



July 2005

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Things about Dublin from "Evereyday Slang in Ireland"

Gerry Coughlan is the editor of the website Everyday English and Slang in Ireland. His website is located at: .

1) Dublin's O'Connell Bridge was originally made of rope and could only carry one man and a donkey at a time. It was replaced with a wooden structure in 1801. The current concrete bridge was built in 1863 and was first called "Carlisle Bridge".

2) O'Connell Bridge is the only traffic bridge in Europe which is wider than it is long and Dublin's second O'Connell Bridge is across the pond in Stephen's Green.

3) Dublin Corporation planted 43,765 deciduous trees in the Greater Dublin area in 1998.

4) Dublin's oldest workhouse closed its doors for the last time in July 1969. Based in Smithfield, the premises housed 10,037 orphan children during the one hundred and seventy years it operated.

5) Dublin was originally called Dubh Linn meaning Black Pool. The pool to which the name referred is the oldest known natural treacle lake in Northern Europe and currently forms the centrepiece of the penguin enclosure in Dublin Zoo.

6) The average Dubliner earns \$38,308 per annum, giving twelve euros to charity and a hundred and sixty two euros in tips. The most important consideration when a man is deciding whether or not to give a barmaid a tip is the amount of her

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body that he can see. A quarter of all tips go to taxi drivers even though they earn, on average, four times the average wage in the city, higher than ninety six percent of their clients.

7) None of the so-called Dublin Mountains is high enough to meet the criteria required to claim mountain status. The Sugarloaf is the tallest 'Dublin Mountain' yet measures a mere 1389 feet above sea level.

8) The headquarters of the national broadcaster RTE in Montrose was originally built for use as an abattoir.

9) Dublin's oldest traffic light is situated beside the Renault garage in Clontarf. The light, which is still in full working order, was installed in 1893 outside the home of Fergus Mitchell who was the owner of the first car in Ireland.

10) The Temple Bar area is so called because it housed the first Jewish temple built in Ireland. The word 'bar' refers to the refusal of Catholics to allow the Jewish community to enter any of the adjoining commercial premises.

11) Tiny Coliemore Harbour beside the Dalkey Island Hotel was the main harbour for Dublin from the fifteenth to the seventeenth century.

12) In 1761 a family of itinerants from Navan were refused entry to Dublin. The family settled on the outskirts of the city and created the town of Rush. Two hundred and fifty years later, almost the entire population of Rush can still trace their roots back to this one family.

13) Dubliners drink a total of 9800 pints an hour between the hours of 5.30 pm on a Friday and 3.00 am the following Monday.

14) Women from Dublin are the least likely to become pregnant through casual sex. Women from Meath are the most likely.

15) Harold's Cross got its name because a tribe called the Harolds lived in the Wickow Mountains and the Archbishop of Dublin would not let them come any nearer to the city than that point.

16) Leopardstown was once known as Leperstown.

17) Dublin vets charge up to fifteen times more for animal health services than their counterparts outside the capital.

18) Buck Whaley was an extremely wealthy gambler who lived in Dublin in the seventeen hundreds. Due to inheritances, he had an income of seven thousand pounds per year (not far

off seven million a year at today's prices). He lived in a huge house near Stephen's Green which is now the Catholic University of Ireland. He went broke and he had to leave Ireland due to gambling debts. He swore he'd be buried on Irish soil but is in fact buried in the Isle of Man in a shipload of Irish soil which he imported for the purpose.

19) The converted Ford Transit used for the Pope's visit in 1976 was upholstered using the most expensive carpet ever made in Dublin. The carpet was a silk and Teflon weave and rumoured to have cost over £950.00 per square meter.

20) There was once a large statue of Queen Victoria in the Garden outside Leinster House. It was taken away when the Republic of Ireland became independent and in 1988 was given as a present to the city of Sydney, Australia to mark that city's 200th anniversary.

21) The largest cake ever baked in Dublin weighed a whopping 190 lbs and was made to celebrate the 1988 city millennium. The cake stood untouched in the Mansion House until 1991 when it was thrown out.

