



Irish Club of Regina - Executive 2019-20

* **President** - Debbie Beach

** **Vice President** - Alice MacDougall

** **Treasurer** - Gail Kruger

* **Secretary** - Carissa Woolsey

Members at Large

* Shannon Hunt

** Ruby Hunter

** Katrina Hognerud

* Vacant

* Term ends at 2021 AGM

** Term ends at 2020 AGM

About us:

The Irish Club of Regina is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to promoting and supporting Irish culture within Regina and area. We currently support an Irish Dance group, a Gaelic Athletic Association football team, send out a quarterly newsletter, maintain a website, host a Mosaic Pavilion and organize or support other events, workshops and activities. To become a member, please contact us! Membership rates are \$15 for a single membership and \$20 for a family membership. Membership entitles you to receive our newsletter, emails about upcoming events and allows you to take part in our events.

Why become a member of the Irish Club of Regina?

If you enjoy Irish culture in any of its many forms, the Irish Club is the place to find it. Music, dance, literature, ceilis, sport, cooking and traditional Irish handwork are all workshops that we hope to be able to offer. We need interested active members in order to provide these events.



Interesting Books and Films related to Ireland

"The Secret Guests"

Benjamin Black, author

Man Booker Prize winner

John Banville writes his less serious literature, usually with some mystery involved, under the pen name Benjamin Black. This novel poses an interesting question ... did this actually happen or was it just a local myth?

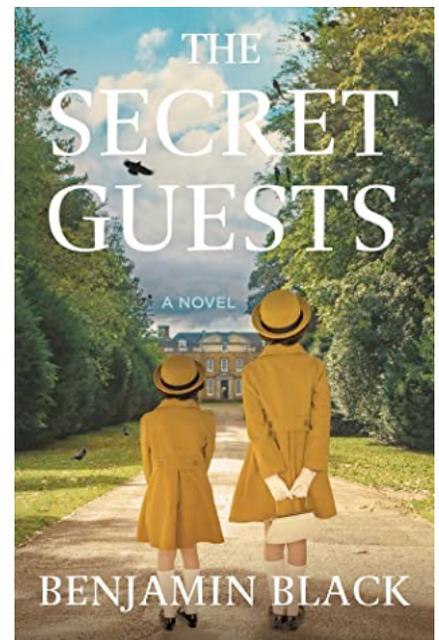
Ireland, which was neutral during the Second World War played host to thousands of children who were displaced from Britain and indeed from Germany, courtesy of the International Red Cross. In the middle of the Blitz, Ellen and Mary arrive in the dark of night, accompanied by governess Celia and a young Irish detective at the estate of the Duke of Edenmore, in Ireland. Who are these children and why the secrecy about their identities? In a tightly knit rural setting the rumours soon begin and suspicion about the secret guests begin to spread.

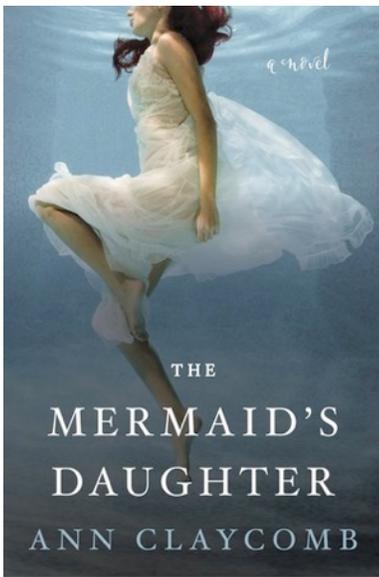
In a country which had endured such brutality at the hands of the Black and Tans only twenty years earlier, the leaking of the true identities of the two girls could have dire consequences.

Benjamin Black claims to have good information that these two were indeed in Ireland for some time during World War Two.

An interesting read especially as celebrations for the seventy fifth anniversary of the ending of that war happen this year.

Submitted by Eilish MacSweeney-Casey





"The Mermaid's Daughter"

Ann Claycomb - Author

A modern-day expansion of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*, this unforgettable debut novel weaves a spellbinding tale of magic and the power of love as a descendent of the original mermaid fights the terrible price of saving herself from a curse that has affected generations of women in her family.

