



# Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann

## Nuachtlitir | Newsletter

Mí Feabhra **2015** February

Craobh **OTTAWA** Branch

### CÉILÍ

February 21 Feabhra  
8:00pm – 11:30pm

Blessed Sacrament Hall,  
194 Fourth Avenue

**Cost: | Costas:**

Members — \$10 — Ball

Non-members — \$15 — Aíonna

Students — \$5 — Scoláire

Children under 12 — Free | Saor in aisce — Faoi 12

This month's entertainment provided by  
CCÉ Ottawa's very own **solo dancers!**

**If you are interested in providing  
soda bread or other baked  
goods for the céilí, please contact**

Carol Ann:

819-595-1094 or [cabowers@videotron.ca](mailto:cabowers@videotron.ca)

Ottawa Comhaltas Blog:  
[ottawacomhaltas.blogspot.com](http://ottawacomhaltas.blogspot.com)

is now taking submissions in English  
and in Irish. Please email our webmaster at

[webmaster.ottawacomhaltas@gmail.com](mailto:webmaster.ottawacomhaltas@gmail.com)

### St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Céilí

Get your  
tickets before  
they sell out!

This event sells out every year;  
NO tickets will be sold at the door.

Three-course **dinner** catered by Bobby's Kitchen,  
who served excellent food at the October AGM. No  
experience needed to dance at the following **céilí**  
with the award-winning Ottawa Céilí Band.

Doors open 5:30pm.

Dinner served 6:00pm.

Céilí begins 8:00pm.

Ticket includes meal (vegetarian and gluten-free  
available), entertainment, céilí, and snacks.

### TICKETS:

[www.eventbrite.ca/e/st-patricks-day-dinner  
-and-ceili-2015-tickets-15129260024](http://www.eventbrite.ca/e/st-patricks-day-dinner-and-ceili-2015-tickets-15129260024)

(or contact an exec member at the February céilí)



COMHALTAS

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann is a registered  
cultural non-profit organization

If you have an event or a piece you would like included  
in next month's newsletter, please email Oscar at  
[info.ottawacomhaltas@gmail.com](mailto:info.ottawacomhaltas@gmail.com)

## Irish Seniors Drop-in Centre

Every Tuesday 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

St. George's Church Hall, 415 Piccadilly Avenue (near Island Park/Byron).

Join the gang for potluck lunch, stories, music, and great craic!

Kay 613-829-8467 or Margo 613-837-4164

## Rose of Tralee



Represent Ottawa in Ireland! To women ages 18 to 28 with Irish heritage and who want to represent Ottawa at the 2015 Rose of Tralee competition in Ireland:

Applications to be the 2015 Ottawa Rose due on 23 February.

[www.RoseofTralee.ca/](http://www.RoseofTralee.ca/)

## Irish Film Festival

[Aloud] Get excited for the first festival of its kind in Ottawa! The organisers are planning to screen at least seven great films this year.

[O.S.] 20-22 March 2015

Arts Court,  
2 Daly Ave.

[www.facebook.com/ottawairishfilmfestival](http://www.facebook.com/ottawairishfilmfestival)



**THE GAELIC HOUR**

Sunday 8:00am - 10:00am

**cjll 97.9fm**



Streaming: [www.thegaelichour.ca](http://www.thegaelichour.ca) e-mail: [austin@thegaelichour.ca](mailto:austin@thegaelichour.ca)

## IRISH-LANGUAGE CLASSES | Ranganna Gaeilge

Monday Evenings | Oíche Dé Luain  
(Until April | Go dtí Aibreán)

Halla Blessed Sacrament Hall,  
194 Fourth Avenue

**Beginners' | Bunrang**  
6:00pm-7:00pm

**Advanced Beginners' | Bunrang+**  
6:00pm-7:00pm

**Intermediate & Advanced | Meánrang , Ardrang**  
7:00pm-8:30pm

For more information, textbooks, prices:  
Tuilleadh eolais, téacsleabhair, costais le fáil ar:

[Sheila.Scott@uOttawa.ca](mailto:Sheila.Scott@uOttawa.ca)

## ATTENTION MUSICIANS!

Videos, sheet music and more at:

<http://comhaltas.ie/music/>

ComhaltasLive Programme Listing:

<http://comhaltas.ie/music/programmes>

Check out the Comhaltas Archive:

<http://comhaltasarchive.ie/>

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## Irish-Music Lessons

CCÉ has **instruments** available for loan.

- Accordion
- Flute
- Uilleann Pipes
- 2 Children's Fiddles

Please check our website

<http://www.ottawacomhaltas.com/music.php> for  
availabilities and applications!

