



51st ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣  
 European  
 Bridge  
 Team  
 Championships

*Dublin 2012*



**Hospitality Guide**



One hundred thousand welcomes, our traditional Irish greeting, just about sums up the reception that all our visitors should receive when visiting Dublin for the 51st European Bridge Team Championships. Hospitality has always been important to us and visitors to our shores, for whatever reasons they may come, be it Bridge, business or leisure, will always receive a smile and a few words of advice on any subject that crops up. With that in mind, we have compiled a Hospitality Guide to make your visit to the Championships more enjoyable, with important information for visitors, spectators and participants.

Our front cover was designed to give you a taste of Dublin, capital city of the Republic of Ireland. On the top left hand side is a picture of Christchurch Cathedral, built originally in 1030 AD after the Norse King Sitric Silkenbeard made a pilgrimage to Rome. It overlooks one of Dublin's original Viking settlements in Wood Quay and its crypt is one of the oldest in the world.

Contrasting with this is Dublin's newest bridge, named after one of our greatest writers – Samuel Beckett, winner of the Nobel Prize in 1969. The stylish Calatrava designed bridge bestrides the Liffey River close to our National Exhibition Centre and is a gateway to the revitalised Docklands area.

If it's writers you are interested in, Bloomsday will be held during the European Championships. This is the celebration of the journey that Leopold Bloom embarked upon on June 16th 1904 in James Joyce's masterpiece Ulysses. Dubliners recreate the odyssey by walking from the Martello tower in Sandycove to many of the landmarks of the city that Joyce mentioned in his tome.

Trinity College is one of the oldest and most respected universities in Europe, established as it was by the first Queen Elizabeth in 1592. It is home to the historic Book of Kells, which was written and illuminated some time before 800 AD. The wood panelled library receives half a million visitors every year alone and is well worth seeing.



Malahide Castle is set in 260 acres of parkland in the north of Dublin. Guided tours bring you around the castle, its wonderful collection of exotic plants and you can even stop off to see Ireland's largest miniature railway exhibition.

The Four Courts, the seat of our High and Supreme Courts, is an 18th century Gandon designed building that is much loved by Dublin's more law abiding citizens. It has open access every day during the week and most of our most famous cases were heard there. Although it was blown up in the Civil War in 1922 it was eventually restored to its former glory.

The Luas, part of our Light Railway transport system, connects Citywest with the centre of Dublin. This electric rail system is a modern and efficient way of seeing our city. It operates until nearly midnight Monday to Saturday and until 11pm on a Sunday. It has become a very popular and efficient way of getting to the heart of Dublin.

Finally, we have the Ha'penny Bridge, an iconic piece of Dublin's landscape, so called because there used to be a toll of one half penny to any pedestrian who used it to cross the Liffey. The nineteenth century wrought iron structure is still a useful means of getting from one side of the city to the other. Like all the landmarks we have shown on our cover, it is interesting, historical and somewhat unique to Dublin - host to the European Bridge Team Championships of 2012. Enjoy your stay in our city.

*Rory Egan*



As Mayor of South Dublin County I am delighted to welcome you to The 51st European Bridge Team Championships at Citywest Hotel.

This prestigious event places South Dublin County on the international stage and events of this nature gives us the opportunity to showcase the many excellent facilities we have here.

As a county, we are honoured that your organisation elected to place your event with us and we value the impact that your tournament will have on the local economy.

We are delighted that our local tourism representative, South Dublin County Tourism is available to assist you in local operational, PR and marketing exercises and indeed delighted to receive regular updates on the progress of event planning.

My compliments to the organisers, various committee members. I know the hours of work and planning that is required to realise events of this significance. As we welcome more than a thousand bridge players from up to 40 countries to South Dublin County this June, I wish you all a most memorable event at the 51st European Bridge Teams Championship 2012.

Please do visit our local tourism company's website [www.southdublintourism.ie](http://www.southdublintourism.ie) for a fantastic listing of accommodation, activities and packages which you can avail of during your stay.

Catriona Jones  
Mayor, South Dublin County

## ÁRAS CHRÓNÁIN IRISH CULTURAL CENTRE

'An Oasis of Vibrant Language, Music and Culture in the heart of South Dublin County'

Áras Chrónáin Irish Cultural Centre is a centre of excellence, community based, in South West Dublin County where all aspects of the Irish Language and Culture are promoted in an inclusive, participative and as a vibrant part of community life.

In Áras Chrónáin Ionad Cultúrtha, through our many activities, we actively foster the development, education and promotion of A Living Irish Language (for all levels of speakers), Traditional Irish Music, Dance and Culture inclusively across all ages within the community. We do so in a number of ways; providing classes and tuition, organising weekly traditional sessions, organising of workshops and master classes, providing recording facilities, the promotion of concerts and performances, social events, family events, drama, social gatherings and by making our facilities available to the community, business and other groups.

Áras Chrónáin Irish Cultural and the greater South West Dublin area has been greatly enhanced by our interaction, co-operation and joint-projects within the community in providing a platform and medium to enhance the experience of our community in the Irish Language, Art of Traditional Irish Music and Culture.

The Áras Chrónáin Irish Cultural Centre always extends a 'Céad Míle Fáilte' to all. Come along and experience a living, vibrant culture of Irish Language and Tradition in the heart old Clondalkin Village and South Dublin County. 'Gaeilge Lenár Linn' (Irish in Our Time). Information: [www.araschronain.ie](http://www.araschronain.ie)  
T: +353 1 4574847



## **CITYWEST CONVENTION CENTRE:**

The Championship will be held in the Convention Centre at Citywest Hotel which is located in Saggart, 1.6km from Dublin's city centre. It is just 25 minutes from Dublin Airport by motorway.

Tel: +353 1 401 0500 - See Map

## **HOSPITALITY, WIFI ETC.**

### **'MEET & GREET' DUBLIN AIRPORT:**

Hospitality volunteers will be at Dublin Airport to welcome players and provide assistance at Terminals 1 and 2. There are 'Meet & Greet' desks at both terminals and there will be signs that read '51st European Bridge Team Championships Dublin 2012' that will direct you to our designated 'Meet & Greet' desks and friendly faces who will assist you on travel arrangements to Citywest.

### **WELCOME DESK at CITYWEST:**

The Welcome desk is situated in the lobby of the Citywest Hotel to welcome Players and Visitors to the Championships. This desk will be operational on 11th, 12th and 15th of June. Players will be directed from this desk to the Registration Desk in the Convention Centre

### **REGISTRATION DESK:**

The Registration Desk is situated in the lakes Suite of the 1st floor of the Convention Centre and is for Registration ONLY. Players will receive their Championship bag at this desk upon registration.

### **INFORMATION DESK:**

This desk is outside the Lakes Suite on the 1st floor of the Convention Centre. This desk will be operational from June 11th to 23rd from 9am to 9pm. Please bring all your queries concerning transport, dining, tours, shopping, recreational, return to airport etc., to this desk.

### **MOBILE PHONE DROP OFF:**

This desk is situated outside the playing area on the 2nd Floor. The Sycamore Suite. This desk will be operational 30 minutes before play begins each day and 30 minutes after end of each session.

### **OPENING CEREMONY**

This will take place at 7pm in the Kingswood Suite of the Citywest Hotel. Situated on the first floor of the Hotel, the Kingswood Suite has stunning views of the 18th hole on the Championship Golf Course, with a private balcony. Mayor Catriona Jones, first citizen of South County Dublin, will be present along with Michael Ring T.D., Minister of State, at the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport. Wine and savouries will be served and guests will be entertained by Irish Musicians and Dancers from Áras Chrónáin Ionad Cultúrtha (The Irish Culture Centre).

## **CLOSING & MEDAL CEREMONY**

This will take place at 5 pm on Saturday, June 23rd in the Kingswood Suite of the Citywest Hotel.

Wine and savouries will be served and players will then be free to spend the evening as they wish.

## **FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY**

Hospitality telephone and emergencies  
T: +353 (0)87167 7101

Hotel telephone number for emergencies  
T: +353 1 401 0500

Doctor on Call - Dr Alhassan (Saggart Clinic Emergency) T: +353 (0)86 0476666

Saggart Medical Centre T: +353 1 458 6805

Walk in Time 8am to 2pm, 3pm to 7pm Mon to Fri, Sat 9am to 2pm

Medical Advisor Dr John Keane

Saggart Pharmacy Monday- Friday 9am - 7pm  
Saturday 10am - 5pm, T: + 353 1 458 0346

Dental Surgery Rathcoole Shopping Centre,  
Rathcoole, T: +353 1 901 0176 Ext: 30748

Prime Care Doctor & Dental Services Citywest  
Shopping Centre +353 1 4693630

Local Hospital is Tallaght Hospital situated 10KM away

## **CASH WITHDRAWAL SERVICES:**

There is an ATM machine in the hotel at the golf pro shop. There are also ATM's or cash withdrawal machines available in Saggart Village (10 minutes) and Citywest Shopping Centre (15 minutes) walking.

