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Ber Carroll



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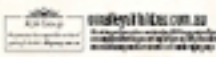
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Fóite

Welcome from editor Mary Allen



A host of golden daffodils herald the arrival of Spring in east Cork. Pic: Vincent Kelly

It's a long, long way...

9,666 miles. That's the distance from Australia to Ireland. If things go wrong in your life, and you want to reach out to one of your family for help, that's a long way to be from home. Which is why a strong, supportive community here is so important.

Recently I crashed my car badly. My two young children were in the back, thankfully nobody was hurt. That evening, I put a message on my personal Facebook page about what had happened. The offers of help from Irish friends living here in Australia came in thick and fast. I was overwhelmed. I had at least six offers of cars to borrow and was even given a car for free from a friend on the Gold Coast. It certainly made me feel happier and supported.

Community is vital to our wellbeing. Whether it's just someone to have a bit of craic with, a team to have a kickaround with, or young mums getting together for a playgroup with other expat families,

we all need people who understand what it is to be so far away from home. And you'll find that when a time comes that you're in need of a friend, these are the people who will be there for you.

We have had a lot of heartbreak in our small community in the past few months. We've also seen unfair headlines in the media and nasty comments by 'keyboard warriors' online, on both Australian and Irish media sites. It caused a lot of anger in our community and we let those media websites and commentators know exactly how we felt about it.

As always, I'm proud of our hardworking community here in Australia. Once again, this magazine is jam-packed with stories about kind, generous and talented Irish people. And it's dedicated to the friends in our community who have passed away too young. RIP.

Mary

Cad é an scéal?

On page 12, meet author Ber Carroll who has just released her sixth novel. Ber comes from Blarney and draws on her Irish roots for inspiration.



On page 15, electro pioneer Gary Numan talks about his 20th studio album Splinter and reveals his ties to and love of Ireland.



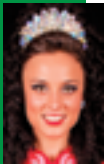
On page 18, in a revealing interview, Paul Noonan of Bell X1 tells us why he can't wait for the band's upcoming tour of Australia.



On page 20, Paddy Casey went from being a busker to the dizzying heights to playing support to U2. He's gone back to his roots for his latest album.



On page 22, we report on how the best of Queensland's Irish dancers fared in London at the 2014 World Irish Dancing Championships.



On page 26, we bring you details of GOGAA, and how you can now watch GAA matches from back home live on TV here in Australia.



What's the story?

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Schoolfriends across continents

A CHILD'S first day at school can be an overwhelming experience. Nevermind having two first days in school in two different countries at opposite sides of the world.

One little five-year-old boy did just that, and not only coped well with the changes but had some pleasant surprises along the way.

Dara Wrenn, aged five, completed his first term of Junior Infants in Ireland from September 2013 to January 2014. He started school at St Brigid's Boys National School on the Howth Road in Dublin. His teacher was Kathryn Gibbons, there were 26 boys in his class.

With the move to Australia, Dara started Prep year at coed school St Sebastian's Catholic Primary School in Yeronga, Brisbane.

There are 16 children in



Dara's class, Prep Wattle. What a surprise Dara's Mam, Aoibhinn got to find that his new teacher in Yeronga, Sheila McDonagh, was also from Dublin! Some of the things Dara saw and recognised on his first day in the classroom were the Irish and Dublin flags, alongside the Australian flag.

Dara has made the transition from one school to another, over



12,000 km apart, very smoothly. Since he started school at St Sebastian's, his teacher and class have been emailing regular updates back to Dublin to Ms Gibbons and her class at St Brigid's, about school life in Brisbane and life in general for boys and girls in Queensland. Both classes have become online penpals.

Prep Wattle have been telling the boys in Dublin about the books they are reading in class, the numbers and letters they are learning, about the wildlife in Queensland, beaches, camping and they also sent photos. Dara recently sent the class in Dublin a large map of Australia, showing where Brisbane is located, along with photos of wildlife. It now hangs in the school library.

The class at St Sebastian's also sent questions to the boys at St Brigid's asking: "What is the school uniform in Ireland like?" "What time does school in Ireland start?" "What colour hair do the boys in Ireland have?" "Do any boys do Irish dancing?"

Likewise, the boys in St Brigid's are curious to know more about life and school Down Under.



Dara Wrenn started his first year of primary school at St Brigid's in Dublin, with the junior infants class, main pic, and his teacher Kathryn Gibbons, above. Dara moved to Yeronga and started Prep in St Sebastian's, where he is pictured, left. His teacher in Yeronga, Sheila McDonagh, pictured far right with Dara, also happens to be from Dublin. Dara's old classfriends in Ireland and new classmates in Brisbane are now penpals.

They have been sending Prep Wattle updates on their learning activities in school and sent a list of questions including: "Is it really hot down there?" "What is the food like there?" "Have you seen a hippopotamus?" "Are there camels in Brisbane?" "Are there any dragons in Australia?"

For Dara, having the link to St Brigid's has meant he has been able to keep the connection with his school pals in Dublin, making the world feel like a smaller place.

Dara's teacher Sheila McDonagh said: "Having an inter-school connection with St Brigid's in Killester has been fun and a great learning experience for the boys and girls in Prep Wattle.

"The children in my class have enjoyed hearing and learning from the boys in Ireland about school and life in another country and the differences between the two schools during their first year of primary education."

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O'Reilly's Stores being knocked

O'REILLY'S Bonded Stores, three buildings of Irish heritage in Brisbane, are to be knocked to make way for a dog park.

Despite an online campaign by Brisbane Heritage group to save the buildings, located at Margaret Street and built in the early 1900s, on April 16, Queensland Heritage Council, the State's independent adviser on heritage matters, voted against listing the buildings under heritage protection legislation.

Brisbane City Council had already approved the demolition of the bonded stores.

The O'Reilly family were pioneers of the Australian steamship trade and a key part of Brisbane's port history. The buildings in Margaret Street are tied to three generations of the O'Reilly family, each generation integral to the early days of the port of Brisbane.

The patriarch of the family was Irish-born steamship captain Henry O'Reilly, who helped grow the Australasian Steam Naviga-



Irish-born steamship captain Henry O'Reilly, pictured, and family were a key part of Brisbane port's history. The family's 100-year-old bonded stores in Margaret Street are to be demolished to make way for an off-leash dog park.



tion Company from Sydney to Brisbane.

Brisbane Heritage campaigner Magnus Eriksson has compiled the history of the buildings.

He said: "Henry O'Reilly really is identified with that essential steam trade between Brisbane and all the other ports, at that critical time when Brisbane really grew into a city."

According to Queensland

Heritage Council Chair Professor Peter Coaldrake, the buildings were not considered of importance to Queensland's history.

"Our job is to decide whether a place has state-level significance and we decided that it didn't," Professor Coaldrake said.

Property group Devine Limited sold the Margaret Street buildings to billionaire mining developer Sam Chong several years ago.

In December last year, Mr Chong applied to the Brisbane City Council to demolish the buildings to make way for a temporary off-leash dog park.

On receiving news of the demolition, Brisbane Heritage said: "Sadly it seems we have not learnt from the lessons of our past and Queensland is set to lose three more beautiful heritage buildings in the heart of our state's capital."

Donegal man invented Queenslander architecture

RICHARD Gailey was born in Donegal 1834 and emigrated to Australia in 1864. He became a prolific and influential architect in Brisbane.

Gailey's work combines the practical value in a sub-tropical environment of high-thermal mass masonry walls with the aesthetic value of finely detailed arches creating a wide veranda to shade the load-bearing walls from the sun during the hottest part of the day. A cost-reducing alternative to masonry arches is seen in commercial buildings like the Regatta Hotel. The wrought-iron filigree lacework replaces the masonry arches of the outer veranda.

This elegant and practical approach has become known as Queenslander architecture. Its use became widespread in early Queensland residential properties of substance.

His substantial body of work includes many buildings in Brisbane that today are considered colonial treasures.

Some of these include: Bris-



Richard Gailey.

bane Girl's Grammar School at Spring Hill, Regatta Hotel and Moorlands in Toowong, the Prince Consort Hotel in Fortitude Valley, Empire Hotel in Fortitude Valley, Orient Hotel in Queen Street, The Queensland Irish Club, Oddfellows Hall at Fortitude Valley, Baroona Labor Hall in Caxton Street, Musgrave House at Shorncliffe and Masonic Hall at Toowong.

He died in Brisbane in 1924. Gailey Road in Taringa is named after him.



Left to right from top, Prince Consort Hotel, Empire Hotel, Regatta Hotel, Queensland Irish Club, Brisbane Girls' Grammar School and Moorlands, all designed by Irish architect Richard Gailey.

Sean dreams of having his own Smart Pup

MOST little boys dreaming of owning a puppy, a best friend to play with. But for Sean Senbel-Lynch, it would mean so much more than that, it would change his life.

Sean, aged three, was born two months early. Having endured a difficult delivery, Sean was resuscitated for a full 20 minutes before spending nearly two months in intensive care in Brisbane.

He was slow to reach his milestones – rolling, crawling, sitting, and by his first birthday, Sean was diagnosed with having Cerebral Palsy, a life-long, non-progressive condition.

Cerebral Palsy is an umbrella term that refers to a group of disorders affecting those parts of the brain that controls a person's ability to move or control muscles – leading from mild to severe physical disability. Depending on the parts of the brain which are affected, there are often accompanying cognitive disorders. In Australia, despite our highly developed medical systems, a child is born every 18 hours who will be impacted by Cerebral Palsy, irrespective of sex, race, colour or creed.

Sean suffers from a primary form of Cerebral Palsy called spastic diplegia, which affects his lower limb movement and control. However, like most children impacted, Sean also suffers secondary affects which impinge on his ability to speak, process information – visual, auditory and olfactory, as well as seizures, similar to sufferers of epilepsy.

Sean's father, Liam, who hails from Dublin, arrived in Brisbane



Sean, above, at Gaelic Park in Brisbane with his Dad Liam, from Dublin. Pic: Irish Queenslander

six years ago from New Caledonia, where Sean's mother is from. The family (two big sisters, Hannah and Rebecca) now call Brisbane home, having become Australian citizens in 2013.