Kathleen has always been dramatic. She suffers from the bizarre malady of experiencing stabbing pain in her feet. On her sixteenth birthday, she woke screaming from the sensation that her tongue had been cut out. No doctor can find a medical explanation for her pain, and even the most powerful drugs have proven useless. Only the touch of seawater can ease her pain, and just temporarily at that. Now Kathleen is a twenty-five-year-old opera student in Boston and shows immense promise as a soprano. Her girlfriend Harry, a mezzo in the same program, worries endlessly about Kathleen's phantom pain and obsession with the sea. Kathleen's mother and grandmother both committed suicide as young women, and Harry worries they suffered from the same symptoms. When Kathleen suffers yet another dangerous breakdown, Harry convinces Kathleen to visit her hometown in Ireland to learn more about her family history. In Ireland, they discover that the mystery—and the tragedy—of Kathleen's family history is far older and stranger than they could have imagined. Kathleen's fate seems sealed, and the only way out is a terrible choice between a mermaid's two sirens—the sea, and her lover. But both choices mean death...

Haunting and lyrical, *The Mermaid's Daughter* asks—how far we will go for those we love? And can the transformative power of music overcome a magic that has prevailed for generations?

If you have seen an Irish movie on Netflix or other places that you would recommend watching, please send me the information and I would be pleased to share the information here.





Past Events

Irish Set Dancing Workshop

Sunday, February 2nd, 2020

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Westminster United Church



The Regina Irish Set Dancing group were asked by the ICR to host a beginner set dancing workshop. We were pleased with the attendance of about 30 people. (Including our set dancers and some spectators.) We had enough for 3 full sets for some set dancing and also did some social dancing (Circle Waltz; Britannia progressive; & Breakaway Blues)

We were hoping to have another set dancing weekend in the fall, but will have to wait and see what the Covid Regulations and Restrictions allow. Perhaps, may have to be postponed to after the New Year.

Submitted by Laura Popoff



Britannia Progressive

L-2-3; R 2-3; L 2-3 & R 2-3;
forward 2-3 kick;
back 2-3-4;
turn the ladies for 4;
forward 2-3-kick;
gents move forward and
ladies back

Taking a break and having a chat





Taking a bit of a break and a chat

Moycullen Set
- great job kids



St. Bernard's Waltz ...
side, side, side, up/down,
side, side, back, back,
forward, forward, turn the lady,
waltz around.

Past Events (Cont'd)



