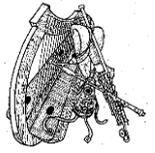




The Sheanigans



July (Iúil) 2022 Newsletter of the Darling Downs Irish Club Inc.

Sun (Dé Domhnaigh); Mon (Dé Luain); Tues (Dé Máirt); Wed (Dé Céadaoin); Thurs (Déardaoin); Fri (Dé hAoine); Sat (Dé Sathairn).

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1. Leprechauns are small fairy-like creatures with magical powers and minds full of mischief. Some who have seen them say they are no bigger than a little finger; others say they can be as big as a small child. Their favourite pastimes are counting their gold and playing tricks on humans. They are known to inhabit the forests of Ireland, usually in hollowed out trees, small caves, or under large bushes. Some are thought to live in quaint, unseen villages that become visible to human eyes only at certain times of the year. Because leprechauns are curious folk, they find ways to travel to distant lands, but remain hidden from view.

Always male, there are no girls in the strict sense. But in a larger sense, leprechauns are part of a larger fairy kingdom.

2. Club Matters and Members' News and Stories:

▪ **Heard at the June members' night:**
The Guinness family regularly contributed to the renovation of St. Patrick's Cathedral over the years. It is therefore interesting to note that a monument to Sir Benjamin Guinness's daughter stands under a stained glass window bearing the words, "I was thirsty and you gave me a drink."

▪ **The July Diary: Full Committee meeting:** Thursday 14th, 7.00pm; **Members' night – Friday 29th from 5 – 8.00pm give or take. LIVE Irish music too; Financial members qualify for one drinks voucher**

▪ **Jigs, Reels, Hornpipes, Polkas etc. - AND songs – Traditional Irish Music sessions at 7.00pm EVERY Tuesday in the Hotel. On -lookers and supporters welcome. Genuine traditional Irish tunes and songs are played in the place where 'atmosphere is everything'.**

▪ **June Committee Meeting:** 1) Illumination of flagpoles – awaiting quote; 2) Hoping for a Rose of Tralee entrant sponsored by our Club; 3) membership 162 – 45 attended May members' night; 4) national member Juliana Janaya accepted; 5) termite inspection for building – quote coming; 6) Carnival of Flowers float design presented to float committee; 7) Qld Irish Pipe Band to play at hotel after the parade; 8) Bloomsday arrangements finalised; 9) Committee membership nominations to be called for at end of this month.

3. **WWW Sites:** For all things Irish – www.askaboutireland.ie

4 News from Ireland:

▪ The 2022 census shows that Ireland's population of 5.1 million is the highest since 1841.

5. Bits and Pieces:

▪ Joyce was disappointed that his suggestion for a Guinness slogan was rejected in favour of "Guinness is good for you". His was – "The free, the froh, the frothy freshener".

▪ **Quote from James Joyce:** “Better pass boldly into that other world, in the full glory of some passion, than fade and wither dimly with age.” (*Dubliners.*)

▪ **A Ulysses word:** ...a solemn *beardframed* face...”

▪ **Celtic Wisdom for Business:**

Reputation is more enduring than life.

▪ **Irish Insults:**

He couldn't hit sand if he fell off a camel. (His aim is not good.)

6. This Month in a sad History.

On 7th of this month in 1922, talks were held in London where the Republicans demanded a date for British withdrawal and the release of prisoners. The truce broke down on 13th due to British Army actions. On 31st, 12,000 British troops invaded and occupied nationalist districts in an attempt to break the IRA. It failed. The war continued.

7. 'Tings 'Oirish:

▪ **Who said this?** “If the English could only believe in fairies, there wouldn't ever have been any Irish problem.”

(The answer at the end of this newsletter.)

▪ **This month's Irish Blessing:**

May the good Lord take a liking to you, but not too soon.

▪ **Irish wisdom:** Never bolt your door with a boiled carrot.

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

comment: Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much.

▪ **W. B. Yeats' poem:**

“The Man and His Echo” (An extract.)

In a cleft that's christened Alt

Under broken stone I halt

At the bottom of a pit

That broad noon has never lit,

And shout a secret to the stone.

All that I have said and done,

Now that I am old and ill,

Turns into a question till

I lie awake night after night

And never get the answers right. (Cont'd)

▪ **This Month's Limerick:**

There was a young faith healer from Deal
Who said, “Although pain isn't real

If I sit on a pin

And it punctures my skin

I dislike what I fancy I feel.”

8. Irish History: Catholic Emancipation:

After O'Connell's electoral victory, the government of Wellington and Peel decided to neutralise the broad mass of O'Connell's supporters by simply disenfranchising them. The backbone of the Catholic Association's vote was the so-called “forty-shilling” Freeholders. These were tenants whose life interest in either a house or land was valued at not less than forty shillings, or £2. The government now raised the franchise limit to valuations of £10 or more, thus producing in an instant a wealthier and much more conservative electorate.

(Cont'd.)

9. Words from President, Tomas.

Hello All,

The club is seeking any members who are electricians that could give us a quote to setup a floodlight on the corner of the building to light up the two flag poles and Guinness sign on a sensor so the flags are lit at night. Thank you to all who took part in the survey and who have offered to assist the club. We also noted that a member ordered a long island iced tea on members night. It doesn't hurt to ask but we might be a bit more clear along the lines of basic spirits, wine, beers and soft drinks. But still enjoying ourselves.

Tomas

(Answer: W.B. Yeats.)

