

LION HEART

Brisbane Lion Pearce Hanley on his move from GAA to AFL

FREE

INSIDE



Mrs Brown's Boys



Daniel O'Donnell



Damien Dempsey



The Coronas



Michael Darragh Macauley



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Fóirte

Welcome from editor Mary Allen



A scene from the 2013 Saint Patrick's Day Parade. Pic: Irish Queenslander

It's that time again...

WELCOME to the bumper edition of Irish Queenslander magazine, celebrating St Patrick's Day 2014.

This is the time of year when the spotlight falls on the Irish, our rich culture, our love of fun, our sense of humour. For a tiny island on the edge of the Atlantic, Ireland punches far above its weight, with parades and celebrations happening the world over. See the list of the more unusual locations on page 38.

In Queensland, community leaders and Irish venues have been working hard to line up fun events to mark the day. I hope lots of people come out to support them. There's always an amazing line-up of entertainment for the Brisbane Irish Festival, and this year is special as it's the silver anniversary - 25 years since the first of the modern-day parades in Brisbane. Inside, you'll find the official events program. All the details of what's happening are in the 24-page guide in the centre of the magazine.

Great things are happening for the Irish community on the Gold Coast - Daniel O'Halloran and Joe Macaulay have set up the coast's first Gaelic football team. Joe has GAA in his blood, he's the brother of Footballer of the Year 2013, Michael Darragh Macaulay, who officially opened the club in January. Daniel and Joe have worked hard and made sacrifices to get the team going and here's hoping it will be a huge success. Read about it on page 67.

There's new slogan here at Irish Queenslander, we're Positively Irish. We only publish good news stories because we want the Irish to be reflected for what they really are, hard-working people who enrich Queensland. You can read the story behind the founding of the magazine on page 13.

I hope you enjoy the St Patrick's celebrations all over Queensland. It's our time to shine.

All the best, Mary

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Cad é an scéal?

On page 4, Ireland's Footballer of the Year 2013, Michael Darragh Macaulay comes to the Gold Coast



On pages 14 & 15, Pearce Hanley discusses the upcoming season at Brisbane Lions and his move from GAA to AFL



On pages 20 & 21, star of Mrs Brown's Boys, Fiona O'Carroll tells us why she's so excited that the show is coming to Oz



On page 57, Daniel O'Donnell talks about his new album and why he's looking forward to coming back to Australia



On page 61, Celtic Thunder are on their way back to Australia and you could win tickets to see them in Brisbane



On page 69, Celtic FC legend, former captain Andy Lynch brings us all the latest soccer news from the UK and Europe



What's the story?

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Footballer of year Darragh launches Gold Coast Gaels

A NEW Gaelic football team has been set up on the Gold Coast, and was launched celebrity-style by 2013 Footballer of the Year, Michael Darragh Macauley.

The Gold Coast's first and only GAA club, set up by President Daniel O'Halloran, Secretary Joe Macauley and Treasurer Brian Keane, saw an exhibition game of football played against Brisbane's Easts Celts on the launch night on January 2.

The game was held at Southport Sharks grounds, with Michael Darragh playing centre-field.

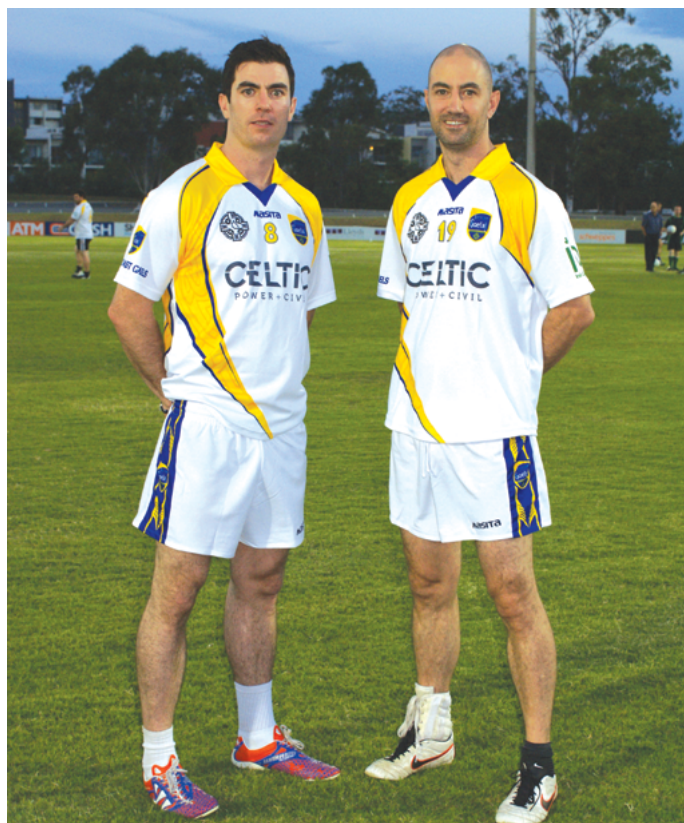
Irish Queenslander spoke to the Dublin footballer at the launch.

You won Irish Footballer of the Year. Your captain was up for the award too. Were you surprised when you won?

"Yeah, myself, Dublin captain Stephen Cluxton and Lee Keegan from Mayo. I just started the year playing the best that I can and this was an added benefit at the end of the year. It's a nice little cherry on top but it's not something that I'm going to dwell over. I'm looking forward to next year."

Dublin have gone from strength to strength in the past few years.

"Yes, this is our second All Ireland after winning in 2010 so that's two All-Irelands in the past four years, so it's a great time for Dublin football. It hasn't been a fluke, there have been a lot of youth systems put in place over the past number of years and these plans are starting to come to fruition now. The younger players are starting to make a name for themselves. So it's really not about luck, it's about getting the right structures in place. Those players are 17 or 18 now and these lads are physically and mentally ready



Michael Darragh Macauley with his brother, Gold Coast Gaels Secretary Joe Macauley in the Gold Coast Gaels kit at the team's launch. Picture: Irish Queenslander

for a game when they hit 18. It's great for Dublin at the moment, long may it continue."

Have you ever thought about doing AFL?

"I was injured between the ages of 18 and 21, so I only got into the Dublin team when I was 21. The AFL will only recruit you when you're 18 to 21 so I was a bit old. But a lot of people tell me that my game is suited to AFL. A lot of play with catches. It's something that never came along but I would have loved to have given it a try, to be perfectly honest. I think as much as I love GAA, I would have loved to have played professional. I think that would have been great, to get the experience. It's just one of those

things, it never happened so I will never know."

Do you watch AFL games?

"I keep an eye on it now and then, I know a lot of the players that would have played in the league, ones that have come over, a few that are still playing over here. It's a brilliant competition. We have the compromise rules series as well. I was asked to get involved last year but I wasn't able to play, I had too many commitments but maybe next time. That's a brilliant game as well and I'd be keen to join the team."

Have you played GAA abroad?

"I played two summers in Chicago and also in San Francisco, and I went on to play in the All Amer-

icas against Boston and Philadelphia. I went over and played in the Cayman Islands, and for the Dubai Celts. It's great that there's GAA activity in so many countries. For Irish people who come over to Australia, and they sometimes feel a bit lost, it helps to have the familiarity. The GAA here helps people to feel at home. And now we have the Gold Coast Gaels getting started here too."

So what brought you to the Gold Coast?

"My brother Joseph Macauley is one of the founders of the Gold Coast Gaels and he is getting married so I might have to make an appearance at the wedding. Seeing as I'm best man and all."

So you came to launch the Gaels but this wedding just happens to be on at the same time (Joking)?

"Yeah, that's just something on the side, haha. It worked out well. In fairness, the two boys, Joseph and Dan (president Daniel O'Halloran) have put huge amounts of work into setting up the Gaels, and also financially. It's not cheap setting these things up. They're hoping to get a real sense of community going amongst the Irish in the Gold Coast. Hopefully, this is the start of bigger things."

The Gaels want to have a mens' team and also a women's team ready for the start of the 2014 season in March. They are also looking for expressions of interest for a few key roles, such as trainers, referees and admin personnel.

If there is anybody interested in any of these roles, you can contact the Gaels through their Facebook page, www.facebook.com/GoldCoastGaels

By Mary Allen

Aaron flags down a ride around Oz

AARON Livingstone from Armagh has taken to the road in Australia, undertaking the backpacker journey like so many thousands before him. But Aaron is flying the flag for Ireland on the way - in a Tricolour van named Caroline.

Aaron told Irish Queenslander: "I was working sheering sheep and mustering cattle between Goondiwindi and Toowoomba when I came across a decent motorhome sitting on the side of the road. I was looking for an estate car to live in at the time, but this was going for \$1,000, and it was in tidy enough shape."

The Toyota Coaster needed a bit of work inside and out and Aaron reckoned that a new coat of paint was the first point of action. "Sure enough, I wanted to paint it something a bit different, but simple. The Tricolour was soon decided upon and she was painted fairly handy."

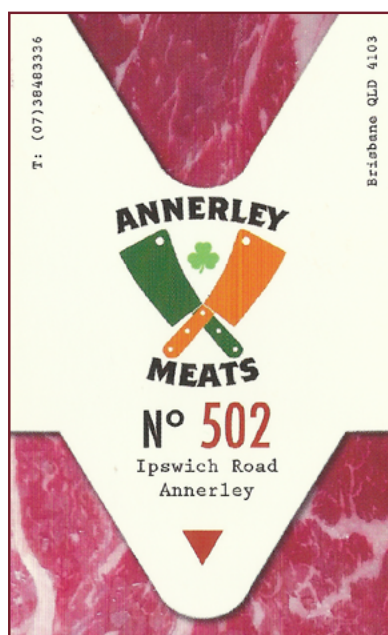
Aaron's plan was to finish his regional work in order to secure a second year on a working holiday visa, and spending the next 12 months travelling the length and breath of Australia, in the most memorable way possible. He says: "The majority of backpackers on working holiday visas all do the same repetitive route around Australia, sure its like travelling from Belfast to Dublin on the new M1... the same old stories and the familiar faces. I'll probably end up doing the same as everyone else, but I'd like to experience the best Australia has to offer from a different perspective."

As a recent graduate from Music and Live Events Management, Aaron says the live music industry in Australia is booming and his plan is to travel and work at as many festivals as possible over the next 12 months.

Aaron plans to make the experience all the more exciting and engaging if he can by getting more people involved and by keeping an online blog at tricolourcaroline.blogspot.com.



Aaron is planning to drive all over Australia in his Tricolour van, Caroline.



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Eamonn Shealy, Una Kelleher, Maria Coffey, Jay Nielson, Killian Flavin, Maeve O'Neill, Phil Goundry and Will O'Hanlon.



Club secretary John Mullaney and vice president Tony Skinner presenting Bob Clark with a special 50-year service award.



The first team WAGs, from left, Geordanna Tassell, Sandi Downey, Becki Perks, Janine Clarke, Genevieve De Michelle, Maeve O'Neill, Danielle Hall, Colleen Fleet and Maria Coffey.



Celtic FC legend Andy Lynch, left, presenting awards to The Gap fourth team, who won their City 4 league and were also Grand Final champions.



Coach Greg Bradley gets presented with a signed team shirt from the Gap Celtic Capital 2 Reserves League Champions.



The Gap Celtic Capital 2 league Grand Final winners, Luke Sutherland, Dennis Zylowski, Bim Kolade, Will O'Hanlon, Jamie Gillespie, Barry McGuire, Zac Tully, captain Cormac Molloy, Killian Flavin, Phil Goundry and Jay Nilsen.

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Aslan star heads a Foxy line-up

ONE of the co-founders of rock band Aslan is heading up a busy St Patrick's weekend of entertainment at The Foxy Bean in Woolloongabba.

Tony McGuinness wrote many of Aslan's most popular songs, including She's So Beautiful, Comfort Me and Jealous Little Thing. The bass player's unorthodox and unique playing style gave Aslan's music a distinctive sound.

In 2008, Tony moved to the Gold Coast with his wife Margaret and daughter Georgia.

He will play a mix of Aslan songs and cover versions during the Foxy Bean gig on Saturday, March 15, from 7pm.

The southside restaurant and bar also has Irish dancers performing throughout the St Patrick's weekend, as well as live Irish music and uilleann players.

There will be other special guests too, Australian Middle-



Tony McGuinness, formerly of Aslan, will be performing at The Foxy Bean on March 15.

weight champion boxer Dennis Hogan will be there on St Patrick's night and Foxy Bean owners, Gerry and Orla Moley say they have another very special

surprise guest planned too, a big star of television.

All will be revealed on their Facebook page and on their website, see www.foxybean.com.au

Lally is new chair of Lansdowne Club

QUEENSLAND'S premier Irish business networking group, The Lansdowne Club has a new man at the helm, former Olympic cyclist and Sunsuper CEO, Tony Lally, pictured right.

He is off to a great start, with a St Patrick's Day Luncheon being organised, and Tony wants to invite anyone interested in networking and a bit of craic to come along.

Tony says: "This year's Lansdowne Club St Patrick's Day Lunch will have plenty of our usual fun, frivolity and surprises... as well as a wonderful atmosphere, great entertainment, great food and hospitality."

And you don't have to be a



member to attend. Tony says: "This is an opportunity to network with other Irish business contacts as well as enjoy the craic on this special day."

Tony has just retired after more than six years at the helm of one of the largest superannuation

groups in Queensland, Sunsuper.

A former top cyclist, he competed in the 1980 Moscow Olympics for Ireland.

To secure your place at the St Patrick's lunch, book early as seating is limited. You can choose between a seat or a table.

Tony adds: "I look forward to welcoming you for Brisbane's biggest and best St Patrick's Day Lunch."

Lansdowne Club St Patrick's Day Lunch will be held on Friday, March 14 at 12pm, at the Queensland Cricketers Club, 411 Vulture Street East, East Brisbane. Tickets cost \$125 per person or \$1,200 for table of 10. Bookings essential on 3896 4533.

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Our friends at Norn Iron Irish food supplies are giving you the chance to win a fantastic Irish food hamper for St Patrick's Day. It contains:

6 Barry's Gold Blend 80s packs
48 packs of Tayto (N I) Cheese & Onion crisps
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24 pack of Club Orange cans
This prize has a retail value of more than \$200.

To win, simply answer this question: Tayto are made in a very special and historic location in Northern Ireland. Where is it?

Entries by email to editor@irishqueenslander.com marked 'Hamper', before March 10. Prize can be collected before March 17.

Norn Iron supplies Irish food outlets from the Sunshine Coast to the Gold Coast, including The Irish Shed, Foodworks Morningside, Annerley Meats, Teddies 'n Sweets Redcliffe, Syd's Pies Loganholme, Captain's Candy Ashmore, The Irish and Scottish Shop Montville and IGA Algester. For more information on Norn Iron, who distribute in Australia and New Zealand, please email Alan at taytoaustralia@bigpond.com

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Irish Australian Support Association Queensland News

by Rita Stott, Coordinator



www.iasaq.com.au



At an IASAQ Family Day were Stacey Beatty, Rita Stott, Sandra McMullan with Jessica, and Ruth Lythall with Callum.

Mums' group helps families feel at home

IASAQ runs an Irish Mums Group that meets every Monday at 10am. Here, one Irish mother, Ruth Lythall, originally from Cork, tells us what the group means to her.

"A community is a group of people having a particular characteristic or certain attitudes, identity and interests in common. When I joined the Irish Australian Support Association Mother's Group nearly three years ago, this is what I found.

"Although living in Australia for six years has grounded our family in Brisbane, sometimes as an Irish expat, what I missed most was the sense of togetherness that only someone who grows up and experiences the same things you did can give.

"The mothers' group has given us the friendship and stability that our young family needed. It has provided us with friends who understand the hardships of living without close relatives nearby, who understand our humour and who can offer a friendly, non-judgmental ear.

"We look forward to our Monday morning chats, and the kids love the park. The IASAQ Family Days are always a blast and a chance to meet new people in



At Irish Mums Group were Annette Taylor with Rosie and Louise Torrens with Darragh.

our community. We organise regular mums' nights out to the cinema or for dinner. Join us on Facebook to keep up-to-date with our events on <http://on.fb.me/1iG17Qo>. Everyone is welcome.

"The mothers' group has published a free booklet that contains relevant information for people settling in Brisbane.

"Please phone or e-mail the IASAQ to obtain a copy on 3391 1300 or email info@iasaq.com.au"



At IASAQ Christmas Family Day were Shea Mulhern, Angela Mulhern, Kathleen Mulhern and Geraldine Donaghy.



At IASAQ Christmas Family Day were Teresa Devine, Aoihbhe Hughes, Peter Hughes and Kevin Hughes.

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-age.

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 Phone: 3391 1300 Mobile: 0432 087 328



DARLING DOWNS IRISH CLUB

Phone: 07 4639 8926

www.darlingdownsirishclub.org.au

Town crier to lead parade

THE Toowoomba St Patrick's Day Parade will assemble on Sunday, March 16 at the QR car park from 10.30am for departure at 11am.

It will proceed east along Russell Street and turn right into Neil Street. It will then proceed along Neil Street, turning right into Margaret Street.

After parading along Margaret Street, it turns right into Victoria Street. Finally, it will proceed along Victoria Street and turn into Russell Street, returning to the QR car park.

If you need any information, email Michael Morrison, President, Darling Downs Irish Club, on mmorro63@bigpond.net.au or call 0427 585 554.



Patsy Quinn and Terry Frawley spent St Patrick's Day last year handing out goodies to patrons at the Irish Club Hotel.

Johnny Jump Up at Irish Club Hotel

THERE'S a full line-up of entertainment at the Irish Club Hotel for Saint Patrick's Day, Monday, March 17.

From 12pm to 2pm, Gerry McCann will play an acoustic set. That will be followed by Raggle Taggle from 2.30pm to 6pm. This is a new Toowoomba-based folk/rock Irish band playing all the Irish favourites with a good electric feel and driving beat.

If you can imagine something inbetween The Pogues and Dropkick Murphys, that should give some idea.

Ever-popular band Johnny Jump Up finish the night off, playing from 6.30pm to 10pm.

There will be traditional Irish stew and crusty bread served all day.

The Irish Club Hotel opens at 10am till late.

David's journey from Ireland to Australia



David ready for last leg of trip

SINCE he left Ireland in July to undertake a mammoth, 30,000km charity drive to Australia, Irish Queenslander has been following the journey of David O'Connor from Tramore.

David is ready to undertake the last part of his journey, from South East Asia to Darwin and then on to Sydney. He is looking for people interested in joining him on the last leg of his trip. See www.overlandtooz.ie/join-the-team for details.

David has been putting updates of his journey on Facebook at www.facebook.com/overlandtooz

While in India, David said: "I met a really nice and genuine Indian

guy, Sahil (pictured), who lives on the streets. I asked him to show me a different side to Calcutta. A visit to the slum, a stroll through the red light district and a trip to a government hospital was surreal in parts. As wonderful as it is, if you have it hard in India, it's hard to think of any place where you could have it harder."

David spent Christmas Day in Koh Phi Phi Thailand. He watched New Year fireworks on Koh Samui. He also met Karl from Eastenders in Thailand and reports he's a "sound lad".

David moved on to Bangkok, and is planning to head from there to Malaysia.



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DON'T miss the country's premier whisk(e)y event for both novice and seasoned enthusiasts.

There's no better place to learn about and enjoy whiskies, and to meet the whisky makers themselves. At Brisbane Whisk(e)y Expo 2014, the world's finest whiskies will be available for sampling, featuring the finest single malt and blended whiskies from Scotland; Ireland; USA; Australia; and around the world. Distillery representatives will be on hand to chat too and explain how the whiskies are made.

