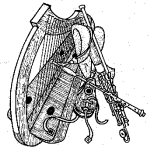




# he Shenanigans



## February (Feabhra) 2019 Newsletter of the Darling Downs Irish Club Inc.

PO Box 7510, Toowoomba South 4350 Ph.: **07 4639 8926**

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



Darling Downs Irish Club

Editor: Peter Kenny [normandpete@hotmail.com](mailto:normandpete@hotmail.com)

President: Tomas Guerin 0418717777 [tomas\\_guerin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:tomas_guerin@yahoo.com.au)

Secretary: Ian Chase 0428835048 [leslie\\_chase@bigpond.com](mailto:leslie_chase@bigpond.com)

### Contents

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. St. Brigid.                             | 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. A special blessing - St. Brigid:

St. Brigid has been known to generations of Irish people, and commands affection and respect. She is remembered for her hospitality and hard work, as a woman of God and a woman of the people. She was a powerful personality and appealed to all, from those on high to the humble beggar.

May Brigid bless the house where you dwell,  
Bless every fireside, every wall and door.  
Bless every heart that beats beneath its roof.  
Bless every hand that toils to bring it joy.  
Bless every foot that walks its portals through.  
May Brigid bless the house that shelters you.

#### 2. Club Matters and Members' News and Stories:

##### ▪ **Heard at the January members' gathering:**

A famous German orchestra arrived in Dublin to give a concert. After rehearsal, the conductor sought the stage manager to complain about the acoustics. "Ah, well I know," said the manager, "but what can I do? I've even set traps but I still can't get rid of them!"

▪ **The February Diary: St Brigid's Luncheon Sunday 3rd at noon;** full Committee meeting: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>, 7.00pm; **Members' night – Friday 22nd from 5 – 8.00pm give or take. Financial members qualify for one drinks voucher:**

▪ **Traditional Irish Music sessions** at 7.00pm on EACH Tuesday in the Michael Collins Bar. On-lookers and supporters welcome. **Genuine traditional Irish tunes** are played in the place where 'atmosphere is everything'.

▪ **Slow music** sessions in the Celtic Bar at 3 p.m. on first and third Saturdays.

▪ **And don't forget our St. Patrick's Day March next month – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 10.30.**

▪ **December+January Committee Meetings:**  
**1)** New Irish Flags are to be placed on the hotel roof; **2)** many favourable comments re Christmas Party; **3)** John Ryan's application for National Membership was approved; **4)** more work being done on the Club's history – some interesting items being unearthed in minute books; **5)** Book of Kells posters (11 in total) to possibly be hung in the Celtic Bar – measurements to be examined at January Club night; **6)** Aileen Cater-Steel & Margaret O'Mara to represent the Club at the Caledonian's Burns Dinner in February; **7)** members who have not responded to e-mail reminders re renewals to be taken off the register; **8)** builder to meet re building repairs; **9)** planning for the St. Brigid's Luncheon finalised; **10)** planning for the St. Patrick's Day parade begun – approvals etc.; **11)** Club to make more use of the notice board in the hotel; **12)** possibility of a James Joyce cap/hat being investigated.

**Our annual St. Brigid's day luncheon will be held on Sunday 3rd February at noon in the Tara Room. See flyer for full details.**

**3. WWW Sites:**

Lighthouses of Ireland:  
[www.greatlighthouses.com](http://www.greatlighthouses.com)

**4. News from Ireland:**

▪ Brexit poses serious challenges for indigenous Irish businesses, particularly those involved in exports.

**5. Bits and Pieces:**

▪ **An Irish Epitaph:**

Here I lies,  
And my heart at aise is,  
Wid the point of my nose  
And the tips of my toes  
Turned up to the roots of the daisies.

▪ **Quote from James Joyce:** "If I gave it all up immediately, I'd lose my immortality. I've put in so many enigmas and puzzles that it will keep the professors busy for centuries arguing over what I meant, and that's the only way of ensuring one's immortality."

**6. This month in History:**

Throughout February 1916 communications between the Military Council in Ireland, Clan na Gael in the USA and the German Government confirm Easter as the date of the Rising and arrange military aid.

**7. 'Tings 'Oirish:**

▪ **Who said this?** "Irish alzheimers: you forget everything except the grudges!!"

(The answer at the end of this newsletter.)

▪ **This month's Irish Blessing:**

May you live to be a hundred years,  
With an extra one to repent.

▪ **Irish wisdom:** Wisdom: Our Irish blunders are never blunders of the heart.

▪ **Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) - monthly comment:** Success is a science; if you have the conditions, you get the result.

▪ **W. B. Yeats' poem:**

"To his Heart, bidding it have no fear."  
Be still, be you still, trembling heart;  
Remember the wisdom out of the old days:  
*Him who trembles before the flame and the flood,  
And the winds that blow through the starry ways,  
Let the starry winds and the flame and the flood  
Cover and hide, for he has no part  
With the lonely, majestic multitude.*

▪ **This Month's Limerick:**

There was an old skinflint named Green,  
Who grew so abnormally lean  
And flat and compressed,  
That his back squeezed his chest,  
And sideways he couldn't be seen.

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

All the surface splendour of Ascendancy Ireland could not conceal the general poverty and backwardness of the country. It was a remote, faraway corner of Europe. In effect it was an English colonial frontier. The colonial elite controlled everything, but remained alien in race, religion and to a great extent in language, for the Irish language was still the vernacular in large parts of the island. (Continued.)

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

Hello All

Thanks to all who turned out for the special general meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January. It is excellent to receive feedback so that the committee can work toward meaningful goals for the club. We have a few big months ahead of us with St Brigid's and St Patrick's Day activities in February and March respectively. Please support these cultural events. What was apparent to me from the special meeting was the need to support contemporary Irish cultural activities and I really need to push on with my desire for such an event. Don't let me forget.

*Tomas*

(Answer: Judy Collins – American folk singer.)

