



*Foras Cultúir Gael Aontuighthe*

# United Irish Cultural Center, Inc.

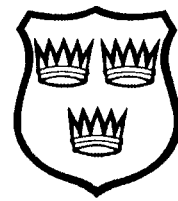
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Volume XLVII No. 11  
November 2022

2022

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## BOARD MESSAGE

### A TIME TO BE THANKFUL AND REINVESTMENT FOR THE CENTER



*Liam Reidy*

As we approach the end of another calendar year - we tend to look back and wonder where did the time go? November is the season for giving thanks for everything that we're grateful for; all that sustains, nourishes, and supports us.

The Thanksgiving celebration book ends the month and brings us homes decorated with warm autumnal accents and hearty food, but also offers an opportunity to spend time with the people who make our lives special. We primarily celebrate with family but more broadly I think it's a good time for the Irish American community to celebrate having a vibrant year round Irish Center.

I say this because I had a call from Seamus Balfe (a fellow Limerick man) a couple of weeks ago. Seamus lives in East Durham, a small hamlet in Greene County, New York - about 2 hours north of NYC. Seamus lamented the fact that although the Irish Center in the village is open from May through October- it is closed for the winter. There is a very small population (600 people) in the vicinity of the East Durham center and it is not viable to stay open during the winter season. During the year the Center relies on the groundswell of support and weekend getaway crowds from the NYC metropolitan area. Highlight attractions include the Irish Music Festival over Memorial weekend and the Irish Arts Week in the Catskills during July.

Compare that situation to our own here in San Francisco and you realize how fortunate we are to have access to our building 52 weeks of the year! Of course there are days when the Center is relatively quiet but between now and the end of the year we are at full capacity with a wide range of cultural and community events that draws many different people from the surrounding community to the Center.

#### ONGOING EDUCATION

I am always learning from conversations with people involved with other Irish Centers across America. I was fortunate to attend meetings in Kansas and New York this year on behalf of the Center. The knowledge shared at these meetings with other participants have come back home here to San Francisco and applied locally where appropriate. It's a constant labor of love for many volunteers and a major challenge facing Executive Directors of cultural institutions to keep the Irish American community engaged in Irish arts, music and sports (hurling and Gaelic football predominantly). There are so many local distractions (and online) for entertainment and event options for our community. It's hard to compete sometimes with professional sports teams, and top of the chart musical talent that regularly perform in the Bay Area - never mind all the local school and college events that people are drawn to attend on the weekends.

#### RECENT CHALLENGES

The UICC has faced its own set of challenges in recent years and we have come back stronger after a major investment of time and energy from the Board and community members to put a shoulder to the wheel when it became apparent that we may lose our Center. Now as we prepare for a much brighter and ambitious future Irish Center we are developing organizational structures to be more sustainable in the future even with unforeseen setbacks.

*(President's Message continued on page 2)*

# BELFAST INTERNATIONAL HOMECOMING 2023

A wonderful evening of idea and story sharing as the Irish Center welcomed former Lord Mayor of Belfast and Irish Echo newspaper publisher - Máirtín O'Muilleoir. Máirtín talked about the growth and change in Belfast since his youth and attributes today's successes to the involvement of Irish Americans. He spoke of the importance of building relationships—much like bridges—as a way to connect and strengthen communities at home and abroad.

UICC President Liam Reidy met Máirtín at last August's Big Irish Campfire conference of Irish leaders from around the country and was taken by his energy. "Máirtín is one of the biggest outside the box thinkers that I've encountered on the Irish American circuit. He never fails to energize and unite a crowd!"

Máirtín spoke with excitement of the #2025Project and gifted the Irish Center with a welcome plaque to hang in the new space. Thanks to all who joined us tonight. We are all stronger for the connections and relationships we share.



*Máirtín Ó Muilleoir  
and Anne Cassidy Carew.*



*Eileen Mize and Ben Hunter.*



*Máirtín Ó Muilleoir presents Liam Reidy,  
UICC President with a token  
of his visit to the Irish Center.*



*Michael McCrory, Lucey Duffy,  
and Máirtín Ó Muilleoir.*



*Paul Downey, Patrick Burke,  
and Enda Gallery.*



*Ciarán Scally and Michael Black.*



*Gilbert Coyle, Máirtín Ó Muilleoir  
and Peter Cooper.*



*Máirtín Ó Muilleoir, John O'Riordan,  
and Charlie Lavery.*

## SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT SITE VISIT TO THE UICC



The San Francisco Planning department team overseeing our planning application visited the Irish Center on September 26th last. Liam Reidy, UICC President gave the group a tour of the neighborhood and the existing facility. We have been in weekly planning meetings for months now, as we move through the planning process.

