



# Scéala

The Newsletter of An Cumann / The Irish Association of Nova Scotia \* March—April 2012 Márta—Aibreán

## *Clár Imeachtaí / Schedule of Events*

Inside this issue:

*Irish Embassy Newsletter* 2

*St. Patrick's Day Parade* 2

*An Cumann Info* 2

*"Irish Smells"* 3

*Crossroads Ceili* 3

*St. Patrick's Day Ceili* 4

**Thursday, March 1, at 7:00 pm**—Sobey Theatre, Saint Mary's University—**D'Arcy McGee Lecture**—"Irish Smells"—**Dr. Joseph Nugent** of Boston College examines the olfactory gentrification of 19th century Ireland. Admission is free.

**Saturday, March 3, at 7:00 pm**—St. Thomas Aquinas Church Hall, 6380 Cornwall St.—**Crossroads Ceili**—For all ages. Adults \$10, children and students \$8.

**Saturday, March 17, from 7:00 am**—The Old Triangle, corner of Bedford Row and Prince Street, Halifax—**St. Patrick's Day Breakfast**. A Halifax tradition.

**Saturday, March 17, at 11:30 am**—Starting on Agricola St. just north of Kane—The fifth annual **St. Patrick's Day Parade**, sponsored by the **St. Patrick's Church Restoration Society**. Lunch and reception to follow in the Church hall.

**Saturday, March 17, at 6:30pm**—St. Thomas Aquinas Church Hall, 6350 Cornwall Street, Halifax (near Oxford and Jubilee)—**An Cumann's St. Patrick's Day Céilí**. Irish stew, Irish music, dancing and singing. Tickets are \$15 for adults (\$20 at the door) and \$5 for children. For further information call 479-1110 or 240-5278 or send us an email at [info@ancumann.org](mailto:info@ancumann.org).

### • **Upcoming events**

An Cumann's Board of Directors is making plans for other spring and fall events around Halifax and in other parts of the Province. When details become available, we will publish another issue of Scéala. Until then, watch our website.

## *2012 Board of Directors*

At the Annual General Meeting held December 1, 2011, at St. Theresa's Church in Halifax, An Cumann's membership elected its officers and directors-at-large for 2012.

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:** President—David Moriarity; Past President—Troy Doyle; Secretary—Pat Curran; Treasurer—Mary Rose Poirier

**DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:** Paul Brennan, Bridget Brownlow, Kelly Curran, Dean Gibbons, Carly MacDonald, Elizabeth MacDonald, Ron MacEachern and Tony O'Carroll

## *Irish Embassy Newsletter*



Since last summer, the Irish Embassy in Ottawa has published the first three issues of "Irish Embassy Ottawa Newsletter". The Newsletter is available on the Embassy's website, at <http://embassyofireland.ca>.

Each issue contains a lead article by Dr. Ray

Bassett, Ireland's Ambassador to Canada, together with information from Ireland and pieces on the many links between Ireland and Canada.

One item likely to interest many Canadians of Irish ancestry is the Certificate of Irish Heritage, available from the Irish

government to all who can establish their Irish descent.

Current affairs are also addressed in the publication. The latest issue has a piece on the new Irish Canadian Immigration Centre recently opened in Toronto, touching on a subject topical in both Ireland and Canada.



The Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society warmly invites you to our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual

### **Saint Patrick's Day Parade!**

**When:** Saturday March 17, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.

**Where:** Parade route begins near the Hydrostone Market on Agricola (north of Kane). The parade will proceed down Agricola to Cornwallis, turn right on Cornwallis and go down to Brunswick Street. Then turn right on Brunswick and finish at Saint Patrick's Church.

