



# Irish Music & Dance Association

March  
2016  
Márta

34rd Year, Issue No. 3

The mission of the IRISH MUSIC AND DANCE ASSOCIATION IS TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE IRISH MUSIC, DANCE, AND OTHER CULTURAL TRADITIONS TO INSURE THEIR CONTINUATION.

## 35 Years of Tradition – IMDA's St. Patrick's Day Irish Celebration

Did those devoted lovers of Irish music who organized the first St. Patrick's Day concert at Landmark Center in 1983 imagine that they were starting something so exciting? That concert was the beginning of what would become the Irish Music and Dance Association. The celebration has grown into a two-day celebration of the best of our local traditional musicians and dancers, beginning this year on St. Patrick's Day and continuing with IMDA's Day of Irish Dance on Sunday, March 20.

Traditional music is in the spotlight all day long. Local favorite **Legacy** will have you humming and singing along. **The HiBs** will set your toes to tapping. **Locklin Road's** traditional and original songs will intrigue you. Folk-rock and roots music from the **Hounds of Finn** will have your heart racing. Ancient traditional melodies from **Clairseach** will tug at your Irish heart. **Northern Gael's** unique complement of music on pipes, guitar, fiddle and vocals with dance will delight young and old. The wonderful young musicians from the **Center for Irish Music's Advanced Youth Ensemble** will amaze you! And there's nothing like the music of the **Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band** to raise the rafters.



If you love Irish dance, you will find lots to love on St. Patrick's Day! Dancers from **Biddies Galore with Little Buds**, **Corda Mór Irish Dance**, **Eilís Academy at Escalate**, **Green Fire Irish Dancers**, **Mactír Academy**, **Knocknagow Irish Dancers**, **Mooncoin Céili Dancers**, **O'Shea Irish Dance**, **Rince na Chroi**, and **St. Paul Irish Dancers** will delight and amaze you.

The Tea Room is the place to go for a quiet respite – as well as a cup of tea, a treat and some great traditional music from **Rúpúláí** (Gaelic harp, flute, concertina, guitar, vocals), the **Bellows Brothers** (uilleann pipes and accordion), **Dunquin** (traditional and original tunes on piano, flute and whistle) and the **CIM Starling Ensemble**. New to the Tea Room this year – **Hannah Flowers** (harp and song, in English and Irish), **InishMohr** (traditional tunes on a variety of instruments and a few ballads), and **SisterTree** (harmonies on fiddle, mandolin, guitar and voices).



The Seminar Room is the spot for a bit of learning. Learn about the history and importance of the Gaelic harp from **Ann Heymann**, learn a bit of Irish for tourists from **Gaeltacht MN**, and learn about Irish songs from the 1916 Irish Rebellion with **Legacy**.

There are special activities planned to delight the little ones. The Children's Area on the second floor has great craft activities. The Children's Stage on the lower level has special entertainment just for them - dancing with **Mooncoin Céili Dancers**, playing out stories with **Sir Gustav Doc'Tain**, and songs and games from **Common Chord**. And don't forget face painting!

You'll find great shopping in the Celtic Marketplace, and there are plenty of refreshments available. Enjoy a beer at the bar and a sandwich at Anita's Café or the IMDA sandwich booth.

So make your way to Landmark Center on March 17 for the best St. Patrick's Day Celebration this side of Dublin!

IMDA has a full day of "all things Irish" to celebrate a grand St. Patrick's Day!

See you at Landmark Center. Check out the schedule on our website ([www.IrishMusicandDanceAssociation.org](http://www.IrishMusicandDanceAssociation.org)) to be sure of seeing your favorite music and dance groups.



# Irish Music & Dance Association

## Tune of the Month by Amy Shaw

Last month I shared a tune from Méabh Ní Bheaglaoich, an accordion player from West Kerry who has released a duo album with guitarist Matt Griffin called *Cuisle*. I've been working on so many tunes from this recording, I figured I might as well give you a couple more. These slides are standard fare in Kerry. In fact, you might even hear 20-minute medleys of slides in some sessions there, particularly if Méabh's father, Séamus Begley, is around! There seem to be two different slides called *The Hare in the Corn* – this is the one that I don't remember hearing in our local sessions. The second slide, *Sleamhnán Shéamuis*, is Méabh's version of *My Love in the Morning*.



*Usual disclaimers: Any transcription errors are my own. The notation here is not meant to be a substitute for listening. It is simply an aid to learning the tune.*

### The IMDA Board is:

President:	Julia Rogers
Vice President:	Jan Casey
Treasurer:	Mark Malone
Secretary:	Ciara Reynolds
Board Members:	John Concannon
	Kevin Carroll
	Kathie Luby
	Kathleen Rogers

Editor: John Burns

IMDA Board Meetings are open to the membership. The Board meets regularly on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Dubliner Pub in St. Paul. Members are encouraged to verify the time and location shortly before, as meeting times and locations can change.

### Contact Information

E-mail: [info@irishmusicanddanceassociation.org](mailto:info@irishmusicanddanceassociation.org)

### Newsletter Submissions

We welcome our readers to submit articles of interest, news, and notices of events to be published in the newsletter. The deadline is the 20th of the preceding month.

