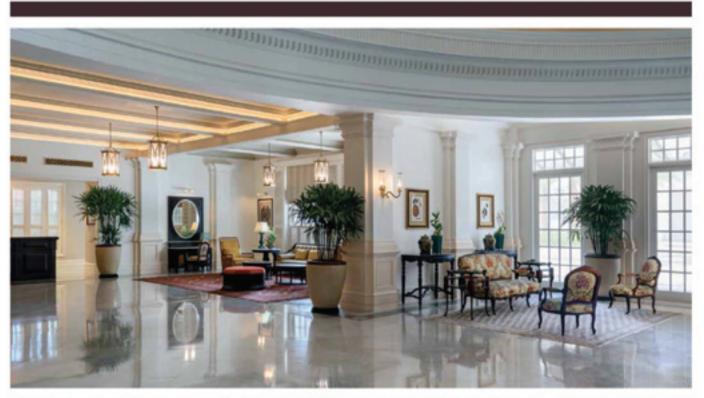


RISH Celebrating Ireland's Rich Legacy SIGHTS

No. 15 • May 2022













RETURN TO A WORLD OF TIMELESS ELEGANCE



Penang Irish Association

Email: penangpia@gmail.com www.penang-irish-association.com

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Editors: Maggie T. and Adrian Cheah Proofreader: Sinead Ahlstrand Pedersen, Bibi van Gemert

Produced by Penang Irish Association (PIA) © Penang Irish Association, May 2022

Layout, design, photography & cover by Adrian Cheah, ACEK Creative Solutions, +604 281 5289 Printed by Delimax Sdn Bhd, +604 281 6914

Web designer: Bibi van Gemert

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Letter from the President of PIA

Mo chairde gael agus cairde na hEirean ar fud on domhain,

he Covid-19 pandemic has adversely affected all our lives globally for the past two years. Hopefully, now we are on the road to recovery. On 1st April, Malaysia opened its borders allowing travel and welcoming visitors once again.



During the lockdown and the fight to curb the spread of the pandemic, one notable shift was inevitable – the way we work. Many companies realised that in certain industries, people could successfully work from home, changing forever the way we operate. I have been encouraging my niece Sinead to do this for years, highlighting that she can effectively work from anywhere in the world. Operating from Athens and Norway, although halfway across the globe, she has always been able to help with our events, writes articles, edits and proofreads *Irish Insights*. She is a big part of PIA and this year, after two years apart, she came to Malaysia in February via the Langkawi bubble, in time for the Langkawi Big Golf Weekend. It was a memorable reunion and celebration before she set to work on the St. Patrick's Day Ball. A big thanks to Sinead, Teresa, Orla, Drew and all our supporters. Here's hoping we will see even more family and friends next year.

The Blue and Pink Ribbon fundraising events were not organised by PIA but by our members and we send our congratulations to all involved. Check out pages 3 to 8 for photographs and more information, including the date for the next Pink event.

PIA organised the Pink fundraising event – Luscious Ladies Day in Shades of Pink – for twelve years (2008-2020). We then handed over the reins to three extremely capable women – Jennifer Sheppard, Tiina Lucas and Susie MacMillian, who have continued raising funds for Mount Miriam Cancer Hospital and the Penang Hospice Society. Although now it is not a PIA event, PIA and its members fully support such meaningful endeavours. Now called the Penang Pink Ladies, they managed to raise RM138,000 in 2021, the most successful amount yet. The Langkawi Big Golf Weekend (a Blue Ribbon event) topped over RM156,000! A big thank you to everyone who helped in making such outstanding achievements possible, especially during the pandemic!

Here is my speech at the 2022 St. Patrick's Day ball that sums up my message.

Tonight we are delighted beyond measure to welcome all of you back to celebrate our 21st St. Patrick's Day Ball in Penang. We will not dwell on the negative, however we acknowledge the tough times endured throughout the whole world for the past two years. We celebrate the fact that we got through these trying times and are hopeful that we are coming out the other side.

This evening we celebrate with the theme of "Misneach", an Irish word which embodies spirit, courage and fortitude. It is through all these three attributes that the Irish throughout history have managed to overcome adversity, challenges and hardship, continuing to do so to the present day.

We welcome our invited guests, Frank Bradley, Deputy Head of Mission from the Irish Embassy in Kuala Lumpur and his lovely wife Blathnaid (this is his first official visit to Penang), Paul Mullins, the President of the Kuala Lumpur Irish Society and his beautiful wife Claudine, Geoff Hartland, Air Vice Marshall and his gorgeous wife Shivani and my niece Sinead, PIA Vice President, who travelled all the way from Athens to be with us. Also, a big warm welcome to all our guests who have travelled from Kuala Lumpur.

Continue on page 2

We are very proud of everything we have achieved during the past two years. TTGSP (Tee Totalers Golfing Society of Penang) is stronger than ever with 44 players for the last two outings. The golfing society offers much more than just an outlet to play golf. With Healy Mac's as our partner, we have a place to honour our victors and the achievements of our players. Around 30 of our members plus family travelled to Langkawi for the Langkawi Big Golf Weekend and we were joined by other Healy Mac's TTGSKL members from Kuala Lumpur. Although we lost the big match, we totally enjoyed ourselves!

We held two fun-filled Christmas events and in 2021, a St. Patrick's gathering at Healy Mac's. We are forever grateful to all our sponsors, especially Liam Healy who has always been extremely supportive in all our endeavours. Healy Mac's is our "clubhouse" and an ideal venue to get together for good food and cheer.

At each table this evening, we have appointed a name each from some inspirational Irish figures. These men and women from the past as well as the present have valiantly displayed a strong sense of *misneach* through their historic achievements. They have personified spirit, courage and fortitude and made the "small but mighty" Emerald Isle proud. These diverse heroes include literary figures, sports personalities, scientists, explorers,

philanthropists and political figures, something Ireland has no shortage of.

I am happy and proud to call Ireland and Penang home and realise how lucky I truly am to have the best of both these places. It is comforting to know that the warm Irish welcome exists even on this tropical paradise.

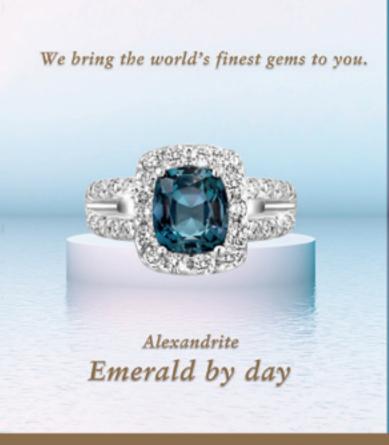
The Irish diaspora is one of fortitude and spirit, always sharing a strong sense of community spirit and togetherness wherever in the world they are. Here in Penang, PIA has always brought people together via its events. It is such a pleasure celebrating the Irish National Day today among great friends of Ireland. So tonight let us celebrate being together once again. Let us celebrate our own spirit, courage and fortitude. Let us celebrate *misneach*!

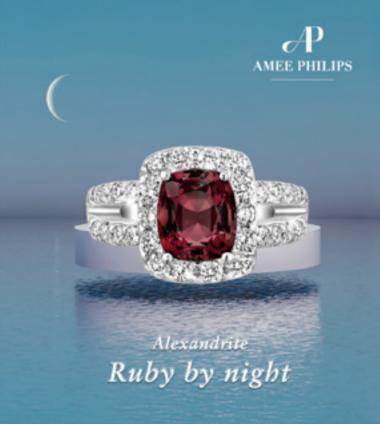
For the times we live, let us pause and contemplate a popular lrish blessing – "Always remember to forget the troubles that passed away. But never forget to remember the blessings that come each day!"

