

Editor

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COMHALTAS



October  
2021

## Winnipeg Comhaltas Newsletter

### Meet Our Members

#### Mavis Polden



I have always been interested in Irish culture, music and dance as my Dad's family was from Ireland. One year I decided to go to Irish Fest where I signed up for a workshop called Irish Set Dance. Knowing nothing about this type of dance I thought it has Irish music and dance so it has to be good, right? It turned out to be very good and I have been dancing with the group for many years until we were shut down because of Covid. We all hope we can resume dancing again soon.

Welcome to the October newsletter! October is Halloween month, and it's also a time when sessions around town start getting into regular swing, especially now that more folks are getting their vaccine card. So here's wishing you all continued enjoyment of Irish music, and as always, have a great month! Please read Susan's message below, pertaining to memberships.

#### From Chair of CCE Winnipeg Branch (Comhaltas Winnipeg)

Hello Comhaltas Winnipeg members !

It has been a challenging 18 months for Irish Musicians! Some of you have been learning or participating in sessions on-line. Some have managed to squeeze-in a few outdoor sessions. The Irish Club Thursday sessions are back and the Slow Session Group is also now meeting there (Proof of Immunization is required). Unfortunately, due to the continuing uncertainty around the pandemic, and organizational challenges, Comhaltas Winnipeg will not be planning any events at this time. This is the second year we have no activities planned. Last year due to Covid, Comhaltas Winnipeg renewed your memberships and paid for them out of branch funds. However, this year we are asking members to please renew their memberships by October 31. Go to "membership" on our website: [comhaltaswinnipeg.ca](http://comhaltaswinnipeg.ca)

Remember that Comhaltas Winnipeg is the local Branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann (CCE), an international non-profit cultural organization with headquarters in Dublin Ireland. You are one of the thousands of other CCE members in hundreds Branches around the world dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Irish Traditional Music (ITM) and culture through education and performances.

Thanks folks!

Susan

## Mavis' Bio

Irish Fest led to lessons in whistle and bodhran with Susan and guitar with Paul. I attended "Tea and Tunes" with Susan and later our "Slow Sessions" in which beginner musicians can learn tunes slowly. During Covid, weather permitting, our Slow Session group managed to play in the park where we sometimes attracted passers by who stopped for a while to listen. Thankfully we can now get together at the Irish Club! I have made many good friends through Irish Music and often wondered what attracted me so much to it. It must be in my blood.

Hello folks, here's links to some excellent ITM websites.

### Learning Resources:

<https://comhaltas.ie/>  
<http://www.comhaltaswinnipeg.ca/>  
<https://www.itma.ie/digital-library>  
<https://connollymusiccollection.bc.edu/>

### Full recordings of ITM on Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3Qrq1virQfQoWsrku3tkgQ/playlists>  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMZJVZKgZ1\\_yP8CMwLnYtMg/playlists](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMZJVZKgZ1_yP8CMwLnYtMg/playlists)  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpBx8JIXwsdMdr8oA23KNqg/featured>

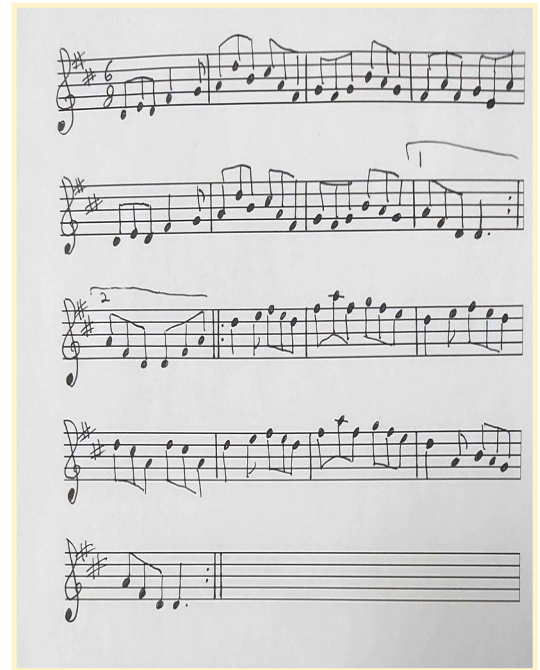
Enjoy!  
Susan

## Tune of the Month

I Buried My Wife and Danced On Her Grave

Taught by Martin Hayes

<https://youtu.be/DnNBnhkn5jI>



This tune is lovely but the name is somewhat of a mystery. Martin Hayes says, "I learned it from a sweet and kind man who's wife had just died and he imagined it as a celebratory dance. When somebody close to you dies in Ireland it is often stated as "I buried my father, my mother, my brother, etc. so the title isn't as dark as you might think".



Session at the  
Irish Club

All Welcome!  
Sunday, Oct 24  
2:20-5:30

Hosted by  
Paul Hammer  
*Hope to see  
you there!*

-Paul

For another approach to the tune,  
here it is on flute, taught by Shannon  
Heaton

<https://youtu.be/oasGzxGfPNg>