<sup>rd</sup>, there are in fact, two exhibitions, 'In the Wake of Dark Passage' and 'An Honorable Independence' and it is being hosted at the library in Carrigrohane Road, Cork in partnership with the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick and the Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick.

'An Honorable Independence' in the foyer has stands about religion, education, logging, farming and the sea and one of the immigrants profiled is journalist, publisher and politician Timothy Warren Anglin from Clonakilty (1822-86).

'In the Wake of Dark Passage' in the new exhibition room tells the story of the Great Famine, the passage out, the arrival of immigrants, quarantine, the Passenger Act 1846,

and a focus on immigrant ships, one of which, said Cllr Mary Hegarty was the 'Daly' which sailed from Bantry in 1847 plus newspaper cuttings from The Courier, The Gleaner and The Standard. There are also lovely paintings by Ray Butler plus a large display lists thousands of names of immigrants who crossed the Atlantic Ocean.

'Although New Brunswick never fulfilled the Irish immigrant hope of one day being called 'New Ireland', just as Nova Scotia once became 'New Scotland', there are still today, over 800 associated place names from Ireland, including New Bandon, Kinsale and Youghal,' said Dr Donovan who is head of Irish Studies at St Thomas University, New Brunswick.

Many Irish immigrants arrived well before the Great Famine in Ireland of the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century but during that great catastrophe, he stated, 'around 30,000 fled starvation, sickness and neglect in the holds of the notorious coffin ships. It was on the shores of New Brunswick that they first encountered The New World and the record of their lives is contained in this exhibition'.

Ambassador Hearn, along with other speakers, congratulated the hosts and organizers and spoke of what was 'a solid Irish area' in Miramichi Valley, New Brunswick where he had the pleasure of speaking three years ago with



At the launch of the New Brunswick Exhibit in County Cork, Ireland:

Bruce Driscoll, ICCANB; Dr. Stewart Donovan, St. Thomas University; Martin Riordon, Cork County Manager; Cllr. Kevin Murphy, Cork County Mayor; Hon. Loyola Hearn, Canadian Ambassador to Ireland; Denis Noel, Provincial Archives of New Brunswick; Mary McPhillips, Sr. Executive Librarian, Cork County Library.

Nobel Peace Prize winner John Hume.

The exhibition, he said, showed that the economic difficulties of today failed to compare with the hardships experienced for immigrants. It also illustrated how proud the people of New Brunswick and other provinces were of their Irish ancestry'

Mr. Hearn said he hoped the exhibition would form the basis to develop tourism links between Canada and Ireland and highlighted the need for direct year-round flights between both countries.

Thanks were expressed by exhibition co-ordinator Bruce Driscoll to Mary McPhillips, Maria O'Brien, Sinead Donnelly, Eileen O'Brien and all the Co. Library staff; to Ian

McDonagh, Co. Arts Officer; the Ambassador and to Marion Beyea and Denis Noel of New Brunswick Provincial Archives. He too spoke of the rich Irish heritage in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Ireland, Newfoundland, Labrador and Quebec.

Guests were welcomed by Mary McPhillips of the Co Library and also

## EXHIBITION AT CORK COUNTY LIBRARY (continued)

by Mayor Kevin Murphy who said the exhibition would make 'a unique contribution to the celebration of Irish and Canadian heritage'.

Bruce Driscoll presented to the County Mayor three volumes of names of Irish immigrants and a badge making him an honorary member of the Irish Canadian Cultural Association, New Brunswick. (Bruce is also an active member of the O'Driscoll Clan which gathers annually in West Cork).

Dr. Donovan presented to the mayor and the Ambassador, copies of the journal 'Nashwaak Review' about Irish Famine migration. Cllr Murphy presented to Denis Noel, a Cork Crystal bowl featuring the county council crest and to Ambassador Hearn, a bog oak Ogham

relief.

Guests included county councillors Mary Hegarty, Alan Coleman and Kevin O'Keeffe; county manager Martin Riordan; Cathal O'Donovan and Jerry O'Sullivan, Skibbereen; Eamon and Maureen Lankford, Marilyn Driscoll, New Brunswick, Michael O'Connell, Clonakilty; Nora Hickey, Kinsale; Carole O'Sullivan, Christy Roche, Frank and Anne Donaldson, Inniscarra and Michael and Catherine McGloin, Carrigaline.

Lectures were delivered later that day by Dr Stewart Donovan and historian Jim Rees from Arklow.

The exhibition in the library building next to County Hall is open weekdays. Among National School groups visiting the



A good-sized crowd of interested people attended the official launch of the New Brunswick Irish Exhibit on May 12th in County Cork, Ireland.

exhibition are Carrigaline Boys, Newcestown, Ballineen, Leap, Rylane, Ballineary, Monkstown, Carrigtwohill, Berrings, Cahermore and Macroom.

*Leo McMahon is a reporter for the Southern Star newspaper, County Cork.*

*This article first appeared in that publication in the May 21st, 2011 edition. It is reprinted here by permission of the author/paper.*



**Irish Facts:** The phrase "by hook or by crook" allegedly comes from a military campaign by English bad guy Oliver Cromwell who, in 1649, planned to attack Waterford by taking ships around Hook Head or marching through the village of Crooke.

However, some say Richard DeClare, Earl of Pembroke, first used the expression to describe his invasion way back in 1170.

By the way—Cromwell failed while DeClare succeeded in capturing Waterford.

## An Irish Stamp Album



### By Michael O. Nowlan

An Post, the Irish Post Office, opened 2011 with its annual Wedding Stamp on January 20. I know of no other country that regularly issues a stamp with which to mark the celebration of the sacrament of marriage. Although it is now possible in the Republic of Ireland to hold a wedding ceremony/service outside the sanctity of a church, all marriages still require three months notice.

An Post commenced this practice of issuing a wedding stamp in 2007 with a beautifully designed entwined male and female hands complete with the bright new rings to signify the union. The 2008 stamp depicted the embrace of newlyweds again with hands clasped while the 2009 effort was a wonderful depiction of two wedding rings with the words *gra/love*. Two stylized love birds appeared on the 2010 stamp.

For 2011, An Post took a

slightly different direction. The stamp, which is specially designed for use on wedding stationery, features a classic black and white photographic image of a newly married couple, in a loving embrace and sheltering under a shared umbrella. The loving couple give the impression that they are united, facing into their shared future and are prepared to battle the elements together. An Post says "the 2011 Wedding stamp, which is ideal for use on any style of wedding invitation, is sure to enhance the sense of occasion for both the sender and



the recipient."

On January 27, the Irish Post Office released two stamps in its annual Greetings stamp series. The stamps feature bright, colourful photographic treatments of balloons and flowers which are considered

typical symbols of joy and happiness and guaranteed to brighten any greetings correspondence. These 10-stamp booklets are accompanied by special stickers which may be attached to an envelope to add that extra personal touch.

The Wedding stamp and the Greetings stamps are truly appropriate images that signify something important is held within the covers of an envelope.

On February 3, Ireland marked its long and proud relationship with the United States, which goes back to the days of the Great Famine, with a stamp honouring the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The American Chamber of Commerce Ireland. The Chamber is an enterprise set up in 1961 to further strengthen the relationship between the two countries in order to mutually benefit businesses on both sides of the Atlantic.

The America Chamber of Commerce Ireland is the primary collective voice of United States companies located in that country. There are currently 400 corporate members including U.S. companies operating from Ireland. An Post's stamp depicts the headquarters of the American Chamber in Wilton Place, Dublin. The entrance to the building is flanked on both sides by the tricolour of Ireland and

the stars and stripes of the United States. The centenary of the birth of the fifth president of Ireland, Cearbhall O Dalaigh was celebrated with a stamp on February 10. O Dalaigh, a lover of Irish language and culture, was a distinguished legal voice and the youngest Attorney General of Ireland when he was appointed to serve under Eamon de Valera in 1946. After the sudden



death of President Erskine Childers in 1974, politicians from all sides agreed unanimously that O Dalaigh should succeed him.

# An Irish Stamp Album

## (Continued)

As everyone knows on both sides of the Atlantic, St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, and An Post has an annual issue for St. Patrick's Day on March 17. This year's stamp was issued on February 17 to give plenty of opportunity for all Irish people to get their stamps for the big day.

St. Patrick is often considered one of Christianity's most widely known figures. Although dates are not fixed with certainty, it is widely believed he began his religious training during the second half of the fifth century. He studied for more than 15 years before becoming ordained a priest, and he then travelled throughout the country converting the Irish people to Christianity. Nowadays, Irish priests study and are ordained in a college named in his honour.