Send to: [editor@irishmusicanddanceassociation.org](mailto:editor@irishmusicanddanceassociation.org)

## The Hare in the Corn



## Sleamhnán Shéamuis



Notes: Méabh Ní Bheaglaoich (accordion) & Matt Griffin, *Cuisle* (2015), track 1



# Irish Music & Dance Association

3

## The Gaelic Corner

By Will Kenny

As I write this column, most of the water I encounter outdoors is as hard as a rock. We're in the middle of a severe cold snap. But by the time this is published, we'll be in a thaw.

And before you know it, we'll be into spring and somewhere around Minnesota they'll be talking about the possibility of floods.

A "flood" is *tuile* in Irish, plural *tuilte*. It is used much as you would expect. Applied to Minnesota, we might say, "*Tá an abhainn ag tuile*," that is, "*the river is flooding*."

It is also used in other expressions that seem fairly straightforward. You can have a "flood of rain" (*tuile bháistí*) or "downpour," and a "flood of tears" (*tuile dheor*). You might be on the receiving end of a "flood of abuse" (*tuile ahasán*). A woman might keep a steady flood of words babbling away all the time, so we'd say of her, "*Tá an tuile shí as a béal ar fad*."

But while we think of floods as river events in Minnesota, in Ireland, *tuile* is more often used to refer to conditions near the sea. And that brings up the interesting word *trá*. *Trá* is one of the words we use for "beach."

Sometimes people will casually use the word *cladach* to mean "beach," but *cladach* really refers to "the shore." *Duirling* is also a word for "beach," but it is only used for stony beaches, not sandy ones. If you are thinking of the beautiful sandy beach you see in vacation advertisements, that's *trá*. (You'll find this word in the name of the town *Trá Lí*, or Tralee, the "beach of the river Lee.") *Ar an trá tirim*, "on the dry beach," is how we leave someone "high and dry" in Irish.

There's a saying, *Ní thig leis an ngobadán an dá thrá a fhreastal*, that means, "The sandpiper cannot attend two beaches (at one time)." It expresses the observation that one cannot be everywhere, or attend to everything, at once.

*Ar an trá thall* translates literally "on yonder beach," but it is used to mean "beyond the grave."

When the tide is in, that's *tuile*, our "flood" word. When the tide goes out, it exposes the beach, or *trá*, and so *trá* is also used in the sense of "ebb tide." We say *trá agus tuile* for "ebb and flow."

We also use *trá* in that "ebb" sense in ways that do not match English usage. For instance, *trá tobair* is the "drying up of a well."

More figuratively, *trá* is used for other instances where something abates. *Bhí a mhisneach ag trá* means, "his courage was running out." Or, *Tá mo neart tráite* to express, "my strength is exhausted." Similarly, *trá* is involved when someone's anger passes.

In its original "sandy beach" meaning, there's a saying, *cnuasach trá a bhreith go hInse*. This translates "to bear a collection of sandy beach to Inch." As Inch is famous for its beaches, this is how the Irish say, "carrying coals to Newcastle."

We won't leave you "high and dry" when it comes to the Irish language. We're currently planning our annual Spring Workshop, a one-day event that is perfect for beginners. We're working on scheduling details, but it will be held on one of the Saturdays in April. Keep an eye on our web site at [www.gaelminn.org](http://www.gaelminn.org) for details, or subscribe to the *GaelMinn Gazette* from our home page. That's a monthly e-newsletter that carries announcements of events, along with tips for learning the language.

*Níl tuile dá mhéad nach dtránn*

"No flood, however great, does not ebb," that is, "Nothing can last forever."

—Will





# Irish Music & Dance Association

4

## “Flying into the Song-Filled Air” Irish Dancers Take Center Stage

Sunday, March 20 at the Landmark Center in St. Paul marks the fourteenth year that IMDA has devoted an entire day to showcasing the richness of Irish dance in the Twin Cities. This year, more than 500 dancers from eleven Irish dance schools and performance groups will dazzle our audience for *IMDA’s Day of Irish Dance*.

Featured this year are dancers from:

- Eilís Academy at Escalate**, directed by Liz Hines, TCRG
- Green Fire Irish Dancers**, directed by Ed Koehne and Elaine Murray
- Mactír Academy of Irish Dance**, directed by Emily Wolff, TCRG
- Mulhern School of Irish Dance**, directed by Coleen Mulhern Malloy, TCRG and Eileen Mulhern O’Kane, TCRG
- North Star Irish Dancers**, directed by Beth Pitchford
- O’Shea Irish Dance**, directed by Cormac O’Sé, TCRG
- Rince na Chroi Irish Dance**, directed by Katie Stephens Spangler
- Rince Nua Irish Dance**, directed by Erin Cooney, OCDRN
- St. Paul Irish Dancers**, directed by Eileen Dahill
- Shamrock School of Irish Step Dance**, directed by Rachel Knutson, TCRG



**Lóma Mór Irish Dance Club** will present a demonstration of sean nós (old style) dance. Adult dancers from five of these schools will be in the spotlight in their own showcase -

**Rinceoirí Fásta Ag Fás Fós** (Grown Dancers Growing Still).

IMDA will present its **Decade of Dance Awards** on the *Day of Irish Dance*, honoring dancers who have spent ten years studying and performing. IMDA is delighted to recognize the dancers who have made this significant commitment to Irish dance and who serve as outstanding ambassadors for Irish culture.

