

Bealtaine 2011 Maig

NUAcht na hÉireann

Queen Elizabeth II to Visit Republic of Ireland, May 17 - 20th

Accepting an invitation from **President Mary McAleese** of Ireland, **Queen Elizabeth II** will be the first British monarch to make an historic visit to the Irish republic.

Her trip of four days includes visiting sites revered by Ireland's citizens: **Croke Park, a ceremony at the Garden Of Remembrance** (see article on Pg. 5), **a visit with Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Trinity College Dublin, National War Memorial Gardens, National Stud Horse in Co. Kildare, Co. Cork, the Guinness Storehouse, a state dinner in Dublin Castle, and a visit to the Rock of Cashel.**



On April 12th, **GAA President Christy Cooney** asked all boards to refrain from commenting on the Queen's trip. All press releases would be forthcoming from him at GAA headquarters at Croke Park (see Pg. 2). **Former GAA President Peter Quinn** of Co. Fermanagh and former member of the Northern Ireland Parades Commission in Ulster stated in an **RTÉ Radio** interview the following:

"... as I said the Ulster clubs are very realistic and know when change is necessary the same as the rest of the island does. I know a lot of people consider the GAA to be very conservative, but when major decisions were made, we took those decisions when they were right. The same applies now.

The queen is coming at the invitation of the President of Ireland, who came (herself) from a part of North Belfast that was heavily deprived and where there was a very great volume and depth of feeling and hurt. She became either the first or the second member of the GAA club at Queen's. Her husband (Dr. Martin McAleese) played GAA for his university and school, his club and his county. They know the GAA inside out.

*"I don't think it's a question of what the queen says. The queen is making a very symbolic gesture in going first of all to the **Garden of Remembrance**, which I think is probably the greatest icon of our military and political past, and coming to **Croke Park**, which . . . I believe is probably the most important icon in our culture and sport.*

"She's visiting them – that's not by accident; it's possibly at the prompting of the President – but I am quite prepared to accept that if President McAleese and her husband, Martin, think this is good for Ireland and good for the GAA, I'm quite prepared to accept that."

- - **Former GAA President Peter Quinn of Co. Fermanagh, No. Ireland**

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Teach Tábhairne FÓGRA

Pub Notice

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Mary Lou McDonald TD, Vice President of Sinn Féin, stated that there would be no confrontational demonstrations nor picketing of any of the locations in the program by Sinn Féin. McDonald stated:

“People are entitled to welcome the Queen of England, people are equally open to protest but the one common thing has to be that this has to be dignified, democratic and non-confrontational... on a human level, of course, nobody wishes to be unnecessarily confrontational for the sake of it, but state visits are political, there’s politics in this and the politics of this is: putting the cart before the horse. We’re not there yet and it’s premature.”

The visit to Croke Park by the Queen will be an historic event. The original park was the scene of what was to become known as **“Bloody Sunday”** on the **21 November 1920**. At an afternoon gaelic football match, ‘Black and Tans’ entered the park in armored vehicles and opened fire on unarmed civilian sports fans in the stadium killing 14, and wounding 65. The ‘Black and Tans’ were a vigilante group of ex-British WWI veterans who terrorized the Irish people. They stormed into homes at will, and had a license to kill. **British monarch King George V** found their actions repulsive and in **May 1921** became their greatest critic, calling on his own government to end ‘Black and Tan’ terror in Ireland.

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PRESS RELEASE

GAA Headquarters
President Christy Cooney
8 April 2011



“The Gaelic Athletic Association has for well over a hundred years embodied and taken its stand with the mood of the nation, culturally, socially and politically.

*In unity with our players, administrators and supporters throughout the island and abroad, we were strongly committed advocates of the peace process, and we have welcomed, supported and celebrated the developing reconciliation which has resulted from the **Good Friday Agreement** and its endorsement by the people, North and South, in referenda. We now welcome the further development of this process, and the consequential deepening of relationships, which will flow from the invitation by President McAleese to Queen Elizabeth to pay a State visit to Ireland.*

The GAA is pleased to have been asked to receive Queen Elizabeth, accompanied by President McAleese, at our headquarters in Croke Park and to showcase our stadium and facilities to the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and their accompanying party. We believe that this request reflects and acknowledges the special place of the GAA in the life and history of the nation. We are confident that this historic visit to Croke Park will be welcomed by those who play, administer and support our games, at home and abroad, including of course throughout Britain. We hope also that it will encourage a greater interest and participation in our games by our fellow Irishmen and women of the Unionist tradition.

