

**THE TOLEDO HIBERNIAN  
NEWSLETTER  
C/O MAURY COLLINS  
2847 NASH ROAD  
TOLEDO, OHIO 43613**



**BORDERLINE GENIUS, LLC**

IN GOD WE TRUST





Mother McAuley Division

# HIBERNIANS OF TOLEDO NEWSLETTER



John P. Kelly Division

January, 2021



## A Message From Robert McMahon, AOH Division President

Covid-19 has kept us from being together this year. I can only imagine what our ancestors must have gone through when they were not allowed to hear Mass. At least we have been able to watch online. By the Grace of God, we may yet be able to meet and hold activities before 2021 ends. I would like to have a Zoom meeting on the third Thursday of the month 17 January at 7pm. The topics of discussion will include: the possibility of events/fund raisers in 2021; physical meetings; Hibernian finances/dues; our obligation to charity and fraternity. The *Memorare* prayer reminds us that we are aided by Mary our Mother when we seek her succor. We begin the year with the Mary Mother of God Holy Day (formerly the Feast of the Circumcision) as well as the Irish Tradition of setting a place at the supper table for those we have lost in the preceding year. Let us remember especially in this time of difficulty that Mary endured the great loss of her Son and yet continued to help spread the Gospel message with the apostles. Christ rose again and brought hope to all those suffering. Pray for all Brothers who are no longer with us and for those of us who remain to continue to spread the Gospel through our works of Charity. If you are able, reach out in Friendship to a brother to ask how he is doing or if there is anything that you can do to help. If you are in need please reach out to your brothers. May God bless us in the new year.



## A Message from Ann Dollman, LAOH Division President

Greetings and Happy New Year! We welcome the change and blessing of 2021. May God grant us a better year and we give thanks for allowing us another year. Our deepest sympathy to the Buckley family. Mary Ann Buckley was a founding member of our division. She will be dearly missed. She always was proud and thankful for her Irish roots and Catholic faith. May the angels lead her to heaven. We will not have our festival this coming year. Instead let us reach out to our family and friends and share our heritage and faith with them. Thank you all for holding fast. We look forward to the day when we can rejoice together and share in our friendships. God bless you and may each of you have a happy New Year!




## A Message from the Crazy Editor, Maury Collins

I have long felt that John O'Brien Jr, publisher/ editor of OhioIAnews, continued to print my columns "Toledo Irish" out of friendship. The few places in Toledo that distributed the magazine have not received copies since April. John has told me that he can't keep throwing money away to a market with zero advertisers. I have sent a message to John saying that I wish to discontinue writing the Toledo Irish column. My hope is that a younger person in the Toledo area will take over the Toledo Irish column and spend time in area "Irish" establishments promoting the magazine itself and the benefits of advertising in a magazine dedicated to Irish and Irish American stories.

If you are interested, you may contact John O'Brien at: [jobrien@ohioianews.com](mailto:jobrien@ohioianews.com) 14615 Triskett Road, Cleveland, OH 44111-3123 | P: 216.647.1144

# JANUARY, 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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3 <i>Echo's of Ireland</i> WCWA 1230 AM 11:30 AM ~ 1:30 PM	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 <i>Echo's of Ireland</i> WCWA 1230 AM 11:30 AM ~ 1:30 PM	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 <i>Echo's of Ireland</i> WCWA 1230 AM 11:30 AM ~ 1:30 PM	18	19	20	21	22	23
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## AN OLD IRISH NEW YEARS WISH

May your nets always be full,  
Your pockets never empty,  
Your horse not cast a shoe,  
Nor the devil look at you  
In the coming year.

Clink glasses, hug, kiss, and wish each other all the best.

# Important January Dates in Irish History

January 1, 1892 - Ellis Island becomes reception center for new immigrants. The first immigrant through the gates is Annie Moore, 15, of Co. Cork

January 1, 1999 - The world's oldest priest, the Venerable Archdeacon Patrick Lyons, passes away at Limerick Regional hospital, just two months before his 106th birthday

January 1, 2005 - Cork officially becomes the European Capital of Culture

January 2, 2001 - Ireland's third largest greyhound coursing meeting, Corn na Féile, is abandoned after saboteurs steal up to 30 hares.