## **BANKS**

Banks are located locally in Saggart and Citywest Shopping Centre

Opening Hours Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday are 10am to 4pm Thursday 10am to 5pm

## **WIFI**

Wifi and Internet available throughout both the Convention Centre and the Citywest Hotel

## **PLACES TO DINE**

The Hotel and Convention Centre have a number of dining options:

The Convention Centre First Floor 9am to 7.30pm

Pavilion Lounge open from 8am - 11.30pm Serving snacks, sandwiches etc.

Carvery Lunch Monday to Friday 12.30pm - 3.30pm  
Sunday 12.30pm - 5pm

Bistro Monday to Friday 4pm - 10.30pm Saturday  
12.30pm - 10.30pm Sunday 5.30pm - 10.30pm

Lemongrass Restaurant daily from 12 noon

24 hour room service to all rooms

Hospitality will be happy to help you choose where to dine. We have suggested some pubs and restaurants for you later on in this brochure. Hospitality will also help you with booking of taxis. See Dublin Value Vouchers in your Championship Bag

## PLACES TO DINE

### ONSITE AT CITYWEST

The Hibernian Bistro - open daily  
Pavilion Lounge - Pub/Bar Food,  
Lemongrass Restaurant  
T: +353 1 458 8193

Local Restaurants within 20 minutes  
by taxi

### EUROPEAN / IRISH / STEAKHOUSE

Finnstown Country House Hotel  
Lucan T: +353 1 601 0700  
(See advert)

Joels  
Newland's Cross  
T: +353 1 459 2968 (See advert)

The Egga Café at Avoca  
Rathcoole T: +353 1 257 1810

Louis Fitzgerald Hotel  
Down the N7 T: +353 1 403 3300

Anvil Restaurant  
Saggart Village T: +353 1 4586794

Il Lago Avon Ri  
Blessington T: +353 1 45 900670

Beckett's Restaurant & Bar  
Leixlip T: +353 1 624 7040

The Village of Lyons Celbridge  
T: +353 1 630 3500

Courtney's of Lucan  
Lucan T: +353 1 628 0251

Brown's Barn  
Down the N7 T: +353 1 464 0999

### ITALIAN

Michelangelo Celbridge  
T: +353 1 6271809 (See advert)

Incanto - Italian Fusion Restaurant  
Saggart T: +353 1 458 7358

Le Banca  
Lucan Village T: +353 1 628 2400

### CARVERY / PUB

Johnnie Fox's  
Glencullen T: +353 1 295 5647  
(See advert)

An Poitín Stil  
Rathcoole T: +353 1 458 9244

Jacobs Pub  
Saggart T: +353 1 468 5400

Bewleys Hotel  
Newlands Cross  
T: +353 1 464 0140

Green Isle Conference  
& Leisure Hotel,  
Newlands Cross  
T: +353 1 459 3406

### ASIAN INDIAN/ CHINESE

Lemongrass - Citywest  
T: +353 1 458 8193  
(See advert)

Kasturi - Indian Restaurant  
Lucan T: +353 1 610 0543

Lemon Tree - Chinese Restaurant  
Blessington T: +353 45 900000

China Garden Restaurant  
Saggart T: +353 1 2570364

### FAST FOOD

Eddie Rockets, KFC  
and coffee shops  
Citywest Shopping Centre  
T: +353 1 413 3800

*There are a number of takeaway  
outlets in the local area.*

### CITY CENTRE

Please your check Downtown  
Dublin Voucher Book in  
Hospitality Bag where there are many  
lovely places to dine, most with special  
offers and some also offering  
entertainment.

THE CITY CENTRE IS 30 MINUTES  
BY TAXI AND THE FARE  
WILL BE APPROX €25.

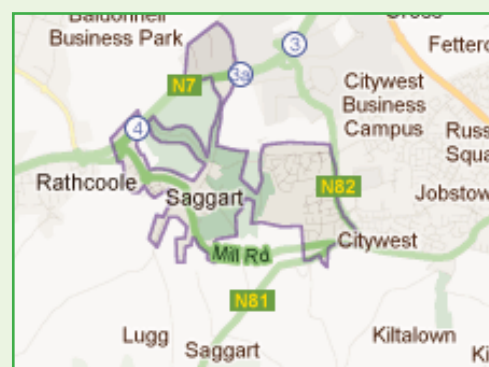
THE LUAS WILL ALSO TAKE YOU  
TO CITY CENTRE  
AT A COST OF €3

### HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND ON THE LUAS LINE

The Church,  
Mary Street  
T: +353 1 828 0102  
(See advert)

### PLACES WITHIN EASY REACH BY CAR FROM CITYWEST HOTEL

- Citywest Shopping Centre 3 minutes
- Saggart Village 3 minutes
- Rathcoole Village 5 minutes
- Joel's Restaurant 10 minutes
- Browns Barn 10 minutes
- Poitin Still 10 minutes
- Finnstown House 20 minutes
- Michelangelo Celbridge  
20 minutes
- Lucan 20 minutes
- The Church Mary Street  
35 minutes on Luas  
(20 -25 mins by taxi)



**SAGGART VILLAGE 10 MINUTE WALK**

## PLACES TO GO

### JOHNNIE FOX'S FAMOUS PUB

Glencullen (Top of the Dublin Mountains) Bar Food and A la Carte Menu. Live Music(traditional) every night with no charge. T: +353 1 295 5647 - Groups catered for - Ask at Hospitality Desk for further information. (See Advert)

### KILDARE OUTLET VILLAGE

Enjoy an elegant escapade to Kildare Village Outlet Shopping. For groups of 20 or more Kildare Village will provide a complimentary return coach to the Village for a VIP shopping Trip. Kildare Village has over 60 international brands to choose from, each in its own elegant boutique, offering previous seasons' collections at up to 60% off, every day, all year round. Hospitality will advise. (See Advert)

### NEWBRIDGE CUTLERY

Newbridge Silverware invites you to their Showroom and their Newbridge Silverware Museum of Style Icons offering Free entry to the Museum with guided tour, 10% off all purchases on the showroom on the day and will provide a coach for free to bring you. Newbridge is 10KM from Citywest and the journey is 10 minutes. Hospitality will arrange. (See Advert)

### EDDIE DORAN; ARTIST

A Dublin based artist who conducts Art Classes and Workshops. Eddie is available for Design Work/Commissions and Local Prints. Special Offer' 10% Discount for enquiries prompted by this ad. T: +353 1 457 3277, Email info@EdsIrishArt.com, Web: wwwEdsIrishArt.com

### DUBLIN MOUNTAIN CULTURAL WALK

(Easy) with Trails & Tales See Dublin from the hilltops, see its beautiful countryside and hear about its history and legends with Trails & Tales. Walks available Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday - Can collect from Citywest Hotel. 10% discount individuals and 25% group of 6 on 2 1/2 hour walk. www.trailsandtales.ie Contact Liz +353 87 121 3360. Email: info@trailsandtales.ie

### LEISUREPLEX TALLAGHT

10 Pin Bowling, Quazar, Zoo Play area, Snooker, Pool ,Ten Pin Diner and Video Games Offer: Any 2 Activities from €10.00 or bring the family along on a Sunday morning from 10-1pm family hour only €20. + 353 1 459 9411 Website: www.leisureplex.ie

### HIDDEN DUBLIN WALKS ACTIVITY

With Hidden Dublin Walks, reveal the true mysteries and histories across a variety of historical periods and unique sightseeing locations in a fascinating 2 hour walking tour Offer: Haunted History Special Offer - €10 per person "Quote European Bridge" on the night. +533 85 102 3646 www.hiddendublinwalks.com Email: admin@hiddendublinwalks.com

### CORPORATE TRANSPORTATION & SIGHTSEEING TOURS

The Dualway group are a local family owned coach operator with numerous awards including City Sightseeing Operator and Coach Operator of the Year 2011 and with one of the newest fleet in Dublin with 16 – 80 Seaters. We can arrange private airport transfer, day e.g.Wicklow etc. and evenings out to Johnnie Foxes etc. for groups.

Return Airport Transfer: We are arranging a departures airport shuttle transfers at a cost of €10 per person. Please contact the Hospitality Desk to book and to confirm your return departure time from Citywest Hotel.

#### Sightseeing Tours:

Dublin City Sightseeing Red Open Top City tour

We can arrange a FREE morning pick up at Citywest Hotel at 9.20 every morning and drop you back in the afternoon. With 28 stops, 2 routes and exclusive discounts to visitor extractions.

