

# *Irish Heritage*

Promoting the best of Irish and Anglo-Irish literature, music and young performers since 1974

## **NEWSLETTER**

### **September 2012**

Dear Friends,

It seems a long time since our last Newsletter and indeed it is, but we have had a busy summer preparing for the 2012/13 year of Irish Heritage events. So, in this Newsletter we give you a foretaste of what we are planning for your enjoyment over the coming months and also mention a number of events coming up in September/October which you might like to support. However, before we do, I want to thank you for your support for our 2011/12 programme and particularly for the success of our Summer Recital on 12<sup>th</sup> June in St Bride's Fleet Street with mezzo-soprano **Máire Flavin** and pianist **Simon Lepper**. It was an outstanding success musically and socially with excellent feedback which was much appreciated by Máire and Simon and their friends.

#### ***Future Programme***

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** is the date of our Annual General Meeting. The official Notice of this meeting, which will be in Europe House, Smith Square, London SW1P 3EU at 6pm, will be posted to paid-up members in the next few days.

As in previous years, we will have an event for our members and guests at 8pm to follow the AGM. This year it is something different. We are sharing it with a number of like-minded cultural organisations in the format of an "open house". This event will highlight our plans and those of other organisations which have the common aim of enhancing the cultural landscape in Britain, with a focus on Irish achievement. This initiative has the support of the Irish Embassy's Community and Cultural Affairs Officer, Jane Connolly, and the EU Cultural Attaché, Jeremy O'Sullivan. Please put a note in your diary and further details will be advised in the coming weeks.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November** will mark our first visit to the famous St George's Church, Hanover Square (otherwise known as Handel's Church) where Fiona Murphy (soprano), Owen Gilhooly (baritone) and Ciara Moroney (piano) will perform in concert at 7.30 pm. These three young artists are well-known to Irish Heritage and we can guarantee you an outstanding evening of lieder, opera and Irish tunes, together with a social evening and wine reception. Details are on our website [www.irishheritage.co.uk](http://www.irishheritage.co.uk) and we will be sending out reminders in the coming weeks. St George's is a truly beautiful venue (see their website <http://www.stgeorghanoversquare.org>).

We have **three events** in planning for the first half of 2013: the next in our Young Musician series on **21<sup>st</sup> February 2013** in the Bolivar Hall; a special event in **April** to highlight the ***Beauty of Ireland*** - details to be advised; and a return to Leighton House, Holland Park, for our Summer Recital on **4<sup>th</sup> June**. We will add further events to this programme and announce the full details in our next newsletter on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

#### ***Other Events of Interest***

**Music for a September Evening in Surrey:** Two of our Committee Members, Emer How and Laurence Cahill who live in the Parish Englefield Green in Surrey, have organised a Gala Concert on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September** at 7.30 pm in the Church of our Lady of the

Assumption, Harvest Road, Englefield Green, Surrey, in aid of the Church Restoration Fund. The soloists are Kate Telfer (soprano), Sam Hancock (baritone), Cecily Beer (harp), Hamish Dustagheer (piano) and Peter Ford (accompanist piano) [*Hamish performed with great distinction at the Irish Heritage Young Musician Programme in February 2012*].

Tickets, to include a wine reception, are £16 (concessions available) and may be obtained from Emer How ([emerandrichard@hotmail.com](mailto:emerandrichard@hotmail.com)) tel. 01932 873335 or Laurence Cahill ([lxc1@live.co.uk](mailto:lxc1@live.co.uk)) tel. 01784 431437. They will also be available on the evening.

**Irish Paralympics Team Party:** Also on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30 pm, a celebration of the Irish Paralympics Team and their achievements at one of London's most spectacular landmarks, the recently opened **St. Pancras Renaissance Hotel**, Euston Road, London, NW1 2AR.

This will be a wonderful evening and has been planned with a stand up canapé and drinks reception, highlights from the Games and **presentation of the Irish Paralympics team 2012**. MC for the evening is well-known BBC correspondent, **Fergal Keane**. The event is organised by the Irish Community Group LOCOG, whose Chair is our good friend, Andy Rogers. Details of tickets (priced at £60) are on the website <http://irishparalympicsparty-eac2.eventbrite.co.uk/?ebtv=C> **but hurry, tickets are selling fast.**

**Wexford Festival Opera** starts its 61<sup>st</sup> year programme on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2012 and it runs until Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Those of you who attended our tribute concert to Wexford Opera in April will appreciate the extraordinary achievements of this world-class festival over the past 60 years. This year's programme includes three major opera productions, lunchtime concerts and lectures and many more artistic and social events. You can see the full programme on the website [www.wexfordopera.com](http://www.wexfordopera.com). Wexford Festival Opera would be delighted to welcome Irish Heritage members and friends to Wexford and if you would like to become a **Friend of Wexford Opera** please contact [lucy@wexfordopera.com](mailto:lucy@wexfordopera.com).

We look forward to seeing you at Irish Heritage events in the coming year.

With kind regards from Ethna Kennedy and the Committee

*Niall Gallagher*

Chairman

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**Keep up to date by visiting our website [www.irishheritage.co.uk](http://www.irishheritage.co.uk)**