January 6, 2000 - Families from all over Ireland join President Mary McAleese and her family in A'ras an Uachtaráin in Dublin to celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. Bay laurels from Bethlehem are planted to mark the 2000th anniversary since the birth of Christ

January 9, 1998 - The first licensed drug to treat mild to moderately severe Alzheimer's disease is launched in Ireland

January 13, 2000 - It is announced that a 1,000 year old treasure trove has been discovered by a tour guide cleaning up litter from a Co Kilkenny cave. The priceless Viking age silver and bronze jewellery is unique - nothing like them have been found in Ireland or elsewhere

January 15, 1988 - Sean McBride, Irish patriot and human rights activist, dies

January 15 - In the liturgical calendar, today is the feast of St. Ita.

January 16, 1922 - Michael Collins takes over control of Dublin Castle from the British authorities on behalf of the new Irish state

January 16, 2001 - Houghø Pub in Lorrha, Co Tipperary retains the title of "The Cheapest Pint" in Ireland.

Earning the respect of drinkers everywhere, Pat Hough wonø be raising the price of a pint of plain above £1.50

January 18, 1997 - Death of Gerard Slevin, the Corkman who designed the EU flag

January 23, 1803 - Arthur Guinness, founder of the Dublin brewery, dies

January 23, 2001 - It is announced that the State is in negotiation with a private landowner to purchase the internationally renowned Poul nabrone dolmen in the Burren, Co. Clare

January 24, 2002 - Irish doctors are among the worst-paid in Europe and charge less than they need to run a viable business, according to the Irish Medical Organisation (IMO).

## JANUARY 16, 1922 ~ BRITISH GOVERNMENT HANDS OVER DUBLIN CASTLE



When Michael Collins arrived in Dublin Castle on January 16, 1922 to receive the handover of the Castle on behalf of the new Irish Free State Government. Lord Lieutenant FitzAlan is reported to have said, "You are seven minutes late Mr. Collins"; to which he received the reply "We've been waiting over seven hundred years, you can have the extra seven minutes".

The Dublin playwright Séan O'Casey, described how Lord FitzAlan handed over Dublin Castle and seemed to be doing it as if in a dream: "Here's the key to the throne room, and this one's the key of St. Patrick's Hall, my good man".

## ELLIS ISLAND

When Ellis Island officially opened on January 1, 1892, the first passenger registered through the immigration station was a 15 year old Irish girl named Annie Moore. Annie departed from Queenstown (Cobh, County Cork, Ireland) aboard the S.S. Nevada, on December 20, 1891 with her 11 and 7-year-old brothers in route to reuniting with family in New York. A U.S. Treasury Department official and a Catholic chaplain were on hand to welcome Moore, and Ellis Island's commissioner awarded her a \$10 gold piece to mark the occasion. Today, a statue of Moore and her brothers is kept on display at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum and in the Cobh harbor, Ireland.



Photo by Maury Collins, 2010

# Ireland's fairy forts and their power over the Irish

Seamus Hanratty@IrishCentral

Ireland's mysterious fairy forts have the power to curse those who cross them and even affect the weather! how much do we really know about these mystical structures?



Throughout Ireland, there are thousands of mysterious-looking forts whose reputations strike terror into the hearts of many. These forts have the power to stop roadworks, keep people from building houses, and from partaking in a whole host of other activities. Known as fairy forts, these structures are scattered throughout the land and stand as a testament to the enduring power of Celtic Mythology.

As recently as 2017, an elected representative to the Irish Parliament, Danny Healy Rae, blamed the disturbing of one of these forts for damage that was caused to a local road. The Minister commented that "There are numerous fairy forts in that area! I know that they are linked. Anyone that tampered with them back over the years paid a high price and had bad luck." Also, the economic crash that devastated the Irish economy during the nineties was put down to a government-commissioned road that had run directly over a number of fairy forts.

## So, what exactly are fairy forts?

The structures usually make up the shape of a raised circle which is indented with bushes and trees. It has been said down through the annals of Irish history that fairy forts are places where all sorts of mysterious happenings take place. Faeries, leprechauns, and all sorts of spirits from the "other world" are said to reside in these forts and if someone is foolish enough to disturb these hallowed shrines well then there will be hell to pay with the spirits reeking all sorts of revenge upon their hapless victims. Many people are said to have died mysteriously after having bulldozed the places into the ground, others are said to have encountered years of bad luck as the fairies wreaked their revenge. There are countless stories that have been passed down from generation to generation in relation to these mysterious places.