We recently completed a wind impact and transportation study as part of the planning process. Photographed in the back yard of the Irish Center are

*Left to Right. Tania Sheyner, Kelly Yong, Josh Pollak, Rachel Schutt,  
Liam Reidy (UICC President), and Gabriela Pantoja.*



IRISH IMMIGRATION PASTORAL CENTER PRESENTS

# CELTIC VOICES

## 'BROADWAY TO BETHLEHEM'

Join Mary McKeever and Celtic Voices as we celebrate our annual Christmas tradition of song, music, and festive spirit, with stars from our local community.

ADULT & YOUTH CHOIRS  
DIRECTED BY MARY McKEEVER

SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 17, 2022

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PREPARATORY  
1100 ELLIS STREET, SAN FRANCISCO

NO HOST REFRESHMENTS 5:00P.M.  
SHOW 6:00 P.M.

ADULTS: \$25  
SENIORS: \$15  
CHILDREN: \$5

ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:  
[LINKTR.EE/SFIIPC](https://linktr.ee/sfiipc) OR IIPC (415.752.6006)





## MUSICAL LEGACY OF AN IRISH ICON

The musical legacy of Derek Warfield in San Francisco can be traced back six decades, to his first performance locally with the original Wolfe Tones in 1968 at the former location of Harry Harrington's Bar on Jones Street. Derek-a living legend in his own right, and his band-the Young Wolfe Tones return to San Francisco on November 12th and 13th.

I recently spoke to Derek in a phone interview and he recounted with fondness his love of San Francisco and concerts played here down through the years. He recalled "back in the early days Harry Harrington (RIP) was very good to the Wolfe Tones when we were starting out. We played Harry's place for 4 nights in a row back then-usually from Thursday through Sunday night." The Tones returned several times locally in the 1970s "and Harry was always a gracious host," according to Derek. "Harry was a great Gael and great lover of Irish music and song."

In 1989, as part of the 25th Anniversary of the Wolfe Tones, Warfield remembers that "we played a celebratory concert downtown and Harry Harrington had the privilege of introducing us on stage. The Cork native was over the moon to be able to do that-having helped us out in the early years."

### THE YOUNG WOLFE TONES

In 2001, after nearly 40 years performing, the legendary Wolfe Tones parted with their founder and leader – Derek Warfield. However by 2005 Derek had put together a band containing some of the finest musicians and singers in Irish music – The Young Wolfe Tones.

Derek Warfield's lifelong passion for engaging people in the music and story of Ireland is ever present at his shows: "Communication with a live audience through music is what I believed to be of primary importance when I founded the Old Wolfe Tones in 1963. In performing with The Young Wolfe Tones, I continue to communicate with audiences while also passing on an important tradition to a new generation. But perhaps most importantly, it has been fun and enjoyable and every performance gets better. The experience has reinvigorated me and given the young players and singers the opportunity to display their skills and talents around the world"

## DEREK WARFIELD & THE YOUNG WOLFE TONES



Live at the Center  
Saturday Nov 12 at 8pm  
Sunday Nov 13 at 4pm

TICKETS @ [IRISHCENTERSF.ORG](http://IRISHCENTERSF.ORG)

*"And I believe that I am passing on an ancient Irish bardic tradition worthy of preservation to a younger generation."*

*So come out and see a living legend this November.*

*Tickets on sale online at: [irishcentersf.org](http://irishcentersf.org)*



## WITH AGE, COMES WISDOM



## THE WISDOM EXCHANGE



CALL IIPC FOR MORE INFORMATION

Shannon Cotter - (415) 432-2552  
shannon@sfiipc.org

It's November and the holidays are quickly approaching.  
How do you prepare for this upcoming season?  
What rituals do you practice to celebrate?

Join The Wisdom Exchange to meet new people and  
share your experience.

Take time to connect with us.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23**

**11:00 A.M.**

ZOOM LINK @ [LINKTR.EE/SFIIPC](https://linktr.ee/sfiipc)



## ACTIVE RETIREMENT CLUB OUTREACH PROGRAM

## MASS & LUNCHEON

We are delighted to welcome a very special guest to our monthly ARC Mass and buffet luncheon on Thursday, November 10 at the United Irish Cultural Center.

We will be joined by our new Consul General, Micheál Smith, who recently took up his posting in San Francisco. We hope you will give him a warm welcome!

Fr. Brendan will celebrate Mass at 12 noon followed by a hot buffet lunch from Espostos Catering.