Liam says that there is so much available for Sean in Brisbane – from hydrotherapy, speech therapy, hippotherapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy to conductive education, Sean is in the best place to be cared for. That said, the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is some way off, and the cost of these treatments, which are critical for Sean's future outcome, is prohibitive.

In order to try and off-set some of the financial burden on the family of five, Liam and his wife

Virginie are beginning a fundraising campaign to raise funds that will go towards sourcing an assistance dog. We are all familiar with guide dogs and hearing dogs, assistance dogs are dogs that are specially trained (www.smartpups.com.au) to accompany the recipient at all times, and are trained in a number of areas, such as retrieving things that fall, or helping stabilise someone if they are about to fall, and in Sean's case, identify when a seizure is commencing and helping to secure and comfort the person.

To commence the fundraising effort, Virginie has created a website and a fundraising dinner is being held at Queensland Irish Club on Friday, June 20 (see page 31 for details). It is hoped enough

funds will be raised to secure the assistance dog for Sean.

Other events are also planned in future, such as sponsored runs, white collar boxing matches and skydives. The family is hoping that the fundraising dinner will become an annual event to ensure financial support for Sean's other therapies in the coming years.

Irish Australian Support Association Queensland have kindly offered their support to Liam and Virginie for the receipt of funds and as a registered charitable institution with deductible gift recipient status, all donations are tax deductible.

Should you wish to donate for Sean, follow Sean's progress or find out more, see his website www.seanseanthesuperhero.com



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Brian wins Emirates raffle for flights to Ireland

EVERYONE experiences homesickness at some point, so it was great to see an opportunity for people to return back to Ireland this St Patrick's Day.

As a part of the Brisbane Irish Festival, in conjunction with Emirates, a competition was held for the opportunity to win two return flights from Brisbane to Dublin.

Anticipation was sky-high in the Queensland Irish Club on St Patrick's Day, where the large number of entrants gathered to anxiously await the winning ticket to be drawn.

The lucky man himself was Bryan Worn, who will enjoy a trip to Dublin in the near future.

A big thank you to Emirates Airlines and the Brisbane Irish Festival for making this competition happen. And to those that missed out this time - there's always next year!

Time to renew your Irish Club membership

IT'S already arrived at that time of year again that membership renewal is due for the Queensland Irish Association.

It's only \$44 a year to be a member of our wonderful club which entitles you to a world of benefits such as validated parking, discounts on function room hire, bar and meal purchases, as well as exclusive access to members only promotions.

You have until July 1, 2014 to renew your membership so contact one of our friendly reception team to get your membership confirmed for the following year.



There was a huge amount of entries to the Brisbane Irish Festival/Emirates draw for two return flights from Brisbane to Dublin. The winner, drawn at Queensland Irish Club on Saint Patrick's Day, was Bryan Worn. Pictured at the prize presentation at Queensland Irish Club on April 9 were, left to right in group picture, James Donegan of Queensland Irish Choir, Warron Williams, Acting Manager of Queensland Irish Club, winner Bryan Worn, Pauline Donegan, Vice President of Queensland Irish Club, Kim Tomlinson, Regional Manager Queensland, Emirates, and Keith Taylor, Vice President, Irish Australian Support Association Queensland.

Monthly whiskey tastings have a world of flavours

THE monthly whiskey tastings are proving popular at The Irish Club, with 20 people enjoying a wonderful night in the Four Provinces Room on the first Wednesday night of the month of May.

Hosted by club member Lance Currie, guests were treated to a tasting of four Australian whiskeys and were taken through a history of Whiskey and its production around the world.

Lance is the Gauger (provodore) for the Brisbane North Sept of the Queensland Malt Whiskey Society and is an expert on the 'water of life'. Treating guests to intimate knowledge of the industry, Lance addressed everything from the colour of whiskey, to its aromas and (of course) the all-important alcohol content.

Attendees of the May whiskey tasting were treated with the opportunity to sample a number



Dermott Fearon raises a glass at the May whiskey tasting.

of prize-winning creations. Three of the four whiskeys that were tasted were made by Sullivan Cove, the distillery that won the World's Best Single Malt Whiskey at the London Spirit Show earlier this year.

Three Sullivan's Cove whiskeys were enjoyed at the event, including Double Cask, American Oak and French Oak which all proved popular. The first whiskey of the night, Hellyers Road Original (a Tasmanian whiskey), was a

slightly more polarising option, which created plenty of debate in the Four Provinces Room.

Many of the evening's guests have already confirmed their attendance for next month's tasting, so don't miss out! The tastings are held on the first Wednesday of every month (except for the month of June when they are being held on the Thursday) and tickets can be purchased from the Irish Club reception on (07) 3221 5699. Sláinte!

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Irish Australian Support Association Queensland News

by Rita Stott, Coordinator



www.iasaq.com.au



On April 5, a free mental health first aid workshop was held at Queensland Irish Club, supported by Irish Australian Support Association Queensland, The Irish Club, Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association and Irish Queenslander magazine. Organised by Roisin Brouder of Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association, it was a full-day workshop with guest speakers. Topics discussed included understanding depression, suicide awareness and prevention, anxiety, bullying, lifestyle and mental health, how to access professional help and how to help someone with a substance-use problem.

Mothers celebrate with a taste from back home

IT'S been a busy few months for us here at the IASAQ.

We kicked off March in style with our Annual Brisbane Irish Festival Ball held at the Queensland Irish Club. What better way to start the celebrations than by enjoying good music, great company and excellent food. We successfully raised funds for Association, which allows us to continue our community initiatives. Thank you all for attending and enjoying the evening with us.

March also saw us walking in the Saint Patrick's Day parade, accompanied by our new bus. Some of committee members were there on the day, as well as a good contingent of our mothers group supporting us in the parade.

We also joined a huge crowd at the GAA Club in Willowong for Irish Festival Sports Family Day. Despite the heat, everyone enjoyed the festivities, the tug o' war games, the GAA exhibitions and the bagpipes. The kids had a blast on the rides, and you couldn't see for the green Irish supporters.



Mothers and children from the Irish Mums Group celebrating Saint Patrick's Day at Broadwater Park, Mansfield with a sausage sizzle.

St Patrick's Day was celebrated in style by our mothers group at Broadwater Park, Mansfield. An Irish sausage sizzle, cakes, brown bread and potato cakes were the stars of the show. A real home from home picnic was enjoyed by all the families.

We have a fundraiser sausage sizzle on June 28 at Office Works,

Woolloongabba. If you would like to volunteer, or just come and support us, please contact Rita on 07 3391 1300 or info@iasaq.com.au

Please keep a lookout on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/irishmumsbrisbane.com.au?ref=hl> for our Christmas in July event.

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

Berach goes the extra miles for Cancer Focus

BERACH O'Hagan is willing to go the extra mile to help out a good cause. In fact, he's willing to go more than 26 miles.

On August 3, Berach will take on the Brisbane City Marathon in aid of Cancer Focus Northern Ireland. It's a cause close to his heart.

Berach says: "My Mum was diagnosed with breast cancer in March 2013. Thankfully, she was very lucky to have found it in its early stages and it hadn't spread elsewhere. She is now cancer-free. Running 26.2 miles for Cancer Focus is just a small token to show my thankfulness for the positive outcome.

"Throughout my training if I get tired or feel I can't run another mile I think of mum and smile and zoom on!"

Hailing from a small town called Dungiven in County Derry, Northern Ireland, Berach moved to Brisbane in January of this year.

He says: "I'm over for the year and live in Spring Hill with my twin sister Aine, who has been over here since October."

Having two jobs, he finds it hard to fit in time to train. "I have a day job with Queensland Government and I work at the Irish Club in the evenings, so I find it tough at times to get the training fitted in. It's all go! I run four times a week, 20-30 miles in total. I am asthmatic too but I battle on."

At 24 years old, this is Berach's first full marathon. "I participated in Belfast's first ever half-marathon in September 2013 and I also ran it for Cancer Focus.

"My parents own a pub back in my home town and I held a fundraising night for Cancer Focus just after I ran the marathon, and in total I raised over £3,000 from running sponsorship and from the fundraising night."

Cancer Focus provides support for people with a cancer diagnosis and their family members in Northern Ireland. They have a range of services, including counselling, a helpline, advocacy group, information days, lifestyle campaigns and even lifestyle services like art therapy, recovery yoga and a bra and swimwear fitting service.

Berach has set up a Just Giving page and the link is <https://www.justgiving.com/Berach-O-Hagan>, or sponsorship can also be given at the Queensland Irish Club reception on Elizabeth Street in Brisbane.



Berach O'Hagan is planning to run the Brisbane City Marathon in aid of Cancer Focus Northern Ireland.

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Author Ber draws on a bit of Blarney for inspiration

DRAWING on her Cork roots, she grew up in Blarney, Ber Carroll has made a name for herself among the heavyweights of her genre: Maeve Binchy, Marian Keyes and Cathy Kelly.

In her delightful new book, *Worlds Apart*, her sixth novel, Ber uses her trademark warmth and authenticity to write about modern women finding their place in a modern world. It is a story of diversity, belonging, bravery, families and love.

Ber spoke to Irish Queenslander from her Sydney home.

*What was the inspiration for *Worlds Apart*?*

"Worlds Apart is about a big Irish family with a big, deeply-hidden secret. On a deeper level, *Worlds Apart* is about 'belonging'. I've always been interested in how one finds one's foothold in a foreign country. At what point does the strangeness of the new place recede? When can one expect to feel a sense of belonging?"



Irish Australian Ber Carroll has released her sixth novel, *Worlds Apart*. It can be purchased on iBooks, Amazon, Book Depository, Booktopia or by order at your local book store.

"The minute I arrived in Sydney, I felt a strange sense of belonging.

Despite the fact that Sydney is 17,000 kilometres and worlds apart from Blarney, and despite the fact that I dearly love my family and was not in any way trying to get away from them (really!), I wanted to live in Sydney.

"Erin Donovan, the protagonist in *Worlds Apart*, has the same reaction to Sydney as I did. All her life she has felt different and out of place: in school, in her family, in her job, even in Dublin itself. But in Sydney everything falls miraculously into place. Except Sydney isn't home for Erin, and never can be.