There is no accuracy as to the origins of St. Patrick. Some sources say he originated in France while others say he was of English origin. Nonetheless, he has been so strongly associated with Ireland, that most people consider him fully Irish. There is probably little doubt that his origins were from one of the six considered Celtic territories - Brittany, Cornwall, Ireland, Isle of Man, Scotland, and Wales.

St. Patrick's College Maynooth is the National Seminary for Ireland and is located 15 miles from Dublin. The college was officially established as the Roman Catholic College of St. Patrick in 1795 after the then

Secretary of State Thomas Pelham introduced a bill for the foundation of a Catholic college.

Prior to the Act being passed, aspiring priests in Ireland had to go to the continent to receive their training. Once the college was opened, however, there was finally a place where Catholic lay and ecclesiastical students could receive a university education in their own country.

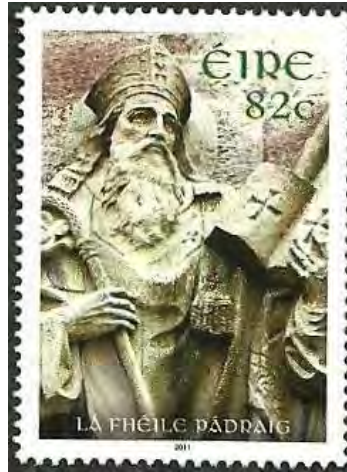
To date, over 11,000 priests have been ordained from St. Patrick's College Maynooth, and they have served in every parish in Ireland and on every continent of the world.

Between 1875 and 1891, the college chapel was built using the architecture of J.J. McCarthy, who was Professor of Architecture of the Catholic University. The chapel was constructed with funds donated by the Irish people which was considered quite a feat since Ireland was still recovering from the Great Famine and the foundation of the state had not yet taken place.

Today, the chapel is widely celebrated for its stunning stained glass windows, mosaic marbled floor, massive organ, and row upon row of carved oak choir-stalls that fill the whole church. The 82-cent stamp is based on a stone carving of St. Patrick at the entrance to the spire of this great chapel. The stamp was designed by Steve Simpson.

A March 3 issue marked the

centenaries of both International Women's Day and the Irish Women's Suffrage



Federation. International Women's Day had its origins in 1908 when 15,000 women protested on the streets on New York which led to the first National Women's Day in the U.S. in 1909, and by 1911 the idea of a special day to celebrate women globally was adopted. The celebration is marked annually on March 8.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century several women's groups began to spring up across Ireland, and by 1911 the Irish Women's Suffrage Federation was



founded by Louie Bennett. Thanks to that organization's determination and

voice, Irish women successfully achieved the right to vote in 1928. The two stamps have powerful images of the symbol for women. Those were the 2011 new issues leading up to the deadline for this column. Next time, there will be



much more, including a continuation of the High Crosses series commenced last year.

To learn more about Irish stamps explore the An Post very user-friendly website <http://www.anpost.ie> or write An Post, General Post Office, O'Connell Street, Dublin 1, Ireland.



## Does Anyone Know. . . ???

We regularly receive questions from readers of the SL or from visitors to our ICCANB website regarding historical or genealogical research. While we do not have the resources to assist with this type of research, we will provide limited space in each production run to post questions for others to respond to. Unfortunately we cannot post them all but will draw from those received.

To be included, requests **MUST** include a contact email address as the SL **will not** act as intermediary between parties. **Please respond directly to the person requesting the information.**



### Catherine Collins:

I've been searching for any clues in a family mystery that I am trying to solve for my Grandmother. Her Grandmother Catherine Collins b. 14 Feb 1855 in Ireland came to New Brunswick (Moncton area) with her parents. Catherine's mother married a man of whom her father did not approve. She was disowned. She and her husband came to Canada to make a new life. Catherine's mother was robbed and murdered one day while travelling into Moncton. Catherine (and we believe her siblings) were split up and raised by different families. We know Catherine was originally Catholic but had to convert once adopted. I have found Catherine in the 1871 census but nothing before. There are also 3 girls named Collins in the 1861 census who were orphans in homes of adoptive parents. Although I couldn't find Catherine in 1861 we think it's likely these girls could be her sisters. Lastly my Grandmother (who turns 86 in a couple months) remembers when she was young there being a notice in the newspaper looking for Catherine Collins or her descendants. Based on her recollections the notice would have appeared in a Moncton paper sometime between 1935- 1942. I would love to receive any suggestions or feedback on my search. I've done about all I've been able to with records available on ancestry.ca and have tried to find a record of the murder but so far no luck. Many thanks!!

Vicki Bristow Ferguson [vbristowferguson@yahoo.com]

### Abandoned church Juvenile Settlement :

We have just returned this afternoon from a photo shoot of Juvenile Settlement [Blissville Parish, Sunbury County]. There is an abandoned church further along the road from the Bell Covered Bridge. There is no name on it. Also between the Bell Bridge and the abandoned church is a cemetery. Any idea of what denomination the church was and who were the original settlers of Juvenile Settlement? Thanks.

Helen M6rag McKinnon [eilidhmorag@rogers.com]

### Mcshane Family:

My great-great-grandfather Patrick (b1797d1880) emigrated from Armagh, Ireland in 1827 and settled in the Rolling Dam area. He is buried in St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cemetery, along with my great grandfather John Mcshane and great grandmother Mary Ann (Scullon) Mcshane. I am looking for information of any direct relatives that may still be in the Rolling Dam area. I would glad to share family information.

James Bernard Mcshane [jmcshane@columbus.rr.com]

### Downes; Clarke; Reynolds; Sullivan; Morrissey Families:

Interested in making contact with someone with knowledge of Clarke, Downes, Reynolds, Sullivan, Morrissey families of Flume Ridge, Lower Brockway, and general area of Charlotte County, --all of whom started somewhere in Ireland and settled--at least for a while in NB before, some of them at least, further migrated as "two boaters" to Maine, where I grew up. I am fascinated by my family history and love to read about both NB and NS (yes, I have some McKeough, Strachan... roots there too). Also claim third grandparent from Nelson and St Louis. Family Name: Gorman. Hoping to hear from you.

- Paul McKeough [paulmckeough@cox.net] or 225-925-8921 (in Baton Rouge Louisiana)

## Does Anyone Know. . . ??? (Continued)

### Peabody:

(Great Grandfather) John Peabody born 1825, not sure if he was born in New Brunswick or Ireland, immigrated to Massachusetts, from New Brunswick by 1845. Wondering if the name Peabody was originally a different spelling, as my British friends have never heard of the name. Would like to know how to proceed. Thank you.  
Shirley Peabody [svpeabody@gmail.com ]

### McLaughlin:

Hi, I wonder if you can help me. My mother was born in St. John, New Brunswick, the daughter of a Catherine McLaughlin. She was baptized Mary Margaret McLaughlin and placed into an orphanage in St. John where a French family from Yarmouth, Nova Scotia adopted her when she was between 2-3 years. Her baptismal certificate says she was baptized in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Only her Mother's name is listed on the baptismal certificate. An Annie Tebbo was her only sponsor and the priest who officiated was Father Roy M. McDonald. She was born August 12, 1923 and baptized August 31, 1923. She was told her Mother was Irish but other than that we have no information on our Mother's family roots. Other than her baptismal certificate we have nothing to help us locate her not even adoption papers. Our parents and grandparents are now deceased and cannot assist us in our search. I am one of 12 children and we would so much like to find out anything we can about our birth Grandmother and her family that we can. Mom was a daughter to be proud of and she was loved by everyone who knew her. I am certain she came from wonderful people. Please if you can help me find my Irish roots I would be very grateful.  
Elizabeth MacDonald [clarencem@ns.sympatico.ca ]

### Hewitt:

My grandmother's surname was Hewitt. There is a Hewitt buried in the cemetery at Chapel Point. He came from Ireland and it is presumed that he married or fathered a child with a native woman who would have been from the Big Cove reservation. Is there any way that his wife (if any) can be verified? Thanking you for any information that you can provide.  
John Ferguson [jferguson115@cogeco.ca ]

### O'Shea:

Looking for any Sheas or O'Shea's in New Brunswick who might be interested in getting in touch. We have an Clan O'Shea website ([www.osheaclan.org](http://www.osheaclan.org)) and an O'Shea yDNA Project: <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/oshea/default.aspx> There is also an Ireland yDNA Project which has over 4,000 members: <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/IrelandHeritage/default.aspx> . This yDNA project is for men with Irish ancestry on their paternal line, all surnames are welcome.

