



# Notáí Éireann

The Irish Club of Regina Quarterly Newsletter  
February 4, 2006 Vol. 1 No.1



## The Irish Club of Regina Board Members For 2006



Top row: Bonnie Huculak, Vice President; Sherry Yasinski Smith, Member at Large; Gail Kruger, Treasurer; Alice MacDougall, President; Liz Calvert, Member at Large; Mary Mackniak, Past-President; Vic Mackniak, Member at Large.  
Bottom row: Sarah Coolican, Member at Large; David Popoff, Member at Large; Bryan Rice, Member at Large; Marie Matheson, Secretary.  
Absent from photo - Monique Young

### **An Irish Blessing Submitted by Vic Mackniak**

May the love and protection  
Saint Patrick can give  
Be yours in abundance  
As long as you live.

May the luck of the Irish be always at hand  
And good friends always near you -  
May each and every coming day  
Bring some special joy to cheer you.

A special Irish blessing  
From the heart of a friend -  
"May good fortune be yours,  
May your joys never end."

### **Membership**

You now get half a year free!!

At the last AGM of the Irish Club held in November 2005, bylaws were adopted which change the membership year of the Irish Club to coincide with our fiscal year which runs from July to July. Therefore, we have extended current memberships that were to expire at the end of 2005 until July 2006.

Membership prices will remain the unchanged at \$15.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a family. New members who join before July will also receive the same benefit. If you have any questions about membership, please contact Bonnie Huculak at 731-2680 or [bonniehuculak@hotmail.com](mailto:bonniehuculak@hotmail.com)



# Getting to Know the Executive



## **Alice MacDougall - President**

Alice MacDougall became interested in the Irish Club when she met an Irish woman in Regina after immigrating to Canada in 1981. Her friend encouraged her to join. It took 8 or 9 years before she became involved with the executive board and when she did, she was involved with the membership committee. Her participation grew from there, leading to her current position as President. Some of her current projects include Mosaic, the yearly BBQ, Irish Club potluck dinners, dance committee, the "Ireland" slide show, the Fall Céilí, and the Irish Club Saint Patrick's Day Dinner. Alice was born in County Galway on land that has been in her family since the 1800's. Oughterard, the small town she grew up in, was a little bit smaller than Moose Jaw and all of her family still lives there. Her education was in the Irish language, which was a requirement at the schools in her area, although her family spoke English at home. Alice was in Irish dancing for 2 years as a young girl and her daughter Elizabeth followed with the tradition and danced for 4 years with the Irish Club of Regina dance group. Alice's son John can be seen at many Irish Club events and volunteers his time with security at the Irish Pavilion for Mosaic.

## **Bonnie Huculack - Vice-President**

Bonnie Huculack's grandparents emigrated from Belfast to Moose Jaw back in the 1930's. Bonnie has enthusiastically maintained her Irish heritage. She was a member of the Saskatoon Irish Club in the early '90s and after moving to Regina 11 years ago, has been an active dancer and member of the Irish Club of Regina. She has served as the club Dance Coordinator for 5 years, is currently on the membership, book club, and social committees, and has worked as a coordinator for the last three Mosaic Festivals. Bonnie is also a member of "*Comhaltas Coilteri Erin*," an international organization that supports traditional Irish culture.

## **Mary Mackniak - Past President**

Mary was born and raised in Ireland. In 1952 she sailed to Canada and then completed her journey from Quebec City to Regina by train. Most of her family remains back home in County Fermanagh. She married a Canadian and has 4 children. Mary continues to promote and support Irish culture through her membership with the club and her participation in quite a number of activities. For example: planning and volunteering for the Mosaic Festival, the book club, ceili's, pot-luck meals, barbecues, movie night, and more. Mary considers herself to be a "retired" dancer, and spends any spare time knitting and chatting.

## **Gail Kruger - Treasurer**

Three years ago, Gail came to the Mosaic Festival and fell in love with Irish dance after seeing all the fabulous women on stage. She is now one of them as she has been a member of the Irish Club of Regina ever since. Currently Gail is involved with the Mosaic Festival and Multicultural Council committees and of course dance.