"Laura, Erin's cousin, feels out of place, too. Her husband appears distant, her work life is spinning out of control and her daughter's strange new nanny is undermining her at every turn. She longs to drop everything and run far away. But these are dangerous thoughts for a mother and wife.

"And Moira, Erin's mother, is holding a secret that she has never reconciled with, a secret that is foreign to the very essence of who she is, a secret that – when revealed – will change the landscape of all their lives."

Do you try to write from your own personal experience in life?

"Yes, from my own personal experiences, and the experiences of my family and friends. Nothing and no one is safe. After six novels, I am always scroung-

ing for material and my ideas notebook is always close to hand. I like to use 'real' situations and dilemmas, because I feel it lends authenticity to my novels. Reality TV is also great for inspiration. If things are quiet with my family and friends, I can always rely on *Wife Swap* or *Intervention* to spur my imagination!"

Who is your favourite author?

"Though I have many authors who I love, I couldn't go past Marian Keyes as being my all-time favourite. What I admire most is how she combines comedy with darker themes, and somehow manages to get the balance just right. You know when you pick up a book of hers that you are going to laugh and cry, and what more can you ask for in terms of an emotional response to a novel?"

"Aside from the humour and drama and wonderful characters, the overall tone of Marian's novels is so unapologetically Irish that reading one of them is almost as good as a visit home."

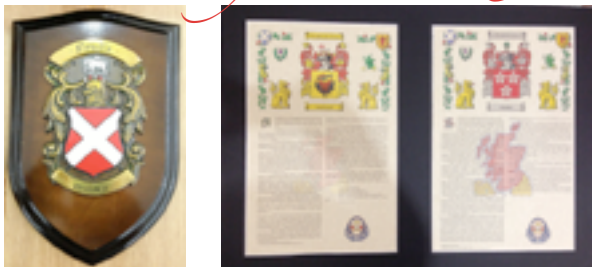
Is it hard finding time to write when you are a busy mum of two?

"Don't get me started! I write around household chores, school drop offs and pick-ups, a zillion family sporting commitments, and I have to say that my children are no help at all when it comes to writing! They swing off the back of my writing chair (actually, they've broken it), and they ask to play games on my laptop, and they interrupt me with constant requests to be fed. You've never met two hungrier children!"

What has been your proudest moment as a writer?

"Probably the most special feeling is the one I get when I first hold the finished product in my hand. A few years of writing, rewriting, editing and re-editing bound in its own vibrant cover (with my name on it!). I've had that special feeling six times now, and I appreciate it more each and every time."

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by Bob Kiernan

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A-League like the FA Cup? Not likely!

I'M surprised I have lived here in Australia as long as I have without making this comparison before. Still, better late than never.

Australian football

The reason I am doing this comparison now is that the recent Hyundai A-League Grand Final was described by a friend of mine as 'like the FA Cup'.

To find out how much like the FA Cup it is, let's look at the Hyundai A-League.

Hyundai A-League

Formed in 2004, the league is in its ninth full season. The league comprises of 10 teams; two from Melbourne, two from Sydney, and then one from each of Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth, Newcastle and Gosford, which is 76 kilometres north of Sydney on the Central Coast.

The 10th team is Wellington, the capital of New Zealand.

The current format

These 10 teams play 27 games over the course of one season and the team with the most points wins the league.

When that is all done and dusted though, the top six qualify for what is called the "Finals Series". The teams that finished third to sixth battle it out before joining the top team and the runners-up in the semi-final play-offs.

In this year's Hyundai A-League, Brisbane Roar finished top of the division with Western Sydney Wanderers the runners-up and it was the same two teams that met in this year's Hyundai A-League Grand Final.

So, how much 'like the FA Cup' is it?

English football

English football probably has as many divisions as the A League has teams. The top four divisions are professional and comprise of 92 teams in total. The English Premier League is the top division of them all and has 20 teams.

The FA Cup

The FA Cup is a completely different competition, unrelated to the EPL. There is no league or ladder, it's a knockout competition. According to Wikipedia, in 2012-13 season, 758 teams took part.

Yes, seven hundred and fifty eight!

So, the Grand Final here in Australia

is nothing like the FA Cup at all.

Don't get me wrong, everybody has to start somewhere, and I think it's fantastic that Australia does now have a professional football league.

During the commentary in yesterday's Grand Final when a Roar player grabbed a late equaliser

forcing extra time, one of the commentators said something like "There are big moments in big games but they don't get much bigger than this!"

Oh yes they do, it's in England, in the English Premier League. Undoubtedly the best football league in the world.

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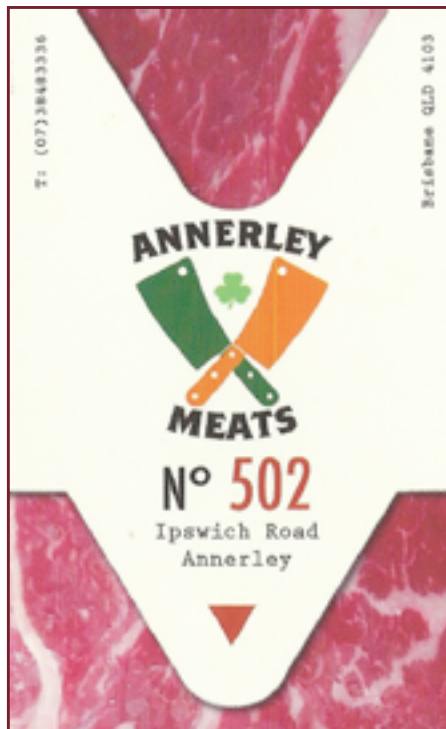
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Erin-go-Bragh's passengers' descendants have set up a Facebook page.

Legacy of famine ship Erin-go-Bragh lives on

IN 1861, during the potato famine, Lord Digby of the Geashill estate in County Offaly gave many struggling families the order to quit their lands.

These poor families begged Fr Paddy Dunne from nearby Tullamore, who had recently returned from Australia, to help them gain passage to Australia, rather than face going to America where the civil war had just begun.

Fr Dunne, along with Brisbane's Bishop James Quinn and the Queensland Immigration Society (QIS), organised their passage to Moreton Bay, Queensland. Bishop Quinn was criticised at the time for trying to turn Queensland into "Quinnland" for his Irish immigration push.

The Black Ball Line's Erin-go-Bragh (Ireland forever), which was originally named the Florida, was chartered to bring about 400 emigrants from Queenstown (Cobh), Cork via Liverpool to Moreton Bay. The Erin-go-Bragh was well named, as although its passengers left Ireland on January 9, 1862, they never forgot their Irish heritage.

The Erin-go-Bragh's passage to Moreton Bay was a troubled one: - In Liverpool, she was sabotaged with an auger hole drilled into her hull, causing a constant inflow of water throughout the voyage. One story even says that a Scottish family had been warned off travelling on her.

- At 206 days, it was the longest recorded emigrant passage to Australia and ironically, it arrived in the same week as the shortest recorded passage. The passengers

nicknamed her the Erin-go-Slow. - There were 54 deaths en-route from typhoid and other diseases, making it the highest death toll from disease on an Australian-bound emigrant ship. On arrival in Moreton Bay, the Erin-go-Bragh was held up for yet another nine days until cleared of disease.

One of the great stories from the voyage occurred on St Patrick's Day, March 17, 1862 when Fr Dunne, who travelled with the families, christened a newborn baby "Patrick" (one of six babies born en-route) to celebrate this great Irish day. Not wanting to offend, the child's father waited until the next day to tell him that Patrick was actually a girl. They re-christened her Mary Patrick.

On their eventual arrival in Australia, many of the families were given dairy farming land and settled in the Logan region.

Some of the many better known descendants of the Erin-go-Bragh include Patrick Rafter (tennis player); Denver Beanland MP (Queensland politician) and Bishop James Cuskelly (past Brisbane Catholic Bishop).

Father Dunne returned to Ireland to recruit more immigrants, and in all, 10 ships, including the Chatsworth and the Fiery Star followed the Erin-Go-Bragh to Queensland, bringing with them a total of 6,000 immigrants.

A Facebook page (Erin go Bragh ship) has been set up for the Erin-go-Bragh's many descendants at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Erin-go-Bragh-ship/747995778579023>

By Michael Nayler (descendant of the Rafter and Deering families)



Numan emerges from darkness

COMMONLY known as the godfather of electronic music, with pioneering songs such as Cars and Are Friends Electric, Gary Numan turned to a heavier sound in recent years. He's just released his most successful album in 30 years, *Splinter*, Songs From A Broken Mind. Irish Queenslander caught up with Gary, who is currently on tour and played at The Tivoli on May 27.

Tell us about your new album Splinter. It's your 20th studio album and it seems to come from a dark place – what was the inspiration?

"After the last studio album, *Jagged*, came out in 2006, life took a turn that eventually left me diagnosed with depression in 2008. That, and the cure that came with it, lasted for about three years. In that time, things were quite difficult, my marriage suffered, career suffered, it was all quite unpleasant. I didn't write a single song in all that time. When I started on *Splinter* in early 2012 it was the depression, and the life that was going on around it, that was most in my mind. That's what much of *Splinter* is about. I'm also working on a science fantasy book that I hope will be my first novel and two or three of the songs are based on ideas taken from that."

Has its success surprised you?

"The success has been something of a surprise if I'm honest. The music is very dark. It's heavy and quite aggressive in places and not the sort of thing that gets much help via TV exposure and radio play so I had no expectations of it doing much at all. I'm very proud of the way it has been received by the fans and by the media. *Splinter* is my 20th album and to see many reviewers talking about it as the best album I've ever made was quite special for me. Most people that have been around as long as I have have slipped into either safe mediocrity or now



Gary Numan is currently on tour and has released his 20th studio album, *Splinter*.

tread the nostalgia route. I have done neither, I'm still making aggressive, forward-looking music and yet I'm getting the best reviews of my life."

What music do you like to listen to?

