

# The British Isles



# The British Isles Historic Society

Heritage, History, Traditions & Customs

## 10-20 October Issue



## The Great Irish Potato Famine

The Great Irish Potato Famine was a period of mass starvation and disease in Ireland from 1845 to 1849. With the most severely affected areas in the west and south of Ireland, where the Irish language was dominant, During the famine, about one million people died and a million more emigrated, causing Ireland's population to fall by between 20% and 25%.

The proximate cause of the famine was a natural event, a potato blight, which infected potato crops throughout Europe during the 1840s, also causing some 100,000 deaths outside Ireland and influencing much of the unrest in the widespread European Revolutions of 1848.

The famine was a watershed in the history of Ireland, which from 1801 to 1922 was ruled directly by Westminster as part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The famine and its effects permanently changed the island's demographic, political, and cultural landscape forever.

By far, the largest immigration of the Irish to Canada occurred during the mid-19th century. The Great Irish Potato Famine of 1847 was the cause of death, mainly from starvation, of over a million Irish. It was also the motivation behind the mass exodus of hundreds of thousands of Irish to North America. Because passage to Canada was less expensive than passage to the United States, Canada was the recipient of some of the most destitute and bereft Irish.

The primary destination for most of these ships was the port of Québec and the mandatory stop at the quarantine island of Grosse Île. By June of 1847, the port of Québec became so overwhelmed, that dozens of ships carrying over 14,000 Irish queued for days to make landing. It is estimated that almost 5,000 Irish died on Grosse Île and it is known to be the largest Irish burial ground exclusive of Ireland.

Since then many Irish immigrants have played a major role in the history of our Canadian society.





## Talamh an Éisc,

Talamh an Éisc,  
Newfoundland, Land of the Fish

Newfoundland is the only place outside Europe with its own distinctive name in the Irish language. It has been described as the most Irish place in the world outside of Ireland and the Irish have been settling in Newfoundland for almost 400 years.

The first record of a Waterford ship on the Grand Banks in Newfoundland dates from 1534.

And in 1608 Patrick Brannock, an Waterford seafarer sailed annually to Newfoundland from the French port of Bayonne.

Furs were also an attraction and in 1662, an Irish trapper and his native companions were reported to be poaching beaver.

By the 18th c, thousands were reported to be travelling from Ireland's south east to Newfoundland.



## The national flag of Republic of Ireland (EIRE)

(Irish: bratach na hÉireann), frequently referred to in Ireland as 'the tricolour' (an trídathach) is the national flag and ensign of the Republic of Ireland. Presented as a gift in 1848 to Thomas Francis Meagher from a small group of French women sympathetic to the Irish cause, it was intended to symbolise the inclusion and hoped-for union between Roman Catholics (symbolised by the green colour) and Protestants (symbolised by the orange colour). The significance of the colours outlined by Meagher was, "The white in the centre signifies a lasting truce between Orange and Green and I trust that beneath its folds the hands of Irish Protestants and Irish Catholics may be clasped in generous and heroic brotherhood".

The flag was adopted by the Irish Republic during the Irish War of Independence (1919–1921).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag\\_of\\_Ireland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_of_Ireland)



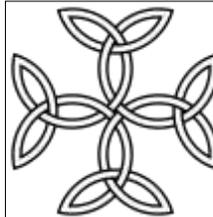
## Irish Myths The Harp

the story behind the  
national symbol

It is said that evil gods stole the first harp from the Dagda, a king in Irish/Celtic mythology. The lack of music in Ireland caused sadness to pass over the country until Dagda turned to art to cheer them up.

Eventually the evil gods gave it back to them, and joy returned to the land. This is how the harp became a national icon of Ireland and became cemented in the folk music tradition of Ireland.

<https://www.the-10-most-famous-myths-and-legends-from-irish-folklore/>



## The Irish Benevolent Society of B.C. is a non-profit

organization officially incorporated  
and registered in 1996.

Based in Vancouver, British Columbia the main purpose of the Irish Benevolent Society is to support Irish culture and provide emergency assistance to members of the Irish community.

In 2008, the Irish Benevolent Society of B.C. established the Irish Seniors luncheon program in the Vancouver Lower Mainland with support through the Irish Government's Emigrant Support Program. This annual lunch is now coordinated by the Irish Women's Network of BC.

