



**Kilburn Party by Graham Smith** It was taken in the 1980s at a party at Quex Road Church. We were passing and I took a photo of these Irish lads, who posed for me. I then made a painting from the photo.



# Irish Chaplaincy SENIORS

Irish Chaplaincy in Britain

Summer 2014

## Seniors in Southwark



Paul, Stafford and Eugene attended the Caritas Roadshow in the Archdiocese of Southwark on Saturday 21st June which was led by Archbishop Peter Smith and Bishop Pat Lynch at St. Peter's Parish, Woolwich. The day was a great success with over 100 delegates celebrating the wealth of Catholic social action taking place across the diocese and beyond. We set up an Irish Chaplaincy display and spoke to people about the work we do in helping isolated and vulnerable older Irish people gain a sense of belonging and value.

Our display (and our free mugs!) brought the Irish Chaplaincy Seniors project to the attention of clergy, religious and parishioners from throughout the Archdiocese of Southwark. We have been receiving new referrals from south London, so we hope to see some new volunteers as a result of our participation in the Roadshow.

Thank you to the staff of Caritas Social Action Network for organising the Roadshow and for inviting us, and thank you to the people of St Peter's Parish for opening their doors for this inspiring event.

“Recognising the special place of the poor in God’s heart and in God’s people Pope Francis calls us to be close to, to listen to, to reach out to, to speak up for and especially to find ways to include the poorest and most vulnerable in our society. This is an enormous challenge and it is also a great privilege – the privilege of showing God’s love to our world today.”



Bishop Pat Lynch, speaking at the Caritas Roadshow

### Not made your Will? Have it done free!



During the month of October people 55 and over will have the opportunity to have their simple Wills written or updated free of charge by using solicitors participating in the **Free Wills Month** campaign.

An up to date Will written by a solicitor ensures your wishes are respected. It also avoids difficult decisions and legal complications for your loved ones. Free Wills Month allows you to make your wishes known, provide for family and friends and leave a gift to your chosen charities too.

To find local solicitors who will prepare a free Will for you as part of this campaign, go online to **freewillsmoonth.org.uk** (If you don't have internet access, call Irish Chaplaincy Seniors at **020 7482 3274** and we will do an online search for you.)

### Irish Chaplaincy in Britain

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Editor/Designer: Eugene Dugan

## Homeland

by Deirdre McCarthy

Around our sleeping heads, the mist of dawn swirled,  
And we dreamed of whispering waterfalls  
With water dripping slow.  
I saw the rising silver sun, like pneuma on dull clay,  
Breathe light into each living thing,  
and flame it into being.

And in this strange city, this universe of crowds,  
I sometimes see beyond its shroud  
the flickerings of that world;  
The grey, windswept sea; its powerful cadence  
speaking of all things unspoken;  
The golden forest dense with birdsong,  
and the murmurings of the sacred stream.  
Such beauty, only maskings can reveal,  
For what is shown in the darkest night  
Is discerned more clear by inner light.

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Thank you, Deirdre, for submitting this poem. We welcome creative contributions from our readers.

The longest place name in Ireland is  
Muckanagherdauhaulia, in County Galway.



### Sr Bernadine McNulty, RIP

We are very sad to hear of the recent death of Sr Bernadine McNulty R.S.M. Sister Bernadine was a treasured outreach worker who volunteered for the Irish Chaplaincy by visiting and supporting isolated elderly Irish people. Originally from Swinford, Co Mayo, Sister Bernadine was a member of the Castleblayney, Co Monaghan community of the congregation of the Sisters of Mercy. May she rest in eternal peace.

## My Grandfather and the Great War

by Anne Cullen Harding, ICSeniors Volunteer



**Remembered with Honour, Rifleman Richard Evans K.L.R.**

Fouquieres Churchyard Extension in northern France, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, holds special significance for my family. It is here that my grandfather, Richard Evans, is buried. He was killed in action in France on 26 September 1918, aged 37 years. I would like to share with you one of his letters back home to his wife, Annie Roche Evans of Saltmills, Co Wexford.

*My darling wife,*

*Just a few lines hoping and trusting that, as the weather gets warmer, you will get well and be your dear old self again.*

*I am afraid dearie, you must be prepared to hear that I am going to France next week, without leave. Everyone in England has to go without leave. I would give my life not to have to tell you this but God help me it must be done and you must face it bravely, as you have often faced trouble before and for our children's sake. You must forget me being out there and think of me still in England. You can't do me any good by worrying and if I know that my own little girl is quietly and calmly waiting for the day when I return I shall be contented, for I am coming back. I feel that I shall before this year is out. The war will be over and I will be united to you once more and forever more. Won't that be grand?*

*Annie dear, promise me you won't worry - the time will soon slip by. I am going again to Holy Communion on Sunday and will offer it up for your health, so cheer up love and I will look forward to us being lovers once more. Heaps of love and kisses to your dear self and our sunny children.*

*From your loving and devoted Husband.*

*Xxxxx*

*Xxxx*

*Xxx*

*I will send a wire at the last minute.*



Tell us if you know of any monuments or memorials with interesting connections to Ireland or Irish people.