There is no better way to see the city. We can also arrange pick ups for our scheduled day tours to Wicklow etc. Please visit [www.loveireland.com](http://www.loveireland.com) for more details. Please see our Red Brochure in your bag and ask at the Hospitality Desk for more details. CALL US FOR A FREE QUOTATION T: +353 1 458 0054, info@dualway.com [www.dualway.com](http://www.dualway.com)



**Dualway** 

## TRANSPORT

Please bring all your enquiries on Transport to the Hospitality Information Desk on the 1st Floor of the Citywest Convention Centre.

### FROM DUBLIN AIRPORT TO CITYWEST:

Meet and Greet will advise and assist on travel arrangements from Dublin Airport to Citywest. Arrangements cannot be confirmed until the schedules of Championship participants are received. These schedules are not available at time of publication of this Guide.

### FROM CITYWEST TO DUBLIN AIRPORT:

Dualway will arrange a shuttle transfer of players from Citywest to Dublin Airport . Please advise Hospitality on the 1st Floor of the Convention Centre if you wish to avail of this service. Please watch Daily Bulletins for up to date information on shuttle service.

### FROM CITYWEST TO DUBLIN CITY CENTRE:

Taxis may be booked direct by Visitors or Hospitality Desk will help.

### LUAS STOP – SAGGART

Take the hassle out of your visit to Dublin with fast and reliable transfers to Dublin City from the gates of the Hotel. Please ensure when travelling to the hotel that you take the Red Line LUAS marked Saggart and stay on board until you reach the terminus at Saggart

Please ask about the Leap card [www.leapcard.ie](http://www.leapcard.ie)

### DUBLIN CITY CENTRE FREQUENCY

	Peak Times	Off Peak Times
Monday - Friday	9-10 minutes	10-15 minutes
Saturday	12 minutes	12-15 minutes
Sunday & Bank Holiday	10-12 minutes	12-15 minutes

### FROM SAGGART TO CITY

Monday - Friday	5.40am to 11.50pm
Saturday	6.40am to 11.50pm
Sunday & Bank Holiday	7.10am to 10.50pm

### LAST TRAM FROM THE POINT (CITY) TO SAGGART

Monday - Saturday	Midnight
Sunday	11pm
	Price €3



### RED DUALWAY OPEN TOP BUS FROM CITYWEST:

This bus leaves Citywest Hotel at 9.20am each day on tours into the City.

### TAXI FARES

#### From Citywest Hotel - Drop Off Price

City Centre	€25.00
Finstown/	
Lucan	€25.00
Celbridge	€20.00
Mary Street	€25.00
Joels N7	€15.00
Poitin Stil	€10.00
Blessington	€25.00
Johnnie Foxes	€40.00
Airport	€38.00
Saggart	€6.00
Citywest SC	€6.00

## LEISURE, CHURCH AND OUTLETS

### LEISURE

Lime Hair and Beauty Salon in the leisure centre Open Monday to Wednesday 9am - 5pm  
Thursday - Friday 9am - 8pm Saturday 9am - 5pm

The Leisure Centre is complimentary to all residents staying at the hotel

Golf is available on request pending tee times available  
Monday - Friday €25.00 per person Saturday and Sunday €35.00 per person

### AT SLADE SHOPPING CENTRE SAGGART

Physiotherapy / Chiropody / Podiatry Clinic T: + 353 1 458 7139  
Hair Salon Ritchie Conlon Ladies Hairdressers T: + 353 1 412 4433  
League Barbers T: +353 1 458 7361  
Beauty Salon T: + 353 1 412 4416  
Supermarket Dunnes Stores T: + 353 1 257 1060 Mon-Fri 8.30am - 8pm Saturday 8.30am - 7pm Sunday  
10am- 6pm

### CHURCH SERVICES

Church Of Ireland Saggart: Service 10am

Roman Catholic Church Rathcoole:  
Mass Monday to Friday 9.30am  
Saturday 10am and 6.30pm (Vigil)  
Sunday 10am and 12pm

Roman Catholic Church Saggart:  
Mass Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9.30am Sunday 9am & 11.30am

Dublin Jewish Progressive Congregation - Congregation Knesset Orach Chayim  
7 Leicester Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin 6.  
Shabbat services are usually held at 11.00 am. Please bring photo ID for Synagogue

Church Service with Gospel Choir at Victory Club 7KM

Islamic Foundation of Ireland (IFI)  
163 South Circular Road, Dublin 8, Republic Of Ireland, Tel: +353 1 4533242

### OUTLETS AT CITYWEST SHOPPING CENTRE

1 HOUR PHOTO – CAMERAS AND PHOTO EQUIPMENT	FUSION – HAIR SALON
AIMEE ROSE - LADIES FASHIONS & ACCESSORIES	KFC – SPORTS STORE
BOYLE SPORTS – SPORTS STORE	LIFESTYLE SPORTS – SPORTS STORE
CALBEE - DRY CLEANERS	LITTLE BUDS - Florists
CARDS & THINGS – GIFTS & CARDS	MARIA THERESE - Fabrics
CARPHONE WAREHOUSE – MOBILE PHONE STORE	McCABES - PHARMACY
COSTA COFFEE – COFFEE SHOP	O'BRIEN'S - Wines & Spirits
DK BARBERS - BARBERS	PRIME CARE- Doctor & Dentist Services
DUNNES STORES – DEPARTMENT STORE	ROWAN CAMPBELL - Jewellers
EDDIE ROCKETS – FAST FOOD	THE STREAT - Food for Thought



## USEFUL LINKS

[www.eurobridge.org/index2.html](http://www.eurobridge.org/index2.html)  
[www.cbai.ie/](http://www.cbai.ie/)  
[www.citywesthotel.com/Official\\_Site](http://www.citywesthotel.com/Official_Site)  
[www.bridgebase.com/](http://www.bridgebase.com/)  
[www.bridgewinners.com/](http://www.bridgewinners.com/)  
  
[www.failteireland.ie/](http://www.failteireland.ie/)  
<http://www.southdublinfootball.com/>  
<http://www.dublineventscentre.com/>  
[www.discoverireland.ie/](http://www.discoverireland.ie/)  
  
<http://www.visitdublin.com/>  
[www.dublinpass.ie/limitedoffer/](http://www.dublinpass.ie/limitedoffer/)  
[www.visitdublin.com/app/](http://www.visitdublin.com/app/)  
[www.leapcard.ie](http://www.leapcard.ie)  
[www.luas.ie/luas-red-line-stops/](http://www.luas.ie/luas-red-line-stops/)  
[www.livingsocial.com/Dublin](http://www.livingsocial.com/Dublin)  
  
[www.dualway.com/](http://www.dualway.com/)  
[www.araschronain.ie/](http://www.araschronain.ie/)  
[www.bloomsdayatthebailey.com/](http://www.bloomsdayatthebailey.com/)  
  
[www.belleek.ie/](http://www.belleek.ie/)  
<http://www.wrightsofhowth.com/index.php>  
[www.galwaycrystal.ie/](http://www.galwaycrystal.ie/)  
[www.speardesign.ie](http://www.speardesign.ie)  
[www.exhibit.ie/](http://www.exhibit.ie/)  
  
[www.guinness-storehouse.com/](http://www.guinness-storehouse.com/)  
[www.tourist-information-dublin.co.uk](http://www.tourist-information-dublin.co.uk) › Things to Do  
[www.butlerschocolates.com/](http://www.butlerschocolates.com/)  
[www.baileys.com/](http://www.baileys.com/)  
  
[www.kildarevillage.com/](http://www.kildarevillage.com/)  
[www.newbridgesilverware.com/](http://www.newbridgesilverware.com/)  
[www.irishnationalstud.ie/](http://www.irishnationalstud.ie/)  
[www.leopardstown.com/](http://www.leopardstown.com/)  
[www.cbai.ie/bridgeholidays/default.asp](http://www.cbai.ie/bridgeholidays/default.asp)  
[www.orionbooks.co.uk/](http://www.orionbooks.co.uk/)  
[www.citywesthotel.com/lemongrass.html](http://www.citywesthotel.com/lemongrass.html)  
[www.finnstown-hotel.ie/OfficialSite](http://www.finnstown-hotel.ie/OfficialSite)  
[www.thechurch.ie/](http://www.thechurch.ie/)  
[www.michelangelo.ie/](http://www.michelangelo.ie/)  
[www.joels.ie/](http://www.joels.ie/)  
[www.louisfitzgerald.com](http://www.louisfitzgerald.com) › Pubs  
[www.greenislehotel.com/](http://www.greenislehotel.com/)  
[www.victory.ie/](http://www.victory.ie/)  
[www.bewleyshotels.com/](http://www.bewleyshotels.com/)  
[www.brownsbarn.net/](http://www.brownsbarn.net/)  
[www.captainamericas.com/](http://www.captainamericas.com/)  
[www.jfp.ie/](http://www.jfp.ie/)  
[www.citywestshoppingcentre.com/](http://www.citywestshoppingcentre.com/)

### HOTEL WESTPORT CO MAYO

Thank you for your CONTINUED SUPPORT OF the GAME OF BRIDGE and the pleasure you give to bridge players countrywide and now for THE 51ST EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS CITYWEST, DUBLIN JUNE 2012

[WWW.HOTELWESTPORT.IE/](http://WWW.HOTELWESTPORT.IE/)



## FROM WRIGHTS AT DUBLIN AIRPORT

### FAREWELL DEPARTURE GIFT TO COMPETITORS

Wrights have offered vouchers to competitors with a 20% discount on a side of smoked salmon purchase in any of their retail units in both Terminal 1 and 2 in Dublin Airport. The voucher details competitors' entitlement to their farewell Wrights of Howth gift bag.

