

# FIGHTING IRISH

## Dennis to bout for Aussie title



### INTERVIEWS



Tommy Tiernan



Clannad



Sásta

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# Fáilte

Welcome from editor Mary Allen



**AUTUMN MIST:** This amazing photo is from the set of *The Cloak*, at The Sally Gap, Wicklow. Starring Rebecca Storm, the film will form part of a spectacular stage show which tells the story of St Brigid, one of Ireland's most famous women. The picture was taken by young Kildare photographer John O'Byrne, who completed his Leaving Certificate earlier this year. You can see more of John's work at <http://on.fb.me/15hlw1g>

## Fighting the good fight

THE Fighting Irish. It's a phrase that was coined in the US to describe a plucky group of Irish immigrants who fought for the Union in the Civil War.

This fighting spirit is alive and well in Australia today, where new immigrants battle to make a good life for themselves and their families.

I always hear stories of young families here who are struggling to pay mortgages on houses in negative equity back home, paying high rents here in Australia and trying hard to make a better life for their children. They don't feel sorry for themselves, they just get on with it and consider themselves lucky to have been given the opportunity to live here.

They bring with them a rich culture, a good education and a positive attitude.

This edition of Irish Queenslander is full of fight-

ers. Boxer Dennis Hogan, who is reaching for the top accolade in his sport in Australia. Clannad, who fought to preserve a dying Gaelic culture and were so successful, they exported it across the world.

And then there are those who fight for the less fortunate. Mick McCarthy, who cycled more than 1,000km from Brisbane to Sydney to help a young boy with a rare disorder. Niall McCreilly and his team who entered Tough Mudda to raise funds to help a cancer charity back home. Michael McCarthy and his team who ran the Bridge to Brisbane to raise funds for Ronald McDonald House. And David O'Connor, who is driving from Ireland to Australia to help suicide awareness and cancer charities.

We have much to be proud of.

*All the best, Mary*

### Cad é an scéal?

On page 9, Rita Stott fills you in on all the news from Irish Australian Support Association Queensland



On page 11, Bob in Oz looks at immigration statistics to find out who is Australia's top migration nation



On pages 14 and 15, Dennis Hurricane Hogan talks about his upcoming Australian middleweight title challenge



On page 19, Tommy Tiernan talks about Soviet farming, religion, Fr Ted and his world tour of Leitrim.



On page 23, Clannad are touring Australia for the first time in 18 years, Moya Brennan tells us about their grá for Oz



On page 24, Registered Migration Agent Philip Duncan examines the paths towards getting permanent residency



On page 27, Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association President Séamus Sullivan's column



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**New member, new tour dates for Celtic Woman**

MAIRÉAD Carlin from Derry has joined Celtic Woman. Mairéad, pictured above, has performed for the President of Ireland, celebrated the Irish Anthem for the England-Ireland Rugby International to a TV audience of millions and shared a stage with Snow Patrol. Celtic Woman has also rescheduled its Australian tour, which was due to take place in September. They will now play at Brisbane Entertainment Centre on January 12. The winners of Irish Queenslander's Celtic Woman competition, which ran in our last edition, are Jasmin O'Hara, Marie Kann and Julie Warren. Congratulations!

**Brisbane's first Whisky Live expo sells out**

FOR its first year in Brisbane, Whisky Live had no problem selling out tickets at The Irish Club on August 30.

With more than 40 different types of whiskey from around the world to test, guests were not disappointed.

Whisky Live is a tasting expo, you arrive and have food from one of the food stations and then go on to explore the styles and brands of whiskey on offer, served in small amounts. Experts talk you through each brand.

Next year's event has been booked again at Queensland Irish Club, over two days. Tickets go on sale in early 2014.

**Mount Isa Irish host Multicultural Festival**

EACH year, Mount Isa Multicultural Festival has a focus on a different culture and this year, it was the turn of the Irish.

Ambassador Noel White officially opened the festival in September. It featured Irish dancers, food and music.

In 1952, Mount Isa Irish Club was built as the city had such a large Irish population.

short stories

# David is taking the scenic route to Oz

MEET David O'Connor. He's from Tramore, Co. Waterford. And like so many other young Irish men, he's decided to journey to Australia. But he's not coming on a plane. He's driving.

David is doing a charity drive that is taking him through more than 20 countries and covers almost 30,000km, in aid of the Irish Cancer Society and Console, a national suicide prevention charity.

He told Irish Queenslander: "I was working for an online company in Cork and it went to the wall. I had been planning a trip like this for some time and it gave me the push to go for it."

David left Ireland on July 31, driving a converted 99 Toyota Landcruiser with 240,000km on the clock.

"It's had lots of modifications, including a roof tent and shelving inside. I bought it three years ago with the sole purpose of undertaking a big drive into Europe or maybe beyond. When I looked into where I could drive and what was feasible, I realised that many people have driven from Western Europe to Australia, albeit with an incredible amount of planning. The dream of driving to Australia started to take root. After three



David O'Connor from Tramore is driving more than 30,000km overland to Australia, to raise money for charity. You can follow his trip at [www.overlandtooz.ie](http://www.overlandtooz.ie)

years of planning and saving, the time came to turn the dream into action."

The two charities David chose to support are close to his heart. He says: "Cancer and suicide are two of the biggest killers in Ireland. My aunt recently died of cancer and a friend of mine committed suicide. I feel that people would be very supportive of these charities."

Even though David is passing through more than 20 countries, he needed visas for only three - India, Iran and Pakistan. David says that the Pakistan Embassy in Ireland had never dealt with a

visa request like his before.

"The route is through Europe, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India and Nepal, then back to India, before shipping the vehicle to Malaysia. I will then visit south east Asia before heading down to Indonesia and then ship to Australia."

David is planning on shipping the vehicle into Fremantle or Darwin, then driving over to Queensland and down the east coast to Sydney.

"I should arrive in Sydney in time for Christmas," says David, who has a sister living there. But, he adds, "It's not about the destination, it's about the journey."

David's journey from Ireland to Australia



# Mick cycles to Sydney to help Team Tommy



THREE cyclists made an epic journey from Brisbane to Sydney to raise money and awareness of a rare disorder, 1P36 Deletion Syndrome.

Mick McCarthy, originally from Kilmallock, Co. Limerick, but now living in Brisbane with his family, joined two other riders on the 1,046km ride.

The cyclists raised funds for Team Tommy, in aid of their friend's four-year-old son Tommy, who has the genetic disorder. Symptoms include low muscle tone, seizures, hearing loss, vision delays, speech problems and inability to feed orally, among other health issues.

Tommy has been making progress – he can take steps using a supportive walker device (purchased with the help of Team Tommy's Developing Foundation funds), makes sounds and eye contact.

His parents said: "When people spend time with Tommy, they learn what a joy he is – his smile, cheekiness, big brown eyes, laughter and purity have been known to melt even the most serious of doctors."

The riders alongside Mick were Brad Wallace and Peter Viles. Mick's son Mark drove a support camper van on the journey. They left from Westfield Garden City in Mount Gravatt on August 18, having already raised more than \$14,000.

The cycle was broken into seven stages over seven days. The cyclists arrived in the New South Wales state capital on Saturday, August 24 and after a stop-off at the Opera House, they had a well-deserved rest at Sydney's oldest Irish pub, The Mercantile.

To find out more about 1P36 or to make a donation, see <http://www.developingfoundation.org.au/family/tommy>



Mick McCarthy, second from left, with Mark McCarthy, Brad Wallace and Peter Viles on arrival at Sydney.

## Mick's trip diary



### Day 1 - Mount Gravatt to Byron Bay, 180km

A long day with a few stops to meet sponsors and well wishers. I got a puncture 4km out from Byron Bay. It was dark when we arrived, feeling hungry and tired. (Picture shows the team with Tommy at Mount Gravatt)

### Day 2 - Byron Bay to Grafton, 180km

A long day that started well but with about 30km to go, my knee started to give a fair bit of trouble. By the time we got to the motel, I needed help to get off the bike and my son Mark arranged access to the pool. Thankfully, it was not heated, which helped.

### Day 3 - Grafton to Nambucca Heads, 140km

This day was hell. My knee was in trouble from the start, which was a 22km constant drag up and down hills. On the up side, we stopped at The Big Banana and it is exactly that - a big banana at the side of the road. Later in the day, Peter had a puncture. Peter did the trip with a fractured elbow. Meanwhile, I was in so much pain with my leg, I felt ready to pack it in.

### Day 4 - Nambucca Heads to Port Macquarie, 130km

A GOOD DAY ALL ROUND! We set off

early and it all just seemed to come together, we were travelling at big speed with little effort, mostly flat with a nice tail wind. We even arrived early.

### Day 5 - Port Macquarie to Bulahdelah, 160km

About 10km from Bulahdelah, on a 5km long hill, I was going 60+kph when bang! My back wheel blew out. Very hairy trying to fix it on the edge of the road with trucks bombing past.



### Day 6 - Bulahdelah to The Entrance, 186km

We cycled into a strong head wind, we got on a ferry to Newcastle and arranged to meet Mark in the support van at Belmont but missed each other. Hunger and bad mood set in. A pie or two was downed when Mark arrived, and then we saw the funny side.

### Day 7 - The Entrance to Sydney, 85km

Trying to get onto Harbour Bridge in the middle of a four-lane road looking at my phone for directions was not a good look. We cycled together for the last few kms to our waiting welcoming party - the McCarthys, Viles, Guthries, Kearneys, D'Costa and Fahy. Then on to the Mercantile for a Magners. All in all, it was a good week and a good laugh.



Michael McCarthy, right, with Róisín Brouder after completing the Bridge to Brisbane.

## Michael runs in memory of niece



MICHAEL McCARTHY, originally from Bothar, Co. Limerick, ran the Bridge to Brisbane in aid of Ronald McDonald House, raising more than \$3,300.

It was a huge achievement, especially since Michael had originally aimed to raise \$1,000.

On March 15, Michael's niece Ciara, pictured above, sadly passed away after a year-long battle with cancer. Michael did the run on September 1 in Ciara's memory and to raise money for Ronald McDonald house.

He said: "They do great work in supporting families with sick children and are a very worthy cause."

Joining Michael on the race were Róisín Brouder, Ronan Brady, Mark Larkin, John O'Regan, Gregory Hynes and Claire Peters.

Bridge to Brisbane is a fun run held annually and participants run a 10km course, starting at Sir Leo Hielscher Bridge (formerly Gateway Bridge) and finishing at the RNA Showgrounds.

Michael's run was sponsored by O'Leary Drainage and Civil.

You can donate at [http://www.mycharity.ie/event/michael\\_mc\\_carthys\\_event/](http://www.mycharity.ie/event/michael_mc_carthys_event/)



## Cork girl wins national child pageant title

AISLING Murphy, aged nine, has been crowned Ultimate Grand Supreme at Australia's leading child pageant competition, Universal Royalty. Aisling, originally from Cork, moved with her family to Townsville recently. She beat 45 other children to take the Australian title and won \$1,000. Her mother, Stephanie, said it was a "dream come true". Aisling recently took a trip to Ireland, where she appeared on The Late Late Show.

