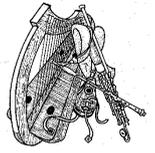




# he Shenanigans



## July (Iúil) 2018 Newsletter of the Darling Downs Irish Club Inc.

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Darling Downs Irish Club

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#### **1. Paddy McGinty's Goat – an extract:**

Paddy McGinty, an Irishman of note,  
Fell in for a fortune and bought himself a goat.  
Says he now of goat's milk, I'm sure to have my fill,  
But when he brought the nanny home, he found it  
was a Bill!

Now all the ladies that live in Killaloe,  
They all wear a bustle like their mothers used to do.  
They each tuck a bolster beneath their pettycoat,  
And leave the rest up Providence and Paddy  
McGinty's goat.

Now old Paddy's goat had a wondrous appetite,  
And one day for dinner he ate some gelegnite,  
A big box of matches he swallowed all serene,  
And then he went and swallowed up a can of  
glycerine.  
He lay down by the fire, he did not give a dang,  
He swallowed one spark...exploded with a BANG!

Now if you go to Heaven, you can bet a five pound  
note,  
The angel with the whiskers on, is Paddy McGinty's  
goat!

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

▪ **Heard at the June members' gathering:**  
An Irishman went to U.S.A where he became a  
policeman. He was assigned, one day, to keep order  
at a communist parade. Anxious to do the job well,

he took his baton and belted an innocent spectator  
who was just looking at the parade. "What did you  
do that for?" asked the spectator. "In fact I'm an  
anti-communist."

"Look," said the Irishman. "I don't care what sort of  
communist you are!"

▪ **The July Diary: Full Committee meeting:** Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>, 7.00pm; **Members' night – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 8 pm give or take. Financial members qualify for one drinks voucher.** Our Irish Whiskey event is still in the planning stages; any member with good ideas or contacts is invited to contact President Tomas.

▪ **Jigs, Reels, Hornpipes, Polkas etc. - AND songs – Traditional Irish Music sessions** at 7 p.m. EVERY Tuesday in the Michael Collins Bar. On - lookers and supporters welcome. **Genuine traditional Irish tunes and songs** are played in the place where 'atmosphere is everything'.

▪ **June Committee Meeting 1)** new National member, Wendy Andrews approved; **2) renewal notices for membership for the coming year will go out soon. The annual fee of \$20 remains; (Best value in town!)** **3)** if any member has information about the Club's early presidents, we would appreciate a call so we can progress with Club's Honour Board; **4)** the president will be sending out a letter to lapsed members to see if we can invite them back

▪ **Last month's Bloomsday celebration**, the best ever according to some, was held on the windy 17<sup>th</sup>. Many James Joyce tragics attended (both members and others – even an appreciative dog!) and shared bits and pieces of this magnificent 20<sup>th</sup> century novel. Readings were delivered at the James Joyce seat in Federation Park followed by an entertaining luncheon at our hotel. Many thanks to Aileen for organising the video and the questionnaire after the luncheon both of which were enjoyed by an enthusiastic group.

3. WWW Sites: Michael Collins again. The Michael Collins House Museum in 7 Emmet Square, Clonakinty is open for business: [www.michaelcollinshouse.ie](http://www.michaelcollinshouse.ie)

4. News from Ireland:

- The Irish National Opera (INO) was launched in January this year by merging the Wide Open Opera and Opera Theatre Company. The first artistic director is Fergus Sheil.
- On June 26, the heat wave hit Ireland with the highest temperature being 29.3 at Shannon Airport. Ireland's hottest ever day recorded 33.3 in 1883 at Kilkenny!

5. Bits and Pieces:

▪ **An Irish Epitaph:**

'He lived; he loved; he laughed; he left.'

▪ **Quote from James Joyce:** "I don't want to die. Damn death. Long live life!"

▪ Captain William O'Shea, M.P., the husband of Katherine O'Shea with whom Parnell lived, was too broke to sue for divorce. He relied heavily on financial support from one of Kitty's aunts. However, when the aunt died, he felt no longer restrained, thus ushering in the end of Parnell's political life.

6. This month in Irish history.

Bunaidh Conradh na Gaeilge I mí Iúil 1893 agus d'fhás an eagrais go tapaidh, ag cur tús le hAthbheochan na Gaeilge. I mí Iúil 1918 chuir Fear Ionad an Rí, an Tiarna French, cosc ar Chonradh na Gaeilge, Sinn Féin, Óglaigh na hÉireann agus Cumann na mBan.  
*(The Gaelic League was established in the month of July 1893 and the organisation grew quickly and provided the beginning of the revival of the Irish language. In July 1918 the Lord Lieutenant – literally 'the king's first man or the viceroy' – Lord French put a prohibition/restraint on the Gaelic League, Sinn Fein, the Irish Volunteers and the Women's Council.)* Thanks to Neil Grayson for the translation.

7. 'Tings 'Oirish:

▪ **Who said this?** "Write how you want. The critic will show the world how you could have written better."

(The answer at the end of this newsletter.)

▪ **This month's Irish Blessing:**

May you get all your wishes but one, so you always have something to strive for.

▪ **Irish wisdom:** Glory is fleeting, but obscurity is forever.

▪ **Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) - monthly**

**comment:** Memory...is the diary that we all carry about with us.

▪ **W. B. Yeats' poem:** "The Indian to his Love."  
(Cont'd.)

How we alone of mortals are  
Hid under quiet boughs apart,  
While our love grows an Indian star,  
A meteor of the burning heart,  
One with the tide that gleams, the wings that  
gleam and dart. (Cont'd)

▪ **This Month's Limerick:**

There once was a man from Nantucket,  
Who kept all his cash in a bucket.  
His daughter, named Nan  
Ran away with a man.  
And as for the bucket, Nantucket.

8. Irish History: The Ascendancy – 1700's:

It was a changed church. For under the impact of defeat, Catholics were now seen as, and saw themselves as, a single, coherent group. No longer did the distinction between Gael and Old English have any currency. Now Catholics were simply the dispossessed. (Continued.)

9. Words from President, Tomas.

Hello Folks,

An excellent turn out for our members night last month. As advised this month we will let you "shout" a prospective member a courtesy drink, the same as we hand out to existing members. So if you know somebody who has never been a member who would like to have a look or join, and who hasn't been a financial member previously or since 2016-17, then please invite them along and shout them a drink at our members night. Remember the goal is to get them to join. As I mentioned at the members night, no action has been taken on the Whiskey night, so I have contacted the Downs Club and The Irish Club Hotel for pricing but we will probably need to hold off till after the annual dinner at this stage.

*Tomas*

(Answer: Oliver Goldsmith.)