

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



BORDERLINE GENIUS, LLC

IN GOD WE TRUST



July 4 ~ Happy Birthday America

**Tune in every Sunday 11:30 ~ 1:30 John Connolly
and Molly McHugh Echo's of Ireland on
WCWA 1230 on your AM dial or listen on the
iHeartMedia app, or their website:
<https://echosofireland.com/>**



Mother McAuley Division

HIBERNIANS OF TOLEDO NEWSLETTER

July, 2020



John P. Kelly Division

A Message from LAOH President Ann Dollman



Greetings!

I hope all are healthy! Having more time at home has made me more of a cook and the opportunity to go through stuff and purge! I bet most of you will be saying the same thing! Prayers for all who are sick or having a hard time coping with the changes this disease has forced upon us.

Congratulations to Sarah Dollman who graduated this year and is going to attend the University of Toledo this fall!

The Hibernian National Convention will be held July webinar with Zoom meetings this year. It was to take place in Florida, but to protect our members this location meeting has been cancelled.

This is the letter sent to the presidents and to the State Boards from National Secretary Marilyn Madigan:

"Madame President and State Secretary We are a week away from making LAOH History with the first Virtual Convention .Thank you for your help and patience as we prepared for this Virtual Convention. Enclosed is the list of your State's Delegation. It is very important that the email addresses are correct. Please send out the Announcement, Time frame and Rules of Order that are enclosed with this email. The Delegates will need to register for the July 25 ZOOM Webinar which is the Main event of this Virtual Convention. More information on Registration will be sent later. On this Webinar, all Officer/ Appointee and Committee Meeting Reports will be accepted by the Delegation. The Election of our National Officers that will serve our Order for the next two years will be conducted on this Webinar. The Delegation will have the opportunity to hear from our President Sheyer and our incoming President. The I2020-2022 National Officers and Appointees will be Installed by President Sheyer.. The National Board looks forward to your participation in the ZOOM Committee Meetings and the Webinar. So that all of our Delegates have access to the information on the Virtual Convention, we have added a Convention Delegate password protected page on the websiteö

Yours in Friendship, unity and Christian charity.

Ann Dollman



My July column of Toledo Irish News in the Ohio Irish American News is about Betty Jane Gaffney Mears!! Hopefully, it will be available at The Blarney, Shawnø Irish Pub both locations Heatherdowns and on Bancroft, St, Patrickø Historic Church and on line at: <https://ohioirishamericannews.com/>



A Message from AOH President Robert McMahon

Brothers,

As I am writing this reflection and thinking about the Feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist that just passed 24 June as well as Fathers Day. The month of the Sacred Heart flows into the month of The Precious Blood. It does not go unnoticed that the church already has a remedy for what must seem to many of us as a crisis in our country and throughout the world. Injustices are often perpetrated by each of us every day in many places without thinking. They are not always about race or creed. The Selflessness of John who insisted "he must increase I must decrease" marries the core of our order: Charity


Unity and Friendship to all at all times. Through Deacon Tom at St Patrick Historic the Hibernians were able to help someone in need recently. Let us each one work to be proactive and find someone in need and be that Friend they need. Our selflessness will help our order and the world we live in. Let us also pray that this month we have a successful National Convention Virtually to help promote all the good that all our Divisions are doing nationwide.

Robert McMahon



the 2020 national convention will move to a virtual convention due to COVID-19. The health and safety of our membership is the reason for this change. Details of both the AOH and the LAOH virtual convention will follow as plans are finalized. I have no update at the time of this printing.

JULY, 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 
5 <i>Echo's of Ireland</i> WCWA 1230AM 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 <i>Echo's of Ireland</i> WCWA 1230AM 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 <i>Echo's of Ireland</i> WCWA 1230AM 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <i>Echo's of Ireland</i> WCWA 1230AM 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	27	28	29	30	31	



**JULY 4TH
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA**



IMPORTANT JULY DATES IN IRISH HISTORY

July 4, 1998 - It is announced that outgoing US Ambassador Jean Kennedy-Smith is to be made an honorary Irish citizen in recognition of her contribution to the peace process

July 6, 2000 - In an effort to curb inflation, the government orders a freeze on the price of drinks; publicans consider a High Court challenge to overturn the order

