

# COMHDHÁIL MÚINTEOIRÍ NA RINCÍ GAELACHA

*Gachtarán:* SHEILA HUGHES  
T.C.R.G., A.D.C.R.G.

*Cathaoirleach:* RORY O'CONNOR  
T.C.R.G., A.D.C.R.G.

*Cisteoir:* Peter Bolton  
T.C.R.G., A.D.C.R.G.



*Rúnaí:*

HENRY McCAFFREY, T.C.R.G., A.D.C.R.G.  
54 Stephen's Road, Inchicore, Dublin 8

Telephone 758839

October, 1973.

A Chara,

Here is the first issue of the voice of Comhdháil Múinteoirí na Rincí Gaelacha. Further issues will depend on you the readers supplying news, commentary, reports or queries which you would like published. I should be grateful if you would send these to me at my address - 'Lara', 72 Finaghy Road South, Belfast 10.

This issue has been given over entirely to our Convention and I must on your behalf thank most sincerely all our Scottish teachers together with their wives or husbands who worked so hard and spared nothing in organising such a memorable convention.

EDITOR.

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## COMDHAIL NEWSLETTER (First Edition)

The City Mills Hotel, Perth, Scotland was invaded for the weekend 31st. August to Monday 3rd. September when the entire hotel was booked for the annual Convention of Comhdháil Múinteoirí na Rínce Gaelacha. In fact the Eire contingent lengthened their stay to arrive Thursday 30th. August and finish Tuesday 4th. September and had a sight-seeing and shopping spree on the extra days. The hotel management under the direction of our Scottish hosts provided every facility and ensured that the work of the convention was carried through smoothly and successfully.

The programme was well-balanced between work and play and the discussion and debate on motions was of a very high standard and delegates expressed their satisfaction at the amount of work done. On the evening of arrival a teach-in session on traditional set-dances was lively and enjoyable though pretty hot work. This set the trend for the remainder of the week-end which proved both useful and worthwhile.

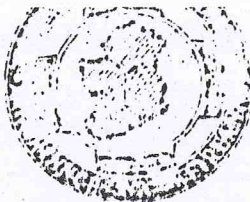
Our Scottish hosts left no stone unturned in the provision of social activities. Highlight was the dinner social on Saturday night. Guests of honour were Canon Molloy and Father O'Sullivan together with about sixty eminent local citizens. The meal was superb and included a sweet 'Souffle Surprise' which was so excellent that a few had three helpings! Mr. Thomas Kerr was Fear-a-Toig and a first class entertainer in his own right and the ensuing social proved to be one of those once-in-a-lifetime occasions when everyone participated. Even the bar trade slowed as



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On Sunday night we had another dinner social with a difference, more subdued but non-the-less enjoyable with excellent music from violin, piano, accordion and pipes. Indeed wonderful uilleann pipe selections from Mr. P. Hughes who plays with great feeling and superb technique. The long-haired world highland dancer who dropped in briefly to delight the audience turned out to be none other than the bold Rory O'Connor! The three lovely lassies in the slimmers bathing beauty contest were Betty Genockey, Peg McTeggart and Sheila Hughes. By public demand Harry McCaffrey rendered 'My old Grey Coat'. Fr. O'Sullivan took down the house with his rendering of Finegan's Wake and Nancy Troy and many other volunteer soloists completed the enjoyment.

The hotel itself is worthy of mention - as its name denotes it was once a famous mill driven by the water wheel. Under preservation orders the outward appearance could not be changed but a magnificent entrance and clever transformation indoors, costing according to rumour one and a half million pounds, is worth seeing. The mill race still flows beneath the building and viewing circles have been cut in the flooring of the foyer and ground floor lounge through which the water can be seen rushing merrily on its way.

During the Saturday evening dinner a piper in full dress, busby and all, peraded on the balcony and entertained us to a wonderful selection of tunes in the atmosphere of a baronial hall.

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Election for 1973/74

Delegates

Dublin

Mr. R. O'Connor  
Miss G. Cadwell  
Miss M. Kane  
Mrs. M. Brown  
Mr. P. Bolton  
Mr. G. Verdon  
Mrs. M. Ivory  
Mr. P. McGee  
Mr. H. McCaffery  
Miss B. Genockey

Belfast

Miss S. Hughes  
Mr. B. Holmes  
Mr. G. Hobbs

Derry/Tyrone

Mr. S. Kerrigan

Galway

Miss P. Carty

Down

Mr. A. Burns

Wexford

Mrs. L. Butler  
Mr. T. Roche

Waterford

Miss N. Troy  
Mr. P. Carroll

Miss P. McTeggart  
Miss K. Kinarty

Scotland

Mrs. A. McHugh  
Mrs. F. Robinson

England

Miss K. Ryan  
Mr. T. Tyrell

America

Miss K. Rondeau  
Connecticut

Executive - 1973/74

President: Miss Sheila Hughes, Belfast.  
Chairman: Mr. R. O'Connor, Dublin.  
Vice-Chairman: Miss Cora Cadwell, Dublin.  
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Secretary: Mr. H. McCaffrey, Dublin.  
Asst. Secretary: Mr. G. Verdon, Dublin.

(Contd.)



Treasurer: Mr. Peter Bolton, Dublin.  
Asst. Treasurer: Miss Nancy Troy, Waterford.  
Registrar: Miss Margaret Kane, Dublin.

Further Appointments.

Public Relations Officer: Mr. Gerry Verdon, Dublin.  
Liaison Officer for Scotland/England: Miss Cora Cadwell, Dublin.  
Miss Nancy Troy, Waterford.  
Liaison Officer for America/Canada: Miss Peggy McTeggart, Cork.

MOTIONS.

1. 'Suggested Procedure at Convention' - adopted unanimously and adhered to with subsequent orderly discussions and adoptions.
2. Publicity - Mr. Gerry Verdon, Dublin appointed as Public Relations Officer.
3. 'Membership Fees' - confirmed - proposed and passed that all fees should be paid before 31st. December, 1973 so that 1974 list can be published in January, 1974.
4. "Awarding of Diplomas" - agreed that such tests could be implemented. The Executive Council to explore and finalise.
5. 'Affiliated Bodies' - agreed - select committee to explore.
6. 'Transfer Rule' - rule explained and retained.
7. 'Fees Registration' - fully discussed - agreed to enforce the rules.
8. 'All-Ireland Championships' - plans discussed to ensure that this prestige event should continue successfully. Branches to participate in promotion with organisation of fund-raising functions so that a first-class event is staged.
9. Examinations - fully discussed - present system to be continued.
10. 'Irish Dancing Commission' - our present negotiating officers to continue in office and pursue discussions. It was agreed that a named independent chairman could be approached if agreeable to both sides.
11. Summer School - a feasible idea to be pursued by Executive Council.
12. Books - An Comhail to publish own hand-books.
13. Non-competitive events - favourably received - to be explored further.
14. Points system - 8, 5, 3 was proposed by Scotland instead of present 12, 5, 2. It was felt this was too complex a matter to be decided quickly. More research to be done and results to be circulated later.



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