IMDA is pleased to welcome back the Twin Cities’ own Celtic theatre troupe, **the Celtic Collaborative**. Actors from the Collaborative will present “*The Ghosts of 1916 Speak*,” a collection of poetry and dramatic scenes highlighting the 1916 Irish Rebellion. The Celtic Collaborative will also present authors reading from “*The Harp and the Loon Anthology*,” recently published by **the Celtic Collaborative**.

Check out the schedule on our website  
([www.IrishMusicandDanceAssociation.org](http://www.IrishMusicandDanceAssociation.org))  
to be sure of seeing your favorite Irish dancers.



# Irish Music & Dance Association

5

## St. Patrick's Day 2016 Thursday, March 17

### Minneapolis

- ▲ **Thistledown – St. Patrick's Day Party**  
Noon  
St. Olaf Catholic Church, 215 S 8<sup>th</sup> St
- ▲ **Erin Rogue – Noon**  
**Broken Spoke – 9:00 pm**
- Kieran's Irish Pub, 601 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N**
- ▲ **Erin Rogue – 3:30 pm**  
**Minnesota Pipes & Drums – 4:30 pm**  
**Four Pints Shy – 7:00 pm**
- Keegan's Irish Pub, 16 University Ave NE**
- ▲ **Minneapolis St. Patrick's Day Parade –**  
6:30 pm
- Nicollet Mall**
- ▲ **Boiled in Lead with SisterTree – 7:30pm**  
**The Cedar, 416 Cedar Ave**



### IMDA's St. Patrick's Day Irish Celebration

10 AM to 5 PM  
Landmark Center, St. Paul  
Complete schedule at  
[www.IMDA-MN.org/stpatricksday.html](http://www.IMDA-MN.org/stpatricksday.html)

### St. Paul

- ▲ **St. Paul St. Patrick's Day Parade – noon**  
Downtown
- ▲ **Tom Dahill & Ginny Johnson – 11:00 am**  
**SisterTree – 2:00 pm**  
**Tiller Black – 5:00 pm**  
**The Irish Brigade – 8:00 pm**  
Dubliner Pub, 2162 University Ave W
- ▲ **Dunquin – 6:00 – 8:00 pm**  
Trotter's Café/Bakery, 232 Cleveland Ave
- ▲ **The Irish Brigade – 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm**  
Half Time Rec, 1013 Front St
- ▲ **St. Patrick's Day Irish Dance with music**  
by the Twin Cities Céili Band – 7:00 pm  
The Celtic Junction, 836 Prior Ave N
- ▲ **Annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Céili**  
Dance with music by Barra – 7:00 pm  
CSPS Hall, 383 Michigan Ave

### Stillwater

- ▲ **Paul and Lorraine – 3:00 pm**  
**The Jolly Groggers – 7:30 pm**
- Charlie's Irish Pub, 101 Water St S**
- ▲ **Broken Spoke – 3:30 pm**  
**The Hounds of Finn – 7:00 pm**  
Water Street Inn, 101 Water St S

### Western Suburbs

- ▲ **The Holy Ground – 2:00 pm**  
**Irish Dancers – 6:30 pm**  
**The Tim Malloys – 7:00 pm onward**
- Kip's Irish Pub, 9970 Wayzata Blvd, St. Louis Park**

### Outstate

- ▲ **Poitin – 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm**  
**Dempsey's Public House, 226 Broadway N, Fargo, ND**



# Irish Music & Dance Association

6

## The Alan Kelly Gang kicks off American tour at The Celtic Junction



Critically acclaimed traditional Irish music band from the west of Ireland and Scotland, **The Alan Kelly Gang** kicks off their nine city American tour in Saint Paul on **March 4** at The Celtic Junction. Fronted by Ireland's piano accordion maestro, The Alan Kelly Gang features strong dynamics, driving rhythms and buoyant harmonies. They propel their audiences through the repertoire of the Celts, taking influence from regions including Ireland, Scotland, Brittany, Galicia and old-time America and seamlessly combine these with original compositions that stem from a deep traditional sensitivity. Alan Kelly is joined by Steph

Geremia on flute and vocals, Ewan MacPherson on guitar and mandolin, and Kevin McGuire on double bass and harmony vocals. Music starts at 8:00 p.m. at The Celtic Junction, 836 Prior Ave North, Saint Paul, 55104. Tickets (\$17 advanced, \$20 at the door) available at [thecelticjunction.com](http://thecelticjunction.com) or by calling 612-874-8892.

## Come dance with Barra at our 24rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Dance!

Thursday, March  
17th, 7:00-10:00 p.m.  
CSPS Hall,  
383 Michigan Street,  
St. Paul



Tickets available at  
the door:  
Adults \$10;  
Kids (up to 15) \$5

Dance instruction by caller Ann Wiberg begins at 7:00 p.m., with dancing from 7:30-10:00. This is always a great family event, and beginners are welcome. Beverages and desserts will be available. The CSPS Hall, built in 1887, has been beautifully maintained by the Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota. It's a lovely hall with a great oak dance floor. Don't miss it!

We hope to see you there!

Best wishes,

Barra

<http://www.barraband.com>  
<http://www.thecelticjunction.com/>

<http://www.facebook.com/BarraFanPage>  
<http://www.sokolmn.org/>



# Irish Music & Dance Association

7



## Riverdance - The 20th Anniversary World Tour

Celebrating an extraordinary milestone for an incredible show, *Riverdance* will perform at the State Theater in Minneapolis on **Friday, March 25, and on Saturday, March 26.**

Marking the eagerly awaited return of the show to North America the anniversary production features new costumes, new lighting, new projections and the addition of a brand new number, "Anna Livia," featuring the female members of the Irish dance troupe in an acapella hard-shoe number.