Wrights of Howth provide their famous wild Irish smoked salmon and fish products as well as a delicatessen selling a full range of all that is best in Irish food, including gift packs and hampers. First flight to last flight Departures Airside.



### IRISH BRIDGE HOLIDAYS

The IBU and the Irish Organising Committee of the 51st European Team Championships wish to thank Barry for his valuable support of this event.

*We wish Barry well at this time.*

## 1,000 BRIDGE PLAYERS ATTENDING THE EUROPEAN BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP IN DUBLIN

More than a thousand bridge players from up to 40 countries will arrive in Dublin this June after Ireland was selected as the host country for the European Bridge Championships.

Minister of State for Tourism & Sport Michael Ring welcomed the announcement, and said it was significant in terms of ongoing efforts to promote Ireland as a venue for sport-related tourism, and as a top-class conference location.

The European Bridge Teams Championships are held every second year and were secured for Ireland after Greece withdraw at the last minute. This major competition will now take place in the Citywest Hotel in Dublin from 12th to 23rd June 2012.

Minister Ring said: 'I am delighted to welcome The European Bridge Teams Championship to Dublin and to Ireland in June this year. With over 1,000 bridge players from 40 countries, it represents a welcome boost and allows us to show our guests that Ireland is an excellent venue for international events. I wish the organisers and participants every success'.

Announcing Ireland as this year's host, Dr. Yves Aubry, President of the European Bridge League said: 'We are delighted that Ireland has agreed to host The European Bridge Teams Championship at such short notice. We are looking forward to enjoying the wonderful Irish hospitality that we last experienced in Killarney'.

Ireland will be represented in the Open Teams event by the team that won the Silver medal in the 2006.

### The Irish Open Team:

- Tom Hanlon (Rochfortbridge) & Hugh McGann (formerly Fermoy, now in Leeds)
- Nick FitzGibbon & Adam Mesbur (Dublin)
- John Carroll (Dublin) & Tommy Garvey (formerly Dublin, now in London)
- with non-playing Captain David Jackson and coach Thomas MacCormac (both Dublin)

### The Irish Women's Team:

- Valerie Hand & Aileen O'Keeffe (Dublin)
- Gilda Pender (Dublin) & Hilary McDonagh (Ballaghaderreen)
- Emer Joyce (Clifden) & Joan Kenny (Headford)
- with non-playing Captain Gay Keaveney (Galway)

### The Irish Senior Team:

- Eddie Fitzgerald & Michael MacDonagh (Galway and Mullingar)
- Pat Barry & Rex Anderson (Dublin and Belfast)
- Pat McDevitt & Rory Timlin (Donegal now Boston and Rory Galway)
- with non-playing Captain Donal Garvey (Cork)



## OUR SILVER MEDALLISTS

The Irish Open team for this event, Nick FitzGibbon, Adam Mesbur, Hugh McGann, Tom Hanlon, Tommy Garvey and John Carroll have achieved some good International results in recent years. A 5th place in a WBF Olympiad, a quarterfinal place in the Transnational Teams in Shanghai and best of all, a Silver medal in the European Championships in 2006.



Runner-up to Italy at Bridge is a bit like losing to Brazil in the World Cup Final – you can't really be too disappointed. There have been a number of Camrose and Lederer Trophy wins along the way but a big disappointment was a poor performance in the Shanghai Bermuda Bowl. That was Ireland's first appearance in a Bermuda Bowl and our target here is a top six finish and another chance to play in that great event.

*David Jackson - Non Playing Captain*

## IRISH LADIES TEAM

"The Irish Ladies team for this event Emer Joyce, Joan Kenny, Hilary McDonagh, Gilda Pender, Valerie Hand, and Aileen O' Keeffe have a lot of international experience but for two of the pairs it is their first time playing together in a European Championship.

Emer and Joan have played regularly together in recent European and World Championships. Hilary has played in these championships with Anne Marie Horan Carroll and with Rebecca O'Keeffe but for Gilda it is her first European Team Championships. Aileen is by far our most experienced International and has played in numerous European and World events. Aileen played with her daughter Rebecca in 1991 when these championships were held in Killarney and at other times with Ann Montwill. Valerie has played twice, once with Mary Trench, another time with Ann Montwill; this is her first time to play with Aileen in a Europeans.



*Gay Keaveney - Non Playing Captain*

## IRISH SENIOR TEAM

Two years ago in Ostend, the Irish Seniors finished 8th and might well have done better. With thee strong pairs I am very hopeful that this year's team can finish in the top six. The pairs are:

**REX ANDERSON & PAT BARRY:** When mere callow youths, Rex and Pat played together on the Irish Junior Team in 1970. They have recently resumed their partnership and put in a strong performance in Ostend. In terms of representing Ireland on Open Teams, Rex (a retired solicitor from Coleraine) is the most experienced of the team, having played in many World and European championships. Pat, a retired banker, originally from Tipperary but living in Dublin, admits to huge love for golf, but plays a tough game of Bridge and has played on many Irish Senior Teams in recent years.

**PAT MCDEVITT & RORY TIMLIN:** Pat, a native of Donegal but resident in Boston for many years, is the pin-up boy of the Irish Seniors. He is the reigning World Senior Pairs champion (with his American partner Rich DeMartino) and has won four American national championships. He has played on the Irish Senior Team since 2008 in Beijing. Rory, who often partners Pat when he is home on holidays and also regularly on the web, was born in Dublin but has lived all of his life in Galway. He has played a number of times on Irish Open Teams in the World and European championships and is also an avid golfer.

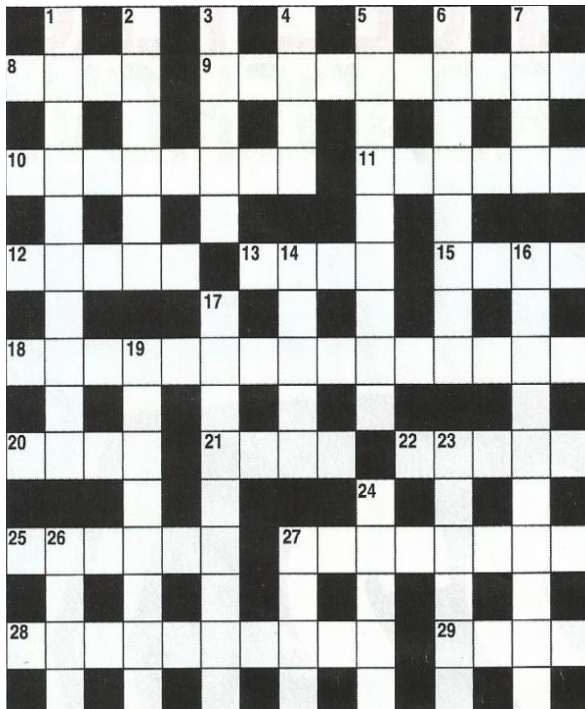
**EDDIE FITZGERALD & MICHAEL MACDONAGH:** Eddie and Michael have been friends and Bridge partners dating back to their University days in Galway. Eddie, who is a former President of the Irish Bridge Union, was born in Dublin but has lived in Galway for most of his life. He and Michael are a tough partnership and are not shy about bidding. From Galway but now living in Mullingar, Michael has also played in the Irish Open Team. He had a very strong performance in the Seniors championship in Ostend in partnership with Pat McDevitt.



I expect an easy job from the team.

*Donal Garvey - Non Playing Captain*

**"Note:** Pat Barry, a member of the above Senior Team, is a son of Eddie Barry (usually referred to as E.O. Barry). Pat's father was a regular partner of Maurice Quinn's father, Phillip Quinn, in the 1930's - 40's when they won a number of national championships together and were Camrose partners many times. Maurice is not playing on this Senior Team but he has submitted the Crossword on the next page."