<https://www.irishwomenbc.net/>

## We get letters:

In the 09-20 September issue of the British Isles Historic Society, I included a article on Sir Francis Leopold McClintock, “ the Artic Fox” Born: 8 July 1819, **Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland**, Died: 17 November 1907 (aged 88) Kensington, London, England. I have since received the following write up by his Great Granddaughter, Sylvia McClintock.

**Dear Joanna Cadman:**

**c/o The Royal Society of St. George  
P.O. Box 397, Loughton, U.K.**



### Sir Francis Leopold

**McClintock**, (born July 8, 1819, **Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland**.—died Nov. 17, 1907, **London, England**.), British naval officer and explorer who discovered the tragic fate of the British explorer Sir John Franklin and his 1845 expedition to the North American Arctic.

Before his own successful search of 1857–59, McClintock took part in three earlier efforts to find Franklin. On the second and third of these (1850–51 and 1852–54), his improvements in the planning and execution of sledge journeys greatly advanced the possibilities of Arctic exploration.

The first information suggesting that Franklin’s party had perished around King William Island, now in Canada’s Northwest Territories, was obtained from Eskimo in 1854. When the British government refused to equip another search expedition, Franklin’s widow equipped the Fox, with McClintock in command. (He had been on three previous expeditions & was appointed on the recommendation of the Prince Consort).

He found the graves of some of Franklin’s crew as well as remains from Franklin’s ships and some of

his belongings. He also received an old Eskimo woman’s account of how Franklin’s starving men died in their tracks as they sought to journey southward on foot. The most important evidence that McClintock recovered was a written record of Franklin’s expedition up to April 25, 1848.

McClintock’s account of his journey,

The Voyage of the “Fox” in the Arctic Seas: A Narrative of the Fate of Sir John Franklin and His Companions, was published in 1859, and he was knighted in 1860. He was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS) and was also appointed to KCB by the Queen. (From Encyclopedia Britannica)

I am one of the great grandchildren of Sir Francis Leopold McClintock

On Sir John Franklin’s expedition, his second in command was Capt. Francis Crozier from Banbridge, Co. Down. His nephew George Crozier married McClintock’s younger sister, Emily Anna Foster McClintock in 1857 at St George’s, Dublin, Ireland

Sir John Franklin’s 3rd in command was Capt. James Fitzjames. Very little was known about him until William Battersby, who died recently, researched his life & wrote a book “James Fitzjames, Mystery Man of the Franklin Expedition” and discovered that he was the illegitimate son of Sir James Gambier, 1772-1844, Consul-General in the Netherlands. His half-brother, William Gambier, 1802-1860, is my 3rd great grandfather on my mother’s side.



Written By Sylvia McClintock  
London U.K., Aug 30th. 2020

More Relics Salvaged by  
McClintock  
Photo published in:  
Illustrated London News  
Date: 15 October 1859





# ISSC VANCOUVER

## Vancouver Irish Sporting and Social Club of Vancouver

### Gaelic Games

The Irish Sporting and Social Club was formed in 1974 with the aim of bringing the local Irish community together socially and to promote the games of Gaelic Football, Hurling and Camogie.

Today, the GAA club is a blend of Irish immigrants, second generation Irish descendants, Canadians and other nationalities.

The club runs a number of successful teams including the Vancouver Harps and Vancouver Celts Men's and Ladies Gaelic Football Teams and the JP Ryan's Hurling and Camogie teams.

The ISSC continues to promote and support Irish cultural and sporting events in Greater Vancouver, and are always welcoming new members.

In 2014 the ISSC celebrated its 40th anniversary and plans were set for continued growth in the future

Website:

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

Email: [info@isscvancouver.com](mailto:info@isscvancouver.com)



### Gaelic football (Irish:

Peil Ghaelach; short name Peil or Caid), commonly referred to as football or Gaelic, is an Irish team sport. It is played between two teams of 15 players on a rectangular grass pitch. The objective of the sport is to score by kicking or punching the ball into the

other team's goals (3 points) or between two upright posts above the goals and over a crossbar 2.5 metres (8.2 ft) above the ground (1 point).

Players advance the football, a spherical leather ball resembling a volleyball, up the field with a combination of carrying, bouncing, kicking, hand-passing, and soloing (dropping the ball and then toe-kicking the ball upward into the hands). In the game, two types of scores are possible: points and goals. A point is awarded for kicking or hand-passing the ball over the crossbar, signalled by the umpire raising a white flag. A goal is awarded for kicking the ball under the crossbar into the net, signalled by the umpire raising a green flag.

