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The Monthly Newsletter of The Loch Lao Traditional Music Society

Issue No. 18, April 2007

LLTMS EVENTS

APRIL
2007

Monday 2nd
St. Gall's GAC
9:15 - 11:00pm
Senior Session

**NO SENIOR
SESSION ON
EASTER
MONDAY**

Monday 16th
St. Gall's GAC
9:15 - 11:00pm
Senior Session

Friday 20th
7:15 - 9:00pm
An Chultúrlann
Family Session

Monday 23rd
9:15 - 11:00pm
St. Gall's GAC
Senior Session

Friday 27th
Time TBC
Fundraiser for
Scout Troop in
North Belfast

Saturday 28th
Time TBC
Fundraiser for
St. Gall's

Sunday 29th
Meet 10:30am
St. Michael's
Church
Playing at Mass

Monday 30th
8:00pm
St. Gall's GAC
9:15 - 11:00pm
Senior Session

www.lochlao.com

ANOTHER BUSY ST. PATRICK'S DAY FOR LLTMS MUSICIANS

The month of March is usually a busy one for traditional Irish musicians and so it was for us with the month just passed. In addition to our regular series of Monday night Senior Sessions, the monthly Family Session and of course the new Fleadh practices, LLTMS members participated in a large number of additional events including some exciting new ones. The St. Patrick's Day weekend of course saw the most intense activity, beginning with a group of Senior musicians supporting an event in Harberton School on the Friday night, March 16th. We had three events on the day itself, Saturday March 17th. First off was our special St. Patrick's Day Mass in St. Michael's Church, following an invitation to our musicians from the priests of the parish. A group of 18 Junior, Intermediate and Senior musicians prepared a special programme of music for the Mass, which was celebrated in Irish, and we were pleased to welcome some new members to take part. Next was a trip to Downpatrick to perform on the steam trains at the town's railway museum. This was the second year in a row that we have been invited to take part in this event and again it was an event supported by Junior, Intermediate and Senior players. Thankfully this year it wasn't as cold as last year and our musicians excelled themselves once again, ably assisted by generous hospitality from the railway volunteers. Our busy day rounded off with a group of Intermediate and Senior musicians who took part in a concert in An Chultúrlann for our good friend Éamonn Ó Faogáin. We are always pleased to help Éamonn whenever we can and we were particularly pleased to take part in this special concert, which was a fundraising event for the Irish language Mass in Belfast. So a busy and enjoyable day was had by all and we would like to offer a sincere word of thanks to all our musicians who took part and especially their parents who did so much running around! A very special word of thanks to the Donnelly and McCullagh families who were represented at every event and also to Intermediate musician Kurtis McGreevy who supported all three events.

SEÁN MAGUIRE MEMORIAL WEEKEND

Saturday 24th March and Sunday 25th saw the first Seán Maguire memorial events and LLTMS musicians were pleased to take part. Seán's wife Maureen has become a good friend of Loch Lao and kindly invited us to take part in both the weekend's events. On Saturday 24th, which was Seán's second anniversary, a special memorial evening was held in The Glenowen, during which friends of Seán came together to celebrate his life and music. Footage of Seán performing was shown, and those present were treated to a performance of some tracks of the last ever recording that Seán made, due for release shortly. The evening rounded off with a mighty session and a great night was had by all. On Sunday 25th, a memorial Mass for Seán was held in his home parish church of St. Luke's in Twinbrook and a group of younger LLTMS musicians performed liturgical pieces and airs during the Mass. Overall it was a successful weekend which will hopefully pave the way for a bigger event next year.

EASTER GREETINGS

The committee of the LLTMS would like to wish all members and their families a happy and peaceful Easter.

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to everyone who has returned their membership. New members are always welcome so feel free to pass the word around!

WEBSITE

Don't forget to check out the gallery section of the website for coverage from recent LLTMS events, including the St. Patrick's Day events & the dinner. Also we would welcome photo submissions from all members for this!

GERMAN TRIP

We have been approached by a wildlife group in Germany with an invitation to do a fundraiser event for their bird ringing group in the town of Stoppemflappen. Anyone interested should let us know so we can confirm numbers with the German organiser, a wonderful lady named April Phule.

GRADE EXAMS CLOSING DATE

The closing date for the Summer examination session of London College of Music is Saturday April 21st. However, due to the imminent Easter holidays, Patrick Davey has asked that all entry forms and fees be returned to him no later than Good Friday April 6th. Further details and entry forms can be obtained from Patrick on p.davey@mac.com

LLTMS 10th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

The LLTMS tenth anniversary dinner was held in The Beechlawn Hotel on Friday March 30th and a truly enjoyable night was had by all. A sumptuous three-course meal was followed by a lively disco and many thanks are due to the principal organisers – Joe Mulhern, Maria Muldoon & Bronagh McCabe. Let's make this an annual event!

APRIL EVENTS

After the busy month of March, we'll be reverting to a less demanding schedule for April. Aside from our regular sessions & events (no Senior Session on Easter Monday) we have been asked to do two fundraiser concerts: (1) Friday April 27th – a member has asked if we could help him raise some funds for his North Belfast scout troop so we would like to assist him of course. Juniors and Intermediates will be asked to perform for this concert, and further details will be emailed. (2) St. Gall's are running a fundraiser in the club on Saturday April 28th and we have been invited to take part. We would like to field a strong team of Junior, Intermediate and Senior musicians for this important event and again further details will be emailed.

The Loch Lao Traditional Music Society is a Registered Charity No. XR62137

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