



Clannad to reform as **TradFest** 2011 bares all

Ken Sweeney

Entertainment Editor

LEGENDARY Irish trad band Clannad is to reform for the first time in two decades.

The Grammy-winning family band will unite to perform three concerts in Dublin's Christ Church Cathedral as part of the five-day **TradFest** music festival, before recording a new album. In a 40-year career the Donegal outfit sold more than 10 million

albums.

Speaking about the 2011 reunion, member Pol Brennan, who co-wrote their biggest hit 'Theme From Harry's Game', said: "It feels very, very good to be back. It feels like some stuff was left undone after I left over 20 years ago."

The musician revealed himself and his brother Ciaran have already written five tracks for a new Clannad album. The band's haunting sounds will fill

Christ Church Cathedral when they perform on January 27, 28 and 29.

Other highlights of the festival include Altan celebrating its 25th anniversary with a special concert featuring guests, including Eddi Reader; outdoor gigs from acts such as the Furey Brothers, Mike Hanrahan and Eleanor Shanley; and a showcase of up-and-coming groups including Beoga and Ciorras.

Festival programmer

Kieran Hanrahan said there would be a mixture of world-renowned performers, established national artists, and up-and-coming acts.

"Again this year we will have showcase performances, workshops, family fun, outdoor concerts, pub sessions, singers' clubs and lots more to tempt you," he said.



Sean Og Graham, Damian McKee, Eamon Murray, Niamh Dunne and Liam Bradley from renowned trad group Beoga took to the streets naked yesterday to mark the official launch of the programme for Temple Bar **TradFest** 2011. LEON FARRELL /PHOTOCALL IRELAND