## **Marie Matheson - Secretary**

As the beginner's dance class instructor, Marie shares her passion for Irish ceili dance with everyone who is willing to jump in with both feet (literally)! Marie's Irish ancestry influenced her to immerse herself in Irish culture through her many years of involvement in the Irish Club of Regina and by working at our locally owned Celtic store Ceilidh Surprise

### **Victor Mackniak - Member at Large**

Victor's wife is an Irish immigrant to Canada and after being a member of the Irish Club of Regina for over 40 years, he can easily be described as a strong supporter of Irish culture. He has served as treasurer and book club member, was involved in the creation of the club's constitution and by-laws, and used his talents as a handyman by putting up a shed for the club. Victor has worked at past Mosaic Festivals and over the years has volunteered for countless club activities.

### **Bryan Rice - Member at Large**

Bryan has been a member of the Irish Club for 2 years and is now sharing the newsletter duties with his wife Pam. Bryan is also involved with the communications committee and assisting with entertainment for Mosaic 2006. The Rice side of his family comes from Kerry. His Murphy roots come from Clare and he also has Gowan roots that originated in Laois. His family lines include some potato famine immigrants and others came later in the early 1900s for business opportunities and farming. Bryan was married this summer to Pam and they have an 11 month old baby named Taeghan. Their honeymoon was spent in Ireland where they racked up 2500 Km's on their rental car and got to see the most majestic country in the world.

### **Liz Calvert - Member at Large**

Although Liz has only been with the Irish Club for the last 3 years, her Irish ancestry is centuries old. One grandfather immigrated to Canada in 1830. Liz's grandmother was half Irish as her father came from Ireland and was adopted. Her father's parents both came to Canada directly from Kilarney and Cork. Liz is currently on the social and communication committees, acts as the Dance Board liaison member, and worked at getting the dance club members registered with Dance Saskatchewan. She has been involved with the Mosaic Festival for the last 3 years, public relations, and the planning for the 2005 fall Ceili.

### **Sherry Yasinski Smith- Member at Large**

The Irish Club's dance committee coordinator has been a member for 4 years and although she is not of Irish decent, she enjoys her many friendships with fellow members. She can be seen dancing at many club events as well as volunteering and being responsible for planning them. Sherry hopes to see the dance group continue to grow improve and she would like to encourage young Irish Club members to become more involved.

**Monique Young - Member at Large** Monique has been a member of the Irish Club of Regina for the last 10 years. Both of her grandparents are from Ireland and she enjoyed 3 weeks of travel there with her family. Monique holds a BSc Degree from the U of R and works for the Provincial Government Department of Learning. Monique is presently serving on the social and Mosaic committees and in the past has worked on the newsletter, ceili's, and the Mosaic Festival. She has been involved with Irish dance for the last 9 years. She can't wait for the "Hooley" to start at O'Hanlon's on Sunday afternoon.

### **Sarah Coolican - Member at Large**

Although Sarah is not of Irish decent, she takes pride in celebrating the culture by taking an active role in many aspects of our club for the past four years. She is currently co-chair of the committee responsible for organizing and running the Irish pavilion at Mosaic where we will have the pleasure of seeing her dance with the Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance. She is an active volunteer within the club and from 2003 to 2005 Sarah was a dancer with the Irish Club Dancers and worked at developing, planning and coordinating the Irish Club children's programs. She comes by her Irish culture honestly as she married an Irishman (actually, the "honest" part is a little suspicious as a family legend states their last name was originally Hooligan!).

### David Popoff - Member at Large

David has been a member of the Irish Club of Regina for 10 years and his roots with Ireland go way back: his great-great grandparents came from County Antrim and County Clare. He gets his interest in Irish music from his dad and has been involved in Irish dance through the club since he was 14 years old. His experience in these two fields is extensive as he holds a Master's Degree in Music, is a musician with the Regina Symphony, and teaches band and Irish dance. David is currently on the communications and Mosaic committees, and in the past he has served as the Mosaic manager and has been involved with the newsletter.



# Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann Convention



Submitted by Marie Matheson

Time *does* fly when you are having fun, and it just whizzed by me April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Ottawa, at the 2005 Comhaltas Convention (pronounced COLE-tus). This is a world-wide organization that supports Irish traditional culture, including music, dancing, and the Irish language. Five hundred people attended from all over North America.

My main reason for attending the convention was for the ceili and set dancing workshops due to my love of dancing. I knew the ceili workshops would be great because they were taught by Maureen Mulvey-O'Leary, who has led wonderful workshops in Saskatoon. Pat Murphy, who wrote the set-dance book *Toss the Feathers*, taught the set dancing.

It was an all-dancing weekend with continuous workshops and ceili's. On Friday evening there wasn't even a meal time break between the two sessions! I was most amazed at the Friday evening ceili. It was the first time I have ever seen an entire room full of people who all knew how to set dance. This was very different from the workshops. Set dancing has formations very similar to the eight-handed ceili dances, but...the *footwork!* People wore more substantial shoes than we do for ceili dancing, and they make noise with them! There seemed to be variations in the style of doing this, so I was not able to pick up any of the techniques required for this interesting addition.

I participated as much as I could in the workshops, but as an inexperienced dancer compared to the majority at the ceili's, I held back unless they needed to fill out a set. You don't want to get in the way of the old hands (or feet)! Needless to say, they were wonderful to watch. I met people from San Francisco who go out three times a week to set dance, and a couple from Winnipeg who lived for two years in Carrickfergus who now have people over to their house to dance. I saw all ages, many couples, and was even given a copy of Set Dance Magazine.

I was inspired to learn more about this new world, and enjoyed the many wonderful people I met who were very interested to find out what aspects of Irish culture Regina offers. I did learn several of the little waltz steps that Pat Murphy says are very popular in Ireland right now. We might even try out a set dance or two this summer. Many thanks to David Popoff for encouraging me to attend, and to the Irish Club for their financial support for this amazing experience.





# Ceol (Music) Review

By Bryan Rice



Danny Doyle is one of the greatest Irish balladeers of our time. I saw him perform this winter in a great pub called Tiernan's situated on Fisherman's Warf in San Francisco, California. He was armed with a guitar, great vocals and a vast knowledge of songs and poetry that would put most to shame. Danny came from Dublin, Ireland and to quote him:

"The city was a great teacher, giving me history and legend, stories of the commonplace and heroic, legends more real than dull facts; the bawdy, rowdy grist of the ballad maker's mill."

Besides his music, he has a passion for Irish history that has lead him to write several books. "The Gold Sun of Irish Freedom" breaks down songs that were inspired by historical events. Doyle puts his heart into every song and the product of this is music that finds it's way into your soul. There are moments when you can imagine being in another time where the events are actually taking place. Danny's voice sings the emotion within the music, whether it is a light-hearted song such as "Galway Races" or with a growl on "Follow me up to Carlow".

The entertainment experience is as good as it gets. Some may say that one musician is not enough to fill a stage. My only response to that is "you should see Danny Doyle". My favourite part of the show is when the guitar stops and he accompanies his vocals by playing the flat surface of his guitar like a bodhran and then effortlessly jumps back to playing the strings.

Currently Danny Doyle has 5 albums that are all well worth a listen. In the liner notes of each CD is a paragraph about the history that inspired each individual song. My personal favourites are "The Wearing of the Green", which is a collection of Irish rebel songs and "Spirit of the Gael", which includes a wide variety of traditional Irish music. Danny Doyle is the kind of entertainer that does not come along very often.

"Doyle is indeed Ireland's finest balladeer. His voice is beautiful, his guitar playing never overshadows the lyrics and his stage patter warm, engaging and often hilarious."  
The Irish Times (Dublin), October 1995.

"He is one of that rare and cherished group of Irish singers whose voices are instantly recognizable. Doyle is an international treasure."

*Irish Echo, New York, April 1996.*



## Book Club



The Irish Club Book Club meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 8 pm in room 409, Campion College at the U of R. The book for February is The Sea by John Banville, winner of the 2005 Man Booker Prize; the March selection is Bram Stoker's Dracula and our choice for April is Carolan's Farewell by Canadian author Charles Foran.



