FRIENDS OF HARVARD CELTIC STUDIES

FRIENDS APPLAUD SEAMUS MALIN

On the evening of May 11th a convivial troop of the Friends of Harvard Celtic Studies gathered in the Barker Center to honor Seamus Malin, a member of our Steering Committee from the inception of the organization back in 1993 and an indefatigable champion of our purposes and goals. Phil Haughey welcomed the members and guests and introduced his Co-Chair, Jack Reardon, who presented Seamus with an appreciation suitably inscribed on Waterford crystal.

In his remarks Jack reviewed Seamus’ career at Harvard, beginning as an undergraduate from Ireland who made an immediate impact, in the classroom as well as on the soccer field.

After graduating, Jack said, Seamus went to work in the Admissions and Financial Aid Office where he “became a great admissions officer and was a strong advocate for his candidates. It is clear to me that he would have been a wonderful trial lawyer.”

In recent years, Seamus has served as Director of the International Office at Harvard, but outside the University he is probably best known for his second career. An outstanding sports announcer, Seamus Malin has become the voice of soccer, broadcasting and analyzing professional games around the world. However, as Jack Reardon noted, “No matter how busy he has been in his work, Seamus has always found time to work for and support this organization.”

Seamus Malin left Harvard this year to pursue a different but not unfamiliar venture. His efforts now are in support of a new media start-up called fixitio.com which aims to become the world-wide “go to” site for all things soccer. But he still serves on our Steering Committee; he still gives generously of his wisdom, energy, and time; so, for us as for the soccer world, the kicks keep on coming. Thanks again, Seamus!

IRISH MINISTER VISITS DEPARTMENT

Síle de Valera TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands in the Government of Ireland, visited the Celtic Department on September 19. Ms. de Valera, whose grandfather Éamon de Valera played a leading role in Irish politics for much of the twentieth century, became a member of the government in 1997. She represents Clare in Dáil Éireann, and was also a member of the European Parliament from 1979-84. In her address to the members and guests of the department, Ms. de Valera made special mention of her hopes to provide

INSIDE:
- Phil Haughey wins ICCUSA award
- MA and Crite Award for Marcheterre Fluet
- New Friends in 2000
- Plans for special Céilí on March 1
- Orla O’Hanrahan Honoree at Friends Annual Dinner
- Notes on the Harvard Celtic Colloquium and Vernam Hull Lecture
- Alumni Tour to Ireland with Pat and Chadine Ford
- Friends Fall Event, October 2000
- Éire-Ireland Launch at Boston College
- Kirstie Parry – Exchange Student from Wales
- Sugán Theatre night, Special Treat for Friends

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In addition to Phil’s lovely family and his hundreds of friends and colleagues, a number of Harvard Friends attended, including Pat and Chadine Ford, Kate O’Kelly, Tomás Ó Cathasaigh, Michael and Colette Quinlin, Seamus Malin and Kate Chadbourne.

Congratulations Phil. Well done!

**Always the Irish Heart**

**Síle de Valera Visit**

(from page 1)

a new building for the Abbey Theatre in Dublin. She was very informal and good-humored, and she obviously enjoyed chatting with the students. She was accompanied by some of her senior aides, and by the Consul General of Ireland, Orla O’Hanrahan, and Irish Vice Consul Frank Flood.

Minister de Valera speaks while Dr. Michael Newton and student Ben Bruch pay close attention

**Súgán Theatre Production Delights Friends**

Members of the Friends recently enjoyed a night out at the Súgán Theatre production of Martin McDonagh’s award-winning play, The Beauty Queen of Leenane. Friends attending the production on November 9th were: Joyce Flynn, Philip O’Leary, William Bulger and guests, Al and Maureen Donovan, Mary MacMullen and Ursula Moore. The play, followed by a panel discussion and reception, was a huge success. Special arrangements for Friends were made by Dr. Joyce Flynn, steering committee member and Associate of the Harvard Celtic Department. Watch for news from Joyce announcing exciting events coming soon!

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Master’s Degree and Crite Prize for Marcheterre Fluet

Marcheterre Fluet was awarded the degree Master of Liberal Arts (ALM) at Harvard Extension School’s 2000 Commencement, capping a determined and distinguished program of study. In addition to the ALM, her work was also recognized with a First Crite Prize, one of Extension’s major awards for academic achievement and dedication to learning.