## Across

8. Seen on SKY ARTS, maybe. (4)
9. Forecast suggests championships will provide a tonic combined with pride.(10)
10. There are many variations in chess and in bridge. (8)
11. Norwegian comes up with a response. (6)
12. Made winning bridge easy. (5)
13. Do not abuse this convention. (1.1.1.1.1)
15. Have you some Coca-Cola in your system? (4)
18. Deduct the answer to a lead problem. (3, 4, 2, 6)
20. Paint a tie. (4)
21. Found in boxes nowadays. (4)
22. First to move on board. (5)
25. Usually a costly mistake at the table. (6)
27. A fit following a drop of Scotch can be theatrical. (8)
28. Poisonous Italian legend. (10)
29. Girl mixed up in movie scene. (4)

Maurice Quinn

## Down

1. Not a real mummy. (10)
2. Defending Ladies. (6)
3. Turn upside down. (5)
4. Bulletin concerning four bridge players. (4)
5. This spectator's holding boy. (9)
6. Look up to 8 Across. (8)
7. North or South. (4)
14. Strange shape with two voids (5)
16. Extras at the table. (10)
17. Suit in golf bag with cap. (9)
19. Sort of hands Declarer despairs of! (3, 5)
23. Scottish football club familiar to all of us. (6)
24. Spanish ace. (5)
26. Just fifty-fifty. (4)
27. Hamlet, for instance. (4)

**Answers on Page 16**

## BRIDGE JOURNALISTS

THE GAME of BRIDGE, because it has failed to convey the images of passion, excitement and action associated with the major sports, has suffered from a lack of coverage in the news media, especially in recent times. However, for the limited number of column inches it does attract, we owe a debt of gratitude to the journalists who have kept the game before the public.

There have been a number of outstanding bridge journalists over the years, starting with Harold Williams, The Irish Times, Harry Freehill, Irish Press and Joe O'Neill, Irish Independent in the 1930s, and, from the mid 1940s until late 50s, Philip Quinn in The Irish Times. Many of them, Quinn especially, introduced new developments in the game to Irish readers, innovations such as weak twos and transfers, during a time when Irish players were slow to experiment with new systems. That grand lady of Irish bridge, Mairéad O'Neill, wrote for both Irish Independent and Irish Press during a career in which she served the game in a multitude of roles from the 1920s into the late 80s.

John Comyn added bridge to his other sports journalism activities in 1963 and has continued to cover the game for Independent Newspapers. His 49 years service has not been surpassed by many and may be in contention for the world record. George Ryan has kept bridge before readers of The Irish Times since 1970 when he took over following the Jack Kelly's death. Kelly, undoubtedly the most internationally renowned of Irish bridge journalists, president of the International Bridge Press Association, frequently played a dual role, playing on the Irish team and filing reports between matches. Peter J. Pigot, another prominent member of the IBPA provided a similar service, playing on the Irish team and writing for the Irish Independent. Kelly and Pigot wrote for English magazines too bringing news of Irish players to a wider readership. Pigot's son, also Peter, took over the Independent column following his father's death.

Another IBPA member, Seamus Dowling, better known perhaps for initiating the Irish bridge-teacher training programme, has been reporting on major international events for The Irish Times since 1991 and is the longest serving journalist in that specialised role.

Finally, a unique contribution to Irish bridge was made by the late Paddy Walsh from Galway, when, in 1979, he founded The Irish Bridge Journal, now in its 33rd year of publication. Following Paddy's premature death in 1998 his sister Una took over the work and continues to produce and edit the magazine.



FOUR OF 1952 IRISH TEAM  
L-R. DES PURCELL, JACK KELLY,  
JIMMY BASTOW NPC PADDY PAUL DONOVAN (FRONT)



MEDALLISTS  
RUTH GIDDINGS (100 YEARS YOUNG)  
AND BARBARA SELIGMAN



1952 CHAMPIONSHIPS  
PURCELL AND EGAN PLAYING AGAINST  
THE NOTORIOUS SCHAPIRO AND REECE



JACK KELLY IRISH TIMES BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT 1958 UNTIL  
HIS DEATH IN 1970, WAS PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION, 1964-'70,  
THE ONLY IRISH PERSON TO ATTAIN THAT HONOUR.



NEWSPAPER CLIPPING  
WOMEN'S TEAM SELECTED FOR  
1967 EUROPEAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP



WOMENS TEAM 1991 - Maria Barry, Barbara  
Seligman, Evelyn Bourke, Dane Sloan, Aileen  
O'Keefe, Rebecca O'Keefe; npc Kay Downes



IRISH OPEN 1991  
N.K.FITZGIBBON A.MESBUR, R.BRENNAN,  
P.SCANNELL, R. BOLAND, P.WALSHE; NPC



Eddie Barry, he and Philip Quinn were Ireland's leading pair 1930s-'40s.  
A member of the 1952 Irish team, he and three of his children, son Pat,  
daughters Anne Dillon and Gráinne Barton, played for Ireland.



SILVER FOR IRELAND TEAM  
NICK FITZGIBBON, ADAM MESBUR, HUGH MCGANN,  
TOM HANLON, TOMMY GARVEY AND JOHN CARROLL  
DAVID JACKSON NPC

## A LITTLE HISTORY

- 1952 OPEN: 1 Sweden 2 Italy 3 Austria Women: 1 Great Britain (thus-not UK)  
2 Norway 3 Ireland  
Irish teams: Open: Eddie Barry, Dermot Egan, Dick Belton, Jack Kelly, Paddy Paul Donovan,  
Des Purcell; npc Jimmy Bastow Women: Geraldine McConkey, Eileen Sullivan,  
Ina McMenamin, Elvina Spiro, May McNulty, Ruth Giddings; npc Moreen McCarthy
- 1967: OPEN: 1 Italy 2 France Women: Sweden  
Open: Gerry Read, Marcus Shrage, Derek Stokes, Frank Fine, Joe MacHale,  
Peter J. Pigot; npc Desmond Deery  
Women: Ruth Giddings, Barbara Seligman, Moreen McCarthy, Mimi Christopher,  
Kathleen Banks, Molly Jones; npc Eileen O'Sullivan
- 1991: Open: 1 Great Britain 2 Sweden 3 Poland Women: Austria  
Open: N.K.FitzGibbon A.Mesbur, R.Brennan, P.Scannell, R. Boland, P.Walsh,  
npc P. F. Walsh Women: Maria Barry, Barbara Seligman, Evelyn Bourke,  
Diane Sloan, Aileen O'keefe, Rebecca O'Keefe; npc Kay Downes

## IRELAND'S FIRST EUROPEANS AND THE GOLDEN AGE OF IRISH WOMEN'S BRIDGE

This is the fourth time that European open and women's team championships have been held in Ireland, having been previously staged in Dun Laoghaire 1952, Dublin 1967 and Killarney 1991.

In 1952 post-war Europe the entry of 13 nations in the open competition was considered very good. Germany, whose participation had been resisted by its war-time enemies, competed for the first time since the war, as did Lebanon. The 13 teams were divided into two pools and following round robins Austria, Great Britain, Italy and Sweden fought out the semi-finals. Matches were decided by imps scoring, referred to then as 'European match points,' a relatively recent innovation. However the round-robin rankings were decided on the basis of two points for a win, one for a tie. Sweden beat Italy in the final as a result of a three-imp last-board swing. The winning margin of 2 imps remains the smallest in the history of the championships. There was drama away from the table too. British player, Louis Tarlo, fell into the sea and was rescued from drowning at Dun Laoghaire pier. He was taken to hospital and played no further part in the event. This may have cost his team a medal as Austria beat them for the bronze. The incident attracted unplanned publicity in the national press.

In the women's event seven teams contested a round robin, playing 56-board matches. Great Britain won all its matches and the gold, Norway the silver. The Irish women's team, Geraldine McConkey, Eileen O'Sullivan, Elvina Spiro, Ina McMenamin, May McNulty and Ruth Gidding with non-playing captain, Moreen McCarthy, won bronze, the only European bridge medals won by Ireland on Irish soil.

Ina McMenamin's brother, Dermot Egan, played on the open team which was completed by Eddie Barry, Dick Belton, Jack Kelly, Paddy Paul Donovan, Des Purcell with Jimmy Bastow npc. Jack Kelly, The Irish Times bridge correspondent, later became president of the International Bridge Press Association and remains the only Irish person on whom that honour was bestowed.

Ruth Giddings, now in her 101<sup>st</sup> year, is the only survivor from the 1952 championships which was the start of a golden era for Irish women's bridge. Over the following few years they won medals five times in Europe and Giddings was on every medal-winning team. All seven members of the 1952 team, including the non-playing captain, were selected on Irish open teams. McConkey, Spiro and McMenamin played on open teams in European championships; the latter had been playing captain of the first Irish open team in Europe, Copenhagen in 1948, O'Sullivan, McCarthy, Giddings and McNulty played on Camrose teams, the last-named two in 1951 in the last matches before the CBAI withdrew from the home-international championships. The withdrawal, influenced by the politics of the time, almost certainly deprived these women of further honours. During the 1950s and '60s they would have provided worthy opposition to the legendary English women's teams of the period. Having competed for the Lady Milne trophy in 1950, the Republic of Ireland's went into self-impose exile from the competition for almost half a century.