**Thursday, November 10, 2022**

**12 noon Mass**  
followed by buffet luncheon

**United Irish Cultural Center**  
St. Patrick's Room  
2700 45th Avenue, San Francisco

**Tickets \$30**

**Advance registration required**  
(limited capacity for social distance)

Call Shannon at 415.432.2552 or email [shannon@sfiipc.org](mailto:shannon@sfiipc.org)



Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme  
An Roinn Gaelúil Fachtóirí agus Trádáil  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



# SF roseoftralee APPLICATIONS OPEN



Now Seeking 2023 Candidates!  
ages 18-30 encouraged to apply

## KEY DATES:

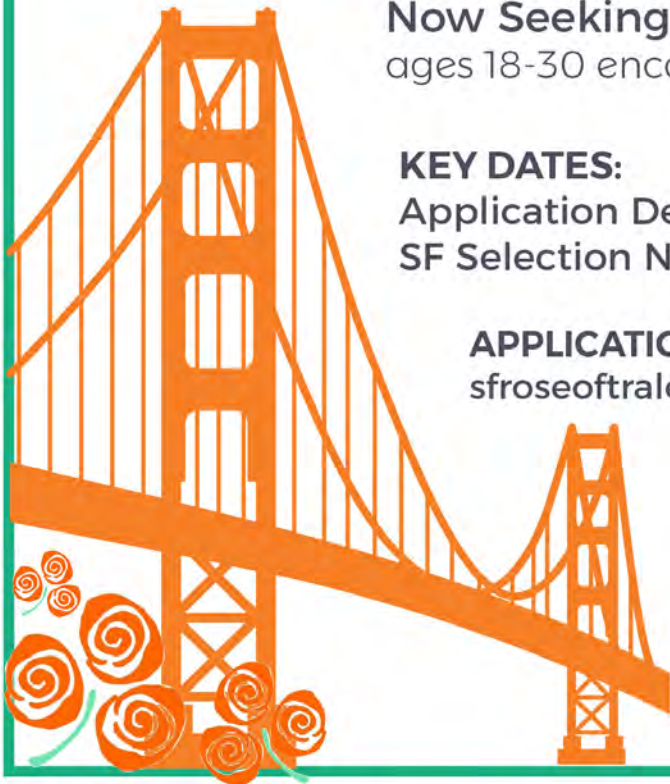
Application Deadline: Dec. 15, 2022

SF Selection Night: Sat, Jan. 28, 2023

## APPLICATION, ELIGIBILITY, & INQUIRES:

[sfroesoftralee@gmail.com](mailto:sfroesoftralee@gmail.com) | [www.sfroesoftralee.com](http://www.sfroesoftralee.com)

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# REBEL CORK ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER & DANCE



## Honoring



MARTIN CONNOLLY  
Corkman of the Year

and Mary O'Leary  
Rebel Cork Ladies—27 years

**Saturday**  
**December 10, 2022**

Doors at 6:30 pm  
Dinner at 7:30 pm

**Music by Celtic Scandal**

\$125/TICKET (Tables of 8)  
*Filet Mignon, Salmon, or Veg*

## FOR TICKETS CONTACT

Jimmy Daly 415.515.4989

John Buckley 415.298.6704

Danny Guiney 650.676.0923

Valerie McGrew 415.672.0375

St. Patrick's Room at the United Irish Cultural Center  
2700 45th Ave. San Francisco, CA 94116

[WWW.RCBASF.ORG](http://WWW.RCBASF.ORG)





• SPECIAL ARC OUTING •

## *A Christmas Carol*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022**

12:00 noon

1:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

Bus departs UICC

A Christmas Carol

Bus returns to UICC

**COST: \$60**

inc. charter bus & mezzanine theater seats

**\*\* ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7**

Register at [linktr.ee/sfiipc](https://linktr.ee/sfiipc) or contact Shannon  
at 415.432.2552 or [shannon@sfiipc.org](mailto:shannon@sfiipc.org)



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

### **IIPC WELLNESS PROGRAMS**



### **HELP BRIGHTEN SOMEONE'S DAY!**

IIPC is seeking volunteers who would like to visit members of our community in their homes to provide social connection and support

*Building connections and making a difference*

**INTERESTED?**

EMAIL: [SHANNON@SFIIPC.ORG](mailto:SHANNON@SFIIPC.ORG)  
OR CALL 415.432.2552

IIPC is generously funded by:



Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme  
An Buidéal Ceilidh Éireannach agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

# WELCOME TO THE READING ROOM

Our combined November/December Reading Room features a newly released work by **Louise Kennedy, *Trespases*** which we will discuss on **Thursday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m.**

A historical fiction novel set in Northern Ireland during the Troubles, Louise Kennedy's debut novel is bursting with love, loyalty and the consequences that come when those two find themselves at odds with one another. When one young woman faces the reality of loving someone she knows she shouldn't, her life changes as she tries to deal with the fallout.