**Why:** To celebrate Saint Patrick's Day

**There will be a Sheppard's Pie lunch\* and reception in Saint Patrick's Church Hall following the parade, for \$10 a person.**

Please contact the  
Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society,  
2263 Brunswick St Halifax, NS B3K 2Y9, or  
phone 429-4170. fax 420-1930

\* Includes Cash Bar, Silent Auction, Irish Music and Parade Award Presentation

## *An Cumann Information*

An Cumann / The Irish Association of Nova Scotia is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of Nova Scotia since 1990. An Cumann's main object is to foster knowledge and enjoyment of Irish and Irish-Nova Scotian culture throughout the province.

An Cumann holds Irish Heritage Evenings and occasional workshops and special events from time to time throughout the year. Most of the activities take place at various locations in the Halifax Metro area, although special events are scheduled at times elsewhere in the province.

This newsletter, Scéala, is published two to four times each year.

Dues are \$15. per year, \$20. for a family membership.

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Web: [www.ancumann.org](http://www.ancumann.org) and on Facebook

## *Irish Smells*

Saint Mary's University Chair of Irish Studies D'Arcy McGee Lecture

Thursday, March 1st, at 7:00 pm

Ireland reeked throughout the nineteenth century from the pages of English representation.

The reputed stench of its cabins, cesspools, and dungheaps became a shameful index of national backwardness and the essential mark of Irish olfactory identity. In response to the odor of primitiveness that clung to them also, Ireland's rising middle classes set about a program of national decontamination. Led by the emblematic figure of native Victorian propriety, the Catholic priest, this modernizing class carried the mantras of civility and hygiene to the countryside and the rural home, imposing upon a recalcitrant peasantry a new, "enlightened," olfactory register predicated on an intolerance of traditional odors.

The groundwork for this transformation was the castigation of Ireland's domestic cottage by English observers and, in particular, the metonymic substitution of the peasantry's pigs for Irish national character – a discursive reordering that, though it encountered resistance from a peasantry devoted to an old Gaelic order of sensory values, was completed and even sanctified by a Catholic Church bent on producing modern, disciplined subjects. The smells of everyday life, as a result, took on new meanings. This paper examines Irish and British literary and historical texts around the turn of the twentieth century to uncover that meaning and expose the role of olfaction in the production of the peculiar Gaelo-Catholic ideology of domesticity that until recent decades governed rural Ireland.

Come join Dr. Joseph Nugent from Boston College as he dives into this matter at the Sobey Theatre, Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

## *Crossroads Ceili!*

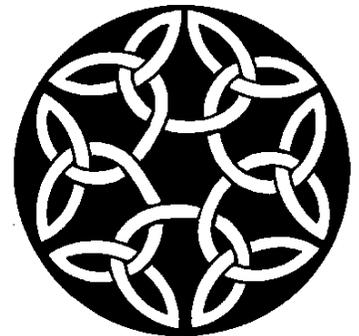
Back by popular demand and just in time for St Patrick's Day, it's the Crossroads Ceili!

Join us March 3, 7:00 pm, at St Thomas Aquinas Church hall, 6350 Cornwall Street, Halifax.

This is an all ages event featuring some of the city's finest Celtic musicians (Kevin Roach, Glenn Coolen, Jane Lombard, Mark Currie), easy set, ceili and two-hand dances with instruction from Elizabeth MacDonald and Colleen Putt, performances from the Diaga Irish Dancers, and more! Last year's event was filled to capacity, so mark it on your calendar. Snacks and beverages available.

Admission \$10 / \$8 students and children.

Proudly sponsored by An Cumann: The Irish Association of Nova Scotia





**An Cumann / The Irish Association of Nova Scotia**

**22nd Annual**

# **St. Patrick's Day Céilí**

**Saturday, March 17, 2012**

**6:30 pm**

**St. Thomas Aquinas Church Hall**

**6350 Cornwall Street, Halifax**

**(near corner of Oxford and Jubilee)**

Irish stew, Irish music, dancing and singing.

To order tickets or for further information  
call 479-1110 or 240-5278.

**Tickets**

**Adults \$15.00 (\$20. at the door)**

**Children \$5.00**