## Strewth! Alf Stewart is going to Ireland

STONE the flaming crows! Home and Away's Alf Stewart is going to Ireland. Alf, played by Ray Meagher from Brisbane, will be in Ireland over the Christmas period to appear at red carpet events. Much loved in Ireland, Ray is the longest continuing performer in an Australian television role, having played Alf since 1988.

## Mackay pub can charge your phone as you wait

SHAMROCK Hotel in Mackay has installed 10 Discgo Charger units so customers can charge their phones while they eat or drink. They are free, easy to use and can charge almost any type of phone. Manager Latasha Ford told the Mackay Telegraph that: "It's definitely popular and being spoken about as a good idea."

## All invited to join Noosa and Brissy jam sessions

JOIN in to play and learn some Irish music. Jam sessions are held at The Irish Club, Elizabeth Street, Brisbane on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 7pm. Jam sessions also take place on the first and third Tuesday of every month at Halse Lodge, Noosa. All levels of players are warmly welcomed. See The Brisbane Trad Session on Facebook for further details.

# Rose Sorcha reveals her hidden talent

SORCHA Holmes is back after representing Queensland in the Rose of Tralee. She wowed on stage with an impressive rendition of Amy Winehouse's Valerie, while family, friends and wellwishers cheered her on the giant screen at Queensland Irish Club in Brisbane. Sorcha tells us all about the journey.

"Everyone whose had any association with the Rose of Tralee had told me just how incredible the experience was going to be. I knew I was in for the trip of a lifetime.

"The Rose tour was the most incredible experience of my life. Not only was I getting to see parts of my homeland that I had never seen before, but I got to experience it with 31 new amazing women in my life. As we were in such an intense environment for 10 days, we grew close and really bonded.

"As long as I live, I will never forget just how surreal it was the day we got to Tralee. As I studied in the town for four years, it was so great to be back and under such wonderful circumstances. I felt like I was home.

"When I stepped off the Rose bus, WOW! The crowd were just electric, gathered in their hundreds to welcome us to Tralee. And then I saw my family and the tears of joy and happiness came flooding down my face.

"By the Tuesday of the Rose Festival, the nerves were building



Sorcha Holmes in Tralee with her mum Carol and dad Derry.



Watching the Rose of Tralee live at The Irish Club were Jacqueline O'Hare, Anthony Van Der Ham, Caroline O'Connor from Clover Chocolates, Sinead Leamy, Sorcha's sister Evanna Van Der Ham and Dan Hedgland. To view more photos from this event or purchase prints, go to [www.photoboxgallery.com/IrishQueenslander](http://www.photoboxgallery.com/IrishQueenslander)

but I knew I had a job to do, represent Queensland, my new home, at the 2013 Rose of Tralee. I decided to sing a song on stage at the last minute and I am so glad now that I did. My family had never heard me sing before and lots of friends hadn't either.

"When I left Tralee, there were more tears, this time of sadness that it was all over and I had to

say goodbye to all of my beautiful rose sisters. What a story to tell in years to come.

"I would strongly urge anyone who is thinking about it, to enter the 2014 Queensland Rose."

If you would like more information on how to enter the Queensland Rose selection, go to [www.facebook.com/queenslandrose.tralee](http://www.facebook.com/queenslandrose.tralee)



Watching the Rose of Tralee live at The Irish Club were Moyston Wright of QIA Pipe Band, Margaret Stacey of Tigh Gaelach and Maureen Allam, and, right, Nicola Gunning and Eoghan O'Neill.



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## Club elects new president

DARLING Downs Irish Club has elected a new president and had a visit from HE Ambassador Noel White.

Derm Guerin has stepped down after 10 years and the new president is Michael Morrison.

Derm Guerin is now vice president, Ian Chase is secretary and Paul McGowan is treasurer. The election was held at the club's AGM on August 30.

President Michael Morrison said: "As newly elected president, I would like to acknowledge the remarkable leadership and foresight displayed by Derm over the last 10 years. The Darling Downs Irish Club would not be in the sound position it is today without Derm's guiding hand.

"I look forward to working with the new committee over the next 12 months and would like to thank the previous committee members for all their efforts."



At the club's annual dinner on August 10, His Excellency Ambassador Noel White was the club's special guest.

There was live music on the night from Johnny Jump Up.

The Ambassador spoke of the deep Irish/Aussie connection and about the current economic situation in Ireland.

The Darling Downs Irish Club celebrates its 40th anniversary this year.

They hold regular events throughout the year and club members meet on the last Friday of every month at the Irish Club Hotel, Russell Street, Toowoomba, from 5.30pm. You don't have to be of Irish descent to join.



Darling Downs Irish Club President Michael Morrison, left, with his wife Brenda and Ambassador Noel White, and, above, Vice President Derm Guerin with His Excellency Ambassador Noel White and Mark Guerin.

The club aims to foster social inclusion between those Irish-born, those of Irish descent and those interested in Irish culture. It promotes the study of Irish and Australian history, literature and culture, as well as advancing the standing of the Irish in the area.

You can find out more at [www.darlingdownsirishclub.org.au](http://www.darlingdownsirishclub.org.au)



Mary Allen of Irish Queenslander, Garry and Amy Henderson, Rory Corbett and Yvonne and Daniel O'Halloran of Celtic Power And Civil.



James Whitelaw, Chris McGill, HE Ambassador Noel White, Benjamin Duell and Peter Long.

## Luncheon raises \$80k

THE Australian Ireland Fund Brisbane Gala Luncheon 2013 raised over \$80,000 for charity.

The funds will be used to continue the work of the Australian Ireland Fund in integrated education in the North of Ireland, educational scholarships for indigenous Australians and also to fund two projects in Ireland this year, Barnardos Loughlinstown and Darndale Belcamp Integrated Childcare Services.

The lunch took place on Sunday, August 11 at Hillstone, St Lucia. The weather was beautiful – perfect for guests to enjoy welcome drinks and canapés on the

terrace overlooking the stunning St Lucia Golf Links.

Australian Ireland Fund Director, Sallyanne Atkinson AO welcomed guests, many from Brisbane's top corporate institutions. Special guests on the day included Chairman John O'Neill AO and his wife Julie, Ambassador of Ireland to Australia Noel White, Australian Ireland Fund Directors Tom Moore, Frank Curran and Peter Ryan and Executive Director Teresa Keating.

MC for the day was former Channel 9 newsreader Ben Dobson. Sásta entertained and a live auction was held.



Bill Concannon, Jackie Fulton, Brian Lorigan, Sharon Lorigan, Tony Lally, Leanne Whicker and HE Ambassador Noel White.



# Irish Australian Support Association Queensland News

by Rita Stott, Coordinator



[www.iasaq.com.au](http://www.iasaq.com.au)



Members of IASAQ Seniors Group, speakers and entertainers at the Queensland Multicultural Week and Seniors Week day out at Queensland Irish Club. To view more photos from this event or purchase prints, go to [www.photoboxgallery.com/IrishQueenslander](http://www.photoboxgallery.com/IrishQueenslander)

## Multicultural outing for seniors group

**IASAQ member Ted O'Donnell reports on an event held to celebrate Seniors Week and Queensland Multicultural Week.**

What a wonderful day in the Harp Room of the Irish Club. On arrival, we were greeted with the unique deep dulcet tones of the didgeridoo. Troy Allen showed us the versatility of this very simple musical instrument. Simple, that is, until you try to play it. Troy also told us wonderful stories of the Dreamtime.

Some of our friends from the French Society were there and Desiree took us on a history lesson and travelogue of the beautiful island of Mauritius.

Sister Wendy brought to us some serious thought on the impact of climate change on the small inhabited atolls of the Pacific. She explained the effect of the rising waters of the ocean and severe weather events

on the people who call these islands home. She explained how people are being resettled on land obtained from the Church on Bougainville Island.

Still to come were the wonderful Irish entertainers Bob and Cath. Bob sang songs of Ireland with that special tilt in his voice that only comes from a person of the Emerald Isle. Chairs were turned to face him and as I looked around the room, only joy and happiness were to be seen on every face. Nothing lights up a room like a live singer.

Bob called on IASAQ member Cecil Halpin to join him on the stage. Bing Crosby, Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra all rolled into one was the soft and pleasant voice of our Cecil. If he plays golf like he sings, Tiger Woods had better watch out.

The afternoon was finished only by the clock, for all would have stayed many more hours if possible.

## Mass invite

IASAQ invites you to its annual November Remembrance Masses.

Everyone is welcome to join in and pray for the peaceful repose of the deceased during November, month of the Holy Souls.

Masses will be held in Brisbane, at St James' Church, 165 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo, on Sunday, November 3 at 12pm, and in the Gold Coast, at Guardian Angels Church, 99 Scarborough Street, Southport, on Sunday, November 17 at 1pm.



Enjoying the IASAQ multicultural day at Queensland Irish Club were Rita Malone with Rita Stott, left, and Ted and Jan O'Donnell, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.



### WHAT'S ON

#### Drop-in luncheon

EVERY second Tuesday at 11.30am at the centre. \$8 per person. Come along and bring a friend - all welcome.

#### Outreach

IF you are aware of anyone in hospital or care home who would like a visit, don't hesitate to call the centre.

#### Irish Mums Group

EVERY Monday at 10am. Call Rita for details of venue. Come along for a catch-up. Children range in age from infants to pre-pup.

#### Call in for a cuppa

THE centre is open 9.30am to 4.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. CLOSED WEDNESDAY. We are opposite Park Road Station and Boggo Road Busway. The kettle is always on the boil!

#### Welcome booklet

WE have a Welcome to Brisbane booklet for new arrivals, full of all sorts of information about living here. To download it, go to <http://bit.ly/ZESHOZ>

### ABOUT IASAQ

SINCE the Association was formed five years ago, our services have grown to include a wide range of activities and support services including:-

- Networking with elderly in the community, aged care home, hospital and hostel visits;
- Seniors' lunches;
- Excursions;
- Promoting fellowship and social gatherings;
- Assistance with legal and court matters;
- Immigration advice and support;
- Special interest groups such as for mothers, seniors and backpackers;
- Fundraisers for special causes.

For more information on any of the above, contact Rita Stott, Coordinator, Irish Australian Support Association Queensland, 5 Abingdon Street, Woolloongabba, Qld 4102.

Email: [info@iasaq.com.au](mailto:info@iasaq.com.au)

Phone: 3391 1300

Mobile: 0432 087 328



## Group raises \$5,000 for charity at trivia night

THE Hopper Group held a trivia night The Irish Club which raised almost \$5,000 for a cancer charity, far exceeding expectations.

The Hopper Group owns a number of IGA stores in Brisbane and Sydney.

This is the second year that they have been involved in the Rio Tinto Ride to Conquer Cancer.

The ride entails cycling 110km from St Lucia to Wivenhoe, camping overnight and then returning the following day.

A representative from each store and also staff from their head office take part. The aim is to raise \$40,000.

Leigh Elliot of Hopper Group said: "This ride is very important to us as our numbers include many who have fought the battle and won. On a sad note, we have also lost some of our people to this terrible disease.

"The Irish Club was recommended to us as a great venue and we would wholeheartedly agree. Its location, ease of parking and excellent service all contributed to a very successful evening. We are in your debt for donating the room hire."

## QIA Pipe Band on ABC Radio

ABC Australia All Over's Ian McNamara recently featured our own QIA pipe band in his weekly radio show.