Positions in Gaelic football are similar to those in other football codes, and comprise one goalkeeper, six backs, two midfielders, and six forwards, with a variable number of substitutes.

Gaelic football is one of four sports (collectively referred to as the "Gaelic games") controlled by the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA), the largest sporting organisation in Ireland. Along with hurling and camogie, Gaelic football is one of the few remaining strictly amateur sports in the world, with players, coaches, and managers prohibited from receiving any form of payment. Gaelic football is mainly played on the island of Ireland, although units of the Association exist in Great Britain, North America and Australia.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaelic\\_football](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaelic_football)



Royal Engineers A.F.C. in 1872: early exponents of the "combination game"

**TRIVIA:** The world's oldest football clubs were founded in England from 1789 and, in the 1871–72 season, the FA Cup was founded as the world's biggest first organised competition. The first international match took place in November 1872 when England travelled to Glasgow to play Scotland.

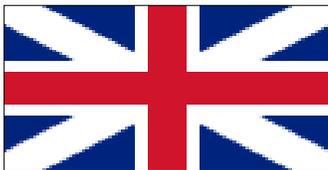
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_football\\_in\\_England](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_football_in_England)



## The Ulster Banner,

(1953–1972) officially known as the Northern

Ireland flag, was the flag of the former Government of Northern Ireland. It is used by the unionist community but no longer has any official status, although several sporting organisations such as FIFA, the Commonwealth Games Federation and the PGA Tour and media organisations such as ESPN currently use the flag to represent teams and athletes from Northern Ireland.



The national flag of Northern Ireland is now the Union Jack. The Ulster Banner portrayed is from the former coat of arms of Northern Ireland and was the flag of the Government of Northern

Ireland between 1953–1972. Since 1972 this flag has continued to be used for want of another distinctive flag, almost exclusively amongst the Unionist community.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ulster\\_Banner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ulster_Banner)



## Nye's Service Station

This building was originally the Nye's service station

built in 1923. It commemorates the early industrial history of the area. The distinctive porte cochere (originally a gasoline service station) marks the apex of the triangular site, functions as a gateway to the industrial area immediately to the east, and provides a distinctive neighbourhood landmark. Designed by Townley and Matheson it was built in 1923 and sold gas.

450 West 2nd Avenue is listed on the Vancouver Heritage Register in the B-category.

The building is now occupied by Kearney Funeral Services, which has been family owned and operated since Thomas Kearney opened his doors in 1908.

<https://www.vancouverheritagefoundation.org/location/450-w-2nd-ave-vancouver-bc/>

Photo Credit: Christine Leviczky Riek



## Celtic Cross

The Celtic cross is a form of Christian cross featuring a nimbus or ring that emerged in Ireland, France and Britain in the Early Middle Ages. A type of ringed cross, it became widespread through its use in the stone high crosses erected across the

islands, especially in regions evangelized by Irish missionaries, from the 9th through the 12th centuries.

A staple of Insular art, the Celtic cross is essentially a Latin cross with a nimbus surrounding the intersection of the arms and stem. Scholars have debated its exact origins, but it is related to earlier

crosses featuring rings.

The form gained new popularity during the Celtic Revival of the 19th century; the name "Celtic Cross" is a convention dating from that time. The shape, usually decorated with interlace and other motifs from Insular art, became popular for funerary monuments and other uses, and has remained so, spreading well beyond Ireland.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celtic\\_cross](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celtic_cross)

Celtic Crosses dot hundreds of cemeteries across Ireland and Scotland, as well as Wales, England, Europe, and beyond. Few symbols are as recognizable as the Celtic Cross as the embodiment of Celtic Christianity. It is popularly believed that St. Patrick introduced the Celtic Cross in Ireland, during his conversion of the kings from paganism to Christianity. Some also believe it was St. Columba or St. Declan who introduced it. Other theories site construction strength to the design – the circle strengthened the cross beams, preventing breakage or destruction by the elements or time.





## Fraser Valley Gaels - GAA Sporting Club

The club is comprised of men's and women's Gaelic football team. Don't know what

Gaelic football is, check out this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nezwqVCzG2g>

Looking to join a sports team with a vibrant social scene!

