

SNAPSHOT

2010 Super Bowl Ball, Belfast

John Carson CBE, Master of Ceremonies welcome guests and introduces Speakers



The Lord Mayor Councillor Naomi Long addresses guests
Kamala Lakhdar, U.S. Consul General gives the Invocation



Lady Empey, Flax Trust Ball Committee, presents Flax Trust Bursary 'Enrichment through Respect for Cultural Difference' to Arlene Spiers on behalf of The Ulster Cancer Foundation



BANQUET MENU

Cornets of Smoked Salmon stuffed with Prawns and a Lemon Crème Fraiche served with Wheaten Bread

Chorizo and Butterbean Soup served with warm crusty roll

Medallions of Beef with a Twin Peppercorn Sauce
Asparagus Spears with Chestnuts and Bacon
Puree of Winter Mixed Vegetables
Chateau Roast Potatoes Europa Colcannon

Assiette of Desserts
Tea/Coffee



The Flax Trust wishes to thank the Pittsburgh Steelers, Europa Belfast, Slieve Donard Resort and Spa, Belleek and Jameson Irish Whiskey.

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Fr Myles Kavanagh, Chairman Flax Trust addresses guests

Paul Clark, UTV and Jim Dougal Broadcaster introduce Honourees



Professor Richard Barnett, Vice Chancellor, University of Ulster, Professor Peter Gregson, President and Vice Chancellor, Queen's University, Tommie Gorman, Northern Ireland Editor RTE, Political Correspondents Martina Purdy BBC and Ken Reid UTV all receive the Flax Trust Award from Sr Mary Turley Director Flax Trust



FLAX TRUST



Mission

The Flax Trust as a registered charity, formed in Belfast in 1977, has as its Mission the reduction and, if possible, the elimination of community tensions and religious prejudices by creative engagement in economic and social development, education and training with inter-community activities including culture, the Arts, sport, health, social programmes, personal development and dedicated communication projects

Background: Belfast City Hall

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We are very grateful to Mutual of America for this invaluable facility.

Flax Trust Super Bowl Banquet
Europa Belfast 4th February 2011



Photo courtesy of The Pittsburgh Steelers



Message from Fr Myles

Dear Friends

In North Belfast, the intersection of the Woodvale Road and the Crumlin Road at Ardoyne is known as ‘the Ardoyne shops’. Every year for the last 30 years this intersection has been the focal point for major rioting at the time of the ‘twelfth’ marches. Each year coming up to the ‘twelfth’ there are major discussions between Police, Parades’ Commission, Orange Order and local residents to negotiate a resolution, so far without success.

The Flax Trust proposes to build at this intersection the **George Mitchell Centre** for reconciliation, personal development and community care. The outreach of this centre will be year round and into both communities, developing leadership, dialogue and positive cross-community activity. The project will house an **‘all kids crèche’** which will bring together preschool children from both communities as well as their parents who will engage in personal development programmes, anger management, home economics, mutual understanding, inter-cultural appreciation with a view to developing an inter-cultural programme which will be mutually enriching.

The centre will have an auditorium and catering facility as well as administrative offices and workshops. A significant part of the exercise will be the Ardoyne/Shankill Healthy Living Partnership which focuses on inter-community concerns for health improvement in both Ardoyne and the Shankill neighbourhoods. The centre will have a main entrance on the Woodvale Road and a main entrance on the Crumlin road to facilitate both communities.

It is hoped that when this project is completed that Senator George Mitchell will return to Belfast and the scene of his Good Friday Agreement to open the new Centre.

Thank you for all your continuing generous support of the Flax Trust.

**Fr Myles Kavanagh CP
Chairman
Flax Trust/Belfast**

BARRY DOUGLAS OBE International Pianist/Conductor

Barry Douglas has established a major international career since winning the Gold Medal at the 1986 Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition, Moscow. In 1999, he formed Camerata Ireland, an all-Irish chamber orchestra, with players from both Northern and Southern Ireland to celebrate “the wealth of Irish musical talent” where he remains Artistic Director. He is also the Artistic Director of the Clondeboye Festival and Castletown Concerts, Ireland.



As a soloist, highlights of 2010/11 season include his return to the London Symphony Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony, Singapore Symphony, Duisburg Philharmonic, RSB Berlin and Ulster Orchestra amongst others. In the summer, he returns to the BBC Proms with the BBC Symphony Orchestra performing the worldwide premiere of a new concerto written for him by Kevin Volans to celebrate his 50th birthday. Barry regularly tours France, Ireland, UK, US and Russia in recital with recent performances in Manchester, Dublin, St. Petersburg and Moscow. This

season, he will include Spain and South America with visits to Barcelona and Rio de Janeiro.

Barry has given concerts with Seattle Symphony, Halle, Radio Sinfonie Orchestra, Berlin, Melbourne Symphony, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Czech National Symphony Orchestra; Atlanta Symphony; Brussels Philharmonic; China Philharmonic; Shanghai Symphony; Baltimore Symphony; Hong Kong Philharmonic, Houston Symphony, Helsinki Philharmonic and Dresden Philharmonic amongst others.

Barry’s reputation as a play/conductor has grown since forming Camerata Ireland and this autumn he will make his debut with the RTE National Symphony Orchestra in their main subscription series and will return again in the Spring and with the St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra. He has made successful debuts with the Academy of St.Martin-in-the-Fields, Indianapolis Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, Chamber Orchestra of the Romanian National Radio Orchestra at the Enescu Festival, Bangkok Symphony, I Pommerigi di Milano and Moscow Philharmonic Orchestras.

