



# Cairde na Cruite

Ag ceiliúradh 50 bliain

## Nuachtlitir

Samhain 2010

As 2010 draws to a close, it's time to look back on a very special year for Cairde na Cruite, a year in which we celebrated fifty years of harping, concerts, festivals, publishing, newsletters, sessions, parties and much more!

In this Christmas edition of our newsletter, Catriona Cannon describes one of the highlights of our celebrations – a wonderful afternoon in Áras an Uachtaráin in the company of President Mary McAleese. Guests of honour were our founder members Sheila Larchet Cuthbert, Gráinne Yeats, Mercedes Garvey and Elizabeth Hannon. Photos of this memorable day will be posted on our website shortly for all to enjoy.

Despite the challenging economic environment, our annual Cúirt Chruitreachta in Termonfechin continued to grow and attract players from both Ireland and the international harping community.



Pictured Left to Right: Gráinne Yeats, Elizabeth Hannon, President Mary McAleese, Mercedes Garvey and Sheila Larchet Cuthbert.

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations provided an ideal context for reflecting on past successes and for developing strategies for the future development of the Irish harp. These issues were addressed at a workshop facilitated by Nicholas Carolan, Director of the Irish Traditional Music Archive, and attended by students, teachers and guests. Further reflection on the place of the harp in Ireland's cultural heritage came in the form of an address by Mary Hanafin TD, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport at the mid-week concert. A diverse programme of recitals and concerts throughout the week gave participants and the wider community the opportunity to hear the Irish harp at its best, both as a solo instrument and performing with other traditional instruments. As always, we are deeply appreciative of the support we receive from An Chomhairle Ealaíon, The Arts Council.

On the publishing front, the launch of *Rogha na gCruitirí*, Harpers' Choice, 100 traditional tunes for the Irish harp, is another milestone for Cairde na Cruite and it provides an inclusive overview of a vibrant and diverse range of traditional Irish harp-playing.

That the harp has become fully integrated within the traditional music milieu is a tribute to the dedication and work of Cairde na Cruite members, harp teachers, harpers and their friends and families down through the years. All in all 2010 has been a year for celebrating the past and planning for the future. As we move into a new era in Irish harping, we rely more than ever on your continued help and support. *Ní neart go cur le chéile.*

We wish all our harper colleagues, members and their families a very happy Christmas. *Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise dhaoibh go léir!*

## Cairde na Cruite's Founder Members Celebrated in Áras an Uachtaráin

An article from the Irish Independent in November 1960, announcing Cairde na Cruite's first concert in the Royal Hibernian Hotel, declared its aim to be 'the restoration of the Irish harp, symbol of an ancient culture, to its place of honour'. After a gap of fifty years, fitting tribute has been paid to four women who coupled their love of the national instrument and its rich history with the initiative to form an association which has nurtured, preserved and expanded the Irish harp tradition in the intervening half century.

On a crisp October afternoon, harpers from the four corners of Ireland made their way by car and foot through the grounds of Áras an Uachtaráin to attend a reception, organised by Cairde na Cruite, with President Mary McAleese. The purpose of their visit was to honour the association's founders - Mercedes Garvey, Gráinne Yeats, Sheila Larchet Cuthbert and Elizabeth Hannon.

In the Irish Independent report, Proinsias Ó Ceallaigh stated 'it is strange that in Ireland, a nation with the harp as its emblem, there are only three professional harpers, two of them natives.' The wonderful turnout of harp players on the sunny Wednesday afternoon confirmed that this was far from the case in 2010!

On entering the building one was immediately met with an image of a harp engraved on the wall facing the front door. Our tour guide for the day was delighted to be giving a short history lesson on the Egan harp, which was encased in glass in the corridor leading to the function room. Following a briefing by the military officers, the President was introduced and engaged first with the four founders and then with the rest of the party.