*The visit to Croke Park will provide the Uachtarán of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael with the opportunity to convey to the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh a sense of the history and values of the Gaelic Athletic Association, and its unique and leading place in Irish society. In the best traditions of our Association, we will extend a warm welcome to Croke Park - a **Céad Míle Fáilte** - to **Queen Elizabeth** and the **Duke of Edinburgh**, accompanied by the **President and Dr. McAleese.**”*

Teach Tábhairne Fógra

Pub Notice

MICHAEL  COLLINS
PIPES & DRUMS



Denver St. Patrick's Day Parade "Best Pipe Band Entry Award" for 2011

The Denver St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee at their annual Awards Banquet held on April 17th, gave the honor of "Best Pipe Band Entry" Award in the Denver parade for 2011 - to the AOH Michael Collins Pipes and Drums - <http://www.michaelcollinspb.com/>



(l-r) Chieftain Jim Murphy, Drum Major David Bonham, Pipe Major Jay Leasure, and bagpiper Tim McKeown accepted the award on behalf of the band. Also in the photo are 2011 Queen Colleen Keriayn O'Donnell, President David "Doc" Powell and Sally Baumann - of the Denver St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.

In its 15-year history the MCPB has won this award **6 times**. The band considers this award to be one of the most coveted annual awards by all regional pipe bands, and is proud to represent the Parade Committee as their *official* pipe band.

Since 1996, the AOH Michael Collins Pipes & Drums has been Colorado's premier traditional

Irish pipe band. Named after the father of the Irish Republic and the Michael Collins Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the band keeps close ties with both Colorado's Irish community as well as the tradition of playing Irish pipe music. Recently, the MCPB announced it will honor past and present members by releasing a list of 'band' awards won statewide throughout the years. *Teach Tábhairne Fógra* plans to bring you that list in the future.

As a Grade 4 member of the **Western United States Pipe Band Association (WUSPBA)**, the band has also been preparing for the upcoming "competition season" that begins soon for most pipe bands.

Photos by Ken Hannon Larson



Teach Tábhairne FÓGRA

Pub Notice

Colorado Tartan Day



On April 9th, Colorado Tartan Day events were held in McIlvoy Park in Olde Town Arvada. This was the “**most successful Tartan Day event to date**”, according to *Cory Waggoner*, *President* of Colorado Tartan Day Council. The park was full of clans, vendors and entertainment groups. As the morning clouds gave way to sunshine, crowds started to fill the park to capacity. Here are a few photos.



[L] Valerie of Clan Cunningham wearing the Colorado Tartan
[C] Larry Hay, Chieftain, St. Andrew Society of Colorado
[R] Ken Hannon Larson, President - Uachtarán
Clann Ó hAnnáin-O'Hannon



[L] Carl 'Monty' Waggoner, Colorado Commissioner
Clan Campbell Society North America
[R] Ken Hannon Larson, President - Uachtarán
Clann Ó hAnnáin-O'Hannon



[L] Edwin Bomgardner, Region 9 Commissioner
Clan Campbell Society North America
[C] Cory Waggoner, President
Colorado Tartan Day Council
[R] Carl 'Monty' Waggoner, Colorado Commissioner
Clan Campbell Society North America



[L] Annalee White, Colorado Commissioner
Clan Mackay Society USA
[R] Carmen Mendoza, member Clan Mackay
[Missing from photo]
James White
Rocky Mountain Regional VP
Clan Mackay Society USA

