

# **'Drowning of the Shamrock' at Amari Rincome Hotel**

*Lunch with an Irishman on St. Patrick's Day  
March 17th, Begorrah!*

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*M. Vogt*

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Saint Patrick's Day (March 17th) is an Irish holiday celebrated around the world, honoring Saint Patrick, the missionary credited with converting the Irish to Christianity. St. Patrick was said to have used a shamrock as a metaphor for the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) showing how three separate units could be part of the same body. People began wearing shamrocks on their clothes to his sermons. Rumour also has it that St. Patrick chased the snakes out of Ireland and they went to Australia and became policemen!

Patrick's mission in Ireland lasted for thirty years. After that time, Patrick retired to

County Down, where he died on March 17th in AD 461. That day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day ever since.

On St. Patrick's Day, green is the most recognizable color as it represents spring, shamrocks, and Ireland. There are numerous customs associated with this occasion followed by the people of Irish descent who have settled in different parts of the world. Shamrocks are worn on the lapel, people exchange Irish (Gaelic) greetings, girls wear green ribbons and the boys wear a harp badge, shillelaghs are displayed and used for decorations and people attend mass in the morning. Men also follow a quaint ritual called 'Drowning of the

Shamrock'. A Shamrock leaf is dipped in whiskey and thrown over the left shoulder.

The Amari Rincome Hotel with Irish Chef Adrian O'Herlihy will not let this day pass without holding one of their famous 'holiday buffets'. Three hours of live traditional and modern Irish music and a celebration of typical Irish food will be served on St. Patrick's Day, Wednesday 17th of March. The Chiang Mai based (Irish) duo "The O'Sabai twins" will take care of the Irish entertainment and the traditional fare of food will include Corned Beef and Cabbage, Salmon Innisfree, Chicken Pascal, Shepherd's Pie, Dublin Coddle, Irish Stew, Gaelic Steak, Beef and Guinness Casserole, Bubble and Squeak, Colcannon and of course Molly Malone's Irish Risotto! From 11.30 a.m. and costs baht 350 ++.