

Ladbury
CAMPBELL

“TIME FOR JOY” EXHIBITION OF SCENARIOS



Bewley's Grafton Street
28th November – 4 January
Poets Corner – First Floor and
Café Theatre (2nd Floor)
Admission free

All proceeds to support

SAMARITANS



Imagine the astonishment of the first customers when they entered Bewley's Café, Grafton Street in 1927, just a few years after the Civil War which had devastated Ireland, and brought massive destruction to Dublin.

That was the year in which Ernest Bewley opened his most exciting and expensive venture yet, the Café in Grafton Street

"I want the best of everything, and that's not good enough" said Ernest Bewley

"In the 18th Century the famous Whytes Academy, run by actor and schoolmaster Samuel Whyte, had been located there, at 79 Grafton Street. Among his pupils were Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Thomas Moore, Robert Emmet, and Arthur Wellesley (later to become Duke of Wellington, who went on to defeat Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo)

The new premises were, however, both expensive and troublesome, and when Ernest died in 1932, after a long illness, his health broken down by the difficulties arising from the building, he left his executors with a debt of £51,000" (€15,795,000 in today's money... Using the average industrial wage of £165 per annum in 1927 as benchmark)

Extract from... "The Legendary Lofty Clattery Café" by Tony Farmer (1988)

It is difficult to imagine Dublin without this great iconic Café, which has been lovingly restored and maintained by the Campbell family to personify the spirit of Christmas in Ireland.

Bewley's
1840

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