Celtic Department Chairman Patrick K. Ford directed her thesis, ‘Trees and Forests in the Literary Landscape of Early Ireland.’ It was, he said, “one of the most imaginative pieces of scholarship I have ever encountered . . . Marcheterre has managed to give us fresh and original glimpses into early Irish culture and society.”

Marcheterre knows trees. After graduating from Smith College in 1989 with an AB in Biology, she worked for a number of years at the Harvard Forest in Petersham, Mass., as research assistant and photographer in tropical plant ecology. Presently she serves the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a regional planner in the natural resources section of the Metropolitan District Commission. She also runs her own photography and graphic design business and somehow still finds time for scholarship in matters Celtic. Her many friends in this department join in applauding her success.

The Celtic Department has had half a century’s association with the Extension program. Many members have offered evening courses over the years, and the Department was intimately involved in helping design the ALM program. Coming along behind Marcheterre Fluet are three more ALM candidates whose achievements will also be saluted in these pages in the not-too-distant future.

Welcome to New Friends

A special welcome to our newest members in 2000! You join a growing international community of Friends who support Celtic scholarship at Harvard. To you and to all our membership – we say “Thank You”!

- Mr. Thomas J. Carens
- Mr. Gerard & Mrs. Patrice Clifford
- Mr. John & Mrs. Maureen Connolly
- Professor John & Mrs. Pilar Duffy
- Professor Charles W. & Mrs. Elaine Dunn
- Mr. Seamus & Mrs. Marie Heaney
- Dr. Laurence & Mrs. Linda Maney
- Mr. Brian W. O’Connor
- Mr. Larry & Mrs. Phyllis Reynolds

Don’t Forget the Céilí

The ever-popular winter Céilí has been scheduled to take place on March 1, 2001 (7 to 9 pm in the Dillon Field House Lounge, 79 North Harvard Street). We have invited some of Boston’s best traditional Celtic musicians to attend – from the Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann, the Harvard Celtic Society, the Harvard Celtic department, and the Friends. More details to come.

Irish musicians Seamus Connolly with Dr. Kathryn Chadbourne and Larry Reynolds
Irish Consul General Orla O’Hanrahan was honored by the Friends at our annual banquet in December. The Friends cited Orla “for her outstanding work over the past three years in representing the Irish government in Boston and for providing leadership in the local Irish community.”

A Dublin native and a graduate of Trinity College, Orla has been with Ireland’s Department of Foreign Affairs since 1979. She served in London and Paris, and was involved with the British-Irish Inter-Parliamentary Body, the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation, and the Political Division of the United Nations Desk before taking her assignment in Boston in August 1997. She is married to Claude Malone and has two children, Kate and Matthew.

The banquet, on December 5, 2000 at the Loeb House on Quincy Street, benefits the Department of Celtic Languages and Literatures.

The Twentieth Annual Harvard Celtic Colloquium was held from 20th through 22nd October 2000. It was preceded by the Vernam Hull Lecture, ‘Was there an Arthur of the Welsh?’ given by Dr. Oliver J. Padel of the University of Cambridge, which set the tone for the colloquium. There was general agreement among the attendance that the papers were of a remarkably high standard.

There were some thirty presentations in all on a variety of topics in language, literature, history and archaeology. As usual, many of the papers dealt with Ireland or Wales, but there were also sessions devoted to Scottish and Cornish subjects. Chronologically, the subjects ranged from the Hispano-Celtic inscriptions and the classical ethnographers to twentieth-century literature, folklore, language, and digitalics. Delegates came from many parts of the United States, and from Canada, Denmark, England, Ireland and Hong Kong. All of them sang the praises of the student organizers of the conference, Benjamin Bruch, Hugh Fogarty, Diana Luft and Charlene Shipman, who in turn spoke of their indebtedness to Margo Granfors, Administrator of the Department of Celtic Languages and Literatures.