Check out the Irish Club website to listen to the radio show edit with an interview of our pipe band afterwards - it's a cracker!



The state's senior team, left, and junior team, right. QIA Dancers won 10 state team titles at the 40th State Championships.

# Queensland Irish Association Dancers come home with gold

THIS year marked the 40th Irish Dancing Queensland State Championships and it was a wonderful event for the Queensland Irish Association (QIA) Dancers with them winning 10 state team titles - their best result ever.

As well as the wonderful team results, nine solo dancers came home with trophies for individual events. The results were a great reward for all the hours of hard work that they have put in over the past months. There were 25 dancers, aged from nine years up, competing in 21 team events. As well as winning 10 events, they were runners-up in five events. The championships were held at Logan Entertainment Centre in August.

The QIA Dancers were founded in 1958 to promote traditional Irish dance and to provide instruc-

tion in traditional Irish dancing to members of the Queensland Irish Association. Tuition is affordable and classes are taught downstairs at The Irish Club. They provide tuition to more than 70 dancers of all ages and levels of experience, and regularly provide entertainment at the QIA clubrooms and other venues around Brisbane and south east Queensland.

If you need Irish dancers for any event, you can contact QIA Dancers at the address below. Rates for commercial appearances are very reasonable and they often do charitable functions free of charge.

Because of their busy schedule, with feisanna, displays and concerts, they need prior notice to make sure they can provide for your needs.

You can contact QIA Dancers by email to [qiadancers@yahoo.com.au](mailto:qiadancers@yahoo.com.au)

## Eric Bogle waltzing into The Irish Club with SMS Tour

ERIC BOGLE is probably best known for his song The Band Played Waltzing Matilda, which confirmed its iconic status by appearing as a question in the Australian version of Trivial Pursuit.

But he is far from being a one-hit wonder. Some of his other songs: No Man's Land (The Green Fields of France), Leaving

Nancy, Now I'm Easy, Shelter, My Youngest Son Came Home Today and If Wishes Were Fishes are now beginning to rival Matilda in the icon stakes.

In 2010, after years of non-stop touring throughout North America, Europe, Britain and Australia, Eric embarked on what was to be his final tour.

After realising that his retire-

ment fund was taking a beating, the former accountant decided enough was enough and is hitting the road in October and November 2013 on Save my Superannuation (SMS) Tour.

Eric will be live on stage on Sunday, October 13 at The Irish Club from 2pm. For more information, go to our website, [www.queenslandirish.com](http://www.queenslandirish.com)



by Bob Kiernan

www.bobinoz.com

# Australia's top migration nations

THERE'S a new country at the top of the list of source countries of permanent residents moving to Australia. What is a little surprising though is that this news is hitting the headlines this week when, as far as I can see, it's been known since July of last year.

Brendan O'Connor, who is Minister for Immigration and Citizenship here in Australia, made the announcement some time back, as you'll see from the source link further down this page. But anyway, which country is the new number one?

Here's a clue...



First, let's remind us of what I found when I last covered this subject over four years ago in my post called Australia - A Nation of Immigrants (<http://www.bobinoz.com/blog/995/australia-a-nation-of-immigrants/>). That post is slightly different from today's inasmuch as it looked at the population in total, that is to say

the current percentages of people living in Australia who originally came from another country.

At that time, the top three were:

1. UK, 2. New Zealand, 3. China.

And as a rolling total, that hasn't changed today, it's still the same. But the trend is different and that's what we are looking at now.

During the year 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 the top three, with the numbers who moved were:

India - 29,018

China - 25,509

UK - 25,274

Source: [immi.gov.au](http://immi.gov.au)

Ooh, just look how close it was for second!

The above figures are, let me remind you, for permanent residents moving to Australia. I have not yet found any accurate or official figures listing those who permanently leave the country. I'm not sure official figures even exist, after all, people leaving the country permanently do not have to tell anyone, they just go and don't come back.

You can't monitor that, can you?

I found another very interesting chart provided by the government which shows the top 20 countries for each of the different types of migrants whether permanent or temporary.

They have broken it down into seven different types, the first one I'll explain, it's the Family Stream. These are partner (spouse or de facto), child, parent and other family visa categories like carer visas, age dependent relative visas and remaining relative visas.

The rest of the following types of migration are pretty self-explanatory, and I have just listed the top three in each.

**Family Stream:**

1. China, 2. UK, 3. India.

**General Skilled Migration:**

1. India, 2. UK, 3. China.

**Employer Sponsored:**

1. UK, 2. Philippines, 3. India.

**Total Skill Stream:**

1. India, 2. UK, 3. China.

**Students:**

1. China, 2. India, 3. Republic of Korea.

**Business (Long Stay):**

1. UK, 2. India, 3. Ireland.

**Visitors:**

1. UK, 2. China, 3. USA.

If you would like to see the top 20s for each of these migration types and also the current top 20 migrant countries currently in Australia by population, then visit this page, country profiles, <http://www.immi.gov.au/media/statistics/country-profiles/> and then click on the PDF link on that page with the title Current Country Rankings.

So there you have it, Australia is still a nation of immigrants, it's just the source countries that are changing slightly.

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# Amach



40th Anniversary of Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association - Willawong, August 4



Stephanie Phillips, Sarah Richardson, Nikki-Lee McNamara and Adam Richardson, all drummers with QIA Pipe Band.



Ray O'Meara and wife Noelle, right, with daughter Jackie Power, back, and grandchildren Jack, Lucy and Caitlin Power.



Hilary Sharp of Green Envy Living.



Michalina Paruch and Jackie Murphy.



Rosie and Lily Cole.



Chloe Ward, Kath Perrin, Carlie Rice, Angus Perrin, Eamon Rice, Dominic Horkey, Harry Sibley and Linda the dog.



Louise and Paul O'Leary with Addison.



Charlie and Joey Gannon.



Brian and Rebecca Croke with baby Patrick.



Hilda Maxwell, Teresa Devine and Franca Geberd.



Kevin Taylor, Lia Egan and Graham Egan of Brisbane Bulldogs.



John Hickey and Bob the caretaker.

To view more photos from this event or buy print copies, go to [www.photoboxgallery.com/IrishQueenslander](http://www.photoboxgallery.com/IrishQueenslander)

# Doing it tough for cancer fund

THIS foursome entered Tough Mudder in Caloundra and raised \$3,940 for Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children.

Niall McCreilly and his sister Róisín, from Moy, Co. Tyrone, decided to do the challenge after their nephew was diagnosed with leukaemia.

Niall says: "Our nephew Ruairi McGrath was diagnosed with leukaemia last year and the Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children has done so much for him and our family, we wanted to do our bit, especially as we were in Australia and not at home during this time."

Joining them on the team were Niall's girlfriend, Catherine Lloyd from Manchester and Jannette Newell from Clones, Co. Monaghan.

Jannette plays Gaelic football for John Mitchel's, where Niall has been the ladies team coach for the last three years. For that reason, they called their Tough Mudder team 'The Dirty Mitchel's'.

Tough Mudder involves doing 18 obstacles over 19km and is considered to be one of the world's most difficult obstacle courses. Among the challenges are Artie Enema, where you swim through ice; Electroshock Therapy, where you sprint through a field of live wires, some carrying as much as 10,000 volts of electric shock; Walk The Plank, where you jump 15 feet into icy waters, and the military-style Trench Warfare, where you crawl through narrow, muddy trenches filled with rocks and obstructions.

Niall said: "We decided to do Tough Mudder after a friend told us about it and we thought it would be a good challenge."

"On the day, we thoroughly enjoyed it but did find it hard. We all stuck together as a team, everyone taking part was helping each other out and there was a great atmosphere."

"Personally, I found the Artie Enema hard as it is such a shock and your body just goes numb. Catherine and Jannette found Trench Warfare a real challenge, both being claustrophobic, and Róisín found Walk The Plank hard, as it's very high and then you have to jump into dirty water, not knowing how deep it is."

"Catherine sprained her ankle halfway through but continued to the finish."

The team was pleased to have finished but the real joy was in having helped out the cancer fund. Niall said: "We are over the moon with the amount we have managed to raise."



Niall McCreilly, Róisín McCreilly, Catherine Lloyd and Jannette Newell at Tough Mudder, where they raised \$3,940 for Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children, after Niall and Róisín's nephew Ruairi McGrath, above, was diagnosed with leukaemia.

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## Gary's back with rebel anthems

ONE of Europe's finest folk and rebel artists makes his way back to Australia this year for his seventh tour by popular demand.

Gary Óg will once again look to take this country by storm after a highly successful Australia-wide tour in June 2011, which left audiences begging for more.

Hailing from the Gorbals area in Glasgow, Gary developed his craft growing up in the Irish community there, which in past generations had immigrated to the area in the hope of a better life.

"Many people, who were just off the boat from Ireland, settled in the Gorbals," he said.

It was from these working class streets in Glasgow that he developed his penchant for Bob Dylan, Christy Moore and ballads of Irish freedom.

He started a band, Éire Óg, which developed rapidly beyond his expectations and was soon immensely popular in Scotland, Ireland and most of Western Europe. Éire Óg attracted impressive crowds, particularly in Ireland - and it's a place that Óg still loves to perform.

"When I was involved in Éire Óg, I'd get across monthly because we were playing a lot of gigs there. I love the North, Belfast and Derry especially. I certainly like visiting Derry, it's a wee bit more relaxed."

After Éire Óg wound to a close, Gary went solo, often supporting The Wolfetones. Armed only with his unmistakable gravelly voice and acoustic guitar, it gave him the opportunity to add his personal touch to a vast repertoire of ballads.

**Gary Óg will be performing in Mick O'Malley's, Brisbane, on Sunday, October 27.**

# Australia put on

HIS career looked like it might be over back in January, when Dennis Hurrigan Hogan underwent surgery for a slipped disc in his neck. The surgery could have resulted in paralysis. But he fought back and now he's the middleweight champion of the Celtic Nations. Next up - the Australian Middleweight Title. Irish Queenslander has fighting talk with our undefeated local hero.

*How are you feeling after your Celtic Nations fight?*

"I feel brilliant. Delighted with that win. It was definitely one I really wanted to get under the belt. It means a lot to me to be a Celtic Nations champion. I just got stuck in to the fight, and I got focused for it, and luckily enough, I was able to make it happen.

*Did you find Gavin Prunty a tough opponent?*

"I did yeah, he came in there to disrupt my way of boxing, which I think he did to enough effect that the fight went the eight rounds. I'm fine with that, it's eight hard rounds in the bag, but definitely he was trying to avoid a big, right hand from me. But I've a good left too, so I did a lot of damage with my left hand."

*Next up is Nathan Carroll. You've fought him once before, and beat him.*

"I have yes, I fought him for the Queensland title and beat him, TKO (technical knock-out) on the seventh round. It was one of those nights where everything came right for me. I think his style suited me, I got stuck in and I got the win pretty comprehensively. Obviously, I'm not getting complacent in the fact that I've already beaten him but the thing is, I've beaten him, he hasn't beaten me.