I conclude with a resonating quote from Robert Sullivan, "...if the past is any indication, no hardship can really kill the unusual humour and world view of the Irish".

As always, bringing Ireland to Penang. *Sláinte* to St. Patrick and *sláinte* to Ireland.

Maggie T.





Langkawi Big Golf Weekend

STORY BY MAGGIE T.
PHOTOGRAPHS FROM
THE ORGANISER



he Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted travel domestically and internationally for the last two years. Although this event was cancelled twice before and we are still under travel restrictions, Robert Wootton and his committee managed to remarkably pull it off in February 2022!

Over 180 participants (88 golfers plus families and friends) from around the world travelled to Langkawi to take part in the event. With the help of Rob's agent, my niece Sinead flew in from Athens without a hitch; it was easy when you had good support.

The breathtaking "playground" for the weekend was the award-winning 18 hole-par 72 championship golf course at The Els Club Teluk Datai. It was designed by a former World No. 1 golfer, the legendary Theodore Ernest Els.

The golf course, nestled between the primaeval emerald green rainforest and crystal clear azure water of

the Andaman Sea, truly provided a grand game experience in one of the world's most spectacular settings.

Apart from the golf and stunning settings, the social aspect and evening events that had been planned made the weekend even more enjoyable. Enjoying dinner and cocktails at long tables with new and old friends, something we may have once taken for granted, was a highlight of the weekend.

There was a huge sense of freedom,

friendship, togetherness and of course fun over the four days and it had to do with finally getting away, new experiences, the supportive connections and the fact everything had been organised for us as a group.

We commuted around Langkawi like rock stars in three big

comfortable coaches, plus a lorry to load up the golf clubs. I was ecstatic to be part of the excitement and fun over the weekend and made so many new connections.

What initially started out as a birthday celebration eventually turned into a Blue Ribbon charity fundraiser for men. The funds raised at the event are in aid of the prostate cancer department of Mount Miriam Cancer Hospital in Penang. The generosity of the participants, sponsors and all who chipped in to help pushed the amount over RM156,000! Congratulations to Rob and the committee for the memorable memories.



Penang Irish Association



Sponsors

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- ▶ The Cliff Restaurant Langkawi
- Alibi Restaurant
- Asia Euro
- Pisco Bar
- ▶ TGI Friday's
- 5.4° North Penang
- Nix Studio

Organiser: Robert Wootton
Committee: Carrine W, Karen Chee, Nic Seow,
Jean Claude Breteau and Pam Mueller



PENANG PINK LADIES

FACEBOOK.COM/PENANGPINKLADIES 23RD NOVEMBER 2021

We have had many requests for a "funds raised to date" total. We LOVE how the Penang community is so involved and so supportive.

We are very proud to announce that the Penang Pink Ladies 2021 total funds raised so far is in excess of RM127,000. This is obviously an outstanding amount, a record amount, and one which we are so humbled by.

Everyone involved with the Pink Pledge campaign has worked so very hard to reach this goal and we are extremely thankful for the community support.

Included in this 'to date' total is a 'just in' amazing corporate donation

which we will detail in due course coupled with what this funding will bring to our two beneficiaries – Mount Miriam Cancer Hospital and the Penang Hospice Society.

Over RM127,000 raised to date!



in support of mount miriam cancer hospital and penang hospice society





How did the pink ribbon symbolising breast cancer awareness come to be?

In 1992, Evelyn Lauder created the pink ribbon campaign for breast cancer awareness with her friend Alexandra Penney, then editor-in-chief of *Self* magazine. Evelyn was then the Vice-President of the Estée Lauder companies and a breast cancer survivor herself. Together, they founded the Breast Cancer Research Foundation and established the pink ribbon as its symbol.

The bright pink colour, chosen to express femininity, calm, health and youth, has become synonymous with breast cancer awareness. The global awareness that has been raised through the pink ribbon has helped increase early detection of breast cancer, make women more aware of the importance of doing regular breast self-examinations, and increase funds directed toward finding a cure. Today, pink ribbons have become the uniting force for millions of women

facing breast cancer or supporting someone with the disease.

WEAR IT WITH PRIDE!







In a global effort to raise awareness on breast cancer, OCTOBER has been designated as the Pink Month. The Pink Month is a month where efforts to educate those concerned about the disease, including early identification and signs and symptoms associated.

Blue-and-Pink Ribbon

In 1996, Nancy Nick, President and Founder of the John W. Nick Foundation created a blue-and-pink ribbon to symbolise male breast cancer ribbons in honour of her late father. The ribbons remind others that breast cancer can affect men as well.

According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), about one out of every 100 breast cancers diagnosed in the United States is found in a man.

Colours of the Ribbon

Here is a look at some of the more common cancers and the colour of the ribbon that represents each one.

- Breast cancer pink
- Prostate cancer blue
- D Lung cancer white
- Pancreatic cancer purple
- Skin cancer black

There are also many cancers that are represented by multicoloured or patterned ribbons including ovarian cancer (teal), appendix cancer (amber), bone cancer (yellow), brain cancer (grey), colon cancer (dark blue), testicular cancer (purple) and uterine cancer (peach).

The 21st PIA St. Patrick's Day Ball in Penang

STORY BY SINEAD AHLSTRAND PEDERSEN PHOTOGRAPHS BY ADRIAN CHEAH AND FRANKIE YAP

festivities of the PIA 20th St. Patrick's Day Ball in 2020 that that would be the last social event for quite some time – who would have thought it would be two years!?!

The 2020 festival was extremely special as we were one of the only St. Patrick's Day events that did not have to be cancelled since our celebrations were held a week before the actual date. Covid-19 was a term and situation we were becoming familiar with but no one realised at the time the massive impact it would have on the whole world.

In 2021, all major events were cancelled as Coronavirus continued to grip the world, controlling and devastating lives. When we started the conversation about organising a 2022 PIA St. Patrick's Day Ball, the pure joy, anticipation and excitement I began to experience was indescribable. However, I did not want to get my hopes up and after two years, had become used to cancellations and disappointments.

I adored fellow committee member, Orla Redmond's suggestion for the 2022 theme title for the event. "Misneach", an Irish word, which embodies spirit, courage and fortitude was perfect, especially if we managed to pull off the event successfully!

Getting on the plane from Athens, with the long journey to Langkawi ahead of me, I realised I never felt so grateful. Grateful to my amazing Aunt Maggie for making it possible, grateful to my wonderful husband Jani and daughter Sophia for being so understanding and letting me take the three week trip to one of our beloved second home, Malaysia. Most of all, I felt grateful that the world was finally seeing the light after the intense darkness of Covid-19, that things were coming full circle and maybe we were finally coming out the other side of the pandemic nightmare.

Touching down in Malaysia was, as always, like reaching tropical heaven – but this time it was more special than ever. Memories of Penang, of family and friends, of our fantastic St. Patrick's Day events and celebrations were some of the things that got me through lockdown and seemingly hopeless times. They reminded me of the true fighting spirit within, gave me courage to believe that things would work out and fortitude in the hope that I would be back in Penang helping to organise the 21st St. Patrick's Day Ball at the E&O Hotel.

