

January 2021

Comhaltas Winnipeg Newsletter

Happy New Year, and welcome to the January newsletter! We extend our very best wishes to each of you, for a happy and healthy new year. Have you ever wanted to win a prize, and be famous? Well, in this issue you'll notice a new feature: "game of the month" on page three. You could be the lucky winner of a nice prize, which will be mailed to you. The winner's name will be posted in next month's newsletter so that means fame! The Comhaltas newsletter is now brimming with monthly treats including Tune of the Month, Meet our Members and Game of the Month. So we extend good will and good luck to you during these difficult Covid days, and just remember that it won't be long until we can all get together again!

Submitted by Hugh Rice

Recently acquired mandolin by luthier Paul Evans, County Kerry, Ireland. Named: The Little Beast. Hand made from mahogany and alpine spruce.



Meet Our members Robert Coish



Robert first became involved in Irish music several years ago while attending guitar workshops at the Ten Bones Weekend held in the St. Norbert ruins. Over the years Robert continued to play guitar at the Tea and Tunes sessions, facilitated by Susan Hammer, and also at the Slow Sessions. From 2001-2003 Robert participated in Irish set dancing while he and his family were living in Northern Ireland.

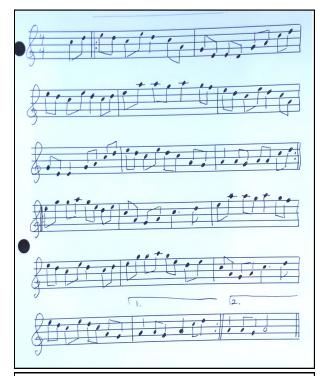
After moving back to Canada, Robert and his wife, Carol Ann, teamed up with Jeremy Hull to start a set dancing group in Winnipeg. This group enjoyed performing at Irish Fest, Folklarama, and at Senior's homes. In 2015 during Irish Fest, Robert billeted two musicians from the group Croahb Rua: Brian Connolly and Connor Caldwell and has kept in touch with them ever since.

Nowadays Robert continues to play guitar, participating in Irish sessions whenever he

Tune of The Month

Her Lovely Golden Hair Was Flowing Down her Back

https://youtu.be/2pt8erZbAKg



. This beautiful Hornpipe was composed by Junior Crehan. It is very playable, so I thought we'd all enjoy it. This tune is not to be confused with "The Girl With The Long Black Hair Flowing Down her Back" also composed by Junior Crehan. The story goes that on occasion he changed the colour of the hair in the title depending on which of his daughters was in earshot! In the video check out the cool Suda, a Middle-Eastern, Ude-like instrument, playing along with fiddler Fergal Scahill.

Multi-instrumentalist **Fergal Scahill** is one of the most renowned fiddlers in Irish music today. He is most widely known as the fiddler in the award-winning band We Banjo 3. His career has spanned over 20 years, performing thousands of shows in more than 30 countries worldwide. An accomplished musician on many instruments, he has won All-Ireland titles of fiddle, bodhrán, guitar and drums.

Submitted by Hugh Rice Painting "Grand Day 11" 40" by 40" acrylic

The painting has a unique Hugh G. Rice personal style painted without brushes. Hugh Rice's work can be seen

at www.hughgrice.com

At Facebook page: Hugh G Rice Fine Art At Woodlands Gallery on Academy Road, Winnipeg.



Submitted by Susan Hammer CCE Winnipeg Irish Music School News:

The Tune Learning Project is ongoing and new members are welcome at any time. Email HammersMusic@gmail.com for info.

We would like to wish everyone a very healthy, happy New Year! Here's a lovely poem (page 3) plus a link to the song by Sean Doyle (Father of multi-instrumentalist, and influential Irish Musician John Doyle).

Sean Doyle & Friends https://youtu.be/jDEtTPRwmIU Submitted by Susan Hammer

THE FIDDLER OF DOONEY By W. B. Yeats

WHEN I play on my fiddle in Dooney, Folk dance like a wave of the sea; My cousin is priest in Kilvarnet, My brother in Moharabuiee.

I passed my brother and cousin: They read in their books of prayer; I read in my book of songs I bought at the Sligo fair.

When we come at the end of time, To Peter sitting in state, He will smile on the three old spirits, But call me first through the gate;

For the good are always the merry, Save by an evil chance, And the merry love the fiddle And the merry love to dance:

And when the folk there spy me,
They will all come up to me,
With 'Here is the fiddler of Dooney!'
And dance like a wave of the sea.

Here's a shot of Hugh Rice's new mandolin as it was under construction by luthier Paul Evans, County Kerry, Ireland.



Game of the Month: Wordsearch

1.print a copy of the wordsearch below.

- 2. Complete the wordsearch.
- 3. Take a photo of completed wordsearch with your cell phone and email it to Editor: phpauleo@gmail.com

Entries received will go into a pot, and a winner will randomly be selected.

The winner will receive a prize in the mail, and their name will be posted in next month's newsletter!

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