*"The success of Riverdance across the whole world has gone beyond our wildest dreams,"* said producer Moya Doherty. *"The fact that the show continues to draw and excite audiences is a tribute to every dancer, singer, musician, staff and crew member who have dedicated themselves to the show. This 20th Anniversary Tour is a thank you to our audiences and a celebration of what has been an incredible journey across two decades."*

Get tickets at

<http://www.ticketofficesales.com/riverdance-tickets.aspx>

for shows on the following dates and times:

Friday March 25 8:00 PM

Saturday March 26 2:00 PM

Saturday March 26 8:00 PM



## Saint Patrick's Day

# Dance

### Traditional Irish Folk Dancing

Dances that *you* do! In lines and circles and squares!

Dances taught and called by Paul McCluskey (go to [lomamor.org](http://lomamor.org))

### Music by the Twin Cities Céilí Band

Plus good company, great craic, and genuine conversation.  
"Kid-favorite" dances in the first hour.

**Thursday**  
**March 17, 2015**  
**7 to 10 PM**

Proceeds go to support  
cultural activities of the  
Irish Music and Dance  
Association  
[imda-mn.org](http://imda-mn.org)

**\$10** \$5 - 12 & under and 60 & up  
Free - ages 5 and under

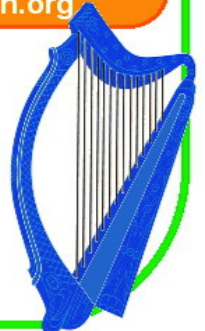
### The Celtic Junction

836 Prior Avenue North, Saint Paul

Six blocks north of the University Avenue Menard's Store

[thecelticjunction.com](http://thecelticjunction.com)

Alcohol-free, family-friendly dance hall



# IMDA Community Calendar March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	1 7:30pm Pub Quiz Keegan's Pub, Mpls  9pm Irish Brigade Dubliner Pub, St. Paul  St. Dominic's Trio Nye's, Mpls	2 7pm Irish Music Session J. Grundy's Rueb 'N' Stein, Northfield  7pm Irish Social Dance 9pm The Langer's Ball Dubliner Pub, St. Paul  7:30pm Pub Quiz Merlins Rest, Mpls	3 6:30pm Pub Quiz 8pm Pub Quiz Keegan's Pub, Mpls  7:30pm Altan The Cedar, Mpls	4 6pm Irish Music Session Dubliner Pub, St. Paul  7:30pm Bedlam Charlie's Pub, Stillwater  8pm Celtic Session Merlins Rest, Mpls  8pm Alan Kelly Gang The Celtic Junction, St. Paul	5 2pm First Saturday Ceili 9pm Irish Brigade Dubliner Pub, St. Paul  7:30pm Bedlam Charlie's Pub, Stillwater
6 Noon: Traditional Music Session Kieran's Pub, Mpls  2pm Katie McMahon House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul  4pm Learners Irish Session 6pm Advanced Irish Music Session Keegan's Pub, Mpls  7:30pm Pub Quiz Merlins Rest, Mpls  8pm Pub Quiz Dubliner Pub, St. Paul	7	8 7:30pm Irish Set Dancing w/ the Twin Cities Ceili Band Dubliner Pub, St. Paul  7:30pm Pub Quiz Keegan's Pub, Mpls  St. Dominic's Trio Nye's, Mpls	9 7pm Irish Music Session J. Grundy's Rueb 'N' Stein, Northfield  7pm Irish Social Dance 9pm Irish Brigade Dubliner Pub, St. Paul  7:30pm Pub Quiz Merlins Rest, Mpls	10 6:30pm Pub Quiz 8pm Pub Quiz Keegan's Pub, Mpls  7pm Celtic Music Showcase Underground Music Café, Falcon Heights  7pm Kickin' It Irish Stepping Stone Theater, St. Paul  7pm Locklin Road Civic Center, Coon Rapids	11 6pm Irish Music Session Dubliner Pub, St. Paul  7pm Kickin' It Irish Stepping Stone Theater, St. Paul  8pm Celtic Session Merlins Rest, Mpls	12 2pm Legacy Nelsen's Corner Bar, Belle Plain  5:30pm Legacy Rosemount Community Ctr, Rosemount  7pm Kickin' It Irish Stepping Stone Theater, St. Paul  7:30pm Barra Charlie's Pub, Stillwater
13 Noon: Traditional Session Kieran's Pub, Mpls  4pm Learners Irish Session 6pm Advanced Irish Music Session Keegan's Pub, Mpls  7:30pm Pub Quiz Merlins Rest, Mpls  8pm Pub Quiz Dubliner Pub, St. Paul	14 7:30pm Sea Shanty Sing Dubliner Pub, St. Paul	15 10am & Noon Kickin' It Irish Stepping Stone Theater, St. Paul  St. Dominic's Trio Nye's, Mpls	16 10am & Noon Kickin' It Irish Stepping Stone Theater, St. Paul  7pm Irish Music Session J. Grundy's Rueb 'N' Stein, Northfield  7pm Irish Social Dance 9pm The Langer's Ball Dubliner Pub, St. Paul  7:30pm Pub Quiz Merlins Rest, Mpls	17 <b>Happy St. Patrick's Day</b>  <b>Join the IMDA at Landmark Center in Downtown St. Paul from 10am—5pm</b>  <b>See Page 5 in this newsletter for St. Patrick's Day activities in the Twin Cities and beyond!</b>	18 6pm Irish Music Session 9pm Irish Brigade Dubliner Pub, St. Paul  7:30pm Broken Spoke Charlie's Pub, Stillwater  8pm Celtic Session Merlins Rest, Mpls  8pm Locklin Road Hayes Public House, Buffalo	19 3pm Sister Tree 7:30pm Hounds of Finn Charlie's Pub, Stillwater  6pm The Tim Malloys Kip's Irish Pub, St. Louis Pk  7pm 3rd Saturday Ceili The Celtic Junction, St. Paul  9pm Irish Brigade Dubliner Pub, St. Paul



