

THE LIVING TRADITION

CEARNÓG BELGRAVE, BAILE NA MANACH, CO. ÁTHA CLIATH

Phone: 01-2800295. Fax: 01-2803759

Email: eolas@comhaltas.ie

Website: <http://www.comhaltas.ie>

COMHALTAS – CORONAVIRUS

Communication No. 6

Operating in the bunker-like conditions here at the Cultúrlann in Dublin – with all staff staying at home for the time being – I am assisted by Ronan O’ Brien at Brú Ború in Cashel, where the other staff are also at home. The Buanchoiste members have been a source of great strength.

Unity is strength and never was this more necessary – and evident – than in the present crisis. The positive messages of support and solidarity from our Comhaltas members across Ireland and abroad make all our efforts worthwhile. Míle buíochas.

Like the Government and the GAA, we are looking beyond the crisis to better days when the challenge will be to raise the morale of a distressed people and also to contribute to economic regeneration. We are keeping doors of opportunity open as long as possible until circumstances may shut them on us. We would not be faulted for failure but for not trying.

We are impressed by the many counties who are planning for brighter days with the opportunity of holding County Fleadhanna in, say, July and August. Also, Provincial Councils who are looking to, say, September for Provincial Fleadhanna. Some counties are planning to invite entries at an early date with a view to having the wheels well oiled in preparation for those brighter days.

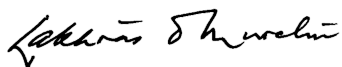
We express our appreciation to the Department of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht who have released capital grants to several of our cultural centres. This will enable them to enhance and upgrade their centres sending a further message of confidence.

We also thank the Department for ensuring that we have adequate cash flow to sustain our structure and services during the unprecedented challenges which the nation is now experiencing.

As we reach the sun-filled days of June, we will all be better placed to study the road map for AN RÓD SEO ROMHAINN – the road before us – and respond accordingly. We will be guided by the great milestones of the past where Comhaltas transformed negatives into positives. This is in the DNA of our movement.

Dóchas, dílseacht agus díograis – hope, loyalty and fervour could well be our motto. Is ar scáth a chéile a mhaireas na daoine agus tá an scéal amhlaidh linne. Ní neart go cur le chéile. Go raibh Rath Dé oraibh.

Le mór-mheas agus dóchas,



Labhrás Ó Murchú
Ardstiúrthóir CCÉ