"Everyone is saying he's gotten a lot better since then, but so have I. I've had a look back over that fight and all I can do is pick out things that I'm doing better already so it's going to make for a very interesting fight. I'm going in as the underdog again, they've got him tipped to win this again



Gavin Prunty taking a beating during the Celtic Nations title fight. Pic: Katherine O'Malley



Dennis with, his mother, left, his grandmother, right, and manager Paul Keegan after winning the Celtic Nations title. Pic: Click Mick

as he's the champion. That's fine by me, let me be the underdog - I bite harder as the underdog."

*You had massive support at the Irish Club for the Celtic Nations fight. What are you expecting the support to be like at Eaton's Hill Hotel for the Australian title fight?*  
 "Twice as much, I'd imagine! People really want to get involved in this. It's a big thing when it's a title fight but it's a bigger thing when it's on TV. And when it's a boy from back home. This is the country that people are seeking

refuge in and for one of their own to be a national champion here in Australia means a lot to a lot of people. It will mean a lot for me to win it for those people too."

*Can people watch it live back home?*

"The link will come directly from Fox Sports, so we'll have the commentary and we'll have a perfect link for it for everyone to watch. You can watch it live on TV on Fox Sports in Australia, people in the rest of the world can watch it on the live link on the internet."

# Hurricane alert



Dennis after being announced the winner of the Celtic Nations title at Queensland Irish Club on September 19. Pic: Katherine O'Malley



Dennis fought his first underage fight at the age of eight, and, above right, he was taught to box by this man, his grandfather Paddy Burke. This photo was taken after Dennis won the All-Ireland Final in 2009.



*What age were you when you started boxing?*

"I remember being in the club training at the age of six, I had my first underage fight at the age of eight under my grandfather, Paddy Burke. He showed me how to box. I stayed doing amateur boxing until I came over here to Australia. I've boxed every year of my life, I only took one year out and that was to come over here backpacking in 2005."

*When did you turn professional?*

"I went professional in 2011, so it's only been two and a half years with a nine-month lay off, so I'm going ok for the amount of time that I've been a professional."

*You're from Kilcullen in Kildare. Is there a big boxing tradition there?*  
"Yeah, Kildare is massive for box-

ing. Ireland's amateur level is phenomenal and it just keeps going from strength to strength, which gives me massive confidence going out into the world as a professional, knowing that I've come from such a strong background. When I was an amateur, I won the intermediate championships, then went straight into the senior championships. My first fight was against Kenneth Egan, who was just back from the Olympics with silver. So that was my first senior fight. It was never easy but all it did was make me harder."

*When you came out here to Australia, it must have been hard to build up support and get people interested?*

"I went around selling tickets, ticket by ticket to people's doors. I knew how many tickets I had

to sell to get on the show and I made sure I did it."

*How long do you think you can keep up this level of boxing?*

"I'm 28. Definitely my best four years of boxing are ahead of me. They say you peak at 32 around this weight. Then you have another four years strong after that, at least. I feel that since I went professional that I have been getting stronger. If you look after your body well, you'll go a long way."

*If you do win the Aussie title, where to from there?*

"Maybe I'll look at defending it. I still want to defend my Celtic Nations title as well, which might be a big fight for St Patrick's Day, or even a double-header if someone was to fit the criteria. I definitely want to defend it a few times because after that, it's a continental title, we're up into the world scene then. But I'm not going to look past this fight yet, it's a big fight and I need all my energy and focus going into this fight. The Celtic Nations covers Ireland, Scotland and Wales so there's a big group of fighters there. If anyone's hungry enough to fight for it, we'll organize something."

**Dennis takes on Nathan Carroll on November 7. Tickets from [www.facebook.com/dennishurricanehogan](http://www.facebook.com/dennishurricanehogan)**



## Panti's on at Brisbane Powerhouse

DRAG superstar Panti has performed with Cyndi Lauper in Japan, run a fetish club in Dublin and hosted the Alternative Miss Ireland Pageant for 18 years and now Brisbane audiences can see her in All Dolled Up, her Australian debut.

All Dolled Up is part stand-up, part theatre-lecture and is a behind-the-scenes look at the life and times of Irish gender-illusionist Panti. Panti grew up in Mayo, discovered drag in London, conquered the Tokyo club scene and wound up back in Ireland running her own pub (Pantibar) and performing in theatre and drag shows.

Panti says "All Dolled Up is a pretty funny show (unless you're my mother, in which case it's excruciatingly embarrassing) which tells you everything you need to know about becoming a self-made man-made woman.

"In my case, that includes meeting the legendary Leigh Bowery in the late Eighties, the chaotic Tokyo club scene of the early Nineties, dealing with tranny-chasers and stalking Dolly Parton. It's all set against the backdrop of a changing Ireland where homosexuality was only decriminalized in 1993. So if your mother asks, you can tell her you were at a history lecture."

**All Dolled Up runs at Brisbane Powerhouse from Wednesday, 9 October to Friday, 11 October.**



## No bridge too far for Sásta

GET together with Sásta and you'll soon be having lots of banter. When I sat down to interview the four lads at the Story Bridge Hotel, I asked them about their tours in Australia, New Zealand and New Caledonia.

Hang on, why New Caledonia?

Mick: "A guy who knew Joe heard our band and asked us to come over for a St Patrick's Week festival. We played four gigs."

Paddy: "There's a big mining project over there with lots of Irish working at it."

Joe: "There were around 50 Irish lads working for Roadbridge sent out."

Mick: "And there's a French connection between St Patrick and Ireland as well."

Joe: "Do ya think?"

Mick: "Yeah, St Patrick wasn't Irish. I don't know the exact history but I know some of the French people celebrate St Patrick's Day as well."

Mick is right. Indeed, some French people say St Patrick was born in Gaul. The small Pacific island of New Caledonia is a territory of France.

Mick: "We did a bit over in New Zealand as well during the Rugby World Cup. We played in Dunedin and Queenstown."

Sásta's members are multi-instrumentalists who perform pumping reels with huge energy. The band have varied backgrounds but all with a strong dose of Irish culture thrown in.

Mick is the son of Irish emigrants, he grew up in the Irish area of Kilburn in London. He sings and plays guitar, bodhrán and bouzouki. "My dad was from Armagh, mum's from Laois. I lived in Ireland on and off during my younger years and spent seven years in Dublin, until 2007. I grew up playing music and was very involved in Irish culture.

"As a kid, I was signed up for Irish dancing and being so tall, I was like spaghetti in a wind tunnel! I stuck with the music and I absolutely loved it. I learned



Paddy, Joe, Mick and Rocky of Sásta under the Story Bridge. Pic: Jeff Ram Photographer, [www.facebook.com/JeffRamPhotographer](http://www.facebook.com/JeffRamPhotographer)

a few chords from my sister when I was seven or eight. I didn't play again until I was about 15, when I worked out that girls liked it!"

Joe, who plays fiddle, comes from Toomebridge, Co. Antrim. He began teaching fiddle at 14. He was a member of Crosskeys Comhaltas Group, where he won two All Irelands and won twice at the Ulster Fleadh on fiddle.

"Everybody in my family played music. I used to say that I'd like to play the fiddle. When I was nine, I got one from Santa and it went from there.

"I've been here in Australia two and a half years now and Mick dragged me into this."

Mick: "Joe was here about a week and I met him in Finbar's bar, Maleny. He was backpacking with a couple of mates. I was taking part in a session and one of the lads said 'Oh, Joe plays a bit of fiddle'. And then he picked it up, and that was it, he's been in the band ever since."

Banjo player Paddy comes from Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone, one of the highest villages in Ireland.

"Because of The Troubles back home, anything to do with

culture was very well respected. The language, the music, folklore, these were all seen as very important. Music came to me naturally.

"I was driving along in a work van in Belfast one day, the wind was shaking it and the rain was beating down on it and I said to the other boys, 'I'm gonna head off'. And I booked a ticket to Australia the next day and that was it. I wanted a better lifestyle. That was five years ago."

Accordion player Rocky was born in Coventry, England. "We were there until I burnt the house down to the ground when I was four years old. So we moved back to Ireland.

"Actually, just before I burnt the house down, I jumped out of a second-storey window because I thought I was Superman. I landed flat on the concrete.

"All my family play instruments. My dad plays the flute, mum plays the bodhrán. We formed a ceilidh band when I was 12 and over the following years, we played all over Ireland, myself and my brother and two sisters."

Sásta has a fifth member too. Dorothy. A 1976 VW Kombi van.

Mick: "Dorothy has been in the band since the start. Three days into a festival with four of us sleeping in her, she gets a wee bit ripe but she gets us through."

The lads have supported both Aslan and The Popes.

Mick: "We'd all get together for a few drinks after the gigs, they were really nice lads."

And they are a dab hand at festivals. They played at the National Folk Festival in Canberra last year, where Paul Brady and Finbar Furey watched their gig and reportedly "really enjoyed it".

The biggest crowd they've played to is Woodford Folk Festival. Mick: "That's huge. 120,000 people over six days. It's the biggest festival in the southern hemisphere. It's massive. We played there last year and met Sharon Shannon, Jim Murray and that gang."

Always busy, they plan to record a new album soon.

Mick: "You have to keep going, keep fresh, keep something else coming out all the time. We love what we do. I'm playing with brilliant musicians who are some of my best friends in the world."

# Whats the Craic

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## Whiskey Bar proves popular at Irish Club

THE Irish Club's Whiskey Bar is becoming a quick hit for locals and Irish tourists, with its vintage-style barrels imprinted with the Irish Club harp and a diverse range of whiskeys.

The Whiskey Bar was officially opened on July 25 with an evening of canapés and tastings of whiskeys from around the world.

Peter Johnston, Queensland manager of In High Spirits - The Scotch Malt Whisky Society, gave a guided tour of the various whiskeys and their qualities and talked about what food works best with each type of whiskey.

The Whiskey Bar holds monthly whiskey tastings, on the second Thursday of every month and showcases whiskeys from



around the world, with canapés to match and enhance the taste of the whiskeys.

A Whiskey Club has also just been introduced at The Irish Club to offer pre-ticket sales to members, as well as the option to purchase the whiskeys included in the tasting at a discount price.

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# Tommy reveals there's one subject he just won't touch

IT'S 8 o'clock on a Tuesday morning in autumn in Ireland. An ungodly hour when the only things stirring are the farmers shivering with the cold in their milking parlours. But it's Irish Queenslander's duty to get the country's number one comedian, Tommy Tiernan, out of his bed and on the phone to talk about his upcoming gigs in Brisbane. Here goes...

*Good morning Tommy, how are you doing?*

"I'm fantastic!"

*Are you just up?*

"I'm up about 20 minutes so I'm able to talk!"

*You've just been on a tour of very small venues?*

"I've just finished a world tour of Leitrim, which was intimate, but before that I did a world tour of the islands, which was a fantastic experience. We did eight islands off the coast. Nine or 10 months of the year I'm touring rural Ireland."

*On the islands, you must be mostly playing in pubs?*

"Yes, pubs and maybe the community hall, that kind of place. It was about half islanders, half tourists coming in from the mainland. Especially in the community halls, I would have gotten people coming along to the shows who only came because there was nothing else on. Not only would they have never been to a stand-up comedy gig before but they might even have hostilities towards comedy, and mine in particular. But because it was on, they said 'sure, we'll stick a head in the door and see what it's like.'"

*Is this the same show that you're bringing to Australia?*

"The show changes slowly from month to month and completely from year to year, so it will be a little bit different a month down the road."