Tender and shocking, ***Trespases*** is an unforgettable debut of people trying to live ordinary lives in extraordinary times.

Join us on Zoom on **Thursday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m.** for another lively and entertaining discussion!

Go to [linktr.ee/sfiipc](https://linktr.ee/sfiipc) to find the link! See you there!

Questions? Call Celine at 415.432.2550 or email [celine@sfiipc.org](mailto:celine@sfiipc.org)



## Wellness Walks

### IIPC Wellness Program Event

Join IIPC for a walk at Stern Grove this month. We'll be enjoying the great walking paths of this wonderful SF park!

We hope you can join us for another great outdoor adventure!

**Wednesday, November 2 at 11:00 a.m.**

**Wednesday, November 16 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Stern Grove, San Francisco**

Exact location will be shared when you register at [linktr.ee/sfiipc](https://linktr.ee/sfiipc) or leave a voicemail at 415.432.2552

For more information,  
call Shannon at 415.432.2552  
or email [shannon@sfiipc.org](mailto:shannon@sfiipc.org)

A Community Outreach Program of  
the Irish Immigration Pastoral  
Center Wellness Program

IIPC is generously funded by:



Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme  
An Bheanacht Eanáir agus Tráil  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade





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- Transportation for medical appointments, shopping and planned outings.



Our monthly fees are substantially less than what you would pay elsewhere and we are just 15 minutes away from the UICC (taking Skyline Blvd or the 280 South).

céad míle  
páilte

Please call Bridget Kelly - Administrator to arrange a tour of the facility and enjoy a complimentary lunch.

Lic. #415600306

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## UNITED IRISH CULTURAL CENTER INCORPORATED

A California Nonprofit Corporation  
2700 45th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94116  
Telephone: (415) 661-2700 | Fax: (415) 661-8620  
[www.irishcentersf.org](http://www.irishcentersf.org) | [membership@irishcentersf.org](mailto:membership@irishcentersf.org)

Hello,

Want to renew your membership or purchase a membership for someone? Want to make a donation to the Irish Center on behalf of yourself or in memory of someone? Want to support the Library or Cultural Programming? The Irish Center relies on dues and participation from its Members so that it can continue to grow and help connect current and future generations with their Irish heritage.

### MEMBERSHIP FEE SCHEDULE (Check One):

<input type="checkbox"/> Single Membership Renewal (Dues) \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> Couple Membership Renewal (Dues) \$250
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The term for annual dues is 365 days from the date your dues are recorded. Dues are regulated by the UICC Board of Directors.

Name #1:	Member #:
Name #2 (Couple):	Member #:

MEMBERSHIP (per schedule above)	\$ _____
BULLETIN SUBSCRIPTION (\$30/Year)	\$ _____
DONATION (thanks for your generosity)	\$ _____
TOTAL PAYMENT	\$ _____

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FEES/DONATIONS can be paid by Check or Credit Card or online at [irishcentersf.org](http://irishcentersf.org)

Name as it appears on Credit Card:  
(Please Print Clearly)

Check One* MasterCard: <input type="checkbox"/>	VISA: <input type="checkbox"/>	DISCOVER: <input type="checkbox"/>	* UICC does not accept AMEX
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Credit Card NUMBER:

Expiration Date (mm/yyyy):	CVV:	AMOUNT:
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SIGNATURE:

Thank you so much for supporting the Membership Program! ~ The UICC Board!



# United Irish Cultural Center, Inc.



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San Francisco, CA 94116-2696

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### THE UNITED IRISH CULTURAL CENTER

## CALENDAR

at a glance

DINNER

**NOVEMBER 5 | 6:30 PM**

2022 SFGAA Dinner Dance

CEILI

**NOVEMBER 6 | 6:30-9:30 PM**

Comhaltas November Night Céilí

CONCERT

**NOV 12 @ 8 PM | NOV 13 @ 4 PM**

Derek Warfield &  
the Young Wolfe Tones

**NOV 18-20**

*Keepers of the Steps* Special  
Oireachtas Pop-Up Irish Dance Exhibit

EXHIBIT

SHOW

**DECEMBER 1 | 7 PM**

An Irish Christmas

COMM-  
UNITY

**DECEMBER 7 | 10 AM - 2 PM**

Blood Drive

SHOW

**DECEMBER 9 | 8 PM**

The Fire's Very Scottish Christmas

DINNER

**DECEMBER 10 | 6:30 PM**

Rebel Cork Christmas Dinner Dance

CEILI

**DECEMBER 11 | 6:30-9:30 PM**

Comhaltas Christmas Céilí

FAIR

**DECEMBER 17 | 12-5 PM**

Christmas Boutique & Artisan Fair

Tickets & details @ [www.IrishCenterSF.org](http://www.IrishCenterSF.org)

(President's Message continued)

## A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The Board established an Endowment in late 2021, and brought onboard a professional financial consultant - James Sheffield, UBS Financial Services to actively manage the fund. This is part of a long term sustainability strategy being developed at the Center by the finance team. We recently moved to bolster our investment account which will put the Center on a firm financial foundation going forward which will ensure we can support our ongoing costs and provide support to our community even in tough times.

