

Outdoor concerts for 2021?

PLANS ARE UNDERWAY



WHO ARE THE CELTS?
WHERE IS GALICIA?



SWEET OCTOBER
AOIFE SCOTT HAS A NEW SINGLE!



BOOK NOOK
THE BRAID
HELEN FROST

BANGOR CELTIC CROSSROADS NEWSLETTER



Photos of Ireland courtesy of Jim Coughlan

Outdoor Concerts for 2021?

Outdoor concerts for 2021? The Board is discussing having some summer concerts outdoors this summer if conditions improve enough to make it safe. Plans are underway. We are just beginning to explore this idea but we have many wonderful Celtic musicians who are anxious to begin performing live again. And we are all yearning to have that kind of normal experience return to our lives. We will keep you informed as our planning moves forward.

The Board is discussing having some summer concerts outdoors this summer.

Meanwhile, here are some interesting things going on in the Celtic world.

Who are the Celts?

The Celtic League defines a Celtic nation as one that speaks one of the Celtic languages: Ireland, (Irish), Scotland (Gaelic), Wales (Welsh), Brittany (Breton), Cornwall (Cornish) and the Isle of Man (Manx). The League was founded in 1961 by Celtic nationalists who saw the need for an inter Celtic organization with a political dimension in order to make the peoples of the Celtic nations more aware of their commonality in terms of their language, history and culture and to foster cooperation. See: celticleague.net

Other countries that share Celtic culture (but not language) include Galicia, Asturia and Patagonia. But clearly, Celtic culture also includes Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. Celtic musical traditions can also be found throughout Canada and the United States.

Galicia

Of all of the Celtic cultural countries, Galicia is one of the least well known. Located in the northwest of Spain, its regional capital Santiago De Compostela is thought to be the burial place of the apostle Saint James. The people of Galicia speak two languages, Spanish and Galician. Modern Galician, is a Romance language related to Portuguese, but it contains dozens of Celtic words. The Celtic League rejects Galicia as a Celtic nation based on their definition of Celtic along strict language lines.



According to one scholar, Manuel Alberro, the positions of Galicia within the Celtic world has long been the subject of contention, with scholars describing the region's Celtic heritage while institutions of Pan-Celticism point to the region's failure to meet the 'linguistic criterion' for inclusion. This has not prevented

an increasingly self-confident and assertive Galicia from proclaiming a self-defined Celtic identity that has found its expression today in a

Photos from BCC



❖ fiddle, July 2018

❖ Ellen's Teapot

❖ Burns Supper

range of musical festivals and other cultural activities. While Galicia does not share a Celtic language, the Galicians have many musical connections to the Celtic world, including a love of the bagpipes. It is not hard to hear the musical connections, and many Irish and Scottish players enjoy playing Galician tunes.

- ❖ Listen ► https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NP6a_MdJaII&t=162s
- ❖ Traditional Dancing ► <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8HUf750byQ>
- ❖ The Chieftains play Galician overture ► <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHKIPuWITcw>

Source: <https://www.transceltic.com/pan-celtic/celtic-identity-language-and-question-of-galicia>

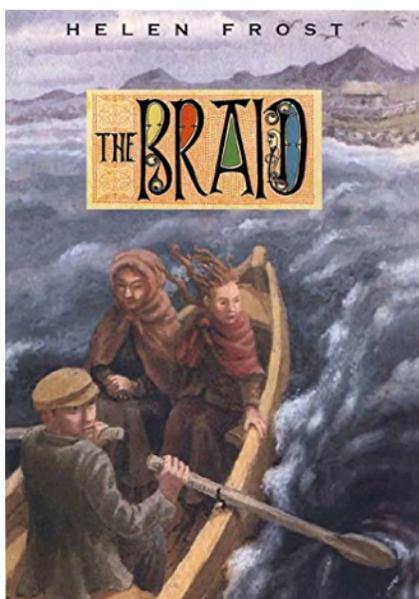
Sweet October

Born into the legendary Black Family, Aoife is steadily rising to the top of the traditional and folk music scene, and has long enjoyed success as an established artist in her own right. Fragile and ethereal one minute and strong and vibrant the next, her dynamic and profound vocals explore the emotional depths of her lyrics, leaving the audience entranced. Aoife has a unique sound. Her music has a broad creative scope but is largely influenced by her own roots in folk and traditional Irish music.



- ❖ Website ► <https://www.aoifescott.com/>
- ❖ Video ► <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cwle4UdVc8Y>

We are hoping to bring Aoife to Bangor as soon as health conditions allow!



Book Nook

The Braid. Helen Frost. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006.

Two Scottish sisters, living on the western island of Barra in the 1850s, relate, in alternate voices and linked narrative poems, their experiences after their family is forcibly evicted and separated with one sister accompanying their parents and younger siblings to Cape Breton, Canada, and the other staying behind with other family on the small island of Mingulay. Each sister - Jeannie, who leaves Scotland during the Highland Clearances with her father, mother, and the younger children, and Sarah, who hides so she can stay behind with her grandmother - carries a length of the other's

hair braided with her own. The braid binds them together when they are worlds apart and reminds them of who they used to be before they were evicted from the Western Isles, where their family had lived for many generations.

See this book's listing at the [Bangor Public Library](#).

I have read this book and continue to recommend it to readers of all ages. Even though it is written for young people, Helen Frost's command of using the structure of her writing to fashion a story is remarkable.

- Candis Joyce, Bangor Public Library

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