'This house loves the harp' declared President McAleese, a statement confirmed by those

harpers in the room who had already been to Áras an Uachtaráin in a professional capacity. The President stressed the importance of these four women's legacy by drawing attention to 'all this talent in the room', adding 'and where would we be without the teachers?' Indeed, if one were to attempt a map of teaching connections, all of the harpers in attendance could be linked back, directly or indirectly, to the four founders of Cairde na Cruite.

A reception of tea and cake was followed by a tour through Áras an Uachtaráin, led by a lively and animated Presidential aide. This was assuredly one of his more pleasant duties! The tour began with a brief presentation on past Presidents, one of whom Cearbhall Ó Dálaigh was founder-chairman of Cairde na Cruite at its inception. Although no harps sounded on the day, we were treated - just as the tour ended - to a performance by Harry Carpendale of *Mná na hÉireann* on the President's Steinway piano.

The tour marked the end of our visit. As one of the younger harpists who had not had an opportunity to study with one of the founders, I left with a tremendous appreciation of the vision and love which had guided them in their work to ensure that the Irish harping tradition would thrive.

*Catriona Cannon*



Wednesday October 20<sup>th</sup> 2010, Áras an Uachtaráin  
Harpers and supporters of Cairde na Cruite from the four corners of Ireland standing in honour of President Mary McAleese and founder members of Cairde na Cruite to mark its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

## Newspaper Article announcing Cairde na Cruite's first concert in the Royal Hibernian Hotel

**Irish Independent** November 1<sup>st</sup> 1960  
**Harp festival to be held in Dublin**

Cáirde Na Cruite (friends of the harp) association held its first recital in the Royal Hibernian Hotel, Dublin. Under the chairmanship of Mr Justice O'Dalaigh the association has as its aim "the restoration of the Irish harp, symbol of an ancient culture, to its place of honour".

Pronsiás O Ceallaigh, who was compere in addition to playing violin with harp accompaniment, said it was strange that in Ireland, a nation with the harp as its emblem, there were only three professional Harpers, two of them natives.

Those taking part included students of the Dominican convent, Sion Hill; Grainne Ní Eigearthaigh, Vincent Broderick, Sheila Larchet, Mercedes Bolger, Kay Rice, and Sheila Cuthbert. Mr Justice O'Dalaigh announced that a festival of the harp is being organised for Dublin next year.

## Harp Census by Cairde na Cruite

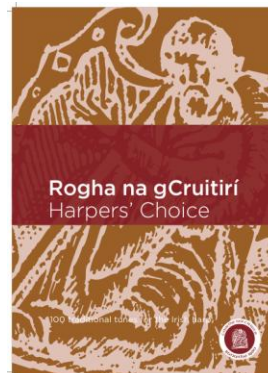
In a further initiative to celebrate Cairde na Cruite's 50<sup>th</sup> year Music lecturer at DkIT, Dr Helen Lawlor, has agreed to oversee a national census of harpers on behalf of the society. This is the first of its kind; not since the compilation of annals such as The Annals of the Four Masters (Annála Ríoghachta Éireann) has there been any record of harpers in Ireland. The census also aims to investigate the styles played and the performance contexts in which the harp is used. The results of the survey will be very helpful in finding out more about harping in Ireland today.

The census/survey can be accessed at:  
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7DPX9KP>  
and will be circulated shortly through Cairde na Cruite and other music organisations. For further information please contact: [helen.lawlor@dkit.ie](mailto:helen.lawlor@dkit.ie) /  
Phone: 0429370200 extn 2989.

## Cairde na Cruite's latest Publication *Rogha na gCruitirí*

**A 'Must-Have' for Every Harper!**

As part of our 50th anniversary celebrations, Cairde na Cruite are delighted to announce the publication of our latest collection of harp music, *Rogha na gCruitirí*, Harpers' Choice, edited by Aine Ní Dhubhghaill, Anne-Marie O'Farrell and Aibhlín McCrann. Drawing



on contributions from both well-established and younger musicians based in Ireland and further afield, this collection illustrates the diverse range of styles within our living harp tradition.

