

# PLEASANT NIGHT at Mark O'Loughlan's Dundalk



☪ Dundalk - THE HOME OF ☪ HARP LAGER ☪



# FLEADH NIGHT

TOL104

## SIDE 1

### TITLES

1. (TWO MARCHES)  
DOWN THE GLEN  
JACKETS GREEN
2. PADDY ON THE RAILROAD
3. ROISIN DUBH (IN GAELGE)
4. MASONS APRON (REEL)
5. PORT MAHON
6. TRAMPS AND HAWKERS

### MUSICIANS

1. P. McArdle (Fiddle)  
Joe McKeivitt (Flute)  
Liam Clarke (Piano Accordion)
2. Fianna Folk Group
3. Anne Carroll
4. Barry Ward (Fiddle)
5. Patricia Goulding
6. The Country Folk Four

## SIDE 2

### 1. REELS:

"OLD BUSH"  
"STAR OF MUNSTER"  
"THE HARE'S FOOT"

2. WHISKEY IN THE JAR
3. CASTLE OF DROMORE (IN GAELGE)
4. HIGHLAND PIPE MUSIC (ON FIDDLE)
5. I'M LIVING IN DRUMLISTER
6. "AN POC AR BUILE"

1. Peter McArdle (Fiddle)  
Joe McKeivitt (Flute)  
Liam Clarke (Piano Accordion)  
Ronnie Roslyn (Bones)
2. Fianna Folk Group
3. Anne Carroll
4. Barry Ward
5. Recitation by Charlie McGeown
6. Sung by Pat Lawless with  
Charlie McGeown (Banjo) &  
Mick Bree (Guitar)

RECORDED ON THE SPOT AT MARK'S BAR, DUNDALK

RECORDED BY LLOYD INTERNATIONAL OUTSIDE RECORDING UNIT

Engineers: Cel Fay/Pete Lloyd

Produced by Bill McBurney

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Outlet Recording Co. Ltd. 63/67 Smithfield Belfast, BT1-IJD North Ireland

Second only perhaps to an Irishman's love of a jar, is his love of music and it is with an economy of time uncharacteristic of his race that he indulges himself in both at one and the same time. This he does at the many "Fleadhanna" held up and down the country, or in the many singing pubs.

A fleadh or fleah ceoil, is the gathering in a town of the country's best traditional musicians and singers who then spend the week-end playing and singing, now and then stopping for a drink.

A singing pub is a pub where musicians and singers gather for a night's drinking, now and then stopping for a song. One such pub is Mark McLaughlan's in Crowe Street, Dundalk. But such is the standard of performance, the quality of the "deoch" and the general atmosphere of this particular pub that it is known throughout Ireland simply as "Mark's" and each night, in Mark's is a Fleadh Night.

On Wednesday the 8th of November 1967 the recording engineer's arrived in Mark's Bar. The upstairs kitchen was turned into a tem-

porary control room and lines were run out to the mics in the bar below, where the entertainment had already begun. The engineer's achieved a balance and began recording-in time to capture the combined talents of Peter McArdle, Liam Clarke, Mick Bree, Ronnie Roslyn and Joe McKeivitt playing a rousing selection of marches ending with vocal support from the crowd on "Jackets Green". Next it was the turn of The Fianna Folk from Dublin who sang "Paddy on the Railway", Ann Carroll followed this with the beautiful "Roisin Dubh" and while the singers were slaking their thirst, Barry Ward—another Dubliner, played a reel on the fiddle—something which seemed to please the critical audience. They seemed equally pleased by "Port Mahon" which was sung by Belfast singer, Patricia Goulding. Then the Country Four From Downpatrick, sang what is the last track on Side 1 of the album—"Tramps and Hawkers", then it was Peter McArdle and Co. again with another selection. Back came the Fianna Folk who left down their pints of Harp to sing "Whisky in the Jar", Ann Carroll sang "The Castle of Dromore"

and Barry Ward followed this with a tongue-in-cheek imitation (On fiddle) of the Irish War Pipes. Charlie McGeown from Lurgan, whose banjo playing had been missed during a change-over of tapes showed he had other talents as he recited the humorous "I'm Livin in Drumlister."

The crowd who by this time thought they had been very well behaved all night could not resist joining in with Pat Lawless (the local barber) in "An Poc Ar Buile".

For a live recording this is excellent—amazingly so, when you consider that Twenty Seven empty Harp bottles were collected from the kitchen control room.

The engineers have all the quality of sound as it was but they have done something else, they have managed to capture on disc that quality so often lost in transfer—ATMOSPHERE. So stoke up a blaze, put out the lights, open up a can, and sit back and enjoy a "FLEADH NIGHT AT MARK McLAUGHLIN'S BAR".

Notes Gerry O'Grady

Sleeve design DAVE SCOTT