"I don't really listen to music at all anymore. I go to see bands that I like when they play live in my area, I go to festivals when I can, but I don't listen to albums at home, nor in the car when I'm travelling. I don't have an iPod, I don't listen to radio and I rarely watch music on the TV. It's a wonder that I even have a vague idea about what's going on. I made *Splinter* sound the way it does because I like that kind of music and it was all but impossible to find anything like it amongst current bands. I miss heavy electronic music, it's hard to find now."

You're very much considered the pioneer of electronic music. But you are a humble person. Does this label sit uncomfortably with you?

"I'm aware that I was just a part of something and I'm also aware that I wasn't the first so, I do always make that point. I would never want to take any glory or

praise for something that I didn't deserve. But, if I can put humble to one side for a moment, if you take any thread of current electronic music back far enough, you will come to a point where my name will crop up so, in that sense, I'm comfortable with the pioneer label. What I don't want to ever be seen as though is someone that has done something pioneering back in the day and then sat back, played safe and lived on nostalgia and those old glories ever since. Although I have failed many times, I have always tried to push forward musically."

Electronic music was treated with disdain by the some in the press in the UK in the 80s. How do you feel the attitude of the press affected you and your music?

"I don't think it affected me much at all. I made *The Pleasure Principle* album in 1979 without guitars, the only album I ever made without guitars actually, to prove that you could make an album without guitars that could still be successful. That album went to Number 1 in the UK and did well all over the world but I think that was the only career reaction to the press that I ever had. Apart

from that I pretty much ignored what the press said in those early days. It was all so negative and ignorant, I didn't see the point in reading it. It was one of those rare occasions when the public got something new, understood and valued it, long before the media. Usually the media are the taste makers, they will let you know about new bands that you should check out, but with electronic music, they missed it entirely."

You recently moved from the UK to the US with your young family. What do you miss about the UK?

"I don't really miss that much about the UK actually apart from friends and family. The UK that I grew up in as a child is not the UK that exists now anyway so there is that constant feeling of sadness and regret at the way it's changed. The fans there are amazing, incredibly enthusiastic and supportive, so I obviously miss that side of being there. An afternoon by a sleepy river or at a local pub for a meal on a nice sunny summer day was always quite special. The quaintness of English villages, the peculiar and hilarious, if somewhat cruel, humour of the British is something I miss at times. But, in the main, I'm extremely happy to live in Los Angeles which more than compensates for those few things I miss about the UK."

Your wife has an Irish name and you holiday there. Do you have any connections with the country?

"Only through my wife Gemma. Both her parents are from Ireland so she is Irish by birth, although she was born in London. I love Ireland though. It's a beautiful and rather unique part of the world and the people are fantastic. I've always enjoyed being there."

Do you enjoy touring?

"I love touring, it's by far the best part of being a musician, of being in a band."

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Maleny

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Festivals

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What's happening...

18th International Tartan Day

The Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc presents a day of free entertainment, including Celtic soprano Kathleen Procter-Moore, pipe bands, Highland dancing, small pipes, Scotty Dog mascots, displays by clans and family history groups and stalls selling Scottish wares.

King George Square
5 JULY



BRISBANE

EVERY MON

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

EVERY TUE

Drop-in luncheon
11.30am, IASAQ

EVERY 2ND THU

Singer/songwriter night
Foxy Bean, Woolloongabba

EVERY FRI

Live Music Session
7pm, Queensland Irish Club
Live Music Session
8.30pm, Foxy Bean, Woolloongabba
Live Music Session
8.30pm, Celtic Corner, Manly

EVERY SAT

Irish Program
12.30pm, Radio 4EB FM
Live Music Session
8.30pm, Foxy Bean, Woolloongabba

LAST SUN OF MONTH

Tullamore Tree
2pm, Grand View, Cleveland

TUE. 3. JUN

Stockade Band
New Farm Bowls Club

THU. 5. JUN

The Heartstring Quartet
Queensland Irish Club

JUN 6 - 21

Habeas Corpus by Villanova Players
Seven Hills TAFE, Morningside

MON. 16. JUN

Bloomsday celebrations
Queensland Irish Club

TUE. 17. JUN

Peter Miller
New Farm Bowls Club

FRI. 20. JUN

Sean's SmartPups Fundraising Dinner
6.30pm, Queensland Irish Club

SAT. 21. JUN

Illuminations Festival
Wynnum Wading Pool

FRI. 4. JUL

Bell XI
The Zoo

SAT. 5. JUL

18th International Tartan Day
9am, King George Square

TUE. 15. JUL

McGuinness & Co
New Farm Bowls Club

FRI. 18. JUL

The Legend of Luke Kelly and Paddy Casey
6.30pm, The Tivoli

SUN. 20. JUL

Scotland In The Park
Logan Garden

TUE. 22. JUL

Dave Burton and friends
New Farm Bowls Club

FRI. 25. JUL

Andrew Strong
The Tivoli

TUE. 29. JUL

Mick McHugh
New Farm Bowls Club

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Golden Beach, Caloundra
13 - 15 JUNE

FRI. 6. JUN
Black Stove
D'Arcy Arms

SUNSHINE COAST

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8pm, O'Malleys, Mooloolaba

EVERY SUN
Sunday Music Session
5pm, Finbar's Maleny

FRI. 13. JUN
Mick McHugh
Finbar's Maleny

13, 14, 15 JUN
Caloundra Celtic Festival
Golden Beach, Caloundra

SUN. 27. JUL
Murphy's Pigs
Caloundra Powerboat Club

GLADSTONE

SUN. 29. JUN
Peter Byrne Forever Diamond Show
Entertainment Centre

ROCKHAMPTON

SAT. 28. JUN
Peter Byrne Forever Diamond Show
Pilbeam Theatre

TOOWOOMBA

1ST AND 3RD TUE OF MONTH
Trad Irish Music Session
7pm, Irish Club Hotel

TWEED HEADS

SAT. 26. JUL
Andrew Strong
Twin Towns Showroom

NEW SOUTH WALES

SAT. 5. JUL
Murphy's Pigs and Highlander
Glen Innes Services Club

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CD REVIEWS

SASTA PURE WRECKIN' MATCH

THESE guys know their trad, that's for sure. The CD sleeve looks great and then you listen to the songs and you know you're on to a winner. This is Sasta's second album and they are only getting bigger and better.

On this 10-song CD, it's hard to pick a favourite, they all have their different tones and stories and many standout tracks, but at a push I'd pick Curley Hill. The band features fiddle virtuoso Joe Murray, Rocky Towey on the accordion and Mick Hughes on guitar, vocals and bodhran... probably all at once. Kevin Higgins and Michael Fix feature on the album also. The instruments really compliment each other and are apt to each tune. They never stray from the stamp of traditional Irish music and have taken the art of Irish music to the fore in Australia.

Take a bow, lads!

KATHERINE ALLAN YOU'RE MY STORY

KATHERINE, based on the Sunshine Coast, has been singing competitively since she was 11 and her voice has been compared to Mary Black and Maura O'Connell.

She has a soft but powerful voice and I will be looking forward to hearing more of her.

She has a nice tone and tells each song as a story. The CD was made to celebrate her 20th wedding anniversary and it features a poem written for Katherine and husband Lee Allen by Joe Lynch.

Her voice is a breath of fresh air. She handles the melody of each song as if she owned it herself.

To purchase a copy, email katherineallan69@gmail.com

Reviews by
Roisin Brouder

Go see Bell X1, Chop Chop!

BELL X1 are making their first trip Down Under! Excited much? The Dublin band are festival and arena headliners back home and aside from U2, are the Irish band with the most airplay back home. Irish Queenslander spoke to chief songwriter Paul Noonan.

This is your first tour of Australia. Is it your first time being in Australia, outside of the band?

"I was in Australia many years ago to visit friends and stare down some sorrows. Went to Melbourne and somewhere beautiful on the coast. Went to Big Day Out and saw Polly Harvey. Wrote a song called Real Palm Trees..."

You're well known for extensive touring. What's been your favourite place in the world to play?

"I can't say... there are venues that are imbued with a pure love of music by the owners and people who work there that tend to be the most rewarding places to play, like The Bowery Ballroom in New York or De Barras in Clonakilty, Co Cork. We're often just delighted to be out!"

And what's your favourite venue in Ireland?

"Vicar St Dublin - we've been playing there for over 10 years now, and they had faith in us from the early days, when we weren't filling the place. There's no bad seat in the house, and there's no bar in the room."

Who would you compare your sound to?

"Oh lordy... we're like the guilty pleasure of an electric blanket at a rural B&B, real butter on your toast, a joke (or a fart) that everyone in the room is in on."



What was the inspiration behind your latest album, Chop Chop?

"The mantra as it came together was 'Shrink the Palette!' We wanted to use fewer elements - guitar, bass, drums and piano were all that we had going on in the writing and initial recordings. We wanted to do it quickly with people whose previous work we loved - Peter Dinklage and Thomas Bartlett, so there'd hopefully be a strong shared vision of where we wanted to land. And we wanted good pizza, god-dammit."

What do you enjoy more, touring or time in the studio?

"I'm happy to say I really enjoy both, especially the last record as it was less marred by doubt and indecision as others!"

You just won a Hotpress songwriter award. When did you start writing?

"I'm the eldest in my family and was introduced to music by older brothers of friends. I remember hearing It's Raining Again by Supertramp when very young and thinking 'I could make that...' I suppose I started writing when I was 17 or so - thinking of those songs now...they were awful."

Has the music scene been affected by the years of austerity and the general atmosphere in Ireland?

"I think there's some great music coming out of Ireland over the past few years, there's actually a buoyancy and a bit of a strut about it right now."

"The economic crash has meant that there's a lot of empty commercial space, and some of that has been used to set up studios and venues and multi-use spaces like Block T and The Joinery."

If you weren't doing Bell X1, what do you think you would you be doing for a living?

"Lighthouse keeper. I know, it's a totally romantic notion, and if actually faced with the ballache of traipsing up and down stone spiral stairs in the freezing cold in the middle of every night I'd change my tune. But still... I've stayed in a couple of out-of-service ones, and it was great - feeling so close to the magnificent sea, and I suppose, a bygone age."