- Margaret Jordon, Cork, Ireland [m.jordon246@gmail.com]

**NOTE:** *Inquiries for posting should be sent via the ICCANB email at: [info@newirelandnb.ca](mailto:info@newirelandnb.ca) Space is limited therefore we cannot guarantee that your query will be published. Responses to an inquiry MUST be sent directly to the person. We WILL NOT forward responses received through the ICCANB.*

**“Could he not find in his heart the generosity to acknowledge that there is a small nation that stood alone not for one year or two, but for several hundred years against aggression; that endured spoliations, famines, massacres in endless succession; that was clubbed many times into insensibility, but that each time on returning [to] consciousness took up the fight anew; a small nation that could never be got to accept defeat and has never surrendered her soul?”**

*- Eamon De Valera, on Victory Day in Europe, May 8, 1945, responding in a radio speech to criticism by Winston Churchill of Ireland's neutrality in World War II, a speech in which De Valera also thanked Churchill for not invading Ireland*



## Genealogy

### Acton-Hawthorne

By Eugene Campbell

I've always been proud of my Irish roots, even more so than those of my Dutch, German, Scottish and English heritage. I'm more than a little pleased, and somewhat honored to share this bit of history with the readers of The Shamrock Leaf, and who knows, maybe I'll get to meet some new people related to me. That is certainly one of the plusses of being involved in the world of genealogy.

I trace my Irish roots back to Jane Acton, a g-g-g-grandmother. There isn't a lot known about her, but it would appear that it was she who brought the Acton name to New Brunswick. We do know she was born in Donegal, Ireland in 1781,



and lived to the ripe-old age of 105, dying in 1886, at her home in Maplehurst, Carleton County, but I have

been unable to locate her grave. Her home still stands, though renovated several times throughout the years, and I'm sure, looks nothing like it did when the Acton's lived there.

We do not know the name of Jane's husband, as he never came to N. B. with her, nor do we know her maiden name. There are those that say she was a widow when she left Ireland, while others say that he died on the voyage over, and was buried at sea. Even the death certificate of their daughter Theresa (Acton) Hawthorne, this writer's g-g-g-grandmother - date of death being April 24, 1910, does not list her parents name, let alone her maiden name. The only thing it includes is the fact she had been born in Donegal, Ireland, and died at Maplehurst. Jane, we do know, was the founder of the Upper Kent Baptist Church.

Jane brought several children with her to N. B. Her son's names aren't known, but we do know she had at least one daughter, Theresa, listed above. We do find, buried in the cemetery at Upper Kent, the wife of an Acton, who could have been a son. The stone records the death of Margaret, wife of Charles Acton, who died

April 12, 1912, at the age of 70. There is no information about Charles on the stone, however. I do have a picture, however, that apparently shows three sons of Jane, although they are not identified.

My g-g-g-grandmother, Theresa Acton, married John Henry Hawthorne on August 7, 1849, at Kent, Carleton County. The



marriage was performed by Parson Jones Hanford, of the Church of England, Andover Circuit, in the presence of Alexander Hawthorne and George Milbury being another ancestor of this writer.

John Henry Hawthorne, a son of John Sr., and his wife Mary, was born in Kent, Carleton County, April 25, 1820, and died October 6, 1883, at the age of 63 years, 5 months and

11 days. His obituary reads - 'At his residence, Wright Settlement, Upper Kent, Carleton Co., Deacon John Hawthorne, aged 63 years, after a lingering illness, which he bore with resignation to the Divine Will ... Brother Hawthorne professed faith in Christ nine years ago, and was baptized by the Rev. Thomas Fitzherbert, and united with the Free Christian Baptist Church in Wright Settlement. He lived a consistent and faithful member till death. He was wonderfully sustained in his illness by the Divine blessing ...'

There is a bit of confusion as to the exact date for the death of Theresa. Her tombstone says April 24, 1910, while her newspaper obituary says Sunday, April 17, at 6 a.m. It did go on to say, however, that she had been in poor health for several years, due to heart trouble, but 'was confined to her bed only one week before her death.' She left behind, according

## Acton-Hawthorne (cont'd)

to her obituary, six sons, two daughters, 20 grandchildren, 22 g-grandchildren, and one g-g-grandchild. The funeral was held from the Methodist Church at Upper Kent, with Rev. Mr. Ives officiating. Pall-bearers, at her request, were four of her grandchildren - OLIVER, IRA (this writer's g-grandfather), WALTER, and JOHN WRIGHT. It went on to say that 'Mrs. Hawthorne was a thoroughly good woman, a true Christian, a kind and affectionate wife and mother, a good friend and a pleasant and accommodating neighbor, and it is a matter of regret to many, indeed, that this cheerful and helpful woman has gone from our midst ...'

The children of John and Theresa Hawthorne, were: MARY JANE, b. Jan. 11, 1850; ELIZA ANN, b. Dec. 26, 1851; CHARLES ALX., b. Dec. 4, 1853; GEORGE HENRY, b. Sept. 3, 1855; JOHN HOWARD, b. Dec. 10, 1857; WILLIAM MURDOCK, b. Nov. 27, 1859; EDMUND HANFORD, b. Mar. 1, 1862; NATHANIEL JUDSON, b. May 28, 1864; MARGRIT LOUISE, b. May 4, 1866; NORMAN ALONZO, b. Apr. 15, 1869; ISAAC GREENLAW, b. May 11, 1873, and LILLA MAY, b. May 9, 1876. Nathaniel and Margrit died very young - Nathaniel on August 9, 1865, and Margrit on October 22, 1874.

Back to the father of Theresa's husband, John Henry

Hawthorne. He was a son of John and Mary Hawthorne. John Sr., had been a military settler in Upper Kent, a member of the 90th Regiment. His Regiment arrived in Kingston from the United Kingdom on July 8, 1841, by way of Quebec on the 20th of June, and Montreal on the 29th. While stationed in Montreal, they were on the Isle of Ste. Helene, where the original fort still stands.

He petitioned for land in the Parish of Kent, on October 8, 1825, saying he was '37 years old, a married man, a native of Ireland, and the last seven years, resident of the land located to him in the Parish of Kent.' He would, therefore, have arrived in the area around 1818, and been born about 1788.

He had been born at Emelfud (Emelford, or Emeyfud), Ireland, and enlisted in the forces on April 25, 1805. He left the army in Saint John on July 24, 1818. His occupation was listed as 'weaver'. In 1818, he had been given land above Presque Isle, and had served in the West Indies from June 1806 until June, 1811. It is interesting to note that we actually have a brief description of him - 'he was 5'8 inches, blue eyes, and sandy hair.'

We find some interesting family facts in an old family Bible, which says - FAMILY HISTORY - A record of Important Events 1874: - Mary Jane converted and Baptized and united with the FCB Church, Wright Settle-

ment under Rev. T. Fitzherbert;

- Eliza Ann, Wright Settlement under Rev. T. Fitzherbert;

- John Howard, Wright Settlement, under Rev. T. Fitzherbert;

- William Murdock, Wright Settlement, under Rev. T. Fitzherbert;

- Edmund Hanford, Wright Settlement, under Rev. T. Fitzherbert;

- George Henry, Wright Settlement, under Rev. T. Fitzherbert.

Following these listings, a name had been and was scratched, and is unreadable, but we still can see 'is not Baptized or United with Church'.

We find the names of a few more Hawthorne's petitioning for land: Appearing on 'Cadestial Plan, No. 81', we find Alexander Hawthorne, Linkville; Alexander Hawthorne, Block 11, inland from Upper Kent; Johnston Hawthorne, Block 19, inland from Upper Kent; George Hawthorne, Block 19, inland from Upper Kent, and Johnston Hawthorne, Block 19, inland from Upper Kent'. This document is not dated, however.

John Hawthorne Sr., also had a son, Alexander, who was born in 1818, whose wife Lydia, was born in 1822 and died in June of 1914. It is written, 'Lydia Hawthorne, a very old lady, living with Albert Hawthorne, his mother, don't give her envelopes.' John Sr. also had a brother - or son (it is not clear which), Hector. Robert, a son of Hector, enlisted in the British Army on December 18,

1821. In June 1823, he left Cork with the 52nd Regiment, and after stops in Saint John and Annapolis, his Company was stationed in St. Andrews. He worked for David Mowatt in 1825, but stayed in the British Army until sometime after June 18, 1826, when his son William was baptized.