Friday evening, 4th March 2022 was a day I could not stop smiling. I felt a sense of glowing with the sheer excitement, anticipation and gratitude. Seeing the ballroom at the E&O Hotel adorned with lavish shades of green, beautiful PIA Festival artwork from throughout the years and the sense





















Penang Irish Association







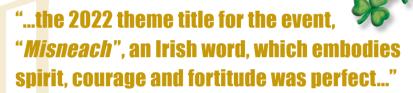












































































of hope and celebration made my heart want to explode. Welcoming the guests as they arrived at the Ball felt like a triumphant moment for our little committee – the glitz and glam of the event all around and the promise of a wonderful evening ahead.

For me, it was extremely special to see people I had not seen for two years and to catch up on life. Ronald De Leon and his band, who has been an essential and extremely talented fixture throughout the years at the PIA Balls, played harmoniously in the garden as people enjoyed welcome bubbles, Guinness and of course, Maggie's renowned "Green Mamba" cocktail.

As people began to take their seats in the ballroom, the vibe was positively electric and it was not evident at all that there was a rather smaller crowd than "normal" due to Covid-19 restrictions. We were delighted to welcome Frank Bradley, Deputy Head of Mission from the Irish Embassy in Kuala Lumpur and his lovely wife, Blathnaid. Our small but mighty committee of five took to the stage to formally welcome everyone and sang along with Ronald De Leon's powerful rendition of "Ireland's Call". The ballroom erupted into a thunderous, heartfelt sing-along like no other.

What a treat to once again sit down to a scrumptious five-course dinner at the E&O Hotel and the delicious feast did not disappoint. The amuse bouche of smoked salmon, mouth-watering appetisers of sautéed tiger prawns and the classic taste of traditional Irish potato and leak soup – my taste buds were already tingling with excitement after these first three courses! For the main course, a delectable choice of seared Scandinavian salmon or tender filet mignon of beef satisfied the diner's pallets, as vegetarians and vegans were also served a hearty option.

























"196 friends of Ireland gathered in the spirit of friendship, the hope of good things to come and the knowledge that fortitude sustains all."















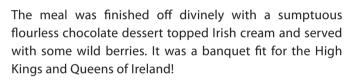












Throughout dinner, guests were entertained with Irish dance performances on the big screen. Although we missed the Irish dancers from Singapore, who could not travel due to the pandemic restrictions, the spectacular performances that was just breathtaking certainly set the mood.

After dinner, PIA committee members gave their various toasts and the crowd were entertained by Drew Phillips, who made us all join in to sing "Molly Malone", the famous Irish song about Ireland's female fishmonger from "Dublin's fair city". We were then inspired by Frank Bradley's patriotic words about courage after Covid-19 and also that Ireland stands in solidarity with Ukraine amidst the heartbreaking war taking place there.

It was a pleasure for me to welcome and thank our wonderful sponsors to the stage. Our main sponsor, Liam Healy from Healy Mac's Irish Bar & Restaurant, was notably missed from the festivities. We are forever grateful to all our sponsors for their ongoing support, which makes the event possible.

Dram Band took the stage and finally, after two long years, guests were ready for action! It was so special to see the enjoyment on everyone's faces and we were so lucky, as always, to have these memorable experiences captured for posterity by the ever professional and dashing PIA saviour and supporter, Adrian Cheah who was assisted by photographer Frankie Yap. Elvis (Irish singer Greg Traynor) was missed but the Jameson and Baileys flowed freely until the end of the evening as guests danced at their tables and the night became more energetic and wild.







































As I sit here in Athens, where the sun has finally decided to appear after a long harsh winter, again I am so utterly grateful for being able to be part of the 2022 St. Patrick's Ball in Penang. Looking through Adrian's fabulous photos of the night, seeing the ecstatic faces and reading his words – "196 friends of Ireland gathered in the spirit of friendship, the hope of good things to come and the knowledge that fortitude sustains all" – I feel so proud of what we achieved and the fact that love and friendship really do sustain all! The Ball, like Cinderella's escapade, ended at the stroke of midnight in compliance with the current Malaysia government restrictions, but it did not matter as it was evident that everyone had had an "absolute memorable Ball"!

I have all my fingers (and even toes) crossed that we will be back in the glorious ballroom of the E&O Hotel to celebrate the 22nd PIA St. Patrick's Day Ball next year, hopefully stay out past midnight!















Irish Insights • No. 15 • May 2022

Misneach: The Irish Heroes

STORY BY SINEAD AHLSTRAND PEDERSEN
IMAGES FROM OPEN SOURCE:
https://en.wikipedia.org/

s has been stated and explored, misneach, which is an Irish word conveying spirit, courage and fortitude, was the theme for this year's ball. While organising the ball, we named each of the 26 tables after Irish people throughout history who displayed, or continue to embody, the concept of misneach.

Below is the list of 26 heroes and in this article we will focus on eight in particular.

- Charlie Bird
- Sinead Burke
- Michael Collins
- Sister Enda
- Veronica Guerin
- Arthur Guinness
- Rosie Hackett
- Padraig Harrington
- Michael D Higgins
- John Hume
- James Joyce
- Shane Lowry
- Countess Constance Markievicz
- Mary McAleese
- Daniel O'Connell
- Brian O'Driscoll
- Grace O'Malley
- Dr. Norah Patten
- Vicky Phelan
- Dr. Dorothy Price
- Mary Robinson
- Adi Rocke
- Cora Staunton
- Katie Taylor
- Bono
- Oscar Wilde

Charles "Charlie" Bird (9th September 1949 –) is an Irish journalist and broadcaster. He was Chief News Correspondent with RTÉ News and Current Affairs until January 2009. He took up the role of Washington Correspondent but prematurely returned to his earlier post in Ireland in June 2010. He retired from RTÉ in August 2012.

We added him to our "Misneach: The Irish Heroes" list in light of his recent inspirational actions.

On 27th October 2021, Bird announced that he had developed motor neurone disease, after experiencing problems with his voice. He subsequently announced "Climb for Charlie", a campaign where he and other celebrities, including another female figure from our heroic list Vicky Phelan (who has been a huge advocate and campaigner for raising awareness of cervical cancer and the massive issues of dealing with it within the Irish health system) would climb Croagh Patrick in Co Mayo to raise awareness of his condition and also funds for charity organisations.

On 2nd April 2022, Charlie Bird and his supporters reached the summit and raised more than €1.6m for the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association and mental health charity Pieta. Ms. Phelan however, could not make the climb but was represented by 11 members of her family.

Michael Collins (16th October 1890 – 22nd August 1922) was an Irish revolutionary, soldier and politician who was a leading figure in the early 20th century struggle for Irish independence. He was Chairman of the Provisional Government of the Irish Free State from January 1922, and commander-in-chief of the National Army from July until his death in an ambush in August 1922, during the Civil War.



The Easter Rising was Collins' first appearance in national events. When it commenced on Easter Monday 1916, Collins served as Joseph Plunkett's aide-decamp at the rebellion's headquarters in the General Post Office (GPO) in Dublin. There he fought alongside Patrick Pearse, James Connolly, and other members of the Rising leadership. The Rising was put down after six days, but the insurgents achieved their goal of holding their positions for the minimum time required to justify a claim to independence under international criteria.

