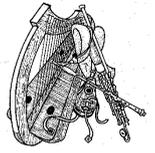




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October (Deireadh Fómhair) 2019 Newsletter of the Darling Downs Irish Club Inc.

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1. Last month the Club said farewell to respected long time member and Committee member, Bob Triggs. Bob had been unwell for most of the year yet renominated for Committee membership. His funeral was attended by a number of Club members, some of whom acted as pall bearers. His wake in the Tara room was enjoyed by many, with the singing of Bob's choice "Grace" by member Jerry McCann, the highlight. This is available on the Club's Facebook page. Bob's family appreciates the love and support given to him over an extended period through many months of illness.

2. Club Matters and Members' News and Stories:

- **Heard at the August members' gathering:** Paddy went into a café and sat his six children at a table. The waiter asked, "Are all of these children yours?" "No," came the reply. "I work in a condom factory and these are customer complaints."

- **The October Diary: Full Committee meeting:** Thursday 10th, 7.00pm; **Members' night** – Friday 25th from 5 – 8.00pm give or take. Financial members qualify for one drinks voucher: **AND – Annual Dinner – Saturday 19th – see flyer for details.**

- Irish Modern Celtic Band called 'Limerick' play in the Jim Coburn Bar – 8.00pm – 26th –.

- **Traditional Irish Music sessions** at 7.00pm 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'**.

- **September Committee Meeting, postponed because of Bob's funeral and wake.** 1) new Committee member Mary McGovern welcomed; 2) membership stands at approx. 120. Three new national members approved – Peter Bergman, Thomas Donohue, and Graham Kilpert. We look forward to the involvement of these new members in Club activities; 3) some building matters to be raised with Cameron; 4) Apex raffles at the hotel approved; 5) the filling of the casual vacancy was discussed as per the constitution 16.1 – other matters re the death of Committee member, Bob Triggs, were discussed - to be brought up at the next members' night at months' end. A toast to Bob was drunk in his honour; 6) Annual Dinner details discussed at length – guest speaker – music – menu – cost – programme – decorations; 7) changes to the renewal of the hotel lease required a special extra meeting of the Committee in two weeks time.

- **Don't forget to keep the afternoon of Sunday 8th December free for the Christmas Party.**

3. WWW Sites: Climate change? The Cool Planet Experience is worth a look:

www.coolplanetexperience.org

4. News from Ireland:

- Back in June, almost 670 prospective Irish Citizens gathered at the WIT Arena in Waterford. They had come from over 50 different countries. (Wonder what kind of citizenship questions they have to answer!!)

5. Bits and Pieces:

- **An Irish Epitaph:**

Repent! Repent! While you still have time.
Here I lie cut off in my prime.

Tom Taylor,
A sailor
Aged 79.

- **Quote from James Joyce:** “I think a child should be allowed to take his father’s or mother’s name at will on coming of age. Paternity is a legal fiction.”

- Assisted passage schemes brought nearly 300 000 Irish to the Australian Colonies between 1836 and 1890. It was these assisted Irish, not the convicts, who were the backbone of Australia’s Irish population in the second half of the nineteenth century.

6. ‘Tings “Oirish”:

- **Who said this?** “The Irish – so individual in their genius, so tenacious in love or hate, so captivating in their nobler moods.”

(The answer at the end of this newsletter.)

- **This month’s Irish Blessing:**

May the saddest day of your future be no worse than the happiest day of your past.

- **Irish wisdom:** Before T.V. sure some didn’t even know what a headache looked like.

- **Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) - monthly comment:** One should always be in love. That is the reason one should never marry.

- **W. B. Yeats’ poem:** “A Woman Young and Old – A Last Confession.”

And give his own and take his own
And rule in his own right;
And though it loved in misery
Close and cling so tight,
There’s not a bird of day that dare
Extinguish that delight. (Concluded.)

- **This Month’s Limerick:**

A young Irish like a giant
Who in sexual ways was just quaint.
One day he went swimming
With twelve naked women,
And deserted them all for a pint.

7. Irish History: Colonists and Defenders

By the 1790’s, the situation in Ireland was most unstable. Agrarian discontent had bred a plethora of violent secret societies and there was widespread unrest in the countryside. (Continued.)

8. Words from President, Tomas.

Firstly thank you for electing me as your Club President for the coming year. I shall endeavour to exceed your expectations. Except of course for the September members night where the drinks vouchers didn’t arrive as the primary and secondary committee members responsible were out of town and failed to delegate. My apologies for my mistake, and anybody who needs to discuss this further is welcome to assume the role each month. The committee is busy reviewing the lease so that we can have an agreement to present to you the members that is in our favour, and also I look forward to seeing you all at our annual dinner. Details attached.

Tomas

(Answer: Frederick Edwin Smith; speech on Irish Treaty, house of Lords, 1920.)

