



Queensland Irish Association

Newsletter

March 2024

Join us for spectacular St Patrick's Day celebrations

The Brisbane Irish Festival campaigns for events of particular interest and relevance to Members of Queensland Irish Association.

In celebration of the feast day of Saint Patrick, the Saint Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday, 16th March 2024, commencing at 10.30am. The parade will start at City Botanic Gardens on Alice Street, then process through the streets before returning to the Botanic Gardens.

The QIA will again have its 1914 Fiat truck carrying the figure of Saint Patrick, and we are grateful to Veteran QIA stalwart Jim Kendall for again hosting the QIA truck. In addition, we require as many QIA Members and supporters as possible to walk and accompany the QIA float. Members and supporters are asked to assemble at 10.15am, outside the Botanic Gardens main entrance, behind the QIA truck.

Please email Mary Allen at mary@queenslandirish.com.au if you are able to march in support of the St Patrick's Day Parade. Or find her behind the QIA float on the day, she will be handing out QIA stickers to say that you are with us.

In addition to the QIA walkers, we will be accompanied by QIA stilt walkers, which will add to the celebration for spectators.

The second event to celebrate the feast of Saint Patrick is the Saint Patrick's Eve Dinner, which will be held this year in the magnificent Main Auditorium of the Brisbane City Hall on Saturday evening, 16th March



At the 35th Annual Saint Brigid's Dinner were (standing, from left) Sean Fitzpatrick, Angela Laylee, Mavis Williams – Official Piper for St Brigid's Annual Dinner, Robin and Rod Sullivan – historians of the QIA, Glenice Spender, Hon. Jeff Spender – QIA President, Seamus Sullivan – QIA Vice President, and Eamon Keating (St Patrick's Day Parade Committee), and, seated, Councillor Vicki Howard, Margaret Stacey – Co-Convenor St Brigid's Annual Dinner, Sandy Pettit – Fundraising Manager, Mater Foundation, HE Ambassador Tim Mawe, Sister Angela Mary Doyle, Lesley Ray, Guest Speaker, Catherines House, Executive Manager, Philanthropy – Mater Foundation, Michelle Fitzpatrick – Co-Convenor St Brigid's Annual Dinner, and Gay Jenkinson MC.

2024, commencing at 6pm. There will be a five-hour drinks package and a splendid three-course meal, catered by Epicure at Brisbane City Hall.

The toast to Australia Our Nation will be proposed by Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO, and the toast to The Day We Celebrate will be proposed by the Irish Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly, TD.

The Governor of Queensland Jeannette Rosita Young AC PSM and Professor Nimmo will attend the St Patrick's Eve Dinner for the first time, and the Chief Justice of Queensland, Helen Bowskill, will be attending for her second occasion.

It will be a great night in anticipation of the feast of Saint Patrick.

On St Patrick's Day, Sunday, March 17th, the traditional St Patrick's Day Mass will not be in its usual form because of the feast day falling on a Sunday. The Mass for the fifth Sunday of Lent will only have brief references to Saint Patrick, but the Mass, which is the Cathedral of St Stephen in Brisbane, will have two pipers from the Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band playing outside the entrance before Mass. Queensland Irish Association Members and guests can join in the Francis Rush Centre for morning tea after the 10am Mass.

QIA's celebration of St Patrick's Day will be concluded with the QIA St Patrick's Day Lunch, to be held from

Continued on page 2

Join us for spectacular St Patrick's Day celebrations



Continued from page 1

11.30am on Sunday, 17th March at Wests Rugby Union Club, Sylvan Road, Toowong.

Admission to the lunch is free and a menu of Irish favourites and drinks, including Guinness, will be available for purchase.

Entertainment will be provided by the QIA Dancers, and our troubadour, Tom Kimmitt, and there will be an enthusiastic singalong of Irish favourites.