July 8, 1889 - In the last official bare knuckle title fight ever held, heavyweight boxer, John L. Sullivan beats fellow Irishman Jack Kilrain in a world championship bout which lasts 75 rounds

July 9, 1921 - A truce is reached between the IRA and the British army

July 9, 1959 - Mary Browne from Roscommon becomes the first Ban Garda - woman police officer - pounding the beat in Dublin

July 11, 2000 - The world's top golfers, including Tiger Woods and David Duval, begin play at the JP McManus Invitation Pro Am in Limerick

July 21, 1860 - Birth of Chauncey Olcott, famed Irish balladeer and writer of "My Wild Irish Rose." He also co-wrote "Mother Machree" and "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling"

July 23, 1999 - Guinness Blues Festival gets underway in 30 venues across Dublin

July 23, 2002 - According to the United Nations report, Ireland is regarded as one of the least corrupt countries in the world.

July 24, 2000 - Galway district court Judge John Garavan refuses to extend late night opening hours to a number of nightclubs because the women frequenting them are "dreadful and not respectable"

July 26, 1856 - Birth in Dublin of George Bernard Shaw

July 28, 1999 - The Central Statistics Office publishes the most popular baby names for the previous year; the leading boy's name is Conor, followed by Seán, Jack, James and Adam. Across the gender divide, Chloe tops the list, ahead of Ciara, Sarah, Aoife and Emma

July 29, 1969 - The Irish Finance Act exempts people considered by the Revenue Commissioners to have written works of cultural or artistic merit from income tax on money earned by the works

July 29, 2001 - Michael Flatley announces his retirement in Dallas at the last show of his Feet of Flames World Tour

History of the Fourth of July



On July 4, 1776, the 13 colonies claimed their independence from England, an event which eventually led to the formation of the United States. Each year on the fourth of July, also known as Independence Day, Americans celebrate this historic event.

Conflict between the colonies and England was already a year old when the colonies convened a Continental Congress in Philadelphia in the summer of 1776. In a June 7 session in the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall), Richard Henry Lee of Virginia presented a resolution with the famous words: "Resolved: That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved." Lee's words were the impetus for the drafting of a formal Declaration of Independence, although the resolution was not followed up on immediately. On June 11, consideration of the resolution was postponed by a vote of seven colonies to five, with New York abstaining. However, a Committee of Five was appointed to draft a statement presenting to the world the colonies' case for independence.

Members of the Committee included John Adams of Massachusetts; Roger Sherman of Connecticut; Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania; Robert R. Livingston of New York; and Thomas Jefferson of Virginia. The task of drafting the actual document fell on Jefferson.

On July 1, 1776, the Continental Congress reconvened, and on the following day, the Lee Resolution for independence was adopted by 12 of the 13 colonies, New York not voting. Discussions of Jefferson's Declaration of Independence resulted in some minor changes, but the spirit of the document was unchanged. The process of revision continued through all of July 3 and into the late afternoon of July 4, when the Declaration was officially adopted. Of the 13 colonies, nine voted in favor of the Declaration, two -- Pennsylvania and South Carolina -- voted No, Delaware was undecided and New York abstained.

John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. It is said that John Hancock's signed his name "with a great flourish" so England's "King George can read that without spectacles!

Today, the original copy of the Declaration is housed in the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and July 4 has been designated a national holiday to commemorate the day the United States laid down its claim to be a free and independent nation.

My Wild Irish Rose ~ Chauncey Olcott



Chauncey Olcott, born John Chancellor Olcott and often spelled Chauncey Alcott, (July 21, 1858 ó March 18, 1932) was an American stage actor, songwriter and singer of Irish descent. Olcott's mother, Margaret Doyle, came over from County Cork with her family at the age of eight. They settled in Montreal and moved to Lockport in the 1840s, where Doyle married Mellon Whitney Olcott; the couple moved to Buffalo's West Side, where Chauncey was born.