Fraser Valley Gaels are more than a football club. It is at the heart of the Irish and International community in Vancouver. We have as many events off the pitch as we have on, and we encourage members to become part of our growing family and community.

All new players are welcome; whether you are a novice or an All-Star...WE WANT YOU!!

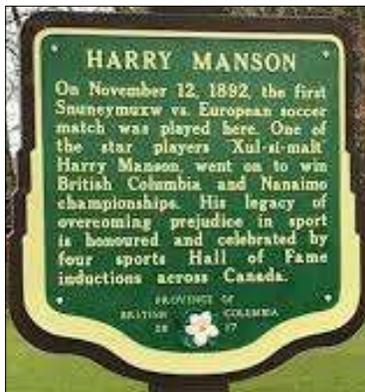
Website: <https://fraservalleygaels.com>



### Harry Manson

Xul-si-malt, who was given the English name Harry Manson, (1879 – February 10, 1912) was a First Nations soccer player, the first to be inducted into the Canadian Soccer

Hall of Fame. He was also inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame in 2015. He broke many racial barriers as one of the first Aboriginal soccer players in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Manson was known for his many abilities and skills in soccer. In fact, he was the only player, of Aboriginal or European descent, to play on all three Nanaimo premier soccer teams



## Vancouver Éire Óg GAA Club

is a mens' Gaelic football team founded in 2018 in Vancouver, BC. The club was set

up with the following goals - To increase competitiveness in Vancouver GAA in mens football and to ensure that there are sufficient teams create a senior championship.

website: <http://www.vancouvereireog.com/>



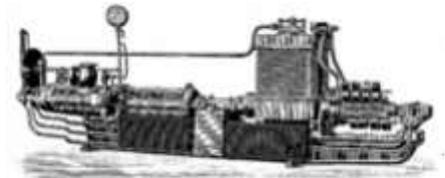
### Charles Algernon Parsons

Hon. Sir Charles Algernon Parsons, OM, KCB, FRS ( Born: 13 June 1854 **London, England, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland**, Died: 11 February

1931 aged 76) Kingston Harbour,

Jamaica, was an Anglo-Irish engineer, best known for

his invention of the compound steam turbine, and as the namesake of C. A. Parsons



and Company. He worked as an engineer on dynamo and turbine design, and power generation, with great influence on the naval and electrical engineering fields. He also developed optical equipment, for searchlights and telescopes.

Parsons was born in London into an Anglo-Irish family, youngest son of the famous astronomer William Parsons, 3rd Earl of Rosse. The family seat is Birr Castle, County Offaly, Ireland, and the town of Birr was called Parsonstown, after the family, from 1620 to 1899.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles\\_Algernon\\_Parsons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Algernon_Parsons)



1805: Beaufort scale created by Francis Beaufort





## The White House

Among the world's most recognizable buildings the White House in Washington DC was

inspired by an Irish building and designed and built by an Irish architect. The official residence of US presidents for more than 200 years and home to the President's offices and staff its design was the brainchild of a farm boy from **Kilkenny** named James Hoban who based the design on **Dublin's Leinster House**.



### James Hoban

(1755 – December 8, 1831)

was an Irish Catholic raised on an estate belonging to the Earl of Desart in **Callan, County Kilkenny**.

He worked there as a wheelwright and carpenter until his early twenties, when he was given an 'advanced student' place in the Dublin Society's Drawing School on Lower Grafton Street. He studied under Thomas Ivory. He excelled in his studies and received the prestigious Duke of Leinster's medal for drawings of "Brackets, Stairs, and Roofs" from the Dublin Society in 1780.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Hoban](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Hoban)



### John Philip Holland

was an Irish engineer who developed the first submarine to be formally commissioned by the US Navy, and the first Royal

Navy submarine, Born: February 29, 1840, Liscannor, Ireland, Died: August 12, 1914, Newark, New Jersey



## Irish Champ

### Ingredients:

♣ 2 pounds potatoes, peeled and halved

♣ 1 cup milk or cream

♣ 1 bunch green onions, thinly sliced

♣ ½ teaspoon salt, or to taste

♣ ¼ cup butter

♣ 1 pinch freshly ground black pepper to taste.



### Method:

Step 1 Place potatoes into large pot, and fill with enough water to cover. Bring to a boil, and cook until tender, about 20 minutes.