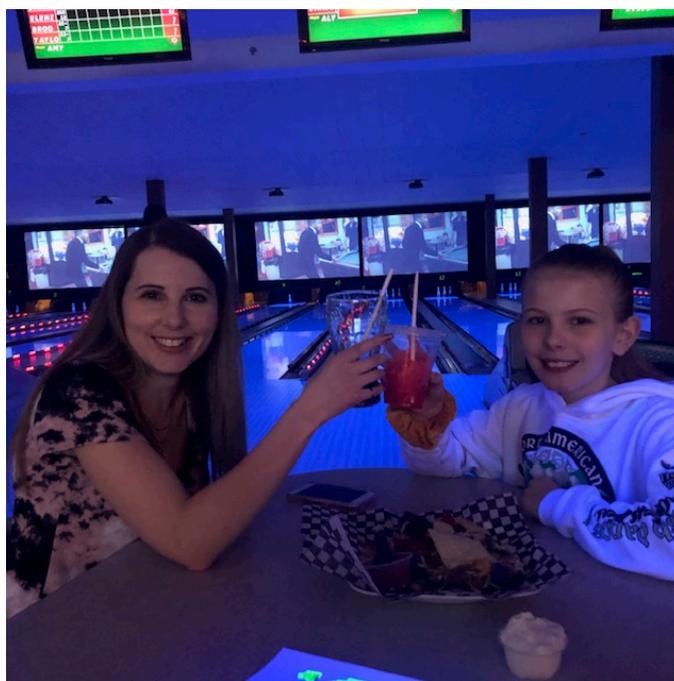
Five Pin Family Fun Bowl

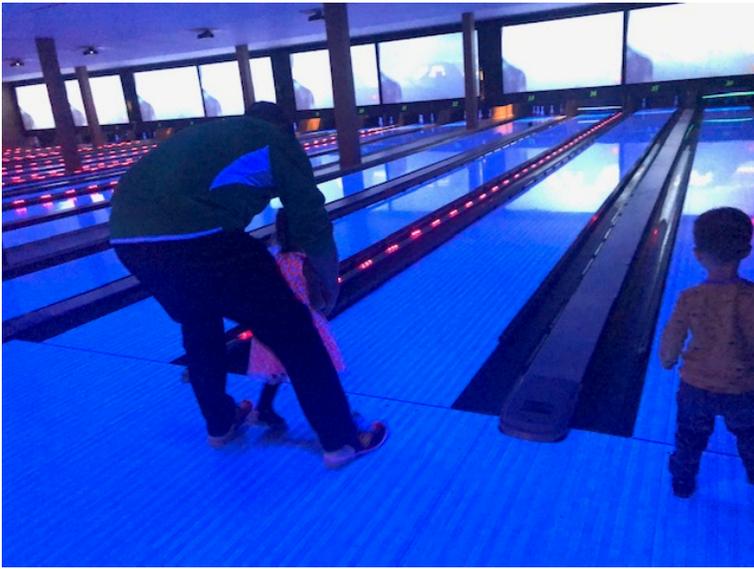
Saturday, February 8th, 2020

Golden Mile Bowling Alley



Another fun family activity - not sure how “Irish” bowling is but we all had a good time together. We finished up the 3 games (regular bowl, fun bowl, & bingo bowl) and enjoyed pizza and pop following.





A Taste of Ireland

From website "Tourism Ireland"
Fill your heart with Ireland



Indulgent Chocolate Fondants with Irish Cream Liqueur

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_P_X5ha6Xg

Ingredients:

110 g (1.2 cup) Irish Butter
200 g (1.5 cups) 70% dark chocolate,
broken into pieces
3 medium eggs, separated
110 g (1/2 cup) superfine or caster sugar
250 ml (1 cup) double cream
50 ml (1.4 cup) Irish cream liqueur

Preheat oven to 180°C / 350°F
Serve with the Irish cream liqueur



Dunbrody Brown Soda Bread

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSf7RQ0JjBc>

Ingredients:

350 g (2 3/4 cups) wholemeal flour
75 g (3.4 cup) porridge/rolled oats
55 g (1.3 cup) all-purpose/plain flour
1 tsp table salt
2 tsp bicarbonate of soda/baking soda
1 large egg
500 ml (2 cups) buttermilk or plain yogurt

Preheat the oven to 150-170°C or 325°F



Blakey School of Irish Dance



The 2020 dance season has looked a little different for the Blakey dancers, but they have been training hard during this isolation period. Classes are offered via Zoom, and there are classes happening nearly every day of the week! We have partnered with our sister schools in Calgary and Kelowna in order to provide an abundance of online classes. This gives the dancers a chance to train with their teammates across Western Canada. We are making do with what we have at home, but we cannot wait to be back in the studio!

In January of 2020, many of the Blakey Saskatchewan dancers attended the Western Canadian Winter Championships. This event is always a highlight as it is hosted by our sister school, Blakey O'Brien Irish Dance, in Calgary.

Blakey Saskatchewan was asked to perform at the Harlem Globetrotter show in Saskatoon on January 27th. The Blakey team put together a choreography to perform on the court as a part of the halftime entertainment. This performance included dancers from ages 5 through 23, and was truly a unique opportunity. Our next performance was at Heritage Language Day on February 29th. The event was held on campus at the University of Regina, and included a wide variety of cultural performances. Our dancers prepared two numbers that showcased both traditional and modern Irish dance.

While most of our Saint Patrick's Day performances were cancelled, we were able to do two of our shows. The first event was at College Park II Retirement Residence, and the second was at Government House. The Government House event included a community workshop where the dancers had a chance to teach An Rince Mór, as well as Saint Patrick's Day. Aside from that, the Blakey team hosted a "Virtual Saint Patrick's Day" performance through Instagram by posting photos and videos throughout the day.

As restrictions are lifted, Blakey will be hosting social distancing outdoor classes! We accept new registrations throughout the year, and offer competitive and non-competitive classes. For more information about joining our dance family please visit blakeyschool.com/saskatchewan or contact regina@blakeyschool.com.

