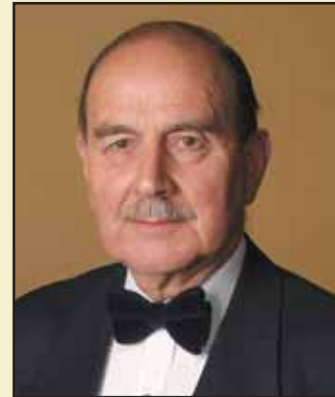


# Editorial



At this time of year we shake off the shackles of winter and peer out into the world seeking adventure and excitement. February brings Valentines to mind and to quote Alfred Lord Tennyson in the poem 'Locksley Hall' he wrote "In the Spring a young man's fancy turns lightly to thoughts of love"; he obviously was also fond of travel, at least mentally, and in his poem 'Ulysses' he wrote "It little profits that an idle king....I cannot rest from travel: I will drink life to the lees.....for always roaming with a hungry heart. Much have I seen and known; cities of men.....how dull it is to pause.....'tis not too late to seek a newer world". We are fortunate that life in the IPA encourages and facilitates travel; we in Section Ireland have a fully bonded Travel Agency and helpful staff to iron out all the problems.

In this edition Declan O'Byrne offers a chance to go to Russia for the IEC in September for €1,200 and for the following Friendship Week for €1,500. The Executive will send four delegates and those that travel with them, including the lucky winners of the free holiday draw, are assured of a unique experience. Hotel Alfa Zmailova has 7,500 rooms. Be sure to get

your visa in good time and early booking is essential.

This year Section Ireland is sending, all expenses paid, a full team from Offaly with two members of the Executive to Riccione, Italy for the 5-aside soccer competition in May; a team from Cork with a large entourage will also travel at their own expense.

The international House Management Meeting takes place in Israel in May. Ireland has five properties and the Executive will send five delegates there to keep a watchful eye on Ireland's interests.

The Executive has chosen eight members to avail of a seminar of their choice all expenses paid at Schloss Gimborn, Marienheide, Germany during 2008.

Don't forget that to encourage our members to travel this Section provides a Travel Grant up to €3,500 for Regions that organise IPA trips, subject to conditions. For example our immediate Past President organised a wonderful trip for forty people to Berlin just before Christmas 2007, costing €300.00 each, and plans a similar trip next year to Vienna; see his report in 'Magnetic North'.

It used to be the recruiting slogan 'Join the Navy and see the world'; now we might say 'Join the IPA etc

*Brendon K Colvert*

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