*The show is called Stray Sod, a metaphor for how we've lost our spirit. What's it about?*

"On one hand, I think it's trying to understand Irishness. And on the other hand, it's also an exploration of storytelling and different styles of storytelling. It's taking chances with



Comedian Tommy Tiernan is on his way and will play at The Tivoli on October 27 and 28.

form, not just getting up and having a laugh, I enjoy being a little bit adventurous with the style and the type of stories that I tell."

*You lived in Cork for a while?*

"I moved to Cork when I was 18, I lived there for a year."

*But you have also lived in Zambia and London. How would you compare Cork to Zambia?*

"Cork was hotter. Cork was wilder. I have great memories of Cork, we did a world tour of County Cork recently and we did 15 different towns. It was incredible. It's definitely a province by itself, I know it yearns to be a country but it's definitely a province anyway."

*There's a clip online of you on US TV programme Late Show With David Letterman and you didn't curse once. Is that a challenge for you?*

"Not really, no. It's kind of like, when you're talking to your granny, you don't really curse."

*And the practice from being around your young kids?*

"I've got young kids and I've got middle kids and I've got old kids. I've

got a lot of kids. Every type of kid you could imagine, I have it. I know on stage I curse and usually the worse a gig is going, the more I curse. But on television I tend not to, although I've cursed a lot on the Late Late... I don't have a rule but I do have manners."

*Is there any subject that you just would not go near or have you got them all pretty much covered?*

"Soviet farming. How the Russians do agriculture. I refuse to talk about it. I think even to bring up such a subject as Soviet farming is insensitive and crass."

*What do you think of Australians?*

"I think they're generally well-presented. They're like amateur Americans. I like them."

*Were there a lot of Irish people at your last tour here in 2011?*

"Mostly Irish, yes. I did a tour of Canada in March and it was mainly Canadians but in Australia, it tends to be mainly Irish people. I'm very, very happy to play for them. I'm interested to see how you're all getting on and also interested to see what you are doing to the Australians and I'm

interested in Australians coming to the show as well and seeing if my style tickles them.

"I'm playing the Tivoli in Brisbane, which is a brilliant venue. The Tivoli is good craic for stand-ups, a rock and roll venue. That will add to the show."

*One thing that surprised me when I was researching you is that you seem to be quite religious, or spiritual?*

"I came across a great phrase the other day – this fella was encouraging people to be religious without having anything to do with religion. I think most Irish people would be, you can call it religious or you can call it spiritual or whatever word you like but it's just in us. We're prone to superstition as well and I think we're prone to maybe not taking the world as it appears to be. Our parents would have been more orthodoxly religious than us, their parents would have been even more so. So it's in our DNA. If the word spiritual didn't sound so dry, I'd be excited about using it. We're like agricultural mystics."

*You were famously in Father Ted, playing suicidal priest Father Kevin. Were you at the wrap-up party at the end?*

"Yes, we finished recording on the Friday. The episode I was in was the last episode. Then Dermot (Morgan) died on the Saturday."

*It must have been a massive shock?*

"It was bizarre for me as I had just spent a week working with him. He made an arrangement with me to go for a pint. He said 'The next time I'm in Dublin, let's go for a pint'. And I said ok. So one of these days I'm expecting to be collared by a ghost on Grafton Street and dragged into a bar where old ghosts drink. So I look forward to that."

*Do you have any other TV roles planned?*

"I'm writing a sitcom at the moment but it's maybe a bit too mad for telly but maybe that's the reason to do it. I don't really watch TV to be honest so I want to make a sitcom for people who don't really watch TV."

**You can catch Tommy Tiernan at The Tivoli, Brisbane, on October 27. Tickets from Ticketmaster.**

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17 NOV

### WOODFORD FOLK FESTIVAL

Six days of concerts, theatre, film, comedy, jams, children's festival

Woodford

27 DEC - 1 JAN

# Craic

## What's happening around Queensland

### BRISBANE

EVERY MON

Irish Mums Group  
10am, Irish Australian Support Association Qld (IASAQ)

EVERY TUE

Drop-in Luncheon  
11.30am, IASAQ

EVERY WED

Harry's Trivia Table Quiz  
6pm, The Irish Club

EVERY THU

Open Mic Night  
7pm, O'Malley's  
Thursdays With Jabba  
Irish Murphy's  
EVERY 2ND THU  
Singer/songwriter night  
Foxy Bean

EVERY FRI

Allure Fridays Ladies Night  
Gilhooleys Chermside  
Live Music Session  
8.30pm, Foxy Bean  
Tackyland - Motion DJs  
10pm, Irish Murphy's

EVERY SAT

Irish Program  
12.30pm, Radio 4EB FM  
Ger Fennelly  
2.30pm, O'Malley's  
Live Music Session  
8.30pm, Foxy Bean

EVERY SUN

Ger Fennelly  
2.30pm, Mick O'Malleys

Craic 'n Cider Sundays  
10am, Irish Murphy's

FRI. 4. OCT

Jason Byrne  
Tivoli

SAT. 5. OCT

Tullamore Tree  
4pm, Mick O'Malleys

SUN. 6. OCT

Brisbane Zombie Walk  
3pm, RNA Showgrounds

WED. 9. OCT

All Dolled Up  
8pm, Brisbane Powerhouse

THU. 10. OCT

All Dolled Up  
8pm, Brisbane Powerhouse

FRI. 11. OCT

All Dolled Up  
10pm, Brisbane Powerhouse

SUN. 13. OCT

Eric Bogle  
2pm, The Irish Club

TUE. 15. OCT

Brenna Logan and The Jar  
7.30pm, New Farm Bowls Club

WED. 16. OCT

Kim Wilde and Nik Kershaw  
The Tivoli

SAT. 19. OCT

One Direction  
Brisbane Entertainment Centre

SAT. 20. OCT

One Direction  
Brisbane Entertainment Centre

SUN. 21. OCT

One Direction  
Brisbane Entertainment Centre

SAT. 26. OCT

An Irish High Tea  
11am, The Irish Club



SUN. 27. OCT

Gary Og  
5pm, Mick O'Malleys  
Tommy Tiernan  
Tivoli

MON. 28. OCT

Clannad  
Brisbane City Hall

SAT. 2. NOV

Sive  
Eaton's Hill Hotel

TUE. 5. NOV

Melbourne Cup Day  
11am, The Irish Club

SAT. 9. NOV

Damien Leith  
Broncos Leagues Club

THU. 14. NOV

Fleetwood Mac  
Brisbane Entertainment Centre

WED. 20. NOV

Michael McIntyre  
Brisbane Entertainment Centre

SAT. 30. NOV

Leonard Cohen  
Brisbane Entertainment Centre

### BAYSIDE

SUN. 26. OCT

Halloween Parade  
4pm, Manly

SAT. 2. NOV

Tullamore Tree  
2pm, Grand View Hotel

FRI. 8. NOV

Damien Leith  
Mon Komo Hotel, Redcliffe



SUN. 10. NOV

Damien Leith  
Victoria Point Sharks Club

### IPSWICH

EVERY FRI

After Work Drinks  
5pm, Harp of Erin (Metropole)

### LOGAN

EVERY FRI

Secret Woman's Business  
9pm, Gilhooleys Loganholme



### Carnival of the Dead

SET at RNA Showgrounds, festivities include music, make up, markets and movies. The venue opens at 10am and the seventh annual Brisbane Zombie Walk starts at 3pm. It might look scary but it's all for a good cause, raising funds for and awareness of The Brain Foundation of Australia.

RNA Showgrounds, Brisbane  
SATURDAY, 6 OCTOBER

## Festivals



Do you want to get into Craic FREE listings? Email [listings@irishqueenslander.com](mailto:listings@irishqueenslander.com)

**Halloween Street Party**

THEY say it has the biggest Halloween parade in the Southern Hemisphere. They say that expats from all over SE Queensland dress up in their spooky best and enjoy the street carnival from 11am. They say that as soon as the sun goes down, evil hearses, ghouls and demons march through the streets. But fear not, Ghostbusters always save the night!

Cambridge Parade, Manly  
26 OCTOBER



EVERY SAT  
**Urban Electric Saturdays**  
Gilhooleys Loganholme

**GOLD COAST**

EVERY THU  
**O'Leary Lads**  
6pm, Fiddlers Green

EVERY SAT  
**Retro and disco house music**  
8pm, The Harp at Waxy's

EVERY SUN  
**Acoustic Groove afternoon**  
Waxy's

1ST SUN EVERY MONTH  
**O'Leary Lads**  
Fiddlers Green

SUN. 20. OCT  
**Black Stove**  
Mudgeeraba Muster

SAT. 26. OCT  
**Tony Hadley**  
Jupiters

THU. 7. NOV  
**Damien Leith**  
The Sound Lounge

SUN. 17. NOV  
**Celtic Day**  
Harrigan's Drift Inn

**SUNSHINE COAST**

EVERY THU  
**Live music**  
Freemasons Hotel, Gympie

EVERY THU  
**McGuinness & Co**  
8pm, O'Malleys, Mooloolaba



1ST AND 3RD TUE  
**Irish Jam Session**  
Halse Lodge, Noosa Heads

1ST SAT  
**Songwriter Sessions**  
1pm, The Shared, Yandina

30 OCT - 4 NOV  
**Noosa Triathlon**  
Noosa

**BUNDABERG**

EVERY FRI AND SAT  
**Live Entertainment**  
Old Bundy Tavern

**CAPELLE**

EVERY MON  
**Free to play poker**  
Register from 6pm, Dooleys

**MACKAY**

EVERY THU, FRI, SAT  
**Karaoke Under The Stars**  
Palace Hotel

EVERY FRI & SAT  
**Live Music**  
9pm, Kate O'Reillys

**MAIDENWELL**

4-6 OCT  
**Maidenwell O'Folk Gathering**  
Maidenwell Hotel

**ROMA**

LAST WED OF MONTH  
**Trivia Night**  
7pm, Irish McGann's

**ROCKHAMPTON**

EVERY THU  
**Karaoke**  
8pm, O'Dowd's

**TOOWOOMBA**

1ST AND 4TH TUE OF MONTH  
**Trad Irish Music Session**  
7pm, Irish Club Hotel

THU. 14. NOV  
**Pete Storm's Elvis Tribute Act**  
7pm, Irish Club Hotel

**TOWNSVILLE**

SAT. 5. OCT  
**Irish Tunes Session**  
5pm, Molly Malones

SAT. 2. NOV  
**Irish Tunes Session**  
5pm, Molly Malones

**JASON BYRNE**  
Tivoli, Brisbane

Dubliner Jason will captivate with hilarious tales from his childhood in his high-energy show Special Eye.

4 OCT



**ONE DIRECTION**  
Brisbane Ent Centre

Our own lovely Niall Horan and the other 1D boys will have the fans screaming for three nights in Brisbane.