All Members and supporters are asked to attend this free function. Could you please signal your interest by phoning Mavis Williams on (07) 3849 8271. This indication is for catering purposes.

The celebrations for St Patrick's Day will be probably the most spectacular of the modern era.

A celebration of the life of Brian

O'Connor was held at the Victoria Park main hall on Thursday, 25th January. Brian O'Connor was a Life Member of QIA and a Life Member of Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band, of which he was also Drum Major. The celebration of life was attended by members of the Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band, who played a bracket in front of Brian's photo montage which was shown at the wake, pictured below.

The brilliant 35th Annual St Brigid's Dinner was held at Royal on the Park on Saturday, 3rd February this year. This St Brigid's Dinner was probably the most successful in many years, which was fitting because for the first time in Ireland, St Brigid's Day was a public holiday.

*Jeff Spender,
President,*

Queensland Irish Association.

At the 35th Annual Saint Brigid's Dinner were (standing) Gay Jenkinson MC, Cheryl Chidgey, Councillor Vicki Howard, Margaret Stacey and Michelle Fitzpatrick, Convenors of St Brigid's Annual Dinner, Gail Young, Eilish Lalor, Claire Moore – Patron of St Brigid's Annual Dinner, Angla Laylor – Vote of Thanks, Dr Melissa Carroll, Guest Musician and Lucinda Carroll, and, seated, Margaret Buck, Lesley Ray, Guest Speaker, Catherine's House, Executive Manager Philanthropy at Mater Foundation, Sister Angela Mary Doyle, HE Ambassador Tim Mawe from Irish Embassy Canberra, and Sandy Pettit, Fundraising Manager, Mater Foundation.

Contact us

We welcome content from members and friends in this newsletter.

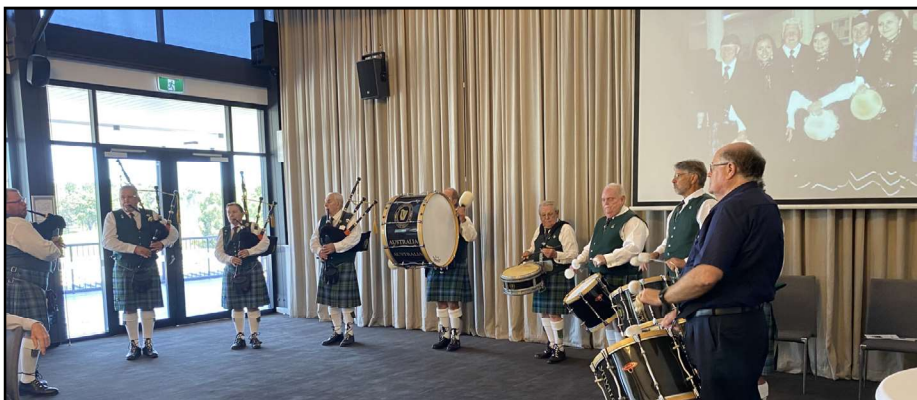
If you have news or an article you would like to see included, email the editor, our public relations officer Mary Allen, at mary@queenslandirish.com.au

You can also reach us through our website, www.queenslandirish.com.au, and on our social media pages.

Another great way to interact with QIA is by joining our Facebook group, Queensland Irish Association Friends and Supporters.

Editor and designer: Mary Allen.

DISCLAIMER: Opinions expressed by contributors in articles, advertisements or any other published material in Queensland Irish Association Newsletter are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the Queensland Irish Association Newsletter. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject, edit or amend submitted material in order to make it appropriate or suitable for publication. To gain permission to reprint any material that appears in this newsletter, contact newsletter@queenslandirish.com. Queensland Irish Association Newsletter takes no responsibility for products or services advertised in this newsletter.





Finding Brigid screening at Brigidine College



Thank you to all who came to our very successful Finding Brigid screening and afternoon tea at Brigidine College in Indooroopilly.