His talents, including a light tenor voice, were apparent early on, and, in 1879, at the age of 19, Olcott appeared with Emerson and Hooley's Minstrel Company in Chicago. The next year he joined a group called Haverly's Mastodons in Buffalo and they opened with Billy Emerson's Minstrels in San Francisco. Chauncey was very successful in the minstrel shows, but because of the special quality of his light lyric tenor voice, theatre managers encouraged him to sing Irish ballads and take leading roles in plays, operas and operettas.

In March 1886, Chauncey Olcott made his New York City debut at the Union Square Theatre as Pablo in *Pepita*. Later he starred in *The Old Homestead*, *Pinafore* and *The Mikado*. In 1890 he went to London where he made stage appearances and studied voice for three years. Even after appearing on the stage in New York and London and touring extensively. After this, he appeared frequently on Broadway. Lillian Russell played a major role in helping make him a Broadway star.

When the producer Augustus Pitou approached him in 1893 to succeed William J. Scanlan as the leading tenor in sentimental operettas on Irish themes, Olcott accepted and performed pseudo-Irish roles for the remainder of his career. Olcott combined the roles of tenor, actor, lyricist and composer in many productions. He was a good songwriter who captured the mood of his Irish-American audience by combining melodic and rhythmic phrases from traditional Irish music with melancholy sentiment. Some numbers from his musicals became very popular, such as "My Wild Irish Rose" from *A Romance of Athlone*, "Mother Machree" from *Barry of Ballymore*, and "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" from *The Isle o' Dreams*. Sometimes he used tunes from others, such as that of the title song from *Macushla* from Irish composer Dermot Macmurrough or *Too Ra Loo Ra Loo Ral* (Irish Lullaby) by James Royce Shannon for his production *Shameen Dhu* (1914). Other Irish ballads that he made famous were; "A Little Bit of Heaven," "Sure They Call It Ireland" There are some 20 such works between 1894 and 1920.

In 1925, a serious illness forced him to retire, and he moved to Monte Carlo where he died of pernicious anemia in 1932. His body was brought home and interred in the Woodlawn Cemetery in The Bronx, New York City. Honorary pallbearers at his funeral at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City included James J. Walker, mayor of New York City; Alfred E. Smith, governor of New York State; and George M. Cohan, and other famous personalities from the music world.

Olcott's life story was told in the 1947 Warner Bros. motion picture *My Wild Irish Rose* starring Dennis Morgan as Olcott. The film's plot was based on the biography by Olcott's widow, Rita Olcott, *Song in His Heart* (1939).

Smile and be happy!!!!

The car sped off the highway, went through the guardrail, rolled down a cliff, bounced off a tree and finally shuddered to a stop. A passing motorist, who had witnessed the entire accident, helped the miraculously unharmed driver out of the wreck. "Good lord, mister," he gasped, "Are you drunk?" "Of course," said the man, brushing the dirt from his suit. "What the hell do you think I am ... a stunt driver?"

A little guy gets on a plane and sits next to the window. A few minutes later, a big, heavy, strong mean-looking, hulking guy plops down in the seat next to him and immediately falls asleep. The little guy starts to feel a little airsick, but he's afraid to wake the big guy up to ask if he can go to the bathroom. He knows he can't climb over him, and so the little guy is sitting there, looking at the big guy, trying to decide what to do. Suddenly, the plane hits an air pocket and an uncontrollable wave of nausea passes through the little guy. He can't hold it in any longer and he pukes all over the big guy's chest. About five minutes later the big guy wakes up, looks down, and sees the vomit all over him. "So," says the little guy, "are you feeling better now?"

A man went to apply for a job. After filling out all of his applications, he waited anxiously for the outcome. The employer read all his applications and said, "We have an opening for people like you." "Oh, great," he said, "What is it?" "It's called the door!"

A man had to attend a large convention in Chicago. On this particular trip he decided to bring his wife. When they arrived at their hotel and were shown to their room, the man said: "You rest here while I register - I'll be back within an hour." The wife lies down on the bed... just then, an elevated train passes by very close to the window and shakes the room so hard she's thrown out of the bed. Thinking this must be a freak occurrence, she lies down once more. Again a train shakes the room so violently, she's pitched to the floor. Exasperated, she calls the front desk, asks for the manager. The manager says he'll be right up. The manager (naturally) is skeptical but the wife insists the story is true. "Look,... lie here on the bed - you'll be thrown right to the floor!" So he lies down next to the wife... Just then the husband walks in. "What," he says, "are you doing here?" The manager replies: "Would you believe I'm waiting for a train?"