What do you have in store at these gigs for your Aussie fans?

"All hits, no filler! From young men swinging on jetlag. Very much looking forward to it."

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Keeping the legend alive

THE Legend Of Luke Kelly, featuring Chris Kavanagh, celebrates the memory and music of a true Irish legend.

On January 30, 1984 it is said that the whole of Dublin grieved the early death of The Dubliners singer Luke Kelly. He left an indelible mark as being one of the greatest folk artists of the 20th century and his music is widely regarded as being among Ireland's cultural treasures.

Dublin singer/songwriter/multi-instrumentalist Chris Kavanagh was born and raised on Irish music and has been singing Irish folk songs since he was three years old. He learned to play the piano by ear when he was five and his love and passion for Luke Kelly's music led him to learn to play the five-string, long-neck banjo in 2001.

Over the past 12 years, he has amazed audiences, with powerful sell-out performances in prominent Irish venues, regularly attended by members of Luke



Chris Kavanagh plays The Legend of Luke Kelly at The Tivoli on Friday, 18 July.

Kelly's family. As well as Australia, he has toured his tribute to Luke Kelly show in England, Switzerland and Germany.

Chris bears a remarkable resemblance to Luke, while his singing talents capture the depth and passion of the great man. In 2009, to mark Luke's 25th anniversary, Chris and co-writer Hilary Kavanagh composed a

song entitled Voice of the People.

There have been countless songs written about Luke but this one is different in the sense that it was written from Luke's perspective and portrays the way he felt about his own life. It is the title track of Chris's first album of original songs.

In November 2011, Chris stood in for Luke with The Dubliners

on their German tour and also made a guest appearance on their 50th anniversary concert DVD.

At the 30th anniversary show, The Legend of Luke Kelly, which is coming to Brisbane, Chris will be joined in the performance by other accomplished musicians and special guests, who all consider it an honour to bring Luke's memory to the stage.

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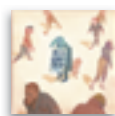
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Paddy goes back to his roots

SINGER/songwriter Paddy Casey's years as a busker on the streets of Galway and his home town of Dublin served him well.

Not only did it allow him to associate from an early age with future breakout artists like Glen Hansard and Mundy, but he developed a keen instinct for the type of melody and songwriting that are immediate and arresting, but with a natural intimacy not often heard in conventional pop music.

Paddy says: "I am driven to record and write songs, I always have been... I've been recording bits and pieces since I was nine or 10. I always thought that musicians were my politicians, teachers, religious leaders etc. I don't even have to wonder about it, it's like breathing, it's not really something I can switch off."

Paddy began busking on Dublin's streets in the '90s while still in his early teens. In 1998, the earnest street musician signed to Sony subsidiary S2 Records after an A&R man spotted him performing in Dublin and quickly became enamored. He was also eventually taken on by U2's management company, Principle Management.

Heading into the studio in 1998 just to transfer some basic ideas to tape, he inadvert-



Paddy Casey plays The Tivoli on Friday, 18 July.

ently wound up recording his debut album, *Amen (So Be It)*. Released in June 1999, the album debuted in the top 20 in the Irish albums chart, eventually going triple platinum, and was awarded Best Debut Album at the Hot Press Music Awards.

Casey returned in 2003 with the multi-platinum album *Living*, which included the hit *Saints and Sinners*. The years that followed saw Paddy play support to REM, U2 on their *Vertigo* tour, hold a week-long residency at the Olympia and win numerous awards.

Paddy recorded his third album, *Addicted To Company*, in Hollywood. After finishing touring it in 2009, he decided that it was time to make an album on his own, without a label. He wanted to let the songs come naturally, but found that, almost immediately, they came along in droves. So he began recording them over the next few years, and 11 of those tracks make up the 2012 album *The Secret Life Of*.

It was recorded, produced and mixed at home in Paddy's kitchen by Paddy and Pat Donne. Pat also worked on the first album *Amen (So Be It)*. "Pat is responsible for me not throwing away a lot of songs, *Saints and Sinners* included. This was my first completely independent record, it's called *The Secret Life Of* because it's a throwback to a recording style I had before I signed a record deal.

"The best thing about this album is that I veered off in any direction the wind carried me. I let my mind wander around and had fun, I suppose I had no one looking over my shoulder or watching the clock. In some ways it was like going back to the start, when I used to experiment lots on a four-track making any kind of music I felt like on the day. If there is a theme it's definitely something to do with freedom."

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Black Stove cook up a storm

SINCE the folk revival of the 1960s, traditional music has been taken forward at a great pace in countless directions, and fused into everything from synthesized, ethereal Celtic sounds to brawny punk rock. But for many, first contact with traditional music means drinking songs - Napoleonic ballads, rebel anthems and tales of seafaring and migration - made famous by bands like The Dubliners and The Clancy Brothers.

It is with this school of delivery that Black Stove are concerned. Black Stove hit the strong stuff, hard and serve up a big glass of black, intoxicating energy on a tray of songs and instrumentals, some of which you're sure to know. If there's one thing you're guaranteed at a Black Stove gig, it's a good old sing-along.

Founder Martin Lynch is a native Glaswegian from a family steeped in Celtic Football Club culture, with a father and brother having both played with the club. Martin sang with many bands in his native city, before



migrating to the Gold Coast.

Dave Luxmoore is a dyed in the wool folk musician who plays fiddle, mandolin, harmonica, guitar and tin whistle. He is a founding member of champion bush band Leaping Lizards. Dave is a gifted composer.

Some of Will Swan's first memories involve listening to his parents beloved Dubliners LPs. He heard a lot of Australian folk music as a child in rural New South Wales. Will's familiarity with trad music was reinvigorated by The Pogues. Ever since, he has played in high energy bands.

Black Stove regularly play gigs in the Gold Coast and Brisbane. To contact the band, email Martin on martilynch@hotmail.com or ring 041 601 1067.

Quartet of music legends to play Brisbane

BRISBANE is in for a treat with the visit by The Heartstring Quartet to Queensland Irish Club on June 5.

Legendary guitarist Arty McGlynn and virtuoso fiddler Nollaig Casey – who between them have played with every major Irish artist of the last 30 years – are joined for this special project by harper Máire Ní Chathasaigh, and Britain's finest flatpicking guitarist Chris Newman.

Their award-winning CD Heartstring Sessions has been receiving rave reviews since its release, with The Irish Times calling it "Traditional music at its very best".

Máire is Ireland's most influential harper. As a teenager in Co Cork in the early 1970s, she invented an entirely new style that quickly became the norm amongst both her contemporaries and the younger generation of harpers. A multiple All-Ireland and Pan-Celtic winner, in 1985 she recorded the very first harp album to concentrate on traditional Irish dance music, The New-Strung Harp. In 2001 she received Irish music's most prestigious award, Traditional Musician of the Year.

Chris is one of the UK's most staggering and influential acoustic guitarists. A prolific composer, arranger and record producer, he's played with luminaries of many musical worlds. His new CD Still Getting Away With It, a celebration of his 40-year career, is "as-



The Heartstring Quartet play at Queensland Irish Club on Thursday, June 5.

tonishing... a must buy for any guitar player", according to Scotland on Sunday. Chris and Máire have toured together since 1988.

Máire's sister Nollaig's powerful presence has graced two of Ireland's most ground-breaking bands, Planxty and Coolfin. She made her Carnegie Hall debut as a soloist in 2006. She's toured the world with Riverdance and performed at the 2003 Special Olympics Opening Ceremony. She's recorded with Enya, Van Morrison, Sinéad O'Connor, Rod Stewart, Elvis Costello and Christy Moore.

She's recorded two duo albums with Arty.

Arty, from Co. Tyrone, is one of the best-known musicians in Ireland. In 1979, he recorded McGlynn's Fancy, the first recording of the guitar played in an authentic traditional style and a classic of the traditional music world. He's played with Christy Moore, Paul Brady, Donal Lunny, The Chieftains and countless others. He was a member of Planxty, Patrick Street and De Danann and lead guitarist in the Van Morrison Band for many years.

Norma O'Hara Murphy named Australian Celtic Artist of the Year

HAVING spent more than 30 years writing folk songs, Norma O'Hara Murphy was a deserving winner of this year's Australian Celtic Artist of the Year award.

The Australian Celtic Music Awards are given out annually at the Australian Celtic Festival in Glen Innes, northern New South Wales.

Norma was a finalist in two other categories also, Female Celtic Vocalist 2014 and Australian Celtic Album 2014 for her album The Celtic Collection Volume 2.

Norma told Irish Queensland: "It is an inspiration to me to have been given the major award this year at Glen Innes. I'm sure it will spur me on to continue writing and recording Celtic music.

"It certainly was a special night to be a finalist again, I've won so many awards over the years, song writing awards are always special though."

As is obvious from Norma's name, she comes from an Irish



background. "With my Irish name (O'Hara) and my third generation Irish/Celtic roots, how could I claim to be anything else but Irish? As we get older of course I think we revert more to our Celtic heritage and our family history and look to where we really came from."

Norma lives at Bony Mountain, which is 20 minutes from Warwick, and every year she hosts the Bony Mountain Music Festival.

This year's festival, taking place in September, features Murphy's Pigs, bush balladeers, comedy, artists, songwriters. See www.bonymountainmusicfestival.com

For bookings and more info go to
www.heartstringtour.com.au

Máire Ní Chathasaigh Nollaig Casey
 Arty McGlynn Chris Newman

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Queensland dancers show they're world-class

Clare McNeill-Arnall TCRG reports from the World Irish Dancing Championships. Clare is director/teacher of McNeill Academy of Irish Dance on the Gold Coast.



I WAS very excited to be travelling back to my old hometown of London to watch the 44th World's Irish dancing championship 'Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne'.