Step 2 Drain well. and allow the potatoes to dry out for a few minutes.

Step 4 Mash the potatoes, salt and butter together until smooth. Stir in the milk and green onion until evenly mixed. Season with freshly ground black pepper. Serve.



### Caid

 (Irish [kadʲ]) are various

ancient and traditional Irish

Football games. "Caid" is now used by

people in some parts of Ireland to

refer to modern Gaelic football.

The word caid originally referred to the ball which was used. It was made out of animal skin, with a natural bladder inside.

Caid is believed to have influenced the modern sport of Gaelic football the rules of which were officially published in 1887 and is now organised and governed by the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) as an amateur sport.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caid\\_\(sport\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caid_(sport))



## Irish Groups in B.C.

### Vancouver Irish Social

is a place for newcomers and existing Irish residents to come together to make new friends and to chat about settling into life in Vancouver. Many friendships and relationships have resulted from the evolution of this group and we hope that it can grow even stronger in the future.  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1754365621542363/>

### Irish in Victoria BC

This group is for Irish people living in Victoria, wanting to connect with other Irish in town!  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1458590257759146/>

### Okanagan Irish Society

To promote Irish/Celtic Cultural in the Okanagan region of British Columbia.  
<https://www.facebook.com/okanaganirishsociety/>

### Irish in Nanaimo and North Island

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/191935081871508/about>

### Irish Club of White Rock

<https://www.facebook.com/irishclubofwhiterock>

### Irish in B.C

<https://www.facebook.com/irishinvancouver/>

### Irish Women's Network of BC

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/88155390806/>



## Ireland - Canada Chambers of Commerce, Vancouver (ICCCVan)

The Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce Vancouver (ICCCVan) was incorporated in 2017. The founding members recognised the lack of support and networking opportunities for the growing Irish business community in Vancouver and sought to address this. With the support and encouragement from the new Irish Ambassador to the Canada, the founding members invested considerable time and work into establishing a formal Irish Chamber of Commerce in Vancouver.

The ICCCVan was created solely to promote, connect and support Irish professionals and business owners in Vancouver. Through our events and networks Irish professionals of all levels can grow their networks and seek the support of fellow members.

Website: <https://icccvan.ca>



### Saint Patrick's Saltire,

(1783–1922) also known as St Patrick's Cross, the symbol of The Most Illustrious Order of Saint Patrick, the British order of chivalry associated with Ireland. A red saltire on a white field. Used to represent Ireland in the Union Jack and unofficially to represent Ireland from the Act of Union to the Anglo-Irish Treaty.

The Protestant Church of Ireland orders that, apart from the flag of the Anglican Communion, only this saltire may be flown on its church grounds—as opposed to the tricolour, the Union Flag or the former flag of Northern Ireland.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_British\\_flags](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_British_flags)



## Vancouver Irish Céili Society

The Vancouver Irish Ceili Society is a volunteer-run organization dedicated to bringing traditional Irish ceili dances to the Vancouver community. Each year the society runs all-ages community dances at the Victoria Drive Community Hall in East Vancouver, and occasionally holds dances at other sites.

Each dance features local bands and offers a lively dance experience. Everyone welcome! Volunteers are welcome too.

<http://ceili.vcn.bc.ca/about-us/>



**Hurling** (Irish: iománaíocht, iomáint) is an outdoor team game of ancient Gaelic Irish origin. One of Ireland's native

Gaelic games, it shares a number of features with Gaelic football, such as the field and goals, the number of players, and much terminology.



## Erin go Bragh

Erin go Bragh / ˌɛrɪn ɡə ˈbrɑː/, sometimes Erin go Braugh, is the anglicisation of an Irish language phrase, Éirinn go Brách, It is most often translated as "Ireland Forever." A green flag featuring a harp is described as being used by Eoghan Ruadh Ó Néill in 1642.

In the 19th century, Erin go Bragh was occasionally used as a slogan to express Irish national pride. In modern Ireland, it's used as the name of a Dublin-based Gaelic games athletics club.

But the expression's principal currency, as far as the record is concerned, has been sentimental, used to invoke and celebrate Irish pride and culture.