There are two additional survivors from the golden age of Irish women's bridge, Sonya Britton who lives in England and Barbara Seligman who still plays regularly in her Dublin club. Each won two European medals. Ruth Giddings' 19 European women's teams championship appearances are believed to have been a record which was eventually equalled by Nicola Smith (England) and which, it seems, will be broken by Smith at this event. Barbara Seligman holds the record of having represented Ireland for an unbroken 20 consecutive years.

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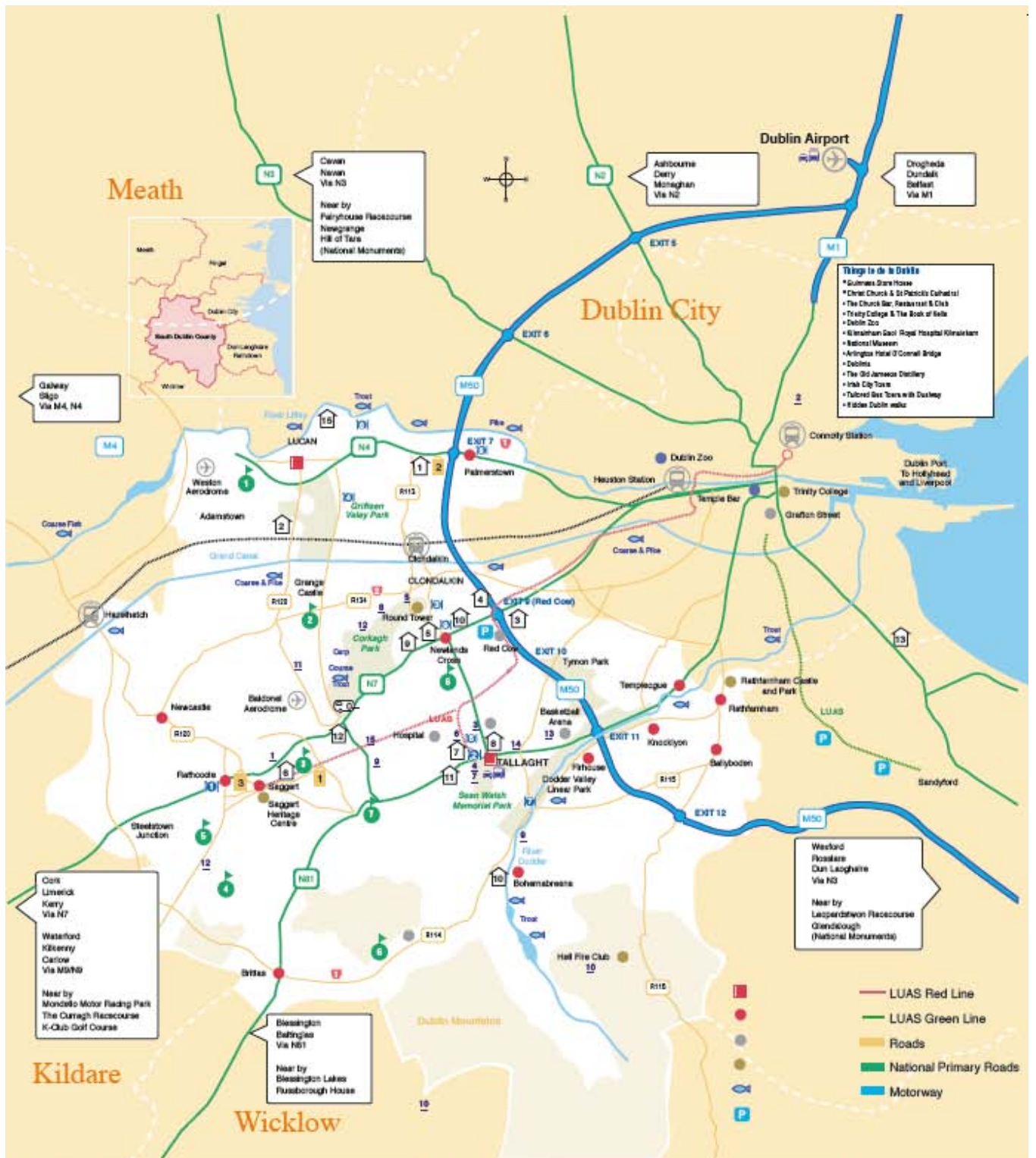
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- 1 The Clarion Hotel Dublin Lily Valley
- 2 Fintona County House Hotel
- 3 Red Cow Moran Hotel
- 4 Ibis Hotel
- 5 Bewley's Hotel
- 6 Citywest Hotel
- 7 The Plaza Hotel
- 8 Achery Court Hotel & Apartments
- 9 Green Isle Hotel
- 10 The Louis Fitzgerald Hotel
- 11 Malton Hotel Tallaght
- 12 Malton Hotel Citywest

- 13 Radisson Blu Hotel St. Helen's
- 14 Wills' B&B
- 15 Carrick Valley Tourist Caravan & Camping Park

### Pubs & Restaurants

- 16 An Pablaigh
- 17 Captain America's Tallaght
- 18 The Laurels
- 19 Penny Hill
- 20 Interval Bar
- 21 Courtyards of Lucan
- 22 The Old Mill
- 23 Palmerstown House
- 24 Joles

### Activities

- 1 IECC at Citywest Hotel
- 2 Guinness Storehouse
- 3 Ruah Red
- 4 Shamrock Rovers FC
- 5 Area Cinema
- 6 Civic Theatre
- 7 Tallaght Stadium
- 8 Clonsilla Leisure Centre

- 9 Tallaght Leisure Centre
- 10 Helian Dublin Walks
- 11 Corkagh Park Fisheries
- 12 Corkagh Pet Farm
- 13 National Basketball Arena
- 14 Leisureplex
- 15 Peltacrao Youth Horse Project

### Local Crafts

- 16 Stewart's Hospital
- 17 Eds Irish Art

### Golf

- 1 Lucan Golf Club
- 2 Grange Castle Golf Club
- 3 Citywest Golf Club
- 4 Glada Valley Golf Club
- 5 Beach Park Golf Club
- 6 Newlands Golf Club
- 7 Malton Toner Golf Project

### Transport

- 18 Tallaght Trams
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## **HOSPITALITY INFORMATION DESK:**

Spectators are invited to check in at the Hospitality Information desk, outside the Lakes Suite, upon arrival. The information desk is situated on the 1st Floor of the Convention Centre. The Hospitality Guide and Magazine can be collected at this desk. Guides will show spectators around the Convention Centre if requested and if available.

## **CHAMPIONSHIP OPEN ROOM:**

Up to 4 spectators may watch at a table in the Open Room, located in the Sycamore Suite on the 2nd Floor of the Convention Centre.

Your mobile phone must be turned OFF or handed in at the Mobile Drop Off Desk.

Absolutely no entry to the Open Room is permitted after the start of play.

Spectators may only watch the playing hand of one player at the table - you cannot move from table to table.

If you leave the table you must leave the room - you may return for the next session.

## **CHAMPIONSHIP CLOSED ROOM:**

There is NO spectator access to the Closed Room.

## **VUGRAPH THEATRE:**

This is situated in the Verschoyle Suite - 1st floor of the Leisure Centre close to the Convention Centre. Commentators discuss the hands as they are played in the Open and Closed Rooms.

There is no charge for admittance.

**CHAT BEFORE OPEN PAIRS:** When possible an informal chat will take place 15 minutes before Open Pairs to bring visiting spectators up to date with the Championships thus far.

**OPEN PAIRS:** Open Pairs will take place daily throughout the Championships - 13th to 22nd June inclusive, at 2.30pm. Other sessions may be available if there is sufficient demand.

## **FOOD AND BEVERAGES:**

Refreshments are available on the First Floor in the same room as the Open Pairs.

## **TOURIST TOURS:**

You are most welcome to join tours which have been planned during these Championships. Please see Tours/Trips. Hospitality on 1st Floor of Convention Centre will advise.

## **DEFINITIONS**

Here is an update on definitions of modern bridge terms.

Most players will be familiar with these, but you should make sure your partner has the same understanding.

