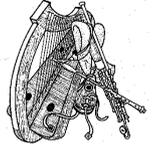




# the Shenanigans



## June (Meitheamh) 2019 Newsletter of the Darling Downs Irish Club Inc.

PO Box 7510, Toowoomba South 4350 **07 46398926**

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. <i>Ecce Puer.</i>                       | 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. Echoing the words of Pontius Pilot when he paraded Jesus crowned with thorns and scourged before the baying crowd (*Ecce Homo* – "Behold the man"), Joyce wrote the following at the birth of his only grandson, shortly after the death of his own father, John Stanislaus, with whom he did not exactly see eye to eye:

#### *Ecce Puer.*

Of the dark past  
A child is born;  
With joy and grief  
My heart is torn.

Calm in his cradle  
The living lies.  
May love and mercy  
Unclose his eyes.

Young life is breathed  
On the glass;  
The world that was not  
Comes to pass.

A child is sleeping:  
An old man gone.  
O, father forsaken  
Forgive your son.

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

- **Heard at the May members' gathering:** Paddy is shocked to find that all his cows have bluetongue. "Be Jaysus!" he says. "I didn't even know they had mobile phones!"
- **The June Diary: Full Committee meeting:** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>, 7.00pm; **Members' night – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 8.00 pm give or take. Financial members qualify for one drinks voucher:**
- **Traditional Irish Music sessions** at 7.00pm **EACH** Tuesday in the Michael Collins Bar. On-lookers and supporters welcome.
- **May Committee Meeting:** **1)** an advert will be placed in the T.C. to promote our Club's Bloomsday celebrations; **2)** new national members approved – Merrienne Black and Emma Kluck; **3)** a fulsome report on the Glen Innes Festival was presented; **4)** Nicole Fay was approved as our Rose of Tralee entrant; **5)** Women in Harmony will sing at the Bloomsday luncheon. Guest speaker and Book reader in hand; **6)** CPI rent review for our Hotel to be decided mid-June; **7)** the Club to be placed on T.R.C.'s list for the Carnival of Flowers Parade mailing list.
- **DON'T forget our Annual Celebration of Bloomsday – the day on which we gather in Federation Park to listen to a short reading from "Ulysses", move to the hotel for lunch, and then view the study version of a chapter or two. James Joyce would be proud of us!! Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> at noon. See attached flyer. Also - [jamesjoyce.ie](http://jamesjoyce.ie)**

3. [WWW Sites:](#) My Streets Tours led by homeless or formerly homeless people have been running in Drogheda since 2014 - [www.mystreetsireland.com](http://www.mystreetsireland.com)

4. [News from Ireland:](#)

▪ Some €13.6m will be invested in the development of four national biking trail centres. They will be in seven different counties – at Ballyhoura (Limerick/Cork), Coolaney (Sligo), the Slieve Blooms ( Offaly/Laois), and Ticknock & Ballinastoe (Dublin/Wicklow). The new trails could attract up to three million visitors a year.

5. [Bits and Pieces:](#)

[An Irish Epitaph –](#)

“Cast a cold Eye  
On life, on Death.  
Horseman, pass by!”

W. B. Yeats – 13/06/1865 – 28/01/1939.

▪ **Quote from James Joyce:** “In *Ulysses* I have recorded, simultaneously, what a man says, sees, thinks, and what such seeing, thinking, saying does to what you Freudians call the sub-conscious – but as for psychoanalysis, it’s neither more nor less than blackmail! (Interview – 1922.)

▪ What do you call a bodhran player with a pager? A. An optimist!

6. [This month in history.](#)

Hundreds of Irish citizens continue to be arrested and deported after the Rising to be held in jails in England and Frongoch Internment Camp Wales. From 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> the trial of Roger Casement was held in London for high treason.

7. [‘Tings ‘Oirish:](#)

▪ **Who said this?** “I have never seen a situation so dismal that a policeman couldn’t make it worse.”

(The answer at the end of this newsletter.)

▪ **This month’s Irish Blessing:**

The health of the salmon to you.

A long life,

A full heart,

And a wet mouth to you.

▪ **Irish wisdom:** If I actually ‘spoke my mind’ I’d be in BIG trouble!

▪ **Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) - monthly comment:** Morality is simply the attitude we adopt towards people whom we personally dislike.

▪ **W. B. Yeats’ poem:** “September 1913.”

In all their loneliness and pain,  
You’d cry, “Some woman’s yellow hair  
Has maddened every mother’s son”:  
They weighed so lightly what they gave.  
But let them be, they’re dead and gone,

They’re with O’Leary in the grave. (Concluded.)

▪ **This Month’s Limerick:**

A young Irish farmer named Willy  
Whose behaviour was frequently silly.

At a big farmers’ ball,

Dressed in nothing at all,

He claimed he came there as a filly.

8. [Irish History: Colonist and Defenders.](#)

The question of concessions to Catholics emerged from the 1760’s on. There were three reasons for this. First, serious agrarian unrest broke out in the countryside, as secret peasant societies organised campaigns of terror and intimidation, often in opposition to agricultural reforms that threatened traditional employment patterns. (Continued.)

9. [Words from President, Tomas.](#)

Hello Folks,

When you open this email you will still have time to RSVP for the Bloomsday luncheon which will be better than ever with a performance by “Women In Harmony” and a presentation from Greg Lewis.

Membership renewals will be going out shortly, so please make the effort to invite others to join our club.

*Tomas*

(Answer: Brendan Behan.)