Each season, Camerata Ireland promote their International Series with concerts in Dublin, London and Paris and in 2010/11 they will extend this to Madrid as part of a tour in Spain. The orchestra regularly visits the US on tour and this season they return again with concerts in New York, Nashville, Chicago and Florida. They are the resident ensemble at the Clondeboye Festival and at Castletown Concerts, Ireland.

In 2007, Barry presented his first television series for RTE “Symphony Sessions” – a programme showing behind the scenes of orchestral life. Barry conducted and played with the RTE National Orchestra and returned in 2008 for another series in this role. Last season he presented a series for BBC Northern Ireland which showed the development of young Irish musicians.

Barry has recorded extensively throughout his career and has recorded all the Beethoven Concertos with Camerata Ireland. In 2008, Sony/BMG released his recording of Rachmaninov 1 and 3 with the Russian National Orchestra and Svetlanov. Current recording projects are the Penderecki Piano Concerto with Warsaw Philharmonic and Maestro Antoni Wit for the Naxos label and Nina Rota’s Concerto-soirée per pianoforte and orchestra Concerto with the Filarmonica 900 del Teatro Regio and Maestro Gianandrea Noseda for the Chandos label. Future recording plans with Chandos include the complete Brahms and Schubert piano works.

Barry Douglas received the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2002 New Year’s Honours List for services to music.

LEN O’HAGAN Chairman Harbour Comissioners

A native of County Down, Len O’Hagan was educated at St. Colman’s Grammar School, Newry and subsequently at Queen’s University, Belfast where he studied economics. In an interesting career, Len’s first role was as a Graduate Management Trainee with international packaging firm, Reed International. Years later, he lead the operation of Reed’s Northern Ireland Recycling Business before being headhunted by The Smurfit Group. A strong advocate of supporting Northern Irish business, Len served on the Board of CBI’s NI Council for seven years.



In addition, he gave 15 years service to the CBI-IBEC joint business council where he chaired the Business Development Council. Len has held senior positions in a number of international high profile public companies. He has served as Chief Executive Officer of Fitzwilton Plc., was Managing Director in the Jefferson Smurfit Group and was formerly Chairman of Safeway Ireland.

Against a difficult political and economic background, Len was instrumental in creating the £110m acquisition of Wellworths by Fitzwilton Group and the subsequent issuing of a €100m bond to finance growth for the company in Northern Ireland.

Underpinning his commitment to the North, Len was a key member of the team which supported Sir Tony O’Reilly’s Independent News and Media Group’s purchase of the Belfast Telegraph. He persuaded Independent News & Media to invest £55mm in new plant and facilities in NI and relocate many of its sales, marketing and production operations to the North.

Len served as a Commissioner to Belfast Harbour before his appointment as Chairman in January 2007 – a position which he was reappointed to for a further four years by the Department of Regional Development Minister in 2010. Beyond the Harbour, Len is Chairman of OHC Corporate Advisors Ltd, a business consultancy company, and Chairman of Rockingham. He is a Director of the Museum Arts Centre and a Champion for Arts & Business Northern Ireland. Len is Vice President of the Ireland U.S Business Council and serves on the US Ireland Fund New York Dinner Committee.

Beyond the cut and thrust of the business world, Len is a keen sailor and vociferous reader. He collects golf memberships around the country but finds it difficult to get out as much as he would like. Len is an accomplished après skier, finding it difficult to physically get the time to practice down those black runs.

Married to Maureen Dalzell, they have two children – Neil and Louise. Aside from Maureen, one of the inspirational figures in Len’s life was his Father, Len Snr. Bequeathed by his father with a strong value system, business ethics and can-do attitude, Len acknowledges the importance of his Father in shaping and aiding his success in business.

Len’s philosophy in life is consistent with the family motto of the O’Hagan Clan - Vincere Aut Mori – to conquer or to die!

KAMALA SHIRIN LAKHDIR US Consul General

Acknowledgement with Gratitude

Kamala Lakhdhir was appointed US Consul General to Belfast in 2009. She joined the Foreign Service in 1991, serving first at the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (1992-1994), and then at the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia (1994-1996).

Returning to Washington, Kamala was assigned to the Secretary of State’s Secretariat, advancing the Secretary’s foreign and domestic travel. From 1998 through 2000, she was the deputy director of the Department’s Taiwan Coordination Staff, the office that oversees the U.S. unofficial relationship with Taiwan. During a one year Pearson Fellowship, Ms. Lakhdhir worked for Congressman Doug Bereuter (R-NE) on the staff of the House Subcommittee on Asia and the House Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade.



From 2001-2005, she served in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, and then was special assistant to Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Christopher Hill (2005-2006). From 2007-2009, Kamala was the director of the Office of Maritime Southeast Asia in the State Department’s Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, which covers the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei Darussalam, and Timor-Leste. Kamala graduated with a bachelor’s degree from Harvard College in 1986. She received a Master’s degree from the National War College in 2007. Born in Brooklyn, New York, she grew up in Brooklyn and Connecticut.

THE FLAX TRUST BURSARY ‘Enrichment through Respect of Cultural Difference’



The project benefitting from tonight’s event is Barnardo’s ‘Children in Grief’ Appeal.

The Barnardo’s Child Bereavement project is a remarkable service offering a wide range of support and therapy to local children whose lives are overwhelmed by trauma and grief following the death of a loved one through illness, accident, suicide, and murder or substance misuse. It achieves amazing things in difficult circumstances.

Funding for this service is extremely volatile. We have formed the Children in Grief Appeal to raise £750K to extend and fund the service over the next three years, giving us an opportunity to make a lasting difference to the lives of bereaved children throughout the whole of Northern Ireland.

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There will be the usual draw for the Trip to Pittsburgh as guests of the Rooney Family, owners of the Pittsburgh Steelers and a number of other prizes.