It takes place on Wednesday, February 26, from 6pm. Tickets cost \$70 for general public or \$63 for QIA members. Tickets include a Glencairn Whisky glass and \$20 off the first bottle of whisky purchased. Tickets are available online, by phone or from reception.

High tea to support ovarian cancer month

FEBRUARY is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and in support of Ovarian Cancer Australia, Ozcare are holding their fourth Afternoon Teal at The Irish Club on Saturday, March 1 at 1.30pm. You are invited for an afternoon of tea and delicious cakes with a teal theme. All money raised will be provided to Ovarian Cancer Australia to further their work in raising awareness of ovarian cancer, providing support for women and their families, and promoting and funding cancer research. Tickets cost \$30. Contact Kate Fitzgerald on 0411 617 411.



Altan

Queensland Irish Club

OVER 25 years of playing together, Altan have established themselves as one of the most important live acts to play traditional music in Ireland and on the world stage. Tickets to see them play in Brisbane are available at www.queenslandirish.com or from Queensland Irish Club reception.

28 FEBRUARY

Inspiring women speak at Saint Brigid's Day Celebration

WHAT a wonderful line-up of speakers for our St Brigid's Day Celebration.

The MC for the evening, Kristin Devitt, is managing director of public relations company KDPR. She forged a successful career spanning more than 20 years as a highly effective communications strategist. With a background in broadcast journalism including time spent as a journalist and presenter with the Ten Network, Kristin has established her credibility on the media map. Kristin's most recent accomplishment has been the appointment to Queensland President of the Public Relations Institute of Australia.

Guest speaker Senator Deborah O'Neill was first elected to the Federal Parliament in August 2010 as the Member for Robertson, but lost her seat at the 2013 election. Deborah was appointed to the Senate to fill the vacancy left by Bob Carr shortly after.

Chantal Raine is the Campus Leader of the Department of Human Services, Brisbane ICT Campus, leading over 400 ICT professionals to design and build IT systems that support the delivery of payments and services to Australian citizens.



Barbara Flynn and Monica Finn-Cohen are the authors of *Basil Over Time*.

Barbara Flynn and Monica Finn-Cohen are the authors of *Basil Over Time*.

Barbara's reputation as a great cook dates back to her 30 years as a home science teacher at All Hallows School in Brisbane. In those days, Barbara, aka Sr Mary Basil, was a legend. Over the years Barbara has extended her cooking repertoire, which reflects her Italian/Irish heritage and also her skill as a creative cook.

Monica is a past pupil of Barbara's home science classes at All Hallows in the 1960s. Her interest

in cooking was influenced over the years by her mother and Barbara. Over 20 years ago Barbara and Monica spoke about writing a cooking book.

Barbara, now an octogenarian, and Monica have produced a cook book appropriately called *Basil Over Time*. The book is a combination of recipes, from old family favourites to those that reflect the changes in our eating habits over time.

As well as these wonderful speakers, there will be entertainment by harpist Janice Preece.

25 years of Brisbane parades

2014 marks the silver anniversary of modern-day Saint Patrick's Day parades in Brisbane.

In 1989, Jan Dooley, who with her husband Dr Tom Dooley owned Dooley's Hotel in Fortitude Valley, re-established Brisbane's Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

However, Saint Patrick's feast day of March 17 had long been celebrated by the Irish community in Queensland, since settlement.

Queensland is said to be the Australian state with the greatest Irish influence. In the 2011 Census, more than half a million Queenslanders said they identified with their Irish ancestry.

In 1859, Governor George Ferguson Bowen, born in Donegal, read the proclamation that formally established the new colony of Queensland.

By the 1860s, Irish-born people represented approximately 20 per cent of Queensland's population.

Records of Saint Patrick's Day celebrations in Ipswich go back to 1861. In fact, Saint Patrick's Day was marked by a public holiday in Queensland until 1934.

St Patrick's Day parades began in the late 1800s but the practice died off with the outbreak of World War Two.

The first modern-day parade in 1989 started at the top of George and Adelaide Streets and marched to St Patrick's Catholic Church in Fortitude Valley.

Thousands lined the streets to watch Irish dancers, pipe bands, Queensland Rose of Tralee entrants in vintage cars, floats and marchers.

This year is the 25th annual St Patrick's Day parade, and tens of thousands now line the streets of Brisbane to watch the parade.

For all the details of what's happening in the 2015 Saint Patrick's Day parade, see the Brisbane Irish Festival Events Program in the centre pages of this magazine.

And be sure to go out and support the parade and celebrate a man, who like the recently-arrived Irish, was an expat in a foreign land. For Saint Patrick wasn't Irish, he was born in Britain but adopted Ireland as his home, just like we've adopted Australia.



Jack's Saint Patrick turned heads at parade

JACK Frost from the Irish Scottish Shop in Montville sent this photograph of himself as Saint Patrick to Irish Queensland. He wrote: "The date was 14th March, 1992 and at that time, we had another shop located in the Mayfair Arcade in Adelaide Street. I was a member of the Irish Club and the parade was instigated by the Dooley's when they had the pub in The Valley. Jan Dooley was the major instigator of the parade. When the word came out that they were instigating it, I at that time had a full beard, so wanting to maintain my presence in the Brisbane Irish diaspora of the time, I volunteered to lead the procession dressed as Saint Patrick. I hired the appropriate robes and made myself the mitre and serpent staff. I also included an appropriate rubber snake which I brandished whenever possible - including to the dignitaries on the City Hall Adelaide Street steps. All seemed to go well and after a couple of years, we closed our Adelaide Street shop when they closed the Arcade for six months to remove asbestos. Although I travelled down from Maleny/Montville a couple more times after that, I finally retired as Saint Patrick."

10th anniversary parade was a real showstopper

IRISH Queensland Editor Mary Allen is pictured here with friends Craig Force, Sam Force and Shaun Buikstra outside Dooley's Hotel during the 10th annual Brisbane Saint Patrick's Day parade in 1999.

Mary recalls: "I was in Australia for a year on a working holiday visa, living in Brisbane. Even though Queensland had a good spattering of Irish pubs in the 90s, my haunts being Dooley's in the Valley and PJ O'Brien's in the city, I was quite surprised to find out that the city hosted a Saint Patrick's Day parade.

"I was even more surprised that the 10th anniversary parade was a very impressive affair that could rival, if not outdo, any



parade I had seen in Ireland.

"The most memorable float that year was one for PJ O'Brien's. It had a giant, inflatable pint of Guinness on a float which had dancers all around doing the silly ballet dance that was featured in

the Guinness ad at that time.

"I never would have expected to be living back in Brisbane 15 years later and a member of the committee organising the parade. And I'm still friends with the people in the photograph."



I'll try Gaeilge but I draw the line at Peig

THE package from Galway was waiting for me when I got home to my house in Upper Mount Gravatt. Karl had written to me two weeks earlier, asking if it was ok to send a couple of boxes to me for safekeeping before he started part two of his six-month-long trip around the world. As he headed off to a freezing Boston, his stuff arrived here in Brisbane, where we were recovering from a heatwave.

Opening the package, I found some old family photo albums from Ireland, travel brochures, and sundry items from the Far East, which is where Karl had been until now. But it was the books I was interested in. He told me I was welcome to rummage through them. I took them out carefully and arranged them on the floor, making sure to stay underneath the hard-working ceiling fan.

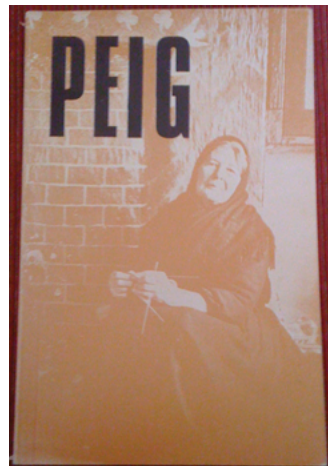
So what did we have here? Ó Chósta go Cósta (From Coast to Coast) by Frank Reidy, an African travel journal as Gaeilge. Seal i Neipeal as Cathal Ó Searcaigh: more travel, this time in Nepal. Léas ar an Astráil (A Guide to Australia, I'm guessing) by Tomás de Paor. A thumping great book on Rocky Ros Muc: Seán Ó Mainnín, the pugilist. I have to admit that despite living in Connamara for years, I never heard of that guy, whose heyday, admittedly, was in the early '80s. Books on aviation (Scéal na hEitleoireachta by Seoirse Ó Broin), New York (Seal ag Ródaíocht), and the Irish language itself (Ag Caint Linn Fein by Joe Steve Ó Neachtain no less, the old boy in Ros na Rún).

Of course, Eyre Square's own Pádraic Ó Conaire was there too: a knackered, familiar looking copy of Scothscéalta, annotated

to within an inch of its life in pencil and blue biro, brought me back 30 years in a heartbeat. And of course Peig, but I left her in the box. Once in a lifetime was enough, go raibh míle maith agat.

Apart from the resurrected school books, these books all hailed from Charlie Byrne's Siopa Leabhar in Galway, where Karl had prepared for the harsh southern hemisphere autumn, where Irish language material can be hard to find. So why so much interest in these old Irish books in the first place?

Well, in my case, I've been here in Brisbane for just over 10 years now, and for almost all of that time have shown three-fifths of a pufteenth, as they say here, of an interest in my Irish heritage. Or divil a bit, as they say elsewhere. But now I intend to atone for that denialism - hence my interest in Karl's books package. I intend to



Generations of Irish who sat the Gaeilge state exams in the Leaving Cert prior to 1999 would have had to study the book Peig, a woeful tale of life as an islander.

read these books - alright, some of them, let's not get silly at the back - and achieve some level of proficiency in Irish, a language occupying a place in my head much like an rusty aul' rothar in a cowshed.

Ralph's new column on rediscovering the Irish language will return in the next issue of Irish Queenslander. If you would like to meet up in a group and chat as gaeilge with Ralph, get in touch. Ralph Lavelle is at www.ralphlavelle.net.



Happy St. Patrick's Day!!

IRISH QUEENSLANDER MAGAZINE

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Here's what really inspired IQ

I AM often asked by people why I set up Irish Queenslander magazine. This special edition seems the perfect opportunity to tell how out of bad things, good things happen.

Like so many young families who ended up moving to Australia, we were settled in Ireland during the Celtic Tiger years. My husband Rory and I had bought a house, I had two babies, in 2007 and 2008, and we were settled.

Then, the crash happened. Suddenly, my husband was out of work, and having been a self-employed contractor, was not entitled to social welfare. My wages as a sub-editor at a newspaper were not going to pay the bills.

After several months of watching bank accounts dwindle, it became obvious that we'd have to do something drastic before we ended up with nothing. So we spent the next few years moving around the world, as my husband took up engineering contracts in different countries.

First stop was China. Then back to Ireland for a year but the doom and gloom was hard to handle so we decided to look for work in Australia. We ended up in Sydney for a year and I went back to work at a newspaper.

Twelve months later and it was on to Brisbane, much to my joy. I'd spent a year living in Brisbane on a backpacker's visa in the late 90s and had friends there. I'd always loved Queensland.

I got a job as a publications manager for a not-for-profit association. The workload was big, managing several publications, but I was lucky to have a rare thing - experience in both writing and graphic design, people usual-

BRICKLAYERS WANTED TO START MONDAY 22/4/2013
Looking for Bricklayers only !!! 2x More Brickie needed to Start Monday 22/4/2013 must be neat fast experianced and reliable northside and southside work Must have Transport, Tools, Blue/white Card, Safftey Boots NO IRISH No labourers.

THIS ad was published on a popular online small ads site by someone in the Logan area. It happened just over a year after a builder in Perth posted a similar ad which caused a furore in the media, in both Australia and Ireland. The ad was posted on April 18, 2013, and was seeking bricklayers to start work on April 22. It said: "2 x More Brickie needed ... NO IRISH".

When contacted, the ad's writer said in an emailed response (sic): "the reason for advertising NO IRISH was because i had received over 200 + phone calls from irish in australia and also from ireland i needed someone imediatley here in australia also i needed someone who lives here and who is not travelling the country also their skills differ from ours i am a new business and dont have the time to teach irish bricklayers our tricks to the trade no offence was intended just got over receiving hundreds of calls from irish whilst i was trying to earn a living who i could bareley understand due to such strong accents"

Although he claimed no offence was intended, when I suggested that in future maybe he could word his ads: ""Only permanent residents with local experience need apply", his response was (sic) "i will put what ever i like thanks".

ly have one or the other.

At the time, I also became involved in volunteering in the Irish community. People in community organisations told me they found it difficult to get publicity for their clubs and groups.

I met Seamus Sullivan of Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Club. I was inspired by both Seamus's many years of hard work at Gaelic Park and the legacy of the late Nick Carpenter, who had spent his life helping young Irish migrants.

Also, since moving to Australia, I took an interest in stories about Irish people in the news here. I noticed that often they were either about a tragedy having happened, or about court cases. I rarely saw positive stories about the Irish community in the mainstream media, unless it was around St Patrick's Day. But then

the stories were often of the stereotypical 'begorrah, to be sure, to be sure' nature.

I had seen the controversy in 2012 when a builder in Perth had advertised a job and specified that no Irish need apply.

Then, in April 2013, while browsing on a small ads site, I spotted an ad by someone in Logan looking for building staff and the ad said "NO IRISH". Annoyed, I contacted him to make him aware of the anti-discriminatory legislation in Australia but ultimately, got no satisfaction.

I tried to get the story noticed, tried to get it into the press, but got nowhere. Nobody interested. I contacted politicians for quotes about it. No replies.

I was angry. I wanted to stick up for my own. I wanted the Irish to be seen for what we really are - educated, hardworking and



At the Ladies In Sport, Ladies in Business expo in Queensland Irish Club in June 2013 were Emma Fitzgerald, Mary Allen and Sarita Divis representing Irish Queenslander, and Katie Fitzgerald. We had a prototype edition on the day. The first edition came out in August 2013.

fun people who make a positive contribution to Queensland. And I knew there was one way I could do it - set up my own publication.

But with two small kids and a stressful job, the thoughts of setting up a business were daunting.

A wonderful friend of mine who works in marketing, Sarita, egged me on and helped significantly in the setting up of Irish Queenslander (IQ).

So here we are, fourth edition. IQ is lucky to have great team helping out, made up of both Irish and Australians.

Why call it IQ? A dig at the old stereotype that the Irish are thick.

Everyone asks why it's free? That's to help not-for-profit and community organisations get their message out. If it's free, more people pick it up.

I would like to say a big thank you to our advertisers and our sponsor, Celtic Power and Civil, who make it all possible. And to our subscribers.

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Mayo AFL star Pearce

A BOLD move as an 18 year old and unflinching determination are the keys to Pearce Hanley's success in the tough AFL competition.

Despite this success and recently signing a five-year deal to stay with the Brisbane Lions, Pearce's heart is never far from home.

He has a numerical tattoo on his wrist that has special significance to the young Irish AFL sensation.

"When you type in the numbers, they are coordinates, my house back home comes up on Google Earth," he says.

That house is in the town of Ballaghaderreen in Roscommon, where a strong GAA tradition in his school of St Nathy's, saw a young Pearce go on to play for Mayo.

From there, he went on to play in the 2006 u-17 International Rules series in Fremantle.

Pearce won the Ron Barrassi medal for best Irish player, but was not thinking of playing AFL football. His dream was to win an All Ireland with Mayo.

However, after catching the eyes of the Brisbane Lions recruiting staff, Pearce was signed by the Lions on a two-year International Rookie contract at the end of 2007.

Getting Pearce to the Lions took some cloak and dagger tactics from the Lions Football Manager, Graeme 'Gubby' Allan.

He believed that Pearce was going to be "the best Irish footballer ever" and formulated a ruse so elaborate, not even the Lions' CEO knew he was a recruiting target.

"I only heard that a few months ago actually, I didn't know that, but apparently Gubby, who brought me out, was looking at other Irish players and he let it be known to the rest of the competition who they were," Pearce says.

"Brisbane previously had someone taken from under their noses. So he knew he was gonna bring me out, but he kept it quiet. It was pretty sneaky, but I'm glad he did it!"

Pearce arrived in Brisbane and found a whole new world awaiting him as a professional



AFL star Pearce Hanley came to Brisbane Lions aged 18. Picture: Irish Queenslander

AFL footballer. "I was 18. I was nervous at the start, but I was just looking forward to it really. It was a new start," he says.

"I went to uni for a year, so I was in DCU (Dublin City University). I ended up coming out and I was looking forward to playing professional full-time.

"When I first came over, I thought I was a premier league footballer, I don't know what was going on, but I quickly sorted myself out and worked hard."

Learning how to kick an oval ball was the first of many challenges that Pearce had to overcome.

"I put a lot of work in at the start because, of course, I wasn't used to it and the way you kick it is a lot different," he says.

"But I had a lot of good people around me and they would give me 15 minutes at the end of training where I would get pulled out of the drill and just go work out on kicking. I had a kicking coach

on my own and from there I just used his tips every day."

Initially, Pearce thought he could combine his study of PE and Biology with playing full-time.

"Brisbane sold it pretty well, they said, 'As soon as you come over, we'll pay for uni, whatever you want to do, we'll look after you.'"

But the demands of trying to break into the first 22 and be a regular soon saw Pearce put his studies aside.

"I have been here for six years and I still haven't gone back," he says.

However, getting a degree is very important to him and he plans to go back to study in 2014.

Pearce doesn't get a chance to socialise a lot with Irish people in Brisbane as he has limited time due to his training and playing commitments with the Lions.

"I did at the start though and that's why I didn't play too many

games", he says with a laugh. He hasn't been out to the Brisbane GAA ground but he does follow the Gaelic Games back at home.

"I don't watch too many games due to the time of day they are on. But I have followed Mayo's games", he says.

"I watched the big final between Dublin and Mayo that Dublin won by one point. Mayo surely has to win one at some time," he says hopefully.

Most Lions fans thought Pearce should have gained All Australian honours in 2013.

When pressed on what is more important, All Australian or All Ireland, Pearce is modest and initially struggles to answer.

He then answers with: "Those things are nice at the end of the year but when you are playing you don't really think of individual accolades and I just get on with being a role player in my team and do what I do."

Most tellingly, Pearce does add that "I don't play Gaelic football anymore but an All Ireland would be pretty special, especially with Mayo." Which illustrates his team-over-individual ethos.

Pearce does enjoy playing in the International Rules games but is disappointed that recently the Australians haven't fielded their best team and says that due to this he "can't see the games continuing".

He has become one of the best players in the AFL. He came Runner-Up in the Brisbane Lions Best and Fairest and was voted the Members' Best and Fairest player in 2013.

"I see myself as a leader in the club now, we have a pretty young list and I am one of the loudest talkers on the field and on the training track," he says.

Pearce is happy to play wherever the coach asks him to and to play whatever role is beneficial to the team.

"I play in the back-line or in the midfield and if I am getting tagged I can go forward and try to beat my opponent there," he says.

Which is what he did in round 16 against North Melbourne.

Coach Michael Voss said that the crucial goals he kicked in the

is on the up and up



Pearce Hanley in action for, from left, Ballaghaderreen, Mayo and Brisbane Lions.

second half “won the game” for the Lions.

The Voss controversy hasn’t affected Pearce too much. He showed faith in the club by signing a five-year deal the day before Voss was sacked.

“That kind of thing doesn’t bother me too much. Coaches coach, players play and administrators administrate, I just get on with what I can do,” he says.

“I love playing footy with this club and with the blokes that are here, I think we have a good team and we are moving up.”

Pearce caused some controversy last year when he Tweeted

about five young players who went home from Lions, claiming homesickness. Pearce called them “Mummy’s Boys”.

He says that it is important to him that his teammates show the same loyalty that he and players like Daniel Rich and Matthew Leuenberger have.

“When you look at it from the big scheme in Brisbane, all of them have been in the system for three years, they’ve had three years of development,” he says.