Robert stayed in St. Andrews with his wife and infant son, when the 52nd Regiment was transferred to Halifax in the summer of 1826. He continued to work for Mowatt for several years, and later, bought a farm at Waweig, near that of his father, Hector, who had emigrated sometime prior to 1828 - this would lead us to believe he was, indeed, a brother of John Sr. Sometime around 1840, Hector's wife left him and moved to England with their infant son Samuel, and an unnamed daughter. Robert stayed in Waweig, where, during the 1840's, he served as a police magistrate. He and his wife, Elizabeth Steele, had 11 children. William, the oldest, died young, but the others all

## Acton-Hawthorne (cont'd)

went on to have families of their own.

Eliza Ann, b. Dec. 26, 1851, a daughter of John Henry and Theresa, married William Wright - 'Eliza Hawthorne of Kent, New Brunswick, to William Wright of Perth, Victoria Co., N. B., by Rev. Elijah Sisson, FBC, July 28th, 1872.' Eliza and William were g-g-grandparents of this writer, through their son Ira, and his wife Carrie Wortman. Ira and Carrie's daughter, Alice Lena (1903 - 1942), and her husband Leslie Vincent Craif (1898 - 1960), are my grandparents.

William Wright, a son of John Wright, had been born at Muniac, and died at Maplehurst on August 20, 1933. John, his father, had been born sometime between 1801 and 1803. Children of William and Eliza Ann (Hawthorne) Wright, were - MATILDA F., b. 1872, m. John Jackson, b. Dec. 6, 1891. Their children were John and Fannie (Cox) Jackson; OLIVER J., b. 1875, m. Margaret McDougal, Mar. 8, 1905; WALTER B., b. 1879, m. Marjorie Fitzhubert, Dec. 24, 1902; IRA B, Nov. 30, 1877, died at Easton, Maine, Jan. 28, 1959. M. Carrie

Wortman, b. Dec. 6, 1884 - Feb. 10, 1949; JOHNNIE, d. at the age of 4 from diphtheria; JOHN V., b. 1881, m. Alice Broad on June 16, 1904; MAGGIE R.M. (Margaret aka Peggy), b. 1882, m. Charles Acton; IRENE E.M, 1894-1913, m. Cookson Cox; and ISIAH, of whom we have no information.

Many of these people are buried in Carleton County, where their families have lived for close to 200 years. My great-grandparents, Ira and Carrie (Wortman) Wright, lived and died at Easton, Maine, but were brought back to Upper Kent to be buried. Their daughter, my grandmother, Alice Lena (Wright) Crain, is buried in Beechwood, Carleton County. She was a daughter of George Wortman and Matilda Hawthorne. Their mothers were sisters - Eliza and Matilda Hawthorne - Ira and Carrie, then being first cousins. My mother, Thelma Eileen (Crain) Campbell, 1928-2008 - is buried in the Preston Carr Cemetery in Geary, Sunbury, she being a g-g-granddaughter of John Henry and Theresa (Acton) Hawthorne.



Hector Hawthorne (emigrated from Ireland prior to 1828) and his family



- Eugene Campbell is a writer and historian, author of nine books and countless articles over the past 45 years dealing with various aspects of provincial history, as well as a great many genealogy-related articles.

"No person knows better than you do that the domination of England is the sole and damning curse of this country. It is the incubus that sits on our energies, stops the pulsation of the nation's heart and leaves to Ireland not the joys of vitality but horrid the convulsions of a troubled dream."

- Daniel O'Connell (1775 to 1847), in an 1831 letter to Bishop Doyle

## Tignish, PEI Celebrates 200 years of Irish Heritage

July 25-31, Tignish, Prince Edward Island will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the landing of the Reilly brothers at Phee Shore to begin an immigration splurge of Irish to the western part of PEI. This was the beginning of many families moving directly from Ireland, through Newfoundland and from the Miramichi area. Some of the popular names of Irish still living in the Tignish area are: Hogan, Shea, Dorgan, Fennessey, O'Rourke, A'Hearn, Aylward, Hustler, Brennan, Callaghan, Doyle, Gavin, Kenny, Handrahan, Harper, Keefe, Keough, Morrissey, Murphy, Nelligan, O'Brien, O'Halloran and many more.

Tignish Irish Folk Festival has been running since 1999 and continues each summer with a Festival. In order to celebrate the Bicentennial, the Festival has expanded to a week long event with Irish Dinner Theatre, Lecture Series on the Irish of Tignish, Tribute to local Irish legend- Alec Shea, a Golf Tournament, and a traditional Irish sport of Common Ball. A ten foot Celtic Cross will be unveiled to commemorate the Irish of this area.

The Festival will be a 3 day outdoor event on the ground of Heritage Park located on the outskirts of Tignish. The week end will include pubs, a Celidh, 3 concerts with the Irish Descendents the main attraction on Saturday evening. Camping facilities are available on a first-come-first-served basis.

The highlight of the Celebration will be a Concert in the Church (St. Simon & St. Jude) with Irish Tenor, John McDermott. Some of the proceeds of the show will go to the Restoration of the Pipe Organ Project. For information, you may contact our web site: [TignishIrishFolkFestival.com](http://TignishIrishFolkFestival.com) or call (902) 882-3446 or 882-2158. To book concert tickets, call (902) 882-2230

# Tignish Irish Folk Festival & Bicentennial Celebrations



## July 25-31, 2011

TIGNISH, PEI



Concert in the Church  
with  
**John McDermott**

- Irish Dinner Theatre
- Lecture Series
- Tribute to Alec Shea
- Outdoor Weekend Festival



FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

**Heritage Park**

- Camping Available
- Featuring *Irish Descendents*
- Concerts & Pubs

- Golf Tournament
- Common Ball Tournament
- Dedication of Celtic Cross

Information: [www.TignishIrishFolkFestival.com](http://www.TignishIrishFolkFestival.com)

Tickets to Concert: (902) 882-2230

(902) 882-3446 or (902) 882-2158

## Book Reviews

by Farrell McCarthy

To understand the heart and soul of a country you must know its history, language, folklore and culture. Today we are much more able to achieve this because Ireland and the Irish Diaspora are experiencing a publishing and media renaissance.

Now is the time to begin a small Irish library in your home. In doing so, you will pass on to your children the richness of the culture of their ancestors. Why not give an Irish book to a friend or family member for Christmas, a birthday or St. Patrick's Day?

Farrell McCarthy has copies of the books reviewed here. You can contact him at 109 Roy Avenue, Miramichi, NB, E1V 3N8 (506) 622-4007 or by e-mail [fmccarth@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:fmccarth@nbnet.nb.ca).

You can also check out the local bookstore. The ISBN numbers are included for easier identification and ordering. Ask your local bookstore to order a few of these books, so the public will be exposed to a greater variety of Irish books.



### 50 Things You Didn't Know About 1916

By Mick O'Farrell

160 pages

ISBN 978-1-85635-619-0

The 1916 Rising was Ireland's first step on the road to independence, but even those who know a great deal about it may not know that there were temporary ceasefires around St Stephen's Green to allow the park-keeper to feed the Green's ducks. Few know that the first shots of the Rising were actually fired near Portaoise or indeed that both sides issued receipts: the rebels for food, the British for rebels!

*50 Things You Didn't Know About 1916* features excerpts from two previously unpublished diaries – one written by a civilian, and one written under fire by a member of Jacob's factory garrison. It also tells the story of how the British Navy shelled the routes into Galway city to disperse rebels under the command of Liam Mellows, and how the officer who took Pearse's surrender went on to become a Hollywood star.

*50 Things* is a treasure trove of information that will appeal to the avid student of 1916 as well as the casual reader.

### Vengeance of the Black Donnellys

By Thomas P. Kelly

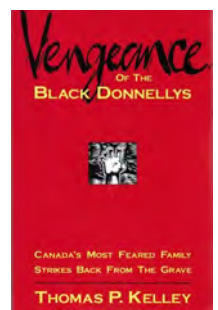
211 Pages

ISBN 1-895565-55-3

*Vengeance of the Black Donnellys* is a sequel to the best-selling true story of *The Black Donnellys* by Thomas P. Kelly. It tells the harrowing tale of what happened after the massacre of the hated Donnelly family of Lucan, Ontario.

Even as she was being clubbed to death, old Johannah Donnelly set a curse on her murderers- she predicted that each would die a violent death. The ensuing events of how the Donnellys were finally avenged makes a thrilling tale of evil, romance, and above all, adventure.

The villainous Larkin and the corrupt village "squire", who meet their match in the beautiful and immensely rich Midnight Lady; the wild gypsy girl Anita on her fleet horse, Black Brook; club-footed Will Donnelly, his pet crow perched on his shoulder and his fiddle tucked under his chin; the phantom horses galloping along the old Roman Line- these are characters larger than life enacting an engrossing saga of a reign of terror from beyond the grave.