## Hooley at O'Hanlon's!



Come and spend an afternoon at O'Hanlon's on Scarth Street! The Irish Club of Regina will be hosting a fun afternoon get-together where you can sit and have a drink with friends, enjoy some Irish music and learn a set dance or two! The afternoon is completely free (not including your Guinness)! Bring a friend, an instrument, your dancing shoes or all three! We'll be trying to get a small *seisiuin* (session) going with some of our local musicians, so if you'd like to bring along an instrument and try your

hand at a tune or two, feel free! We'll also be learning an Irish set dance. Set dancing is a fun, low key, social form of dance commonly done at a ceili. You don't need any dance experience to try it out. Bring some comfortable shoes and you'll be swinging 'round the house in no time!

Join us at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 26th for our first ever *Hooley at O'Hanlon's!* There'll be *craic go leor!* (Lots of fun!)



## Dance Update



The Irish Club dance program continues to grow and develop under the watchful eye of class leaders Marie Matheson, Bonnie Huculak, Iveta Krivka and Sherry Smith. Classes in adult beginner soft shoe and hard shoe are held Wednesday nights at St Luke's hall; intermediate adult classes are held Monday evenings at the same location. For those dancers interested in performing, they are currently preparing for the many performance requests we receive in March for St Patrick's Day and starting to think about performing on the Mosaic stage in June.

Laurie Henricksen, TCRG from Saskatoon, is currently on contract with the Irish Club of Regina Dancers to provide monthly dance instruction to all dancers. As an internationally accredited Irish dance instructor, Laurie has been an incredible asset in providing direction on technique and choreography. The feedback from dancers on these sessions has been

overwhelmingly positive. These monthly sessions are scheduled for February 25, April 1 and May 6 from 9am-noon at St Luke's hall.

I assumed the duties of dance coordinator in January 2006. I am working with the Dance committee to recommend plans to the ICR executive for an ongoing dance program that will offer Irish dance opportunities for all levels of interest and involvement. I hope to have these plans finalized by the summer and implemented in time for the fall 2006 dance classes.

If you have questions about the ICR dance program or want to request a dance performance, please contact me by e-mail: [IrishClubDancers@accesscomm.ca](mailto:IrishClubDancers@accesscomm.ca).

Happy dancing!  
Sherry Smith, Dance Coordinator  
Irish Club of Regina





# The Boys and Girl from County Clare



Film Review By Bev Montague

In the dark days of winter we seek comfort—comfort food, comfort clothing, even comfort entertainment. A newly released DVD, John Irvin's *The Boys and Girl from County Clare*, is an Irish stew or a warm sweater kind of movie.

The film is set in the 1960's, a time when the Beatles seem to have conquered the Western world with their music; however, there are still pockets of resistance, even in their hometown of Liverpool. Here traditional Irish music continues to be played by the Shamrock Ceili Band led by Jimmy McMahon (Colm Meany) who has been away from Ireland for more than twenty years. He and his group are preparing for a national music competition being held in County Clare, his former home, and where his bachelor brother John Joe (Bernard Hill) still works the family farm and leads his own ceili band. The two brothers, who have been estranged for years, are destined to be rivals for the much-prized trophy. Both Jimmy and his older brother engage in a series of childish pranks designed to prevent each other from registering for the contest.

The viewer know that this sibling feud is not, as Jimmy says, "just about the music." It's no surprise that there is a woman behind it. In this case the woman is Maisie (Charlotte Bradley) who now plays piano in John Joe's band. Years ago both brothers had fancied her, but it was Jimmy who had won her affections and then left her for another. This seems to have become a habit as he is now contemplating the casting off of his fifth wife. Maisie, like John Joe, has never married, but has raised a daughter, Anne

(Andrea Corr), who does not know her father's identity. Soon, all will be revealed.