“We’re looking to push up the ladder now and advance. Those five boys wanted to go home and we’ve got to replace them now

with 18-year-olds and start all over again.

“You don’t expect 18-year-olds to come in and drastically improve your team, you expect the older boys to step up, and unfortunately they wanted to go home,” he says.

“I have to wait a year to go see my family, whereas they’re a two-hour flight away, so they can get to see their parents regularly so I’d imagine it’s not that tough for them.

“I went home for Christmas, I got two and a half weeks.”

Hanley says it was “tough at the start” to be away from his family.

“I am from a tight family, I get on well with all my brothers and sisters.”

However, with his typical toughness, he says he just focussed on what he had to do to be successful because “this is something that I wanted to do.”

Brisbane fans may see another Hanley running around at the Gabba.

“I am from a sporting family. My brother Cian is a really good Gaelic player and I am sure a few AFL clubs might be looking at him, but hopefully Brisbane will bring him over.”

Brisbane’s new coach, Justin Leppitsch, should appreciate Hanley’s positive attitude.

“We have a lot of young players that have stood up and become leaders and I think our team is on the up,” he said.

“We have a new coach and this was actually the first pre season I looked forward to starting training.”

By Craig Thomson

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Coronas to rock Brisbane

IRELAND has been home to some of the most influential artists and Dublin rock band The Coronas are no exception.

Their high-energy live shows and hit albums have made them one of the country's most popular concert attractions, where they've been a constant on the arena and theatre circuit for years. They've played in front of crowds of up to 50,000 people. And now, four years since their last Australian tour, they're coming back.

With platinum-selling records and a prestigious Meteor Award (Irish Grammy) for album of the year, beating out the likes of U2, The Script and Snow Patrol, The Coronas are THE band to watch as one of the country's hottest live acts.

The Coronas are named after the Corona typewriter used by the young music critic character William Miller in the movie *Almost Famous*.

Irish Queenslander caught up with lead singer Danny O'Reilly.

You won a Meteor Best Album award for Tony Was An Ex Con



Win tickets to see this event, go to www.facebook.com/IrishQueenslander

One of Ireland's hottest live acts, The Coronas, are coming to Brisbane.

in 2010, beating out U2 and Snow Patrol. How did that feel?

"It was really a surreal moment. We presumed we weren't going to win. We literally had no idea. It

was special too because U2 and Snow patrol and BellX1 are bands that we've grown up listening to, and also because it was a public vote."

How did the band get together?

"Myself, Knoxy and Conor started a three-piece in secondary school and we met Dave in uni and asked him to join. We decided to take a year out after uni and give the band a go. That was six years ago now and thankfully, we haven't had to get a real job since!"

You have previously played in Singapore and Thailand. What was your most exotic venue?

"We've had some cool gigs in Dubai and we also toured Japan, which was amazing!"

What's it like playing in Whelan's?

"It's a great venue, loads of energy, cool atmosphere. We've had some amazing gigs there."

What do you have planned for the Australian tour?

"We're gonna play a mixture of all our albums and a couple of brand new songs, and hopefully have a great time."

What was it like to appear on the Podge and Rodge show (Irish comedy talk show hosted by two foul-mouthed puppets)?

"It was a strange one. The song was fine but they spent most of the interview slagging my mother, which was awkward."

Give us a little known fact about the band

"We're all born within one month of each other! March/April is a busy one for birthdays!"

Do people ask if you named the band after the beer rather than a typewriter?

"Sometimes they do."

The Coronas play Mick O'Malleys in Brisbane on Friday, Feb 21. For tickets, go to www.troubadour-music.com. Irish Queenslander has two tickets to the gig to give to a lucky Facebook follower, go to www.facebook.com/irishqueenslander

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Emma Corcoran, Eileen O'Donovan and Ann Geoghegan.



Keith Taylor and daughter Maeve met with Australian middleweight boxing champ Dennis Hogan.

To view more photos from this event or buy print copies, go to www.photoboxgallery.com/IrishQueenslander



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Happy Saint Patricks Day



Less quarantine? Pets celebrate!

YES, cats and dogs from all over the world are dancing and rejoicing as the news breaks about the new Australian quarantine rules.

So, what exactly is this news?

I got an email the other day from Anita, who has been a subscriber to my emails and been reading my posts for a while now. She is in the process of organising a move to Australia in the early part of next year, but had a slight problem with one of the blood tests for her pet dog.

This delayed her move a bit so early next year has become later next year, but, as Anita said, every cloud has a silver lining. That delay has meant that her dog will only need to spend 10 days in Australian quarantine, not 30. New rules, which kicked in last December, will now apply to her pet so she's actually a very happy bunny.

As she said to me in the email "I hope you don't mind me saying but it would be really helpful to put a message on your next email about the reduced quarantine time as this may help to reassure people coming to Aus with dogs and cats in the future."

Well no, I didn't mind her saying it and the funny thing is, with Mrs Bobinoz running Dog Walks, we have both been more than aware of these changes for some time. So why didn't I think of letting you know sooner?

It may sound strange, but when my wife and I have talked about these changes it has always been



in terms of her business, Dog Walks Pty Ltd. So much so, that I completely overlooked that these changes are also of great interest to my readers at Bobinoz.

Bad, bad Bobinoz; but better late than never.

The new 10-day quarantine rules

Here's another problem, although these rules came into effect on 2 December 2013, ALL the rules regarding visiting dogs during their 10 day stay and perhaps walking them, have not yet been fully announced.

So, while I can confirm that Dog Walks will continue to operate in 2014, I can't tell you exactly what services they will be able to provide. Will Dog Walks be able to walk dogs? Will they be able to visit dogs? Will they be able to continue to take photographs,

provide treats, toys or even deliver, as they have done in the past, a pet's favourite food?

All these questions will be answered soon, but the great news for cats and dogs is that, provided they qualify by having gone through the correct procedure, they'll be staying for just 10 days in quarantine and not 30.

All your questions answered

Not by me, but by the Australian Government's website for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, more commonly known as DAFF.

Before we go over to their website though, these new rules come into effect only where a permit has been applied for after 2 December 2013 and the dog or cat does not enter Australia until on or after 3 February 2014, the date when the new Australian

import conditions come into full effect.

All pets who arrived before 3 February were still required to stay the full 30 days.

To find out everything you need to know about the new rules, visit:

DAFF FAQs

To find out more about exporting your pet to Australia, visit <http://www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/cat-dogs/frequently-asked-questions>

DAFF's page Bringing Cats and Dogs (and other pets) to Australia is at <http://www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/cat-dogs>

On that very same page is a useful tool to help you calculate your pre-export treatment schedule for your dog or cat in three easy steps:

Select whether your pet is a 'dog' or a 'cat'; Select your 'country of export'; Select the 'date of export' from the fields below.

And as soon as you have answered those three questions your full schedule will drop-down below and guide you through the process.

Clicking on the "click here for more information" link underneath that will take you to a fresh page with a step-by-step guide to exporting your pet to Australia.

Our dog, Baggie (God rest him), had to spend the full 30 days in quarantine when we moved here; I wonder what he would've made of the changes...



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Watch out Australia



Fiona O'Carroll.

AGNES Brown has had her ups and downs (she would insert a joke here).

Mrs Brown's Boys had been on the go for years, born as a sketch on Irish radio station RTÉ 2FM in 1992 and then becoming a series of books. Its creator, comedian Brendan O'Carroll adapted the books to a stage show and spent years travelling in Ireland and the UK with a cast consisting of his family and friends, taking Moore Street trader Agnes and her Dublin family's hilarious antics to the stage in front of a cult following.

Then one day, someone from the BBC came to the show. A



The cast of Mrs Brown's Boys is made up Brendan O'Carroll's family and friends, including daughter Fiona, top right as Maria Brown.

sitcom was born which saw Mrs Brown explode in popularity. The series is now broadcast in Ireland, the UK, Canada, New Zealand, Iceland, the United States and here in Australia, where it has almost one million views on Seven Network. And they have also just finished making the first Mrs Brown's Boys movie.

Fiona O'Carroll, Brendan's daughter, plays Maria in the show. She's smart, intelligent and beautiful, as well as feisty enough to stand up to Mrs Brown, and is

married to Agnes's son, Dermot. It's a strange pairing - he's commonly seen in giant costumes as part of his job as a mascot advertiser, and gets in strife with the law thanks to his troublemaking friend Buster.

Irish Queenslander chatted to Fiona from her home in Dublin.

Is this the first time you're bringing the show to Australia?

"Well it's the first time bringing the show, yes, but I'm married to an Australian. My husband Mar-

tin Delany (who plays Agnes's son, missionary Father Trevor in the show) is Irish Australian, he emigrated over with his parents when he was about nine or 10, so he was reared in Australia. He's originally from Kildare."

Have you been to Queensland before?

"I haven't been to Brisbane but we did take a trip to Cairns and Port Douglas. I've never been to Melbourne, Brisbane or Perth so it will be all new."

You've got a pretty full-on line-up for the tour - you're doing a lot of shows in a short amount of time.

"We certainly are, as my Dad said, if we're going to Australia, we're going to work. We've crammed an awful lot in but it's going to be great, I'm really looking forward to it."

You're in Dublin at the moment, are you working on the movie?

"No, we've just finished filming, it's in post-production. That's due for release on the 25th of June next year in the UK and Ireland."

How did filming go?

"I think it went really good. We had a great time. We travel on the road all the time with the live show and we have been for so long. The majority of people with the show are related to each other. And then others working on the show have been with us for so long that they're like

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- Mammy's coming!



aunties and uncles. We're like one big, happy family. When we made the movie, it was like the family just extended dramatically. It was the most amazing experience and I think everyone involved would say the same thing.

"There was half an hour set aside every morning for people to greet each other with hugs, there was a lot of love that went around and a lot of craic. The director, Ben Kellett, was amazing. He is extremely happy with it. The rest of us haven't seen too much of it. My Dad doesn't want to see it until it's finished. Nobody's allowed to tell us anything but the only thing we have been told is that they think it looks great."

A lot of it was filmed around Moore Street markets, did you get a lot of attention from passers-by?
"Yes, that was really great. It wasn't just Irish people coming up to us, there were Australians and South Africans as well."
No wonder, it's got one million viewers every week here in Australia.

"Ah, that's just mad!"

The live shows had a cult following but it seemed to take such a long time to take off?

"Yes, we always had a small, loyal fanbase that would follow us everywhere. They're the people who kept us going over the years. It was (BBC Scotland producer) Steve McCrum who came to the show one day and said 'I'd like to make this into a TV show'. And at first, Dad was like, 'yeah, whatever you think', but not actually thinking that it would happen. And Steve worked for about three years to get it passed before we got the green light to go ahead and make it."

And do you think that maybe programs like Channel 4's Fr Ted might have broken the mould a bit, for example introducing the English audience to the word feck?
"Yeah, but with the BBC, they're very PC. Even after Fr Ted had been out... they're very, very careful and they wouldn't want to offend anybody. They were very unsure at first. They knew they liked it, they knew they wanted it but they were really unsure about the language and everything else, and a lot of meetings went on to and fro. But Dad was really adamant that he didn't want to change too much of the show. We had been doing the live show for years and he didn't want people

who saw it on TV, to come to the live show expecting something else and saying 'oh my God, this is not what we were expecting'. We had to make sure that we stayed loyal to the original format. And that's also why Dad wanted it made in front of a live audience as well, which he had to fight for. They weren't sure it would work, and boy, does it work! And even including all the mistakes as well..."

Your Dad has been around for years but now his career has sky-rocketed. Is it astounding to see the level it's got to?

"It's amazing. My husband was always very adamant that the Australian crowd would love this and we had to go to Australia. He had been on at my Dad for ages. Back in 2001, Dad sent three of us over to see if there was any interest in our show over there. We basically went over cold-calling, knocking on doors to see if anyone wanted to bring the show over but it just wasn't feasible at the time. But we knocked on every door, no-one had a clue who we were, it's just such a big place. We were too small at the time. This is like a dream come true for us now because we made that trip, hoping

that we might get a little tour out of it and oh my God, look at the tour that we have now!"

Your character Maria, what does she see in Dermot?

"Ah now, he's such a lovable rogue, isn't he? For all his shenanigans going on with Buster, he always makes you laugh and he's just so lovable. He loves Maria and Maria loves him."

She's quite ballsy when it comes to standing up to Mrs Brown as well.
"Absolutely, they clash from time to time but Mrs Brown likes Maria and has a lot of respect for her because they have one thing in common and that's that they both want what's best for Dermot. They both love Dermot and I think as long as they have that in common, they'll be grand."

My favourite scene was Mrs Brown's bikini wax. Do you have a favourite scene?

"I think the bikini wax was everyone's favourite. There's five different plays and every time we do another one I say 'this is my favourite'. Then we'll do another and I'll say 'no, this is my favourite'. Every one has different scenes that are great, like the bikini wax or the LSD scene. I love the show we're doing in Australia, Mrs Brown Rides Again. The family are talking about putting the dog in a home, but Mrs Brown hears them and thinks they are talking about her. Throughout the whole play she thinks the family are conspiring to put her in a home."

Your dad has an IQ of 156 - does that mean Mrs Brown is a genius?
"Yes, a member of Mensa. I've slagged him asking why those genes didn't rub off on me."

We are looking forward to catching up with you all in Australia!
"We can't wait and please hang onto that lovely sunshine for us."

By Mary Allen

Mrs Brown Rides Again is showing at Brisbane Entertainment Centre on March 20, 21, 22 and 24. For tickets, go to www.mrsbrownboys.com.au

Féilte

BRISBANE COMEDY FESTIVAL

40 comedians from around the world, including Fiona O'Loughlin and The Naked Magicians.

Brisbane Powerhouse

25 FEB - 23 MAR

BRISBANE IRISH FESTIVAL

Ten days of festivities, including the St Patrick's Day parade in the CBD on March 15.

Throughout Brisbane

7-17 MAR

NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

Highlights include Eleanor McEvoy, Fásta and The Barleyshakes.

Canberra, ACT

17 - 21 APR

BUNDANOON HIGHLAND GATHERING

Dancing, pipe bands, traditional games.

Bundanoon, NSW

5 APR

Festivals

Craic

What's happening around Queensland



Red Hot Summer Tour

Harrigan's Drift Inn

ROCK fans are in for a treat with Suzi Quatro, The Angels, Russell Morris, Shannon Noll and The Black Sorrows all on one bill. Thousands will descend on Jacob's Well, Gold Coast venue Harrigan's Drift Inn Irish pub, to enjoy the hospitality, the views of the sea and the music. Tickets cost \$79.90 for this adults-only event, for more details go to www.redhotsummertour.com.au

15 FEBRUARY

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 2ND THU

Singer/songwriter night
Foxy Bean

EVERY FRI

Live Music Session
8.30pm, Foxy Bean
Live Music Session
8.30pm, Celtic Corner Manly

EVERY SAT

Irish Program
12.30pm, Radio 4EB FM

Ger Fennelly

2.30pm, Mick O'Malleys
Live Music Session
8.30pm, Foxy Bean

FIRST SAT OF MONTH

Tullamore Tree
4pm, Mick O'Malleys

EVERY SUN

Ger Fennelly
2.30pm, Mick O'Malleys

LAST SUN OF MONTH

Tullamore Tree
2pm, Grand View Hotel, Cleveland

FRI. 7. FEB

Ireland v Australia Preacher
Fight Night
Queensland Irish Club

SAT. 8. FEB

Dr Who Symphonic Spectacular
Brisbane Entertainment Centre
Celtic Celebration
QPAC

Saint Brigid's Day Celebration

Queensland Irish Club

TUE. 11. FEB

The Hollies
QPAC
The National
Riverstage Brisbane

TUE. 18. FEB

Faulty Towers
Queensland Irish Club

WED. 19. FEB

Faulty Towers
Queensland Irish Club

THU. 20. FEB

Faulty Towers
Queensland Irish Club

FRI. 21. FEB

The Coronas
Mick O'Malleys

WED. 26. FEB

2014 Whisk(e)y Expo
Queensland Irish Club

FRI. 28. FEB

Altan
Queensland Irish Club

SAT. 1. MAR

High Tea to support Overian
Cancer Month
Queensland Irish Club

FRI. 7. MAR

Walker Irish Dance
1pm & 3pm, Queen Street Mall

Brisbane Irish Festival Ball

7pm, Queensland Irish Club
Neil Finn

QPAC

Bruno Mars

Brisbane Entertainment Centre

SAT. 8. MAR

Daniel O'Donnell
Brisbane Convention Centre
Rose of Tralee Trivia
6.30pm, Queensland Irish Club



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St Pat's celebrations D'Arcy Arms

THE Gold Coast's D'Arcy Arms is having four days of celebrations for St Patrick's Day. On Friday and Saturday, there will be live entertainment from 7pm, while on Sunday and Monday, live music starts at 1pm and they will be serving traditional Irish meals. More details on page 24.

14-17 MARCH

SUN. 9. MAR
Watkins Academy of Irish Dance
1pm, Queen Street Mall
Queensland Irish Choir
2pm, Queensland Irish Club
Fr Ted Night
7.30pm, Queensland Irish Club

116th annual St Patrick's Eve Dinner
6pm, Queensland Irish Club
The Barleyshakes
9pm, Mick O'Malleys

Tullamore Tree
7.30pm, Mick O'Malleys
Murphy's Pigs
9pm, Queensland Irish Club
Tony McGuinness of Aslan
7pm, Foxy Bean

Murphy's Pigs
4.30pm, Mick O'Malleys
The Barleyshakes
7.30pm, Mick O'Malleys

FRI. 21. MAR
Weddings and Events Expo
Queensland Irish Club

SUN. 30. MAR
Highland Celtic Celebration
Ormiston House
Sásna
Mick O'Malleys

TUE. 1. APR
Kodaline
Hi-Fi

GOLD COAST

EVERY THU
O'Leary Lads
6pm, Fiddlers Green

MON. 10. MAR
Irish music and dancers
Queen Street Mall

SAT. 15. MAR
25th annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade
10.30am, Brisbane CBD
Celtic Fusion
12pm, Queen Street Mall
O'Leary's Lads
11am, Gilhooley's Albert Street
Murphy's Pigs
11.30am, Mick O'Malleys
Jack O'Leary
12pm, Queensland Irish Club
Annual Leprechaun Tossing Competition
2pm, Gilhooley's Albert St
Queensland Highlanders Pipe Band
4pm, Gilhooley's Albert St
Johnny Jump Up
4.30pm, Mick O'Malleys
The Jar
4.30pm, Queensland Irish Club

SUN. 16. MAR
St Patrick's Family Festival Sports Day
10.30am, Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Club
Australian Middleweight Title Defence boxing
2pm, Queensland Irish Club
St Patrick's Family Fun Day
Grand View Hotel, Cleveland

MON. 17. MAR
St Patrick's Day Mass
10am, St Stephen's Cathedral
Ger Fennelly
10am & 3pm, Mick O'Malleys
St Pat's Annual Leprechaun Tossing Competition
2pm, Gilhooley's Albert Street
QIA Pipes & Drums
4pm & 6pm, Mick O'Malleys

TUE. 11. MAR
Irish music and dancers
Queen Street Mall

THU. 13. MAR
Damien Dempsey
Mick O'Malleys

FRI. 14. MAR
Lansdowne Club St Patrick's Eve Luncheon
12pm, Queensland Cricketers' Club
Gilhooley's Irish Dancers
4pm, Gilhooley's Albert St

THE CORONAS Mick O'Malleys

Irish rock and indie band from Dublin perform hits such as Heroes or Ghosts and San Diego Song.

21 FEB

DANIEL O'DONNELL Brisbane and Gold Coast

He's been through the mill lately but Daniel's back to entertain his fans in Australia.