Submitted by Amy Hepting

Follow us on Instagram! [@blakeyregina](https://www.instagram.com/blakeyregina)



Western Canadian Winter Championships 2020



Harlem Globetrotters 2020



Heritage Language Day 2020



Government House 2020



**Blakey Regina Adult Dancers
at Government House**



Government House 2020

Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance



Prairie Gael School
of Irish Dance

We at Prairie Gael had a fun ending to 2019 with our annual Christmas parties! Our littlest dancers ate their fill while decorating sugar cookies and our older dancers snuggled up to watch the classic movie 'Santa Claus'.

We kicked off 2020 with a very successful showing at the Western Canadian Winter Championships. A huge congratulations to Nikki L. on winning her second Treble Jig trophy and progressing to Preliminary Championships; we are so proud of you!

We kept ourselves warm in February with another visit from Tyler Schwartz; he sure helps keep us on our toes!

All that hard work paid off and we are thrilled to congratulate Emily W. on winning her second Preliminary Championship and progressing into Open Championships; well done!

We had some wonderful performances for local senior's residences in early March and loved the opportunity to bring some reel Irish rhythm to the community.

While our regular St. Patrick's Day activities were unable to proceed, a few of our dancers participated in a virtual, social media, St. Patrick's Day from home!

Since mid-March we've been dancing with virtual dance classes. We miss getting to see our dancers in person but are grateful for the technology that has enabled us to continue our dance season. Our dancers have all been excellent sports adapting to our current situation, and we teachers have enjoyed the occasional furry special guest in our class as puppies and kitties try to learn their steps also!

We hope everyone is staying healthy and wish all a lovely summer vacation.

Emily Armer & Caitlin Brill, TCRG
Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance
306.530.5845

www.prairiegaeldance.com

facebook.com/PrairieGaelDance | Twitter.com/IrishRegina

Instagram/IrishDanceRegina



Our youngest dancers getting a sugar rush 'decorating' their



Snacks and visiting while watching the classic Christmas movie, 'The Santa Claus'



We loved performing for the residents of Sunset Extencicare!



Thanks to the residents of Santa Maria for a great afternoon!





Prairie Gael School
of Irish Dance

Had a great weekend
improving our skills with Tyler!



Congratulations on winning your second
Treble Jig Trophy Nikki!



Emily wins her way into Preliminary
Championships - CONGRATS!



Regina Irish Set Dancers

We started back to our weekly dancing sessions at the end of September, took a month break over the holiday season Dec/Jan and resumed dancing January 16th. We were asked by the ICR to put on a beginners set dancing workshop and that happened on Sunday, February 2nd at the Westminster United Church gymnasium. We had a good turnout and think we may have to plan another in the future.

We continued with our weekly dancing sessions until the Covid 19 precautions were put into effect and we stopped meeting March 19th. (not easy to practice social distancing when set dancing) I have been sharing a youtube video of different set dances with our members each week just to watch, tap a toe and remember some patterns each week. Some we have danced, some we think we would like to try when we get back to dancing, and some are just a hoot to watch a set dancing session in Ireland, wishing we had been there!

We are hoping that the regulations and recommendations for social gathering will allow for us to start back up dancing towards the end of September, and we will follow what ever is the most responsible course. The Westminster United church on Cameron and 13th Avenue will keep our spot in the multipurpose room every Thursday evening booked for us.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Popoff

Contact Laura Popoff @ lpopoff@sasktel.net
or call (306) 533-5091
or visit our facebook page to see a few videos of us dancing
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/192728960882181/>



Contact us:

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email:

information.icr@gmail.com or
irishclubofregina@gmail.com

website:

www.irishclubofregina.org

If you are a **Facebook** user, please 'LIKE' our club's page at

www.facebook.com/Irishclubofregina

If you have an interesting bit that you would like included in the newsletter, send submissions to:

lpopoff@sasktel.net

Other links and interesting facebook groups and websites:



- * Irish in Regina
- * Irish Club of Regina Dancers
- * Regina Gaels GAA football league
- * Regina Irish Set dancers
- * Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance
- * Blakey Irish Dance
- * Bushwakker Brewing Company
- * Shannons Pub and Grill

Irish Club of Regina Dancers

<http://www.irishclubofregina.org/dance/>

Blakey School of Irish dance

<http://www.blakeyschool.com/Saskatchewan>

Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance

<http://www.prairiegaeldance.com>

Irish Central.com

<http://www.irishcentral.com>