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>20</p> <p><b>IMOA</b> <b>Day of Dance</b></p> <p>Join us at the Landmark Center in St. Paul from 11am to 5pm for Irish dancing and music</p> <p>Noon: Traditional Session Kieran's Pub, Mpls</p> <p>1:30pm Locklin Road Cannon River Winery, Cannon River</p> <p>4pm Learners Irish Session 6pm Advanced Irish Music Session Keegan's Pub, Mpls</p> <p>7:30pm Pub Quiz Merlins Rest, Mpls</p> <p>8pm Pub Quiz Dubliner Pub, St. Paul</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:30pm Irish Set Dancing w/ the Twin Cities Ceili Band Dubliner Pub, St. Paul</p> <p>7:30pm Pub Quiz Keegan's Pub, Mpls</p> <p>St. Dominic's Trio Nye's, Mpls</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7pm Irish Music Session J. Grundy's Rueb 'N' Stein, Northfield</p> <p>7pm Irish Social Dance Dubliner Pub, St. Paul</p> <p>7:30pm Pub Quiz Merlins Rest, Mpls</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30pm Pub Quiz 8pm Pub Quiz Keegan's Pub, Mpls</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6pm Irish Music Session Dubliner Pub, St. Paul</p> <p>7:30pm Broken Spoke Charlie's Pub, Stillwater</p> <p>8pm Celtic Session Merlins Rest, Mpls</p> <p>8pm Riverdance State Theater, Mpls</p>	<p>26</p> <p>2pm &amp; 8pm Riverdance State Theater, Mpls</p> <p>7:30pm Broken Spoke Charlie's Pub, Stillwater</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Noon: Traditional Session Kieran's Pub, Mpls</p> <p>3pm Traditional Singers Club W A Frost, St. Paul</p> <p>4pm Learners Irish Session 6pm Advanced Irish Music Session Keegan's Pub, Mpls</p> <p>7:30pm Pub Quiz Merlins Rest, Mpls</p> <p>8pm Pub Quiz Dubliner Pub, St. Paul</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7pm 4th Monday Shanty/Pub Sing Merlins Rest, Mpls</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:30pm Pub Quiz Keegan's Pub, Mpls</p> <p>St. Dominic's Trio Nye's, Mpls</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7pm Irish Music Session J. Grundy's Rueb 'N' Stein, Northfield</p> <p>7pm Irish Social Dance Dubliner Pub, St. Paul</p> <p>7:30pm Pub Quiz Merlins Rest, Mpls</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:30pm Pub Quiz 8pm Pub Quiz Keegan's Pub, Mpls</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6pm Irish Music Session Dubliner Pub, St. Paul</p> <p>8pm Celtic Session Merlins Rest, Mpls</p> <p>7:30pm Folk Songs of Another America The Celtic Junction, St. Paul</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1am—5pm A Scottish Ramble Landmark Center, St. Paul</p> <p>2pm First Saturday Ceili Dubliner Pub, St. Paul</p>



# Irish Music & Dance Association

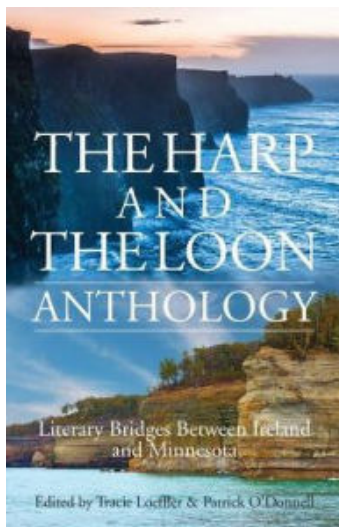
10

## An Leabhrágan (The Bookcase)

### *The Harp And the Loon: Literary Bridges Between Ireland and Minnesota*

Celtic Collaborative Press

*Edited by Traci Loeffler and Patrick O'Donnell*



I know this little gem of a sampler has been mentioned many times before in the IMDA newsletter, but thought I should finally put in my two cents' worth. This would be the perfect book to read aloud excerpts at a St. Patrick's Day party, and would astound your Irish and non-Irish friends alike with the impressive breadth and variety of writing that Twin Cities writers have brought into being. In *The Harp and the Loon* you may find poetry, theatre excerpts, fiction, essays, shaggy dog stories. I loved especially John Dingley's story about a town in Wales with a name too big to get on the railway station signpost:

*Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch.*

Yes, it is a real place name in Wales, and yes, John can pronounce it for you although I can't, so ask him next time you see him.

