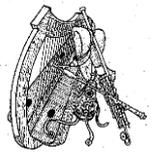




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November 20-12 Newsletter of the

The Darling Downs Irish Club Inc

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1. **Erwin Schrodinger**, one of the founding fathers of Quantum Physics, spent 17 years in a tiny research institute in Ireland from 1940 – 1957. Taoiseach, Eamon DeValera, established The Advanced Institute for Advanced Studies when he realised that such subjects as mathematics and language could be researched in Ireland at little expense – only a pen and paper were required!!!

The U.S. had already set up such a place for Einstein, fleeing persecution. When DeValera heard that the Austrian professor was also under threat from the Nazi regime, he invited him to be the director of the Irish Institution. Schrodinger accepted, the Institute quickly becoming a leading centre for theoretical physics. Many post doctoral scholars came from abroad to join him. Professor Schrodinger never achieved another breakthrough on the scale of his quantum theory, but he did important work in the emerging field of molecular biology. His work became a major influence in the search for the structure of DNA.

2. **Club Matters & Members' News & Stories:** Heard at the October members' gathering: Paddy Murphy, whilst not brilliant at school became quite a famous painter. One day a beautiful young woman arrived at his house asking to paint her in the nude – money being no object. Not wanting any marital strife, Paddy asked her to wait until he had consulted his wife. In a few minutes he returned. "T'would be me pleasure to paint ye. I'll paint ya in da nude alright, but I has to at least leave me socks on!"

- The November diary: **Full Committee** –Thurs. 8th, 7.00pm; **Members' night** – Friday 30th between 5 & 8 pm – remember that drinks vouchers will be handed out on the night to financial members; **Music sessions** at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 6th and 20th at 7 p.m. in the Michael Collins Bar. On-lookers welcome.

- The planning committee has been reformed and held its meeting on 29th last month. Some investigations were made into the state of the floor in the Michael Collins Bar and 5 recommendations made to the full committee. It is thought it may not be necessary to replace the complete floor on the suggestion of our architect.

- News from the October Committee Meeting 1) Max Winter has agreed to take on the job of registrar – many thanks to Fran for her work in this role over many years; 2) four new national members were approved: Byron Bradley, Orla Keane, Mairead Luttrell and John Valentine. We look forward to the involvement of these new members in the life of our club; 3) concerns about the state of the barroom floor were once again discussed – to be taken up by the planning/building sub-committee later this month. The proposed members' rooms will also be on the agenda; 4) photographs for the web site urgently needed; 5) the calendar for the coming year almost completed – to be advised to members asap; 6) much discussion took place around the Club's Christmas party.

Members please reserve Sunday 9th December for the Club's Annual Christmas Party. The craic begins at 4 pm, with music, food and fun. Children 12 years and under will receive a gift from Santa. Please forward names, ages and the gender of children attending to Club Secretary, Ian via the phone number or e-mail address at the top of this newsletter. For catering purposes please hand in numbers of adults attending as well.

3. WWW Sites: The Royal (?) Irish Automobile Club is organising the National Classic Car Show in Dublin for February 2013. For more information ;
www.classiccarshow.ie

4. News from Ireland: The Royal (?) Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) annual review contains details of the amazing work being done around the world by Irish architects. One such architect, Emer O'Daly, has just won a competition to design a 'super-pier' in Boston Harbour. The design incorporates a rail station and ferry terminal. Projects by other architects include a new students' centre at the London School of Economics; the pedestrian bridge leading to the Olympic Stadium; the Palestinian Museum at Birzeit University on the West Bank; the Grand Egyptian Museum; a new engineering campus for the University of Technology in Lima, Peru.

5. Know your rule: Item 18 – Meetings of the Management Committee: 14) If a quorum is not present within thirty (30) minutes after the time fixed for a Management Committee meeting called on the request of committee members, the meeting lapses.

6.'Tings 'Oirish.

- **Who said this?** "I often quote myself – it adds spice to my conversation ." (The answer at the end of this newsletter.)

- This month's Irish Blessing: Here's to you and yours and to mine and ours; And if mine and ours ever come across to you and yours I hope you and yours will do as much for mine and ours as mine and ours have done for you and yours.

- **Irish wisdom:**

No wise man ever wished to be younger. (Jonathan Swift.)

- **Oscar Wilde(1854-1900) - monthly comment:**

Any preoccupation with the idea of what is right and wrong in conduct shows an arrested intellectual development.

- **Another W. B. Yeats' poem: "The Circus Animals' Desertion."** – concluded:

Those masterful images because complete

Grew in pure mind, but out of what began?

A mound of refuse or the sweepings of a street,

Old kettles, old bottles, and a broken can,

Old iron, old bones, old rags, that raving slut

Who keeps the till. Now that my ladder's gone,

I must lie down where all the ladders start

In the foul rag and bone shop of the heart.

- **This Month's Limerick:**

There once was a fly on the wall.

I wonder why didn't it fall.

Because its feet stuck

Or was it just luck

Or does gravity miss things so small?

7. A bit of Irish History (Geraldine Ireland) –

In the long series of English dynastic struggles known as the Wars of the Roses, both sides – the houses of York and Lancaster – were glad of support from the great Anglo-Norman families. Both branches of the FitzGerald, Desmond and Kildare, were Yorkists. The Butlers of Ormond were Lancastrians. By 1461, the Yorkists had triumphed in the person of King Edward IV. He first appointed the Earl of Desmond as chief governor of Ireland, but when the Earl proved to be too Gaelicised in his ways, the king had him summarily beheaded. The Butlers, as Lancastrians, were obvious non-starters for governorship. That left the house of Kildare. It acquired the governorship in 1470, lost it briefly, then was threatened with having to share it with an Englishman.

All these expedients failed and by 1478, Gearoid Mor FitzGerald, 8th Earl of Kildare, was chief governor of Ireland. He might more properly have been called king of Ireland, so total was his authority.

8. Words from President Derm:

Preparations for your Club's Christmas party are underway, mark it in your diary and be sure to turn up! Please let us have the name, age and gender of your children or grandchildren you are bringing along with you so Santa Claus can give them their present.

We don't want to disappoint any child or embarrass their parents by not having a present for them because we weren't told they would be coming.

The best way to let us know is to ring our answering service on **4639 8926** and leave the details.

We would really appreciate any help members can provide as far as our Social activities are concerned, without being rude we probably need an injection of "youthful vigour" into our Social sub-committee to ensure none of our member's demographics are being ignored. We also need more involvement from our ladies to ensure their views are being heard.

I have to hand it to our editor Peter Kenny, he puts together a nice little newsletter each month; however I'm sure he'd appreciate a little help and some contributions from our members from time to time. If you have any bright ideas on how we can improve "The Shenanigans" please speak up; we'll be pleased to hear from you. On the subject of contributions we are looking for material to put on the Club's new website!

I look forward to seeing you & your family at our Christmas Party on Sunday 9th December.

Diarmuid Guerin



(Answer –George Bernard Shaw.)