

Comhaltas Winnipeg Newsletter

Happy New Year! Welcome to our January Newsletter! A new decade is upon us, and we here at Comhaltas Winnipeg are looking forward to lots of Irish activities in the New Year. As we look back over the past decade, it's great to realize how much we've benefitted from Irish Music, dance and culture. We've made friends and had good times. On Friday, January 26th of January we will be holding our 2nd annual Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Irish Club. Free pizza, salad, cake, open bar and an all-welcome music session. Bring your instrument or come and listen, you'll be warmly welcomed either way. The purpose of this event is to show appreciation for the many volunteers who made The Irish Festival, and other events possible. Special awards will be presented as a way to show our appreciation. So as the new decade begins, we wish you the very best, in all your Irish activities! Please remember that this newsletter is intended to highlight the Irish activities going on around town each month, so feel free to submit information about your group, or as an individual, for inclusion. Contact Paul: pphauleo@gmail.com

Shocking Irish Facts

The harp is the national Instrument of Ireland. Ireland is the only country in the world to have a musical instrument as it's national symbol. 22 U.S. Presidents have been of direct Irish heritage, out of the 44 U.S. Presidents in total. An Irishman, James Hoban, designed The U.S. White House in 1792, after winning a design competition.

Joke of the Month

An Irishman was trying to find a parking space. He prayed, saying, "Lord, if you open a space for me, I promise to go to church every Sunday. Suddenly the clouds part and the sun shines on an empty parking space. The Irishman says, "Never mind Lord, I found one."

Instrument of The Month: The Fiddle

There is no difference between a Fiddle and a Violin. Fiddles/Violins range in price from \$100. to \$16 million dollars (for a Stradivarius Violin). I'm planning to upgrade to a Stradivarius soon. One of the first Violin makers was Andea Amati who started making them in 1500, In Italy.



Upcoming Events

Volunteer Appreciation Event, January 26th, 1pm, at the Irish club, 654 Erin Street: Free pizza, cake, volunteer awards, session. Bar will be open, all-welcome!

Comhaltas Winnipeg School of Traditional Irish Music and Culture.

We have had an excellent first term with 28 registrants. Thank you to The IAM for their support and to the enthusiastic students. 99% of our students are adults, and many are beginners. It is never too late to learn! Term one runs to the end of January, term two starts in February and runs to the end of May. New students are always welcome. For information call 2940894-4499.

Pigeons On The Gate

There is a popular tune called Pigeon On The Gate. While in Ennis, the Comhaltas research team located the original pigeons who inspired the tune.



Local Sessions and Other Events

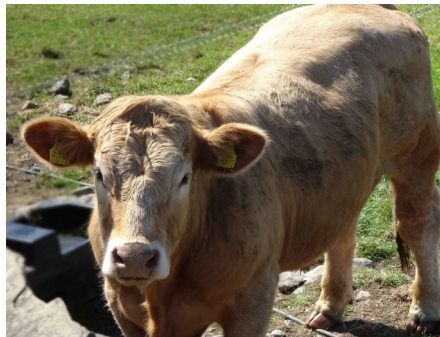
Irish Club session, all-welcome. Thursdays, 7:30pm. Irish Association of Manitoba, 654 Erin Street.

Comhaltas Irish music classes and lessons. All ages and abilities. On the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, and the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, at The Irish Association of Manitoba, 654 Erin Street. Pre-registration is required. For more information call 204-894-4499.

Comhaltas Winnipeg slow session, all welcome. Meets on the 2nd and 4th (and 5th if there is one) Tuesday of each month, at The Irish Association of Manitoba, 654 Erin Street. Contact Daniel for more Information wpg.slow.session@gmail.com Sessions start January 14th.

Sam's Place Session, all welcome. Last Friday of every month, 7pm. Sam's Place Café and used Bookstore. 159 Henderson Hwy.

Shannon's Pub Session. Intermediate to advanced. Saturdays. 4:30pm. 175 Carlton Ave, Downtown Winnipeg.



Happy New Year! Have a great January!