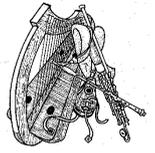




# he Shenanigans



## December (Nollaig) 2019 Newsletter of the Darling Downs Irish Club Inc.

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Darling Downs Irish Club

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### Contents

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Christmas.                              | 5. Bits & Pieces.         |
| 2. Club matters & Members' news & stories. | 6. This month in history. |
| 3. www.sites.                              | 7. 'Tings "Oirish"'.      |
| 4. News from Ireland.                      | 8. A bit of history.      |
|  | 9. President's words.     |

- 1. Christmas Blessings to all Club members** this festive season. Travel safely, those who will be on the roads, on the seas and in the sky.

Go raibh gach sonas  
Ort an Nollaig seo.

(go reve gok sonas ought on Nollag shu.)

"Wishing you every happiness this Christmas."

This year we had record attendances at the St. Brigid's Day lunch, Bloomsday Celebrations, and the Annual Dinner. Congratulations to all members for your support of the Committee's hard work.

- 2. Club Matters and Members' News and Stories:**

- **Heard at the November members' gathering:**

"We're looking for a treasurer for the Christmas fund," said Paddy.

"Didn't you take on a new one last month?" asked Murphy.

"That's the one we're looking for," Paddy replied.

- **The December Diary: Full Committee meeting:** Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>, 7.00pm; **Members' night – NONE this month. See you in January.**
- **Traditional Irish Music sessions** at 7.00pm EVERY Tuesday in the Michael Collins Bar – except 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. On-lookers and supporters welcome. **Genuine traditional Irish tunes and songs are played in the place where 'atmosphere is everything'.**
- **November Committee Meeting 1)** payment was approved for repair work in the Celtic Bar; **2)** long discussion re the renewal of the long term deposit of our money due for renewal in December; **3)** lease renewal points from the Club now with lessee and his legal people; **4)** 2 new social members approved as well as one National Member, Lorelle Bidgood, bringing the total to 108 members; **5)** looking into renewals next year being done on-line; **6)** Christmas Party – 10 hams ordered + pinata + decorations + music + Irish dancers etc. All under control; **7)** review of the Annual Dinner – many good points and some not so good. These to be communicated to the licensee. Congratulations to Committee members for all their good work; **8)** centenary of publication of 'Ulysses' to be kept in mind for 2022; **9)** possibility of offering a scholarship for Irish Dancing; **10)** Carnival of Flowers involvement in 2020; **11)** the 2020 calendar approved – the April Committee meeting postponed for a week because of Holy Thursday clash.

**Don't forget to keep the afternoon of Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December free for the Christmas Party. See flyer.**

3. **WWW Sites:** a collection of Irish songs and

poems can be ordered from Mercier Press at [www.mercierpress.ie/irish-books/ballads\\_of\\_a\\_bogman/](http://www.mercierpress.ie/irish-books/ballads_of_a_bogman/)

4. **News from Ireland:**

- Aer Lingus now flies daily from Dublin to Minneapolis – St Paul – an 8 hr 45 min flight.

5. **Bits and Pieces:**

▪ **An Irish Epitaph – Cork:**

Beneath this graveyard stone is buried  
The body of a youth unmarried.  
Death caught him swimming near this place  
And drowned this hope of the human race.

- **Quote from James Joyce:** “The demand that I make of my reader is that he should devote his whole life to reading my works.”

6. **This month in history.**

Throughout December 1916 many political prisoners were released..

7. **‘Tings ‘Oirish:**

- **Who said this?** “What really flatters a man is that you think him worth flattering.”

(The answer at the end of this newsletter.)

- **This month’s Irish Blessing:**

The light of the Christmas star to you.  
The warmth of home and hearth to you.  
The cheers and goodwill of good friends to you.  
The love of the Son and God’s peace to you.

- **Irish wisdom:** Burning the candle at both ends will soon leave you without a light.

(Sound advice at this time of year.)

- **Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) - monthly comment:** Ordinary riches can be stolen; real riches cannot. In your soul are infinitely precious things that cannot be taken from you.

- **W. B. Yeats’ poem:** “A Prayer for Old Age”

O what am I that I should not seem  
For the song’s sake a fool?

I pray – for fashion’s word is out  
And prayer comes round again –  
That I may seem, though I die old,  
A foolish passionate man.

(Concluded.)

- **This Month’s Limerick:**

A ‘Rose of Tralee’ with such graces  
That her curves cried out for embraces.

“You look,” cried each he

“Like a million to me,

Invested in all the right places.”

8. **Irish History: Colonists and Defenders.**

Both the Orange Order and its mirror image, the defenders, were sectarian, populist movements; both stressed sectarian solidarity above all else. The Orange Order still exists. The Defenders have long since disappeared, but Defenderism – the practice of Catholic communal solidarity – has not. (Concluded.)

9. **Words from President, Tomas.**

Hello Folks,

Thanks to all who attended the November member’s night with over 40 in attendance. We look forward to hosting the Christmas Party on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> so please send in the RSVP for Santa. I would also like to announce that Gitie House will be the guest speaker at the St Brigid’s luncheon 2/2/20.

*Tomas*

(Answer: George Bernard Shaw.)