Calendar

Wednesday, 6th March, 6.30pm

Brisbane Irish Festival screening of the *The Guard* at Elizabeth Picture House, Brisbane.

Sunday, 10th March, 10am

QIA/Friends of Toowong Cemetery Historical talk and tour of Irish graves. Toowong Cemetery, Brisbane.

Sunday, 10th March, 11am

Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association Family Day. Gaelic Park, Willawong.

Sunday, 10th March, 2pm

Queensland Irish Choir St Patrick's Day concert. Kedron Community Church, Brisbane.

Saturday, 16th March, 10.30am

Brisbane Saint Patrick's Day Parade. Begins on Alice Street, Brisbane.

Saturday, 16th March, 6pm

Saint Patrick's Eve Dinner Main Auditorium, Brisbane City Hall, Brisbane.

Sunday, 17th March, 10am

Mass on St Patrick's Day Saint Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane.

Sunday, 17th March, 11.30am

QIA St Patrick's Day Lunch Wests Rugby Club, Sylvan Road, Toowong.

Saturday, 23rd March

Queensland Irish Association's 126th anniversary



Queensland Irish Association

St Patrick's Day Parade 2024



Walk with us!

Queensland Irish Association invites you don the green and walk with us in the Brisbane parade behind our float with the star of the day, Saint Patrick. Members and friends of all ages are welcome to take part!

Join us on Saturday, 16th March
from 10am (for 10.30am parade start) at
Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Alice Street, Brisbane CBD

Irish Lord's son's forgotten grave is found in Toowong

by Mary Allen

The long-forgotten, vandalised and overgrown grave of the son of an Irish Lord has been found in a Brisbane cemetery and restored to its former glory.

Heritage-listed Toowong Cemetery is the largest cemetery in Queensland, with its first burial taking place in 1871. A group of volunteers, Friends of Toowong Cemetery, restores broken headstones and researches the history of the monuments, as well as conducting tours.

Darcy Maddock from Friends of Toowong Cemetery recently lifted a broken headstone to discover that the grave belonged to the son of an Irish Lord.

Darcy contacted Queensland Irish Association seeking help with lifting the marble headstone back onto its base and restoring it.

Darcy said at the time: "I found an Irishman who deserves to be visited but the headstone has been vandalised. I am sure it can be repaired. The lovely cross is in two pieces which I can put back together with a special adhesive."

Speaking about the inscription on the headstone, Darcy said: "His name is Bentinck Yelverton Bingham, he is the third son of John Charles Robert Bingham, fourth Baron of Clanmorris, Creg Clare, Co. Galway."

Queensland Irish Association Friends and Supporters Facebook group ran a request for help from the Irish community. We are very grateful to Kevin Morrissey, who volunteered to help.

Research is ongoing by Friends of Toowong Cemetery on the history of the young man in the grave, and so far it is a very sad story.

According to the research undertaken by Darcy Maddock so far,



The grave of the son of Lord Clanmorris was located broken at Toowong Cemetery. It has been restored thanks to the work of Darcy Maddock, inset picture with his wife Lynette nee Bell.

Bentinck Yelverton Bingham was born in Galway and came out to Australia when he was just 20 years old. He was notified of an inheritance and went home to Ireland, then came back to Queensland with money. He invested in property but was ripped off and became mentally disturbed. He ended up in an asylum in the year he died, aged 36. The headstone was erected by his brother and sister.

Work undertaken on the grave included cleaning, painting the railings and putting down artificial grass.

The grave will be included in

Queensland Irish Association's Irish history tour of the cemetery, in association with Friends of Toowong Cemetery, as part of our St Patrick's Day celebrations.

This will be a guided walk and fascinating talk on the lives of the prominent Irish people buried in the cemetery as participants visit their grave sites.