Paddy and Mick standing in a field Paddy says; "Hey look! A flock of cows" Mick; "Herd" Paddy: "What?" Mick; "Herd of cows" Paddy; "Of course I've heard of cows! There's a flock of them over there."

Mick was in court for murder and the judge said, "You are charged with beating your wife to death with a shovel." A voice at the back of the courtroom yelled out, "You damn liar!" The judge stopped, looked at the man in the back of the courtroom, and said, "Paddy, I can understand your anger and frustration at this crime, but I will not have any more of these outbursts from you or I shall charge you with contempt! Now what is the problem?" Paddy, at the back of the court stood up and responded, "For fifteen years I lived next door to that liar and every time I asked to borrow a shovel he said he didn't have one!"

Paddy phones Ryanair to book a flight: Operator asks, "How many people are flying with you?" Paddy replies, "How do I know?, It's your plane!"

Paddy takes his goldfish to the vet and says "i think my fish is epileptic", the vet looks and says "he looks fine to me. Paddy replies , "hang on, I haven't taken him out of the bowl yet".

A follow up to my June 2020 column in Ohio Irish News, Notre Dame "Traveling Squad"

Chris Brennen sent a copy of my article to John Finnegan, who turns out to be the son of "Coach" Jack Finnegan. I sent a "Thank you" message to Chris. Here is his reply. John and I were classmates at St. Francis High School, Class of '66. I figured Coach Jack Finnegan was his Dad. John is an ND graduate, which he probably told you. Your column for the May 2020 issue of the Ohio American News really hit home. Barney Quilter is my Uncle. My mother, Ellen Quilter Brennan, was Barney's younger sister. Barney was one of five children raised in Eat Toledo as was John Finnegan mother's family, her brother being Tom King. My mother, Ellen and John's mother, Margaret, were friends and I believe were classmates at St. Ursula Academy. I always say that in Toledo, we are all connected especially if you are Irish!!



The Blade 8/20/78 Tom King Flagpole from ND Goalpost 1977 ND ~ Southern Cal game

John Finnegan wrote: I graduated from Notre Dame in 1970 (unfortunately our 50th year reunion this year had to be canceled due to covid-19). Tom King was my uncle, Jack Finnegan my dad, and Tom Loomis our neighbor from across the street on Maxwell Road. I was a charter member of the squad, which commenced on a road trip to Chapel Hill in 1975 when the Irish, down 14-0, called Joe Montana off the bench to lead the team to a 21-14 victory.

We departed Thursday evening for an all-night drive to Chapel Hill. Sometime during the night, while on an expressway somewhere, a VW bug entering on the ramp and hit the rear of our camper. It was a minor collision, no one was hurt, and there was damage to the VW but none to the camper. Our driver and the driver of the VW were engaged in an animated discussion. Tom walked up and informed the VW driver, "I'm a licensed attorney, I'll advise you on course of action". I asked my uncle later what he had advised. "Go home, get a good sleep, and in the morning contact your insurance company".

Following the game, celebrating the Irish victory over Jamesons and beers at an upscale restaurant, some of us attempted to scale a flagpole outside the establishment to obtain a North Carolina State Flag as a memento of our trip. Two NC state troopers happened by, congratulated us on the ND victory, but advised us that the flag expedition was a bad idea. We concurred.



The Blade: July 12, 1981 -The Notre Dame Traveling Squad met at Tom King's home. Brendan Moynihan (ND Linebacker) Jim Bettinger, Jim Harrington, Tom Navarre and Tom King unravel The ND Traveling Squad flag next to the goal post the squad got at the 1977 ND ~ Southern California game.

Tom Flowers recalled that the "Travel Squad" attended an average of eight games a year from 1976 through 2015. Tom King, the Quarterback was later given the name, "Tickets Only" by his "Friends" on the squad. All home games were attended thanks to "Ticket Only". The "Squad" went to almost every game East of the Mississippi River, plus a trip to Provo, Utah. One year the "Squad" attended ten games with Jim Bettinger traveling to Oregon for the eleventh game.

