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Welcome to the latest edition of the IACI e-news.

Founded in 1962, the IACI is the leading Irish American cultural organization. The IACI is a federally recognized 501(c)(3) not-for-profit national organization devoted to promoting an intelligent appreciation of Ireland and the role and contributions of the Irish in America.

Guest contributors are always welcome! Please note, the IACI is an apolitical, non-sectarian organization and requests that contributors consider that when submitting articles. The IACI reserves the right to refuse or edit submissions. The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the original authors and other contributors. These views and opinions do not necessarily represent those of the IACI or any/all contributors to this site. Please submit articles for consideration to cbuck@iaci-usa.org.

To continue reading articles contained in this latest e-news, please scroll through the following pages.

Which Irish Saint is said to have discovered America a thousand years before Columbus?	Saint Brendan
In the Irish broadcasting company RTE, what does the R stand for?	Radio
What music competition did the priests from Father Ted once enter?	The Eurovision Song Contest
Which shellfish is the theme of a Galway Bay festival at the start of the season?	Oysters
What does the circle in the centre of the celtic cross represent?	The Sun
The Crying Game won which Oscar for Neil Jordon's film	Screenplay
A Samuel Beckett and an American situation comedy have the same title, what is it?	Happy Days
What character from radio, literary, film and comic strip has been played by an Englishman, Scotsman, Australian, and Irishman?	James Bond
A traditional Irish stew contains which meat?	Lamb
Which children's computer animated film used the song 'The Boys are Back in Town?' by Thin Lizzy	Toy Story
To make an Irish coffee, what alcohol ingredient would you use	Whiskey
Liam Neeson starred in which film about an industrialist saving holocaust victims?	Schindler's List
The Irish flag is similar in design (but in the opposite order) to that of which African nation?	The Ivory Coast
Kissing the Blarney Stone is said to confer which talent?	Gift of the gab!
Which 1970 Eurovision winner and Presidential candidate came from Derry?	Dana
Which Johnny won Eurovision for Ireland twice?	Logan
Which hand does Bob Geldof write with?	Left
Which Charlton brother managed the Irish football team?	Jack
Which Irish emblem does Patsy Kensit have tattooed on her ankle?	Shamrock
Which Saint brought Christianity to Ireland?	Saint Patrick

ON THIS DAY IN IRISH HISTORY - MAY

1st

- 1916 - Collapse of the Easter Rising.
- 1943 - Sir Basil Brooke becomes Prime Minister of Northern Ireland.
- 1969 - James Chichester Clark becomes Prime Minister of Northern Ireland.
- 1980 - The Derrynaflan Chalice discovered in a bog.

2nd

- 1945 - Éamon de Valera expresses his sympathy on the death of Adolf Hitler to the German Ambassador.
- 1982 - Ireland affirms its neutrality in the Falklands war and opposes EEC sanctions against Argentina.

3rd

- 1916 - Patrick Pearse, Thomas MacDonagh and Thomas Clarke are executed at Kilmainham Gaol for their part in the Easter Rising.
- 1933 - The Bill to abolish the Oath of Allegiance is passed.
- 1949 - The British government passes an Act guaranteeing that Northern Ireland will remain within the United Kingdom as long as the majority of its citizens want it to be.

4th

- 1916 - Joseph Plunkett, Michael O'Hanrahan, Edward Daly and Willie Pearse executed for their part in the Easter Rising. Chief Secretary of Ireland Augustine Birrell resigns.
- 1922 - Three day truce secured between both Pro- and Anti-Treaty forces.
- 1939 - The Prime Minister of Northern Ireland announces that conscription will not be extended to Northern Ireland.

5th

- 1916 - John MacBride executed for his role in the Easter Rising.
- 1918 - 15,000 attend an anti-conscription meeting in County Roscommon.
- 1941 - When Belfast suffers its third bombing raid, Dublin sends emergency crews to assist.
- 1970 - The Arms Crisis. Finance Minister Charles Haughey and Agriculture Minister Neil Blaney asked to resign after suspicions that they had supplied arms to the Provisional IRA.
- 1981 - Bobby Sands dies on the 66th day of his hunger strike at Long Kesh prison.

6th

- 1882 - Lord Cavendish and Thomas Henry Burke are murdered in Phoenix Park.
- 1924 - William Craig refuses to appoint a Northern Ireland representative to the Boundary Commission.
- 2000 - The IRA begins to decommission its weapons.