Players of all ages and levels of experience will find material suitable for their own particular needs and reflecting every genre of traditional Irish music - from jigs, reels, polkas, hornpipes and set dances to slow airs, songs with harp accompaniment and the music of the harpers. Also included are comprehensive notes on the tunes, biographies of the contributors and source references.

This is a book that young players will grow up with and that experienced players will turn to again and again as they build their repertoires and draw inspiration from the best that Irish harping has to offer. *Rogha na gCruitirí* will be available for purchase in bookstores and on-line via our website, [www.cairdenacruite.com](http://www.cairdenacruite.com)

The official launch took place on Sunday 12th December 2010 at 4pm in Foras na Gaeilge, Merrion Square, Dublin 2. Cairde na Cruite are very grateful to Foras na Gaeilge for their continued support.



## An Chúirt Chruitreachta Annual International Festival for Irish Harp

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011

The annual Cúirt Chruitreachta in An Grianán, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth now ranks among the top international harp festivals. It focuses primarily on the music of the ancient harping tradition and Irish traditional music and attracts students from all over the world. This challenging week long programme of workshops, concerts, sessions and tuition offers an opportunity to gain a better understanding of Irish music, song and dance as well as developing the skills and repertoire for players of all standards.



*The Venue: An Grianán, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth*

An Grianán in the village of Termonfeckin, Co Louth, is easily accessible as it is just 50km from Dublin and is near the main Northern highway. There is a regular train and bus service between Dublin and Drogheda, the nearest town. A bus and taxi service is available between Drogheda and An Grianán, the Festival venue, where you will have comfortable accommodation, excellent food and all the facilities needed to ensure a thoroughly enjoyable week.

Teaching is conducted on a modular basis so that participants can benefit from a collaborative, multidisciplinary teaching approach.

A full range of harping techniques are covered and include:

- Irish harping techniques
- Traditional ornamentation
- Session and group playing
- Wire strung harp styles
- Music of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century Harpers
- Singing in Irish and English

If participants have specific requirements we'll endeavour to ensure that they are addressed during the week.

You may now **apply online** to book your place for 2011 via our website

[www.cairdenacruite.com](http://www.cairdenacruite.com)

An Grianán provides single rooms and double rooms ensuite. The fees include all tuition, concerts/workshops, accommodation and full board.

### An Chúirt Chruitreachta

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011

Join us for an exciting programme of

workshops and concerts!



*Harpers at Cairde na Cruite's annual residential summerschool  
An Chúirt Chruitreachta, An Grianán, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth*

## Cairde na Cruite Student Concert St. Enda's, Rathfarnham

On 25<sup>th</sup> April 2010 Cairde na Cruite held a student concert in St. Enda's, Rathfarnham. The beautiful hall of Pádraig Mac Piarais' school rang to the sounds of a new generation of harpers watched by a full house of enthusiastic and devoted fans. We are very grateful to Director Brian Crowley and the staff at St. Enda's for welcoming and facilitating us and our talented young players, parents and friends.

We hope to foster our collaboration with this historic venue where Irish harp and pipes were taught almost 100 years ago and look forward to presenting many more student concerts here.

The programme for the student concert on 25th April 2010 included performances by the following:

Caoimhe O'Farrell	Lullaby Éiníní
Emer Healy	El Numero Uno Bog Braon
Megan Duffy	Caoineadh Luimní Madam Maxwell
Turlough Eccles	Far Away (Waltz) Humours of Tulla (Reel)
Anna Dalton	Eleanor Plunkett Tambourin
Madeleine Herbert	Allegro (Handel) Song in C
Susan Carney Cindy Yick	Loftus Jones Barcarolle Coinleach Glas an Fhomhair
Niamh Nic Uilleagóid	Pastorale (Boydell) Jigs
Eva O'Gorman	Impromptu Caprice
Elizabeth Bruton	Caoineadh Luimní Carolan's Draught
Sarah Bruton Finnegan	Inis Oírr Princess Royal