### The Irish in Cape Breton

By A. A. MacKenzie

150 pages

ISBN 1-895415-50-0

A. A. MacKenzie offers a rare, rich and lively history of the Irish in Cape Breton, once again showing that the recipe for authentic Cape Breton is a complex and exciting mix. Paul M. MacDonald adds a short essay on the Irish contribution to Cape Breton music, and Bob Fitzgerald of the Aspy Bay region painted the scene at "White Point, circa 1935."

## Book Reviews (cont'd)

### Crown and Shamrock

#### *Love and Hate Between Ireland and the British Monarchy*

By Mary Kenny

400 pages

ISBN 978-1-905494-98-9



“Popular Irish interest in the British royal family is huge, but is accompanied by political hostility to the Crown as a symbol of Irish oppression.”

-Olivia O’ Leary and Helen Burke, *Mary Robinson- The Authorised Biography*

The current relationship between Ireland and Britain is considered by many to be the best it has ever been. Is it possible that these benign relations could lead to a visit to the Republic of Ireland from Queen Elizabeth II before her reign comes to an end?

This book was written in 2009. In mid May, the Queen made a state visit to the Republic of Ireland, the first by a monarch since 1911.



### The Irish Experience since 1800

#### *A Concise History Third Edition*

By Thomas Hachey and Lawrence McCaffrey

290 pages

ISBN 978-0-7656-2511-3

“*The Irish Experience Since 1800* is a masterful interweaving of seemingly disparate threads in the fabric of modern Ireland. Objective, conclusive, and concise, this latest edition sensitively reveals the various political, economic, social, and religious influences on Irish life from 1800 to the eve of 2010.”

-Gene C. Haley, Harvard University

“Hachey and McCaffrey provide a lucid, balanced narrative of the history of Ireland that traces major themes: the land, the Church, the national movement, the economy and politics, and the arts and Irish identity.”

-Maureen Murphy, Hofstra University

### Voices & Poetry of Ireland

#### *CD included*

105 pages

ISBN 1-4022-0404-3

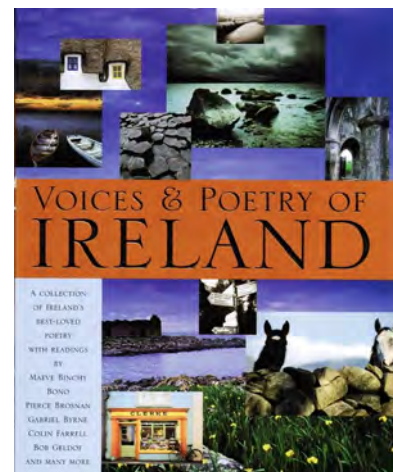
A remarkable collection of Ireland’s best-loved poetry and poets, read by today’s most memorable voices.

#### Poets include:

Oscar Wilde  
W. B. Yeats  
Derek Mahon  
Paul Muldoon  
Brendan Kennelly  
Louis MacNeice  
Seamus Heaney  
.....and many more

#### Hear poems read by:

Bono  
Patrick Bergin  
Maeve Binchy  
Gabriel Byrne  
Sinead O’ Connor  
Van Morrison  
Pierce Brosnan  
Colin Farrell  
.....and many more

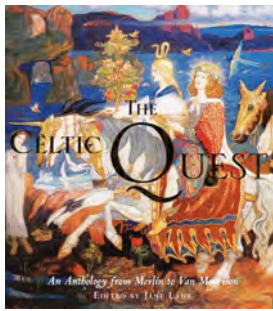


Lots of modern English expressions had their origins in old Irish words and phrases. For instance:

**Handfasting** is an ancient Celtic custom, once practiced in Ireland and Scotland, where a bride and groom came together at the start of their marriage. Their hands or wrists were literally tied together. The term “tying the knot” as a description of getting married traces its origins to this custom.

Though its only one of many theories, to “**put the kybosh**” on something comes from an old Irish phrase “cie bais”, which means “cap of death”.

## Book Reviews (cont'd)



### **The Celtic Quest** *An Anthology from Merlin to Van Morrison*

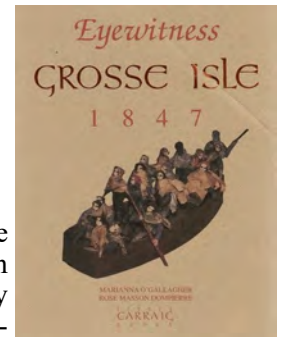
Edited by Jane Lahn  
250 Pages  
More than 100 full colour images  
ISBN 978-1-59962-045-9

A window into a world of magic, mystery and adventure, *The Celtic Quest* fully reveals the glorious legacy of this ancient culture from pre-Christian times to the present. In 240 pages and more than 100 full-color images, this volume traces the Celtic spirit through vivid images and lore expressed in tales of adventure, incantations, love songs and epic poetry. Featuring works from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and more, care has been taken to find the most evocative examples and translations of this inspiring literature.

Structured according to the Celtic lunar calendar, *The Celtic Quest* is divided into three sections: Song, Sword, and Star. Song reveals the Celt's deep reverence for nature, celebrating the rebirth of the land as well as the heart in great works by ancient and contemporary bards, Sword reflects the passage of time with timeless tales of courage and transformation that trace the Celtic heroes' journey towards maturity. Star focuses on the Druidic beliefs in reincarnation, shape-shifting and shamanic practices.

### **Eyewitness** **Grosse Isle 1847**

By Marianna O' Gallagher and  
Rose Masson Dompierre  
450 pages  
ISBN 0-9690805-9-x



This book describes the year 1847 at the quarantine station of Grosse Ile. That year, forced by the famine caused by a virus attacking potatoes, Irishmen, mainly small farmers, fled their country and emigrated to America and to Canada. Sick and poor, most immigrants were victims of typhus. Many died either at sea or waiting to go ashore at Grosse Ile or in the hospitals of the island.

The authors, Marianna O' Gallagher and Rose Masson Dompierre based their book on serious and extensive research. They included numerous original documents: letters of missionaries holding a post at Grosse Ile in 1847, correspondence between religious and civil authorities, newspaper articles, Catholic and Anglican registers of Grosse Ile, the list of passenger ships coming to Quebec, reports of the quarantine station of Grosse Ile and of Mr. Buchanan, Chief immigration officer of Quebec.

Based on authentic references, the conditions prevalent in 1847 regarding the reception of the immigrants and the ensuing results are well described. One can appreciate the generosity of Quebecers in these tragic circumstances.

## Irish-New Brunswick Facts and Trivia



**Saint John:** The first three Bishops of the Diocese of Saint John were natives of Ireland - William Dollard (*left*) of Mooncoin, County Kilkenny, Thomas L. Connolly of Cork and John Sweeny, of Clones, County Fermanagh. All were visionaries and builders. Robert J. Higgins, Leader of the New Brunswick Liberal Party, was the first Irish Catholic from Saint John to be elected to lead a provincial political party. Shirley Dysart, the first elected woman MLA from Saint John, went on to become the first woman interim leader of the Liberal Party, the First woman Minister of education and the first woman Speaker of the House.

### **1784:**

**Fredericton:** Thomas Carleton, born in County Tyrone, Ireland, a Colonel of the 29th British Regiment in the American Revolutionary War and appointed New Brunswick's first Governor in 1784. Thomas was the younger brother of Sir Guy Carleton, Lord Dorchester.

**St. George:** Founded on February 20, 1784 by Peter Clinch, born Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath. Educated Trinity College, Dublin.

For more Irish-New Brunswick facts and trivia, visit the ICCANB website at [www.newirelandnb.ca](http://www.newirelandnb.ca)

## Capital Area Chapter News

The Chapter had a very busy late winter starting with Heritage Week in mid-February. We had a film on the 17<sup>th</sup>, "*The Wind That Shakes the Barley*," thanks to the STU Irish Studies program. On Friday evening, the 18<sup>th</sup> we were at the Fredericton Library, where we heard poetry from Michael Nowlan, an Irish tale from Maria McGeough and music from Donna Harkin, from Letterkenney, County Donegal. We took part in Fredericton North Heritage Day on the 19<sup>th</sup>, with support from many volunteers, particularly Denis Noel, which was very well attended and we are invited back next year.

St. Patrick's week activities in March saw a series of events, starting with our Irish Person of the Year appointment on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Long-time members and

active Chapter committee chairs Donna Styant and Joyce Walton were recognized as dual Irish persons for 2011 for their commitment to our Association. We also waked outgoing "Person" Stewart Donovan. Our flag-raising took place at City Hall on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and our second Irish Night at the Playhouse "The Fiddler and The Tenor" played to a nearly sold-out house on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Kathleen Gorey-McSorley and Derrick Paul Miller, the Stanford School of Irish Dance, and accompanying musicians, gave a command performance. Kudos to Roly and Carolyn Holyoke for the night.