## YOUR CHANCE TO SUPPORT

While many of you are supporting the 2025 Project capital campaign - UICC members will also get the opportunity to contribute towards the Center's cultural programming, endowment, library and Leo T Walsh scholarship program between now and the end of the year through our end of year fundraisers and appeals.

## ANNUAL APPEAL 2022

Later this month UICC member households will receive an Annual Appeal letter requesting support to maintain and expand our investments in our cultural programming footprint. Donations to the Appeal last year afforded the Board to increase the budget for kids music classes (provided free of charge) and provide support for the Irish summer camp. Sixty kids between the ages of 6-14 participated in the annual summer camp which ran for three weeks last June. Investing in the next generation of our community is a recurring theme at the Center. Last May our educational scholarship program (Leo T Walsh Fund) disbursed over \$40,000 to students graduating elementary and high schools moving onto the next phase of their

education. Some of these students will be the supporters of the UICC down the road and maybe even stewards of the institution in time.

## LIBRARY AND SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

A team of volunteers from the Patrick J Dowling library recently sent a letter and raffle tickets to UICC members seeking support for the Leo T Walsh scholarship and Library Fund for 2023.

## DEREK WARFIELD

The Young Wolfe Tones led by balladeer Derek Warfield return to the Center for two shows on Saturday November 12th and Sunday November 13th. Always a great evening of entertainment. Don't miss him and his talented band!

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to all those who send a personal note of thanks for all that we are doing to keep the Irish Center flag flying high here in the city for all our supporters. We look forward to your generous support this season.

## TERESA McDONAGH RIP

We were all sad to hear we lost an amazing supporter in Teresa McDonagh last month. Teresa was ever present at everything that was going on at the Center for decades. I will miss her words of encouragement and her hearty laugh. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dílis.

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Happy Thanksgiving to all our members and supporters throughout the community.

Liam Reidy

[lreidy@irishcentersf.org](mailto:lreidy@irishcentersf.org)



**"Our Family Serving Yours"**

*Celebrations of Life*



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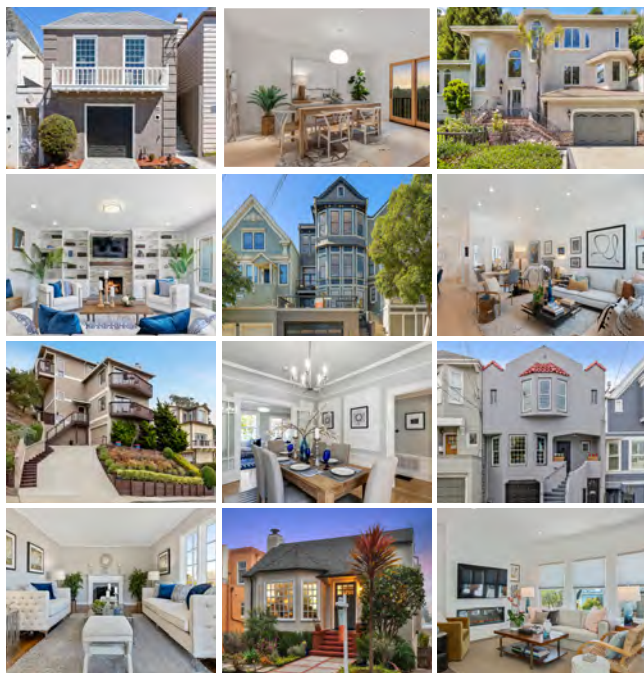
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# NOVEMBER CALENDAR

## ■ NOVEMBER 2, WEDNESDAY

- General Member Meeting ~ 7:30pm  
St. Francis Room

## ■ NOVEMBER 5, SATURDAY

- San Francisco GAA Annual Dinner Dance ~ 7:30pm

## ■ NOVEMBER 6, SUNDAY

- Comhaltas November Céili ~ 6:30 - 9:30pm  
St. Patrick's Room

## ■ NOVEMBER 10, THURSDAY ~ 4:00 - 4:45pm

- Biscuits & Books, Live!