Nine years after his death, the UK Parliament passed the Statute of Westminster, which removed virtually all of London's remaining authority over the Free State and the other dominions. This had the effect of granting the Free State internationally recognised independence, thus fulfilling Collins' vision for Ireland of having "the freedom to achieve freedom".



From left: Sinead Ahlstrand Pedersen, Sister Edna and Maggie Territt.

Datin Paduka Sister Enda Ryan who was born and grew up in Limerick moved to Malaysia in the 1950s. She embodies all aspects of *misneach* through the massive effort and amount of work and development she put into the education system in Malaysia. Datin Paduka Sister Enda Ryan, better known as the "Singing Nun" is the founder and first principal of SMK (P) Assunta School in Petaling Jaya. Now in her 90s, Sister Enda is the oldest Irish resident living in Malaysia.

Her biography "Make Me an Instrument – The Singing Sister" was launched in 2013 and was written by Dr. Nesamalar Chitravelu, Assunta's first headgirl and a retired associate professor of English. She said Sister Enda had always been such an inspirational figure that had given her "all" and was known for saying, "It's not what you have, but what you give".

Sister Enda continues to be a beacon of inspiration to the girls at SMK (P) Assunta and has made Ireland truly proud of her selfless life's work.

Veronica Guerin (5th July 1959 – 26th June 1996) was an Irish crime reporter who was murdered by drug lords.

She became a reporter in 1990, writing for the Sunday Business Post and Sunday Tribune. In 1994, she began writing exposés about organised crime for the Sunday Independent. In 1996, she was fatally shot in a contract killing while stopped at a traffic light. The shooting caused national outrage in Ireland. Investigation into her death led to a number of arrests and convictions.

...spirit, courage and fortitude will never be forgotten amongst the Irish people.



On 2nd May 1997, at a ceremony in Arlington, Virginia, her name and those of 38 other international journalists who died in the line of duty in 1996 were added to the Freedom Forum Journalists Memorial. Her husband addressed the audience:

"Veronica stood for freedom to write. She stood as light, and wrote of life in Ireland today, and told the truth. Veronica was not a judge, nor was she a juror, but she paid the ultimate price with the sacrifice of her life."

In 2000, Guerin was named as one of the International Press Institute's 50 World Press Freedom Heroes of the past 50 years. Veronica Guerin's spirit, courage and fortitude will never be forgotten amongst the Irish people and a memorial statue to Guerin is located in Dubh Linn Gardens, in the grounds of Dublin Castle.

Monument to Guerin in Dublin Castle gardens.

He was named
"Ireland's Greatest"
in a 2010 public poll
by Irish national
broadcaster RTÉ to find
the greatest person in
Ireland's history.

John Hume (18th January 1937 – 3rd August 2020) was an Irish nationalist politician from Northern Ireland, widely regarded as one of the most important figures in the recent political history of Ireland, as one of the architects of the Northern Ireland peace process.

Hume was co-recipient of the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize with David Trimble, and also received both the Gandhi Peace Prize and the Martin Luther King Award. He is the only person to receive the three major peace awards.

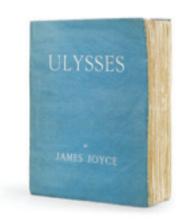
In 2012, Pope Benedict XVI made Hume a Knight Commander of the Papal Order of St. Gregory the Great. He was named "Ireland's Greatest" in a 2010 public poll by Irish national broadcaster RTÉ to find the greatest person in Ireland's history.

He displayed great *misneach* throughout his career: "I thought that I had a duty to help those that weren't as lucky as me". His spirit, courage and fortitude was always evident and eventually triumphant with the Peace Agreement. "Over the years, the barriers of the past – the distrust and prejudices of the past – will be eroded, and a new society will evolve, a new Ireland based on agreement and respect for difference."

James Joyce (2nd February 1882 – 13th January 1941) was an Irish novelist, short story writer, poet, and literary critic. He contributed to the modernist avant-garde movement and is regarded as one of the most influential and important writers of the 20th century. Joyce's novel Ulysses (1922) is a landmark in which the episodes of Homer's Odyssey are paralleled in a variety of literary styles, most famously stream of consciousness.



Joyce's work still has a profound influence on contemporary culture. Ulysses is a model for fiction writers, particularly its explorations in the power of language. Its emphasis on the details of everyday life have opened up new possibilities of expression for authors, painters and film-makers. It retains its prestige among readers, often ranking high on the "Great Book" lists. In popular culture, the work and life of Joyce, his display of *misneach*, is celebrated annually on 16 June, known as Bloomsday, in Dublin and in an increasing number of cities worldwide.



She displayed true heroic spirit, courage and fortitude as an Irish politician... **Constance Georgine Markievicz** née Gore-Booth (4th February 1868 – 15th July 1927) was also known as Countess Markievicz. She displayed true heroic spirit, courage and fortitude as an Irish politician, revolutionary, nationalist, suffragist, socialist and was the first woman elected to the Westminster Parliament. She was also elected Minister for Labour in the First Dáil, becoming the first female cabinet minister in Europe.



She was Ireland's most popular president, at one point having a 93% approval rating among the electorate. **Mary Robinson** née Bourke (21st May 1944 –) was the 7th president of Ireland, serving from December 1990 to September 1997, the first woman to hold this office. Prior to her election, Robinson served seven terms as a senator in Seanad Éireann between 1969 and 1989, and one as a local councillor on Dublin Corporation from 1979 to 1983. As well as being the first woman elected president following the 1990 presidential election, Robinson also became the first independent candidate to win the presidency.

Following her time as president, Robinson was made United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights from 1997 to 2002.

Robinson is widely regarded as having had a transformative effect on Ireland, having extensively and successfully campaigned on several liberalising issues both as a senator and as a lawyer. She has displayed a great sense of *misneach* throughout her extremely successful career. Robinson was involved in the decriminalisation of homosexuality, the legalisation of contraception, the legalisation of divorce, enabling women to sit on juries, and securing the right to legal aid in civil legal cases in Ireland. She was Ireland's most popular president, at one point having a 93% approval rating among the electorate.





Arthur Guinness: *Misneach* and Legacy

STORY BY SINEAD AHLSTRAND PEDERSEN PHOTOGRAPHS BY ADRIAN CHEAH

rthur Guinness (c. 24th September 1725 – 23rd January 1803) was an Irish brewer, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. The inventor of Guinness beer, he founded the Guinness Brewery at St. James's Gate in 1759.



Guinness beer remains popular worldwide, having generated £12.2 billion in net sales for the 2018 fiscal year. In 1997, Guinness PLC merged with Grand Metropolitan to form the beverage conglomerate Diageo. In addition to producing beer, part of the St. James's Gate brewery has been renovated into the Guinness Storehouse, a heritage centre and tourist attraction which opened in 2000.

In 2009, for the 250th anniversary of Guinness beer, the company established the Arthur Guinness Fund, which awards funds and mentoring to businesses invested in social reform.

Diageo declared 24th September 2009 "Arthur's Day", meant to be a worldwide celebration of Guinness's life and legacy. As part of the celebrations, An Post released a commemorative postage stamp for the brewer, as they had also done in 1959 for the brewery's 200th anniversary. Diageo promoted annual Arthur's Days for five years before cancelling the celebrations in 2014.

