

Derry Playhouse Writers Newsletter

Vol. 1 - No. 1

* 5 - 7 Artillery Street, Derry BT48 6GR *

April 2001

To Be Acknowledged for Your Successes:

Send us your success stories. Also, if you send work off to be published but are rejected hang on to any rejection notices—you may be the grand prize winner of our annual *Perseverance Pays Award!*

Our Showcase:

As some of you know, we have received a £1000 grant from the **Northern Ireland Arts Council** to fund a showcase. This will be held 14 June 2001 and co-directed by **David Gothard** and **Ellen Factor**. Please submit work(s) you wish considered for inclusion. These may be mailed or left in our mailbox at The Playhouse.

We are also seeking people interested in working on the various tasks involved: stage production, event publicity and producing a publication of featured writings. Expertise sought but for those with no prior experience this will be a great learning opportunity. And, as this will be a collective effort no one person will be unduly burdened. *We need your input & help.* To volunteer please contact **Margie Bernard**

The success of this, our first DPW venture, depends upon all our efforts and will pave the way for future grants to conduct other projects.

Our New Office & Meeting Room:

We will be sharing office space with the **Derry Film Initiative** folk (some of whom are DPW members) on a six-month trial basis. They have a spacious facility and we will have a cordoned off corner of this space. This room is located in the Old Convent adjacent to The Derry Playhouse. The main entrance to this building is on Pump Street although you may also enter through the Artillery Street entrance. We are up stairs next to the kitchen.

This space will allow us to hold our weekly workshops in this room as well as have a place to post announcements of upcoming events of particular interest to us as writers, i.e., contests, workshops, residencies, etc. We will also begin to develop a useful reference library.

Donations Needed:

NICVA has provided us with a computer but we need donations to cover the £40 transportation costs to pick it up. The computer will be permanently housed in our new office and available for your use upon making a scheduled appointment. No amount too small to be accepted! If you wish, you may make a deposit to our bank account: *Bank of Ireland account name: Derry Playhouse Writers; account number, 10807342; Branch Sorting Code, 904958.* Thank you.

Brian Foster's New Play:

Some DPW members participated with recent EuroCAT students in a week-long script-in-hand reading of **Brian Foster's** newest play '*The Trophy Collector*'. Those of us who attended had only praise for the play and its totally surprise ending! This is Brian's first venture into drama as his previously produced plays have been comedies. An evening of suspenseful entertainment to look forward to whenever it is produced! We will keep you informed.

DPW Mentors:

We are also pleased to announce that **Brian Foster** has agreed to add his name to our growing list of DPW mentors.

Weekly Workshop:

Please remember to attend our weekly, lively, informative and instructive workshops. As a reminder we meet every Wednesday from Noon until 4pm. Please come share your work. We are particularly helpful to those of us who want to try out our work-in-progress. For those of you who work come during your lunchtime (bring sandwich) and we will accommodate you on a priority basis.

Management Committee Vacancy:

Due to his intensive involvement in producing a Steven Connolly commemorative CD, Louis Burns, tendered his resignation as Vice Chair of the Management Committee. We wish Louis every success with the CD which, we understand has

been recorded. Funding is being sought to press multiple copies with all proceeds going to further the work of Foyle Hospice. As soon as these CDs are available for purchase we will let you know.

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The Vice-Chair position will remain vacant until filled by the Management Committee at its next meeting

Management Committee:

Chair: Ellen Factor
Vice-Chair: Vacant
Secretary/Treasurer: Margie Bernard
At Large Members: Ann Keys Colton, Bridie Conefry, Eugene Floyd, Don McCamphill

THIS IS YOUR SPACE – HELP US FILL IT!