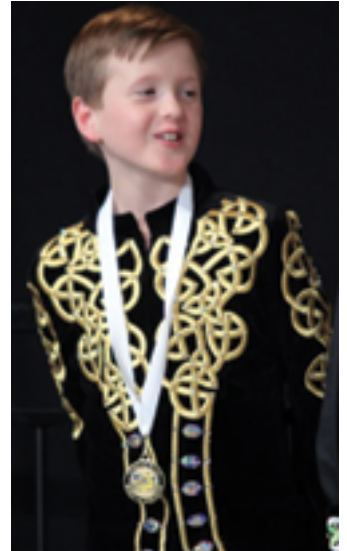
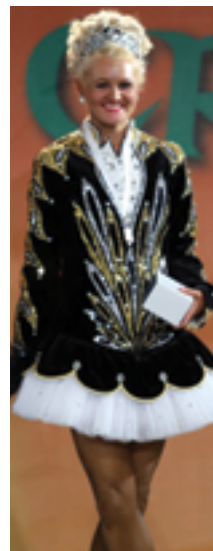
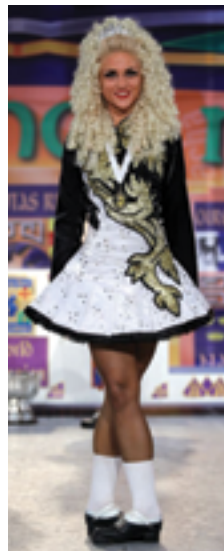
It's a competition I haven't had the opportunity to attend for over a decade, so my expectations were high. I knew it promised to be quite a spectacle, especially given it was the first time ever to be hosted in England. I was not to be disappointed.

The venue had an electric atmosphere and provided a beautiful backdrop to the bustle of eight days of competition. Dancers from all four corners of the globe were to compete in solo, Ceili, choreography and dance drama categories in a variety of age groups.

At times the only issue became the popularity of competitions. There were some lengthy queues to enter the theatres, but the spirits and camaraderie of the elite dancers and their followers made this less of a chore.

The days were long, and the competition fierce. The sheer talent and skills on display were a marvel to watch, and a credit to the dancers' and teachers' hard work and dedication. But behind every dancer there is a tight-knit and supportive family, whose sacrifices and encouragement must not be overlooked.

Solo routines were made up of a combination of intricate moves that could be likened to ballet, gymnastics, traditional Irish dance moves and intricate rhythm patterns. The level of skill and ability in team competitions was a pleasure to witness. The teams' dancers morphed into single organisms, with beautiful intricate synchronised dancing and choreography. There were



From left, Queenslanders Molly Armstrong, Celia Shawcross, Theresa Shaw and Jonathan Shaw.



World Champion in under 20 Ladies, Ceili Moore from New South Wales, with her mum Fiona Gaye Moore.

many moments in the theatres where the audiences were on the edges of their seats with the excitement of the routines.

What stayed with me over the course of the competition was the sheer strength and endurance in performances, as well as talent across all age groups.

There has been much talk over recent years of the 'toddlers and tiaras' look of the modern day Irish dancers. The unsuspecting lay-person entering the foyer of the London Hilton Metropole could be forgiven for being mesmerised by the wigs, tans and elaborate costumes. However, if given the opportunity to watch the competitions, they would have seen past the 'stage look' and had the true elite athleticism, professionalism, and spectacle that is modern Irish dancing revealed to them.

There were approximately 145 solo dancers from Australia, including 29 Queensland dancers and two Australian Ceili teams, who were very competitive.

Foremost from Queensland was Theresa Shaw, who won 9th place in her under 21 ladies age group, and her brother Jonathan won 21st place in the under 12 boys section. In the senior ladies section (21 years +) Celia Shawcross, who was featured in the last edition of IQ, won 34th place and Molly Armstrong won 49th place.

The other Queensland competitors all danced their hearts out and should be proud of their performances.

Australia's other states and territories' achievements were impressive, boasting four top five places and many other places won. Ceili Moore, from New South Wales, became the World Champion in the under 20 Ladies, following in her mother Fiona Gaye Moore's footsteps (pardon the pun!). Fiona was the first-ever Australian World Champion in 1980 and has now coached her daughter to equally dizzying heights. This mother-daughter World Champion duo is only the second in the competition's history. Australia can be very proud!

Erin McArthur from Victoria won second place in the

under 21 ladies section, Conor Simpson from South Australia won third place in the under 20 men's section, and Liam Costello from New South Wales won fourth place in the under 12 boys section.

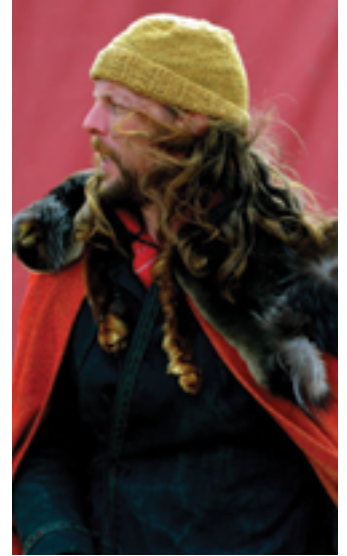
The McAleer School, from Victoria, won 10th place in the Senior Ladies Ceili dancing championships - over 19 years.

To say this event is simply a weeklong Irish dancing competition would not do justice to everyone involved and to the event itself.

The Worlds, as they are affectionately known, have transformed into an festive opportunity for the Irish dancing community to catch up with friends across the world and to enjoy the atmosphere.

Australian and Queensland dancers and teachers are a significant part of the World Championships and continue to make their marks in the results tally every year.

The Australian contribution to Irish dancing will be advanced with the inaugural Australian International Oireachtas, hosted at the Royal Pines Resort (Gold Coast, May 30 - June 1, 2014). International competitors and judges will be participating in this new Irish dancing event. For more information on this competition, visit www.aidainc.com



Meet the 2014 Queensland Rose entrants

THESE nine ladies entered the 2014 Queensland Rose of Tralee competition.

The selection ball took place at Queensland Irish Club on May 24.

In the next IQ, we will have full details on who was chosen to travel to Ireland to represent Queensland in the Rose of Tralee contest.



Vivian Fay.



Sophie Blyth.



Siobhan Ehrich.



Eleanor Miller.



Caitlyn O'Sullivan.



Laura Ryan.



Katie Jennings.



Ashlenn O'Neill.



Helen Murphy.

Amach



Snapped out and about in Brisbane

Pics: Irish Queenslander



Ruth Carroll with Danny O'Reilly of The Coronas in Mick O'Malley's.



Peter Byrne performing his Celtic Legends show in Queensland Irish Club.



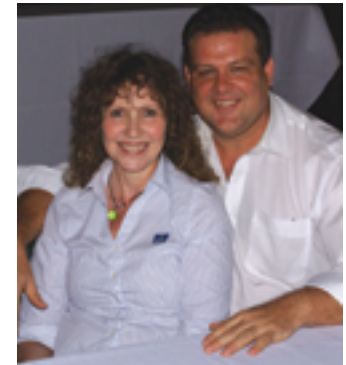
Joan and Sandra Ellington with Melinda Ward at Peter Byrne's show.



Wilf, Pamela and Andy Knighton at Peter Byrne.



QIA Pipe Band members at Queensland Irish Club.



Katie O'Brien and Michael Butler at Peter Byrne's show.



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 <p>THE KELLY FAMILY BAND SAT 14TH - 12PM (FOLK STAGE)</p>	 <p>MALENY CEILI BAND (W/DAVYD) SAT 14TH - 2PM (FOLK STAGE)</p>	 <p>THE FAMOUS JIMMIES SAT 14TH - 3.30PM (FOLK STAGE)</p>	 <p>MICK MCHUGH SAT 14TH - 7PM (FOLK STAGE)</p>	 <p>SUNAS SUN 15TH - 12PM (SHAMROCK STAGE)</p>	 <p>KATHERINE ALLAN SUN 15TH - 1.30PM (SHAMROCK STAGE)</p>



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Pathways to permanent residency

If you're in Australia on a temporary visa, considering permanent residency, there are many pathways available to you, depending on your circumstances. It's worthwhile examining all your options as the right choice may not be what you expect.

Employer nomination is a popular choice where you are on a subclass 457 visa. The most popular route is the Transitional stream, which requires two years on a 457 with that employer, but you may also be eligible for the Direct Entry stream before two years have elapsed. For the Direct Entry stream you will need a positive skills assessment and at least three years post qualification work experience.

If your work is in a regional area the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme is an option. Both Transitional and Direct Entry streams exist. The requirements are generally lower than Employer Nomination but the downside is that you must continue to work for your sponsoring employer in the regional area, or your visa



MIGRATION ADVICE
by Helen Duncan
Registered Migration Agent
ANWL Migrations
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may be cancelled. You will still need to show you have relevant skills and qualifications, but you may not need a skills assessment, and you don't need to prove three years work post qualification work experience. In all cases your employee must nominate you, and they need to meet the nomination requirements.

If your employer is reluctant to nominate you, or if you'd prefer not to rely on their nomination, you might consider independent skilled pathways. The basic requirements are that your occupation is on the Skilled Occupation List (SOL) and you have a positive skills assessment, are under 50 years of age, and have competent English. You need to score at least 60 points on the skilled points test, lodge an expression of interest through the Skillsselect system, and be invited to apply.

There are regular invitation rounds. With the financial year 2013/14 coming to a close there will be two invitation rounds in May and two in June with a total of around 5000 invitations to be issued for subclass 189 visas.

There are rumours that some occupations (such as Accountants) will be removed from the skill list on 1 July 2014, but we will not know for sure until the announcement on the new Skilled Occupation List is made. Currently around 60% of the invitations for subclass 189 visas are issued to applicants on 60 points and most applicants only need to wait a few rounds to get an invitation. The applicants that have to wait longer tend to be those with certain IT or engineering occupations but even for

them, the wait is currently only a few months.

We are seeing a number of people with invitations that cannot be used because incorrect information has been supplied with the EOI. It's critical that these line up so that you don't waste an invitation, or lodge an application that will be refused.

If you don't get to 60 points, or if your occupation is not on the SOL, consider state sponsorship or designated area sponsorship. Every state has different requirements, but recent expansion of the list of occupations that Queensland will sponsor has really opened up options for some people. In our experience state sponsorship is well worth considering amongst your options.

Irish firm to create 2,100 jobs at Darwin gas plant

KENTZ has secured two multi-million dollar contracts for one of the most important gas projects in Australia.