Guinness first came to Malaysia in 1893. It has been brewed in Malaysia since 1965. Prior to that it was shipped in bulk from Ireland and bottled locally. Guinness continues to be one of Ireland biggest exports. It is for this reason we celebrate Arthur Guinness for his spirit, courage and fortitude in his entrepreneurship and he was an excellent example of someone who possessed a great

sense of misneach!





REAL IRISH PUB WHEALY MAC*S ** IRISH BAR & RESTAURANT

STORY BY ORLA REDMOND
PHOTOGRAPHS BY TERESA MCARTHUR





The wet and wild weather did nothing to dampen spirits however. As the storm passed, the crowds gathered in anticipation.

One of the highlights of our 2020 celebration was the opportunity to showcase the talents of our island's youngsters. Although a stage on the quay was not possible this year, Penang Irish Association was pleased to showcase a number of our young people. First up, several of Ronald de Leon's students took to the stage. Surely there is something magical about soaring young voices?

Our solo performers were followed by two sets from the POWIIS Residential Band. Having taken the stage by storm in 2020, the students did not disappoint, captivating the audience from the first bars of Can't Take my Eyes off you by Frankie Valli. Two sentimental songs presented by the year 13 students - Husavik (My Hometown) by Molly Sandén and Will Ferrell and Shallow by Bradley Cooper and Lady Gaga – gave listeners goosebumps. Following encore demands, the band ended the session with Come on Eileen by Dexys Midnight Runners, leaving the crowd buzzing. Penang Irish Association received a note of thanks from POWIIS music teacher, Ben Lim; however, it is surely to him, and the very many colleagues and family members who turned out to support the band, that thanks is due. No doubt, great things await this talented bunch.



Next up, with some lilting Irish melodies was Dram Band. Their rendition of Galway Girl always seems to be a true crowd-pleaser. Doubtless, I was not the only member of the audience transported to Ireland on the haunting notes of Louise's flute. How evocative music can be!

Closing the night was Ronald (de Leon) and Friends. They surely had the house rocking, and I can't count the number of people commenting on the talent of the trumpet, saxophone and violin players and remarking on Ronald's voice. Having wowed the crowd at the ball with his rendition of Ireland's call, Ronald's performance on Saturday night cemented his place as a great entertainer and one we feel

fortunate to count as a friend of the Penang Irish Association.

The pandemic has cost us so many opportunities, not least the gathering. How wonderful it was to come together again, friends from near and far, and to welcome such a large contingent from Kuala Lumpur. A special word of thanks to all the singers and musicians who made the night so memorable and to the Healy Mac's team who always offer the warmest fáilte.

Ireland Ireland

Side by side We stand like brothers One for all and all together We will stay united through darker days And we'll be unbeatable forever

Chorus

Ireland, Ireland Together standing tall Shoulder to shoulder We'll answer Ireland's call!

Come the day and come the hour Some will live in song and story We were born to follow our guiding star And to beat our destiny with glory

Repeat Chorus

Hearts of steel and heads are bowing Vowing never to be broken We will fight, until we can fight no more

'Til our final requiem is spoken

Repeat Chorus x 2 We'll answer Ireland's call!

Ronald Vic De Leon

BY ADRIAN CHEAH

onald Vic De Leon has been a part of the PIA St. Patrick's Day celebration for more than a decade. Together with both his talented sons, Vincenzo and Gabriel, they entertain guests with classic Irish tunes. Ronald confesses that they have tonnes of fun learning traditional Irish pub music from recordings of The Chieftains, Dubliners and other big names in the industry.





The initial family band, dubbed the De Leon Irish Experience, had a setup consisting of two fiddles, a tin whistle and electronic piano. Ronald loves performing Irish tunes as the songs are often filled with charming yet entertaining lyrics, setting listeners into a jovial, foot-tapping mood.

Ronald's exceptional musical genius is deeply rooted in the family. Born on 17th June 1967, in the City of Las Piñas, a metropolitan famed nationwide for its bamboo organ, salt beds and the Las Piñas-Paranaque Wetlands in the Philippines, Ronald was surrounded by music from an early age. Ronald's maternal grandfather was a local music teacher and the town's band master. He taught his sons well and in the 1960s, they established themselves as successful musicians/arrangers in Hong Kong.

Today, the musical lineage has effortlessly reached the new generations. Musically skilled, some of the grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren are part of a brass band either as musicians or singers. Even both of Ronald's sons have chosen musical





paths and will soon be graduating from Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts on scholarships.

Music comes second nature to Ronald and he can play all the band and orchestral (western) instruments, from wind to strings and from percussion to brass. Ronald, a self-taught, multi-talented musician humbly noted that he learned to play all these instruments on his own, except the cello.

His musical milestones include being an alto soloist of the world-champion Las Piñas Boys Choir. He also appeared in *Tosca* (as one of the streetboys) and *Magic Flute* (as one of the Knabe) with the San Francisco Opera Company and the Boston Opera Company respectively. Ronald was the resident pianist of Penang Mutiara Beach Hotel and Holiday Inn Resort Penang. He performed on the Star Cruise Virgo for five years. Besides performing, Ronald taught music at the Prince of Wales Island International School from its inception in 2011 until 2018. Today, you can enjoy his melodic tunes at Rasa Sayang Resort's Feringgi Grill while you dine in an award-winning restaurant.

Ronald offers personal coaching in vocals, musical instruments and is renowned for his inclusive principles. He believes that the world of music breaks down barriers and transcends the soul. I was deeply moved when I saw one of his autistic students perform brilliantly on the piano in an auditorium packed with an awestruck audience.

I love Ronald's performance. You can truly feel that music is in his soul and his sincere rendition comes across from a much deeper realm. His cheerful disposition is contagious and I enjoy his company very much.

Ronald's world revolves around music and I am sure he agrees with Plato, "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything".









HEALY MAC'S IRISH BAR & RESTAURANT at Strait's Quay Marina can genuinely boast to being the foremost truly authentic Irish Pub in Penang. Offering an ambiance straddled between the modern and traditional, their award-wining chef's creations include Irish stew as well as a range of cosmopolitan dishes. You can also catch the latest live sports coverage here.

DON CORLEONE PIZZA at Straits Quay Marina started rolling out its first pizza on 6th December 2019. It serves the best thin crusted pizzas in town! The restaurant is very cosy and welcoming. It offers both indoor and outdoor dining with a picturesque view of the marina, complete with sea breezes. You can order tantalising selections from the menu or even create you own pizza from a list of ingredients. Also great for take-away. Try it today and you will see why the Don Corleone Pizza is the pizza you can't refuse!

PENANG MEDIGAL COLLEGE is wholly-owned by the RCSI and UCD providing the highest quality medical education to internationally recognised standards since 1996. The first graduation ceremony took place in 2001. Since then, over a thousand doctors have graduated from PMC joining a global community of world-class doctors. A report by the Institute for Health Systems Research, Kuala Lumpur, House Officer Performance in Malaysia 2009-2011, placed PMC among the top medical schools in preparing their graduates for their early careers.















BOSTON SCIENTIFIC is dedicated to transforming lives through innovative medical solutions that improve the health of patients around the world. It is a worldwide developer, manufacturer and marketer of medical devices whose products are used in a range of interventional medical specialties.