Some of the poetry, essays and stories are heartbreaking, some informative, some funny, some just all around blarney. All are entertaining and eye-opening. I am sure that this little collection (perfect for carrying around and reading one at a time when you're waiting somewhere) will some day have a sequel, as it richly

deserves to have. There is much more literary talent in the Twin Cities than may be contained in one book.

The Harp and the Loon is divided into three sections: *Part One: Historical Bridges*; *Part Two: Bridges of Memory*; and *Part Three: Contemporary Bridges*. Buy one for yourself, buy one for a friend and celebrate St Patrick's Day by diving into the rich lore that is Minnesota's literary milieu.

Next month: April is Poetry Month, and I will give you a heads-up about the University of St Thomas' annual O'Shaughnessy Poetry Prize. There are several events to celebrate the award, most of them free and open to the public, including a poetry reading and discussion. Watch this space!

*Sherry Ladig is a Saint Paul based trad musician and composer and was a reviewer for the Hungry Mind Bookstore's newsletter, Fodder. Sherry welcomes ideas for books of Irish or Irish-American interest for her to review---or write one yourself! She may be reached at [ladig-dunquin@msn.com](mailto:ladig-dunquin@msn.com)/. Happy late winter reading!*

**Come help celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the Landmark Center in St. Paul on March 17.**

Lots of Irish music and dance, children's area and marketplace.

**A 2 hour shift (or more, if you can) will get you free admission plus treats, as well as being part of a great tradition that has been going on for 35 years.**

**Can't join us on Thursday? Come volunteer for Day of Irish Dance, Sunday March 20!**

Sign up on line by going through the Irish Music and Dance Association website -

<http://www.irishmusicanddanceassociation.org/volunteer.html>



# Irish Music & Dance Association

11

## REMEMBERING LAUREN WILEY

Lauren Wiley, twenty-six year old daughter of Mike Wiley, Irish Fair Board Chair, and Jane Oslund, passed away unexpectedly on Dec. 31 of an aortic aneurysm. Lauren was an Irish dancer and taught Irish dance with the Shamrock School of Irish Step Dance and was an active volunteer with Irish Fair of Minnesota, including editing the Irish Fair newsletter several years ago.

Lauren's curiosity and sense of discovery were contagious. At age 6, she became heavily involved with Irish dancing. This passion of Lauren's introduced her family to a network of people who would become lifelong friends. According to Mike, "She is the reason we really got involved in the Irish community."

The Cretin-Derham Hall High School and Loyola University graduate had recently relocated from the Twin Cities to Colorado in order to open Evans Larson Communications' first Denver office, an adventure she was enjoying immensely. This was just the latest in a series of adventures that she pursued, according to her manager. According to her dad, Lauren was living out her dreams and checking off an ever-expanding bucket list when she died.



While her life may have been short, Lauren made up for it by filling her days to the brim with people and experiences. More than 700 friends, family members and associates attended her funeral in January.

Rachel Knutson of the Shamrock School of Irish Step Dance shared this remembrance of Lauren...

*"Lauren Wiley will forever belong to our special Shamrock family, or what we lovingly refer to as our Shamily. It's during this wonderful time of year, which we celebrate all things Irish that we hold in our memory those people that were part of past St. Patrick's Days and all things Irish. This day can't go by without a warm thought of those that make our life important like knowing Lauren Wiley. We will remember her beauty, grace, and charm and her kind spirit. We will also remember her zest for life and her love of a good party! There was no Craic without Lauren or if there was, she would find it! She helped us pass on this love of Irish Dance to our wee ones in their learning of this special art form. We truly miss her but we are so fortunate that we could share our Irish life together with her and we will be forever better for knowing her. This is what the true love of all things Irish is really all about!"*

**The Irish Fair of Minnesota is creating a St. Paul Irish Arts Week to commemorate the centenary of the Easter Rising in 1916 which was considered the foundational event for creating the independent Irish state.**

**A variety of events, performances, and exhibits will be held across St. Paul (and some in Minneapolis) from Friday, April 15 to Sunday, April 24.**

**A full schedule is available on the Irish Fair website at [www.irishfair.com](http://www.irishfair.com)**



# Irish Music & Dance Association

12

## Northwoods Songs: Irish Songs from Lumberjacks and Great Lakes Sailors By Brian Miller

*Northwoods Songs* features a new song each month pulled from my research into old songs collected in the pine woods region that stretches from New Brunswick west through northern Minnesota. In the 1800s, a vibrant culture of singing and song-making developed in lumber camp bunkhouses and on Great Lakes ships. The repertoire and singing style were greatly influenced by Irish folk repertoire and Irish singing styles. Many singers in the region had Irish background themselves.

Each installment of *Northwoods Songs* is also published online at [www.evergreentrad.com](http://www.evergreentrad.com) along with a video of me singing the song of the month. My hope is that others will learn some of these songs and make them their own as I have. -Brian Miller

### THE CRAFTY MISS (A LILT)

O she on a lit - tle grey mare - and he on a gel - ding al - so, He  
whis - pered one word in her ear - and - straight to an inn they did go. They  
soon had their hor - ses put out, they called for a sup - per with speed, They  
drank the full bum - pers a - round, O the glass it went mer - ry in - deed.