19-21 OCT



**TOMMY TIERNAN**  
Tivoli, Brisbane

Tommy explores what it means to be Irish and methods of storytelling in his new show, Stray Sod

27 OCT



**CLANNAD**  
Brisbane City Hall

The Irish family group who make stunning beautiful Celtic music treat us with a rare trip to Australia

30 OCT



**THE WOLFE TONES**  
Tivoli, Brisbane

The rebel folk group bring their 50th anniversary tour to Oz, with support from Duke Special

19 JAN



**MRS BROWNS BOYS**  
Brisbane Ent Centre

The cast from the TV series bring Mrs Brown Rides Again to Brisbane. Tickets on sale now

20-24 MAR 2014



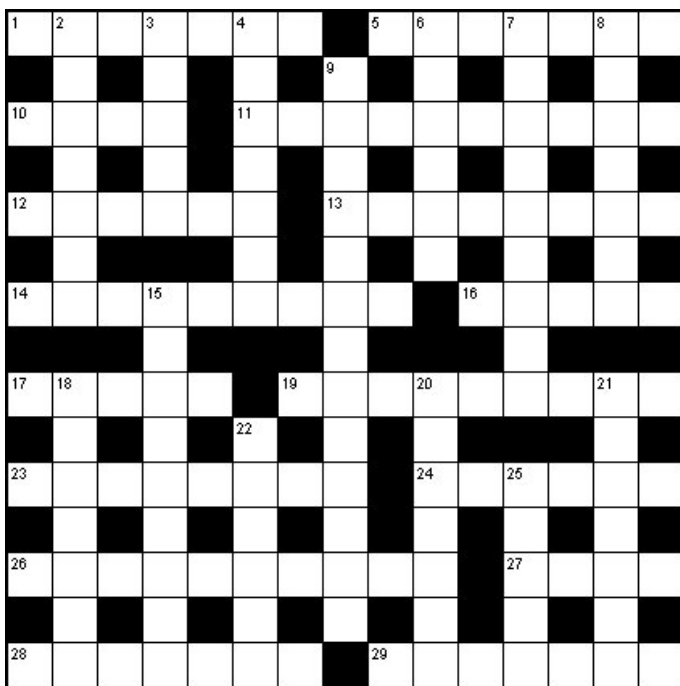
Celtic-influenced folk band playing music from The Dubliners, The Fureys, Christy Moore and Eric Bogle.

**Black Stove**  
Traditional folk music

Available for hire Brisbane, Gold Coast and surrounds.  
Contact Martin on 0416 011 067



## Crossword



### ACROSS

- 1 Sunday saint keeps Swedish singers in hospital (7)
- 5 Worried waverers with a Six Counties comeback (2,1,4)
- 10 Touch and go at the chessboard (4)
- 11 Founder of the RUC or benefactor concealing leak! (6,4)
- 12 Simpleton spoils the beginning of Lorna Doone (6)
- 13 Limerick man, after dubious call, is okay (3,5)
- 14 Herein County Mayo Conservative gets nothing (9)
- 16 Like a German keeping warm (5)
- 17 Joker's first doubtful moment (5)
- 19 And Trotsky almost wrecked this Russian port (9)
- 23 Musical performance suits peer to a T (8)
- 24 Change the state of Atlanta in a flight of fancy (6)
- 26 Maladjusted worker half isolated American agents in this (10)
- 27 Is one right to go before Murdoch? (4)
- 28 Readable French articles about Little Rock (7)
- 29 The old garda struggling in American footballers' territory (7)

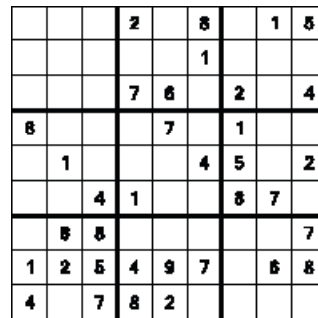
### DOWN

- 2 Lover boy causes a second run out thus (7)
- 3 About to get into bed and multiply (5)
- 4 Essayist provides article about gold and its symbolic form (7)
- 6 Minor problem: Greece's beginning to break her marbles up (6)
- 7 Beggar abused a pupil's trust (9)
- 8 Promote a drug Tolstoy consumed (7)
- 9 Stuff Raphael in a rap composition (13)
- 15 Her Pharaonic Majesty lifted two objects on a Norfolk bog (9)
- 18 One's fuel consumption including fashionable English drive (7)
- 20 Story concerning rising against Fitzgerald (7)
- 21 Love struck LA 25 (7)
- 22 So turn on Lily, oddly, and go for a walk (6)
- 25 King George I bearing Germany's drudgery (5)

Solution on page 31. Puzzle set by Canomis. Source: [www.alberichcrosswords.com](http://www.alberichcrosswords.com)

## Crosfhocal

## Sudoku



[www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)

Solution on page 30

## Top ten...

### Most haunted in Ireland

1. **LOFTUS HALL, HOOK HEAD, CO WEXFORD:** Reputed to be the most haunted house in Ireland, by the devil and a young woman. Abandoned for years, it's now open for ghost tours.
2. **CHARLEVILLE CASTLE, CO OFFALY:** The ghosts here have been featured on TV shows such as 'Most Haunted', it sits on electromagnetic lines.
3. **CHARLES FORT, KINSALE, CO CORK:** Haunted by the White Lady, who plunged from its walls to the sea on the wedding night on learning that her father had shot her groom.
4. **KILMAINHAM GAOL, DUBLIN:** Said to be haunted by inmates and wardens.
5. **GRACE NEILL'S BAR, CO DOWN:** Grace Neill ran this pub when she was alive, and they say she still does in death.
6. **MALAHIDE CASTLE, CO DUBLIN:** Five different ghosts are said to roam its grounds.
7. **THE HELLFIRE CLUB, CO DUBLIN:** Old hunting lodge built on the site of a cairn, Dublin Hellfire Club would meet there and legend says devil worship and animal sacrifices took place.
8. **LEAP CASTLE, CO OFFALY:** Also featured on Most Haunted, scene of bloody tragedies in the past, the current owner says he is happy to share it with "up to 20" spirits.
9. **GLASNEVIN CEMETERY, DUBLIN:** Some of Ireland's most famous citizens are buried here. It's said to be haunted by children, a dog and glowing figures.
10. **GRAND OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST:** Northern Ireland Paranormal Research Association claim to have contacted two deceased stage hands, Harry and George.

## A few words

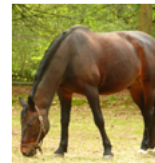
### On the farm



tarracóir



bó



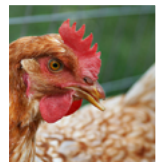
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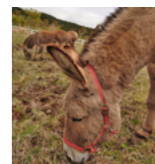
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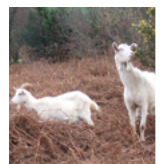
muc



cearc



asal



gabhar



gheata



scioból



clós feirme



feirmeoir

### Ar an bhfeirm

## Cúpla focal

**THE IRISH RADIO SHOW**  
12.30PM ON 98.1FM

For more than 30 years the Irish Community Radio Program has been broadcasting from the studios of 4EBFM 98.1, Brisbane's only fulltime ethnic broadcaster.

You can listen to the best in Irish Music and all the latest news and events from Ireland and Irish Australia.

The program runs for 1 hour and all programs are produced and presented by volunteers. New members and presenters are most welcome.

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sharing the world with you on 98.1

**LIVE EVERY SATURDAY**

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office: no 1071 3340 8695 (studio) / 3340 8800 (office)  
Email: [info@4ebfm.org.au](mailto:info@4ebfm.org.au)  
Seoladh/Address: 140 Main St, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, Queensland.

# Tá Clannad ar ais arís

CLANNAD, the Irish family group responsible for such timeless music as Theme From Harry's Game and In A Lifetime, make a long-awaited return to Australia in October to mark their 40th Anniversary.

It has been 18 years since they toured this country. They've sold more than 15 million records and are widely regarded as the band which, for the first time, put Irish traditional music and the Irish language on the world stage.

Irish Queenslander spoke to lead singer, Moya Brennan.

*Are you excited about coming back to Australia after 18 years?*

"Of course! But it's hard to believe it's been that long. Our connection with Australia has always been close, with family and friends over there. Australian audiences are fantastic and I'm sure 18 years won't have changed that!"

*Nádúr is your first album to feature all five original members of the band since 1988's Sirius. Have you gone back to a more acoustic sound?*

"We're feeling very confident in our roots at the moment and I think audiences elsewhere are really enjoying being reminded of what we were like when we started. The acoustic sound is definitely in there but I don't think it dominates the album and there's a good mixture of something for everyone."

*A 40-year career is a massive achievement. What have been the highlights for you?*

"There are many incredible memories but I suppose, after the momentous decision to turn professional in 1976 after a standing ovation at the Berlin Philharmonic Hall, while doing a 30-city Irish festival tour in Germany, that was certainly one.

"The moments that allow you to stand back and register how far you have got is when you receive awards. Top of the list has to be the Grammy for Landmarks. Theme from Harry's Game brought us many accolades, including an Ivor Novello award, a UK chart top five hit with Robin



## Nádúr is a haunting and beautiful comeback



Nádúr is now available in shops and online.

WITH Clannad, you pretty much know the quality to expect. Nádúr does not disappoint. Perfect vocal harmonies, Moya's angelic lead, a mixture of lively and dreamy tracks sung in both English and as Gaeilge.

One that will definitely resonate with Irish emigrants and their families back home is the track TransAtlantic, with lyrics "look out for my son".

Turas Dhòmhsa chon na Galldachd sounds like a movie soundtrack, all beauty and drama. Brave Enough is catchy. Overall, Nádúr sounds fresh and it's hard to believe it's been 15 years since its predecessor, Landmarks.

of Sherwood, and a BAFTA. Receiving recognition in Ireland is special, such as the Lifetime Achievement Meteor Award."

*Is it difficult to choose songs for a concert setlist considering you have such a vast back-catalogue?*

"We always try to cover a spread from our repertoire over the years. We will feature many songs from the new album, include some of our earlier songs and, of course, the well-known ones. We want the Clannad shows to be an exciting, all-round experience so there will always be the big, atmospheric surround and the ethereal, fragile moments to bring you on this journey."

*You've done so much for the Irish language and culture. You must be proud that you preserved folk history and brought the language to a worldwide audience?*

"Gaeilge is our first language and we fell in love with the Gaeilge songs at an early stage but had no idea how significant it was going to be in our career. We are

passionate about our language, culture and country and found it easy to express in our music, recordings and performances. We always had fun going out to Tory Island or to local people's houses in Donegal armed with a reel-to-reel tape machine and a six pack of Guinness to record them singing traditional songs, with the grandfather clock ticking away in the background."

*You go down in history as the only band to have a top five hit sung as Gaeilge in the UK charts, and the only band to perform as Gaeilge on Top of The Pops. That must have caused you some amusement at the time?*

"We certainly didn't write Theme from Harry's Game to get into the charts or to be on the airwaves on pop radio, so it was a complete surprise to us singing Gaeilge alongside some of the big names in pop at the time. If my memory serves, I remember that Dionne Warwick, Eddy Grant and Flock of Seagulls were on the same show."

*You dueted with Bono on In A Lifetime after a chance meeting in a pub. Is it true that you brought a wind and rain machine to Donegal to film the video?*

"If you've been to Donegal you'll know that you don't normally need wind and rain machines there. It comes free with the county! However, Bono drove the four hours from Dublin to Donegal in an old funeral hearse, passing through the British army border posts in Northern Ireland. Recording and doing the video was great fun."

