



GREEN NEWS



Issue 1

October 2005

Hello and welcome to the first edition of "Green News". The newsletter for the Abu Dhabi Irish Society. Bi-monthly I will be letting you know what events are happening in the United Arab Emirates, which might be of interest to the Irish community in Abu Dhabi. So far this year we kicked off with the AGM in September and this was closely followed by the Irish Society's Children's Halloween Party (see report below). We have quite a line up of events planned for the year so make sure you are on the mailing list so you don't miss out. With this being my first year as President of the Irish Society I look forward to an exciting year with my goal being to welcome all the Irish in Abu Dhabi in to the Irish Society. As the saying goes, "together we can make a difference."

Joe Somers, President Irish Society.

Children's Halloween Party.

The Crowne Plaza rooftop poolside experienced an influx of ghouls, vampires and other scary beings on the evening of the 31st October as 45 Irish Society children, all in costume, celebrated Halloween by dancing, eating and playing games. The evening started with some very spirited musical chairs followed by pin the tail on the camel and musical statues. The food provided included bloody finger sandwiches, stuffed dinosaur eggs and snake bits to name but a few. Everyone agreed that the food was of very high quality with a choice of over 15 dishes. There were prizes presented for the best costumes, which left the judges with quite a task due to the caliber of the contestants. The night was finished off with Kevin Garvey telling a story with a very scary ending. A great night was had by all and hopefully there were not too many sleepless nights after the festivities.

Irish Society's Upcoming Events.

Round the House.

The first Round the House is planned for Wednesday, November 16th and will be held in the "living room" in P.J.'s bar at the Royal Meridian. If you can sing a song, bang a drum or just want to listen to good Irish music then this is the place to be, 8 till late and craic agus ceol guaranteed.

Children's Christmas Party.

Tuesday, December 13th is the date for the Irish Society children's party which will be held in the Majilis room in the Crowne Plaza. There will be games and a bouncy castle, followed by a feast of Christmas treats (and a few treats for the parents). Then there will be a visit from 'the big man' himself, Santa Claus, who will have a gift for all the (good) children.

Irish Society / GAA Christmas Dinner.

The Irish Society in association with the GAA, An Fianna, is hosting a Christmas dinner at the Crowne Plaza on Sunday, December 25th for all those who don't fancy doing the cooking (or washing up) themselves.

Tickets for this event will be available by the first week in December. Price will include welcome drinks, one bottle of house beverage per person, and a menu, which includes every Christmas delicacy, you could imagine. Times will be 1600 till late and a full pay bar will be available.

Kid's GAA Training.

Don't forget: kid's GAA and Hurling training every Friday at 3.30 at the football ground behind Masala Eid, Open Prayer Yard just off airport road at 13th street. All ages catered for. Contact Johnny Rae on 050 5969601 for further details.

Irish Society's Website.

This week I got my first glimpse the website of the Irish Society Abu Dhabi and it is impressive to say the least. Soon you will be able to check the events and goings on of the Irish Society with just one click. Enda Tuomey has done sterling work by setting it up in a very short space of time and I imagine by the quality of the work that there were some very late nights involved. We should be going live with this in the coming weeks and I will inform all when it happens. Again, well done Enda.

Irish Dancing

I am pleased to say that due to an overwhelming demand the Irish Society is running Irish dancing classes for ages 5 to 16. Claire Anthony will be teaching the classes and with over 13 years experience I would say the students are in very good hands. Siobhan Farrell will be the administrator for the classes and following last Saturday's registrations, the classes are filling up quite quickly. As spaces are limited I would urge you, if interested to contact Siobhan as soon as possible on 02-6325626.

Timings for the class are Saturdays from 4-30 to 6.



Irish teacher wanted

We are looking for an Irish Teacher to teach adults and children the basics of "Gailge". If you can spare 1 hour per week then please contact Sean Farrell on 02-6325626.

GAA

Our friends, An Fianna, are hosting a Golf Tournament on Thursday, November 10th at the Al Ghazal Golf Club. Tee off time will be approx. 1300. For further information contact Declan Brady at dbrady@hct.ac.ae.

Thursday, Nov 17th and Thursday, 24th will see two events but which event on which date has still to be decided. There will be a game against Dubai played in Abu Dhabi and the second event will be a desert safari. I will confirm when the dates are decided.

Wednesday, Nov 30th is the date to get the wigs out of the closet and head down to Heroes for the ABBA Night. So if you think there is a bit of Benny, Bjorn, Frieda or Agnita in you then now is the time to let it out. If the last GAA "Grease" night is anything to go by, this should be a great night.

F.O.G.

We are all very aware of the good work that the Friends of Galle are doing to help the child victims of the Asian Tsunami, which occurred last December. They are having a Musical Dinner Evening on Wednesday 23rd November at the Crowne Plaza to raise much-needed funds for their cause. Tickets are going fast and can be purchased from Lisa who can be contacted on 050-4438467.

Membership.

They say that a society is only as successful as the members, well I say it anyway, and we need more. So whether you are only new in Abu Dhabi or a long time resident I urge you to join. Do you know someone who has just arrived and would like to get on the social scene or perhaps someone who has been here for years and might not be aware that we exist? Even persons with no ties to Ireland but have expressed an interest in all things Irish can join as an associate member.

I have membership forms, which I can send by e-mail to any interested party. Just drop me a line to irishsocietyabudhabi@yahoo.com and I will forward the forms on.



***For further information on the
Abu Dhabi Irish Society please contact
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02-6325626 or
Joe Somers,
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