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## Sessions in Ottawa and the Valley

Contact Craig Hamm or Charles Dunlap  
([cdunlap@xplornet.com](mailto:cdunlap@xplornet.com)) for information on music,  
workshops and concerts in your area! New blog posts to come.

<http://www.irishmusicottawa.ca/>  
<http://irishmusicottawa.blogspot.com/>

## Dance Classes

Monday Evenings

Blessed Sacrament Hall,  
194 Fourth Avenue

### **Set/Céilí Dance Class:**

6:30pm – 8:00pm

### **Irish Solo Dance Class:**

8:00pm – 9:30pm

For more information and cost for classes,  
please contact Caitlin Crockard:

[cscrockard@hotmail.com](mailto:cscrockard@hotmail.com)

**Celtic Cross** is a local performance group made up of adult dancers from the disciplines of Irish, Highland, and Ottawa Valley Step dance with a roster of over 20 dancers with decades of experience as teachers, choreographers, performers and competitors, the group performs traditional dances, and original contemporary choreographies that blend all three dance styles. **Celtic Cross** is available for performances at concerts, festivals, parties, weddings, and more. Contact them if you'd like some lively dancing at your event!

Email: [celticcrossottawa@gmail.com](mailto:celticcrossottawa@gmail.com)

Website: <http://celticcrossdancers.com/>

## Ottawa Valley Step Dancing

For lessons,

Contact Dawn Dewar: 613-794-3296

## Events in the Region | Imeachtaí Sa Cheantar

January 30–February 1, *Thompson in Tír na nÓg*

Thompson, an Orangeman, is blown up by his own gun. He awakes in Tír na nÓg, the Gaelic world of the



everliving. This Gerald MacNamara play explores the relationship between the Gaelic and other cultures existing in Ireland.

135 Séraphin-Marion Street, near Laurier/Cumberland (uOttawa).

Showtimes and ticket prices found

on [TaraPlayersOttawa.com](http://TaraPlayersOttawa.com).

February 1, 2:00pm, **A Celebration in the Life of W.B. Yeats**

W.B. Yeats, one of the most celebrated and widely acclaimed poets of his time is remembered in music and in verse at St. Brigid's Centre of the Arts (310 St. Patrick Street) on its namesake's feast day.

Yeats exhibition provided by the Embassy of Ireland. \$10 admission supports St. Joe's Women's Centre.

February 8, 10:00am–12:00pm, **Pancake Breakfast & Fundraiser**

Every month, the St. Brigid's Centre for the Arts (310 St. Patrick Street) serves live Irish music with a full buffet-style pancake breakfast (ham, sausage, home fries, juice, and more).

\$5 adults, \$3 children. This month's breakfast raises funds for the Kusumba Foundation for the mentally and physically disabled in Kampala, Uganda.

## Events in the Region | Imeachtaí Sa Cheantar

February 5, 6:00pm–8:00pm, **First indoor training session of the Ottawa Gaels**

The Ottawa Gaels invites everyone to practice peil (Gaelic football) at the Carleton University Fieldhouse. Newcomers and veterans alike are welcome. Practices will continue every other Thursday after February 5.

\$5 per session. Mouthguard and indoor running shoes required.

February 15, **Sabrina Fair**

A fundraiser for the Irish Seniors' Drop-in Centre, this production is of a romantic comedy called Sabrina Fair, a story of a woman who attracts more than one upper class gentleman.

Tickets \$20 each. Call 613-829-8467 for details and tickets.

February 28, 11:30am, **CCO St. David's Banquet**

The Cymdeithas Cymru Ottawa (Ottawa Welsh Society) presents their annual St. David's Day Banquet. Former CCÉ Ottawa Youth Officer Mélanie Courtemanche will be the guest speaker this year. The Ottawa Choral Society Ensemble will perform, and the banquet will be served at 12:30pm. Royal Ottawa Golf Club (1405 Aylmer Road, Gatineau).



\$49 before 13 February; \$55 regular admission. Contact [Marilyn.E.Jenkins@sympatico.ca](mailto:Marilyn.E.Jenkins@sympatico.ca) for details.

## Some Irish Magic in the Air

It all started like any other bonfire dance...

Rebecca, a young céilí-goer found that her boyfriend Connor had already planned a surprise with Sheila and the Band at the January céilí.

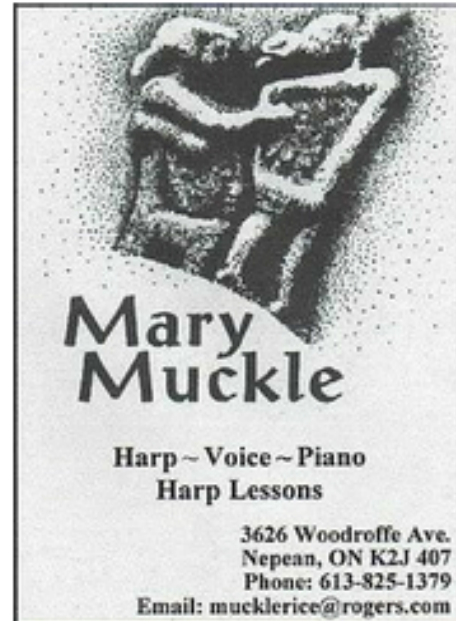


Photo courtesy P. Avendano

The best part is, she said yes!