22) There are 46 rivers in Dublin city. The river flowing through Rathmines is called the River Swan (beside the Swan Centre). The Poddle was once known as the 'Tiber' and was also known as the River Salach (dirty river), which is the origin of the children's song "Down by the river Saile". It is also the river whose peaty, mountain water causes the Black Pool mentioned above.

23) Saint Valentine was martyred in Rome on February 28th eighteen centuries ago. He was the Bishop of Terni. His remains are in a cask in White Friar Street Church, Dublin. He is no longer recognised as a Saint by the Vatican.

24) Montgomery Street was once the biggest red-light district in Europe with an estimated 1600 prostitutes. It was known locally as the "Monto" and this is the origin of the song "Take me up to Monto"

25) Henry Moore, Earl of Drogheda lived in Dublin in the eighteenth century. His job was naming streets. He called several after himself. Henry Street, Moore Street, Earl Street, Drogheda Street. Drogheda Street later became Sackville Street and is now O'Connell Street. He didn't like to see the 'of' from his name left out so when he was naming a small lane (off O'Connell Street) he called it "Of Lane" (it's gone now).

26) Nelson's Pillar was blown up in 1966 to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the 1916 rising. It now lies in a heap in a valley

in County Wicklow.

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Rock County

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **July, August** – no meetings
- **August 16** – Annual Club Picnic; 5–9 p.m.

Our Club Picnic will be held at Sweet- Alyn Park, in Shoppire, on August 16, from 5 to 9 p.m. We will have a potluck supper at 6 p.m. Come early if you can, so you can visit with the other club members before we start eating. The Club will furnish pop. If you would like coffee or some other (non-alcoholic) beverage, bring it along.

There will be a raffle and door prizes and Irish music. One of the prizes on the raffle will be a Leprechaun. If any of you members have anything you would like to donate for the raffle, bring those things along to the picnic. Our picnic will be held in the shelter pavilion, so plan on coming, rain or shine.

Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing all of you at the picnic on August 16.

Our new officers will be:

President: Tom Kennedy

Secretary: Rosie Hughes

Treasurer: Kaye McCann Membership: Mary Bickle

Our first meeting in the fall will be on September 20.

– **Tom Kennedy**

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South Central Shamrock Club

South Central Shamrock Club met on May 19, at the Farm Kitchen in Baraboo, with 24 members present.

President Delmore has contacted a tour group in Reedsburg in regard to going to Irish Fest. The June letter had a form to fill out for those interested in attending.

Dana Horkan Gant reported on the Shamrock Club, having a

car carrying the Irish Rose and Irishman, in the Butterfest Parade.

Jack Gavin presented the slate of officers for 2005-06, as follows:

President: Wm. Crowley

Vice Presiden: Tom Scanlon

Secretary: Mary E. Stieve

Treasurer: Bob Hanes

Membership: Dana Horkan Gant

Parliamentarian: Don McConaghy

– **Mary E. Stieve, Reporter**

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Milwaukee President's Message

This marks the beginning of my second term as President, and I look forward to another year with all the members and Board of Directors both new and current. We enjoy July with the celebration of the 4th and all the patriotism that goes with it. Milwaukee County Parks are filled with generations of families, some of whom have met at the same park for years. Let's hope the weather will be fabulous and your memories of the day will be added to your list of things to be grateful for as an American.

By now you should have sent in your reservation to Kris Pluskota for the Installation Dinner on July 7 at Aliota's Restaurant. This dinner will be a sit down dinner in the conference room, and those who have been there before can attest to the certainty the food will be great. Judge Moroney will do the installation of all the board members, and we thank him for his time in doing go. There will be interesting things to do, and we hope you are able to attend, enjoy, and have a fun relaxing evening with friends.