## RTÉ Lyric fm CD *Masters of the Irish Harp*

### St. Patrick's Day 2011

RTÉ Lyric fm will be issuing a CD due for launch on St. Patrick's day 2011 featuring the best of Irish harpers. *Masters of the Irish Harp* will be a showcase of the outstanding Irish harping talent and will add to all our other celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of the foundation of Cairde na Cruite. Harpers contributing tracks to the album include well known contemporary harp maestros and wire strung gurus. It also includes a piece by Gráinne Yeats from the founding committee. This is another "must buy" for all Irish harpers and will be an invaluable and long-lasting memento of our 50th anniversary. The music will feature an eclectic mix of pieces involving other instrumental musicians with the harp on centre stage and an Irish repertoire emphasis. Watch this space!

### St. Enda's, Rathfarnham

In September this year I was delighted to be asked to record music in the Pearse Museum, St. Enda's Park, the site of Pádraig Mac Piarais' school originally located where I live in Oakley Road, Ranelagh. It also involved playing on Pádraig Mac Piarais' McFall harp. A very moving experience considering that the Irish harp was taught here, not just an emblem of the Irish State or of the flag of Leinster, but as part of our living musical tradition. As a result of this collaboration I discovered a tune, Máirseáil Scoil Éanna, which is published in the new Cairde na Cruite book, Rogha na gCruitirí. Very little is known about the tune, but it was the anthem of the school and probably had Scottish origins.

*Áine Ní Dhubhghaill*

## The Willie Clancy Summer School

*"The man was his music and his music came to us through generations of our piping and singing ancestry"*

Once again, a highly successful harp course was held at the Willie Clancy Summer School, with teachers Laoise Kelly, Cormac De Barra, Grainne Hambly, Paul Dooley, Michael Rooney and Kathleen Loughnane sharing their music and harping experiences with a group of eager students from far and wide.

The school is Ireland's largest traditional music summer school, dating back to 1973 when it was established in memory of the piper Willie Clancy. A gifted player of tin whistle, flute and uilleann pipes, Clancy is considered to be one of the supreme exponents of his art. The major influence on his playing was the music of the blind piper Garret Barry from Inagh and the travelling piper Johnny Doran. Clancy was also renowned for his witty philosophical conversation, his love of the Irish language and his gentle humanity. I had the pleasure of his company and his music at a Cumann Merriman week in Lahinch in the early 70s, when he was resident musician for the week. Over a thousand students attend daily classes given by experts in Irish music and dance. In addition a full programme of lectures, recitals and exhibitions are also run.

Harp classes were introduced to the Willie Clancy summer school in 2008 and have proved to be a great success. We were concerned that numbers would be down this year as the school followed directly on from the very significant increase in harp students attending Termonfechin. We were delighted, however, to have about thirty students from Ireland, Italy and the USA. We rotated teachers each day to give each class a variety of styles and this proved satisfactory to both students and teachers. In addition to the classes, the harp teachers gave an afternoon recital which was very well attended and valued for the window that it gave to the different styles of arranging,

ornamentation and variation current among contemporary performers.



*Pictured Left to Right: Gráinne Hambly, Cormac De Barra, Kathleen Loughnane, Paul Dooley, Laoise Kelly and Michael Rooney in Miltown Malbay 2010.*

This festival has always had a strong input from local people paying a tribute to one of their own. The pubs are alive with the sound of traditional music! Year after year, the Willie Clancy school has drawn droves of musicians, music scholars and visitors. Young and old pack into every available room and classroom for workshops, while tunes in the old style and emerging styles can be heard in quiet corners around the town. Herds of set dancers also throng the large halls to learn the Clare sets.