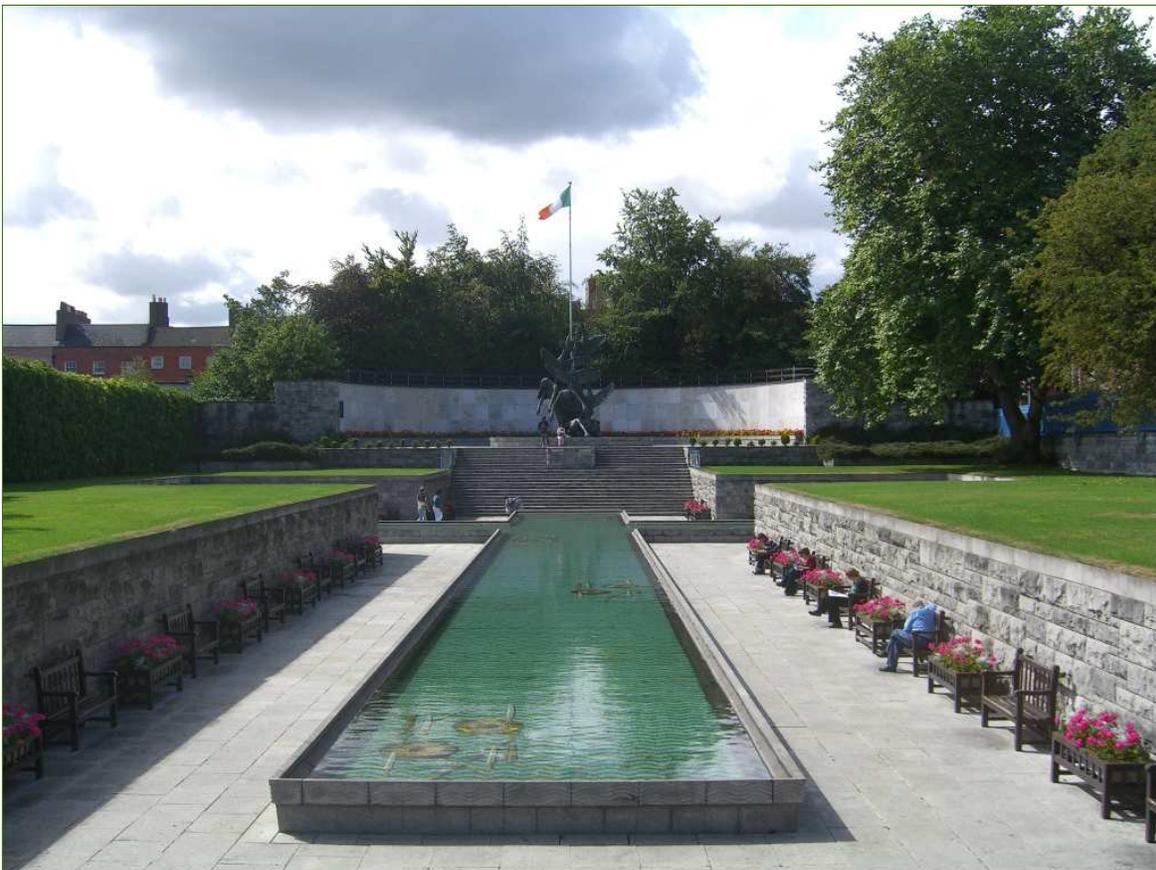
Photos by Ken Hannon Larson

Garden Of Remembrance

Located at the northern end of Parnell Square at the end of O'Connell Street in north central Dublin, is one of Ireland's most peaceful and yet quietly powerful locations, the *Garden Of Remembrance*. It is a location where several men of the Rising of 1916 were temporarily held before their transfer to Kilmainham Gaol (Jail). The Memorial was designed by Dáithí Hanly of Dublin, and dedicated by former *President Éamon de Valera in 1966* upon the 50th Anniversary of the Easter Rising. The dedication was to the "memory of all those who gave their lives in the cause of Irish Freedom".

1798 - Rebellion of the United Irishmen (union of Munster Catholics and Ulster Protestants)
1848 - Rebellion of Young Ireland Movement
1867 - Rising of the Fenian Brotherhood
1916 - Easter Rising of the Irish Volunteers & the Irish Citizen Army
1919 to 1921 - Irish War of Independence

The design is in the form of a sunken cross 'water feature' with a statue of the Irish mythological legend of the *Children of Lir* who were changed into swans by their evil stepmother. Within the cross, are tile mosaics of "broken Celtic weapons" which historically & symbolically were thrown into a river after battles were won, and hostilities ended. Today, people come here to sit and reflect. (continued on Page 6)



Garden Of Remembrance

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Tile mosaic of "Broken Celtic Weapons"



The *Garden of Remembrance* is one of the first sites Queen Elizabeth II plans to visit while on her state visit to Ireland in May.

