

Cumann Gaelach na Ginéimhe
Geneva Irish Association
Association Irlandaise de Genève
Nuachtlitir / Newsletter

October – November 2006



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Halloween, Paddy's Irish Pub!

Paddy's Irish pub in Ferney-Voltaire is hosting a Halloween fancy dress on Tuesday, 31 October. Whilst David and the team will be busy manning the bar with frightening enthusiasm, and "Chef" cooking up a storm in the kitchen, your GIA committee will be there in force to answer questions, listen to your suggestions and update you on our latest activities.

Live music is promised and a great party atmosphere. So mark that date in your calendar.

Email: geneva.irish@ireland.com

Tel: 022-7476414

Upcoming Events:

- **Halloween – 31 October**
Paddy's Irish Pub, Ferney
- **Bingo – 2 November**
La Romana Italian restaurant
- **Christmas Caroleoke – 7 December**
La Romana Italian restaurant

Bingo – 2 November!



Due to popular demand, we're organising a Bingo evening on Thursday, 2 November, in the private function room of La Romana Italian restaurant, with doors opening at 19h30. We've a great master of ceremonies lined up for the "top of the house ninety", "two fat ladies eighty-eight".

Come for the craic and try your luck, there will be prizes for all kinds of combinations of numbers. Entrance fee is Chf 10 for members and Chf 15 for non members. Reserve your place now by emailing geneva.irish@ireland.com or call 022 739 8454.



Next gathering of the Book Club – 7 November!



Come and join our next book club meeting at the Café Pessoa, 5 rue Jean-Dassier on Tuesday, 7 November, at 19h00. This time we are reading Bill Bryson's *Mother Tongue*, a funny and interesting exploration of the development of the English language.

The December meeting is set for Tuesday 5 December (same time, same place), and the book we have selected for that meeting is: *Dance, Dance Dance* by Haruki Murakami.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Christmas Caroleoke – 7 December !



Our Christmas event this year will be Caroleoke evening (our own special adaptation of Kareoke in line with the Christmas season). The venue is, once again, the private function room of La Romana Italian restaurant. The theme for the night is, of course, “Christmas Song” and we have got our hands on a Kareoke system that includes Carols and Christmas themed songs which displays the lyrics so that everyone can join in. So, no more excuses about not knowing the words!

The evening will be enjoyable for young and old alike allowing for performances of old favourites such as ‘Silent Night’, ‘Hark the Herald’, etc. in addition to the more popular and recent songs such as ‘Baby it’s cold outside’, ‘White Christmas’, ‘Christmas in New York’, ‘Rock and Roll Christmas’, etc.

It promises to be a good evening of song and banter - so put the date in your diary now and join your GIA friends in celebrating the festive season with an evening of Christmas song. As it is Kareoke you can take the lead, perform as a duo or group, sing along with the crowd or just sit and listen and take in the atmosphere.

The GIA will provide traditional mulled wine, Santa’s Special Punch and seasonal treats to loosen the vocal chords and get everyone in the mood for singing.

We need YOU ...!

Your suggestions, ideas, views, wishes for future events and your feedback on past events are invaluable in keeping your Association alive and kicking. We strive towards meeting your needs and make every effort possible so that you enjoy the events we organise and whet the appetite for the next time round. So, please do not hesitate to contact us - any committee member, or send an email to geneva.irish@ireland.com – we would love to hear from you.

Poker Classic – 5 October!



by Eamonn Laird

A Poker Classic was the feature event for the first ‘Craic’ night of the new season. It took place in the La Romana restaurant on Thursday, 5 October. The turnout for the night was lower than expected but those who played had a very enjoyable and social evening.

Poker Classics are a great forum for meeting people in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The fun and banter is ‘mighty’ yet the players take their cards seriously and the integrity of the game is always upheld.

On the night there were actually more ladies than men playing. Lady Luck changed hands on many occasions and despite some enthusiastic ‘seeing’, the format of the game ensured that everyone was still involved by the end of the evening.

Although the ladies were the majority in number playing, the winner on the night was Aidan Skeffington. Aidan also won the inaugural Poker Classic last year. Ruth Creamer took second place with Orla Laird coming third.

GIA membership!

The GIA Committee would like to take this opportunity to say GO RAIBH MAITH AGAIBH to those of you who have paid the 2006/2007 membership fee. These funds will help greatly in organizing events for you in the year ahead. For those who would still like to become a member, the fee per year is CHF 75 per couple/family, CHF 50 per individual or CHF 25 per student/au pair/retiree. You can use any blank pink bulletin de versement at your post office marking it to pay “The Geneva Irish Association, 1200 Geneve - account no. 12-10220-4”. You can also pay via ebanking into the same mentioned post office account. Remember to include your full name and address so we can contact you personally to say thank you.