8-10 MAR

ALAN DAVIES QPAC

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25 & 26 MAR

MRS BROWNS BOYS Brisbane Ent Centre

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20-24 MAR



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What's happening around Queensland

GOLD COAST

EVERY SAT

Live Music

6.30pm Harrigan's Drift Inn

EVERY SUN

Live Music

1pm, Harrigan's Drift Inn

1ST SUN EVERY MONTH

O'Leary Lads

Fiddlers Green

FRI. 14. FEB

One Night In Paris (Valentine's night)

Harrigan's Drift Inn

SAT. 15. FEB

Suzi Quatro and Red Hot Summer Tour

Harrigan's Drift Inn

SAT. 1. MAR

Celtic Celebration

Gold Coast Arts Centre



SUN. 2. MAR

Wedding Expo

Harrigan's Drift Inn

SUN. 9. MAR

Daniel O'Donnell

Gold Coast Arts Centre

MON. 10. MAR

Daniel O'Donnell

Gold Coast Arts Centre

FRI. 14. MAR

Live entertainment from 7pm and a la carte menu

D'Arcy Arms

SAT. 15. MAR

Jack O'Leary

6pm, Harrigan's Drift Inn

Live music from 7pm and St Patrick's set menu at \$59.90/head

D'Arcy Arms

SUN. 16. MAR

Celtic Fusion, Redland Piping Band, Dancers

12pm, Harrigan's Drift Inn

Live music from 1pm, traditional Irish meals from \$15

D'Arcy Arms

MON. 17. MAR

Celtic Fusion, Redland Piping Band, Dancers

Harrigan's Drift Inn

Live music from 1pm, traditional Irish meals from \$15

D'Arcy Arms

SUNSHINE COAST

EVERY THU

McGuinness & Co

8pm, O'Malleys, Mooloolaba

1ST AND 3RD TUE

Irish Jam Session

Halse Lodge, Noosa Heads

Celtic Celebration

Brisbane, Caloundra, Gold Coast

IN the time honoured tradition of Scotland the Brave, the Pops returns with its boldest Celtic Celebration ever. Celtic soprano Kathleen Procter-Moore will headline, as the Pops launches its 30th Anniversary Subscription Series. It will also feature Murphys Pigs, Queensland Police Pipes and Drums, and the Watkins Academy of Irish Dance.

8 FEB, 22 FEB, 1 MAR

1ST SAT

Songwriter Sessions

1pm, The Shared, Yandina

SAT. 22. FEB

Celtic Celebration

Caloundra Events Centre

SUN. 16. MAR

McGuinness & Co

2pm, Caloundra Powerboat Club

MON. 17. MAR

Buckley's Chance

Finbar's Maleny

TOOWOOMBA

1ST AND 4TH TUE OF MONTH

Trad Irish Music Session

7pm, Irish Club Hotel

SUN. 16. MAR

Guinness Apple Bobbing Competition and Irish games

Fitzys

MON. 17. MAR

12pm Gerry McCann, 2.30pm Raggle

Taggle, 6.30pm Johnny Jump Up

Irish Club Hotel

CLIFTON

SAT. 1. MAR

Finnigan's Wake

1pm, O'Shanley's Irish Bar

TOWNSVILLE

1ST SAT EVERY MONTH

Irish Tunes Session

5pm, Molly Malones

Patrick Pickett and
The Queensland Pops Orchestra

Celtic Celebration

8 Feb 2:30 & 8pm Concert Hall, QPAC Brisbane

22 Feb 7:30pm The Events Centre, Caloundra

1 March 7:30pm The Arts Centre, Gold Coast



**Kathleen Procter-Moore,
Queensland Police Pipes &
Drums, Murphys Pigs.**

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7-17 March 2014

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COMMITTEE FOREWORD

Following the success of the inaugural Brisbane Irish Festival in 2012, this year's 2014 Festival will be presented over 10 days, from 7 to 17 March 2014, showcasing all facets of Irish Music, Sport, Dance, Arts and Culture.

The Festival programme will commence on Friday 7 March 2014 with the Irish Festival Ball to be held in the Queensland Irish Association's "Tara Ballroom" followed by the Queensland Irish Choir's performance on Sunday 9 March, which will also be held in the "Tara Ballroom".

The premier social function on the Brisbane Irish Festival's calendar will be the St Patrick's Eve Dinner, which will be held in the "Tara Ballroom" on Friday 14 March, however; the highlight of the Festival will be the 2014 Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade which will be held on Saturday 15 March commencing at 10:30 am. The 2014 Parade celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, having been held for the first time in 1990.

On Sunday 16 March, all Brisbane residents are invited to join in a Family Sports Day, including entertainment, at Gaelic Park, Willawong. For all boxing and sporting enthusiasts, a Black Tie Boxing event will be held at Tara House that Sunday afternoon.

A Mass to celebrate the actual Feast Day of St. Patrick will be held on Monday 17 March at St. Stephen's Cathedral, Elizabeth Street, Brisbane, followed by a full day of music and celebrations at The Irish Club.

We are extremely grateful to our many sponsors of the Brisbane Irish Festival including the Queensland State Government, Cultural Affairs Queensland and the Brisbane City Council. Without their support this important Brisbane City event would not be possible.

All residents and tourists in the Brisbane region, including the high percentage of Irish and Irish Australians, are cordially invited to join together to celebrate and enjoy the craic at this 2014 Brisbane Irish Festival.



Chris Begley
President
Queensland Irish Association/St. Patrick's Day Parade
Committee.

IRISH EMBASSY FOREWORD

Message from the Ambassador of Ireland
to Australia, HE Noel White

Since its inception just three years ago, the Brisbane Irish Festival has established itself as a fixture on the social and cultural calendar around Saint Patrick's Day in Australia. The Festival has been consistent in the high quality of its organisation and the high quality of its programming.

While its origins and inspiration are in the Irish community, it reaches out and appeals to all. It is an inclusive event enjoyed by communities, families and individuals alike.

Once again this year the programme of events will showcase the best of Irish culture, music and dance. And once again it will provide the ideal backdrop to Saint Patrick's Day when the Irish in Ireland, in Australia and all over the world join together to mark their shared heritage and celebrate their Irishness.

Congratulations to all those who have worked so hard to bring about this wonderful event.

With best wishes for 2014,

Beir bua and beannacht



Noel White

MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND



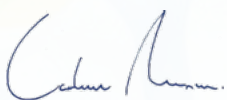
Once again the Brisbane Irish Festival promises to be an exciting and enjoyable week for Brisbane and hinterland communities and families, as we join with them, to celebrate the Irish contribution to our State of Queensland.

The highlight of the Irish Festival will be the Annual St Patrick's Day Parade through the streets of Brisbane City. In past years this parade has been viewed and enjoyed by some 35,000 plus cheering spectators. Today some half a million Queenslanders claim Irish ancestry, and more have been influenced in some way by Irish culture. This parade will be the twenty-fifth anniversary of its rebirth as an enjoyable part of Brisbane's social and cultural activities.

The first Irish migrants to Queensland came as guards or convicts to the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement, which, while beginning at Humpybong in 1824, was transferred to the site of Brisbane's CBD in 1825. Free settlers, especially those from England and Ireland, quickly followed in large numbers and the birth of the colony known as Queensland occurred in 1859. With the hard working Irish settlers came their influence on every aspect of Queensland's development. This influence was keenly felt in the cultural, religious, educational, political and economic growth of our ever expanding and welcoming State of Queensland.

My Government and I are once again pleased to join with the Queensland Irish Association in offering our continuing support to these cultural and social events, which exemplify so much of Queensland's rich cultural heritage.

I wish everyone involved with the Brisbane Irish Festival every good fortune, and those who participate, a safe and happy celebration.



Campbell Newman

MESSAGE FROM THE LORD MAYOR OF BRISBANE



Message from The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of
Brisbane Councillor Graham Quirk

Let me welcome you to the Brisbane Irish Festival 2014.

My Vision is for Brisbane to be a new world city that embraces vibrant communities and offers a range of activities that highlight the subtropical lifestyle which our city is renowned for. The Irish Festival is just one of many exciting events that celebrate Brisbane's cultural diversity.

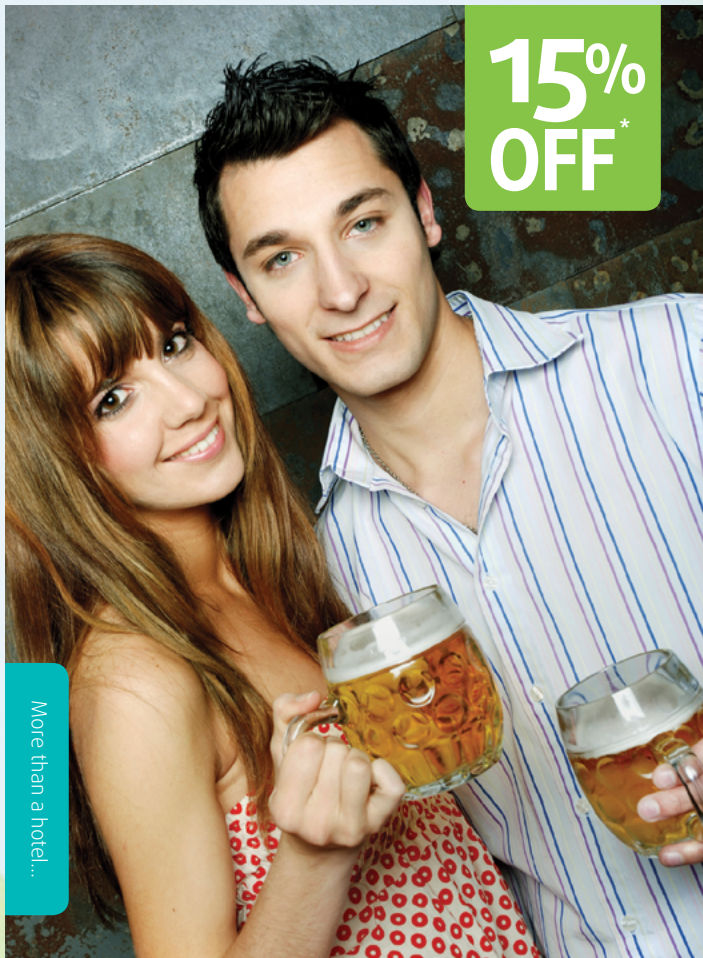
For 10 days in March, our city will be transformed into a celebration of all that is Irish. Enjoy the friendly atmosphere, good craic and a wide variety of entertainment. Perennial favourites The Tara Singers return, alongside live dancing and music. The sporting day is also sure to be a hit with families. The highlight of the festival will be the St Patrick's Parade, returning for its 25th year in the city.

I look forward to the success of another exciting festival and hope both residents and visitors have a great time.



Graham Quirk
Lord Mayor





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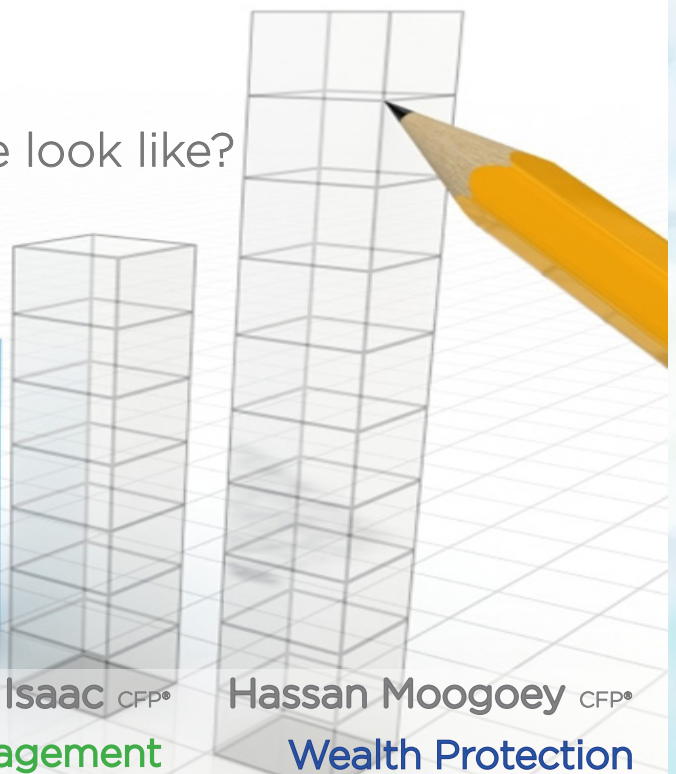
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FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

FRIDAY 14 MARCH

St Patrick's Eve Dinner

Time: 6:00 pm

Where: Tara Ballroom – The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

The 11th Annual St Patrick's Eve Dinner will be held in the magnificent Tara Ballroom. The St Patrick's Eve Dinner is the premier event on the Queensland Irish Association's calendar with invitations extended to all Kindred Societies, together with Federal, State and Church leaders along with Senior Officers from our Armed Services in Queensland.

The evening will include guest speakers, entertainment and a 2-course dinner including beer, wine and soft drinks. Tickets \$130 available for a limited time, please call (07) 3221 5699 for further information.

MONDAY 17 MARCH

Mass on St Patrick's Day

Time: 10:00 am

Where: St Stephen's Cathedral,
249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Mass will be celebrated on St Patrick's Day by Bishop Brian V Finnigan.

All are welcome – Céad Míle Fáilte

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on

SUNDAY

16th March 2014

at

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featuring

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Athletics - Adults
and Children

Queensland Irish
Association Pipe
Band

Live Irish
Music

Stalls, Food &
Refreshments

Tug-O-War
Competition

And much more!

A great day of Irish sports and entertainment for all the family!

Gates Open @ 10:30am

Admission: Adults \$10 / Children Free

Licensed Bar Open - No Eskys Allowed

www.irishfestival.com.au





-PRESENTS-

St. Patrick's Day

C-E-L-E-B-R-A-T-I-O-N-S

- MONDAY 10th** Mick's Irish Trivia Night - \$100 prize up for grabs!
- TUESDAY 11th** All Ireland Darts and Ring Board Competition
- Cash and prizes to be won!
Register a team today via mickomalley.com.au
- WEDNESDAY 12th** Patrick Ryan's Open Mic Competition
- Best acoustic Irish act wins \$400.
Register via facebook.com/omalleysoopenmicnight
- THURSDAY 13th** Damien Dempsey performing live
- FRIDAY 14th** Friday night after-work drink specials, Irish band Barley Shakes live from 9pm
- SATURDAY 15th** St Patrick's Day Parade
- SUNDAY 16th** Recover with Ger Fennelly & friends
- MONDAY 17th** CELEBRATE ST. PATRICKS DAY!
- TUESDAY 18th** Recovery day specials

[/mickomalley](https://www.facebook.com/mickomalley) [@mickomalley](https://www.instagram.com/mickomalley)

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Formerly The Tara Singers and Celtic Connection

PRESENTS

A Taste of Ireland

DATE: MARCH 9TH 2014

TIME: 2 PM - 4 PM

BISTRO OPENS AT 11.30 DOORS OPEN AT 1.30

TICKETS \$15

*Our 50 Voice Choir's Repertoire includes
Danny Boy, Fields of Athenry some old Irish Ballads
And many many more.*

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QIA Irish Dancers.*

*James will keep you laughing with his jokes
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ACCOMPANIST: TIM LI

COMPERE: JAMES DONEGAN



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E: reception@queenslandirish.com



FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



The Tara Room ready for the IASAQ Brisbane Irish Festival Ball in 2013. Pic: IQ



**Irish Australian
Support Association**

IRISH AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND

The Australian Irish Support Association Queensland Inc is hosting this 3rd Brisbane Irish Festival Ball on Friday 7 March 2014.

Last year's ball was a sell out and a wonderful evening for all.

Our Association continues the Irish tradition of supporting others in times of need and provides support to individuals and families in the Irish Australian Community who are in need, whether they are new arrivals or long standing residents of Australia.

We have an Over 50's lunch at our Centre on Tuesday for our Seniors and we have regular trips and outings in our own bus.

For newcomers we have a Mothers' Group who meet on Monday mornings at our Centre.

Our focus is on supporting our Seniors and new arrivals, especially when they have problems and are in need of support.

We can assist with Irish passports, and Australian visa questions, issues, guidance and direction.

If you know someone who might benefit from our services or would like a copy of our "Newcomers Guide to Brisbane" then please contact: Rita on 0432 087 328 or email info@iasaq.com.au

SATURDAY 8 MARCH

Rose of Tralee Trivia Night

Time: 6:30 pm for 7:00 pm start

Cost: \$15

Where: The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

\$500 Cash Prize

To reserve your table, please call (07) 3221 5699

SUNDAY 9 MARCH

Father Ted's "Down With That Sort of Thing"

Time: 7:30 pm

Cost: Free

Where: The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

After the outstanding success of the inaugural Fr.Ted Night, The Irish Club is once again hosting a Fr.Ted Night including the infamous "Lovely Girl" competition, fancy dress and Fr.Ted themed trivia. Prizes on the night for the best dressed, the most "Lovely Girl" and much more. So grab a group of mates and head down to The Irish Club where the craic and banter will be had!

SATURDAY 16 MARCH

Australian Title Defence Boxing

Time: 2:00 pm

Where: Tara Ballroom – The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Join us to watch Australian Middleweight Champion "The Hurricane" Hogan go toe-to-toe with "Bad Bad" Leroy Brown for the title.

Please call (07) 3221 5699 for further information.

QUEEN STREET MALL FREE EVENTS

Friday 7 March
1:00 pm & 3:00 pm
Walker Irish Dance

Sunday 9 March
1:00 pm
Watkins Academy of Irish
Dance

Saturday 15 March
12:00 pm
Celtic Fusion (Band)

Monday 17 March
1:00 pm
Walker Irish Dance

BRISBANE CBD ENTERTAINMENT



Murphy's Pigs play in The Irish Club on Saturday, 15 March.

FRIDAY 14 MARCH

The Irish Club

6:30 pm | 16th St Patrick's Eve Dinner (Tara Ballroom)

Gilhooley's Albert Street

4:00 pm Live music Thornlands feat. Gilhooley's Irish Dancers

Mick O'Malleys

9:00pm The Barleyshakes (Irish Band)

SATURDAY 15 MARCH

The Irish Club

8:00 am – 11:00 am Traditional Irish Breakfast
12:00 pm – 4:00 pm Jack O'Leary (Irish Band)
4:30 pm – 8:30 pm The Jar (Irish Band)
9:00 pm – Close Murphy's Pigs (Irish Band)

Gilhooley's Albert Street

11:00 am O'Leary's Lads
2:00 pm Annual Leprechaun Tossing Competition
4:00 pm Queensland Highlanders Pipe Band
8:00 pm Chester feat. DJ Tony Brisbane

Mick O'Malleys

11:30 am Murphy's Pigs
4:30 pm Johnny Jump Up
7:30 pm Tullamore Tree
10:00 pm – Late Locky & Dan

SUNDAY 16 MARCH

The Irish Club

2:00 pm Black Tie Boxing (Tara Ballroom)

Gilhooley's Albert Street

12:00 pm Recovery Sunday & Live Music

Mick O'Malleys

Recover with Ger Fennelly & Friends

MONDAY 17 MARCH

The Irish Club

8:00 am – 11:00 am Traditional Irish Breakfast
Live music and entertainment until late
Visit queenslandirish.com

Gilhooley's Albert Street

11:00 am Live Music - Thornlands
2:00 pm St Pat's Leprechaun Tossing Competition
3:00 pm BenJam
8:00 pm The Lazy Valentines feat. DJ Tony Brisbane

Mick O'Malleys

10:00 am & 3:00 pm Ger Fennelly
4:00 pm & 6:00 pm QIA Pipes & Drums
4:30 pm Murphy's Pigs
7:30 pm The Barleyshakes

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

FRIDAY 7 MARCH

Brisbane Irish Festival Ball

The Irish Australian Support Association Queensland (IASAQ) invites you to the Brisbane Irish Festival Ball.