*Is there anybody you would like to work with in the future?*

"I love collaborating with other singers so will never ignore a request. It's very exciting to have done the Brave Enough duet with Duke Special on Nádúr. And I should mention the contributions of award winning author, Colm McCann and Donegal poet, Cathal Sharkey on the new album."

**Clannad play at Brisbane City Hall on Monday, 28 October.**



## Paths to permanent residency

ONE of the most misunderstood parts of the migration process is how people move from a temporary visa to permanent residency. There are many pathways to permanent residency, so you need to consider your personal circumstances to choose the best option for you.

One common pathway for skilled applicants is to spend two years on a 457 and then apply for permanent residency sponsored by your employer, either under the Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS) or its regional cousin the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS). This not an automatic process, however. It is a whole new visa process, which requires nomination by your employer and an appli-



**MIGRATION ADVICE**  
by Philip Duncan  
Registered Migration Agent  
AMVL Migrations

cation by you. Both employer and employee must meet the requirements.

However, you can also apply for ENS directly, under the Direct Entry stream. You can apply under this stream regardless of how long you have been in Australia and what visa you hold (though there are some restrictions if you hold a bridging visa or if you have a no further stay on your current visa).

This means that you are not required to spend two years on a 457, but you do need a skills



Linda Guthrie and Thomas Callanan from Tipperary have been living in Brisbane since 2008. Their son Jackson was born here in 2010. They got their permanent residency on July 4. The family live in Daisy Hill, Brisbane. Congrats from Irish Queenslanders.

assessment and three years post qualification work experience. Whether you can get a positive skills assessment depends on which of the multitude of assessing bodies assesses your occupation, but in most cases, you will need to show that you have formal qualifications in the occupation.

The regional requirements under RSMS are not as rigid and in some cases, you can rely on work experience to meet the skill requirements. So regional areas have become more attractive to some temporary visa holders seeking permanent residency.

It's important for employers to understand that they must also meet the requirements for nomination. In most cases, employers need to ensure that they have continued to meet their obligations as a 457 sponsor, to be able to nominate an employee for permanent residency. An employer who has not met their annual training obligation may not be

able to nominate an employee for permanent residency, even if all other requirements are met.

It can also be possible to apply as an independent applicant, without having to rely on your employer to sponsor you. For some candidates, this can be even more straightforward, cheaper and faster than an employer sponsored application.

The lesson is to check on your own personal circumstances to find the best option to apply for permanent residency. You may find that you are eligible to apply much earlier than you thought.

*Philip Duncan LLB B.Econ is a Registered Migration Agent (MARN 0427769) and is admitted as a legal practitioner. He lectures in Migration Law at the Australian National University and is a regular author and presenter on migration topics. He heads the employer sponsored team at AMVL Migrations, one of Australia's top independent full service migration firms.*



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# 20 Ceisteanna

## Evelyn sets up salon within months of arriving here

EVELYN O'LEARY took the bold step of setting up her own business within six months of coming to live in Queensland.

1. *What part of Ireland are you from?*  
The Rebel county of Cork.

2. *When and why did you move here?*  
Moved here December 2012 for my partner Brian's job and for a change of lifestyle.

3. *Best things about living in Queensland?*  
The pace of life and the outdoor lifestyle.

4. *Your biggest achievement?*  
Setting up my own salon in Ireland, selling it and then setting up again here in Brisbane (Pretty In The City on the Queen St Mall)

5. *Favourite Irish food/drink?*  
My Mam's Irish stew and, of course, Barry's Tea.

6. *Pint or schooner?*  
Glass of wine please!

7. *When's the last time you visited Ireland?*  
Only here since last December so it's not been long since we were home.

8. *What do you miss most about Ireland?*  
I miss family and friends and I really miss the shops back home.

9. *How do you compare the lifestyle between the two countries?*  
I really love the fact that the great weather



### About Evelyn O'Leary

EVELYN and Brian moved to Queensland in December 2012. Brian moved over to a new job and Evelyn had yet to decide what her next move would be. After visiting some salons here, Evelyn decided to bring in her own brand of salon to Brisbane – one with highly skilled and experienced therapists who really care about their clients. It took her a while to find the right place but now she is very happy with the location she found on Queen Street Mall (Three doors up from Hungry Jacks - above Wallace Bishop jewellers). She is building up the business and she would like to welcome Irish Queenslanders with a special offer of 50% off all waxing treatments until November 16.

allows us to spend more time outdoors than you would get at home.

10. *Do you see yourself ever moving back?*  
Never say never but for now we are happy here and building up Pretty In The City

11. *Wallabies or Lions?*  
Lions, of course.

12. *ACDC or U2?*  
U2.

13. *Best holiday you've had since you moved here?*  
Weekend in Byron – brilliant place.

14. *Your advice to new emigrants?*  
Mozzy spray, lots.

15. *Have you had a scary wildlife encounter?*  
A fruit bat knocked me off my bike. I also

nearly walked on a snake near the Hawthorne ferry terminal.

16. *Penneys or Kmart? Arnotts or Myers?*  
Penneys all the way and Myers.

17. *Who is your hero?*  
My parents, because they brought me up to be independent and have always encouraged me to follow my gut.

18. *What's on your Aussie bucket list?*  
Strangely... to go skiing... didn't know I could do that here until we got here.

19. *Favourite Irish saying?*  
The best thing to ever come out of Dublin is the road to Cork! Brian is a Dub so I think I'm allowed to say this!

20. *Can you say something in Irish?*  
Is maith liom cáca milis.



For appointments and enquiries, please contact 0424 455 008 or email [appointments@prettyinthecity.com.au](mailto:appointments@prettyinthecity.com.au)

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# Move online proves a success for Irish mag

TINTEÁN Irish Australian magazine moved from a glossy print edition to an online magazine last year, and has had more than 17,000 views in eight months – far exceeding its reach as a print magazine.

Tinteán is a magazine for all those interested in Australian-Irish heritage or Australian-Irish history and culture.

It is an independent, unaligned and inclusive publication, which grew out of the high quality print version of the magazine of the Australian Irish Heritage Network. Tinteán was published for 20 issues over five years, before it was decided to go online in November 2012.

The magazine reports and comments on issues and events



Tinteán is online at [www.tintean.org.au](http://www.tintean.org.au)

in both Australia and Ireland, of interest to both Australian Irish and diaspora readership. Its aim is to provide serious comment and an independent perspective

on a wide range of Australian/Irish topics.

Tinteán online reflects the original objectives of the Australian Irish Heritage Network, which appeared in every issue of the print version of Tinteán: The Australian Irish Heritage Network aims to build the social, cultural, historical and literary consciousness of Irish Australians and to explore and celebrate the development of Irish heritage and culture in Australia. Tinteán online continues to achieve this aim.

Its readership comes from all over the world, as well as Australia. There is quite a strong representation of readers from Ireland, as well as the UK and US. All posts are archived on

the website. In addition, all 20 issues of the print magazine and a comprehensive index are also archived online.

Subscription is free and you can subscribe from the Tinteán website. A monthly e-newsletter with the latest news/articles/reviews etc will arrive in your email.

They welcome contributions from subscribers and others who are interested in the maintenance and nurturing of the Irish-Australian tradition in our society.

If you have an idea for a submission or would like to submit it, send it to: [liz.mckenzie@tintean.org.au](mailto:liz.mckenzie@tintean.org.au)

They are especially keen to attract newly-arrived Irish immigrants.

## National recognition for Geoff and Surety IT team

SURETY IT has been recognised for the quality of its work at the 2013 ARN ICT Industry Awards.

Director Geoff Stewart, from Dromore, Co. Down, was delighted that the Stone's Corner-based IT support company was nominated for an award.

"ARN ICT Industry Awards are probably the most prestigious in the Information Technology industry in Australia.

"We were shortlisted in the small to medium-size business reseller category, along with four other companies, from New South Wales, South Australia and another Queensland company."

Geoff moved to Brisbane with his family six years ago and says: "I bought into Surety IT in June 2009 and have been here ever since."

Award nominees attended a black tie gala dinner in Sydney on September 18.



Geoff Stewart and Jason McKenzie from Surety IT at the ARN ICT Industry Awards ceremony.

## Newspaper editor recalls Cork years

THE Gold Coast Bulletin has a new editor, Catherine Webber, who spent time working at The Irish Examiner in Cork.

Catherine worked at the Examiner from 2004 to 2008.

She told Irish Queenslander: "I absolutely adored my time in Ireland. I found it so incredibly hard to leave, because it had truly become my home. I genuinely think it is the country of saints and scholars – I learned so much over there (both at work and in the pub!), made so many wonderful friends and had great mentors.

"I think I'm Ireland's best tourism ambassador – everyone I meet tends to get the spiel about how they HAVE to go to Ireland if they've never been.

"I try to get back every couple of years and I'm very lucky to have friends who will do the trip out here."



Gold Coast Bulletin Editor Catherine Webber.



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# Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association News



by Séamus Sullivan, President

[www.gaelicfootballqld.com.au](http://www.gaelicfootballqld.com.au)



Harps after winning the Queensland Senior Gaelic Football Championship Final against Easts on August 25. All pics: Sinéad Fahey



Danny O'Callaghan, Eamon Fitzpatrick and Rory Conroy of Na Fianna.



Thomas Quinn of Na Fianna.



William Irwin of Na Fianna.



Paudie Dineen of Easts.



Action from the Harps v Easts game.

## Double-double, no trouble for Harps

THIS has been a difficult season here in many respects. We had a lot of rain early on, the council took over our grounds for a long time, and the new complex going in was disruptive.

Out of all of that, Harps have done extremely well. They won the senior football and the division two football championship, and league. This is four in a row for Harps senior football team.

Souths retained the Carpenter Cup in senior, and John Mitchel's in division two. The senior football competition was extremely even all year. There was never a great deal between the four teams.

Unfortunately, we had a few administration issues in the ladies football which led to the championship final being cancelled altogether. So we've had no championship winners this year.

Easts won the league and the Carpenter Cup and had a very strong year. They were beaten in the semi-final of the championship but due to technical errors, the team that beat them was eliminated and we couldn't award the game to Easts. Technically, John Mitchel's could have won it

but they chose not to and that's understandable.

Hurling saw Na Fianna v Emeralds in the final, with Na Fianna running out winners to reclaim the championship, and add to their league win earlier in the season. In camogie, Éire Óg took out the championship, after an epic extra-time win over Naomh Padraig. Tara Gaels took out the league.

The 40th anniversary went very well considering we had to delay a few times due to weather and ground problems. It was nowhere near the crowd we'd normally have but we salvaged a lot from it. What was very much to the fore was the amount of young families there on the day and the Go Games launch was fantastic. We will rerun the Go Games Gaelic football lessons for children between now and Christmas for four or five weeks.

Another big success this year was the Gaelic Masters, started off by Billy Rocket and played every second Saturday. It allows the dads to come out and have a game, which is great, and I'd really love to see that extended to the ladies. An awful lot of ladies

have quit football in the last four or five years and I'm sure they'd play in the Masters if they were given the opportunity. Hopefully, we can make provision for that in 2014.