Some of the members, along with their nick-names or duties included: Huey Ersham (self elected President), Jim Halloran (Jaws), Jim Harrington (Rookie) Treasurer, Jim Bettinger (Six pack) Motor Home Driver, Tom Navarre (Brother in law), Tom Flowers "In charge of finding Irish bars" and Dan Flowers "Memorized Notre Dame Rosters". Some other members included; Dick Navarre, Dennis Yarberr, Ed Ladd, Don Wilhelm and Ron Polak.

Facts about the Irish in America for the 4th of July

Irish Voice Editorial @IrishCentral Jul 01, 2019



The Irish have played a large role in the history of the United States. Check out these interesting facts ahead of 4th of July.

An Irishman was the first of Christopher Columbus's crew to step on American soil. There were several Irishmen in Christopher Columbus's crew. But the one who stands out most is Patrick Maguire. In 1492, Irish-born Maguire was the first crew member of Christopher Columbus to set foot on North American ground.

At least 15 U.S. presidents have confirmed Irish ancestry. It's thought that over 40 percent of all American presidents have some Irish ancestry, but at least 15 of them have confirmed their Irish heritage. The most Irish presidents are Andrew Jackson and James Buchanan, both of whose parents were born in Ireland.

The first American general to die in battle was Irish. Dublin-native Richard Montgomery is the first general to have been killed in battle during the American Revolutionary War. Montgomery was killed in the Battle of Quebec during the 1775 invasion of Canada.

Three of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were born in Ireland. Three of the eight foreign-born men were natives of Ireland. These Irish patriots of the American Revolution are James Smith, from Northern Ireland; George Taylor, an Irish native and a member of the Committee of Correspondence; and Matthew Thornton, an Irishman who became a member of the Continental Congress in 1776.

Irishmen helped build the White House. Not only did Irishman James Hoban design the White House and model it after an Irish building, but the White House was built by the hands of Irishmen as well. Immigrant laborers from various backgrounds as well as slaves were the chief builders of the presidential home. The presidential residence even has a twin building in Ireland - Dublin's Leinster House is officially twinned with The White House.

A blind Irishman helped compose "The Star Spangled Banner." Though British composer John Stafford Smith, who was born in 1750, is credited for composing "The Star Spangled Banner," the tune is actually based on music composed by the great Irish blind harper Turlough O'Carolan, who died over 35 years before the American Revolution. The melody is metrically identical to O'Carolan's "Bumper Squire Jones" of 1723.

An Irishman is the "father" of the Navy. John Barry, a native of Co. Wexford, is known as the "Father of the American Navy." He and his crew fought and won the final naval battle.

THREE NAMES INTO ONE IRISH PUB.

Mike Collins mike@youririshheritage.com

Your Irish Heritage, Old Abbey, Waterfall, County Cork,

Most of our readers have ancestors and relatives who LEFT Ireland. However, let's not forget there were many migrants who ARRIVED in Ireland - usually seeking a fortune or to build a new life. They were soldiers, adventurers, farmers, trades people and their families.

The descendants of a Norman Knight who came to Ireland in the 1100s.

An English family who arrived sometime in the 1600s

A policeman who "migrated" from Tipperary to Cork.

And finally we'll tie them all together through one special Irish pub.

THE NORMAN KNIGHTS OF WALES.

Many of the Irish surnames we know today came out of the Norman lands of south Wales during the 1100s - these included surnames such as Barry, Fitzgerald, Walsh, Prendergast, Burke, Joyce, Roche, Condon, Barrett and many more. These were the names of the Norman lords that arrived during the first Norman incursions into Ireland. Another of these Lords went by the name of "Milo de Cogan". De Cogan did so well on those initial forays into Ireland that he was granted half of the "Kingdom of Cork" - the other half going to another Norman knight, Robert FitzStephen. However, the prominence of the de Cogan family in Cork waned over the following years - especially when compared to other Norman families such as the Barrys or the Fitzgeralds. As time went on, the name became anglicized with a number of different spellings. There was "Cogan" itself, of course - which is mostly found around Cork City. Then there was the less-numerous "Gogan". Finally, the version of the name that seemed to survive the best was "Goggin". Do you have one of the variations of this Irish surname in your family tree? After a gentleman by the name of John Goggin opened a public house on Bridge Street in Skibbereen in 1880, the location quickly became known as "Goggin's Corner". Despite his early death, his widow Katherine and sons took over the Pub which remains in business to this day. This descendant of Milo de Cogan located his bar right beside Hosford's Grocers and Newsagent. So, let's have a look at the surname Hosford before we return to this pub later in the story.

