



shenanigans

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POLICING BILL MUST NOT COST MORE LOBBY NOW

“The prospect of charges being levied on community festivals for the services of An Garda Síochána must be resisted” is the message from AOIFE Chair Ian Malcolm.

“Festivals must lobby their TDs, Senators and Councillors to ensure that the possible charges in the Policing Bill are not levied on community festivals and not-for-profit events. The European and Local Elections take place in June. Now is the time to contact your politicians and demand what we deserve” Ian bluntly stated, “this is vote gathering time. Take full advantage of this and lobby them NOW!”

“The Bill, as drafted, would appear to confer on the Garda Commissioner the power to seek payment for police services where Gardaí are removed from normal crime detection and prevention roles. Minister McDowell in media briefings after the publication of the Bill seemed to equate all events with Rock Concerts and Professional Sports Stadium Events and made no allowances for community and civic festivals”.

AOIFE has received reports from member festivals over the past 12 months of Chief Superintendents seeking to levy huge policing fees on Festival Committees for Police work in relation to Traffic Flow, Crowd Control and Security under Event Licensing Regulations at community and Not-For-Profit Festivals. Some of the major festivals are being told by the local Gardaí that in 2004 charges will be levied and the amounts being mentioned could equal or surpass the annual insurance premium. “Charging festivals for the services

of Gardaí would add an intolerable burden to our members. Festivals across the Republic are struggling to survive the economic downturn and the consequent drop off in sponsorship. The proposed charges will result in the death of festivals” an angry AOIFE Chairperson told Shenanigans.

AOIFE is urging every Member in ROI to contact your TD, Senator and Councillor NOW to ensure that Minister McDowell specifically excludes community-based and not-for-profit events from any charges for the attendance and services of Gardaí. “Write to them, phone them, email them and turn up at their clinics demanding that the government recognises the continuing input of voluntary groups to building and sustaining Irish tourism” is the challenge Ian Malcolm is putting before everyone. “If you have 20 members on your committee that’s 20 letters, 20 telephone calls, 20 emails and 20 people at the clinic. And remind them all it’s 20 votes at election time!”

The National Executive is preparing a detailed submission to Minister McDowell on the case for excluding community-based and not-for-profit events. However it is essential that the submission is backed up by an intensive lobbying effort by members.

“Do it now. Don’t wait for the canvassers on your doorstep. By May or June it will be too late. Urgent and sustained campaigning by all of us is needed right now!” Ian concluded.

Shenanigans would welcome details of any feedback you receive from the politicians! ●

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Shenanigans extends congratulations to Richard Limb of the Symonds Group who has been elected President of NOEA. Richard has been a regular participant at AOIFE Conferences and we wish him every success in his Presidency of the National Outdoor Event Association.

WWW.ARTSLISTINGS.COM
www.art.ie, the Island of Ireland arts & entertainment website maintained by the two Arts Councils in Ireland, has been rebranded as www.artslistings.com. Alongside comprehensive What's On information, www.artslistings.com now features an on-line entertainment magazine and arts directories.

NICVA is holding an Information session for members on 25 March 2004 from 9.00am to 2.00pm. Delegates will be able to get up to date information and put forward their concerns on insurance; legal issues including data protection; and finance. For a brochure and booking form or if you require any further information please contact Frances McAtamney at NICVA on tel: 028 9087 7777 or email: frances.mcatamney@nicva.org. NICVA produces a series of excellent briefing documents via email, to subscribe send an email with 'subscribe' in the subject field to nicvalist@nicva.org

MONEY MAKES THE WORLD GO 'ROUND

The European Cultural Foundation is an independent foundation that promotes cultural participation and co-operation in Europe and beyond. Average grants amount to approx 10-15K but higher awards will be considered for larger-scale projects. Closing date for applications is 15 March. For full details log on to www.eurocult.org

The Northern Ireland Events Company Events Growth Fund targets home-grown/grassroots events, which have the potential to grow into major/international events. Grants of up to £30K can be awarded. Closing date for applications is 19 March. For information log on to www.nievents.co.uk. The Northern Ireland Events Company can be contacted at 028 9025 8868 or by email at nievents@dcalni.gov.uk