The Tipperary engineering company will create more than 2,100 jobs during the construction of a new gas processing plant in Blaydin Point, Darwin.

The contracts were awarded by JKC Australia LNG Pty Ltd which is responsible for the engineering, procurement and construction of the Ichthys Project Onshore LNG Facilities. The structural, mechanical and piping contract was won in late-February for \$640 million. The underground electrical and instrumental construction contract was won in April for \$615 million.

When completed, the new liq-

uefied natural gas project facility will produce 8.4 million tonnes of LNG and 1.6 million tonnes of liquefied petroleum gas each year.

Executive Sponsor for Kentz, Michael Murphy, said the contracts would allow the company to build on its presence in Australia.

"This award further strengthens our position in the Australian LNG market and extends our relationship with JKC through the development of this important asset," said Mr Murphy.

Both contracts will begin in August this year.

Kentz is a global company, employing 14,500 people and operating in 36 countries, with offices in Brisbane and Perth.

by Tom Kealy



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East's Celts GFC held a fundraising Golf Day at North Lakes Resort Golf Club on Saturday, May 17. The winning team on the day was Fergal Beacon and Mark Keogh. Tim Barnes of East's Celts thanked the sponsors who helped with the fundraiser: "Thank you to our sponsors for helping us with the golf day. We had a wonderful turn-out, with 46 people playing on the day."

It's go for live GAA on Aussie TV

THE GAA has announced that people in Australia are now able to watch live TV coverage of all 45 championship games on the free-to-air Seven network. This coverage began with the Tyrone v Down match.

RTÉ Director General Noel Curran said it was necessary to make GAA games available abroad.

"Gaelic games are at the heart of our culture and while its home is Ireland, Gaelic games are ardently followed and celebrated by the Irish diaspora worldwide, providing a sense of home from home," Mr Curran said.

Achieving this coverage in Australia does not come without causing effects for viewers in Ireland. The GAA have confirmed a relatively small reduction in



The GAA and RTÉ have launched GAAGO, a new live and on-demand streaming service for fans outside the island of Ireland. At the launch were GAA Director General Páraic Duffy and RTÉ director general Noel Curran.

the number of free-to-air games available to the Irish audience at home must occur to cater for the Irish audience living abroad.

Expats in Australia can also soon watch live GAA games in a new streaming service including full commentary, scores, and

studio programming.

The service, called GAAGO, will be available to any subscriber's internet-enabled device, including mobile phones, tablet devices and laptops. However, it is only available at a cost.

In a recent Joint Oireachtas

Committee on Transport and Communications debate, GAA Director General Páraic Duffy says it is not financially viable to make it a free service.

"We have a say [in the subscription fee] but there are major start-up costs in making it happen... this will not be particularly profitable," Mr Duffy said.

A season pass for all championship matches will cost €110 or approximately \$160. Individual matches may be purchased for €10 (\$15); this increases to €14 (\$20) for quarter-final matches and onwards.

GAAGO will be available from June 14. Until then, RTÉ Player will be providing free worldwide streaming of all GAA championship matches.

by Tom Kealy

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Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association News



by Jaime O'Donovan, President

www.gaelicfootballqld.com.au

Nail-biting scenes at Carpenter Cup

QUEENSLAND Gaelic Football and Hurling Association (QGFHA) has been busy this year with the Irish Festival Day, working bees and the constructions of the dressing sheds. The football, hurling and camogie competitions started recently and what a contest we have on our hands.

The ladies competition is thriving this year, with all teams lining out with full squads every week.

Shamrocks ladies re-entered the competition this year and it is wonderful to see them growing stronger every week. With the influx of new players, the QGFHA is striving towards the introduction of a fifth ladies team in 2015.

The Queensland hurling league kicked off on April 6 with Emeralds recording a hard-earned win over reigning champions Na Fianna, on a score line of 3-11 to 0-14. Kieran O'Brien and Brendan Long provided the goals for Emeralds. Brendan continued his scoring streak the following week, bagging a hat-trick in the second league match of the year with Emeralds running out 3-11 to 2-07 winners over Cuchulainns in another hard-hitting game.

Both men's football codes have also been closely fought. There have been many new players taking part. The good standard of play is a positive sign that Queensland will have strong teams to send to Victoria for the Australasian games this year.



Harps senior men's team won the Carpenter Cup in their division.

QGFHA is actively seeking managers, coaches, players and sponsors to assist in ensuring we have the best teams attending the Australasian games. If you are interested in being involved, please contact the association.

The children's hurling has been well attended and continues on Sundays at 10.30am. The children's Gaelic football Go Games commences on June 22 at 9.30am. All children are welcome to attend.

This year, the QGFHA are sponsoring Ashlinn O'Neill in the Queensland Rose of Tralee. We wish Ashlinn all the best.

The Queensland league starts on May 17. From what we have seen out at Gaelic Park already this year, the league is shaping up to be very competitive. We have seen a lot of new faces and we always welcome new supporters and members. We are lucky to have great facilities, a fully

stocked bar, chips and curry, and a great atmosphere, which we would love to share with the wider community.

Congratulations to the East Celts ladies, Shamrocks men's division two and Harps senior men's teams, who won the Carpenter Cup final on May 10.

Ladies match report

The ladies game was hard-fought. Both teams did not give up, however, in the end, Easts Celts defeated John Mitchels 0.15 to 0.7. The first half was closely fought with both goalkeepers making brilliant saves. East Celts took it away in the second half to win their fourth Carpenter Cup.

Division Two

The Gold Coast Gaels entered the competition this year and made it through to their first final. Shamrocks has had a few tough years, however, through a lot of hard work from their members, they have grown stronger

and won their first Carpenter Cup, defeating Gold Coast 1-12 to 1-10. What a fantastic game it was. The lead changed multiple times throughout the game and the men continued to push themselves to the very end. The supporters on the sideline created an atmosphere that could be heard miles away. In the last five minutes of the game, Shamrocks kicked multiple points to win the game by two points.

Senior Men

The Senior Men's Carpenter Cup was again closely fought between two very talented teams, with the lead changing hands many times. It was one of the last kicks of the game that saw Harps defeat John Mitchels by one point. The final score was 1.10 to 1.09. It was a nail-biting game and the teams and managers should be proud of the quality of football they put on display for the crowd.



Shamrocks men's division two team were Carpenter Cup winners, and, right, Easts Celts.



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Dennis makes it 19

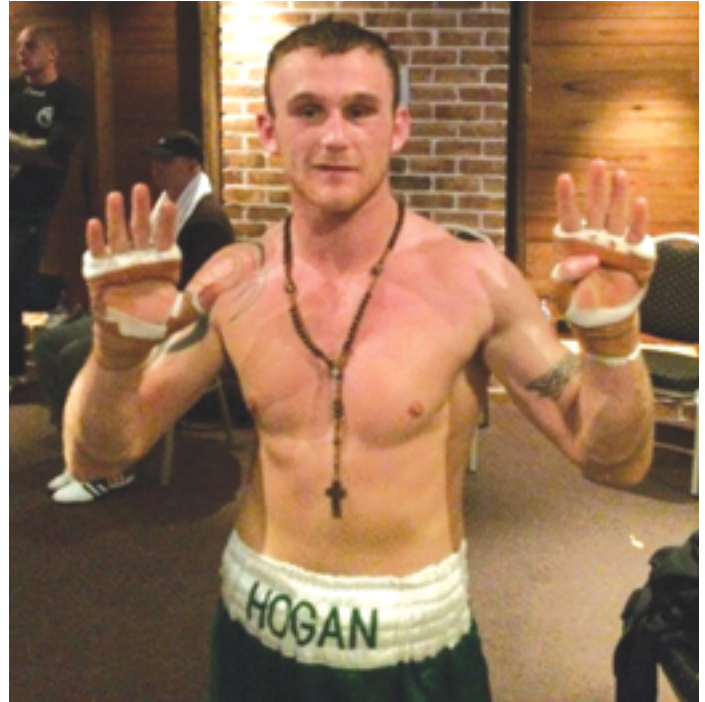
I WAS meant to fight on Wednesday, May 21 but unfortunately I had to withdraw due to a reoccurrence of an old hand injury.

There was still a lot of Irish interest in the show at the Eaton Hills Hotel, Brisbane as Tyrone's Adrian McCann and Kildare's Dennis Hogan took to the ring.

Clonoe's Adrian McCann, having only his second contest as a paid fighter, took centre stage against Sydney's Will Sands. Sands, known for his brawling, scrappy style made the contest a dog-fight, not allowing welter-weight McCann much room to tee off his shots and forcing McCann to adapt his game-plan and dig deep. In what was an entertaining four-round dust up, McCann came off second best in the eyes of the judges.

Amazingly, one judge gave McCann all four rounds but the other two judges somehow scored the fight to Sands. The judges scorecards read; 40-36 McCann, 39-38, 39-37 Sands. McCann can feel hard done by as most of the crowd felt that he'd done more than enough to take the spoils. It's extremely disappointing to be on the wrong end of a dubious decision but I'm sure it will spur Adrian on and we'll soon see him back in action.

Dennis, who struggled to find a replacement fighter after his Australian Title opponent pulled out, looked in great physical shape as he squared off against Alice Springs' David Galvin. Galvin,



Dennis Hogan holds the longest undefeated streak at 19 of any active Irish boxer.

who Hogan had beaten earlier in his career, put in a gutsy performance against the Australian champion but was no match for Hogan's ferocious power.

The difference in strength was obvious from the first bell, with Hogan staggering Galvin with powerful hooks to both the body and chin.

Galvin to his credit was game and tried to make a fight of it but could not find an opening as Hogan picked him off at ease.

Galvin was wobbled again in the fifth and it looked ominous that the end was near. A massive

right hand and left hook early in the sixth shook the Alice Springs' native and he was defenceless as he took a double right-hand flush on the button that sent him to the canvas and out for the count.

Dennis is now undefeated in 19 fights and ready to make an impact on the world stage.

It's good to see Derry's Liam Hutchinson back in the gym after a short break.