Anne, despite Maisie's heavy mother act, will have her own romance, a Montague/Capulet relationship with Teddy (Shaun Evans), the flutist in Jimmy's group. Anne plays a mean fiddle in John Joe's band. The two young actors play their roles as star-crossed lovers with an appealing bright-eyed innocence that goes some way toward compensating for the film's shortcomings. In fact, a solid cast is one of the film's strengths.

Its other attractions are provided by the music (although more could have been made of the actual competition) and the landscape—County Clare played by Antrim and the Isle of Man. Although the screenplay, written by a maker of traditional Irish instruments, Nicholas Adams, offers nothing new or provocative, *The Boys and Girl from County Clare* does provide a few laughs. A scene in the toilets which has two Liverpoolian musicians discussing the new Liverpool centre, Kevin Keegan ("Nothing good ever came out of Scunthorpe"), may make followers of European football smile. There is, however, an excessive reliance on "sick" humour, too many scenes in which people vomit copiously.

The reconciliation and happy ending of this film may be predictable, but if you're not in the mood for gunmen, psychopathic adolescents, or child abusers, you may find the kinder, gentler characters in this little Irish film to your taste.





# The History Behind Saint Patrick's Day

By Marc Raymond



St. Patrick was born in Briton under Roman rule late in the 4<sup>th</sup> Century A.D. When he was still just a teenager, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and was sold as a slave in County Antrim. Young Patrick worked as a shepherd and kept up hope by maintaining the Christian faith that had been largely abandoned by his people. After six years of captivity, he succeeded in escaping and eventually made his way to various monasteries in and around what is now France where he studied to become a priest. Guided by visions to return to Ireland to convert the people to Christianity, he was eventually called to Rome by Pope Celestine who appointed him as Bishop and sent him back to fulfill his calling to preach the Gospel to the people of Ireland. Legend has it that he once used the three-leaf clover as a way to illustrate the three persons of the Holy Trinity to the people. St. Patrick was also very clever to incorporate other traditional rituals and symbols into his preaching to better reach the common folk. Because the people honoured pagan gods with fire, St. Patrick used bonfires to celebrate Easter. The sun was another important ancient Irish symbol that St. Patrick put to good use. Look at the Celtic Cross and you will note

that the sun has been incorporated into its design. You may recall seeing pictures of St. Patrick driving out snakes from the land; while some people have taken this legend literally, one must remember that ancient culture placed a great deal of emphasis on story telling and myth. Since snakes symbolize paganism, one can better recognize St. Patrick's role in freeing the people from this rival of Christianity rather than taking the literal interpretation too seriously.

St. Patrick converted many to the faith and without question had the greatest influence in the establishment of the Christian Church in Ireland. Over the years, as his cult grew, his March 17<sup>th</sup> memorial allowed for the relaxation of some Lenten restrictions to feast and dance in his honour. The first real Saint Patrick's Day Parade as we know it was held in New York City in 1762 thanks to the rather large Irish population that had immigrated there. Today Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated in quite a number of countries. In Ireland, in an effort to drive up tourism, there has been a big push to promote St. Patrick's Day. The annual festival held in Dublin easily draws a million participants!



## Saint Patrick's Day Irish Quiz



1. Ireland isn't called the "emerald isle" for nothing thanks to all the rain it gets. Guess how many inches fall annually:

a) 60" b) 70" c) 80" d) 90"

2. "Erin Go Bragh" is a saying on St. Patrick's Day that means:

a) I love Ireland      b) Ireland forever      c) Brave and Free      d) Ireland my home

3. Irish tradition says that anyone who kisses the blarney stone, which is located near this town, will be blessed with the Irish "gift of gab":  
a) Dublin    b) Wexford    c) Cork    d) Waterford
4. Name the Nobel Prize-winning Irish poet and playwright who was also a senator of the Irish Free State from 1922 to 1928:  
a) George Bernard Shaw    b) James Joyce    c) Jonathan Swift    d) William Butler Yeats
5. Name the film John Ford directed in Ireland in 1952:  
a) Ryan's Daughter    b) The Quiet Man    c) The Dead    d) The Informer
6. Traditional Irish music has found an international audience with the popularity of such Celtic bands as:  
a) The Chieftains    b) The Lads    c) The Shannon Rovers    d) Honey Sweet in the Rock
7. St. Patrick established his first church in this town:  
a) Cork    b) Limerick    c) Killarney    d) Armagh
8. The first St. Patrick's Day parade was held in this city:  
a) Dublin    b) Chicago    c) Armagh    d) New York