## St. Anne's Church Parksville, B.C.

For over a century St. Anne's Church has stood as a symbol of the faith,



determination and courage of the early pioneers of this area. Its history began in 1893 when the Rev. Canon Charles

Cooper arrived in Victoria from England. That same year he travelled to Nanaimo by train and then to Port Alberni by stage. His objective was to build a church in the northern part of the island, as there was no place of worship between Nanaimo and Alberni at that time.

By April 1894, after careful investigation and consultation with the settlers, a site was chosen at French Creek. Canon Cooper purchased the property out of his own funds and subsequently donated three and one half acres to the Diocese of British Columbia for church purposes.

The first wedding united Thomas Kinkade and Sarah Coquilamat on October 24, 1896. As an aside, the Kinkades' son Thomas Kinkade Jr. built the Shady Rest Hotel in Qualicum in 1924, now the Shady Waterfront Restaurant & Pub.





## Fairholme Manor

is a Designated Heritage building located in the Rockland neighbourhood of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. It was built in 1886 on Rockland Hill, in a prestigious area known for its wealthy inhabitants, large lots and lush Gardenscapes.

It was constructed for the sum of \$7,000 by contractors Hill and Conley and designed in an Italianate style by architect **John Teague**. The home's rambling, two-story symmetry; overhanging eaves with decorative brackets; narrow bay windows; and low-pitched, gabled roof are all features typical of this fanciful late 19th century style.

Fairholme was built for **John Chapman Davie**, a prominent doctor and surgeon who is known today as an early promoter of Sir Joseph Lister's antiseptic surgical methods. In addition to introducing the surgical practice to British Columbia, he was also largely responsible for the design of the first operating room at the Royal Jubilee Hospital.

Davie lived at Fairholme with his wife, Sara Holmes Todd, and his 3 children from a previous marriage. Sara Holmes Todd succumbed to pneumonia in 1894; Davie died in 1911. The building was fully restored in 1996 and now operates as a bed and breakfast.



### John Chapman Davie, M. D.

Dr. John Chapman Davie, one of Victoria's pioneer citizens, whose distinguished ability in the line of his profession has won him notable success, was born in **Wells, Somersetshire, England**, on the 22nd of March, 1845, and is a representative of old families in that country. His father, the Hon. John Chapman Davie, M. R. C. S., L. S. A., who practiced

his profession in Merton, Surrey, England, came to British Columbia in 1862, accompanied by his four sons. He continued in the active practice of medicine in Victoria and also became a prominent and influential factor in public affairs,

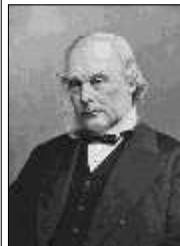


### John Teague

(June 3, 1833 – October 25, 1902) was a Canadian architect and politician who served as mayor of Victoria, British Columbia from 1894 until 1895.

Born in **Redruth, Cornwall, United Kingdom**, Teague left the UK in 1856 spending some time in California before emigrating to British Columbia in 1858. He was an alderman and mayor of Victoria from 1894 until 1895. As an architect and contractor, he played an important role in the design and construction of the most important churches, commercial, residential and civic buildings of his time in Victoria.

He was married twice: first to Emily Abington in 1863 and then to Eliza Lazenby in 1892. Teague died in Victoria at the age of 67.



### Joseph Lister, 1st Baron

Lister KCVO, OM, PC, PRS (5 April 1827 – 10 February 1912), was a **British** surgeon and a pioneer of antiseptic surgery. From a technical viewpoint, Lister was not an exceptional surgeon, but his research into bacteriology and infection in wounds raised his operative technique to a new plane where his observations, deductions and practices revolutionised surgery throughout the world.



### Aeneas Coffey

Coffey was born, in **Dublin**, in 1780. One of the key figures in the history of Scotch whisky and was an Irishman whose work on continuous distillation transformed the industry.

## Irish & British Isles Potato Dishes



**Champ** (brúitín in Irish) is an Irish dish, made by combining mashed potatoes and chopped scallions/spring onion with butter, milk and optionally, salt and pepper. As recently as the mid-20th century it was sometimes made with stinging nettle rather than scallions, but this is rarely seen now. It is simple and inexpensive to produce. In some areas the dish is also called "poundies."



**Boxty** is mainly found in County Fermanagh, Boxty is a weighty, starchy potato cake made with 50:50 mix of cooked mashed potatoes and grated, strained, raw potato. The most common variety is boiled boxty, also known as hurley, a large round loaf which is boiled whole for several hours, allowed to rest and then sliced and fried, often with bacon.



