

THE LIVING TRADITION

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COMHALTAS - CORONAVIRUS

Communication No. 4

The Buanchoiste wish to express their appreciation to all those who have offered advice and suggestions to us. These views are all carefully considered and measured in these very difficult and uncertain times but always being cognisant of Government directives and guidelines.

You will note from our Communications that our aim is to respond promptly and in an updated format to new developments as they arise. In this regard, we must also consider possible impacts not only on Comhaltas itself but also our relationship with Government, tourism and business interests, local communities, etc. and how best to communicate with these. However, at all times our main consideration is for the health and wellbeing of all our people.

We are also cognisant of the need to look beyond the pandemic when morale-building and economic restructuring will be essential. It will be expected of Comhaltas to demonstrate leadership and initiative in this regard.

Please note the most recent developments:

- After prolonged consideration and in consultation with the Fleadh Executive Committee in Mullingar, the Buanchoiste, on behalf of the Ardchomhairle, have decided that Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann will not proceed as scheduled next August.
- With a view to sustaining the essence of the Fleadh, including competitions, a deferred date possibly the end of October at a venue to be decided is being examined. This is subject at all times to the status of the pandemic at that time.
- In the event of a deferred date, this would mean that Provincial Fleadhanna could be deferred to, say, September and County Fleadhanna to, say, July or August.

We will continue to issue Communications as the need arises. Please be assured that on an hourly basis we will monitor and respond to all necessary developments as they apply to Comhaltas on local, national and international levels.

Given the resilience of our organisation, we are confident that we can make a positive and meaningful contribution in these times of crisis.

Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Lakaras Thurselin

Labhrás Ó Murchú Ardstiúrthóir CCÉ