

SHEENANIGANS



Vol. 1 Issue 3

October 2000

LAUNCH OF GUIDELINES

PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS

A new feature at *Conference 2000* is the facility for private "one-on-one" consultations with:

Peter Thomas of PJT Insurance Services on any insurance queries.

Nicole Mulholland on matters relating to the Co-Operation Ireland Community Festivals Networking Programme.

Phillip Page of Global Salsa regarding our new AOIFE website or any questions you have regarding the design of a website for your festival.

Eddie O'Donoghue who will advise on securing funding and controlling your finances generally.

AOIFE Advisory Council Members for discreet and confidential advice.

Consultations are of 20 minutes duration and by appointment only. To make an appointment contact the Conference Registration Team.

HAVE YOU BOOKED FOR CONFERENCE ?

DO IT TODAY!

PHONE (0402) 32732
FAX (0402) 91030


The guidelines represent a major AOIFE initiative to ensure consistent application of 'best practice' by AOIFE members in relation to procedures and principles of event organisation.

The guidelines encompass a broad range of situations encountered by festival organisers and include such topics as recommended procedures for a committee chairman, how to host a press reception and staging a street event.

Brid Moriarty, AOIFE Standards Officer describes the Guidelines as "straight forward, easy to understand and totally relevant to festival organisers". "They are a series of recommended practices and

procedures that will help individual member organisations. These Guidelines are just that: guidelines. We want our Members to adapt the guidelines as necessary to suit their own situation".

The most cost-effective and efficient way to make the guidelines available is to have them available on the new AOIFE web site and they will be updated and amended as required. Guidelines will be accessible to all paid-up members using your Membership Reference Number.

The Guidelines will be launched officially at *Conference 2000* at 12.15 p.m. on Sunday November 12th. 

SUBMIT YOUR PROGRAMME and/or POSTER

"We will present 2 awards at *Conference 2000* to encourage creativity and design among our Member Festivals" announced Gráinne McLoughlin.

Member Festivals are invited to submit a copy of their programme booklet and / or poster. The deadline for submissions is 12:00 noon on Saturday November 11th at the conference.

The 2 awards, Best Programme and Best Poster, will be presented during the Gala Banquet.



Welcome to the October issue of *Shenanigans*.

It is with regret that I must advise of the resignation of Angela McQuaid from the National Executive for reasons of health. I know that everyone joins with me in extending to Angela our very best wishes for a speedy and full recovery.

The focus in this edition is firmly fixed on *Conference 2000*, which takes place next month in Ennistymon - as if you didn't know!

A limited number of items on the conference programme remain to be confirmed as we go to print. However, I believe that the core elements are now in place: the workshops, plenary sessions, launch of the Guidelines, the commissioning of our website, the Showman's Show and the 'craic' that will all ensure an informative and enjoyable conference. The 'Private Consultations' facility is an innovative development that complements the traditional format.

I look forward to welcoming you to *Conference 2000* at Ennistymon on Friday night November 10th at 9:30 p.m. and I promise to keep the speech short!

Sincerely,

DAN



www.euro-festival.net

www.inforegio.ccc.eu.int/wbnews/document/PDF/ns0002607/uk_en.doc

www.irlgov.ie/finance/csfsummary1.htm

www.scenis.org

www.smartgroups.com/cb



NOMINATIONS TO THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

The deadline for submission of nominations to the National Executive is 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 11th.

Nominations must be submitted to Elizabeth McLoughlin, AOIFE Administrator, at the Registration Desk.