Street trading adds its own colour and exotic feel to the atmosphere. Fiddles, flutes and bodhrans are bargained for and sold from the backs of cars and Irish hand-knit jumpers and cardigans are sold in aid of the missions. The super TG4 recording van takes pride of place beside the Legion of Mary caravan, lending a sense of medieval and modern Ireland co-existing.

This remains a very special week in the calendar of traditional music festivals. Willie Clancy was a keen, sharp and sympathetic listener and once said "won't you hear nice notes with a very bad musician sometimes!"

*Kathleen Loughnane*

## The Best Harpers in Ireland

The following account of harpers may be of interest to our readers. It was published in the journal *Éigse*, vol. 6 (1948-52), pp 146-8.

AN ACCOUNT OF SOME IRISH HARPERS  
AS GIVEN BY ECHLIN O'KEAN, HARPER,  
ANNO 1779

This manuscript account was recently discovered by my father, Col. D. Campbell of Inverneill, amongst various letters, &c., written in the eighteenth century, at Inverneill, Argyllshire. Most interest attaches to the references to Carolan; the anecdote about Carolan and Lyons is not mentioned in the preface to the edition of his songs published by Professor Ó Máille in the Irish Texts Society series, vol. xvii. None of the harpers mentioned in this account appeared at the famous gathering of harpers at Belfast in 1792.

Of O'Kean it is related that he played in the old-fashioned style, with the finger nails; and that "he was occasionally most offensive to his entertainers, and when his insolence could not be overlooked, Highland gentlemen before sending him from their houses ordered his nails to be cut quite short, a sufficient punishment, as he was then unable to play upon the Harp until they had grown to their proper length."

(Footnote to p. 37 of R. B. Armstrong's *The Irish and the Highland Harps*, with references to Gunn and Bunting.)

J. L. CAMPBELL,  
Isle of Canna, Scotland.

AN ACCOUNT OF SOME OF THE MOST EMINENT  
HARPERS  
IN IRELAND WITHIN THE TWO LAST CENTURIES  
AS GIVEN BY  
ECHLIN O'KEAN, HARPER.  
ANNO 1779

The oldest Performers by Profession, of Note, were Four Brothers of the name of Scot, who lived in the Province of Munster, about two hundred years ago—They, founded their best Harp music.—

The next was John Murphy, a Native of the County of Tirone Ulster; who flourished from the end of last Century, 'till a good way on in the present. He is said to have been the first performer on the Harp ever known in Ireland—A Traveller also thro' several foreign Countries, and his Music much prized by several Courts in Europe—A Man of a high turn of mind—Played only to persons of the first Destination & Taste—And at a dear rate—Made a dale of money. He never left any Compositions nor taught any Scholars, so that his music died with him.

The 3d Torrence Caroline—a Native of the County of Donegal & Blind; also of obscure birth. He flourished at the beginning of this Century to the year 1739. Was one of the most eminent Composers in Ireland, & died about 50 years ago. He was very much addicted to the Drinking of Whisky. One of his favourite compositions he entitled " Carolines Receipt for drinking Whisky."<sup>1</sup> Some Minutes before his death, & when he was given over by the Physicians, he called for a little Whisky in a cup, put it to his Lips, and said, " Poor whisky, you & I have lived in friendship, so let us part." Then he kissed the Cup and expired.

The fourth, was Cornelius-Lyons, a native of Macaron near the City of Cork; a Schoolmasters son, and a man of good education. He was Chief Servant & Harper to the Earl of Antrim and one of the best performers on that Instrument in Ireland in his day. Was superior to Caroline as a Performer, but not so good a Composer.

<sup>1</sup> Ól-ré Chearbhalláin, p. 157 of I.T.S edition.