GET YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL !

In order to help us reduce our mailing costs for the Newsletter, we would like to be able to send it to you via email. Therefore, please send your email address to geneva.irish@ireland.com where we will add you to our mailing database for future issues. We do realize that not everybody has email, so for those we don't hear from we shall continue to send you the Newsletter by regular mail.

GIA Golf Open – 7 October!

by Sarah Browne

Well, to start at the very beginning....on Friday I had to use the direct line to Himself Above, saying that we had all been very good children and please could we have some sunshine on Saturday? Well, thank you God – it turned out just great and we toasted ourselves on the terrace – the only pity was that three fellas didn't turn up because they thought the weather was too bad for golf – hmmm! This threw out the timings a little bit, but only meant that, as people arrived, they were sent straight off to play, which also meant that we finished a bit earlier.

We had a great gang of Irish on the day, the (very) odd Scot and many friends of Ireland – Presidents, former Presidents, but not Bush or Clinton – just the best Presidents and plenty of their men in the shape of Committee members. The food was really good, and the wine...well the wine went down fine!

We were getting used to David Radmall being the local bandit, playing out of his skin and, this year, he was so embarrassed by all the teasing that he sent in JD from Paddy's who did the honours this year – and him “only a beginner” Well done JD !

Mick Browne and Margaret Anderson won the Best Gross scores, Margaret Anderson exaggerated a bit by winning nearest the pin, and Aidan Skeffington got nearest to his pin! Eamonn Laird hit the ball a country mile to win the longest drive with Powerful Mrs. Ina Forrest taking the ladies longest drive. Coming in a Most Honest Men was Corkman Michel Schenker who was heard to declare “I'm still so bad at golf that I shout 'Fore' when I am about to putt”. Mademoiselle Pauline Lude was the Most Honest Lady – about her golf and not her age! The final roundup was as follows for the purists of the golf world:

Ladies :	4 th	Sandra Cerutti	Men:	4 th	Alisdair Ross (the odd Scotsman!)
	3 rd	Ina Forrest		3 rd	Mik Ferran (a family affair)
	2 nd	Dianne Baer		2 nd	David Ryan
	1 st	Geneviève Ferran		1 st	JD Charve (John McVeigh Cup)

Speaking of which, we were in contact with the aforementioned John McVeigh a couple of weeks ago who lives in Mulraney, Co. Mayo where the guards don't bother you on the way home from the pub! He sends his best to Geneva and the GIA.

As ever, the GIA Golf Open couldn't manage without their generous sponsors and many thanks to the following, in no particular order: David Radmall, Paddy's Pub; Eamonn Laird, Irish Mission; Jim Anderson, Jim's Mini Market; British Airways; Declan McAdam, Anglo Irish Bank; Mick Browne, Browne's Travel.

.... and the committee would like to extend a BIG THANK YOU to Mick Browne and Jim Forrest who once again took up the challenge of organising yet another very successful and enjoyable GIA Open – lads, ye were just great, you went out there, got the sponsors and the prizes, got everyone out on the grass on time, and regaled the prizegiving with wit and good humour. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

... and we wouldn't be forgetting that powerful woman behind the men now would we! - none other than the Mrs Sarah Browne (née Horgan) herself, who “horganised” those 2 men into shape and coordinated the whole event from the sidelines – mind you she kept pestering us for our handicaps, sent us about 10 reminders to arrive on “Swiss” time, ... and she also ensured we all got our hot dinners on time. Well done, and thank you, Sarah, for a great job.

.... and a final word of thanks goes to our President, Eamonn Laird, and our Treasurer, Damian Downes, who were just great at the sums, lighteningly adding up all those scores, subtracting and long divisioning – and all without a calculator!

Small Ads!

The GIA is introducing a small ads section to the bi-monthly newsletter and website which will serve as a vehicle for **local businesses and/or those with an Irish connection** to promote themselves and reach a wider audience. There will be a nominal fee for availing of these two facilities as follows:

1 newsletter and 2 mths on web: CHF 50

3 newsletters and 6 mths on web: CHF 130

6 newsletters and 1 year on web: CHF 250

As space is limited in the newsletter, the ads will be restricted to a frame approximately the size of that which is demonstrated on the right. On the website, however, we can be more flexible.

For further information and details on how to advertise with us, please contact the GIA by sending an email to geneva.irish@ireland.com. Or call 022-736 43 36.

The Geneva Irish Association
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Geneva's focal point for all Irish people
and their friends!



Come and join in with the craic at some
of our regular events!

Contact:
geneva.irish@ireland.com
www.gia.com