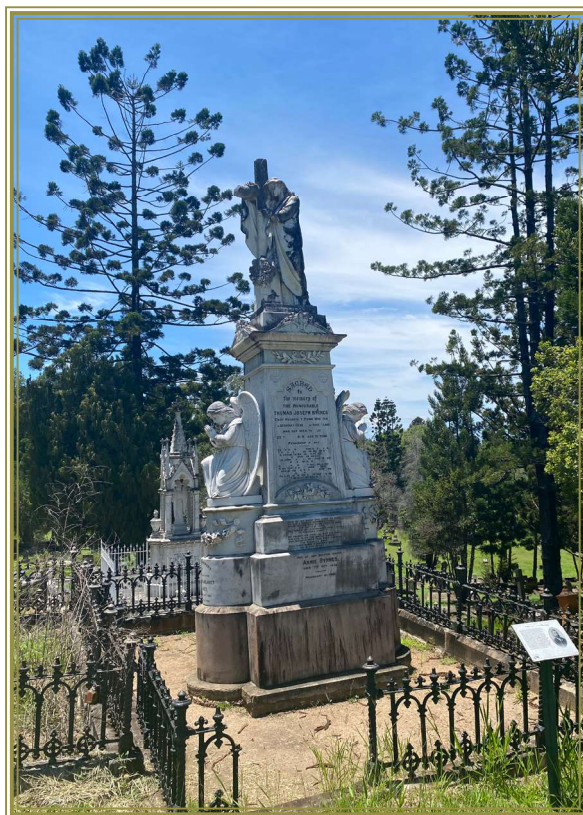
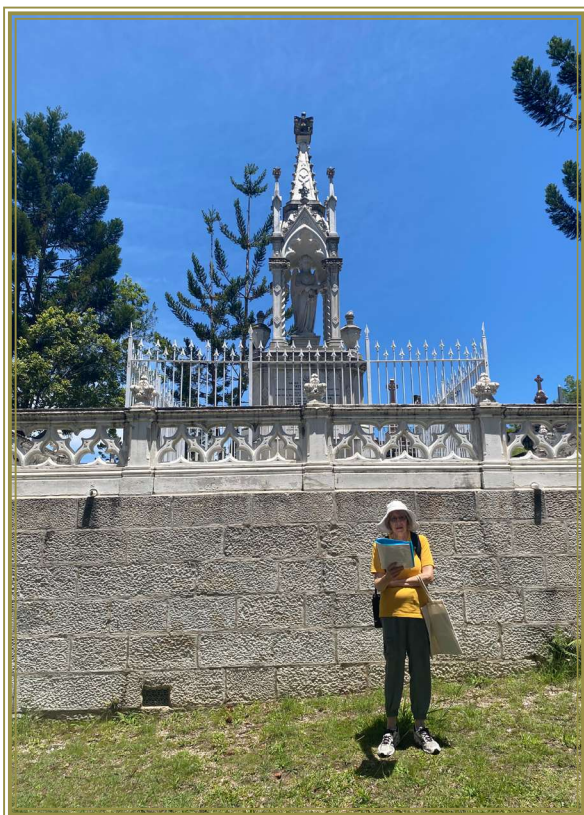
The tour will take place on Sunday, 10th March at 10am.

If you'd like to join in, meet at the flagpole at the Frederick Street entrance to the cemetery.



Queensland Irish Association

Irish History Tour



Queensland Irish Association
&
Friends of Toowong Cemetery
invite you to

Irish History Tour at Toowong Cemetery

on Sunday, 10th March at 10am

Cash donation welcome to Friends of Toowong Cemetery on the day.

More info: Friends of Toowong Cemetery - inquiries@fotc.au

This tour will involve two hours of walking/standing.

Bring comfortable, enclosed shoes and clothing suitable for the weather.

Meet at the flag pole near the main entrance at Frederick Street, Toowong. Parking available in cemetery.

Raise a glass to Dublin's first no-alcohol bar, Board

Board is a new pub in Dublin's city centre that offers an extensive range of non-alcoholic drinks together with over 200 board games that patrons can play for free.