O'Kean related the following Anecdotes of these two Harpers. Caroline was in the use of paying a visit to the Family, the beginning of every new Year, and bringing with him a Tune of his own Composition, as a New Years Gift. At one of these occasions, Caroline having arrived with one of his best compositions, the Earl made it up with his Harper Lyons to give him a Surprise. While blind Caroline, at the Earls desire, had long continued to amuse his Lordship with his new Tune, Lyons, who wrote off Music well, was ordered to slip quietly into the Room, and to mark it down while Caroline play'd. This being done, Lyons stole out again, he Afterwards Returned, saluted Caroline, and asked him if he had this year brought any new piece of music with him to Complement the Family as usual—"Yes I have" said Caroline, "the best I ever made" "Let us hear it" said Lyons." — When Caroline had played it over to him—Lyons said to him "This is no new tune, I have heard it long ago." "Impossible" said Caroline "it is not yet above three days old." "To convince you that it is an old Acquittance of mine", replied Lyons, "I shall play it in your hearing." This Lyons did, from the paper whereon he had noted it from Caroline's Playing. "It must have been the Devil gave it you (said Caroline) I shall [be] no longer in the company of one of his confidants." Getting up at the same time to leave the Room; untill Lord Antrim quieted him by telling how it was done. This Lyons was the Instructor in Harp Music to Echlin O'Kean Who by his own account was entitled to be the fifth best performer on the Harp in all Ireland—he gave out that he was born in the year 1729, in Culrain in the County of Derry; the son of a Farmer, & a fruit & Wine Merchant there. He often visited Scotland, and tho' blind, made a Tour thro' Holland, Flanders, France, and Spain; And in the course had many wonderfull escapes with life. —From the 1757, to the 1779, the last year he was in Argyleshire the Narrator of this small peice had frequent opportunities of hearing his performance on the Harp which was Admirable when in good humor (for he was often out of it) he had the best Collection of the which at times, he touched most delicately. To sum up his Character, he was when

in his Prime, the best Harper that ever made his Appearance in Scotland, at least for a Century back, but afterwards became a most intemperate Drunkard; but even then could at times be brought to Play most delightfully.

Second rate Players on the Harp alive in 1779.— Hugh O'Neil, a native of Connaught.

Domini Mungan—of Tirone.

Alexander Vectory—of Meath.

Mahony in the County of Cork a most excellent performer.

Also one of the name of Dunfalvie in the County of Limerick —a Celebrated performer & a Gentleman.

## **Irish Traditional Music Archive presents Digitised Audio Materials of Contemporary Irish Harpers**

On December 1<sup>st</sup> 2010, the Irish Traditional Music Archive – *Taisce Cheol Dúchais Éireann* – made available on their website a selection of recordings of leading Irish harp players of the present day as part of their audio digitised materials section. The recordings were kindly donated by the players and their record companies, to mark the Cairde na Cruite 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation and also the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its annual residential summer school in Termonfeckin, Co Louth.

The recordings offer an introduction to the thriving community of the Irish harp of the present day.

The Irish Traditional Music Archive is a national reference archive and resource centre for the traditional song, instrumental music and dance of Ireland. It is a public not-for-profit facility which is open, free of charge, to anyone with an interest in the contemporary and historical artforms of Irish traditional music. The Archive promotes public education in Irish traditional music through its own activities and through partnerships with others.

Visit [www.itma.ie](http://www.itma.ie) for further details.

## Cáirde na Cruite Committee 2010 / 2011

**Uachtarán / President:** Gráinne Yeats

**Cathaoirleach / Chairman:** Roisin McLaughlin

**Cisteoir / Treasurer:** Kieran Cummins

**Rúnaí / Secretary:** Aibhlín McCrann

### Coiste / Committee:

Dearbhail Finnegan, Cormac de Barra, Anne Marie O'Farrell, Áine Ní Dhubhghaill, Kathleen Loughnane, Aisling Ennis, Helen Price, Aoife Hegarty, Gráinne Ní Riain, Kieran Cummins, Claire O'Donnell, Helen Lyons, Caitríona Rowsome, Ann Jones Walsh.