**The Scottish Tattie Scone**, also known as a "tattie scone" or "potato scone", is similar to the Irish potato farl. They are generally shaped as one large round divided into four quadrants, in a similar fashion to traditional Scottish oatcakes, or as small rounds.



**Colcannon**, which uses kale or cabbage in place of scallions, champ is popular in Ulster whilst colcannon is more so in the other 3 provinces of Ireland.

Colcannon (Irish: cáil ceannann, meaning "white-headed cabbage") is a traditional Irish dish commonly made with only four ingredients: potatoes, butter, milk and kale.



**Clapshot** is a traditional Scottish dish that originated in Orkney and may be served with haggis, oatcakes, mince, sausages or cold meat. It is created by the combined mashing of swede turnips and potatoes ("neeps and tatties") with the addition of chives, butter or dripping, salt and pepper; some versions include onions.



**A Savoury Pattie** is a battered and deep-fried mashed potato, seasoned with sage. It is commonly sold in the British port towns of Hartlepool, Kingston upon Hull, Wirral, Liverpool, and Thurso and subsequently Troon.



**Potato Waffle**, A potato-based savoury food in a waffle-like lattice shape. They are common in the UK and Ireland.



**Rumbledethumps** is a traditional dish from the Scottish Borders. The main ingredients are potato, cabbage, and onion. Similar to Irish colcannon, and English bubble and squeak, it is either served as an accompaniment to a main dish or as a main dish itself.



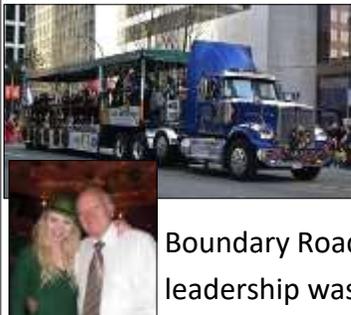
**Slaps** A common dish served in England consisting of sliced potatoes stacked on top of each other and baked then fried, sometimes containing root vegetables, and topped with cinnamon.

... .. Irish Ulster fry-up, Irish potato and bacon soup, Welsh potato and leek soup, English cottage pie, shepherd pie, Woolton pie, potato scone, Lancashire meat and potato pie, Irish potato bread, bangers and mash, bubble and squeak, stovies.

## **GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN!**

In the past twenty years there have been a number of Irish organizations that worked hard to promote our Irish heritage and traditions in the Irish Community. They are now gone and are greatly missed for their contributions to the Irish in British Columbia.

### **Irish Heritage Society of Canada**



The Irish Heritage Society of Canada had its start in Burnaby. They had the hopes of building on Hastings Street by

Boundary Road in Burnaby. The leadership was taking over by John A. (Tony) McCamley as President and

George McDonnell as Vice president with the planning stages of building our first Irish cultural center in Langley BC. George McDonnell went to great lengths to have Irish Evenings with a banquet, Irish dancers, and bands as well as an annual golf tournament to raise funds for charities in B.C. Their energy and visibility in British Columbia are greatly missed.

### **VIBE**



VIBE stands for Vancouver Irish Business & Enterprise and was established to help connect Irish businesspeople and friends of the Irish Community, in a relaxed and enjoyable manner. VIBE's mission is to help bring Irish and Canadian business professionals together to grow their network and achieve success. VIBE promotes entrepreneurship amongst business professionals and serves as a bridge between its members and the community. VIBE held monthly pub nights but eventually due to dropping attendance went into hiatus.



### **Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann,**

was founded in 1951 by a group of Irish pipers who were concerned Ireland's traditional music was in decline and in danger of being lost. The organization has grown into a global movement involving tens of thousands of people encompassing traditional Irish dance, music and the Irish language.

The Comhaltas movement is organized into local branches, where most activities and classes take place. The Branch is the fundamental unit as it brings members together to organize sessions, classes, concerts, festivals, exhibitions, fleadhanna cheoil (music competitions), and other events both for their own enjoyment and that of the community at large.