The Harvard Colloquium has traditionally been held at or near the end of the spring semester. Since a number of conferences on Celtic or medieval studies occur around that time, it was decided, on an experimental basis, to change to an autumn date. This seems to have worked very well, and it is proposed to hold the twenty-first colloquium on October 12, 13, and 14, 2001 (Friday - Sunday). A call for papers will be issued in due course. (The Harvard Celtic Department will also precede the 21st Colloquium with its annual Vernam Hull Lecture on Thursday, Oct. 11.) For more information, Email: hcc@fas.harvard.edu or visit the Harvard Celtic Department website at http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~hcc/

That was the name of the tour of Ireland sponsored by the Harvard Alumni Association and led by Pat and Chadine Ford this past June. The poets included Yeats and Seamus Heaney, the latter very much alive and inspiring our group with a poetry reading on our last night in Dublin. The Castles included Glin Castle, home of the knight of Glin (a Harvard alum!), Birr Castle, home of the ‘Leviathan’ telescope, and Baron’s Court, home of the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn. Enchanted Landscapes were to be seen everywhere, of course, and most spectacularly on the Aran Islands and the Burren.

If you missed out on this opportunity, watch the mail for an announcement of next June’s excursion to prehistoric and early Christian Ireland, sponsored by the Harvard Alumni Association and, once again, led by Pat and Chadine.
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POETS, CASTLES AND ENCHANTED LANDSCAPES”

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FRiENDS FALL EVENT/FALL 2000

Assistant Professor Barbara Hillers, happy to be back

All smiles, Steering Committee members
Mary MacMillen (left) and Joyce Flynn

A triumph of grad. students: (l-r) Kate Olsen, Kate Izzo, and Kirstie Parry

Professor Hillers, Dr. Gene Haley, and Cornell exchange student Sarah McKibben

Alumni group pausing at the gate house and stables of Baron’s Court this past June
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The Vernam Hull Lecture, 2000

The library of the Harvard Faculty Club was filled to capacity for this year’s Vernam Hull Lecture, delivered by Dr. Oliver Padel of the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, University of Cambridge. Dr. Padel holds degrees in Celtic from the University of Edinburgh and the University of Cambridge, where he is now University lecturer. His lecture was entitled, “Was There an Arthur of the Welsh?”—a somewhat ironic question for one who has contributed to the acclaimed volume, The Arthur of the Welsh. Dr. Padel has written extensively on Arthurian matters from several perspectives, and is a respected authority in the field. One need look no further for the best qualified scholar to pose—and answer—the question, “Was There an Arthur of the Welsh?” The answer might well have surprised you.

Vernam Hull was chairman of the Celtic Department from 1950 to 1963, and the lecture is funded by a gift in honor of his accomplishments in the field of Celtic Studies. Since 1992, the lecture has been an annual affair, presented this year on the eve of the annual Harvard Celtic Colloquium.

Dr. Oliver J. Padel, in his warmly received Vernam Hull Lecture

Welcoming the newest members

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MISSION STATEMENT
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Stipends for students attending intensive language courses in Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Brittany
Honoraria for visiting artists and scholars
Travel support for students attending conferences or workshops devoted to Celtic cultures
Assistance to middle and high school teachers in introducing Celtic literature and history to their students
Publications relating to research in the Celtic cultures

The Friends of Harvard Celtic Studies was formed in 1993 to participate in and support the numerous programs and activities of Harvard’s Celtic Department. The Friends’ primary mission is to help fund the following programs:

An important goal of the Friends is to make accessible to the community at-large a rich and assorted presentation of Celtic culture and scholarship, and to encourage non-academic members of the area’s large Celtic community to partake in Harvard Celtic activities. We welcome anyone who appreciates Celtic culture and who wishes to participate in its dissemination.

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Minister de Valera speaks while Dr Michael Newton and student Ben Bruch pay close attention

Actors Mary Klug (left) and Suzanne Nitter onstage in the Súgán Theatre’s production of The Beauty Queen of Leenane
FRIENDS TO GET NEW WEB SITE

After the New Year, the Friends will have a new Web Site. You’ll see announcements, information on the Friends, and much more! Visit us at the following URL: http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~celt_fcs/

FRIENDS OF HARVARD CELTIC STUDIES MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please count me(s) as members of the Friends of Harvard Celtic Studies in the category checked below. In addition to the benefits described above, I’ll also receive a free subscription to the Friends newsletter.

Friend ☐ $100.00 per annum    Patron ☐ $250.00 per annum    Benefactor ☐ $500.00 per annum

Checks should be made payable to The Friends of Harvard Celtic Studies.

Name(s) ____________________________________________________________
Affiliation __________________________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip ___________________________ Telephone __________________ Fax ______________________ e-mail__________________________

If you have questions about the Friends of Harvard Celtic Studies, please call 617-496-6305. Return this form to: Mango Granfors, Administrator, Friends of Harvard Celtic Studies, Warren House, 12 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

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