## A Taste of Ireland

Recipes submitted by  
Shannon Quinn



### Potato Bread

From: Various Sources

#### Ingredients:

- 8 oz mashed potato
- 1 tsp salt
- pinch of pepper
- 2 oz butter - melted
- \_1/4 cup of milk
- flour (enough to form a stiff dough \_ to \_ cup likely)
- 1 tsp baking powder (this is not traditional, but it make the bread lighter and fluffier)

#### Method:

1. Combine potato, salt pepper, milk, and butter. Stir to combine.
2. Add \_ cup of flour and baking powder. Mix gently but firmly. Dough should feel stiff but pliable. Add more flour if necessary to create stiff dough.
3. Sprinkle a little flour on the counter and tip the dough out on to the work surface.
4. Pat out the dough into a rough circle no thicker than \_ inch thick. Cut into 8 wedges.
5. Cook the wedges on a preheated, dry griddle or frying pan until golden brown on the outside and hot all the way through.
6. Serve smothered in butter with jam, or as a part of a big Irish breakfast



## Movie Night



We're trying something new - movie night. In order to have an opportunity for our members to get together and enjoy some Irish culture, we're going to run a free movie night featuring Irish films. Our first film The Matchmaker will be at 7:30 pm, Saturday, February 18 at the Rotary Senior Citizen's Centre, 2404 Elphinstone Street (entrance off 15<sup>th</sup> Ave).

The Matchmaker has a simple storyline. Marcy (Janeane Garofalo), an American political aide is sent to a small town called Ballinagara in Ireland to research her boss's roots for the forthcoming election in the hope that this will gain him more votes from the Boston Irish American public. When the aide arrives, she learns that she is now in the middle of the annual Matchmaking Festival headed by Dermot (Milo O'Shea). Ballinagara is filled with a host of memorable characters including Sean (David O'Hara) who quickly takes a shine to Marcy, but seems to do nothing but irritate her.

It sounds like an Irish cliché, but with the right people having been cast in the right roles, the right amount of humour added and the beautiful landscape of western Ireland (including the Aran Islands), this film is a great success out of what could be a very often repeated story

Admission to the movie is free to all Irish Club members. Refreshments will be available at a small cost.



## March Winds

By Marie Matheson



It's light outside now as she drives home from work on Regina's icy streets. There is still snow on the ground, but green sprouts in the windows of shops and schools. It is March, and Irish is the flavour of the month, as everyone celebrates leprechauns, Paddy's pig, and green beer.

She grabs a quick bite to eat as soon as she gets into the house, and puts a note on the fridge- "It's toasted tuna sandwiches again tonight, guys. See you when I get home. Love, Mom." Now it is time to don her dress, with the mysterious gold and green insignia, her tights, and her cape. Some earrings with more of the intricate designs, a little hairspray and lipstick, and she is transformed. By day, a mild-mannered clerk in a Celtic shop, on March evenings she becomes....IRISH DANCER LADY! She heads out to meet with her fellow caped crusaders, and vested vigilantes, to banish bingo and boredom for Regina's seniors.

For these evenings, reels and jigs will rule, as the Irish Club of Regina Ceili Dancers spread toe-tapping fun around the town. They smile their best, even when they feel the hard concrete floors beneath their feet. There is always someone in the audience whose eyes are dancing along with the music, and always kind words of appreciation. These, and the sheer joy of moving to Irish music, keep the troop going through the many performances they give in this month. Now she goes home in the dark, to rinse out her tights, and apply something soothing to sore muscles. The céilí dancers have more performances booked this week, because more Reginans are suffering from a deficiency of Irish culture. She is very happy to be a part of the force that provides the cure!