NEED TO KNOW NICE TO KNOW

The National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO) has changed address. NISO are now located at Trident House, Main Street, Blackrock, Co. Dublin (Tel: 01-2159266 Fax: 01-2159269 E-mail: niso@iol.ie)

One of our Corporate Members, Higgins Furniture and Catering Equipment Hire, has moved to new premises at Unit 13 Westlink Industrial Estate, Oranmore, Co. Galway (Tel: 091-795841 Fax: 091-795842)

Send items for inclusion in SHENANIGANS to: Victor Ryan Communications Officer AOIFE Administration Office 1 Upper Main Street Arklow, Co. Wicklow Fax (0402) 91030 email aoifeireland@eircom.net

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GALA BANQUET



Baked Chicken and Mushroom Vols au Vents
Fantail of Melon – Peach Coulis

Breaded Supreme of Chicken, Provençale Sauce
Fillet of Beef Wellington
Poached Salmon with a Lobster Sauce
Vegetarian Stir Fry

Julienne of Carrots Broccoli Hollandaise
Roast and Baby Boiled Potatoes

Medley of Desserts

Tea or Coffee



AWARDS

At the conclusion of the Gala Banquet awards will be presented for the Best Programme and Best Poster submitted by Member Festivals.

The final presentation of the evening is the **Donal O'Driscoll Memorial Award**. This Award is made annually in recognition of outstanding news coverage of festival events. The AOIFE National Executive selects the Recipient.



SOME PEOPLE YOU WILL MEET



Brian Looney began his journalism career as a reporter with the Limerick Echo. He became the youngest editor in the country when he was appointed to the top job in The Kerryman, aged 28. In 1995 he joined the then Cork Examiner. He pioneered the transition first to The Examiner, and earlier this year, Irish Examiner. Since he joined the newspaper sales have grown from just over 52,000 to almost 65,000.

Peter Thomas FCII is Chief Executive of PJT Insurance Services. The Dublin-based chartered insurance practitioner is an acknowledged expert in the area of festival event insurance.



Nicole Mulholland is Programme Manager with Co-Operation Ireland. Nicole's responsibilities include the management of the Community Festivals Networking Programme.

Eddie O'Donoghue is Managing Director of O'Donoghue Financial Services, a company founded in 1984. Married with 3 children Eddie is a keen golfer and a member of Dooks and Beaufort Golf Clubs. He is currently Financial Controller of Puck Fair.



Phillip Page of GlobalSalsa.com is the designer of AOIFE's stunning new website, to be launched at Conference 2000. GlobalSalsa.com is based at Sandycove, County Dublin.

Louis Harte established LHP Production Services six years ago. The firm has grown to become one of Ireland's leading event management companies. Car Free Day for Dublin Corporation, FM104's Monster Day Out, St. Patrick's Festival 2000 and Skyfest 2000 fireworks display are some of the events managed.



Yanky Fachler is a professional script writer for brochures, newsletters and websites. An international amateur theatre personality based in Dundalk, Yanky runs workshops on public speaking, presentation skills, motivation and image promotion.

Miriam Dunne is Programme Director of Waterford Spraoi. Administrator with Red Kettle Theatre Co. for 7 years, Miriam left in 1994 to help establish Waterford Spraoi - among the foremost festival and street spectacle companies. One of 5 full time staff, she has special responsibility for programming and financial planning. In February 1999 she became Chairperson of the first Board of Directors.



Declan Gibbons is the General Manager of Macnas and has been with the company for eight years. He is also a guitarist and song writer and the father of "three wonderful children".

The Conference Registration Team comprises (left to right) **Anne Kenny, Elizabeth McLoughlin** and **Jo Goodison**. They will be working closely with Colm Croffy who is responsible for Delegate Relations.





CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Friday 10th

5.00-9.00 p.m. Conference Registration

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Showman's Show 2000

Showman's Show 2000 is located in the hotel ballroom. A must for every Delegate!

9.30 p.m. You were all great to come!

Address of Welcome by Dan O'Donoghue, Chairman of AOIFE - who promises to keep his remarks short - at Showman's Show 2000, followed by a wine reception

10:30 p.m. Networking Evening Meeting Friends Old and New
Shaun O'Dowd provides the background music in the hotel bar. Don't ask what time the bar will close to residents...!