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland and the British Council have jointly established the **North/South Theatre Touring Scheme** to facilitate and extend opportunities for theatre companies to tour their work throughout Ireland. Applications must be received by 25 March. Telephone 028 9038 5200 for details or log on to www.artscouncil-ni.org

Get Active in the Community Cash Grant Awards 2004 is scheme is to increase the opportunities within the community in Northern Ireland for participation in health-enhancing physical activity, by providing financial support to community and voluntary groups to enable them to develop initiatives targeted at the sedentary population. In order to raise general levels of physical activities projects should facilitate overcoming of barriers to taking part in physical exercise or acquiring new skills or promotion of health benefits or the promotion of local facilities. The maximum grant available is £500 and the scheme is open to voluntary and community groups; school community groups; groups that have applied in previous years and groups that were awarded grants in previous years who complied with stated conditions. Deadline for applications is 19 March 2004, projects should take place between April 2004 – March 2005. Application forms can be downloaded from www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk. Return completed application forms to: Get Active in the Community Cash Grant Awards, The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, Grant administrators, Community House, Citylink Business Park, Albert Street, Belfast, BT12 4HQ.

Community Foundation for Ireland grants scheme. All communities in all parts of the Republic of Ireland may apply to the fund. Applications that will strengthen community involvement at local levels through the work of voluntary and community organisations will be favoured. Funding of a critical or start-up nature will be favoured. The Community Foundation will favour projects leading to the social inclusion of people and communities who are excluded by reason of geography, age, disability, family circumstances, poverty, gender or race. Applications should be made using The Community Foundation for Ireland Application Form and the deadline for applications is 31 March and 30 September 2004. For more information contact The Community Foundation for Ireland, 32 Lower O'Connell Street, Dublin 1. T: 01 874 7354 Email admin@foundation.ie or log on to www.cfi.foundation.ie

The Desmond Guinness Scholarship will be awarded annually by the Irish Georgian Foundation to an applicant or applicants resident in Ireland engaged in research on the visual arts in Ireland and on the work of Irish architects, artists and craftsmen at home and abroad 1600-1900. Special emphasis will be placed on work based on original documentary research. The Scholarship is intended primarily for applicants who are not yet established in research or publication of the visual arts. Form (double-sided A4) only to be submitted. Deadline for applications is 30 April and the Award will be made before the end of May 2004. Further information/short application form contact the Irish Georgian Society, 74 Merrion Square, Dublin 2. T: 01 676 7053
Email: info@irishgeorgiansoc.org

BUI BOLG INNOVATION INSPIRATION DETERMINATION

Bui Bolg are now entering their eleventh year servicing the Irish festival industry. A fact the company are extremely proud of particularly due to the challenging market in which they operate. The company employs ten full time staff working in the areas of design, construction, costume and administration.

Innovation, Inspiration, and Determination have been the driving force behind Bui Bolg's success enabling them to produce their own distinctive style of street art, which continues to prove extremely popular with both festival organisers and audiences alike. New designs are added to their extensive selection of puppets, costumes and floats, each year offering a greater choice

VOLUNTARY SERVICE INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Do you have a project that your organisation would like to see completed - or that you need a hand with - during 2004? Could a group of international volunteers help you?

Voluntary Service International (VSI) is a non-governmental organisation co-ordinating voluntary work projects or 'workcamps' in Ireland, they also send volunteers to projects in other countries. In 2003 VSI ran over 20 projects in Ireland, benefiting many community, voluntary and arts organisations nationwide. They are now planning their 2004 programme in Ireland.

The projects usually last between ten days and three weeks and generally have between 6 and 16 volunteer participants, from various countries. The official language on the projects is English.

Helen Walmsley explains: "VSI projects are a unique form of volunteering that bring people from different countries, cultures and back-



to clients. The company provide a wide range of services including community parades/workshops, walkabouts, floats, installations and commissions. Bui Bolg has successfully branched into the corporate market in recent years however their core activities remain festival based. The company are currently in production for the National St. Patrick's day parade in Dublin this will be their 9th year performing in the parade. This will be followed by the EU celebrations in Killarney on May 1st, a fantastic start to a busy festival season.