EASTERN & ORIENTAL HOTEL is a luxury heritage all suite hotel in the bustling heart of George Town. This Grande Dame continues to shine as a testament to the grand elegance of the British colonial era. For almost 135 years, the hotel has welcomed the world in timeless style. This legacy is conserved and further elevated with the re-opening of the Heritage Wing that is now setting the new standard as a leading destination in classic hospitality.

PATHFINDERS RELOCATION SERVICES offers a total relocation service and immigration, tailored to the specific needs of expats and their families. The Pathfinders team has a thorough understanding of Malaysian and Western cultures, people and systems. This enables them to cover all aspects of the relocation process and is a member of the RELOC8 Asia Pacific Group.

MFE FORMWORK TECHNOLOGY SDN. BHD. has successfully used and developed over 20 years a revolutionary aluminium formwork construction system for forming cast in place reinforced concrete building structures. The resulting building structure is very strong, accurate in dimensions and tolerances, with a high quality of finished concrete surface and yet at the same time the MFE Formwork Technology is fast, adaptable and very cost effective.

AMEE PHILIPS is renowned for her exclusive designer jewellery since 2002. She has established herself as a connoisseur of genuine gemstones and an innovator of versatile jewellery with her award winning V-Clip. Her creations are the essence of style and sophistication treasured by the elegant women of the 21st century.

THE WINE SHOP provides the best recommendations of wines in terms of quality as well as pricing for retail, takeaway and wholesale. It supplies wines for weddings, anniversaries, wine tasting and training, corporate functions and events. Also provides the best service and products for drink in, restaurant and gourmet delicatessen products.

GUINNESS is an Irish dry stout that originated in the brewery of Arthur Guinness (1725–1803) at St. James's Gate brewery in the capital city of Dublin, Ireland. Although Guinness is one of the most successful beer brands worldwide, it continues to experiment and innovate in true pioneering style and never stop evolving.







TTGSP Results 2021/22

14th March 2021

Mountain View Golf Resort ST. PATRICK'S DAY OUTING

Prizes sponsored by TTGSP and PIA

1st: Angel Rivera on 38 pts.

2nd: James Hirst on 34 pts.

3rd: Marie Luxe on 34 pts.

4th: Anne Wilkinson on 34 pts.

Longest Drive: Rob Wootton Runner-up: Tom O'Mahony

Nearest the Line: Albert Lai

Pro Approach: Nigel Bennett

Nearest the Pin: Daz Lethlean and

David Gee

11th April 2021

Mountain View Golf Club **APRIL OUTING**

sponsored by Ruben and Anne Wilkinson

Best Gross: Nigel Bennett took top prize with a gross of 85 pts.

1st: Daz Lethlean on 34 pts.

2nd: Gordon Coulthard on 34 pts.

3rd: Drew Philips on 32 pts.

All 7 Novelty Prizes were won by different players for first time. Longest Drive: Nigel Bennett Pro Approach: Daz Lethlean

Nearest the Line: Mike Fenner-Smith Nearest the Pin: James Hirst.

> Tom O'Mahony, Drew Phillips and Richard Brewer

9th May 2021

Penang Golf Resort Bertam **MAY OUTING**

(Last game before lockdown) Prizes sponsored by TTGSP and PIA

1st: Ruben K. on 32 pts.

2nd: David Gee on 32 pts.

3rd: Daz Lethlean on 31 pts.

Pro Approach: Bjorn W.

Longest Drive: James Hirst

Nearest the Line: Dave McDowell Nearest the Pin: Rob Wootton &

Neil Robertson

21st November 2021

Kulim Golf & Country Club

LADY CAPTAIN'S OUTING

Prizes sponsored by Lady Captain, Maggie T.

1st: Trevor Powell on 41 pts.

2nd: David Gee on 39 pts.

3rd: Amran on 39 pts.



Nearest the Line: Amran Longest Drive: David Gee Pro Approach: Drew Phillips

19th December 2021

Cancelled due to continuous heavy rain

23rd January 2022

Mountain View Golf Resort

DECEMBER/JANUARY OUTING -PRESIDENT TROPHY

Prizes sponsored by David Gee, Biorn, Albert Lai & Peter Chitroda

Winner of the President Trophy 2021: Anne Wilkinson – 72 net score

1st: Trevor Powell HCP 14 on 36 pts.

2nd: Marie Luxe HCP 26 on 35 pts.

3rd: Rob Wootton HCP 6 on 34 pts.

Nearest the Pin: Jon Gordon &

Lars Standberg

Nearest the Line: James Booth Longest Drive: Vivian Lang (a 15-year-old who out drove all the big hitters. Well done Vivian!)

20th February 2022

Bukit Jawi Golf Resort

CHINESE NEW YEAR OUTING

Prizes sponsored by The Blues Brothers: Gordon, Amran, Trevor and Mick F. Smith

1st: Rob Wootton HCP 5 on 34 pts.

2nd: Daryl Burkett HCP 22 on 33 pts.

3rd: Rick Barlett HCP 3 on 31 pts.

Best Gross: Bjorn W.

Nearest the Pin: Lily Lang, David Gee, Sharon Gould and Brian Pocock.

Longest Drive: Frank Poulsen Nearest the Line; Min Payne Pro Approach: Rob Wootton

13th March 2022

Mountain View Golf Club

ST. PATRICK'S DAY OUTING

Prizes sponsored by Angel Rivera and Edith Cruz

Winner of the Race to Healy Macs Player of Year: Ruben K. on 37 pts.

1st: Paul Scandura on 38 pts.

2nd: Daryl Burkett on 37 pts.

3rd: Trevor Powell on 35 pts.

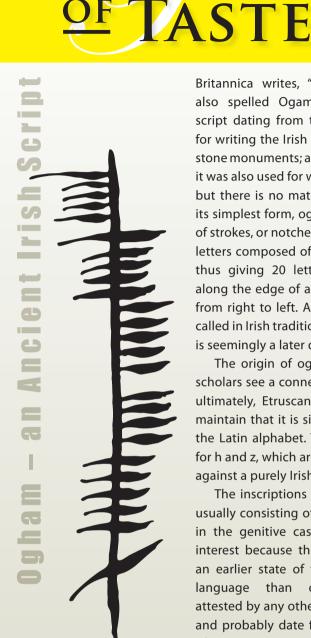
Longest Drive: Bjorn W.

Nearest the Pin: Rick Bartlett & Ake W.

Nearest the Line: Neil Robertson

Pro Approach: Brian Pocock Inspiring prize: Vivian Lang, the youngest

player



OGHAM **An Ancient Irish Script**

Britannica writes, "Ogham writing, ogham also spelled Ogam, or Ogum, alphabetic script dating from the 4th century AD, used for writing the Irish and Pictish languages on stone monuments; according to Irish tradition, it was also used for writing on pieces of wood, but there is no material evidence for this. In its simplest form, ogham consists of four sets of strokes, or notches, each set containing five letters composed of from one to five strokes, thus giving 20 letters. These were incised along the edge of a stone, often vertically or from right to left. A fifth set of five symbols, called in Irish tradition forfeda ("extra letters"), is seemingly a later development.

ATTER

The origin of ogham is in dispute; some scholars see a connection with the runic and, ultimately, Etruscan alphabets, while others maintain that it is simply a transformation of the Latin alphabet. The fact that it has signs for h and z, which are not used in Irish, speaks against a purely Irish origin.