It's been one of the most difficult Australasian Championships I've ever experienced to get off the ground, which is disappointing as when you have such an influx of players, you would expect that things were going to be an awful lot easier. However, in Queensland we have a camogie team who are going down to Sydney and had always intended going. We've managed to get a combined mixture of Queensland ladies football players with the help of four or five Victorians. Unfortunately our senior footballers, hurlers and under 18s haven't been able to get a team together this year so it's lean times.

Congratulations to the five Queensland hurlers involved in The Gathering International Hurling Festival, who came first in the league. They won the Shield trophy, beating New York.

Special thanks to everybody who helped during our season.



## Hanley signs five-year deal with Lions

MAYO man Pearce Hanley has agreed to five-year deal with AFL's Brisbane Lions.

The new agreement will see Pearce, 24, remain at the Lions until at least the end of the 2018 season.

Whilst there was plenty of interest in the market for Pearce, he was keen to remain a Lion.

"I love the club, I love Brisbane and I want to be a part of the exciting times ahead for the footy club," he said.

Pearce was drafted by the Lions at the end of 2007 following an impressive performance in the hybrid 2006 U17 International Rules Series in Fremantle, where he first shot to prominence by winning the Ron Barassi Medal as Ireland's best player.

Hailing from the small dairy town of Ballaghaderreen in County Mayo, Pearce played in all 22 senior matches for the second consecutive season in 2012.

This year he has been touted by some as a candidate for All Australian selection, averaging 24 disposals and six marks a game.

Having only picked up a Sher-rin for the first time a little over five years ago, Pearce Hanley is now regarded as one of the best kicks at the Lions.



Mayo man Pearce Hanley.



Richard Donovan tackles, left, and, above, Richard Otte goes after the ball.

# So near, yet so far for Brisbane Irish

A TIRED and disappointed Brisbane Irish side left the field after suffering semi-final defeat against Wynnum on August 10. While the scoreline was not flattering to the Irish, 45 – 19, it was unfair on a side that had come so far over the course of the year.

The first training session of the year saw a host of new faces arrive at the club and there was optimism that Irish could do well. However, the season started off with a heavy defeat to Ipswich, followed by defeats to Springfield and Wynnum. Despite this, improvements could be seen as coach Reggie Tayler worked on a playing pattern and combinations to suit the squad.

Fearful of losing ground in the race for a top four and finals position, the Irish began to find their groove and won the following two games.

Injuries to key players Liam Martin, Shane Murphy and Steve Byrnes, as well as the arrival of the British and Irish Lions to Australia, saw performances drop off slightly, with a number of players travelling around the country with the tour. Despite being down to the bare bones, the

Brisbane Irish End of Season Awards	
Clubman Of The Year: Reggie Tayler	1sts
Clubwoman Of The Year: Trish Donovan	Most Improved Player Of The Year: Liam Culhane
Most Improved Player Of The Year: Blake McClaer	Best Back: Joe Crowley
Best Back: Gareth Sheard	Best Forward: Liam Martin
Best Forward: Ed Rice	Player Of The Year: Richard Otte
	Players' Player Of The Year: Richard Otte

squad pulled together and registered two important away wins, over Springfield and Ipswich. The latter was particularly pleasing as it took a converted try in the dying seconds to win the game for the Irish.

The Irish saw out the remainder of the season with further wins over Pine Rivers, both home and away, to secure that all-important fourth spot.

The first round of finals saw the Irish head back to play Ipswich away from home. In a physically bruising encounter, Ipswich used their forwards to run at the Irish, repeatedly trying to crash through. At the end of the first half, Ipswich got a try to add to an earlier penalty, to go in at half-time 8 – 0 up.

The Irish came out for the second half all guns blazing. Within

10 minutes, the score was 8 – 12. First Leighton Ornsby crashed over the line after great work by the backs. The Irish then won a penalty and opted to go for the line out. Reggie Tayler claimed the ball; the Irish forwards converged on him and mauled their way over the try line, with Pete Garden getting the all-important score. Ryan Smith kicked the conversion and for the first time in five years, the Irish were in the semi-finals.

However, it proved to be a step too far as a classy Wynnum side ran out convincing winners.

All in all, it was a very good season and the club is looking to build on some very promising performances and go one better next year. The club is always happy for new players to join. See [www.brisbaneirish.com.au](http://www.brisbaneirish.com.au)

# Focus Softball Club seeking new players

THOSE of us who grew up in Ireland will remember a fun GAA game called rounders. Stephen Fee from Belfast loved rounders and when he moved to Queensland in 2004, he soon got involved in a very similar sport – softball, which can be played by single sex, mixed-sex and mixed-ability teams.

Stephen lives at the seaside town of Redcliffe with his wife, Susan, from Holywood, Co. Down, and their three children.

Stephen says: “Focus softball team started in 2007 when, via my business, I sponsored a local team in Redcliffe Softball Association summer season.”

In 2008, Stephen took over as coach and led the team to Grand Final victory. They have since won two Grand Finals in Redcliffe and won three bronze medals at Softball Queensland’s Masters Competition, held in Logan every August.

“In April 2013, Focus broke away from the club we played with to form our own club,” says Stephen.

In Redcliffe’s softball summer season 2013/14, they have 10 teams taking part, including ladies, mens and junior teams. The season starts in October, but players can join at any time. The club is currently looking for players to sign up. Everyone is welcome, whatever age or ability, and there’s a masters team for those over 35.



Softball Queensland Masters bronze medal winners 2013, with Stephen Fee on the far right, above, and, right, the new Focus Softball Club team shirts which feature an Irish theme.



Stephen says: “We have Irish, English, New Zealanders and Australian players. We welcome players from all backgrounds.”

The club does, of course, have a strong Irish influence, with Stephen’s wife Susan being their current president and a four-leaf clover on their club shirts.

It’s a friendly, welcoming atmosphere and Stephen says: “Our club motto is there are no strangers at Focus Softball Club, only friends you haven’t yet met. We even do the huddle before every game.”

Stephen is the current president of Redcliffe Leagues Softball Association, the first non-Australian to hold this post. In July

2013, Redcliffe Softball was awarded Softball Queensland Association of the Year 2013. They will represent Queensland at the Australian awards later this year.

In 2012/13, the Association’s committee secured \$260k in grants to improve grounds, buy equipment and offer training course for umpires, coaches and scorers.

If you are interested in playing, contact Stephen on 0400 710 973 or email [stephen@focusltd-au.com](mailto:stephen@focusltd-au.com)

You will find more information on [www.focussoftball.com](http://www.focussoftball.com) and on Redcliffe Softball Association’s website, at [www.redcliffesoftball.com.au](http://www.redcliffesoftball.com.au)

## Irish Queenslander’s got state team’s back

IRISH Queenslander has come on board as media sponsor to the Queensland state camogie squad at the Australasian Games in Sydney.

The games run from September 29 to October 6.

Róisín Boudier, vice president of the Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association, said: “I have recruited 23 camogie players to travel to Sydney for the state games.

“We ordered the kits though O’Neills back home.”

Queensland first took part in the Australasian Camogie Championship in Brisbane in 2011 and came away the winners, beating Western Australia on a scoreline of 2-14 to 2-4.

Camogie is growing in popularity in Queensland.

Róisín said: “We’ve had a very successful year with the numbers growing even more and the standard of camogie raised higher.

“We have not only Irish girls playing for us from the begin-

ning, but there are girls from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom and one girl from Hong Kong.

“Little by little, the numbers are growing, our three teams consisting of 15-18 players each, allowing us to play 10-a-side regularly.”

As well as Irish Queenslander, the state team has another sponsor on board, Hypoxi Body Boutique in Bulimba.

Best of luck to our girls in New South Wales.

## spórt nuachta



Danny Sheridan, physio with Ace Sports, right, presenting Shamrocks GFC’s coach Mick Breslin with the team’s new polo shirt, sponsored by Atim Davey and the team at ACE Sports, Mount Gravatt.

### Join Masters Gaelic on tour of Victoria

DO you want to be a part of history? Expressions of interest are sought for the masters tour of Victoria. The Queensland Masters are looking to players interested in travelling to Melbourne from November 15 to 17. Queensland Masters will be playing a friendly game against a Victorian masters team. The cost is expected to be in the region of \$450. Contact Billy Rockett on 0403 166 168.

### Watch Celtic play with likeminded supporters

BRISBANE Celtic Supporters Club meets at Mick O’Malley’s on Queen Street Mall to watch Celtic matches and anyone who would like to join them is more than welcome.

Celtic Football Club was founded by an Irishman from Sligo, Brother Walfrid, in 1888 as a means of raising funds for deprived Irish immigrants in Glasgow. If you’re interested or would like more information, email [marilynch@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynch@hotmail.com).

### Fightcamp will get you boxing like a pro

THE Boxing Shop in Nathan, Brisbane, is bringing back Ultimate Old School Fightcamp on October 7 for six weeks.

It involves two weeks of strength and conditioning training with professional boxing conditioner The Guru, four weeks of boxing specific training with professional boxing coach Gareth Williams, and then you fight on the undercard of Paddy Murphy, Damien Hooper, Liam Hutchinson and Jeff Horne.

For more information, go to [www.theboxingshop.com.au](http://www.theboxingshop.com.au)

## sports news



It's been a busy first editon for Irish Queenslander, here's a tour of what we've been up to...



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Paul, Annerley Meats



Jacob, Gilhooleys Chermside



Bruce, Mick O'Malleys



Mary interviewed on Radio 4EB



Niall, Celtic Corner, Manly



Jono, O'Malleys, Mooloolaba



Highland House, Red Hill



Bruce, Mick O'Malleys



Sarita at the Willawong launch



Kimberley, Classic Fudge Co, Caloundra



Rita, IASAQ



Milly and Eimear, Holy Moly



Liz and Chris, O'Connors, Windsor



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David, Finnegan's Chin, Keppera



Irish Club Hotel, Toowoomba



Brendan, Gilhooleys, Albert Street



John delivered to Scots In The Bush



Ethan, Irish Murphy's, Brisbane

## Car show revs up funds for charity

HARRIGAN'S Drift Inn at Jacob's Well are expecting more than 300 vehicles to take part in their sixth annual Rod and Custom Show.

The show will feature premier, state of the art hot rods, classics, customs and street machines on Sunday, October 20 from 9am to 3pm.

This hot rod show has developed over the past six years into the best one-day shows of its type, with high-end elite cars

competing for bespoke trophies and prize money of \$6,000.

Organisers are making space for the vehicles to be on show along the beautiful marina waterfront. Competition will be held in more than 30 categories.

Proceeds have gone to charities and local service organisations since 2008, with over \$15,000 in donations and over \$35,000 in prize money and trophies.

There will be trade displays



WATER SHOW: Cars on display at last year's Rod and Custom Show at Harrigan's.

on the day, including clothing, memorabilia and car parts.

There will also be a V8 Super Car display, kids' entertainment,

rock music, DJ, giveaways and a raffle. Food and drinks will be available on site all day. Spectators entry costs \$5.



## About us

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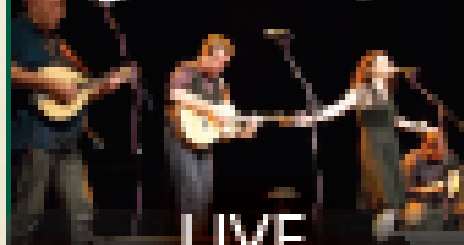
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