If you would like more information on Bui Bolg please check out their web site: www.buibolg.com or contact Stephanie on 053-23183. ●

grounds to live and work together on projects of benefit to local communities and organisations. We are committed to the promotion of peace and international understanding. As well as carrying out work, the volunteers learn about the work of the organisations and the issues that are important to them. There is often a structured learning element to the projects".

Some examples of recent projects are a video and photographic project with learning disabled adults in Dublin, recording details of gravestones in a cemetery in Co. Cork, apple harvesting and herb picking in Camphill Communities in Kilkenny and Tipperary, conservation of parkland in Co. Wicklow, the refurbishing of hand tools to be sent to Tanzania and helping with summer projects for Traveller and refugee children in Co. Meath.

If you would like further information please go to: www.vsiireland.org/sponsors or contact Helen Walmsley, Development Officer, VSI, 30 Mountjoy Square, Dublin 1. Email: vsi@iol.ie Tel: 01 855 1011 Fax: 01 855 1012 ●

NICETOKNOW

The Dublin Fringe is a multi-disciplinary festival of contemporary performing arts, providing an annual platform for innovative theatre, visual arts, dance, live art, mixed media and music. A wide range of venues are used each year, from theatres, to car parks, and the Spiegelent. The Dublin Fringe is now inviting applications for inclusion in the 2004 Festival. The deadline for receipt of applications is 5pm, Tuesday 13 April 2004.

Mephisto, an acoustic Jazz Trio, based in Santa Barbara California, is looking to book a European tour in Summer 2004. The group plays Gypsy Jazz in the style of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappeli and features Guitar, Cello and Bass. They have just completed a new CD of 12 original Jazz tunes with a Brazilian/Latin flavour. Mephisto can be contacted by email at james@stanco.com

International Live Music Conference XVI takes place from 12 - 14 March at the Royal Garden Hotel in London. As always the jam-packed "marathon agenda" aims to inform, challenge, provoke and entertain! For more details phone +44 20 7833 8998, fax +44 20 7833 or email ilmc@ilmc.com For full details on ILMC and the conference log on to www.ilmc.com

CELT the Centre for Environmental Living & Training in Co. Clare presents another Traditional Skills Course on May 1 and 2. Among the skills featured are Rustic Furniture, Gate-Hurdles, Wood Carving, Dry-stone Walling, Blacksmithing, Copper smithing, Yurt Construction, felt craft, Herb-lore, River Ecology, Tee-pee making, Basket Weaving and Longbow making. For further information check out www.greenguide.ie/celt Strong boots, waterproofs advised!

The International Live Music Conference Safety Focus Group and Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College have been awarded a grant by the European Occupational Health and Safety Agency to produce freely available guidance on the assessment and management of risks to workers in the live music industry. The Project Co-ordinator is Penny Mellor, a regular attendee and presenter at AOIFE Conferences. As part of the initial work for the project, they are gathering information from people connected with the live music industry about what they see as the most dangerous activities carried out by workers at events, and accidents people are aware of.

Data is being collected across 12 European countries. What Penny and her colleagues are looking for, from all the information they can collect, are patterns showing the types of most frequent injuries, the most significant injuries, similar accidents happening to people doing the same work and a measure of how accident rates in the live music industry compare with other industries. They will be producing a summary in English of all the information collected and *Shenanigans* hopes to include summary findings in a future issue.

In the interim Penny Mellor can be contacted at 8 Southern Street, London N1 9AY or by fax to +44 20 7833 4988 or by email to pennymellor@netscape.net.

FANCY A DAY OUT IN DOWNPATRICK?

Damien Brannigan, Community Relations Officer of Down District Council is looking to make contact with groups, bands, street performers and owners of novelty attractions who might be interested in participating in its annual St Patrick's Day Cross-Community Carnival Parade in Downpatrick, County Down, on Wednesday 17 March 2004 at 2.30 pm.

The parade is one of the biggest and most prestigious cross-community events in the District's civic calendar. It is also regarded as one of the best events of its kind in Northern Ireland. In January 2001 the Council received the Model of the Year Parade Award at the NI Community Co-operation Initiative Awards. The theme for the parade is 'A Celebration of European Legends, Myths & Landmarks' and has been chosen to mark the enlargement of the European Union from 15 to 25 member countries in 2004.