Also on Saturday, the 12<sup>th</sup>, in the afternoon, our first St. Patrick's Parade was held, indoors at the Regent Mall. You really had to be there to understand the fun, activities and hard work that made this a success.



Chapter President Bruce Driscoll (L) joins outgoing Irish Person of the Year, Dr. Stewart Donovan and 2006 recipient, Eileen Malone (Far right) to congratulate this year's recipients, Donna Styant and Joyce Walton.



Denis Noel and Brendan Weldon demonstrate hurling sticks to a young attendee at the Fredericton North Heritage Fair

This was the work of Hele- ne Caplice and her committee, including Jean Rooney, Maria McGeough, and Mike and Kamal Gelb. It was jointly sponsored by our Chapter and Easter Seals NB as a fundraiser for the charity. We had about 200 participants led by City Mayor Brad Woodside, our Irish Persons Joyce and Donna, and Brendan Weldon as St. Patrick, in a parade that walked the Mall twice, and then 3 hours of musical acts. To be honest we then took a break, before celebrating St. Patrick's Day at Dolan's Pub, where a plaque was presented by our Chapter to Terry and Linda Dolan recognising their long-time support of everything Irish in the community.

Chapter meetings were held every second month, and we look forward to 3 events in the spring; "Bloomsday"

on June 16<sup>th</sup>, the Multi-cultural Festival in late June, and a possible welcome night for Irish ex-pats in our area who seem to be growing in number.

Thanks must go to all the members of our Chapter who support every event, volunteer to help at every turn, and still have energy to enjoy themselves.

Bruce d., Chapter President.





ICCANB  
Capital Area Chapter  
New Members  
Welcome

The Capital Area Chapter of the ICCANB represents persons and groups in and around the Fredericton area from Gagetown to Chipman to Welsford to McAdam and up to Nackawic. Our role is to protect, promote and nourish all things of Irish heritage in the area.

The Chapter meets every second month, and organizes a number of activities during the year, highlighted by Irish Week in March.

For more information contact one of the following:

Bruce Driscoll, Chapter President  
506-357-8283, bdriscn618@rogers.com

Jean Burt, Secretary,  
506-459-8629

Donna Styant, Membership Chair  
506-462-9813

[This Advertisement is paid for by the  
ICCANB Capital Area Chapter]






There are many Irish place names that were transported across the ocean with the emigrating Irish. Dungarvan is one. This is an old picture of the Quays from Abbeyside Bridge in Dungarvan, County Waterford, Ireland. This, and many other old photographs are available through the website [www.myhometown.ie](http://www.myhometown.ie)

For many of us these vintage photos don't look a lot different than scenes from our own home towns in East Coast Canada and the United States.

can-irish  
HARMONY  
Canada's Irish Festival on the Miramichi Presents:

The  
**FIDDLER** and  
**TENOR**






Special performances by:

Kathleen Gorey-McSorley, ECMA Nominee  
Derrick Paul Miller, Canadian Tenor  
Carolyn Holyoke, Pianist

James M. Hill HS Theatre  
Saturday July 16, 2011 7:00 PM

Tickets \$18 in advance at - The Irish Festival Office,  
Bill's Kwik Way, Books Inn - Or \$20 at the door



## Gaspé Celebrates Their Irish Heritage

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

The main shows will include a fiddlers gathering composed uniquely of women coming from all over Québec, a variety of well known bands featuring popular Irish and Maritimes songs, and the Irish dance troupe, *Le Violon vert*, from Québec.



A diverse choice of workshops including Gaspesian and Irish square dance, fiddling for beginners, Gaspesian style fiddling, traditional Celtic stick fighting, Irish choir for kids and adults, Irish dance, step dance, bodhrán, tin whistle and the much appreciated bodhrán making workshop with Fred Graham. (see picture—left)

There will be 4 interesting presentations by those passionate about history and folklore. Subjects covered are the Irish settlement in the Gaspé Coast, the folklore of Percé in the early years, the genealogy of the Morris family and an overlook on the life and the musical style of Erskine Morris, an old-time fiddler of Douglstown.

To learn all the details about the program being offered, visit the website at: [www.irishweek.wordpress.com](http://www.irishweek.wordpress.com).

## Dublin Coddle

This is a very popular dish, especially in Dublin, and has been so for many years. It is nourishing, tasty, economical and warming—what more could you ask? Although it is best made with a good stock—water in which a ham has been boiled or even a ham bone, a light stock cube will substitute.

1 lb./500 g best sausages  
8 oz./250 g. streaky bacon  
1/2 pt./300 ml/1 c. stock or water

6 medium potatoes  
2 medium onions  
Salt and pepper  
(serves 4)

Cut the bacon into 1in/ 3cm squares. Bring the stock to the boil in a medium saucepan which has a well-fitting lid, add the sausages and the bacon and simmer for about 5 minutes. Remove the sausages and bacon and save the liquid. Cut each sausage into four or five pieces. Peel the potatoes and cut into thick slices. Skin the onions and slice them. Assemble a layer of potatoes in the saucepan, followed by a layer of onions and then half the sausages and bacon. Repeat the process once more and then finish off with a layer of potatoes. Pour the reserved stock over and season lightly to taste. Cover and simmer gently for about an hour. Adjust the seasoning and serve piping hot.

From the Appletree Press Title: *A Little Irish Cookbook*

## Articles From March 1985 Shamrock Leaf—Trip Down Memory Lane

### Irish Radio Program—St. Patrick's Day

Susan Butler, a member of our Association and the Chairperson of the Miramichi Folksong Festival, and I met with Ian Byers, the manager of CFAN Newcastle, to talk about the possibility of having an hour long Irish radio program on March 17. Mr. Byers thought it was a terrific idea and we are in the process of planning the program. The program will consist of 4 interviews, facts about Ireland and the Irish in New Brunswick, and a wide range of Irish songs.

Irish artists on the program will include the great Irish tenor—John McCormack, Tommy Makem and Liam Clancy, Carleton Showband, Ruby Murray, Paddy Reilly, Pat Roper, Irish traditional music, etc.

The program will be taped in early March and broadcast twice on St. Patrick's Day. If the response is good we will try to have at least a monthly hour on the same station. The program will be promoted by the station one week prior to March 17.

### Irish Language Class—Chatham

Weekly Irish language classes are being conducted in Chatham. Approximately 25 people have shown an interest in the classes with regular attendance averaging 10—12. Instructor Tom Coughlan is very pleased with the progress being made and he feels that, by the end of the Winter session, the group will quite easily be able to converse in basic sentences such as greetings, names, weather details, etc. in Irish.

If there is a continuing interest it is planned to conduct these classes during next Fall and Winter also.

For the information of readers it should be explained that, as you can see in the foregoing, the correct way in which to refer to the language is "Irish", not "Gaelic" which identifies the Scottish dialect. Familiarity with either dialect leads to an understanding of the other.

### Oireachtas Gaelige Cheanada



1 - 3 July 2011  
North American Gaeltacht  
Tamworth/Erinsville, ON



Cumann na  
GAELTACHTA



COMHALTAS



Further Information:  
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(613) 541-6000 ext 6042  
[aralt@anghaeltacht.ca](mailto:aralt@anghaeltacht.ca)  
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COMHALTAS



A Trip Back in Time—The Shamrock Leaf in Earlé Dağs

*In celebration of our 50th issue of the Shamrock Leaf we are taking a walk down memory lane by reprinting one of our earliest articles. What more fitting, as we move into July and our very own “Canada’s Irish Festival on the Miramichi” then to include this impression of the first festival.*

**The following article was first printed in the November 1984 issue of the Shamrock Leaf.**

**“Going back to New Brunswick was like going home.”**

Irish eyes (from New York) were smiling — and tearful— at Miramichi’s Irish Festival

By Frank Hamilton, Shannon Development Corporation, New York.

The Irish travelled to New Brunswick and came home humbled. At least I was...overwhelmed by the hospitality and mesmerized by the friendliness of the Miramichi. The first Irish fest in Canada may be over...but the warmth and the memories still live. The flags may be stored away...but the spirit still soars. The crowds and excitement may be no more but there is an even greater stirring, I’m sure, in all those who participated. I come from Limerick, Ireland’s third largest city, and a port from which countless Irish people emigrated to New Brunswick and the hope of a new life in a new world. In fact, even before the famine of the 1840s, Limerick merchant Francis Spaight was shipping people to New Brunswick and returning with lumber to Limerick. It was somewhat sad to stand on Middle Island and realize that many Irish emigrants never made it to the New World...never stepped ashore to breathe the free air of a growing nation. Never worked to build their lives...never saw their labors rewarded...never watched their children grasp at greater dreams. As the lonely notes of the Piper’s Lament wafted out over the clear waterways of the Miramichi, who could but not feel that those in unnamed, unmarked mass graves had, at last, been honored.