Where: Tara Ballroom – The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Time: 7:00 pm until late

See details on page 21

SATURDAY 8 MARCH

Rose of Tralee Trivia

Where: The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Time: 6:30 pm for 7:00 pm start

See details on page 9

SUNDAY 9 MARCH

Queensland Irish Choir

Presents: A Taste of Ireland

Where: The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

See details on page 8

Father Ted Night

The Irish Club Presents: "Down with that sort of thing!"

Where: The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Time: 7:30 pm

See details on page 9

FRIDAY 14 MARCH

St Patrick's Eve Dinner

Where: Tara Ballroom – The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Time: 6:00 pm

See details on page 6

SATURDAY 15 MARCH

Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade

The 25th Annual Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade kicks off at 10:30 am sharp from the corner of George and Elizabeth Streets
See details on pages 12 -13 for the parade route

Be a part of the 35,000+ crowd and enjoy a fantastic family day out!



Australian Middleweight Champion Dennis 'Hurricane' Hogan defends his title at The Irish Club on Sunday, 16 March.

SUNDAY 16 MARCH

St Patrick's Festival Family Sports Day: Willawong

Where: Queensland Gaelic Football Park,
308 Bowhill Rd, Willawong

Gates Open: 10:30 am

See details on page 7

Australian Title Defence Boxing

"Hurricane" Hogan toe-to-toe with "Bad Bad" Leroy Brown

Where: Tara Ballroom – The Irish Club,
175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Time: 2:00 pm

See details on page 9

MONDAY 17 MARCH

St Patrick's Day Mass

Where: St Stephen's Cathedral,
249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Time: 10:00 am

See details on page 6

25TH SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARADE



Crowds line Elizabeth Street in Brisbane to watch the 2013 Saint Patrick's Day Parade. Pic: Irish Queenslander

On Saturday 15 March 2014, the 25th annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade, proudly supported by Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council, will once again fill the streets of Brisbane with colour and festivity.

Following the parade, entertainment will continue at The Irish Club, 175 Elizabeth Street, until late.

Join us for the 25th annual Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade, a fantastic family day out. Be a part of the 35,000+ crowd!

PARADE ENTERTAINMENT

- Irish dancers
- Pipe bands
- Irish radio
- Leprechauns
- Antique automobiles
- Irish Wolfhounds
- Clowns
- Musicians
- Sports clubs

AT THE IRISH CLUB

- Full Irish breakfast from 8am til 11am on parade day, Saturday, March 15
- Irish Shed stall on parade day, Saturday, March 15
- Face painters
- Traditional live music
- Bunratty Bistro

For more information, visit our website www.brisbaneirishfestival.com or facebook page



10.30AM
PARADE STARTS FROM
GEORGE AND
ELIZABETH STREET
INTERSECTION

>> PARADE ROUTE

ROAD CLOSURES

St Patrick's Day Parade Saturday 15th March 2014

<i>Approx. Times</i>	<i>Suburb</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Reference</i>
Marshalling Area:			
0800 – 1200 hrs	City	George Street	Adelaide Street to Charlotte Street
One traffic lane on northwest side of George Street to remain open for emergency vehicles			
1030 – 1130 hrs	City	Elizabeth Street	George Street to Edward Street
1045 – 1145 hrs	City	Edward Street	Elizabeth Street to Mary Street
1025 – 1200 hrs	City	Elizabeth Street	Elizabeth Street off ramp to Riverside Expressway

Road closures will be conducted by Queensland Police on a rolling basis as parade procession moves through the parade route

GREEN OF SAINT PATRICK

by Anna McKinlay

Australians, like people in other westernized civilizations, especially those partly populated by Irish Emigrants, have an affiliation with St Patrick and all things Irish. Over the centuries, Ireland (Eire), has been associated with all things green, a colour, which has come to symbolize the Irish and the Irish connection. Brisbane will, as usual, become a sea of the "forty shades of green" especially on Saturday, 15th March, 2014 for our Annual Brisbane St. Patrick's Day Parade.

This is a special parade, as it celebrates the twenty fifth Anniversary of the modern day rebirth of this celebration. Although Jan and Tom Dooley re-established the format in 1989, the first modern Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade on 17th March, 1990. The 2014 parade marks our "Silver Anniversary", and is the highlight of our week of celebrating all things Irish and those of Irish descent who have ventured to Australia's shores.

Green has over the centuries, become the symbolic and national colour of the Irish people. Many say this love grew from St. Patrick using the tiny three leaved shamrock to teach the meaning of the Trinity as he converted the Irish to Christianity. The love of green could be a product of the natural beauty of the Irish countryside with its soft rain and deep green vegetation. The love of poetry, story-telling and singing cemented the use of green as writers romanticized it in verse, with such phrases as the 'four green fields' to describe the four parts of Ireland, the 'little green shamrock', 'forty shades of green', and the common usage of the Emerald Isle as an alternate name for Eire. The colour green was used as both a political and a unifying pawn during past troubled times, when it became a heavy punishable crime to wear green.

The national flag of Ireland for many centuries was a gold harp on a "field of green". Since 1922 the flag has become a tri-colour of equal sized bands of green, white and gold. In more recent times the gold has been replaced by orange, to celebrate the province of Ulster. Today the green is symbolic of nationalism, the white represents peace and the orange is symbolic of unification. Here in Australia we are proud to wear green and gold as our national colours. History tells us that they were to represent our geography of the deep green coastal region and the golden dryness of the interior but sentiment ally perhaps it is pleasant to ponder the thought that the Irish Emigrants, who helped populate, develop and mould Australia had some influence on our forefathers' choice of colour.

We most cordially invite you to come to join with us in our 25th Annual Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade and celebrations of Brisbane Irish Festival, 7-17th March, 2014.

This is a social, community and civic event organized by a separate Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade Committee, with support of the Queensland State Government,



Saint Patrick at the 2013 Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade. Pic: Irish Queenslander



Scene from St Patrick's Day Parade 2007. Pic: Katherine O'Malley

Brisbane City Council and The Queensland Irish Association (QIA), for whose support we are most thankful.

Get your green on ... We'd love to see a river of the forty shades of green, as we celebrate not only the feast day of St Patrick, but all things which denote Eire, and the Irish connections with Queensland.

La Fheile Pdraig Sona Daoibh (Happy St Patrick's Day)

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AT THE IRISH CLUB



Brisbane Irish Festival Week March 2014

Friday

7

6.30pm

Brisbane Irish Festival Ball

Tickets \$95.00 pp or \$900 Table of 10
Ticket includes 3 course dinner and entertainment
"The Darren J Ray Quartet"

For tickets contact Rita 0432 087 328
or email info@iasaq.com.au



Saturday

8

6.30pm

Rose of Tralee Trivia Night

\$500 Cash Prize up for grabs
Trivia starts 7.00pm Sharp
Entry \$15 pp

Reserve your table now by contacting Reception
on 3221 5699 or email reception@queenslandirish.com



Sunday

9

2.00pm

Queensland Irish Choir

Formerly The Tara Singers and Celtic Connection
The Queensland Irish Choir Debut for their St Patricks Concert
"A Taste of Ireland"

Tickets \$15 pp

For tickets contact Pat Deighton
Phone 0447 023 066 or email deightfp@tpg.com.au



QUEENSLAND IRISH CHOIR

Sunday

9

2.00pm

Father Ted Trivia Night

Prizes for winning team, best costume, & 'Lovely Girl' competition. Starts at 7.30pm sharp!!

For Bookings contact Reception on 32215699
or email reception@queenslandirish.com



Thursday

13

7.00pm

Traditional Irish Music

Join us for a night of Traditional Irish music

For bookings contact reception 07 3221 5699



Friday
14
6.30pm

116th St Patrick's Eve Dinner

Tickets \$130 pp
Ticket includes dining and beverage package as well as special guest speakers and entertainment

Tickets available from reception
07 3221 5699



Saturday
15
8.30am

Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade

Start the day admiring the Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade then come back to The Irish Club for an afternoon and evening of Irish bands, Irish Food and of course Irish Cheer

For more information on the parade please visit www.brisbaneirishfestival.com.au



Sunday
16
2.00pm

Australian Title Defence Fights

GA \$60 Res Seating \$65-\$80
VIP Tables \$1900

VIP tickets are for a table of 10pax and includes a dining and beverage package

For tickets contact reception 07 3221 5699 or online www.queenslandirish.com



Monday
17
8.30am

St Patrick's Day Celebrations

Irish Food, Bands, Guinness & more!!

For information on entertainment please see website for details



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*She was lovely and fair as the rose of the summer,
Yet 'twas not her beauty alone that won me;
Oh no, 'twas the truth in her eyes ever dawning,
That made me love Mary, the Rose of Tralee.*



Every August, young women from around the world join together to celebrate the strong global connection of the Irish. The Rose of Tralee International Festival is one of Ireland's largest and longest running festivals, celebrating 50 years in 2009. The heart of the festival is the selection of the International Rose of Tralee.

For the past 26 years Queensland has been a proud participant of the Rose of Tralee. In 2006 Kathryn Feeney was the first Queensland Rose to be crowned the International Rose and again in 2011 Tara Talbot brought pride to Queensland by being named the International Rose.

The Queensland Rose Committee holds the selection in May. The young woman selected on the night will travel to the festival in Co. Kerry, along with over 30 other Roses from around the world, for the most amazing week of her life. The Queensland Rose of Tralee competition is a wonderful opportunity for young women between 18-28 to represent their home country in Ireland and Ireland in their home country.

So if you want to join us celebrate the selection of the new QLD Rose please come along to the Ball. Get a table together, it's a great night!

For more information on becoming a Queensland Rose Entrant contact Roberta Andrew at qldroseoftralee@gmail.com or call 0421 521 504.



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GAELIC GAMES



HISTORY

- 1879: A program for the Warwick, Darling Downs, St Patrick's Day celebrations included a hurling match for a prize of 200 shillings.
- 1886: Brisbane Hurling Club formed in the colony, with Armagh-born Colonial Governor Sir Arthur Palmer as patron.
- 1887: St Patrick's Day hurling match held between Brisbane Hurling Club and a battery of the permanent defence forces, where 21 of the 45 artillery members were Irish. Around this time, another hurling club was formed at Kangaroo Point.
- 1916: Formation of Australian Irish National Association sees senior and junior hurling teams formed. Play ceased during later years of the First World War but continued after.
- 1960s: Young men on working visas begin a casual Gaelic football kickaround.
- 1973: Queensland state branch of GAA formed.
- 1975: State branch affiliated with national body. First team sent to Australian Games in Perth.
- 1977: First Australian Championships held in Brisbane.
- 1982: Land secured at Willawong for home of Gaelic Games in Brisbane. Australasian Championship held in Brisbane.
- 1983: Four teams formed – Norths, Souths, Easts and Wests.
- 1984: Inaugural senior mens league and championship.
- 1986: Sarsfields join competition.
- 1987: John Mitchels team formed.
- 1990: First-ever visit of a Gaelic team when the Irish Army team visited Brisbane. Clubhouse officially opened. Australasian Games held in Queensland.
- 1992: President Mary Robinson visits.
- 1997: Women's competition began.
- 1998: Australasian Games.
- 2005: Jacqueline Peacock, a Queensland player, appointed overall club coach, making her the world's first female coach of a senior men's Gaelic football team. Brisbane hosts Australasian Games.
- 2010: Hurling competition began.
- 2011: Floods devastate Gaelic Park, community rallies to help out. Camogie competition began. Australasian Games held in Brisbane.



Harps after winning the Queensland Senior Gaelic Football Championship Final in August 2013. Pic: Sinéad Fahey



William Irwin playing hurling for Na Fianna.



Children learning Gaelic Football in Go Games at Gaelic Park. Pic: IQ

QUEENSLAND GAELIC FOOTBALL AND HURLING ASSOCIATION

The Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association (QGFHA) delivers Gaelic football, hurling and camogie competitions to more than 20 teams in Brisbane, represented from six clubs.

All games are played at Gaelic Park, Bowhill Road Willawong. Four competitions are contested over the course of the year – Summer Competition (Feb-Mar), Carpenter Cup (late Mar-May), Queensland League (Jun-Aug) and Championship Finals (Aug-Sep).

Gaelic football in Queensland began in the late 1960s and in 1975, the state body was formed. In 1982, the Association secured the Gaelic Park grounds and the following year, clubs were formed leading to the commencement of a formalised competition. The women's competition then began in 1997 and in more recent years, both hurling (2010) and camogie (2011) competitions have emerged.

2013 saw the introduction of Go Games, Gaelic football for children under the age of 12.

New players and supporters are always welcome! So, come along and join the Gaelic games community! For further information, please visit www.gaelicfootballqld.com.au or contact Seamus on (07) 5497 0694.



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BRISBANE IRISH FESTIVAL

7-17 March 2014

All Ball Proceeds to

The Irish Australian Support Association (IASAQ) Benevolent Fund

Brisbane Irish Festival Ball

Friday 7th March 2014

**The Irish Club, 175 Elizabeth Street Brisbane
6.30pm until late**

Tickets \$95.00 pp

\$900 Table of 10

To purchase tickets contact Rita

Mobile: 0432 087 328 Email: info@iasaq.com.au

Ticket Includes 3 Course Dinner and
Entertainment with *The Darren J Ray Quartet*
Dress: Formal/Lounge Suit



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SPECIAL THANKS

Go raibh maith agaibh - Thank you

The St Patrick's Day Parade Committee would like to thank all those involved for all the support and help provided. Especially, our generous sponsors, volunteers and participants of St Patrick's Day Parade and Brisbane Irish Festival for 2014.

BRISBANE IRISH FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Sorcha Holmes – Event Manager
Chris Begley – President- QIA
Pauline Donegan – Vice President - QIA
Morgan Price – The Irish Club
Seamus Sullivan – Queensland Gaelic Football & Hurling Association
Des Ryan – The Irish Australian Support Association of Qld

Suzanne O'Shea
Margaret Stacey – Tigh Gaelach Gourmet Club
Janet Dawson – Tigh Gaelach Gourmet Club
Anna McKinlay
Pat Fitzpatrick
Dermott Fearon
Mary Allen – Irish Queenslander

PAINT THE TOWN BLACK

THIS ST. PATRICK'S UNOFFICIAL LONG WEEKEND

🍀 14-17th MARCH 2014



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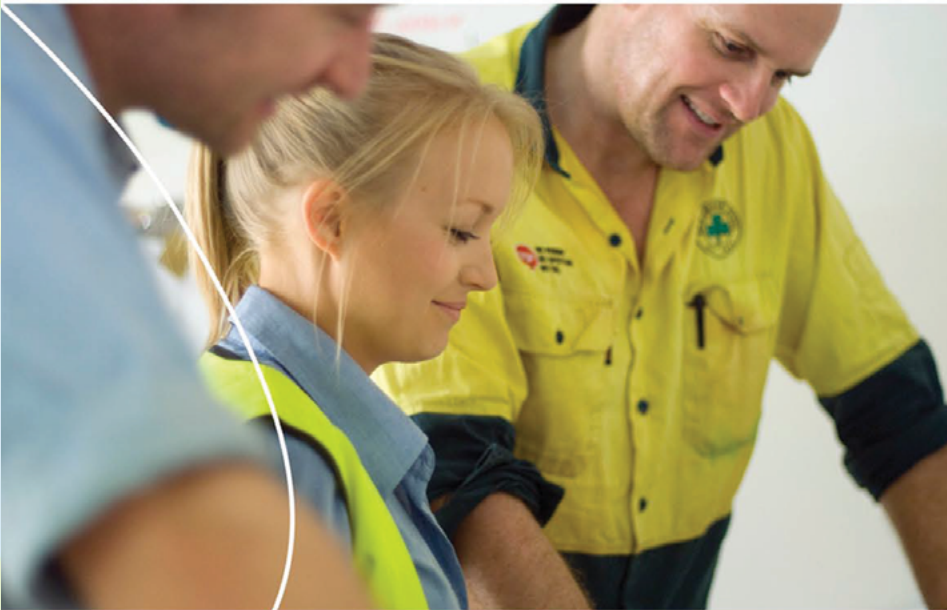
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Amach



Brisbane Hurling and Camogie Club Annual Social - Rydges Hotel, South Bank, Brisbane

Pictures: Supplied



Sharon McHugo, Jannette Newell, Clara Flynn and Amy Lynch.



Donna Moore, Shane Kehoe, Therese Kennedy and Jerry Davitt.



Darren Broderick and Rachel Burns.



Róisín Brouder and Melissa McInerney.



Above, Micheal Fogarty, Michael Webb, William O'Shea and Graham Webb and, left, David O'Keeffe and Ruth Dollard, and, below, Paucic Duffy and Robbie Caraher.



Patrick Marnane and Kate McKenna.



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Kevin left legacy on music scene

IN October 2004, a lady walked through a children's cancer ward in a London hospital and was stunned by what she saw.

In a bed was a young boy, surrounded by purple ribbons, purple balloons and a purple guitar. Purple was everywhere around his bed. She made some enquiries and learned that the 16-year-old boy was a huge Deep Purple fan, and she was blown away. She thought, like many, Deep Purple were regarded as the world's number one rock band in the 70s and now, in 2004, here was a teenage boy who was so inspired by the band.

This lady knew someone with connections to Deep Purple and she made some enquiries. She was determined to do more for this child (and she did).

A couple of weeks later, members of that legendary band walked into Kevin's ward, Kevin did not know anything what was going on. Kevin's mum, stepdad and older brother Chris were there to witness the big surprise.

Kevin was pretty low that day, with tubes and all kinds of medical equipment fixed to his pale body. He opened his eyes, then closed them, and opened and closed them again. He thought he was dreaming. Then he opened his eyes again, and saw one of his dying wishes come true. Yes, it was happening, he wasn't dreaming, this was really happening. Members of Deep



Kevin, above left, loved music, like his dad, Brisbane musician Ger Fennelly, bottom centre. Scenes from Sunflower Jam at The Royal Albert Hall in London, top and bottom right, where top musicians, including Brian May of Queen and Alice Cooper, take part in a concert to raise money for therapy in memory of Kevin.

Purple (with drummer Ian Paice's wife Jacky) were at his bedside in real life. His pale face lit up when he saw his heroes within reaching distance.

Another of Kevin's dying wishes was to travel to Brisbane Australia to be with his dad (musician Ger Fennelly), his stepmum Sharon and his sister Katie, then aged three. He was also granted that wish.

As Deep Purple and Jackie left the ward that day, Kevin said: "Listen to this lads," and he played for them, on his purple



guitar, Smoke On The Water.

The members of Deep Purple and Jacky Paice made a vow that day, that they would not leave it at that, and after hearing of Kevin's passing a few weeks later, they got to work on creating a legacy.

The Royal Albert Hall, London was the venue and since 2005, each September, The Sunflower Jam (www.thesunflowerjam.com) has gotten bigger and bigger. Now, musicians such as Alice Cooper, Brian May, Ian Paice, Bruce Dickinson, John Paul Young, Mark King, Kerry Ellis,

Steve Balasmo, Uni Jon Roth, Micky Moody, Sand Thorn, Brian Auger and Alfie Boe have come on board to remember Kevin and raise funds for patients with cancer and other ailments.

Kevin left a huge legacy that lives on, raising thousands of pounds every year, thanks to Deep Purple and others.

Ger Fennelly would like to thank all of his fans for their sincere kindness up to and after Kevin's passing nine years ago. And a special thanks to Dr Tom and Mrs Jan Dooley.

