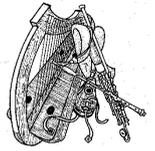




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August (Lúnasa) 2019 Newsletter of the Darling Downs Irish Club Inc.

PO Box 7510, Toowoomba South 4350 Ph. **(07) 46398926**

Web: <http://darlingdownsirishclub.org.au>



Darling Downs Irish Club

Editor: Peter Kenny normandpete@hotmail.com

President: Tomas Guerin 0418717777 tomas_guerin@yahoo.com.au

Secretary: Ian Chase 0428835048 leslie_chase@bigpond.com

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1. The Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held at 6.00pm. on Friday 30th during the monthly gathering of Club members. Please make the effort to be there to hear all the latest about the D.D.I.C. The Club Auditor will be there to answer any questions.

In addition, the election of the new Committee will take place. Some of the current Committee are getting a bit long in the tooth, and we need new members to join up to help out.

The Committee meets just once a month and the meetings are not long. So have some serious thought and give something back to your Club.

2. Club Matters and Members' News and Stories:

▪ **Heard at the July members' gathering:**

An elderly Irish lady bought a sports car to recapture her youth and drove at 120 m.p.h. Then she saw a police car behind her, lights flashing. "I'm too old for this nonsense," she thought so she pulled over.

"Lady, my shift ends in ten minutes. If you can give me a good reason why you were speeding, I'll let you go."

"Years ago, my husband ran off with a one of your lot. I thought you were bringing him back"
"That'll do," replied the policeman.

- **The August Diary: Full Committee meeting:** Thursday 8th, 7.00pm; **Members' night – Friday 30th from 5.00 – 8.00pm give or take. Financial members qualify for one drinks voucher. The AGM will be held at 6.00pm.;**
The Set Dancing Ceilidh will be held at the hotel at 6.00pm on Saturday 10th – see flyer for details.
 - **Jigs, Reels, Hornpipes, Polkas etc. as well as Irish songs - Traditional Irish Music sessions are held at 7.00pm. EVERY Tuesday** in the Michael Collins Bar. On-lookers and supporters are most welcome. **Genuine traditional Irish tunes** are played in the place where 'atmosphere is everything'.
 - **This month, this group will be playing at the Queen's Park multicultural event on SUNDAY 11th.** Why not come along and support the Irish contribution to the day? Enjoy the wide variety of music, dance and food. Your Club will be holding a stall.
 - **And while you have the diary out, mark off Saturday 19th October for the Annual Dinner.**
 - **July Committee Meeting: 1)** a number of accounts were passed for payment. Your Club is in a very sound financial position; **2)** we have 114 members on our books – please pay your renewals ASAP; **3)** five new National members were approved – Marcus Holmes, Peter McDonald, Michael Murtagh, and Karen and Joseph Perry. We welcome these new members and hope to see a lot of them as they become more involved; **4)** some 36 members attended our June members' night - a good turn - out. Having the meal table set where we meet is a good innovation. Music to be played as well; **5)** looking at making a corridor between the Celtic Bar and the walkway near the dining area, as well as unisex toilets and baby change room near the main bar; **6)** Bloomsday

report – the best yet by far; **7)** discussion and plans for the Ceilidh worked on; **8)** Queen’s Park Languages and Cultural festival – Sunday 11th August. Club performances at 10.00am and 2.30pm; **9)** possibility of badges for members at own cost discussed; **10)** bigger bucket J.J. hats ordered for this month’s members’ night. **11)** Irish Modern Celtic Band in the Jim Coburn Bar – 8 pm Saturday 24th this month

3. WWW Sites: Leitrim Sculpture Park located in Monorhamilton was set up to advance skills in and knowledge of traditional, contemporary and experimental visual arts.

www.leitrimsculpturecentre.ie

4. News from Ireland:

▪ In January this year, the Irish Government opened for the first time, an Embassy in Bogota, Columbia,

5. Bits and Pieces:

▪ **An Irish Epitaph** - Denis McCabe – fiddler:
Beware ye fiddlers of the fiddler’s fate.
Attempt not ye deep, lest ye repent too late;
Ye may have ben taking the water foes?
Then shun ye lake till it with whiskey flows.
On firm lande only exercise yr skill,
There you may seeke safety – drink yr fill.
D.D.D.
(Denis died drunk!!)

▪ Quote from James Joyce:” Satan, really, is the romantic youth of Jesus re-appearing for a moment.”
▪ What’s the difference between a bodhran and a trampoline? A. You take your shoes off when you jump on a trampoline!

6. This month in Irish history: Arrested on Good Friday 1916, Roger Casement is executed on 3rd August at Pentonville, England.

7. ‘Tings ‘Oirish:

▪ Who said this? “That’s as well said, as if I had said it myself.”
(The answer at the end of this newsletter.)
▪ **This month’s Irish Blessing:**
May the roof above us never fall in,
And may we friends gathered below
Never fall out.

▪ **Irish wisdom:** On the ladder of success, there is always someone on the rung above using your head to steady himself(sic).

▪ **Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) - monthly comment:** The only difference between the saint and the sinner is that every saint has a past and every sinner has a future.

▪ **W. B. Yeats’ poem:** “A woman young and old – A Last Confession.”

Flinging from his arms I laughed
To think his passion such
He fancied that I gave a soul
Did but our bodies touch,
And laughed upon his breast to think
Beast gave beast so much. (Cont’d.)

▪ **This Month’s Limerick:**

The Irishman said with a grouch,
“ ‘Tis winter when you sneeze and you slouch.
You can’t take your women,
In a canoe or out swimming,
But a lot can be done on a couch.”

8. Irish History: Colonists and Defenders.

Concessions to Catholics also emerged because Irish Catholics had proven their reliability back in 1745 when the Scottish Jacobite rebellion under Bonny Prince Charlie found no echo there, although this was due not to anti-Jacobite hostility but to the effects of a severe famine in the early 1740’s which claimed about 300 000 lives and left the peasantry exhausted. (Continued.)

9. Words from President, Tomas

Folks,
Thank you for the feedback last month on improving members nights and the large turnout. We have the AGM in August and will run in a similar format to previous years. There has been a request for more availability of access to the audited accounts so we will accommodate that. Remember you will need to get any board position nominations in by the 16th August. We are always looking for keen members to assist and develop the club.

Tomas

(Answer: Jonathan Swift.)