7th

- 1915 - The RMS Lusitania is torpedoed by German submarines eight miles off Kinsale, bringing America into the War.
- 1931 - An Óige established.
- 1969 - Tax exemptions announced for artists and others whose work has cultural merit.
- 1992 - Bishop Eamon Casey resigns following the revelation that he is a father.

8th

- 1916 - Eamon Ceannt, Con Colbert, Michael Mallin and Seán Heuston executed for their role in the Easter Rising.
- 1987 - The SAS kill eight IRA members at Loughgall.

9th

- 1912 - Second reading of the Home Rule Bill in the British House of Commons. A Unionist amendment is rejected.

10th

- 1912 - Andrew Bonar Law and Edward Carson both voice opposition to the Home Rule Bill.

1972 - A referendum on Ireland's membership of the European Economic Community sees a large majority in favour.

1973 - Erskine H. Childers wins the presidential election.

11th

1908 - British House of Commons votes in favour of the Irish Universities Bill.

1916 - During a session of the British Parliament, John Dillon of the Irish Parliamentary Party calls for an end to the execution of the Easter Rebels.

12th 1916 - James Connolly and Seán MacDiarmada are executed for their role in the Easter Rising.

1950 - Nationalist MPs in Northern Ireland ask the Irish government to give Northern-elected representatives seats in the Dáil and Seanad.

13th 1900 - Rift in the Parliamentary Party is healed, with John Redmond and John Dillon sharing a platform together for the first time in ten years.

1919 - IRA men Dan Breen and Seán Treacy are injured while rescuing Seán Hogan from custody in County Limerick.

1921 - Sinn Féin take 124 of the 128 seats available in the Southern Parliament.

1937 - A statue of George II in St. Stephen's Green is blown up.

1949 - Leading figures in the Republic of Ireland share a platform to protest the British government's stance on Northern Ireland.

14th

1974 - The Ulster Workers' Strike begins.

15th

1847 - Death of Daniel O'Connell.

16th

1917 - David Lloyd-George announces that he wants immediate Home Rule for 26 counties of Ireland. The remaining six counties are to be excluded for five years.

1926 - Fianna Fáil is founded by Éamon de Valera and Seán Lemass.

1945 - Éamon de Valera responds to Winston Churchill's criticism of Irish neutrality.

1954 - A huge Marian Year procession is held in Dublin.

17th

1880 - Parnell elected chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party.

1916 - Bishop of Limerick Thomas O'Dwyer refuses to discipline two of his curates who have expressed republican sympathies.

1974 - Loyalists bomb Dublin and Monaghan, killing 31 civilians.

1976 - Tim Severin sets off in a voyage from Dingle to America in imitation of St. Brendan.

18th

1854 - Catholic University of Ireland formally established.

1996 - Ireland wins the Eurovision Song Contest for the seventh time.

19th

1928 - Foundation stone of Northern Ireland Parliament building laid at Stormont.

1932 - The Constitution (Removal of Oath) Bill is passed.

20th

1901 - A census shows that Ireland has a population of 4.5 million with Catholics outnumbering Anglicans and Presbyterians by three to one.

1918 - Anti-conscription meeting in Dublin.

1963 - Plans are announced for comprehensive schools and regional technical colleges.

21st

1956 - First Cork International Film Festival.

22nd

1957 - The Minister for Education announces that married women will no longer be barred from teaching.

1971 - The 'Contraceptive Train' brings contraceptives from the North to the Republic as a protest against their illegality.

1998 - The Good Friday Agreement endorsed by referendum on both sides of the border.

23rd

1964 - Official opening of the US Embassy in Dublin.

24th

1951 - Gardaí exchange shots with two men who try to bomb the British embassy in Dublin.

25th

1921 - Custom House in Dublin set on fire.

26th 1868 - Fenian Michael Barrett publicly executed in Clerkenwall, London.

27th

1936 - First Aer Lingus flight, going from Baldonnell to Bristol.

1941 - Winston Churchill rules out military conscription in Northern Ireland.

1960 - The last barge sails on the Grand Canal.

28th

1923 - Official end of Civil War.

1936 - Motion passed abolishing the Senate of the Irish Free State.

1970 - Charles Haughey, Neil Blaney, Albert Luykx and Captain James Kelly appear in court accused of conspiracy to import arms.

29th

1977 - Massive peace rally in Belfast.

30th

1924 - New licensing laws restrict pub opening hours and limits drinking to the over-seventeens.

1952 - Longer summer holidays for school children announced.

1983 - Inaugural session of the New Ireland Forum.

31st

1941 - Dublin bombed by the Luftwaffe with the loss of 34 lives.