**BATH COUP:** getting to use the tub before your roommate.

**DOUBLETON:** 4,000 pounds.

**FREE BID:** all of them, once you pay your entry fee.

**GERBER CONVENTION:** annual meeting of baby-food manufacturers.

**JACK DENIES:** headlines about Marilyn Monroe's relationship with J.F.K.

**KEY-CARD BLACKWOOD:** an ingenious convention that allows you to get to a grand slam off the ace of trumps

**NEGATIVE DOUBLE:** the one that gets wrapped around your neck.

**REVERSE BID:** an opening like "Club One."

**ROMAN DISCARDS:** Caesar's trash.

**SPLINTER BID:** the only known way to become declarer with a singleton trump in each hand.

**TEXAS TRANSFER:** relocation to a branch office in Dallas.

**TRUMP COUP:** triumph of Ivana's attorneys in securing a huge alimony.

**TRUMP ECHO:** a brand new casino in Atlantic City.

**VIENNA COUP:** the mating sound of Austrian doves.

**WOLFF SIGN-OFF:** the ending of Little Red Riding Hood

*Submitted by Michael O'Connor*



## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

### ACROSS:

- 8, Star.
- 9, Prediction.
- 10, Openings.
- 11, Bergen.
- 12, Goren.
- 13, D.O.N.T.
- 15, Acol.
- 18, The Rule of Eleven.
- 20, Draw.
- 21, Bids.
- 22, White.
- 25, Renege.
- 27, Dramatic. Belladonna.
- 29, Take.

### DOWN:

- 1, Stepmother.
- 2, France.
- 3, Upend.
- 4, News. Kib(b)itzer.
- 6, Stargaze.
- 7, Pole.
- 14, Ovoid.
- 16, Overtricks.
- 17, Clubheads.
- 19, Raw Deals.
- 23, Hearts.
- 24, Nadal.
- 26, Even.
- 27, Dane.



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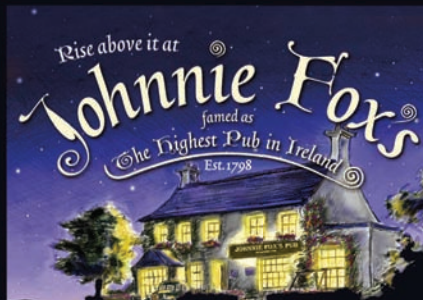
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Bridge is not meant to be a funny game, but in this book you will find many strange happenings at the tables

I hope you will find it amusing and entertaining.

Here's wishing the IBU every success in the European Championships being held in Ireland for the third time and hoping they are a major success.

And good luck to our teams



Pssst Charles -  
Did he really say  
"He could play Bridge"?

John Comyn

Welcome, one and all, to our shores! Céad Míle Fáilte [a hundred thousand welcomes], Bienvenue, Hej, Willkommen, Buna Dimineata, Hola, Buongiorno.

We Irish want to take some time out to express our gratitude for your visit, to give you some useful information, and to answer some of your FAQs.

Starting off close to home, we greet our Celtic cousins from Wales and from Bonny Scotland. Iechyd Da, Eisteddfod and Plaid Cymru. Hootsmon, Scots wha hae and och aye the noo. We also have the English - wotcher, my old Chinas! Strewth, Gordon Bennett and Lawksamercy. It is commonly, but wrongly, assumed that the Irish harbour historical grudges against England. In fact we took a strategic decision to reverse colonise them starting in the 1950s. Nowadays, 90% of English people are Irish by birth, Irish by descent, have been to Riverdance or own a U2 album. Equally, 90% of Irish people support an English Premiership football team [though we do sneakily enjoy seeing their national team lose, ideally on penalties]. The English womens' team will be strongly fancied to take gold at these championships.

Et maintenant – les Bleus arrivent! Sacre bleu et zut alors! Mais ecoute now – nous ne sommes pas going to mention Thierry Henry ou zat HANDBALL at all, nous promise vous! Oh non. Pas du tout. After all, c'est la guerre, n'est-ce pas? Forgive et forget, oui? So we wish bonne chance to our French amis, et nous remind them que c'est LEGAL in Bridge to HANDLE the cards!! Oh, avant nous forget – merci beaucoup pour le Sancerre, le Chablis et le Chardonnay.

Next come the Benelux teams. Belgium – great chocolate, and Hercule Poirot too. Hello and congratulations to the reigning World Champions from Holland! Oranjeboom. Holland, the Dutch, the Netherlands – which is it? And please stop beating us at football, ok? Luxembourgers – hi and welcome to you.

From the Iberian Peninsula, we are joined by Portugal and Spain. We have good news for the Portuguese: you know how we Irish spent years buying up all your villas and golf resorts during the Celtic Tiger years? Well, now you can have'em back for a song – the party's long over. But we still want to come to you for our holidays, as we love Portugal dearly. What about Espana? We love your country and your people. But not FC Barthalona – Inieghta, Methi, etc. We are Madridistas ejemplars!

Moving on, we turn to the Nordic countries. Former world Champions Iceland, plus silver medallists Norway, not to mention the always strong Swedes, the Finns and the Danes. Icelanders - you think your banks were bad – ours were far worse!

Sweden is a favourite country of ours – and thank you for the music, and especially for Agnetha [of Abba. There will now be a 30-second pause until my

palpitations cease]. Denmark – we love you for Hamlet, your Prince, and for wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen. Did you know that Swedes regularly go to Denmark to buy alcohol [in Sweden you cannot buy alcohol unless you are 75 years of age and are accompanied by both parents]? Norwegians – the Irish police wish to interview you about a series of rapes and pillages on our East coast about 1200 years ago. Finlanders – welcome, and good luck.

Russia – a riddle wrapped up in a mystery, inside an enigma [according to Churchill]. Their bridge teams are very good, though. And then there are the other Eastern European nations, at various stages of forging or rediscovering their identities post-Communism; Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Ukraine, Hungary, Croatia. We have been fortunate in recent years to have had so many of your people come to live and work in Ireland, and so we feel as if we know you already. Ireland is certainly a better country for having them in our midst. Special mention for Romania – we thank you for Daniel Timofte, who in the 1990 World Cup missed the penalty that saw Ireland through to the quarter-finals. Multumesc frumos! Bine bine! Poland are always a threat at Bridge, and perhaps will fare best from this grouping. More generally, we simply love the amazing "Miss Sarajevo" collaboration of U2 and Pavarotti – call it up on Youtube and be awed! We don't even mind you all block voting in the Eurovision. Good luck to all, and enjoy your time here.

Greece, Cyprus and Turkey we like and respect because of your "cradle of civilisation" heritage. We have hazy but fond memories of Ios, Paros, Mykonos, Crete and Santorini. Ios stands for "Irish OverSeas". Enjoy the occasion from Alpha to Omega.

Forza Italia! Italy has ruled European and World bridge for much of the last hundred years. The squadra azzura has set standards of excellence that others can but envy. Legendary names such as Belladonna, Garozzo and Forquet have been succeeded by today's megastars – Duboin, Bocchi, Sementa, Madala, Lauria, Versace. In all likelihood, whoever beats Italy will win these Championships.

Monaco, Switzerland, Israel – apologies that we have not singled you out for mention. Israel in particular harbour legitimate hopes of qualifying for the Bermuda Bowl. And Monaco may appeal as the Manchester City of the competition – a squad of multiple champions from different countries. They will be strongly fancied.

All of which leaves us with Austria and Germany. Austrians owe us nothing, but we owe them our thanks, for Strauss and Mozart and the like. And we plan to be especially nice to the Germans, who have kindly lent us all that money. If it were not for you guys, Ireland inc. would be kaput, nicht wahr? I once asked a German

girl if I could buy her a drink. "Nein!" she replied. Mein Gott in Himmel, she cost me a fortune! We now turn to the most frequent questions posed in correspondence prior to the Championships.

Helmut from Hamburg asks "will the ATMs be working over there?" A fair question, indeed. Helmut – the news is good. Not only will they be working, but you'll be getting your own money out of them.

Sven from Stockholm has another practical issue: "what is the legal drinking age in Ireland?" There's a simple rule here, Sven – if you can see over the counter, you're good to go!

Miguel from Madrid is evidently intent on doing the whole nine yards as a tourist. "Can you recommend some places to go and sights to see?" Well, the Irish National Stud is just a few miles away, in Kill. And at this time of year the foals will be in the fields with their mums. If you swing East to Wicklow there's Powerscourt – great walks and good shopping. In Kildare village you'll find the outlets, for some retail therapy. And in Dublin you could try the Guinness Storehouse, the National Gallery or the National Concert Hall. As regards sights to see, nobody could deny that the debates in our national parliament are a sight – but not in a good way, unless you like seeing halfwits trading insults.

Paolo from Parma is another who wants to do things right. "Can you give me advice on the do's and don'ts of your Irish culture?" That's a tough one, Paolo, because when it's your own culture, you're rarely best placed to see it as others do. But if anybody asks you "How's the crack?" you need not worry, they are not dealing hard drugs! The correct cultural reply is "Divil a bit" – just trust me on this one, ok? [Divil = Devil] Again, if you are greeted by "How's she cuttin'?" or "How's the world treatin' ye?" your response is "Never better, sure

il'm pullin' the Divil by the tail, so I am". Finally, in the likely event that you'll see some rain in your time here, your standard conversation opener is "That's a grand soft day, thank God!"