A prize of £200 and a perpetual cup will be presented to each of the seven best entries in the parade.

Non-commercial groups entering the parade will receive an attendance fee of £100. Bands will receive an attendance fee of £300. All parade entrants will receive hospitality vouchers and a certificate of attendance

The closing date for the receipt of entries for the parade is Friday 5th March 2004.

For further information, rules and conditions of entry and a parade entry form, please contact: The Community Relations & Development Section, Down District Council, 24 Strangford Road, Downpatrick, Co Down, BT30 6SR. Tel: (028) 44 610853. E-mail: damienb.community@downdc.gov.uk

FORGET SPONSORSHIP AS YOU KNOW IT

North American companies will spend more on sponsorship in 2004 than ever before, but the types of properties they will spend that money on and how they will use them will change fundamentally

"The new year marks a threshold for sponsorship," IEG founder and president Lesa Ukman told *Shenanigans*. "The industry will grow at a healthy pace, but the source of that growth will be much different than in the past."

For many years, blockbuster new deals with high-priced properties have fuelled sponsorship's growth. That is no longer the case. The industry will not continue to see the constant creation of big-ticket opportunities. Instead, expansion will come as the result of partnerships with a wider array of non-traditional partners, including deals with traditional broadcast properties that include a sponsorship element. In addition to a change in the types of partnerships, the nature of sponsorships and their relation to consumers, business-to-business audiences and other constituencies is shifting as well. "People have changed and the way we use

sponsorship to reach them must change also," Lesa Ukman said. "The chasm that separates the values and expectations of the changed consumer from the signs, ad spots and short-term-volume goals of traditional sponsorship creates a huge opportunity for forward-thinking sponsors and properties to make a real impact by creating real value for themselves and their stakeholders."

IEG is so convinced that sponsorship has reached a crossroads, that it has themed its annual conference Forget Sponsorship...As You Know It. Innovative chief marketing officers who are leading next-generation sponsorship programs are keynoting the conference, including Micky Pant of Reebok, Larry Light of McDonald's and Warren Kornblum of Toys "R" Us.

IEG is the world's leading provider of independent research, training and analysis on sponsorship. IEG also is the leader in sponsorship training. Through its conferences and seminars, IEG has trained more than 25,000 sponsorship executives worldwide.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Treasurer June Carey wants to remind everyone of the Membership Fees ratified at the AGM last November. She would also like to remind all Corporate and Associate Members that fees are due since January and your cheques now would be appreciated!

Member Festivals in Ireland are reminded that participation in the AOIFE Insurance Scheme is confined to member festivals only, so it is important that you renew your membership promptly when it falls due!

Individual Membership is a new category of membership and is open to any person that the National Executive Committee in its sole discretion may admit to membership and upon payment of a membership fee. Such persons may include but are not limited to those who

have previously been involved with an AOIFE member festival or AOIFE itself and who wish to participate in the affairs of AOIFE, receive its publications, access its networks and attend its seminars, training courses and conferences. A registered individual member does not have the right to nominate, propose or vote on any matter of business of AOIFE but may fully participate in any debate or discussion at AGMs, EGMs, etc.

Member Festivals in Ireland: €125

International Member Festivals: €150

Corporate Members: €175

Associate Members: €175

Individual Members: €40

conference2004

november 12, 13 & 14 **mill park hotel donegal town**

NOVEL APPROACH INTERACTIVE TRAINING

Sound, Lighting, Staging and Promoters

Ever felt you would like to know more about how a PA or sound system works?

Why a spot light takes so long to warm up?

Why a promoter insists on contracts and riders?

AOIFE will help provide answers to those questions at a novel one day interactive programme. This practical workshop will be given by experts in their field and the objective is to have you up to speed with the jargon and concepts in this technical area.