I came to New Brunswick with the Tyrone Pipe Band. I work for an Irish Government Agency, and one of our undertakings is the Irish Heritage program, a joint Aer Lingus/Shannon Development travel venture which encourages Irish Ameri-

cans to trace their ancestry. I had followed with interest the plans for Canada’s first Irish Fest and the efforts of the pipe band to be present. When the band needed some sponsorship to make the journey, I had no hesitation in giving the grant to publicize Irish heritage. So we left New York — flew to Boston— then to Bangor, Maine, and Bill Dietz of Cyr Bus Lines drove us all the way to New Brunswick. When we were over the Canadian border at Woodstock our spirits soared when we bought a copy of the Telegraph-Journal and saw the fine coverage by David Meagher. Said Bass Drummer Pat McEntee from Queen’s, New York: “Boys and girls, smarten up...they know we’re coming...” We drove through the twilight hours beside lakes and trees and forests, and everywhere people seemed to marvel at this big red coach filled with an Irish Pipe Band and its supporters. Indeed the Band supporters played a significant role. Clyde and Ann Mosley, from Portland, Maine, became “mother and father” to the Band; former U.S. Marine Dan Crowley (affectionately known as Sergeant-Major) from Westbrook, Maine, brought his military experience to the overall tour organization: while Hugh Doonan, from Queen’s was always present to lend a helping hand.

The Tyrone Pipers were given such a welcome that when it was time to go, there were genuine tears. There were so many people we met—so many we have to thank—and so many we have yet to meet. Thank you to organizers Farrell McCarthy and Blair Clancy and the entire

Committee; to Jack Russell and daughter Crystal who brought me home to dinner and mailed my postcards; to D.A. Cadogan and Bonnie Sweeney for the photographs; to Jean Cunningham for the interview; Shannon O’Mara from Skibbereen for the songs; Walter Stanley for the fun; and, finally, CFB Chatham. To all those people whose names I cannot remember, but whose faces are familiar as new friends, thank you.

On the coach back to Bangor, in the early hours of Monday morning, Mary said to me: “Just think...tomorrow its back to the savagery of the New York subway...”. The entire band sighed, and Drum Major Tim Smith said the Canadian trip had been the best... going back to New Brunswick was like going home.

[**Ed. Note:** *The following was the last para. In the article but the information, after more than 25 years is no longer valid*]

For anyone who would like information on the Irish Heritage program or on Irish Surnames, just write to me at Shannon Development. 590 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y., 10036

Bits and Pieces  
By Farrell McCarthy

The times they are a-changing and Irish-America ain't what it used to be. The archbishop of Newark, New Jersey is upset that a statue of St. Patrick that used to be in the sanctuary of Sacred Heart Church in Newark is now gracing a pub, Cryan's Beef and Ale House. When the archdiocese closed Sacred Heart Church last June, the statue was returned to the Cryan family, who had originally purchased it for the church. "It means a lot to my family. It means a lot to the parishioners that come in here," Jim Cryan said. The appropriately named Jim Goodness, spokesman of the archdiocese, publically protested about St. Patrick ending up in a pub. Jim Cryan has agreed to move the statue but "it certainly won't happen before St. Patrick's Day". No problem drowning that shamrock, then. ♣♣♣

During the American Civil War it is estimated that 160,000 Irishman fought in the Union Army and 20,000 in the Confederate Army. ♣♣♣

The March, 2011 issue of *Vanity Fair* magazine has a fifteen page article on Ireland entitled "When Irish Eyes are Crying – long used to tragedy, Ireland suddenly found itself one of the world's richest nations in the early 2000's at which point the Irish people, banks, and government did their best to screw things up. Michael Lewis reports. ♣♣♣

The March/April edition of *History Ireland* has an article entitled: "The New Third World; Kevin Whelan responds to the announcement by Vanity Fair's Michael Lewis that Ireland will feature in his "Travels in The New Third World." Read both articles to get a true picture of the state of Ireland. Ireland will return as a great stable country. A great time to visit Ireland as cost are down. ♣♣♣

A new attractive coffee table book celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of New York City's St. Patrick's Day Parade is now available on the website [www.250yearsparadebook.com](http://www.250yearsparadebook.com). "Now for the first time you can enjoy this wonderful keepsake of all these memorable parades through the decades."- Best-selling author Mary Higgins Clark 2011 Parade Marshal. ♣♣♣

A scientist in Belfast has given the thousands of people with breast cancer a cause for hope. Dr. Helen McCarthy of the School of Pharmacy at Queen's University Belfast has created a way of destroying breast cancer cells without damaging the healthy cells that surround them. ♣♣♣

If you haven't already watched Rosie O' Donnell's story on *Who Do You Think You Are?* (The NBC TV series that follows celebrities as they trace their family roots) see if you can access it in *Primetime on Demand* or *NBC.com*. It is well worth an hour of your time. Irish on both sides of her family tree, Rosie traces her mother's side back to County Kildare, birthplace of her great-great-grandfather Andrew Martin and his wife Anna. The couple and four of their children spent time in a workhouse before taking assisted passage to Canada in 1855, and Rosie is visibly moved as she tours a defunct workhouse in County Offaly, similar to the one that her ancestors lived in. She seems to have been previously unaware of the history of the Irish, particularly what they suffered during the Famine times, and said that the world should know what happened. ♣♣♣

The 83<sup>rd</sup> Academy Awards featured many winners and nominees of Irish descent. The film "The Fighter", about Irish American boxer Micky Ward, was nominated for several awards including Best Picture, Best Actress and Best Actor in a supporting role. ♣♣♣

## Bits and Pieces (*cont'd*)

A large piece of pre-Famine history is going digital. St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare will be digitizing a 19<sup>th</sup> century "Testimonial Roll." The massive manuscript, which measures 400 meters in length, holds the signatures of residents of Ireland in the year 1841. The signatures come from around 300,000 supporters from all around the county. Among some of the famous names are writer Thomas Davis, political leader Daniel O'Connell, and nationalist Charles Gavan Duffy. The manuscript will be photographed and put into digital form by the Ancestry, Co. UK for the public to view online. Maynooth College will attempt to track the footsteps of the people on the list to see where exactly the pre-Famine population ended up. ♣♣♣

### ~~The Irish Emigration History Centre at the Dunbrody Famine Ship~~

Ten years is a long time in the life of a famine ship. Over the last decade 750,000 people from around the world have trodden the deck of the Dunbrody, a replica of a ship that transported thousands of emigrants from Ireland to North America in the 1800's. These visitors experienced authentic accounts of emigrants' experiences, but they had an insatiable appetite for more information. Check the website: [www.dunbrody.com](http://www.dunbrody.com). ♣♣♣

University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas has opened the William J. Flynn Center for Irish Studies. [www.stthom.edu](http://www.stthom.edu). ♣♣♣

~~John Barry, the father of the American Navy, went to sea as a child to escape the Irish penal laws, and rose to command the entire U.S. fleet. On June 27, 1963, President John F. Kennedy laid a wreath at his statute in Wexford, Ireland.~~ ♣♣♣

Most people don't realize that Savannah, Georgia, is home to the second largest St. Patrick's Parade in the world. The first parade was in 1813 and is now entering its 187<sup>th</sup> year. The three hour celebration, held on March 17<sup>th</sup>, has over 350 marching units. ♣♣♣

### An Online Store Was Born.

[Siopa.com](http://Siopa.com). Whether you're looking for top Irish quality brands or handmade crafts and jewellery from local artisans. Siopa.com is your one-stop answer for products that are authentic and truly sourced from the "Emerald Isle". Set up by Irish entrepreneur Lulu O'Sullivan, the site brings you the best of Irish giftware and level of customer service that is second to none. ♣♣♣

It's a great year to come home to Ireland. Join Marven and I in September 2011 for a 15 day tour by calling Maritime Travel at toll free: 1-800-561-5770 or see itinerary online at [www.martimetravel.ca](http://www.martimetravel.ca). ♣♣♣

A worldwide survey has revealed that Irish people are the third most generous in the world in terms of financial donations and volunteering to charities. The survey listed Ireland jointly third with Canada. Australia and New Zealand topped the index in the study. ♣♣♣

Pulitzer Prize winner and world bestselling author Frank McCourt, who sprang to fame with *Angela's Ashes*, his gripping memoir of a poverty-stricken childhood in Limerick, is to be commemorated with a chair in creative writing at ~~the University of Limerick. Former President Bill Clinton was star speaker at a New York event in March which began the funding for the chair, which has a target of US\$1 million; already \$500,000 has been raised.~~ [www.ul.ie](http://www.ul.ie) ♣♣♣

As she approaches 91, Maureen O'Hara has set up the Maureen O'Hara International Film Academy, which is to be completed by 2013 in Glengarriff, County Cork where she now lives. The official Maureen O'Hara website, a must for fans, is at [www.moharamagazine.com](http://www.moharamagazine.com). ♣♣♣

Come home to Ireland this year (...you'll be glad if you do). Go where Ireland takes you – [discoverireland.com](http://discoverireland.com) ♣♣♣

## BITS and PIECES (*cont'd*)

DUBLIN - an historic graveyard where some of Ireland's most famous political forefathers are buried has been named as a top tourist attraction.