The inscriptions in ogham are very short, usually consisting of a name and patronymic in the genitive case; they are of linguistic

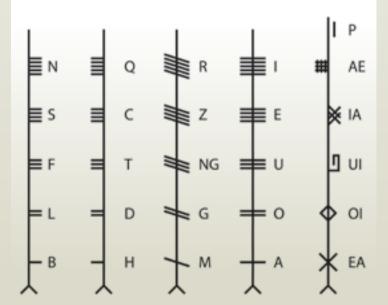
interest because they show an earlier state of the Irish language than can attested by any other source and probably date from the 4th century AD.

Of the more than 375 ogham inscriptions known, about 300 are from Ireland. Most of those found in accompanied Wales are by Latin transliterations or equivalents."

We may never know its true origins, but Ogham still intrigues to this day and is a unique and mystical language embedded in the Irish landscape. All we can do is speculate and of course and keep this tradition by reading and using this wonderful language. Try writing your name with Ogham.



The Dunloe Ogham Stones are located a short distance from Beaufort Village in County Kerry. They consists of eight stones, seven of which were moved from a souterrain at Coolmagort and the other from the ruined church at Kilbonane. Image from https://en.wikipedia.org/



Misneach in

Ogham script.

Mismeach on a More Personal Level

Misneach (mish-knock) refers to courage, spirit and fortitude and was the theme of PIA St. Patrick's Day Ball 2022. On 4th March, friends of Ireland gathered in the spirit of friendship, filled with the hope of good things to come, and in the knowledge that fortitude sustains all.

On a more personal level, how can the spirit of *misneach* touch our daily lives? What can I say to my daughter that can fill her heart with courage, spirit and fortitude all the days of her life? For that, I borrow the beautiful words from "If" by Rudyard Kipling. Although written in 1910, it is quite fascinating that Kipling's words of wisdom still ring true in 2022.

The poem is addressed to Kipling's son; it ends with "my son," and the meaning in this poem is like the advice a father would give his son to live a good life, especially one with misneach.



Joseph Rudyard Kipling was an English author famous for an array of works like Just So Stories, If and The Jungle Book. He was born in India in 1865 and educated in England but returned to India in 1882. A decade later, Kipling married Caroline Balestier and settled in Brattleboro, Vermont, where he wrote The Jungle Book (1894), among a host of other works that made him hugely successful. Kipling was the recipient of the 1907 Nobel Prize in Literature. He died in 1936 and his ashes were buried in Westminster Abbey. Image from https://en.wikipedia.org/

by Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too:
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream – and not make dreams your master;
If you can think – and not make thoughts your aim,
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same:.
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build'em up with worn-out tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings,
And never breathe a word about your loss:
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings – nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much:
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And – which is more – you'll be a Man, my son!

Creativity at Play

FUAN WONG

http://www.fuanwong.com
www.facebook.com/artandgardenbyfuanwong

Fuan Wong is an artist who specialises in creative fused glass. He has a well-known gallery in the heritage quarter of George Town. He also created Art and Garden by Fuan Wong located high in the hills above Teluk Bahang where he marries his superb collection of exotic and wonderful plants with his glass sculptures and installations. Creative works by other artists are dotted throughout the garden which also has a cafe, gift shop and breathtaking views of Penang Hill.



A big thank you to Fuan for supporting PIA. We recommend that both visitors to Penang and locals visit them and discover firsthand how these talented individuals transform glass and photography into works of art that are eye arresting and simply beautiful.

STUDIO HOWARD

www.studiohoward.com

Howard Tan, a soulful, predominantly abstract photographer is self-taught and has a flair for capturing the ordinary and making it extraordinary. Many of Howard's photographs hover between abstract compositions and reflect a timelessness, almost a slowing down of pace and time that keeps the viewer interested long after the photograph has been taken. Much of his interest in photography grew out of an appreciation of interesting movies by directors such as Wong Kar Wai and Tim Burton.



ICCM - Irish Chamber of Commerce Malaysia

Bringing together the best of Ireland in Malaysia while opening doors for Business and Professionals across South East Asia and the Middle East



The Irish Chamber of Commerce is an independent membership organisation committed to strengthening the ties between Ireland and Malaysia, an engagement of peoples, whether as Irish Diaspora, Malaysian or Friends of Ireland in Malaysia.

MEMBERSHIP

ICCM welcomes applications for membership from any company or individual with an interest in Malaysia-Ireland business and professional relationships.

Membership is available in the following categories: Corporate, Individual, Associate and Student/Alumni. The chamber also offers a corporate partnership called "Chara". This partnership enables a close collaboration with the board and a high profile in media, collateral and at relevant events. Through membership with the Irish Chamber, we also offer a special rate for advocacy membership with EUROCHAM Malaysia, of which ICCM is a bilateral member. For further information on membership, please check out our website or contact us at membership@iccm.com.my.

The Irish Cookbook: JP McMahon

The Irish Cookbook showcases the true depth of Irish cuisine, its ingredients and its fascinating history, as never before.



Bibliographic information TITLE: The Irish Cookbook AUTHOR: JP McMahon Edition: illustrated Publisher: Phaidon Press, 2020 ISBN: 1838660569, 9781838660567

LENGTH: 432 pages Language: English



reland's remarkably rich food heritage dates back millennia and in The Irish Cookbook, acclaimed chef JP McMahon captures its unique culinary origins and varied influences. Irish food is the summation of what the land and sea gives; the book's 480 home-cooking recipes celebrate the range and

quality of Ireland's bounty, from oysters and seaweed on its west coast to beef and lamb from its lush green pastures, to produce and forage throughout the island. Presenting best-loved traditional dishes together with many lesser-known gems, this book vividly evokes the warmth, hospitality, and culinary spirit of the Emerald Isle.





Classic Irish fish soup with a little twist

INGREDIENTS

For the stock:

2 tbsp rapeseed oil

1 onion, diced

1 carrot, diced

1 celery stalk, diced

250ml dry cider

25g dried kelp or kombu

3 cloves garlic, peeled

2 bay leaves and a few sprigs of thyme

500g mussels, scrubbed clean

500g clams, scrubbed clean

For the chowder:

25g butter

1 onion, finely chopped

600g (about 9 medium) potatoes, cubed

2 leeks, diced

Sea salt

250ml double cream

300g pollock fillet, skinned and boned,

cut into small chunks

Chopped dill and finely milled nori, to

serve

METHOD

Heat the rapeseed oil in a large pan over a medium heat. Add the onion, carrot and celery and sauté for about 10 minutes until they start to caramelise. Pour over the cider and cook for a couple of minutes. Pour in 1 litre of water and add the seaweed, garlic, bay leaves and thyme. Bring to the boil, then turn the heat down and simmer for 40 minutes.

To finish, cook the mussels and clams in the stock for 3-5 minutes until they open. Remove from the stock and place them in a suitable container, discarding any that haven't opened. When cool enough to handle, pick the meat from the shells and discard the shells. Strain the stock through a fine sieve.

