

# Founding of BMVC

The following note is intended as a record of the actual setting up of the Ballinteer Male Singers. It does not include any preliminary discussions in the matter.

## BALLINTEER MALE SINGERS

1. On the initiative of Mr. Dominic Jennings on behalf of the Ballinteer Parish cells, a small group of men met in the Church Conference Room, Ballinteer in September 1994 with a view to organising a male voice choir. It was indicated to the meeting that the proposed choir would be separate and distinct from the Church choir, that the new choir would participate occasionally in Church ceremonies and that it would enter for feiscanna, music festivals & concerts from time to time. Most of those present stated that Riquel Sunday choir was out of the question for them. It was agreed that practice sessions would be held every Thursday night - that night seemed to suit most.
2. In October 1994 Mrs Mary Kelly was invited to become Musical Director/Conductor. Practice commenced in earnest and the group - suitably attired - had its first public appearance at the 11 AM Mass on Christmas Day 1994. The group got an excellent reception.
3. At the practice session in the Church Conference Room on 26<sup>th</sup> January 1995, the group adopted the name "Ballinteer Male Singers" with the following basic aims - "To train in and perform unison, two or more part music and chant with a view to participating in occasional Church ceremonies and in concerts, feiscanna and music festivals from time to time". The first members i.e. those who remained with the group up to 26<sup>th</sup> January 1995 when the group name was agreed, are Messrs Dominic Jennings, Neil Ryan, Dermot O'Brien, Eamon McGlynn, Pat Richardson, Niall O'Reilly, Patrick O'Rowe, Joe O'Rourke, Dan Mcaney, Joseph Scipell and Bill Campbell.
4. Eamon McGlynn agreed to act as honorary music curator, Dermot O'Brien agreed to act as honorary treasurer and Bill Campbell agreed to act as honorary secretary.
5. At the meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> January 1995, it was also agreed to register with the Association of Irish Choirs, Deenan Street, Cork (cost £25) and to enter for Feis Martin in April 1995.

M. Kelly  
Feb 1995