*O she on a little grey mare and he on a gelding also,  
He whispered one word in her ear and straight to an inn they did go,  
They soon had their horses put out, they called for a supper with speed,  
They drank the full bumpers around, O the glass it went merry indeed.*

*This miss she arose the next morning two hours before it was day,  
She called up the landlord with speed saying "Landlord what is there to pay?"  
"Ten guineas" the landlord replied, she paid him his money indeed,  
And then to obey her next order, "Go saddle the golden with speed."*

*She hoodwinked this young man indeed, she showed him a trick for his gold,  
Then mounting the gelding with speed, she left him the mare she had stole,  
It was all done in Essex's county, the truth of it there you will find,  
The people they showed him no pity, they said he was served in his kind.*



# Irish Music & Dance Association

13

This month we have the second song of twelve that The Lost Forty (Randy Gosa and I) have arranged and videotaped as part of The Lost Forty Project. I learned last month's song from a recording of Minnesota singer Michael Cassius Dean and this month's comes from the other Minnesota singer strongly represented in the project: Reuben Waitstell Phillips.

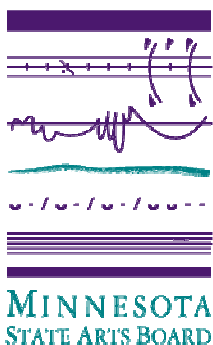
Phillips was recorded at his home south of Akeley, Minnesota by Robert Winslow Gordon in September 1924—about a week prior to Gordon's visit to Dean. Like Dean, Phillips had corresponded with Gordon prior to the collecting trip. The above song was one of 22 handwritten song texts Phillips sent to Gordon in March 1924 and one of at least 15 Gordon recorded during his visit to Akeley.

Phillips titled this light and dancey song (in slip jig time) simply "A Lilt." It is a version of an English broadside ballad entitled "The Crafty Miss, Or, An Excise-Man Well Fitted" that scholars date to the late 1600s. What is quite unusual for a song of that vintage recorded this far from its origin is that it seems to have been extremely rare in tradition. In fact, I have not been able to find a single collected version from anywhere. The longer broadside versions supply the information that the "hoodwinked" young man was a tax collector and that not only did she make off with his horse but the fact that he was left holding "the mare she had stole" resulted in his arraignment and a narrow escape from "the penalty of the law!"

As I have dug deep into the 47 songs featured in The Lost Forty Project, I have come to marvel at the differences and similarities between the two principal singers: Dean and Phillips. Though it is unlikely they knew each other, both men were born in the 1850s not more than 30 miles from each other in northern New York state and both migrated west to northern Minnesota where they lived just 120 miles apart at the time they were recorded. Still, where Dean's repertoire is typical of lumberjack-singers of the region in that it is decidedly Irish-American, most of Phillips' songs are more English/Scottish, quite a bit older and quite a bit more rare. Some of that has to do with their differing ethnic backgrounds but, I suspect, their occupations and routes west played a role as well. More on that in coming months!

Be sure to check [www.evergreentrad.com](http://www.evergreentrad.com) for the video of The Lost Forty's version of this song.

Visit a full archive of all Northwoods Songs columns and songs online at [www.evergreentrad.com](http://www.evergreentrad.com)



*This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.*





# Irish Music & Dance Association

14

## Smidirini\* *By Copper Shannon*

(\*Irish for 'Bits and Pieces')

- ✦ **Comhghairdeas léi (Congratulations to) Danielle Enblom**, named by the *Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce* and the *Drive Council* their **Emerging Leader of the Year**. (Drive is the young professional branch of the Chamber.) Danielle was recognized for her work with the *Minnesota Transportation Museum* and the relationships that she has helped the St. Paul museum build on both sides of the river, as well as her work over the last 10 years in the performing arts, academia, education, community involvement and volunteer/non-profit work with organizations including *Project SUCCESS*, the *Center for Irish Music* and *Lionsgate Academy*. Of course, we know Danielle as a regular session musician, dancer, teacher at the Center for Irish Music and as part of *Northern Gael*. You go girl!
- ✦ **Fáilte abhaile (Welcome home) to Máirtín de Cógáin**, "Back from the sunny climes of Southern California" - making a visit back to the cold northland in March. Máirtín will be performing a bit in Rochester and doing a solo house concert in Minneapolis on Monday, March 14. Send him a note at [mairtinmusic@gmail.com](mailto:mairtinmusic@gmail.com) if you would like the details.
- ✦ Welcome, also, to **David O'Sullivan** of "*Malarkey – Radio with an Irish Accent*" on KFAI Radio, who has agreed to serve as Master of Ceremonies for *IMDA's 35<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Celebration!* Good man ya are! David will take over for the inimitable **Phil Platt**, who has done the honors for many years. Thanks a million, Phil!
- ✦ **A belated Happy Birthday to Dan Gleason**, 80 years young in January! Friends and family did a grand job of celebrating with him. Dan has been a mainstay of the Twin Cities Irish community for these many years – including many a role with *Na Fianna Irish Theatre*. *All the best!*
- ✦ *Slán go fóill (Bye for now)*. **The Eddies** have become a four man group. **Phil Platt** has retired from the (performing) Eddies, although Chuck Lentz tells us that "Phil will always be an Eddie of some sort." Best wishes to Phil, wherever his musical journey takes him. It's been a great run – 19 years of performing together. Not bad for a book club!

