

Celebrate Clannad's 40th at TradFest

BY SEÁN P. FEENY

It's hard to believe but one of Ireland's greatest musical exports and the pride of Gaioth Dobhair, Clannad are celebrating their 40th anniversary this year and.

The world famous Donegal group will take to the stage at the annual Temple Bar TradFest (templebartrad.com), which takes place from January 26 to 30, to kick off this very special year with three concerts at Dublin's Christ Church Cathedral.

This performance is set to be unique and indeed rare, as TradFest 2011 will play host to their first performance in Dublin in almost half a decade. Besides this, Moya, Ciaran, Noel and Padraig are delighted to welcome Pol back into the band.

From humble beginnings performing in Leo's Tavern, Meenaleck, playing at the Letterkenny Folk Festival to collaborating with fellow superstars like Bono and writing BAFTA award-winning theme songs for television and Hollywood blockbusters - it's been an amazing journey for the Brennans and Duggans.

So big was the demand for tickets for this big occasion that the TradFest organisers put on more dates to accommodate the many fans who want to be there to celebrate with Clannad.

Although Moya, Ciaran, Noel, Padraig and Pol have performed together on different occasions over the past few years, such as winning the Meteor Lifetime Achievement award, this is actually the first time in twenty years that the classic line up will present a full concert.

Live concerts by the group have been rare enough occasions over the past few years but it is especially



Win a pair of tickets and an overnight's stay in Dublin to celebrate Clannad's 40th anniversary at Dublin's Christ Church during the annual Temple Bar TradFest.

unique to see them in such an intimate setting and they will be joined by some very special guest musicians on the night.

When you imagine the haunting strains of songs like Theme From Harry's Game, In A Lifetime and Robin within the spectacular confines of the historic Christ Church Cathedral, you will realise that this is a performance not to be missed.

COMPETITION

The Donegal News has teamed up with the Temple Bar TradFest to send one lucky couple to Dublin in style to attend Clannad's 40th anniversary concert in Christ Church Cathedral on Friday night, January 28, plus one night B&B at the Arlington Hotel, Temple Bar.

All you have to do to enter the competition is answer the following simple question: Clannad made their first public appearances in their world famous family pub in Meenaleck, but what do you call it? Send your answer on a self-addressed postcard with your telephone number to The Donegal News, 'Clannad Competition', St Anne's Court, High Road, Letterkenny, Co Donegal.

The Arlington Hotel Temple Bar, in the shadows of Dublin Castle and Christ Church Cathedral, is offering one night's Bed & Full Irish Breakfast plus tickets from €95 per person sharing. Call Tel 01 6708877 and see www.arlington-hoteltemplebar.com for more.



Full details on the fantastic programme of Temple Bar TradFest and tickets are available from www.templebartrad.com

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