Glasnevin Museum in Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin, received a prestigious international THEA Award, the Oscars for Themed Entertainment and Amusement, at a glittering ceremony in Los Angeles.

It is the first cemetery to be rewarded for excellence in creating a compelling educational, and historical and entertainment project.

Ireland's Necropolis is a resting place of some 1.2 million, including its founder the famous Liberator Daniel O'Connell. Some of the country's most famous political figures and patriots, including Michael Collins, Eamon De Valera and Charles Stewart Parnell, are also buried there alongside victims of the World Wars, Great Famine and the cholera outbreaks. ♣♣♣

HUGE DEPARTURE OF IMMIGRANTS FROM IRELAND: The exodus from Ireland is continuing with a Central Statistics Office report indicating that as many as 600,000 of those foreign nationals who arrived in the last decade have now left the country. Over two thirds of those who registered to work between 2004 and 2009 have now departed. Since 2002 over 1 million foreign nationals registered to work in Ireland but only one third remain within the labour force. It is suspected that the largest exiting group were those of Polish nationality, many of whom arrived to work during the building boom which has now come to a shuddering halt. ♣♣♣



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[www.givestpatrickahand.com](http://www.givestpatrickahand.com)

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## "A Vocal Advocate" - Denis Noel Retires

**Editor's Note:** A long-time member of the ICCANB and a staunch promoter of Irish history and culture, Denis Noel's name is synonymous with hard work and dedication to the Irish cause. In this article, on his retirement from the New Brunswick Civil Service, we have the opportunity to see the many other sides of this talented and extremely knowledgeable man. We know that he will continue his valuable contributions to the Irish cause now that he is joining the ranks of the happily retired. May his retirement be long and full of joy.

By Marion Beyea, Provincial Archivist of New Brunswick



Denis Noel is retiring after a 26 year career with the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick. The most recent 18 have been spent as senior archivist in the Sound and Moving Images Unit which he transformed from a passive collection of audio tapes, film and video records to a sophisticated and vibrant program served by a fully equipped audio visual lab (arguably the best in Atlantic Canada). With a technical bent not found in all archivists he researched the a-v field and developed rapport with and gained the respect of experts who passed on their expertise. He identified machines and processes to preserve and play the records, developed alternatives the Provincial Archives might afford, begged and ca-

joled the transfer or purchase of equipment. Now with the Unit's state of the art capacity to digitally reformat records for preservation, Denis has rescued collections which were on the point of disappearing altogether: for example, the *Télé Acadie* fonds, a unique video record of Acadians in northern New Brunswick from 1976 – 1989. Denis became a vocal advocate for the records – sound and video broadcast recordings, amateur and nontheatrical film, oral history tapes -- that came to dominate life in the mid-twentieth century but were nonetheless often considered peripheral in the archivist's primary preoccupation with traditional paper records. The foundation he has laid will ensure the preservation and availability of unique and significant records that directly, indirectly and dynamically illustrate our past.

After a short stint in the Air Force and 6 years working at a paper mill before leaving to study at STU, Denis joined the staff of the Provincial Archives in 1981. His first work was arranging and describing various record groups including those of the Executive Council and the Lieutenant Governors, land petitions, and the Customs House Passengers lists which it turns out were overwhelmingly of Irish origin. In 1985 Denis became a permanent member of staff assigned to public service where he worked for 4 years.

Denis brought to the Archives an interest in aviation, military, and New Brunswick history, and while

there, developed a fascination (some would characterize it as obsession) with the history and culture of the Irish in New Brunswick. The fascination began with a love of Irish music, was nurtured by his Newfoundland Irish roots, and now encompasses the literature and history of Ireland, a familiarity with Irish-related sources in the Archives' holdings, and a deep and detailed knowledge of the lives of New Brunswick's Irish settlers. It was a short and understandable progression from knowing the history of the Irish in our province to wanting to share it and Denis took this on with vigour, historical documents in hand, admonishing Irish New Brunswickers to acknowledge, celebrate and commemorate their rich culture. His efforts coincided with a burgeoning interest on their part in their roots and with the formation of the Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick in 1983.

This led to Denis' extending the Archives modest outreach efforts by pioneering an external presence for the Archives outside the institution's four walls beginning with small exhibits for the Irish Festival on the Miramichi which included genealogical material relating to the Irish.

## Denis Noel Retires (Continued)

The initiative led to Archives being at other venues with the Irish exhibit and also taking part in other festivals and events across the province. Outreach related to Irish New Brunswick grew with a major project in 1991 when the Archives was asked to contribute to the International Gathering of the Irish and developed an exhibit entitled, *The Green Fields of Canada*, the title extracted from a traditional Irish ballad. It was further expanded for the 150<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Great Irish Famine. In addition to being an annual fixture at the Irish Festival the exhibits were taken to the ports where the Irish immigrant ship, the *Jeannie Johnson*, called for viewing by tourists and middle school scholars, to visits of Irish dignitaries to New Brunswick and eventually gaining international recognition and attention in Ireland – all with Denis’ upfront and behind the scenes urging. Most memorable was to have one of the Irish exhibits as the centerpiece of a wake and funeral in Johnville at the request of the deceased’s family. It was a unique and moving experience. Through Denis’ active collaboration the Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick has been instrumental in supporting and funding major projects that the Archives would pursue in relation to Ireland over the next 28 years.

Although Denis found the famine subject tragic and sombre in the extreme, it constituted a prolific period of research and its rewards may epitomize the attraction of archival work for him. He relates that while researching the records, he “felt a deep emotional bond with these forgotten figures from the past ... [that he is] sure many archivists and historians have felt over the years about the highly charged material they work on daily. Archives are not only about figures and statistics [but also] a record of lives lived and as such one of our direct links to our ancestors and the people who have gone before us. Denis is, as everyone who knows him

will testify, a character. For starters: he is sensitive and modest, he is a grand story teller and remembers and relates stories some of us might rather forget, he is a supportive friend



Denis—1966  
Dufferin Terrace, Quebec City

and a friend of the underdog, he has vision, he identifies opportunities most of us would miss or dismiss, he is a person of ideas, he approaches life with a sense of humour and a sense of mischief (when he isn’t self-identifying as *Eyeore*), and an optimist – witness his faithful support of the Montreal Canadiens.

Retirement shouldn’t change Denis and we shouldn’t wonder what he will do after leaving the employ of the Provincial Archives, which he has called his second home. It certainly won’t bring an end to his interest in and involvement in archives and Irish history. As well he has friendships to occupy him, developed in the course of his archival work, research and outreach and exhibit work in our province and beyond, including friendships in Ireland. These began in professional interests, grew into a personal friendship, and often supported investigation and promotion of Irish-New Brunswick

culture and history. His retirement will provide Denis with more time to pursue other passions and interests – music and driving in the country and admiring New Brunswick scenic beauty (one of those little old men in a hat he has often spoken of), fine cuisine, lawn mowing, New Brunswick Scottish history, reading biography, political history and mysteries, and most importantly, his family – daughters, Deanne (pronounced “Dean”) and Penny and grand children, Chloe and Paige, Lochlan and Declan.



Here Denis is delivering a “beverage” to someone else in a little pub in Ireland. No—honest, he sticks to water, 7-up or Pepsi . Thank heaven for that—someone has to get the rest of us home!

*Denis—we’ll wish you the very best and look forward to continuing to work with you on all the things you love best.*  
—From all your friends at the  
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# Membership Form

## The Irish Canadian Cultural Association of NB

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