Hospital visit inspired Jacky to set up Sunflower Jam

The following is an extract from Sunflower Jam's website:

THE Sunflower Jam is the brainchild of Jacky Paice, wife of Deep Purple drummer Ian Paice.

Founded in 2006, Jacky was inspired to help those fighting cancer and other diseases after meeting a 16 year old boy named Kevin.

Kevin had Leukaemia and a friend of Jacky's who headed the complimentary therapy care team at the University College London called her and asked for a favour. Kevin needed a boost to pull him through and, as a Deep Purple fan, he asked Jacky if she would get Ian to sign something and send it to him. Not only did she organise that, but Jacky also called her brother-in-law Jon Lord (*also of Deep Purple*) and asked them both to deliver

the signed merchandise. "When we opened the door to his room, there were Deep Purple posters on the walls and amongst the medical equipment Kevin was laid next to his guitar in bed. The first impression we all got from this boy was how pale he was and I'll never forget how his cheeks flushed and his eyes lit up with joy when he saw Jon and Ian," says Jacky.

Unfortunately, Kevin passed away two weeks after Jacky, Ian and Jon visited him in hospital but Jacky's memory of that boy and the positive effect that their visit had on him never left her. After seeing all the good work that the complimentary care team were doing on the oncology ward, Jacky knew she wanted to raise money to help support the amazing work they were already doing.

She has never been able to delete Kevin's number from her phone.



Sunflower Jam was set up by Jacky Paice, seen here with her husband Ian Paice of Deep Purple.

Since then, Jacky has organised high-profile, classic rock events which, after outgrowing their original venue, have now moved to the Royal Albert Hall and other iconic London venues.

Fun of the Faire comes to Gold Coast

GOLD Coasters can eat, drink and be merry at Australia's first ever Renaissance Faire at Broadbeach in May.

The Gold Coast Renaissance Faire is a living historical theme park of theatre, music, games and crafts, a new event concept for Australia that has thrived for more than 50 years in the US.

The Faire will present a bustling fantasy environment inspired by the Renaissance, a period of European cultural enlightenment spanning the 14th to 17th centuries. It is a living theatre that invites the visitors to join the performers in the fun and pageantry. Strolling performers will mingle with the visitors, addressing them in the manner of the Renaissance period, personalizing the visitors' experience of the Faire.

There is something for all ages at this colourful, exciting, romantic and interactive event. For a modest entry fee, visitors can enjoy a full day of lively entertainment:

- Theatre and music of the era;



- Irish and Scottish performers and musicians;
- Roving entertainers in period costume;
- Sword fights and games of skill;
- Artisans producing and selling handicrafts of the era;
- Parades of costumed kings and queens;
- Daily archery competitions, with prizes awarded by the Queen.

Costumed processions will parade through the Faire grounds three times a day, inviting visitors

to join in with song and cheers.

Themed booths will display fine handicrafts of the period such as pottery, jewellery, leather purses and belts, wooden toys, pewter goblets, crystal wands and masks.

For children, a trip to the Faire is like stepping into a fairytale picture book. A special children's grove will delight kids with magic and puppet shows and games. Most importantly, the Faire will place children in a non-electronic, non-amplified creative environment which stimulates the imagination while simultaneously providing education about the period.

Food booths will offer a variety of traditional fare, including meat pies, Cornish pasties, chocolates, trifles, hearty ales, cider, mead and fine wine.

Eye-popping period costuming abounds – everything from musketeers and craftsmen to tavern wenches and nobility, including kings and queens.

Visitors are invited to join the pageantry and merriment, and

come in costume if they wish.

The event director, David Russell, a long time Gold Coast resident, has staged Faires in the US. He is sure the time is right for Australians to experience this phenomenon.

"The event serves as a virtual 'time machine' to the era of Shakespeare, Queen Elizabeth I, and The Three Musketeers," he says.

Interested craftspeople are welcome to join the Faire. Application forms are available on the event website: www.goldcoastrenfaire.com

The Gold Coast Renaissance Faire will be held at Pratten Park in Broadbeach on Saturday and Sunday, 3-4 May from 9.30am to 5pm.

For more information, visit www.goldcoastrenfaire.com

General admission costs \$11.50 at the gate or \$9.50 advance purchase; Children \$8 at the gate or \$7 advance purchase; Family pass (admits four): \$30 at the gate or \$25 advance purchase.

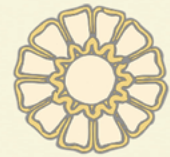


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3-4 May 2014

Pratten Park, Broadbeach



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<http://snap.vu/jq1e>

Tickets and Information:
www.goldcoastrenfaire.com

Two Irish plays take to the stage

BRISBANE Powerhouse's WTF festival features two Irish plays.

Pan Pan's All That Fall brings Samuel Beckett's radio play out of the home and into the theatre for a hosted storytelling event with an installation of 60 rocking chairs, surround sound and hundreds of ambient lights.

All That Fall is an international smash hit and arrives in Brisbane fresh from winning multiple 2012 Irish Times Theatre Awards. The play comes to life with 450 lights, 60 rocking chairs and a sound recording from Tuesday, 11 to Sunday, 16 February.

Solpadeine Is My Boyfriend is about a new Irish generation. They were promised everything; a life of financial stability and job security, but they now find themselves queuing either at the airport to emigrate or the social welfare office. Told completely in rhyme, Solpadeine is My Boyfriend invites you to follow consummate story-teller Stefanie Preissner on a clever, dark and funny journey through tumultuous relationships, painkiller



Win tickets

IRISH Queenslander has double passes for All That Fall on Thursday, 13 February at 4.30pm, and Solpadeine Is My Boyfriend on Thursday, 13 February at 9pm. For your chance to win, send an email to editor@irishqueenslander.com marked Powerhouse and finish this sentence: Samuel Beckett wrote Waiting For? Get your entries in by Tuesday, February 11 and tell us which show you'd like to see.

addictions and the unending parade of her compatriots leaving Ireland for greener pastures.

Hit of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Solpadeine is My Boy-

friend is on at WTF 2014 from Wednesday, 12 to Sunday, 16 February.

For information on tickets, go to www.brisbanepowerhouse.org

St Patrick meets Robbie Burns in Celtic Celebration

QUEENSLAND Pops Orchestra is hosting its boldest Celtic Celebration ever in 2014.

Celtic soprano Kathleen Procter-Moore will headline an amazing Celtic program, as the Pops launches its 30th Anniversary Subscription Series.

Also on the program is one of the great Irish bands of our day, Queensland based Murphy's Pigs. Their traditional music features well-known Irish melodies played on authentic Celtic instruments.

Queensland Police Pipes and Drums will bring an amazing repertoire of well known and excitingly new Scottish music.

The Watkins Academy of Irish Dance and Thistle Highland Dance Studio will set the stage on fire with the swirl of their kilts and their high leaping kicks.

The show is on at QPAC on February 8, Caloundra on February 22 and Gold Coast on March 1.

For further details, go to www.qldpops.com

Opening hours:
Mon - Tue: 15:00 - 23:00
Wed - Thu: 12:00 - 23:00
Fri - Sun: 12:00 - 00:00



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Amach



The Wolfe Tones and Duke Special with fans at The Tivoli

Pictures: Jeff Ram Photographer



The Wolfe Tones with Irish Queenslander meet and greet competition winners Mick McCarthy, second from left, and Lisa McCarthy, fourth from left, and Irish Queenslander editor Mary Allen, right.



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Amach



Gold Coast Gaels launch, Southport Sharks Club, Southport

Pictures: Irish Queenslander



Visiting for the occasion from Melbourne and Sydney were Hazel Travers from Dublin, Nikki Carew from Dublin, Darragh Burke from Leitrim, Sinead O'Shea from Dublin, Nicola Brennan from Dublin and Alan Flynn from Dublin.



Suzanne Ma and Yvonne O'Halloran.



Danny Simpson, originally from Belfast, Jimmy Moran, originally from Mayo and Mary Moran, originally from Wexford, with Scotty from Kaitaia and Seamus Sullivan, president, Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association.



Mark Larkin, originally from Navan, and Graham Carroll, originally from Leixlip.



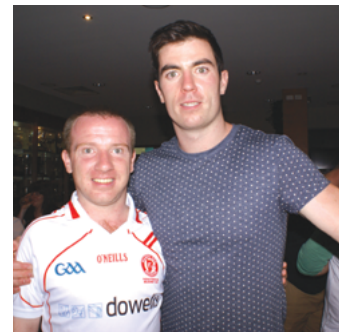
Una Ward from Dublin and Jennifer McGill from Italy, who now lives in Dublin.



Eileen and Brian Harrington with Orlagh McHugh 1



Marie and Hughie Carberry with Robert Cronin



Mark McAleer with Michael Darragh Mccaulay.



Members of Easts Celts, Conor Carroll from Offaly, Cathal Bourke from Laois, Daniel Poyser from Brisbane, Greg McGill from Meath, Darran Whelan from Laois, Eamon Bowe from Meath and Rory Bowe from Meath



Finn O'Donnell from Letterkenny and the Gold Coast

To view more photos from this event or buy print copies, go to www.photoboxgallery.com/IrishQueenslander

You can take the boy out of Dublin

DAMIEN Dempsey returns to Australia in March for a national tour and festival appearances.

It's all to celebrate the launch of his album *It's All Good - The Best of Damien Dempsey*. It's a celebration of his career to date which encompasses six top 10 studio albums over 15 years.

Growing up in Donaghmede, on the northside of Dublin, Damien trained and competed for Dublin as an amateur boxer before committing himself to studying music. After leaving school, he studied musical performance and management at Ballyfermot College of Further Education - the "Rock School" - graduating in 1995. Afterwards, unemployed and on the dole for several years, he was a regular visitor to the library in Donaghmede where he read about Irish history and developed a lasting appreciation for the "seanchai" - the Irish storyteller.

Damien's voice is pure Dublin, yet also distinctive. His music is a bit reggae, a bit trad Irish, a bit rock, a bit folk, mixed with grounded, working-class lyrics. It's a style all his own.

Irish Queenslander caught up with Damien.

What was it like growing up in Donaghmede?

"Bruising and character building, and great for inspiration if you're the type of writer I am."

Did you have to choose between a career in boxing or music?

"Boxing was a hobby, music was oxygen, and only the gifted warrior like monk-minded few can make a career out of boxing."



Win tickets to see this event, go to www.facebook.com/IrishQueenslander

Damien Dempsey in his native Dublin. He is returning to Australia for a nationwide tour in March.

You were greatly influenced by Bob Marley, what's your favourite of his songs?
"Could You Be Loved?"

You have an appreciation for the seanchai. Do you feel this influenced your music?

"It would have defo, when you look at my story songs like *Factories*, *Spraypaint Backalley*, *Serious*, *Chris and Stevie* and *Canadian Geese* and *Sing All Our Cares Away*, to try to paint vivid moving pictures in the mind of your listener is the seanchai's goal and joy."

You have supported Bob Dylan, Sinead O'Connor and Morrissey. Any memorable moments from those gigs?

"Singing ballads with Sinead and band and crew till dawn every morning after the shows,

we'd take over a hotel bar or pub corner and they'd always seem to keep serving us into the small hours once we started to sing. I'd usually hound the night porter or the barman to sing a song, they were all usually fine singers, and you'd know it'd be a night he'd never forget and he'd be telling that story for years. Really nice buzz."

What's your take on modern Ireland in 2014? In 2006, you said Padraig Pearse would be turning in his grave.

"There's always gonna be wealthy greedy fat cats with their hands in the cookie jar, making it hard for the ordinary people. They're around millennia, they haunt, never gone away, you know. We just need to look out for each other and have a strong community. I find teaching children their

true Irish history is a good start, they're more likely to get out and protest and strike then as well."

Tell us an interesting fact about yourself.

"I can't watch horror movies, when I do watch them, I actually see the characters from them late at night around my house. Vivid imagination though!"

What do you have planned for the Australian tour?

"Soul, singing, stories, passion, participation, positivity, and hopefully a lot of people on cloud nine afterwards."

Damien Dempsey plays Port Fairy Folk Festival in Victoria, which runs from March 7 to 10, and at Mick O'Malley's in Brisbane on Thursday, March 13. More dates to be announced.

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Go dancing with the stars

DANCERS in Queensland now have the chance to meet a star of TV's *Dancing Down Under*, Brent Pace, at Éire Dance School.

Brent is a former Rhythms of Ireland Lead Soloist, World Medalist and six time champion and his girlfriend, a teacher at Éire Dance School, is Australian Champion Soloist, Caitlin Ehrich.

The two toured in Queensland last year with their show, *A Taste of Ireland*. Irish Queenslanders caught up with the couple.

Tell us about how you got started in Irish dancing?

Caitlin: "My whole family are Irish dancers. My grandfather is from Cork and he came out here

and all of his daughters danced, including my mum. I didn't really have a choice, so I started dancing when I was four in Brisbane."

Brent: "I wanted to play football! Then my mum, an Irish dancing teacher in Melbourne, took me to the world championships, and I saw an Australian guy win the senior mens' competition. He got to shake Michael Flatley's hand. Then and there, I decided that dancing was what I wanted to do. I made my mum leave the competition and go and buy me a pair of Irish dancing shoes."

When did you realize it was going to be your career?

Brent: "I was in Year 9 at school,



Caitlin Ehrich and Brent Pace in *A Taste of Ireland*.

and I remember one of my older friends was going on tour with *Lord of the Dance*, and being a 15-year-old, school was not the place I wanted to be every day. I pretty much decided then and there that when I left school, I was going to go on tour and become a professional dancer."

For you, what's been the highlight of your career so far?

Caitlin: "Travelling the world, doing what I love."

Brent: "Probably the launch of my own show, *A Taste of Ireland* in Australia. It was such an amazing feeling to see before your own eyes, something which you have created from scratch unfold into a touring production."

*What was it like to be featured on TV show *Dancing Down Under*?*

Brent: "It was overwhelming to begin with, having the cameras there 24/7, following me around. However, then watching myself on TV was actually really emotional. It filmed a very difficult but amazing time in my life."

You recently joined forces with Chase Academy of Irish Dance Queensland to become Eire Dance Australia. Where are classes held?
"It's fantastic because now that the Rabusin school from Melbourne and Chase Academy have joined up and we have classes

from Noosa right through to Tweed Heads and everywhere in between. People can contact us on info@irishdanceaustralia.com.au or give us a call for a chat on 0449 896 085."

What is the best age to get started?

"Well we take dancers at any age, however, usually beginners are between ages four to 10. Between four to eight is the best age for dancers to get started as their minds absorb anything you show them."

Does your mother teach classes in Queensland?

"Yes, my mum regularly teaches in both Queensland and Melbourne. As does Charmaine Chase and all of our other teachers. It's great because each teacher has their own strength and the dancers develop off each of the teachers and learn new things from everyone."

*When can people get another chance to see *Taste of Ireland*?*

"I always wanted my own Irish dance show, and when I met Caitlin, we had the same goal. Originally it was just supposed to be a very basic show, but it developed into a major Irish dancing production which we have toured along the whole east coast. We will take the show to exciting places in the next two years."

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Ireland's favourite son returns

SINGER Daniel O'Donnell has been through an emotional rollercoaster last year. His wife Majella was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent chemotherapy in Ireland while he was away on tour in the US. And in October, Majella's father Tom died after a fall. Daniel cancelled a tour of the UK on news of Tom's hospitalisation.

He rested up over Christmas and is now back on tour in New Zealand and Australia.

Irish Queenslander caught up with the much-loved country singer.

First of all, how is Majella doing healthwise?

"Majella is doing really well. She finished her chemotherapy treatment before Christmas. On February 14th, she will have a double mastectomy. We are hoping that after that, she will get through this without any complications. We then look forward to many years of good health together. Please God."

Are you looking forward to returning to Australia?

"Yes, I'm looking forward to coming back to Australia. We always get a great welcome from everyone."

What do you have in store for audiences here?

"I always try to include songs that we've recorded from the early days right to the present. Although we have a show planned, it's not written in stone and nearly always changes a bit from night to night."

Tell us about your new album, A Picture of You.

"For a number of years we have recorded albums that have had a particular theme. Last year, it was songs from the movies. We've had an Irish album, a country album and a gospel album in previous years. However, when I first started recording I just recorded a selection of songs with no theme and that's we've done on the latest CD, A Picture Of You. I just put together a collection of songs that I love. Some old ones that I've been meaning to record for some time, like Walk Tall, Penny



Win Daniel's new CD, A Picture Of You



DANIEL O'DONNELL, who returns to Australia for his 13th tour in March, has released *A Picture Of You*, which is a newly recorded album. Daniel has sold over 10 million units worldwide and has made history by becoming the only artist to have had a new album in the UK charts for 25 consecutive years. He has performed in venues from London's Albert Hall to Sydney Opera House. He has received many awards including an honorary MBE for services to the music industry, Entertainer of the Year in Ireland, British Country Music Awards, and many many Gold and Platinum album and DVD Awards. He has sold over 500,000 albums in Australia. For tour dates, see www.abpresents.com.au Irish Queenslander has five copies of *A Picture Of You* to give away. To enter, simply tell us the name of Daniel's famous singing sister. Answers by email to editor@irishqueenslander.com or IQ, PO Box 441, Coorparoo, Qld 4151, before March 31, 2014.

Arcade, Love Letters In The Sand, and some new ones like God's Plan and Mr Moon. I hope people will enjoy the CD."

You made chart history by becoming the only artist to have had a new album in the UK charts for 25 consecutive years. Am I right in thinking you've just made that 26?
"Yes, that's correct. The CD did get in the UK charts, making it 26 years in a row that I've had an album in the charts at some point each year during this period. I'm very lucky to have such a loyal fanbase that has supported my career all through the years."

You've received many awards over the years, what have been the highlights for you?

"I've been very fortunate to receive many awards. They are all special but if I were to pick one above all the others, it would have to be receiving The Donegal

Person Of The Year Award back in 1989. This award is given each year to someone from Donegal who has in some way excelled in their career."

You're known for being close to your fans and having tea parties for them at your mum's house. Do you still hold the tea parties?
"No, I'm sorry to say we don't hold the open days anymore. Although they were great fun. They just got too big and it became impossible to accommodate all the people who came."

Has your audience changed over the years, with the movements of Irish around the world?

"Our audience has certainly grown over the years, thankfully. Although a lot of the people who come to the shows are Irish or have Irish connections. We find that if we're in Australia, the majority of the audience are

Australian, in Canada, it's Canadians, in New Zealand, it's New Zealanders. Having said that, when people emigrate, I do think they like to get to see shows that are touring from home."

What is your favourite place in Donegal?

"The whole county is beautiful but for me it's Kincasslagh."

You've had a busy tour schedule recently. Will you get to see much of Australia while you are here?

"This will be my 15th trip to Australia. Over the years, I've got to see some of the sights. I always come a week or so before we start the tour. It gives me a while to get over the jet lag but also to enjoy the country."

Daniel O'Donnell plays Brisbane Convention Centre on March 8 and Gold Coast Arts Centre on March 9 and 10.

Playing by their own rules

IF you've seen Tullamore Tree live, you'll remember. With a style all their own, these rebels with a musical cause are an experience.

Much-loved by Queensland audiences, Tullamore Tree formed in 1996.

The mainstay of their act is their own rendition of popular Irish and Scottish folk songs.

The Tullamore Tree line up is Scruffy (vocals), Jock (guitar, mandolin and vocals) and Serg (guitar, bass and drums). They have a combined experience of over 60 years playing music and also have an abundance of popular blues, pop and rock songs in their repertoire.

And it's a popular combination. The band was honoured to be chosen to provide the pre-match entertainment at Suncorp stadium for 32,000 football supporters attending a Brisbane Roar v Glasgow Celtic match in 2009. And they supported world famous Irish folk act The Wolfe Tones in Brisbane in 2011.