The recently opened dry pub has become an instant hit with locals and visitors alike and is filled nightly with people in high spirits, though not of the 40% proof kind.

The idea behind Board is to create a space that has the look and feel of a modern Irish pub but without the alcohol. It stocks premium 0% beers, a wide range of alcohol-free craft beers and, of course, has the famous 'black stuff' Guinness 0.0 on draught.

Board also offers an impressive mocktail list mimicking favourite classics such as Espresso Martinis Aperol Spritzs and Bloody Marys and over 30 non-alcoholic spirits. A menu of Mood Boosters made with a natural mix of botanicals, herbs, spices or mushrooms are designed to sooth or stimulate as required, and the non-al-



Board is a new pub in Dublin city centre that offers non-alcoholic drinks and board games.

coholic wines available include Irish-owned Hollow Leg, produced in Spain.

The comprehensive games collection caters for those who enjoy the classics, such as Monopoly and Yahtzee, to groups who want to conquer the world in Risk or Catan, have a noisy competition with Articulate! or just enjoy a quiet game of chess.

To complement the drinks menu there is a food menu available all day offering

tasty meals and sweet treats, with vegan options. From 4pm Board offers homemade pizzas.

As well as board games there is lots of entertainment including regular jazz nights, comedy events, pub quizzes, bingo and sports screenings in the pub.

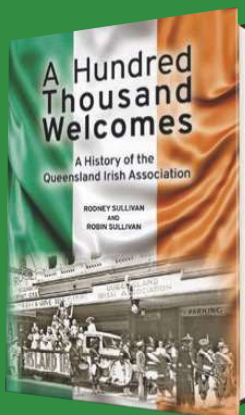
The Six Nations Championship, which kicked off at the beginning of February, is the first major sporting event to be screened in the pub

and Board has expectations for a full house for every match and a great atmosphere.

Dublin is a city with a thriving pub scene and is renowned for the 'craic' to be found in its cosy bars and cosmopolitan clubs.

Board adds another dimension to this with a space to meet, eat and play without involving alcohol.

www.ireland.com



qia125



To celebrate 125 years of Queensland Irish Association in 2023, we have released a book which traces the history of one of the most successful ethnic organisations in Australia. The paperback edition is \$39.99 (plus postage). The limited-edition hardback edition is \$100 (plus postage).

You can order a copy by contacting Michele Bourke, by phone on 0438 763 439, or by email to sales@queenslandirish.com



Queensland Irish Association

St Patrick's Day Lunch



Queensland Irish Association
invites Members and friends to

The QIA St Patrick's Day Lunch

on Sunday, 17th March from 11.30am
at

West's Rugby Football Union Club,
65 Sylvan Rd, Toowong

*Great food with traditional Irish menu and drinks available
Entertainment with QIA Dancers and music by Tom Kimmet
Admission is free*

Enquiries: Please contact Claire Moore on 0419 673 126

Entertainment

Brisbane Irish Festival to show The Guard film as fundraiser

Come watch The Guard during the Brisbane Irish Festival on Wednesday, 6th March at the Elizabeth Picture Theatre. Come at 6pm for a 6.30pm start to enjoy a drink with friends before and after. There will also be a raffle on the night for a lovely bottle of whiskey.

This official Brisbane Irish Festival event is the only screening of The Guard during the festival so get your tickets quickly before they're snapped up. All proceeds from the screening will go towards the cost running of the parade and maintaining its long-term viability as an annual free event for the community.

About The Guard

A vulgar Irish cop (Brendan Gleeson) and a straight-laced American FBI agent (Don Cheadle) uncover police corruption among the former's superiors while probing a drug trafficking ring.

The Guard is a 2011 Irish buddy cop comedy film written and directed by John Michael McDonagh, starring Brendan Gleeson, Don Cheadle, Mark Strong and Liam Cunningham.