A Special 2nd Thursday edition of Biscuits & Books. The library is open to patrons during this live chat featuring antiquarian books, interesting titles and upcoming programming. Watch it happen Live on the Library's Facebook page, or be our guest in the discussion by attending on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007236093?pwd=aEFPbGtWamluOW80dGM4MzJlZlAzUT09>

## ■ NOVEMBER 12, SATURDAY

- Irish Genealogy Club - Zoom Meeting ~ 11:00am-1:00pm  
In honour of Veteran's Day: Military Records. Draft cards, service records, pension files and memorabilia.  
2022 club leads: Pati Traktman [patitraktman@gmail.com](mailto:patitraktman@gmail.com) & Nancy Sanchez [nmsanchez86@yahoo.com](mailto:nmsanchez86@yahoo.com).  
Pre-register via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007236093?pwd=aEFPbGtWamluOW80dGM4MzJlZlAzUT09>

- Irish Marvels, Past and Present

Zoom Meeting ~ 2:30-4:30pm

Group Discussion: A Virtual Ofrenda. Bring a story and a photo of a relative, friend or person who inspired you and has now departed this world. Time to share about your person will be divided equally amongst all attendees. Questions?

Contact Lisa Hilmoe at ([hilmoe.gleason@gmail.com](mailto:hilmoe.gleason@gmail.com))

Pre-register via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007236093?pwd=aEFPbGtWamluOW80dGM4MzJlZlAzUT09>

- Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones ~ 8:00pm  
Live in Concert - Upstairs - St. Patrick's Room

## ■ NOVEMBER 13, SUNDAY

- Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones  
Live in Concert - Downstairs - Emerald Room

## ■ NOVEMBER 18, 19, 20, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

- Keepers of the Steps  
Oireachtas Pop-Up Exhibit

## SAVE THE DATE 2022

THURSDAY DECEMBER 1 ~ 7PM

An Irish Christmas Show ~ St. Patrick's Room

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7 ~ 10AM-2PM

Blood Drive ~ St. Patrick's Room

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9 ~ 8PM

The Fire's Very Scottish Christmas  
St. Patrick's Room

SATURDAY DECEMBER 10 ~ 6:30PM

Rebel Cork Annual Dinner Dance

SATURDAY DECEMBER 17 ~ 12PM-5PM

Annual Christmas Boutique  
Local Artisan Fair ~ St. Patrick's Room

SATURDAY JANUARY 28

San Francisco Rose of Tralee Selection Night



## 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

benefiting the UICCC's  
Leo T. Walsh Scholarship Program  
& the Patrick J. Dowling Library



### TICKETS

Tickets available at the Library, UICCC office,  
and by emailing: [library@irishcentersf.org](mailto:library@irishcentersf.org)

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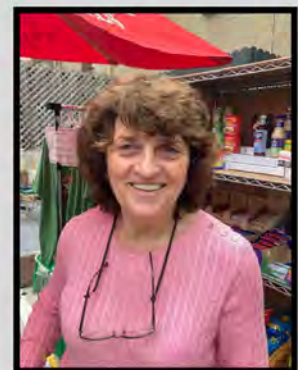
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# ***PATRICK J. DOWLING LIBRARY***

## *Greetings from the Library...*

Welcome to the new consul general, Micheál Smith. He and several of his staff members dropped in to the Library with Liam Reidy on October 6. We were happy to share a peek at the treasure trove which is our collection, and look forward to having you and yours in on many more occasions during your time in San Francisco.

We've had some other wonderful moments here in the library lately with young families reading from our juvenile collection, and others finding ancestors mentioned in *The Leader* which gave insight into who they were as they made new lives here in San Francisco. It is the hope of all of us here that we'll see more of our community return on our public days to browse, read and discover something new you might not have noticed before in the collection.

Our second Biblio.com Book Faire was a multi-state success. The theme was Antiquarian Books, which suited our listings well. Take a moment to see what's available using the link to our Biblio.com Book Sale: <https://www.biblio.com/bookstore/patrick-j-dowling-library-san-francisco> These books are also available for purchase here in the Library.

We have openings for additional volunteers, especially on Thursday, and Friday, and Saturday afternoons. Familiarity with basic office computer skills and any form of collection management is a plus, but not required. We also have openings for High school students who are interested in gaining collection management experience with physical and digital materials, for service hours. Please email the library. These are on-site volunteer opportunities.

## ***Library Hours, November***

Thursdays & Fridays: 2:30 – 5:00 pm ; Saturdays: 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday: November 24-26.

Special hour updates will appear on the library's Facebook and Instagram pages.