## The Center for Irish Music

Come check us out at

### The Celtic Junction

836 Prior Avenue, St Paul MN

*Please check the website for information on our full range of instruction in traditional Irish music, language, culture and fun.*

For class schedule and other information call or email

651-815-0083 [admin@centerforirishmusic.org](mailto:admin@centerforirishmusic.org)

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.centerforirishmusic.org](http://www.centerforirishmusic.org)

*Dedicated to Handing Down the Tradition*

## Ceilí CORNER By Bhloscaidh O'Keane

First Saturday Afternoon Céilí—Dubliner Pub, 2162 University Ave., St. Paul.

Third Saturday Night Céilí - The Celtic Junction, 836 Prior Ave., No. St. Paul.

### Irish Dance Classes:

#### Céilí Dancing - Wednesday Nights

**DUBLINER IRISH PUB** - 2162 University Avenue in Saint Paul. Learn Irish dancing in a genuine Irish pub with a wooden floor that has known a whole lot of dancing feet. Steps and dances are taught by Paul McCluskey and Kirsten Koehler. Basic beginning steps are taught beginning at 7:00 p.m., with advanced lessons and dancing continuing until 9:30 p.m.. Year-round; no children, and must be of legal drinking age. Free.

#### Set Dancing - Tuesday Nights

**DUBLINER IRISH PUB** - 2162 University Avenue in Saint Paul. Set Dancing at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month, music by the Twin Cities Ceili Band. The cost is \$5 for the band, beginners welcome, for more information call Geri at the Dubliner (651)646-5551.

Check [www.lomamor.org](http://www.lomamor.org) for all up-to-date Irish folk dancing information.

### Update on IMDA Membership

The Irish Music and Dance Association would like to remind members of a change in policy regarding membership. Because of rising costs in printing and postage, the Irish Music and Dance Association asks that members who want to receive their newsletter by U.S. mail support the IMDA by contributing at least \$35 a year. All members have the option of receiving their newsletter by e-mail for faster delivery and color photos! We welcome your financial support of the IMDA at any level and that support helps us continue our work to promote Irish music and dance in the Twin Cities and beyond. You may also become a newsletter-only member without making a financial contribution. Whichever membership option you choose, we appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you at a concert or dance event soon!

**Name:**

**Today's Date:**

**Address:**

**Where did you hear about us?**

**Membership Type (circle one)**

**Supporting  
Support Level \_\_\_\_\_**

**Corporate**

**Newsletter**

**Interests (circle all that apply)**

**Music**

**Dance**

**Theatre**

**Gaelic**

**Volunteer**

**E-mail Address:**

**Phone Number:**

**Your monthly newsletter is delivered electronically via e-mail. Please advise us at [info@IrishMusicandDanceAssociation.org](mailto:info@IrishMusicandDanceAssociation.org) if your e-mail address changes .**

**Supporting members who contribute at least \$35 annually may receive their newsletter by U S Mail.  
\_\_\_\_ Request US Mail**

Revised 11/2013

Tear out the above form and send it with a check made out to "IMDA" to:

**The IMDA Membership Coordinator c/o Jan Casey  
400 Macalester St.  
St. Paul, MN 55105**



# Irish Music & Dance Association

16

236 Norfolk Ave NW  
Elk River, MN 55330

Postmaster:  
Time/Dated Material



## Saint Patrick's Day Dance

### Traditional Irish Folk Dancing

Dances that you do! In lines and circles and squares!

Dances taught and called by Paul McCluskey (go to lomamor.org)

### Music by the Twin Cities Céilí Band

Plus good company, great craic, and genuine conversation.  
"Kid-favorite" dances in the first hour.

Thursday  
March 17, 2015  
7 to 10 PM

Proceeds go to support  
cultural activities of the  
Irish Music and Dance  
Association  
imda-mn.org

**\$10** \$5 - 12 & under and 60 & up  
Free - ages 5 and under

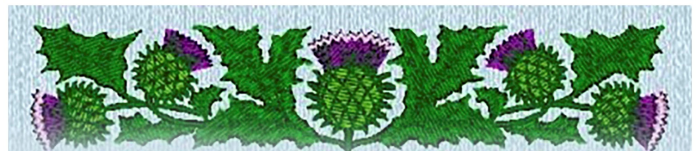
### The Celtic Junction

836 Prior Avenue North, Saint Paul

Six blocks north of the University Avenue Menard's Store

[thecelticjunction.com](http://thecelticjunction.com)

Alcohol-free, family-friendly dance hall



## Scottish Music and Song

Group classes offered by Laura MacKenzie

April 3 - July 10, 2016

The Celtic Junction

836 Prior Avenue North, St. Paul, MN

### TUNE CLASSES

Dance tunes, marches & airs, from all regions

*Open to all melody instruments*

Sundays, 3:00 - 3:50 pm, April 3 - July 10 (15 weeks)

### SONG CLASSES

Scots/English language songs

Sundays, 2 - 2:50 pm, May 8 - May 29 (4 weeks)

Scots Gaelic songs

Sundays, 2 - 2:50 pm, June 5 - July 10 (6 weeks)

\$5 suggested per class, on the day.

No need to register ahead of time -

Attend as many or as few classes as you'd like.

*Tea, Biscuits and Notations (if desired) provided*

For more information, visit [lauramackenzie.com](http://lauramackenzie.com)

or contact Laura directly at

651-398-5055/[laura@lauramackenzie.com](mailto:laura@lauramackenzie.com)

Join the website mailing list to be notified of upcoming Scottish Cèilidhs!  
(Cèilidh; a social gathering for music, song, storytelling,  
poetry, and dance)