We completed our first trip to Mineral Point on June 11, with members and a few folks considering joining. This lovely little town with such Cornish delights as pasties and figgyhobbin, was delightful. The first people living in this area lived in crude shelters known as "badger holes" and are one of the reasons we are known as the Badger State. While many immigrants from Cornwall settled this area, the Irish in the area supplied food as hunters and farmers. We wish all of you could have been with us, as it's an educational trip in itself to see where the Celtic people left their mark in this state with their skills

and traditions. It was a treat to watch the many local artisans and shop in the area where so many historical buildings have been restored. It's difficult to say what was the most interesting place we saw or toured that day but perhaps it was the pleasant day with such good company that we were truly seeking.

Our new sergeant-at-arms, Kathy Donovan, asks if any of you have items to donate for the general meeting raffle to let her know. We can use gently used books or other items. Kathy can use any baskets you may have on hand, also. This monthly raffle has become a tradition, and we want it to be a special one.

I want to thank all the members that came forward at our May meeting and agreed to our raising the membership dues. It's been so long since we've done this that no one could remember when it last happened. We ask all the members to pay \$5 per year more for both single and family memberships. This will help raise funds for the club in an easy manner. With all the generosity this club is known for, I thank you all for agreeing to do this. Tom Smith, the membership chair, has already sent out the new amounts in the dues renewal notices.

I hope you are enjoying the summer, but of course, I'll see you at the next meeting.

– **Julie Smith, President**

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New Dues Amount Milwaukee Chapter:

Single Membership: \$20

Family Membership: \$25

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Scholarship Winners

The 2005 Scholarship winners were announced at the June meeting. They are Jennifer McNaughton; Chloe Gray; Kaitlin Hahn; and Jeffrey Ksiazek. The awards will be used for things like Irish language lessons to Celtic/Irish history courses. Congratulations to all who won.

Recent Winners of the Scholarship Raffle were Olive Gilbert, \$1000; Sandra Walton, \$250; Marc Deneen, \$100; Marianne Fisher, \$50; Joan McMahon, Dale Brenon and Diane Stevens, \$25. The drawing was done in April. Thank you all who bought tickets and helped to support our scholarship program.

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Members' Doings

Kamala Murphy competed at the Queen City Feis where she placed 1st in championship. Previously, this year, she was 4th at the St. Louis Feis in February and 27th at the All-Irelands National Championships held in Belfast in February. Kamala is a member of the Glencastle Irish Dancers.

Sunshine Report

Best wishes and quick healing to Derry Hegarty and Danny O'Donoghue after recent hospitalizations.

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Wisconsin Youth Wins at Regional Fleadh

In his first trip to the North American Regional Fleadh Cheoil in St Louis, Michael Crossley of Horicon won second place in Tin Whistle and third in bodhran in the 15 to 18 age group. His second place finish qualified him to compete in the All Ireland Fleadh in County Donegal, Ireland later this summer. However, he will be unable to compete in this year's Fleadh.

Michael has studied for five years under the tutelage of Shamrock Club member John Ceszynski in Appleton. Now 16, Michael also studies with Asher Grey, who was one of the first students at the old Shamrock Club/Irish Fest music school in the mid 1990s. He also has sat in with Asher's band Ce` as a guest performer.

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Finance Committee

Pat Fitzgibbons reported that the Finance Committee foresaw a possible loss of \$5000 for the 2005-2006 year budget.

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Shamrock Club State Meetings

The Shamrock Club State Board met at R & R Kelly's in Fitchburg on May 22. Members were from the North Eastern Wisconsin, La Crosse, Lagfayette County, South Central, New Dublin, and Milwaukee chapters, as well as from host, Dane County. Various subjects of common interest to all chapters were discussed. Afterwards, many of the attendees went to enjoy the Irish Day at Fitchburg Days.

The next state meeting will be hosted by the Milwaukee chapter at the Miller Pavilion at Milwaukee on Saturday, August 20 at 10 a.m. Members from around the state are encouraged to attend.

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Milwaukee Shamrock Club Picnic

A Day of Food, Fun and Frolic

Lake Park: Picnic Area #6

AUGUST 7, 2005 • 1 p.m. til 6 p.m.