Saturday 11th

9.00 a.m. Conference Registration

10.00 a.m. Opening Session

"Meeting the Needs of the Media"

Brian Looney, Editor of The Irish Examiner

10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Private Consultations

11.15 a.m. Workshops

"A Basic Guide to Crowd Management"

Louis Harte of LHP Production Services

"Presentation Skills"

Yanky Fachler

12 noon Brunch

Brunch for all delegates and partners is served in the main dining room.

1.15 p.m. Public Entertainment Licences

Victor Ryan presents a detailed overview of the key elements of this important provision in the new Planning Act.

Penny Mellor, Health & Safety Consultant, details the U.K. experience of Public Entertainment Licences

2.15 p.m. Workshops

"The Making of a Street Theatre Parade"

Declan Gibbons, General Manager of Macnas

"Managing the event. Getting it right!"

Miriam Dunne, Programme Director of Waterford Spraoi

"Presentation Skills"

Yanky Fachler

3.15 p.m. Coffee

3.30 - 4.45 p.m. Swap Shops

The Swap Shops are an opportunity to exchange ideas, perhaps find the solution to a problem and generally network with like-minded individuals. To ensure that the swap shops prove effective they are categorised as:

- Festivals whose annual expenditure is less than £15,000
- Festivals whose annual expenditure exceeds £15,000 and is less than £30,000
- Festivals whose annual expenditure exceeds £30,000 and is less than £50,000
- Festivals whose annual expenditure exceeds £50,000

5.00 p.m. Extraordinary General Meeting

The EGM is to consider and adopt proposals emanating from the study *"The Way Forward"*

5.15 p.m. AOIFE Annual General Meeting

- Adoption of Chairman's Report
- Adoption of Secretary's Report
- Adoption of Treasurers' Report
- Election of National Executive Members

Each fully paid-up Member Festival represented at Conference is entitled to one vote. The Ballot Paper for the election of National Executive Members will be issued at Conference Registration.

7.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m. Champagne Reception in Bar

8.00 p.m. Fireworks Display

8.30 p.m. Dinner

Throughout dinner Sylvano the Magician will be circulating bamboozling us all with sleight of hand. After the Awards Ceremony has concluded Niall Toibín will present his inimitable brand of humour and this will be followed by Gerry Trew, Rod Stewart Tribute Artist. Finally The Kaye Twins will provide the music for dancing into the wee hours.....

Sunday 12th

11.00 a.m. Risk Assessment

Richard Limb of Symonds Group Ltd., specialist in risk assessment.

11.45 Review of Arts Legislation

Simeon Smith presents the results of his research and details AOIFE's submission on the review of arts legislation.

12.15 p.m. Launch of Guidelines

Brid Moriarty and Victor Ryan will launch this important new service to Members.

1.30 p.m. Open Forum and wrap up

Slán abhaile. May the Good Lord keep you in the palm of his hand until we next meet.

Don't forget to submit your Programme and/or Poster to Elizabeth McLoughlin by 12.00 noon on Saturday, November 11th



GETTING TO KNOW YOU



June

June Carey has been involved directly in the Rose of Tralee International Festival for over 20 years. She was Chairman for 3 years, has served on the Board of Directors “for years” and held the office of Trustee. Nowadays her specific area of blame is the Escorts!

June declined to explore the relationship between a married woman and all these bronzed young men. “I work in the accounting field on a part-time basis, I am married to Joe and my 3 daughters are Lisa (16), Emily (14) and Susan (10). I decline to answer any questions about Escorts on the grounds of self-incrimination” she declared.

“In 1996 I attended my first conference in Ennis, and was invited onto the Media sub-committee. In 1997 I was elected to the National Executive where I have been directly involved in the Public Relations area. I have published the past two yearbooks as well as being Joint Treasurer” June explained.