### **The Celtic Connection**



The Celtic Connection was a monthly publication supporting the Irish, Welsh and Scottish businesses and community in British Columbia with up to date news. They covered extensively sporting and cultural events occurring in the community. The paper has provided news, satire, announcements and descriptions of events of local associations, poetry, obituaries, and photographs to a readership of some 35,000 Irish, Scottish, and Welsh descendants living across western Canada. Maura De Freitas was the Publisher and Catholine Butler was the Sales & Promotion Manager. Catholine was a treasure and both the social community and the business community looked forward to seeing her monthly as she made the rounds to get ads and newsworthy material for the newspaper. The paper was great asset to the Celtic Community and will missed.



## An Irish Christmas

was a concept of Blake Williams and The Irish Wakers. It was a

great idea as it brought the Irish / Celtic community together with music and dancing at a festive time of year celebrating the Christmas season with all Celts and new Irish to BC who couldn't make it back home for Christmas and needed a "seasonal boost" and warm welcome at an emotional time of year. Unfortunately for reasons unknown it only lasted a few seasons with the last being a charity fund raiser at a local Irish Pub.

## CelticFest Vancouver



CelticFest Vancouver had their first event in March 2004. CelticFest Vancouver was Western Canada's biggest annual Celtic festival. CelticFest was a rich cultural celebration of the seven Celtic nations' kinship and community. The festival showcased the best of Celtic music, dance, spoken word



as well as film, food and fare and the much-anticipated St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Founded in March 2004, by Rita Albano who was the Executive Director until 2012, and was the cornerstones of CelticFest Vancouver society's involvement in the Celtic community, diversity, family and civic pride. CelticFest drew its artistic direction from some 5,000 years of Celtic history and

**Scoil Gaeilge Vancouver, Irish language school.**

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culture. This young, vibrant event was quickly, and firmly, established itself as an annual springtime tradition in downtown Vancouver. The Vancouver St. Patrick Parade with Steve McVittie as Grand Parade Marshal, went from March 2004 till 2014.

The parade would have over 100 entries each year and drew crowds of over 40,000. The parade is sorely missed by the large turn out of the younger generation that would cheer on the many Dancers and Pipe Bands in the parade.

It is unfortunate that the demise of these groups leaves a void that is impossible to fill. It is hoped that the future will bring new and vibrant groups to share the heritage and traditions of those from the British Isles with the residents of British Columbia.



St. Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle

## Why was blue the original color of St Patrick Day?

When George III created a new order of chivalry for the

Kingdom of Ireland he needed to adopt a color for it. The Order of the Garter for the previous Kingdom of England already used a dark blue (Scotland's Order of the Thistle used green) so a azue lighter blue was used for the Order of St Patrick and dates from the 1780s.

## IRELAND CANADA MONUMENT

Located at George Wainborn Park presently has a bosque of 32 Ash Trees and will complement the 32 Counties of all Ireland! The site plan includes sitting-down space around the bosque and, at the centre, a monument of stones from Ireland and Canada.

This monument will stand for countless generations in remembrance of all who came giving their lives and themselves from Ireland and building Canada.

# The Last Word is Yours, "The Irish Heritage Society of Canada"

2020-09-05 6:37 PM

Hi Steve:

Thank you for keeping up the good work in these troublesome times. You have covered most of what the Irish Heritage Society was about. We tried for many years to try to bring our own festivities hall to the Vancouver area but prices for land was prohibitive so while Tony and Gwen had property in Langley we tried to give it a try.

For years we fought with the council of Langley until it became tiresome. Eventually we got the go ahead to build.

And that present portion of our dreams had been realized we never got to complete.

During the same period Vancouver won the challenge for the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Ireland did not have a function room of its own. Teresa and I went to see Pat Hickey of The IOC in Howth, County Dublin with a proposal from Doolin's on Granville Street to have an Irish House for the Olympics. Terms were agreed I then brought five members of the Doolin's Group to visit and confirm the acceptance of their proposal which was accepted and they achieved two licences for the Olympic house. Party time. For twenty one days and nights the Irish house was a rousing success.

While all of this was going on we were running dinner dances, golf tournaments, it was a wonderful time and still brings beautiful memories. It was brilliant.

We can never thank the people who lent a helping hand in all of the activities. More than that we can not begin to thank Tony and Gwen for their dedication to commit some much time and money

To make all of these efforts a success. We cannot forget Ron Orr & John Coughlan and all of the staff of Doolin's for such a valiant display dedicated to the Irish.

Our sincere thank you to all who participated in all our endeavours it was Magic.

George Mc Donnell.

Thanks for the memories.