# The History of the Harp



The harp has been regarded as the official symbol or coat of arms of Ireland since medieval times. It is also depicted alongside the coat of arms of a dozen or more medieval European kingdoms on a single folio of the Wijnbergen roll of arms compiled circa 1270. The harp is found on the banners of the Irish brigades that formed in the armies of continental European countries during the 17th and 18th centuries.

The heraldic harp is invariably used by the Government, its agencies and its representatives at home and abroad. It is engraved on the seal matrix of the office of the President as well as on the reverse of the coinage of the state. It is also emblazoned on the distinctive flag of the President of Ireland - a gold harp with silver strings on the azure field.

The model for the artistic representation of the heraldic harp is the 14th century harp now preserved in the Museum of Trinity College, Dublin, popularly known as the Brian Boru Harp.

Brionglóidi Goh-Alainn Agus Aisce  
By Bryan Rice

The title of my sculpture means “Dreaming Beautiful and Free”. The media of steel and iron represent my strength in being Irish Canadian. This continues showing the strong ties that Irish Canadians have with Ireland, and how it is very much apart of them even though they live far across the sea. The first time I traveled to Ireland was this summer and immediately my heart knew it was home. I grew up surrounded with the culture but the feeling I got when I stepped on the soil was more than I could have imagined. The metal work piece that I built stands approximately 6 feet tall and 5 feet wide. It is influenced by the Brian Boru harp but I left it with 4 strings that represent the 4 provinces. The knot work on the front is commonly seen on Celtic sun crosses and is also on the back of my claddagh ring. The reverse side has the spirals, which were the earliest decorative design used in Celtic art work, which by the mid 10th century had fallen into disuse.





## Upcoming Events



Feb 18 - 7:30pm - Irish Club Movie Night *Matchmaker* - Rotary Seniors Centre Members Only  
 Feb 25 - 9:00am - Dance Seminar - St. Luke's hall - Dancers Only  
 Feb 26 - 3:00pm - Hooley at O'Hanlan's (More will follow, currently unscheduled)  
 Mar 14 - 8:00 - Book Club - Bram Stoker's *Dracula* - Members Only  
 Mar 17 - O'Hanlon's - The Place to be no matter what is happening.  
 Mar 17 - Fraser Pipe Band - Bushwakers  
 Mar 17 and 18 - Crofter's Revenge - Bobby's Place  
 Mar 18 - 2:00 - 3:00pm - Prairie Gaels - Bobby's Place  
 Mar 19 - 6:00pm - Irish Club of Regina St. Patrick's Day Dinner - Members Only  
 Apl 1 - 9:00am - Dance Seminar - St. Luke's hall - Dancers Only  
 Apl 7 and 8 - Dust Rhinos - Bobby's Place  
 Apl 11 - 8:00 - Book Club - *Carolán's Farewell* by Charles Foran - Members Only  
 Apl 14 and 15 - Men in Kilts - Bobby's Place  
 May 6 - 9:00am - Dance Seminar - St. Luke's hall - Dancers Only



## Detailed Venue Information



Rotary Seniors Centre 2404 Elphinstone Street (Entrance off 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue)  
 St. Luke's hall - 3233 Argyle Road, Regina  
 O'Hanlon's Irish Pub - 1947 Scarth Street, Regina  
 Bobby's Place - 63-B High Street East, Moose Jaw  
 Bushwakers - 2206 Dewdney Avenue, Regina



## Important Links



Official Irish Club of Regina Website  
<http://nonprofits.accesscomm.ca/icr/>

Official Irish Club of Regina Newsletter E-mail  
[IrishClubNewsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:IrishClubNewsletter@hotmail.com)

Official Irish Club of Regina E-mail Address  
[IrishClub@sasktel.net](mailto:IrishClub@sasktel.net)

Irish Club of Regina Dancers  
[IrishClubDancers@accesscomm.ca](mailto:IrishClubDancers@accesscomm.ca)

### Answers For Saint Patrick's Day Quiz:

1. d) 90
2. b) Ireland forever
3. c) Cork
4. d) William Butler Yeats
5. b) The Quiet Man
6. a) The Chieftains
7. d) Armagh
8. d) New York