ABOUT THE TIME OF CROMWELL.

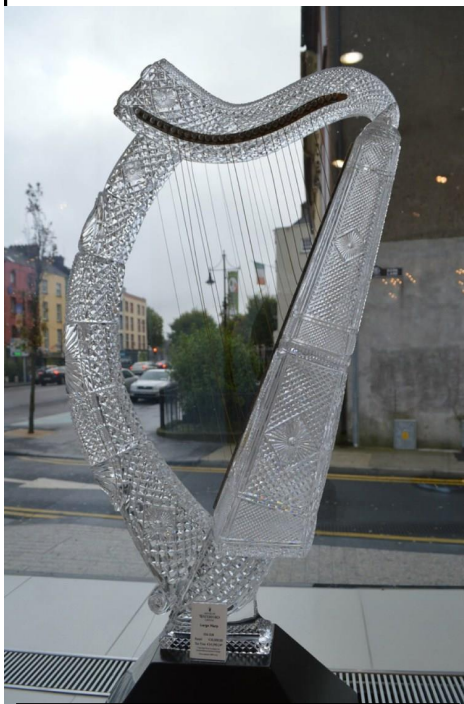
The surname Hosford appeared in Ireland for the first time in the mid 1600s. At that time, Cromwell had finished his "excursion" into Ireland and parcels of land were sold on to English settlers. One of these families were the Hosfords - they arrived in County Cork about that time and over the centuries they spread across much of West Cork. The family of Archibald Hosford had been in Skibbereen for some centuries when he opened a grocery shop in the late 1800s on Bridge Street. Hosford's Grocery Shop had a particular distinction - they were the main ticket agent for the Cunard Line at the time. If your ancestor left this area of West Cork for a new life in the USA, UK or Australia, the chances are they bought their ticket in that very shop.

THE TIPPERARY POLICEMAN.

In the late 1950s, a policeman from Tipperary with the surname O'Brien was assigned to duty in the town of Skibbereen, County Cork. He quickly found reason to stay and married into the Goggin family who owned the above-mentioned Goggin's Corner public house. In 1970, Hosford's Grocery store went up for sale and William saw a chance to enlarge Goggin's Corner by combining the two neighboring buildings. He knocked the two buildings together to create what we know as "The Corner Bar" today. I was recently speaking with William O'Brien, the current owner. He told me how his father wanted to honor both the older Goggin and the newer O'Brien names - found it difficult to do so - and compromised by calling the new combined venue "The Corner Bar". If you visit "The Corner Bar" in Skibbereen, do sit down and have a quiet pint in the part of the pub that used to be Hosford's emigration agents - and think back on the thousands of Irish migrants who bought their way to a better life on these same floorboards.

The Irish Harp

by Stair na hÉireann



Irish Harp at House of Waterford Crystal Showroom

No musical instrument has ever had to carry so much baggage, surely, as the Irish harp. It has been the symbol both of Ireland under English rule and of the Irish Free State. Unadorned, on a green background, it was a rebel flag in 1916. While its earliest origins are lost, the Irish harp has a certain history dating back at least 1000 years. Brian Boru, the last High King of Ireland (d 1014), is said to have been an accomplished player, but while he is attributed with all manner of skills for which there is no evidence, surviving 12-century annals refer to the Celtic harp being the only music played during the Crusades. At this time, the Gaelic harp was revered in Celtic culture (and all over Europe). It was de rigueur for Scottish and Irish kings and chieftains to have their own resident harper who, in turn, enjoyed high status and special privileges. The musician's main duties were to accompany poetry recitations or the singing of psalms. While they may have composed their own music, they did not write them down.

