



# Oxford Irish Society

1994 - 2009

President: Fr Pat Armstrong

Chairperson: Fiona McDonagh  
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## Winter Newsletter (No 43) – January 2009

Happy New Year! Thank you all for your support in 2008 and we hope it continues in 2009 and beyond. The Irish Society really needs your backing and with such a small committee any help is welcomed. So if you have any ideas please come forward and if you would like to get involved – do! The Oxford Irish Society has now been running for 15 years and if we all pull together it will be around for years to come.

Bear in my mind those who are sick within the Irish Community – please keep them in your prayers.

The Society wishes to express our sincere condolences to all those families and friends in the community who have lost loved ones since our last newsletter.

We have had a good response from members asking to receive future newsletters via email. If you too would like to save paper and receive future newsletters via email, please send an email to [oxfordirishsociety@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:oxfordirishsociety@yahoo.co.uk)

If your membership has now expired a form will be enclosed. Please renew either by post to Rosemary at the above address or at the Membership Dance (see details below).

MEMBERSHIP PRICES: 1 Year: £3 Single, £5 per couple  
5 Years: £12 Single, £20 per couple – 5 years for the price of 4!

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February**

**Membership Renewal Night Dance incorporated with the Regular Over 50s Night**  
The Lord Nuffield Club, Barracks Lane, off Holloway

- Music by Declan Gaynor
- **FREE** entrance to all those who join the Oxford Irish Society for 2009!

### **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

**St Patrick's Celebration Dance**  
Cowley Conservative Club, Between Towns Road

- Music by Frank Dempsey and His Band – back by popular demand after the Dinner Dance in November 2007
- Irish Dancing Display
- Every ticket purchased gets entered into a prize draw to win £50!

**BEAT THE CREDIT CRUNCH!**  
Tickets purchased before 4<sup>th</sup> March only **£9** Tickets cost £10 after.

### **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

Annual Dinner and Dance, 333 Banbury Road, Oxford  
Details to be confirmed in next Newsletter

**General Committee:** Chairperson: Fiona McDonagh, Treasurer: Rosemary Lynch, Secretary: Ruth Kelly  
Committee members: Joan McKenna, Marge O'Toole

## Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March

### **AGM – Annual General Meeting**

**7.30pm, Gladiators Club, Iffley Road (corner of Percy Street), Oxford**

This is the time for all members to pull together and give your support to the existing committee and those who have been involved in the successful running of the Society over the past fourteen years.

At the AGM the existing committee stands down and elections for all positions take place after nominations by Society members. Current and past committee members have shown faith and support to the Society and, if you wish the Society to prosper in 2009, this is the time to show yours. The main committee currently has five members who meet once a month for a couple of hours. Any small amount of involvement is gladly welcome.

Even if you do not wish to join the committee, the AGM is the ideal time to express your opinions about the Society and show your support.

### **OVER 50 EVENTS**

**The Over 50s meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month from 8pm – 11.30pm.**

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS EVENT, don't be embarrassed to admit you are now over 50! (If you are younger you are still welcome!)

Venue: Lord Nuffield, Barracks Lane off Holloway  
Entrance: £3.00 members, £4.00 non-members

6<sup>th</sup> February (free membership dance): Declan Gaynor

6<sup>th</sup> March: Dave Paisley, 3<sup>rd</sup> April: Tony Casper

1<sup>st</sup> May: Declan Gaynor, 5<sup>th</sup> June: Tony Casper

**Lunch/Coffee get-together – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month**

No booking necessary – just turn up.

We meet at Weatherspoons, Cowley Centre for lunch or just coffee from 12 noon for a couple of hours. Please join us to catch up with existing friends or even make new ones.

Dates: 16<sup>th</sup> February, (March - see below), 20<sup>th</sup> April, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 15<sup>th</sup> June, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 17<sup>th</sup> August, 21<sup>st</sup> September

### **St Patrick's Day Lunch**

Lunch for March will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> (St Patrick's Day) at the Lord Nuffield Club, 12 noon – 3.30pm

Two course meal with music by Tony Casper. Tickets must be booked in advance.

More details from Bernie – 01865 711885.

### EVENTS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

#### Night at the Dogs

A very disappointing response to this once popular event found the Society out of pocket due to poor attendance. This event will no longer be offered through the Irish Society.

#### Dinner Dance

This night was very well supported by members along with their families and friends and had an even higher attendance than last year. The food and music was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended. Thanks to all who contributed to the Graves Fund by participating in the Irish Bingo - £550 was raised for this good cause.

#### Over 50 Christmas Lunch

More than 50 people attended this successful lunch organised by Bernadette Downes at the Lord Nuffield Club.

On behalf of the society and its members we wish to thank Bernadette for all her support in 2008. We all know it has been a difficult year for her and we hope her health continues to improve in 2009.

### Local Information

#### **Irish Eye with Henry Wymbys**

BBC Radio Oxford 95.2 FM: Music and Chat from the Emerald Isles – Every Sunday 2– 5. Phone 08459 311 111

#### **Oxford Irish Dancing Schools**

Doyle Academy – 01865 873719

Marion Flanagan – 07971 035797

Maria Sweeney – 01865 773611

#### **Set Dancers**

Jim Flanagan – 01865 761766

Abingdon Group – 01235 520171

**Over 50s committee: Chairperson:** Mick McManus

**Secretary:** Bernie Downes (01865 711885), **Treasurer:** Marge O'Toole (01865 766863)