Another career highlight has been a very popular appearance at the Ipswich International Tattoos in 2009 and 2010.

Tullamore Tree's aim is to delight their audiences with their music and humour but be warned, there is some light adult content and they may not appeal to those who are easily offended.

Irish Queenslander's Mary Allen, who is not easily offended, caught up with Jock.

Why did you pick the name Tullamore Tree?

"The band live in hope that the one day the makers of that great Irish whiskey Tullamore Dew, distilled in the small town of Tullamore in County Offaly since 1829, will sponsor the 'Tree' out of pity. To date, we have only received three Tullamore Dew baseball caps and the odd triple hangover. 'Tree' is an Irish/English colloquial term for 'three' and seemed an appropriate suffix to use for a trio. Many people commented that it was more Irish when there were four members in Tullamore Tree's line up."

What are your backgrounds?

"The Tree members consist of



You can catch Tullamore Tree at the Grand View Hotel Cleveland's St Patrick's Family Day on March 16.

Band are regulars at historic hotel

TULLAMORE Tree play regular gigs at Queensland's oldest licenced hotel, The Grand View in Cleveland. The hotel was built in 1851 by Francis Bigge, originally from England. Unfortunately, it was so spectacularly unsuccessful that it became known as Bigge's Folly, although he had chosen to name it Cleveland House. It was closed until 1855, when it was leased to John Cassim, who operated it as Cassim's Family Hotel and Boarding House through to 1860. Cassim moved on, and in 1862 the property was acquired by William Rae who renamed it the Brighton Hotel. It became popular among prosperous settlers as a seaside resort. In 1878, the hotel was bought by Andrew and Mary Goodall. In 1889, a rail link was opened between Woolloongabba and Cleveland, and the hotel was remodelled to take on its present look. Its name was changed to the Grand View Hotel in 1910.



Serg, originally from Moree in New South Wales, Scruffy from Glasgow, Scotland and Jock from Edinburgh, Scotland."

How did you get started in music?

"We've all been involved in music, mainly blues, pop and rock for longer than we would care to admit. We followed an idea, jokingly to add in some Irish and Scottish folk music and the Tullamore Tree was born."

What are your favourite songs?

"Steve Earle's Galway Girl, The Furey's Dublin and Slim Dusty's Lights on the Hill."

Do you write your own music?

"Tullamore Tree has penned and rehearsed a few original compo-

sitions but these have failed to get legal clearance for any public performances."

What makes Tullamore Tree stand out from other Celtic bands?

"The Tullamore Tree experience is unique. No performance is ever the same, due to the spontaneous interaction with the audience and the odd bum note, missed vocal line or Jock's unexplained absence. There can be strong language and adult themes. Tullamore Tree are very much challenged in the art of being politically correct."

What was your most memorable gig?

"It's hard to single out just one. Our first ever gig at Joe Healy's

50th birthday party at Dicey Reilly's Irish Pub in Cleveland was very special. We knew at that point we could not get any worse so we knew our next gig would be much better. Three highlights come to mind: Supporting The Wolfe Tones at the Tivoli, performing the pre-match entertainment on the park at Suncorp Stadium for the Glasgow Celtic, Brisbane Roar football friendly match and Scruffy's solo rendition of the Fields of Athenry on the field of Celtic Park in Glasgow, Scotland."

Do you have CDs available to buy?
"Yes, there are three CDs. In The Mud, Last One In The Bed and LSD - A Trip With The Tree."

Where can people see you playing regularly?

"Tullamore Tree were regulars at Boggo Road Jail till the new management took over. We perform at the Grand View Hotel in Cleveland in the afternoon of the last Sunday of the month and at Mick O'Malley's in Brisbane in the afternoon of the first Saturday of the month."

If you would like to contact Tullamore Tree, email hipaddie@bigpond.net.au You can catch them live at the Grand View Cleveland's St Patrick's Family Fun Day on March 16.

IRISH PROFESSIONALS IN BRISBANE CHRISTMAS MEET-UP AT QUEENSLAND IRISH CLUB



Evelyn O'Leary, Melissa Pender and Vikki Sultana. Pictures: Rory Corbett, IQ



Darren Sargent and Tracy Quinn.



Tony Slavin and Anne Marie Halton.



Patrick Maher and Mark Clarkson.



Brian Keane and Evelyn O'Leary.



Amy Ryan and Angus Warmbath.



Garry Cobain and Paula Cobain.



Yuliya Shabalina and Eamonn O'Sullivan.

To view more photos from this event or buy print copies, go to www.photoboxgallery.com/IrishQueenslander



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Finbar's brings craic to the hinterland

SOME might say that traditional pubs are a dying breed but in Maleny, in the heart of the Sunshine Coast's hinterland, Finbar's Irish Bar accomplishes a few of the traditional Irish staples: good Guinness, great hospitality, grand music and, of course, they have the best craic in town!

Walk into most bars these days and you will find no seats at the bar due to commercialisation pushing for optimization of service areas, staff that most likely don't know your name, and consequently a bar that doesn't know your unique drinking preferences. However, walk into Finbar's Irish Bar and the staff will get to know your name, your favourite drink, as well as offer you a seat at the bar, which encourages good banter and yes, good craic! Old traditions die hard at this pub, with many simple country pleasures still alive and well; money left on tables, a tipped glass to signal a patron finishing their session and quality, locally-sourced music and produce.

The Sunday Irish music session is one Irish tradition that will not die out anytime soon at Finbar's. A tradition that was established years ago is at the heart of this small Irish bar, with volunteers, both local and non-local alike faithfully sharing their talents for Irish music on traditional instruments to a receptive community. With strong connections to the Celtic Music Winter Festival, Finbar's is at the heart of the Irish music scene in the hinterland.

Grand music is not the only draw card for this unique little pub - Guinness, woodfire pizza, and homely hospitality are what keep people travelling back week after week for that perfect pint and pizza.

There are many debates over what makes a perfectly poured pint but for a tiny bar that boasts some of the largest pouring figures on the Sunshine Coast, the proof is in the joy of the pour and possibly the good company that



accompanies a perfect pint. Over many a pint of Guinness have patrons bantered the reasons behind these rave reviews; is it because Guinness travels such a short distance through its lines here, or because the staff are experienced, or glasses are meticulously kept, or is it just because the craic here makes the Guinness taste better? The verdict is still out on this one so it's recommended that you weigh in on the debate and come and try a pint for yourself and add to the banter.

Irish bars are world-renowned for providing homely hospitality and this is not lost for those who dine in at Finbar's. To accompany a great pint, Finbar's offers

woodfire pizzas that are made from fresh, local produce which Maleny is widely known for. Although the owners might tell you that lighting a fire each morning to keep the bricks hot throughout the nights service is a sacrifice, it is one that is made to produce that authentic wood-fired flavour for which Finbar's is fast growing a reputation.

Friendly staff and often custom-made orders for its patrons, such as vegetarian and gluten-free options, are again what makes the difference for the bar's regular and return patrons. It is a home away from home not only for the family that own and operate the bar but also for many locals and

visitors (who normally become 'locals', so much so that they have local Brisbane patrons etc) who travel great distances for the homely hospitality and craic.

So for a bar that has a lot of craic, what is on offer for St Patrick's Day? It will be a three-day celebration at Finbar's and worth booking a night in the hinterland for. They'll have Buckley's Chance playing, Irish dancers performing, pizzas firing and pints pouring for three days straight.

Check them out on Facebook, www.facebook.com/Finbars-Maleny, to see a full list of what is happening and the Sunday Irish sessions are a bucket-list must.

Thunder Down Under

FOLLOWING their hugely successful US tour, two times number 1 Billboard World Artist Celtic Thunder are bringing their biggest show yet to Australia.

Tickets are on sale now for the May 2014 Australian tour. Celtic Thunder will be playing shows in capital cities and regional centres and say the Mythology show is their "biggest and best show ever".

Celtic Thunder's Colm Keegan says he "can't wait to meet our Aussie fans".

"Some of the places we are playing for the first time, so to say I am excited would be an understatement," he says.

"It's great to finally have the chance to be on stage, in the suits, singing the songs that we love to sing."

The Mythology show features an impressive and imposing stage resembling an ancient stone pathway drawn from Celtic lore, plus the use of dramatic effects via lighting and choreography.

Mythology recounts the history of the Celtic people, their legends, cultures and stories, showcasing the heritage of modern-day Celts and the influences from their Celtic past that make them who they are today.

The show includes a mix of favourites, ranging from traditional Irish fare to international hits as well as original compositions, including Voices written by David Munro and world-renowned composer Brendan Graham (You Raise Me Up).

Last year, Celtic Thunder was Universal Music's top selling artist on DVD.

Mythology debuted at Number 1 on the Billboard World Music Chart and in Australia, the DVD debuted at Number 1 on the



Celtic Thunder are, from left, the only non-Irish man in the group is Scottish self-taught musician George Donaldson, Colm Keegan from Dublin, who was a lead soloist with the Palestrina Choir, musician Ryan Kelly from Tyrone, singer-songwriter Keith Harkin from Derry, Neil Byrne, who played bass guitar in Phil Coulter's backing band, and Dublin-born tenor Paul Byrom.

Win tickets to see Celtic Thunder perform live



MYTHOLOGY album presents the music of the show and was produced by David Munro, musical director and composer.

IRISH Queenslander has an amazing prize to give away to lucky readers - 10 x GOLD TICKETS (5 doubles) to see Celtic Thunder play in Brisbane, as well as five Mythology CDs.

To be in with a chance of winning two tickets plus a CD, just answer the question below:

What is the name of Celtic Thunder's only Scottish member? You can email your answer to editor@irishqueenslander.com making the subject line Celtic Thunder, you can also enter by post to Celtic Thunder Competition, PO Box 441, Coorparoo, Qld 4151.

Entries must be in before March 31.

Winners will be announced online as well as in Irish Queenslander magazine.

ARIA DVD Chart. Mythology remained in the charts for 25 weeks, reaching gold status.

Australia has the largest Celtic Thunder following outside of the US.

Principal vocalist George Donaldson says: "We are always received with a great deal of enthusiasm in Australia.

"It's always great to visit Down

Under and Mythology is the best show that we've ever done," he adds.

By Craig Thomson

Celtic Thunder will play the following dates in Queensland and Northern NSW:

Tuesday, May 13 - Townsville Entertainment Centre;
Saturday, May 17 - Mackay

Convention Centre;
Sunday, May 18 - Rockhampton Pilbeam Theatre;
Tuesday, May 20 - Maryborough Brolga Theatre;
Wednesday, May 31 - Brisbane Entertainment Centre;
Friday, May 23 - Gold Coast Jupiters Casino Theatre;
Saturday, May 24 - Tamworth Regional Entertainment Centre.



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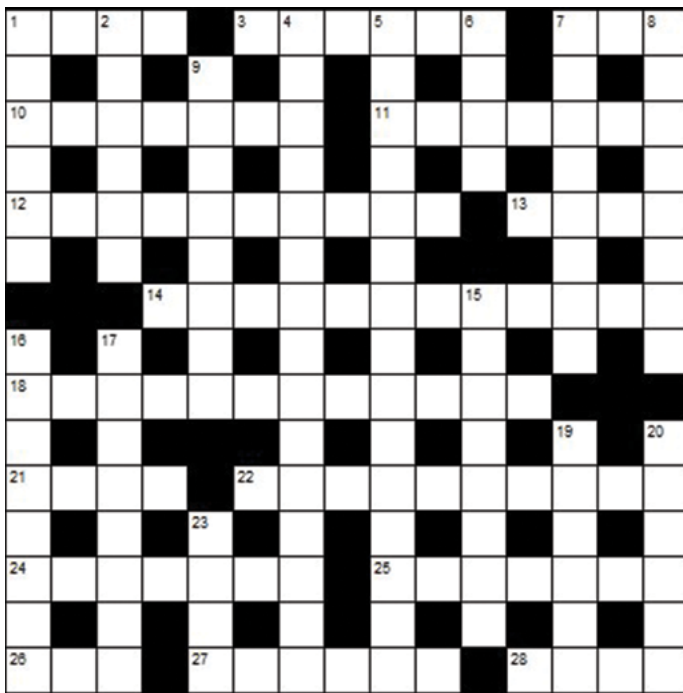
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Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Best bit of meat around King's Lynn? (4)
- 3 Country offering choice of judges, briefly? (6)
- 7 Eggs on violent activist at first (3)
- 10 They tend to badger or horse caught in snare, possibly (7)
- 11 Defend a believer, half cut, before court (7)
- 12 Politician involved in e.g. Afghan uprising is fellow national (10)
- 13 Gorgeous woman from borders of Bulgaria, born and second located in Helsinki (4)
- 14 Awful bad luck old bean, having to drop round daughter - you'll get livid (5-3-4)
- 18 Old clergyman from the east's decisive but too pernickety (12)
- 21 To carry child needs energy (4)
- 22 From now on, splashing her on covers of Finnish (etc)... (10)
- 24 ...press to check out and relish makes people primarily content (7)
- 25 Model first to appear in Roth's Hostel Part Two in 2007 left out? Make the film again! (7)
- 26 Women love women? That's amazing! (3)
- 27 A title for some Kipling stories? I agree (4,2)
- 28 Raunchy socialite's deserted by Yankee (4)

DOWN

- 1 Topless joint in Sin City (6)
- 2 Government's millions mount up, outwardly (6)
- 4 Lack of cooperation disrupts services but not seriously, at the start (15)
- 5 Full-length CD (10,5)
- 6 News for No 10 (4)
- 7 Musical drama's lewd, not suitable for all? That can be put right in the theatre (8)
- 8 Like stag night, chucking guts, tucking into beer and wine (8)
- 9 Maybe copper's description satisfied everyone in charge (8)
- 15 Perhaps Cod War's over after day that's very short (8)
- 16 Leftie recollected "What's up Doc?" with sides splitting (8)
- 17 Laid up with temperature, virus we hear, tried Jumbo for the first time? (4-4)
- 19 Removing clothing worn (Dior?), Axelle's pair seen at last - that's a beautiful bird! (6)
- 20 Gabby's spiteful about husband (6)
- 23 Pilgrimage endured by Jack (4)

Solution on page 31.
Source: www.alberichcrosswords.com

Sudoku

7		6	4					
1	4			8		2		
				3		7		
	7		2			6	8	
9	1		3				4	
4				8	1	3		
2			5					
		4	8	6	7			
6		7	3		1			

Solution on page 30

Top ten...

Unusual St Pat's locations

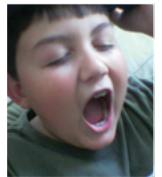
1. **MONSERRAT, CARIBBEAN:** The only nation outside of Ireland to celebrate St Patrick's Day as a national holiday, the island comes alive with a week-long festival. In the 17th Century, Irish Catholic indentured servants were welcomed to the tiny volcanic island at a time when they were shunned in most other English-controlled islands of the Caribbean. The Irish mixed freely with the African slaves brought to work the English sugar plantations, and a unique Afro-Irish culture developed. Other Caribbean islands that celebrate our patron saint are St Croix and Grenada.
2. **DUBAI:** The Dubai Irish Society has been hosting St Patrick's Day Balls since 1975.
3. **CANARY ISLANDS:** Puerto Del Carmen in Lanzarote has a St Patrick's Day Parade.
4. **KOREA:** Seoul holds a one-day festival.
5. **BUENOS AIRES:** A St Patrick's Day parade helps more than 500,000 Irish in Argentina celebrate.
6. **HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK, ARKANSAS:** Actor Steve Belushi will be this year's celebrity grand marshal for the US's shortest St Patrick's Day Parade.
7. **ENTERPRISE, ALABAMA:** The world's smallest St Patrick's Day parade and includes just one person, local Betty Monaghan who is of Irish descent.
8. **INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION:** Last year, we were treated to astronaut Chris Hadfield taking photos of Ireland from Earth orbit, and singing Danny Boy.
9. **RUSSIA:** The first parade was in Moscow in 1992 and it grows every year.
10. **DRIPSEY, CO. CORK:** The shortest parade in the world lasts just 100 yards and travels between the village's two pubs.

A few words special

Irish slang!



banjaxed
not functioning properly



flahed
exhausted, fatigued or sleepy



manky
disgustingly dirty



scoops
a unit of liquid



savage beour
good-looking female



Jackeen
someone from Dublin



shift
to touch with lips pursed



clatter
to deal a blow or strike to



scratcher
furniture upon which to sleep



jacks
a lavatory



osified
intoxicated



craic
mirth or amusement

Crosfhocal

Barr deich

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Seoladh/Address: 140 Main St, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, Queensland

20 Ceisteanna

From Down to Down Under

1. What part of Ireland are you from?

Dromore, Co. Down.

2. When and why did you move here?

March 2007, to make a better life for my family.

3. Best things about living in Queensland?

The weather, atmosphere, a home away from home.

4. Favourite Irish venue here?

The Gabba for the cricket, it's Irish because I go there with my Irish mates!

5. Favourite Irish food/drink?

Ulster fry and Club Orange.

6. Pint or schooner?

Pint.

7. When's the last time you visited Ireland?

Nearly three years ago, went back for Christmas and a relaxing time and spent three weeks running around the place. Couldn't wait to get back here for a rest!

8. What do you miss/like most about Ireland?

Family and the Irish comedy.

9. How do you compare the lifestyle between the two countries?

It's a lot more laid back here and things get done eventually.

10. Do you see yourself ever moving back?

No.

11. Wallabies or Lions?

Wallabies.

12. ACDC or U2?

ACDC.

13. Best holiday you've had since you moved here?

We drove up and camped at Airlie Beach one Christmas. Had a fantastic time. It's amazing that we can drive to these places and it didn't cost us thousands.



About Geoff Stewart

Geoff lives with his wife Noeleen and two children, Jessica, 11, and Ryan, nine, in Cleveland. Geoff is the owner of Surety IT, an IT support company which creates stable IT services and systems for businesses in the South East Queensland area. They specialise in providing support and services to the financial services, legal and engineering sectors but have a number of customers who are in manufacturing, construction and infrastructure. They have successfully completed a number of projects for iconic Queensland businesses including Bundaberg Brewed Drinks, QPAC and St John Ambulance.

14. Your advice to new emigrants? Give it time. I've heard too many stories of people giving it six months then going back only to realise that they have made a mistake.

15. Have you had a scary wildlife encounter?

No, I live in Cleveland, no scary wildlife there apart from the occasional teenager!

16. What car do you drive?

Holden Commodore - when in Aus, drive an Aussie car!

17. Who is your hero?

Steven Gerrard and Robbie Fowler, I am a mad Liverpool supporter for my sins.

18. What's on your Aussie bucket list?

To travel around Australia for a

year in a caravan and to watch a Boxing Day Test match.

19. Favourite Irish saying?

Wind yer neck in!

20. Can you say something in Irish?

Yes - my wife taught me to say póg mo thóin!

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What permanent residency means

MANY people want to become a permanent resident of Australia, but not all of them understand what that actually means. In this article, I look at the implications of being a permanent resident and the rules for Resident Return visas.

Being a permanent resident entitles a person to remain in Australia indefinitely. A permanent residency visa is actually a travel authority that allows you to re-enter Australia after departure – it's normally valid for up to five years.

So if you are in Australia when your permanent residency visa expires, you are still a permanent resident, and entitled to remain. If you never left Australia, you would never need another visa. However, if you are overseas when your visa expires, or you



MIGRATION ADVICE
by Philip Duncan
Registered Migration Agent
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leave Australia after your visa has expired, you will not normally be able to re-enter Australia until you get another visa. If you remain out of Australia for more than five years, your permanent residency may cease.