Archaeological evidence tells us that these fairy forts, or raths as they are also known, were most likely places where clans or extended families lived. Circular structures were made so that the families inside could see who was coming from all angles. The outside of these structures would have been a stone wall or fence. Inside the perimeter would have been where the homes of the clans or families were located. There were also places where the clan's animal's resided. There is very little evidence that survives from these homesteads as the majority of them were built of wood which would have long since been reclaimed by nature.

One benefit of having these mysterious myths being perpetuated about fairy forts is that farmers are reluctant to destroy the structures for fear of being on the receiving end of the fairies' wrath. And with the superstition being alive and well this results in a huge amount of archaeology being preserved that would otherwise have been destroyed. So, in many ways, we owe a big thank you to the fairies for keeping much of Ireland's ancient past alive and well!

# *When Irish Eyes are Smiling*

Dear Lord So far this year I've done well. I haven't gossiped I haven't lost my temper; I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or overindulgent. I'm very thankful for that. But in a few minutes, Lord, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on I'm probably going to need a lot more help. Amen

A Senator was once asked about his attitude toward whisky. 'If you mean the demon drink that poisons the mind, pollutes the body, desecrates family life, and inflames sinners, then I'm against it. But if you mean the elixir of a New Year toast, the shield against winter chill, the taxable potion that puts needed funds into public coffers to comfort little crippled children, then I'm for it. This is my position, and I will not compromise.

Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day. One remarked to the other, 'Windy, isn't it?' 'No,' the second man replied, 'it's Thursday.' The third man chimed in, 'So am I. Let's have a beer.'

Two Irishmen were out shooting ducks. One took aim and hit a bird which tumbled out of the sky to land at his feet. 'Ah, you should have saved the bullet," said the other. The fall would have killed him, anyway.'

Murphy and Paddy are neighbors. They meet at the pub for a pint. Murphy says to Paddy, did I see you chasing your wife around naked last night. Paddy says jokes on you Murphy, I wasn't home last night.

Paddy says to Mick. I have bought two goldfish. Mick says have you got names for them? Paddy replies, I call that one, One and the other one I call Two. Mick says why have you called them that.? Paddy says, well if one dies, I will still have two.

Paddy says to Murphy, "My friend fell off his motorbike today" "Oh really" Murphy said. "Yeah he has brain damage, 2 broken arms and is blind in one eye" replied Paddy. "No wonder he fell off" says Murphy,

"I punished my pupil for faking his parents' signatures. The next day, his parents sent a complaint about me to the principal. Well, I couldn't have imagined that the maiden name of his mother was Batman."

"My daughter-in-law taught my grandson to cry and shout, "Am I not good enough for you?" And he does it every time I ask her whether she would like to have one more child."

## **IRISH TRIVEA**

Ireland's smallest church is at Portbraden in Co. Antrim? Only ten feet long by six feet wide, the structure is dedicated to St. Gobhnan - the patron saint of builders.

St. Patrick was the first person in history to speak out against slavery and he is the Patron Saint of the Excluded? By the time of his death, or shortly thereafter, the Irish stopped slave trading and they never took it up again.

# NO ONE celebrates the arrival of the New Year quite like the Irish.

Home to some of the most unique superstitions in the world and a whole host of traditions dating back centuries, the arrival of a new year has always been a time of hope and excitement on the Emerald Isle.

Here are seven essential Irish New Year traditions to help you see in the start of another 12 months in true Celtic style.

## 7. An early spring clean

Any Irish household worth its salt knows this one. A centuries-old custom, the idea was to start the New Year with a clean slate, which meant having a spotlessly clean house. The best way to beat the post-Christmas gloom too.

## 6. Banging bread for bad luck

Another Irish superstition that's passed the test of time involves banging on the doors and walls of the family home with Christmas bread. It might sound crazy, and probably is, but this one is all about chasing bad luck out of the house and inviting good spirits in before the start of the new year.

## 5. First through the door

The identity of the first person to step through the door of the family home on January 1st is of huge importance in Ireland. In fact, many see it as having a hugely significant bearing on the entire year ahead. Should a dark, handsome, stranger come to the door then the year ahead is bright and full of hope but should a young, red-headed woman come knocking...well, it's not good.

## 4. Westerly winds

A simple yet enduring superstition involves which direction the wind might be blowing from. Should it come flying in from the west, then all of Ireland will be looking forward to a great year ahead. But say it comes from the east then something far worse could be on the cards - good luck for all of the UK, rather than Ireland.

## 3. Mistletoe, holly, and ivy

One for the singletons among us: come January 1st, those looking to meet their future husband or wife was advised to place sprigs of holly, ivy or mistletoe under their pillow. The idea was that they would dream of their future partner. The jury is out on whether this one actually works.