The film received critical acclaim and was a box-office success. Both Gleeson and Cheadle received acclaim for their performances, with Gleeson receiving



Picture: [Facebook/The Guard](#)

a Golden Globe Award nomination. McDonagh was in turn nominated for a BAFTA Award for his writing achievement. It is the most successful independent Irish film of all time in terms of Irish box-office receipts, overtaking The Wind that Shakes the Barley (2006).

The Guard Movie Screening
March 6, 2024, 6.30pm - 9pm
Elizabeth Picture Theatre, Elizabeth Street, Brisbane.
\$19
[Tickets](#)

Note: This is not a Queensland Irish Association event

Queensland Irish Choir St Patrick's Day Concert

2.00pm Sunday 10 March 2024
Doors Open 1.30 pm

Chermside-Kedron Community Church
(Cnr Gympie and Rode Roads)

Enjoy an afternoon of
Irish Music,
Song and Dance

Musical Director: David O'Keefe
Accompanist: Tim Li

Guest Performers
QIA Pipe Band
QIA Dancers

Tickets
<https://www.trybooking.com/COTQP>
\$25 Adults \$10 under 15 years
At the Door – if not previously sold out

Enquiries
0493 455 487



ANGLOCELTIC

ENGLAND • IRELAND • SCOTLAND • WALES • CELTIC NATIONS • ENGLAND • IRELAND • SCOTLAND • WALES • CELTIC NATIONS

ANGLOCELTIC
ENGLAND • IRELAND • SCOTLAND • WALES • CELTIC NATIONS • ENGLAND • IRELAND • SCOTLAND • WALES • CELTIC NATIONS

Saint Patrick's G'day!

ST PATRICK'S DAY SPECIAL EDITION OUT MARCH 1ST

Download it free from our website
www.angloandceltic.com



Visit our sister title at
www.irishqueenslander.com



Find us on Instagram
[angloandceltic_australia](https://www.instagram.com/angloandceltic_australia)



Follow us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/Anglo&Celtic



We are on X as
[@Anglo&Celtic](https://twitter.com/Anglo&Celtic)

ENGLAND • IRELAND • SCOTLAND • WALES • CELTIC NATIONS • ENGLAND • IRELAND • SCOTLAND • WALES • CELTIC NATIONS

02
March

BRISBANE IRISH FESTIVAL CHARITY BALL

Time 6:00 pm - 11:59 pm

Venue Victoria Park Complex

06
March

THE GUARD MOVIE SCREENING

Time 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Venue Elizabeth Picture Theatre

10
March

IRISH HISTORY TOUR AT TOOWONG CEMETERY

Time From 10:00am

Venue Toowong Cemetery

10
March

FAMILY FESTIVAL DAY

Time 11:00 am - 6:30 pm

Venue Gaelic Park, Willawong

10
March

ST PATRICK'S DAY CONCERT

Time 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Venue Kedron Community Church

16
March

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Time 10:30 am - 11:30 pm

Venue Brisbane City

16
March

SONG OF THE SEA MOVIE SCREENING

Time 12:30 - 2:00pm

Venue Elizabeth Picture Theatre

16
March

ST PATRICK'S EVE DINNER

Time 6:30 pm - 11:59 pm

Venue Brisbane City Hall

16 & 17
March

GILHOOLEYS ST PATRICK'S DAY WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS

Time From 10:30 am

Venue Gilhooleys Irish Pub & Restaurant

17
March

MASS ON ST PATRICK'S DAY

Time 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Venue Cathedral of St Stephen

17
March

QIA ST PATRICK'S DAY LUNCH

Time From 11:30am

Venue Western Districts Rugby Football Club

17 & 18
March

LIGHTING THE CITY GREEN

Venue Brisbane City

SCAN FOR
MORE INFO



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme



THE STAR

Gilhooleys
IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT



THE PRINCE
CONSORT
EST 1888