



THE LIVING TRADITION

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COMHALTAS – CORONAVIRUS

Communication No. 24

Ar scáth a chéile a mhairimid. We all exist in one another's shadow. There is more than a grain of truth in this proverb and to this could be added **Is i dteannta a chéile is fearr sinn.** Unity is strength. This will be the essence of **ATHNUACHAN** on **AN RÓD SEO ROMHAINN.**

We have passed through the tunnel – cautiously we might add – and there is so much good news in Comhaltas from so many people at home and abroad. It is like a feast in the middle of the desert. There is so much more to come – **The Virtual Fleadh** on TG4 which will be launched by **Uachtarán na hÉireann Michael D. Higgins.**

The Virtual Scoil Éigse, with 38 tutors, which was over-subscribed in a few days – 879 pupils and 76 classes.

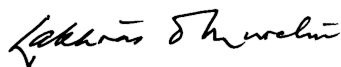
- **TG4's VIRTUAL FLEADH.** This will be on four nights, the 6th - 9th August from 9:30pm. To 11:00pm. Uachtarán na hÉireann Michael D. Higgins has graciously agreed to launch the Fleadh as he has done so often. The programmes are packed with talent, nostalgia and hope for the future. Production is in the experienced hands of Power Productions.
Ar aghaidh leis an gceol!
- **VIRTUAL SCOIL ÉIGSE.** (Monday 3rd August to Thursday 6th August). The Scoil Éigse is the jewel in the crown of the Comhaltas Education Programme. This jewel will not be less bright in the Virtual Scoil Éigse. There will be 38 tutors and 76 classes. It was oversubscribed with 879 pupils. The classes will be held in the mornings. The evenings will have recitals and Club Éigse. Sounds like old times! The technical and design side of things is in the capable hands of Peter Denmead (Cultúrlann na hÉireann) and Fernando Marcos who is domiciled in Argentina. As usual, the Director is Kieran Hanrahan of RTÉ's Céilí House fame with the assistance of the ever-industrious Rúnaí Oifige at the Cultúrlann Lisa O'Shea.
- **PROTOCOL IN RELATION TO ONLINE CLASSES.**
An tArd-Rúnaí Tomás Ó Maoldomhnaigh and Ardchláraitheoir Majella Bartley have provided us with a PROTOCOL in relation to online classes. Tomás is central to the Child Protection policies and implementation within Comhaltas. Majella is central to the Education Programme of Comhaltas.

PROTOCOL for Branches in relation to COMHALTAS ZOOM or other ONLINE CLASSES:

1. Branches wishing to use ONLINE CLASSES are responsible for making the initial contact with the parents/guardians of the students who will be the recipients of the lessons.
2. All music, song and dance tutors providing the ONLINE class are required to have a current vetting with Comhaltas. If vetting is required branch rúnaí is requested to provide NVB1 application form. Contact tomas@comhaltas.ie if this NVB1 form is required.
3. Arrange for permission to be granted by the parents/guardians of the student prior to start of ONLINE classes, either by text or email.
4. Be careful with login ID's and passwords, make sure they differ from class to class and that only essential people know the details.
5. Parent/guardian should start the video link and they should also close it down at the end of the lesson.
6. Parents/guardians are responsible for monitoring ONLINE classes for all students under 18 years of age. SAFEGUARDING and PROTECTION of all students are paramount.

NÍ RAIBH GEARÁN RIAMH FAOI IOMARCA FEAR MEITHLE. Many hands make light work. Bí linn. Bí dílis. Bí díograiseach. Bí flaithiúil. This will be a summer of **aiséirí na nGael** when we will all put a shoulder to the wheel on the journey of **ATHNUACHAN** on **AN RÓD SEO ROMHAINN**. Together we look forward to a new Spring....

Le mór-mheas,



Labhrás Ó Murchú
Ardstiúrthóir CCÉ