The English monarch Henry VIII declared himself King of Ireland in 1531. Such was the fame and prestige of the country's harp, it was chosen as the official national symbol of Ireland and stamped onto the coinage of Henry's new realm. The Celtic social order was on the wane by this time and as the decades pass, harpers lost much of their status, and their numbers declined. Some become traveling musicians, playing their

harps and singing, because rich patrons no longer retained them. In many ways, the harp's success became a problem. Still very much recognized as a symbol of Ireland and Irish pride, the Gaelic harp became an emblem of resistance to the Crown and England. As such, it was banned at the end of the medieval period and the old Celtic harp tradition began to die out. By the 18th century, the Scottish clarsach had disappeared. A century later, the Irish harp, too, was extinct.

Since the foundation of the Irish Free State in 1922, the Irish harp has been employed as the official emblem of Ireland. In the aftermath of the War of Independence and the Irish Civil War it was necessary to create political and social stability, and national symbols, in particular, the tricolor flag, the Irish harp and the national anthem, Amhrán na bhFiann, were important unifying symbols in the early years of the new State. A design based on the Trinity College harp (Brian Boru harp) by the English sculptor Percy Metcalfe was adopted as the basis for the Great Seal of the Irish Free State in 1923 and has remained the model for all official representations of the harp emblem on seals of state, Irish coinage and the coat of arms.

Ireland is the only nation to have a musical instrument as a national emblem. The Irish harp has been embedded in Irish politics and culture for centuries. The harp enjoyed a high status in early Gaelic society due to the sophistication of the instrument and the considerable technical ability of the harper.

Today, a representation of the traditional harp is to be found on the Presidential Seal and on many official documents, on passports, on the flag of Leinster (but not the national flag), on Irish euro coins and as a logo for a number of prominent state-supported organizations such as the National University of Ireland.

Easy Baked Salmon Recipe Irish Style



This baked salmon recipe is easy to make and tastes delicious.

Baked Salmon may not originate from Ireland but it is considered a traditional Irish recipe.

Ingredients needed for baked Salmon recipe

1 Whole Salmon
 125g Irish butter
 Bunch of parsley
 1 Wedge of lemon
 Salt & pepper

It's important the Salmon is freshly caught, cleaned and scaled.

How to make baked Salmon

Preheat the oven to 190°C/ Gas mark 5/ 375°F

Use a roasting tin which is large enough for the whole salmon, lined with foil and with some of the butter grease some of the foil to avoid the salmon sticking as it cooks.

Melting some of the butter moisten the salmon with a few teaspoons full as well as squeezing the lemon over the top of the whole fish.

Cooking times depend on the size or weight of the fish, but a rough guide would be 10 minutes per lb. or around 20 minutes per kg. It is important that you baste the salmon occasionally with the juices to keep it moist. Melt remaining butter in a small saucepan. Taking the salmon from the oven, take off the skin and place on a plate. Drizzle the melted butter over the top of the salmon, season with salt and pepper and add some parsley on the side of the plate for some garnish.

Delicious with some creamy mash potato or baby boils.

Why use Irish butter

Irish butter is renowned for its richer, creamier texture making it one of the best types of butter in the world. Therefore, we highly recommend that you use Irish butter while trying our recipes. Kerrygold. From County Cork, is one of the best brands of Irish butter.



A stroll along the North Main Street

They walked slowly along the North Main Street,
 In tempo with their age,
 No hurry to the bustle all around,
 Stopping every now and then,
 To look into a shop,
 Shrugged, and then carried on again.

-They light up that little church at nightø
 He said, as they crossed by Kyle Street,
 -And it was lovely what they done at Christmas timeø
 -Of course it's not now a holy placeø
 -You can get a cup a tea in one of them new-fangled restaurants ÷
 -But not the same as the Old Bridge was, in our time.

-There's been so many changesø
 She whispered, with a sigh,
 -So many of the old ones now are goneø
 -I suppose it's part of progresses
 He said with some regret,
 -Since all those big corporations came alongø

He placed an arm around her shoulders,
 And she around his waist,
 And for a brief moment the old street reappeared again.
 They heard the hustle from the Cold Quay,
 The Paperboy outside Martin Bennetts shop,
 And in the background, the sound of Shandon Bells.

John Anthony Fingleton (Löst Viking)