WHAT: INTERACTIVE TRAINING FOR THOSE LIAISING WITH ACTS

WHEN: Saturday 20 March 2004 at 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Town Hall Theatre Ballinasloe

COST: €35 for members (festivals, corporates & associates)
€70 for non members

HOW: Download the Registration Form from www.aoifeonline.com

The Course will be run subject to minimum numbers. Early Registration is advisable ●

Scurlogstown Oympiad of Trim (Co. Meath) kick off 2004 activities with a Dinner & Social Evening on Sunday 7 March. On 30 April the group are off to Ballymacarberry (Co. Waterford) for what PRO John Marron describes as a "dancing, hill walking and craic". The festival highlights include a 'High Nellie Tour' on June 18 ("get out yer auld bikes" says John) and the Duck Race on the River Boyne on June 19. "A full programme is planned: a venue for new bands and budding young singers, the Céilí Mór and, of course, the centrepiece which is the traditional haymaking festival on Sunday, June 20. Full details will be announced in due course. In the meantime you can log on to www.scurlogstown.com" John told us. On August 1 the committee are off to Bavaria in Germany for the World Scythe Cutting Championships and anybody interested in travelling should contact Bernie at 046 955 5091.

Guess we all know that there is a Dublin in the Republic of Ireland and at least 3 in the United States so maybe the recent News Release from the International Song Writing Competition of Nashville (that's in Tennessee in the good ole US of A, folks) can be forgiven for stating that "Many songwriters from the United Kingdom also placed extremely well in the competition, taking home honors in a variety of categories, including: "All That I Know" by Patrick Freyne/Pol O'Conghaile (Dublin, Ireland)"!

Need volunteers for your festival? Club Teli is a French non profit-making organisation that enables motivated people to get in contact with work opportunities abroad. The organisation has been providing advice and classified ads to its 3800+ members in 30 countries in order to help them bring their overseas projects to fruition since 1992. Most of their readers are now looking for Internships, Summer Jobs or Volunteer positions (paid or unpaid). Club Teli would be glad to receive any vacancy you would like to advertise for. These vacancies will be spread through their Newsletters and on-line job site, free of charge on one condition only: the applicants need pay nothing (no agency fee, no language courses...) to get the jobs. For further information log on to www.teli.asso.fr/appli-process.htm

Hohodza Band and the energetic fabulous dancing queens are a Zimbabwean original group, which emerged in 1992 and are touring this part of the world throughout 2004. Hohodza consists of a very well polished group of 10 male players and dancers and 5 glamorous dancing queens. Mike Stephens told Shenanigans "When you experience Hohodza Music, it is a new feeling and rhythm you will never forget. Having blended traditional instruments like the mbira, marimba, percussion and skin on wood drums with modern instruments successfully producing some very exquisite sounds. Their fast paced, highly danceable music features not only the rapid-fire guitar we have come to expect from Zimbabwean compositions, but excellent harmonies as well". Contact Mike Stephens on 01269 597118 or e-mail a2e@btconnect.com for more information.

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each national executive member acts as 'point of contact' for festivals in assigned counties.

AOIFE/IFEA DUBLIN CONFERENCE

Festivals and Cultural Events : Opportunities in the Enlarged EU

"A two day Seminar which involves training and updating senior festival producers, cultural animators, policy makers and event managers on issues and themes that affect their work and how the new landscape of the EU will offer opportunities for cultural programming. Keynote speakers and focused dialogue with EU policy makers and funders should provide all delegates with a new understanding of the role and platform that festivals will play in strengthening Cultural development on a variety of European levels."

If you have not already received the full conference programme & booking form by email please telephone the AOIFE office at 090 964 3779 or email info@aoifeonline.com



ON THE ROAD REGIONAL BRIEFINGS

AOIFE takes to the road again in the coming weeks for a series of Regional Briefings for Members (Festivals, Corporates and Associates), Arts Officers, Regional Tourism Organisations and other bodies involved in the promotion of tourism, those working in the Community Development sector, service providers and festivals who are not (yet) members of AOIFE.

The Briefings will take place on Tuesday, 30 March from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

"The 2-hour briefings are an opportunity for the National Executive to learn at first hand the problems being encountered by members, to review the range of services AOIFE is providing and generally raise awareness at regional level of the work of the association" Ian Malcolm explained, "it is a listening and learning opportunity for everyone".