“During my time with AOIFE the organisation has gone from strength to strength and I am delighted with the direction we are taking. I believe AOIFE is now the recognised voice of Festival Event Organisers and a major benefit to all member festivals and corporate members” she concluded. So much for the Escorts!

Elizabeth McLoughlin is the AOIFE Administrator. “How did I become involved with AOIFE? I saw an advertisement for a mature person with administrative experience to supervise a



Elizabeth

Community Employment Scheme for 3 years. I applied, got the job and 7 years later I am still supervising and enjoying every minute of it” Elizabeth explains.

A native of Arklow, married to Tommy and with one son James, Elizabeth worked with Arklow Pottery “for years and years” in the accounts department. “I have a strong background in accounting, I have been a member of Arklow Music Festival for over 15 years and I love meeting people. Working with AOIFE as Administrator was exactly the kind of job I wanted” she enthuses.

“I absolutely love music of every kind. If I’m not listening to music I am stuck in a book. Tommy says I’m a regular bookworm!” she laughingly admits. “I also collect porcelain dolls so if there is an antique shop in Ennistymon I’ll be visiting”.

Currently Elizabeth is concentrating on processing Conference Applications with her team of Sandra Hogan, Anne Kenny and Jo Goodison who are the 3 participants in the CE Scheme who are assigned to AOIFE. “There is a total of 12 in the team with others assigned to Arklow Music Festival and the Chamber of Commerce. In the interests of development all participants are assigned to other duties whenever possible” Elizabeth concluded.

“Islanders have a ‘can-do’ attitude that is bred into us” **Dan O’Donoghue** explained. Born on Valentia Island 41 years ago Dan says that the island exerts an influence on him still. Dan and



Dan

his wife Theresa have 2 children, Anna (14) and Alan (11) and live in Tralee where Dan is employed in a management sales development role with the Top Part Group.

“I began playing the piano accordion every Sunday night at the age of 13. Music is one of the most important things in my life. I love to play music and to listen to it. I play the keyboards and piano accordion and since my days with the Valentia Pipe Band I have played the bagpipes. My remaining musical ambition is to learn the uilleann pipes” Dan smilingly admitted.

“I am an active member of the Rose of Tralee International Festival and visiting other festivals all over Ireland has been a great experience. I love attending any event where live music is played and the added bonus of making so many new friends has been fantastic. My only problem has been if an event clashed with the annual Valentia Regatta - I never miss that” Dan concluded.

As we ended our chat Dan mentioned one happy coincidence “my wife Theresa is from Ennistymon and County Clare is the one place after Kerry I would love to live in”. Sounds like “An tOileánach” will enjoy *Conference 2000!*

“My first involvement with AOIFE was when I attended a regional meeting in Galway, later attended the AGM and found myself elected as Regional Co-ordinator” **Mary Phelan** the current Joint Treasurer explained. “AOIFE has been a great well of



Mary

knowledge for me. It has enhanced my involvement with my own festival; the networking with other festivals is a great encouragement and I thoroughly enjoy the ‘craic’” declared the Ballinasloe native who says that “I couldn’t escape being on the committee of the great Ballinasloe October Horse Fair and Festival”.

“I have been secretary of our festival for more years than I care to remember - but I’m sure there are a few people now counting - and I have worked in a secretarial capacity with the Archbishop of Tuam and as Parish Secretary” Mary continued.

Mary Phelan is in her third year as Joint Treasurer of AOIFE. She admits that “giving of time in a voluntary capacity can sometimes intrude on personal areas of your life. But, even in saying that, I would encourage and invite members of other festivals to join sub-committees or the National Executive. You meet wonderful people who make all the effort worthwhile”

Mary is driving a key project: registering AOIFE as a limited company. “This is a very necessary development. The publication of the Guidelines and the growth in income and expenditure are the basis for setting up a limited company. The process is both intricate and time consuming but I am confident it will be brought to a successful conclusion shortly” the Joint Treasurer concluded.