(Enter on Kenwood Avenue between
Lincoln Memorial Drive and Lake Drive)

Refreshments • Soda • Entertainment

Irish Dance Exhibitions • Join in sessions with local musicians
Music, Pipers, Pin the Tail on the Leprechaun, Kid Games

For Information call: (414) 687-2049

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Shamrock Club of Wisconsin

Annual Family Best Ball Golf

and Dinner Outing

SUNDAY AUGUST 28, 2005

EDGEWATER GOLF CLUB, GRAFTON

1762 W. Cedar Creek Road
(I-43 north to Hwy 60, west 1.7 miles to 12th Ave.
right 1.4 miles to Cedar Creek Road, left to coarse)

There will be Door Prizes, a Putting Contest, and other events too numerous to mention.

Golf will begin at 1 p.m.
Carts included
Cocktail Hour: 4:30 - 5:30
Buffet Dinner: 5:30 - 7
Awards to be presented during dinner

[Click here for sign-up sheet in Acrobat format.](#)

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Color Guard News & Notes

“Pride and Honor”

The Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Color Guard, Pipes and Drums has traditionally scheduled a very challenging and varied parade/event schedule and 2005 is one of the most demanding ever attempted.

By the time your Color Guard, Pipes and Drums has concluded the 2005 season it will have performed in over 24 cities, over 35 parades or special appearances and will have traveled over hundreds and hundreds of miles throughout the state, representing the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin with Pride and Honor!

As in past years, the strength of the parade/event season began with Memorial Day parades on Monday, May 30, in Menomonee Falls and an afternoon appearance as the lead unit in the downtown Milwaukee parade. You would have been proud of the group had you been at the Vietnam War Memorial to hear a very special rendition of Amazing Grace played by the pipers and drummers, with the Color Guard displaying, with honor, the “presentation of colors.”

Saturday, June 4 saw the unit make a return visit to the Scottish Highland Games in Glendale, followed by a “first”

performance in Appleton on Saturday June 11; Sunday, June 12 saw the Color Guard, Pipes and Drums travel north to once again perform in the Waubeka Flag Day Parade and Festival. The month of June appearances concluded with parades in Thiensville (25th) and Hartland (26th).

A Very Special Thank You

For the Memorial Day Parades the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Color Guard, Pipes and Drums was honored to have Army Specialist Brian Nielson (husband of Color Guard member Karen) who has recently returned home from his tour of duty in Iraq, carry the “MIA/POW” flag in both parades. Thank you, God bless you and welcome home, Brian!

JULY CALENDAR

4: 4th of July Parade; Oak Creek; 9 a.m.
4: 4th of July Parade; Cudahy; 2 p.m.
9: South Shore Water Frolics Parade; Bay View; 11 a.m.
16: Port Washington Fish Day’s Festival Parade; 10 a.m.
23: So. Milwaukee Heritage Days Parade; 11 a.m.
24: Random Lake Festival Days Parade; noon

For more information, confirmation of parade schedules and times, please visit the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Color Guard, Pipes & Drums web site: .

If you would like to have the Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes and Drums appear in a parade, special event or family occasion – or you would like to join the Unit as a banner carrier, color guard, piper or drummer, please contact:

Richard Pfeiffer, Director
Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes and Drums
Telephone: (414) 769-1250
E-mail: milwpiper@cs.com

– **Richard M. Stover**

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St. Patrick’s Help Fund

St. Patrick’s Help Fund is in desperate need of non-perishable foods. Please place in container at each meeting. However, donations can be brought to the ICHC any time during the week. Questions? Call Katy Voss (414) 352-6479.

New Members

NOTE: Please send your dues to your Membership Chairperson in your chapter. All names and addresses are listed in Emerald Reflections.

MILWAUKEE – Susan O’Keane (referred by John Whelan).

Membership Report Milwaukee Chapter:

- Mar.: 94 memberships up for renewal, 74 paid, 20 dropped for nonpayment.
- April.: 56 memberships up for renewal, 37 paid, 19 due.
- May: 45 memberships up for renewal, 21 paid, 24 due.
- June: 30 memberships up for renewal, 7 paid, 23 due.

Thank you, everyone, for your donations and help at the Fund Raiser for the ICHC May 30 at Slim McGinn’s.

– **Tom Smith**