## ***Biscuits & Books, Live!***

Thursday, November 10 4:00 - 4:45 PM

A Special 2nd Thursday edition of Biscuits & Books. The library is open to patrons during this live chat featuring antiquarian books, interesting titles and upcoming programming. Watch it happen Live on the Library's Facebook page, or be our guest in the discussion by attending on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007236093?pwd=aEFpbGlWamluOW80dGM4MzJEeIAzUT09>

## ***Irish Genealogy Club - Zoom Meeting***

Saturday, November 12, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

In honour of Veteran's Day: Military Records. Draft cards, service records, pension files and memorabilia

2022 club leads: Pati Traktman [patitraktman@gmail.com](mailto:patitraktman@gmail.com) & Nancy Sanchez [nmsanchez86@yahoo.com](mailto:nmsanchez86@yahoo.com).

Pre-register via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007236093?pwd=aEFpbGlWamluOW80dGM4MzJEeIAzUT09>

## ***Irish Marvels Past & Present- Zoom Meeting***

Saturday, November 12, 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Group Discussion: A Virtual Ofrenda. Bring a story and a photo of a relative, friend or person who inspired you and has now departed this world. Time to share about your person will be divided equally amongst all attendees.

Questions? Contact Lisa Hilmoe at ([hilmoe.gleason@gmail.com](mailto:hilmoe.gleason@gmail.com))

Pre-register via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007236093?pwd=aEFpbGlWamluOW80dGM4MzJEeIAzUT09>

## ***In-kind Donations***

Please continue to make arrangements for physical materials donations via email initially. Thank you for your consideration.

We look forward to working with you regarding your collections.

Sláinte,

Jennifer Drennan, *Librarian*

[librarian@irishcentersf.org](mailto:librarian@irishcentersf.org) — 415/661-2700 ext 106 [Th, F, Sat]

Facebook: [@dowlinglibraryattheuicc](#) • YouTube: Librarian P.J. Dowling Library • Instagram: [@pjdowlinglibrarysf](#)

## AN IRISH CHRISTMAS

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Doors at 6:30 pm / Show at 7 pm

Making a joy-filled return to the United Irish Cultural Center for one night only, Kerry Irish Productions presents, An Irish Christmas.

Kick-off your Christmas season and join us on Thursday, December 1, 2022 for a celebration of family and community that showcases some of the great Irish holiday traditions and features award-winning dancers from Riverdance, Lord of the Dance and Celtic Wings.

Tickets: GA Adult \$40

GA Adult Member \$35

GA Youth (12 and under) \$10

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



## The Fire's Very Scottish Christmas Show

Friday, December 9, 2022

Doors at 7:30 pm / Show at 8 pm

Enjoy David Brewer's unparalleled mastery of the Great Highland Bagpipe, Rebecca Lomnick's internationally awarded Scottish fiddling, and Adam Hendey's warm-emotive voice over a lush foundation of guitar and reed organ. Featuring material from their critically acclaimed album, "The Fire's Very Scottish Christmas," the live show experience presents seasonal folk ballads dating back to the 1300s alongside beloved holiday favorites.

Tickets: GA Adult \$40

GA Adult Member \$35

GA Youth (12 and under) \$10

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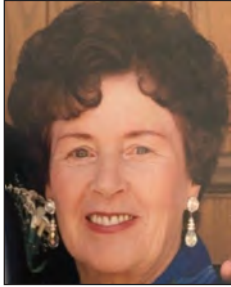
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## IN MEMORIAM



**TERESA McDONAGH** *JUNE 28, 1930 - OCTOBER 14, 2022*

Teresa McDonagh, passed away unexpectedly on October 14th, 2022. She has joined her beloved Brendan in heaven. Teresa was born in Balla, Co. Mayo, Ireland on June 28th, 1930. She was one of eight children, born to Brigid, RIP, and Michael Kerins, RIP. In 1950, she followed her sisters to St Albans, England, where she became a registered psychiatric nurse.

She loved dancing and met our father at a dance hall in Cricklewood, London, England. They were married on January 26th, 1957 and emigrated to San Francisco aboard the ship Neptunia. Teresa was a devoted wife and dearly missed Brendan, who passed away in 1986. They were a sight to see waltzing on the dance floor and even won a contest in her hometown of Balla in 1974.

She was so proud of her children, grandchildren, and their accomplishments and might have been known to boast at times. Later in life, she enjoyed ballroom dancing around the Bay Area and socializing with her close group of friends, 'The Roses.' Every family occasion ended with a sing-along led by Grandma to her favorite Irish songs – songs that all the children and grandchildren came to love.

She was an active member of the Irish community in San Francisco for decades and a charter member of the United Irish Cultural Center. She was also a member of the Connacht and Ulster Club and volunteer at St. Ignatius College Preparatory and St. Gabriel's Church.

