



THE LIVING TRADITION

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COMHALTAS - CORONAVIRUS

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THE FLEADH RETURNS TO MULLINGAR.....BUILDING BRIDGES.....ATHNUACHAN
AR AN RÓD SEO ROMHAINN SAN FRANCISCO TRIUMPH A NEW DAWN
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FOR YOU?.....

Over the years as I compiled each issue of TREOIR, I never ceased to marvel at the generous and consistent volunteerism which made many of our achievements possible. Across the whole island of Ireland and in many countries worldwide, thousands of men and women work diligently and effectively to achieve the full potential of our aspirations. Tá An Comhaltas agus an náisiún go mór faoi chomaoín acu uilig.

FLEADH CHEOIL The Fleadh Cheoil is a tangible expression of this volunteerism. The Fleadh is a national institution. It is part of who we are as a race. It expresses our cultural characteristics and a pride in ourselves as a people. It manifests our achievements and aspirations. It highlights our potential for co-operative endeavour and reconciliation. It is a community en fête working in unison and solidarity.

BACK TO MULLINGAR

Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2022 will return to Mullingar where Comhaltas was founded in 1951. Hundreds of thousands of Fleadh fans from the villages, the towns and cities of Ireland – and from right across the globe - will converge on Mullingar from 31st of July to 8th of August. This will be a celebration of hope, renewal, camaraderie, creativity and excellence wrapped in the comforting glow of our own native music which in the seventy years since the founding of Comhaltas has captured the hearts of the world. Bí linn gan teip.

A CAR FOR YOU?

Would you like to own a new Toyota Corolla Hybrid L/Sport? It could be yours. See fleadhcheoil.ie Tickets are €20 each or 3 for €50. You can buy tickets online at fleadhcheoil.ie or if you have sold tickets, please return ticket stubs and monies to Fleadh Cheoil Office, Market House, Market Square, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath. Cheques should be made payable to Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann Mullingar or call 0449338954 to get bank details. The draw takes place at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in Mullingar on the 7th of August. Given the challenges facing Mullingar following a two-year disruption, every little help would be appreciated by the Fleadh Committee.

BUILDING BRIDGES

Brú Ború, the Comhaltas Cultural Centre which nestles in the shadow of the ancient Rock of Cashel, hosted a visit by the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall last March. The Royal couple were entertained by the much-acclaimed Brú Ború performing group who have performed worldwide including on the Great Wall of China. The one hour event was acknowledged as a significant bridge-building occasion. In his address to the gathering, Prince Charles said: "Ireland and the UK have shared too much of the waters of sorrow, but with the flow of time there is emerging something rich, new and hopeful".

ATHNUACHAN

The new ATHNUACHAN branch guidebook is a timely aid in the renewal of the Comhaltas cultural movement. The Ardrúnaí Tomás Ó Maoldomhnaigh notes that "this publication aims to assist all officers in achieving best practice". An tUachtarán Éamonn Ó hArgáin says: "The guidebook is a valuable source for officeholders and potential officeholders. It sits alongside other Comhaltas resources that shape our organisation".

SAN FRANCISCO TRIUMPH

"The 2022 North American Comhaltas Convention held in San Francisco was a triumph for the CCÉ Cooley-Keegan Branch of Comhaltas who hosted the Convention". This was stated by Comhaltas PRO Pádraig Ó Flanagáin who attended this great musical event which was attended by hundreds of representatives from the United States and Canada.

A NEW DAWN

The 2022 Annual Congress of Comhaltas - the first since 2019 due to Covid-19 - was held at Cultúrlann na hÉireann. It was deemed by many to herald a new dawn for the cultural movement. Uachtarán an Chomhaltais Éamonn Ó hArgáin "saluted all those who made this possible". He highlighted the achievements during the pandemic and pointed to the ambitious plans for the future.

**PASSING THE
TRADITION**

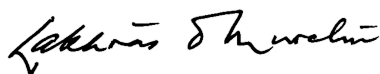
Ardchláraitheoir Majella Bartley, who heads up the TTCT education programme, has announced that the 2022 TTCT Course will be held at Cultúrlann na hÉireann from 30th of October to 4th of November. The course prepares musicians to teach Irish traditional music in a wide range of settings. Over 800 teachers have qualified to date.

**A MEASURE OF
EXCELLENCE**

“The Scrúdú Ceol Tíre examinations, which continued throughout the pandemic, are proving to be very successful”, Jim McAllister of Clasaic reports. The Director of the SCT Oisín Mac Diarmada notes: ‘It is exciting to reflect on the fact that over 60,000 exams have taken place since the examinations system was launched in Dublin Castle by President Mary McAleese in December 1998’.

I hope you find the upcoming issue of TREOIR interesting. It will be available in the next few weeks. Táimid go mór faoi chomaoin agaibh as ucht bhúr dtacaíochta. Gluaiseacht an phobail is ea An Comhaltas. Bíonn céad míle fáilte roimh gach éinne atá páirteach linn ag saothrú an Chultúir Ghaelaigh. Míle buíochas.

Le mór-mheas,



Dr. Labhrás Ó Murchú
Ardstiúrthóir