

COUNTY CARLOW ASSOCIATION LONDON

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NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2007

Greetings to everyone and hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and New Year. With Spring upon us already, it's now a very busy time for our Committee as we prepare for the months ahead.

St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival - Sunday 18th March 2007

Mass will be celebrated in The Irish Centre, Camden Sq., London NW1 at 8.30am followed by a full Irish breakfast. The mass is being organised by the Council of Irish Counties Association and will be attended by a representative from the Irish Embassy. A Harpist has been engaged for the occasion. The breakfast costs £6 and is by ticket only, purchased in advance from Maura on 020 88863967 or directly from the Irish Centre. A bus will be available to take people to the parade line-up.

We hope many of you will be joining us on the Parade behind the Carlow Banner (better still if you are willing to help carry it) as this year some of our Association Members are celebrating St. Patrick's Day elsewhere, but will be with us in spirit and wish us all the best. We will form our line up on Park Lane, Southbound kerbside (Hilton Hotel side) at 11.00 am. All groups must march in numerical order and **Carlow has been allocated No. 23. The parade starts promptly at 12.00 pm. so don't be late or you will miss the CRAIC !**

The events of the Festival Week are widely advertised and there should be something for everyone: from traditional to classical, from Art and Crafts to Bord Bia. The Irish Film Festival at the Prince Charles Theatre, Leicester Sq. is between 2.30 and 6pm on Sunday 18th and is free but remember it will be first come first served. For those interested the following are some links to details on the IFF.

http://www.viewlondon.co.uk/irish-film-festival_index.html

http://www.london.gov.uk/view_press_release.jsp?releaseid=11036

It may be worth noting:-

The Federation of Irish Societies Health Bus will provide a range of information and advice on health related issues. Eithne Rynne, Director of FIS is a Rathvilly native and a member of our association.

How ever you spend the day, have a great **`La Feile Pdraigh`**

Our Annual General Meeting (2007)

Our AGM will be held on **Tuesday 3rd April at 8pm** at The Irish Centre, 50-52 Camden Sq. London NW1. Holding our AGM on a weekday evening proved convenient last year and we thought we would try it again rather than the traditional Sunday afternoon meeting. If you have any views on this please let us know. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible on 3rd April.

`Follow me up to Carlow`

An evening of Music, Dance, Song, Stories and Buffet

Join us for a good old `Hooley` at the D.O.B. (Done Our Bit) CLUB, Maygrove Road, NW6 on **Friday 11th May. Put the date in your diary, a great night is sure to be had by all !**

Further information and tickets @ £8 available from:

Margaret Doyle 0207 978 4643

Claire Sturley 0207 609 4650

Catherina Clarke 07789 226734

For the past few years we have held a very successful Buffet Dance at Greenford. We thank everyone in that area who supported us and made the evening so enjoyable. However, we feel it is time to bring the event closer to other members, for a change, but of course we still hope as many of you as possible will travel to NW6 as the Craic would not be the same without you all and your continued support to the Association is so very much appreciated.

Irish Festivals- Summer 2007

As usual the County Carlow Association London (CCAL) will be having a stall at the **Southwark Irish Festival on Sunday 1st July** at Peckham Rye Common, SE15.

A great line-up of entertainment is in store including our very own, home grown, Richie Kavanagh. If you want to help on our stall, and we do need volunteers, please get in touch. Or if you are there just to enjoy the day out, please call to the stall and say hello, you will be most welcome.

The Crawley Irish Festival is the only place to be on the August Bank Holiday week-end. Last year over 10,000 people attended and at least 22 of those were Carlow people. I know because as Chair, I was there and I met them all. It was worth the trip down to West Sussex where we set up our CCAL stall alongside Ned Dunbar's ever-growing collection of rare old `Paraphernalia` ranging from fire bellows to washing boards. A sight to see ! Well worth a visit for a guided tour down memory lane.

We hope to see some of you for a great day out in **Crawley on Sunday 26th August**. Our vice-chair John Nolan is doing a great job as Chairperson of Crawley's Celtic and Irish Cultural Society. More details www.celtic-irish.co.uk

Our Annual Dinner Dance

It seems like no time since last year's Dinner Dance which was a great success. Thanks to everyone who joined us and helped to make the evening so enjoyable for us all. Our Dinner Dance this year will take place on **Saturday 13th October**, as usual, at The Irish Centre, Camden Sq, NW1.

Further details will be available at a later date.

`Click me up to Carlow`.....

www.carlowassociationlondon.co.uk

We're almost there and we look forward to the new inter-action that having a web site will afford to all CCAL members, their families and friends.

With more and more of us and our family going on-line, if you have access to a computer why not email us and we can then send you your E-Newsletter. (saving us some time and money). Email the Chair, Claire Nolan-Sturley at carlowlondon@yahoo.co.uk

If like so many, you don't have a clue about what you have just read, then please don't worry, we will still be using Royal Mail and will always be at the end of a telephone.

Dates to Remember for your Diary:

St Patrick's Day Parade	Sunday 18 th March
Annual General Meeting	Tuesday, 3 rd April 2007 at 8.00 pm
`Follow me up to Carlow` Buffet/Dance & Entertainment Music	Friday 11 th May
Southwark Irish Festival	Sunday 1 st July
Crawley Irish Festival	Sunday 26 th August
39 th Annual Dinner Dance	Saturday 13 th October

100+ Club

We are still running our 100+ club. We now have 11 monthly draws for just £1 per month or be in for the 11 monthly draws for £10.00 if paid in advance. 50% of takings go in prizes and 50% goes to our Welfare Fund. You can join at anytime. Just contact our Secretary, Catherina, or if you think you can get others to join, let her know and she will send you a card to complete.

Membership of our Association

To those of you who are not Life Members, check that your yearly subscription is not overdue.

£5.00 per family per year.

Alternatively for a one-off payment of **£25.00 you and your family can have Life Membership.**

Don't forget you have to have been a paid up member by 1st Jan 2007. in order to be eligible to vote at the AGM.

Just fill in the attached form and return to the Chairperson at the above address.

County Carlow Association London

Membership Form

NAME: -----

ADDRESS: -----

Tel/Mobile: -----

Email: -----

Townslnd or Parish in Carlow : -----

Membership Fee: £5.00 per annum. Life Membership: £25.00

Cheques payable to : Co.Carlow Association London