In **1976**, a contest was held seeking a poem to represent the inspiration of Ireland's struggle for freedom. *Liam Mac Uistin (Huston)* of Dublin wrote this winning poem for the ***Garden of Remembrance***.

We Saw A Vision

In the Darkness of Despair we saw a Vision.
We lit the Light of Hope, and it was not extinguished.

In the Desert of Discouragement we saw a Vision.
We planted the Tree of Valour, and it blossomed.

In the Winter of Bondage we saw a Vision.
We melted the Snow of Lethargy, and the River of Resurrection flowed from it.
We sent our Vision a swim like a Swan on the River, the Vision became a Reality.
Winter became Summer, Bondage became Freedom.

And this we left to You as your Inheritance.
O Generation of Freedom remember Us, the Generation of the Vision.

Teach Tábhairne FÓGRA

Pub Notice



IRISH
CULTURAL
CENTRE

21st Annual - Boston Irish Festival June 17 - 19, 2011

The **Irish Cultural Centre** of Canton, MA and the **Boston Irish Festival** have announced the festival dates for 2011. A new website has also been released (<http://www.bostonirishfestival.info/>) where you can find information on the upcoming festival. That particular weekend is "**Fathers Day**" weekend and the festival organizers hope to see families come and enjoy their heritage. Also released is their new Facebook webpage (<http://www.facebook.com/bostonirishfest>) where updates are found. ICC members receive a reduced rate for festival tickets, and invitations for cultural events at the centre.

UPDATES: Entertainment includes '**Screaming Orphans**', '**Glengarry Bhoys**', '**Derek Warfield & the Young Wolf Tones**', '**Joshua Tree**' - with more to come! **GAA Schedule** to be posted **May 1st!**



Colorado Emerald Society

P.O. Box 40211

Denver, Colorado 80204

Law Enforcement Officers - Fire Fighters - Public Safety Personnel

"Sharing the Irish Spirit"

The Colorado Emerald Society is a social organization of law enforcement officers and fire fighters of Irish descent. They share their Irish ancestry and give support to Irish influence in public safety since the beginning of our Nation (*two *signers of the Declaration of Independence were of Irish descent*). CES promotes college education and awards scholarships to young men and women who are dedicated to improving their lives through education.

The **11th Annual Colorado Emerald Society Golf Tournament** will be held **June 6th, 2011** at **Highlands Ranch Golf Club**. All proceeds from the tournament support young men and women who are attending college and need financial assistance. If you would like to contribute as a sponsor or a player, please contact Bob Clair at clairbob1@earthlink.net (**Thomas Lynch and Charles Carroll*)

An Beathaisnéis - Biography

(Editor's Note: *Irish Roots Magazine* recently caught up with **Brian Dennehy**, the Irish-American born actor who was appearing in a play in Dublin entitled "The Field" written by John B. Keane. Dennehy's role was 'Bull McCabe', a man tilling the land of a widow and hoping some day to own land for himself. Dennehy's paternal grandparents came from Co. Cork & his maternal grandmother came from Co. Waterford. Brian Dennehy was born in Connecticut and graduated from Chaminade H.S. on Long Island in 1956, and then attended Columbia Univ. and later Yale University's school of dramatic arts. Now in his 70s, his acting career includes movies and theatrical roles. Part of the interview between Brian Dennehy and Julie Phibbs appears below. - - Ken)

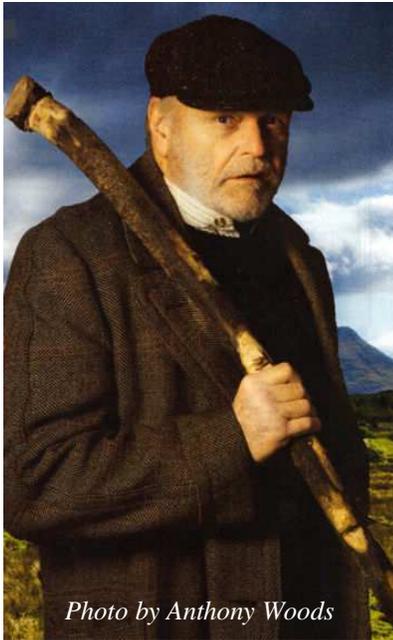


Photo by Anthony Woods

Julie Phibbs: You have just finished playing the lead role in John B. Keane's play 'The Field' in Dublin recently, how did you enjoy playing that role?