Liam, cousin of former European champ Paul McCloskey, is currently training hard and he hopes to be fighting in Brisbane in July.



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Surprises all round in league

Hi Folks,

Manchester City is now the new Champions of the English Premier League 2014 in what has been the most enthralling competition for many years.

Well, I kid you not, but only 10 days ago the heading for this edition my IQ column was shaping as a big congratulations to Liverpool for winning the Championship! But their winning run came to a dead end against Chelsea at Anfield.

As you know, I didn't fancy Liverpool's chances this season. But who would've imagined that the 'Mighty Reds' would go on a run of 12 games undefeated? They were like an express train going through their opponents. I mentioned previously, that having Luis Suarez in your team, they were capable of success, he is now being head hunted by Real Madrid, who are desperate to sign him for next season.

They also had superb attacking players like Sterling and Sturridge, who both contributed great form and scoring goals. That should have been enough to seal the title for Liverpool. However, defensively, they let themselves down. Steven Gerard is a fantastic footballer who deserves to win a championship, but how cruel for him that his mistake led to Chelsea's triumph. Heartbreak for Brendan Rodgers, though he has just been offered a new four-year contract. He was quoted a few weeks ago saying that as a young boy from Northern Ireland, he idolised Celtic, and loved the way they attacked so openly. He wanted his teams to emulate the Glasgow club.

This has been the most competitive Championship for many years, going right down to the wire. There was no lead from Manchester United. Sir Alex's choice, David Moyes didn't even



Manchester City celebrating their English Premier League 2014 win.

get a year in the hot seat. It was always going to be an impossible task. Ryan Giggs will be in charge till the end of the season. I don't think he will be given the job permanently, even though he would be a popular choice. Its odds-on that Man United will hire a foreign manager.

The Champions League final has not been played as we go to press, but it looks like a mouth-watering prospect between the fabulous Real Madrid and big surprise team of the season Atletico Madrid, who are still sitting top of La Liga. I have to say, that having a fit Ronaldo and Gareth Bale in your team should be enough for Real to win the trophy. Also, that the final will be played in Lisbon, which is Ronaldo's home town, will give even more advantage to the greatest player in the world. Now, before anyone thinks I've written off Atletico, I have to say quickly they will be very tough opponents who could perhaps win if they play to top form.

However, I do have personal reasons why I don't want Atletico to win! Maybe seems ridiculous as its now different players and 30 years on, but the name Atletico Madrid doesn't sit right with the veteran Celtic supporters and ex-players. Let me explain: I had just signed for Celtic, and we

were going well in the (Champions League) European Cup. We were drawn in the semi-final against Atletico. Not much was known about them, as they very much lived in the shadows of their great rivals Real. However, alarm bells started ringing when it was revealed that their coach was the infamous Juan Carlos Lorenzo. He had been in charge of the Argentine national squad at the 1966 World Cup Finals, who at that time had been branded 'animals' by England manager Alf Ramsey after their quarter-final match against England at Wembley.

Atletico's arrival in Glasgow for the first leg did little to dispel growing unease that we were in for a similar kind of scenario! In front of 70,000 at Celtic Park the teams lined up. The vicious tackling started from the kick off. Ten Yellow cards were dished out in the game and after 90 minutes, the Spanish club were reduced to eight players. One more player sent off and the game would and should have been abandoned. They got their 0-0 result. Celtic stupidly played the return game in Madrid, a game in which they lost by two late goals. It was the dirtiest game I have ever witnessed. Anyway, you know who I'll be rooting for in Lisbon?

All the best, Andy

QGFHA sponsor Ashlinn for Queensland Rose

QUEENSLAND Gaelic Football and Hurling Association have sponsored Ashlinn O'Neill for this year's Queensland Rose of Tralee competition.

Pictured with Ashlinn, above, third from left, are the QGFHA committee members, from left, Kay Gray (vice president), Jaime O'Donovan (president) and Mark McAleer (secretary).

The Rose selection ball took place at Queensland Irish Club on May 24. Twice Queensland has provided Tralee with the International Rose. Once in 2006 with Kathryn Feeney, and again in 2011 with Tara Talbot.

Emeralds camogie hold draw for fix to Ireland

EMERALDS Camogie are holding a Club 200 Raffle on July 13.

First prize is two return tickets to Ireland, up to the value of \$4,500, plus \$500 spending money. Second prize is \$300 cash. Third prize is a hamper of goodies.

You will be in with a one-in-200 chance of winning as only 200 tickets will be sold. Tickets cost \$100.

You can purchase by emailing brisbanecamogie@gmail.com

The camogie league final will be held on Sunday, July 13 at Willawong. Everyone welcome, a great day out is guaranteed!

Michael Cusacks take on Emeralds hurling

INSPIRED by State of Origin, two hurling teams thought they would get into the spirit of things with New South Wales taking on Queensland.

Emeralds will play their first match in New South Wales vs Sydney team Michael Cusack's GAA. Micheal Cusacks are one of Sydney's oldest clubs, celebrating their 25th season last year. The match will take place in Sydney on June 7. For more, see www.facebook.com/emeralds.hurling

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.



News from around Ireland, written by Roisin Brouder

MEATH

A LARGE 'Save Navan Hospital' rally has been held protesting against the Health Service Executive, fearing closure of A&E services at Our Ladies Hospital. Patients would need to consider travelling 26km to Drogheda for emergency support instead.

CORK

Taoiseach Enda Kenny has announced a \$30 million Government grant towards the \$70 million redevelopment of Páirc Uí Choimh stadium. The modernised stadium will have a 45,000 capacity and will also feature a special centre of sports excellence and a GAA museum. Work on the project, which will create 400 jobs during building, is expected to get under way later this year.

LEITRIM

The Corn Mill Theatre in Leitrim were the main victors in the RTÉ All Ireland Drama Festival in Athlone. Their production, *The Devil's Céilí*, won the best play and best director awards on the night. Part of the prize is the staging of their show in the Peacock Theatre in Dublin.

LIMERICK

Four transition year students from St Nessan's Community College recently returned from a NASA flight centre in the US. They had won a national competition for scientific applications that can be used by the astronautics industry. Their experiment involved seeing whether lunar materials such as moon dust can be used to make cement.



Thousands took part in the Pieta House Darkness Into Light walk at Phoenix Park in Dublin on May 10, to raise suicide awareness. The event takes place in nearly 40 locations in Ireland as well as in London and Sydney.

DUBLIN

Tens of thousands of people took part in the Pieta House 'Darkness into Light' five kilometre walk on around the country on May 10, and the event was also held in London and Sydney. Pieta House is a free service available in nine centres all over Ireland, to counsel clients and support families and friends who are affected by depression and suicide. 90% of their income comes from fund-raising and donations.

TIPPERARY

Martin Loneragan, who is running for the Tipperary County Council elections, wrote and sung a song encouraging locals to text and tell their family and friends to vote for him. He will rely on word of mouth, texting and social media

in his election campaign and has chosen not to put up campaign posters in the town, in support of the Tidy Towns programme.

KERRY

The highest pub in Ireland, Top of Coom bar, has reopened after two years. The pub is perched in a scenic mountainous area between Kilgarvan, Co. Kerry, and Coolea, Co. Cork, and dates back to 1846. At more than 1,000ft above sea level, owners the Creedon family claim it is Ireland's highest pub. It was burned to the ground in May 2012, with fifth-generation owners Tim and Eileen Creedon and their four children, who lived over the premises, losing all their possessions. The family rebuilt the pub and were joined by friends and regulars at the

reopening. A video of three farmers celebrating the reopening has gone viral and was featured in BBC's *Have I Got News For You* comedy show.

DONEGAL

A group of young students from Donegal are hoping to make a go of their new business venture - coffins for pets, or as they call them, Peffins. Established by five students from St Columba's secondary school in Stranolar, they say they came up with the idea of Peffins when a family friend's pet died and the family couldn't find a coffin to buy their pet in. The wooden coffins come in all sizes - small enough for hamsters and larger ones for cats and dogs. Large coffins for medium-sized dogs cost from €40.

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A farmer native to Tyrone has built a 10-foot tall stone replica of the Sam Maguire cup in Donegal to remind the county of its 2012 All-Ireland success. Anthony Barrett, a farmer native to Omagh, built it on his farmland in Newtowncunningham in Co. Donegal. It is 12 feet wide and took Barrett three months to complete. Pictured is Anthony and his daughter Joanne who plays with Tyrone minor ladies.

Every boy wants a puppy... but for Sean, it will change his life



Sean Senbel-Lynch is no ordinary little 3 and a half year old. Sean has Cerebral Palsy, a life-long, non-progressive condition.

Sean's family are fundraising to help him get an Assistance Dog. Sean's dog will be specially trained to accompany him at all times, and help him cope with things that most people take for granted. Sean's dog will be able to identify when a seizure is commencing and help to secure and comfort Sean.

Sean's family have set up a website where you can get more information and make donations. Go to www.seanseanthesuperhero.com.

A fundraising dinner will be held so that you can help Sean to get his new best friend.

Sean's SmartPups Fundraising Dinner

Friday, 20 June, 6.30pm

Three-course dinner, auction, raffles and entertainment

Queensland Irish Club, 175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Tickets: \$100. Book by 13 June on 0404 269 551



www.seanseanthesuperhero.com

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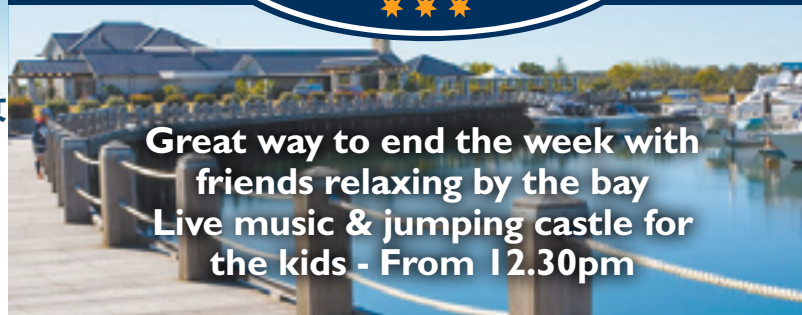
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