



# The Pure Drop

by  
Tommy Fegan

## ROUND UP OF TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC

### Ceol Chairlinn '08: February 1st - 3rd

#### 2008 marks the third year of the Ceol Chairlinn: Carlingford's Irish Traditional Music Winter School.

As in previous years, the cornerstone of Ceol Chairlinn will be the high quality music tuition with expert practitioners of the traditional music.

This year's tutors are: Gerry O' Connor (fiddle), Tiarnán Ó Duiinchinn (Uilleann Pipes), Síle Boylan (fiddle), Nuala Kennedy (Flute), Martin Quinn (Button Accordion), Áine McGeaney (Tin Whistle) and Angelina Carberry (Banjo/Mandolin).

Friday night sees a mighty session of traditional Irish music at the recently refurbished, Ceol Chairlinn Festival sponsor, Murphy's Bar, in Newry Street, starting at 9.30pm and all musicians are welcome.

### Set and Sean Nós Dance workshop

This year's programme will feature a sean nos and set dance workshop on Saturday afternoon with Micheál and Kathleen McGlynn while on Saturday night, there is a concert of Irish Traditional Music, Song and Dance with the Ceol Chairlinn tutors joined on stage by a host of guest musicians.

### Ceol Chairlinn: Lifetime Achievement Award

A further innovatory initiative will see the inauguration of the Ceol Chairlinn Lifetime Achievement Award, presented to an individual or group in recognition of their contribution to the preservation and enhancement of Irish traditional arts.

The first recipient of the Ceol Chairlinn award will be local fiddle tutor extraordinaire Rose O'Connor. Rose who has taught generations of musicians in the Dundalk and north Louth area, will be on hand to receive her award.

### An Séisúin: Representations of Irish Traditional Arts at the Foy Centre

In another new departure "Artful": Foy Centre Visual Arts Project, a locally-based children's visual arts project, will mount an exhibition of visual arts work developed by the children aged 8-13 on the theme An Séisúin, through which the excitement of traditional music sessions and Ceilithe will be captured.

### Farewell to Carlingford Session

As in previous years, Ceol Chairlinn will conclude with the now obligatory 'Farewell to Carlingford Session' from 1.30pm-3.30pm on Sunday February 3.

Organised by Carlingford Community Development and supported by Carlingford/Cooley Tourism Association and local businesses Food For Thought and

Murphy's Bar and B&B.

For further information on Ceol Chairlinn visit:  
[www.carlingfordbeds.com](http://www.carlingfordbeds.com)

*Q. Why is an Accordion better than a Concertina?  
A. Because it makes a louder noise when you drop it off from the top of the Egyptian Arch!*

### Geraldine Extends Fan Base

Beesbrook singer Geraldine Bradley made a major impact at the Temple Bar Trad Festival in Dublin last Thursday night. MC Finbar Boyle (A Mark's Bar veteran-should Mark join the trend for establishing Veteran's Associations!) introduced Geraldine as a last minute stand in for Sinead Cahir, who had to cancel her appearance due to illness. Geraldine's stunning performance had the highly informed-and critical Dublin audience spellbound. At the interval, I overheard more than one group swoon about her voice and repertoire. Suitably refreshed from the interval libations, we retired for the main act, John Wynn and John McAvoy, dishing up a great palate of Roscommon/Leitrim music in perfect fiddle and flute duet playing. Another great Festival night.

### Session with the Pipers

Na Píobairí Uilleann's excellent series of recitals continues in the Cobblestones, Dublin, next Tuesday, February 5, at 9.30pm, with two of Ireland's exceptional musicians Seán McKeon and Liam O'Connor (Pipes and Fiddle) and exciting Belfast flute player, Harry Bradley. All three have played in Camlough in the last year, and I can assure anyone that the short trip to Dublin for the recital will be well worth it.

Email; [tommyfegan@nsec.info](mailto:tommyfegan@nsec.info) if you would like to contribute in any way to the Pure Drop



Gerry O'Connor topping the bill at Ceol Chairlinn.