She is survived by her four children, Sheila McDonagh, Marian (Tom) Cooper, Paul (Michelle) McDonagh, and Angela (Bill) Sicord. She was a doting grandmother to Stephanie Franceschi, Sara Cooper (Cam Smith), David Cooper, Kira Cooper, Madison McDonagh, Caitlin McDonagh, Megan Sicord, Fiona Sicord, and Liam Sicord. She was a great-grandmother to darling Malina. She is preceded in death by her siblings, Maisie Fox, Anne Conway, Bridie Williams, John Kerins, Tom Kerins, Michael Patrick Kerins, and Seamus Kerins. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dílis.  
May her holy soul be on the right side of God



**Special "Oireachtas Pop-Up" Exhibition**  
**November 18, 19, 20, 2022**  
**at the Marriott Marquis, Downtown SF**  
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

For a special mini-exhibit to be held in conjunction with the Western Regional Irish Dance Championship competition to be held in San Francisco on November 18-20 at the Marriot Marquis.

### GET INVOLVED!

The Keepers of the Steps committee is looking for volunteers to help with set-up and take-down as well as staffing the exhibit during the 3-day run. The committee also seeks Irish dance stories on an on-going basis.

Please contact Eileen Mize at [emize@irishcentersf.org](mailto:emize@irishcentersf.org) if you have interest in volunteering and/or contributing a story or artifact.

**KEEP IN TOUCH**

@KeepersOfTheSteps

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# OKTOBERFEST BY THE BEACH 2022

Thank you to all who joined us for our 4th annual sold-out Oktoberfest by the Beach! A hearty thanks to Molly and Mark Burke for their leadership and vision and to all our sponsors and wonderful volunteers for creating and making possible an awesome environment and atmosphere—the St. Patrick's room was utterly transformed. Music by the Internationals, authentic dancers, activities, and fabulous food and drink—great night!



*Molly Burke, Nick De La Rosa, KC Murphy, Teri Myrphy, Jenna Murphy.*



*Rebecca Silva, RC Russell, Shelli Murphy.*



*Mairead McCreavy, Niamh Kenny and Jackie Cooper.*



*Adam and Haruna Schutz.*



*Monica Doherty Murphy and John Fogarty.*



*Catrina Callaghrone, Maggie Burke, Katie Kobmann, Alyssa Brown.*



*John Shanley, Paul Fitzpatrick, Patrick Sheehan.*



*Molly Burke and Heidi Ehrlich.*



*Prost! The St. Patrick's Bier Hall was a polka-palooza with the International German band on stage and lederbosen and gingham for as far as the eye could see.*



*Molly and Mark Burke.*

# POETRY CORNER

Many thanks to UICC member Tim Murphy, who shared this lovely poem written about one of the local national schools (Derrygallon) in Tim's native parish of Dromtariffe, in north Co. Cork. The poem was written about a much simpler time in Ireland during the first few decades of the twentieth century. It recalls the passage of time from one's school days, to manhood and eventually death beneath the "sod". The poem acknowledges the killing of Irish volunteers Jack O'Connell and Paddy Clancy at Derrygallon by British forces during the War of Independence in 1920. Dr. Pat O'Callaghan, Ireland's first Olympic medallist is also acknowledged as a past pupil of the school.

## DERRYGALLON SCHOOL

I am pondering in the shadows of the days long gone by,  
My thoughts go back in fancy to when I was a boy,  
With the school bag o'er my shoulder in weather fine or cool,  
We trudged along the Old Bog Road to Derrygallon School.

Some of the boys from my school days are asleep beneath the sod,  
Some went to far off countries to preach the word of God,  
More are toiling far away where the sun shines hot and cruel,  
Their thoughts will surely wander back to Derrygallon School.

When those awful sums came on and you wished you're not alive,  
The teacher points you out and says "how much is eight and five?"  
Oh, you stuttered and you stammered and you proved yourself a fool,  
For that you had to pay the price at Derrygallon school.

When 1920 came along and without self-gain,  
Ireland's sons had manned the guns to smash the alien chain,  
Clancy and O'Connell fought with courage calm and cool,  
And bravely died for Ireland near Derrygallon School

'Twas in 1932 in far off Amsterdam,  
The world's great athletes were there to prove the courage cool,  
The world's champion came that day from Derrygallon school,

Many years have passed me since I was a garsun,  
Before the aeroplane was for flying to the moon,  
The old school house is standing still and the teachers teach the rule,  
May God be with my comrades all and Derrygallon School.

—Written by Mick O'Keeffe, R.I.P.

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