To be able to travel overseas as a permanent resident after your visa expires, you need to apply for a Resident Return Visa (an RRV). To qualify for a five-year RRV (the longest you can get), you must have been physically in Australia as a permanent resident for at least two years in the five years immediately before applying. The time spent in Australia

is cumulative – it doesn't need to be all in one stretch. You can also continue to build up time after the expiry of your visa as long as you remain in Australia as a permanent resident when this expires.

If you cannot show a full two years of residence, you may be able to apply for an RRV for up to one year if you can show that you have 'substantial ties' to Australia. Ties include family, property ownership, employment, friends and business connections and other circumstances, or if you are the partner or dependent of someone else who holds an RRV.

You will also need to show what time you have spent in Australia since the grant of your permanent residency. Ideally, this would be at least a few months

of residence. The Department of Immigration can take into account compelling reasons for your absence, such as illness or death of a family member, legal contractual obligations or natural disasters.

To calculate the exact number of days you've been in Australia, you can apply to the Immigration Department for a copy of your "Movement Records" since being granted Australian permanent residence. This shows the dates you entered and departed Australia. You can contact the Department on 131 881 and request this information over the phone.

Obviously your entitlements depend on your own particular circumstances, and you should seek professional advice to be certain of your entitlements.

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At a presentation of money raised to Hearts in Union charity were Jeremy Cridland, Nick Stevens (Hearts in Union), Val Baynes (Sydney Irish), Mark Tonga (Hearts in Union), Richard Donovan (Brisbane Irish), Patrick Noble, Fionnula Baynes (Sydney Irish) and Patricia Donovan (Brisbane Irish).

Brisbane face Sydney in State of Irish rugby clash

IT will be mate against mate and state against state as the Brisbane Irish Rugby Club and the Sydney Irish Rugby Club clash in what is bound to be a blockbuster preseason encounter on Saturday, February 22, billed as 'State of Irish'.

They are also having a 7s game at 12pm as a bit of a curtain raiser and the main event, the 15s game, kicks off at 1pm at Surfers Paradise Rugby Union Club, Fremar Street, Broadbeach.

Brisbane Irish RFC and Sydney Irish RFC together raised \$18,000 for Hearts in Union and the IRFU Charitable Trust in 2013.

Hearts in Union is a charity that is all about assisting those players who have sustained a spinal injury during a rugby game.

Brisbane Irish Rugby Football Club held a fundraiser in June in Mick O'Malleys, Brisbane.

The club would like to thank Rod McCall and Rob Henderson, who were the guest speakers, James Bell from Brad Bell Real Estate for running their auction, Jim Williams and New South Wales Rugby Union for providing auction items, Mick O'Malley's Irish Pub for the venue and promoting the event, Paul Blundell of St George Bank for providing auction items and all those who attended their Barstool Banter night.

The club had their annual sign on day on February 1 at Everton Park State High School. If you would like to play, visit www.brisbaneirish.com.au for more information.

BRISBANE HURLING AND CAMOGIE CLUB

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Never seen hurling or camogie before? Come see our exhibition games at the Family Sports Day at Willawong on Sunday 16th March. <http://www.brisbaneirishfestival.com.au/>

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- WHEN:** Sunday 2 March with various tee-off times available.
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Hogan faces second title defence

IN his first title defence since winning the Australian Middleweight belt, Brisbane's Dennis Hogan defeated second-ranked Robbie Bryant in a wide unanimous decision.

The fight took place in Bryant's backyard of Perth, and came only one month after Kildare-native 'Hurricane' Hogan won the Australian Middleweight Title against Nate 'King' Carroll.

Dennis's manager Paul Keegan said: "The last fight in Perth was an amazing experience, the promoters didn't put Dennis on until 11.30pm, which was 1.30am Queensland time, so it was hard for Dennis to stay focused as he was ready to go since 9pm."

The green army didn't leave Dennis down, even if he was fighting 3,000 km away from his home turf.

Paul said: "With the crowd you would think Dennis was the home fighter, the response he got when he came out was amazing and that was his first time fighting over there."



Dennis Hogan lands a punch on Robbie Bryant in Perth.

Dennis didn't disappoint. Paul added that: "This is the best I have ever seen him perform. He controlled and totally dominated a top-class opponent in Robbie Bryant."

"What made it more impressive is when I jumped in the ring after the fight, Dennis told me he broke his hand in the 7th round but kept on fighting for the last

three rounds with one hand without letting anybody know."

In December, Dennis also won Australian Boxing Central's Australian Champion - Champion of Champions Award. Now, undefeated Dennis goes on to defend his title against Sydney's Leroy Brown.

Brown comes into the St Patrick's weekend bout at Queens-

land Irish Club on the back of a third round knock-out victory over Amir Randjar, but enters the bout as underdog.

Paul said: "This next fight against Leroy Brown will be a tough, tough fight against a big puncher and will be Dennis's second title defence."

Two further Irish fighters will fight on the Hogan undercard on the day, Joe Rea from Antrim and Stevie Kelly from Mayo. Former Prizefighter contestant Joe Rea fights for the third time Down Under against the unbeaten super middleweight Dean Mikelj.

Middleweight Stevie Kelly will take on Talalelei Pauga.

Paul adds: "There isn't a better weekend to have it than Paddy's weekend, March 16th in the Irish Club."

"The demand for tickets after one week on sale is amazing so we are very confident it will sell out way in advance of the fight."

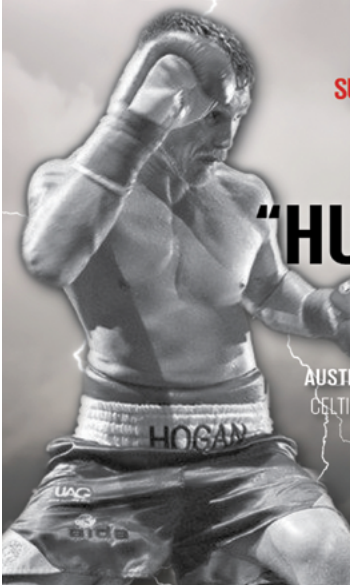
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Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association News



by Séamus Sullivan, President

www.gaelicfootballqld.com.au

History is made on Gold Coast

THIS year marks the 40th anniversary of the Gaelic Football and Hurling Association Queensland's Family Festival Day (originally called Family Sports Day). The first one was held on a wet day at Bottomley Park, Coorparoo in 1974, the year of the floods.

It's a day for families to get together – the old, the young, the not-so-young and the not-so-old. It's a day for everyone to have a chat and meet old friends. When we started, we just had footballers and for 26 weeks of the year, the men used to play football every Sunday and there was very little provision for families. So we set aside the first Sunday of the season for families to meet and greet, old and young. Now it has changed dramatically, with so many young people involved, and the addition of hurling and camogie. We don't see too many older faces at the event any more and we would very much like to invite our old friends to come along and join in the fun this year. It's the ideal opportunity to catch up with changes at Willawong over the years, and show off our new dressing sheds.

Traditionally, we had novelty races for kids but that's now been expanded. This year, we will be including Go Games for children. The Go Games committee, under



Members of the Gold Coast Gaels and Easts Celts with referee Mark McAleer at the Gael's first game at Southport Sharks on January 2. Pic: Martin Leonard

Fiona Whelan, has been doing a wonderful job and we are expecting a big turnout of children taking part on the day. We are planning to hopefully incorporate schools into Go Games in 2014.

We are still seeking people to help set up a junior development board, for young people aged 12-18. The Association is seeking funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs for that board so we can cover expenses involved in setting it up and getting it to compliance level. We are desperately looking for people willing to help with that. In fact, all clubs and state committees are looking for more help in all facets of the game as we expand, from helping at club level to helping the Association at Willawong. Both non-players and players are

urgently needed.

2014 started on a high with the opening of Gold Coast Gaels, under President Daniel O'Halloran, Secretary Joe Macauley, brother of the famous Michael Darragh Macauley, and Treasurer Brian Keane. Their opening game against a Brisbane side made up of Easts Celts, Harps and Shamrocks players, marked the first GAA match ever officially played on the Gold Coast. Easts and Harps had a very strong team with many first division players at the peak of their fitness. Gold Coast Gaels were up against it on their opening game and they did very well on the night, with some excellent players. Michael Darragh Macauley was very impressive and match fit. It was also nice to hear him speak so highly

of the work the GAA does around the world with the diaspora.

Gold Coast Gaels will be joining the Brisbane competition as a second division team and hopefully, a ladies team as well. This is the first time the Association's football has been able to go regional, which is where it needs to go. We hope that Gold Coast Gaels will develop new, non-Irish players, an area we feel is necessary also in Brisbane in order for the Association to expand. We need locals to participate in our games to take the pressure off Irish players so that they don't have to play dual games.

Another new development is the hurling team Mackay Shamrocks. We hope the hurling committee might be able to include them on the fixture list for 2014.



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Dublin-born karate instructors are a big hit

TWO Irish-born instructors are a very big hit on the karate scene in Brisbane and Ipswich.

The Japan Karate Association (JKA) is the world's largest and most prestigious karate organisation. Their mission is to promote karate throughout the world, while ensuring that it remains true to the philosophical precepts since establishment of the JKA in 1949.

JKA have two dojos (training clubs) on Brisbane's north-side, in Grange and Wilston, which are run by Sensei Pól Ó Sléibhín. He is currently a JKA 4th Dan and has been training since 1977.

Having first learned from a book in his hometown of Dublin, he joined a dojo and in 1985, he achieved his 1st Dan (1st degree black belt). Always wanting to learn more, Pól went to Japan for six weeks in 1988 and fell in love with the country and subsequently moved there in 1990.

He was lucky enough to be accepted as Uchi Deshi (live-in student) and when he arrived in Brisbane, he had attained 3rd Dan. Pól returned to Ireland every year and was undefeated kata champion for five years and in his final competition in 1995, became the first Irish Grand Champion, winning all events he entered.

Now living in Brisbane, he teaches children and adults and has grades ranging from beginner to 3rd Dan in his



Ipswich Karate Association instructor Jim Dodrill, originally from Dublin, entered a team of seven of his best junior competitors into a new karate tournament series known as Brisbane Junior Best Of The Best Series in October. From left, Avneel Kumar (3rd kumite), RJ Ramos (1st kata), instructor Jim Dodrill, Warren Brimone (3rd kata, 3rd dumite), Tara Dodrill (3rd kumite), Sherya Kumar (1st kata, 1st kumite), Ciara Dodrill (2nd kata, 2nd kumite) and Kali Shepherd (1st kata). Also pictured below is Sensei Pól Ó Sléibhín who runs Grange and Wilson JKA dojos.



What is karate?

KARATE is a form of unarmed combat employing a wide range of punching and kicking techniques. There are no weapons involved in practicing karate and the term "karate" literally means "empty hand" where only hands and feet are used for blocking and striking. Through diligent practice, karate develops not only the body but also the mind and character.

classes. Pól teaches the very traditional style of karate he learnt in Japan, which includes all instruction in Japanese. His students are current Australian Champions in their category but while Pól teaches competition karate, his main focus is on the traditional teaching.

More information can be found on Pól at www.jkaaustralia.com.au

An instructor at JKA Ipswich and Brisbane West, Sensei Jim Dodrill left Kilbarrack in Dublin in 1977 at the age of 13.

It was a time when his childhood hero, Bruce Lee was taking the world by storm.

After arriving in Australia, he started training in a number of different karate styles before finally settling with the JKA.

He went on to take part in state, national and international competitions.

An injury sustained from a serious rockclimbing accident in 1996 forced him to change his priorities, so he made the switch to karate instructing and promoting. Jim has organised national training tours of many of the world's greatest karate champions.

He runs two dojos, at Redbank and Collingwood Park in the Ipswich area. His students range in age from five to 65. Many of them are successful competitors.

More information can be found at www.ipswichkarate.org.au including training times and contact details for Sensei Jim.

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HI to everyone. May I wish you all a healthy and prosperous new year?

Well, straight to the English Premier league. What a title race it's turning out to be. As some of you Liverpool fans will no doubt have noticed, I suggested in our last edition that I didn't fancy their chances and even believed that they would struggle to finish in the top four. 'Get eating that Humble Pie' I hear you say. Well, despite them flying high, I'm going to stick to my guns and say that the best they will do will be a top four finish. However, they have at this moment in time the hottest striker in world football, Luis Suarez. He recently signed a new four year deal which, simply put, 'Burst the Bank'. At present he is collecting £160,000 a week. This will rise to £220,000 at the end of this season! He also has a 70 million pound buy-out clause.

Now, let me share a comparison with you. When I signed for Glasgow Celtic in 1973, I was told by my new manager, the great Jock Stein, that I would be signing a three year contract in which I would receive £60 a week. He quickly followed by saying this was not negotiable. Actually, signing for Celtic was the greatest day of my life and in reality if he had said to me that I was to pay him £60 every week I would still have been delighted to sign.

Back to Suarez, what odds would you get that he will honour his four year contract? Remember, this is the guy that bites opponent's ears! He was also involved in the much published racial abuse story with Man United's Patrice Evra. Trouble is never far away from this goal machine. If he keeps fit and out of trouble Liverpool could have a great season.

Well, I did warn you that Cardiff City's owner Vincent Tan was interfering way too much with manager Malky McKay's running of the club. No surprise



Liverpool have the hottest striker in the world with Luis Suarez. Pic: WikiCommons

then that he sacked him. Step up former Manchester United striker Ole Gunnar Solskjaer as the next Cardiff manager. Oh, McKay got a wee sweetener with a contract pay-off, Three and a half million pounds.

That's now six managers in this season's Premier league to be given their P45. Basically, if you lose three games on the trot, you could face the sack. This stupid reasoning totally infuriates me, it makes the people running football look stupid.

Chelsea and Man City are both looking strong, while Man United has quite a bit to do. I think if they won a domestic Cup, it would be seen as a step in the right direction and the most they could really expect. Moyes has his work cut out.

Arsenal? They are right there in the mix, but I don't think they really believe that they can win it. Arsene Wenger needs to win something this season, that's for sure.

My old club Celtic are sitting on top of the Scottish Premier League as expected. They haven't lost a game yet. Can they go through the entire season without losing a league game? What a feat that would be. I think they can achieve it, but it won't be easy. Many fans mistakenly think that because they are Celtic; have

more resources etc. that it should be easy to win games. That's not the case. There are no easy games, if you start with the wrong mindset then the opposition can sense this and then you are in trouble. I played in some match's for Celtic and knew we were going to win after only two minutes of the game being started. The other team were overawed by our Celtic jerseys, the huge noisy crowd, and the way we used to start games. When the first whistle blew we were like greyhounds coming out of the traps! We scored so many goals in the first few minutes of a game. Imagine what that did to the other team's confidence? They would've been training hard all week and been really excited about playing in this fixture, and then BANG. KO. Some of their players probably hadn't even touched the ball yet. Even at that early stage in the game, the result was a forgone conclusion.

This year's Champions League results were disappointing. Celtic lost three of their better players at the beginning of the season, and it was obvious that the team lacked quality and finesse. Hopefully they will now recruit for next season's journey into Europe. That's where Celtic belongs.

Look forward to catching up next time. Andy Lynch



Santa run success for Fit Healthy You team

FIT Healthy You recently entered a team in a Santa Fun Run in Brisbane to raise money for Variety children's charity.

Team member Yvonne O'Connor from Kerry raised a whopping \$1,090, the highest amount raised by an individual in Queensland. Those running under Fit Healthy You Fitness were Melissa McInerney, Yvonne O'Connor, Tanya Bell, Mark Larkin, Roisin Brouder and Paula Clark.

Melissa McInerney, director of Fit Healthy You, said: "Each member of the Fit Healthy You team set up a fundraising page to raise funds for Variety. It was a great morning and great fun was had by everybody for a good cause."

Marking five years of hurling in Brisbane

BRISBANE Hurling and Camogie Club are celebrating their fifth anniversary. In the five years, camogie has gone from five to 47 players and hurling has gone from 50 to 115 players.

The teams train at various locations around Brisbane and provide a great social network. The clubs are appealing for new players so if you are interested, drop an email to brisbanehurling@yahoo.com

Kieran Long wins Club Person of the Year

EMERALDS Hurling and Camogie recently awarded one of the club's founders, Kieran Long, with the inaugural Brisbane Hurling and Camogie Club's Club Person of the Year for 2013. This award recognises effort both on and off the field. In a year that saw Kieran juggle playing duties, secretary of the club, training three camogie teams, refereeing camogie games, training the Camogie State Team and the arrival of his newborn son Conor, it was richly deserved. Kieran wishes to thank his partner Mel.

Your chance to ask Andy Lynch a question

Do you have a question you'd like to ask Andy or a subject you'd like him to discuss in the next edition?

Email your question to editor@irishqueenslander.com, marking the subject line Andy Lynch.



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Puzzle solutions



7	5	6	4	9	2	8	3	1
1	4	3	7	8	6	2	9	5
8	2	9	1	5	3	4	7	6
3	7	5	2	1	4	9	6	8
9	1	8	6	3	5	7	2	4
4	6	2	9	7	8	1	5	3
2	3	1	5	4	9	6	8	7
5	9	4	8	6	7	3	1	2
6	8	7	3	2	1	5	4	9

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Singer Mick McHugh to perform at Glen Innes



Irish folk singer Mick McHugh.

SONG, dance, music, poetry, pomp, ceremony, spectacle, living history, parade, clans, special events, and (of course) bagpipes.

Visitors and performers flock to Glen Innes in the heart of Celtic Country for the annual Australian Celtic Festival held the first weekend each May. And all involved agree that the festival is getting better every year.

Spread over four days, highlights include music and dance at multiple stages and venues, displays and workshops, storytelling and poetry, clan gatherings, a huge parade through Glen Innes's heritage main street, Highland Games, living history displays, massed bands, traditional kirling of the tartans, Celtic yard dog trials, fun run and walk, Celtic stalls, food and more.

They have a huge array of entertainers lined up for the 2014 festival. Among the performers are contemporary Irish folk songwriter Mick McHugh, last year's winners of Celtic Artists of the Year, Brisbane's own Murphy's Pigs, winner of the Australian Celtic Album of the Year as well as the Australian Celtic Song of the Year Saoirse, and Sophie and Fiachra, and among the many pipe bands will be Queensland Irish Pipe Band. The festival will also see Irish dancing by the Sydney Irish Ceili Dancers.

Originally developed as a meeting place for the Celtic clans and associations of Australia to gather and celebrate their Celtic history, the festival is held at the Australian Standing Stones overlooking the rural township of Glen Innes.

Glen Innes is four and a half hours' drive from Brisbane via the New England Highway.

Everyone is invited to join the festival at the New England Tablelands of New South Wales from May 1 to 4. For more information, see www.australiancelticfestival.com

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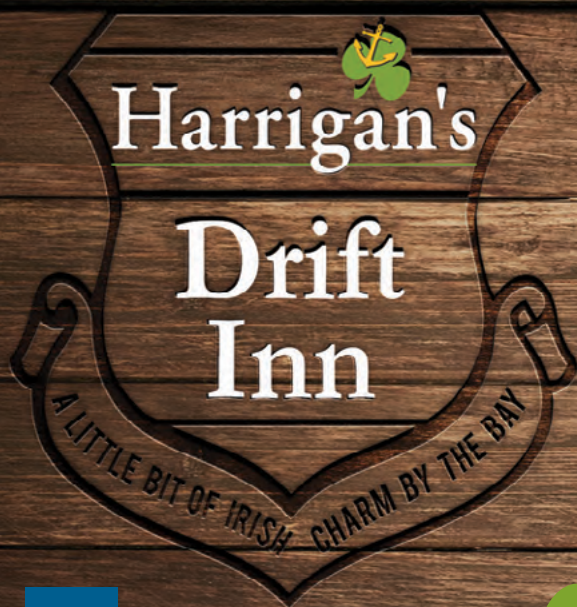
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www.AustralianCelticFestival.com

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