"I would ask our Members to get in touch with those festivals that may not be members and invite them along. Everyone is welcome, including festival organisers who are not members but want to know what we are about"

Attendance is free and tea or coffee will be served if the budget holds up. (At Shenanigans we believe there is a definite recruitment element to these Regional Meetings, existing members of AOIFE know there is no such thing as free tea and coffee!).

"We want to see as many people as possible at these Briefings. It is a key element in our networking, an opportunity to learn from one another. Just Be There!" Ian enthusiastically concluded.

The **Eastern Regional Briefing** will be held in the **Ambassador Hotel, Kill, Co. Kildare.**

The **Southern Regional Briefing** will be held in **The Viaduct Inn, Bandon Road, Cork City.**

The **Western Regional Briefing** will be held in the **Enterprise & Technology Centre, Creagh, Ballinalsoe, Co. Galway** (familiar address!)

Jeff Marshall is currently planning Briefings in Armagh and Derry. Festivals in the Northeast and Northwest will be contacted directly.

As always Members are welcome to attend any Briefing. If 30 March is not convenient you are welcome attend in Armagh or Derry. Contact the office for details in due course at info@aoifeonline.com or by telephone at 090 964 3779.

Perspectives 2004 enters its eighth year with an extended run to celebrate the Centenary of Bloomsday. This year's Perspectives includes a series of international lectures. The James Joyce Centre has invited the Italian Cultural Institute, the Goethe Institut, Instituto Cervantes, Instituto Camões and Alliance Française to participate in this series of lectures by inviting a writer, lecturer or critic to represent his or her perspective on Joyce and his various influences. The speakers includes Prof. Franca Ruggieri on 24 March; Francisco Garcia Tortosa on 31 March; on 7 April Mr Régis Salado; Joachim Kalka on 14 April and the series concludes on 21 April with Prof. Carlos Ceia. Lectures begin at 8:00 p.m. and admission is €7 (concession €5). The venue is The James Joyce Centre, 35 North Great George's Street, Dublin 1

Elaine Campbell of NICVA wants to know if you have checked out NICVA's online Community Diary? Find out what training and events are on within the community sector that might interest you, or check to ensure your conference doesn't clash with someone else's launch. All the information is right at your fingertips and instantly accessible on NICVA's website. Plus you can enter details of your own group's activities directly to the site with a simple, one-page entry form. Best of all, it's free. For more information, contact Elaine Campbell at elaine.campbell@nicva.org. Access the diary at www.nicva.org/events/diary/index.asp.

AOIFE CONFERENCE SHOWCASE 2003

Superb Entertainment For Your Festival

Those who attended Conference 2003 agree that the acts featured in Showcase were of an extremely high standard. Those of you who weren't there missed out on some really superb performances.

All these acts are available for your festival. Check 'em out. They supported your conference. They deserve your support!



Thunder Drums 087 673 1043



Capall na gCulchie 087 243 9760



Artastic 087 638 3605



Teatro Punto
091 860 727



World Gypsy Meets French Chanson 087 797 3639



Acabella 087 621 5136



Alanna 087 689 9345

BALLINASLOE PARLIAMO ITALIANO

Shenanigans welcomes Manuela Lapenta and Paola Santarsiero to the AOIFE Office. The 2 Italian postgraduate students are on a placement with AOIFE researching Irish festivals throughout the world and working with Nicole to develop a new marketing plan for the association.

Manuela is from Potenza "on the fabulous Appennines in the South of Italy". A graduate in Foreign Languages and Literatures, she is pursuing a Master's in Network Management of Cultural and Environmental Heritage. "I'm very interested in cultural activities and I think that culture could be useful to help my region to grow. I'm in Ireland to learn as much as possible about cultural networks from Nicole's work and AOIFE's activities."

Paola Santarsiero is also a native of Potenza. "I have studied Science of Communication for the past five years and I am currently working on my Master's Degree in Network Management of Cultural and Environmental Heritage. Working with AOIFE is a great opportunity to learn how to create an important network between cultural associations and institutions at home in Italy".

Manuela and Paola have both expressed the wish to make a useful contribution to the work of AOIFE, "especially for the contribution we can give because of the different experiences and cultural vision that we have." And so say all of us! ●



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