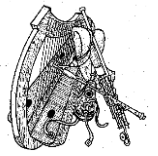




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August 2013 Newsletter of

The Darling Downs Irish Club Inc

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2. Club Matters & Members' News & Stories.

- Heard at the July members' night: Paddy was in New York, waiting on a busy street crossing. After some time the cop shouted, "Okay, pedestrians now." Paddy stood rock still. After a 10th call for 'pedestrians', Paddy went over to him and said, "Isn't it about time ye let us Catholics across?"

- **The August diary: Full Committee meeting Thurs. 8th, 7.00pm; Members' night Friday 30th – remember that a free drink voucher will be given to all FINANCIAL members – we gather between 5 and 8 pm:**

Traditional Irish Music sessions at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 6th and 20th, in the Michael Collins Bar. On-lookers and supporters welcome.

Genuine traditional Irish music is played in the place where 'atmosphere is everything': **AGM on Friday 30th as per separate notice; Annual Dinner on Saturday 10th.**

- Last month a small number of members gathered on Bastille Day for lunch and enjoyed watching Committee member Bob's Irish dvd. A grand time was had by all and we left the showing all the wise about the British occupation, the treaty, and the civil war. Next year – perhaps a lighter topic for entertainment.

- **The planning committee:** No meeting since the last newsletter. The builder and the licensee are working on a commencement date for the kitchen work.

- **July Committee meeting:** **1)** the Club's public liability insurance has been brought up to date; **2)** a report was received from members who have been in touch with the TRC's Outer Circulation Road Committee – the plans will affect traffic along Russell St.; **3)** the Club

1. Chair of the Club's history sub-committee, Tomas, has unearthed a newspaper article which alerts us to the fact that YOUR Club is 40 years old this year. It began with 50 members. The official opening was celebrated with a cabaret and dinner dance at 93 Russell St. The first President was Malachy McCartney.

Older Club members will remember those days when the Club was located across the road next to Betros Brothers' Fruit Market. Bingo and many many hours of voluntary work provided this gathering place for members. Quite a number of those responsible for this sound position have gone to their Maker now, but some do remain and to them all we owe a great debt.

Year after year the old place was packed to the rafters on St. Patrick's Day and burst at the seams on many other occasions of celebrations too.

That dodgy step (slightly deeper than the rest) on the way out was definitely something to watch out for when exiting the Club – some didn't!

It was the place where the Club's famous 'Corner Boys' began from humble beginnings rising almost to stardom.

We have much to be grateful for and must never lose sight of the fact that we stand on the shoulders of many good people who worked so hard to establish the Club.

maintains a strong financial position; 4) 72 members have renewed their membership – well done – it was resolved that free drinks vouchers will be given to financial members ONLY at the August members' night; 5) work on the kitchen update will commence soon; 6) remember that our AGM will be held during the August members' night – notices to go out in line with our Rule; 7) some discussion and planning re our Club's Annual Dinner; 8) it was decided to hold a changeover dinner for the in-coming Committee in September.

▪ **The Club's Annual Dinner will be held at the Hotel on Saturday 10th August at 6.30pm. Our special guest is His Excellency Mr Noel White Ambassador of Ireland to Australia. There will be live music and the subsidised price of \$35 covers a 3 course meal and a drink or two. Ring up and book a place for a thoroughly enjoyable night.**

3. **WWW Sites:** Declan Hassett runs walking tours of Limerick City. Visit www.limerickwalkingtours.ie for all the details.

4. **News from Ireland:** As we all know, Ireland is encouraging those with Irish ancestry to return for a visit this year to assist the recovery of the economy. Visitor numbers have increased by 7.4 % this year. US and Canadian visitors increased by 17% whilst European numbers (excluding British) were up by 13%.

5. **Know your rule:** Item 19: **Delegation of Management Committee Powers.**

6) A question arising at a subcommittee meeting is to be decided by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting and, if the votes are equal, is decided in the negative. A sub-committee may meet and adjourn as it considers appropriate.

6. **'Tings 'Oirish.**

• **Who said this?** "If you are not too long, I will wait for you here all my life." (The answer at the end of this newsletter.)

▪ **This month's Irish Blessing:**

May your pockets be heavy, and your heart be light.
May good luck pursue you each morning and night.

▪ **Irish wisdom:**

The Irish are children of the rainbow. Through famine, oppression and war, they have always looked forward in hope. Look for rainbows amidst the clouds in life, cope through hope.

▪ **Oscar Wilde(1854-1900) - monthly comment:** When the gods wish to punish us, they answer our prayers.

▪ Another **W. B. Yeats' poem:** "Under Saturn."

Do not because this day I have grown saturnine
Imagine that lost love, inseparable from my thought

Because I have no other youth, can make me pine;

For how should I forget the wisdom that you brought,

The comfort that you made? Although my wits have gone

On a fantastic ride, my horse's flanks have spurred

By childish memories of an old cross Pollexfen,
And of a Middleton, whose name you never heard,

And of a red-haired Yeats whose looks, although he died

Before my time, seem like a vivid memory.

▪ **This Month's Limerick:**

Said an ape as he swung by his tail,

To his offspring both female and male,

"From your offspring, my dears,

In a couple of years,

May evoke a professor at Yale!"

7. **A bit of Irish History (Tudor Ireland) –**

Henry obliged the Gaelic chieftains to acknowledge his sovereign power by surrendering their lands to him, whereupon he granted them back – but under English title!!!
What Henry VIII did not do was introduce British colonists to Ireland.

8. **Words from President Derm:**

August will be a really busy month for your Club. Apart from the Building/Planning sub-committee meeting on Monday 5th, there is the full Committee meeting on Thursday 8th & our Annual Dinner on Saturday 10th. We are honoured to welcome His Excellency Mr Noel White Ambassador of Ireland to Australia as our Club guest.

Our Annual General meeting will be held at 6.00pm on Friday 30th August for about 10minutes before our monthly member's gathering. Please ensure your membership dues are paid so you receive your drink voucher and are eligible to nominate for a position on the Committee & to participate in the election of Office Bearers.

I look forward to seeing you all.

Diarmuid Guerin



(Answer – Oscar Wilde..)