Comhghairdeas!

## Concert



Mary Muckle is a local musician and music teacher no stranger to Comhaltas members. If you want to hear more of her music before her performance at the 16 May céilí, you must not miss this! She will be taking part in a concert on 1 March called "Close by the Sea—the Music of Celtic and Nordic Islands."

Mary Muckle, *harp and harpsichord*  
Virginia Dunsby, *flute*  
Doug Brierley, *violin*

Featuring the Ottawa Youth Harp Ensemble and Cantorion Cerdd Dant.

8:00pm, **1 March 2015**

St. Luke's Anglican Church,  
760 Somerset Street West

Admission by donation.

Contact [Mucklerice@rogers.com](mailto:Mucklerice@rogers.com) for details.



## **Branch Updates from the Chair |** **Nuachtaí Craoibhe Ón Chathaoirleach**

"Happy New Year everyone! I wish you all a bright, happy and healthy 2015.

Language and dance classes are under way. Attendance to the Irish classes was middling on the Monday evening when we resumed classes, but there are two new students in the beginner class. Joan, Barry, and Tomas are back teaching their respective classes.

I have contacted the 'activities coordinator' for the English Intensive Program at uOttawa and have proposed our céilís to them. I have also suggested our Monday night dance classes as well." - Cathaoirleach

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See the monthly notes from the Chair on our blog at:  
Nótaí míosúil ón chathaoirleach le fáil ar ár mblag:  
[OttawaComhaltas.blogspot.ca](http://OttawaComhaltas.blogspot.ca).

## **Comórtas crosfhocail as Gaeilge |** ***Irish-Language Crossword Competition***

**1ú áit—\$200—1st Prize**  
**2ú áit—\$100—2nd Prize**  
**3ú áit—\$50—3rd Prize**

**Ábhar: Nollaig nó Caisc | Topic: Christmas or Easter**  
**Urraithe ag | Sponsored by: [GlorNaGael.ie](http://GlorNaGael.ie)**

**Oscailte do bhaill CCÉ i Méiriceá Thuaidh |**  
***Open to Comhaltas Members in North America***

**Cuir iarratais do | Send entries and inquiries to:**  
**Aralt Mac Giolla Channaigh ([kenny-h@rmc.ca](mailto:kenny-h@rmc.ca))**

**Spriocdháta | Deadline: April 30ú Aibreán, 2015**

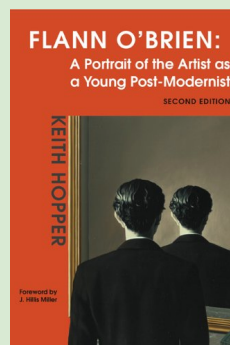
## **From Our Blog | As Ár mBlag**

For more entries, visit our blog  
([ottawacomhaltas.blogspot.ca](http://ottawacomhaltas.blogspot.ca))  
Submit your own entries in Irish and English to  
[webmaster.ottawacomhaltas@gmail.com](mailto:webmaster.ottawacomhaltas@gmail.com).

### **Book Review**

*Flann O'Brien's The Third Policeman, completed in 1940, was initially rejected by his publishers for being "too fantastic" and only appeared posthumously in 1967. Since then, O'Brien has achieved cult status, although critical appraisal of his work has focused almost exclusively on his first novel, At Swim Two Birds (1939). By 1940 O'Brien was confronted with two towering traditions: the jaded legacy of Yeats' Celtic Twilight and the problematic complexities of Joyce's modernism. With The Third Policeman, O'Brien forges a powerful synthesis between these two traditions, and the paraliterary path he chooses marks the historical transition from modernism to post-modernism.*

*This groundbreaking study, first published in 1995 and now substantially revised, reconfigures O'Brien as a highly subversive writer within a rich and fertile literary landscape: indisputably Irish yet distinctly post-modern. It identifies The Third Policeman as a subversive intellectual satire, in the cutting-edge tradition of Swift and Sterne, and situates it as one of the earliest—and most exciting—examples of post-modernist fiction.*



*This book review appeared in Stylus: Trade, Academic, and Professional Books - Fall 2014, book catalogue. For more information about, and to place an order of Flann O'Brien, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Post-Modernist, please check Stylus/Cork University Press website.*