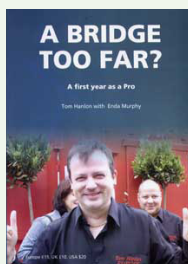
Michelle from Montpellier poses a delicate question. "I 'ave 'eard zat ze Irish men are not romantic – is zis true?" Michelle – ma belle – zis is NOT true, not even un peu! Nous sommes as romantic comme ze next man, et ze more drink nous avons, ze more romantic nous become, prenez-la from un qui knows! Et sont des mots qui vont tres bien ensemble!

And so – let the games begin! A prediction for the Open? Well, on form it must be Holland and Italy, with Monaco the dark horses. The very best of luck to everyone. Enjoy the Bridge as well as your time with us. You're among friends here for sure. As we close, we'll leave you with a quotation from one of Ireland's most famous descendants, John Fitzgerald Kennedy. When addressing our Parliament in 1963 [an oration commonly regarded as the best ever delivered on these shores], JFK remarked; "It is that quality of the Irish--that remarkable combination of hope, confidence and imagination--that is needed more than ever today. The problems of the world cannot possibly be solved by skeptics or cynics, whose horizons are limited by the obvious realities. We need men who can dream of things that never were, and ask why not".

At a time when the very future of Europe is beset by "the obvious realities", we invite all of our fellow Europeans to do just that.

Enda Murphy

*Enda is an award-nominated bridge author*



## SILVER FOR IRELAND

### A BRIDGE TOO FAR?

Enda Murphy has been playing bridge since the age of 13, and is a lecturer in Dublin Business School. He has written two books, both nominated for International Bridge Book of the Year. The first was "Silver for Ireland", an account of an historic performance by our Open Team in Warsaw 2006. The following year, Enda collaborated with Tom Hanlon to produce "A Bridge Too Far?" an account of Tom's first year as a bridge and poker professional.

Each book is priced at €10, or €15 for the pair  
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# A BRIEF HISTORY OF SAGGART

Saggart is an ancient place nestling quietly at the foot of the Dublin hills at the end of an ice-age valley leading into the Dublin and Wicklow foothills. As you approach from the Naas Road (N7) you will see this valley clearly and the Victorian Saggart Parish Church (RC) dominating the village. Directly opposite the Church is the entrance to Saggart Burial Ground and this was the site of a small early Christian church founded in the 7th century by a monk called Mosacra.

Some Celtic stones are still to be seen but the church has long since gone. A fine stone 18th century Georgian tomb to Edward Byrne, a wealthy merchant dominates the site. One of oldest stones is to be found in the far corner of this part of the graveyard near the footpath which encloses this section of the site. It's a round granite stone and on close inspection you can see a double-headed Celtic cross carved on it. It dates from the time of Mosacra and is similar to other carvings in the Saint Kevin Monastery site in Glendalough Co Wicklow.

Following Norman occupation Saggart became part of the Pale boundary and was fortified by a tower house in the 15th century near the City West Hotel. Remains can be seen close to Saggart House.

The Parish Church continues our ecclesiastical history when it was built after emancipation to serve Saggart, Rathcoole and Brittas. It was blessed in 1848 by Archbishop Daniel Murray who traveled out to Saggart on an August Sunday with a large entourage of Clerics and invited guests. A large crowd greeted them when they reached Saggart including 400 children ready for confirmation! The builders used local stone from Belgard and Wicklow granite for the gothic door and window opes. The wonderful stained-glass window by O'Casey was added later and depicts Irish saints and Our Lady to whom the church is dedicated. The altar rails are by well-known Irish artist Albert Power and were donated by the parishioner's of The Three Patrons Church in Rathgar.

A row of small cottages lined the main street of the village up to the 1950's and past the gable of Jacobs's pub the blacksmith had his forge. The original entrance to Mosacra's monastery was here and a stone wall can be seen in the garden in one of the houses backing on to the graveyard. A small window was in the gable of the pub to entice mourners leaving the graveyard in for refreshments and also as a watch out for grave robbers in the 18th/19th century when fresh bodies were in demand by the medical colleges in the city. This area is still called 'The Forge' after the local blacksmith.



Mill Road takes its name from the Swift Brook Paper Mill in Saggart which closed in late 1960. The site is now

developed for housing and some remains can be seen including the paper store building and the mill pond. This mill was an important part of the Industrial Heritage of Saggart/Rathcoole and was a major employer in the area and the eerie sound of the mill-horn was a feature of the village. Swiftbrook Paper Mill was founded by the McDonnell family who also had Mills in Clondalkin and Templeogue. It gained a number of prizes in the UK for the quality of its paper and past generations will recall its famous note paper trade mark 'Ancient Irish Velum'.

The official paper of the new Irish Government following independence was made in Swiftbrook Mill as was President Sean T. O'Kelly's official note paper.

The water supply to the mill comes from a stream fed by the Brittas Ponds and is divided by a sluice-gate in The Slade to a man-made stream which was constructed around 1880 to divert water supply to the mill pond.

The Swift Brook name is taken from an association with Jonathan Swift, who as Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral in the city, owned the ground rent of the land on which the mill stands. They also controlled the water supply which came through the still unspoilt area known as the Slade. It is reputed that one of his houses stood opposite the mill on Castle Road in the village. The stream that feeds the mill pond rejoins the Camac River and supplied mills at Corkagh (Gun Powder) and Clondalkin (Paper) Kilmainham (Woolen) before discharging into the Liffey at Island Bridge in the City.

*The hills so grand on either hand  
Which nature has arrayed  
With heather brown look sweetly down  
On lovely Saggart Slade*

'Lovely Saggart Slade' by John Meehan

Article by Liam Roche



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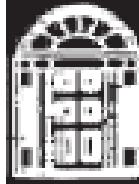
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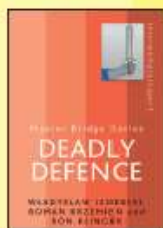
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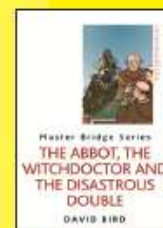
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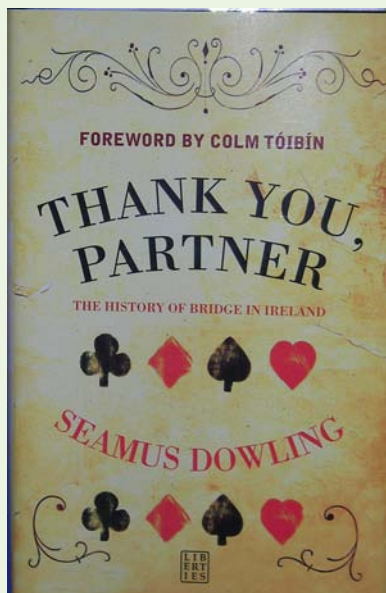


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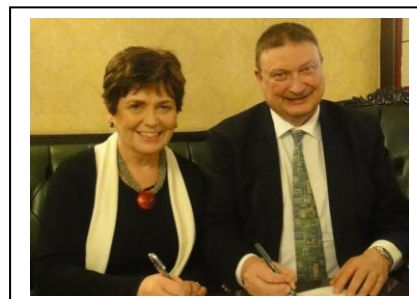
I'd like to take this opportunity to recognise the tireless work of the wonderful Irish Hospitality Team who have done so much in advance of the Championships, for their enthusiasm thus far and for all the work they plan to do in the coming weeks.

This guide started soon after the signing of the agreement with Yves Aubry and has followed a path from the designing of the Poster cover by Barry Jordan of Spear Design, courtesy of Fáilte Ireland, to a fact finding mission with the support of Gail McGibbon & Sarah Brooks of South Dublin County Tourism along with Ann Taaffe, a member of the clubs local to Citywest.

Olive Rose, our beloved editor of the CBAI yearly Newsletter, came on board at an early stage and worked tirelessly as always. Paul Porteous was always close at hand designing the Championship Logo with Hugh Trayer of Exhibit Design, and we were delighted when we were joined in the final stage by Rory Egan, renowned journalist and definitely a future renowned bridge player! Lisa Hickey worked hard with Rory to bring the guide to this final publication which I hope will help assist you in the planning of your time with us.

I would also like to sincerely thank the sponsors who have taken advertisements and I ask that you support them whenever you can. I thank those who have contributed articles and again I thank the hospitality task force listed below whose mission is to ensure an enjoyable experience for you as a player, a supporter or as a spectator.

Mary Kelly-Rogers  
Irish Bridge Union President/Championship Organising Committee



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