## 2. In through the front, out through the back

At the stroke of midnight on December 31st, those seeking good luck in Ireland were recommended to enter their house through the front door and leave through the back

## 1. Honoring the dead

The most famous of all the New Year's traditions. On New Year's night, families across Ireland set a place at the dinner table for those lost the year before and the door off the latch. It's about remembering those lost the year before.



# New Year's Eve (Oíche Chinn Bliana)

Posted by Brian Hoban



These days, when we think of New Year, parties, champagne and celebration spring to mind. Once upon a time however, it was more about getting through a quiet night. The New Year was never really a big festival in Ireland, with the focus more on the necessities of a farming calendar. For a largely agricultural country, the fortunes of the crops were paramount.

What traditions that do exist reflect this strong concern about the year ahead. One belief was that no water could be drawn from the well after sunset on New Year's Eve. All water needed by the household had to be inside before then, and none of it could leave the house until the following day, otherwise the family would suffer a drought. Similarly there was a pervasive belief that no money should be spent on New Year's Day. Nothing could be brought out of the house and anyone visiting should make sure they came with a gift. Giving something away meant giving your money away and what sensible person would do that?

A popular new years eve traditional Irish belief was that the first person to enter the house after midnight should be black haired and also male to guarantee the luck of the house for the coming year. If it was anyone with red hair it would bring hardship and grief! To prevent this, families sometimes sent out a dark haired member of the family immediately after midnight and had them walk back in though the door. All dark haired neighbourhood boys would visit the houses and be welcomed with gifts of sweets or money.

On New Year's Eve night, families would remember those who has passed away that year before by setting a place for them at the dinner table and leaving the door unlatched.

Anyone entering the house after midnight by the front door would leave by the back door for good luck.

Well into the evening on New Year eve in Ireland there would always be a small group gathered around the fire-place, laughing and joking. Sooner or later, the conversation would turn to reminiscing about Ireland. The old ones, well on their way with a few glasses of the hard stuff, would get all misty-eyed as they remembered times past and the stories would begin in the light of just the fire and candles burning in the windowsill.

After the stroke of midnight the man of the house would recite the following verse:

öMay your nets always be full,  
Your pockets never empty,  
Your horse not cast a shoe,  
Nor the devil look at you  
In the coming year.ö

## Mary Ann (McNulty) Buckley R.I.P.



Mary Ann (McNulty) Buckley, 92, of Toledo, OH, passed away Thursday, December 17, 2020, at her residence. She was born July 13, 1928, to Patrick and Ellen (Ruane) McNulty in the village of Cullonaughton, County Mayo, Ireland. As a child, she worked on the farm and attended Callow school. Upon confirmation, she took an oath through the Sisters of Charity to abstain from alcoholic drinks, a pledge she kept for the rest of her life.

Her first job was at O'Connors, a shop and pub in the town of Swinford working as a cashier and bar tender where she learned how to pour a pint of Guinness. At 16, she moved to Dublin to work on O'Connell Street at an ice cream parlor near what was then the Nelson Pillar.

Then to London in 1946 to join her father and brother Patrick, where she was employed as a secretary and bookkeeper. In 1948, she emigrated to the United States, arriving in Toledo, OH, to once again join her brother Patrick and a number of uncles and cousins. She was very proud to become a US citizen in 1953. In Toledo, she met the love of her life, a fellow Irishman from County Cork, Maurice Buckley. They were married at St. Ann's Church in April 1954. With Maurice she bore and raised seven children: six sons and one daughter. Eventually, she rejoined the workforce as a cafeteria aid at school. As the nest emptied, she returned to secretarial work at the Diocese of Toledo and later became office manager at the Toledo Day Nursery; this position she enjoyed for many years until her retirement. Thereafter, she contributed her skills as a volunteer at both St. Vincent's and St. Anne's Hospitals.

Mary Ann was a devoted member of Saint Catherine's and the Historic Church of St. Patrick's parishes. She remained proud of her Irish heritage and was very active in the local Irish community; a member of the local chapter of The Daughters of Erin, she was active with the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, being a founding member of the Lucas County Division. Mary Ann, along with Maurice were the Hibernians of the Year in 2003. She enjoyed family, Irish music and dancing, travel and spending time with friends over a game of Dominoes. Mary Ann was a joy and a blessing. May she rest in peace