Brian Dennehy: It's very interesting, I mean to me at my age, I can't say that anything is fun anymore, you know 20 or 30 years ago it was fun to do this stuff, its work, but it's interesting work. This was a tricky one because Bull is an iconic figure in recent Irish literary history and he is, it seems, very recognizable on the part of the audience, they get this story, they get this character, they get the other characters in the village and they certainly enjoy the humor but they are also pretty fascinated by the character of this totally self absorbed human being who is complicated for example by his love for nature, his love for the field, his love if you will for the flora and fauna of Ireland.

Julie: Looking back over your life and career what is the greatest life lesson that you think that you have learned?

Brian: Well I don't know, there is only one lesson to learn and I hope that everybody learns it sooner or later, which is to try to take care of the people that you love.

Julie: How would you most like to be remembered by your family, friends and fans?

Brian: The fact of the matter is most people aren't remembered very long after their dead, which is one of the things 'Bull McCabe' said and it's true. Life is what you do while your living it. A friend of mine once said, it all seems so damn important, you are worried about this and you are worried about that but one minute after you are dead, you are not worried anymore. In response to your question, I have no idea, I'm sure I will be promptly forgotten by the vast majority of people, even the ones I know and that's as it should be.

Julie: Finally Brian, just one last question - what does your "Irish Roots" mean to you?

Brian: It all kind of adds up to who you are, I think the thing that I probably got right in terms of who I was born and why I was born is *sensitivity*. I mean there are a hell of a lot of Irish men who are not sensitive at all but the ones who are, are extremely sensitive, aware and knowledgeable about the possibilities of a more complicated way of living other than just getting and having. Certainly my grandfather was not a part of that experience but the whole general Irish tradition of writing, thinking, music and a kind of appreciation of life for what it is, not what it is not. I think I got that and for that I'm grateful.

Teach Tábhairne FÓGRA

Pub Notice



DENVER GAELS GAA CLUB

15th ANNIVERSARY



The Denver Gaels get to kick things off this month by scheduling practices for football and hurling. Then its off to **Albuquerque New Mexico** for the **23rd Rio Grande Celtic Festival** the weekend of **May 21st-22nd**.

The month of June sees the Denver Gaels off to the west coast to participate in the **Seattle Gaelic Games**, the weekend of **June 4-5th** to compete against other GAA clubs.

In between practice and their visits out of state ... they host the **Denver Irish Football League** at home. This is a co-ed football league that takes place from **May 6th through July 1st**.

For more information on the Denver Gaels GAA Club, please visit their website:

<http://www.denvergaels.com/>



Charlie and Jan Cox of Parnell's Irish Cobs have announced they are after six years cutting back on their breeding program to concentrate on driving horses. They are offering their "Irish Born" mares **Cahir** and **Nuala** at reasonable prices. The full story can be found here:

<http://www.parnellsirishcobs.com/index.htm>



They recently have been acquiring more antique driving carts to add to their collection begun by the Bowtop Traveler wagon originally purchased in Ireland. On the left is their 'new' antique **Irish Jaunting Car**, similar to the one in John Ford's 1952 movie, "*The Quiet Man*".

On the right is **Si-gaoithe**, born on April 13, 2011. She is for sale, \$10,250. See their full list of Irish Cob horses on their website.



Charlie and Jan live on their ranch, the "**Irish Rose**", located in Fort Collins, Colorado. They have participated in regional parades and attended local festivals with their Irish Cobs and driving vehicles.

Editor: Ken Hannon Larson

Email: cainnech@clanhannon.com

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