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## Harps on the Bridge 2010



On Friday April 16<sup>th</sup> 2010, as part of Cairde na Cruite's contribution to National Music Day, more than 30 harpers gathered in glorious sunshine on the Samuel Beckett 'Harp' bridge to join in the celebration and mark the occasion with music from the Irish Harp tradition. An audience of more than 200 people brought city-centre traffic to a halt when they gathered to listen to the music of the harpers. Thanks to all those who participated at what was a memorable occasion, and who helped the harp make national headlines the following day. Photographs will be posted on our new website [www.cairdenacruite.com](http://www.cairdenacruite.com).

## O'Carolan Harp, Cultural and Heritage Festival 2010

The 22nd O'Carolan Harp, Cultural & Heritage Festival in the village of Nobber was once again a huge success drawing hundreds of music lovers to the birthplace of Turlough O'Carolan. The weekend opened on Thursday night with a film premier entitled "History of a Nation" in which Nobber was a featured location.

The festival had many events to enjoy. The concerts by Grainne Hambly & William Jackson, The Rosemary Caine Trio, Meath Harp Orchestra, Meath Harp Ensemble and the feature concert of the Mairtin O'Connor Band (Mairtin O'Connor, Cathal Hayden and Seamie O'Dowd) were filled to capacity in the main room of O'Carolan College. On Saturday afternoon harpers from around the country gathered to compete in the various age groups. Listed below are the prize winners.

### Under 10

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grace Ruddin
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Horgan
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Rose McCullogh

### 10-12

- 1<sup>st</sup> Kara Kirby
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Fionnula Donlon
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mairead Ryan

### 12 -15

- 1<sup>st</sup> Niamh McGloin
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Aisling Lyons
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Eadaoin Ni Mhaicin

### 15-18

- 1<sup>st</sup> Anna Sheehan
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Aine Flanagan
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Alisha McMahon

### "Harp's a Wonder"

- 1<sup>st</sup> Shane Taaffe, Aedin McConnell & Aine Flanagan

## Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2010 Comórtas Cruit / Harp Results

The following are the results of the all Ireland harp competitions held in Cavan at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2010.

### Harp – Cruit, Under 12

- 1<sup>st</sup> Fionnuala Ní Dhomhnalláin,  
CCÉ Dún Dealgan, An Lú
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Cara Ní Chiarbha  
CCÉ Cr. Na Sionna, An Clár
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Séamus Ó Flatharta,  
CCÉ Carna, Gaillimh

### Harp – Cruit, 12-15

- 1<sup>st</sup> Aisling Lyons,  
CCÉ An Tulach, An Clár
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Niamh McGloin  
CCÉ Fred Finn Branch, Sligeach
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Éadaoin Ní Mhaicín  
CCÉ Caisleán a' Bharraigh, Maigh Eo

### Harp – Cruit, 15-18

- 1<sup>st</sup> Alisha McMahon,  
CCÉ East Clare, An Clár
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Aoife Ní Argáin  
CCÉ Cill Fhionntáin, Baile Átha Cliath 13
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Elsa Ní Cheallaigh  
CCÉ Fred Finn Branch, Sligeach

### Harp – Cruit, O18

- 1<sup>st</sup> AnnaLee Foster,  
CCÉ Hillsboro, USA
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Déirdre Ní Bhriain,  
CCÉ Inis Díomáin, An Clár
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fiachra Ó Corragáin  
CCÉ Cr. Niall Ó Cathasaigh, Baile an Chollaigh, Corcaigh

## Dates for your Diary ....

### Saturday January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011

7.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m. Pipers Club, Henrietta Street, Dublin. Kathleen Loughnane presents the annual Breandán Breathnach Lecture: The Harpers Connellan c. 1640-1720 - their music, life and times.

### Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Dudelage, Luxembourg Irish harp and organ recital by Anne-Marie O'Farrell with Siobhan Kilkelly (Luxembourg [www.orgue-dudelage.lu](http://www.orgue-dudelage.lu)). Works by Carolan, Stanford, T.C. Kelly, McNulty, O'Farrell and Ismaylov.

### Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March

3 p.m. St. Patrick's Day, National Museum, Kildare St. Anne-Marie O'Farrell Irish harp recital.

### Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2011

7.30 pm. National Concert Hall, Kylemore Harp Ensemble directed by Anne-Marie O'Farrell

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June to Friday July 1<sup>st</sup> 2011

Cairde na Cruite's annual Cúirt Chruitreachta will take place in An Grianán, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth. Check out our website [www.cairdenacruite.com](http://www.cairdenacruite.com) for further details.

### Spring 2011

Aisling Ennis will give a workshop at the Royal Irish Academy of Music in spring 2011. Aisling who is a graduate of the RIAM is now freelancing with Opera North and the Hallé Orchestra in England. For further details about this workshop contact Áine Ní Dhubhghaill at 087 2629136.

### Forthcoming 2011

2011 collaborations for Anne-Marie O'Farrell throughout the year will include violinist William Lees (NCH), soprano Regina Nathan (for the Wicklow Hospice Foundation), poet Seamus Cashman and organist Carole O'Connell.

## A Christmas Carol

We hope our readers enjoy Seán Og Ó Tuama's traditional air, *Don Oíche úd i mBeithil*, as we celebrate the festive season.

### Don Oíche úd i mBeithil

*Traditional*

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of ten staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes on each staff.

Don oí - che úd i mBeith - il, beidh  
ta - gairt faoi ghrian go brách, Don  
oí - che úd i mBeith - il go  
dtáin - ig an Bria - thar slán. Tá  
gríos - ghrua ar spéar - tha 'san  
ta - lamh 'na chlú - dach bán. Féach  
Ío - sa - gán sa chliabh - án, 'san  
Mhaigh - dean in aoibh - neas grá.

Ar leaca loma sléibhe 'sé ghlacann na haoirí scáth  
Ar oscailt gheal na spéire tá teachtaire Dé ar fáil.  
Céad glóir' anois don Athair i bhFlaitheasaibh thuas go hard.  
Is feasta fós ar talamh do fhearaibh dea-mhéin' síocháin.



## Supporting Cairde na Cruite

If you would like to support Cairde na Cruite you could:

- Buy Cairde na Cruite publications
- Bring Cairde na Cruite to the attention of potential supporters
- Make a financial contribution
- Subscribe as a member

In supporting Cairde na Cruite, you provide essential funds to continue its activities in promoting the Irish harp, publishing and providing scholarships for students attending the annual Cúirt Chruitreachta.

Payments can be made to Cairde na Cruite in the following ways:

- by completing and returning the membership form accompanying this newsletter
- through our website  
[www.cairdenacruite.com](http://www.cairdenacruite.com)

**Cairde na Cruite wish all our harper  
colleagues,**

**members and their families**

**a very happy Christmas and New Year!**

*Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise*

*dhaoibh go léir!*

## Cairde na Cruite Membership Form (Renewal)

Ainm: \_\_\_\_\_

Seoladh: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Teilifón: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dáta: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick as appropriate:

Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ Student: (10 euro) \_\_\_\_\_

PO/Cheque: \_\_\_\_\_ Individual: (25 euro) \_\_\_\_\_

Standing Order: \_\_\_\_\_ Family: (30 euro) \_\_\_\_\_

*Payment is due on 1<sup>st</sup> January each year.  
Receipts are not posted unless requested.*

Please return to:

Dearbhail Finnegan

Fells Cottage, Cruicestown, Nobber, Co. Meath

Email: [dearbhail@me.com](mailto:dearbhail@me.com)

### Standing Order

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Commencement date: \_\_\_\_\_ On the first day of each year, commencing 20\_\_ until 20\_\_ please pay the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ euro to the Bank of Ireland, Main Street, Dundrum, Dublin 14 for credit to Cairde na Cruite Account No. 10582665 branch code 90-10-95. Total number of payments \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_