For the chowder, melt half the butter in a large saucepan over a medium heat. Add the onion and sauté for 3-4 minutes until translucent. Add the potatoes and

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

JP McMahon is a chef, restaurateur, and author. He is culinary director of the EatGalway Restaurant Group and runs the Aniar Boutique Cookery School. Founding chair and director of the Galway Food Festival, JP is an ambassador for Irish food. He organises an annual international chef symposium entitled "Food on the Edge" in Galway and writes a weekly column for the Irish Times.

leeks and stir to mix. Add the seaweed stock. Season to taste. Bring to the boil, then turn down the heat and simmer for about 15 minutes until the vegetables are tender. Add the cream and warm through. Add the pollock and cook for 2 minutes. Finally, add the mussel and clam meat and

remove from the heat. Allow to stand for 5 minutes.

To serve, fold the chopped dill through the chowder and divide among four warmed bowls. Garnish with a sprinkle of milled nori.

The recipe above is one of many tantalising offerings listed in the cookbook. The 480 home-cooking recipes range from the simple to the more adventurous, celebrating the range and quality of Ireland's bounty, from oysters and seaweed to beef and lamb. The *Irish Cookbook* encapsulating the culinary traditions of a nation is an impressive read. It puts Irish cuisine in the spotlight and is a tome of recipes to savour, peppered with the Emerald Isle's food history. If you have an interest in Ireland and the country's culinary history, you need to add this book to your bookshelf.





MAGGIE TERRITT (President) is from Portlaoise in Co. Laois. She arrived in Penang in 1999 via West Africa and India. Maggie has been involved globally in expatriate organisations. She was the co-author of *Ireland-Penang: Bridging Friendships* (2015), *FoodFriends' Gourmet Secrets* (2007) and writes food related articles for magazines in Malaysia. She also enjoys organising food and wine events for her *FoodFriends* group. Maggie's passion also include golf and bridge.

SINEAD AHLSTRAND PEDERSEN (Vice President) was born in Zambia, Africa to Irish parents and has lived in many different countries, currently living between Greece, Norway, Ireland and Penang. She first came to Penang in 2002 and has returned many times. She has been a regular contributor to *Irish Insights* and was excited to be a researcher for the St. Patrick's Festival Expo.

"Unity is strength... when there is teamwork & collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."

TERESA MCARTHUR (2nd Vice President) is an accountant from Co. Tyrone. Together with her husband Gerry, they embarked on a Southeast Asia tour in 2015. They are still touring and Penang is their favourite place in Asia. She enjoys travelling, hiking, yoga and meditation. Above all, Teresa is at her happiest surrounded by good friends and family.

DREW PHILLIPS from Co. Antrim is TTGSP's Men's Captain. He is the Managing Director at Amee Philips Sdn. Bhd. and is married with children. Drew has been living in Penang for over 20 years and is a keen footballer, golfer and tennis player.

ORLA REDMOND (Youth and Membership) is from Co. Mayo. She moved to Penang with her husband Simon in September 2019. She then joined PIA and became a committee member to help with the preparations for the St. Patrick's Day festival. Orla and Simon enjoy travelling and exploring the world. They lived in the Caribbean prior to their move to Asia. They enjoy the friendship, fun and good food Penang has to offer and Orla knew she had found her home away from home close to the Belmullet sign in Healy Mac's!

A BIG THANK YOU TO: FRANK BRADLEY, the Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Ireland in Kuala Lumpur for gracing the Ball | ALISON FRASER and her hard-working E&O team including JESVINDER SINGH | Musical talent of DRAM BAND & DE LEON JAZZ EXPERIENCE | LIAM HEALY for his generous support | BIBI VAN GEMERT for managing the PIA website ADRIAN CHEAH for the creative promotional materials for the Ball | All the staff from Healy Mac's for all their help SINEAD AHLSTRAND PEDERSEN, DREW PHILLIPS, TERESA & GERRY MCARTHUR, ORLA REDMOND, SIMON DUNFORD, POWIIS and all who helped in making the Ball and the celebration of Irish music at Healy Mac's a huge success.

Looking forward to better times ahead | PIA Calendar of Events

rla Redmond is PIA Youth and Membership Chairperson. With her charming personality and friendly approach, she looks forward to welcoming you to PIA. If you are interested in being a member of PIA, please contact Orla



(red_orla@hotmail.com) or drop in and see Guru, the manager of Healy Mac's.

The benefits of being a PIA member include cheaper and guaranteed tickets to PIA's annual St. Patrick's Day Ball, invitations to other PIA events throughout the year, a Christmas party, a copy of PIA's annual Irish Insights and a privilege card from Healy Mac's. Check with the committee or website for additions during the year.

PIA has a fabulous clubhouse at Healy Mac's where meetings and parties are usually held. Please join us as we look forward to a better year ahead with PIA.

Benefits of PIA membership

A privilege card from Healy Mac's entitling you to 10% off on à la carte food.



- 10% off from Don Corleone pizza on à la carte food.
- 10% off from Royal Selangor.
- 10% off from Reetz Hair Salon.
- Amee Philips takes good care of PIA members.
- The Wine Shop takes good care of PIA members.

www.adriancheah.com/gourmetsecretsonline Cooking Demo | Hot Recipes | Culinary Secrets | Gourmet Tours Wine Appreciation | Theme Dinners | Social Events



2 BOOKS ON SALE FOR RM

To support the PIA, buy 2 books Chrissie O' and Ireland – Penang:

Bridging Friendships

- for only RM100. Chrissie O' is a life story of Annie, a Catholic, Irish immigrant. All profits from the books go to PIA charity fund.

2022



SEPT A get together @ Healy Mac's (date to be confirmed). Sunday, 18th: TTGSP September Outing.

OCT 14th – 16th: TTGSP 2-day October Outing in Penang: Day 1: Match - TTGSP vs. TTGSKL. Day 2: TTGSP Lady Captain's Prize (Maggie T.) – Singles.

NOV TTGSP November Outing – President Trophy (date to be confirmed).

DEC PIA Annual Christmas Party (date to be confirmed). 2nd – 4th: TTGSP 2-day December Outing in Kuala Lumpur – a return Match with TTGSKL

2023

JAN/FEB TTGSP January/February Outing (date to be confirmed).

AGM (date to be confirmed).

MAR **Sunday, 5th:** TTGSP St. Patrick's Outing – 3rd Major. Friday, 10th: PIA 22nd St. Patrick's Day Ball at E&O Hotel Penang. It will be a Black Tie affair.

Plus a few dates with Wine Dinners and Get Together events.

- Please note some dates are tentative so check the PIA website or emails for updates and confirmation.
- TTGSP plans 9/10 outings excluding July, August and one possibly for January/February.
- TTGSP is a PIA/Healy Mac's golfing society.



EMBASSY OF IRELAND

Ambassador: H.E. Ms Hilary Reilly Ireland House, The Amp Walk, 218 Jalan Ampang 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | T: **+603-2167 8200**

AGM Note: The PIA AGM, was held on 20th February 2022 at Healy Mac's. The annual report (including financial report) for 2021 and the minutes of the meeting have been forwarded to the Registrar of Societies, as required by law. If any member wishes to see a copy of the report and/or minutes, you may do so by contacting the President or Vice President of the Association.





Penang Office:

4 Jalan Sepay Lines, 10450 George Town, Penang, Malaysia.

% +804 217 1090 (General)

\$ +604 217 1888 (Programme)

Kuala Lumpur Office:

A-02-01, Empire Office Tower, Jalan SS16/L Subang Jaya, 47500, Selangor.

% +603-8603 3946

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REAL IRISH PUB WHEALY MAC'S **

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